CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS (CSMA)

AAMA NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

OCTOBER 6-9, 2017

SECOND ALTERNATE DELGATE’S REPORT

This second alternate delegate was nominated from the floor at the 2017 CSMA annual spring meeting in Hayward, California. This alternate delegate requested to write the report about the special presentation at the House of Delegates (HOD) on Sunday, October 9, 2017, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Please also refer to the first Delegate report.

The HOD traditionally not the arena for the presentation of the AAMA Lifetime Member Award. Kathy Langley, Board Service Director of the AAMA suggested this time and location which would ensure that the recipient was in attendance as it was known that the nominee routinely did not attend the President’s Luncheon which concluded the conference and announced the incoming president.

President Julie Flaatten corresponded with the nomination letter contact person Gini Marquette, CMA (AAMA) regarding the presentation and asked for ideas on how best to keep the identity of the recipient unknown for as long as possible.  Alas, about two and a half minutes into the introduction, the pivotal moment was the description of the nominee’s involvement as their nephew’s basketball representative and it became obvious!  A thunderous standing ovation occurred when Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA), longtime AAMA member, AAMA 44th president (1999-2000) was announced as the 19th AAMA Lifetime Member!

This year California was seated at the back of the delegation. The walk to the podium was lined with well-wishers and long hugs. The plaque was read by President Flaatten “*In recognition and appreciation of her dedicated service to this association and for her leadership in the promotion and the advancement of the medical assisting profession” authorized by the AAMA Board of Trustees.*

Planning of this nomination began at the 2016 National conference in a taxi going to the airport with K. Minchella, CMA (AAMA), Ph.D. and Carol S. Clapp, CMA (AAMA) CPC. Ironically the two are longtime friends of the nominee and were in full support!  This alternate delegate was in the right place at the right time last year and even spent more time with Carol on the airplane to Vegas!

The CSMA Executive Committee corresponded and created the nomination letter and submitted the required documentation. K. Minchella also assisted the CSMA Executive Committee by requesting letters from other members and by fine-tuning the nomination letter which she included the volunteer work with China which the nominee had forgotten on their vitae!! Twenty plus letters of support were gathered and submitted by June 1st submission date with several others letters being sent directly to the AAMA.

This second alternate delegate appreciates the AAMA BOT, state and local chapter members and friends that contributed to achieving this honor for Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA). Letter writers were sought from all aspects of the recipient’s career. Each letter showcased the hard work and dedication that one possesses for this type of honor. It was a privilege to read the letters of personal stories of admiration. Kathy Langley was extremely helpful and thorough throughout this process. The CSMA delegation was not aware of the presentation before the HOD, Second Delegate Ojeda was informed in route to Cincinnati incase a backup plan was needed for the presentation. The CSMA Executive Committee did have the consent to submit this nomination, but with or without, it was already in the works long before their approval. California is now honored with two AAMA Life Members; Mary Kinn, CMA-A (AAMA), CPS, AAMA President 1958 was awarded in 1967. Joyce Nakano, CMA (AAMA) is the first to represent CSMA. Visit <http://ww.aama-ntl.org/about/history> to see the full list of past recipients and AAMA Presidents.

This conference was truly a memorable event in Cincinnati and this delegates enjoyed their time and local hospitality.

Thank you, CSMA for allowing me to represent California and the opportunity to serve our members in this capacity.

Gini Marquette, CMA (AAMA)

Second Alternate Delegate