



## RENAISSANCE NEUROSURGERY IN ITALY

The 43rd annual Society of University Neurosurgeon's meeting in Italy started off on an ecclesiastical and theological high note with a Papal blessing and visit to the Vatican. It was the largest SUN meeting to date, with over sixty-eight registrants and over one hundred family members that made the transatlantic voyage. What started off as a small group for a visit to the Vatican, turned out to be sixty neurosurgeons and their families sitting on stage with the Pope. It was a sunny morning, and the entire SUN group was specifically named and blessed by the Pope. We are very grateful to Professor Delfini, who set up the meeting; he organized an afternoon scientific session at Sapienza University in Rome. This was followed by dinner at the Casa del Jazz, where the neurosurgeons and their families got back together.

After the Rome sojourn, the group left on a bus to Naples, where Professor Paolo Cappabianca had set up a wonderful opening reception at Hotel Vesuvio. The venue overlooks the historic Bay of Naples, with a view of Mt. Vesuvius. The SUN meeting then officially got underway. One of the highlights of the first evening was a presentation by Maurizio Marinella. He is one of the premier tie makers in the world, whose family has been in business for three generations. Many celebrities come to Italy to make a pilgrimage to his tie store. Needless to say, we were wowed by



his talk, his dedication to his craft, and his eye for detail. Many of the SUN members flocked to his charming store and left with lighter wallets, beautiful ties, and spousal scarves.

The next morning, the scientific sessions began with a powerful presidential address by Dr. Jeffrey Bruce, followed by presentations from members of the University of Naples. That afternoon, Professor Mariella Utili, from the Museum of Capodimonte in Naples, gave a talk about the museum's collections and enlightened us about the

historical significance of Naples. One of the highlights of our trip was a private tour of Pompeii; wonderful guides and great weather enabled us to get into the city and have a glimpse of a buried civilization.

On the night of June 12th, a formal dinner/reception was held at the Royal Yacht Club at Canottieri Savoia, with superb food and libations, making for a great evening.



Professor and Mrs. Cappabianca

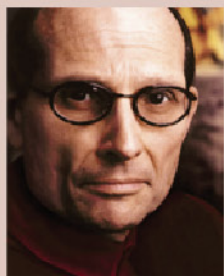
On the 13th, after a morning scientific session, we traveled by boat to Capri and had a reception at the Hotel Caesar Augustus. The Caesar Augustus has a 1,000 foot drop from the cliffs of Capri down to the ocean; legend has it that Emperor Caesar Augustus would throw some of his non-cooperative prisoners off the cliffs. Paolo Signorini, owner and special guest, then gave a talk about sailing, his zest for life, and his pursuit of excellence. It was a wonderful reception with once in a lifetime views.

The following morning, we had a scientific session in Capri, followed by an informal dinner in Hotel La Palma. During the meeting, Professor Mike Apuzzo received the Distinguished Service Award for his many years of altruistic service to the SUN.

And, as such, *Renaissance Neurosurgery* came to an end after a wonderful five days in Italy. Be it the Papal visit in St. Peter's Square, the archaeological remains of Pompeii, the breathtaking views of the Amalfi coast from Capri, or swimming in the Green Grotto; we cannot thank our Italian hosts enough for such a once in a lifetime visit. We are deeply indebted to Professor Cappabianca and his wife, Professor Delfini and his wife, Stephania Acanfora, Manuella and our various sponsors that made this trip possible. We look forward to seeing everybody in Miami!

Grazie,  
Anil Nanda, MD, FACS

# Dr. Mike Apuzzo Receives Distinguished Service Award



Dr. Mike Apuzzo has been a proud member of the SUN since 1980. He has served on and chaired all committees and held all offices, becoming President in 1991. In 1990, he organized the revision and printing of the bylaws.

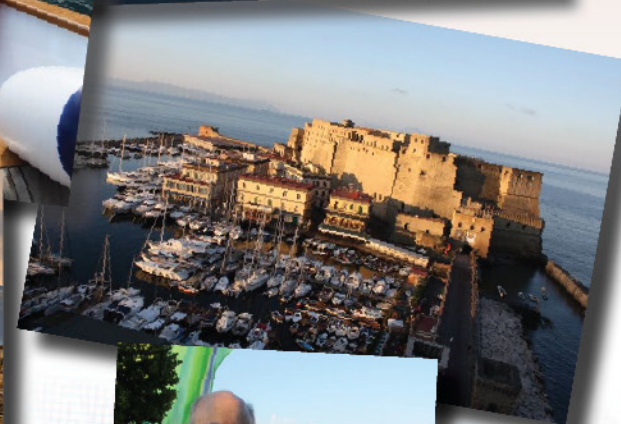
He has successfully proposed 25 members for entry - 11 of whom have held Presidential office, and 12 of whom have hosted an annual meeting. Apuzzo initiated and encouraged internationalism at an active pace and arranged international venues in Lyon, Toronto, Melbourne, Tubingen, Stockholm and Naples. He hosted the 1996 annual meeting in Los Angeles.

Dr. Apuzzo is the Edwin M. Todd/Trent H. Wells, Jr. Professor of Neurological Surgery and Professor of Radiation Oncology, Biology, and Physics at the Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, in Los Angeles, CA.

During his career, he has made significant contributions to areas in microneurosurgery, endoscopy, molecular biology, imaging directed stereotaxy, navigation, radiobrachy therapy and radiosurgery, minimally invasive techniques, functional restoration, neuro-modulation, nanotechnology, and operating room design.

His work has been documented in more than 700 individual contributions and 50 volumes, including 15 monographs to the medical literature and recognized by numerous major national and international tributes, awards, and prizes.

He has been active in scholarly information transfer and continues to champion global education and internationalism in neurosurgery. Since 1991, he has served as Editor of Neurosurgery, founded Operative Neurosurgery, and Neurosurgery Online.



*"A man paints with his brain and not with his hands."*

*- Michelangelo*



On behalf of the Society of University Neurosurgeons, I am happy to invite you and your guests to the 44th annual meeting. We are honored to have the following as our local hosts: Drs. Jacques J. Morcos and Michael Y. Wang from the University of Miami, Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine. They are organizing an exceptional scientific program that will highlight the clinical and scientific endeavors of the neuroscience community at the University of Miami. Their extensive research represents every major area of basic and clinical investigation in

the neurosciences. Ongoing basic research at the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis continues to provide innovative and experimental options for clinicians and offers patients new treatment options as they become available.



The setting in Miami Beach should be spectacular. Given the great year-round weather in the "SUN"shine state, the meeting will be held earlier in the spring than in previous years. This will allow those from northern climates to escape the winter doldrums and enjoy the beautiful weather and beaches that southern Florida is noted for. An excellent scientific program with rest and relaxation in beautiful Miami Beach will make for a memorable meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

--**John Wilson, MD**  
President, Society of  
University Neurosurgeons



## **SUN Welcomes New Members**



### **Felipe Albuquerque, MD**

Co-Director  
Endovascular Neurosurgery  
Barrow Neurosurgical Associates  
Phoenix, AZ



### **Joan Grieve, MD, FRCS**

Consultant Neurosurgeon  
National Hospital for Neurology  
and Neurosurgery  
University College London Hospital



### **Stephen Glazier, MD, FACS**

Professor and Chief  
Division of Neurosurgery  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Charleston, SC



### **James M. Markert, Jr., MD, MPH**

Professor and Director  
Division of Neurosurgery  
University of Alabama  
Birmingham, AL



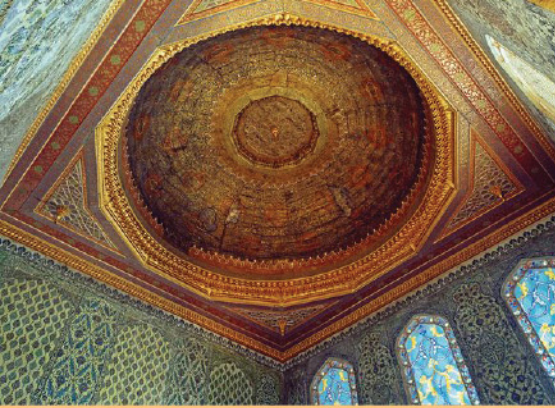
### **John G. Golfinos, MD**

Associate Professor and Chair  
Department of Neurosurgery  
New York Medical Center  
New York, NY



### **Guy M. McKhann, MD**

Florence Irving Associate Professor of  
Neurological Surgery  
Columbia University  
New York, NY



# SOCIETY OF UNIVERSITY NEUROSURGEONS

## *Intercontinental Neurosurgery* ISTANBUL, TURKEY

### JUNE 23-26, 2011

DEAR SUN MEMBERS,

I am delighted to invite you to the 45th Society of University Neurosurgeons meeting to be held in Istanbul on June 23-26, 2011. In the shadows of the Ottoman Empire and among the Byzantine Ruins, we will be immersed in the only city that is home to two continents and is a literal crossroads between Europe and Asia. On a historical note, Julius Caesar first proclaimed his celebrated words, 'Veni, Vidi, Vici,' – 'I came, I saw, I conquered' - in Turkey when he defeated Pontus in the Black Sea region of Turkey. Homer was born in the city of Izmir, and Alexander the Great cut the famous Gordian Knot in the Phrygian capital, not far from Ankara.

The theme of the meeting will be *Intercontinental Neurosurgery*, and will serve as a colloquium for intellectual discourse between distant neurosurgical centers. Be it the dashing leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk at Gallipoli or the poetry of Rumi's whirling dervishes, it will be a trip through history, with an after-meeting tour to Ephesus and possibly Cappadocia. Our local host, Dr. Yücel Kanpolat, who is also the President of the Turkish Academy of Science, has set up a delightful program with participation from the talented schools of neurosurgery in Turkey and our secretary Dr. Sander Connolly is helping us with the planning of what promises to be a grand neurosurgical odyssey.

So we hope you can come to Istanbul, the capital of three great empires – Roman, Byzantine, and Ottoman – for more than two thousand years. We look forward to your participation and if you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Anil Nanda, MD, FACS  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Neurosurgery, LSUHSC-S  
ananda@lsuhsc.edu



**Dr. Anil Nanda**  
SUN President - Elect



**Dr. Sander Connolly**  
SUN Secretary/Treasurer



**Dr. Yücel Kanpolat**  
Local Host  
President of the Turkish  
Academy of Sciences

*"If one had but a single glance to give the world, one should gaze on Istanbul."*

*- Alphonse de Lamartine*



Photo source: National Geographic