

IN THIS ISSUE

Life Beyond Medicine 2
 Annual Luncheon Info 3-5
 Events in New Orleans
 Pioneer Award Winner 6
 Rose Hirschler Award Winner 7
 Derm Section of NMA 8
 Women in Medicine 11
 Women in Washington
 Rep Nancy Johnson 13
 Derm Nurses Association 14
 Annual Luncheon
 Registration Form 16

President's Message

What an exciting year this has been for the Women's Dermatologic Society. We have seen expansion of existing programs such as our mentorship program and newsletter. We have also developed new opportunities for personal involvement, including our Practice Enhancement Reception, Career Enhancement Awards, International Pioneer Award and networking receptions. The concept of our new WDS Center allows for a comfortable environment for committee meetings and social interaction. This year we will launch our new "Fireside Chats" program, providing members an opportunity to meet and chat with some of our accomplished colleagues. During the February meeting, we have planned the first dinner event for all board members, committee chairs and their spouses. Dr. Nia Terezakis has graciously volunteered to host this event in her home. This will provide an opportunity for WDS leaders to become better acquainted and thereby improve our effectiveness.

The Executive Committee's interaction through out the year has been facilitated by participation in conference calls. It continues to amaze me that within minutes one can easily recognize which of the seven to eight participants is speaking. Girls will be "girls," and some of these calls can get quite lengthy, albeit productive and worthwhile! Thank you tireless executive committee members!

On a personal note, I would like to stress to

each of you the importance of taking time to grow as a person and family. Adventure travel has provided an excellent opportunity for growth within our family. In December we traveled to South America to explore the lush Ecuadorian Rain Forest and the Galapagos Islands. Swimming in a black water jungle lake shared with piranhas, electric eels and caiman (alligators) was unforgettable (of course our guide assured us that these nocturnal species would be harmless during the day!). Days later we were swimming nose to nose with playful sea lions in the Galapagos Islands archipelago. We returned from this adventurous journey more aware of the world around us.



Susan H. Weinkle, MD

Looking "forward" is essential for productive growth within any organization. The number of female dermatologists continues to increase: the day may come when we represent a majority of Academy members! However, our need for support, mentoring and camaraderie will never change. We will hopefully witness the WDS continue to grow in membership and opportunities. Within the next year we expect to exceed 1000 members! While I whole-heartedly support

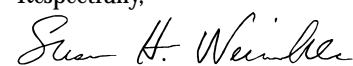
this worth-while national venue, I cannot overemphasize the value of grass roots, local interactions. **Get involved!**

In closing, I would like to thank our very dedicated executive committee (Dr. Stephanie Pincus, Immediate Past President; Dr. Lenore Kakita, Vice President; Dr. Janet Hickman, Secretary; Dr. Barbara Mathes, Treasurer; Dr. Teri Kahn, Second-year Board Representative; and Dr. Jean Bolognia, First-year Board Representative) for its inspired leadership and direction. I also wish to acknowledge Dr. Boni Elewski for her continued support and guidance. Involvement in the WDS has opened doors and allowed me the opportunity to cultivate many valuable new friendships.

My grandmother always preached to me "you get what you give." In WDS I believe you get 10-fold over! Please remember this important "recipe" for life:

- A day is wasted unless you've laughed.
- A day is wasted unless you've learned something new.
- A day is wasted unless you've found something or someone new to love.
- A day is wasted unless you've done something to make the world a better place.

Respectfully,



Susan H. Weinkle, MD
President ☺

"Life is precious, so let's not waste a day!"