



**Southwest  
Chapter**

**2007-2008 Chapter Officers**

**President**

Stephen Palmer, PhD, ELS  
832.355.8902  
spalmer@amwasouthwest.org

**Program Chair**

Ruth SoRelle, MPH  
713.798.4712  
rsorelle@amwasouthwest.org

**Assistant Program Chair**

Kristina Wasson-Blader, PhD  
405.640.6196  
kblader@amwasouthwest.org

**Treasurer**

Alison Woo, ELS  
713.563.3432  
awoo@amwasouthwest.org

**Secretary**

Diego Pineda, MS  
409.772.0199  
dpineda@amwasouthwest.org

**Past President**

Christine Wogan, MS, ELS  
713.792.3160  
cwogan@amwasouthwest.org

**Membership Chair**

Ann Sutton  
713.745.2205  
asutton@amwasouthwest.org

**Publicity Chair**

Pierrette Lo, ELS  
713.794.1906  
plo@amwasouthwest.org

**Newsletter Editor**

Hanson Yu, PhD  
915.276.8288  
hyu@amwasouthwest.org

**Directors-at-Large**

Natasha Green, MA, ELS  
281.228.7519  
ngreen@amwasouthwest.org  
Lori Buffum  
832.355.6595  
lbuffum@amwasouthwest.org  
Pamela Metoyer, ELS(D)  
713.798.3652  
ptice@amwasouthwest.org  
Jude Richard, ELS  
512.963.8859  
jrichard@amwasouthwest.org  
Jeanie Woodruff  
713.745.1981  
jwoodruff@amwasouthwest.org

# Join Us for a Tour of Anti-smoking Cartoons and Member Appreciation

**When?** March 26, 2008 (Wednesday)  
6:00 – 7:30 PM

**Where?** Houston Academy of Medicine-  
Texas Medical Center Library  
1133 John Freeman Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77030  
(Street level conference room  
and hallway)

**Why?** Because our members are  
important and we want them to  
get to know one another...

**Non-members are welcome!**

In the early days of the anti-smoking battle, physicians and public health advocates found unlikely allies in the smoke-filled rooms of newspaper-editorial cartoonists. Their barbs and skewers buttressed the battles fought in city halls, state legislatures, and Congress itself. Come see an exhibit of these cartoons and even more important, join your fellow AMWA Southwest Chapter members for a member appreciation event.

It's time to network, bring your protégés and friends, and enjoy the occasion with each other. Get to know your fellow members for the first time or all over again. Find out what they do and how they do it. Have a glass of wine and some food with us.

Parking is available under the library, in Garage 7, across the street next to The

Methodist Hospital, and in Garage 4, near Memorial Hermann Hospital. Or if you are coming from downtown, you can ride the train to the Memorial-Hermann/Houston Zoo exit and walk over. For more directions, please visit [www.bcm.tmc.edu/maps](http://www.bcm.tmc.edu/maps).

For more information, contact Ruth SoRelle at [dsorelle@bcm.edu](mailto:dsorelle@bcm.edu) or 713.798.4712.

## **Annual John P. McGovern Award Banquet Honoring Stuart C. Yudofsky, MD**

**By Jude Richard and Diego Pineda**

On January 29, 2008, the AMWA Southwest Chapter presented the 2008 John P. McGovern Award to Dr Stuart Yudofsky, D.C. and Irene Ellwood Professor and Chairman of the Menninger Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine, and chair of the psychiatry department at Methodist Hospital, Houston, Texas.

During the banquet, in front of about 40 members and guests, Dr Yudofsky spoke on The Impact of Stigmatization on the Mentally Ill. His presentation included a fascinating historical overview of the ways that society and the medical profession have viewed and cared for the mentally ill.

Through much of history, as Dr Yudofsky described, the behaviors associated with mental illnesses (eg, paranoid schizophrenia) were often ascribed not to any psychological, biological, or neurological causes but rather to

supernatural ones. In ancient Greece, the mentally ill were considered cursed with madness by the gods; in the Middle Ages, they were deemed possessed by demons. Some enlightened ancients, including the Greek physician Galen, guessed at biological causes for mental illness, but their theories did not take root for long.

At one point, Dr Yudofsky gently chided some of today's medical professionals for a continuing resistance to placing an organ as intricately wired, delicate, complex, and crucial as the brain on similar footing with the infinitely simpler heart and kidneys as organs that can break down and lead to diseases.

According to Dr Yudofsky, the ancient attitudes and judgments that situated the causes of mental illness outside the body also stigmatized the mentally ill, leading at various times in the Middle Ages to radical solutions, such as burning at the stake or imprisonment. Not until

the 19th century, he emphasized, did researchers again start looking to the brain and finding there possible causes of mental disorders. These advances were blunted, however, by the contentious emergence and widespread application of the Freud's psychoanalytical theories in the early 20th century.

Later in the 20th century, Dr Yudofsky said, the treatment for the mentally ill reached a watershed moment when the disciplines of

neurology and psychiatry came together to study and treat brain-related disorders.

Dr Yudofsky concluded his speech by noting that, despite the sometimes wary, sometimes rocky cooperation between professionals in these fields, there are many, including himself and his colleagues at the Menninger Clinic, who appreciate and continue to pursue neuropsychiatry's promise and potential for improving the health of the mentally ill.

### ***AMWA Southwest Chapter Newsletter***

**Hanson Yu, Editor**  
**P.O. Box 12286**  
**El Paso, TX 79913**  
**Phone: 915.276.8288**  
**Email: [hyu@amwasouthwest.org](mailto:hyu@amwasouthwest.org)**

