



David M. Gershenson, MD

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

On the pages of this *Summer Bulletin* you will have an opportunity to read about the many exciting programs underway at the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation. But none is more exciting and important than the Gynecologic Cancer

Awareness Movement (GCAM) Weekend.

GCAM Weekend creates an opportunity for the entire gynecologic cancer community — physicians, nurses, survivors and their families, advocates, and leaders — to come together as one for the first time in our history. Washington, DC, our nation's capital, provides a symbolic venue for the united effort to raise awareness and funding for women's cancer.

The weekend culminates with GCF's Race to End Women's Cancer on Sunday, November 8, 2009. Committed runners, including many gynecologic oncologists and survivors, are in training for the Half Marathon, a 13.1 race beginning and ending on historic Pennsylvania Avenue. The 5K Run and 1 Mile Walk offer an opportunity for everyone to be part of the event.

For those unable to join us for this landmark weekend, you still can participate by supporting a colleague or friend who is running or walking, or by making a donation to the GCAM Weekend.

I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,

David M. Gershenson, MD
Chairman



Survivors and their physicians "come together" on the National Mall in Washington, DC to support GCAM Weekend and GCF's Race to End Women's Cancer.

"Come Together, Right Now"

Remember the Beatles song "Come Together, Right Now?" That is what the Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Movement (GCAM) Weekend is all about. To make sure that there is an opportunity for everyone to participate, the 1 Mile Walk has been added to the options for Sunday, November 8, Race Day. So whether you are a marathoner or a mall walker, you can participate.

GCF's Race to End Women's Cancer will begin and end on historic Pennsylvania Avenue, two blocks from the White House. Planning continues for the race expo, and pre-race and post race events, so stay tuned at www.gcfrace.com for the latest.

If you are visiting Washington, DC this summer, you will find information about the race/walk in almost every running related store in the Greater Washington area and at most area running events. You also can become a GCF Facebook fan and join our growing virtual community.

The word is spreading about GCF Race to End Women's Cancer and GCAM Weekend. Register for one of the survivors courses [see page 4] or log on to www.gcfrace.com to register to run or walk, and donate to the GCAM Weekend. "Come Together, Right Now!" ■

"The GCF/Florence & Marshall Schwid Ovarian Cancer Research Grant was my first independent research award and provided seed money that jumpstarted my research. This award led to further funding which allowed me to pursue a career as a clinician scientist."

~ Elizabeth M. Swisher, MD
Associate Professor, Gynecologic Oncology,
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Movement Weekend

November 6–8, 2009, Washington, DC

Friday, November 6

GCF's National Cervical Cancer Public Education Campaign Partners Meeting
8:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

GCF's Allied Support Group Meeting
11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

GCF Board of Directors Meeting
2:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

SGO's Annual State of the Art Conference
Personalized Gynecologic Cancer Care: Moving from the Disease to the Patient
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Saturday, November 7

GCF Survivors Courses*⁶
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

GCF will offer three free concurrent survivors course for cervical cancer, endometrial cancer and ovarian cancer survivors, and their friends and families. These courses will be held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel. Registration is available now through the Women's Cancer Network (www.wcn.org).

These three courses will be taught by leading experts and it is the first time these three courses will be offered simultaneously. At the end of the day, the three groups of survivors, and their families and friends, and course

faculty members will be offered a special networking and social experience during a celebration reception.

SGO Council Meeting
Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Sunday, November 8*

GCF's Race to End Women's Cancer Half Marathon/5K/1 Mile Walk
Historic Pennsylvania Avenue
Between 13th St. and 14th St. NW
6:45 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Pre-and post-race events to educate and celebrate! Learn more and register at www.gcftrace.com. ■

*Open to the public; registration required.

September, Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month

Ten Years of Advocacy

In 1999, the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation (GCF) declared September, Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month (GCAM). This year marks its 10th anniversary. Looking through the archives at the many activities and partnership fostered gives hope that women's lives have been positively impacted as a result of these efforts.

Gynecologic oncologists and advocates from across the country work together each year to drive home the basic GCAM message:

- G**et to know your family history
- C**onduct an online cancer risk assessment at www.wcn.org
- A**sk questions; educate yourself about gynecologic cancers
- M**ake an appointment for your annual gynecologic exam and screening tests

Beginning in September 2004, GCF began publishing the annual *State of the State of Women's Cancers: A Report to the Women of America*. In addition to a special feature article, the report describes the annual advances for each cancer unique to women.

While continuing to focus on the GCAM message, this year GCF is sharing information about the Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Movement Weekend, November 6–8, 2009, in Washington, DC. For more information about GCAM and GCAM Weekend, visit www.wcn.org.

Many *Bulletin* readers are planning local activities. GCF would like to feature them in future *Bulletins*, so please send information about your activities and success to info@thegcf.org. ■

Join GCF's Sisterhood of Survivorship

Sharing, Caring Surviving

The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation invites survivors of all gynecologic cancer to join its Sisterhood of Survivorship. These new pages on the Women's Cancer Network provide an opportunity for women to share their stories of survivorship with the hope of providing knowledge and inspiration to others.

The expansion of GCF's community of survivors creates a powerful voice for the gynecologic cancer community. While each cancer is unique, survivorship unites all.

Please visit the Sisterhood of Hope on the Women's Cancer Network (www.wcn.org) to be inspired and to inspire others. ■





We Get Questions — Lots and Lots of Questions: The GCF Cervical Cancer Campaign Web Site “Ask a Doc”

GCF’s cervical cancer public education campaign Web site (www.cervicalcancercampaign.org) added an “Ask a Doc” controlled blog in April 2009. Each week we receive more and more questions. Questions are answered by the members of GCF’s Cervical Cancer Workgroup and then posted on the Web site. The site carries a strong disclaimer and each message encourages the questioner to talk to their healthcare provider about their concerns.

Questions cover a wide range of concerns from both men and women, and from US and international locations. Some examples are:

- Is it possible to have HPV, have it clear up and then become active again?
- I received treatment for HPV 8 years ago. How do I know if it’s gone for good?
- I was just diagnosed with HPV. Can I keep having sex with my partner? Will we keep reinfecting each other?
- Why can’t older women get the HPV vaccine?
- Does the vaccine work if you already have HPV?
- I had the vaccine and then found out I am pregnant. What are the risks to my baby?

If you have questions, please visit www.cervicalcancercampaign.org. ■



Prize the Individual, Value the Team

When Kimberly Salter, known professionally as K.Joy, lost her sister to cancer, she vowed to do what she could to make other women aware. K.Joy knew that she alone could only do so much, so she initiated a collective effort to use music as a medium to create awareness and raise money to support the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation’s Women’s Cancer Network.

Thus began the K.Joy “I Am Woman” WCN Charity Remix Project featuring Collective Men & Women United for the Women’s Cancer Network with support from Cyberjamz Records and Pure Innergy Recordings, LLC.

“When Lisa passed away from cancer, I knew at that moment that I could not allow her death to be in vain,” said K.Joy. “I was determined to do everything in my power to help raise funds and awareness for this fight against cancer in women, in honor of Lisa Byers, but in a permanent and impacting manner. Thus, was born the I AM WOMAN WCN CHARITY REMIX PROJECT, and I am honored to have so many wonderful people champion this cause, along with me, in such a special and unique manner. Thank you GCF for this awesome opportunity!”

Please support this team effort by visiting the Women’s Cancer Network (www.wcn.org) to learn how to make purchases from the digital music and online stores with 100% of the profits donated to GCF’s Women’s Cancer Network. You also can learn how to donate in honor of a woman who currently is battling or triumphed over her disease, or in memory of a woman who lost her battle to any type of cancer. ■

Six GCF Survivors Courses Remain in 2009

Registration is required and is available online 60 days prior to the course date. However, online registration is available now for the courses held in Washington, DC in conjunction with the Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Movement Weekend. Log on to the Women’s Cancer Network at www.wcn.org for more information and to register.

Ovarian Cancer Survivors Courses

Saturday, August 22, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
The Westin Buckhead
Atlanta, GA

Saturday, September 12, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Northwestern University
Chicago, IL

Saturday, October 10, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Las Vegas, NV

Saturday, November 7, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Washington, DC

Cervical Cancer Survivors Course

Saturday, November 7, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Washington, DC

Endometrial Cancer Survivors Course

Saturday, November 7, 2009
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Washington, DC

2010 Education Courses

Ovarian Cancer Survivors Courses

Saturday, July 17, 2010
Boston, MA

Saturday, September 11, 2010
Richmond, VA

Saturday, September 25, 2010
Madison, WI

Wellness Forum

January 2010
San Diego, CA

Individuals interested in partnering with GCF to host a survivors or wellness course should contact Dina Zambon, dzambon@thegcf.org or 312.578.1439. ■

Thank You for Supporting GCF

GCF reaches over 1 million individuals each year with information about the prevention, early diagnosis and optimal treatment of gynecologic cancers. Your support is vital for GCF to continue to invest in the health of this and future generations. Please consider making your own investment. You can send your tax-deductible gift to GCF using the enclosed envelope, or visit www.thegcf.org, or by calling 312.578.1439.

For information on making a stock donation, including GCF in your will, or establishing a planned gift, please contact Janet Wykoff at 312.578.1439. ■

The *GCF Bulletin* is the official publication of the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation (GCF). This non-profit charitable foundation was established by the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists (SGO) to ensure public awareness of gynecologic cancer prevention, early diagnosis and proper treatment, as well as to support research and training related to gynecologic cancers. Information about GCF and its programs may be obtained by contacting GCF Headquarters at 230 W. Monroe, Suite 2528, Chicago, IL 60606.

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The Bulletin is supported by an educational donation provided by Amgen.

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If you suspect or have been diagnosed with a reproductive cancer, like cervical cancer, endometrial (uterine) cancer or ovarian cancer, seek care first from a gynecologic oncologist, a specialist trained in treating these cancers. To find a nearby gynecologic oncologist, visit the Women's Cancer Network (www.wcn.org) "find-a-doctor" section.

230 W. Monroe, Suite 2528
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