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October 2019

## New Alcor Survey

The Alcor staff would like all our members to take 10 minutes of their time to fill out our survey.



[Click for Survey](#)

If you have any questions or need help locating the survey please contact Marji Klima at [marji@alcor.org](mailto:marji@alcor.org).

## MRD - Now Hiring

Alcor Life Extension Foundation is seeking a Medical Response Director (MRD) to join our high-functioning team. The MRD is responsible for the postmortem stabilization and transport of Alcor patients to Scottsdale, Arizona. The MRD will coordinate with Alcor staff and contractors to enhance existing Standby, Stabilization, and Transport (SST) processes. If you are interested in applying for the position please send your resume and cover letter to Marji Klima at [marji@alcor.org](mailto:marji@alcor.org).



## CEO Update

by Max More

We thank those of you who responded to Alcor's appeal for financial support. We are delighted to say that dozens of members came together to contribute over \$70,000. This broad and strong show of support will hopefully spur our wealthier members who have yet to donate to contribute the amount needed to see this battle through and to secure our victory.

Please know that everyone here at Alcor is doing what we can to ensure that Alcor continues far into the future. Our primary mission is to protect our patients and to be here for you when you need cryopreserving. We are committed to that mission - it drives everything we do. And, with the support of our members, we remain confident that we will be successful in that mission.

We've received many questions about the lawsuits. While we know it's not a satisfying answer, our attorneys have advised us that we cannot speak to the specifics of ongoing litigation - even with our members. We cannot be forced to navigate public versus possibly non-public information on the fly. However, I can say that as litigation proceeds, you will see many pieces of relevant information strongly supportive of



Alcor's defense which we currently cannot disclose and which we hope will give you confidence in our cause.

As you know from previous communications, Alcor is involved in ongoing litigation with Kurt Pilgeram, whose father is a patient at Alcor. Many documents related to the case are publicly available. The gist of the suit by Alcor and countersuit by the son is over payment of insurance proceeds, from Alcor's perspective. From the son's perspective, it's over whether Alcor did anything wrong in connection with its treatment of his father. Alcor has been vigorously defending itself and is confident that the claims in the son's suit are without merit and that Alcor will prevail in the end.

Right now, the parties are engaged in the "written discovery" phase of the litigation, where each side is entitled to ask written questions of the other party and to seek documents and other information. That phase will be concluded over the next couple of months. After it is complete, the parties have a right to engage in deposition discovery—that is, interview of other parties and non-parties under oath. Deposition discovery is expected to take at least several more months, and we would not expect this matter to be ready for trial before sometime towards the middle of next year at the earliest.

As you can imagine, this means that we'll need funds to pursue our defense for some time to come. If you've thought about donating in the past but haven't, this remains an excellent time to do so. We've been so humbled by the support we've received so far and are excited to continue pursuing our shared mission in the decades and centuries to come.

Max More, PhD  
President & CEO, Alcor Life Extension Foundation

## CRYONICS SYMPOSIUM INTERNATIONAL - PART III



### Highlights Cryonics Symposium International by R. Michael Perry, PhD

**Continued from September newsletter**

This article is also to appear in Charles Tandy, ed., *Death and Anti-Death*, vol. 17

Interested readers may view the full presentation at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OtUQ7Ut4XCM>

#### **Dennis Kowalski:**

Dennis Kowalski. President of the Cryonics Institute for the last ten years, as a fire fighter and paramedic Dennis has had a lot of

experience dealing with life and death. Today he spoke about some of the most common problems people face in cryonics and some of the practical solutions. First there was a short video presenting the basic rationale and procedures used for suspensions (cryopreservations) by his organization. He then covered "the ten worst mistakes you can make in cryonics," with remedies, in most cases, not hard to see or implement: (1) not signing up ahead of time, (2) not providing proof of funding, (3) not telling anyone your plans, (4) not planning, (5) not notifying CI [or your own cryonics provider] of emergencies, (6) committing suicide (when not terminally ill, or in any manner that would invite autopsy). (7) engaging in risky or illegal activities, (8) providing financial or legal incentives so you will not be suspended, (9) not removing a hostile next of kin from rights to your remains and finances, (10) dying under less than favorable conditions. (Avoidance of travel to remote or hostile locations and good life habits are recommended).



**Rudi Hoffman as presenter, introduced by Dennis Kowalski**

Rudi is a Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Life Underwriter, and Chartered Financial Consultant with forty years of experience. As an independent consultant, his focus is directly on the needs of individual clients, including cryonicists, who often cover their arrangements through life insurance. Today Rudy gave a short (10-minute) talk on preparedness, that is to say, avoiding "cryocrastination." We hope that aging may be slowed down substantially or reversed "relatively soon," but we don't have this capability now, even for pets, let alone humans. It thus makes sense to sign up for cryopreservation now, since one never knows when a medical emergency will arise. Death can happen at any time, which Rudi dramatized by playing a series of Star Trek soundbites where "He's dead, Jim" and similar pronouncements are enunciated over and over ad nauseum. The takehome message: signing up for cryonics is not some kind of academic exercise. Do it

now, if you haven't already. (An affordable way for many is through life insurance; Rudi's agent in fact would be downstairs to offer her assistance.)

### **A. Potapov**



Alexey Potapov. Alexey is a co-founder and the first CTO of the Russian cryonics organization KrioRus. Founded in 2005, it is the largest cryonics company in the world, outside the U.S. Today he is KrioRus' North America Director and board member. He is also a serial entrepreneur with startups in drone and retail automation. "Today we are creating a cryonics industry in Russia," with KrioRus now storing 68 human patients (half neuro, half whole body), 34 pets, and about 500 DNA samples. In addition, KrioRus stores personal data in digitized form. "We believe in infinite progress," even if the Russian population doesn't understand that "death is a process not an event." There is a problem servicing remote areas in Russia, with airports unusable for the purpose, so the quality of perfusion depends on the location. A concluding Part 2 of the talk offered a perspective on cryonics, envisioning its progress through several stages: (1) early preservations (ancient Egypt) up through the emergence of cryobiology in the twentieth century, (2) Ettinger's vision of freezing the newly deceased for eventual revival, (3) Drexler's machines (nanotechnology) as a possible pathway to tissue repair and revival, (4) prospective mind uploading, digital immortality, and such, (5) "all the above" plus "connecting the value of life to the general culture."

### **Bill Faloon:**



Bill Faloon. Bill's many contributions to cryonics and the attempt to extend human life more generally, are too numerous to mention in a short space. Among other things, though, he created the Church of Perpetual Life which has hosted the Cryonics Symposium today. To conclude the presentations, Bill began by offering that in Russia today "cryonics is about where it was in the U.S. in the 1970s," then continued with his reminiscences of that time, working toward the present. In 1977 he set up a charity that was then able to fund research "to perfect the cryopreservation process." Today he is funding cryonics-related projects at the rate of about \$5 million per year. As he noted, there are two parts to cryonics: cryopreservation and reanimation. His support has mainly focused on cryopreservation, but he intends to start emphasizing reanimation in about ten years. He recalled that over the years there have been struggles with the government, but "we've won every battle." On the Church of Perpetual Life, he remarked that N. F. Fedorov, who has the status of a Prophet in the Church, "taught that technology would evolve to eradicate poverty, and even eventually to resurrect

everyone. At least we've made a lot of progress." Bill hopes that eventually it will be possible to upload the brain to digital immortality.

### **Questions and Answers (summarized):**

1. For Max More and Linda Chamberlain, in three parts: (a) Why doesn't Alcor establish a one-time payment for lifetime membership? (b) Does the money paid to Alcor for contracts include revival? (c) If we sign a \$200,000 contract now, will the price be subject to change?

Max responds: (a) A one-time payment for membership used to be offered but was discontinued. "I've tried to reintroduce that but so far I haven't been able to get the board to accept it." (b) The amount you pay for the cryopreservation includes perpetual storage, repair, revival and rehabilitation. (c) The \$200,000 fee is indeed subject to increase "as long as inflation exists in the world." Funding above the minimum and wise investments are encouraged.

Linda responds to (c): Alcor encourages people to overfund for two reasons: (1) inflation, (2) for extra expenses such as an air ambulance which could be important for a quality cryopreservation.

2. For Max More and Dennis Kowalski: Is there cooperation between Alcor and CI?

Dennis responds: "The one thing I would like to see is better cooperation between the organizations."

Max agrees and compares the situation in the United States with the different practice in England. There you have a mixed group of Alcor and CI members who pool their efforts on cases from either organization; this does not happen in the U. S. but should.

3. For SA: You have a facility in Florida and in California. How are you doing recruiting and training people to help throughout the rest of the country?

Ryan Levesque responds that they do annual training around February or March at their facility in Boynton Beach, FL. Sayer Johanson notes that in the past they have had training for lay people as well as professionals (licensed perfusionists for instance). But they have curbed lay training due to possible legal liabilities if a patient deanimates or due to their not being professionals themselves but in a supervisory role.

4. For Joe Kowalsky: Regarding the CryoPrize, wasn't a rabbit kidney frozen some years ago then thawed and reimplanted in its donor, after which it functioned? So why is there still a prize being offered for "first" doing this?

Joe responds that he'd heard of this result too [by Greg Fahy, rabbit kidney was vitrified, not "frozen," but then reimplanted successfully] but it didn't meet the qualifications of the Prize. It was the wrong organ, the animal must live a certain amount of time after reimplantation, the result must be repeatable.

5. For Mike Perry: How great is the danger from radiation for people in cryopreservation?

Response: It appears to be minimal. If not it would be possible to shield patients with lead or other radiation-blocking material; no one has considered this necessary so far.

6. For Bill Faloon: What groups are doing reanimation research? Response: Advanced Neural Biosciences in Portland Oregon is doing some limited research of this type. So far the main focus is on cryopreservation research rather than reanimation, which is as it should be.

## CRYONICS MAGAZINE

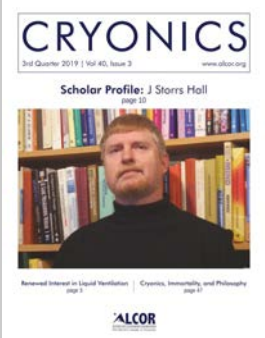
### Printed version of *Cryonics magazine*

Cryonics magazine is back on schedule as a quarterly magazine at this time. If you have any questions about your subscription or want to make changes to your email or mailing address please email [marji@alcor.org](mailto:marji@alcor.org).



## MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Members	1,237	1,241	1,246	1,256	1,251	1,252	1,263	1,269	1,283			
Patients	165	165	167	168	170	170	170	171	172			
Associate	296	285	287	284	281	282	281	291	282			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>1,691</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>1,697</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>1,714</b>	<b>1,731</b>	<b>1,737</b>			



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