

ARMRIT THIRD ANNUAL MEETING & SEMINAR OCT. 16-18, 2008 STIRLING CLUB-TURNBERRY PLACE, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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2007 ARMRIT 2nd ANNUAL MEETING; A Repeat Success!

The Second annual ARMRIT meeting was held successfully at the Suncoast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas Nevada on October 4-6, 2007. It was another successful meeting. The 12 hour CME accredited meeting was attended by ARMRIT MRI technologists from across the United States but predominately from the East coast like the states of New Jersey, New York and also from the West coast like California and Oregon. Representatives from Florida and the Carolinas were also noted. Other states represented include some southwest states like Nevada, New Mexico and also Texas. There was also one overseas attendee.

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ARMRIT TECHS ADDRESS the Oregon Board of Radiologic Technology – OBRT

Posted in the minutes of the December 14, 2007 minutes of the OBRT Legislative Update Board Meeting are comments by two ARMRIT Certified Technologists commenting on proposed State legislation (SB144) which would require licensure for medical imaging technologists other than X-Ray techs. Much like the national RadCare bills of last year, SB144

attempts to umbrella MRI and other modalities, such as Ultrasound and Nuclear Medicine under general radiography. Also important is that the OBRT has 10 members, 9 of which are X-ray techs. SB144 has been stalled thanks to the comments and efforts of William Woodward, ARMRIT and Aaron Carroll, ARMRIT and a host of other speakers, especially from the ultrasound community. Their comments were recorded as follows:

William Woodward – “Good evening ladies and gentlemen of the board. My name is William Woodward. I have been before the board at the last meeting and I intend to show up as an MRI technologist who’s been an MRI technologist for between 19 and 20 years, dated myself there. As I’ve stated before, I am not a radiological technologist, although I have great respect and my dearest friends in the world are all x-ray technologists. I am registered by the American Registry of MRI Technologists,

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We Need to Build a Legal War Chest!

As you may know, United Health Care has designated that all MRI providers must be ACR or IAC accredited by March 2008. We have alerted United Health Care that both accrediting bodies have excluded ARMRIT Techs and have requested that they reconsider their **position**. That being said, this letter is a continuum of the communication you received in January of this year.

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Legal War Chest (continued from pg. 1)

Many of you have responded positively to that urgency call. While we are able to make strides and resonate our issues clearly to various legislators, still we are not as yet home free.

Our mantra remains, that there is a dire need of qualified and trained MRI technologists through out the country. Despite this established need and shortage of MRI technologists, there are still institutions and private concerns that opt to recognize only technologists that came through the route of a general radiology training program and not ARMRIT and not qualified and certified technologists who have trained solely on clinical technological MR imaging. The Registry and its Board maintains that this is a restraint of trade if not outright discrimination towards ARMRIT Certified MRI Technologists.

We have addressed this as such through letters to a number of the core insurance carriers that to date have not recognized this position. All ARMRIT certified techs will be notified as soon as possible on any breaking news as it is received.

In the pursuit of this course, we have to enlist the services of legal counsel for the entirety of this cause, not only to address these issues specifically but to take further actions if need be. At the same time we have expressed our concerns to key legislators the worthiness of our cause and plight. Remember that the Registry is recognized as such by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in the states of California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin and the Ohio Department of Health. To this end the Registry and its Board will continue to focus its efforts.

Now to the point, this letter once more asks all ARMRIT certified MRI Techs at

large to again support this continuing effort through your generous contributions as you did earlier. This plea and your response to it in terms of contributions will be earmarked for legal expenses only, which as you know legal expenses can easily mount. Given that this is probably the most important issue that directly impacts on everyone's livelihood and future, we once again ask you to be as generous as possible.

Sincerely,
James F. Coffin, ARMRIT, President

ARMRIT 2007 (continued from pg. 1)

As was in the prior meeting the attendees, who increased by 50%, were overwhelmingly complimentary of the venue, the food and facilities (albeit a bit isolated) and considered the topics and speakers very good to outstanding.

A two-hour cocktail reception which was held on the evening of October 4 was well received and attended by the early registrants.

Albert L. Cayton MD, TBHC, Brooklyn, New York an experienced MRI technology lecturer started the first day with a two hour discussion on the use of MRI in the Breast under the title "MRI of the Breast, a Diagnostic Panacea". He underscored the clinical applications and usefulness of breast MRI in his practice.

Francis Collini MD, Diplomat in Internal Medicine gave a timely lecture and dissertation on the "Toxicity of Gadolinium-Based MRI Contrast Agents." He discussed in detail Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis (NSF)

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ARMRIT 2007 (continued from pg. 2)

which is a complication that can occur in patients with renal insufficiency.

Stephen M. Dashnaw ARMRIT, Columbia University, New York lectured on the topic of "Functional MRI (fMRI): What Is It and What You Need to Know." The data he presented is mostly from a collaborative research team in his department.

Thomas Schrack, BS ARMRIT, from Fairfax Radiology Consultants, Fairfax, VA overwhelmed the attendees with his presentation of "Cardiac MRI: What's Really done in the Clinical Setting?" Clinical examples where cardiac imaging proved to be pivotal as a diagnostic modality were presented. These were mostly congenital cardiac anomalies.

The subject of 3.0 Tesla MRI, which was the subject matter of the next two speakers were very well received. It is noteworthy that the two speakers with hands-on experience in 3 Tesla units were available to share their experience and expertise on this particular system. As with the first lecture Thomas Schrack, BS, ARMRIT gave a succinct presentation titled "3 Tesla Clinical Imaging: Advantages and Pitfalls." William Woodward, ARMRIT, Oregon Health Sciences University, Portland OR spoke on "3.0 Tesla Cardiac MRI: the Advantages and Pitfalls." The two speakers were colleagues in the engineering department when they were with General Electric. The talks complemented each other.

Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, Clinical Associate Professor in Radiology was

the moderator. James Coffin, President of the Registry welcomed the attendees. James Coffin was complimented by a number of speakers publicly as well as the attendees for continuing his mission to have non-ARRT technologists recognized as bonafide technologists in the field of MRI.

Grounds for next year's meeting which will be on October 16-18, 2008 have already been laid. The meeting will be held at the Stirling Club, at Turnberry Place on Paradise Road, Las Vegas. This luxurious setting for a meeting is centrally located and is right across from the Hilton Hotel.

Register on-line at www.armrit.org or use the registration form attached, or in the mail, or e-mail. Book your room and flights early and save. See you in LV!

W. M. Sy, MD, Exec. Director NY, NY

ARMRIT/OBRT (continued from pg. 1)

the ARMRIT, a non-profit specialty certifying organization that's been in existence for 16 years. The American Registry of MRI Technologists was the first registry for MRI technologists. I wanted to make clear that in the presentation that was brought up, and I have to concur with some other statements that have been made. Although I do have great respect for the time and effort that everyone on the OBRT puts into their positions, it's very hard for me to understand how people coming from a background that's universal in x-ray and radiological technology which again is a very

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ARMRIT/OBRT (continued from pg. 3)
honorable profession and needed and useful, can hope to be non-biased when considering and identifying other acceptable credentialing organizations such as the American Registry of MRI Technologists. Having followed legislation for many years on a national level, I couldn't help but notice in Senate Bill 144, much of the language of it was taken almost verbatim from previous submissions of the RadCare Bill on a national basis. Last year, had Senate Bill 144 passed as written, in one flailed swoop of the legislative pen, it would have denied employment to many individuals who are highly qualified and have demonstrated competence in the field. Currently, the American Registry of MRI Technologists in the state of Oregon are working in small rural hospitals, the largest research institutions in the state of Oregon as staff technologists, chief technologists, research technologists and the national organization, the ARRT, of which most of the board members are probably members or who have been at one time, the American College of Radiology and the ASRT, all three of these organizations are essentially one and the same. In no way can these organizations be considered autonomous of one another. They submit members to one another's boards of directors and it's important to state this for the record that in the case of the American College of Radiology submitting members to the ARRT and the ARRT submitting members to the board of directors of the ACR and, hence, goes true as well for

the ASRT and it states this clearly on their websites with enough in-depth research. At least, this is what I've found in looking at it. I would just hope that the OBRT, as they formulate this legislation for the future, could not only include other modalities on this board but other registries as well such as MRI and ultrasound people. I think that's all I need to cover tonight. Thank you very much."

Aaron Carroll – "I'm the lead MRI technologist at Portland Providence Medical Center. Concurrently, I work for GE as an application specialist, GE Healthcare, currently on a contract basis but prior as a full time status, specifically in MRI. I wanted to come this evening to add comment, to lend specifics to what I feel the presentation did a very good job at teasing out the importance of why it was requested that they expand, and I love that word expand, the OBRT board to include the rest of the modalities. I think it's a matter of public safety for regulatory status and the reason I like the word expand is that at present, the board is made up of radiologic technologists and they are expanding to include other modalities. So, I think it's very important to include not only other modalities but other registries on the board if the board is to oversee the included modalities stated in the presentation. I, myself, have been registered since 2003 by the ARMRIT, the American Registry of MRI Technologists. Just a little background on myself have a Bachelor's degree in human function and a Master's degree in physical therapy, both from Pacific University in Forest Grove.

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ARMRIT/OBRT (continued from pg. 4)

With the education, I was able to gain healthcare cross-training status with the ARMRIT, fulfill my required hours of observation and training under a board certified radiologist and had my application signed by said radiologist and notarized in order to take my registry board. Upon completion successfully of that, have gained registry status. I think it important that if we expand the OBRT to the OBMIT that the ARMRIT, as separate from the ARRT registry, be included in formulating strategy to the ends that is created by the board in monitoring ethical, efficient delivery of these diagnostic imaging modalities such as MRI. I'd also like to see specifics in labeling what constitutes, according to the SB144, the description for licensure that an applicant must be certified by a nationally recognized certification organization approved by the board. I'd like to see clarification of that. I'd like to see specific names of registries indicated. I think it's very important to mitigate the vagueness of that description and feel that's the most important part as far as my comments that are specific to MRI. I'd like to see that description maybe in a little more detail so that someone in my position with the experience and background that I do have, the education that I do carry, that I don't fall into this category of what the board wants to avoid and get legislated out of a job. That's pretty much all that I have. Thank you very much."

Both William Woodward and Aaron Carroll have committed that at least one of them will be attending all future meetings. You can get involved too. Visit your local,

state and federal representatives and express your concerns. JF Coffin, Pres.

ARMRIT MRI Techs On-Line
at: www.armrit.org

All Certified Registry Active MRI Techs are asked to post their resume (CV) on the ARMRIT Webpage at www.armrit.org. This page could serve as a resource page for all potential would-be employers who are seeking qualified technologists in the field of MRI technology, primary source verification of your registry status, and serves as a personal ad for all ARMRIT certified techs.

Follow the steps given below:

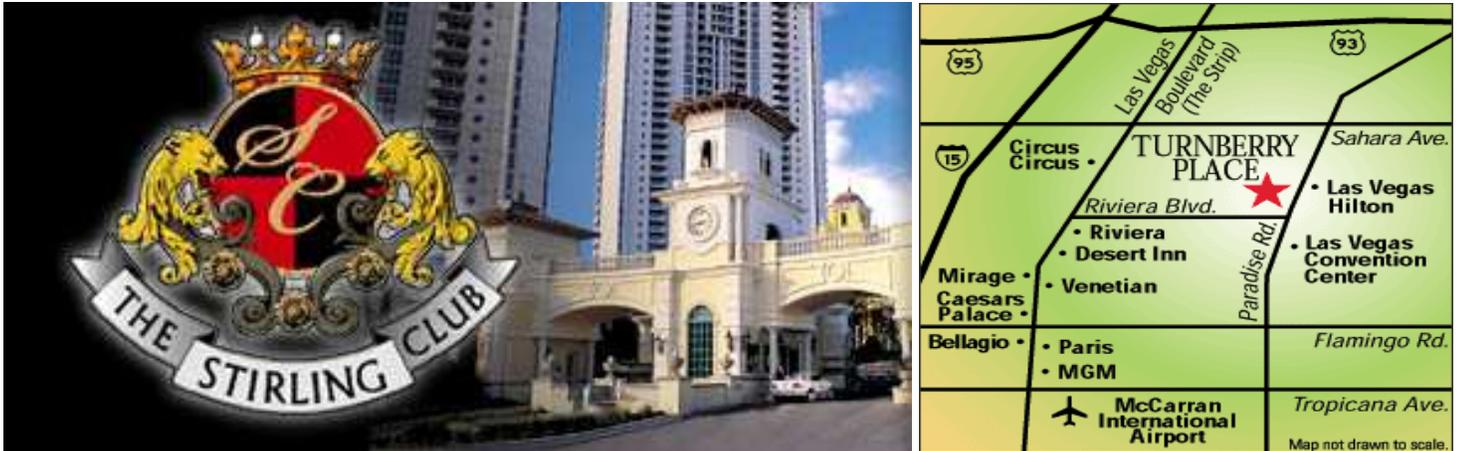
- 1) Click on **'Registry of Certificants'** at the bottom of the homepage.
- 2) Scroll down to the bottom of the list and click on: **'Click here to post your Resume (CV)'**.
- 3) Enter your Login: use your e-mail address.
- 4) Enter a password.
- 5) Enter all relevant information and click on **Submit**.
- 6) Remember your **Listing Number and Password**.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

ARMRIT Board of Directors

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2827 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109



For Accommodations at Hilton Grand Vacations Club:

Call Group Reservations at 1-877-651-4482 or email all reservation information to rentalreservationslv@hgvc.com and request the ARMRIT Group rate.

Program Schedule:

Thursday Oct. 16 7pm – 9pm Cocktail Reception

Friday Oct. 17 7am – 5pm Lecture Series-Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Saturday Oct. 18 7am – 5pm Lecture Series-Breakfast & Lunch Provided

Chair & Moderator: Wilfrido M. Sy, MD, Clinical Associate Professor in Radiology, Weill School of Medicine, Cornell University, New York and ARMRIT Executive Director.

Committee: Col. Richard Arold, Public Member, Theresa Cipollone, RN, Cynthia Curzio, RN, Milan Lo, MD, Michael P. Guida, ARMRIT, ARRT

Accreditation: 12 CME Contact Hours.

Lectures: (subject to change) Comparison of MRI, CT and Other Modalities - An Introduction to MR Spectroscopy - Non-contrast MRA. Then & Now

Speakers: (subject to change) Adeel Abbas, MS, ARMRIT, Alberto Cayton, MD, Francis Collini, MD, FACS, Bradley Newcomer, PhD, Tim Smith, ARMRIT, William Woodward, ARMRIT, Rehan Zaheer, BS, ARMRIT

Detach and Fill Out the Registration Form on Page 7, or Visit www.armrit.org and Register On-line

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REGISTRATION FORM

Name ARMRIT Certificate# / Non-ARMRIT

Address

City, State/Province, Zip/Postal Code, Country

Telephone Fax

E-mail

Emergency Contact Name and Telephone

Fees: Early Registration thru May 1, 2007 May 1, 2007 – On site

ARMRIT Tech	\$195	\$225	\$
ARMRIT Tech Oct. 17 Only!	\$125	\$150	\$
ARMRIT Tech Oct. 18 Only!	\$125	\$150	\$
Non-ARMRIT	\$225	\$250	\$
Non-ARMRIT Oct. 17 Only!	\$150	\$175	\$
Non-ARMRIT Oct. 18 Only!	\$150	\$175	\$

Total \$

Payment Options: Check Money Order Check or MO payable to: **ARMRIT**
Pay by Credit Card: (check one) MasterCard Visa American Express
Discover ATM Card

Card Number: Expiration Date:

Name of Cardholder (Print):

Authorized Signature: Date:

Mail Registration Form To: 8815 Commonwealth Blvd. or Fax: 718-347-8691
Bellerose, NY 11426

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

Cancellation Policy: A refund (less a \$75 administrative fee) will be made for any cancellations made in writing prior to September 1, 2008. No refunds after September 1, 2008.