

# SDSMA MESSENGER

JANUARY 2010, ISSUE 1

## SDSMA ANNUAL CONVENTION

The SDSMA Annual State Convention will be held March 26-27, 2010 at the Sheraton Hotel in Sioux Falls, SD. Continuing education will be abundant along with some new additions to the conference schedule.

This year members can do some shopping at the numerous vendors who have agreed to set up at the end of a long day of CEUs. The following booths are just a few who will be set up Friday after the last CEU is finished:

<b>Scentsy</b>	<b>Simply Said</b>	<b>Pampered Chef</b>
<b>Purses Galore</b>	<b>Tastefully Simple</b>	<b>Mary Kay</b>
<b>Candy Bouquets</b>	<b>And many more</b>	

We will also do something different with our evening CE. Instead of having someone speak, an online CE will be offered throughout the evening and members can obtain a CE at their leisure while enjoying the Welcome Party.

## NEED A PLACE TO STAY FOR CONVENTION

The Sheraton Hotel is offering special room rates during the SDSMA State Convention. Rates are \$94 for single, double, triple or quad. These rates will be good March 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>. When calling for rooms, members need to mention they are coming for the convention. The number for the Sheraton is 605-331-0100.

## WHAT HAPPENED TO SDSMA.NET

The SDSMA website host is no longer providing services. Currently webmaster, Scott Beyer, is frantically working to get the website back up under a different host. Hopefully with the new website we will be able to provide some new services. We appreciate your patience.

The SDSMA Executive officers are sorry for any inconvenience to the members



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### **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Tired of sitting on the sidelines. Always talking about how you would do things differently. Now is your chance to make a difference in the SDSMA. Become an officer. New officers are to be elected on both the state and chapter levels. Please think about volunteering your time and sharing your ideas.

Become involved now!

### **NATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

The following SDSMA members have been appointed to the following AAMA Task Forces:

Heidi Weber, CMA (AAMA) member of the Leaders in Education and Practitioner (LEAP) Task Force under the Continuing Education Board. Heidi will be assisting in providing continuing education for the AAMA National Conference.

Jo Penning, CMA (AAMA) has been appointed to the Annual Conference Committee. This committee will review all conference evaluations and forward changes and suggestions for the Annual conference to the appropriate committees.

## **2009 AAMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The AAMA 2009 National Conference was held in Houston, TX, September 11-14 with 563 people registered. Attending from South Dakota were SDSMA President Amy Zobel, SDSMA Vice President Heidi Weber, SDSMA Secretary Jill Crichton, SDSMA Immediate Past President Jo Penning and Sioux Empire Chapter President Sara Nehlich. Continuing education sessions on ethics, opioid abuse, identity theft and many more were offered during the four day event. The House of Delegates on September 12 elected new members to the Board of Trustees. The following members were voted into office:

Vice President-Betty Springer, CMA-C (AAMA) Florida

Secretary Treasurer-Ann Naegele, CMA (AAMA) Texas

Vice Speaker-Nina Watson, CMA (AAMA) North Carolina

Trustees-Charlene Couch, CMA (AAMA) Virginia

Julie Flaatten, CMA (AAMA) Wisconsin

Lisa Lee, CMA (AAMA) Utah

Crissy Taylor, CMA (AAMA) South Carolina

Jocelyn Willis, CMA (AAMA) Oregon

The Excel Awards/Welcome Party provided a dessert social this year. The South Dakota Society of Medical Assistants won an Excel Award for Membership Recruitment and received an Achievement Award for Membership Retention. These awards were accepted by President Amy Zobel CMA (AAMA). Jo Penning, CMA (AAMA) received the Leadership and Mentoring Award of Distinction.

### **SDSMA POLICY FOR ATTENDANCE TO THE AAMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

The following policy will be voted on at the SDSMA State Convention this year. Please read through the policy and voice any questions or concerns:

Attendance to the AAMA National Conference as a delegate or alternate requires the following:

- Delegate or alternate must have a current membership in the SDSMA and AAMA and hold a current CMA status.
- Delegate or alternate must attend all AAMA House of Delegate Activities, including Reference Committee Hearings.
- Attendance to at least five (5) CEU activities.
- Delegates and alternates should act professionally when representing the South Dakota Society of Medical Assistants.
- No behavior which would threaten or harm other attendees or themselves is tolerated.

Any part of the above policy not adhered to will be brought to the attention of the SDSMA Executive Board for deliberation and could result in revocation of all or partial funding to attend the AAMA National Conference.



## NEBULIZER TREATMENTS ADDED TO SCOPE OF PRACTICE

After careful review the Joint Board of Nursing and Medical and Osteopathic Examiners determined that Certified Medical Assistants **are permitted** to administer medications by the inhalation route as long as the supervising physician assures appropriate training, competence and assumes ultimate responsibility for administration of such drugs.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

March 26-27, 2010  
SDSMA State Convention,  
Sioux Falls, SD

September 24, 2010  
54<sup>th</sup> Annual AAMA Conference  
Lake Buena Vista, FL

October 18, 2010  
Medical Assistants Week

October 20, 2010  
Medical Assistants Recognition Day

September 9, 2011  
55<sup>th</sup> Annual AAMA Conference,  
Indianapolis, IN

September 7, 2012  
56<sup>th</sup> Annual AAMA Conference,  
Scottsdale, AZ

Future dates for SDSMA chapter and state meetings will be discussed at the state meeting and posted on the SDSMA website.

## THE POWER OF POSITIVE THINKING

Have you ever caught yourself being negative? Everyone has. But the power of positive thinking can benefit us physically as well as mentally. Health benefits of positive thinking include:

- ☺ Increased life span
- ☺ Lowers depression
- ☺ Lowers distress
- ☺ Less common colds
- ☺ Better coping skill
- ☺ Better psychological and physical well being
- ☺ reduced risk of death from cardiovascular disease.

Change those negative thoughts into positive ones by:

Checking yourself, evaluate your thinking.

Being open to humor—give yourself permission to smile or laugh.

Follow a healthy lifestyle.

Surround yourself with positive people.

Practice positive self-talk. Don't say anything to yourself that you wouldn't say to anyone else.

SOUTH DAKOTA SOCIETY  
OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS

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**SDSMA STATE  
CONVENTION  
DETAILS INSIDE  
MARCH 26-27,  
2010**

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U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #7913  
SIOUX FALLS, SD

## AAMA POLICY CHANGES TAKE EFFECT

Policy changes established by the Certifying Board of the AAMA will give the CMA (AAMA) credential extra muscle. These policies will go into effect January 1, 2010. Find out how they will impact you and help spread the word:

**Window of exam eligibility.** Initial candidates for the CMA (AAMA) Exam who graduate on or after January 1, 2010 will have 60 months from the date of graduation to sit for and pass the exam. If the candidate does not pass within this time frame, the candidate is not eligible for the CMA (AAMA) credential. (This policy does not affect candidates graduating before January 1, 2010.)

**Three attempts for initial certification.** A candidate for initial certification is allowed three exam attempts to obtain CMA (AAMA) certification. If the candidate does not pass on the third attempt, the candidate is not eligible for the CMA (AAMA) credential.

**Recertify by certification/recertification month.** All newly certified and recertifying CMAs (AAMA) will be current through the end of the calendar month of initial certification or most recent recertification for 60 months after initial certification or most recent recertification.

**Reactivation fee.** Any CMA (AAMA) not recertifying on or before the expiration date of their credential will be considered as having an expired credential and will be required to pay a \$50 reactivation fee in addition to the recertification fee in order to recertify. This applies to recertification by continuing education or examination.

**Reactivation by exam.** If it has been longer than 60 months since a CMA (AAMA) has recertified, the credential has expired and cannot be reactivated by continuing education. However, recertification can be achieved by passing the CMA (AAMA) Exam. Payment of a \$50 reactivation fee plus the recertification by examination fee will be required. The Certifying Board's new policies will reinforce the provision of high quality patient care and, thereby, improve public safety. Those who obtain the credential must continue to earn the right to represent this gold standard to their employers and the public. Remember, CMAs (AAMA) must remain current in order to use the credential.