

## MSSNY THIRD DISTRICT REPORT

### SEPTEMBER

- **NYSDOH COMMISSIONER DR. HOWARD ZUCKER:**  
On June 7<sup>th</sup> New York State health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker was the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Medical Society of the County of Albany Inc. Dr. Zucker discussed a number of health department initiatives and made himself available for questions. He stated had dinner with his colleagues. We were pleased that Dr. Joseph Sellers was able to attend as well. The event took place at the University Club in downtown Albany. It was Dr. José David last meeting as president and we welcomed the new president, Dr. Michael Gruenthal. Dr. Gruenthal is a neurologist and managing partner of the Albany Medical College Faculty Practice Group.
- **END OF SESSION:**  
The members and leadership of the Third District are extremely pleased with the tremendous success of the 2016 legislative session. Once again, MSSNY Governmental Affairs display tremendous skill in defeating a number of the negative proposals during session and achieving some remarkable victories.
- **THIRD AND FOURTH DISTRICT FALL CONFERENCE:**  
The annual MSSNY Third and Fourth District Fall Conference will be taking place starting Friday night, October 14<sup>th</sup> and ending at noon on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. A number of very important topics will be discussed including New York State and CMS payment initiatives, the 2017 MSSNY legislative program and the MLMIC merger. The meeting is taking place at the Gideon Putnam Hotel and Conference Center at the Saratoga State Park, Saratoga Springs, New York.
- **NYMGMA/MSCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**  
The Albany 6 area chapter of the New York Medical Group Management Association and the Medical Societies of Albany and Ulster Counties will be holding a joint breakfast meeting on Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will feature a panel discussion by local health insurance companies on a variety of topics relating to practice management. The meeting is taking place at the Century House in Latham, New York.
- **PA/NP PAYMENT DENIALS:**  
The Medical Societies of Albany and Ulster Counties are pleased to be working with MSSNY Governmental Affairs and Regina McNally on trying to restore Medicaid payments for services provided by physician assistants and nurse practitioners who are employed by private practices that are providing services to hospitals. Liz Dears-Kent has informed us that a meeting has been set up in September with the state.