

MED-A-GRAM

Spring 2009

NEBRASKA | Society of
Medical Assistants
 AN AFFILIATE OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS



I AM A CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT

"I am dedicated to the care and well-being of all people."

—AAMA Medical Assistant Creed

- ★ **Grand Island**
- ★ **Great Plains**
- ★ **Hastings**
(2009 State Convention)
- ★ **Lincoln**
- ★ **Norfolk**
- ★ **Omaha**

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In Chicago, Illinois Page 15**

A publication of the
Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants

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All statements or comments in the Med-A-Gram
 are the opinion or statement of the writer and are
 not necessarily the opinion of the Nebraska
 Society of Medical Assistants or American
 Association of Medical Assistants.

Information contained within is meant to be
 informative, enlightening and helpful, but is
 subject to change.

American Association of Medical Assistants

www.aama-ntl.org

1-800-228-2262

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*If you would like a membership packet sent to a fellow Medical Assistant,
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 ueding48@yahoo.com

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 2255 S. 132nd Street
 Omaha, NE 68144
 402-717-3390



Conference Information

Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants

Attention CMAs, RNs, LPNs and Medical Office Personnel,

As the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants Conference Chairs, it is our privilege and pleasure to extend this official invitation to you to attend the 43rd annual NSMA Conference. The conference will be held at the Quality Hotel & Convention Center, 2205 Osborne Drive East, Hastings, Nebraska.

Included is the registration form and hotel reservation information. As you will notice on the registration form, you have the option of the full two day registration, which is your best deal, or individual days, if you are not able to come for the entire conference. Registration will begin Friday at 7:00 AM. There will be 12 hours of continuing education presented. The applicable fees are included in the registration fee. Registration deadline is April 9, 2009, No refunds after April 18, 2009.

On the Hotel Reservation Information sheet, note the deadline for room reservations. **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**, is the last date to obtain the special conference rate. Don't wait to make your hotel reservations as the allotment of rooms may fill up before the deadline date.

A special invitation is extended to all first time conference attendees, nonmembers and medical assisting students. You will be able to meet medical assistants and share ideas with them. Take a look at the organization and all it has to offer. There will be members available to answer any questions regarding our tri-level organization.

You will want to plan to attend the President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony, where we will be honoring members and installing our newly elected Board members. Meals that are included in the registration fee include the Friday Banquet, Saturday breakfast and Saturday luncheon. The winners of the NSMA Raffle Drawing will be announced on Saturday.

Make a note for your packing. It is difficult to keep the temperature in all rooms comfortable for everyone. Dress in layers – if desired. Dress Professional - casual business attire is requested for the entire conference including the CEU sessions and business meetings. No jeans, sweats, scrubs or cutoffs.

The Quality Hotel® & Convention Center is conveniently located on the north edge of town. This Hastings hotel is located to nearby attractions include the Bill Smith Softball Complex, Motorsport Park Hastings, Aquacourt Water Park, Hastings's Museum of Natural & Cultural History, Lied Super Screen Theatre, the Children's Museum of Central Nebraska and Hastings Lake.

Other points of interest include Hastings College, Central Community College Hastings Campus, Adams County Fairgrounds, Fisher Fountain, Pastimes Lanes, the YMCA and three golf courses. Local events that happen in the area include: Kool-Aid Days, Cottonwood Festival, Whoopers & Hoopers basketball tournament, & the Oregon Trail Rodeo.

Have fun shopping in Hastings with a variety of retail stores, antiques, specialty shops, department stores and unique art and craft merchants.

This Hastings, NE full-service hotel is walking distance to Dairy Queen, Earl May Garden Center, Barista's Daily Grind coffee house. The Wal-Mart Supercenter Store and Cimarron Plaza are less than three minutes away.

Be sure to visit the on-site Garden Cafe & Bakery and the Brass Ring Sports Lounge. Room service is available. The hotel also offers free fresh baked signature snicker doodle cookies in the lobby on Sundays through Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Guests of this Hastings, NE hotel will enjoy amenities and features like: Free wireless high-speed Internet access in the lobby and courtyard areas, Free 24-hour coffee and tea in the lobby, Free fresh fruit and granola bars available in the lobby daily from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., Free local calls, Pet-friendly hotel (additional fees apply).

After an exciting day of sightseeing or a busy day of work, relax in the indoor heated pool and hot tub. Be sure to take advantage of the exercise room, pool table, ping pong table, shuffleboard, foosball and game room.

During the weekend as we renew friendships, make new friends and share experiences, may we recharge our enthusiasm to become better medical assistants now and in the future. Let us continue to grow in our profession.

NSMA Conference Grant Application

In an effort to enhance the internal offerings and reward active membership in the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants, the Board of Directors has recently approved the NSMA Conference Grant Program.

One Grant will be offered annually and will pay the full registration fee to the Annual NSMA Conference.

APPLICANT CRITERIA:

- 1) Must be a dues paid member of the NSMA for a minimum of two consecutive years.
- 2) Must presently or in the past held an officer position at the Chapter level and served as an officer or committee chairman at the State level.
- 3) Must complete the following grant application and submit a copy of your organizational Curriculum Vitae to include offices committee positions you have held on the local and state levels, prior to the established deadline. You may provide additional documentation (i.e. letters of recommendation from peers, detailed accounts of specific contributions and involvement, samples of special projects). This information will assist the team of judges in evaluating your application.

An appointed panel of judges will select the winner, from the information provided in your application. Judges are the President Elect, Vice President, President, Immediate Past President, and the Awards chair.

Contact the Awards Committee Chairman with any questions.

Name: _____

Address: _____

AAMA ID#: _____ AAMA Member Since: _____

Phone: H) _____ Cell) _____ W) _____

Membership Status: _____ Chapter Affiliation: _____

Send completed application and supporting documentation by **December 31, of each year** to the current Awards Chairman. Please go to www.nsmaonline.org or check your current Fall Med-A-Gram for the current Awards Chairman.

Conference Agenda

**43rd Annual NSMA Conference at the Quality Hotel Conference Center
2205 Osborne Drive East, Hastings • Nebraska, 68901
402. 463. 6721**

(Sessions and times subject to change)

Friday, April 24, 2009

7:00 am - 12:30 pm
8:00 am - 9:00 am
9:00 am - 11:00 am
11:30 am - 12:30 pm
12:30 pm - 12:45 pm
12:45 pm - 2:45 pm

Registration (Foyer of the Convention Center)
Pre-Conference Board Meeting (Terrace Room)
House of Delegates (Convention Center)
Lunch on your own
Welcome to Hastings by Mayor Vernon Powers (Convention Center)
Meth and How it Impacts our Communities (Convention Center)
Chuck Elley, Nebraska State Patrol & Sally Elley, CMA (AAMA)
(2 CEUs - G)

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Break (Foyer of the Convention Center)
Need & Use of Mass Distribution Clinics during a Pandemic Flu or CBRNE & the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) (Convention Center)
Jim Morgan, Heartland Health
(1 CEU - G)

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Electronic Medical Records (Convention Center)
Michelle Stuhr
(1 CEU - G)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Infectious Diseases - What's out there, protection, treatment
(Convention Center)
Daniel Bralita, MD
(1 CEU - GC)

7:30 pm

President's Banquet and Awards Ceremony (Convention Center)

Saturday, April 25, 2009

6:30 am - 8:00 am
8:00 am - 10:00 am

Registration (Foyer of the Convention Center) & **Breakfast** (Courtyard)
STD's & Peer Pressure that Teens feel (Convention Center)
Maggie Henton
(2 CEUs - G)

10:00 am - 10:15 am
10:15 am - 11:15 am

Break (Foyer of the Convention Center)
Fibromyalgia (Convention Center)
David Swift, MD
(1 CEU - GC)

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

COPD-Not a curable but preventable disease (Convention Center)
Salam Salman, MD
(1 CEU - GC)

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Lunch and Speaker the National Representative from the AAMA (Courtyard)
Everywoman Matters and Nebraska Colon Cancer Screening Programs
(Convention Center)
Melissa Leypoldt, RN, Jane Green, RN
(1 CEU - GC)

2:30 pm - 2:45 pm
2:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Break (Foyer of the Convention Center)
ICD-10-CM The Next Medical Billing Challenge (Convention Center)
Pam Koch, RHIA, CSS-P
(2 CEUs - A)

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Post Conference Board meeting (Terrace Room)

Because we are honoring our elected officers and special guests this weekend, we ask that you dress in casual business attire, no jeans, scrubs, sweats or shorts, 'Thank you' for your professionalism and consideration."

Registration Form

43rd ANNUAL NSMA CONFERENCE
April 24 & 25, 2009
 Hastings, Nebraska 68901
<http://visithastingsnebraska.com/>

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Credentials _____ AAMA ID or Social Security # _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Employer _____ Telephone Work _____ Home _____

Fax Number _____ E-mail address _____

Chapter _____ Member _____ Nonmember _____ Student _____

Is this your first NSMA Conference? Y ___ N ___ Newly Certified Y ___ N ___ or Recertified since April 2008 Y ___ N ___.

Are you a Past State President Yes _____ No _____

FULL TWO DAY REGISTRATION

Members (meals & sessions)	\$110.00\$ _____
Non-Members (meals & sessions)	\$200.00\$ _____
Students (meals & sessions)	\$100.00\$ _____
Students (sessions only)	\$ 25.00\$ _____

FRIDAY ONLY

Members (meals & sessions)	\$ 40.00\$ _____
Non-Members (meals & sessions)	\$ 60.00\$ _____
Students (meals & sessions)	\$ 25.00\$ _____
Students (sessions only)	\$ 10.00\$ _____

SATURDAY ONLY

Members (meals & sessions)	\$ 60.00\$ _____
Non-Members (meals & sessions)	\$ 90.00\$ _____
Students (meals & sessions)	\$ 50.00\$ _____
Students (sessions only)	\$ 15.00\$ _____

Guest Dinner ticket for Friday Awards Banquet _____ @ \$ 20.00\$ _____

Guest Dinner ticket for the Saturday Luncheon _____ @ \$ 20.00\$ _____

LATE FEE - \$10.00 (for registration sent after 04-09-09) \$ 10.00\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

To provide accurate accounts for setup and meal preparation, please mark the following:

I will attend the Friday evening meal. Yes ___ No ___ Guest ticket Yes ___ # ___ No ___

I will attend the Saturday breakfast. Yes ___ No ___ Guest ticket Yes ___ # ___ No ___

I will attend the Saturday luncheon. Yes ___ No ___ Guest ticket Yes ___ # ___ No ___

Registration Deadline is April 9, 2009 – No Refunds after April 18, 2009

Make check or money order out to: **NSMA 2009 Conference fund.**

Mail completed form to: **Ann Vodicka, CMA (AAMA)**

PO Box 332, Milligan, Nebraska 68406

Questions for Conference Chair Sarah Klein, home 402-469-2505, sdk_piano@hotmail.com
 Co-Chair, Sally Elley, CMA (AAMA), home 402-463-2923, se91740@alltel.net

Hotel Reservation Information

Room discount until Tuesday, March 24, 2009,
for the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants
at
Quality Hotel and Convention Center



BY CHOICE HOTELS

2205 Osborne Drive East, Hastings, Nebraska 68901
(402) 463.6721 or 1.800.905.1200
www.qualityinn.com/hotel/NE089

1 room 2 Double beds - \$64.95

1 King room - \$64.95

If registered by **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

Check In – 3:00 pm/as rooms are available

Check Out – 11:00 am

Directions to Our Hotel:

Interstate 80 to Highway 281 South. Go to the second stop light in Hastings, which is North Shore Drive and take a left hand turn there, and then a right hand turn heading back South on Osborne Drive East. The property is located on the right hand side of the road. Traveling North on Highway 281, then you will drive north until you get to 16th Street and take a right hand turn which will take east. Follow this road and it will go over an overpass and curve north. The property will be on the left hand side of the road.

Letter From The President



I am not much with words, except that I want to say that this has been a great experience for me. I have learned so much from everyone, and although I have stumbled along the way, my love for the profession of Medical Assisting, the AAMA and NSMA has never been stronger. It takes a lot of dedicated people to keep an organization running as flawlessly as ours is, we should all be proud.

Our NSMA conference in North Platte this past year was great. There were great educational sessions, and I am not saying that just because my daughter presented one, I think she did a super job. I would like to involve her more, as she is a corporate attorney by trade and

maybe she can get our voices heard at the state level in Lincoln.

I was very proud to help represent Nebraska at the National Conference in Chicago. We have a great State and great local chapters and it shows at the national level. The national conference was superb, very well organized and the accommodations were beautiful. I wish our hotel had been closer to things downtown. I had to remember how to use the CTA transit system again. Since I grew up in Chicago, I rode the system a lot but I had forgotten that some of the "ins" and "outs" of rapid transit were not so rapid.

I discovered one thing about myself this year; I am not as effective in a leadership role. It is not from lack of caring, just that I am more comfortable as a behind-the-scenes kind of gal. I am willing to chip in and help on any committees of the NSMA and AAMA in any way I can, just in a more supportive role. I hope that I didn't add to anyone's stress level. I still say that I was under the influence of the pain

medication when I accepted the nomination for both the local chapter and the state level, but I am really glad I did. It has been a great learning experience for me.

Thanks for everyone's help and guidance and understanding, as this has been a rough couple of years for me personally. My mom passed two years ago, my dad last summer, my son was overseas and I had corrective surgery on my leg that I fractured. I also began working on my masters' degree in Health Care Administration. I will be finished in March and I hope to get into a position which can further the role of CMA's in the healthcare field.

I hope everyone is having a "Happy New Year", and as Bob Hope always said....."Thanks for the Memories". Together we will make many more and continue to promote the profession of Medical Assisting, the most rewarding career around.

Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA),
BSHCM
2008-09 NSMA President

2008-2009 NSMA Officers

PRESIDENT

Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA), BSHCM

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---	--

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PO Box 283 Carson, IA 51525-0283 Phone, work & fax, call before faxing 712-484-3446	Physicians Clinic, Inc Omaha, NE callensw@frontiernet.net
--	---

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Leigh Perez, CMA (AAMA)

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NSMA 2008-2009 Chapter Presidents

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Jeanette Goodwin, CMA (AAMA)
Lori Kounovsky, CMA
Janet Ueding, CMA (AAMA), LRT

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Three Years in the Making

It's finally arrived. The NSMA Policy Manual is now in print and has been distributed to all NSMA Board of Directors. The 2009 House of Delegates will be asked to officially approve the manual but it is currently available through the Document Committee Chair to any member who would like to preview the contents.

The Policy Manual was developed to help both new and experienced members understand and sort through the responsibilities of NSMA leader-

ship positions. The Manual contains information regarding the roles of elected Officers as well as the Standing Committees and helps to define the duties of these positions. The Manual offers advice for meeting protocols, reviews standard policies, presents leadership tips and much more.

This Manual will help NSMA move forward with projects and ideas by establishing a well documented written base to build on. As we are able to incorporate more active plans into our

agenda, more and more volunteers will be needed. The Policy Manual should streamline the training of members and improve the overall productivity of NSMA.

The NSMA Policy Manual will make your move to active membership better defined and a rewarding experience. Working together as a team, NSMA looks forward to many years of continued growth. Be a part of the future by reading the Manual and volunteer your services today.

NSMA Conference Updates

2010 NSMA's 44th Annual Conference, hosted by the Lincoln Chapter
April 16 & 17, 2010, at the Country Inn & Suites
5353 N 27th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68521

For more information contact:

Convention Chair: Lori Weskamp, CMA (AAMA), 402.464.7140, moolaw@windstream.net
or Convention Co-chair: Denise Arnold, CMA (AAMA), 402.420.5228

2011 NSMA 45th Annual Conference, hosted by the Grand Island Chapter
April 29, 30 & May 1, 2011 at the Howard Johnson Riverside Inn
3333 Ramada Rd, Grand Island, Nebraska, 68801

For more information contact: Convention Chair: Debra Potratz, CMA (AAMA), 308.382.6123,
potratz_fam@msn.org.

Thank You

To the 2008-2009 State Medical Advisory Board: Ivan Abdouch, MD, William Minier, MD,
Michael J Walts, MD

- To the 2008-09 elected and volunteering members of NSMA State Board and local chapters.
- To the 2008-09 elected and volunteering members of the AAMA.

Informing You for a Better You

20 Tips for A Better Life:

1. Take a 10-30 minute walk every day. And while you walk, smile. It is the ultimate anti-depressant.
2. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day.
3. Buy a DVR to tape your late night shows and get more sleep.
4. When you wake up in the morning complete the following statement, 'If there is just one thing I accomplish today, it is to _____.'
5. Dream more while you are awake.
6. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and less food that is manufactured in plants.
7. Drink green tea and plenty of water. Eat blueberries, wild Alaskan salmon, broccoli, almonds & walnuts.
8. Try to make at least three people smile each day.
9. Clear clutter from your house, your car, and your desk and make room for new energy to flow into your life.
10. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip, issues of the past, negative thoughts, or things you cannot control. Instead invest your energy in the positive present moment.
11. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince, and dinner like a college kid with a maxed out credit card.
12. Even though life isn't always fair, it's still good.
13. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
14. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.
15. Don't compare your life to others'. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
16. Frame every so-called disaster with these words: 'If I look back five years from now, how important will this be?'
17. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
18. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch.
19. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
20. Call your family often. (Or email them to death!!!)

AAMA Information

Contact Information

American Association of Medical Assistants

20 NORTH WACKER DRIVE, STE 1575 • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60606-2903
TOLL FREE 1-800-228-2262 • FAX 1-312-899-1259 • www.aama-ntl.org

Have you visited the Visit the AAMA Web site at www.aama-ntl.org? Here people can look for answers to questions about the AAMA and its services? Employers can verify an employee's CMA status, recruit CMAs through local accredited medical assisting programs and see exactly what a medical assistant can do in their office by looking at the *2007-2008 Occupational Analysis for the CMA (AAMA)*. Make sure to add this site in your 'favorites' page. Once you visit, you'll be a returning member.

Some areas will require your ID number to access information. This number is found on the mailing label of your CMA today magazine.

Membership: Need to notify us of your change of address so you'll get your CMA today on time? A few quick keystrokes under the change of address link will update you information to the membership staff. Also e-mail any question regarding your membership status, dues,

benefits and services.

Certification: Need a CMA exam application? E-mail a request and your mailing address. Send your certification questions this way also.

Continuing Education and Re-certification by CE: *Coming soon to the AAMA website:* In addition to the 2 CEUs available in your *CMA Today* every other month, now you can go to the AAMA website and do another CEU online 24/7. Check your CEUs on-line from the Continuing Education Registry after November 1, 2000. If you have any question about CEUs, program approval or recertifying by the CE method.

Accreditation: Need to find out about getting a medical assisting program accredited?

Conferences: Want to find out more about AAMA's upcoming conference or Med Expo Exhibition?

Communications: Do you have a question or comment about the CMA today?

M&M e-Update: Membership and Marketing has helpful ideas for you to attain new members and promote professionalism.

New CMAs (AAMA): Checkout this link for the newest Certified Medical Assistants (AAMA). See if you know anyone in your area.

New Self-study Products: Running short on CEUs, see a variety of offers to get you caught up.

State and chapter support: Newly graduated or new to the state and looking for chapter/volunteering or state website information this is the link for you.

Information on your membership card: Each year you renew your AAMA membership, you will receive a current membership card verifying your information. Information contained on the card is your activity status, membership ID number, your chapter ID and contact information for the AAMA.



Can you use a **GRAND?**
We're looking
for a ...

GRAND

IDEA!

Brainstorm an ad that

promotes the medical assisting profession, the Certified Medical Assistant® (CMA) credential and membership in the American Association of Medical Assistants (AAMA).

Your ad idea could win **\$1000!**

If you design the winning ad, you will receive a \$1,000 US Savings Bond from textbook publisher FA Davis. The award will be presented to you at the EXCEL Awards ceremony on September 14, 2009 during the AAMA Annual Convention in Houston, TX. Also, your ad will be on display during the convention, posted to the AAMA website for a month, and featured in *CMA Today*.

Your audience: Potential medical assisting students. Who better to tell them about entering the medical assisting profession than you!

Your ad's objectives:

- 1) Promote the medical assisting profession.
- 2) Promote the CMA credential.
- 3) Promote the AAMA.

Your judges: The AAMA Communications and Marketing Department will judge the awards.

Your deadline: July 1, 2009

How to get started: Think about what you would say to a friend or an acquaintance to encourage them in pursuing medical assisting as a profession. Why did you choose it as your career path? Then, think about what you would tell this person about going after that CMA credential. What kind of professional edge do those three letters provide. Finally, think about what you'd tell this person about joining the AAMA, the only national organization dedicated to promoting the interests of medical assistants. Keep your message simple.

Look through your favorite magazine to find ads that really capture your attention. What is it about an ad that grabs you. Is it funny? Is it profound? Does it motivate you to buy something, or to do something, or to think about something you've never thought about before? What is the ad's slogan? What is its call to action?

Eligibility: You are eligible to enter if you are enrolled in and have completed at least one quarter or semester at a postsecondary medical assisting program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

Ad details: Your ad must include ...

- a slogan—a brief, memorable statement that summarizes your message. (See sample.)
- body copy—limit 30 words. (Keep your objectives in mind!)
- a call to action—again, a brief statement telling your audience what you want them to do. (See sample.)

Submission requirements:

- Hard copies only.
- Ad size must be 8 1/2" x 11" (letter-sized paper).
- Ads must be formatted vertically (ie, portrait orientation). (See sample.)
- You can design your ad using any medium (eg, electronically with word processing, desktop publishing and/or graphic software, crayons, markers).
- One student per ad.
- One ad per student.

Judging criteria: Submissions will be judged based on writing, design concept, and effectiveness.

Entries that do not meet all the submission requirements will automatically be disqualified.

Submissions will not be returned.

Entry form: Fill out this form, detach it, and mail it by **July 1, 2008** with your entry to the AAMA at the address displayed below.

Your full name: _____
 Your address: _____
 Your city and state: _____
 Your zip code: _____
 Your daytime phone number: _____
 Your e-mail address: _____
 The institution name of your medical assisting program: _____

Institution address: _____

Institution city and state: _____

Institution zip code: _____

Your instructor's name: _____



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS
20 N. WACKER DR., STE. 1575
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60606

web site: www.aama-ntl.org

800.228.2262

Newly Certified Medical Assistants

The Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants would like to acknowledge the following Certified Medical Assistants who passed their certification exam in January and June of 2008:

Newly Certified:

LaChryle Ashley Nisby-Gardner CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Lakesha D Muhammad CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Elizabeth A Stockard CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Misty J. Griggs CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Lyndsay Marie Flaten CMA (AAMA), Sidney
 Bobbie Jo Rowland CMA (AAMA), Friend
 Amy Vanderpool CMA (AAMA), Lindsay
 Elizabeth Cheryl Rausch CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Alecia Ann Bentley CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 BriAnne G. Bartels CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Shannan Colette Kramer CMA (AAMA), Valparaiso
 Jessica Ann Sandoval CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Mary K. Finke CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Heidi Rae Hornbeak CMA (AAMA), Beatrice
 Cynthia A Heine CMA (AAMA), York
 Lydia J Meece CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Sara Virginia Anderson CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Ranae E. Jensen CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Amanda Cristine Katz CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Heather Rae Hoagland CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Kerrie Lynn Brand CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Amy R McCarter CMA (AAMA), Ogallala
 Frances Marie Johnson CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Crystal Zubia CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Cheryl Lynn Beaumont CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Crystal Dawn Burns CMA (AAMA), Auburn
 Keri A. Wisnieski CMA (AAMA), Norfolk
 Tami Lynn Newbrey CMA (AAMA), Hastings
 Brila Aduato CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Yvonne M. Letsch CMA (AAMA), Panama
 Denise A Johnson CMA (AAMA), Scottsbluff
 Heather Owsley CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Deb Rogers-Early CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Amanda Kay Gotschall CMA (AAMA), Fremont
 Elizabeth Margaret Rott CMA (AAMA), Hastings
 Valerie M Guinn CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Marlys Kay Dieken CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 KayCee Lea Moss CMA (AAMA), Adams
 Sarah L Kaiser CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Katie L. Arnold CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Erica Sheree Rogers CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Tracy Lynn Smith CMA (AAMA), Seward
 Jeannine L. Elsbernd CMA (AAMA), Grand Island
 Tanya M. Frey CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Allison A Eickhoff CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Jamie Dumas CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Jenny Renae Novak CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Brenda J Bramhall CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Sandra Kay Ockinga CMA (AAMA), Ayr
 Natasha L. Kvasnicka CMA (AAMA), Hickman
 Melanie D. Zimmer CMA (AAMA), Pleasanton
 Jeanna R Loeffler CMA (AAMA), York
 Kimberly J Hayes CMA (AAMA), Osceola
 Rayna Ann Wallace CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Angelique M Freeman CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Yvette L Valery CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Mysia Deborah Leah Patterson CMA (AAMA), Seward
 Brandy Nicole Baxter CMA (AAMA), Weeping Water

Recertified:

Laura J. Blankenship CMA-C (AAMA) RN , Arlington
 Karen Sue Kahnk CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Debra K. Potratz CMA (AAMA), Grand Island
 Jeri J. Herrera CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Karen R. Webster CMA (AAMA), Avoca
 Debbie L. Packmore CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Stacie J. Roth CMA (AAMA), Milford
 Linnea R. Williams CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Christel Lynne Barth CMA (AAMA), Utica
 Kelly R. Dobesh CMA (AAMA) CPC, RCC, Wood River
 Lisa Jean Spatz CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Pamela Jo Dyer CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Beth Ann Sheridan CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Lynn R Maca CMA (AAMA), Rogers
 Kari Ellen Grams CMA (AAMA), Kenesaw
 Susan E. Marx CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Michelle L. Lentz CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Tina Marie Owen CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Angela L. Feeney CMA (AAMA), Central City
 Emilia Veronica Moore CMA (AAMA), Bellevue
 Amber J. Kalkwarf CMA (AAMA) EMT-B, Ceresco
 Jennifer A McCoy CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Deborah G. Cole CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Jill Serae Speece CMA (AAMA), Fairmont
 Linda Catherine Formanek CMA (AAMA), Lindsay
 Janeen L. Sturtevant CMA (AAMA), Waverly
 Leslea K Hohman CMA (AAMA), Clay Center
 Diane Marie Lamberson CMA (AAMA) LSO16, Saint Paul
 Debra L. Rall CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Lesley Brooke Miller CMA (AAMA), Kearney
 Tasha Delts CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Debra Marie Soloman CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Kristy Lynn Thurber CMA (AAMA), Omaha
 Linda K. May CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Jamie Beth Johnson CMA (AAMA), Eagle
 Diane Marie Kalkwarf CMA (AAMA), Crete
 Christina Marie Scott CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Keely McGill Preister CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Julia F. Jacobus CMA (AAMA), Papillion
 Jerri L. Neemann CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Lori A. Lesiak CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Susan L Kizer CMA (AAMA), Overton
 Alana J. McCrillis CMA (AAMA), Blair
 Shelly A. Hankins CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Lori D. Kounovsky CMA (AAMA), Plainview
 Janet M. Koranda CMA (AAMA), Fremont
 Shirley A. Lanning CMA (AAMA), Gering
 Valerie M. Ruckman CMA (AAMA) AAS, Murray
 Tuyet Nhung Nguyen CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Rebecca A. Spaulding CMA (AAMA), Ralston
 Tennille R. Lindgreen CMA (AAMA), Grand Island
 Oksana Y. Shvets CMA (AAMA), Lincoln
 Kerry Anne Davis CMA (AAMA), Hastings
 Shirley J. Newton CMA (AAMA), Cambridge
 Sharon Ann Gilg CMA (AAMA), Central City
 Susan Lynn Phillips CMA (AAMA), Lincoln

We try to get the most accurate list of passing Certified Medical Assistants from the AAMA, but we may inadvertently miss someone. Do know that we are proud of each of you and your accomplishments. Congratulations on a job well done.

CAAHEP & ABHES Accredited Colleges in Nebraska

ALEGENT HEALTH

CAAHEP & ABHES Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Dona Marotta, CMA, (AAMA), BSHCM
Program Coordinator
810 N. 96th St.
Omaha, NE 68114
402-717-1940
F) 402-717-1995
dona.marotta@alegent.org

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CAAHEP Accredited: Diploma, Associate
Medical Assisting Program
Michel McKinney, CMA (AAMA)
Program Coordinator
PO Box 1024
Hastings, NE 68902-1024
402-461-2405
F) 402-460-2138
mmckinney@cccneb.edu

KAPLAN UNIVERSITY - LINCOLN CAMPUS

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Michelle Guthard, CMA (AAMA)
Program Coordinator
1821 'K' St
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-474-5315
F) 402-474-5302
mguthard@kaplan.edu

KAPLAN UNIVERSITY - OMAHA CAMPUS

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Kristine Gargano, BS, RRT, Dept. Head
3350 N 90th St
Omaha, NE 68134
402-572-8500
F) 402-573-1341
kagargano@kaplan.edu

METHODIST COLLEGE

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Marcia Franklin, RN, BSN
Program Coordinator
720 N. 87th St.
Omaha, NE 68114-2852
402-354-7076
F) 402-354-7250
marcia.franklin@methodistcollege.ed

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CAAHEP Accredited: Diploma
Medical Assisting Program
Jeanette Goodwin, BSN, CMA (AAMA)
Program Coordinator
8800 'O' ST
Lincoln, NE 68520
402-437-2756
F) 402-437-2404
jgoodwin@southeast.edu

VATTEROTT COLLEGE

ABHES Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Valerie Ruckman, AAS, CMA (AAMA)
11818 I St
Omaha, NE 68137
402-891-9411, ext. 235
F) 402-778-4036
valerieruckman@vatterottcollege.edu

Delegates Reports

Summary of Delegates and Alternates reports from the 52nd Annual AAMA Conference in Chicago, Illinois October 17-21, 2008

This year's theme was "**My Kind of Conference**," with 907 registrants as of Saturday.

Highlights from the Board of Trustees/Endowment Meetings:

Roll call was taken and the gallery was introduced with having 100% of Nebraska's Delegates/Alternates in attendance.

The Board of Trustees indentified a marketing relationship with Professional Association of Health Care Office Managers (PAHCOM) but discussion was held on whether that should continue due to the expense. The AAMA is strengthening ties with PAHCOM as part of an initiative to reach out to hiring decision makers about the CMA (AAMA). AAMA had an exhibit at this conference and 218 out of the 217 attendees stopped by the booth asking about information on the CMA (AAMA).

AAMA Executive Director Donald Balsa, JD, MBA, talked about strategic issues planning. They prioritized outreach marketing efforts and looked at funding to attend different types of conventions that place a high priority on CMAs and developing a strategic plan timeline. During this time they will develop a mission and vision statement, the committee will look to develop a value statement. A committee is working to present a new plan at the winter board meeting in hopes that the AAMA representatives will be able to bring it to each state annual conference. Don wrote an article for the *Journal of Medical Practice*

Management which could create increased recognition and distinctiveness of the CMA (AAMA).

The Advanced Practice Document was updated due to the changes in the Occupational Analysis of the CMA (AAMA) for more advanced CMAs. This was discussed and voting to approve was deferred to the next BOT meeting. Discussion dealt with emergency preparedness planning and community response planning for disasters, and defined the roles of the administrative management role verses lower level CMAs. It was brought up that the wording needs to be clear and precise for all to understand as written, and educators need to be aware of these changes and implement them into their curriculum.

At the State Society Committee request, the Board allocated funds for a survey and mailing to members in the state of Louisiana, in response to possible interest in forming a state society (there has never been a state society in Louisiana). Funds for postage and stationery for the survey in Louisiana - approved. The Board will assist as much as possible to establish this affiliate. It was mentioned that there are some state societies that are becoming stronger again after a dormant period.

Changes may be forthcoming on the AAMA Mentoring section as there is currently little activity generated from this site.

The Board received questions about the CMA (AAMA) credential, particularly on how to verify the status of the credential.

The Board stated that not all states are tri-level membership, some are just bi-level.

The Board stated that Oklahoma will be issued their charter and Arkansas's charter will be reissued.

The Board dissolved the task force on telemedicine due to the fact the charge was completed.

The Board discussed AAMA contacts with the military to make a connection for the CMA role in the military.

President and President Elect Advisory Council on Friday:

The Leadership and Mentoring Team presented a Mentoring session on how all states need to work together to keep the AAMA going. They also gave us a "pep" talk on the mentoring of members and how it was crucial to the tri-level organization. Several requests from members were shared with the group:

- Adding the State affiliation name to members listed on the conference program roster.
- Reorganizing the list of new CMA (AAMA)s on the website so they are grouped by states and in alphabetical order.
- AAMA developing a learning module for all new medical assisting program directors.
- Exploring possibilities of holding meetings and member discussions online, i.e. chat rooms.
- Creating an "alert" on the website when there are special notices or when the website is updated.

David Knight informed us that the CEU attendance form is in an Excel spreadsheet, that can be

completed online now and our transcripts will be updated daily now.

They are looking into finally doing all identification with the membership number and not the member's social security number and finding a way to identify non members that submit CEUs.

Electronic Learning Center (ELC) (obtaining CEUs) will be available online at the AAMA website by the end of the year and available 24/7 and you will have your results in 72 hours. These will be different from those offered in the *CMA Today*. It will be \$7 for members and \$15 for non members. Another positive step forward in helping members keep up on their CEUs and staying certified. The Board was asked to consider allowing CEUs to be earned for serving as a delegate and for active AAMA involvement. This was taken under advisement.

Membership and Marketing did a skit with "Henry the Hand" on hand washing.

This is a free promotional idea that states/chapters can use to promote themselves and the CMA (AAMA) through reminding the public to stop the spread of disease by washing their hands. Check out the website for things you can download and use at: www.henrythehand.com.

The **Career Moves** videotape was updated and transferred to a DVD format and each state was given one and others are available for purchase. The Career Moves DVD can be used as a marketing and membership tool.

Linda Brown, CMA (AAMA), AAMA President then asked the group for concerns/questions. Some of the thoughts were: watching for drop in membership due to the economy, to clarify the conference program to add the states behind the members

names listed in the program and to match the speaker to the conference topic, discussed online CEU's and how it may affect chapter/state membership, marketing the CMA, conference costs, new program director classes to be held at AAMA conference, how member-at-large is assigned, and how states can make changes. Did you know that dues to AAMA have not been increased since 1992?

Leadership A Training HOD DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE ORIENTATION:

This session covered the general information, the purpose of a resolution, who may present a resolution, submission date, emergency or late resolutions, procedure on presenting a resolution, process of review of the resolution, checklist for submitting a resolution, action by the Board of Trustees, how to format a resolution, provided a sample of a proposed resolution prior and after review of the Board of Trustees. They also handed out "The ABCs of Parliamentary Procedure" booklet and a parliamentary procedure at a glance guide.

Delegate, Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) was Chair of the Resolutions committee this year. During the Leadership A training they had the orientation of the committees on credentials, pages, tellers, and reference. They were instructed how to handle their duties during the HOD on Sunday.

Leadership B Training:

Leadership B is now presented as the final session on the last day of the conference and is worth 2 CEUs. All delegates are required to attend the Leading with Impact session. This session covered leadership

concepts, medical assistants: leaders at work; linking leadership to patient outcomes; and coaching and mentoring strategies for AAMA chapters. Leaders provide balance in an organization, good employees become leaders but they don't always have the skills for leaders. She did talk to us on being effective CMA (AAMA), leaders at work, mentoring in the AAMA. She did give us a handout for developing a leadership plan with employees, as a group and individually. She also researched the Bureau of Labor Statistics website and found that medical assisting has the fastest growth rate of all professions.

Other topics of interest at the Conference:

Attending conference was Mary F Dunham, from Montana; she has been an AAMA member for 51 years.

The MAERB presented a program regarding the implementation of the 2007-2008 Occupational Analysis for CMA (AAMA) in medical assisting programs. The major changes included rewording the description of the profession, deleting the requirement for having a physician medical advisor on the Board, the addition of a practicum (replaces the term 'externship'), coordinator and the program director requirements have been changed to include a minimum of three years experience. CAAHEP has established the standard requiring an exit exam by every graduate with a five year window to achieve results. MAERB has established the outcome standard at a 70% pass rate. More information is available on the AAMA website under the endowment tab.

Again the Continuing Education Board presented four

electronic media presentations for CEUs. Members watched a power point presentation, took a test and received one CEU for each topic if they scored 80% or higher on the test. There was a new topic each day, Friday through Monday.

The AAMA joined in going "Green" this year. Recycling containers were available to members to recycle cans, bottles, and paper materials this year. The AAMA also feel that doing CEUs online will cut down on paper use and staff time.

Since our conference was held in Chicago, home of the AAMA, a lot of the headquarter and registration table time was taken care of by the AAMA staff from the home office, thus allowing members to be able to attend more of the conference rather than spending time volunteering to cover these areas. It could not be verified, but was heard that the AAMA was going to allocate money to future conferences to hire temporary help in conference cities to handle these duties from now on and rely less on members to do these jobs.

Nebraska had a Ways and Means table selling all of the polo shirts and sweatshirts we had taken with us. The members took turns at the table and monitor sessions on Saturday.

Certifying Board General Session: Computer-based testing for the CMA (AAMA) Exam.

After years of waiting the Certification test is finally available online and will be offered every month after the initial setup period beginning 2009. Candidates must be graduates from an accredited CAAHEP or ABHES medical assisting program. Exam fees for students, recent graduates and AAMA members of \$125 and you will be

given an unofficial pass/fail at the end of the test beginning April 1, 2009. For non-recent graduates and recertificants who are not AAMA members the fee is \$250. Personal checks are not accepted but you can pay by money order, cashier or certified check, and credit/debit card. Candidates have a 90 day testing period where they can only take the exam once and if they fail to take the exam they lose their exam fee. All fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

The test consists of 200 questions covering General, Administrative, and Clinical with 20 pretest question randomly distributed throughout the exam which are not graded but used for testing data.

The exam takes approximately 3 hours and 15 minutes with an optional 20 minute break. Starting November 1, practice tutorial and sample questions will be available on the AAMA website at www.aama-ntl.org. Prometric is the network in charge of the testing sites nationwide, which is the same system that doctors use for their testing. Don Balsas, JD, MBA, presented the undeniable evidence that the CMA (AAMA) has always been, and continues to be, the "gold standard" of medical assisting credentials. Charles Reed, MD, presented a physicians perspective on why the National Board of Medical Examiners' (NBME) role as test consultants of the CMA (AAMA) Exam bespeaks quality and integrity to American physicians. Nebraska has 2 members who serve on this committee, Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA) and Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC.

The mechanics and details of the CBT were presented by the Certifying Board members Deb Rossi, CMA (AAMA), and Diane VanderPloeg, CMA (AAMA). Of

particular note was the fact that students in CAAHEP and ABHES accredited medical assisting programs will be able to sit for the CMA (AAMA) Exam as early as 30 days before completion of all program content including externship/practicum. Also, unofficial pass-fail results will be provided to examinees immediately upon completion of the test. The candidate will not be CMA (AAMA) certified until scores are official; official results forthcoming six-ten weeks after the test.

NBME Assessment Officer Brent Pierce presented additional details about CBT, and explained how the encryption of the tests will provide maximum security. The standardized processes at all Prometric test centers will ensure a consistent and reliable examination experience for all candidates.

Please check www.aama-ntl.org for further information on doing the certification test online.

AAMA staff have received over 100 requests for CMA (AAMA) verification for employment purposes.

Welcome Reception:

Saturday evening was the sports themed Welcome Party. So what is a sports party without a sports pro? Fred Adani, former Detroit Tiger (1961-62) and husband of Bryna Adani, CMA (AAMA) decked out in a #14 Detroit Tigers jersey attended and spoke at our Welcome Party about his days as a player. His teammates said that Fred was the fastest thing on two feet and his batting average during his two years was over 300. He was introduced into the Detroit Federation Baseball Hall of Fame in 1989. AAMA members played "find the member" which detailed getting a signature from a member from all 50 states.

Lots of sports themed food was served topped off with a brownie and ice cream bar.

House of Delegates:

We did not have a keynote speaker this year, so that we as Delegates could get to the business of the day.

Speaker of the House, Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA), called the HOD to order and introductions were made.

Oklahoma received their charter and their Delegates were seated at the 52nd Annual House of Delegates.

Cindy Larson, CMA (AAMA), from Arkansas was given a replacement charter after theirs was destroyed.

The report of the credential chair stated the following: voting power-129; registrants-126; proxy votes-1; total voting power-127; majority vote-65; two-thirds vote-85.

Illinois State President Patricia Bean, CMA, (AAMA) gave the welcome. The agenda was approved and the proclamation was read by the Conference Chair from the Mayor of Rosemont, the Mayor of Chicago, the Governor of Illinois, and letters were read from the AMA President and from Senator Barack Obama. AAMA President Linda Brown, CMA (AAMA), gave a supplemental report about PAHCOM and efforts to reach office managers. Rules of the House were approved.

Nominations were taken from the floor for the offices of Vice President, Vice Speaker, Speaker of the House, Trustees and Nomination Committee. Andrea Stewart CMA (AAMA) ran for nominating committee but, unfortunately, was not voted in.

Roberta Antrim, CMA-A (AAMA), MHR, was recognized

for her lifetime of dedication to the association. 12 other AAMA Life Members were honored.

Karen Minchella, PhD, CMA (AAMA) gave a tribute to two members who have passed on.

Reference Committee Reports were presented on:

Reports- Board of Trustees, President, Vice President, Representatives Bureau, Secretary-Treasurer, Speaker of the House, Vice Speaker of the House, Trustee reports, Executive Director, Leadership Development and Mentoring Strategy Team, Ad Hoc Committee on Role Delineation Study, Annual Conference Committee, Awards Committee, Bylaw and Resolution Committee, Documents Committee, Editorial Advisory Committee, House of Delegates Minutes Committee, Judicial Council, Nominating Committee, Strategic Issues Planning Committee, State Societies Committee, Professional Development Task Force, Telemedicine Task Force, Certifying Board, and Continuing Education Board.

Again was stressed to the AAMA Board and Trustees give a more detailed report of what they do and where they go during their yearly report to the HOD.

Bylaws - Proposed Bylaw Amendment 08-01; 08-02; 08-03; and 08-04 all had to deal with Officer and Trustee qualifications. Instead of having served two years as a member of the Board of Trustees, Chair of Certifying Board, Curriculum Review Board or Continuing Education Board, all proposals sought candidates within the most recent five AAMA years, have served two complete AAMA years as a HOD elected member of the Board of Trustees. Again, after much discussion and confu-

sion, these were all defeated and referred back to the committee.

Resolutions - Carol Hipke-Muske, CMA (AAMA), served as chair of the Resolutions Committee.

08-1 regarding the governance of AAMA and 08-2 regarding the annual medical assisting summit.

Much discussion took place over the resolutions and they were withdrawn by request of states (CA and PA) that introduced them. The HOD approved to withdraw both Resolutions.

We had the opportunity to meet and visit with most of the candidates and caucus before Delegates voted.

Donald Balsa, JD, MBA, reported he had received emails regarding 6-8 week medical assisting programs and is working with the Federal Trade Commission regarding certification mills.

The HOD approved all reports be accepted and filed for future reference.

The following members were elected in the House of Delegates:

President: Kathryn Panigotacos, CMA (AAMA), Florida

Vice President: Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA), Colorado

Speaker: Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA) Florida

Vice Speaker: Chris Hollander, CMA (AAMA), Colorado

Trustees: Nina Watson, CMA, (AAMA), CPC, North Carolina, Paula Purdy, CMA (AAMA), Oregon, Karen Minchella, PhD, CMA (AAMA), Michigan

Nomination Committee: Crissy Taylor, CMA (AAMA), South Carolina, Joyce Garibay, CMA (AAMA), Oregon, Donna Lynn Metcalf, CMA (AAMA), Idaho, Darcy Atwood, CMA (AAMA), Arizona

The Marketplace Luncheon:

The marketplace gave us an opportunity to check out 18 booths of the latest health-related literature for educators, technology and products. Booths included the Medical Assisting Education Review Board to answer educator's questions regarding the **new 2007-2008 Occupational Analysis for the CMA (AAMA)**. Also there was; representatives from the Group Administration Agency, Inc on membership insurance programs, the AAMA booth where members could stop by and ask questions, the AAMA Society of Past Presidents, where people could make donations to the Maxine Williams Scholarship and Ivy Reade Relkin Surveyor Training funds. This year they collected \$2565.50 and \$2589.50 respectively. The vendors were there all afternoon, which gave us time to go back and look at material when it was not so busy.

The vendors were there all afternoon, which gave us time to go back and look at material when it wasn't so busy.

Excel Awards Luncheon:

The luncheon was a power point presentation to show award winners. Nebraska has cracked the 500+ mark for membership this past year, moving us into **category C, 501-800 members**.

The Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants received two "**EXCEL**" awards for membership recruitment and retention. An a "**Achievement**" award in Publishing for our Med-A-Gram publication, Carol Hipke-Muske, CMA,(AAMA) Editor, Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA), State President. Congratulations to Nebraska!

Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA) CPC representing the AAMA Certifying Board assisted in presenting the certification awards for the greatest percentage increase of CMA members.

"**FA Davis Student Award**", for a \$1,000 US savings bond was won by medical assisting student Suzanne Dykas, Macomb Community College, Clinton Township, Michigan. The "**Spirit of Medical Assisting**" went to Kathleen Moore, CMA-ACP (AAMA), BSN, RN, Oregon. The "**Golden Apple**" went to Diane M Klieger, MBA, RN, CMA (AAMA).

The luncheon ended with the Southwest Region presenting a slide show of Houston, along with a visit from an astronaut who said, "Houston, we have NO problem, AAMA is here".

President's Banquet:

It started off with the introduction of each state President. Highlighting the end of the conference was Linda Brown, CMA

(AAMA) the 2006-2007 AAMA President installing Kathryn Panigotacos, CMA (AAMA), from Florida as the new AAMA 2007-2008 President at the President's Banquet. Incoming President Kathryn Panigotacos gave her acceptance speech and focused on "I care" about this association and about you, the members and what we represent. Her full speech should appear in an upcoming issue of *CMA Today*.

The evening ended with a reception for the outgoing and incoming Presidents.

53rd AAMA National Convention:

Houston, Texas

September 11-15, 2009

54th AAMA National Convention:

Lake Buena Vista Florida,
September 24-28, 2010

55th AAMA National Convention:

Indianapolis, Indiana,
September 9-13, 2011

We would like to thank the Nebraska members for electing us to attend the National Conference on behalf of them. As always, we feel the conferences are good and it is great to see all the members you have connected with from previous conferences and meeting new members.

Submitted by the Nebraska 2009 AAMA Delegates and Alternate Delegates:

Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA), BSHCM
Delegate, Omaha Chapter
Carol Hipke-Muske, CMA (AAMA)
Delegate, Hastings Chapter
Laura Blankenship, CMA-A(AAMA)
Delegate, Omaha Chapter

Lori D. Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA)
Alternate Delegate, Plainview Chapter
Linda Allensworth, CMA(AAMA), CPC
Alternate Delegate, Omaha Chapter
Debra Potratz, CMA (AAMA)
Grand Island, Chapter
Andy Stewart, MLT, CMA (AAMA)
Alternate Delegate, Great Plains
Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA)
Alternate Delegate, Omaha Chapter

2008 National AAMA Convention



Andy and Lori relax with facials on our 1st Day in Chicago



Carol, Lori, Andy and Deb eat at a local landmark, Giordano's



Michel comes along to keep an eye on us.

AAMA House of Delegates



Nebraska Delegates and Alternates at the House of Delegates: Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA); Laura Blankenship, CMA-A (AAMA); Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA), BSHCM; Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC; Andy Stewart, MLT, CMA (AAMA); Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA); Deb Potratz, CMA (AAMA); Lori Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA)



Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) was chair of the Resolutions Committee at the AAMA House of Delegates



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The Joffrey Ballet



Chicago's Theater District



Deb Potratz, Carol Muske, Andy Stewart, Lori Kounovsky & Michel McKinney attend Wicked



Chicago's Theater District

Welcome Party



Nebraska members attend the Welcome Party: Deb Potratz, CMA (AAMA), Lori Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA), Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA), Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA), Jeannine Nagel, CMA (AAMA), Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA), Michel McKinney, CMA (AAMA), Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC, Andy Stewart, MLT, CMA (AAMA), Laura Blankenship, CMA-A (AAMA)



Fred Adani, former Detroit Tiger (1961-62) and husband of Bryna Adani, CMA (AAMA), spoke at our Welcome Party about his days as a player



Jim Wagoner, CMA (AAMA), serenades his fans at the Welcome Party



Even our own Jeannine Nagel can dance with the best of them



Everyone has a good time at the Welcome Party



Deb can't get enough of that chocolatey goodness at the Welcome Party

Awards Luncheon



Nebraska members attend the Awards Luncheon: Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA), Lori Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA), Michel McKinney, CMA (AAMA), Laura Blankenship, CMA-A (AAMA), Deb Potratz, CMA (AAMA), Andy Stewart, MLT, CMA (AAMA), Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA), Jeannine Nagel, CMA (AAMA), Linda Allensworth, CMA(AAMA), CPC, Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA)



Nebraska Vice President, Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) presents a souvenir to President Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA)



President Linda Brown presents Nebraska President, Dona Marotta, CMA, (AAMA), with EXCEL Awards in Membership Recruitment and Membership Retention



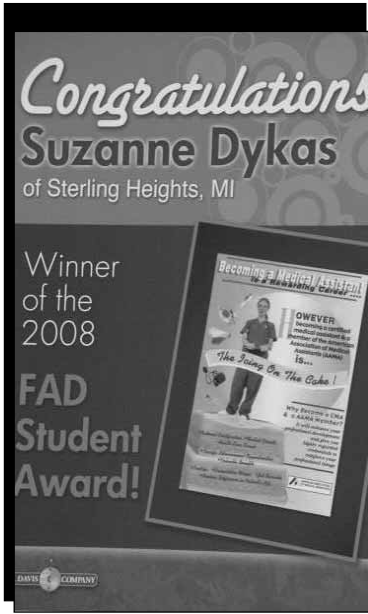
President Linda Brown presents Kathleen Moore, CMA-ACP (AAMA), BSN, RN with the Spirit of Medical Assisting Award



President Linda Brown presents Diane M Klieger, MVA, RN, CMA (AAMA) the Golden Apple Award



Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC, from Nebraska, representing the AAMA Certifying Board, presents the Certification Awards



Winner of the F.A. Davis student contest: Suzanne Dykas, Macomb Community College, Clinton Township, Michigan



Houston, we are a go for next year's 2009 AAMA Conference in Texas.



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This is how NOT to show up for your student clinical rotation.

AAMA President's Banquet



Andy Stewart, MLT, CMA (AAMA); Deb Potratz, CMA (AAMA); Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA); Lori Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA); Laura Blankenship, CMA-A (AAMA); Michel McKinney, CMA (AAMA); Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA); Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC



Andy enjoys attending the President's Banquet.



Outgoing AAMA President, Linda Brown, CMA (AAMA) installs Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) as the new 2009 AAMA President



Dona Marotta, CMA (AAMA) represents Nebraska at the President's Banquet.



Nebraska members congratulate the new 2009 AAMA President Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) Andy Stewart, Dona Marotta, Kathryn, Linda Allensworth, Laura Blankenship, Lori Kounovsky, Carol Muske & Michel McKinney

AAMA Trustees Meeting



President Linda Brown provides Past President Rebecca Walker with the necessary items to return to North Carolina to survive any hurricane that may hit the state.



Educational Opportunities for Medical Assistants



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Central Community College in partnership with Southeast Community College will be offering educational opportunities for Nebraska Medical Assistants.

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- Preparation to sit for the AAMA certification exam (CMA)

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Contact CCC - Michel McKinney, CMA (AAMA), mmckinney@cccneb.edu or SCC - Jeanette Goodwin, CMA(AAMA), RN, jgoodwin@southeast.edu today for more information on these healthcare training opportunities.

This project was funded in part, by a grant awarded under the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants, as implemented by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.



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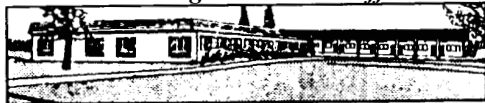


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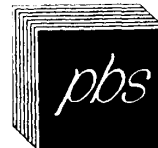
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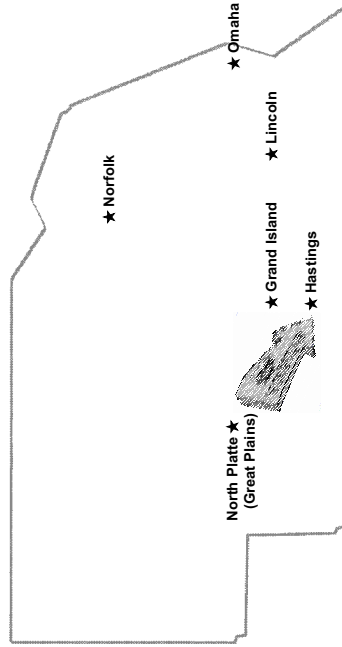
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