



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 14, 2002

Dear Fellow Colleague:

Preparations are in full swing for the 16th Summer Medical Conference in Montreal, Canada on June 28-30. Join us on this CME-accredited weekend for an academic and fun-filled excursion. You must contact Ms. Eva Lebovics at Syd Starr Travel tel. 1-800-366-0070 immediately to guarantee your participation and room reservation. If you intend to present a 15-minute lecture, please E-mail to Hellenicmed@excite.com a 300-word abstract by May 31st, 2002. Members from Hellenic medical societies across the United States and Canada will be participating. Hopefully, this will spearhead a Federation of Hellenic Medical Societies of North America. **Dr. Nicholas Mezititis** has undertaken this important project. **Please send in your payment today!**

Since our last newsletter, our members and friends enjoyed a fabulous Mardis Gras Party at Terrace on the Park in Queens, the Dr. Flessas Memorial Lecture at the Cathedral Auditorium in Manhattan, a state-of-the-art "Update in Cardiology" seminar at Lenox Hill Hospital, and the "New Advances in Anticoagulation" lecture at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

I congratulate **Dr. and Mrs. Andreas Cosmatos** for organizing an exceptionally animative *Apokriatiko Glendi* at Terrace on the Park in Queens on March 16th which was sponsored by Kos Pharmaceuticals, Eli Lilly and Bristol-Myers Squibb.

On March 25th, interventional cardiologist **Dr. George Dangas** spearheaded the first combined Lenox Hill Hospital Hellenic Medical Society of New York Medical Series with a cutting edge "Update in Cardiology" at the hospital's Einhorn Auditorium. Distinguished members of our society **Dr. Antoine Harovas, Dr. Nicholas Skipitaris, Dr. Roxanna Mehran-Dangas** and **Dr. Dialecti Voudouris** presented the latest data in their subspecialties.

On April 14th, the nephrologist **Dr. Dimitrios Oreopoulos** of Toronto, Canada presented eloquently and created a lively discussion on the topic "Compassion and Mercy in Contemporary Medicine" as invited speaker to the 2nd Annual **Dr. Flessas Memorial Lecture** organized by our society's **Dr. Anthony Vasilas** and Hellenic Link's president **Dr. Costas Efthymiou** at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Manhattan.

On April 18th, anticoagulation specialist **Dr. Alex Spyropoulos** of Albuquerque, New Mexico spoke to members and guests of our society at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on "New Advances in the Management of Venous Thromboembolic Disease". His dynamic presentation was extremely well-researched and impressively informative. The Society thanks the speaker's mother, **Ms. Lena Spyropoulos**, and Aventis Pharmaceuticals for organizing this elegant event and for supporting the Spyropoulos Medical Scholarship Fund.

CURRENTLY, WE ARE COLLECTING AWARD AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS FROM STUDENTS OF HELLENICHERITAGE.

This year, **Dr. Michael Michelis** is leading a campaign to award prizes to the distinguished students at area high schools apart from the established Mulinos, Lantzounis, and Bozes awards.

Once again, **Dr. Theodore Diktaban** will be granting **medical school scholarships** of greater monetary value to more stu-

dents this year. Our awards and scholarships are advertised in newspapers, at schools and churches, discussed in the ethnic media, and posted on our popular **website www.hmsny.org**.

Dr. George Yatrakis continues to successfully coordinate our fundraising.

The organization of the Annual Scholarship Gala has been set in motion. **Dr. Corina Gerontis** and **Mr. John Stratakis** will be this year's chairpersons. **Dr. Miranda Kofinas** is coordinating the Friday Scholarship Medical Seminar. This year's topic will be Transplant Surgery. If you would like to participate in one of our Gala committees please call our office.

Importantly, **education** for the HMS member and the Greek-American community has been strengthened by support from the pharmaceutical industry and the public media.

I congratulate our many members who have written articles in the weekly National Herald English Edition and who have participated in the public radio Sunday program Cosmos 91.5 FM, and on the two weekly National Greek Television programs hosted by **Dr. Florentia Christodoulidou** and **Dr. Dimitris Kostopoulos**.

Two CME accredited events are scheduled this month. On **MAY 23RD** at Lenox Hill Hospital, **Dr. John Xethalis** is moderating an "Update in Orthopedics" with **Drs. James Nicholas, Michael Alexiades, Stuart Katchis, Vijay Rasquinha, and Steven Nicholas** as speakers. On **MAY 30TH**, the first Brooklyn seminar will take place at the Rex Manor Restaurant with **Dr. Spiro Demetis** speaking on "Asthma: State of the Art". CME accreditation for this seminar will be granted through St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn, New York and our CME Committee members **Dr. Jack Soterakis** and **Dr. Anna Anagnostopoulos**.

Furthermore, **Dr. Marinos Petratos** is working with **Ambassador Loucas Tsilas**, President of the Onassis Foundation in the United States, to organize an exhibition of Ancient Greek Medicine with scholars from the United States and Greece. The emphasis will be the importance of the Hippocratic Oath in contemporary medicine.

After arduous compilation and editing, the 2002 **HMS Physicians' Directory** is in all paid members' hands! This up-to-date reference tool will assist us all in networking with one another. HMS members are also listed and continuously updated alphabetically with office addresses, by specialty and hospital affiliation on our redesigned **internet website www.hmsny.org**.

I encourage all our members to continue supporting with enthusiasm our many endeavors. Specifically, kindly send us any information to be published in our newsletter edited by **Dr. Anthony Vasilas**. Advertise to your friends the availability of scholarships and awards through our medical society. Call our administrator **Mrs. Evangelia Tsavaris** and offer some time in assisting her in the HMS office.

I continue to urge you to help enlist non-members as new members. If you are not a current member, please send in your tax-deductible dues to receive the Physicians' Directory, to be allowed free admission with one guest to our many affairs, and to help finance the cost of our programs.

Your membership reflects your appreciation and support for our society's academic and philanthropic objectives. Remember that great ideas materialize with active participation in our diverse committees.

In unison there is strength,
Spyros G.E. Mezititis, M.D., Ph.D.