



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN **AMWA**

Volume IX, Number 1/Spring, 1983

Why Regionalize?

The Bylaws of the American Medical Women's Association, as formally revised by the House of Delegates at the 1982 annual meeting, now include a brand new section titled, simply, *Regions*. Article V is little more than a page long, but it represents a structural revolution for AMWA that will lead to great changes in the ways and means of membership communication and cooperation toward both local and national goals.

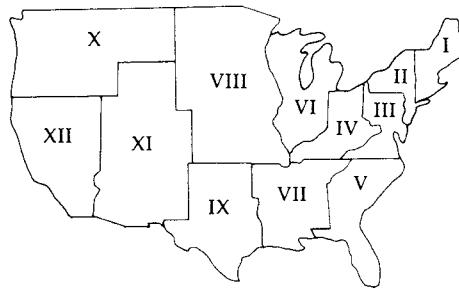
The purposes of regionalization, as stated in Article V, are:

- to have direct representation of each region on the executive board;
- to improve communication between the national organization and local branches as well as between regular and student branches;
- to promote cooperation by facilitating joint branch activities;
- to enhance program development;
- to increase membership; and
- to promote leadership opportunities.

But what do these purposes mean, in practical terms? How will AMWA members be affected by regionalization?

In a practical sense, regionalization creates a direct channel of communication between the local branches and the national level, where there previously was none.

This year, each region will elect a regional governor to head a regional board which includes all regular and student branch presidents, the regional student coordinator, and the region's state directors. Regional boards will meet at least twice a year to discuss regional activities, including shared and individual branch programs, new branch development, and any local issues and concerns affecting area members. The regional governor serves as the representative of the region's members and conveys their concerns to the national executive board. This ensures that local members have a direct communications link with the national organization.



I CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
II NJ, NY, PR III DE, DC, MD, PA, VA
IV KY, OH, WV V FL, GA, NC, SC
VI IL, IN, MI, WI
VII AL, AR, LA, MS, TN
VIII IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND, SD
IX OK, TX X AK, ID, MT, OR, WA
XI AZ, CO, NV, NM, UT, WY
XII CA, HI

But regional boards are part of an equally important communications network on the local level. Area physicians and students now have a larger forum and a formal, tangible way to share ideas, needs, programs and projects. Members-at-large (who compose nearly a

third of AMWA membership) now have a local governing body to contact in addition to state directors. They can participate in regional meetings and activities and can share their ideas and concerns with a direct representative of the executive board. Branches can now pool resources to support membership drives, regional workshops and conferences (see the following article on the 1983 regional conferences) on a larger scale than is possible for an individual branch.

The immediate tasks facing regional members are to identify local leaders and from them select candidates for the post of regional governor. Branch presidents, state directors and local branch members within each region should start discussing how to choose candidates. An initial regional meeting should be held, if possible, to nominate names of candidates in time to submit the slate to the national office by *August 15th*. The national office will then distribute ballots to be returned by members to the national office no later than *October 15th*. The results of the elections will be announced at the annual meeting.

Check the map to learn to which region you belong, if you don't already know. Regionalization offers AMWA members a new and much more personal way to participate in their national organization. Effectively mobilizing to choose leadership is the first step to making regionalization work for you. *Now* is the time to start talking, gathering and organizing to elect regional leadership.

Regional Conferences: Success Breeds Success

The tremendous response to the first two regional conferences on women in medicine led AMWA leadership to recognize that regionalization can be effective in meeting membership needs. The 1979 and 1981 conferences held in New York City attracted, between them, over 1100 registrants. Many more were turned away because of limited space. The size and success of the New York City conferences inspired a number of smaller-scale conferences, seminars and workshops held in different parts of the country. They also sparked the formation of the Regional Council for Women in Medicine, a coalition that is organizing future northeastern regional conferences and is pursuing additional educational projects. AMWA maintains a close relationship with the Regional Council—many of its founders and members are also AMWA members—and cosponsors educational programs with the Council, AMWA branches and area medical schools.

Nineteen eighty-three is a landmark year for the regional concept; two major regional conferences will be held this year. The first will be the Third Northeastern Regional Conference on Women in Medicine, to be held April 8th, 9th, and 10th at Rockefeller University and Cornell University Medical College. "Women in Medicine—Making a Difference" is the title of the three day program which includes: a plenary panel on women "making a difference" in medical research, policy, practice and academia; a leadership workshop and special workshops on such subjects as burnout and

career change, minority women physicians, career choices; a keynote address on women's health status—myths and realities; and seminars on specific women's health issues.

Registration is limited to 500 and may soon be closed; if you haven't yet registered, or if you have questions about the program please contact the conference office at (212) 920-6676.

Later this year, the first Midwestern Regional AMWA Conference makes its debut in Kansas City, Kansas. The Office of Continuing Education at the University of Kansas Medical Center is working with Branch #9 (Greater Kansas City) and Missouri State Director Lillian Gonzalez-Pardo, M.D. to present a program September 30th, October 1st and 2nd titled "Women in Medicine—Looking Ahead Today." This is also the theme of the keynote address, to be presented by AMWA President Anne L. Barlow, M.D. Individual speakers, panel discussions and workshops will approach topics such as women's mental health issues, women and medical politics, legal issues affecting women in medicine, the medical mentor system, alternatives to traditional fellowship and residency scheduling. Preliminary programs will be available in April for anyone who is interested. As at all regional conferences, registration is open to all men and women from every state. For further information, contact Lilly Coniglio at the University of Kansas Office of Continuing Education; (913) 588-4488.

National Membership Drive Shows Exciting Early Returns

In early February, AMWA's first nation-wide membership drive was launched by the national office. A solicitation letter from President Anne L. Barlow, M.D. and a copy of "AMWA Is . . .", the new introductory brochure, went to every woman physician in the country—close to 60,000 women received an invitation to join.

As we go to press, over 600 women physicians have joined AMWA as a result of the membership drive; their response represents a 15.6% increase in membership. This growth is both encouraging and crucial, for as AMWA's numbers increase, we can accomplish more and offer more to women physicians as individuals and as a constituency. If friends of yours have not yet joined, remind them of our invitation and urge them to do so.

We apologize to members who received and misunderstood the solicitation letter. It was impossible to separate AMWA members from the entire woman physician population for this particular mailing.

Although the number of new members continues to rise, there are still over 1,000 valued continuing members who have not yet paid dues for 1983 and are receiving second notices. Don't lose touch with AMWA at this time of rapid growth and exciting change. As our numbers grow, you, the continuing member, are needed more than ever to help AMWA do all it can for women physicians, and to reap the benefits of our expanding network. Renew today!

BRANCHING OUT

- Did your local branch present a program, host a guest speaker, conduct a membership drive? Whatever your branch is doing, the national office staff would like to be notified so that news of your branch can be included on this page. Call or write us, and share your local learning experience with the national membership.
- Congratulations and welcome to members in the Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania area; their charter for new AMWA Branch #62 was received at the national office and approved in February. New branch officers are Nancy Alberts, M.D., President; Linda Thompson, M.D., Secretary and Linda Robinson, M.D., Treasurer. A special note of thanks to Drs. Mary Powell and Barbara Lowry for their efforts in assisting the new branch.
- On February 26th, Philadelphia Branch #25 presented an exciting all-day workshop titled "Success Seminar for the Working Woman" that was open to all professional and business women. Area lawyers, corporate executives and other professionals joined physicians and students at Temple University Faculty Center to learn techniques for interviewing, speaking, and obtaining promotions that were designed for business executives but are also useful for women in medicine. The seminar was presented by Professional Training Associates of Iowa.
- To celebrate Women's History Month in New York City, Branch #14 is joining the Cornell Office of Women in Medicine, the Cornell AMWA student branch and the Regional Council for Women in Medicine in sponsoring a lecture titled "History in the Making: The Past and Future of Women in Medicine." Dr. Leah Lowenstein, Dean of Jefferson Medical College,

is presenting the program at 8 pm on March 15th at the Uris Auditorium of Cornell University Medical College. Dr. Lowenstein, a noted internist and former associate dean of Boston University Medical College, is now the first woman dean of a coeducational medical school.

- "Life After Medical School: Continued Improvement!" was the topic for northern California Branch #30's spring workshop. The program was presented at the Clift Hotel in San Francisco on February 5th. Twenty participants worked with Drs. Carole Fleming, Della Mundy and Helen McCrae on enhancing written, spoken and visual communication techniques.
- St. Louis Branch #16 held a general membership meeting January 26th to which AMWA student members were invited. Five "pioneer" women physicians from the St. Louis area shared their career experiences with students from Washington and St. Louis Universities.
- The annual spring reception for all new New York City area members (Branch #14) took place at the home of Dr. Mary Dessau on Wednesday evening, March 2nd. Approximately 35 guests attended. Branch #14 leadership and AMWA Executive Director Carol Davis-Grossman were there to greet and meet new members, establishing a warm and welcoming atmosphere that was greatly enjoyed by all.
- The AMWA student branch at the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Science in Des Moines, Iowa is sponsoring a seminar on child abuse on April 9th that is open to all area AMWA members. Featured speaker at the daylong seminar is Dr. Ray E. Helfer, a pediatrician on the faculty at Michigan State College of Human Medicine. Registration is

at 8 a.m. For details, contact Cindy Katanick, 3407 Grand Ave. #116, Des Moines, IA 50312; (515) 274-2125.

- A correction: Anne Bernstein, M.D. was incorrectly identified in the last issue of *What's Happening in AMWA* as President of Westchester Branch #32. She is now Past President and was ably succeeded during 1982 by Tina Strobos, M.D. Dr. Strobos was instrumental in presenting Branch #32's October leadership workshop and has led the branch in a number of other projects.

Funds Needed For History Of Women In Medicine Project

Daughters of Aesculapius is a public history project designed to tell the story of the American woman physician from 1835 to the present. Directed by Paraphrase, Inc. and co-sponsored by AMWA, the Medical College of Pennsylvania, and New York University's Public History Program, the project will include a documentary film for television, a traveling exhibit, and *The Class Reunion*. The *Class Reunion*, a "living history" demonstration of life at the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania during the closing decades of the nineteenth century, has been awarded a matching grant by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council. In order for the project to receive the Council's \$9,000 award, \$15,000 in private funds must be raised by the end of April. There's still time for you to make a much-needed contribution to this unique and important effort to document our past. Send your tax-deductible contributions to Pennsylvania Humanities Council, 401 North Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19108.

1983 Meeting Planning Proceeds

Program planning is moving along rapidly for this year's interim and annual meetings.

The interim meeting, which is being held at the Marquette Hotel in Minneapolis, Minnesota June 23-26, is by tradition primarily a business meeting, focusing on executive board and committee meetings and decision-making in preparation for the annual meeting. However, special events are being scheduled for the benefit of all members—from the Minnesota area and everywhere—who wish to attend.

The topic for the CME program offered Sunday morning, June 26, is the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); 3 to 4 credit hours will be available. On Friday evening, branch development workshops for physicians and students are scheduled. Saturday afternoon and evening will include an area tour, a student "put-downs" workshop, a presentation on the American Women's Hospitals Service, and a roundtable discussion on the current relationship between AMWA and the AMA, examining how we might work together on issues important to women in medicine. Registration information will be ready shortly and will be sent to board members, branch officers, state directors and committee members. Members may call the national office to make certain they receive registration packages.

The program for the annual meeting (at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, Michigan, November 9-13) promises something of interest for everyone, every day. Special events, speakers and workshops

are being scheduled throughout the meeting so that members who are not participating in committees or executive board meetings can attend meaningful activities prior to the weekend CME session. Workshops on financial management, career development, discrimination, child care and branch development are being held Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, interspersed with guest speakers, "specialty breakfasts" (where physicians in particular specialties can share morning coffee and concerns), networking and take-a-student luncheons.

This year's CME program is titled "Aging and the Art of Medicine: Geriatrics—A Woman's Issue." Also offered for CME credit on Friday, Saturday and Sunday are legislative seminars and PRRC workshops on promotion, tenure, discrimination and basic leadership skills.

Look for annual meeting registration and complete program information in July, and do not hesitate to contact the national office beforehand if you have questions, suggestions or comments for the program committee to consider.

AMWA To Host APA Luncheon

AMWA's Liaison to the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Joan Sch mugler, is arranging for an AMWA-sponsored luncheon to be held during the APA's annual meeting in New York City, April 30th through May 6th. One or two AMWA members will address the luncheon guests to acquaint APA members with AMWA, describe our success and urge them to join. More information will be available within the next month; call the national office for details.

CALENDAR

The 1983 Interim Meeting will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota **June 23-26, 1983** at the Marquette Hotel. All members are welcome to attend.

The deadline for submission of student papers for the Carroll L. Birch Award is **June 30, 1983**. Send papers in triplicate to the national office.

Submit all resolutions for consideration by the 1983 House of Delegates by **August 31st** to Asha Wallace, M.D., Resolutions Chair, 60 Dedham Ave., Needham, Massachusetts 02192.

The 1983 Annual Meeting will be in Dearborn, Michigan **November 9-13, 1983** at the Hyatt Regency, Fairlane Center. Plan to be there!

June's Update Your Medicine course is being given **June 9th** and **10th** at Cornell University Medical College. Contact Phyllis Findlay at the Office of Continuing Medical Education, CUMC, 1300 York Avenue, New York, New York 10021; (212) 472-5600.

See page two for dates and times of Northeastern and Midwestern Regional Conferences.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

AMWA members can be especially proud of the AMWA Scholarship Loan Fund. For over 60 years, this fund has offered financial aid and counseling to women medical students through the interest and generosity of AMWA members. Gifts from physicians, foundations, corporations, trust funds and bequests have increased the Loan Fund's net worth to nearly half a million dollars. Two thirds of this amount is currently on loan to women medical students. In all, close to 1,000 students have received assistance through the Fund since its inception.

The Student Loans, Fellowships and Grants Committee administers the Scholarship Loan Fund with national office staff support. Committee members interview loan applicants, offer guidance and counseling, then make their recommendations to the committee for awards. They also head the fund-raising effort. Tax-deductible memorial gifts, birthday contributions and gifts in honor of friends and relatives are some of the ways in which AMWA members donate to the Fund.

Past Committee Chair Lucy Lee, M.D. recently solicited gifts from local branches to the Scholarship Loan Fund. Two branches—#4,

New Jersey and #60, Long Island—made especially generous donations. We wish to say a very special "thank you" to these branches for doing so much for the Fund.

For further information about the Scholarship Loan Fund, you may contact either Lila Kroser, M.D., Chair of the Student Loans, Fellowships and Grants Committee through the national office, or you may speak with Ms. Joan Tormey, Administrative Assistant in charge of the Scholarship Loan Fund at (212) 533-5104.

AMWA student members are excited about initiating a "Bed and Breakfast" program for members

on the road. "Bed and Breakfast" can make attending out-of-town AMWA and other programs and projects more financially feasible for students, and, in addition, offers another chance for contact and networking between students and physician members.

If you are able to host a student in your home for one or more nights, call the AMWA national office or complete, clip and mail the coupon below. AMWA will add you to the master file of people available for "Bed and Breakfast." Students will contact AMWA for available hostesses and will make arrangements themselves.

Return to: AMWA, 465 Grand Street, New York, NY 10002, Attention: Bed and Breakfast

Yes, I will participate in Bed and Breakfast. Please add my name and telephone number to the master file.

Name _____

Address _____

Office () _____ Home phone () _____

of students I can host at once _____

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Association
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(212) 533-5104
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President
Carol Davis-Grossman,
Executive Director
Nellys Bard, Editor

We are conquering the past;
will we shape the future?

If you're not yet a member—join AMWA today!

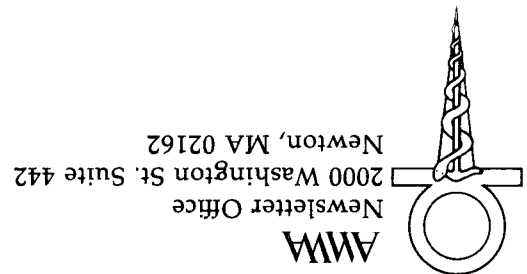
There are three categories of active membership. Regular membership is for women physicians established professionally and includes membership in the Medical Women's International Association. Members-in-Training are house officers, fellows and physicians in the first year of practice. Both these memberships include a subscription to *JAMWA*.

Student membership is offered to women in medical or osteopathic school. It does not include a *JAMWA* subscription, which is available to students at reduced rates (\$10).

Branch dues are separate and determined locally.

Join AMWA by completing and returning the membership application on the back. We look forward to your participation!

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN

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- Scholarship Loan Fund

AMWA

AMWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

MEDICAL SCHOOL _____ YEAR _____

SPECIALTY(S) _____ LICENSES _____

SPECIALTY BOARD CERTIFICATION _____

STUDENT: SCHOOL _____ CLASS _____

Regular Member \$75

Member In-Training \$30

Student Member \$6

one year \$6

two years \$10

three years \$15

four years \$20

Check Enclosed

Bill Me

VISA/MC

(For Regular Membership only)

Exp. Date _____

MAIL TO: AMWA, 465 GRAND ST., NEW YORK, NY 10002