
Alcor News

Your source for insider's info

September 2011 #105

In This issue

[MEMBER
COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR](#)

[REPORT ON 2011
STRATEGIC MEETING](#)

[SEPTEMBER 2011 CEO
Report by Max More](#)

[ALCOR'S 107TH PATIENT](#)

[NEW ALCOR MEMBER
FORUMS](#)

[CRYONICS MAGAZINE
3RD QUARTER ISSUE OUT
NOW](#)

[CRYOFEASTS 2011:
Newport Beach CA &
Austin TX](#)

[BENFORD BACK WITH
NEW EDITION OF
CHILLER](#)

[READINESS AND
TRANSPORT REPORT](#)

[ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORT](#)

[NEXT BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MEETING](#)

[DONATIONS ACCEPTED
ON ALCOR WEBSITE](#)

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

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

• [REPORT ON 2011 STRATEGIC MEETING](#)

2011 Strategic Meeting

On Saturday, September 10, 2011, Alcor held its Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors. The meeting was attended by all directors, seven in person and one by teleconference and using Skype. In addition to the public Annual Meeting, the directors, the president, and (for some sessions) several other participants, spent Friday afternoon and after dinner, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning engaged in a private Strategic Meeting.

Director and officer elections were held at the Annual Meeting. The existing slate of directors, James Clement, J.D., Ravin Jain, M.D., Saul Kent, Ralph Merkle, PhD, Michael Riskin, PhD, CPA, Michael Seidl, PhD, Tim Shavers, J.D., Brian Wowk, PhD, and officers Max More, PhD (President) and R. Michael Perry, PhD (Secretary and Treasurer), were carried forward for another year.

Alcor's Board of Directors is self-perpetuating according to Alcor's bylaws. There was some discussion of bringing onto the Board a ninth director and of possible candidates should one of the existing eight need to be

[ALCOR NEWS BLOG](#)

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.)

[ALCOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS](#)

Alcor Life Extension Foundation 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!

To find out about: Alcor

replaced. Among the most desirable skills in such a person would be expertise and credentials in accounting, medicine or cryobiology, fund raising, public relations, and business.

There was extensive discussion of the problem of member underfunding. A discussion document is being prepared for publication later this month. Following its publication, there will be a 3-month discussion period before a decision is made to implement any specific proposal.

Continue reading "[Report on 2011 Strategic Meeting](#)"

• [SEPTEMBER 2011 CEO Report by Max More](#)

My membership with Alcor started 25 years ago, as of September 14. When I joined a quarter-century ago, I was the 67th member and Alcor had cryopreserved just six patients. Where will we be in another 25 years?

No one knows. But it's not implausible that, if make it happen, we will be on a more financially secure footing for the very long term, we will be using advances such as medical monitoring, new means of accelerating initial cooling, intermediate temperature storage, and will be caring for hundreds of patients. Or, Alcor might no longer exist, having been shut down by regulators or having gone bankrupt. Or we might be hanging onto to existence while providing sub-optimal cryopreservations. Which outcome is realized is at least partly up to us.

At the annual Strategic Meeting a couple of weeks ago, I outlined my strategic priorities. The deluge of tasks that need attending to makes it tough to focus sufficiently on what matters most. Creating explicit strategic priorities helps create and maintain that focus. The four priorities, broadly defined, are robustness, growth, finances, and research.

Robustness includes succession planning, documentation of processes, patient security, political protection and relationship-building, continuous improvement of operations, and a media action team to respond to criticism. Growth includes a speakers' bureau, presence at conferences, updated and improved promotional material, use of social media, online video, and development of international membership and response capability. Finances includes maintaining a balanced budget, pursuing a solution to underfunding and supporting implementation, and finding new benefactors. Research starts with getting broad input into possible research goals consistent with Alcor's mission, especially high-value projects that are not being done by others.

Financial issues
With great regret, I authorized 11 membership

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

terminations. (Although one of those 11, at the last moment, responded to our messages and made arrangements to pay dues.) Originally there were 30 members scheduled for membership cancellation, but the number was whittled down by Diane and Bonnie's efforts. These are members who not only have not paid dues in a long time (often two years or longer), but mostly were not even responding to attempts to reach them.

We are in the process of reducing our liquid nitrogen costs. Our supplier has agreed to a lower price, even if we make no other changes. We will discuss with the PCT board options for further long-term savings by leasing or buying a 3000 gallon bulk tank.

Communications, promotion, and growth
Barry Aarons and I met to discuss two main items. The first was the need to continue the practice of Alcor leaders meeting with local politicians, so that they know our face and are less likely to introduce or support legislation or regulations harmful to our operations and our patients. We also discussed having speakers from Alcor (primarily but not limited to myself) give talks to organizations in the area.

Over the last month or so, I made three major trips. The first of these was a networking trip to Northern California. There I visited and talked to those involved in four organizations, each of whom included several Alcor members: Halcyon Molecular, Singularity University, SENS Foundation (Strategies for Engineered Negligible Senescence), and BioTime. Halcyon has a number of Alcor members. The principals of the company and I discussed the possibility of making Alcor membership a company benefit (subsidizing or covering the dues).

The second trip was to Cambridge, England for the fifth SENS conference, organized by Alcor member Aubrey de Grey. On the afternoon of Saturday September 3, I gave a talk on "Cryonic Life Extension". This placed cryopreservation in the context of regenerative medicine and our shared goals. All signs suggest that the talk was well received-something I was unsure of, given that much of the audience now consists of mainstream researchers who may have been unfamiliar with the idea. Several people said they had been thinking about signing up, but would now definitely do so. We may even receive funding for research or other projects.

Several people based in Europe (England, Italy, Switzerland, and other countries) said they would like to see Alcor better support Europeans, and some of those people expressed willingness to help develop our European capabilities.

The third trip was a visit to Cryonics Institute in Michigan. Here's a short, personal summary: With Mike Perry, I took the 6:10am plane to Detroit, arriving at 12:59pm on Saturday September 17. After picking up a

membership@alcor.org
<http://www.alcor.org>

877-462-5267 ext 101

rental car, and driving the 37 or so miles from the airport, then checking in at a nearby hotel, we drove to CI at around 5:00pm.

Andy Zawacki opened the door and showed us in. His friendly welcome set the tone for the weekend. I was shocked to find that Ben Best was lying down, looking in very poor shape. Two days earlier he had fallen off a tall ladder and badly hit his head. His injuries looked serious and over the weekend he was confined to a wheelchair, since he had also hurt his leg. Hopefully he has finally been checked out at a hospital and is on the mend.

At 6:00pm there was a dinner attended by perhaps 20 people, including Mike and myself. I sat across from David Ettinger (and next to Connie Ettinger), who clearly enjoyed telling stories. Conversation was pleasant and the meal was adequate, although I couldn't bring myself to order the jellyfish.

On Sunday September 18 was the Annual General Meeting from 2:00pm, followed by the memorial for Ettinger at 4:00pm. Mike and I arrived at CI at least a couple of hours before the AGM, giving us time to talk to those present and to explore the building. There's a small front office area, with no real reception space, and a few smallish rooms, once of which includes a conference table. The patient storage area is a large space with two rows of 8 cryostats each. Apparently, with CI's 107th patients (coincidentally exactly the same number as Alcor), the 16 cryostats have room for another 27 patients. They will probably be filled in four or five years.

Continue reading "[SEPTEMBER 2011 CEO REPORT by Max More](#)"

- **ALCOR'S 107TH PATIENT**

Alcor member A-2091 was pronounced on August 18, 2011. A whole body cryopreservation, A-2091 became Alcor's 107th patient.

A-2091, a member living in Southern California, was diagnosed with a glioblastoma in 2010. Alcor went on high alert in June of this year, and the member received 24 hour care at her home. Chemotherapy and medication administration was discontinued in June. In mid-June, Alcor prepared and shipped a mini-med kit to her home. In late June, a PICC line was established to permit easier administration of transport medications. Around the same time, the prior "full code" status was removed.

Arrangements were made with Suspended Animation to provide standby when required. Aaron Drake arranged a charter flight and made a special arrangement with the Health Department so that we could call after hours to

secure a transit permit (this turned out to be very useful). He visited the home in later July, met with a nearby mortuary, and worked out logistic details.

Continue Reading [ALCOR'S 107TH PATIENT](#)

RECORDS BROKEN by RECENT CASES

Alcor's last two cases were landmark cases. A-2357, a case performed by Alcor's Arizona team outside of Phoenix in June, reached a temperature of +20 degrees Celsius only 50 minutes after pronouncement of legal death. This beat by several minutes the previous record for the fastest cooling to that temperature, a record that has stood for 21 years since case A-1049 in the year 1990. Cooling rate is important during stabilization of cryonics patients because it protects the brain from injuring itself after being subjected to a few minutes of stopped blood circulation while legal death pronounced, and from further injury that can occur if blood flow and oxygenation during subsequent chest compressions are inadequate. The cooling rate was enhanced for case A-2357 by Alcor's newly-redesigned Surface Convection Cooling Device (SCCD), more popularly known as a SQUID. Alcor congratulates Aaron Drake and his team.

A-2091, an Alcor case in Southern California in August where stabilization and transport were performed by Suspended Animation, Inc. (SA), reached +20 degrees Celsius in 55 minutes. What made this case unique was how this cooling was achieved. This was the first cryonics case in which a board certified cardiothoracic surgeon performed the field surgery to place the patient on cardiopulmonary bypass. (This is a process in which cooled blood washout solution from a heart-lung machine is circulated through femoral vessels in the leg.) With the assistance of a certified clinical perfusionist working with the surgeon, the patient was successfully placed on bypass only 15 minutes after pronouncement. This is a new record for establishment of bypass for cryonics cases. The patient's temperature was reduced below +10 degC 67 minutes after pronouncement, also a new cryonics record. Alcor congratulates SA team leader Catherine Baldwin and her team, and looks forward to further collaboration with SA to achieve such excellence in cryonics casework.

- [NEW ALCOR MEMBER FORUMS](#)

After extensive discussion and beta-testing, Alcor has launched a new discussion forum. We recognize the need for a forum where our members can discuss issues relating to Alcor and cryonics in general. We also recognize the need for a forum where members will feel comfortable exchanging ideas without running into hostile behavior of people who are not interested in advancing the cause of cryonics and life extension.

As a consequence, our forum is accessible to the general

public but only Alcor members can create an account after their membership status has been confirmed. Some Alcor members have asked for a private forum that is not accessible to the general public so we have added a private forum.

For Alcor members who prefer to keep their identity private the forum also offers the option of using a pseudonym - pending verification of membership status.

As Alcor will soon release a document about its proposed policies on grandfathering and underfunded cases, this is a good time to register for the forums and participate in the discussion.

We try to approve new account applications as soon as possible but there may be a short delay between registration and membership status verification.

The new Alcor Forums can be found at the following URL: <http://www.alcor.org/forums/index.php>

- **CRYONICS MAGAZINE 3RD QUARTER ISSUE OUT NOW**

Alcor is pleased to announce that the 3rd Quarter 2011 [Cryonics Magazine](#) is now available for viewing, purchasing and downloading.

Just because we no longer mail out physical copies of Cryonics magazine (except by special arrangement), you shouldn't miss on what's going on at Alcor and in cryonics. In the 3rd Quarter 2011 issue, the CEO Update reminds us of the value of air bags, seatbelts, wearing your Alcor bracelet, and ensuring your paperwork is current. The Update also notes a close call that might have meant three cryopreservations in the same week; informs us of improvements to the building, security, and energy efficiency; has information on recent and upcoming talks and conferences; and concludes with a teaser about a planned 2012 Alcor 40th Anniversary Conference.

Also in the 3rd quarter issue of Cryonics magazine is a richly illustrated review and update of Intermediate Temperature Storage (ITS). ITS technologies will allow for long term care of cryonics patients at low subzero temperatures with reduced or no fracturing events. This issue also includes a timeline that tracks the history of ITS. Please also visit Alcor's [Facebook](#) page, and vote in the poll about ITS.

Continue Reading [CRYONICS MAGAZINE 3RD QUARTER ISSUE OUT NOW](#)

- **CRYOFEASTS 2011: Newport Beach CA & Austin TX**

Friday November 11, 2011-Newport Beach, CA
Southern California members (and anyone else who'd like to attend) are invited to this year's CryoFeast on 11/11/11. We will be kicking off the holiday season with a party for Alcor members and their family and friends in Newport Beach, CA.

Date: Friday November 11, 2011
Time: 7:00 PM to 11:11 PM

So please, mark it on your calendar if you will be in the Newport Beach area on 11/11/11. However, attendance will be by R.S.V.P. only so you may confirm by emailing Dr. Kat Cotter at katcotter@gmail.com and she will send you the address and all the details.

Saturday, November 26, 2011-Austin, TX

This year's Alcor CryoFest will be held at the home of Alcor President Max More and Humanity+ Chair Natasha Vita-More. This Thanksgiving themed get-together is for Texas area cryonicists and life extension enthusiasts. We are delighted that this CryoFeast looks to include not only Alcor members and other cryonicists, but also Humanity+ members, life extensionists, and others interested in the field of human enhancement and life expansion. Feel free to share this invitation with anyone who you think may be interested.

Date: Saturday, November 26, 2011
Time: 2:30 pm

A short meeting will also take place at the CryoFeast for people who are interested in learning more about cryonics but have not yet set up arrangements with a cryonics organization. In the past people have attended from Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, from all over Texas, to reconnect, meet new people, and learn about developments in the cryonics field.

Attendees are only asked to bring a favorite dish or drink they would like to share. [RSVP and more party information.](#)

- **BENFORD BACK WITH NEW EDITION OF CHILLER**

Gregory Benford: "In the early 1990s it seemed time for a novel that looked at cryonics with a view of how it might play out in our time.

I think it's still time to reconsider the fundamental issues of cryonics, and indeed, of any attempt to live far into the long future before us. In a time of strange religious passions and ideas, we need to realize what the future might hold, and so how high the stakes are.

So I somewhat rewrote and now reissue it [here.](#)"

- READINESS AND TRANSPORT REPORT

Deployments:

Aaron Training Photo

- Alcor has had 8 deployments in the last year for Alcor members.
- A suspension was performed in 5 of these deployments.
- The number of days that were spent on standby for these member totaled 30.
- Alcor collaborated with Suspended Animation's team on 3 of these responses.

The cities that Alcor has conducted standbys/deployments include: Torrance, CA (2x); Palo Alto, CA; Abington, PA; Brooksville, FL; Litchfield Park, AZ (2x); Newport Coast, CA.

Training:

Alcor hosted a total of four different training sessions conducted for the benefit of readiness. Team training was conducted for our teams in Portland, OR; Laughlin, NV; and twice in Arizona.

[Aaron Drake](#) renewed his National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians - Paramedic (NREMT-P) certification by obtaining 72 hours of continuing education credits and attending an 8-day Advanced Life Support refresher course. In addition, he maintained his certifications in: Automatic External Defibrillation (AED); Continuous Cardiac Perfusion (CCP-CPR); International Trauma Life Support (ITLS); Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP); and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS).

Public Education:

Over the course of the last 12 months, Aaron conducted 59 tours with a total of 214 attendees. [Tours](#) are offered to the public twice a week - Tuesdays at 10:00 am and Fridays at 2:00 pm. There are many local colleges that schedule class tours as part of their class curriculum. These include Arizona State University, Ottawa University, Glendale Community College, and Tuscan Unified School District. Special group tours have been provided for Barry Aaron's legislative representatives to foster positive political awareness, visitors from Finnish cryonics society as well as Kriorus, the Arizona chapter of the World Futurist Society and members from TEDMED.

[Case Report](#) for the following patients were published to Alcor's website:

- A-2435

- A-1614
- A-2361
- A-2420
- A-1712

- ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

[Membership Statistics](#)

Alcor had 944 members on its Emergency Responsibility List. Four memberships were approved during the month of August, no memberships were reinstated, fourteen memberships were cancelled and one member was cryopreserved. Overall, there was a net loss of eleven members in August.

[Applicant Statistics](#)

Alcor had 51 applicants for membership. Twelve new applicants were added, four applicants were converted to members and no applicants were cancelled resulting in net a gain of eight applicants in August.

[Information Packet Statistics](#)

Alcor received 79 info pack requests in August. Fifteen were handed out during facility tours or from special request. The average total of 109 info packs sent per month in 2011 compares to 199 in 2010. The full [Information Packet](#) is now available online.

- NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next [Alcor Board of Directors](#) meeting will be held on FRIDAY, October 7, 2011, at 11:00 AM (PDT) at the Alcor facility (7895 East Acoma Drive in Scottsdale, AZ). Members and the public are encouraged to attend this meeting.

- 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. Check the Alcor News Blog throughout the month for the most up-to-date information.

[Alcor News Blog](#)

End of Alcor News
September
bulletin #105
dated September
28, 2011

To subscribe to this monthly newsletter, visit www.alcornews.org and follow instructions on the web site, or send a blank piece of email to 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 and alter your preferences.

