

# Alcor Life Extension Foundation Newsletter

Your source for insider's info

Issue: #109

January/February 2012

## Alcor Buliding

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

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

### **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 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 or visit the link below.

### **ALCOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

To find out about: Alcor Training Sessions; Regional

## CEO REPORT

### **Conferences and Talks**

Planning for the Alcor 2012 40th birthday conference is proceeding. Max More and D'Bora Tarrant toured the facilities at the Scottsdale Marriott at McDowell Mountain, The Scottsdale Plaza Resort, and Hilton Scottsdale Resort & Villas. The conference dates remaining under consideration (some of which may be removed depending on hotel availability) are: October 20/21, 27/28, November 3/4, November 10/11, and November 17/18.

Max plans plan to attend BIL 2012 in Long Beach, California and will give a talk on cryonics. Around 800 people are expected to attend this "unconference" this year. Given the large number of Alcor members in the area, it's worth manning a booth over the weekend to give out Alcor information and answer questions. If you are an articulate and personable Alcor member and you are willing to man the booth for any amount of time, please let us know by contacting D'Bora Tarrant at [dbora.alcor.org](mailto:dbora.alcor.org).

### **Alcor in Europe**

In previous updates, Max set the goal of restoring Alcor's ability to provide an effective response and full cryoprotection to our members overseas, starting with Europe. To that end, Aaron Drake and Max left on Wednesday January 18 for a six-day visit. The intention was to meet with individuals and organizations that might work with us in improving our European capabilities, to get to know them firsthand, assess their resources and commitment, listen to our remaining European members, and start developing concrete plans.

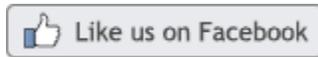
Long-term Alcor member (and fellow co-founder of Mizar, later Alcor-UK), Garrett Smyth, kindly picked us up at Heathrow airport on Thursday morning and made Max and Aaron welcome in his home. Alcor member and Cryonics-UK organizer Tim Gibson drove them to the offices of Rowland Brothers, in Croydon, South London. There they met with Steve Rowland and his father Tony, as well as general manager Gary Bruce, and embalmer Geoff Taylor.

Rowland had previously worked with Alcor in 2009 to transport a patient

Cryonics Meetings as well as Non-Alcor Events in your area, please visit: the [UPCOMING EVENTS](#) page on our website.

### ALCOR 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!



### 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.

For the most up-to-date information throughout the month. Check the

from England to Scottsdale. All four individuals expressed eagerness to work with us in future. We had hoped that they would store a neuro dry ice shipper for us, but they went beyond that and offered to store a fully-constructed whole body dry ice shipper, as well as a refrigerated stock of M22 and any other equipment and supplies. This would remove that burden from Alcor members in England, while making it possible to reliably and quickly access the supplies from a convenient location.

Mr. Taylor said that he would be willing and able to perform a neuroseparation as needed. He also said that he has a network of embalmers on which we could call. Steve Rowland assured Aaron and Max that his company can get to anywhere in Europe within six hours. Having recently heard interest from Hong Kong, Max inquired about responding to that location. Steve said they would work with Universal Funeral Parlor - a company whose sign Max noticed during his recent visit. Rowland will check on nearby sources of dry ice and requested a step-by-step guide of the procedures to assist Alcor on overseas cases. We will send them a new ice bath, after reviewing previous designs and deciding whether further improvements are feasible, taking into account the various airline's limitations. Finally, Rowland made an intriguing and no doubt controversial suggestion: they would like to offer cryonics as an option along with their existing services.

The next day, Max and Aaron made their way by train from London to Sheffield, to observe the first of two days of training at a meeting of Cryonics UK. About 20 people from England and elsewhere in Europe attended - apparently a larger than normal turnout. The training session was led by Tim Gibson and David Styles.

UK Training Session

Photo: David Styles and Tim Gibson (who is also the COO of

EUCRIO)demonstrating.

Both were well practiced, knowledgeable, and competent based on what Max observed. Tim was also remarkably tidy and well-organized. Among those he spoke with were Cryonics UK's treasurer, Graham Hipkiss and technical advisor Alan Sinclair. Although the attendees were a mix of Alcor and CI members, there was clearly a positive response to our visit. Several people said that, if Alcor show that we can properly support our members abroad, they will retain their membership (which they might otherwise drop), or renew it (if they had switched to CI or dropped membership in any US cryonics organization).

While the training session continued on Sunday, Max and Aaron traveled to Manchester to catch a flight to Porto, Portugal. They were met at the airport by Nuno Martins and his brother Diogo, who are EUCRIO's CEO and CIO. The Martins took them to nearby Braga where they showed them EUCRIO's equipment. Already an extensive collection (including a ready-to-use whole body dry ice shipper), Nuno

## [Alcor News Blog](#)

strongly welcomed any suggestions we had for improving the kit and for making it maximally compatible with Alcor's. For instance, they will reorganize the Pelican cases, include a King airway, upgrade to stronger body bags, acquire a Baxa infusion pump, and so on.

EUCRIO will charge European cryonicists a fee for their services, plus a charge for standby, stabilization, and transport when needed. Their pricing is determined by a worst case scenario and the risk of non-payment from insurance. Should Alcor arrange with EUCRIO for SST, they expect to be able to discount those prices due to lower risk. It was evident that the Martins and COO David Styles had done extensive research into the regulations, requirements, and airline rules throughout Europe. They have developed a team of volunteers as well as contractors. They may be fully operational within a few months.

Back in London, just before taking their return flight, Max and Aaron met with a director who is a cryonicist and who wants to make a movie in which cryonics plays a prominent and positive role.

For Alcor to best respond to our European members (and our US-based members who travel to Europe), we should ideally have several options. With equipment and supplies stationed in England - and with advance warning of clinical death - Aaron could respond and be in charge, perhaps assisted by UK-based individuals, especially those involved with Cryonics UK. In cases with insufficient warning, or whether Aaron is already committed in the USA, or where a member is in a non-English speaking country, we might want to rely primarily on EUCRIO. In each of these situations, Rowland Brothers could play a crucial role in arranging final transport to Scottsdale. Max will discuss these possibilities with the board while working out details of potential agreements and while determining costs.

## READINESS AND TRANSPORT REPORT

### **Overseas Neuro Dry Ice Shipping Container**

With specific performance goals provided by Max I have been developing a super-duty dry ice international neuro shipping container. (SDDIINSC) The unit I developed with input from Hugh and Aaron provides a superior level of insulation and travel protection, and a dry ice performance period (sub -70C) of ~4.5 days. The case shell is a cube shape Peli 340 with detachable roller feet and wide lifting handles on either side. It appears to be virtually indestructible. The case innards consist of a standard U-Line brand styrofoam dry ice shipping box which has been modified to our specification and press-fit into the Peli plucked foam protective liner. Neuro Shipper

Prior dry ice tests performed on the U-line box alone resulted in a dry ice temperature period of ~2.5 days, the insertion of the Styrofoam into the Peli container has extended this time period to at minimum 4.5 days. I have some ideas how to extend that time frame an additional day or possibly two. In our test a 4 liter bottle filled with E.G. gel simulating a cryoprotected cephalon was placed in the box. The container was plunge cooled to -70C over a period of 1.5 days using 25 Lbs of crushed dry ice. Once dry ice temp was achieved an additional 12 Lbs of crushed dry ice was added to the box and the box was closed. A thermocouple probe was inserted into the center of the bottle and a second probe was attached to the outer surface of the bottle. The test was run until both thermocouples warmed to ~-50C. We added venting to the Peli case to allow the CO2 to vent and the Peli case was opened several times during the test to simulate inspections that will likely occur at various points along its trip. The 'reload with dry ice' spike

in the graph below was inserted artificially for display clarity

### **Case Report for A-1546**

Leonard Emerson was born in Raton, New Mexico, a city just south of the Colorado-New Mexico border, on November 26th, 1938. Known as 'Bucky', he served with honor in the US Coast Guard, and then attended the Colorado School of Mines to become a land surveyor. He was a husband, father, grand-father and was married to his wife for 41 years.

Leonard possessed a brilliant and analytical mind, had a keen sense of humor and an unquestionable personal ethic. A member of Mensa, he eagerly embraced technological innovation, and was a vocal proponent of future developments.

Leonard became a member of Alcor in 1995. His health declined in his early 70's from metastatic gastric cancer and his clinical death occurred at 5:20 PM on November 9th of 2011, at his home in Kirkland, WA. His case report is being completed this week, and pending review, should be published to Alcor's website shortly.

### **Public Education & Media**

Alcor has conducted 4 tours this past month with a total of 37 attendees. This included two separate tours for a local college's medical ethics course where students could learn and discuss the various aspects of postmortem directives, anatomical donations, interactions with medical providers and cooperation from relatives.

Another tour was provided for Dr. Jaime Lagunez from Cuernavaca, Mexico who is the Scientific Director of the American Association of Cryopreservation. As a human rights activist, he strongly supports cryonics as a personal choice and is working to promote the continued development of the science throughout Spanish speaking nations.

During 2011, there were a total of 61 tours given for 246 attendees. Groups included Arizona State University, Ottawa University, Glendale Community College, Tucson Unified School District, Bryman College, Barry Aaron's office, TEDMED and the World Futurist Society. International visitors came from Finland, Russia, China, Italy and Mexico.

### **Medical Event Tracking**

During the month of December, there were 7 different Alcor members that had either some type of surgery or significant medical procedure performed that we tracked. Some events were planned and others were urgent. Either way, we are pleased that members are being proactive and alerting us prior to events occurring.

A typical scenario involves receiving a call from an individual about an upcoming procedure. Two forms are often provided to the individual - one that allows them to input all of the specifics of their surgery/procedure including date, time, location, surgeon, contacts, etc, - and the other form they give to their medical providers that articulates the purpose of their directives and requests specific action in the event of a clinical death. Occasionally, calls will be made to the medical providers, at the request of the member, to answer specific questions physicians and/or administrators may have. Alternatively, if a procedure is urgent and there is no time for this process, the information is recorded and disseminated to the deployment committee for evaluation.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

### **Membership Statistics**

Alcor had 957 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Two memberships were approved during the month of December, one membership was reinstated, three memberships were cancelled and one member was cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net loss of one member in December.

### **Applicant Statistics**

Alcor had 42 applicants for membership. Two new applicants were added, three applicants were converted to members and one applicant was cancelled resulting in net a loss of two applicants in November.

### **Information Packet Statistics**

Alcor received 95 info pack requests in December. Fifteen were handed out during facility tours or from special request. The average total of 104 info packs sent per month in 2011 compares to 199 in 2010. The full [Information Packet](#) is now available online.

## PAPER COPIES OF THE CRYONICS MAGAZINE

Courtesy of the Life Extension Foundation, Alcor is pleased to announce that paper publications of the 1st Quarter 2012 *Cryonics* magazine will be available shortly. Complimentary printed copies of the *Cryonics* magazine will be shipped to all members and subscribers sometime next week. To view current and past issues of the *Cryonics* magazine online click here: [Cryonics Magazine](#).

## NEXT ALCOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**The next Alcor Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2012, at 11:00 AM (MST) at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.**

End of Alcor  
News January/February  
bulletin #109 dated  
February 3, 2012

To subscribe to this monthly newsletter, visit [www.alcornews.org](http://www.alcornews.org) and follow instructions on the web site, or send a blank piece of email to [alcornews-subscribe@alcornews.org](mailto:alcornews-subscribe@alcornews.org) with the single word subscribe in the subject line. You will receive email asking you to confirm your request for Alcor News. To unsubscribe or change your email address, visit [www.alcornews.org](http://www.alcornews.org) and alter your preferences.