



Greetings,

A great big thank you to all who spent your Extra Day with us! We had a great turn out and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Alliance member Cliff Menezes gave a thorough talk on computer conferencing, many found their way to the masseuse for a relaxing chair massage and we learned a little about ourselves and others by deciding which personality profile fit us best. We had an impromptu fundraiser for our FMAA Entrusted Fund and raised \$277.00. Four lucky members won web cams; they can now put Cliff's lessons into practice. It was both an enriching and fun day.

Save the date! It is time to mark your calendars for the FMA/FMAA Annual Meeting July 31 - August 3. The FMAA House of Delegates meets Saturday, August 2, 2008. Let your county president or county contact know you would like to attend and represent your county. We are planning to have an enlightening and fun meeting. I hope you will join us!

The "You Call and We Come" program is still a success! The personal touch we offer to our county alliances is rewarding for both groups involved. We learn what the counties need, how we can better serve one another, and provide updates on new activities occurring on the state and national level. The next CMS Alliances we plan to visit are Sarasota, March 20, and Capitol, April 22-23. Our schedule is still open for you. All you have to do is call and we'll come!

Grants are still available to be part of the 2008 Legislative Session! Apply now for the opportunity to receive instruction from FMA staff on important legislative issues and have the chance to speak with your legislator to discuss the important concerns facing physicians and their patients in Florida. If you are interested in applying, please contact Allison Finley, FMAA Executive Director, at afinley@medone.org or 800.762.0233 or e-mail Anne Grenitz, FMAA Legislative Chair, at agrenitz@aol.com

If you haven't already, you need to make plans to attend the AMA Alliance Capitol Conference and the AMA National Advocacy Conference. March 31st is a day-long AMA Alliance Capitol Conference that offers educational sessions on the AMA's Health Care Advocacy Agenda and how the AMA Alliance's grassroots efforts play an important role. This lively conference also provides facilitation skills via the Screen Out! Tobacco-free action campaign workshop with skill-focused sessions about fundraising and membership marketing. Then you can stay April 1st and 2nd to join the AMA advocate for their patients, the medical profession and the future of health care. The FMA Alliance offers a stipend for this conference. If you are interested, you can register at www.amaalliance.org and contact Allison at afinley@medone.org or 800.762.0233 for more information about our stipend.

As always, please never hesitate to contact me with any of your concerns or ideas.

Thank you for your continuing dedication to our Alliance!

Fondly,
Elaine
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