FLORIDA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS, INC
AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

Date: October 8, 2010

To: Executive Board Members
Chapter Representatives
Committee Chairs
Physician Liaison

From: Jeanne Von Ohlsen

Re: President & Delegate report

This officer has been available via email or by phone as needed and attended and upheld duties as outlined. All emails received have been answered in a timely manner.

There was some correspondence between members after a Fox news segment that showed medical assistants in what some considered an unfavorable light. This officer contacted AAMA Executive Director Don Balasa for some guidance. All in all it appeared to be a misunderstanding in that the doctor in the news segment was in fact not trying to discredit medical assistants but said she was having a hard time hiring one with qualifications for the pay she could afford. This officer wrote a letter to the doctor stating our position and offered any help we might be able to provide. The doctor was also invited to participate in the AAMA conference. The doctor followed up by calling this president and discussed the incident and event in detail. She indicated she would call me back if she decided to attend or send someone to the conference. She was most gracious for the contact and clarification on certified medical assistants.

Since May, Maria Wiegelmann has been working diligently on securing an alternative site for future meetings of FSMA. FSMA has been able to secure the Crowne Plaza in Tampa for the January 2011 meeting. Southeast Chapter will be coordinating the education speakers and program. Then in May 2011 we will return to Orlando. It is our hope to go to the east coast in October, 2011 in either Jacksonville or West Palm Beach. This is something new to encourage more participation from members in other areas of the state as well as encourage new members to attend. Maria, Thank you for your tireless efforts.

Judy Seymour and Theresa Errante Parrino traveled to St Augustine to share information to students and medical assistants and encourage their participation in the Society. They were well received and the area is now beginning the process of forming a chapter. A job well done ladies and thank you for making a difference to those students.

This officer was very excited to attend the 54th Annual AAMA National Conference in September. It was a very long time since attending one and was especially fun since we were the hosting state. Hats off to the organizers and the many that filled in where they were needed: Mary Lou Allison, Karen Murray, the Educational Committee, Mary, Adie and Diane, Shirlee and Ginny and all other committee workers. Everyone did an outstanding job. For further information regarding the General Assembly, please see other delegates reports to avoid duplication of events.

Congratulations to Betty Springer as she was installed as AAMA National President and was honored as such at the President's Banquet. Congratulations to you as you begin your year. Kathryn Panagiotacos steps off the national board this year after much hard work and tireless effort. Thank you for all you did and continue to do.

This officer attended sessions on Instructional Design, Harnessing Humor's Healing Power, MAERB Workshop, Pet Therapy, and Music Therapy just to mention a few. It was also very informative during House of Delegates and to watch as business was taken care of. At the awards and Dessert Social, Florida took honors for Membership Recruitment and Student Membership Recruitment. It was good to see friends from all over the country and catch up.

It is a pleasure to work with and serve FSMA.