In the Beginning…
The Women’s Auxiliary to the American Medical Association
The 1920’s

June 12, 2022 marks the Centennial Celebration of the AMA Alliance. Our roots are firmly established in the soil of Texas. In fact, county auxiliaries and then the Texas State Auxiliary was first formed between 1917 and 1918. These ventures proved so successful that four years later, in 1922, as Mrs. Samuel Clark Red of Houston was completing her term as state president, she conceived the idea of taking the auxiliary to the national level. And so, a resolution for a national auxiliary was presented to, and approved by, the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association that met that year in St. Louis, Missouri.

- 1922: The AMA House of Delegates approves the organization of a woman's auxiliary; 24 women from 11 states attend the organizational meeting, at which Mrs. Samuel Clark Red, Texas, becomes first president.
- 1923: 60 women from 17 states attend annual meeting; dues set at $5 per state.
- 1924: $60 in treasury; committees are constitution, nominations, policies, education, finance, legislation, and entertainment.
- 1925: At AMA's request, Hygeia (AMA's scientific medical magazine for the public) promotion becomes a main focus; 25¢ dues adopted; national chairman of organization appointed, with four regional vice presidents as her committee; publicity committee appointed.
- 1926: Membership reaches 4,000 in 19 organized states; AMA warns against involvement in legislation; legislation committee becomes public relations.
- 1927: First Bulletin printed; membership is 6,000; first AMA Liaison Committee appointed; Mrs. John O. McReynolds, Texas, becomes first auxiliary president to speak to AMA House of Delegates.
- 1928: Mrs. McReynolds receives first past president's pin; Bulletin is discontinued due to finances; auxiliary programs now included in AMA Bulletin.
- 1929: 13,000 members in 37 states; first budget and seal are adopted; Study Program Envelopes on health topics issued to counties.
American Medical Association Alliance

100 Years

- The place is St. Louis, MO
- The date, Wednesday, May 24, 1922
- The meeting of the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association
- Dr. Edward H. Cary, of Dallas, Texas, requests the floor and presents the following resolution prepared by the Woman’s Auxiliary to the State Medical Association of Texas, of which Mrs. Samuel Clark Red of Houston is president:

Palm House at the Missouri Botanical Gardens

Resolution Establishing a Woman’s Auxiliary to the American Medical Association

The Woman’s Auxiliary to the State Medical Association of Texas respectfully requests the approval of the American Medical Association to organize a Woman’s Auxiliary to the American Medical Association, the object of which shall be, “To extend the aims of the medical profession through the wives of doctors to the various women’s organizations which look to the advancement in health and education, to assist in entertaining at all medical conventions and to promote acquaintanceship among doctors’ families so that closer fellowship may exist.”

* The AMAA was formed only 2 years after women had the right to vote.
Past National Presidents
The 1920’s

1922-25
Mrs. Samuel Clark Red

1926-27
Mrs. Franklin C. Gengenbach

1925-26
Mrs. Seale Harris

1928-29
Mrs. George H. Hoxie

1927-28
Mrs. John O. McReynolds
SUMMARY
FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

After confering with the Secretary we agreed that the other Auxiliary members would be interested in the growth of the organization, so we decided to prepare for this meeting a summary of all the years of its existence.

We must remember that the woman's age is from infancy to the growing child—and we have just finished one of our years. Many things therefore must be overlooked. We have filled in a complete report of the year by means of a written report, which includes the regular reports by annual, monthly, and annual reports from both the President and Secretary, but all reports could not be prepared in time as President decided to write a condensed report like the others, and within the Secretary's report, which was already prepared, and the Treasurer's, which had been sent months before.

The purpose has here been to give the type set for the complete reports to be added and mailed in shortly after our meeting, without expense to us. Those who have failed to send us their reports before, will have the opportunity of giving prompt response to calls from the President and Secretary. It will make the work easier, reduce delays, and cut down the execution of the program.

In this summary only facts pertaining to the growth and development of our work were taken from the minutes as reported each year.

Beginning with only a few paragraphs the first year, others have shown how the space has been doubled and tripled in recording only a few of the most important events.

Our responsibility for service was still unlimited and we are the growing child that must be trained in the right doings. Therefore, I urge each County Auxiliary to have an Advisory Council appointed from the County Medical Society and each State Auxiliary an Advisory Council of five appointed by the State Medical Association, similar to the same Advisory Council of five appointed for the National Auxiliary by the Board of Trustees of the A. M. A.