



# Western Association of Gynecologist Oncologists

## Wago Annual Meeting

June 11 -14 2008

Sonoma, California

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: WUI-JIN KOH, MD

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

### PAGE

2008 ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION	2
2008 DESTINATION ACCOMMODATIONS	3-4
SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT	5
2007 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS	6
2007 AWARD WINNERS	6
WHY WAGO?	7
SONOMA INFORMATION	8-9

[www.wagogynonc.org](http://www.wagogynonc.org)



It was 1988. Jackson Hole, Wyoming. I was about to complete my residency, and was attending my first WAGO meeting. I do not know whether it was chutzpah, utter naivete, or a latent death wish, but my fading memory recalls that my presentation was entitled something like “Complications of intraoperative radiotherapy in the salvage management of patients with recurrent gynecologic cancer”. Imagine acknowledging and discussing radiation-related complications in public, much less to a group of gynecologic oncologists! One still shudders at the thought of what feeding frenzy this tempting piece of raw meat, delivered by a young and impressionable radiation oncology resident, could have elicited among the circulating sharks represented by the imposing audience of surgeons. But, incited by my conspiratorial mentors David Figge,

Benjamin Greer, Tim Russell, and Hisham Tamimi (all of whom, by the way, are past-Presidents of WAGO), I not only managed to complete the talk without passing out, but actually enjoyed the cordial and supportive interaction of the WAGO members. It was amazing to me that some of the ‘big names’ in gynecologic oncology (Leo Lagasse, Frank Major, Michael Berman, Karl Podratz, and James Roberts, but to name a few), whose work I had read and referenced with impersonal awe, were actually real human beings. Even more remarkable, they took time to personally greet, reach out, and talk to me. I met other residents and fellows who were equally inspired and moved by the welcome they received.

Later that afternoon, I went river rafting for the first time in my life (the boat flipped in a class IV rapid, but we all survived to recount that great adventure). I had the chance to see the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone. I was hooked – excellent science, thoughtful and provocative presentations, great people, collegial and friendly atmosphere without egos, and wonderful locale. In the ensuing two decades, it has only gotten better. And to top it off, I have now become ‘old and seasoned’ enough to be officially allowed to reminisce about the association.

I have grown up professionally with WAGO – it clearly has made a significant impact in my continued practice and academic focus in gynecologic radiation therapy. My relationship with WAGO preceded my marriage to Judy, who has also greatly enjoyed the meetings. My children have grown up as part of the WAGO ‘extended family’, although, now that they are in high school, they may no longer wish to be seen as frequently with their father(!). It remains, without question, my favorite society and annual meeting.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming meeting in Napa. Gary Leiserowitz and the program committee have worked hard to develop what will be an outstanding program. As an added plus, we will be holding the meeting jointly with the Felix Rutledge Society (like we did 4 years ago in Monterey), which promises greater breadth of presentations and scientific interaction.

I am privileged to have served this year as your WAGO president. This from a young radiation oncology resident who could have been eaten alive 20 years ago, but instead was supported, mentored and nurtured by the organization. Thank you all for this honor and trust. As I visit with the ‘old’ friends and new faces that come each year to our annual meeting, I am impressed that the cherished traditions of WAGO endure, and am convinced our society will continue to thrive and be an inviting and inclusive ‘family’ to many.

#### WAGO OFFICERS 2008

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	WUI-JIN KOH, MD
<b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b>	GARY S. LEISEROWITZ, MD
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	JOSEPH A. LUCCI, III, MD
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b>	DAVID MILLER, MD
<b>SECRETARY-TREASURER</b>	SCOTT MCMEEKIN, MD

#### MEMBERS AT LARGE

ILANA CASS, MD  
BARBARA ANN GOFF, MD

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CASSANDRA LARKINS

#### 2008 ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEE : GARY LEISEROWITZ, MD CHAIR

WAGO	ROBIN FARIAS-EISNER, MD, PhD.	SUSAN LEE MD, PhD.	CAROLYN MULLER, MD
FELIX-RUTLEDGE SOCIETY ;	JOHN DALRYMPLE, MD	JUDITH WOLF, MD	MICHAEL FRUMOVITZ, MD

## 2008 ANNUAL MEETING: MESSAGE FROM GARY LEISEROWITZ, MD 2008 PROGRAM CHAIR



The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Association of Gynecologic Oncologists promises to be a premier event. We will have this great family-oriented venue at the Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa from **June 11 to 14, 2008** in the heart of the California wine country. We will again have a joint meeting with the Felix Rutledge Society and hope to repeat the success

of our 2004 joint meeting in Monterey. The heart of the meeting is the presentation of scientific presentations by trainees and members of both societies in an inviting and collegial atmosphere. We anticipate a large submission of abstracts, so we will plan for an expanded set of poster presentations in our exhibit hall. One of the best aspects of the WAGO meetings is the opportunity to hear cutting edge presentations from the fellows and newest members of our society, and to have open and lively debates without the formal constraints typical of our larger meetings.

To take advantage of our location in a world-famous wine-growing region, we will leave Thursday afternoon and evening free to allow members to do their own independent wine tasting plus a plethora of outdoors activities (for example, golf, tennis, biking, horse-back riding), or to schedule a massage at

the hotel spa. Please check out the list of activities and restaurants that we've included with this newsletter.

Highlights of the scientific meeting include:

- 🐼 A 2008 ASCO meeting update by Dr. Rob Coleman from the MD Anderson Cancer Center
- 🐼 Separate robotics symposia for residents/fellows and members on Friday afternoon with Dr. Robert Holloway of the Florida Hospital Cancer Institute
- 🐼 WAGO Presidential speaker - Emily Wyse, Seattle Cancer Center Alliance; "Patient Recovery, Support and Advocacy"
- 🐼 Lecture on Physical Therapy Support for Gynecologic Oncology Patients – Andrea Leiserowitz, MPT

## WAGO ABSTRACT AND REGISTRATION DEADLINES

We encourage WAGO members and trainees to submit their abstracts for presentation at the meeting. The **deadline for submission is March 28, 2008**. You can find the abstract form included with this registration packet, or you can download and electronic form on our website: [WAGOgynonc.org](http://WAGOgynonc.org). We make submission easy: you can cut and paste your abstract on the Word template and e-mail it to: [CLarkins@acog.org](mailto:CLarkins@acog.org). We will notify the presenters about the status of their abstracts by the end of April 2008. Outstanding presentations will be eligible for the James F. Nolan, J. G. Moore, and Leo D. Lagasse awards.

Also available on the WAGO website is the meeting registration form. Registration is required for any member, trainee, or guest to participate in any of the WAGO meeting functions. Reduced rate registration is available to residents and fellows accompanied by a supporting letter from their program director. In addition, trainees whose abstracts are selected for presentation will receive a rebate of their registration. **Early registration with reduced fees ends April 30, 2008.**

The 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Association of Gynecologic Oncologists will continue the tradition for great scientific and social interchange. For more information about the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, please contact Ms. Cassandra Larkins, WAGO Executive Director, at 202-863-1648 or [CLarkins@acog.org](mailto:CLarkins@acog.org) or visit the WAGO website at [www.WAGOgynonc.org](http://www.WAGOgynonc.org). On behalf of your 2008 WAGO Program Committee, we look forward to you joining us in beautiful Sonoma.

THE FAIRMONT SONOMA MISSION INN AND SPA



**THE FAIRMONT SONOMA  
MISSION INN & SPA**  
 100 Boyes Boulevard  
 Sonoma, California  
 United States  
 95476  
 T.(707) 938-9000  
 F.(707) 938-4250  
 email: [smi.reservations@fairmont.com](mailto:smi.reservations@fairmont.com)

The Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa is the ultimate elegant oasis, blessed by natural mineral hot springs in the heart of the California Wine Country. Known as the authentic Wine Country spa and golf resort, the Inn is blessed with a world-renowned 40,000 square foot spa and an 18-hole championship golf course that is home to the PGA's Charles Schwab Cup. For hundreds of years, ancient thermal mineral waters have graced this site. Today, our resort is proud to be one of the only luxury Spa resorts in the country with its

own source of thermal mineral water. All of the resort's pools, as well as the European-Style bathing ritual are fed by these natural waters. Our Spa pays homage to ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman civilizations, which believed in the axiom 'Sanitas Per Aquas'... Extraordinaire cuisine, a mature 75-year-old private golf course and a state-of-the-art Spa surrounded by exquisitely manicured grounds in the heart of Wine Country... A true lifestyle!  
 AAA Four Diamond Award

RESERVATIONS AT THE FAIRMONT MAY  
 BE MADE ONLINE OR BY PHONE



THE FAIRMONT SONOMA MISSION INN & SPA, FEATURES A VARIETY OF FINE DINING, FROM SANTÉ RESTAURANT, WITH ITS INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR THE FINEST IN CUISINE TO THE BIG 3, WITH ITS FIFTY-YEAR HISTORY OF SERVING WONDERFUL FOOD IN A CASUAL ATMOSPHERE.

## Directions to The Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn and Spa

### From San Francisco:

- From the San Francisco Airport, take 380 west to 280 north.
- Bear left onto 19th Avenue and follow across the Golden Gate Bridge (101 north)
- In the Novato area, exit on Highway 37 east to Vallejo, Napa and Sonoma. At 2nd light on Highway 37, go left onto Highway 121 north
- Continue on Highway 121, which bears to the right at the blinking red light.
- Turn left onto Highway 12 and continue to the Sonoma Plaza.
- At the Plaza, you will come to a 'T' stop; turn left onto West Napa Street (also marked Highway 12).
- Continue west on W. Napa Street for 1 mile. The road will come to a fork; stay to the right (marked Highway 12) and continue 2 miles north to Boyes Boulevard.
- Turn left onto Boyes Boulevard. The hotel entrance is the second driveway on the left.

### From Oakland:

- From the Oakland Airport, take Hegenberger Road to I-880 north.
- Exit to Highway 580 west and cross over the Richmond-San Rafael bridge.
- Exit to Highway 101 north.
- After 10 miles, exit on Highway 37 east to Vallejo, Napa and Sonoma. At 2nd light on Highway 37, go left onto Highway 121 north.
- Continue on Highway 121, which bears to the right at the blinking red light.
- Turn left onto Highway 12 and continue to the Sonoma Plaza.
- At the Plaza, you will come to a 'T' stop; turn left onto West Napa Street (also marked Highway 12).
- Continue west on W. Napa Street for 1 mile. The road will come to a fork; stay to the right (marked Highway 12) and continue 2 miles north to Boyes Boulevard.
- Turn left onto Boyes Boulevard. The hotel entrance is the second driveway on the left.

### From Sacramento:

- Take I-80 west toward San Francisco.
- In the Cordelia area, exit onto Highway 12 west.
- Take Highway 12 west past Napa (briefly joining Highway 29), and towards Sonoma (Highway 12/ Highway 121).
- Continue on Highway 12 to the Sonoma Plaza.
- At the Plaza, you will come to a 'T' stop; turn left onto West Napa Street (also marked Highway 12).
- Continue west on W. Napa Street for 1 mile. The road will come to a fork; stay to the right (marked Highway 12) and continue 2 miles north to Boyes Boulevard.
- Turn left onto Boyes Boulevard. The hotel entrance is the second driveway on the left.

**REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER  
SCOTT McMEEKIN, MD**



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The beginning balance on January 1, 2007 was \$168,612.35; income totaled \$61,503.00 expenses totaled \$80,408.16. The ending balance on December 30, 2007 was \$149,707.19.

Beginning Balance January 1, 2007:  
168,612.35

**Income**

Total income from Membership Dues received in 2006)	3,000.00 (\$5,100
Total income from Annual Meeting	58,503.00

Total Income  
61,503.00

Total Assets \$230,115.35

**Expenses**

Total Administrative Expenses (administrative services)	7,366.05 (ACOG
Total 2007 Meeting Expenses	58,837.79
Interim Board Meeting	943.00
Newsletter	948.23
Financial Audit Fees	3,500.00
Deposit for 2010 Meeting	5,000.00
Other Expenses	3,813.09
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>80,408.16</b>

**Calendar**

**2009**  
WESTIN BAYSIDE,  
VANCOUVER, BRITISH  
COLUMBIA  
JOINT MEETING WITH SOCIETY  
OF GYNECOLOGIC  
ONCOLOGIST OF CANADA

**2010**  
FESS PARKER RESORT  
SANTA BARBARA, CALIF

**WAGO CURRENTLY HAS  
203 MEMBERS**

166 REGULAR MEMBERS  
1 ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
22 EMERITUS MEMBERS  
14 HONORARY MEMBERS

2007 Annual Meeting Highlights The 2007 meeting of WAGO was held at Sunriver Resort in Sunriver, Oregon. The scientific program committee chaired by Wui-Jin Koh, MD was outstanding and facilitated spirited discussions. Fellow and resident participation was excellent, and trainees enjoyed the opportunity to present their work and receive mentorship from WGO members. Dr. Ted Trimble served as the Presential Speaker, and provided an update on international issues in gyn-oncology. We appreciate the efforts of the program committee for producing an exceptional educational forum. As always, the meeting setting was relaxed and beautiful. The Welcome Reception was held at the High Desert Museum. Many of us enjoyed the leisure activities including outstanding golf, nature walks, bike riding, and canoeing.

**2007 Award Winners for Outstanding papers:**

J.G. Moore Award 2007-

Giovanni D. Aletti, MD Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN: *Role of Serine Protease HtrA1 in Ovarian Cancer Progression and Metastasis*

James F. Nolan Award 2007-

Walter Kinney, MD; The Permanente Medical Group: *Colposcopic Histology after Pap Negative HPV Positive Test Results*

Leo D. Lagasse 2007-

Lisa Landrum MDPhD; University of Oklahoma: *Stage IVb Endometrial Cancer: Does Applying an Ovarian Cancer Treatment Paradigm Result in Similar Outcomes?*



**WHY WAGO?**

☼ It is one of my favorite meetings because the science is good, there are lots of opportunities to ask questions and have meaningful dialog about what has been presented. The locations are great but most importantly the people who attend are tons of fun and everyone in the family has a great time. It is also very welcoming for residents and fellows.

☼ Because it combines clinically relevant research and questions that apply to my patients. A wonderful opportunity to enjoy and participate in some real discussion regarding the research and the controversies of our field. This meeting is a contact sport that features commentary from some of the experts in all the fields of medicine who care for gynecologic oncology patients. The more you give, the more you get!

☼ A great chance to meet with old and new friends/colleagues, during a family-oriented meeting, in spectacular locations! Who can beat it?

☼ WAGO is by far my favorite meeting of the year-It's one of the few I go to because I truly enjoy, rather than because I "have to."

☼ The meeting is consistently in an interesting, fun location; one which I might not otherwise ever visit. It is family-friendly-my kids have grown up going to WAGO as their first "vacation" of the

summer. My daughter in college is planning on meeting me in Sonoma this year.

☼ It is much more intimate-the WAGO meeting is perfectly sized and situated (usually in a single hotel/resort) for meeting friends and getting to know people. SGO has lost that intimacy over the past decade or so.

☼ It is perfect for young physicians who are learning the process of creating and presenting a scientific paper for one's peers. WAGO allows access to some of the most experienced and respected leaders of our profession, without the intimidation factor that comes with speaking in a 1000+ seat auditorium on a televised podium.

☼ I think it's one of our best recruiting tools for young physicians. They see their faculty in a relaxed and approachable setting, broadening their understanding of and appreciation for this discipline.

☼ WAGO is a time where we can mentor our trainees through the conference experience, give practical advise and not be threatening. At GOG and SGO we are all too busy to spend quality time with our residents and fellows.

☼ We can bring family, dress casual, be ourselves and not show off for the crowd.

☼ We are amongst family and friends. And it is a good place to have our fellows "test the field" before some stuffy east coast professor rips him/her up at SGO.

☼ WAGO has always been my favorite meeting for all the reasons we go to meetings. Great science. Great interactions with colleagues—I bring my residents and fellows, and I'm glad to see when they join the group later in their careers. It's great for discussion, and particularly benefits from a strong representation of other disciplines involved in the care of gynecologic cancers. Finally, we pick great places to get away—Jasper remains my personal favorite.

☼ The meeting I most look forward to each year and have missed only once (due to surgical illness) in 25 years. Good papers, good fellows, and good fellowship. Good (often spirited) discussion and commentary, good friends, and good venues. All at a good price. **Why WAGO? For goodness sake, why not WAGO ??**

Best Outdoor Historical Site (7mi)

Jack London State Park encompasses 1,400-acres in the foothills above Glen Ellen. An easy 1.5 mile round-trip hike leads to the Wolf House, a massive 15,000 square foot, 4-story mansion built from quarried lava-rock, redwood logs and Spanish tiles. The house burned down in 1913, days before the London's planned to move in. The trail winds through a madrone and oak forest to the historic ruins.

Another easy 0.75-mile hike circles Jack London's Beauty Ranch, tucked into the foothills of Sonoma Mountain. The loop trail visits the London's cottage, the innovative Pig Palace, silos built in 1914, a rock sherry barn built in 1884, a distillery building and London Lake, a five-acre oasis with a bathhouse, surrounded by redwoods.



Best Coastal Hike (70 mi from inn)

Salt Point State Park is located on the spectacular Sonoma Coastline. Perched on the rugged cliffs, the 6,000-acre park has 7 miles of coastline with 20 miles of hiking, biking and equestrian trails. The Salt Point Trail follows the sheer oceanfront bluffs with breath-taking panoramas of the chiseled headlands, rocky promontories, secluded coves, natural bridges, dramatic offshore rocks and the crashing surf. The trail passes ancient Indian midden sites and leads to intricate wind and wave-sculpted honeycomb formations in the sandstone, known as tafoni.



- Wineries near Sonoma
- Buena Vista Winery
  - Gloria Ferrer Champagne Caves
  - Ravenswood
  - Sebastiani Vineyards
  - Viansi

- Sonoma county links:**
- <http://www.sonomacounty.com>
  - <http://www.sonoma.winecountry.com>
  - [www.wineroad.com](http://www.wineroad.com)
  - [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)



A FEW RESTAURANTS  
SURROUNDING SONOMA

**Equus Restaurant,  
Bar & Lounge**

(707) 578-0149  
101 Fountaingrove Parkway  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
17.5 mi

Executive Chef Jeff Reilly has launched an innovative seasonal menu featuring daily specials with a selection from our gallery of Sonoma County wines.

**French Laundry  
Restaurant**

6640 Washington St,  
Yountville, CA  
8.92 miles  
707-944-2380

**Generals Daughter**

400 W Spain St  
Sonoma, CA  
1.69 mi  
707-938-4004

**John Ash & Co**

(707) 527-7687  
4330 Barnes Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
19.5 miles

A visit to John Ash & Co.

Restaurant is a feast for the senses. With picturesque vineyards as a backdrop, our chef utilizes the finest of locally grown products to create inspired wine country cuisine for your pleasure.

**Kendall Jackson  
Wine Center**

707.571.8100  
866.287.9818  
5007 Fulton Road  
Fulton, CA 95436  
26 mi

You will journey with our chefs as they push the boundaries of culinary creativity, sampling from a plate of delectable original recipes developed specifically to pair with our limited release wines.

**Rocker Oysterfeller's  
Kitchen + Saloon**

(707) 876-1983  
14415 Highway One  
Valley Ford, CA 94972  
23.9 mi

Priding ourselves on the local classic BBQ oysters, a full bar and Southern-inspired menu featuring Sonoma County wines and locally farmed foods, menu favorites such as Rosie Organic Fried Chicken or Molasses and Bourbon Braised Pork Shoulder are sure to keep your taste buds humming while locally caught Grilled Salmon with Watercress Salad will satisfy those lighter cravings. Dinner served from 5pm to 9pm. Join us for brunch on our sunny patio with Buttermilk Biscuits and Gravy, Fresh Blueberry Flapjacks, or Grilled Quail, Sun 10am-2p

**Starlight Wine Bar &  
Restaurant**

707.823.1943  
6761 Sebastopol Avenue  
Sebastopol, CA 95472  
26 mi

The Starlight is a historic 1949 Pullman Lounge Car transformed into one of Sonoma County's outstanding new restaurants. Chef Thaddeus Palmese's New Orleans influenced culinary offerings showcase the best of the area's organic produce and sustainably farmed meats and seafood. Be it for a glass of wine or a full meal, step back to the golden era of rail travel as you board the Starlight for a taste of Sonoma County's finest. Open for Lunch & Dinner Tuesday - Friday; Dinner on Saturday; Brunch on Sunday. Closed Monday. Expanded hours for Barrel Tasting Weekends: Friday/Saturday Lunch/Dinner 12:00 - 11PM/Sunday Brunch 10:00-2:00PM.

**Zazu**

(707) 523-4814  
3535 Guerneville Rd  
Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
19.8 miles

SF Chronicle Best New Restaurant, Top 100: 2002, 2004, 2005! Zazu is a roadhouse restaurant inspired by riffs on Americana & rustic Northern Italian tradition. Chefs Duskie & John are committed to finding ingredients as close to the restaurant as possible, including their own garden. Menu changes nightly. Pizza & Pinot Mon, Wed, Thurs & Sun