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## Alcor Life Extension Foundation Newsletter

Your source for insider's  
info

Issue: #112

May 2012

Alcor Buliding

### WHAT'S NEW AT ALCOR

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).  
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#### **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.**

### CEO REPORT

#### **Young Cryonicists**

Not having attended the first two Teens and Twenties events in Florida, I was unsure of the value of my attending or whether the cost could be justified. As it turned out, I'm glad I went and think doing so was valuable. I'm grateful to Bill

#### **Max Sitting in Dewar**

Faloon for agreeing to cover the cost of my flight and hotel. This event is entirely supported by the Life Extension Foundation, and brought 40 fully signed-up cryonicists together from around the world.

I answered dozens of questions about Alcor, cryonics in general, and how Alcor compares to CI. It was very clear that many of the young Alcor members (and some non-Alcor members) were pleased that I was there. During the structured time, in addition to participating in the introductions and exercises, at each meal attendees could sign up to sit with me and chat. (There were also tables for Bill Faloon, Michael Perry, Ben Best, and Cairn Idun - who organized the event.)

I gave a talk on Saturday afternoon on what members can do to improve their chances of getting a good cryopreservation. I was also able to correct the misconception that Alcor-40 Conference is only for Alcor members. The Florida visit also enabled me to visit Suspended Animation for a second time and to meet Leigh-Ann Vinciguerra, the

## **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.

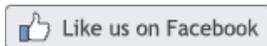
If you are not insurable, other financial arrangements can be made. Please ask us for details or visit the link below.

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

To find out about: Alcor Training Sessions; Regional 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!



new Emergency Services Manager. SA is currently evaluating the Lucas-2 (which Alcor favors) as a possible replacement for the Autopulse.

The quality of the attendees was remarkably high - something I found encouraging for the future. In his talk, Bill Faloon updated us on progress and plans concerning Timeship, noting how much had already been invested in the project (\$27 million) and how much would likely be needed before it would be operational. However, important questions remain unanswered regarding how Timeship would work with existing and new patients of various cryonics organizations.

### **Resilience**

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. We have now eliminated that weak spot. Further details can be found in the Readiness and Technical Coordinator section.

Also on the resilience front, member Mark Voelker is conducting an updated analysis of the cost and difficulty of making our own liquid nitrogen. My initial sense of his findings is that, given the cost for current consumption levels, (unless funds were contributed specifically for creating and sustaining an independent supply), we would only put this into action if we anticipated major disruptions in our supply.

### **Health Monitoring and Alerts**

One of our senior members visited Alcor recently and we discussed his concern that, living alone, he might undergo clinical death without anyone knowing. He asked us to look into medical monitoring devices that a member might use to alert us to a potentially fatal event. We were already investigating this, but the visit added incentive to do so more vigorously and deeply. I'm hoping the Alcor-40 conference will include a panel session on this topic, with practical recommendations for members.

### **Conference**

Work continues on the Alcor-40 conference. Several speakers have been secured and an initial roster, schedule, and registration rates will be announced within the week. With help from Barry Aarons and Laura Magnus, we have prepared detailed information for potential sponsors and are now ready to solicit sponsorship. The goal is to be able to cover speakers' expenses, and to ensure that the conference is of minimal or no cost to Alcor, while keeping registration rates low.

### **Communication**

Among the media outreach over the last few weeks, I talked on Radio Ireland; was interviewed for an audio/web project called "The Conversation"; did another video interview for a documentary; and discussed a possible story on James Bedford and another on cryonics in general; and did an interview for a book project on life extension. I also discovered that my 2002 Crossfire debate on

## 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 [Alcor News Blog](#)

### CNN Crossfire Ted Williams Cryonics Debate July 2002 Part 2.mp4

cryonics with ethicist Jonathan Moreno was fairly recently made available on YouTube.

Among many other activities, I spend some time correcting misconceptions about Alcor vs. CI in a popular web forum and in person, held an after-action review of our last case, and facilitated progress with a research proposal. Finally, on a partly personal note, my wife and I have finally sold our house in Austin, enabling us to start seriously searching for a permanent home in Scottsdale.

[Max More](#)

President and Chief Executive Officer

## NEW ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

Alcor has always relied on the generosity of members like you to achieve its goals. Your charitable donation to the Annual Giving Program, in any amount, will help keep Alcor positioned as the world leader in cryonics services.

What size donation is appropriate? Any gift, no matter how small, plays an important part in maintaining Alcor. We encourage all members to participate; small donations can often mean a big difference in what we can accomplish. You also have the option of splitting your gift into easy monthly payments to fit your budget. If you have questions or would like more information on this project, email Lisa Shock at [lisa@alcor.org](mailto:lisa@alcor.org).

## CRYONICS MAY-JUNE 2012

Cryonics May-June Cover

The May-June issue of *Cryonics* magazine feature, "The Allocation of Long Term Care Costs at Alcor" by [Board member Ralph Merkle](#) presents a conceptual and quantitative analysis of the allocation of storage costs between neuro and whole body patients.

Most Alcor members are aware that long term care costs for neuro patients are lower than for whole body patients but how are these number exactly derived and is the current allocation fair? This extensive article also includes new photos of the Alcor patient care bay, dewars and patient

enclosures. The online version of this issue will be available on the Alcor website early June.

## READINESS AND TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

### **Facility Physical Security Enhancement**

[Steve Graber](#) designed and built a steel grate out of heavy duty expanded steel mesh and angle iron. Using materials already on hand and an inexpensive sheet of expanded steel, Steve first plasma cut the steel pieces and then MIG welded the assembly together into a large rectangular grate. The grate was painted and then hoisted up to the ceiling. Using a portable work stand, a crew of 3 people (to ensure that there were no safety issues during installation) securely bolted the grate into place. The end result is a secured skylight opening with plenty of natural light still entering the space below.

### **New Data Acquisition System - Integration Into Existing O.R. Setup**

Steve Graber has been working on integrating the sensors from Alcor's new Data Acquisition (DAQ) into the existing OR table and tubing packs so that it can be run concurrently with the existing system. His efforts have been directed at issues related to data acquisition and ensuring that he has properly calibrated instrumentation.

### **New Perfusion System Control**

During a number of recent cases, while using the existing O.R. DAQ system, the technical team noticed glitches in the temperature acquisition module which introduced random transient spikes into the temperature data stream. These intense spike values are transient in nature and the recorded temperature values return to normal within seconds. Because they are so pronounced and so instantaneous in nature they make it simple enough to filter these errant points out of the dataset post-operatively. It does however, muddy up the display, and the team would much rather not have the problem in the first place. They have spent considerable time attempting to determine the source of these transient spikes but no matter how much they test the data acquisition system it never seems to generate these spikes unless they are in an actual case. Since they do not want to take the acquisition system off-line during a case and this makes the problem very difficult to track down. They have tested and/or replaced all the thermocouples and wiring so

this does seem to point to the physical DAQ box which is connected to the PC. Those familiar with this system know that it is a National Instruments TC-2190 rack mount TC assembly attached to a PC based DAQ running WinXP.

The recorded temperature spike problem with the existing production DAQ system does provide us with a silver lining. The team has a completely new and much more fully featured data acquisition system in the building. This is the system which is tied into Alcor's new computer controlled OR table. The initial phase in the deployment of the new OR control system is to disable all the control aspects of the system, leaving only the data gathering portion active. They would then tie this data acquisition portion into the existing OR table. In later phases they expect to tie in its other control features one at a time. This plan allows the team to first gather and analyze detailed information regarding actual procedure pressures, pump speed, refractive index and temperature over time. This information can be used to assist the team in the development of an initial PC control programs and guide their phasing of the new OR control system into actual patient cases over time.

## TRANSPORT AND READINESS

### **Case Report for A-1002**

The case report for Alcor founder Fred Chamberlain A-1002 has been completed and published to Alcor's website at: <http://alcor.org/Library/pdfs/casereportA1002FredChamberlain.pdf>

### **Training-Southern California**

A training session for the Southern California response team is being planned for the month of June at the Critical Care Research facility in Rancho Cucamonga, CA. This will be a one day refresher for volunteers in that vicinity, many of whom may not have been on a case in a while. This training session is scheduled for **Saturday, June 23, 2012**. Please email Aaron Drake [aaron@alcor.org](mailto:aaron@alcor.org) to register and for detailed information.

Aaron and Ice Bath

### **Training-Laughlin**

As there has been a large turnover in employees at the Riverside Resort in Laughlin, Nevada over the past couple of years, their management has requested a training session so that there will be adequate coverage in the event of an emergency.

This will be a full two-day event that includes all aspects of the stabilization process from

cryonics theory to practical application to an in-house scenario that involves the entire hotel security team. This training session is for current Laughlin team members *only*.

### **Medical Response Director, Aaron Drake**

As a part of the required paramedic refresher training, [Aaron Drake](#) will be certified as a CPR, AED, First Aid, and Blood Borne Pathogens instructor. This will lead to all staff members having the opportunity to renew their CPR certification and review use the inhouse AED. This will be beneficial not only in the event of an employee medical emergency, but also for the general public and members who visit and/or tour the

Alcor facility.

## MEMBER PRESS NOTIFICATION OF CRYOPRESERVATION

Are you a public Alcor member? Would you like to help Alcor increase the awareness of cryonics in your local community? If your answer is yes to these questions, Alcor would like to encourage you to participate in the new press release project.

For public members who submit consent forms, Alcor will send a press release to local hometown newspapers upon cryopreservation. These press releases will be brief; similar to the business notices that appear in many local papers.

Simply fill out the [consent form](#) and mail it to Alcor. You can also fax it to 480/922-9027, Attn: Lisa Shock. Your form will be placed in your membership file for future reference.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

### **Membership Statistics**

Alcor had 967 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Six memberships were approved during the month of March, no memberships were reinstated, one member transferred to associate member, one membership was cancelled. There were no members cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of four members in April.

### **Applicant Statistics**

Alcor had 42 applicants for membership. Eight new applicants were added, six applicants were converted to members and no applicants were cancelled resulting in no net gain of two applicants in April.

### **Associate Members**

One full member transferred to associate member, seven associate members were added in April.

### **Information Packet Statistics**

Alcor received 82 info pack requests in April. Fourteen were handed out during facility tours or from special requests. The average total of 91 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, June 2, 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  
#112 dated  
May 24, 2012

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