Dear WSSMA Members,

As my term as President comes to an end, I want each of you to know what an honor this has been for me to be able to serve this organization. I have matured and expanded my appreciation of all it takes to keep this organization running smoothly. As was my theme for this year it has truly taken the “Caring hearts and Helping hands” of many to make this a successful year! I thank you all for the efforts, time and support!

During this past year I have had the pleasure to travel with some whom I’ve known for some time and with some that I have only begun to know. Our travel to Atlanta, Georgia and to Burnaby, British Columbia was exciting, educational, thought provoking and made very special by those travel companions I will not soon forget. I look forward to nurturing and strengthening these relationships as we continue our work for WSSMA.

This experience has helped me grow as a person and to appreciate all of the personality differences it takes as we work toward one common goal, the success of WSSMA. With your continued “Caring Hearts and Helping hands”, we can assure the success of this organization. I would like to thank each of you for your support during this past year.

You are the future of WSSMA and I look forward to working with you!!

Warmly,

Lori VanLith,
CMA (AAMA)
WSSMA President
2013-2014

CMAs ~ We’re “Workin’ on the River” May 15-17, 2014

WSSMA 47th Annual Conference
Hosted by the North Central Washington Chapter of Medical Assistants is being held at the Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel and Wenatchee Convention Center.

The North Central Washington Chapter has been working hard to plan an educational and fun experience for our members.
EDITORIAL COMMENT:
by pat hightower

ACPOE (Ambulatory Computer Physician Order Entry) is coming to most of our offices. With the CMS ruling stating that only licensed personnel and credentialed medical assistants can enter proposed orders it is adding more work and time to our rooming process. How to we balance this? How do we continue to multi-task with the other aspects of our job?

I don’t really know the answer to this but thought I would throw the question out there for food for thought for everyone. It seems that with every added task to the computer intake of a patient is usually to the medical assistant that these new task are assigned. I personally feel less and less involved with the patient. Is this just me?

AAMA® News:

TRADEMARK: AAMA® has been granted registered trademark rights to the terms “CMA(AAMA)®” and “AAMA®”. This is very important for the protection of our credential and organization.

We have had for several years common law rights in the CMA initialism. These rights are narrow however and protect us against another medical assisting testing body using these exact initials.

If you find any other organization using the above initials please bring it to the attention of the AAMA®.

2013-2014 WSSMA Officers and Elected Leaders:

President: Lorri VanLith CMA(AAMA)
Vice President: Sheri R. Greimes, CMA (AAMA) PBT RMA, RPT
Secretary: Shelley Gingrich, CMA(AAMA)
Speaker of the House: Barbara Parker, CMA (AAMA) CPC
Vice Speaker of the House: Claire Houghton, CMA(AAMA)
Trustee: Pat Hightower, CMA
Tom Wolf, CMA (AAMA)
Carolyn Sherwin, CMA (AAMA)
Mary Lou Mason, CMA(AAMA)
Memory Severn, CMA (AAMA)
Nominating Committee: Penny Deatherage, CMA (AAMA) Chair
Lois Pruitt , CMA(AAMA)
Cynthia Wallen, CMA(AAMA)
Sandy Erlewine, CMA (AAMA) CPC
Lorrie Jones, CMA (AAMA)
Shelley Gingrich, CMA(AAMA)
Pat Hightower, CMA (AAMA) Alternate
Dallas McDaneld, CMA (AAMA) 2nd Alt

Membership Matters: Speaker Presentation

Don Balasa JD, MBA keeps tabs on all the states and their scope of practice laws and issues as they come up. He is the tireless voice of and for the medical assisting community. Keep up to date with his Legal Eye news as it happens.

Legal Eye on Medical Assisting

2014 58th AAMA® Annual Conference is being held in St Louis Oct 17-21, 2014.

Can’t make 2014 consider attending in 2015 in Portland Oregon.

Attention Program Planners!

Visit the new AAMA®’s Program Planner’s Toolbox to find great resources. Start crafting your best program yet!
LEGISLATIVE NEWS:

Legislative Updates: The DOH continues to process MA-C and MA-R applications at a pace that is not very conducive to people looking for jobs to be able to present a valid state license while applying for jobs. This is very difficult for graduating students as they can’t complete their state application until their final grades are posted and the instructors can send in their transcripts separately.

Some employers are aware of this delay and are hiring pending state registration but other are just waiting for the process. This is hard to understand as they have hired nurses for years with state boards pending.

Brett Cain is planning to do an update at the 2014 Conference - hopefully we will get some insight into the process.

Several programs are working with the HEET grant to help medical assistants that need to attend a program to qualify for the state license to get up to speed.

PARLIAMENTARY CORNER:

From Robert’s Rule of Order:

Is it necessary to summarize matters discussed at a meeting in the minutes of that meeting in order for the minutes to be complete?

Answer:
Not only is it not necessary to summarize matters discussed at a meeting in the minutes of that meeting, it is improper to do so. Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said.

How can I get an item on the agenda for a meeting?

Answer:
For a proposed agenda to become the official agenda for a meeting, it must be adopted by the assembly at the outset of the meeting. At the time that an agenda is presented for adoption, it is in order for any member to move to amend the proposed agenda by adding any item that the member desires to add, or by proposing any other change.

It is wrong to assume, as many do, that the president “sets the agenda.” It is common for the president to prepare a proposed agenda, but that becomes binding only if it is adopted by the full assembly, perhaps after amendments as just described.
Committee updates/announcements:

CHAPTER EXTENSION COMMITTEE:
If your area isn’t part of a chapter and you wish to form one please contact Sue Rodenberger, CMA (AAMA) at sue.rodenberger@comcast.net or 360-733-8408.

If you live in the Vancouver/Southwest Washington area, or in Walla Walla and are interested in starting a chapter, please contact Sandy Erlewine, CMA (AAMA) at serlewine@yahoo.com or 509-966-9570.

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Nancy Fortin Scholarship: All students of a CAAHEP or ABHES program are eligible to apply for the Nancy Fortin Scholarship. See application on the WSSMA website.

Website: Our website is open to both the public and our members. For access to the members only section just request it through the grey box on the home page. You must submit your current AAMA member number to gain access.

Reminder: All delegates to HOD serve for one year from May to May of the next year.

Yakima Chapter:
News from Yakima Chapter: We have changed our August meeting to September due to summer vacations. Yakima Chapter meets on a quarterly basis. We meet the third Thursday of the following months: February, April, September and October. We meet at Yakima Valley Community College. Business meeting at 5:30 pm and Continuing Education at 6:00 pm.

Statline: For the sake of space we are not using members credentials - will only put credentials if the person mentioned is not a medical assistant. Reporter positions available!

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BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES COMMITTEE:
Has submitted Bylaws changes to be voted on at the HOD (House of Delegates) in Wenatchee in May. Please review these in your chapter and discuss how you wish your delegates to vote. Remember bylaw changes are only done annually in the HOD,

Did you know that WSSMA owns two projectors that can be borrowed for your chapter’s seminars.

There is a sign out process - contact Tom Wolf Snohomish County chapter if you need to borrow this item.

USED SCRUB SALE AT CONFERENCE
The NCW chapter will be collecting gently used scrubs for their “Jessica’s Closet” scrub sale at conference.

Proceeds go to supporting students taking the AAMA® exam.

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GOING GREEN  one step at a time

Statline: The Statline is published 4 times yearly and posted to the WSSMA website. This has saved many trees.

STATLINE
Send us photos! Social page is for all of us to let each other know what’s going on in our lives.
Someone sick? Had surgery? Let us know we’ll pass the word and wish them well!!

WSSMA COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
(find contact information on the WSSMA website)
Audit Committee – Nancy Marshall-Young
Budget and Finance - Judy Adkins
Bylaws and Standing Rules – Sherry Greimes
Chapter Extension- Chair- Sandy Erlewine
Certification/Recertification – Elise Miller
Doris Stansell Fund - Jeanette Van Wick
Leadership Retreat Chair - Claire Houghton and Michelle Kaszewicz
Legislation – Pat Hightower and Tom Wolf
Membership – Sheri Greimes
Membership Roster – Doreen Hoch
Nancy Fortin Scholarship - Ruth Flanigan
Professional Achievement Award/MA of the Year Award –
Claire Houghton
Publications/ Statline – Pat Hightower
Public Relations – Sheri Greimes
Website – Sheri Greimes

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Medical Fact: You see your nose at all times, your brain just chooses to ignore it.

I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious.

ALBERT EINSTEIN

VOTING MEMBERS at a BOT Meeting:
The voting members of WSSMA decides the business of WSSMA, they include elected Officers of WSSMA, Trustees, President and Vice President of each chapter and two representatives of the members at large. Parliamentarian and committee chairs (who do not hold any of the above other positions) cannot vote.

It is strongly encouraged that all voting members and committee chairs attend all BOT meetings. BOT meetings are open to all members of WSSMA.
DID YOU KNOW?

CMA (AAMA) Exam Candidacy limits initial candidates for the CMA (AAMA) Exam. Medical Assistants who graduate on or after January 1, 2010 have 60 months from the date of graduation to sit for and pass the exam. The candidate is allowed three exam attempts. If the candidate does not pass within the 60-month time frame, the candidate is no longer eligible for the CMA (AAMA) credential.

This would mean that a student who graduated prior to January 1, 2010, who did not attempt the CMA (AAMA) Exam would still be eligible.

Take your AAMA test now !!!!

Employers require your MA-C registration with the state but many still consider the CMA(AAMA) applicant their first choice when hiring.

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Program planners - running out of ideas for topics for speakers. Cruse the AAMA CEU website (members only) and see the topics that have approved for other chapters and states.

Whatcom County Chapter of Medical Assistants: has gotten off to a good start this year under the leadership of new President David Weinstein, CMA (AAMA) and Vice President: Katy Denooyer, CMA (AAMA), LCE . Carolyn Sherwin, CMA (AAMA) is Secretary and Karel Jahns, CMA-C (AAMA) is Treasurer. Our meeting place and date has changed to the third Tuesday of the month at St. Luke’s Health Education Center at 3333 Squalicum Parkway in Bellingham near St. Josephs Hospital. We are pleased to have had several medical assisting students from Whatcom Community College attending our meetings. In May our meeting date will be a week later than usual (May 20th) due to the WSSMA Conference in Wenatchee. It will be presented by Advanced Medical Massage.

We extend heartily welcome to WSSMA to our new chapters: Thurston and Skagit/Island Counties Chapters. However, with Skagit/Island Counties Chapter to our south, WCCMA’s membership took quite a dip (due to peel off to their chapter). We gladly wish them every success. It is good their members have a chapter closer to their home to take advantage of CEUs, networking, and fellowship with other local medical assistants.

Did You Know?

The indentation in the middle of the area between the nose and the upper lip has a name. It is called the philtrum. Scientists have yet to figure out what purpose this indentation serves, though the ancient Greeks thought it to be one of the most erogenous places on the body.

AAMA Board 2013-2014:

President: Nina Watson, CMA(AAMA), CPC
Vice President: Charlene Couch, CMA(AAMAp
Sec/Tres: Julie Flatten, RN, CMA(AAMA)
Speaker of the House: Paula Purdy, CMA(AAMA)
Vice Speaker: Lisa Lee, CMA(AAMA)
Trustees:
Elected 2012:
Loxie Kestler EdD, RN, CMA(AAMA)
Deborah Houston, CMA(AAMA) CPC

Michael Pfeil, LVN, CMA(AAMA)
Joyce Gariby, CMA(AAMA)

Elected 2013:
Pat Hightower, CMA(AAMA)
Karen Manchella, PhD, CMA(AAMA)
Freda Miller, CMA(AAMA)
WSSMA CHAPTER DIRECTORY:

Listed are the Chapter Presidents and their contact information. Please review the Chapter Meeting locations, dates and times. To see what the featured CEU topic is at the next Chapter meeting, go to the WSSMA website and click on the Chapters’ web pages.

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Greater Spokane Chapter: President Claire Houghton CMA (AAMA) Email: clahou12345@yahoo.com
MEETINGS: Meetings are held once a month, usually on Wednesdays of each month starting at 6:00 or 6:30 pm. (depending on the speaker) at Sacred Heart Children’s Hospital, 101 W. 8th Ave., Spokane on the fourth floor in classroom #2. Check website for particulars. wssma.org

King County Chapter: President Susan McCormick CMA (AAMA) Email: susanlhmccormick@comcast.net
MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of each month, at PIMA Medical Institute at Northgate RAD classroom 411 @ 7pm See website for directions wssma.org

Kitsap County Chapter: President Jill Poppleton CMA (AAMA) Email: jpoppleton88@yahoo.com
MEETINGS: Meet on the third Thursday at Harrison Medical Center Auditorium alternating with the third Wednesday of each month at Olympic College September through June. 6:00 pm social time and 6:30 pm education.

North Central WA Chapter: President Shelley Gingrich, CMA (AAMA) Email: dsgingrich84@gmail.com
MEETINGS: Location, date and times to be announced on the NCW chapter webpage at www.wssma.org (except June, July, & August)

Pierce County Chapter: President Diane Goracke CMA (AAMA) CMT Email: cmacmtdlg@aol.com
MEETINGS: Second Wednesday of each month (except July & August) @ 6:30pm at Allenmore Hospital Board Room, S. 19th Street and Union in Tacoma.

Sea-Tac Chapter: President Pat Hightower, CMA (AAMA) Email: patriciahightower@msn.com
MEETINGS: Second Tuesday of every month except July, August and September. starting at 6:30pm @ Highline Community College – Building 23 Room 206.

Skagit/Island Counties Chapter: President Justin Henderson CMA(AAMA) Email: justin.henderson@skagit.edu
MEETINGS: monthly meetings at Skagit Community College Angst Bldg Rm A-139 see website for more details.

Snohomish County Chapter: President Barb Fallstrom CMA (AAMA) – Email: barbfa@comcast.net
MEETINGS: Third Tuesday of each month, 6:30pm @ Everett Clinic Conference Center/ 3830 Hoyt Ave (Except June, July, August and December) For more information, go to the SCMA Webpage at www.wssma.org

Thurston County Chapter: President Carolyn Fuller CMA(AAMA) Email: carolyn2627@yahoo.com
MEETINGS: Quarterly in September, October, February and April See website for times and locations

Whatcom County Chapter: President: Dave Weinstein, CMA (AAMA) Email: dave.weinstein@me.com
MEETINGS: Third Tuesday of each month at @6pm at St. Luke’s Health Education Center located at 3333 Squalicum Parkway in Bellingham

Yakima Chapter: President Janice Sappingfield, CMA (AAMA) Email: jans28@q.com
MEETINGS: Meets on a quarterly basis. Meets the 3rd Thursday of February, April, September and October at Yakima Valley Community College. Business meeting at 5:30 pm and Continuing Education at 6:00 pm.

Members-at Large: Contact: WSSMA Membership Chair: Sheri Greimes, CMA (AAMA), RMA, PBT Email: sgreimescma@hotmail.com
CONDOLENCES

Diane Goracke’s husband, Terry, passed away April 27, 2014. Services were held May 10, 2014 in Tacoma. Several WSSMA Past Presidents were able to attend.

Sharon Stutsman’s husband, Dev, passed away May 2, 2014. His memorial is planned for June.

Diane and Sharon are both Past Presidents of WSSMA and have continued to be very active in their chapters and at the state level. They could not have done this without the support of their spouses. Often you would see them working right along with either one of them on a WSSMA project.

Our hearts and thoughts are with both these ladies.
More than one Credential:
All CMAs (AAMA), including those impacted by the Washington law, are permitted to recertify the CMA (AAMA) credential in accordance with the recertification policies of the Certifying Board of the AAMA. A CMA (AAMA) is permitted to hold other medical assisting credentials. The fact that a CMA (AAMA) holds other medical assisting credentials does not change the fact that all CMAs (AAMA) are permitted to recertify as permitted by the policies of the Certifying Board of the AAMA.

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RWI  recreational water illness

Illness caused by germs and chemicals found in the water we swim in

There are germs today that are very tolerant to chlorine and were not known to cause human disease until recently. Once these germs get in the pool, it can take anywhere from minutes to days for chlorine to kill them. Swallowing just a little water that contains these germs can make you sick.

Recreational water illnesses (RWIs) are caused by germs spread by swallowing, breathing in mists or aerosols of, or having contact with contaminated water in swimming pools, hot tubs, water parks, water play areas, interactive fountains, lakes, rivers, or oceans. RWIs can also be caused by chemicals in the water or chemicals that evaporate from the water and causeRWIs include a wide variety of infections, such as gastrointestinal, skin, ear, respiratory, eye, neurologic, and wound infections. The most commonly reported RWI is diarrhea. Diarrheal illnesses are caused by germs such as Crypto (short for Cryptosporidium), Giardia, Shigella, norovirus and E. coli O157:H7. With RWI outbreaks on the rise, swimmers need to take an active role in helping to protect themselves and prevent the spread of germs. It is important for swimmers to learn the basic facts about RWIs so they can keep themselves and their family healthy every time they swim.

In the past two decades, there has been a substantial increase in the number of RWI outbreaks associated with swimming. Crypto, which can stay alive for days even in well-maintained pools, has become the leading cause of swimming pool-related outbreaks of diarrheal illness. From 2004 to 2008, reported Crypto cases increased over 200% (from 3,411 cases in 2004 to 10,500 cases in 2008)\(^1\).

Although Crypto is tolerant to chlorine, most germs are not. Keeping chlorine at recommended levels is essential to maintain a healthy pool. However, a 2010 study found that 1 in 8 public pool inspections resulted in pools being closed immediately due to serious code violations such as improper chlorine levels\(^2\).

This info came from the CDC website

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Humans are the only animals to produce emotional tears. In the animal world, humans are the biggest crybabies, being the only animals who cry because they’ve had a bad day, lost a loved one, or just don’t feel good.
Calendar of Events:

**WSSMA Annual Conference 2014:** May 15 – 17, 2014 in Wenatchee, WA

- **Pre-Conference Board of Trustees Meeting:** May 15, 2014
- **Post-Conference Board of Trustees Meeting:** May 18, 2014

**WSSMA Summer BOT:** Aug 2, 2014  Tentative date, location TBA

**AAMA Conference:** Oct 17-20 2014  St Louis, Missouri

**WSSMA Fall BOT:** Nov 9, 2014  Tentative date, location TBA