

---

## Samuel S. Weiss Award

The Samuel S. Weiss Award was established as a service award in commemoration of the founding father of the ACG, Samuel S. Weiss, whose efforts and initiative resulted in the establishment of the College in 1932. It is presented periodically, and not necessarily annually, to a Fellow of the College in recognition of outstanding career service to the American College of Gastroenterology. Nominations are solicited and reviewed by the Awards Committee and the recipients must be approved by the ACG Board of Trustees.

### 2017 Recipients

#### John W. Popp, Jr., MD, MACG



John W. Popp Jr., MD, MACG, was born in Oak Park, Illinois in 1947. He attended Vanderbilt University (cum laude) where he met his future wife, Carol. He received his medical degree (AOA) in 1973 from the Yale University School of Medicine, where his honors included the Miriam Dasey prize, awarded to the student who by strength of character, personal integrity, and academic achievement gives promise of fulfilling the ideal of the compassionate physician. He trained at Yale in internal medicine as an intern, resident and chief resident. During his residency he received the Betsy Winters Prize, awarded by the Senior Class

for excellence in the teaching of clinical medicine. Dr. Popp also served as a clinical instructor in the Yale Physician's Assistant program.

After completing his Gastroenterology fellowship in Dr. Kurt Isselbacher's program at Massachusetts General Hospital in 1979, he moved to Columbia, SC, where he joined a private practice. Dr. Popp held a faculty position as a Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, eventually chairing the Department of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition, a role he continued until his retirement from clinical practice in 2006. In 1986 he was the recipient of the Clinical Faculty Award, awarded annually by the Medical House Staff for excellence in teaching. He served as the director of the Endoscopy Lab at Richland Memorial Hospital for many years and held several leadership positions at the hospital during his practice career.

Dr. Popp was the co-founder of the South Carolina Gastroenterology Association and played an active role on its governing board. He joined the American College of Gastroenterology in 1990 and was elected its Governor for the state of South Carolina in 1992. He was named Regional Councilor in 1995, serving a 2-year term. In 1997, Dr. Popp received the Senior Governor's Award, and in 2004 the William D. Carey award. He served as the Chair of the National Affairs committee from 1997-2000, was elected to the Board of Trustees in 1998, and was named President of the College in 2004. In 2009 Dr. Popp was recognized as a Master of the College. He continued on the ACG Board as Trustee for Administrative Affairs until 2013, receiving the President's Recognition Award upon completion of his service to the Board.

He retired from practice in 2006 and joined Centocor (now Janssen) as a Medical Director, a position he continues to hold. In 2006 he was named delegation leader for the People to People Citizen Ambassador outreach program and over the next decade led groups of gastroenterologists to South Africa, India, China, Russia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Cuba, and Tanzania. During his practice career he served as the local investigator for over 50 clinical trials focusing on a variety of clinical conditions, with his primary interest being inflammatory bowel disease. He and his wife Carol are the proud parents of four happily married sons. They enjoy travel and spending time with their family, including 6 grandchildren.

## **Past Samuel S. Weiss Award Recipients**

2016	Richard G. Farmer, MD, MS, MACG Burton I. Korelitz, MD, MACG Sidney J. Winawer, MD, MACG
2015	Christina M. Surawicz, MD, MACG
2014	Jamie S. Barkin, MD, MACG
2013	Jack A. Di Palma, MD, FACG
2012	Martin H. Floch, MD, MACG
2011	Frank L. Lanza, MD, FACG
2008	Robert E. Kravetz, MD, MACG
2006	William D. Carey, MD, MACG
2005	David Y. Graham, MD, MACG
2004	Edgar Achkar, MD, FACG
2002	Lawrence J. Brandt, MD, MACG
2001	Joel E. Richter, MD, MACG
2000	Seymour Katz, MD, MACG
1998	Rowen K. Zetterman, MD, FACG
1997	Arthur H. Aufses, Jr., MD, MACG
1996	Arvey I. Rogers, MD, MACG
1995	Jerome D. Waye, MD, MACG
1994	J. Edward Berk, MD, MACG
1993	Arthur E. Lindner, MD, MACG
1992	Franz Goldstein, MD, MACG
1991	James L. Achord, MD, MACG
1990	Robert L. Berger, MD, MACG
1989	Angelo E. DaGradi, MD, MACG
1987	Joseph E. Walther, MD, MACG
1986	Richard L. Wechsler, MD, MACG
1984	John P. Papp, MD, MACG
1982	Daniel Weiss, BS, MA
1980	David A. Dreiling, MD, MACG
1978	Henry Colcher, MD, MACG
1976	Murrel H. Kaplan, MD, FACG
1974	Robert R. Bartunek, MD, FACG
1972	Milton J. Matzner, MD, FACG