

ALCOR



LIFE EXTENSION FOUNDATION
The World's Leader in Cryonics

www.alcor.org

ALCOR NEWS

A newsletter about Alcor and cryonics activities and developments

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May 2018

UNPRECEDENTED \$5 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO CRYONICS RESEARCH

by Max More, CEO of Alcor



I am delighted to announce that Alcor has received a stunning \$5,000,000 contribution to fund cryonics research. Alcor member Brad Armstrong (A-3000), came to visit Alcor in November of 2016. After a tour and long and fascinating chat, before he left I suggested that he finally sit down and sign the membership paperwork. We would provide the witnesses and the Notary Public. 90 minutes later, Brad was done and handed us a check, making him a member. (See? It's not as difficult as you think.)

Fast forward to April 2018. Brad's assistant called to say that Brad wanted to make a major contribution to Alcor for the purposes of cryonics research. When I called Brad, I was immediately reminded that he is a down-to-earth, easygoing fellow who wants cryonics to work and is eager to fund what he knows matters.

Brad is an enthusiast of cryptocurrencies and an admirer of Hal Finney - the first recipient and early developer of Bitcoin - and an Alcor member cryopreserved in August 2014. The \$5 million research contribution is being held in the name of the **"Hal Finney Cryonics Research Fund"**.

Brad's cryptocurrency contribution was made by transferring it to an intermediary organization. Formally, we must therefore note that the funds were received from "Against Aging Fund at East Texas Communities Foundation". But make no mistake. This funding came from Brad.

Brad has done well financially from his inventions and his cryptocurrency investments. Even so, we know that there are Alcor members of considerably greater means. Some of these are well into their later years. I imagine myself in the position of having a net worth of a billion dollars or more and being in my 60s, 70s, or 80s. Certainly, I would be funding life extension research, but I am certain that I would also be putting serious money into cryonics, not only for research but also to build up Alcor's technical capabilities and strength.

On behalf of Alcor and the cryonics effort in general I want to say *thank you*. But how can I possibly express those thanks adequately?

With a gift of this magnitude comes the responsibility of managing and spending it wisely for maximum impact. Until the Alcor board and Research Group determine how best to hold and use this funding, I have moved it from Alcor's bank account into a money market fund earning 1.5%. As puny as that percentage sounds historically, it means a yield of \$6,000 per month (after keeping \$200,000 to shore up the Research Fund). Stay tuned as we determine how to use this remarkable influx of funding to boost Alcor's cryonics research.

NOTES FROM MAX

Alcor-I.C.E. Agreement

On April 6, 2018, Alcor signed an agreement with I.C.E. - International Cryomedicine Experts. This is headed up by Eric Vogt and Aaron Drake (Alcor's previous Medical Response Director). I.C.E. enables Alcor to tap into a team of experienced medical professionals led by two individuals with cryonics case experience for cases which Alcor central is not suited to or which are outside the United States (and not serviced by Suspended Animation).



In non-USA cases where we have some warning, this is likely to include field cryoprotective perfusion (FCP). Aaron, one of I.C.E.'s principals, already has experience with FCP both within the USA and overseas.

New Medical Advisor

We are pleased to announce the addition of surgeon Dr. Tom Wolvos to Alcor's Medical Advisors and to the Deployment Committee. Dr. Wolvos not only has numerous appointments and publications to his name, he has performed many surgeries in Alcor's OR.

CRYONICS LOCAL MEETINGS

New York City Cryonics First Response Meeting

On April 28, 2018 more than 15 Alcor members from the New York area gathered to understand cryonics first response procedures and to familiarize themselves with the contents of their new kit. Max More delivered a talk on current developments at Alcor and took questions from the attendees, Aschwin de Wolf explained the concept of cryonics first response and how basic interventions can improve patient outcome, and Christine Gaspar assisted in hands-on training of patient movement and transport, chest compressions, and basic medication administration.



Alcor believes that good patient care benefits from both the

involvement of professional standby teams *and* a vibrant local cryonics community. As we further develop and formalize our cryonics first response and local capabilities, we anticipate to organize more of these meetings in other cities.

The New York Alcor group holds regular meetings and aims to become a nexus for new cryonics activity. If you are an Alcor member in the area and would like to attend a meeting, please contact Javier El-Hage at javier.elhage@gmail.com

ASK AN OFFICIAL

Your questions answered by an Alcor Official

Have a question about Alcor - whether organizational, technical or financial? Please send any questions you would like answered and we may address them in our monthly newsletter segment, *Ask An Official*.



ALCOR ENDOWMENT TRUST SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION

Creation of the Alcor Endowment Trust Supporting Organization

Alcor is pleased to announce the creation of the Alcor Endowment Trust Supporting Organization. The Alcor Endowment is a Type II supporting organization intended to support the Alcor Life Extension Foundation. It will provide that support by prudently investing funds above and beyond what makes sense to allocate for general operations and research, and by providing a stable payment stream to Alcor to assist in the running of the organization.

The Alcor Endowment serves several purposes. It provides a structure for strategically investing Alcor's funds in a way that will put the organization in an ever stronger position as time passes. It guards over \$5 million of assets to benefit Alcor, a figure that is expected to grow over time, in a separate organization, making it more secure from lawsuits. It ensures a smooth disbursement of funds to Alcor in a way that both protects against market fluctuations and against future boards/management spending down Alcor's assets for short-term needs.

The Alcor Endowment makes annual distributions to Alcor which will average very nearly 2% over the long-term. To buffer Alcor from large market fluctuations, increases or decreases in the annual distributions to Alcor can generally vary by no more than 10% either up or down from the previous year's distribution. The exact distribution algorithm is legally binding on the Endowment pursuant to the Endowment legal documents. Having a set distribution policy also checks against spending down of the endowment by future boards.

Unlike the Patient Care Trust, or its new successor, the Alcor Care Trust, the Endowment's investment strategy is geared more towards maximizing long-term returns and less towards minimizing year-to-year fluctuations. This is because the Endowment is not focused on paying the patient care expenses.

The Alcor Endowment Board consists of five members. At least three of these members must also be on the Board of Directors of Alcor proper. The current composition of the Endowment is:

Ralph Merkle (Alcor Director)
Mike O'Neal (Alcor Director)
Andy Aymeloglu (Alcor Director)
Kenneth Weiss
Saul Kent

Donations can be made to the Alcor Endowment directly as an alternative to donating to Alcor. Alcor may also choose to transfer funds into the Endowment at its discretion. As of May 12, 2018, the Endowment had \$5,980,706.73 under management. The full text of the operating agreement detailing the distribution policy, board composition, and other details can be found here:

[Visit our website!](#)

ARE YOU IN DANGER OF OUTLIVING YOUR FUNDING?

In conducting our current funding review, we have found that many members who use insurance or annuities think that as long as they keep making their premium payments their policy will cover them until they die. Many of us at Alcor also held this erroneous belief. Unfortunately, this is not true of most policies. It may not be true of your policy either. It is important to find out for sure how long your policy will cover you.

Most policies have a "maturity date". A date when the policy will simply no longer cover the insured and no more premiums will be accepted. It is usually stated something like "coverage to age 90". If that is the case with your policy, what happens to your funding when the policy stops covering you? In many cases the death benefit is no longer payable which means that you no longer have funding, in spite of paying premiums for years or decades.

If, for example, your policy only pays to age 85 and you are now 80 years old, this can be a very serious problem unless you have other assets that are sufficient for you to use to make a Prepayment Agreement with Alcor for your funding. It is important for everyone who uses insurance for funding to find out if and when their death benefit will no longer be paid. The sooner you look into this, the better your chances of being able to find a solution that is affordable.

People are living longer today. A decade ago the average

person would only live into their mid-seventies. Now, most people will live into their mid-eighties. Members who took out policies thirty or forty years ago probably never thought much about a policy that would only pay to age 90 or 95, thinking it was an eternity away. But now that they may be only five or ten years from that, and likely to outlive their insurance, it has become a problem. If you are in this situation, it is time to think about how you will fund your cryopreservation if and when you outlive your insurance.

Alcor can offer some potential solutions. It won't work for everyone. But it will solve the problem for members who already have other assets that are sufficient to cover their funding and for members who are still young enough to begin working toward setting aside assets for when their insurance matures. It is called a Prepayment Agreement.

If you have a policy that has grown a large cash value, some policies will pay this to the insured when the policy matures (lapses at the end of the contract.) Other policies will pay the cash value to the insured if the policy is voluntarily cancelled before the maturity date. This cash can then be used to fund a Prepayment Agreement to cover all or part of your funding.

If your cash value is not large enough to fund your cryopreservation by itself, you could then use alternative funding mechanisms. On an individual basis, Alcor will accept partial payment (for up to a maximum of 50% of your funding) for cryopreservation from alternative funding methods such as real estate, 401(k) plans, and bequests at a 50% discount from net assets in order to allow for risk. More details here: <http://www.alcor.org/blog/alternative-funding-methods-introduced/>

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Chamberlain at linda@alcor.org or by calling toll-free 877-462-5267 ext. 115 so that we can try to help find a way to keep your cryopreservation arrangements funded.

CRYONICS MAGAZINE

Printed version of *Cryonics* magazine

The May/June issue of *Cryonics* magazine has just been mailed out. This will be the last printed version mailed as we switch over to our digital version. If you have already indicated that you would like to receive the printed version you will still receive it. If you have not indicated your preference you can still do so by sending an email to marji@alcor.org.



MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Growth Rate

As of April 30, 2018, Alcor had 1,176 members. That's a net gain of 33 since the start of the year. Annualized, this represents a growth rate of 8.7%. If this



can be sustained - which cannot be guaranteed in part because we may have a higher number of cancellations - it would be the fastest growth rate since 2005, and the largest total net gain in members ever.

2018	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Members	1,149	1,159	1,171	1,176								
Patients	155	156	156	156								
Associate	292	274	271	271								
Total	1,596	1,589	1,598	1,603								



One of the benefits of Associate Membership is receiving *Cryonics* magazine.

Already a member, refer a friend.

Click [here](#) to join today or forward this email.

Remember when you shop Amazon you can contribute to Alcor by making Alcor Life Extension your charity of choice by shopping with [AmazonSmile](#). You pay the same for your purchase but a portion goes to support Alcor. You can also Donate directly to Alcor below.

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