Summer 2008

AMWA connections

American Medical Women's Association

The Vision and Voice of Women in Medicine since 1915

President's Message

Claudia S. Morrissey, MD, MPH

Greetings AMWA Members, We are pleased to be re-launching *Connections*, AMWA's quarterly newsletter. AMWA wants to ensure that our members are aware of the many important initiatives that are underway and invite you to become even more involved in shaping the new AMWA. Your assistance is critical as we embark on our "Countdown to a Century of Support, Service, and Success." In 2015, we will be celebrating one hundred years of making a difference for women-a difference for those of us who have chosen to serve as healers and a difference for those we treat. Together we have changed not only the face of medicine but also its heart and mind.

Before I walk you through the newly configured *Connections*, I'd like to share some highlights of AMWA's work last year. In fall 2007, AMWA undertook an ambitious initiative, "Conversations with the Candidates." We built a coalition of over twenty organizations and hosted three interactive phone conversations with presidential hopefuls-Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, and Dennis Kucinich-and their health policy advisors. Over 1,000 AMWA members and supporters participated, questioning the candidates directly on their visions for health care reform. This educational effort also increased AMWA's visibility as an advocate for women providers, patients, and progressive policies. Work is currently underway for "Conversations on the Hill," a day of advocacy on health care reform. Plan on spending a day with lawmakers in Washington, D.C., summer 2009.

Last month, we re-fielded the Universal Access Survey that was first sent to AMWA members in 2000. At that time, 91% of AMWA members favored "universal access to health care in the US" and 61% believed "the US should develop a single-payer, universal health plan." AMWA will be analyzing the results of this survey later in the spring and report results in the next issue of *Connections*. Survey findings will inform our advocacy efforts on guaranteed access over the next year.

AMWA student chapters have been busy getting the word out on the importance of preventing cervical cancer through HPV vaccination. Several student chapters have hosted Christine Baze as she shares her personal experience as a cervical cancer survivor through message and song.

In January, AMWA contracted with oldest Association Management Company (AMC) in the nation, Fernley & Fernley, to take over daily operations of AMWA. This management reorganization was accomplished to lower our operational expenses and thus allow more of AMWA's resources to be directed to educational and support activities. Ms. Lindsay Groff, MBA, now serves as AMWA's Executive Director. Please take a moment to read about AMWA's current operations in Lindsay's column.

In honor of Bone Health Month, Immediate Past President Diana Galindo writes in this issue about AMWA's efforts to increase women's understanding of their risk for osteoporosis. After reading about what AMWA is undertaking through this national educational campaign, be on the lookout for Diana's presence across the TV and airwaves over the next several months as she represents AMWA.

Next, take a minute to learn about what AMWA students are up to; as a soon to be "senior" physician, I get tired just reading about their exciting activities. And for anyone who thinks AMWA has run its course; witness the rapid growth in our student membership.

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President's Message

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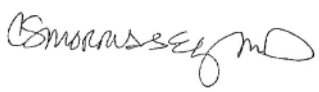
These young leaders are making their voices known not only within AMWA but also within the 125 academic medical centers across the US. They know why AMWA is needed: to grow the next generation of physician leaders and transform our dysfunctional health care system.

In every *Connections*, we will highlight an AMWA Physician or Student Branch. This issue, we are proud to present The Florida State University College of Medicine Student Branch.

And lastly, now is the time to be thinking of who you want to honor with one of AMWA's annual awards. A complete list of awards and descriptions is available on the AMWA website: www.amwa-doc.org. Also consider running for the board or becoming an officer. Please send your nominations and interest to Executive Director, Lindsay Groff, executivedirector@amwa-doc.org.

We want each and every one of you invested and involved in the wonderful work AMWA is doing; the more active you are, the more we can accomplish. I invite you to sign up for one of our Working Groups or join a local physician branch. You'll find a listing of these opportunities in the Committee Corner section. And as your president, I am at your service. Please do not hesitate to let me know how together we can make the new AMWA more effective as we "Countdown to a Century of Service, Support, and Success."

Yours,



Claudia

AMWA Board Nominations

AMWA is looking to recruit members of the Board of Directors, a Secretary and a President-Elect for the 2009-2010 term. Board expectations include: attending Board conference calls - 10 times per year -on the third Wednesday of the month at 8:00 pm ET, attending the annual and interim meetings, making a financial donation (no minimum), recruiting new members, and helping with obtaining contributions. The Secretary's responsibilities include: giving notice of all meetings, taking the minutes of the Board meetings (in the absence of paid staff), sending minutes to the Board members and seeing that the books, reports, statements and all other documents required by law are properly kept and filed. The President-Elect performs duties of President in her absence.

If you are interested in nominating an AMWA member for a Director or Officer position, please email a CV to AMWA Headquarters at associatedirector@amwa-doc.org by June 30th.

Get Involved! Working Group/Committee Members Needed

Interested in getting more involved with your AMWA membership? Join one of the 14 Committees and Working Groups, and donate your time and enthusiasm to grow AMWA as an association. Email your interest in a committee or questions to associatedirector@amwa-doc.org. Here is a listing of all Committees and Work Groups: American Women's Hospital Service, Awards and Nominations, Annual Meeting/Program, Communications, Fundraising, Global Outreach, Membership, Physician Branch Affairs, Policy and Advocacy, Resolutions/Position Papers, Senior Physicians, Student Affairs, Women's Health, and Career Development.

Executive Director's Report

About Fernley & Fernley

AMWA has selected Fernley & Fernley to manage the Association's activities as of January 1, 2008. Founded in 1886, Fernley & Fernley is one of the most distinguished association management companies in the nation. Having received accreditation by both the Association Management Company Institute (AMCI) and the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), exemplifies our commitment to quality and dedication to our industry. At Fernley & Fernley we recognize that each of our clients is unique, with their own special needs. We work hard to understand each client's specific agenda and align our services and staff to meet those goals and objectives. With the professionals at Fernley & Fernley, you can be confident that you have partnered with an association management company that will allow you to focus on your mission, while we manage the details.

About Lindsay Groff, Executive Director

Hello AMWA members and friends! I have recently been selected to serve as AMWA's Executive Director. As such, I am actively involved in all activities including: strategic planning, marketing, meeting planning and financial management. Under the association management model (AMC) I also serve as Executive Director for two other groups - one trade and one health care group. In addition, I manage a team of five.

Since January, the AMWA Headquarters Team has been hard at work on transition issues including: the transfer of the membership database, updating and improving the website, enhancing member benefits, creating streamlined policies and procedures and much more. While we still experience some the occasional growing pains, the transition has been relatively smooth. What we have learned in the process is that AMWA volunteer leaders are actively and passionately involved in the activities of the association. All of the leaders put in what seems to be endless hours of volunteer time to make this organization the best that it can possibly be. I respect and admire the commitment and dedication from these working women who lead very busy lives. As such, I will take this time to thank you for all of your hard work during these last few months.

And now, I would like to tell you a little about myself... My undergraduate degree is in Marketing and E-Commerce from Rutgers University and I recently received my MBA from Rowan University. I am an active volunteer with the regional nonprofit group, Greater Philadelphia Cares, working on several projects to assist local families in need. In addition to these activities, I consider myself and environmentalist and I practice this both personally and professionally. To that end, I head two Committees at Fernley, F&F GIVES and the Green Team. I also serve on the board of the Greater Philadelphia Commercial Recycling Council. If you are interested in speaking with me personally, please feel free to contact me at any time. I welcome your thoughts and feedback on all of AMWA's programs. If you are ever in the Philadelphia area, I encourage you to stop in our offices and we will provide you tour. We also have complimentary meeting space available if the need arises.

About Rebecca Mathis, Associate Director

Rebecca Mathis has been with Fernley & Fernley for six months and was specifically hired to work with AMWA. She assists Lindsay with the management of AMWA, and assumes various administrative tasks, membership services, marketing, meeting/conference planning and assistance with the strategic planning process. In addition, Rebecca works with Lindsay as the Associate Director for another healthcare group, The Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care (SSWLHC).

She has her BA in Women's Studies and Sociology, and has four years of background working with a variety of non-profits as a member relations coordinator at the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. She serves on the Board of Directors for Young Variety Club, the Children's Charity and is currently the Membership Committee Chair.

About Monica Mobley, Meeting Manager

Monica Mobley brings over 10 years of experience in the hospitality industry to Fernley & Fernley. She came to Fernley from ASTM International where she was a manager of meetings and special events. She also worked at the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, where she served as Hotel Program Director. In addition, Monica also worked for the Greater Philadelphia Hotel Association as Assistant to the Program Director and served as Sales and Event Manager at the Pennsylvania Convention Center Authority. Monica is currently a member of the Professional Convention Management Association. Monica has a BA in history from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA., and an MBA in Marketing from Drexel University.

AMWA 2008 Annual Meeting - A Great Success!

Eliza Lo Chin, MD, MPh
Past Co-Chair Annual Meeting Working Group

Thanks to all who attended the recent AMWA Annual Meeting held jointly with the Women's Healthcare Forum (WHF) in Anaheim, California. We were blessed with sunny weather and the chance to catch up with old AMWA friends - and make new connections. Consistent with the overarching theme, "Women and Aging," we had outstanding sessions on memory loss, cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, and end of life care. Dr. Gayatri Devi, Dr. Clarita Herrara, and Barbara Ryan, Esq. discussed the complex issues surrounding memory loss and dementia from the different perspectives of provider, patient, and care giver. Dr. Debra Judelson and Dr. Margarita Camacho brought us to the forefront of cardiovascular medicine, particularly the new techniques in diagnosis and treatment. End of Life Care panelists Dr. Joanne Lynn, Dr. Vincent Nguyen, and Kathryn Tucker, Esq. discussed palliative care and hospice, as well as the controversy surrounding aid-in-dying.

Like all other AMWA meetings, there were sessions on career/life balance and health care advocacy. Keynote speaker, Dr. Linda Hawes Clever, inspired us to rediscover our values and find meaning in our often over-scheduled lives. Dr. Rita Singhal, Terri Thorfinnson, Esq., and Dr. Johanna Olsen discussed healthcare disparities among underserved women, and presented an action plan for universal healthcare coverage. Dr. Devra Davis, renowned environmental health expert, gave an insightful lecture on the impact of toxic chemicals on our world. She described decades of a war against cancer which targeted the disease and pushed for new treatments, yet never addressed the things that cause it - tobacco, alcohol, exposures in the workplace, and other environmental hazards.

Guest speaker, Dr. Arlene Blum, told the fascinating story of her journey from biophysical chemist to internationally renowned mountain climber, culminating in the first all-women's climb that she led up Anapurna I, one of the world's most dangerous mountains. She also shared her more recent work to reduce potentially toxic fire retardant chemicals in furniture and bed clothing.The medical student track began with a well-attended mentoring reception on Friday evening, followed by two sessions on Saturday (Boards preparation and career/life balancing), student elections, and the student poster session. Congratulations go to Misty Richards, recipient of the Young Woman in Science Award and the new AMWA Student President-Elect.

The highlight of the meeting was the Annual AMWA awards banquet. We were inspired by Dr. Claudia Morrissey's visionary speech and a truly memorable performance by singer/songwriter, Holly Near. In conclusion, tribute was paid to the American Women's Hospital Service, our continual reminder that AMWA does make a difference in this world.

Events

AMWA Interim Meeting
AMWA will hold an interim Board of Directors meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the new location of the AMWA national headquarters. The meeting will take place September 26-27, 2008 in Philadelphia. Local AMWA members are welcome to attend. For more information please email associatediretor@amwa-doc.org.

2009 AMWA Annual Meeting
AMWA will team up with the Women's Health Congress and Liebert Publications, publishers of the Journal of Women's Health for the 2009 Women's Health Congress in Williamsburg, Virginia. The three-day conference will be held March 27-29, 2009. More information will be on the AMWA website as it becomes available.

AWHS Report

AWHS: An Icon for Giving

Anne L. Barlow, M.D., MPh
Co-Chair AWHS Committee

The Happy Couple

When the word "Katmandu" is mentioned there is always the thrill of the unknown and the exotic. Yet this is an area where the issuance of an edict against public defecation sparked a celebration. The area is desperately poor. Fortunately there is an unlikely savior. Hari Bandari is an entrepreneur and owner of a jewelry factory. He founded Clinic Nepal. This clinic was visited by one of the American Women's Hospitals Service (AWHS) and reported back on conditions there, particularly the lack of trained health personnel. So AWHS has, for several years now, sent money to Nepal to provide salary for a nurse-midwife who has responsibility for eight villages. She does health education; she sees patients and does the antenatal and delivery for clinic clients. This is no mean feat. Mr. Bandari was recently married and sent us these charming pictures, reprinted here. We were out of touch during the wedding which takes about two weeks there. He communicates by e-mail. High tech is a presence in a very low-tech country. Hari visits the US in the summer each year for fund raising efforts. He visits small groups and talks about the clinic and then cooks a Nepalese dinner. If any of our readers can get together a small group of prospective donors, please let the office know and we can see if it would fit with his travel plans.

No more defecation in public celebration

In Nepal there is a new married couple. At the other side of the world in Haiti there is a 50th Anniversary. William Hodges, M.D. went to Haiti in 1958 and took over the running of the Hopital Bon Samaritain. Readers of the Smithsonian may remember a recent article about the search for the settlement La Navidad. The hospital had no medicines, lab, water or electricity when he took it over. Limbe, the tiny village of 5,000 is now a town of 35,000 and has three wells, two water towers and five fountains. For many years AWHS has paid the salary for a nurse's aide and also gave an emergency grant to provide a new water pump for the burgeoning water supply system. This is a story of success over the years and AWHS is proud of it.

There is another anniversary to think about. AWHS was founded in 1917, originally as a vision to bring women doctors into the national war effort. AWH, as it was then styled, ran two field hospitals in France. Then, working with the Red Cross, they were responsible for the medical care of many displaced persons after the war. Now, 90 years later, AWHS is still serving the medically helpless in Nepal, Haiti, India, Uganda, Washington, D.C, and Appalachia. We also sent relief funds in response to the recent devastation in Burma.

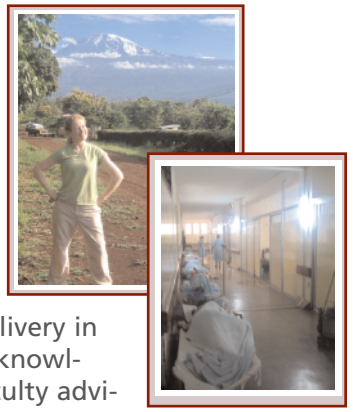
Your donations make our vital work possible as we look toward reaching our 100th anniversary. To donate, please make checks out to AWHS and send them to the AMWA Office. For more information about the early days of AWHS, read "Certain Samaritans" by Esther Pohl Lovejoy (founder of AWHS)

AWHS Overseas Grant Recipient Testimonial

International Health Care and Medical Spanish in Guatemala: An Experience Summary

Sarah Roberts, MS-4
Michigan State University College of Human Medicine -UP Campus

Just as leaders are made and not born, physicians and their beliefs are further shaped by their diverse life experiences. I have been truly honored to have an opportunity to volunteer study and live for six weeks in Guatemala as an elective rotation in medical school. As I knew it would, this experience has become a hallmark of my medical education at Michigan State and has taught me far more than I ever anticipated. I resolve to carry my memories of the people in Guatemala with me as I prepare to enter the next stage of my life, a residency and career in family medicine.



This experience was a combination of two different opportunities- the first week with an American volunteer medical group and the remaining weeks immersed in the Guatemalan culture with Spanish-only language instruction combined with a unique exploration into health care delivery in this country. I would like to acknowledge Dr. Rae Schnuth as my faculty advisor for this experience and would like to thank the American Women's Hospitals Service, the MSU Office of Study Abroad, the Black Smith Memorial Primary Health Care Endowment Scholarship and the Whittier Scholarship Fund for their generous financial support of my international elective experience.

AMWA Women's Health Working Group Report

Janice Werbinski, MD, FACOG, Chair

The AMWA Women's Health Working Group has been meeting since our inaugural meeting in Anaheim on March 7. If you have been an AMWA member as long as I have, you will be quite familiar with AMWA's mission and goals. Everyone probably knows that our primary mission is to promote the interests of women physicians, but all may not be as cognizant of AMWA's longstanding dedication to Women's Health. Past AMWA projects in this area have been in continuing medical education and in dedicated advocacy for Women's Health. In fact AMWA created a curriculum in Reproductive Health, which is still used by the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals. However, for 2008, President Dr. Claudia Morrissey has a more specific vision for AMWA's commitment to Women's Health.

Despite several accomplishments in national policy since the 1990's Women's Health Movement (i.e., National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health, OWH at NIH, OWH at DHHS, the Women's Health Equity Act of 1990), and all the gender-specific research showing unique health characteristics of women, recent research has shown that many physicians still are not incorporating gender-specific knowledge into clinical practice. A recent study by Lori Mosca showed that although 60% of physicians are aware of the new NCEP lipid guidelines in women, a mere 25% of them are incorporating them into their clinical practice. Additionally, even though the percentage of research which includes women has increased to 80% since the establishment of OWH at NIH, a 2000 study in the Journal of Women's Health showed that only 25% of those studies were analyzed by gender, and a scant few clinical trials were analyzed by gender. Dr. Marianne Legato has now edited a two volume text, Principles of Gender Specific Medicine, but many physicians who care for women are not even aware it exists.

Not only that, but the Women's Health Equity Act of 1991 had a sunset clause, and unless a new bill is passed, funding of the national offices of women's health is in jeopardy. The Women's Health Office Act was introduced in Congress in 2004 to continue these offices, but has yet to be passed. Additionally, it was announced in 2007 that funding for the Centers of Excellence will be phased out this year.

So where does that leave us? Many individual centers continue to produce excellent conferences and venues of continuing medical education with a gender-specific lens. One of these is the program at Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health under the direction of Wendy Klein. For the 2008 conference, VCU partnered with the Congress of Women's Health and AMWA will be partnering with both groups for the Annual Meeting in spring 2009. Another area advancing gender-specific education is the Journal of Women's Health, which last month became the official journal of AMWA. Residencies and Fellowships established in the 1990s continue, and the remaining Centers of Excellence which have been successful at fundraising will continue.

Dr. Morrissey this year appointed me as chair of the Women's Health Working Group, and at our inaugural meeting, 11 enthusiastic women doctors met and participated in a brainstorming exercise to decide which way AMWA should move in this arena. Most participants were in favor of creating a gender-specific curriculum which AMWA can endorse, and then infuse that curriculum into all aspects of medical education. So we are committed to that project in 2008.

Our first task will be to collect existing curricula, review them, and then condense, edit, and create new innovative curricula, much like the Reproductive Health curriculum we created in the 90's. The document must be fluid, living, and in a format that is easy to update as new information is created. We are looking for creative, like-minded people to partner with in this substantial endeavor. Any members who have access to or information about curricula in sex- and gender-specific medicine are invited to email me at drwerb@aol.com and I will be happy to add you to our committee, or just be the clearinghouse for this information.

We will keep the membership informed and aware of our progress as this project proceeds.

Did you know?

AMWA members are entitled to Doctor's Digest for free!

Doctor's Digest: Free E-Subscription, Podcasts and Vodcasts on Demand for AMWA Members Doctor's Digest provides information and expert advice written by thought leaders and experts on topics that really matter to us, such as Personal and Professional Growth, Consumer-Driven Healthcare and Small Practice Survival. AMWA members and subscribers receive a free e-subscription to Doctor's Digest, access to all back issues and practice management podcasts and vodcasts on demand 24/7. Getting your free 2008/2009 e-subscription and accessing the back issues is easy: just go to the Doctor's Digest page on AMWA's website and click on the link provided. Follow the links on www.doctorsdigest.net for access to the podcast and vodcast series.

Featured Student Branch: The Florida State University College of Medicine

The Florida State University College of Medicine AMWA chapter was recently honored with two prestigious awards. Being named "Organization of the Year" at both the College of Medicine level and at the University level (from over 450 organizations) has been great recognition for the members of the FSU College of Medicine chapter. The distinction was an amazing way to end a year that had seen great success - from their Passionately Pink Campaign for Komen to extensive outreach with the local domestic violence shelter Refuge House. Their event - Cervical Cancer: A Musical & Narrative Performance starring Ms. Christine Baze was also a large part of their success -drawing over 100 visitors to learn about how they can prevent cervical cancer in themselves and loved ones. They hope the momentum from this year will continue into the next and that their AMWA chapter will remain a visible presence both locally and nationally!

Mission in Action
Osteoporosis - A Short History of AMWA's

Wendy E. McCurdy, MD, Secretary
Diana J. Galindo, MD, Immediate Past President

Osteoporosis as defined by the World Health Organization is an excessive decrease in bone mass. Although it can be seen in men and younger women it is primarily as disease of post-menopausal women. It is predicted that women over age fifty have a 50% chance of osteoporotic fracture in the remainder of their life. These are fractures affecting the wrist, spine and hip. Of the hip fractures alone 20% of patients die within the first year and only 25% return to their pre-fracture function. This is a major public health concern with costs involved in the U.S. approaching 20 billion dollars per year.

The public is less well informed of the devastating effects of osteoporosis in comparison to other diseases. It is with this in mind that Past President Dr. Galindo and team took the lead in developing a user-friendly web education tool (2008) for the public to both assess osteoporosis risk and educate women about osteoporosis - www.strongothebone.com. Knowledge is power and those people most knowledgeable about osteoporosis are most likely to incorporate bone-healthy behavior into their everyday lives.

The gold standard or accepted measuring tool of bone density is by DXA (dual energy X-ray absorptiometry). In 2007 bills passed to sequentially decrease the Medicare funding for physician owned DXA. In physician follow up surveys it was predicted that for most physicians it would be cost prohibitive to continue DXA screening (and follow up testing for patients on treatment) past 2008. Patients would have to go elsewhere - hospital or Radiology Imaging Centers if the service is offered - for these studies. It was thought to that the impact would be greatest in rural America where greater distances may have to be travelled to access testing and follow-up. In 2008 AMWA signed onto the Senate version of HR4206, The Medicare Fracture Prevention and Osteoporosis Testing Act of 2007, sponsored by Senators Salazar and Snowe. This bill seeks to reverse the Medicare funding cuts for physician owned DXA and ensure continued access to all those in need.

In 2004 AMWA published a four-page update on osteoporosis with support from an unrestricted educational grant "Prevention and Treating Osteoporosis in Women."

In 1996 AMWA, under the lead of Dr. Kim Templeton, developed and co-sponsored case based CME - certified newsletters. Three case-based studies in osteoporosis were presented that illustrated the appropriate application of diagnostic, screening, treatment and fracture prevention strategies for the practicing clinician.

The first position statement by AMWA on Osteoporosis was passed in 1991 and revised under authorship of Dr. Templeton in 2006.(go the AMWA -advocacy-position statements) Although our emphasis on education, assessment and treatment of osteoporosis centers on women over the age of 50 osteoporosis has been described as a pediatric/adolescent disease expressed in the geriatric population. As in the recent AMWA position statement we are reminded that the acquisition of peak bone mass occurs during childhood and adolescence through appropriate diet and exercise is critical to prevention in later years.

The work that has been done on osteoporosis alone demonstrates AMWA's mission in action to improve women's health by providing leadership, advocacy, education, expertise and use of strategic alliances.

AMWA Launches Campaign to Help Women "Stay Strong to the Bone"

STRONG TO THE BONE

How much do women really know about osteoporosis? Are women diagnosed with the disease taking steps to protect their bones? Do they understand the consequences of an osteoporotic fracture? These questions were addressed in a nationwide survey of more than 1,000 women with postmenopausal osteoporosis, conducted by Harris Interactive and released by AMWA on May 8, in recognition of National Osteoporosis Awareness and Prevention Month.

The survey found that while 90 percent of women responded that they expect to remain active as they age, one in three had not currently been prescribed medication to treat her osteoporosis. More than half also reported that they are not knowledgeable about the disease - especially surprising since these are women who have already been diagnosed with the condition. In addition, 57 percent of surveyed women reported they do not consistently do weight-bearing exercise, such as walking or dancing, which helps to keep bones strong.

The lack of knowledge and failure to take action is a disturbing trend since the National Osteoporosis Foundation estimates that one in two women older than 50 is predicted to break a bone due to osteoporosis in her remaining lifetime.

"As a geriatrician, I know that one bad break can have personal, social and economic consequences," said Diana Galindo, MD, immediate past president of AMWA. "More than 80 percent of the surveyed women fear loss of independence. It is very important that we get out the word to women that osteoporosis is treatable."

To help women become more knowledgeable about osteoporosis and how to keep bones strong, AMWA has joined forces with health and fitness expert, Pam Peeke, MD, to launch Strong to the Bone, a nationwide awareness campaign. On May 8 and 9, Dr. Galindo and Dr. Peeke went live with a 30-city television and radio media tour. Additional media interviews are expected to continue throughout the year.

The centerpiece of the campaign is a website, StrongtotheBone.com, where women can take a five-minute assessment developed by AMWA to help evaluate their osteoporosis risk, and use the knowledge to speak to their healthcare professional about a personal treatment plan. The site also contains helpful tips and calcium-rich recipes to help women keep their bones strong.

"The survey showed that women who are knowledgeable about osteoporosis are more likely to take good care of their health than those who are not. The online osteoporosis assessment is a valuable step to bridging that knowledge gap and helping women come to terms with the fact that proper bone health needs to be a priority," said Dr. Peeke.

Strong to the Bone is targeted to the more than eight million women in the US who are living with osteoporosis. For more information on the campaign, visit: www.strongtothebone.com.

Journal of Women's Health-Now Free to AMWA Members!

AMWA has named the Journal of Woman's Health as its official publication. This important resource is published ten times per a year, and as a member of AMWA, you will receive FREE online access to the Journal for 2008. This online subscription allows access to all the back issues of JWH publishes since 1999! A deeply discounted 2008 print subscription option of $85 US and $115 outside US is also available to members. These subscription options to Journal of Women's Health will further enhance your benefits as a member of AMWA.

Journal of Women's Health is an essential reference providing a multidisciplinary approach, and complete coverage of all the latest advancements in the full purview of women's healthcare issues. The Journal has been cited by: The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, US News and World Report, and MSNBC.com.

In Memory of Christine Haycock

Christine Haycock: A Reprise
Anne Barlow Ramsey, MD

My good friend and colleague, Christine Haycock, died earlier this year. We had worked together with the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA) over the years as we both climbed the ladder of offices in the Association. Christine was President immediately preceding me, from 1981-1982. Christine was a good President, fair and organized, although times were difficult. The first group of the expanded women students were just appearing on the scene and AMWA was ill-equipped to deal with them at that time. Christine helped clarify their role and laid the foundation for integration of students into the group.

Christine came to medicine by way of nursing. Born in Mount Vernon and raised in Richmond, Virginia before moving to Nutley, New Jersey, she went straight from Nutley High School to the Presbyterian School of Nursing in New York City. She began serving in the army in WW11 in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps. She earned a B.S. degree in Chicago and held a M.S. in political science from Rutgers.

Christine earned her medical degree from the State University of New York. She became the first woman intern at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. She also was the first woman to transfer directly from the U.S. Army Nurse Corps to the U.S. Army Medical Corps. After serving in the U.S. and Japan she reverted to active reserve status, eventually retiring in 1984 with the rank of colonel. She was very proud of her military career and rightly so.

After completing her residency requirements in surgery, Christine opened a private practice in general surgery. Board certified in surgery, she was also a Fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine. She became an expert in sports medicine and published widely with both papers and books on the subject, with particular emphasis on sports for women. She joined the faculty of the Medical School in New Jersey in 1968, where, among other accomplishments, she established the Trauma Center at the University Hospital in Newark. She retired in 1992 as Professor of Surgery.

Christine had many interests other than medicine, including amateur radio and photography. However, her overweening passion was her dogs. She won at many shows with her Manchester terriers, miniature schnauzers and Italian greyhounds. At the age of 83 she was traveling widely to dog shows driving a custom RV fitted out for the dogs.

She did not desert AMWA after her presidency. She maintained a great interest in the American Women's Hospitals Committee. She made many useful comments and donated frequently.

Multi-talented, productive, an interesting person and a skillful surgeon, Christine will be truly missed by friends and colleagues.

Welcome to the following New Members

that have joined from January 1 - May 1, 2008

Shastine Abate, MD
Marissa Anderson
Carol Ann Antonelli-Greco
Nidhi Avashia
Allison M. Babelay, MD
Helaine Bader, MPH
Sandra Bailey, OST, ME
Allison S. Baker
Jenny Banh
Anita L. Barnett
Bridget S. Battles
Cassandra Batzlaff
Ruby Bayan, M.D.
Patricia Bellas, MD
Anne Berry
Letitio Bible
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