

NEWS FROM THE EAST

Turkish Foot and Ankle Surgery Course, Istanbul September 4th- 5th 2009



Three of the Faculty members during the Course (left to right): Ian Winson, Stephen Parsons and Per-Henrik Ågren.

At the General Assembly of EFAS in Vilamoura in Portugal in 2008 the Turkish Foot and Ankle branch of the Turkish Orthopedic Society was welcomed as a new member of EFAS. EFAS is very honored and happy to welcome our distinguished Turkish colleagues to our society - our Turkish colleagues have contributed in our Journal and at our meetings from the start of our Society.

The present President of the Turkish Foot and Ankle Society Dr. Tahir Öğüt invited a small group of EFAS speakers to establish a two day course in Istanbul.

The Course was held in the building of the Technical University. There were round 150 participants. On the first day topics included the physical examination and biomechanics of the foot and ankle, conservative treatment in general and surgical approaches.

In this photograph (right) you can see how different incisions are being made by the former Turkish president Dr. Haluk on an enormous foot made of delicious Turkish cake.

Also on the first day there was a relatively short session concerning the Forefoot, followed by sessions concerning problem feet, the Diabetic foot and the Rheumatoid foot and foot deformities, Plano-valgus and Cavo-varus. Day 2 proved to be very interesting, discussing the Degenerative Hindfoot and focusing on open and arthroscopic surgical treatment techniques. The writer, although still terribly young, has the feeling that he is becoming old fashioned using open techniques where others are showing very good results using arthroscopic techniques also for instance in fusion of the subtalar joint. Day 2 closed with a Sports Medicine session.

Istanbul is an astonishing city with round 16 million inhabitants. You can literally see, taste and feel the coalition of the history of the west and the east. Once Constantinople the capitol of the Byzantine Empire and then the center of

the Ottoman Empire. The contrast but at the same time the connection between the old city with all the beautiful and famous mosques and the modern world on the other side of the Golden Horn is fascinating.



Dr. Haluk Yetkin

We enjoyed the questions and interest of lot's of colleagues interested in Foot and Ankle Surgery and are grateful for the tremendous hospitality. EFAS is looking forward to future scientific, professional and social contribution from our colleagues in Turkey.

JWK Louwerens
President-Elect EFAS

Standing before the entrance of the restaurant in the Maidens Tower on a small island in the Bosphorus.

From left to right front row: Tamil Esemeli (light trousers), a visitor from USA, Jan Willem Louwerens, Stephen Parsons.

Back row left to right: Kaya Akam, Tahir Ogut, Nurettin Heybeli, Haluk Yetkin, Oguz Durakbasa, Onder Kilcoglu, Per Henrik Agren, Ian Winson, Namik Kemal.

