



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
MEDICAL AUDIT SPECIALISTS

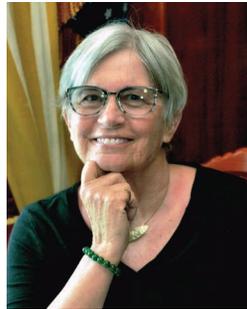
Spring 2020

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The Monitor

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT



Greetings Members, Friends and Fellow Quarantees!

It certainly has been a challenging month—a month of huge life changes for everyone I know all around the world.

The AAMAS Board has been hard at work with AEG, our management company, to re-focus our normal Annual Conference to a Virtual Conference. This has been a huge challenge, as you can imagine. First, thanks to AEG, we have the expertise to manage this on ZOOM. They are moving

other client conferences as well, so they are up on the technology and challenges. Secondly, our Conference Chairperson Theresa Crothers has been speaking with all our speakers to realign their times. Not only has she set up an onsite conference, but she had to dismantle it and set it up virtually. Thankfully, it is coming together, and you all have received notices that registration is now open for our first Virtual Conference. PLEASE JOIN US! It will be a way to earn your units and learn about what's happening in our profession. Plus, you will be supporting your national association.

We will hold a general business meeting session for members to vote on Bylaw Changes, Budget and AAMAS Board Officers. Please attend!!

We know you are all being safe out there. To those of you who have been called back to active clinical duty, we thank you. Please notify me at maryjanelabelle@gmail.com who you are because we want to acknowledge you on our website and during the conference.

Blessings to each of you and your families and friends.

Respectfully,
MJ LaBelle, RN, BA, CMAS, CCFA
AAMAS President

Virtual
Conference 2020
Clinical • Coding • Compliance
May 18-20, 2020

[Click Here To Register](https://conference2020.aamas.org)
<https://conference2020.aamas.org>

A Recipe from our Nomination Chair



Let's just say that COVID-19
Carbs don't count!
It's all about the fruit!

APPLE FRITTERS

1 1/2 cups diced apples, peeled (2-3 apples)
1 cup flour
1/4 cup sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/3 cup milk
1 egg
2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
Oil for frying (I used canola oil)

In bowl, mix flour, sugar and baking powder

In a glass, mix milk and egg then add it into dry ingredients and mix until just combined. (*Mixture will be thick*)

In bowl, toss the apple chunks with the cinnamon and sugar

Add apples into batter and stir just to coat apples

Heat fryer to 350°

Drop by heaping tablespoonful
(*use a second spoon to help drop batter from first spoon*)

Fry for 3-4 minutes
(*use a fork or tongs to flip over 1/2 way*)

Place on a cooling rack with paper towels underneath

Glaze

1 1/2 cups icing sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
2 tablespoons milk

In small bowl, mix glaze ingredients and drizzle over fritters

- Fry in batches
- Makes 8-10 depending on size you drop them

David Eklof, BSN, CMAS, CCFA
Chairperson of the Membership Committee

The CCFA Certification



First, I hope you and your families are well. I don't know about you but I feel like I'm in a science fiction movie. Contagion has become a reality and it almost brings us to a standstill, both physically and emotionally. Working in the healthcare field, we have all seen or heard our share of how infections can impact the individual. But

the impact on so many of us at one time is unique and devastating.

Yet, in many ways, this does bring innovation and because of the genius minds in our country and the world, we have new limits to explore both medically, to develop medications to help us out of this, and socially, to save us from our solitude during our isolation. One innovation I had not used until this pandemic is Zoom. But now I have been on Zoom many times with friends and even attended a Zoom wedding! It gives me joy to connect, even though I like connecting in person much better.

I am a social person, and when I speak to a group I like a discussion and questions. It was very difficult for me to embrace a virtual conference. Being with all of the attendees is really important to me. But I have adapted to the idea, first, because we have no choice, and second because we all need our CEUs and this is the best way to get them. And we will be able to take questions! We have to move through this and maybe even decide this is good for all of us. Hopefully it will work out well and we can continue offering an online conference periodically.

This year, Karen Cooper and I will be offering the 6-hour preconference, Clinical Financial Audit Essentials. We will be including the healthcare financial information needed for those who will be taking the CCFA exam (online). We will also be covering basics a newer auditor would want to know and discussing areas, such as coding infusion, hydration and injection, that most of us need to review periodically. If you work at home, you will have short breaks and a lunch break to get back to your work contacts. And you don't have to travel or stay in a hotel or wash your hair!

I remain hopeful that: the right medications will be identified to treat COVID-19 and that a vaccine will be developed soon; hopeful that all of us will be well; and hopeful that the conference will meet your needs as you stay at home.

Katie Stanford, RN, MSN, CCFA
President Elect and Co-Chairpersons of the Certification

The CCFA Exam Moves to Online Version



The CCFA exam will be offered online following our AAMAS virtual conference on May 23rd, 2020 and then as requested thereafter. If you are not currently a certified auditor, you should strongly consider taking the exam! Being certified is a plus for your employer or if you are an independent contractor, and especially if you are considering

new employment. Visit <https://www.aamas.org/ccfa-requirements/> or [click here](#) to register with the 2020 conference.

Qualifications are listed on the website and the certification committee is available to answer questions related to CCFA by emailing certification@aamas.org.

EXAM FEES

The exam fee is \$300.00 but AAMAS is offering a package deal with the pre-conference workshop, Clinical Financial Audit Essentials Workshop and the Exam for \$350, a discount of \$100. The exam can be taken online anytime up to one year after completion of the workshop.

Join your certified colleagues and enjoy the many benefits that CCFA certification has to offer. Currently, AAMAS has 135 certified members.

Karen Cooper, RN, BSN, CCFA

Vice President and Co-Chairpersons of the Certification

CCFA Certified Members

Sabrina Christopher, Jakki Lynch, Rebecca Fraley-Navarre, Kathy O'Leary, Kathleen Stanford, Karen Cooper, Sandy Tagher, Peggy Jenkins, Mary Jane LaBelle, Knyvett Barnes, Beverly Coleman, Mickey Brittingham, Josephine Gamble, Joseph Mc Lendon, Cynthia Burke, Deborah Duke, Jing Kainer, Julie Henley, Amy Armstrong, Deborah Bryan, Nancy Lengel, Catherine Smith, Alyse Adelstein, Arlene Liljeberg, Rita Sullivan, Cynthia Markos, Theresa Crothers, Cynthia Gillespie, David Eklof, Dianne Clarke, Janis Joyce, Laurie Laxton, Marci Healey, Maria Punzalan, Sheree Mixon, DeAnna White, Joan Supkay, Dawn Ainsworth, Pam Minter, Paige Wade, Denise Wallace, Pamela Schutz, Mary Mauthe, Deborah Wade Sullivan, Kathryn Perez, Lisa Warrick, Lupe Carter, Susan Kopack, Rebecca Hill, Cynthia Stellitano, Sharon Ronsheim, Annette Duffy, Celia Ryan, Michele Ciampaglione-Clark, Merdis Jackson-Maurice, Connie Vaughn, Donna Blomquist, Amy Hilderley, Jonathan Davis, Martha Newsom, Sandra Concepcion, Terese VanHout, Lynn Walter, Deborah Ericson, Hollis Bono, Shannon Gregory, Tracy Harvey, Marilyn Balcita, Sharon Padilla-Hu, Mary Stites, Taresa Nantt, Amy Divas, Cynthia Strait, Karen Sedevie, Ruth Gahan, Jennifer Strouth, Jayne Kalbfleisch, Lisa Berghaus, Helen Ruth Byrne, Katherine Blomquist, Robin Maloy, Melita Williams, Mary Sinak, Anne Haider, Diane Akrami, Balakrushna Dash, Thesese Hammon, Patricia Danielson, Rosemarie Cruz, Donna Bauby, Allen Shane, Natalie Higgins, Julie Doumad, Robin Stover, Laura StJohn, Cathy Webster, Susan Conrad, Joan Alexander, Martha Spotts, Kimberli DeHaan, Carolyn Belle, Judith Grandstaff, Kathleen Petruzzelli, Elizabeth Tucker, Karen Robinson, Mary Correa, Wendy Dreaazy, Karen Leach, Dorothy Blakeman, Linda Garner, Laura Perun-Pederson, Debra Benyounes, Tanya Bechtel, Kristy Petruccio, Sandra Wagner, Toni Lighty, Cucharras Martin, Janet Pavia, Aleta Levell, Barbara Bertucio, Wanda Webb, Mary Lynn Johnson, Vonda Jones, Kathy Patterson, Ernesto Mitchel, Marsha Page, Tara Gilpin, Evonne Schiappacasse, Penny Brand, Melissa Gove, Parveen Khan, Lynette Reed Hunter, Susan Jacob., Valerie Rose, Pam Reed.

Virtual Reality



I want to begin this note by saying I hope you and your families are all healthy, and managing to cope with the effects of this insidious virus. It has been challenging, and we have all had to be creative in our ways of managing our work and home lives, while still keeping social distancing. Here in Michigan, we have, hopefully, reached our peak of new cases, but still have a long way to go before life gets back to our new normal, whatever that will be.

When we cancelled the onsite conference for April, we considered moving the conference to the fall, but with the continued uncertainty regarding COVID-19, decided now was the perfect time to look at the advantages of a virtual conference.

We are very excited to present the first ever AAMAS Virtual Conference May 18-20. In order to accommodate our members on both coasts, please make note that the **conference times are in Central Daylight Time!** <https://conference2020.aamas.org/> We have worked hard to reschedule and accommodate our speakers, and have had only 2 breakout session speakers unable to present on those dates. We are offering AAPC and CCFA units, and will let you know when our nursing CEU's are approved.

We are providing information on how to prepare for a virtual conference, <https://conference2020.aamas.org/prepare-for-conference/> and an overview of how to download the necessary connections. <https://conference2020.aamas.org/overview/> We are using zoom as our platform. The live sessions via video streaming will allow you to participate by asking questions and leaving comments. I know there have been issues with the security of zoom, and these issues have been addressed. If you are registered, you will receive the necessary information regarding entering the conference. It will be a closed session to the public, so no worries of being hacked.

I will miss seeing you all in person, but look forward to seeing you online!

Stay Healthy!

Theresa Crothers, RN, CMAS, CCFA
Program Chair

Treasurer's Report



During the first quarter of the year AAMAS generates income from yearly membership dues. We also take in income from our conference. I will be presenting the yearly Treasurer's report during our upcoming virtual conference.

We are hoping you all can participate in our first ever virtual conference! If you have not used Zoom for work or social gatherings, it is very user friendly and a great platform for our conference.

In these trying times you may be in need of a pick me up. The team at my office enjoys a website <https://my.happify.com>. You can sign up for daily emails that will send a positive message to you. Many will make you laugh, smile and of course cry. Our newest favorite is Chris Mann. He was on *The Voice* a few years ago and has been doing a lot of parody songs about the COVID pandemic. Set some time aside because once you watch one of his videos, the next thing you know it is an hour later and you have gone thru most of his library on YouTube! This is my favorite because I love Adele: <https://my.happify.com/hd/this-under-quarantine-cover-of-an-adele-hit-provides-a-much-needed-laugh>. He also has some wonderful non parody videos—wonderful performer.

Take good care of yourself!
Sending everyone wishes for a safe and healthy spring,

Amy Armstrong, RN, BSN, CPC, CCFA
Secretary/Treasurer



If you haven't done so already,
please like us on Facebook.

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