



American Medical Women's Association  
The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

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Winter 2013

## President's Message



Dear colleagues,

Our annual meeting in New York City in mid-March is fast approaching and our speaker list reads like a who's who in medicine, not to mention who's who of women in medicine!

We are proud to count four department chairs and the dean of a medical school in a speaker list already distinguished in erudition and breadth of knowledge. These prominent women are giving selflessly of their time and expertise to help all of us network and learn in a convivial atmosphere. Our program is packed with festive events, in-depth discussions by world leaders, and practical advice to help us navigate the world of today's medicine.

Come join the festivities here in New York City, cruise the harbor in style and enjoy the atmosphere of a one of a kind opportunity to bask in the glory of women in medicine.

See you in March!

Fondly,  
Gayatri Devi, MD  
AMWA President, 2012–2013

## Join us at AMWA's 98<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting in New York City this March!

*Strategic Success for Women in Medicine*  
March 15–17, 2013  
The New York Palace  
New York City

This meeting will be the preeminent meeting in the United States for women in medicine. Come and join us for a weekend of education, rejuvenation and reflection at The New York Palace, a stunning five-star hotel in the heart of Manhattan. High-quality CME sessions will keep you abreast of new changes within the field of medicine, with a special focus on gender specific medicine and women's health. You will also gain practical insights regarding career advancement, negotiation strategies, practice management and career-life balance. There will be abundant opportunities for mentoring and networking. A special dinner cruise along the Hudson River will celebrate AMWA's 98th anniversary in style.

**Presidential Recognition Award** Dr. Michelle Bachelet, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women, and Past President of Chile

**Plenary Keynote** Dr. Nancy Andrews, Dean and Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Duke University School of Medicine

**Special guest speaker** Calvin Trillin, New York Times best-selling author and New Yorker staff writer

For more information, including our list of distinguished faculty, or to register, please visit [www.amwa-doc.org/news/amwa-s-98th-annual-meeting-in-new-york-city](http://www.amwa-doc.org/news/amwa-s-98th-annual-meeting-in-new-york-city).



### AMWA's Newly Elected Officers

**Farzanna Haffizulla, MD**  
President Elect

**Roberta Gebhard, DO**  
Secretary

### New Board Members

**Beatrice Desper, MD**

**Elinor Christiansen, MD**

**Suzanne Harrison, MD, FAAFP**  
(returning for a second term)

## Dr. Mary Guinan speaks on Leadership in Medicine at the Van Hoosen Farm in Rochester Hills, Michigan

Dr. Mary Guinan was the featured speaker for the Broomfield Center for Leadership Annual Education Program held at the Van Hoosen Farm this past September. Dr. Mary Guinan is the Immediate Past President of AMWA and Founding Dean of the School of Community Health Sciences at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The Van Hoosen Farm was formerly owned by the family of Bertha Van Hoosen, AMWA's Founder and First President. For more information or to take a video tour, please visit <http://www.rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?NID=88>.

The Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm will celebrate the 150th birthday of Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen on her birthday, Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free. To register for this program call 248.656.4663 or [rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org](mailto:rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org)



*Dr. Janet Osuch and Dr. Mary Guinan at the home of Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen (1863-1952), founder and first president of AMWA.*

## **Letter from the Executive Director**

Dear AMWA Members,

I am deeply honored to serve as AMWA's new Executive Director. In the history of our organization, Dr. Jessie Laird Brodie was the only other AMWA President to serve in this capacity, so this is indeed a privilege. I recently found her letter to the AMWA membership when she assumed the position and found it inspiring and surprisingly relevant to our time, despite the 50+ years difference. Because it echoes my own sentiments so well, I wanted to share her letter with you.

As we approach AMWA's Centennial, may the words of Dr. Brodie inspire us all. I dedicate myself to ensuring AMWA's continued leadership as the vision and voice of women in medicine.

Sincerely,  
Eliza Lo Chin, MD, MPH



*Photo courtesy of  
G. Paul Bishop*

*Dr. Jessie Laird Brodie was president of AMWA from 1960-1961. In 1961, she became the Executive Director of AMWA. Below is her letter to the membership as she assumed office:*

Dear AMWA Members,

Each of us as parents has been torn between our desire to keep our children small and dependent and our pride in seeing them efficiently assume their destined leadership. Similarly, we have watched our association mature, since its birth in 1915, through its period of growth and strengthening and through its adolescence (with the awareness that it has responsibilities outside itself).

We had, as an association, a period when we took stock of our assets and reformulated our rules of self-conduct. But lately we have had a period of introspection. What is our relationship to each other? What responsibility have we to the younger ones of our family? How can we serve them? How do we fit into the patterns of other medical and service organizations? What is our public relations responsibility in regard to the image of medicine in the mind of the public? How can we serve our country in furthering international friendship and goodwill?

This stepping out as a young adult into our responsibilities requires continuity and social vision. Our executive board feels that our future growth and continuing value depend on our meeting our responsibilities.

It is with a deep realization for the trust you are placing in me that I accept the position of Executive Director of the Association. I hope I may be your mouthpiece and your "arranger" and set a worthy pattern I appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,  
Jessie Laird Brodie

# AMWA Updates

## Doctors and Nurses to Lawmakers: Stop Gun Violence

**Doctors for America.** AMWA is supporting a petition to Washington, D.C., in the wake of the tragedy in Newtown, Conn. As the nation mourns the fallen children and teachers of Sandy Hook Elementary School, we know we must take a stand against gun violence as a public health crisis that claims far too many lives. The petition AMWA is supporting reads, in part:

“We, the undersigned doctors, nurses, medical students, and nursing students urge you to pass gun safety legislation immediately and present the nation with a comprehensive plan to curtail gun-related violence.”

For more information or to sign the letter, visit the [Doctors for America website](#).

## AMWA Leaders Celebrate Women’s Suffrage at Vision 2020 Congress

Dr. Eliza Chin and Dr. Roberta Gebhard represented AMWA at Vision 2020’s *Third Annual Congress: Collaborating for Change*, held in Portland, Oregon in November 2012. Women leaders from all over the country came together, including Oregon’s first woman governor, Barbara Roberts, to network and advance Vision 2020’s platform for gender equity. Among the state delegates were 16 women leaders in healthcare, including six women physicians.



From left to right, AMWA’s Gender Equity Co-Chair Dr. Roberta Gebhard, Former Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts, AMWA Executive Director Dr. Eliza Chin, and Vision 2020 Founder and Co-Chair Lynn Yeakel

Oregon was specifically chosen as the conference site this year to coincide with the centennial of women’s suffrage in Oregon, of which AMWA’s esteemed past president, Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy, played a pivotal role. AMWA has been a National Ally of Vision 2020 since its inception in 2010, and we encourage all

AMWA members to get involved with this initiative to achieve true equality for women by the year 2020, the Centennial of Women’s Suffrage in America.

## Biography Recalls Life of Lauded AMWA Leader Esther Pohl Lovejoy



The biography of one of AMWA’s most esteemed leaders, Dr. Esther Pohl Lovejoy, has been published by historian Kimberly Jensen, PhD. Dr. Lovejoy was a past president of AMWA, founder and past president of the Medical Women’s International Association (MWIA), and former Chair of the American Women’s Hospitals Service (AWHS) for many decades. Under her visionary leadership, the work of AWHS expanded to many countries, providing vital humanitarian aid during times of war, famine, genocide and natural disasters. Due in large part to Dr. Lovejoy’s dedication, AWHS continues to provide charitable support to clinics around the world and last year was proud to celebrate its 95th Anniversary.

The biography, *Oregon’s Doctor to the World: Esther Pohl Lovejoy & a Life in Activism*, is a story of inspiration, courage and leadership—a worthy read for anyone interested in the history of women in medicine.

Kimberly Jensen is Professor of History and Gender Studies at Western Oregon University and is also the author of *Mobilizing Minerva: American Women in the First World War*.

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## AMWA Moves Back to the Washington, D.C. Area

The AMWA National Office has relocated back to the Washington, D.C. Metro Area. Drohan Management Group (DMG), which is based in Reston, VA, has taken over the AMWA operations. The new mailing address and contact information is as follows:

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Reston, VA 20190  
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Fax: 703-435-4390

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# AMWA Updates

## New AMWA Board Members

Florence P. Haseltine, M.D. and Amanda Wingle recently filled the two vacant positions on the AMWA Board of Directors. Their terms will last until the annual meeting and AMWA appreciates their commitment to serve in this capacity.

Dr. Haseltine consults in the area of medical and biomedical research for developers of databases, scientific software, web-page designers and manufacturers of medical devices. Her company, Haseltine Systems, manufactures containers to protect wheelchairs; she holds both design and business patents for these devices. She develops mobile apps, including the award-winning app *Embryo*, an app for individuals interested in reproductive biology. Recently, she developed the *Human Genome App* for iPads in order to share the huge archived biological databases with the public. Dr. Haseltine has tirelessly promoted the advancement of women and was the founding editor of the *Journal for Women's Health*. In 1990 she founded the Society for the Advancement of Women's Health Research (SWHR). Retiring in 2012, she was named Emerita Scientist at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development after serving as the Director of the Center for Population Research.

Dr. Haseltine received a B.A. in Biophysics from the University of California-Berkeley in 1964. Receiving her Ph.D. in Biophysics in 1970 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she went

on to graduate with an M.D. in 1972 from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She interned at the University of Pennsylvania and did a residency at Boston Hospital for Women (Brigham & Women's Hospital). At Yale University, she held several positions in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is a board certified Obstetrician/Gynecologist and Reproductive Endocrinologist. She was elected to the Institute of Medicine in 1993, and she received the Lifetime Achievement Award for the Health and Dignity of Women and Girls in 2012 from the Friends of UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund).

Ms. Amanda Wingle is a member of the Albany Medical College M.D. Class of 2014. In addition to serving on the AMWA Board of Directors, she also is the student director for Region 2 (NY & NJ) and on the PR Committee. As past co-president of the Albany Med AMWA chapter, she was proud to be a part of the creation of Interpersonal Violence Awareness week at AMC, which educates medical students and other health care professionals about the issues of domestic violence and sexual assault in the patient population. She enjoys working with AMWA to advocate for women's health issues, and provide encouragement and support to women in medicine. In addition to her involvement with AMWA, Amanda is involved in the Albany Med Distinction in Advocacy program, and works on the online hotline for the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN).

## AMWA's New Publications Chair – Aleena Paul

Aleena Paul is a member of the Albany Medical College M.D. Class of 2016 and is also pursuing her MBA in Healthcare Management from Union Graduate College in Schenectady, NY. She is a co-founder and editor-in-chief of *in-Training*, a peer-reviewed online newspaper that serves as a forum for medical students to share their unique passions, reflect on their medi-

cal education, and engage in discourse about the future of the medical profession. She is currently involved in Albany Med's local AMWA chapter as secretary, the Medical Student Tobacco Cessation Consult Service, and the Distinction in Bioethics program. She is excited to be contributing to AMWA's work in advancing women in medicine and addressing women's health concerns.

## Gender Equity Task Force Update

**Dr. Linda Brodsky & Dr. Roberta Gebhard.** AMWA's Gender Equity Task Force (GETF) has been very active since last year's annual meeting. After receiving the prestigious Giambalvo Award from the American Medical Association's Women Physicians Congress, and with a matching grant from the AMWA Board and a number of gracious individual AMWA members, the task force has been very busy working on the grant.

Summer intern Kate Butler, a student at the University at Dublin, worked with Dr. Linda Brodsky (co-chair of the GETF), to complete a literature search and co-author our "white paper." This position paper identifies what has been missing from the research about women physicians. It will serve as the core for further work.

We have a poster accepted for the Women's Health Congress, to be held in Washington, D.C. in March 2013, entitled, "Defining the Work Habits, Attitudes and Experiences of Women in Medicine: Initial Insights from a Funded Grant writing Project." This work will also be presented as a poster at the AMWA annual meeting in NYC in March. Kate Butler and board member Julie Welch, M.D. are spearheading the poster preparation. The GETF co-chairs, Dr. Linda Brodsky and Dr. Roberta Gebhard, will be on site for both presentations.

We have taken the first step in securing a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation by submitting a letter of intent for a three year project. Preliminary data is being collected using

*continued on the following page*

# AMWA Updates

focus groups with women physicians in Buffalo and with AMWA members at the annual meeting. Two other sites for convenience sampling are to be determined, possibly California and Florida where there are active AMWA chapters.

Other activities include our advocacy efforts headed by Joyce Braak, M.D. These activities seek to increase AMWA's participation in the political process as it relates to gender equity and will also serve to lay groundwork for the grant. Dissemination of information to policy makers and engagement of key advocacy groups, such as women patients, are our goals. With interest in the women's vote, nascent political processes, like those beginning in New York State, are opportunities we are trying to build on. In response to President Obama's recent memorandum to the UN about the rights of women, AMWA is giving public support and sharing our position statement on gender equity with the White House Office of Public Engagement. If

## AMWA Partners with the Perry Initiative

AMWA has partnered with the Perry Initiative to help encourage more young women to pursue careers in orthopedic surgery, a specialty with historically low numbers of women. The Perry Initiative is named in honor of Dr. Jacquelin Perry, who was one of the first ten women orthopedic surgeons in the country and has been a mentor to countless men and women in the field throughout her career. Perry Outreach Programs have allowed young women in high school, college, and medical school perform mock orthopedic surgeries and conduct biomechanical engineering experiments, while also hearing from prominent women engineers and surgeons in the field. For more information please visit [perryinitiative.org](http://perryinitiative.org).

you have any political connections who would be receptive to our message, please contact one of the co-chairs by e-mailing [lindabrodskynd@gmail.com](mailto:lindabrodskynd@gmail.com) or [docgebhard@gmail.com](mailto:docgebhard@gmail.com).

Our work has not gone unnoticed. The two co-chairs are busy traveling to speak with other women in medicine groups. Dr. Gebhard is giving a breakfast keynote for the Women Urologists in San Diego in May. Dr. Brodsky is an invited speaker for the 4th International Symposium for Women in Surgery in June in San Francisco. Our reach and our impact are increasing!

The committee is open to all who want to take about an hour a month out of their schedule. End your week on a positive note conversing and doing impactful work with colleagues and friends. Please e-mail the co-chairs [lindabrodskynd@gmail.com](mailto:lindabrodskynd@gmail.com) and [docgebhard@gmail.com](mailto:docgebhard@gmail.com) for more information on how to contribute to the Gender Equity Task Force.



*Left to right: Perry Initiative President Lisa Lattanza, MD, AMWA Executive Director Eliza Chin, MD, Jacqueline Perry, MD, Perry Initiative Executive Director Jenni Buckley, PhD*

# Member Updates

## AMWA Board Member, Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, Named One of Indianapolis's Top Doctors



AMWA Board Member Dr. Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, an Internist and Adolescent Medicine specialist, has been named one of Indianapolis's top doctors. As an associate professor of clinical medicine and pediatrics, Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber is a full time faculty member in the Indiana University School of Medicine Section of Adolescent Medicine. While she focuses on the education of housestaff in adolescent medicine, she also cares for patients in a clinical practice and recently was named as the Executive Director of the Indiana University National Center of Excellence in Women's Health. In this capacity, she leads the Center's efforts to achieve

its central mission, "To Improve the Health of Indiana Women." Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber has always been involved in academic medicine and joined the IUSM faculty in 2007 and previously practiced medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, N.Y., and at Morehouse School of Medicine and Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta, Ga. She attended Weill Cornell Medical College and completed a residency program in internal medicine at University Hospital of Cleveland. Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber provides primary care for adolescents and adult women, particularly those with chronic diseases, including cancer, eating disorders and obesity.

# Member Updates

## AMWA Board Member, Dr. Kimberly Templeton, Publishes Book on Sports Injuries in Women

AMWA Board Member Kimberly Templeton, M.D., is the Editor of *Women's Sports Injuries*, a monograph to be published in January 2013. Forty years after Title IX, there has been an exponential increase in the number of women and girls participating in sports at all levels. Unfortunately, this has also resulted in an increase in the number of sports injuries in this population. Knowledge of sex- and gender-based differences in all areas of medicine is continuing to evolve; this includes increasing information regarding those injuries to which women are more prone. The relationship between sex and sports injuries is complex, including such factors as hormones and anatomic alignment. The impact of gender is not always obvious. Women may

be more prone to some injuries because they are more likely to play a specific sport. However, some injuries may occur due to the emphasis on a particular body type among women in certain sports, for example injuries seen among figure skaters and gymnasts. Chapters in *Women's Sports Injuries* are written by experts in sports medicine around the U.S. and include such topics as ACL injuries, anterior knee pain syndrome, female athlete triad and stress fractures, and upper extremity injuries. The goal of this book is to raise awareness of this issue, disseminate the most current information, and spark interest in further research in this area.

# Local Branch Updates

## South Florida AMWA's First Annual Women's Wellness Health Fair

On Saturday December 15, 2012, South Florida AMWA held its first annual Women's Wellness Health Fair. Headed by Dr. Farzanna Haffizulla and South Florida AMWA's executive board, it was started with the main purpose of disseminating valuable health information to community patients but rapidly grew into an event studded with extensive networking, mentoring opportunities and professional partnerships. With strategic planning and recruitment the event was supported by several hospitals, physicians, local businesses, law enforcement officials, medical students, residents, students, community leaders and patient attendees.

Complimentary, comprehensive health screenings, preventive care information, health and wellness resources and ongoing live lectures by local physicians and extensive networking and mentoring opportunities were offered at this highly successful event. South Florida AMWA raised several thousand dollars, which will be used to support outreach endeavors, and student scholarships at both the local and National level. Many new members to both the local branch and at the National level were recruited during this event. South Florida AMWA's health fair was the crowning event in a year filled with successful activities which included their fitness sessions, self-defense and safety course, general meetings, CME lectures and networking and mentoring socials. Sights are now set on National AMWA's 98th Anniversary Meeting this March in New York. Marching forward with vim, vigor and renewed energy for the New Year, the South Florida branch leaders and members alike fully support National AMWA's crowning yearly event.



AMWA South Florida Executive Board at health fair-right to left – Dr. Farzanna Haffizulla; Dr. Fatteh, Dr. McCoy, Dr. Galindo, Dr. Udvaris Nagy, Dr. Von Harscher, Dr. Frankel, Dr.Pandya

# Local Branch Updates

## Region 1 Spotlight

Region 1 held their 3rd annual brunch on Oct. 27 for 70 medical students representing five medical schools in the region. The event was held on the Boston University Medical campus and it featured the theme, "Finding Success and Balance Beyond Medical School." Key speakers included Dr. Luanne Thorndyke, Vice Provost of Faculty Affairs at UMass Medical School and Dr. Sarah Cutrona, Assistant Professor of Medicine at UMass Medical School.

Dr. Thorndyke's seminar on "Graceful Self-Promotion" received tremendous positive feedback. Her interactive seminar focused

on residency interviewing skills and how important it was to present oneself well, not only to get yourself in the door but also for future career advancement.

In addition, Dr. Cutrona's talk, "Seen and Unseen: The Power and Balance in your Professional (and Personal) Life," was helpful in that it reassured students that flexibility in career and life is both important and possible to achieve. Her advice on actively listening and then ignoring it all (or most of it) to find balance was comforting to many students.

## Updates from the AMWA Student Division

### AMWA Member Recruitment Efforts - Fall 2012

With the help of a grant from the Heller Family Foundation this fall, AMWA now presents each new member with a customized AMWA White Coat Clipboard from MDPocket.com. White Coat Clipboards are essential for each student as they embark on clinical rotations, and we are very proud that AMWA members will be able to make good use out of their new clipboard while also representing AMWA on the wards!

Linda Wang, Student President, and Marissa Orenstein, Student President-Elect, traveled to different schools to spread the mission of AMWA and encourage new members to join. Together, the two created an updated presentation to use across the country highlighting AMWA and what branch leaders can do for new members. An additional incentive of a Maxwell's Quick Medical Reference was offered to each student who signed up that day.

### Mentoring Task Force

An extensive mentoring task force is being spearheaded by Preethi Raghu (Program Chair), Ryan Smith, and Dr. Neelum Aggarwal to create a cohesive individualized mentoring program involving all AMWA divisions.

Additional mentors are needed, so AMWA physicians are encouraged to sign up by e-mailing [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org).

### Featured Benefit: Bed & Breakfast Program

The Bed & Breakfast Program provides overnight hosting to AMWA members who are traveling for residency interviews, fellowship interviews, or scientific meetings. This free program helps members minimize interview costs, learn about the community surrounding their potential program, and access the unique knowledge and experient-

es of local AMWA members and advocates. Hosts from the student, resident, and physician divisions of AMWA and other AMWA supporters have all come together to strengthen the AMWA community. Learn more here:

[www.amwa-doc.org/students/membership/bed-breakfast](http://www.amwa-doc.org/students/membership/bed-breakfast).



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Help AMWA conserve resources. Please send your email address to [associatedirector@amwa-doc.org](mailto:associatedirector@amwa-doc.org) to receive this newsletter and other important member information by email.

### Special AMWA Member Discounts

**Medelita:** AMWA members receive 15% off Medelita's professional lab coats and performance scrubs. (Discount code: AMWA). Medelita's unique lab coats are fluid resistant, featuring Advanced Dual Action Teflon®.

**Pocket Medicine Discount:** AMWA members receive 30% off of Pocket Medicine when ordered with the AMWA discount code through the Lippincott Website.

**Blue Sky Scrubs:** AMWA members receive 15% off of any orders from [www.blueskyscrubs.com](http://www.blueskyscrubs.com).



American Medical Women's Association  
 The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

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