Florida Society of Medical Assistants, Inc.

October 16, 2010

To: FSMA Executive Board
Jeanne VanOhlson, CMA(AAMA)

From: Ruth Lapio, CMA (AAMA)
Southwest Chapter President

RE: Southwest l Chapter Report

It seems with each new meeting our chapter actually gets more exciting. It has been uplifting to see the students starting to get involved. Our meetings have been very enlightening with several different and interesting topics. We never walk away from a meeting without some new information that is helpful in our practices and daily lives.

Our chapter is really being motivated by the local students. Myself and other board members have been diligently working with Southwest Florida College and Charlotte Vo tech in getting the students involved in meetings and their own medical assistant programs. The educators are very supportive in this. It has been our concern for the process of the strategic planning for recruiting new members and promoting networking..

The Southwest Chapter held a very productive seminar in April with several students attending. Dr. Jeremiah Joseph spoke on chiropractic medicine and how life styles interrupt quality of care. One of our favorites Anita Koss from C.A.R.E. taught us to be a little more "street wise" for helping to save the next person needing assistance. We have another seminar planned for November 13th with CPR certification/updates and education on digestive disorders. Learn more about this on FSMA website.

Now supporting "Go Green" we have placed all chapter information on the FSMA website. All upcoming meetings, seminars, chapter information and local pictures are available.

In May we had a installation and cookout party; for the ending of the year to recognize incoming officers for the next year. Fine cruisine from our medical assistant chef's was

enjoyed by all.

This officer along with Heidi Fortin, CMA; Agnes Foxall, CMA and two students, Itzel Mendoza and Jerry Glatts attended the National Convention in Orlando.
National Convention was very rewarding. The House of Delegates was very interesting to see how our profession works on a national level with the discussion of bylaw changes and other motions . Our students had great things to say . What great networking for the both of them. We are very grateful for our chapter support and have been rewarded with information and experience we can utilize in our everyday lives, in our profession, and with our fellow medical assistants. Thank you to all board members , committees, and fellow medical assistants for the experience of National Convention in our home state of Florida.

The Southwest Chapter is looking forward to our meetings, local as well as state levels and the holiday seasons fast approaching. We feel medical assisting is coming more alive in our chapter. .