Now is the Time for Health Care Reform

Hillary Rodham Clinton

No one knows better than women physicians that it is time for comprehensive health care reform. After a six-decade struggle to achieve universal health care coverage, we are now just steps away from making guaranteed health care for all a reality.

Committees in both houses of Congress have approved bills that guarantee health care coverage to every American family, and with the support and encouragement of groups like the American Medical Women's Association, health care reform is finally about to happen.

The health care debate in Washington is coming down to one fundamental question: Should every American be covered, or should we do something less?

As I have travelled around the country talking to women physicians, the answer has come back loud and clear: for real reform to work, we must cover everyone.

Physicians like you have shared with me the hassles from paperwork and insurance firm second guessing. These physicians have recounted heartbreaking stories about families who, even though they

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Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health Held in October

Women in the 1990s are no longer satisfied with fragmented health care. They expect a comprehensive, coordinated approach to the entire individual, and a partnership with their physician in reaching medical decisions.

Practitioners who care for women today often express a need for additional training in the recognition of conditions that are common in, and unique to women. They want to learn techniques to develop partnerships with their patients.

To help meet these evolving needs of physicians and patients, AMWA has developed a new continuing medical education (CME) course titled the Advanced Curriculum on Women’s Health. This two-part, three-day course, focuses on caring for women patients through workshops highlighting the phases of a woman's life. These phases include Early (birth to 18), Young Adult (19-39), Midlife (40-64), Mature (65-79), and Advanced Years (beyond age 80).

Part II of the Advanced Curriculum on Women’s Health will be held October 14-17, 1994 at the Adam's

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Interim Meeting Highlights

Administration Official Commends AMWA’s Policy Efforts

In his keynote address before an audience of more than 100, Ira Magaziner, White House Senior Advisor to the President for Policy Development, commended AMWA for putting personal concerns aside and focusing on the larger issues of health care reform that affect patients.

Mr. Magaziner acknowledged that although AMWA favored a single-payer system of reform, he and Mrs. Clinton were very grateful that AMWA was continuing to support the principles of the Clinton Health Security Act.

And regardless of what type of reform is passed, Mr. Magaziner assured the audience, Mrs. Clinton will be asking groups such as AMWA to help implement the final plan.

Of all the physician groups the White House works with, Mr. Magaziner said that AMWA was one of the few to put patients before their pocketbooks in health care reform.

In addition to Mr. Magaziner’s address, the Interim
AMWA Publishes Premier Issue of Redesigned JAMWA

The premier issue of the newly redesigned 77-year old Journal of the American Medical Women’s Association (JAMWA) was released in July under the editorial direction of Wendy Chavkin, MD, MPH.

JAMWA, which has been graphically and textually redesigned, will feature original articles and include new studies and research. The journal will focus many of its six issues per year on specific women’s health topics. The premier issue included a special theme focus on women and clinical trials. For the remainder of 1994, JAMWA’s themes include abortion services (September) and cardiovascular disease in women (November).

The July issue featured an article written specifically for JAMWA by Special Assistant to the President [Clinton] for Domestic Policy, Carol Rasco, on health care reform. Other articles included issues for women of color regarding their participation in clinical trials; the under-representation of women in AIDS clinical trials; the role of the FDA’s new Office of Women’s Health; highlights of bioethic deliberations at the Institute of Medicine; and a case study of how one hospital tackled a controversial clinical trial.

“An host of scientific and policy issues regarding women’s health care are finally receiving the attention they deserve,” said Dr. Chavkin. “JAMWA will serve as a powerful vehicle for presenting these ideas to the medical and advocacy community.”

The graphic changes include a new abstract cover design in terra cotta and black. The redesigned page layout enticingly directs the reader with its fluid format. Abstracts of each article are printed in bold in the first of three page columns.

Interested subscribers should contact AMWA. Advertisers should contact AMWA for a rate sheet.

President’s Message
Kathryn C. Bemmann, MD

Summer: a time to slow the pace, enjoy friends and family, and take a vacation. It may be easy to let the warm weather lull us into a false security about the future of health care in America. But is our future secure?

As physicians, as women and as community leaders, we have a responsibility to be heard in the health care reform debate. The Interim Meeting emphasized just how critical each one of us is to this debate.

According to White House officials, the debate needs every voice. I implore you to not leave it to your colleagues to call or write your Congressional representatives. Pick up the phone and call, and let them know that you are a physician from their district and want them to vote in favor of a reform plan that embraces the following principles: universal coverage, a comprehensive benefits package, administrative simplification, autonomy for clinical decision-making by physicians, and adequate financing mechanisms.

As a psychiatrist, I acknowledge the women’s health issues and physician’s concerns regarding reform. But this is the time to put details on the shelf and look at the bigger picture.

Ira Magaziner, Senior Advisor to the President [Clinton] for Domestic Policy, and a speaker at AMWA’s Interim Meeting, congratulated AMWA members on their political sophistication. Mr. Magaziner told the group he realized that the President’s plan is not the first choice of the majority of AMWA members, but the fact that AMWA has been able to put aside the details for the good of the larger health care reform issue, shows the depth of political understanding by AMWA members.

Mr. Magaziner told AMWA that Mrs. Clinton recognized this as well, and if health care reform passed, the White House would look to AMWA members for guidance in ironing out the details of the final plan.

I would like to thank the Co-Chairs of AMWA’s Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Reform, Janet E. Freedman, MD and Susan C. Stewart, MD, and their colleagues on the ad hoc committee for working so diligently to keep abreast of the rapidly changing reform debate.

It may be difficult to think about autumn in the midst of summer, but it’s only a month away. I encourage every AMWA member to take advantage of the exciting and dynamic CME programs sponsored by AMWA this fall.

The Advanced Curriculum on Women’s Health (Part II) highlights Early (birth to 18), Young Adult (18-39), and Advanced Years (80+) and features the nation’s foremost experts on a variety of topics important to women’s health. The Advanced Curriculum will be held October 14-17, 1994 at the Adam’s Mark Hotel in Philadelphia.

The AMWA Annual Meeting features keynote speaker Naomi Wolf, author of the best-selling books The Beauty Myth and Fire with Fire. The meeting also includes a special focus on violence against women, a particularly timely topic in light of the recent O.J. Simpson case. The meeting will be held from November 2-6, 1994 at Disney’s Contemporary Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

I encourage you to join us and look forward to meeting you there.

Board of Directors Supports Future AMWA Growth

To support AMWA’s recent growth, AMWA’s Board of Directors voted by an overwhelming majority to recommend to AMWA’s House of Delegates to increase AMWA’s membership dues 15 percent effective January 1995. This proposed change would affect physicians, residents and students.

“We are moving in the most positive direction possible — forward. We need resources to support our growth so we can position AMWA to be a powerful force meeting the needs of women physicians and the challenges of women’s health into the 21st century,” said Kathryn C. Bemmman, MD. “The proposed increase keeps pace with our tremendous growth.”

In addition to this financial action, the board approved the revised 1994 budget, as well as the proposed 1995 operating budget.

Position papers regarding advance directives (living wills) and abuse in medical education and training were approved by the board of directors for ratification by AMWA’s House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting in November. The board also voted to send position papers on eating disorders and mental health and health care reform for review by their respective committees.

In addition, the board voted to support National Primary Care Day, which will be held on September 29, 1994, to encourage medical students to consider a career in primary care (see Student Senate this issue).
worked, had no insurance, and as a result, came to the doctor too sick, too late, when care was too expensive. I have seen first-hand the frustration of physicians trying their best to care for patients in a system working against them.

That is why we are fighting so hard for universal coverage. All Americans deserve the security of high quality health care coverage they cannot lose, even if they move or take a different job. And all physicians deserve the security of knowing that every patient who walks in their offices has insurance, so they can concentrate on the best treatment for their patients, not the ones they can afford.

The American health care system will be stronger, better and less costly if Congress finishes the job they have started and guarantees private health insurance to all Americans this year.

It has long been obvious to women physicians that universal coverage and real health care reform is very much a women’s issue. Women are increasingly the victims of life-threatening illnesses, yet until recently, women’s health research anchored the bottom of our medical research agenda. Funding for research on conditions affecting women such as breast and ovarian cancers, osteoporosis and other diseases, was inadequate.

Although women are more likely to use health care services than men, they are less likely to have insurance. Under universal coverage, all women regardless of age, income, marital status or health status, will be able to get the health care services they need to keep them healthy. Researching treatments and cures for women’s illnesses can finally become a top priority.

Health care reform is also important because within a system of universal coverage, it becomes easier to solve all of the other problems physicians are beset with in the current system.

We can assure every American the same set of comprehensive benefits, and end the guessing games about coverage that physicians and patients are forced to endure today.

We can simplify billing and claims processing with a single form, so that you fill your staffs with more nurses and physicians assistants rather than more secretaries and filing clerks.

We can implement meaningful insurance reforms, so that “pre-existing conditions” are only the physician’s concern, not the insurance company’s.

And we can provide protection from frivolous [law] suits that force many physicians to resort to the costly practice of “defensive medicine.”

As physicians and patient advocates, AMWA members have a crucial role in the current debate. Opponents of reform have tried to reinforce the perception that physicians are opposed to true reform, when you and I know that is not the case.

Physicians witness daily all the short-comings of the current systems, which is why AMWA, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Physicians and the American Medical Association have all indicated their firm support for universal coverage. Four hundred thousand physicians cannot be wrong.

We are very encouraged that AMWA continues to embrace the principles of the President’s plan, most notably universal coverage.

I am confident that if we all continue to push forward toward universal coverage, 1994 will go down in history as the year Americans were finally given the real health security for which they have been waiting for nearly 60 years.

Keep up the good work.

Thanks to Beth Israel Hospital
AMWA expresses its deep gratitude to Beth Israel Hospital (New York City) for its outstanding support of AMWA and the Journal of American Medical Women’s Association (JAMWA).

Interim continued from page 1
Meeting included a dynamic presentation by Mary Maselli, a communication advisor with the Health Care Reform Project. Ms. Maselli discussed how to frame the health care reform debate to Congressional representatives.

According to Ms. Maselli, today’s debate is not whether provisions for graduate school education or parity for mental health or preventive screening are included in reform, but rather whether we will have any type of legislated real health care reform at all.

A highlight of the meeting was the Saturday evening reception at AMWA headquarters, which honored AMWA members who have achieved key strategic positions within the federal government. The honorees included Susan J. Blumenthal, MD, first Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health (Women’s Health), Assistant Surgeon General, HHS, and Rear Admiral in the U.S. Public Health Services; Jo Ivey Boufford, MD, Principle Advisor to Philip Lee, MD, the Assistant Secretary for Health, and Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Public Health Service; Joyce E. Elders, MD, U.S. Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service; Vivian Pinn, MD, Director of the Office of Research on Women’s Health at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Associate Director of NIH, and Felicia Stewart, MD, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Population Affairs.

Other educational sessions during the Interim Meeting focused on AMWA’s priorities for change and how they relate to the Congressional landscape; what’s at stake for women in health care reform; how physicians will fare in reform; financing reform; a look at the Oregon Medicaid plan; and how to talk to your legislators.

Following these informative presentations, more than 30 AMWA members visited their Senators and Representatives to discuss health care reform.

Ira Magaziner, White House Senior Advisor to the President for Policy Development, addresses 100 participants at AMWA’s Interim Meeting in June.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The past several months have seen dramatic action on many fronts in the legislative arena. Health reform will continue to be the top priority for Congress until the November elections, but several other important bills also are pending. These three are among them:

Minority Health Improvement Act
The Minority Health Improvement Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate in May. The House version contains four provisions of the Women's Health Equity Act which would:
- establish in statute the Office of Women's Health within the Public Health Service
- authorize a study on the adequacy of women's health curricula in medical schools
- establish policies at the National Institutes of Health regarding the employment of women scientists
- authorize a study on the number of women in the U.S. who have undergone female genital mutilation.

Call your Senators and Representatives and urge their support for keeping these provisions in the Conference Committee report.

Health Appropriations
The annual Labor/Health and Human Services Appropriations bill will be debated during the late summer or early fall. As a result of action taken in the House last year, the Medicaid abortion provisions were expanded to allow abortions to be funded in cases of rape and incest, and if the life of the mother is in danger.

This year, abortion right advocates are not expected to mount their usual floor fight to defeat restrictive amendments; instead, they are expected to save their political capital to try to retain abortion coverage under reform.

Tobacco Advertising Promotion Studies Act
Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) is the sponsor of the Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Studies Act of 1994, H.R. 4279. This legislation requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to conduct four studies:
- to determine if targeted advertising messages cause women, girls and minorities to increase their tobacco and alcohol use
- to examine wording and imagery used in tobacco advertising
- to look at the messages concerning "low-yield" cigarettes as opposed to quitting smoking or smoking "non-low-yield" cigarettes
- to examine the demographics of audiences for cigarette advertising and promotions, including expenditures for advertising targeted toward different age, race, gender and socio-economic groups.

Mark Hotel in Philadelphia. This fast-paced, comprehensive curriculum will focus on the Early, Young Adult and Advanced Years.

The successful Part I of the Advanced Curriculum, which highlighted Midlife and Mature Years, was held in October 1993 in New York City.

"The Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health is based on a national needs assessment of women developed in cooperation with many medical specialty society organizations through a joint retreat and cross-specialty consultations," said Lila Wallis, MD, Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health Course Director. "The Advanced Curriculum attempts to bridge some of the gaps in the delivery of women's health care."

The goals and objectives of the Curriculum include:
- to recognize and manage more accurately and efficiently conditions unique to women, more common in women or with manifestations which are different in women
- to eliminate fragmentation of women's health care
- to improve the skills of practitioners in the evaluation of women patients
- to recognize and manage psychosocial and economic issues influencing the patient's health care
- to develop a treatment plan that includes a woman's hormonal and metabolic characteristics
- to enhance the woman patient/practitioner partnership in clinical decision making and patient education
- to critically evaluate new research data and its impact on women's health care.

The opening session features Bernadine Healy, MD, former director of National Institutes of Health (NIH). In addition to Dr. Healy's opening address, Vivian Pinn, MD, Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health at NIH and Associate Director of NIH, will discuss knowledge gaps and future research in women's health.

Early years workshop topics include caring for the adolescent patient, detecting and treating abuse, and family planning and teenage pregnancy.

Call for 1994 Resolutions
The deadline for submitting 1994 resolutions to be considered for ratification by AMWA's House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting is August 31, 1994. Resolutions may be submitted by any AMWA member. Suggestions for resolution topics (based on requests for AMWA policy positions received by the Government Affairs staff) include:
- the link between pesticides and environmental health risks to women's health
- nutrition
- new reproductive technologies, such as transplants of ovaries from aborted fetuses
- the relationship between physicians and other "mid-level providers"
- welfare reform proposals which would withhold AFDC benefits from low-income women who have children outside of marriage
- the need for stricter informed consent laws to protect women patients from unnecessary surgeries and sexual abuse by providers.

For further information on how to write a resolution, contact AMWA.
AMWA's Health Care Reform Questionnaire Results

A preliminary report of AMWA's Health Care Reform Questionnaire (February/March 1994, What's Happening in AMWA?) was presented at the Interim Meeting by Susan C. Stewart, MD, Co-Chair of AMWA's Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care Reform. Here is a summary of the presentation.

Demographic Profile
An analysis of the responses revealed that the respondents represented a cross-section of AMWA members with regard to age and geographic location.

Among the survey respondents, there were more post-residency physicians answering the questionnaire than residents or students.

In terms of practice style, the respondents appeared to be equally divided between salary and fee-for-service.

Preferred Plan
Question 1: Which proposed health care reform plan would you support? (Choices included Clinton’s Health Security Act; McDermott/Wellstone’s single payer plan, Cooper’s managed competition; Chafee’s purchasing cooperatives; and Michel’s insurance reforms.)

Seventy-four percent of the respondents chose the McDermott/Wellstone single payer plan. Another 12 percent of the respondents chose the Clinton Health Security Act. Fully 86 percent of respondents supported the only plans offering universal coverage.

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Benefits
Question 2: If the following benefits were not included in the basic benefits package of a proposal, which do you consider so crucial that you would advise AMWA not to support such a plan? (Check as many as apply.)

Reproductive Health: More than 40 percent of those responding to the questionnaire said they would not support a bill that did not cover abortion, more than 50 percent said they would not support a plan that did not cover contraception, and less than 10 percent said they would not support a proposal that did not cover infertility treatment. Answers from ob-gyn specialists were similar to the other physicians responding to the survey.

Mental Health: Eighty percent favored copayments equal to other medical fields for outpatient services and more than 60 percent of the respondents supported equivalent reimbursement for inpatient treatment.

Breast Cancer Detection: The results showed that 50 percent favor mammography every one to two years for women in their 40s, and yearly after age 50 (the American Cancer Society guidelines). Thirty-five percent of the respondents said they would agree to mammography yearly for women age 50 and beyond (guidelines suggested in the Clinton plan).

Change in Health Care Delivery
Question 3: What potential negative impacts of change in the health care system under health care reform, concern you the most?

Eighty percent of the respondents reported to be most concerned by insurance company requirements to manage patients by their protocols—"managed care," and by administrative pressure to limit time with their patients.

Capitation plans and the increased gatekeeper role controlling referrals were cited by 70 percent and 58 percent respectively.

These answers reflect the strong support for physician autonomy in clinical decision-making which also was found in the health care reform survey of AMWA members in 1991.

Payment Mechanisms
Question 4: Which mechanisms to pay for a reformed health care system do you favor?

The number one answer by the respondents was increasing the excise tax on cigarettes. However, the majority of respondents were not afraid to choose effective mechanisms of payment.

Of those preferring the single payer plan, 65 percent would use income and payroll taxes, and 40 percent would agree to an employer mandate.

Of those respondents choosing the Clinton plan, 62 percent would agree to financing through employer mandates.

Payment Mechanisms to Slow Inflation
Question 5: Which mechanisms to slow the hyperinflation of health care do you favor?

The most popular answer was "eliminate fraud," closely followed by decreased reimbursement for procedures, increased reimbursement for primary care and point of service options for patients in closed panel plans.

Curriculum continued from page 4

Young adult years workshops highlight issues such as occupational health, migraines and other headaches, and eating disorders in the 1990s as a form of anti-feminism.

Advanced years seminars discuss falls and fractures, pharmacokinetics and drug use, incontinence and mental health.

AMWA gratefully acknowledges Aetna Insurance, Astra/Merck, Bristol-Myers Squibb, and Burroughs Wellcome Company for their generous support of the Advanced Curriculum on Women's Health.

AMWA designates this continuing medical education activity for 19 hours of Category 1 of the Physician's Recognition Award of the AMA, and is, therefore, approved for 19 hours of Category 1 credit by the American Academy of Physician Assistants.

To register, contact the program administrators at the Center for Continuing Education, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 600 S. 42nd St., Omaha, NE 68198-5651; Phone: 402/559-9252 or toll free MD Advantage number 1-800-642-1095 and ask for Continuing Education.
STUDENT SENATE

National Primary Care Day

Rose Boghdady and Kristen Szabola
National Student Coordinators

AMWA has joined several other medical student organizations in co-sponsoring the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Office of Generalist Physician Programs’ (AAMC-OGPP) National Primary Care Day on September 29, 1994.

National Primary Care Day will: 1) encourage interest in primary care careers; 2) provide students with information about primary care medicine and the range of career opportunities; 3) address misperceptions that may prevent students from choosing primary care careers; 4) reaffirm the generalist physicians’ continued and important role in an evolving health care system; and 5) demonstrate a commitment by medical students and schools to meet the nation’s need for primary care physicians.

As part of the festivities, former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, MD, ScD, will deliver a video address. Suggested activities include the following:

- organizing a primary care forum with a keynote speaker and breakout sessions on research, changes in the health care delivery system, and career opportunities
- distributing information and applications for summer fellowship programs in primary care research and clinical experience in various geographic locations
- introducing students to networks of mentors and role models
- planning committees are strongly encouraged to involve community-based physicians, state and local legislators, and health department officials.

In addition to AMWA, other National Primary Care Day co-sponsors include the AAMC-Organization of Student Representatives (OSR), the American Medical Student Association-Generalist Physician in Training Initiative (AMSA-GPTI), the American Academy of Family Physicians-National Congress of Student Members (AAFP-NCSM), the Student National Medical Association (SNMA), the American Medical Association-Medical Student Sections (AMA-MSS), the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine-Council of Student Council Presidents (AACOM-CSCP), and the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA).

For more information, contact Ms. Eowyn Rieke (202/828-0435; e-mail: erieke@aan.org) or Ms. Karyn Bhak (202/828-0960; e-mail: knbhak@aan.org).

Violence Against Women Workshops to be Presented at Annual Meeting

To address the significant health consequences of violence against women, AMWA has dedicated part of its 79th Annual Meeting, Women Promoting Women’s Health: Empowering Our Global Family, to this important women’s health issue.

During Saturday, November 5, two sessions will be held on violence against women. The first will be the Plenary Session (8:00 - 11:00 a.m.) which features the following topics and renowned experts:

- Rape as a War Crime, Shana Swiss, MD, Director of Women’s Programs, Physicians for Human Rights.
- Prescription to Cure Violence, Ellen Taliaferro, MD, Founder and Executive Director, Physicians for a Violence-Free Society.
- The Effects of Violence on Women in Urban Areas, Beverly Coleman-Miller, MD, President, BCM-Urban Health Consulting.

- Empowerment Through Fantasy and Myths, Jean Goodwin, MD, University of Texas professor of psychiatry.

The second segment is the Clinical and Practical Aspects of Violence Against Women Mini-Symposium (November 5, 2:00-5:00 p.m.) which features workshops on the short- and long-term effects and treatment of sexual assault and domestic violence presented by the following nationally renowned experts: Kathryn C. Bemmann, MD; Marjorie Braude, MD; Anne H. Flitcraft, MD; Laura Hellman, MD; Diane Hydzik, MD; Barbara Lent; Shelley Rechner; Shana Swiss, MD; and Carole Warshaw, MD.

AMWA is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. AMWA designates this continuing education activity for up to 26.5 credit hours in Category 1 of the Physician’s Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

Contact AMWA for an Annual Meeting registration packet.

RESIDENT ROUNDS

New Election Procedures for Resident Representative

Kathy G. Keller, DO, Resident Representative

Hope your summer is going well and you have made it through the July 1 transition. This year, there are some important changes in how our Resident Representative to the Board of Directors is going to be elected.

Previously, candidates were nominated, their statements published in JAMA, candidates made a brief speech before the House of Delegates during the Annual Meeting, and were elected by a majority of those delegates present.

Last year, a bylaws change was instituted to allow the resident representative to be elected by a mail ballot which includes just residents. This will provide more residents with an opportunity to participate in the voting process.

The procedure this year is as follows:

1. Two outstanding candidates have been chosen by AMWA’s Nominating Committee: Christina Nicolaidis, MD; and Zina Pelkey, DO.
2. The candidates submit a written statement to be published in the September membership mailing.
3. All current resident members (including newly graduated medical students converting to resident membership) will receive this mailing from the national office in early September. It will include a ballot for resident representative. The deadline for return is mid-October.
4. Any resident is encouraged to submit write-in candidates.
5. Complete the ballot and return it to AMWA.
6. At the Annual Meeting, an announcement will be made of the new resident representative.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting in Lake Buena Vista, Florida, at Disney’s Contemporary Resort, from November 2-6, 1994, includes workshops for residents.

The special Resident Track on Saturday afternoon includes three workshops: the basics of practice management, financial management in the early career, and a presentation by a physician agent on the job search and interviewing. Sunday morning presentations include a block on “Maternity in Medicine,” traditionally of interest to residents. For a registration packet, contact AMWA. Hope to see you there!
**BULLETIN BOARD**

**Membership News**

**State Directors Positions Available**

AMWA currently has positions open for State Directors in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming. Prospective candidates should contact the membership department at AMWA.

**Alamo's Advantages**

Alamo Rent A Car has announced two new policies with positive outcomes for Alamo car renters, a benefit for AMWA members. The first is that Alamo is participating in American Airlines AAdvantage travel awards program. When you rent a car from Alamo, you begin earning 500 miles.

The second policy change is that Alamo has expanded its locations. Four new downtown hubs will be open to serve customers in Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis and Seattle.

**Forming a New AMWA Branch**

Interested in forming a new AMWA physician or student branch? AMWA’s membership department has a kit to help you get started. Contact the membership department.

**Organizational Members**

AMWA announces that Aetna Health Plans is its first Organizational Member and Cigna Health Care is its second Organizational Member.

Organizational Membership is a category of AMWA membership that allows organizations interested in women’s health to support AMWA’s goals and objectives for an annual contribution of $5,000. AMWA invites its members to provide names of other organizations to solicit for this unique category of membership. Direct all information to the membership department.

**Ambassador Program**

AMWA is seeking leaders who are interested in participating in AMWA’s Ambassador Program. Contact Regina Sanborn at AMWA.

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**AMWA Foundation Update**

The AMWA Foundation was the recipient last month of a bequest from the estate of long-time member Clementine Frankowski, MD. Dr. Frankowski served as Treasurer and later President of Branch Two. She helped to organize Branch 48 in Northwest Indiana. On the national level, Dr. Frankowski served as Recording Secretary of AMWA and later as a member of the Finance Committee.

Dr. Frankowski’s bequest provides $25,000 to the scholarship fund, established last year with a bequest of $68,500 from the estate of Hazel Wilhelm, MD. By the first of the year, 1995, the Student Loans, Fellowships and Grants Committee will be offering scholarships as well as loans, to deserving AMWA students. The Committee is establishing criteria and guidelines for those scholarships.

At the recent AMWA Foundation Board meeting during the Interim Meeting, the AMWA Foundation Board approved a new program called “Endowment Plus.” This is a specially designed program in two parts: one part is a life insurance endowment policy payable to the AMWA Foundation, and the second provides cash gifts to the AMWA Foundation.

How it works: The donor agrees to pay a set amount for five years. The yearly payment is wholly tax deductible, since it is a gift to the AMWA Foundation. The AMWA Foundation then pays the premium on a life insurance policy in the donor’s name, and keeps 25 percent as a current cash gift. At the end of five years, the policy is fully paid-up and the donor has the satisfaction of knowing that she has made a generous gift to the AMWA Foundation.

For more information, call Phyllis Tritsch at AMWA.

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**Members in the News**

**Sharon Kiely, MD**, Director of Medical Ambulatory Care at The Western Pennsylvania Hospital in Pittsburgh, has been appointed by President Clinton to be one of three 1994-95 White House Fellows. She will serve as a special assistant to senior White House officials and Cabinet-level officers. Dr. Kiely founded and directs a program that provides homebound elderly people in Pittsburgh with regular medical care at home. Dr. Kiely, who has cared for refugees in Thailand, teaches at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

**Betty Jeanne Oseid, MD**, received the American Medical Association’s Medal of Valor, the Association’s highest award for bravery, for her four-year crusade against animal rights activists. Dr. Oseid was awarded the honor with her husband, Michael E. Cary, MD. Dr. Oseid is a professor at Louisiana State University School of Medicine and a pediatrician.

**Rosalind G. Shorenstein, MD, PhD**, has been elected to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees of the California Society of Internal Medicine. Dr. Shorenstein is in private practice in Santa Cruz.

**MWIA News**

A final brochure including registration and abstract forms for the Medical Women International Association’s (MWIA) 23rd Congress is available from AMWA. MWIA's 23rd Congress will be held at The Hague, the Netherlands, May 7-12, 1995. A pre-conference AMWA tour will be held the preceding week.

Kathryn C. Bemmann, MD, AMWA President (left), talks with AMWA members and honored Vivian Pien, MD, (center) and Jo Ivy Brouard, MD, during the Interim Meeting reception.
AMWA Thanks Members

AMWA wishes to thank the following individuals who have recruited new members since the June 1994 newsletter was published for the 1993-1994 Leah J. Dickstein, MD, Recruitment Campaign:

LeClair Bissell, MD  Alice Kim
Daphne Blackburn, MD  Susie Kim
Audrey Cheung  Kristine Lohr, MD
Elmor T. Christiansen, MD  Donnica L. Moore, MD
Leah J. Dickstein, MD  Karen A. Nichols, MD
Elsa Goldstein, MD  Christina Nicolaides, MD
E. Deborah Gilman, MD  Elizabeth Skirm
Julie A. Hatterer, MD  Kathryn Sowell
Ann Heath, MD  Paula Terhaar, MD
Jean E. Holt, MD  Ann Ruth Turkel, MD

Wanted: Career Transition Stories

AMWA’s Mid-Career Professional Development Committee is developing a tool by which to share career transitions and stories of personal choices (positive and negative) that have affected our lives.

Send pertinent information including the how, why and who was involved in your transition and “evolution, “ to Jean Fourcroy, MD, Ph.D, 6310 Swords Way, Bethesda, MD, 20817; Phone or fax: 301/897-5563; AOL-SJLFBEHR. Photographs also are appreciated.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN

AMWA

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