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# Alcor News

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March, #71

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Barbara Walters  
Special to Air  
April 1st

Alcor COO Tanya Jones and Alcor member Shannon Vyff were interviewed for a Barbara Walters Special in 2006. The documentary

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- [Research and Development](#)

In the last update we reported that Alcor's Advanced Cryoprotective Perfusion System (ACPS) was awaiting final wiring of the system. The panel containing the refractometers and temperature monitoring systems, as well as other assorted electronics, has now been wired for use. The programmer is currently assembling all of the discrete components of the system into a single batch process for operation.

The patient enclosure, which will be used in conjunction with the ACPS during the cryopreservation process, has also seen modification. One change was to increase the size of the heat exchange area of the OR table where nitrogen will circulate for cooling. This made the enclosure taller, so we are reconsidering the use of a standard-height operating table. Another change was to miniaturize the chiller, which uses liquid nitrogen to cool and precisely control the temperature of the cryoprotectant as it enters the patient. These changes will enable a significant amount of floor space to be recovered (compared to the previous design) and all perfusion components (except the perfusate itself) to fit on the pump base.

- [Florida Standby](#)

Alcor recently performed a 13-day standby for a member in Florida who was hospitalized for medical reasons and an

will address ways people around the world are pursuing longevity. Watch "Live to be 150 . . . Can You Do It? on Tuesday, April 1, (10:02-11:00 p.m., ET) on ABC.

emergency procedure. Alcor was prompted to launch a standby under the Comprehensive Member Standby (CMS) program, an especially good idea because there were medical factors complicating the surgery. First notice of the case arrived late afternoon, and that evening we deployed 3 Alcor personnel (who collectively have dozens of cases experience) by commercial aircraft with a full remote stand-by and stabilization kit. The kit included a portable ice bath, full medications, mechanical chest compressor for cardiopulmonary support, Air Transportable Perfusion system for remote blood washout, and advanced monitoring equipment. This was the first field test of our new compact kit system as it had everything we anticipated needing. Suspended Animation, Inc, helped us by providing coverage during the flight, assistance with coverage during surgeries and by providing a truck and compressed air tanks, relieving us of the need to locally procure those items ourselves.

Fortunately, the member's condition improved, and transport was not required despite the lengthy standby.

- **Los Angeles Training Session**

Regina Pancake traveled to Los Angeles on February 23rd for a small training session with local "first response" team members. She demonstrated Alcor's newly designed portable ice bath, leading to some useful feedback and resulting in some changes to be implemented with subsequent versions. The Los Angeles team members also indicated that the design was largely intuitive and the assembly was easy.

The timing for this training session and subsequent feedback was good, as Alcor is about to begin replicating 14 ice baths for distribution to regions around the world. The rescue baskets, from which the ice baths are constructed, have arrived at Alcor. Four of them were damaged in shipping and will be replaced. The other ten are ready for assembly.

- **Membership Growth on the Rise**

Several new efforts to increase membership, largely revolving around improving personal contact with prospective applicants and extending them promotional offers, have doubled the typical number of incoming applicants per month. Additionally, 65 applications for membership with Alcor have been submitted since December 2007, surpassing the total number of applications submitted in the first eleven months of 2007 (51). In February, Alcor received 12 incoming applications and 3 new members were finalized. Thus far in March, 13 applications have been received, suggesting that the growth presently being enjoyed by Alcor is a sustainable

trend.

Subscription to Cryonics Magazine, Alcor's quarterly, four-color magazine, has more than tripled in the last six months. This is largely due to a promotional offer giving away [complimentary subscriptions](#) to those interested in learning more about Alcor's program. In 2008, Alcor plans to increase to 2000 copies of each magazine issue.

Continue reading "[Membership Growth on the Rise](#)"

- Conference DVD

The 7th Alcor Conference DVD has been in production for several months. We had hoped to get the conference DVD into replication in February, however some interference was experienced due to various unexpected priorities and delays on the part of the editing firm. The final sound and video edits are expected to be completed in March. Order your copy [online NOW!](#)

- Alcor Information in French

Those who speak French and are interested in learning more about Alcor's membership program can now do so more easily by visiting the "[In French](#)" section of Alcor's website.

- Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2008, at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ) at 11:00 AM (PST). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

- Alcor News Blog

Don't forget that you don't have to wait for this monthly newsletter to learn more about happenings at Alcor. Check the Alcor News Blog throughout the month for the most up-to-date information.

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