Hello ACP Colleagues – I hope everyone is having a great summer!

First, in case you missed the Spring Newsletter, you can view it on our chapter webpage at this link: http://www.acponline.org/about_acp/chapters/ct/ctnewsletter_june2014.pdf

College Priorities for 2014-2015
The ACP Leadership has outlined their top priorities for the year. For more explanation on each of these items, please visit the chapter blog: http://ctgovacp.wordpress.com/

1) Discuss with the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) reform of the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process. (On July 19, President Steven Weinberger sent an email to the membership describing the results of ongoing discussion with the ABIM, and changes that ABIM will initiate in response to concerns raised by ACP and other subspecialty societies.)

2) Help ACP members experience more joy in their professional lives.

3) Expand ACP’s reach internationally.

4) Increase knowledge and use of High Value Care.

5) Increase the impact of ACP Smart Medicine.

6) Increase ACP’s visibility in academic centers/institutions.

7) Support implementation of the Affordable Care Act and advocate for refinements that address potential obstacles to optimal care.

8) Improve the utility, safety, and quality of Electronic Health Records.

9) Facilitate transitions to value based payment and delivery models through advocacy.

10) Support effective partnerships among patients, families and care teams.

Advocacy
The Advocates for Internal Medicine Network is a good way to play a part in ACP’s advocacy effort. Join more than 8,000 colleagues in the Network in ensuring that the voice of internal medicine is heard, and help contribute to ACP’s continued success on Capitol Hill. I follow on Twitter and that is a great way to keep up with what is going on. Sign up on ACP website, at: http://www.acponline.org/advocacy/aimn/

I also recommend following The ACP Advocate Blog, by Bob Doherty, Senior Vice President, Government Affairs and Public Policy. http://advocacyblog.acponline.org/

Annual Chapter Meeting – Be A Poster Judge!
Our Annual Chapter Meeting will take place on Friday, October 31, 2014 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, CT. We will be offering an ABIM SEP Module for MOC credit. We are also seeking judges for the resident abstract competition. This is a great way to demonstrate involvement with the chapter when you are applying for Fellowship in the ACP. If you are interested in judging, contact our Chapter Executive Director Nancy Sullivan at ctacp@comcast.net.
New Tool Available for Integrating Primary Care and Public Health
A new tool to integrate primary care and public health called "A Practical Playbook: Public Health & Primary Care Together" is now available online.  http://practicalplaybook.org/

The Playbook, developed by the CDC, Duke Community and Family Medicine, and the de Beaumont Foundation, is an interactive, Web-based tool that helps primary care clinicians and public health groups find productive ways to work together to better manage chronic diseases. The project's goal is to increase the quality of care while keeping health care costs in check. ACP's state of Washington Governor, Carrie A. Horwitch, MD, MPH, FACP, is on the National Advisory Committee.

Recruit-a-Colleague
The Connecticut Chapter encourages all members to help strengthen our chapter by recommending ACP membership to colleagues. By joining the College, your colleagues will enrich their clinical knowledge and skills and have access to all of the ACP member benefits that you enjoy. To thank you for your dedication to our organization, ACP offers incentives to members and their chapters that recruit new members through the Recruit-a-Colleague Chapter (RACC) Rewards Program.

From now until March 15, 2015: receive a $100 credit toward your 2015-16 annual dues for each new member you recruit (and free dues if you recruit 4 members!). To participate, simply forward to your colleagues a membership application found at www.acponline.org/racc. To qualify for the program, your name must be listed on the recruiter line of the application, and the form must include the code RACC. Thank you for your help in strengthening our chapter!

Best regards,
Rob Nardino