

MED-A-GRAM

Spring 2010



I AM A CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT

"I am loyal to my employer."

—AAMA Medical Assistant Creed

★ **Grand Island**

★ **Great Plains**

★ **Hastings**

★ **Lincoln**
(2010 State Convention)

★ **Norfolk**

★ **Omaha**

Important Registration Information Enclosed

for the 2010 NSMA Conference Page 4

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In Houston, Texas Page 15**

**A publication of the
Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants**

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All statements or comments in the Med-A-Gram
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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,
contact the NSMA Membership Chairman:*

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Omaha, NE 68144
402-717-3390
jueding48@yahoo.com

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 44th annual NSMA Conference. The conference will be held at the Country Inn & Suites/ Beacon Hills Conference Center, 5353 N.27th St., Lincoln, 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 10:30 AM. There will be approximately 10-12 hours of continuing education presented. The applicable fees are included in the registration fee. Registration deadline is April 2, 2010. No refunds after April 10, 2010.

On the hotel reservation information sheet, note the deadline for room reservations. **Thursday, March 25, 2010**, is the last date to obtain the special conference group rate. Do not 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, non-members 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.

We will be honoring members and installing our newly elected Board members during the conference. Meals that are included in the registration fee include the Friday Dinner 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, so please, dress in layers---if desired. We are requesting that you dress in professional-casual business attire for the entire conference, including the CEU sessions and business meetings. No jeans, sweats, scrubs or cutoffs.

The Country Inn & Suites is conveniently located just off I-80 on N.27th Street. This hotel provides easy access to numerous attractions, including downtown Lincoln, the Nebraska State Capitol and Lincoln Children's Zoo. It is also convenient to Lincoln Municipal Airport, Lincoln Memorial Stadium, Antelope Park and several area businesses and restaurants.

Guests of this Lincoln, NE hotel will enjoy many amenities such as...complimentary high-speed Internet, heated indoor pool, fitness center, pet friendly, and on-site dining. The hotel also provides free continental breakfast, featuring beverages, muffins, cereals, breads, fruit, and waffles!

As we gather to attend the 44th Annual NSMA Conference, we hope your stay is enjoyable and comfortable. May we take this opportunity to continue growing in our profession and to become the best medical assistants we can be!

Conference Agenda

44th Annual NSMA Conference at the Country Inn & Suites 5353 N. 27th St., Lincoln, NE 68521, 402-476-5353

(Sessions and times subject to change)

Friday, April 16, 2010

8:00am - 9:00am	Pre-Conference Board Meeting (Nebraska Room)
10:30am - 12:30pm	Registration (Foyer of the Convention Center)
9:00am - 11:00am	House of Delegates
11:30am - 12:30pm	Lunch on your own
12:30pm - 1:00pm	Welcome to Lincoln by Mayor Chris Beutler (tentative) (All sessions will be in the Nebraska Room)
1:00pm - 3:00pm	Health Information Exchange and Electronic /Virtual Medical Record Deb Bass, Bass & Associates
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Break
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Genetics Counseling for Hereditary Cancer Bronson Riley M.S., C.G.C
4:30pm - 5:30pm	The Aged & Disabled Waiver-Qualifying client criteria & services available Kay Wenzl, Nebraska DHHS
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Dinner
6:30pm - 8:30pm	Alzheimer's Geri Hepp, Madonna

Saturday, April 17, 2010

7:30am - 9:00am	Registration (Foyer of the Convention Center)
9:00am - 10:00am	PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) Todd Fleischer, MD
10:00am - 10:30am	Break/Exhibits
10:30am - 11:30am	Cancer Research Stephen Dunder, MD
11:30am - 12:30pm	National Representative from the AAMA TBA
12:30pm - 2:00pm	Luncheon/Installation of NSMA Officers and Awards Ceremony
2:00pm - 3:00pm	MTI - Language Interpretation (tentative) TBA
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Break/Exhibits (Capital Room)
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Assistive Technology Partnership (tentative) TBA
4:30pm - 5:30pm	Identity Theft in the Medical Office Pamela Moore
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Post Conference Board meeting (Capital 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

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____ Credentials _____ AAMA ID # _____

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 2009 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)	\$ 60.00	\$ _____
Non-Members (meals & sessions)	\$110.00	\$ _____
Students (meals & sessions)	\$ 60.00	\$ _____
Students (sessions only)	\$ 10.00	\$ _____

SATURDAY ONLY

Members (meals & sessions)	\$ 80.00	\$ _____
Non-Members (meals & sessions)	\$120.00	\$ _____
Students (meals & sessions)	\$ 60.00	\$ _____
Students (sessions only)	\$ 15.00	\$ _____

Guest Dinner ticket for Friday evening meal	_____ @ \$ 20.00	\$ _____
Guest Dinner ticket for the Saturday Luncheon/ Installation/ Awards Ceremony	_____ @ \$ 20.00	\$ _____

LATE FEE - \$10.00 (for registration sent after 04-02-10)	\$ 10.00	\$ _____
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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 luncheon/Awards Yes _____ No _____ Guest ticket Yes _____ No _____

Registration Deadline is April 2, 2010 – No Refunds after April 10, 2010

Make check or money order out to: NSMA 2010 Conference fund.

Mail completed form to: Lori Lesiak, CMA (AAMA)

5000 W Champion Ct, Lincoln, NE 68524

If you have questions, please contact the Conference Chair Lori Weskamp, CMA (AAMA)

402-781-2428, moolaw@windstream.net

Co-chair is Denise Arnold, CMA (AAMA), 402-420-5228, darnold@neuroandspinalsurg.com

Hotel Reservation Information

NSMA Group Room rate deadline is Thursday March 25, 2010
FREE Continental Breakfast Included



5353 N. 27th St. Lincoln, NE 68521
(402) 476-5353
www.countryinns.com/lincolnne

1 room 2 double beds - \$105.00
1 room King bed - \$105.00
*If registered by Thursday, March 25, 2010

Check In-3:00pm
Check Out-Noon

Directions: Interstate 80 to exit #403, then go South on 27th St., 1.5 miles to hotel.
Country Inn & Suites is located on the West side of 27th St.



<http://www.randmcnally.com/rmc/directions/dirGetMap.jsp?cmtty=0>

Letter From The President



Being an active member of the NSMA Board since 1998, I can truly say that I have enjoyed my time and the friends that I have made. I have and continue to learn new skills that I can carry over into my personal life and job, which makes me a better person, member, and employee. In 1999-2000, I did my first term as NSMA President. I was pretty novice to all the workings of the organization but I learned a lot about the organization and myself, while having fun at the same time too.

A couple of years ago, things were pretty bland in my life and with the extra time on my hands, I decided I would like to volunteer my services to the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants again as president. Little did I know that after I was elected how un-bland my life would turn out to be. Along with becoming NSMA Vice President

that year, I became the Hastings Chapter Vice President.

A couple of weeks later, a Medical Assistant teaching position at Central Community College became available; I applied and got the job. Along with adjusting to a completely new world of department meetings, deadlines, and forms, part of the new job required that I get my Bachelor's Degree. In February of 2009, I began a 10 month accelerated, online program in Adult Education. This was quite a learning experience for me coming from the age of classroom learners, but I did make the Dean's list. In addition, it was interesting to learn that many of the topics I studied would apply to my job, my personal life, the classroom, and Medical Assisting.

On August 8, 2009, the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants held its first meeting via web conference. This was my main goal for the organization this year, to save members time by establishing our Board meetings via web conferencing from different sites in the state. In years past, various Board members would dedicate their whole Saturday traveling to and from the meetings in various weather conditions. The web meetings have been a welcome

change to our organization. For now, with Board approval, we will do the summer, fall, and winter Board meetings via the web and continue to meet in person for the spring, pre and post meetings at the site of our annual state conference.

What I am trying to say is that each of us is capable of more than we think we can. Our state society and local chapters can always benefit from members with fresh ideas to volunteer and keep our society and profession moving forward and preserving our right to practice. By volunteering, you will benefit in more ways than you know.

I would like to thank the members of my Board and the state chapters for all their support this year. Without their help, I would not have been able to accomplish my goals. To the members of the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants, I would ask that you keep your credential current, protect the Medical Assistants Right to Practice, and support your profession by attending local chapter meetings, the state conferences, and volunteering when you can.

Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA)
2009-2010 President of the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants

2009-2010 NSMA Officers

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402-808-4190 Omaha, NE 68144
ueding48@yahoo.com 402-717-3390

Public Policy

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25125 S Windy Bluff LN American Cancer Society
Arlington, NE 68002 Public/Professional Education
402-478-5684 Services
Washington County Unit

2010 CONFERENCE CHAIR

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402-781-2428 402-474-4497
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NSMA 2009-2010 Chapter Presidents

GRAND ISLAND	Cindy Owens, CMA (AAMA)	cowens@kdsi.net
GREAT PLAINS	Andrea Stewart, MLT, CMA,	mahki@gpcom.net
HASTINGS	Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA)	cmuske@cccneb.edu
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NORFOLK	Lori Kounovsky, CMA	ldkounovsky@yahoo.com
OMAHA	Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC	callensw@frontiernet.net

Thank You

- To the 2009-2010 State Medical Advisory Board: Raymond W. Conant, M.D., David S. Halsted, M.D., David J Powell, MPAS, PA-C.
- To the 2009-2010 elected and volunteering members of NSMA State Board and local chapters.
- To the 2009-2010 elected and volunteering members of the AAMA.

Without the support from members like you, our organization would not continue to grow.

MEDICAL ASSISTING NEEDS YOU!

There are two easy ways to join:

Visit our web page: www.aama-ntl.org

Or call the AAMA's national office at 1-800-228-2262



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: In addition to the two CEUs available in your *CMA Today* every other month, now you can go to the AAMA website and do CEUs online 24/7. You can check your CEUs online from the Continuing Education Registry. Also, if you have any questions about CEUs, program approval or recertifying by the CE method, contact the CE department.

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 status. 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? SHOW US YOUR...

Grand Idea

Brainstorm an ad that promotes the medical assisting profession, the CMA (AAMA) credential, and membership in the American Association of Medical Assistants.

Your ad idea could win \$1000!

If you design the winning ad, you will receive a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond from textbook publisher F.A. Davis. The award will be presented to you at the Excel Awards ceremony on September 24, 2010, during the AAMA Annual Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Also, your ad will be on display during the conference, posted to the AAMA website, 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:

- Promote the medical assisting profession.
- Promote the CMA (AAMA) credential.
- Promote the AAMA.

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

Your deadline: July 1, 2010

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 (AAMA) credential. What kind of professional edge does this credential provide? Finally, think about what you'd tell this person about joining the AAMA. Keep your message simple.

Look through your favorite magazine to find ads that capture your attention. What is it about an ad that grabs you? 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.
- 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.

Submission requirements:

- Hard copies only.
- Ad size must be 8.5" x 11" (letter-sized paper).
- Ads must be formatted vertically (i.e., portrait orientation).
- You can design your ad using any medium (electronically or freehand).
- One student per ad.
- One ad per student.

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

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, 2010** with your entry to the AAMA.

Your full name: _____ Institution address: _____
 Your address: _____ Institution city/state/zip: _____
 Your city/state/zip: _____ Your educator's name: _____
 Your daytime phone number: _____
 Your e-mail address: _____
 The institution name of your medical assisting program: _____



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

website: 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 and recertification in 2009:

Newly Certified:

Jeanie M. Anderson CMA (AAMA)	Valley	NE
Lucas Anthony Vogt CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Heather Lee Fankhauser CMA (AAMA)	Gretna	NE
Brenda Cherie Ouellette CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Monica Alvarado CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Nicole Marie Hegert CMA (AAMA)	Unadilla	NE
Angelica I Hartgerink CMA (AAMA)	Cortland	NE
Amy N. Harms CMA (AAMA)	Denton	NE
Tiffany M. Shunkwiler CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Brandi L. Noel CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Alissa Sims CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Emily Ann Crowdell CMA (AAMA)	Benedict	NE
April Gertsch CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Heather Sue Hitz CMA (AAMA)	Battle Creek	NE
Tosca Michaela Sharkey CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Athena M. Meinders CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Sharyl L Dimick CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Katey Marie Harrison CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Monica R Bisson CMA (AAMA)	Fremont	NE
Michelle Christine Homer CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Stacy L. Williams CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Laura Kay Hendrickson CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Tamara L Bloebaum CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Cheryl A Brazda CMA (AAMA)	Valley	NE
Megan Lenners CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Stacey L Salinas CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Kelly Lynn Wolph CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Ashley Jean Braniff CMA (AAMA)	Tekamah	NE
Sarah J. May CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Tameka Mynette Green CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Eleanor Rosa Reyes CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Kelley Marie Fish CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Kylee Jo Uden CMA (AAMA)	Grand Island	NE
Tracy K Falk CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Kathy M Binge CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Bobbie Jo Rains CMA (AAMA)	Elkhorn	NE
Tamara Jones CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Jodie D Gomez CMA (AAMA)	Greenwood	NE
Brenda Hohbein CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Shannon Sue Borer CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Jessica Cyara Knopp CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Denise L Pitzl CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Nicole Marie Graham CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Debra J Brooks CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Amanda Kay Grantski CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Rebecca J Call CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Deja D. Johnson CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Lynn M. Walker CMA (AAMA)	Hastings	NE
Brittany anne Cline CMA (AAMA)	Papillion	NE
Aimee M Hansen CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Ashley Marie Brott CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Jeffrey John Reisbig CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Jodi Ann Hurst CMA (AAMA)	Seward	NE
Sarinah Huynh CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE

Recertified:

Joyce Marie Steffensmeier CMA (AAMA)	Columbus	NE
Terese N. Pollreis CMA (AAMA),CPC	Bellevue	NE
Sue Lynette Simodynes CMA (AAMA)	Kearney	NE
Cheryl A Meyer CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Kathleen Kay Honke CMA (AAMA)	Roca	NE
Mindy Jean Faubion CMA (AAMA)	Louisville	NE
Laura Ann Dreesen CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Dianna Lynne Maxwell CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Kelley Lea Porter CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Mary H. Vigil CMA (AAMA)	Elkhorn	NE
Andrea Ida Prater CMA (AAMA)	Nebraska City	NE
Lori Lynn McMillian CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Jeannine L. Nagel CMA (AAMA), BSHCM	Omaha	NE
Nicole Dawn Remmers CMA (AAMA)	Beatrice	NE
Liza A. Masters CMA (AAMA)	Unadilla	NE
Chrystal Lynn Briley CMA (AAMA)	Gretna	NE
Amy L Walter CMA (AAMA)	Ralston	NE

Renee D. Asbury CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Mary Jo Botsch CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Rose A. Briley CMA (AAMA)	Gretna	NE
Debra D. Oswald CMA (AAMA)	Aurora	NE
Cynthia June Oquendo CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Kris L. Lyons CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Michele Renae Brixius CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Rani L. Beaulieu CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Penny A. Moritz CMA (AAMA)	Hastings	NE
Lyndsay Dee Nieman CMA (AAMA)	Elwood	NE
Angela D. Campbell CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Kathryn E. Flemings CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Mary Elizabeth Harris CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Kimmara Rae Hughes CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Melissa Sue Woltke-Hill CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Jody K. Maslonka CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Anne Marie Johnson CMA (AAMA)	Potter	NE
Susanna M. Leonard CMA (AAMA)	Tekamah	NE
Kenneth L. Chapman CMA (AAMA)	La Vista	NE
Tamara Morphew CMA (AAMA)	Oakland	NE
Robin Marie Edwards CMA (AAMA)	Winslow	NE
Carol Jean Bera CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Michelle Lynn Vanek CMA (AAMA)	Prague	NE
Lori J Lee CMA (AAMA)	Albion	NE
Paula J. Jordan CMA (AAMA)	Plattsmouth	NE
Tamara Morphew CMA (AAMA)	Oakland	NE
Robin Marie Edwards CMA (AAMA)	Winslow	NE
Carol Jean Bera CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Michelle Lynn Vanek CMA (AAMA)	Prague	NE
Lori J Lee CMA (AAMA)	Albion	NE
Betty S Alspach CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Paula J. Jordan CMA (AAMA)	Plattsmouth	NE
Elizabeth Ann Kopf CMA (AAMA)	Lexington	NE
Kelli Elizabeth Jacobs CMA (AAMA)	Overton	NE
Jeanna M. Samson CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Sabrina Marie Dickey CMA (AAMA)	Grand Island	NE
Sara Jean Arosencrantz CMA (AAMA)	Weston	NE
Christine M. Mangiamelli CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Nancy A. Musil CMA (AAMA)	Clarkson	NE
Kim A. Smisek CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Terrie B. Utterback CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Michelle K. Pelster CMA (AAMA)	Petersburg	NE
Christine Elizabeth Anderson CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Pam K. Stearley CMA-A (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Rita Gail Mathre CMA (AAMA)	Grand Island	NE
Patricia J. Clay CMA (AAMA)	Gering	NE
Carol L. Hipke-Muske CMA (AAMA)	Hastings	NE
Autumn Grace Brockvelt CMA (AAMA) LRT	Lincoln	NE
Nicole L. McFarland-Walton CMA (AAMA)	Waverly	NE
Michele Annette Saucier CMA (AAMA) , MA	Lincoln	NE
Guadalupe Maria Cisneros CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Ashlii M. Christianson CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Sonia Jane Culp CMA (AAMA)	Seward	NE
Ursula A. Morris CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Brandee Nichole Garratt CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Laura B. Gilbert CMA (AAMA)	Hastings	NE
Shandra Michelle Rathman CMA (AAMA)	Papillion	NE
Michel K. McKinney CMA (AAMA) BPS	Hastings	NE
Sheryl Marie Neesen CMA (AAMA)	Clarkson	NE
Catherine E. Bles CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Ann M. Wadsworth CMA (AAMA)	Wolbach	NE
Lisa R. Alspaugh CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Katherine Christine Bringe CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Jamie Marie Peters CMA (AAMA)	Omaha	NE
Catherine Renee Smith CMA (AAMA)	Bellevue	NE
Bobbie J Venter CMA (AAMA)	La Vista	NE
Deborah C Price CMA (AAMA)	Gretna	NE
Faye M. Weber CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Marlene L Montgomery CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Shelly Ann Metcalf CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE
Kimberly R. Mahloch CMA (AAMA)	Crete	NE
Gloria Lee Hestermann CMA (AAMA)	Sterling	NE
Mary J. Anzalone CMA (AAMA)	Plattsmouth	NE
Staci J. Martinez CMA (AAMA)	Lincoln	NE

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 and every one of you and your accomplishments. Congratulations on a job well done.



CAAHEP & ABHES Accredited Colleges in Nebraska

ALEAGENT HEALTH

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

KAPLAN UNIVERSITY- LINCOLN

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Monique McCall MA, BS
Program Coordinator
1821 'K' St
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-474-5315
F) 402-474-5302
mmccall@kaplan.edu

METHODIST COLLEGE

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

VATTEROTT COLLEGE

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

CENTRAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

KAPLAN UNIVERSITY- OMAHA

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Kristin Gargano, BS, RRT
Program Coordinator, Depart. Chair
5425 N 103rd St
Omaha, NE 68134
402-431-6147
F) 402-431-6709
kagargano@kaplan.edu

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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

KAPLAN UNIVERSITY- COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA

CAAHEP Accredited
Medical Assisting Program
Michele Guthard, CMA (AAMA), BS
Program Coordinator
1751 Madison Ave, Ste 750
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
712-328-4212
F) 712-328-4061
mguthard@kaplan.edu

Informing You For a Better You

Rebuild your brain

Up until about 10 years ago, it was believed that we were born with a fixed number of brain cells that eventually died out. Now scientists know that brain cells regenerate throughout our lives. And one thing seems clear: To keep the sharpest memory you can for as long as you can, get moving.



Physically, that is. Studies have shown that people who engage in aerobic exercise perform better cognitively and show increased brain volume. In another study, participants who exercised showed lower rates of dementia. That's because exercise actually encourages neuron generation in the part of the brain that processes memories.

Reprinted from the HAA Alliance Beacon, Fall 2008

Education and prevention cut falls of elderly

Falling accounts for 10 percent of emergency room visits and 6 percent of hospitalizations among people over the age of 65. The results of falls can lead to functional decline, placement in nursing homes, and restricted activity. But are falls an inevitable consequence of aging? Researchers at Yale School of Medicine say not necessarily.

A new study reports that fall-prevention educational campaigns and interventions cut falls among the elderly study participants by 11 percent. The fall-prevention programs also resulted in almost 10 percent fewer fall-related hip fractures and head injuries among study participants. This improvement translated into about 1,800 fewer injuries, less discomfort and disability—and about \$21 million less in healthcare costs in the region where the interventions took place.

The findings were originally published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Teach Children Escalator Safety



The Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that each year escalators cause more than 7,000 injuries requiring hospitalization.

May of those injured are children, and the Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation reminds parents that an escalator is a multi-ton moving machine and should be treated with as much caution as a moving bus.

Specifically, the foundation recommends that parents hold hands with their child and position him or her on the center of the step – away from the sides of the escalator. This helps prevent the most common accidents, in which children get their hands stuck in the handrail or their feet stuck in the sidewall of the escalator.

Parents should also be aware that loose clothing – including drawstrings, scarves, and untied shoe laces, can get stuck in escalators, so take a moment before getting on to make sure there is no trailing ties or fabric.

Reprinted from the HAA Alliance Beacon, Fall 2008

Eat whole grains for a smaller waist

If you want to reduce your waist size, it could be as simple as buying the right whole grain cereal or bread. In a recent Penn State study, researchers found that people who were counseled in healthy eating and exercise lost weight, but those who were advised to get their grain servings from whole grains rather than refined grains lost significantly more weight in their abdominal region.

Foods that can be beneficial for waist circumference loss include oatmeal, whole grain cereal, brown rice, whole-wheat pasta, and snacks such as granola bars, popcorn, and whole-wheat crackers. Foods in which at least 51 percent of the grain comes from whole grains are recommended.

Seeking Active Members

As Mentor Committee Chair of the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants (NSMA), I invite you to join me as an ACTIVE member of our Society. In the tradition of our distinguished Society, we want to continue to support the values and principles that have been established by our professional organization.

We are currently in full force of pursuing a larger ACTIVE membership base. We are widening our scope of efforts to seek new ideas and innovative approaches. With your interest and support, we hope to enhance opportunities for the membership and broaden our appeal to all Certified Medical Assistants (American Association of Medical Assistants).

No one is asking you to jump into a position that you aren't comfortable with. There are many different levels of participation and many seasoned members willing to help walk you through the steps until you feel confident enough to chair a committee and get more involved.

To get you started, take a few minutes to read the NSMA Bylaws and Standing Rules that are printed in the Med-A-Gram. Next, talk to a member who has or is currently serving as an officer or committee chair from your Chapter or is a member on the NSMA Board of Directors. Ask to see one of the NSMA Policy Manuals. Review the NSMA Fact Sheets to see where your talents will fit in.

It is our conviction that your support and participation will make a lasting positive impact in the future of NSMA. If you are at all interested in learning more about the structure of our Society, duties of elected officers or the responsibilities of standing committee chairs, please contact me.

Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA)
NSMA Mentor Committee Chair
janfrederickcma@cox.net
(w)402-572-3319
(h)402-932-8561

NSMA Conference Updates

2010 NSMA's 44th Annual Conference, hosted by the Lincoln Chapter.

April 16 & 17, 2010 @ the Country Inn & Suites

5353 N 27th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

Conference Chair is Lori Weskamp, CMA (AAMA) 402-781-2428, moolaw@windstream.net

Co-chair is Denise Arnold, CMA (AAMA), 402-420-5228, darnold@neuroandspinalurg.com

2011 NSMA's 45th Annual Conference, hosted by the Grand Island Chapter

April 29, 30 & May 1, 2011, @ the Howard Johnson Riverside Inn,

3333 Ramada Road, Grand Island, Nebraska

Conference Chair is Debra Potratz, CMA (AAMA) 308-382- 6123

2012 NSMA's 46th Annual Conference 2012, hosted by the Omaha Chapter

Conference Chair is Tracy Bednar, CMA (AAMA), LRT Omaha, Nebraska

Co-chair is Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC, 712-484-3446, callensw@frontier.net

Delegates Reports

Summary of the Delegates and Alternates reports from the 53rd Annual AAMA Conference Houston, Texas, September 10-14, 2009

This year's conference theme was "Reach for the Stars." There were 563 registrants.

New this year was the addition of a free continental breakfast for registered attendees. This was a great benefit because it saved the members time and money. The Welcome Dinner and Awards Luncheon meal were discontinued.

Highlights from the Board of Trustees/Endowment Meetings:

Scottsdale, Arizona was approved as the 2012 annual conference location.

There was a large attendance in this year's gallery. Guests did not have an agenda so things were a little hard to follow without the background on the topics being discussed. President Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) encouraged the gallery members to participate, which lead to more discussion than there has been in the last few years.

Debbie Houston, CMA (AAMA), CPC, CEB Chair announced there had been an email vote to increase the price for online CEU testing to \$10.00. This was approved,

Cathy Flores, CMA (AAMA), MLT (ASCP), discussed new policies from the Certifying Board: (These all take effect January 1, 2010) Students that graduate from an accredited program, have 60 months from the date of graduation to sit for the certification exam. A candidate can take the certification exam three times; otherwise, it becomes a memorization process not a knowledge test. If

that person does not successfully pass, then they are not eligible to take another exam under any circumstances. This is regardless to how many times an individual student attends an accredited program. There is a three-month waiting period between exams if you fail before taking it again. At this time, there is less than 1% that would take it more than three times, which is 200 out of 76,000. Open discussion took place with the members in the gallery about the three time limit for sitting for the certification exam.

Students will receive a confirmation letter noting that they have passed the test with a certificate number that they can show to their employer, but they will not get their certificate for 6-8 weeks. The letter also has a statement that they should become a member of the AAMA and maintain their credentials through CEUs. Students cannot pay a lower rate to take the test according to the NCCA standards, as it would be viewed as promoting membership.

All newly certified and re-certifying CMAs (AAMA) will be current through the end of the calendar month of initial certification or most recent recertification five (5) years after initial certification or most recent certification. All successful candidates will receive a wallet card and certificate. This revision is due to the fact that the exam is now given continuously; year round distribution of expiration dates is automatic, thus eliminating the need to obtain the birth month of new certificants and recertificants.

Any CMA (AAMA) who has not

recertified on or before the expiration date of their credential will be considered "expired" and will be required to pay a \$50.00 reactivation fee in addition to the recertification fee.

Any CMA (AAMA), whose credential has expired for more than 60 months, forfeits the right to reactivate the credential by continuing education and must sit for the recertification examination. Payment of a \$50.00 fee plus the current application fee is required.

The Board based these new and revised policies on public safety concern, the quality of care that CMAs (AAMA) provide, and preserving the integrity of the CMA (AAMA) certification. As the CMA (AAMA) credential is the gold standard, it is vital that those who obtain credentialing continue to earn the right to represent this standard to their employers and the public.

Judy Jondahl, MS, RN – AAMA Accreditation Director presented information regarding the Skills USA which is a tri-level competition. USA Skills contacted the AAMA to see if they would want to be a sponsor and a judge at their competition. It brings together employers, instructors, and students. Due to the limited information available at the time of presentation, it was decided to appoint an Ad Hoc committee to review options of using this as a possible marketing tool. The Ad Hoc committee will make a presentation at the fall planning committee meeting.

Boni Bruntz, CMA (AAMA), AAMA Vice President presented a Conflict of Interest Policy. This

new form will become a requirement of the nominations process. A candidate needs to review the policy when a decision is made to run for an AAMA position and sign if they feel they can be compliant.

The BOT approved it and this will start with the 2010 HOD.

Don spoke regarding our association with the AMA and how medical specialty groups are becoming more interested in CMAs and those factors are driving the need for CMAs to become certified. In addition, he gave us a handout from the AMA website on projected careers and possible job placements. Through 2016, Medical Assisting has a projected need of 199,000 positions with a projected number of 200,000 graduates, which means a 100% job placement.

He gave us another handout and spoke on PCMH, Patient Care Medical Home, and how the PCMH movement can benefit the CMA (AAMA). Don described this as a positive development for CMA (AAMA) recognition and how physicians and other healthcare professionals will be working together in collaboration.

Key Principles were:

- Team approach -The physician leads a team of individuals who "collectively take responsibility for the ongoing care of patients."
- Whole person orientation - All team members empathically listen to patients and meaningfully communicate so that the patient (and his/her representatives) understands.
- Patient advocacy - Team members advocate for their patients so they receive optimal care in all settings.
- Enhanced access to care – "Open scheduling, expanded hours, and new options for

communication" are implemented as appropriate.

President and President Elect Advisory Council on Saturday:

This forum allows state leaders to meet with other state leaders and the AAMA staff to discuss issues that have come up over the last year.

We received handouts on Membership Recruitment, Retention tips and "10 Steps to Online Meetings." Online meetings were a big topic discussed here. Many chapters across the nation seem to have a problem getting together. Discussion was held on using online chapter meetings and ways to implement them through local colleges that have Blackboard, Angel, WebCT and through Yahoo. Questions were fielded regarding barriers and how to offer CEUs. Members have done voice over power points, videos, and articles for their members to test on to get CEUs.

K.M. , PhD CMA (AAMA) has managed her chapter like this for years and provided us with some good advice. A couple of chapters from Nebraska have discussed doing this so the information will be helpful for them.

Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA) discussed that she and Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) will be attending the upcoming PAHCOM meeting in Arizona to represent the AAMA. She will use this time to approach malpractice insurance carriers for support. Boni is working on a packet with CMA (AAMA) information to hand out.

Boni's focus during her presidential year will be "Proactive for Our Profession." What can National do for us but more importantly, what can we do to help National? This will be done through Professional Expansion

Awareness (in place of marketing). This new team was started last year to formulate more CMA recognition and will continue next year. The goal for this year is for the states to be more active in the profession. The AAMA needs to focus their time on bigger issues like malpractice insurance, carrier problems, and right to practice issues.

PAHCOM has recommended that all their CMAs be current, and have one year to get their certification to improve liability insurances, etc.

David Knight was asked many questions about the problems states still have getting timely responses to problems they have from the AAMA, such as membership lists and marketing. He also stated that they are going to start calling each State Presidents and Presidents Elect twice a year to see if they can help with any problems or questions that have come up rather than having to wait until national conference to bring matters to the attention of AAMA.

Legal issues and marketing via television/cable networks were discussed

David stated that Approval Request Forms could be emailed as well as faxed for speedy results. On the AAMA Website, there is an Excel spreadsheet, which can be utilized to email member's attendance at chapter and state meetings.

David also clarified that we can request membership lists as often as we would like to receive them.

CEUs for a CPR class equal the number of hours of the class, example 4 hours = 4 CEUs, 8 hours = 8 CEUs.

Online CEU offerings were launched July 6th and 100 people logged on to the session and passed the post-test in the first

seven days. Online CEUs had 2,388 hits in August. Seventy-two hours is still required to post CEUs to a transcript.

NEW CMA pins will be available for purchase in approximately one month for \$35 each.

Don Balasa, JD, MBA, would like to be copied ("cc") on all emails if there is a problem in any department in any of the states; to be kept abreast of what is going on.

Winter BOD meeting is scheduled for Feb 5-6, 2010, at the Holiday Inn Select in Orlando, Florida.

Summer BOD meeting is scheduled for June 11-12, 2010 at the airport Courtyard, Richmond, Virginia,

Leadership A Training:

Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA), Speaker of the House and Chris Hollander, CMA (AAMA), Vice Speaker of the House, reviewed the rules of the HOD and its' proceedings. Proper voting procedures were reviewed for casting ballots, addressing the House, and making motions during the HOD. The Parliamentary Advisor addressed questions that came up on why the current Speaker of the House could run the HOD even after she had submitted her resignation. The resignation "technically" did not go into effect until after the close of the HOD.

Leadership B Training:

The Leadership Development Strategy Team planned this workshop with state leaders in attendance to discuss things that were or were not working in their societies. We were given four problem topics that had been presented to AAMA representatives when they attended state conferences. We broke into small groups to offer ideas of how we could solve these problems in

our states and then we discussed the finding with everyone. The topic included, how do you get new blood without them becoming discouraged instead of recycling the same leaders. How do you set priorities on your state finances if they are looking grim? A lot of time and effort goes into scheduling meetings but attendance keeps dropping or is unpredictable, what would/should you do? Ideas suggested include hosting a leadership conference and make it fun, listen, be friendly and approachable, trial and error, be willing to help, ask members what they want, mentor new members. Offer topics that would help members grow, speakers on goal setting, field trip meetings, food, rotate meeting days/times, catchy topics. Encourage educators to give students extra credit for attending meetings, have student members on the Board, offer scholarships. Advertise via email or direct mail, and stuff physician mailboxes with flyers. Ask members if they would you like to help vs. I need your help, mentoring, get away from "that's not how we've always done it," don't ask anyone to do something you wouldn't do yourself, and don't criticize someone if they do something different from the way you would have done it.

They also provided us with a goal sheet for members to look ahead and plan to serve as a national trustee, committee member, and even AAMA President. Attendees requested that the CEB consider allowing CEUs for leadership training programs.

Other topics of interest at the Conference:

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. It was disappointing because the room was only open from 2-4 each day and always busy, so many of us were unable to take advantage of these free CEUs.

The CEB offered conference attendees a chance to view for free the electronic version of programs the AAMA offers online through their website. Because of room limitations, they extended viewing through Wednesday, so members could have a chance to try it. Unfortunately, in all the rush to get back home and work, again many of us could not take advantage of this opportunity.

The AAMA is still promoting their "Going Green" program. Recycling containers were available to members to recycle cans, bottles, and paper materials.

The CMA (AAMA) Knowledge Bowl was a new addition to this year's conference, sponsored by the Certifying Board. Members were asked to sign up to be on a panel of contestants. Members were chosen at random to be on a team of four, there were 10 teams. Others participating included the host, a panel of judges to decide any questionable answer and cheerleaders for both sides.

The teams squared off, two at a time answering five questions each. Once the five winners were chosen from that round, those five teams, two at a time, squared off with seven questions until one team was declared the winner.

Everyone attending got 1.5 CEUs, since the questions came from topics in the Content Outline. This seemed to be a huge hit with everyone, and it will be repeated at future conferences.

Dessert Social and Excel Awards

(formerly known as Welcome Reception & Excel Awards Luncheon):

This new event replaced the above titled events and was referred to as the Dessert Social/Excel Awards. Members gathered at this event to find out, and honor the EXCEL winners, and mingle socially while dining on a variety of desserts. Members seemed to enjoy this much more than the Welcome reception and Awards Luncheon. It was a more relaxed atmosphere, encouraged social mingling as opposed to a dinner that was harder to hear and mingle and members had time all week then to congratulate the winners for their accomplishments.

A power point presentation was displayed to announce the award winners. Nebraska is now in category C, 501-800 members. The Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants received an EXCEL awards for membership retention. Congratulations to Nebraska!

Medical assisting student, Channing Stark, Minnesota School of Business, Blaine, Minnesota, won the "FA Davis Student Award;" she receives a \$1,000 US savings bond. The "Spirit of Medical Assisting" went to Deniece Jozefiak, CMA (AAMA), Florida. The "Golden Apple" went to Carol Hartig, MSED, BSN, RN, CMA (AAMA). Leadership and Mentoring went to Jolene Penning, CMA (AAMA).

House of Delegates:

The House of Delegates was called to order by the Speaker of the House, Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA). We did not have a keynote speaker this year. The Buffalo Soldiers Color Guard presented the colors. The Pledge of Allegiance and the National

Anthem were performed.

Conference Chair Ann Nagel, CMA (AAMA), read proclamations on behalf of Congresswoman Shelia Jackson Lee, 18th Congressional District of Texas, and Mayor Bill White.

Founding member: Roberta Antrim, CMA-AC (AAMA), MHR, was recognized for her lifetime of dedication to the association. Fourteen other AAMA Life Members were honored.

Three states had to ask permission to be seated at the HOD because they did not get their information into the AAMA on time: Alaska, Indiana, and South Dakota. Votes were cast and they were allowed to be seated.

The rules of the House were not read since they were mailed out to delegates on time per the Bylaws. Total voting power of this HOD was 131.

Nominations were secured from the House floor and the voting ballot was finalized. Nebraska joined the Meet and Greet Forum asking questions of candidates running for AAMA office after the close of the first session of the HOD.

The Reference Committee reports were given and all AAMA members were given a chance to voice their opinions and concerns. During this session, yearend reports and proposed bylaws are discussed and members can ask the BOT questions.

Several states voiced opinions on the proposed Bylaws amendments regarding AAMA officer eligibility and the proposal regarding inactive chapters. The first four dealt with the qualifications for an AAMA officer position, which was proposed last year and failed.

There was a proposal regarding disbanding inactive chapters unless state requirements are met.

The Reference Committee section of the agenda is the most important forum for the membership. Delegates should come fully prepared after reading ALL the reports in the delegate packet to ask questions and make their voices heard. This is the platform to ask for clarification on why something was done or why something was not done. The authors of these reports are in attendance to answer questions. This is the best opportunity to let AAMA know that we either agree or disagree with what the BOT is doing. By asking questions and listening to responses, delegates have the opportunity to access current leaders and form opinions on their leadership abilities.

Don Balasa, JD, MBA, Executive Director, Legal Counsel for the AAMA presented information regarding PCMH. This project is intended to ensure that specialists are used for specialty care and not primary care. It is Mr. Balasa position that this model of primary health care delivery may open up opportunities for medical assistants. The advanced level of responsibilities delineated in this movement will hopefully be delegated to CMAs (AAMA). His comments were inspiring for the future legal recognition of CMAs (AAMA).

Committee report presented to the HOD

All committee reports were accepted as written or amended.

Bylaws presented to the HOD

The five proposed bylaws presented this year to the HOD were all defeated.

Resolutions: No resolutions were presented this year.

The Marketplace Luncheon:

The Marketplace gave us an

opportunity to check out 16 booths with the latest health-related literature for educators, technology, and products. Other booths included a couple of Universities, the Medical Assisting Education Review Board to answer educator's questions regarding the new 2008 Standards and Guidelines. The AAMA Society of Past Presidents is an organization where people can make donations to the Maxine Williams Scholarship and Ivy Reade Relkin Surveyor Training funds. A total of \$6765.38 was raised this year. In addition, the National office of the AAMA had a booth where members could stop by to get information and ask questions. The vendors were there all afternoon, which gave us time to go back and look at material when it was not so busy. Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) was the lucky winner of a free registration to next year's AAMA Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

President's Banquet:

Highlighting the end of the conference on Tuesday was with

the 2008-2009 AAMA President, Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA), from Florida installing Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA), from Colorado as the new AAMA 2009-2010 President at the President's Banquet.

Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA), as the Nebraska President and honored guest, represented Nebraska in the President's Parade into the Grand Ballroom. AAMA President, Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA), and President Elect, Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA), presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of outstanding service and loyal support of the affairs of the AAMA.

54th AAMA National Conference:
Lake Buena Vista Florida,
September 24-28, 2010

55th AAMA National Conference:
Indianapolis, Indiana, September
9-13, 2011

56th AAMA National Conference:
Scottsdale, Arizona September
7-12, 2012

only two alternates this year.

In addition, each member had a chance to attend a variety of interesting CEU sessions.

The following elected delegates would like to thank the Nebraska Society for electing them as NSMA representatives at the National Conference.

Submitted by:

Carol Hipke-Muske, CMA
(AAMA) NSMA President and
Delegate

Jeannine Nagel, BSHCM, CMA
(AAMA)
NSMA Vice President and
Delegate

Lori D. Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA)
NSMA Delegate

Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA)
NSMA Alternate Delegate

Linda Allensworth, CMA
(AAMA), CPC
NSMA Alternate Delegate

One of the elected alternates could not attend, so there were

2009 Elected AAMA Officers and Trustees

Boni Bruntz, CMA-A (AAMA),	Vice President	Colorado
Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA)	Vice President	Florida
Ann Nagel, CMA (AAMA)	Secretary-Treasurer	Texas
Chris Hollander, CMA (AAMA),	Vice Speaker	Colorado
Nina Watson, CMA (AAMA), CPC	Vice Speaker	North Carolina
Charlene Couch, CMA (AAMA)	Trustee, 2 yr term	Virginia
Julie Flaatten, RN, NREMT-B, CMA (AAMA)	Trustee, 2 yr term	Wisconsin
Lisa Lee, CMA (AAMA)	Trustee, 2 yr term	Utah
Crissy Taylor, CMA (AAMA)	Trustee, 1 yr term	South Carolina
Jocelyn Willis, CMA (AAMA), COHC	Trustee, 1 yr term	Oregon
Darcy Atwood, CMA (AAMA)	Nominating Committee	Arizona
Ruth Durham, CMA (AAMA)	Nominating Committee	North Carolina
Patricia Licurs, CMA (AAMA)	Nominating Committee	South Carolina
Jenny McGuire, CMA (AAMA)	Nominating Committee	Oklahoma

2009 National AAMA Convention



Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) attends the AAMA's Presidents Banquet in Houston, Texas.



Carol Muske, Lori Kounovsky, Linda Allensworth, and Jan Frederick dine at the Aquarium restaurant in Kemah, Texas, during the 54th AAMA Conference in Houston, Texas.



F) Michel McKinney, Jeannie Nagel, B) Carol Muske, Dona Marotta, Boni Bruntz, AAMA President, Lori Kounovsky, Jan Frederick, and Linda Allensworth congratulate AAMA President Bruntz.



Front L-R, Nebraska Delegates Lori Kounovsky, CMA (AAMA), Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA), Jeannie Nagel, CMA (AAMA), Back L-R, Alternate Delegates Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA), Linda Allensworth, CMA (AAMA), CPC.



Linda Allensworth, Carol Muske, and Jan Frederick at the Boardwalk in Kemah, Texas.



Linda Allensworth, Lori Kounovsky, and Jan Frederick at the Boardwalk in Kemah, Texas.



Nebraska President, Carol Muske, CMA (AAMA) accepts Nebraska's EXCEL Award from AAMA President, Kathryn Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA) for Membership Retention at the Houston Conference.



Susan Hawes, Michel McKinney, Lori Kounovsky, Carol Muske, Linda Allensworth, Jan Frederick, and Dona Marotta attend the Dessert Social/Excel Awards event.



State Presidents that attended the AAMA's National Conference in Houston, Texas, 2009.

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.

EXCEL AWARD

*The American Association of Medical Assistants
is proud to present this award to the*

Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants

for membership retention



AAMA 53rd Annual Conference
September 2009

Kathryn J. Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA)
President, American Association of Medical Assistants

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

*The American Association of Medical Assistants
is proud to present this award to*

Carol L. Hipke-Muske, CMA (AAMA)

President, Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants

*in recognition of outstanding service in and
loyal support of the affairs of this association*



AAMA 53rd Annual Conference
September 2009

Kathryn J. Panagiotacos, CMA (AAMA)
President, American Association of Medical Assistants

Do You Feel Like You Are Left “In The Dark?”

Do you aspire to lead and participate in professionalism and leadership activities? Do you want to be a part of the future direction of the Nebraska Society of Medical Assistants (NSMA) and help set priorities? If so, check us out. Attend an NSMA Board meeting to help you identify where your strengths would fit best. If the right people are in the right positions, the overall performance of NSMA will be successful.

NSMA wants you as a member to be well-informed. Even though the composition and leadership roles of NSMA may change every year, we try to promote Board leadership continuity. As you evolve from member to ACTIVE member, NSMA wants you to know the roles of each committee position. The learning process is much easier when you don't start out “in the dark”. We want to match your expertise and talents to the committee that has the best fit to ensure a positive experience for all.

The NSMA Board as a whole has collective responsibilities to perform but the individual Board Chairs also have obligations to the membership. The NSMA Fact Sheets are highlighted below and help clarify the duties for both new and seasoned Board members. They summarize and provide a framework of expectations for each specific committee.

Long term service to NSMA is valued but we do not want to overlook the emerging new leaders. Please review the baseline criteria below and be ready to step up and volunteer or say “yes” when recruited. If you want to get your feet wet first, it is not necessary to jump in as Chair of a committee right away. You can first offer to serve as a member on a committee for a year and use this time for mentoring to become a Chair.

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

QUALIFICATIONS: Artistic, creative skills, organized, neat

RESPONSIBILITIES: Keep NSMA scrapbooks current
Update the NSMA history annually
Official NSMA photographer

AWARDS COMMITTEE

QUALIFICATIONS: Professional written communication skills
Able to meet deadlines

RESPONSIBILITIES: Solicit nominations and oversee selection for the CMA (AAMA) of the Year Award
Solicit names for NSMA special recognition certificates
Manage the NSMA Annual Conference Grant Award
Supervise the student scholarship program (once established)
Submit Nebraska entries for AAMA Excel Awards

BUDGET & FINANCE

QUALIFICATIONS: Mastery of basic bookkeeping and accounting principles
Capable of preparing a balanced budget and perform an audit
Organized, logical, dependable

RESPONSIBILITIES: Supervise NSMA finances ensuring funds are spent for the benefit of the membership
Prepare balanced operating and annual conference budgets
Devise ways and means of raising revenue as needed
Monitor NSMA Financial Policies & Reimbursement Policies
Review delegate/alternate AAMA conference expenses

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES

QUALIFICATIONS: Clear understanding of the NSMA Bylaws and Standing Rules
Familiar with AAMA Bylaws
Knowledgeable of Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised and basic parliamentary procedures
Ability to focus on details, organized

RESPONSIBILITIES: Review NSMA Bylaws & prepare proposals to amend
Review NSMA Standing Rules & submit proposals to amend
Review component Chapter Bylaws for compliance
Serve in an advisory capacity on parliamentary matters

CERTIFICATION & EDUCATION

QUALIFICATIONS: Must be a current CMA (AAMA)
Familiar with AAMA certification and recertification policies and procedures
Understand the AAMA CEU approval process

RESPONSIBILITIES: Keep membership informed regarding the AAMA certification exam application process
Send out congratulatory letters to new and recertified members
Promote the AAMA policy that all working CMA's (AAMA) remain current and the proper use of the CMA (AAMA) credential in the workplace
Arrange AAMA CEU approved educational programs

DOCUMENTS

QUALIFICATIONS: Strong organizational skills with ability to focus on details
Professional written communication skills

Recommended that Chair have at least two years NSMA BOD experience

RESPONSIBILITIES: Ensure uniformity of NSMA forms & documents

Monitor use of the NSMA logo
Monitor and update the NSMA Policy Manual

EDITORIAL

QUALIFICATIONS: Knowledge of correct grammar, spelling & punctuation

Strong organization skills and ability to meet deadlines

RESPONSIBILITIES: Prepare and distribute the Med-A-Gram (Spring & Fall)

Manage the NSMA website;
www.nsmaonline.org

LIAISON

QUALIFICATIONS: Strong communication and networking skills

Member advocate and engaging social skills

Thorough understanding of the NSMA/AAMA structure

RESPONSIBILITIES: Build and maintain open communication between NSMA, it's members, students and the Nebraska Medical Association

Promote the AAMA Maxine

Williams Scholarship Fund

Recruit and manage the Student Advisory Board and the Educator Advisory Board

MARKETING

QUALIFICATIONS: Strong communication and networking skills

Thorough understanding of the NSMA/AAMA philosophies

Inventive, pioneering, innovative

RESPONSIBILITIES: Communicate to the professional community and the general public NSMA/AAMA goals and policies

Organize promotional events for Medical Assistant Recognition Week

MEMBERSHIP

QUALIFICATIONS: Firm commitment to the goals/benefits of NSMA/AAMA

Effective communication skills and enthusiastic in promoting membership

RESPONSIBILITIES: This is a TWO year term

Devise strategies to increase and retain membership

Motivate members to become actively involved

Plan a membership drive

Manage the NSMA Membership Recruitment Contest

Manage the annual NSMA Member-At-Large Delegate

Drawing

MENTOR

QUALIFICATIONS: Effective communication skills (written & verbal)

Knowledgeable of the structure for AAMA and NSMA

Committed to the goals of NSMA/AAMA

Experienced in NSMA activities

RESPONSIBILITIES: Develop and monitor programs that encourage new members to interact with veteran members

Help train members to take on leadership roles within NSMA

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

QUALIFICATIONS: Familiar with legislative processes

Strong communication skills, verbal & written

RESPONSIBILITIES: Keep the membership informed regarding pertinent legislation

Monitor and respond to CMA (AAMA) right to practice challenges

All terms are for one year unless otherwise stated. All Board members are expected to attend the six NSMA Board meetings including the annual conference. Candidates for committee chairs must be active members of NSMA in good standing. Members of the Board should read and become familiar with the NSMA Bylaws and Standing Rules. All BOD members are expected to prepare a written year end committee report.

If you don't see an opportunity listed above that peaks your interest, there's still the Nominating Committee and the Annual Conference Committee. Please feel free to reach me if you have any questions or need a contact person. Hope to hear from many of you soon.

Jan Frederick, CMA (AAMA)

NSMA Mentor Chair 2009-2010

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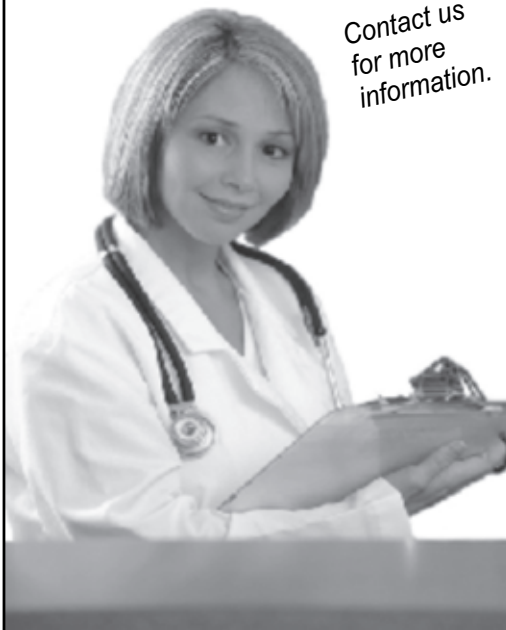
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- Preparation to sit for the AAMA certification exam (CMA)

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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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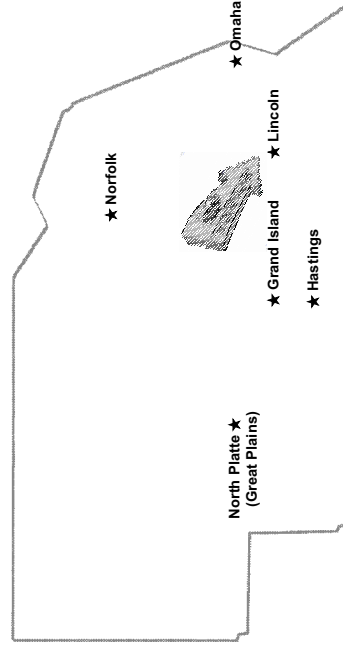
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