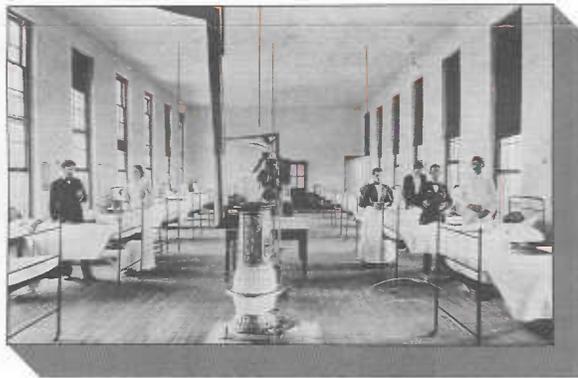


# The Bulletin

Medical Alumni Association  School & Hospital



## 100 Years of Service



**I**n 1987 the Auxiliary of University of Maryland Hospital celebrates its centennial. In a century of change, the Auxiliary has kept pace with the times without ever losing sight of its essential mission of service to the Hospital and the community.

The Auxiliary began in the era of Susan B. Anthony and the struggle for women's rights. The women of Baltimore started less ambitiously. Some local physicians had suggested that women could help in the "domestic administration" of the Hospital, perhaps starting at the Lying-In Hospital across the street from the general hospital building. Their duties were menial at first: helping care for the linens, keeping up the hospital supplies.

The casual helpers rapidly became indispensable. In May of 1889, at a meeting of the members of what was then called the Faculty of Physic, Professor Julian J. Chisolm suggested that the volunteers at Lying-In become an organized Board of Lady Managers to serve the entire hospital. Coincidentally within a few

months, the Faculty severed its contract with the Sisters of Charity who had been running the University Hospital. The challenge came—could a board of volunteers take their place?

Early in 1890, the Women's Auxiliary Board of Lady Managers was formally established. It was the first hospital auxiliary in Maryland and, so far as can be determined, the first in the nation. By May of 1891 the women of Baltimore struck out on their own. They requested from the Faculty of Physic a definitive statement of the powers and privileges of the new Board. Was it an arm of the Hospital? Did it have specific responsibilities?

After some months the Faculty replied, "In no way is the Woman's Board responsible for the expenses of the Hospital, but are to assist in the charity work for the free patients." This simple answer became, for the new Board, a call to serve. Their job was to help, not an institution, but the patients themselves.

*continued on page 4*

# UMMS Focus: New Breast Cancer Therapy

An international group of researchers has developed a drug that inhibits the production of estrogen, a hormone known to stimulate the growth of breast cancer in some women.

Dr. Angela Brodie, a professor of pharmacology and experimental therapeutics at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, says the substance, known as 4-OHA, may help treat "estrogen sensitive" tumors by preventing the conversion of the hormone androgen to estrogen.

Approximately 60 to 70 percent of breast cancers are estrogen sensitive, Dr. Brodie says.

The results of research with animals and humans was presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

Studies with rats have shown 4-OHA to be effective in treating breast cancer. In a collaborative study performed in London with Dr. R. C. Coombes at St. George's Hospital, 30 percent of the patients re-

sponded to the first dose of the drug tested, some of whom had relapsed from or not responded to other treatments. In addition, the compound had very few side effects. More clinical trials are planned for the near future.

The synthetic compound was developed to inhibit the enzyme that converts androgen to estrogen. "What we tried to do was develop a rational and specific approach to treatment," Dr. Brodie says. Not only does the compound compete

with androgen for the enzyme—known as aromatase—but the drug permanently disables the enzyme. The result is a lowering of the amount of estrogen circulating in the blood.

4-OHA may also be helpful in treating estrogen-related conditions such as endometriosis, precocious puberty and possibly prostate cancer, "although the role of estrogen isn't as clearly defined as in breast cancers," she says.

## 100 Years of Service

*continued from page 1*

The need was desperate. The "free patients" were the poor. There was no Medicare or Medicaid. A handful of institutions like University Hospital were the only source of care for the poor of the city. Physicians donated their time. But there was much to be done and money was scarce.

The Board quickly moved from changing linens to holding benefits. By the fall of 1891, they sponsored their first concert to raise money for the repair of fire damage to the Medical School. From this it was an easy step to card parties and luncheons and the occasional dinner dance. Soon the membership roster read like a map of Baltimore or a page of the Social Register: Tysons and Linthicums, Hutzlers and Shrivvers.

Still, the daily work of the Board was by no means frivolous. By 1892, the Faculty had acknowledged that, while medical and surgical direction were naturally in the hands of the physicians, the Auxiliary Board had "control of the domestic management of the Hospital." Some of their activities resembled the volunteer work of today, visiting the wards and holding Christmas parties for patients. But the Board was also expected to furnish blankets, linens, china, nightgowns and sometimes even the beds for "free patients." And, in the absence of the hospital social services departments of today, it was the Board's responsibility to follow up on the needy after their discharge.

Their concerns sometimes led them well beyond the Hospital. Patients couldn't sleep over the noise of traffic, and the Board harangued the City Council until the cobblestones were replaced with good, quiet Belgian wooden blocks.

The volunteers were an essential part of the operation of the hospital. During World War I, for example, with many of the doctors and nurses at the front just as the nation was



Front Row: Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Herold, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Gray.  
Back Row: Mrs. Fiset, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Farmer, Mrs. Robinson

struck with the great influenza epidemic of 1918, it was the Woman's Board that filled the gap. They lobbied relentlessly from the turn of the century to the 1920's for a new, modern hospital. Their endless trips to the General Assembly and the Governor's office eventually produced the University Hospital of today.

The Depression came as a special blow to the Board. Even as the need for their work was greatest, all their funds were lost in one of the bank failures of 1932. By the following year, however, they had started anew and soon were celebrating the move to the new Hospital they had helped create.

Much has changed since the Auxiliary's early years. Many of the responsibilities that once fell on the Lady Managers have since been assumed by professionals. In turn, women who might once have found an outlet for their talents and energies in volunteer service have their own careers. Still, the work of the Auxiliary goes on: a highly successful Gift Shop, an annual bargain bazaar, fashion shows and art sales. By the 1970's men had joined the work of the Board and soon, the "Woman's Board" became simply the "Auxiliary."

With all the changes, the basic mission of the Auxiliary has gone

unaltered. The needs met by the Auxiliary are unchanged from those the Lady Managers faced a century ago. Just this year, for example, the Auxiliary developed overnight accommodations for the relatives of children in pediatric intensive care. Their predecessors did the same thing in 1909. And, so long as there are patients and their families in need of help, the Auxiliary will be there, as it has been for one hundred years.

### Auxiliary Officers May 1986-87

- President  
Mrs. Granger G. Sutton
- First Vice President  
Mrs. John A. Herold
- Second Vice President  
Mrs. Ralph B. Fraser
- Recording Secretary  
Mrs. William C. Gray
- Corresponding Secy.  
Mrs. Kenneth P. Johnson
- Treasurer  
Mrs. Paul Fiset
- Assistant Treasurer  
Mrs. Yu Chen Lee
- Governors to 1987  
Mrs. T. Albert Farmer  
Mrs. Harry M. Robinson
- Governors to 1988  
Mrs. Frank K. Cater  
Mrs. George H. Lentz

### Chairman Elected



Frank M. Calia, M.D.

The BULLETIN is, indeed, honored to have as its new Chairman, Frank M. Calia, M.D. He has held the positions of Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Loch Raven V.A. Hospitals since 1976. During 1981-84 he was acting chairman of medicine at the University of Maryland Hospital Systems. Since then he has continued to be Vice Chairman and Director of Education for the Department of Medicine.

Currently, he is serving a four-year term as the Governor of the American College of Physicians. To show the popularity of our new Head of the Editorial Board, Dr. Calia has received the Teacher of the Year Award each year since 1979 (elected by Junior and Senior students). He won the Golden Apple Award in 1985.



## HONOR ROLL

1985-86

Our most sincere apologies to the following alumni whose names were misspelled or omitted in the 1985-86 Honor's List:

- Mrs. William Corzine
- Jay Prenskey '78
- Elton Resnick '37
- F. Mason Sones Memorial
- Herman Williams '40
- Stuart Winakur '68
- John L. Winnacker '61
- David Zisow '74
- (Jay Whitman Memorial)