

# Alcor News

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February 2006, #48

## In This issue

[Matching Grant Goal Achieved](#)

[Cryopreservation Case](#)

[Alcor Expands](#)

[Financial Matters](#)

[Tour Improvements](#)

[2006 Conference in Phoenix](#)

[Media This Month](#)

[Tax-Deductible Contributions](#)

[Membership Statistics](#)

[Florida Legal Case](#)

[Next Board Meeting](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Alcor United](#)

## Matching Grant Goal Achieved

Due to the generous donations of over 80 individuals, we fully achieved our goal and now have \$200,000 for Whole Body Vitrification Research. Our sincere appreciation

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Authors This Issue: Jennifer Chapman [JC], Diane Cremeens [DC], Tanya Jones [TJ], Steve Van Sickle [SVS].

### • Cryopreservation Case

After an extended battle with malignant melanoma, member A-1356 suffered sudden cardiac arrest at her home in southern California, a little more than twelve hours before a scheduled air ambulance trip to Arizona and local hospice care. A single team member and equipment were on hand at the moment of arrest and an abbreviated emergency stabilization protocol was begun immediately. Two other team members arrived shortly thereafter to assist. Once partial meds and some initial cooling was done, the patient was transported to a local facility for the blood washout portion of the procedure. Because the cardiac arrest occurred 15 minutes after the Office of Vital Statistics closed, the team had to wait until the next morning to obtain the paperwork needed to transport the patient across state lines; but the patient was ready for the trip when clearance came.

Cryoprotection began shortly after the patient arrived at the Alcor facility, and the target concentrations were achieved before the procedure concluded. Some edema was observed, but this was not sufficient to halt the procedure. We saw good bilateral symmetry in the uptake of the cryoprotectant. Cooling proceeded in accordance with the whole-body protocol, and six fracture events were detected during the descent to liquid nitrogen temperature.

Though this case did not quite proceed in the manner we'd hoped (we preferred the patient to be in Arizona), we ultimately achieved good results given the difficult circumstances. We continue to be pleased with the

goes out to each of you and especially to Bina and Martine Rothblatt who matched each of your donations dollar-for-dollar. 52 individuals made private donations. Public donations were made by these individuals:

- Steve Anderson
- Doug & Shirley Arends
- Howard Baetjer
  - Kevin Brown
  - Honor Bulkley
- James Clement
- Andrew Clifford
  - Brian Climo
  - Kat Cotter
- Daniel Crevier
  - Bobby Ford
- Cornelius Freer
  - Erik Hatfield
- Graham Hipkiss
- Mark Kaminsky
  - Terry Katz
- Eugene Kusmiak
  - Larry Lee
  - David Levine
- Thomas McKendree
  - Thomas Meyer
  - John Munson
  - Martin Olah
  - Robert Revitz
  - Dennis Ross
  - Edward Thorp
- Andrea Van de Loo
  - Charles Young

Thank you, again, for your contributions. Watch Alcor News for reports of our progress in this essential research.

properties of the new cryoprotectant and with the response of regional team members in emergency situations.

Member A-1356 has become Alcor's 73rd patient.

• Alcor Expands

Alcor signed a lease agreement for unit 105, the next in our row of bays in the building. While this increases rent by about \$20,000/year, it will completely eliminate the need for more than \$50,000 of planned construction. Use of this new space will allow units 108 and 109 to be devoted exclusively to research activities. [SVS]

• Financial Matters

Activities in the accounting department continue to be closely monitored. As a result of our increased financial oversight, we have discovered that a corporate credit card was stolen and fraudulent charges were made on it. Since this was reported within the statutory time limits, we anticipate the credit card company will bear the loss. This just illustrates the importance and effectiveness of the financial controls that were recently put in place. [SVS/TJ]

• Tour Improvements

Cold In Nature

The first of several posters has been created for Alcor's conference room and tour route to help explain various aspects of cryonics and give our guests something colorful and interesting to read while visiting. The

first poster is about "Cold in Nature" and includes examples of how various creatures have sustained extreme cold. [JC]

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- 2006 Conference in Phoenix

A conference is being planned by Alcor for October in Phoenix. Dates will be released with the next issue of Alcor News. [JC]

- Media This Month

[WSJ2](#)

An estimated 29,320 distinct computers visited Alcor's website in January with definite spikes correlating with the Wall Street Journal and "Good Morning America" coverage. Media participation this month includes:

- Wall Street Journal, US : A story was featured on the front page discussing various individuals who have set aside their assets for reanimation.
- Good Morning America, US : Alcor members David and Trudy Pizer were interviewed at Alcor.
- Ben Bradlee : This author is writing a biography of Ted Williams and visited our facility for a tour and interview with Tanya Jones, which was also attended by Cheryl Walsh.
- This Morning, UK : Alcor did not participate in this story but spoke with Alan Sinclair prior to his interview.
- Welt am Sonntag, Germany : Alcor personnel were interviewed, as were a few Alcor members.
- Belgium Public Television, Belgium : Alcor hosted a film crew for this documentary about various scientific initiatives around the world.
- Responded to inquiries from Live Science (online), Team Production (Israel), Kronen Zeitung (Austria). [JC]

[Many of the above articles are available online](#)

- Tax-Deductible Contributions

All members and contributors should have received their end-of-year contribution totals, including membership dues donations. Contact Sheila Kimbrell ([sheila@alcor.org](mailto:sheila@alcor.org)) with questions. [JC]

- Membership Statistics

On January 31, 2006, Alcor had 788 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Two memberships were approved during this month, one membership was reinstated, no memberships were cancelled and one member was cryopreserved. We have an average net gain

Member stats

of 2.0 members per month in 2006. Alcor distributed 372 information packs this month. [DC]

- [Florida Legal Case](#)

We have agreed to settle this case and are getting uncontested custody of the patient, the cryopreservation funding, and about 2/3 of our attorney fees. Sadly, it appears that the trust the member had established is completely broken, and the vast majority of the proceeds will be distributed to the daughters who were very nearly successful in having the member cremated before Alcor was even aware he was in trouble. Quick action on the part of the member's trust attorney and Tanya Jones was the only thing that saved him. This should serve as a warning that such trusts are extremely fragile, and that it can be very dangerous to include wording that gives anyone financial incentive to interfere with a cryopreservation. [SVS]

- [Next Board Meeting](#)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2006, at 11:00 AM (MST). Board meetings are typically held on the first Saturday of the month at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

- [Employment Opportunities](#)

Have you ever thought about joining the Alcor team? We have opportunities for licensed Paramedics, Emergency Medical Technicians, Registered Nurses, Lab Technicians and more to join our nationwide Transport Team. Participation is on a contractual basis. You'll be given cryonics training enabling you to participate in our patient rescue and transport cases. Licensed professionals do not have to be Alcor members to join our team. We welcome your expertise and interest. Send your resume to: [employment@alcor.org](mailto:employment@alcor.org)

- [Alcor United](#)

Alcor members have a new forum where they can meet and chat with other members. Get to know other cryonics supporters in your area and around the world by visiting [Alcor United \(www.alcorunited.org\)](http://www.alcorunited.org).

[Alcor United](#)

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