

THE CHRONICLE MONTHLY

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN DENTISTS

Member highlight:

Our highlighted AAWD member this month is **Dr. Marilyn Woolfolk**. Her career spanned 42 plus years. I was in awe when I spoke with her on the phone awhile back. Her career began in research, then into dental profession and finally in academia where she excelled at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry. Her many achievements include enhancing community outreach by Michigan students, advocating for increased diversity, equity and inclusion not just at her own campus but in the entire dental profession.

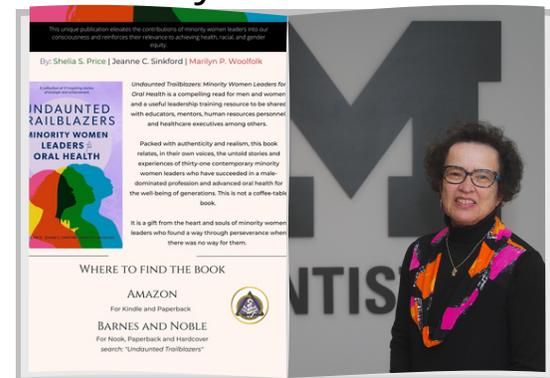
She accentuated her teaching to emphasize the importance of public health and reducing oral health disparities in underserved populations. Later on she collaborated with other women, Dr. Shelia Price and Dr. Jeanne Sinkford to collect stories from minority women who had made contributions advancing oral health over their lifetimes. Their book is called, "Undaunted Trailblazers"- Minority Women Leaders for Oral Health. Give it a read, you will feel a sense of pride that their courage and fortitude still inspires many. - Written by Dr. Maria Maranga

Advancing, connecting and enriching the lives of women dentists:

Recently I was invited to speak at Indiana University School of Dentistry regarding my contributions as one of the co-authors of *Undaunted Trailblazers: Minority Women Leaders for Oral Health* by Shelia S. Price, Jeanne C. Sinkford, and Marilyn P. Woolfolk and to give my insights as a dental educator on opening doors for leaders of tomorrow. Dean Murdoch-Kinch along with the American Association of Women Dentists local student chapter and the Student National Dental Association chapter were the hosts for the session. Engaging with the students, faculty and staff reminded me of the crucial role that AAWD has played and continues to play in the history of the profession of dentistry. By nurturing students as they develop in their infancy at our dental schools, by teaming with others to sponsor relevant programs and events that deepen connections to the profession, and by serving women professionals throughout their careers in various ways, the organization is uniquely poised to affect generations of women dentists and the health of the public!

I was initially introduced to AAWD when I was a junior faculty member at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry, joining the organization in 1983 some five years after graduation. At that time my classmate, Dr. Jackie Cresswell, was in line to be AAWD president and likely was the convincing force and motivation for me to become a member. I joined also as a show of solidarity for the women students who were thirsting for a like-minded community to encourage their ambitions and career development. The mission of AAWD resonated as a natural extension of that network of support that my classmates and I developed as women dental students in the Class of 1978 when we were only 18.5 percent of the class. As the 50th anniversary of the passing of Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972 approaches, it is fitting to rewind one's thoughts to a time when there were few women dentists in the healthcare domain and then fast forward to appreciate the palpable progress in their representation now. The impact of the legislation, while most often referenced to show the advance of athletic opportunities for women, was especially relevant to reshaping the face of professions such as dentistry that had been male-dominated for so long. The 2020 ADA Survey reported that 35 percent of US dentists were women and that proportion will assuredly grow given the rates of enrollment of women in our dental schools across the country today.

Dr. Marilyn P. Woolfolk



CLICK HERE



What a welcome change.1. What does it mean to be a member of AAWD to you?

I am grateful that there is an organization like AAWD and that it continues to thrive and open the door for others! My former role as Assistant Dean for Student Services led me to interact with hundreds of students and watch them emerge from their cocoons, test their wings, and fly with confidence. I am inspired by the resource and network of support that AAWD provides to so many, by the opportunity for leadership that it provides for aspiring women dentists, and for the collaborative opportunity for women to unite and further improve access and oral health for our nation and world.

2. What were some of the hurdles you encountered during your career as a female dentist?

Women in any profession have unique challenges based on societal expectations and the attempts to put limits on achievement based on gender. While it is important to acknowledge the existence of those hurdles, it should not discourage or detract from the conviction to pursue one's own ambitious goals. Establishing credibility as a knowledgeable and skilled clinician and teacher was one of the biggest hurdles during my career. When you are a beginning professional in any field, receiving validation for your contributions, expertise, and competence is important. Women in authority and in decision-making roles are more likely to be challenged and their actions questioned than their male counterparts so it can be an uphill battle to gain recognition for one's true talent. However, remaining steadfast, I was able to confront such challenges with diligent preparation, unwavering courage and by building a network of advocates which included female and male mentors that gave me wise counsel and even a shoulder to cry on when necessary!

3. What advice can you give to fellow female dentists in AAWD?

I view AAWD as a place to discover your own voice and add it to the collective voices of others to advocate for women dentists, women's health, and improved oral health for the public. It is true that there are lots of demands on one's time in the home, in the workplace and in the community. The best way not to be overwhelmed is to establish strict boundaries for the utilization of your mental effort and energy. Look for ways to maximize your efficiency and cultivate allies to help with the "heavy lifting". Some assignments may be fulfilled for dual purposes. Prioritize tasks according to level of importance. Don't be afraid to say "no" and always guard against getting involved in things that don't allow you to make progress toward your own goals. Finally, don't let others pigeon hole you or set ceilings for you— you are the CEO of your own enterprise. The sky is the limit!! - written by Dr. Marilyn P. Woolfork

FOODIES ONLY



Hey Lady Dentist! Looking for some new inspiration for dinner tonight? Check out this recipe submitted by AAWD Student Representative Arassa Joseph:

Potato au Gratin (Gratin de pomme de Terre)

Ingredients:

- 5 medium potatoes
- 1/2 red pepper chopped
- 2 tablespoons of flour
- 1 yellow onion chopped
- 1/2 cup of heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup of cheddar cheese
- 1/2 green pepper chopped
- 1 can of evaporated milk
- 1 cup of mozzarella cheese

Instructions

1. Boil the potatoes for 10-15 mins to soften (don't fully cook)
2. Peel potatoes and slice in circles and set aside
3. Prepare your Béchamel sauce
 - a. Sauté vegetables (chopped onions and peppers) in butter for 5 mins
 - b. Add the heavy whipping cream and evaporated milk
 - c. Add flour and whisk mixture until it thickens
 - d. Once thickened add half of each cheese
 - e. Season with salt and pepper to taste
4. Butter your baking pan and add one layer of potatoes
5. Spread Béchamel sauce on first layer of potatoes
6. Continue to layer potatoes and Béchamel until ingredients are used
7. Top with the remaining cheese mixture.
8. Bake for 30 mins at 400 F
9. Remove from oven and allow cooling for 10 minutes before serving

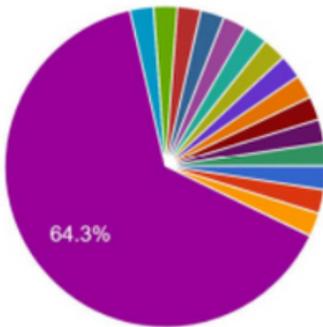


Congratulations to our 2022 graduates!



Eleanor Bushee recipient **Dr. Katherine Takacs** and fellow University of New England College of Dental Medicine '22 graduates Dr. Meghan Mcalary, Dr. Devon Austin, Dr. Lyric Jordan, and Dr. Kaela Swed

Where are our new grad members headed?



- Residency (List which one in "Other")
- Military
- Public Health
- Education
- Private Practice as an associate
- Private Practice as a partner
- Private Practice as an owner
- Prosthodontics @ San Francisco Vete...

▲ 1/3 ▼



highlights

MUST READ BOOKS BY FEMALE AUTHORS

- ✔ The Terrible by Yrsa Daley-Ward (2018)
- ✔ The Amateur Marriage by Anne Tyler (2004)
- ✔ The Secret History by Donna Tartt (1992)
- ✔ Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë (1847)

AAWD

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Featuring
AAWD President
Dr. Lauren Aguilar
#BreaktheBias

AAWD

AAWD presents
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spotlight

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