# MRVector Newsletter

***American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists***

*Phone: 718-347-8690 Fax: 718-347-8691 E-mail: ARMRIT@msn.com*

www.armrit.org

*Winter/Spring 2011 Issue*
*Vol. XVII No. 1*

## *STANDING OVATION for MR. MRI, 5TH ANNUAL ARMRIT SEMINAR*

Las Vegas, Nevada:

Raymond V. Damadian, MD, who is considered by many as the "Father of MRI" was the keynote speaker at the fifth annual meeting of the American Registry of MRI Technologists (ARMRIT) held at the Stirling Club in Las Vegas, Nevada last October 21-23 2010. The lecture was aptly titled "The History and Genesis of MRI, the Indomitable Machine."

Raymond V. Damadian, MD & Wilfrido M. Sy, MD prior to Dr. Sy's introduction of Dr. Damadian's Lecture on "The History and Genesis of MRI, the Indomitable Machine."

After a fitting introduction of Dr. Damadian, chronicling his struggles in inventing the first body MRI machine, and his earlier and continuing contributions in the discipline of MRI, by Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, Chairman and Executive Director of ARMRIT, all attendees spontaneously rose and gave him a 2 minute standing ovation. This was befitting a man who gave his mind, heart and soul in the invention and development of the Indomitable Machine.

To say that the message of his lecture was outstanding is clearly an understatement. His lecture resonated warmly and was enthusiastically embraced by the attendees.

ARMRIT is thankful that it was offered the opportunity to place into perspective his past pivotal contributions and which is still on-going in the field of MRI. Many of the attendees are familiar with his name, but were not exactly conversant with the size of the role he played in the invention of this revolutionary imaging modality. Brief as his stay was, because of his tight schedule (he left after he delivered his lecture), still many attendees had the opportunity to talk with an MRI walking history and had some photo shoots with him.

***"...attendees spontaneously rose and gave him a 2 minute standing ovation. This was befitting a man who gave his mind, heart and soul in the invention and development of the Indomitable Machine."***

The 5th annual meeting was the best attended yet and the consensus was all speakers and the topics discussed were outstanding and excellent, since they were educational, informative and germane to the practical and clinical day to day work of the attendees in their respective centers. The introduction of PET-MRI imaging was very well received except for one who thought it was "above the person's head". It was not the intent to promote PET scanning itself but rather introduce the basic concepts and how it interfaces with MRI. Wilfrido M. Sy, MD

LEONARD LUCEY, ACR
Senior Director and Counsel
Las Vegas, Nevada:

Leonard Lucey, who is currently the American College of Radiology Senior Director & Legal Counsel, delivered a lecture centered on the CMS changes of the MIPAA law in 2012.

Mr. Lucey has been with the ACR, after he started his legal career in the Military for many years; and rose to his current position as counsel and is the one person who is most knowledgeable and qualified to talk on this topic and how the changes will affect practitioners of imaging modalities exclusive of MRI.

Leonard Lucey, ACR Senior Director (right) & Jim Coffin, ARMRIT President prior to Mr. Lucey's Lecture on the MIPAA Law and ACR accreditation.

### CMS Deadline Set: January 2012 CMS Requires MRI Sites To Be Accredited & MRI Techs to Be Certified.

It was made clear that ARMRIT certified technologists are accepted as integral to the technical staff of imaging centers whether free-standing or hospital based services that are certified by ACR. The moderator at one point also underscored that ARMRIT certifies MRI technologists and

(Continued on pg. 2)

**Inside this issue:**


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***ARMRIT 2011***
**6th Annual Meeting & Seminar**
**Oct. 27-29**
Stirling Club
@Turnberry Place
Las Vegas, Nevada

*See Agenda on Page 5*
*&*
*Fill Out Registration Form*
***On Page 7*** *& Fax to:*
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## COMMENTS on COMMENTS:
Las Vegas, NV

As required annually all attendees submitted an overall evaluation of the meeting. The overall take from these assessment sheets was either outstanding or excellent with one or two attendees who rated one or two items as being very good and one who specifically thought the subject of PET was over the person's head. Other than this the meals served, topics and speakers, venue of meeting and dates of meeting were rated all very positively.

VENUE of MEETING:

The annual meeting has been held at the Stirling Club for the last three meetings simply because the facilities and amenities are wonderful and almost ideal for the size of the ARMRIT meeting. Occasionally we receive one or at most two suggestions why not hold the next meeting in New York. The answer is simple, while Manhattan is wonderful and exciting city to have a meeting, the cost to hold an annual meeting is somewhat prohibitive for the size of the Registry.

"... ***held at the Stirling Club for the last three meetings simply because the facilities and amenities are wonderful and almost ideal for the size of the ARMRIT meeting."***

MEALS:

At this age and time, meetings the size of our annual meeting, the attendees are not provided any lunch or meaningful nourishment during the course of the meeting.

As the current set-up permits all the meals served during the meeting are partly subsidized by the Club membership. Since one of the board members is a member of the Club because he resides in the complex, the Registry is able to receive some of these benefits. The first two meetings held in Las Vegas outside the Stirling Club, not only were they not cost effective but the quality of the meals and service was not exactly acceptable.

Presently the Stirling Club is being purchased by a yet unknown third party buyer. The policy of the previous owners may or may not change. This remains to be seen.

We will keep holding our meetings at the Club as long as this remains the most competitive venue.

DATES OF MEETING:

The consensus from the assessment sheets favor holding the meeting as had been traditionally held from Thursday to Saturday in October. So we will keep these as the days for the meeting.

***"The first two meetings held in Las Vegas outside the Stirling Club, not only were they not cost effective but the quality of the meals and service was not exactly acceptable".***

SUGGESTIONS:

There were many and diversified suggestions for future topics and speakers. This is wonderful. Now because of the limited time and slots not all of these suggestions can be carried out at the next meeting. But rest assured that many of these suggestions will at one time or another become topics for future meetings.

Again, we thank you for your feedback, comments and obviously your support and attendance.

Wilfrido M. Sy, MD

## Los Angeles County, CA, Department of Health Services
Los Angeles, CA

Has included ARMRIT certification in the selection requirements for MRI Technologist positions in LA County Hospitals.

James F. Coffin, President

## LEONARD LUCEY, ACR Senior Director & Counsel

(continued from pg.1)

is also involved with accrediting MRI technology schools but is not involved in accrediting MRI centers whether free standing or hospital operated, which is the province of the ACR and two other organizations namely, the Joint Commission (formerly JCAHO) and the ICA.

As long as the cost of health care delivery to patients (which includes hospitals, physicians, nurses, and all health para-professionals in the country rises over 20%-25% annually and takes up to two thirds of the annual government budget, some legislations to control the cost are and will be mandated by the government.

When Mr. Lucey was asked by someone from the audience if anticipated changes in MIPAA reimbursements and oversights was because of Obama Care, he responded definitively by saying the changes coming down the pike in 2012 have nothing to do with Obama Care because they were already in the works for 18 months before the current president took office.

The expected changes including oversights of imaging centers that involve MRI were clearly and succinctly presented in Mr. Lucey's presentation. The valuable message of Mr. Lucey's lecture was well appreciated by the attendees and will be carried home.

***"...made clear that ARMRIT certified technologists are accepted as integral to the technical staff of imaging centers whether free-standing or hospital based services that are certified by ACR."***

The following topics, all delivered expertly by the speakers were as follows: "EPI-MR's Great Enabler & Applications and Implications" , Thomas Schrack, Fairfax Radiology Consultants, PC, "MRI & PET-Spect", Karin Knesaurek, Mount Sinai Medical Center, NY, "MRI of Lower Extremity Sports Injuries", Sean Beaty, Radiology Specialists, Ltd., Las Vegas, NV, "Functional MRI", Stephen Dashnaw, Columbia University, NY, "MRI-PET Fusion Imaging", William O'Connell, Columbia University Medical Center, NY, "Breast Imaging & Biopsy", Tim Smith, Providence Health Systems, Portland, OR, "MRCP", Timothy Troncale, Alliance Imaging, CA, "Cardiac MRI", William Woodward, Oregon Health Sciences University.

To round up the above all other moderators consisting of Albert Cayton, MD, Paul Heubeck, and William O'Connell, ARMRIT's newest board member who introduced the concept of PET & MRI did their assignments eloquently.

Wilfrido M. Sy, MD

We would like to thank our valued Member, Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, for once again hosting his prestigious conference for the American Registry of Magnetic Resonance Imaging Technologists at the Club. Dr. Sy is the Chairman and Executive Director of ARMRIT and worked closely with our catering team to plan all of the events. James F. Coffin, President of ARMITT, welcomed all attendees, oversaw all of the education and presented the closing remarks for the conference. This was a three day event with the highlight being the keynote presentation by DR. Raymond Damadian, regarding the "History and Genesis of MRI, A Machine called Indomitable.

*Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, Dr. Damadian, James F. Coffin*

Once scorned by the scientific community, MRI, pioneered by Dr. Damadian has become the most precise imaging modality in the diagnosis of pathology brain,spine, heart, pelvic areas, ect… Indeed it can be safely stated that MRI imaging is the internal imaging breakthrough of the century. As Henry Ford revolutionized the transportation industry nearly eighty years ago, likewise, Dr. Damadian has revolutionized the medical imaging field in our time.We appreciate Dr. Sy holding this event at the Club every year and look forward to working with him and producing many more successful events for him.

*Wilfrido M. Sy, MD is a Clinical Aoo Professor in Radiology from the Weill School of Medicine at Cornell University.*

*'As Reported in the January / February 2011 Issue of 'The Stirling Club Magazine'*

## *General Information:*

*E-mail:*
*armrit@msn.com*

*Web: www.armrit.org*

- Update your contact information**,** send an e-mail to:
  - armrit@msn.com
- **To Verify a Tech's Certification Visit:**
  - www.armrit.org
- Renew your CPR/BLS on-line visit www.armrit.org and Click on the:
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**ARMRIT**
**"Because MRI is a Specialty"**

*ARMRIT*
*8815 Commonwealth Blvd.*
*Bellerose, NY 11426*

### *CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) REQUIREMENT*

Bellerose, NY

All ARMRIT Certified MRI Technologists are required to renew their certification before expiration and must submit evidence of six (6) CME credits per year for a total of twelve (12) CME credits in MRI Technology as awarded by the AMA, ACCME, AHRA, or other material found suitable by the board of directors.

**New Certified MRI Technologists:**

New ARMRIT Certified MRI Techs are **not** required to submit evidence of CME credits until their third calendar year of certificate renewal, including the year the Certified Tech successfully completed the examination.

**CME Topics:**

Continuing medical education credits must be derived from topics related to Magnetic Resonance Imaging technology and/or MRI patient care and safety.

**Note: Subjects other than MRI will not be accepted.**

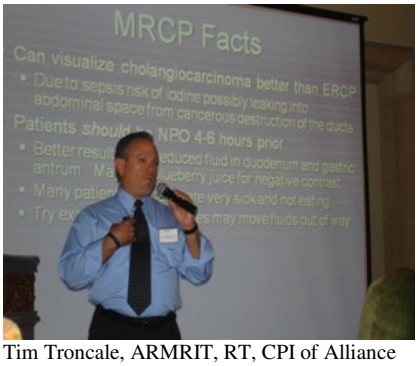
### ARMRIT Recognition:

- **Veterans Administration Medical Imaging Department**.
- **American Council on Education's College Credit Recommendation Service (ACE CREDIT).**
- **Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE),** a member organization.
- **Los Angeles County, CA, Department of Health Services.**
- **Ohio Department of Health.**
- **Oregon Board of Medical Imaging Technology (formerly OBRT).**
- **West Virginia Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Technology Board of Examiners.**
- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).**
- **American College of Radiology (ACR) MRI Accreditation Committee**.

# ARMRIT 2010 5th Annual Meeting & Seminar

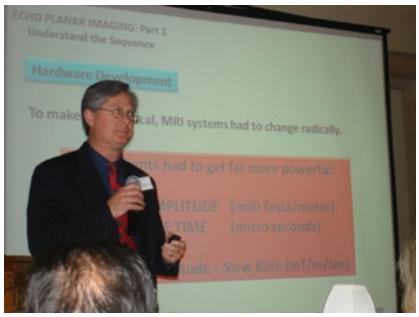
ARMRIT 2010
5TH ANNUAL MEETING & SEMINAR - OCTOBER 21-23
STIRLING CLUB AT TURNBERRY PLACE, LAS VEGAS.
www.armrit.org

Charlie Daniels, ARMRIT of Sharp & Children's MRI Center, San Diego, CA and Dr. Raymond V. Damadian, MRI Inventor and President & CEO of Fonar Corporation, Melville NY.




Tim Troncale, ARMRIT, RT, CPI of Alliance Imaging, Anaheim, CA & MRI Program Director of West Coast Ultrasound Institute, Beverly Hills, CA lectures on MR Cholangio-Pancreatography (MRCP).

Efrain Salvador, ARMRIT, Maureen Lawrence, ARMRIT, and Tim Casey, ARMRIT of San Diego Imaging ,Chula Vista, CA co-workers share a photo at the Stirling Club.



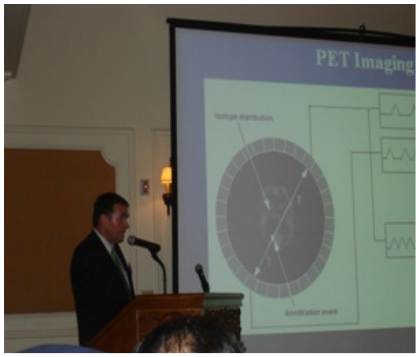

Thomas Schrack, ARMRIT Manager of Education & Technical Development of Fairfax Radiology Consultants, Virginia lectures on Echo Planar Imaging.

Maureen Lawrence, ARMRIT of San Diego Imaging, Chula Vista, CA & Dr. Raymond V. Damadian shares a photo after his wonderful lecture.

(Left to Right) Efrain Salvador, Jim Coffin, Bill Woodward, Maureen Lawrence, Tom Schrack, Dr. Wilfrido M. Sy, Charlie Daniels, &Tim Casey in front of the fireplace & ARMRIT 2010 banner.

Charlie Daniels, ARMRIT of Sharp & Children's MRI Center, San Diego, CA and Jim Coffin, ARMRIT President at the cocktail reception, Thursday, Oct. 23rd.

William Woodward, ARMRIT of Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, OR lectures on Cardiac MRI




William O'Connell, Dr.Ph, DABR, Columbia University Medical Center, NYC, NY lectures on MRI-PET Fusion Imaging.

Dr. Raymond V. Damadian is thanked by Jim Coffin for his lecture on the invention of MRI and his machine called "Indomitable".

***ARMRIT 2011***
**6th Annual Meeting & Seminar**
**Oct. 27-29**
Stirling Club
@Turnberry Place
Las Vegas, Nevada

*See Agenda on Page 5*
*&*
*Fill Out Registration Form* ***On Page 7***
*& Fax to:*
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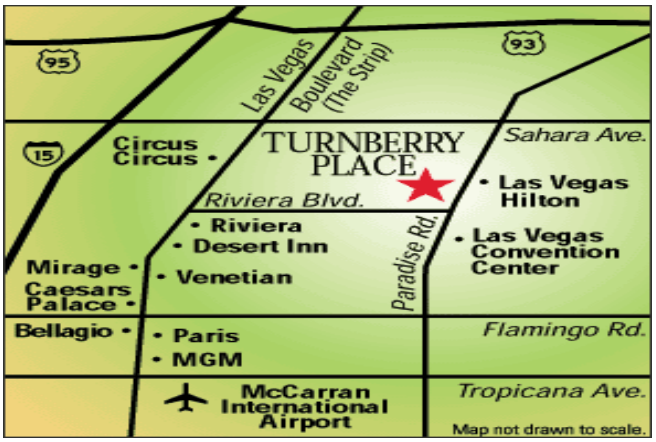
# *ARMRIT 2011:* 6th Annual Meeting & Seminar - October 27-29

Stirling Club-Turnberry Place, 2827 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109




**Directions from Airport:**

1: Start out going EAST on WAYNE NEWTON BLVD.
2: WAYNE NEWTON BLVD becomes S. SWENSON ST.
3: Turn LEFT onto E. NAPLES DR.
4: Turn RIGHT onto PARADISE RD. to Turnberry Place.

**For Accommodations:** at the World Famous **Las Vegas Hilton** thru September 27-See Page 6:
Call Directly - **800-635-7711**. Ask for Rooms for the **ARMRIT group**.

| **Program Schedule:** | **Thursday** | **Oct. 27** | **7pm – 9pm** | **Cocktail Reception** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Friday** | **Oct. 28** | **8am – 4pm** | **Lecture Series-Breakfast & Lunch Provided** |
| | **Saturday** | **Oct. 29** | **8am – 4pm** | **Lecture Series-Breakfast & Lunch Provided** |

**Chair:** Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, Clinical Assoc. Professor in Radiology, Weill School of Medicine, Cornell University., NY

## Topics & Lecturers

**"MR Enterography: Technique and Applications "**, Sean Beaty, MD, Radiology Specialists, Ltd., Las Vegas, NV

**"MRI Accreditation Clinical Examination Submission"**, Theresa Branham, BSRS, RT, MRI/CT Accred. Mgr., ACR, Reston, VA

**"Accreditation Standards for MRI Programs"**, Romulo Genato, MD, FACS, The Brooklyn Hospital Center, Brooklyn, NY

**"Clinical PET/MRI: A Dawn of a New Clinical Imaging Modality"**, Karin Knesaurek, DABR, Assoc. Prof., Mt. Sinai Med. Ctr., NY

**"The Role of MRI in Clinical Veterinary Neurology"**, Donald Levesque, DVM, DACVIM, Veterinary Neurological Ctr., LV, NY

**"Acceptance Testing and QA Procedures for MRI Facilities"**, William O'Connell, Dr.Ph., DABR, Columbia Univ. Med. Ctr., NY

**"Breast MRI & MRI-Guided Procedures"**, Irina Rondel, MD, Director of Breast Imaging, The Brooklyn Hospital Center, Bklyn., NY

**"Fetal Brain Imaging"**, Thomas Schrack, BS, ARMRIT, Manager MR Educ. & Tech. Dev., Fairfax Radiology Consults., PC, VA

**"Magnetic Resonance Bio-effects, Safety, & Patient Management: 2011"**, Frank G. Shellock, Ph.D., USC, Los Angeles, CA

**"Pre Natal / Post Partum Pediatric Imaging in MRI"**, Timothy Smith, ARMRIT, Providence Health Systems, Portland, OR

**"Image Quality-The Art of the Technologist"**, Timothy Troncale, RT(MR), ARMRIT, CPI Alliance Imaging, CA.

**"Cardiac MRI, Works in Progress"**, William Woodward, ARMRIT, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland, OR

**Accreditation:** this course will meet all criteria as approved by A**HRA**:
The Association for Medical Imaging Management for **12 Category A** Continuing Education Credits.

***Fill Out Registration Form on Page 7 and Fax to: 718-347-8691***

World Famous **Las Vegas Hilton**
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# ARMRIT 2011 - REGISTRATION FORM

Name ARMRIT Certificate# / Non-ARMRIT / *Student

Address

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Telephone Fax

E-mail

Emergency Contact Name and Telephone

| **Registration Fees:** | **Early Registration thru July 1, 2011** | **July 1, 2011 – On site** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **ARMRIT Tech** (Oct. 27 - 29) | $350 | $400 | $_____ |
| ARMRIT Tech Oct. 28 Only! | $200 | $225 | $_____ |
| ARMRIT Tech Oct. 29 Only! | $200 | $225 | $_____ |
| **Non-ARMRIT** (Oct. 27 - 29) | $400 | $425 | $_____ |
| Non-ARMRIT Oct. 28 Only! | $225 | $250 | $_____ |
| Non-ARMRIT Oct. 29 Only! | $225 | $250 | $_____ |
| ***Student Price** | $300 | $350 | $_____ |
| **MRI School** - (see www.armrit.org): | | | |
| Non-Attendee Spouse or Guest for Cocktail Reception – Oct. 27 | | $75 | $_____ |

Total $_____

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***Student Price:** Applies only to MRI Students attending programs offered by MRI Schools listed on www.armrit.org.

**Special Needs:** If you have any special needs or dietary requirements, please let us know so that we may do our best to accommodate you. Contact ARMRIT at 718-347-8690 or e-mail ARMRIT@msn.com

**Cancellation Policy:** A refund (less a $100 administrative fee) will be processed for any cancellation made in writing prior to September 1, 2011. No refunds after September 1, 2011

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