**CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS**

**61ST AAMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**CINCINNATI, OHIO**

**OCTOBER 6-9, 2017**

**FIRST ALTERNATE DELEGATE’S REPORT**

This member was privileged to attend the 61st annual AAMA National Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio as the first alternate delegate. There were 651 registered attendees for the HOD this year with many new and old familiar faces.

When you get to the hotel you walk up a grand staircase (or take the elevator) to an opulent looking front desk area. The hotel had some very beautiful architectural features throughout. One of our meeting rooms was called the Hall of 13 Mirrors with, of course, mirrors but also had some beautiful bas-relief carvings on the ceiling. Our hotel rooms were very roomy and comfortable even though we didn’t get to spend too much time in them.

We started most days by meeting up for a continental breakfast, sharing a table with members from other societies. The meals at conference is a wonderful way to get to know and network with members from other states.

The Hilton was in a lovely area of the city. Within just a few blocks there were many choices for eating, shopping and exploring. There was a community square with a beautiful and colorful water fountain and a stage where it appeared different festivities were held, though none while we were there. While out and about we were often treated to music with frequent street musicians. The city even had people that moved around out on the streets to help anyone that had questions, needed directions, etc. Some of our delegates took a magical carriage ride/tour in a horse-drawn carriage (like Cinderella’s) that was lit up at night. Some of us went out exploring and found the Cincinnati Reds Baseball field and then found our way down to the waterfront. There was a park area with slides, climbing walls, a flying pig, exercise type apparatus, and a piano on the ground (like the one Tom Hanks played on in the movie” Big”) that we tried out.

We wound up our first day of conference with the Welcome and Excel Awards Celebration. The Excel Awards recognizes deserving state and individuals in sections based on the state membership numbers in the areas of: Publishing- South Dakota, Connecticut, and Michigan; Website Development- S. Dakota, Connecticut, Nebraska, and N. Carolina; Marketing, Promotion, and Recruitment- S. Dakota, and N. Carolina; Community Service- S. Dakota, New Hampshire, and Ohio; Membership Retention- S. Dakota, Maine, and Wisconsin; Membership Recruitment- Hawaii, Arizona, and Indiana; CMA (AAMA) Certification- Nevada, New Hampshire, Nebraska, and Wisconsin; The Golden Apple Award- Sherri Dykes, CMA (AAMA), GXMA, AAS; and the student award- Allison Kendrix from Lanier Technical College, Cumming, Georgia. Our own state website with Virginia Marquette, CMA (AAMA) as web chair may not have won the Excel Award but it was recognized for achievement. Please check our website at http://www.csma-medassist.org frequently to keep abreast of what’s going on with our Society.

This member was able to attend many wonderful and informative educational sessions. I won’t bore everyone with a lot of detail but some of my favorites were: “There isn’t an I in Team”; “Cyber Security:

1st Alternate Delegate Report

Page 2

Why Healthcare is a target and what you need to do”; “The Role of the Medical Assistant in Colorectal Screening”; and “Creating a Superior Integrated Delivery System through Culture and People”. This member was again privileged to take part in the CMA (AAMA) Knowledge Bowl. Though the team I was on didn’t win, it was a fun and informative endeavor.

The conference ended Monday with the President’s Luncheon. This luncheon honors the departing and newly elected members of the Board of Trustees, and the outgoing and incoming Presidents. The final high note was the Parade of Presidents where each State President is recognized and introduced. What better way to end our conference than with good food and recognizing our leadership.

This member was very impressed by the representation provided by our delegates. Though my services were not needed, thank you for entrusting me to represent our Society if the need arose.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Lizon CMA (AAMA)

1st Alternate Delegate