



GW Medicine Notes

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January 2010

Annual Holiday Party Fun & Festive Event

There was a change in venue and a change in spirit for this year's party. The Four Seasons Washington DC Hotel seemed to be more festive and holiday friendly for this year's get together. The room, the old Seasons Restaurant, was just perfect to allow enough space to mingle, to talk and when tired to sit.

The turnout was exceptional with every division represented, some in full force. No one has seen that many GI docs in one place since the 10 mile run.

The food was plentiful, although the sushi did seem to go fast, and the drinks never stopped flowing. If you were one of the few that didn't make it you can catch the inspirational speeches and toasts on YouTube.

We will be back at the Four Seasons for the End-of-the-Year Party in June so see you then. You won't want to miss it.

**SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE
END-OF-THE-YEAR
PARTY**

FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2010

**FOUR SEASONS
WASHINGTON DC
HOTEL**

From the Chairman

I had prepared a newsletter for this month regarding my frustration with seeing Henry Kissinger popping up all over the media in the last few months, but something intervened just as we were going to go to press to change my mind. Uncle Morri died. Somehow, I haven't written about Morri although I have written about his brother, Izzy and many of his nieces and nephews. Morri was the younger brother (87) of my mother, Sally. One of five children and the younger of two boys, Morri had always been overshadowed by Izzy who was bigger than life (until he died about 10 years ago). Izzy was a college athlete, pharmacist, early entrepreneur and late in life, he became Rabbi Wein. Morri worked for Izzy, but in many ways Morri was ahead of his time.

After serving in the Pacific in WWII, Morri went to work for Izzy who by then had taken over his father-in-law's department store in Beckley, West Va. When the coal mines closed in the 50's, Izzy went back to being a pharmacist, and Morri moved to Charleston and looked for work. Morri also got married after leaving the military, but the marriage didn't last long (months not years.)

Morri was always the fun, gregarious, single guy to be around, and we would look forward to his visits. He would always visit with a friend, often a sailor and why not as he was the nicest, friendliest guy one could ever know. In the late 1950's, Morri met Milton "Mel" Verost, a garden columnist for the local newspaper. This led to lifelong companionship and great house plants. Morri and Mel lived together, travelled together and Mel became family. Whether he was invited to some family affair or not Mel would be there, often with his parents, brother and sister.

Now we are talking about the 50's here and as you know, gays didn't exist in the days of Eisenhower. So Morri was not gay. Just ask anyone in my family (except my brother) and they would give you the same answer. Morri just decided on a monogamous relationship for 54 years with another man. You don't think it was weird that being in denial about Morri's sexual orientation, my family never considered his living arrangement unusual. After all, people would say, Morri had been married.

Well, Charleston, West Va., isn't exactly the bastion of liberalism, and Mel did have a high profile job at the newspaper. The funny thing was that in this very conservative environment they were well known, respected, and friends with everyone. Being nice guys and not acknowledging that they were gay allowed them to fit right into the community. As he grew older, Morri remained very active and never looked his age (a family trait passed on to his sister and hopefully his nephew). But after Mel died, Morri was never the same. Thirteen months later and never fully being healthy, Morri passed away on Christmas. His obituary kept the party line going by referring to his *close friend* of over 50 years, Mel. Whatever it was, it was a hell of a love story.

Alan G. Wasserman, M.D.

Department of Medicine January 2010 Grand Rounds

Jan 7 **"Closing the Gap Between Hospital and Outpatient Care"**

Sian Spurney, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Interim Director, Division of Hospital Medicine
Department of Medicine
George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Jan 14 **"Endoscopic Ultrasound: What lies Beneath the Surface in Gastroenterology"**

Lance T. Uradomo, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Gastroenterology & Liver Diseases
Department of Medicine
George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Harold and Jane Hirsh Lecture in Legal Medicine

Jan 21 **"The Way Forward: What National Health Reform Tells Us About Health System Change"**

Sara Rosenbaum, PhD

Harold Hirsh Professor of Health Law and Policy
Chair of the Department of Health Policy
GWU School of Medicine and GWU Law School

Irene Tamagna Endowed Lecture on Hypertension

Jan 29 **"Hypertension in African Americans"**

Kenneth Jamerson, MD

Professor of Internal Medicine
Director, Program for Multicultural Health
President, International Society of Hypertension in Blacks
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

The George Washington University Medical Center (GWUMC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. GWUMC designates this continuing medical education activity on an hour-for-hour basis in Category I of the Physician's Recognition Award of the American Medical Association.

Cardiology Grand Rounds

5:00 PM, GWU Hospital, Conference Room 6-116

Jan 6 M & M

Jan 13 **Allen Solomon, MD**

Professor of Medicine
GWMFA
Sudden Cardiac Arrest in ESRD

Jan 20 **Farzad Najam, MD**

Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery, GWU
Associate Director of Cardiac Surgery, GWUH
Update on Cardiac Surgery

Jan 27 **Dominic Raj, MD**

Professor of Medicine
Director, Division of Renal Diseases & Hypertension
GWMFA
Cardiovascular and Renal Disease

Medicine Team Contacts

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SILVER TEAM	(202) 715-6040
PURPLE TEAM	(202) 715-6042
GOLD TEAM	(202) 715-6044

Chairman's Rounds

GWU Hospital Auditorium, 12:00 Noon

All Faculty Invited to Attend

Jan 5	Dr. Nitin Sardana Dr. Shari Maletsky-Smith
Jan 19	Dr. Aditya Sharma Dr. David Popiel
Jan 26	Dr. Prema Nanavaty Dr. Edward Perry, Jr.

Resident Lecture Series January 2010 Noon Conference

Jan 1	Holiday Schedule - No Conference
Jan 4	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 5	Chairman's Rounds
Jan 6	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 7	Medicine Grand Rounds
Jan 8	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 11	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 12	Resident Luncheon
Jan 13	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 14	Medicine Grand Rounds
Jan 15	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 18	Holiday Schedule - No Conference
Jan 19	Chairman's Rounds
Jan 20	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 21	Medicine Grand Rounds
Jan 22	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 25	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 26	Chairman's Rounds
Jan 27	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon
Jan 28	Medicine Grand Rounds
Jan 29	Recruitment/Resident Luncheon

Medicine Staff Holiday Party Fun & Festive

The department staff and faculty enjoyed food and festivities on Friday December 18th in celebration of the holiday season. The cooking contest returned this year to everyone's delight. Rather than divide the competition into categories all entries were judged at once. With well over a dozen delectable appetizers, entrees and desserts to choose from, volunteer judges, **Tamara Lyons**, fellowship coordinator, **Antoinette Martin**, Medical Assistant, 4th floor clinic, and **Lovita Jay**, Medical Assistant, 3rd floor clinic, awarded the following prizes:

First Place

Jannie Evans, Admin. Assistant, Cardiology
(Meatloaf)

Second Place

Robin Black, PSS, Cancer Center
(Banafi - English caramel custard)

Third Place

Marygrace Floriza, Clinic Supervisor, 3rd fl. clinic
(Deviled Egg Crab Spread)

Fourth Place

Kara-Anne Gregory, NP, Endocrinology
(Golden Butter Cake)

The drawing for door prizes created almost as much interest as the cooking contest. The winners were:

Matthew Harrison, PSS, 4th Floor Clinic
(Home Theatre System)

Tsega Mesfin, Program Manager, Katzen Center
(George Forman Grill)

Edward Jennings, Pharmacist
(George Forman Grill)

Edrick Person, Pharmacy Technician
(Sonic Toothbrush)

Tamara Lyons, Fellowship Coordinator
(Sonic Toothbrush)

Lynette Craney, Echo Technician, Cardiology
(Flip Digital Video Recorder)

Grand Prize Winner

Diane Murphy, RN, Allergy Nurse
(Mini PC)

Congratulations to everyone and Happy Holidays!

The Center for Sleep Disorders at The GW Medical Faculty Associates Opens

We are pleased to announce the opening of Washington DC's newest and most advanced sleep testing facility, The Center for Sleep Disorders at The GW Medical Faculty Associates. The center incorporates state-of-the-art technology with the finest personal amenities in a secure and comfortable setting and features an experienced staff of board certified physicians and compassionate polysomnographic technologists. In addition to overnight sleep testing, the Center for Sleep Disorders is at the forefront of research, medical education, and the implementation of innovative treatment options.

Testing is available Monday through Saturday nights in spacious private rooms. Onsite parking is available for a small fee. Patients are seen quickly with comprehensive results provided on a timely basis. Most insurance plans are accepted and administrative staff skilled in pre-certifications will assist whenever possible.

The center's faculty:

Vivek Jain, MD, D,ABSM

Medical Director
Diplomate, American Board of Sleep Medicine
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Disorders Medicine

Samuel Potocchio, MD, D,ABSM

Associate Medical Director
Diplomate, American Board of Sleep Medicine
Professor of Neurology

Jalil E. Ahari, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Disorders Medicine
Board eligible in Sleep Medicine

The center is located at **2021 K Street, NW, # 104**. The MFA has already expanded clinical services into this building with The Ear, Nose and Throat Center in Suite 206 and the Audiology Center in Suite 312.

To schedule a consultation call (202) 741-3333.

Rheumatology Academic Conference Schedule January 2010

Thursdays 8:00 - 9:00 am ACC 1-401, 1:30 - 3:30 pm Hospital Rm 6-106
Questions? Call (202) 741-2488

- Jan 7 Radiology Conference
Kathleen Brindle, MD, Assistant Professor of Radiology
Chief Musculoskeletal Radiology
- Jan 7 Didactic Sessions
1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GWU Hospital, Rm 6106
- Jan 14 Journal Club
Seema Agrawal, MD
- Jan 14 Didactic Sessions
1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GWU Hospital, Rm 6106
- Jan 21 Intra-City Rheumatology Grand Rounds
NOTE LOCATION: Washington Hospital Center
NOTE TIME: 7:30 AM
- Jan 21 Didactic Sessions
1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GWU Hospital, Rm 6106
- Jan 28 Ultrasound Conference
Mahnaz Momeni, MD, Assistant Professor of Medicine
- Jan 28 Didactic Sessions
1:30 - 3:30 p.m., GWU Hospital, Rm 6106

Kudos & Congratulations

Kudos ... to **Dr. Robert Jayes**, Associate Professor, Division of Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine, who was interviewed on the local CBS Channel 9 News on Saturday 12/19/2009 during the snow storm. Though not on call, Dr. Jayes was on his way to The Washington Home on his cross country skis when he was stopped by the Channel 9 reporter. Due to the conditions the on-call physician could not make it in from Virginia and there were six new admits that had to be seen so Dr. Jayes rose to the challenge. It turned out to be a long (but peaceful) day at the nursing home and Dr. Jayes said that the skiing conditions getting there and back were great.

More Kudos ... to **Dr. Susan Hasselquist**, Assistant Professor, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, and **Dr. Michael Irwig**, Assistant Professor, Division of Endocrinology & Metabolism, who were highlighted in a Washington Post article on for solving and treating the "medical mystery" of Addison's disease. The patient profiled was grateful for the care that she received at the GW MFA. Though not mentioned by name in the article, **Dr. Katalin Roth**, Associate Professor and Director, Division of Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine is the patient's internist and was also involved in unraveling the mystery.

... a patient writes to thank **Dr. Marie Borum**, Professor and Director, Division of Gastroenterology & Palliative Care, to whom she was referred for a consultation, for her "tremendous compassion and positive energy".

See you next month! The Editor



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