

Southwest Chapter

News



2004–2005

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November 2004

AMWA Southwest Holiday Gala

with a lecture by
Mohammad Madjid, MD

Wednesday, December 8, 2004, 6:00-8:00 pm
Josephine's Ristorante, Houston, Texas

The annual AMWA Southwest Chapter Holiday Gala is right around the corner once again! As we usher in this holiday season, we are reminded that it is also flu season. This year, we are facing a potentially dangerous flu season owing to the lack of flu vaccine in the United States. We are honored to have Mohammad Madjid, MD, a research scientist from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and the Texas Heart Institute, speak to our group about the potential flu pandemic and the link between influenza and coronary artery disease. Please join us on December 8 at Josephine's Ristorante downtown to enjoy a delicious Italian dinner with friends and colleagues and hear an informative lecture entitled "Influenza and Heart Attack" by a leading expert in the field of infectious diseases.

The night's menu will include a dinner salad, Italian bread with olive oil or butter, and the following wonderful Italian entree choices: pasta primavera with fresh-cut vegetables served in either tomato sauce, spicy marinara sauce, or olive oil, garlic, and basil sauce; shrimp linguine marinara; chicken parmesan served with a side of spaghetti; lasagna; or ravioli. Dinner will be served with your choice of coffee, tea, soft drink, or wine. And, for dessert, you will have a choice of either fresh carrot cake with a creamy coconut icing or cookie pudding pie with a crust of crumbled cookies and pecans, a layer of cream cheese mixture, and a layer of chocolate pudding, all topped off with a whipped topping. Cost for the dinner will be \$25 for members and \$28 for nonmembers.

Josephine's Ristorante is located in downtown Houston at 1209 Caroline Street between Polk and Dallas. Street parking around the restaurant is free after 5 p.m. (recommended) or parking also is available at two All Right Parking lots (one in front of and one behind the restaurant) at a cost of \$4.

RSVP for the holiday gala by Friday, December 3, by sending your check (payable to AMWA Southwest) to Natasha Calder, 2849 Sea Channel, Seabrook, TX 77586 or by e-mailing Ms. Calder at ncalder@amwasouthwest.org.

October Meeting at Historical Research Center Features Two Local Authors

On October 6, approximately 20 AMWA Southwest members and nonmembers gathered to explore the Historical Research Center (HRC) near the Texas Medical Center in Houston, which houses the archives and photo collections of the John P. McGovern Historical Collections and Research Center in an 11,000-square-foot environmentally regulated space. The evening began with socializing over an array of sandwiches and cookies from Jason's Deli.

Natasha Calder, president of AMWA-SW, opened the meeting by introducing the first speaker. Elizabeth White, director of the HRC, discussed the expansive archive housed by the center, including recently acquired items such as the Menninger Clinic collection. Ms. White also addressed the state of items that were damaged during the flooding brought on by Tropical Storm Allison in June 2001, which prompted the HRC's move to higher ground.

Ms. White then introduced the next speaker, Dr. William Kellar of the University of Houston, author of *Kelsey-Seybold Clinic: A Legacy of Excellence in Healthcare* and a soon-to-be-published biography of Dr. Frederick Elliott. Dr. Kellar talked about how helpful the HRC, and Ms. White in particular, was while he was researching and writing his books. Dr. Kellar then introduced Dr. Bryant Boutwell. Dr. Boutwell is the author of *Conversation with a Medical School*, a history of the first 30 years of The University of Texas-Houston Medical School. Dr. Boutwell discussed his conversations with Dr. McGovern and gave examples of the many intriguing pieces of information he found in his research at the HRC.

Dr. Boutwell brought copies of his book for all who attended the meeting and signed copies of the book after the meeting. After a brief question-and-answer session, Ms. White led a tour of the HRC stacks and discussed the Center's cataloguing protocols. Ms. White also discussed the process through which the HRC attains collections and gave some examples of a few archives that she hopes to one day house in the Center.

Sign Up Now for the Southwest Chapter E-Mail Group

The Southwest Chapter is streamlining its communication with all chapter members by encouraging participation in our "amwasouthwest" Yahoo! Group.

Most of you have already joined the group. Any chapter member who is not part of the group is strongly encouraged to sign up by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/amwasouthwest>.

Chapter announcements, updates, job postings, and the chapter newsletter will be delivered through the Yahoo! Group in an effort to reach members more effectively, as large, bulk e-mails are becoming more difficult to send without being treated as spam. The move will also continue the chapter's efforts to reduce the time and money spent on printing and mailing paper products.

Subscriptions to the chapter's Yahoo! Group are strictly limited to members of the Southwest Chapter for two reasons. First, announcements (including job postings and opportunities) that are intended only for chapter members will be distributed through the Yahoo! Group. Second, restricting membership will help us to avoid subjecting the group to spam. If you have any questions, please contact David Galloway at dgallowa@amwasouthwest.org or (281) 467-5557.

From the President...

The 64 Annual AMWA Conference

The 64th Annual AMWA Conference recently came to a close in St. Louis. In terms of attendance, the meeting was the second largest conference on record. I am happy to report that the Southwest Chapter was nicely represented at the meeting, with 69 members present! It was a pleasure to meet so many of you in St. Louis. Our chapter has much to be proud of, and I just want to thank all of you who participate in AMWA. People are what make organizations like AMWA a success, and the benefits that are to be had from this organization are many. Thank you!

An Officer Change

As of September, our Secretary for this term—Katie Prout Matias—relocated to New Jersey. I would like to thank Jude Richard, ELS, who works in the Scientific Publications Department at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, Texas, for volunteering to replace Katie as Secretary. The members will vote Mr. Richard in as Secretary at the December meeting.

Development Chair Needed

The position of Development Chair for the Southwest Chapter of AMWA is still vacant. We are looking for a volunteer to locate various sources for underwriting our current scholarship program or a new lectureship. The Development Chair position has the potential to further our chapter's status as an educational organization that promotes excellence in biomedical communications within the community. If anyone is interested in filling this important position on the board, please contact Natasha Calder at 281-228-7519 or by e-mail at ncalder@amwasouthwest.org.

Save the Date

Just a reminder that this year's Annual John P. McGovern Award Banquet will be held on January 26, 2005, at the Houston Plaza Hilton. This year's John P. McGovern Award will be presented to Alan Blum, MD, a Professor and Gerald Leon Wallace Endowed Chair in Family Medicine and Director of the Center for the Study of Tobacco and Society at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

AMWA Southwest Chapter News

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Meeting Reservations

Southwest Chapter Holiday Gala

Wednesday, December 8, 2004

6:00-8:00 p.m.

Josephine's Ristorante

Members \$25 and Nonmembers \$28

Please register by Friday, December 3, 2004

Please RSVP for the holiday gala by Friday, December 3, by sending your check (payable to AMWA Southwest) to Natasha Calder, 2849 Sea Channel, Seabrook, TX 77586 or by e-mailing Ms. Calder at ncalder@amwasouthwest.org.

If you register via e-mail, please be prepared to pay at the door on the night of the event. Entree and dessert choices will be made at the restaurant.