Geriatrics—A Woman’s Issue at AMWA’s 68th Annual Meeting

An exciting program is taking shape for AMWA’s 1983 annual meeting, November 9 through 13 in Dearborn, Michigan. Robert Butler, MD, Professor of Geriatrics and Adult Development and founder and chair of the Institute for Studies of Health and Aging at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City, will be keynote speaker for “Aging and the Art of Medicine: Geriatrics—A Woman’s Issue,” the weekend’s 10 credit hour CME program. He will be joined by Joel Posner, MD, Medical Director of the Philadelphia Geriatric Center, and a dozen other experts in geriatric medicine to discuss the changing health and social issues of aging in America, the cost of care for the elderly, the ethics of prolonging life, and much more.

A great deal of non-CME activity is occurring, too, throughout the week-long meeting. The weekend features a legislative issues workshop and PRRC leadership, foreign medical graduate and branch development workshops. Earlier in the week, AMWA offers an all-day practice management workshop, financial management seminars, and workshops on discrimination, promotion and tenure and how to put on a CME program. All this shares the schedule with House of Delegates meetings, national and regional elections and installation of officers, committee business, receptions, luncheons, banquets, tours... there is something happening for every woman physician who comes to Dearborn, and no AMWA member should miss it.

Look for complete program information arriving in July. But you need not wait to register; turn to the registration form inside this newsletter, complete and return it today.

President Barlow: Making a National Impact

AMWA President Anne L. Barlow, MD is proving a popular, effective spokesperson on behalf of AMWA membership. This year, so far, several speeches and honors have put her—and AMWA—in the national spotlight.

On February 10, Dr. Barlow shared wisdom gained from her experience as a woman physician rising through corporate ranks in a speech to the American Women in Science Chicago chapter. She has been a member of AWIS since the organization’s inception, and over 50 of her fellow members attended her address—the chapter’s highest event attendance yet.

In March, the AMA Health Policy Agenda Steering Committee appointed Dr. Barlow to its Advisory Committee. Her appointment came about as the result of a firm letter she wrote, at the Executive Board’s request, to Committee Chair Joseph Boyle, MD. The letter stated AMWA’s concern that the “experience and input of women physicians should be considered” in developing the AMA’s health policy agenda for the US, and that “this has not apparently been done.”

The Health Policy Agenda is intended to design a method for developing a comprehensive health policy for dealing with American health issues. Dr. Barlow’s inclusion is a victory for women physicians; if AMWA had not taken action, it is likely that women would have gone unrepresented in the committee’s decisions.

Later in March, the YWCA honored Dr. Barlow with its Tribute to Women in International Trade TWIN III Award. AMWA members have been previously recognized by the YWCA; last year Rita Wrobleski, MD, former chair of AMWA’s Subcommittee on Ways and Means, received the award. Guest of honor at this year’s TWIN III celebratory dinner was Lady Bird Johnson, who presented the award to Dr. Barlow and 26 other honorees, and received a special award herself.

In the midst of all this activity, Dr. Barlow devotes time to meeting and speaking with AMWA members. Student members at the University of Texas, Galveston, were enthusiastic participants at a reception and talk at which Dr. Barlow discussed the history and future of women physicians. She also attended the Third Northeastern Regional Conference in New York and served as opening speaker. Her dedication is an excellent model and inspiration for AMWA members—which is not the least of a President’s responsibilities.
Maidenform Victory

AMWA members scented victory recently when the Maidenform corporation announced it is dropping the advertising agency that created the “you never know where she’ll turn up” campaign. The press speculates that this is a result of women’s groups complaints about Maidenform’s ads depicting professional women wearing lingerie in public, among fully-clothed men. AMWA’s correspondence with the company (see the March/April JAMWA) obviously had an impact! AMWA letters were cited in the NY Post and Time magazine, and Time quoted Dr. Barlow as well.

AMWA/APA Luncheon

On Wednesday, May 4, AMWA sponsored a luncheon for women psychiatrists attending the American Psychiatric Association meeting in New York City. This was the third joint AMWA-APA luncheon and it was attended by more than fifty psychiatrists—most of them AMWA members. The purpose of the luncheon was to bring members and prospective members together to discuss the Association’s goals and programs, services and benefits.

The program was opened by Dr. Joan Schmugler, AMWA’s liaison to APA, and then turned over to Marjorie Braude, MD, who spoke briefly about the origins of the joint luncheon and introduced the other speakers. Dr. Nancy Nichols, AMWA Publications Committee Chair, described some of the recent changes in JAMWA and asked the audience to send in ideas, comments, and articles. Legislative Chair Mary Jane England, MD, talked about the squeal rule, the doctor draft, and other political issues the Association has addressed; she discussed the prospects for AMWA’s own political action committee. Executive Director Carol Davis-Grossman described the many programs and services AMWA offers its membership. She emphasized new directions for AMWA, including the move to regionalization. Rita Newman, MD, Chair of the Medical Opportunities and Practices Committee, described her work on a pamphlet outlining “styles” of practice. Dr. Newman stressed the importance of established women physicians sharing successful coping strategies with their younger colleagues. Discussion from the floor was lively and produced many excellent suggestions—including plans for a fourth annual AMWA-APA luncheon.

Regional Conference Report

Bring several hundred women together for a weekend of discussion, debate and affirmation of their professional goals—there is bound to be great excitement, and generation of ideas and ambitions. This was the point, and the result, of the Third Northeastern Regional Conference on Women in Medicine.

On April 8, 9 and 10 over 300 women physicians joined other women health professionals, medical and pre-med students to hear lectures and attend seminars on “Women in Medicine: Making a Difference.” Among the speakers were Estelle Ramey, PhD and Jean Harris, MD, who shared career experience in research and health policy, respectively; Helen Marieskind, PhD, who addressed the problems and prospects of current women’s health research; and Suzanne Haynes, PhD who supported her surprising research on women, work and cardiovascular disease with a very entertaining slide show. Seminars and workshops covered over 20 subjects, including burnout and career change, how to change medical education toward a feminist-humanist perspective, various career choices, sports medicine, premenstrual syndrome and women’s urologic problems. Audience participation was enthusiastic in every event. Special honorees Drs. Leona Baumgartner, Lucy Frank Squire, Lena Edwards, Ts’ai-Fan Yu, and Rosa Lee Nemir were congratulated by all at Saturday evening’s gala reception and dinner.

Thanks properly belong to dozens of people on the conference planning committee and faculty. Their activities were coordinated by Conference Director Jo Ivey Boufford, MD and Co-Directors Cordia Beverley, MD, Edna Finberg, DMD, Nina Pervez, MD, Lauren Plante and Lila Wallis, MD.

What’s Happening in AMWA

Volume IX, Number 2
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Published quarterly by the American Medical Women’s Association 465 Grand Street New York, New York 10002 (212) 533-5104 Anne L. Barlow, MD, President Carol Davis-Grossman, Executive Director Nelys Bard, Editor
BRANCHING OUT

• Members of Massachusetts Branch #39 waged an effective campaign against cigarette company sponsorship of an area tennis tournament. Firm letters written by Branch President Asha Wallace, MD, Legislative Chair Mary Jane England, MD, and many more members went to the sponsors of the Virginia Slims Tennis Tournament at Boston University. A postcard survey of area women physicians revealed overwhelming agreement that the promotion benefited “the tobacco industry at the expense of women’s health” and should be stopped. At the tournament itself, a press conference and picketers gained impressive media attention and generated a lively local debate on the ethics of the promotion.

• Karen Poirier-Brode, MD, President of Sacramento Branch #64, represented AMWA at a California Women’s Alliance reception for Governor Deukmejian. The April 19 reception honored the governor and the 27 women he has appointed to serve in California state government.

• On March 30 and 31, Drs. Lillian Beard and Claudine Gay of Washington, DC Branch #1 represented AMWA at the National Security Institute for Women. The two-day program was sponsored by the office of Secretary of Defense Weinberger, and offered a forum on a range of national security issues.

• Alma Dea Morani, MD of Philadelphia Branch #25, was honored on March 18 at a gala testimonial dinner sponsored by the Medical College of Pennsylvania. She is taking “semi-retirement” after a pioneering career as a plastic surgeon and an international spokesperson for both the poor and women physicians. Dr. Morani is Professor Emerita of Surgery at MCP and an active member of AMWA, the American Women’s Hospitals Service Committee and the MWIA.

• San Francisco Branch #30 met for a hospitality hour and dinner—sponsored by Merck, Sharp & Dohme—on April 7. James Chen, MD, Director of the California Center for Disease Control, addressed the group on hepatitis prevention. Since there was no cost to members, those attending made donations instead to the AMWA Scholarship Loan and Medical Education and Research Funds.

• “Osteoporosis: An update on theories and therapies” was the topic of a dinner symposium and panel discussion hosted by Rhode Island Branch #26 on April 27. Stephen M. Krane, MD, Chief of the Massachusetts General Hospital Arthritis Unit, was the opening speaker.

• March 23 was a busy day for Cleveland Branch #15. Members attended a branch-sponsored symposium on Women in Exercise from 2:30 to 6 pm, which covered such interesting topics as “A Safe and Efficient Approach to Weight Loss,” “Mature Women in Sports,” and “Anemia and Exercise Physiology.” They then went to a wine social and dinner meeting where guest speaker Christine Haycock, MD discussed “The Development of a Sports Bra.”

• New Branch #63, Ohio Valley, held its first annual spring meeting at the home of Vice-President Dorreen Dupont, MD. Nermin Lavapies, MD reported on the NYC Regional Conference and Sue Matthews, MD volunteered to host a newcomer’s party in July. Their second formal meeting will be in August.

• New Jersey Branch #4 has sponsored a great deal of AMWA activity in the last few months. They held a luncheon at the NJ Medical Society Meeting on May 1, where Drs. Elissa Santoro and Olga Aguirre spoke on fibrocystic disease and radiological diagnosis of the breast. Their annual dinner meeting for women physicians and surgeons took place in East Orange on May 18. Mary Brennan, General Counsel at the Princeton Center of Health Affairs discussed “Current Moral, Ethical and Legal Dilemmas in Medical Practice.” A PRRC Leadership Workshop for Foreign Medical Graduates, led by Nicole Cohen-Addad, MD, took place May 14 and 15 at the University of Medicine and Dentistry in Newark. And Branch President Suzanne Widrow, MD hosted an entertaining Ethnic Supper at her home on June 5.

• From Santa Cruz, Branch #59 shared a list of their past year’s programs: Lectures on “Managing Abnormal Pap Smears” by Olive Sorriero, MD, gynecological oncologist at Stanford, and the “History of Early California Women Physicians” by Selma Calmes, MD, AMWA California State Director; discussions about “Coping with Children’s Behavior” and “Changing Nutritional Needs”; and a talk on the special problems of running a woman physician’s medical office by practice management consultant Yvonne Mart Fox. Branch #59 is interested in helping to organize a regional leadership workshop and/or conference on women’s health in the west coast area. They welcome the input of other branches on this venture. Contact Branch President Sue Massey, MD, 7521 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003.
AWHS Update

Returns from the American Women's Hospitals Service Committee's Christmas Appeal topped $15,000. AMWA members were responsible for 40% of the total, having received appeal letters for the first time since the Committee joined AMWA in 1982. On behalf of the six clinics supported by AWHS, the Committee thanks the 140 new contributors who made this excellent return possible. A follow-up appeal was mailed in May; if you have contributed, please share the letter with a friend. The Committee especially appreciates those who make regular contributions a habit.

The Committee met on March 9 to discuss future fund-raising endeavors, volunteer programming, a new project, and more. Many AMWA members responded to the call for volunteers, and a program to match them with projects has been started. Initial solicitations are also being made for funding grants from corporations and foundations. Members who hold positions within or are otherwise connected with companies that may be interested in making a tax-deductible donation to AWHS can be extremely helpful in this particular effort. Please contact Nellys Bard, AWHS Administrative Director at the national office if you are in a position to assist AWHS in this endeavor.

Legislative News

Equal Rights Amendment

Hearings on Equal Rights Amendment legislation were scheduled May 26 in the Senate, Hatch's Subcommittee on the Constitution. The House is expected to hold hearings late in June or early July.

Action: AMWA branch presidents or members should plan to meet locally with their Congresspeople to garner more co-sponsors and committed yes votes.

Abortion

The Eagleton/Hatch Amendment S.J. Res. 3 was reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee April 19 without recommendation. While the amendment did not receive a favorable recommendation from the Committee, it will be on the Senate calendar and is expected to come up before the end of June. The Eagleton/Hatch Amendment says: A right to abortion is not secured by this constitution.

Action: Senators listed below should be urged to oppose S.J. Res. 3 on the Senate floor.

| AK — Ted Stevens       | PA — John Heinz          |
| AR — David Pryor      | RI — Claiborne Pell      |
| CA — Pete Wilson      | TN — Howard Baker       |
| DE — William Roth     | TN — Jim Sasser         |
| FL — Lawton Chiles    | TX — Lloyd Bentsen      |
| GA — Sam Nunn         | John Tower              |
| IL — Alan Dixon       | VA — Paul Tribble       |
| ME — George Mitchell  | WA — Henry Jackson      |
| NH — Warren Rudman    | WY — Malcolm Wallop     |
| ND — Quentin Burdick  |
| Mark Andrews          |

Branch presidents, state directors and members-at-large will soon receive nominating forms for the offices of state director, regional governor and nominating committee members. Please complete and return these forms to the national office by August 15. Ballots will be mailed to all members in early September.

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

The 47th Congress of the Pan American Medical Women's Alliance occurs September 7 through 13, 1983 in Mexico City. And don't forget the 1984 Congress of the Medical Women's International Association, July 29 through August 4 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Call the AMWA national office for details on both events.

The first Midwestern Regional AMWA Conference takes place September 30, October 1 and 2, 1983 at the Hyatt Regency, Kansas City, Kansas. For details contact Lilly Conigli, University of Kansas Office of Continuing Education, College of Health Sciences, Rainbow & Olanthe, Kansas City, KS 66103; (913) 588-4488.

The 1983 Annual Meeting will be at the Hyatt Regency, Dearborn, Michigan November 9 through 13, 1983. Plan to be there!

The 1984 Northeastern Conference on Women's Health is scheduled for March 30, 31 and April 1, 1984 in Boston. Write to 1984 Conference on Women's Health, c/o Massachusetts Medical Society, 1440 Main St., Waltham, Massachusetts 02254 for information.

The Squeal Rule

In a letter to HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler, AMWA President Anne Barlow, MD registered the opposition of AMWA to HHS regulations which require parental notification from family planning clinics providing birth control prescriptions to teen-agers. The regulations were published in January, but two federal judges barred the provision from going into effect. HHS is appealing both decisions and arguments will probably be heard in May or June in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia and the Second Circuit.
HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Traveling? Think AMWA!

Are you heading for a sunny beach, a quiet mountain, or the arms of relatives this summer? If you’re going on vacation—or traveling for business or other reasons—take advantage of the opportunity to meet women physicians in different parts of the country. Speaking with area women in medicine, AMWA members and nonmembers alike, enlarges the national AMWA network and promotes your personal networking involvement as well. It’s a great chance to make friends and professional contacts and to strengthen AMWA, all at once.

Call the AMWA national office (212-533-5104) to discover who your contacts are in the area you’ll be visiting during the summer. Fellow AMWA members are your colleagues and future friends. Enrich your travels; take advantage of your AMWA national membership to meet them.

MWIA Call for Papers

The Medical Women’s International Association is soliciting papers for presentation at its 1984 Congress in Vancouver, British Columbia, July 29 through August 4. The deadline for submission of a 200 word abstract to National Corresponding Secretary Dr. Vivian Harlin is August 12, 1983, so that it may reach Canada by September 1.

The Congress topic is “Men and Women, Biological and Behavioral Differences.” Suggested subheadings are stress, nutrition, sports and exercise, sexuality, family violence, aging and career patterns. Abstracts must include the title, author’s name, address and present position, and must state the presentation time (15 minutes or less) and whether projectors are required. Finished papers will be due March 1, 1984.

Mail abstracts to Vivian K. Harlin, MD, NCS/MWIA, PO Box 340, Ravensdale, WA 98051.

Book Display

AMWA plans to have a membership book display in this year’s annual meeting exhibit area. If you are the author of a recently published book that can be ordered from your publisher, please send the national office a copy of the book and order forms for the table. Only single copies are necessary; we will not be selling actual copies of books at the meeting.

68th Annual Meeting Registration Form

Please print:

Name ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________
City _______ State _____ Zip ________

Telephone (_____ ) __________ Specialty __________

Make checks payable and mail to AMWA, 465 Grand St., NY, NY 10002.
A separate form must be completed for each person registering.

Complete Program Registration

* Regular member $185
* Nonmember physician 215
Member-in-Training 40
Student 30
FAMWA, guests, spouses 75

** Partial Program Registration

* Regular member $110
* Nonmember physician 125
Member-in-Training 20
Student 15

Additional Events

*** Special all-day workshop, “Managing a Practice”
AMWA member $ 55
Nonmember 65

*** Specialty Breakfast 8

*** Network Lunch 12

Branch Presidents’ and
State Directors’ Dinner 25
President’s Banquet 35
Branch Sponsors’ Lunch 5
Take a Student to Lunch (ea.) 5
FMG Workshop 25

Tours

Bob Oakes Tour of Bertha Van Hoosen
Estate and Meadow Brook Hall (Thursday) $ 20

Detroit Institute of Art tour
(Wednesday) 17

Tour of Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum (Friday) 10

Donation to Student Fund
Help defray housing or special event costs for students $ ______

Total Amount Enclosed $ ______

Complete Registration Includes

Scientific sessions; business meetings; all workshops (except Practice Management and FMG); registration materials; President’s and Welcome Receptions; Champagne Brunch; student party; exhibits and films.

Cancellation Policy

Registration fees are automatically increased $15 after October 15, 1983. Cancellations postmarked after October 15 will be refunded less a $15 administration fee. No refunds will be made on cancellations received after this date.

Registration fee includes 10 CME credits.

** Partial registration will be accepted for 11/9-11 or 11/12-13.

*** Space is limited and is sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.
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- Annual Meeting Registration
- Making a National Impact

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN AMWA

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AMWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME ____________________________________________

ADDRESS _______________________________________

CITY __________________________ STATE _______ ZIP _________

PHONE (HOME) __________________ WORK) ______

MEDICAL SCHOOL ___________________________ YEAR ______

SPECIALTY(S) ___________________________ LICENSES _______

SPECIALTY BOARD CERTIFICATION _______________________

STUDENT SCHOOL ___________________________ CLASS ______

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

☐ 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 ____________