

# Alcor Life Extension Foundation Newsletter

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info

Issue: #111

April 2012

## Alcor Buliding

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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.

### **ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP** Introducing a new class of Alcor member

Supporters of Alcor who are not yet ready to make cryopreservation arrangements can now become an Associate Member by paying \$10/month. Associate members are members of the Alcor Life Extension Foundation who have not made cryonics arrangements but financially support the organization.

We will encourage members who are having to drop their arrangements temporarily due to reduced income to remain as **Associate Members**.

### **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.

## CEO REPORT

### **Resilience**

In numerous movies and TV shows you have undoubtedly seen well-funded organizations with deep security. To enter the building, you may have to show ID, have your fingerprints checked or your retina scanned. You will be captured on video at all times. Access to sensitive areas is blocked by thick metal walls, security guards, and automated lasers. (Somehow, despite all that security, someone always breaks in.) A few places in the real world have security that comes close to these dramatic constructs.

Alcor is not one of those places. We value patient security very highly. But we don't have a multi-billion dollar budget with which to hire a large and highly-trained security team or to buy expensive and sophisticated security systems. Until we grow enough to make those things possible, it's pointless to apply perfectionist standards to Alcor's security. What we can do is continually look out for significant weaknesses that can be remedied affordably.

One area that has been something of a weak spot in terms of unauthorized entry into the building by persons of destructive intent has been the skylight in the area behind the front offices. Although the skylight covering is not easy to break through, it could be done quickly enough by persons who came equipped for the job. We have now eliminated that weak spot, although potential intruders from above would not know that until they had managed to get through the existing skylight cover. Steve Graber is also completing the installation of a vastly more useful video surveillance system that enables us to see both inside and outside the building.

If you should be in a position to identify a significant weakness in our security (one that is not exorbitantly expensive to remedy), please do not publicly post that information - as one member did. Doing so can only help potential attackers. If you have a genuine contribution to make to

**Max More Photo**

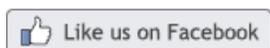
If you are not insurable, other financial arrangements can be made. Please ask us for details or visit the link below.

**[ALCOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS](#)**

To find out about: Alcor Training Sessions; Regional 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.

security, please tell us. We will listen.

Also on the resilience front, member Mark Voelker is conducting an updated analysis of the cost and difficulty of making our own LN2. Unless it turns out to be unexpectedly cheap and easy (or funds were contributed specifically for this), we would only put this into action if we anticipated major disruptions in our supply.

**Communicating Cryonics**

Based on detailed, helpful feedback from Ralph Merkle, I'm refining my material for future talks. The goal is to produce the most stimulating and persuasive cryonics talk possible, while altering the presentation to suit each unique audience. If you know of any venues for giving a cryonics talk where the audience might be open to our message, please let me know.

Last week, I was filmed for a student film project on life extension and cryonics, and was interviewed in a friendly and informed way for an Irish radio show, which should soon be available for streaming on the web.

**Alcor-40 Conference**

We have tentative commitments from a number of speakers and will soon be listing speakers and sessions and opening registration. If you would like to be a conference sponsor, please ask for our sponsor information.

Max More, PhD  
President & CEO

**SILENT AUCTION**

Alcor is seeking donations for a silent auction to be held during the **40th Anniversary Conference, October 19-21, 2012**. Previous silent auctions have been exciting opportunities for attendees to acquire rare art and collectibles, and provided important funding to support Alcor's mission. With help from members and supporters, this year's event is expected to be bigger and more exciting than ever.

Since many people will be travelling to the event, small items are the most desirable. Suggested donations include: autographed books, small collectibles, small art, gift certificates, and digital media. Items should be in good condition, and donors should include a statement of the item's current market value.

Alcor has always relied on the generosity of members like you to achieve its goals. Your charitable donation to the silent auction will help keep Alcor positioned as the world leader in cryonics services.

For more information, please contact Lisa Shock at [lisa@alcor.org](mailto:lisa@alcor.org) or 480/905-1906 extension 115.

**CRYONICS MARCH-APRIL 2012**

The **[March-April issue of Cryonics](#)** features an extensive treatment of protecting one's cryonics arrangements against inflation through life insurance. Insurance agent and Alcor member Rudi Hoffman makes the case for "superfunding" your cryonics arrangements to keep pace with the rising costs of advanced medical procedures. The author explains the differences between the major forms of life insurance (term life, whole life, universal life, etc.), gives advice on how to evaluate the various bells and whistles insurances companies offer, and provides

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 [Alcor News Blog](#)

guidance on how to read those long policy illustrations.

March-April Cryonics Magazine

This issue continues the recent focus on identity-destroying brain disorders by offering an article by Alcor staff member Mike Perry about the latest developments in Alzheimer's Disease diagnosis.

Alcor CEO Max More reports on the upcoming Alcor conference and both book reviews deal with the topic of immortality, albeit from a different perspective.

## READINESS AND TRANSPORT REPORT

### **Patient Lift Assist**

The patient lift assist is about 95% complete with only cosmetic items remaining. It is fully functional in its current condition. Steve Graber completed design and fabrication of the patient lifting bar and then tested the lifter system by lifting five 20 liter bladders filled with water in our standard 'mega-mover'. One hundred liters of water is equal to 220 lbs and the hoist managed this weight without breaking a sweat. At that weight the entire laden hoist can be easily maneuvered and positioned by one person. Future lifting tests will be performed with additional weight.

The lifting tests were performed from the floor to the ice bath, from the ice bath to the OR table, and then back to the ice bath. Each time, the hydraulic piston was actuated to lift and lower the load. By rotating the load spreader bar 90 degrees and holding it parallel to the hoist arm Steve was able (without help) to roll the entire laden assembly through a laboratory obstacle course and placed the water bladders into the new surgical/cool-down table. The wheel motion and steering capability is smooth and easy to perform even with one person. During an actual case we would not see a need to perform such movement throughout the building, but it's good to do such a test if just to assess the capabilities of the Patient Lifter machine .

The photo shows the mega-mover attached to the hoist arm by 3 chains, spreading the load evenly across the bar such that our simulated patient load is actually quite level.

A major benefit of this design, aside from the obvious reduction in work related injuries due to manual lifting, is that once the patient has been lifted out of the ice bath we can place a thin plastic sheet underneath the entire mega-mover and hopefully eliminate any water spills on the OR floor during the transfer to the OR table phase.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

### **Membership Statistics**

#### April Member Stat Chart

Alcor had 963 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Five memberships were approved during the month of March, one membership was reinstated, one membership was cancelled. There were no members cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of four members in March.

### **Applicant Statistics**

Alcor had 43 applicants for membership. Five new applicants were added, six applicants were converted to members and two applicants were cancelled resulting in no net loss of three applicants in March.

### **Information Packet Statistics**

Alcor received 97 info pack requests in March. Eighteen were handed out during facility tours or from special requests. The average total of 94 info packs sent per month in 2012 compares to 104 in 2011. The full [Information Packet](#) is now available online.

## NEXT ALCOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next [Alcor Board of Directors](#) meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, May 5, 2012**, at 11:00 AM (PDST) at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

End of Alcor  
News March  
bulletin  
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