

Alcor News

Your source for insider's info

January, #69

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- [Readiness](#)

We have ordered fourteen ice bath frames, which once constructed, will bring our ice bath inventory to 16. These new design icebaths fold into a package that is transportable by air, but is inexpensive and rapid to assemble. This is the first step, and one of the longest manufacturing lead-time items, in building our new stabilization kits.

[Ice Bath](#)

[Continue reading "Readiness"](#)

- [Lab Renovations](#)

The new cabinetry and counters (with the exception of a few handles) are completed and in use. This upgrade significantly increases storage and lab counter space (about doubling it). This was a much needed upgrade given the increased tempo of laboratory work.

[Lab Photos](#)

Update on Recent Progress

When the Alcor management changed in September 2005 to the current team, we developed a new policy of not talking about what

- [Engineering Development](#)

grand plans we have for the organization, instead choosing to talk about things that we have completed. We implemented this policy change because the management team (consisting of Steve Van Sickle, Jennifer Chapman, and myself) were disappointed members. We were all weary of the empty promises, the distinct lack of improvement in technical capability and the lack of responsible fiscal oversight. We very deliberately set out to rebuild Alcor into an organization of which we could be proud, and we were enthusiastic about bringing positive change. Though it is a lengthy process, in my opinion we are succeeding, and we'd like to present a little perspective on the changes of late and on the challenges yet ahead.

[To continue reading more on "Update on Recent Progress"](#)

After tests with the cold stage of the new perfusion system, the cold stage has been returned to the manufacturer for modification or possible replacement. While it was cooling deep enough, it was not fast enough or even enough for our purposes. The modifications will allow larger volume and faster gas flow. Additional changes are being made to the wiring bus of the Advance Cryoprotection System.

The new ATP system has been successfully tested with liquid. We are currently going through an iterative process of packing it in a shipping case along with the required perfusate. Indications are, as we had hoped, we will be able to include the entire system in one shipping case.

- [Financial](#)

We collected a donation of \$10,000 to redesign our stabilization kits and a \$25,000 directed donation for Mike Perry to conduct a preliminary investigation into chemopreservation for cryonics purposes.

We also received an unrestricted donation of \$50,000 from a member who wishes to support Alcor's operations. It is unusual for us to receive unrestricted donations in this amount, and we appreciate this member's support.

The names of the all donors are confidential.

- [Membership](#)

On December 31, 2007, Alcor had 838 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Six memberships were approved during this month, one membership was reinstated, one membership was cancelled and no members were cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net gain of six members.

Applicants

At the end of this month Alcor had 54 applicants for membership. 22 new applicants were added, seven applicants were converted to members and no applicants were cancelled, resulting in a net gain of 15 applicants for this month.

Information Packets

159 info packs were mailed this month and 13 were handed out during facility tours or from special request. The average total of 129 info packs sent per month in 2007 is compared to 164 in 2006.

- [New Patient](#)

One of our members, A-1864, was involved in a homicide on January 1, 2008. He was the victim, and we spent several days involved in difficult negotiations for his release from the Medical Examiner's office. Because of the circumstances of death, a complete autopsy was required. We did negotiate for early release of his brain. The patient's body was delivered after the Medical Examiner completed the necessary investigation.

- [Next Board Meeting](#)

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 2, 2008, at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ) at 11:00 AM (MST). Members and the public are encouraged to attend.

- [Paper Published](#)

A new scholarly paper has been published in the International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Pathology, reporting on work conducted here at Alcor by Dr. Sergey V. Sheleg and Hugh Hixon. The paper is available online:

[Continue reading "Paper Published"](#)

- [Alcor News Blog](#)

Don't forget that 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](#)

- [Alcor United](#)

Alcor members have a 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

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**End of Alcor
News bulletin
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