Florida Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.

To: Jeanne Von Ohlsen, CMA (AAMA), BS, CMPE
Executive Board Members
Chapter Representatives
Committee Chairs
Physician Liaison

From: Mary Morris, CMA (AAMA)
Delegate to AAMA National Conference

Re: Delegate Report

This delegate had the extreme pleasure of attending the 54th Annual AAMA National Conference, September 24-27, 2010 in Lake Buena Vista, FL. It was nice having the conference in Florida, but I must say, I did miss traveling to another state. The conference did offer possibilities to earn many CEU'S, network with CMA'S from other states, and to socialize during the planned events.

Being a member of the education committee for this National Conference gave me a new perspective and a greater appreciation for the hard work that goes into planning the education sessions. Finding speakers on a state level has its challenges but finding speakers for National has the added challenge of finding speakers who are willing to commit to a date to speak over a year in advance of the event. It was my pleasure to work on this committee with both Adie De La Guardia-Piz and Diane Klieger. It is my hope that all attendees were pleased with the education sessions they had to choose from.

Mary Lou Allison and Karen Murray, national conference chair and co chair, need to be commended for a job well done as well. These types of events do not run themselves, as it takes good leaders and a lot of hard work. My hat goes off to the two of you!!!

Congratulations to one of Florida's own, Betty Springer, who was installed as AAMA National President and was honored as such at the President's Banquet. The state of Florida has been represented well nationally over the past several years, as Kathryn Panagiotacos, came off the national board as Immediate Past President. Here's to a job well done, Kathryn and to Betty, best of luck to you this year as national president!

Some of the education sessions I attended included: Daily Ergonomics: A Guide for a Healthy Spine, CBC: Stand Up and Be Counted, Medical Error Prevention, ICD 10, Immunization Update, Injections, and Urinary Incontinence. Each session attended was very informative and provided information I can use in my job.

The House of Delegates had a day full of business. The officers for the coming year were elected. Two bylaws amendments were not adopted and will be sent back to the Bylaws and Resolutions committee for clarification. Approved was wording that defines membership at large at the national and state level as well as a $5.00 increase in student membership dues.

The New York State Society proposed a resolution to increase awareness of ovarian cancer. After some wording was changed, the resolution did pass. The final resolution that was proposed by the AAMA Board of Trustees was to raise the national portion of dues from $67 to $77 for the 2012 membership year. ($10.00 increase) Much discussion was had on this resolution, but in the end it was adopted/passed. Not having had a dues increase since 1992 made it apparent that in order to keep up with the increased cost of running an organization, increasing dues by $10.00 was feasible and needed to be done despite some opposition from some of the members.

Kudos to Florida for getting achievement recognition in Membership Recruitment and the Excel Award for greatest percentage increase of member CMA'S (AAMA). I must say the desserts that were available made the awards presentation even better. To me, the Edy's ice cream was most delicious to say the least!!!

At the Advisory Council for President's and President Elect's, AAMA announced it is now on Facebook! (www.aama-ntl.org/facebook) This is just another way to keep up with the happenings of AAMA.

I want to thank the FSMA members for allowing me to represent the state of Florida as a delegate at the 54th Annual AAMA Conference.