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**Upcoming 2007- 2008  
Events:**

- ◇ Annual Assembly, May 4 -7, 2007, Sagamore Resort, Bolton landing, NY.
- ◇ Summer Educational Program, July 25, Verona, NY.
- ◇ Midyear Clinical Meetings- October 9, Long Island and October 23, Seneca Niagara Hotel.

*2007 Corporate Sponsor Achievement Award*

Edward Antonio will be awarded the Corporate Sponsor Achievement Award at the 46th Annual Assembly. This is awarded to an individual or a company in recognition of accomplishments for, involvement in and betterment of NYSCHP. Edward was employed by Amgen for years and retired in 2006. Edward was a longstanding member of the Council and was a huge supporter of NYSCHP functions and activities. It is with great pleasure that I say congratulations Ed and we will see you in May!



### 2006—2007 Chapter Presidents

Central NY - Brian Dodge

Leatherstocking - John Noviasky

Long Island - Donna Sym

Mid-Hudson - TBA

New York City - Catherine Tom-Revzon

Northeastern - Laurie Cronin

Rochester - Swati Patel

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Come Celebrate

NYSCHP Turning 50

The New York State Council will celebrate 50 years in 2008. Big plans are in the works for a magnificent celebration to take place at the 2008 Annual Assembly. There are several sponsorship opportunities available through the Council Office and if your company would like to be a sponsor of this wonderful event please contact Jacque Benoit at 518-456-8819 or via email at [jbenoit@nyschp.org](mailto:jbenoit@nyschp.org). Make plans to join us at the Sagamore Resort in Bolton Landing, May 2—4, 2008.

### 2007 Jan Keltz Memorial Winter Educational Program

The 2007 Winter Program was held January 4–7, 2007 at the Inn at Six Mountains, Killington, Vermont. It provided 6 hours of Continuing Education credits as well as some great networking. This year the NYSCHP Board of Directors presented the Keltz family with a plaque in dedication to Jan Keltz for his many loyal years of service as Director of Industry Affairs. Jan will be missed dearly by all who knew him and such a loss to those who didn't.

Thank you to Allergan, Astellas, Meniscus, Design Write, Amgen and GNYHA Services, Inc for helping us provide a very successful meeting to our membership.



## NYSCHP LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

For those of us whose lives, to one degree or another, revolve around the New York State Legislature, January 1st is more than just a time to make resolutions or to select a new calendar. With a new year, and especially the year that marks the beginning of a new two-year legislative session, the New York State legislative process begins all over again. All bills must be re-introduced, renumbered and re-routed through the legislative committee process. After several months of post-session hiatus and a campaign season during which all statewide elected officials and every State Senate and State Assembly race was on the ballot, the New York Legislature will begin its work of considering thousands of new legislative proposals—not to mention assembling a budget that now exceeds \$100 billion.

2007 ushers in even more dramatic change than usual. For the first time in a dozen years, a new Administration took office this January—and has pledged to reform the fundamental ways in which the public's business has been conducted. The Legislature will also have new leadership—a new Minority Leader in the State Senate (Senator Malcolm Smith of Queens) and a new Majority Leader (not yet named) in the State Assembly—and, as a result of some modest changes in membership, there will be changes in the Committee leadership in both houses, including potentially in the committees of greatest interest to NYSCHP. While the Democrats' overwhelming control of the Assembly remains, the Republicans hold on the State Senate has been lessened by the loss of one of their seats—and may be further eroded by the appointment of another Republican State Senator to a position in the Spitzer Administration. With all of this change, making predictions on what will happen this year presents unique challenges.

One thing remains certain, however: NYSCHP remains firmly committed to seeking legislation that will bring the practice of pharmacy in New York State into the 21st Century through the enactment in 2007 of legislation that will authorize collaborative drug therapy management (CDTM).

In 2006, we witnessed both the Assembly and Senate Higher Education Committees endorse the legislation by overwhelming majorities. A number of organizations that had expressed opposition to the bill, including the New York State Nurses Association and the Nurse Practitioners Association, withdrew their opposition; other key players, including the Healthcare Association of New York State, the Greater New York Hospital Association, the New York Association of Homes and Services for the Aging and SEIU/1199 became more actively engaged in promoting the bill. Only the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) maintained its opposition.

Although the bill did not ultimately reach final action in either house, we believe 2006 may have been the turning point: with only one group isolated in opposition, with stronger levels of support from the grassroots in both houses and with an increasingly focused effort by our sponsors in each house, CDTM moved much closer to enactment during the 2006 year and is poised to reach the finish line in 2007.

Over the course of the summer and fall, we have remained in contact with our legislative supporters and sponsors in order to see what we can do to ensure that the bill actually reaches the Governor's desk this year. We have had a series of meetings with the top advisors to the leaders in both houses to identify any key impediments to passage and to emphasize the necessity of passing the bill this year. The NYSCHP leadership—President Leigh Briscoe Dwyer and President-elect Kimberly Zammitt—have reached out to the leadership of MSSNY to initiate a dialogue among the volunteer leaders of the two organizations to try to resolve MSSNY's concerns.

Finally, at the urging of NYSCHP leaders, we undertook a top to bottom review of the bill to ensure that the strongest possible legislation will be reintroduced in the 2007 session. Among other things, the revised bill deletes some unnecessary provisions relating to malpractice coverage for pharmacists that are not part of any other scope of practice legislation and would apply to hospital, nursing home and outpatient settings, without any phase-in of one setting or another as had been proposed in an amendment to the bill last year. As a result, a revised, somewhat streamlined and stronger bill will be introduced by Senator Ken LaValle and Assemblyman Ron Canestrari shortly. We will be urging early committee consideration of the bill during 2007 to leave us sufficient time to clear any other legislative roadblocks.

Although CDTM remains our priority, we will also be lending our best efforts to secure enactment of other key legislation, including bills that would allow pharmacists to provide immunizations. The continuing concerns over the citizenship requirements that pertain to this profession in a time of an acute shortage of pharmacists practicing in the State will also be an important issue for our advocacy and support. As the new Spitzer Administration advances other proposals to reform New York's health care system, our task will be to work with you at ensuring that the views of NYSCHP are fully taken into account.

Our efforts will, however, only be successful if pharmacists from across the State remind their local legislators of the important role pharmacists play in the health care system and if they remind legislators during 2007 lobby days of the importance of CDTM. See you in Albany.

NYSCHP sends a HUGE thank you to it's 2007 Corporate and Platinum Members

2007 Corporate Members

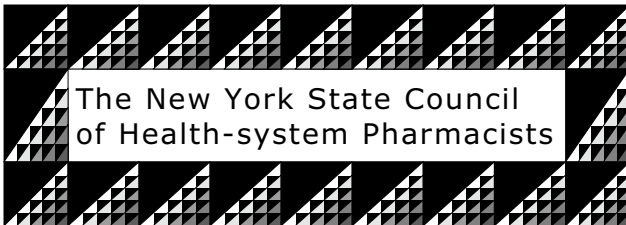
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Thank You GNYHA Services, Inc for returning as a 2007  
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