



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN **AMWA**

Volume VIII, Number 2/Winter, 1983

Celebrating Change at the 1982 Annual Meeting

Over 240 AMWA members shared the excitement of anticipated change at the 67th Annual Meeting held October 13th through 17th at the Hyatt Regency in Baltimore, Maryland. From Tuesday the 12th, when the 1982 Executive Board convened, to Sunday's celebratory champagne brunch, enthusiasm grew as members made major decisions for implementation in 1983. These are highlighted later in this newsletter.

When they weren't busy with committee meetings, by-laws hearings, elections and House of Delegates sessions, participants attended more than a dozen workshops, enjoyed cultural tours, took student members to lunch; the weekend was devoted to CME workshops, speakers and panel discussions. A number of members stayed on an extra day to attend the PRRC's Leadership Miniworkshops held Sunday and Monday.

In all, the 67th Annual Meeting was the most enthusiastically received program in recent memory. It was an impressive and exciting landmark along our road toward making AMWA an even more valuable network, voice and resource for women physicians today.

By-Laws Changes Debated in Baltimore

During the House of Delegates sessions at the Annual Meeting, the by-laws changes proposed earlier this year (see JAMWA, July 1982) were reviewed and thoroughly debated. The net result was that several important constitutional changes were approved; many of the proposed changes were accepted. Following are some of the more significant decisions made.

- Article III (Membership) was reworded to clarify that all dues-paying members—including students have the privileges of active membership.
- The procedure for selecting the Nominating Committee, Article XXI, was revised. The slate will consist of two candidates submitted by each regional board, from which five members will be elected by the membership in a mailed ballot.
- Articles V (Regions) and VI (Student Senate) create two new structures related to the regionalization concept approved by the 1981 House of Delegates. Article V outlines a functional framework for the plan; Article VI formalizes the Student Senate.
- The proposed amendment to Article VIII (House of Delegates) that would have removed the power to vote as delegates from all Past Presidents was not passed; they will continue as voting members.
- Also defeated was an amendment to Article IX (Executive

Board) combining the seats of Secretary and Treasurer. Both officers will retain their seats.

Seven resolutions were passed during the sessions, including:

- A call to AMWA members and the national office to work with and for the EEOC to enforce laws prohibiting sex discrimination;
- Three resolutions supporting the ERA;
- A retraction of an earlier resolution encouraging women physicians to work with the AMA's Political Action Committee. In light of the AMA's poor record on women's issues, a plan of action is being developed for an AMWA PAC and will be presented at the 1983 Annual Meeting.

The 1982 House decisions increased the size of the Executive Board. Following the adjournment of the 1983 House of Delegates, the Executive Board will include 26 members—officers and Councilors, the Immediate Past President, the Director of Student Membership, chairs of the Finance, Program and Publications committees, the MWIA National Corresponding Secretary, National Student Coordinators and Regional Governors.

Regionalization Takes Place in 1983

Major structural changes are occurring within AMWA; a new regional governance system was outlined

and approved at this year's Annual Meeting. Regional governors will be elected in 1983, and branches should now begin to consider candidates for nomination for governor of their region.

The regional structure is designed to foster a closer relationship between AMWA's central executive organization and its branches, as well as improve interaction between regular and student branches. With membership growth a primary goal in 1983, better communication is crucial to successfully coordinate the "field work" being accomplished in the branches with the decision-making and administrative support originating from the Executive Board, state directors and committees.

Regional governors represent their regions on the AMWA Executive Board. They will be responsible for encouraging and supporting branch development and administering all regionally-held activities, programs which are conducted jointly by two or more branches. They will also foster communication between students and members who are established professionally. Student membership is growing rapidly, and new branches are starting in medical schools located in areas where there is no regular branch, or the area branch is inactive. Regional governors will help students to get in touch with other area members, which will stimulate regular branch development as well.

Meeting Exhibitors Prove Popular

Annual Meeting exhibitors filled two conference rooms at the Baltimore Hyatt Regency during the meeting's last two days, and AMWA members took full advantage of their offerings during breaks in the weekend's CME schedule. Two of the most crowded exhibits were Cheryl Chew's jewelry display and the breast thermography booth.

Ms. Chew is a designer and importer of gold jewelry, and this was her second appearance at an AMWA Annual Meeting. Fifteen percent of her proceeds was donated to the Medical Education and Research Fund—which meant that 15 percent of the purchase price was tax-deductible for the buyer. This year's exhibit raised over \$1900 for the Fund.

Flexi-Therm, Inc. manufactures liquid-crystal thermography systems, which indicate areas of increased vascular activity by measuring variations in skin temperature via brief body contact. Nancy Levine, a company representative, worked with AMWA member Renee Vogel, M.D. to demonstrate the system by offering free breast thermograms to meeting attendants. Dr. Vogel has done extensive research in the application of thermography to early breast cancer detection, and she provided consultation for dozens of women who requested examinations. Since member interest was widespread, there are plans to publish an article in *JAMWA* detailing thermography's efficacy as a specific tool for prognostication and early risk indication of breast disease.

Physicians and Friends Honored at Annual Meeting

Three awards were presented during the House of Delegates session on Thursday, October 14th.

The Elizabeth Blackwell Medal was given to Helen B. Taussig, M.D. in honor of her extraordinary contribution to medicine and the example she has set for all women physicians. Established in 1949 by then-AMWA President Elise L'Esperance, M.D., the medal has been awarded annually to the woman determined by the Executive Board to have made the most outstanding contribution to the cause of women in the field of medicine.

The Camille Mermod Award was presented to Donald DeBona of Waverly Press. The award was initiated in 1969 to honor lay individuals who render exceptional service to AMWA.

A special award was given to Alma Dea Morani, M.D., formerly president of the American Women's Hospitals Service and now chair of the AWHs committee of AMWA. The certificate honors her as leader and custodian of AWHs and was presented in appreciation of her 50 years in medicine, her continued interest in women's advancement in medicine, and her vision of the future of the union of AMWA and AWHs.

BRANCHING OUT

- "Ages and Stages: A look at the dynamic development of the female" was presented by Connecticut Branch #7 at the Lord Cromwell Inn in Cromwell on December 3rd. Seven workshop leaders, including AMWA members Drs. Constance Battle, Rita Newman and Ryasook Chun led sessions discussing developmental milestones in "Childhood and Early Adolescence," "Young Adulthood (20s and 30s)" and "The Woman Over 40." After a social hour and dinner Dr. Audrey Worrell, Connecticut Department of Mental Health Commissioner, shared her views on "Ages and Stages" with participants.

- The Women's Medical Association of NYC (AMWA Branch #14) held its Annual Fall Dinner on Tuesday evening, October 19th at the Cornell Club. After the meal members, students and other invited guests heard a fascinating presentation on alcoholism management by Drs. LeClair Bissell and Ann Geller, followed by audience discussion of the topic.

- Dr. Doris Newman detailed the catastrophic effects of nuclear attack in a presentation to the Los Angeles County Medical Women's Association (Branch #23) on November 10th. Dr. Newman is a member of Physicians for Social Responsibility, a group dedicated to alerting the public about the consequences of nuclear warfare. She made many sobering points about the ineffectiveness of civil defense measures and the unprecedented medical emergency following an attack, and urged all "responsible people" to make legislators aware of their feelings and to call for talks towards a bilateral arms freeze.

- Nelita Ano, M.D. announces that Branch #33 (northeast Florida) is sponsoring a weekend workshop, "Sexual Problems in Medical Practice" at the Daytona Beach Hilton, March 18 and 19, 1983. The workshop has been approved for 9 CME credit hours.

Those who wish further information may contact Ken Mead, Conference on the Beach Coordinator; write him at P.O. Box 9054, Daytona Beach, Florida, 32015 or telephone (904) 258-1544.

- AMWA President Anne L. Barlow, M.D. visited Denver Branch #47 on Tuesday, October 26th. To mark the occasion, Branch president Elinor Christiansen, M.D. arranged a dinner meeting in a local hospital with about 35 active members and students present. After dinner, the group listened to Dr. Barlow's report on the recent Annual Meeting and shared their questions and concerns with her.

- Westchester, New York Branch #32 and the Westchester County Medical Society co-sponsored an all-day leadership training workshop on Saturday, October 23rd. Women faculty and students from area schools and hospitals attended and were most enthusiastic participants.

- On Thursday, December 9th, Rochester, Minnesota Branch #17 hosted Anne Bernstein, M.D., president of Branch #32. She was visiting the state for a speaking engagement, but arranged a noon meeting with students interested in joining AMWA. Please see "Networking on the Road" for details.

- The New Jersey Medical Women's Association (AMWA Branch #4) hosted a theater party for the benefit of the Medical Women Student Scholarship Fund on Wednesday, December 15th. Members and guests attended the opening of the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn and enjoyed a performance of *Robert and Elizabeth* (based on the *Barretts of Whimpole Street*). Afterward, dessert was served in the adjoining art gallery in honor of AMWA's Immediate Past President Dr. Christine Haycock—who is also past president of NJMWA.

Carroll L. Birch Award: Call for Papers

Medical students are encouraged to submit original, unpublished scientific papers in competition for the Carroll L. Birch Award. Chicago Branch #2 sponsors the award, which offers the winning author a cash prize of \$200 and a trip to next year's Annual Meeting in Dearborn, Michigan. The winning paper will be published in JAMWA.

Branch #2 issues an annual call for papers to compete for this award, but presents it only in those years a manuscript is found deserving.

Please address manuscripts (in triplicate) to the Carroll L. Birch Manuscript Award Committee, AMWA National Office, 465 Grand Street, New York, New York 10002. Enclose a covering letter stating that the attached manuscript is to be considered for the award; the letter should include your medical school, graduation date and permanent address. Papers must be received by the national office by June 30, 1983.

Networking on the Road

A very effective way to spark interest and bring new members to AMWA is to arrange to speak with other branch members, medical students and nonmember colleagues while traveling for academic, business or personal reasons. The pleasure of meeting and sharing ideas with those who live in different areas of the country is an excellent excuse to make this personal effort to strengthen AMWA, and members who reach out to colleagues away from home find many other rewards in long-distance networking.

Anne Bernstein, M.D., president of New York Branch #32, recently completed a short trip to Minnesota that illustrates how much can be done for AMWA in very little time. She arrived in Duluth on Wednesday, December 8th to address faculty and patients at Miller Dwan Hospital on the effect of adolescent rebellious behavior upon diabetes mellitus.

Although there is no AMWA branch in Duluth, Dr. Bernstein learned through Minnesota state co-directors, Drs. Mary Templeton and Audrey Nelson, that several Duluth School of Medicine students are interested in AMWA and that a former faculty member is in close contact with many of them. She arranged, therefore, to meet with the faculty member that evening after her talk—and planted a seed for future contact with potential members.

On Thursday morning, Dr. Bernstein flew to Rochester where she met with Dr. Nelson and held a noon meeting with Mayo Medical School students about reactivating the school's student branch.

AMWA President Dr. Anne Bar-

low is particularly supportive of the networking philosophy and frequently meets women physicians as an AMWA representative by routinely integrating meetings with her business schedule. For example, in one month's time (November 1982) Dr. Barlow addressed a dinner for Colorado Branch #47; attended the MWIA Congress in Manila, and went on to Japan to meet with women physicians there; and in Madison, Wisconsin discussed AMWA affiliation with Women for Medicine in Wisconsin—which may bring 80 new members to AMWA.

Such scheduling isn't as complicated as it sounds if it can be done in advance. Arrangements can be made through the AMWA national office, branch presidents and student members themselves. If you will be traveling and are interested in networking for AMWA, do not hesitate to call the national office for assistance.

Medical Women's International Association Meets in Manila

From November 21st through 27th, representatives of women physicians from dozens of countries gathered at the Nineteenth Congress of the Medical Women's International Association, held in Manila, Philippine Republic.

AMWA's National Corresponding Secretary to the MWIA, Dr. Patricia Tudbury was elected MWIA North American Vice President for the coming year. Her predecessor, Dr. Beverly Tamboline of Vancouver, B.C., Canada was

voted MWIA President-Elect for 1983. Approximately 25 AMWA members, including AMWA President Dr. Anne L. Barlow, served as delegates to the Congress.

The MWIA addresses the worldwide concerns of women in medicine—to foster fellowship and understanding among medical women of all nationalities, religions and races; to encourage their careers and help with their problems; to help students obtain financial aid for study and travel; and to gain the cooperation of medical women in matters of international health and in forming national associations of their own.

CALENDAR

An Executive Board meeting will be held at the National Office, 465 Grand Street in New York City on **Saturday, January 22, 1983.**

The next Interim Meeting will be in Minneapolis, Minnesota **June 22 - 25, 1983.** All members are welcome to attend.

The next Annual Meeting is in Dearborn, Michigan **November 9 - 13, 1983.** Plan to be there!

The Third New York City Regional Conference on Women in Medicine will take place **April 8 - 10, 1983** at the Rockefeller University and Cornell Medical College. Write the Office of Continuing Professional Education, Montefiore Hospital, 111 East 210th St., Bronx, NY 10467 for details.

HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Membership in AMWA offers you a wide choice of ways in which you, as an individual, can become involved. Whatever your specialty or particular interests are in your professional and personal life, there is an AMWA committee, project, task force or publication that benefits from your participation and gives you the satisfaction of finding your own way to contribute to the advancement of women in medicine.

We briefly focus here on AMWA projects that need your participation and support. Future issues of *What's Happening in AMWA* will describe other AMWA activities; we hope you'll join in one or more.

The American Women's Hospitals Service, originally part of AMWA but operating as a separate corporation since 1959, rejoined its mother organization this year and is now a committee of AMWA.

For 66 years, AWHs has brought medical care under the leadership of women physicians to the indigent sick in underdeveloped areas overseas and in the U.S. The organization has a long and distinguished history of providing excellent service at little cost.

As an AMWA committee, AWHs intends to continue its

present support of clinics and hospitals in Bolivia, Haiti and Taiwan but plans to expand its American services—currently limited to Appalachia—to other parts of the U.S. The committee needs membership assistance to accomplish this. AWHs has traditionally been supported financially by contributions from individuals, and AMWA members can help continue the committee's work by making tax-deductible donations to AWHs. Members can also help the committee define and locate new areas of need for AWHs services by corresponding with the committee members and the national office. One immediate goal is to find student and physician volunteers who are willing to participate in new American projects.

Please write or call Nellys Bard, AWHs Administrative Director at the national office if you would like more information about how you can participate in AWHs.

The New Executive Board

Elections and appointments at the Annual Meeting established the 1983 Executive Board. A complete

listing follows; new officers are starred (*).

President Anne L. Barlow, M.D. *

President-Elect Lila S. Kroser, M.D. *

First Vice-President Margaret Bridwell, M.D. *

Second Vice-President Dolores Shelfoon, M.D. *

Secretary Constance Battle, M.D.

Treasurer Marjorie Braude, M.D.

Councilor for Organization and Management Clair Callan, M.D.

Councilor for Research, Education and Training Roberta Rubin, M.D.

Councilor for Growth and Development Lila Wallis, M.D. *

Councilor for Liaison with Other Organizations Adelaide Scanlon, M.D. *

Director of Student Membership Eugenia Marcus, M.D.

Immediate Past President Christine E. Haycock, M.D.

Past President Vivian Harlin, M.D.

National Student Coordinators Gloria Kardong * and Ruth Smith *

Finance Committee Chair Jean Hayward, M.D. *

Publications Committee Chair Nancy Nichols, M.D. *

National Corresponding Secretary to MWIA Vivian Harlin, M.D. *

Program Chair Clair Callan, M.D. *

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AMWA

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Anne L. Barlow, M.D.,
President
Carol Davis-Grossman,
Executive Director

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

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

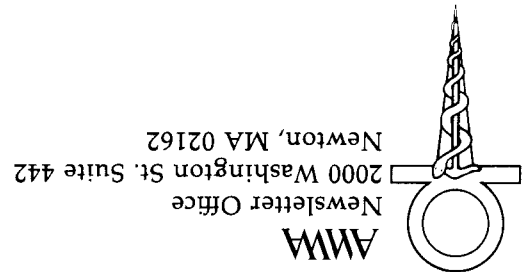
There are three categories of active membership. Regular membership is for women physicians established professionally and includes membership in the Medical Women's International Association. Members-in-Training are house officers, fellows and physicians in the first year of practice. Both these memberships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