

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to what I hope will be an awesome autumn, having concluded a sensational summer!

I recently enjoyed the privilege of attending the 63<sup>rd</sup> AAMA annual Conference hosted by the North Carolina Society at the **Sheraton Greensboro Four Seasons & Koury Convention Center** in Greensboro, North Carolina a few weeks ago representing NYSSMA as its President and First Delegate to the House of Delegates. In addition to attending the Delegation, I attended the Welcome party, State Leaders sessions, and participated in the President's Luncheon & Parade of Presidents. I was also able to attend a few education sessions and earn CEUs. Next year, the **2020 AAMA annual Conference** will be hosted by the **Florida Society of Medical Assistants** at the **Hilton Orlando - Lake Buena Vista** September 11–14, 2020 in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. Please check the AAMA website for more information and conference materials as they become available; I hope to see you there.

I am truly blessed to be part of a professional organization that provides a venue for education, participation in conducting the business of the association, and meeting, networking and forming friendships with so many wonderful people from across the country—I encourage all of our members to capitalize on such opportunities. It has been through these experiences that I have come to appreciate the comradery of the many friendships I have forged through my involvement in the AAMA, NYSSMA and my local chapter. These interactions have transformed life-long learning into life-long friendships.

With our AAMA conference behind us and **Medical Assistants Recognition Week** ahead of us, I want to remind everyone that “**Medical Assistants are at the Heart of Healthcare,**” and represent the **Gold Standard of Patient Safety and Quality Care** in our communities. **We make a difference.**

**Medical Assistants Recognition Week** is celebrated during the **third full week in October** (October 21-25 this year) and in my community SUNY Erie Community College is celebrating with a student-led presentation by Kirsten Furness entitled, **Scholarships and Honors Program** to second and third semester students on Wednesday, and to first semester students on Friday. Additionally, a sheet cake will be ordered from the Culinary Arts program for students to enjoy on **Medical Assistants Recognition Day** October 23 and healthy snacks of apples and bottled water will be provided by faculty member Laurie Dentinger on Friday. Staff member Sharon Interdonato will coordinate a week-long contest with prizes and, assisted by student Melanie Seidel, will provide festive decorations along the Medical Assisting corridor. Complimentary celebration and promotional items will also be available to students from AAMA. A heartfelt thank you is extended to everyone who contributed to commemorate Medical Assisting Recognition week this year!

Sincere appreciation is also extended to Heather Kazmierczak for assuming the duties of Editor of **NYSSMA Today** this year and to Lisa McKeen, our webmaster and **NYSSMA Website** Committee Chair. Both of these women are doing an extraordinary job at these tasks. Please utilize these vehicles of communication to our members and look for **2020 NYSSMA Convention** information in the near future.

I wish you all the best of health and good cheer this fall and throughout your winter celebrations, and as always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Warm regards to all,

B. David Sylvia, BBA, CMA (AAMA)  
NYSSMA President