

Alcor News

Your source for insider's info

November 2011 #107

In This issue

[MEMBER
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR
CEO REPORT
ALCOR'S 108th PATIENT
CRYONICS MAGAZINE -
4TH QUARTER 2011 OUT
NOW!
READINESS AND
TRANSPORT REPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORT
NEXT ALCOR BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING
Austin TX - CRYOFEAST
2011
DONATIONS ACCEPTED
ON ALCOR WEBSITE
ALCOR NEWS BLOG](#)

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

A new position called the Member Communications Director has opened at Alcor. The Member Communications Director's job will be to communicate with Alcor's members by email, by telephone, and in person for multiple purposes. For detailed information on the position requirements and job description please click on the link below.
[Qualifications/Compensation
HOW TO BECOME AN](#)

Subscribe/unsubscribe information is at the end of this newsletter.

You may email any questions or comments to membership@alcor.org. Please do not reply to this message. Contents are copyright 2011 by the Alcor Foundation.

CEO REPORT

The never-ending quest for cost reductions continues. A review of Alcor's utility bills and an examination of the roof space made it clear that thousands of dollars per year have been avoidably incurred in the form of unnecessarily high air conditioning bills. We have asked for bids from three companies and will choose one in the coming week to improve insulation and install radiant barriers. Judging by the remarkable escalation in billing during the hotter months (in some units of the building more than others), the annual savings should make this investment pay off in a pleasingly short time.

We are still working on reducing liquid nitrogen bill, to the benefit of the Patient Care Trust. Despite overcharging us for years, Air Liquide is trying to hold us to the contract, which would mean being locked in until 2013. We are looking into either legal advice or minimizing purchases while pricing alternatives.

We have also reduced the size of the staff by one. This is again in pursuit of maintaining a balanced budget. We wish former equipment fabricator Randal Fry well, and thank him for his years of work and attention to detail.

One of my concerns has been to improve Alcor's security. It was clear that the existing (and quite antiquated) security camera system was ineffective. Not only is its coverage severely limited, its output was rarely observed. I put Steve Graber in charge of looking into a new system. Happily, prices have dropped dramatically since the existing system was purchased. The new system will provide vastly better coverage, including tilt and zoom viewing, constant recording, and output viewable (and cameras controllable) from the desktop.

The project to greatly improve Alcor's ability to respond to members in England and other parts of Europe (and, later, in Australia and other parts of the world) and to

ALCOR MEMBER

Becoming an Alcor member is easy and surprisingly affordable, if you are in good health and eligible for life insurance, which will pay for your cryopreservation. (If you are not insurable, other financial arrangements can be made. Please ask us for details.)

ALCOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Alcor Life Extension Foundation is on Facebook. If you would like to connect with Alcor members and supporters then visit: [Official Alcor Facebook](#)

Become a fan and encourage interested friends, family members, and colleagues to support us too!

To find out about: Alcor Training Sessions; Regional Cryonics Meetings as well as Non-Alcor Events in your area, please visit: the [UPCOMING EVENTS](#) page on our website.

ensure high quality standby, stabilization, and transport capabilities, including vitrification, is proceeding. I have been talking by Skype and email with a number of active cryonicists in Europe who are helping to gather information about existing capabilities and possible cooperative arrangements. At the same time, we are figuring out what equipment and supplies we would need to provide, who would house them, and who would use them (if Alcor were unable to send a team across the Atlantic in time).

On the communications front, Barry Aarons is helping us deploy the Alcor Speakers' Bureau to give talks to organizations in the area. A few weeks ago, we started this effort modestly with me giving a talk to the Midtown Lion's Club. The goal is to build a reputation and have a voice in the influential local business groups.

Finally, I'd like to note that we need to find a way to encourage our members to actually read both Cryonics magazine and the Alcor News emails and blog posts. We have already discussed the evidence that a substantial number of members are not reading the magazine. I have seen further evidence in the number of emails I am still receiving from members addressed to Jennifer Chapman.

-- Max More

ALCOR'S 108th PATIENT

Alcor member A-1088, Dennis Ross, was pronounced legally dead on Sunday October 30, 2011. A neurocryopreservation, Mr. Ross became Alcor's 108th patient.

Alcor received emergency notification that a member in the St. Petersburg, Florida area had been rushed to the hospital on Friday, October 28th and was diagnosed with a massive intracerebral hemorrhagic stroke due to a ruptured brain aneurysm. Suspended Animation (SA) went to the hospital and began to prepare for a probable cryonics case.

Through medical imaging on October 30, physicians determined the individual's brain damage was so extensive they declared him brain-dead. After the family decided to withdraw life support, SA performed field stabilization and attempted washout; however their success was limited due to the compromised blood flow of the brain. SA completed a neuroseparation before shipping the anatomical donation on dry ice to Alcor. SA reports tremendous cooperation from the medical center that was caring for him. Hospital staff facilitated advanced preparations and they were able to transfer Mr. Ross directly from his hospital bed into the SA mobile operating room vehicle where the thoracic surgeon was waiting. This was the first case of open chest and heart cannulation and perfusion performed in the field and within about seven minutes of the patient arriving in the SA vehicle.

It is extremely unfortunate that the patient's brain perfusion was so compromised by his stroke. Despite the especially bad situation surrounding the cause of

membership@alcor.org
<http://www.alcor.org>

877-462-5267 ext 101

clinical death, manual readings indicate a drop of about 10C in 30 minutes.

After washout and perfusion, neuroseparation was performed. Under the direction of a consulting cryobiologist, he was cooled slowly to near dry ice temperature using a special protocol and shipped to Alcor. As of Friday November 4, 2011, Mr. Ross is being slowly cooled to liquid nitrogen temperature.

CRYONICS MAGAZINE - 4TH QUARTER 2011 OUT NOW!

Alcor is pleased to announce that the 4th Quarter 2011 [Cryonics Magazine](#) is now available for viewing, purchasing and downloading. Just because we no longer mail out physical copies of Cryonics magazine (except by special arrangement), you shouldn't miss out on what's going on at Alcor and in cryonics.

The 2011 4th quarter issue of Cryonics magazine is dedicated to the "father of cryonics," Robert Ettinger, who was cryopreserved on July 23, 2011. Alcor staff member Mike Perry contributes an historical piece on Ettinger. Mark Plus and Charles Platt write about Ettinger's influence on contemporary cryonics, futurism, and the cryobiology community. Cryonics editor Aschwin de Wolf compiled Robert Ettinger's mature thoughts on the feasibility of 'mind uploading' and situates his outlook in a broader philosophical context. This issue also features a detailed article by the Alcor Board of Directors and Management about member underfunding and its associated challenges for Alcor's long-term financial health. "We urge all members to read this and tell us their thoughts on the proposals in the article." Alcor member, and prolific science fiction writer, Gregory Benford is featured in this issue's member profile. Cryonics magazine is also available as a paper magazine. Individual issues cost \$9.95 plus shipping. They can be ordered at [MagCloud](#). A subscription to the paper edition of Cryonics magazine is also available. If you live in the United States, a subscription for one year costs \$39, two years \$69, three years \$99 (including shipping). If you live in another country, a subscription for one year costs \$99, two years \$179, three years \$239 (including shipping). Start your [subscriptions to the paper](#) edition TODAY!

READINESS AND TRANSPORT REPORT

New O.R. Table - 80L
H2O Cooldown Test
with Blanket

New OR Table with Blanket

Based on our findings last month that the mylar cooldown blanket significantly reduced the LN2 usage of our automated perfusion and cooldown table with an empty patient pod, Steve Graber decided to conduct a more rigorous cooldown test utilizing four 20L water bladders in the pod cavity and a target cooling temperature of -80C. Note that this test was initiated with H2O at room temperature and is in no way intended to accurately convey an actual patient cooldown scenario. Steve filled all four bladders with room temperature H2O and placed them into the table. Each bladder weighed approximately 20Kg. He inserted thermocouples into the head and leg bladders via their fill tubes and located the probes approximately within the center of each bladder. The torso area comprised two stacked bladders with a single thermocouple probe sandwiched between them.

The table was connected to the Cooldown computer system and the initialization file was modified to perform only cooldown functions. The test was started with both atmospheric and cold stages set to exactly -80C and the mylar blanket in place and was cooled sequentially with two LR-40 dewars. The data collection continued for an additional day to record the warmup segment. A quick review of the test data showed that the table was not cooling evenly from end to end and needed some tuning to correct this. For this reason the table was designed to allow tuning corrections.

The photo above displays the table at hour number 5 running at -80C. The interior is LED lighting.

New Airline Transportable Ice Baths

Our three additional airline transportable ice baths are well on their way to be completed. They will be finished before the end of November. Steve Graber has also devised a superlight telescoping I.V. Pole for the portable ice bath made from carbon fiber which extends from 24" to 82" and stows inside a Pelican case.

Standby and Stabilizations

An Alcor member in the New York area was placed on a ventilator following a recent serious medical event. Catherine Baldwin of Suspended Animation (SA) traveled to the area to establish a relationship with the medical facility and mortuary in the event stabilization was needed. Although the member's health has temporarily improved it was decided that a full standby was not warranted, she continues to struggle with her illness and may eventually need our services.

Alcor received emergency notification that a member in the St. Petersburg, Florida area had been rushed to the hospital and was diagnosed with a massive intracerebral hemorrhagic stroke due to a ruptured brain aneurysm.

Suspended Animation was sent to the hospital and began to prepare for a probable suspension. Through medical imaging, physicians determined the individual's brain damage was so extensive they declared him brain-dead. After the family withdrew life support, SA performed field stabilization and the patient was shipped as an anatomical donation on dry ice to Alcor. Two international emergency calls were received this past month from non-Alcor members to inquire about last-minute cryopreservation - one from Beijing, China and the other from Bucharest, Romania. Communication problems, due to language barriers and time zone differences, impeded our ability to effectively evaluate the legitimacy of the Chinese enquiry and the individual in question passed away before any serious consideration could be made. Communication surrounding the Romanian individual is being spearheaded by the country's National TV and the motives of the agency have not been revealed. We are awaiting additional information before taking any further action.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

[Membership Statistics](#)

Alcor had 951 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Six memberships were approved during the month of October, one membership was reinstated, two memberships were cancelled and one member was cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of four members in October.

[Applicant Statistics](#)

Alcor had 52 applicants for membership. Four new applicants were added, six applicants were converted to members and no applicants were cancelled resulting in net a loss of two applicants in October.

[Information Packet Statistics](#)

Alcor received 99 info pack requests in October. Twelve were handed out during facility tours or from special request. The average total of 106 info packs sent per month in 2011 compares to 199 in 2010. The full [Information Packet](#) is now available online.

NEXT ALCOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next [Alcor Board of Directors](#) meeting is currently scheduled for Saturday, December 3, 2011, at 11:00 AM (PDT) at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Austin TX - CRYOFEAST 2011

[AUSTIN, TX -- Saturday, November 26, 2011](#)

This year's Alcor CryoFest will be held at the home of Alcor President Max More and Humanity+ Chair Natasha Vita-More. This Thanksgiving themed get-together is for Texas area cryonicists and life extension enthusiasts. We

are delighted that this CryoFeast looks to include not only Alcor members and other cryonicists, but also Humanity+ members, life extensionists, and others interested in the field of human enhancement and life expansion. Feel free to share this invitation with anyone who you think may be interested.

Date: Saturday, November 26, 2011

Time: 2:30 pm

A short meeting will also take place at the CryoFeast for people who are interested in learning more about cryonics but have not yet set up arrangements with a cryonics organization. In the past people have attended from Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, from all over Texas, to reconnect, meet new people, and learn about developments in the cryonics field.

Attendees are only asked to bring a favorite dish or drink they would like to share. [RSVP and more party information](#).

DONATIONS ACCEPTED ON ALCOR WEBSITE

Now our valued supporters can [make a charitable donation](#) anytime just by clicking the "Donate" button on the Alcor website.

Alcor has a long, proud tradition of innovation and technical excellence in the field of cryonics. Your gift will make a difference in our quest for better cryopreservations.

Your decision to [DONATE](#) is sincerely appreciated. Remember donations are tax deductible.

ALCOR NEWS BLOG

Don't forget! 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.

[Alcor News Blog](#)

End of Alcor News
November
bulletin #107
dated November
19, 2011
