



We Are Stronger When We Are Together

BY SHEILA BUSH



June in Wyoming reminds each of us of why we love calling this amazing place home. The time of year that blesses us with all the things that make the blowing snow and sub-zero temperatures worth it. The fields sprawl with brilliant shades of green while some of our mountains keep their snow-capped peaks. Families emerge from winter hibernation and neighborhoods come alive.

For more than 30 years WMS members have also known June as the time for coming together as physicians and PAs from all corners of the state for the Annual Meeting at the foot of the Tetons. 2017 and 2018 marked some exciting things at WMS including the launch of the physician leadership academy and the decision to explore new ideas for our Annual Meeting.

While we loved the challenge and adventure that accompanied trying something new and enjoyed the time on the slopes together, we appreciate that our organization isn't quite ready to close the door on decades of tradition.

We are thrilled to announce that WMS will be returning to the Jackson Lake Lodge for the 2019 Annual Meeting on May 31 - June 2. So, mark your calendars, you won't want to miss next year's event!

WMS learned more than just what our members thought about the Annual Meeting location and timing when we surveyed them this spring. In that survey, WMS members underscored again for us the importance and value they place in the mission of WMS.

Advocating for Doctors since 1903 is the mission statement that has guided us the last 115 years, and it was reaffirmed that that continues to be the primary reason physicians support and participate in their professional statewide association today.

Medicine is under attack.

From looming scope of practice battles to reimbursement hits and over-regulation threatening clinical practice, there's

never been a more important time for medicine to come together and fight.

Organized medicine is the vehicle best positioned to help physicians drive this fight, and WMS plays a key role in organized medicine at the state level. At the recent AMA meeting, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams, MD, MPH, gave a rousing speech in which he quoted famous hockey player Wayne Gretzky. He said Gretzky was famous for saying he was great because, "He skated to where the puck was going to be rather than to where it was."

Organized medicine is working to ensure physicians are where the puck will be, preparing to lead the policy discussions most closely impacting medicine. WMS will continue to be the

voice of medicine ensuring physicians guide the future of healthcare in our state.


WMS is only as strong as our membership allows and that strength starts locally. The voice of medicine is a powerful one because policy leaders know that when WMS speaks, we speak for physicians in every community.

WMS will be facilitating and hosting events with every county medical society this year in our continuing effort to strengthen and empower physicians.

We are coming to a town near you not only to share exciting things happening in your WMS, but more importantly to listen and hear what

it is we can be doing to better serve you.

We're proud of all that WMS does well and eager to learn how we can become even better moving forward. Be watching for information about events near you and talk with your friends, whether members or not, about coming and spending some time together.

Thank you for trusting us with carrying the collective voice of physicians in our state's critical health policy discussions. We are stronger when we are together! 

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