

Cryonics

Volume 11(6)

June, 1990

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EDITORIAL MATTERS

We're late again. How? Well, first we overscheduled May: The Reanimation Conference and the Space Development Conference, plus two weekends of Emergency Response training. Then we got hit by the publicity with the Donaldson lawsuit plus the little detail of two suspensions. As this issue goes to press, we are completing another overseas non-member suspension that also required a lot of shuffling around in the patient care bay. The training sessions got canned somewhere along the way and we're still set back almost two months. Press on!

Speaking of the *Space Development Conference*, there is a plea in this issue for funds to cover the expenses incurred by Alcor Board Member Brenda Peters to represent us there. Brenda thought enough of the people she has met in the space development movement to go out on a limb with her own money. It is still difficult to say what this courtship will yield in terms of more members for Alcor, but the people we have met there are a lot like us; they want something very difficult *real bad*, and they are not limiting themselves to standing around talking about it. We do not think that there is much disagreement among you with the idea that the future of Man (and Woman too!) is in space. The space development people have something we are going to need, and we can perhaps provide the time they need to enjoy the fruits of their efforts. We need to stay in touch with them. Please help Brenda.

* * *

Errata

Contrary to our report in the May issue regarding the suspension of a Scandinavian man,

"...the Cryonics Institute never agreed to accept Bredo Morstoel for storage. Mr. Bauge was clearly and repeatedly informed, verbally and in writing, that a decision of our Board of Directors [of CI] would be required to modify our established policy of accepting only patients who were already members, with contracts in place, at time of death. Mr. Bauge was allowed to deposit money with CI only as a convenience and

potential time saver, on a contingency basis."

"As it turned out, Robert [Ettinger] and I were in favor of accepting the patient, but we were outvoted."

Mae A. Ettinger

We regret the error in reporting.

Also in the April issue, we credited Kevin Brown with "Death On Vacation." Kevin informs us that all but the first paragraph of the article was a verbatim transcript from "Death Takes A Holiday", in the August, 1989 *International Living*.

* * *

Thank You

To Keith Henson and Arel Lucas for their purchase and contribution of an original work of art for Alcor. The artwork was none other than the painting which was used to illustrate Thomas Donaldson's "24th Century Medicine" article in *Analog* science fiction magazine. We'll get it framed and have it up around here soon...

* * * * *

WHAT'S NEW

by Mike Darwin

If we were to do justice to the title of this article it would run the length of the magazine. Instead, we will try to summarize the events of the last two months (the interval between the time we began working on this edition of *Cryonics* and the time we finished with the last one).

Thomas Donaldson Files Suit For Suspension *Before* Legal Death

The deluge began with the filing of a lawsuit by Alcor Suspension Member Thomas Donaldson petitioning the Superior Court in Santa Barbara County (California) to allow him to enter cryonic suspension *before* he is pronounced legally dead. Dr. Donaldson suffers from a Grade II astrocytoma which threatens to significantly damage his brain before heartbeat and breathing (the traditional benchmarks for legal death) cease. An account of Dr. Donaldson's lawsuit, physical condition, and the need for financial support for this undertaking are presented elsewhere in this issue.

Media Deluge

What we'll tell you about here is what the immediate consequences to Alcor were: an unprecedented wave of media attention, like nothing we have ever experienced before. In the space of 14 days we had 31 film and TV crews, print reporters, and other assorted journalists through here. There were major stories on the front pages and first sections of hundreds of daily and weekly newspapers across the nation. The *Washington Post* featured a major, thoughtful, and very well done article on the Donaldson case, cryonics, and Alcor, and *Time*, *Insight*, and other magazines featured shorter articles describing the suit. CNN and a number of news stations in large local markets (L.A., San Francisco,

Dying Man Sues To Freeze Head

Frozen Dreams: A Matter of Death and Life

Can Thomas Donaldson Hasten His Demise To Keep Alive His Hope for a Future?

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A mathematician who filed a lawsuit so he can freeze his own head before he dies from a brain tumor said Tuesday the odds of achieving immortality aren't as bad as one might think.

betting that future scientists will discover a way to cure the tumor.

In a lawsuit filed Monday in Santa Clara County Superior Court, Donaldson said he is

CALIFORNIA Calm, Cool and Disconnected

Mathematician Thomas Donaldson, 46, of Sunnyvale, Calif., believes that science will eventually make immortality possible, and he wants in on it. Last week he asked a state court judge to permit a seven-person team to decapitate him, then sever his head and store it in a freezer. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.



freezing a head for \$100,000. Donaldson said he would pay for the procedure. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.

Dying man wants head frozen

By Cynthia Gorney
Washington Post Staff Writer



SUNNYVALE, Calif. — Thomas Donaldson has a brain tumor, and the odds are that it will kill him. He does not know exactly when it might kill him, but he has an idea about the sequence of events: He would like to have his head frozen now, and his body reattached to a new one later.

Wednesday, May 2, 1990

The Arizona Republic

Man seeks court OK to freeze head for future

By David Ansley
San Jose Mercury News

A Sunnyvale mathematician suffering from a brain tumor has gone to court in search of permission to have himself frozen to death. Thomas Donaldson, 46, is seeking a court order to have his head frozen before he dies. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.

Dying man would 'head' for future

Sues to cheat fate via decapitation, frozen 'suspension'

By Gary Robbins
Orange County Register

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — Defying fate, a terminally ill mathematician is battling to have his head frozen before he dies. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.

dies of a brain tumor so it can await a scientific resurrection. Thomas Donaldson, 46, of Sunnyvale, says in a lawsuit filed against California on Monday in Santa Barbara Superior Court that he wants his head "cryonically suspended" in hopes that scientists will discover a way to attach it to a healthy body and cure his brain disorder.

"We think that everyone should be immortal. The purpose of medicine should be to bring about that immortality," Donaldson said. He also asks the court to order the state to fund the procedure.

said by telephone from his home in the "Silicon Valley" community south of San Francisco. Cryonic suspension is a controversial experimental procedure in which all or part of a person's body is preserved at minus 320 degrees Fahrenheit. To date, the procedure has been performed only after a cryonics patient has died of natural causes. Donaldson wants to die before his brain is significantly damaged by a brain tumor.



DONALDSON: Cryonics advocate has tumor. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.

Man sues state for right to be frozen before death

From news services

LOS ANGELES — A California mathematician suffering from a brain tumor has gone to court in search of permission to have himself frozen to death, possibly by a Riverside laboratory.

Thomas Donaldson, 46, said he wants his head quick-frozen while he is still alive, using a process known as cryonic suspension. He's betting that future scientists will discover a way to

cure the tumor and attach his head to a healthy body.

"I don't want to die," Donaldson said. "All the other choices I know lead to certain death, whereas this one leads to some uncertain end. It seems to me this one is clearly superior."

"We think that everyone should be immortal. The purpose of medicine should be to bring about that immortality," he said.

In a lawsuit filed Monday in Santa Clara County Superior Court, Donaldson said he would pay for the procedure. He said he would later be reattached to a new body.



Thomas Donaldson

Minneapolis, Seattle, and New York) carried stories ranging from a brief announcement of the suit to in-depth four-part reports.

Alcor President Carlos Mondragon appeared on CNN's *Crossfire* and did a stellar job of defending Alcor and the suit to a hostile Pat Buchanan (transcripts of this show are available from Alcor for \$3.00) and Carlos, Mike Darwin, and Thomas Donaldson will soon appear on the Phil Donahue show (the show was actually taped on May 19th). The Donahue show in particular went very well and we are very anxious to see it aired (our telephone number will be given out at the end of the show). Mike, Carlos, and Thomas had to fly to New York to do the Donahue show, and this left the facility even more shorthanded in the midst of this "crisis" than we already were.

All of this fails to take into account the dozens radio interviews that were done by Mike Darwin, Carlos Mondragon, Steve Bridge, Mike Perry, and Arthur McCombs.

Other media coverage worth mentioning was an article in the July issue of *Spin* magazine and upcoming articles in *American Legion* magazine and the August issue of *Inland Empire* magazine.

Overseas coverage was especially fervent in Australia and Europe. We've been told by friends in Europe who have contacts with several countries that coverage has been heavy everywhere: "Any European who opens a newspaper, magazine, or watches TV has heard of Alcor and Dr. Donaldson."

Information Requests

The media attention resulted in a flood of information requests. In the space of one week we received 208 information requests; all of which had to be filled. This meant putting together 500 information packages on short notice. In addition, it meant answering the phone and answering questions generated by the inquiries. The upshot of all this was many 14, 16, and even a few 18 hours days for the Alcor staff. Steve Bridge, who was working at Alcor on a three-month sabbatical from his job as a children's librarian said "he had never worked so hard in his entire life." Steve also indicated a renewed enthusiasm for being a children's librarian and expressed real delight at the prospect of returning to Indiana to recover from what he thought would be a sleepy three months at Alcor sorting through the archives (The archives *never even got touched!*).

Recent Suspensions

As if the work related to the Donaldson case were not enough, we did two (count 'em: *two*) cryonic suspensions. The first was a non-member suspension involving the wife of a biomedical professional with a long-standing interest in and peripheral involvement with cryonics. This individual and his wife were in the process of signing up, when his wife, who had been chronically ill with cancer for a number of years, took a turn for the worse and experienced cardiac arrest with little notice. This patient was placed into whole-body suspension on May 10, 1990. And, as we go to press, yet another suspension is in progress.

Arlene Fried Suspended

On Friday, June 1st, Mike Darwin left for Northern California to begin a Remote-Standby for Alcor Member Arlene Fried, the mother and mother-in-law (respectively) of

Alcor founders Linda and Fred Chamberlain. Arlene had been a Suspension Member since 1983. In January of this year she was diagnosed as having terminal lung cancer. Early in June Arlene decided to "get it over with" and refuse further food and fluid; and thus essentially to die by dehydration. She made this decision due to her horribly reduced quality of life and the presence of a brain tumor (a metastases from her lung) which threatened to cause irreparable damage to her brain and rob her of her mentation; the last shred of independence and dignity she had left.

When Arlene began her dehydration she weighed less than 80 pounds (down from a healthy weight of 150 pounds in December of 1989!) and was unable to move from the recliner in her kitchen where she spent the final days of her illness.

It took Arlene 10 days of no food or fluid from the start of her dehydration to experience cardiac arrest. This was an emotionally trying, heartbreaking period for Linda, Fred, Jerry Leaf, Alcor Member Benjamin Hartwick (who had served as a live-in caretaker for Arlene during the last two months of her illness), as well as myself.

Arlene's Transport went very smoothly, and I feel confident in saying that her suspension went better than any that has ever been done before. She apparently experienced little if any ischemic injury, and, with the exception of Dora Kent, she is the only patient who experienced no brain or peripheral swelling during cryoprotective perfusion. In fact, her brain was slightly reduced in volume at the conclusion of perfusion: a very desirable state of affairs.

A full report on Arlene's suspension from a number of different perspectives will appear in a future issue of *Cryonics*.

An account of the non-member suspension will also be prepared and printed, although in this case the family's desire for privacy will sharply limit non-technical details.

Transport Course Re-Scheduled

The two suspensions and the media deluge meant that the long-scheduled transport training course had to be canceled. It will be re-scheduled for the end of the Summer or early Fall. Anyone interested in registering for it who had not done so already should contact Mike Darwin at (800)367-2228.

* * * * *

ER DUES TO RISE

by Carlos Mondragón

Effective the fourth quarter of 1990, Emergency Response Fees (a.k.a. suspension membership dues) will be increased by 26% across the board. The last increase took effect the second quarter of 1986. At that time, members were promised that this fee would not go up faster than the Consumer Price Index (CPI). We have kept that promise, although our costs in providing emergency response capability have increased much faster than the CPI. Future increases in our fees will have to be indicative of value of service provided, rather than be tied to a government calculation not necessarily relevant to our operations.

In dollars out of your pocket, this means that annual/quarterly dues bills will be up to \$252./\$63. from the current \$200./\$50. We plan to offer a monthly automatic pay by

credit card option by October. Student and family discounts will apply to the new rates as they did before, i.e. 50%.

Of course we regret having to increase the cost of cryonic suspension coverage. The good news is that our capabilities have improved far beyond what the price to you multiplied by the number of our suspension members could actually buy. My sense of things is that before too long, we will also have to increase suspension funding minimums. More good news: for those of you already signed up and for those in the sign up process when that happens, any increased funding requirements will not apply.

Please see the article elsewhere in this issue regarding our financial condition.

* * * * *

WHY ARE WE FIGHTING?

by Thomas Donaldson

I was born just as World War II was coming to a close. I remember the Korean War much better: our family was born then, with all three of my sisters born about that time. I was a child in the 50s, reading *Time* and the newspapers. My mother's brother played with radio, then with television. One day he bought a Heathkit color television, put it together, and proudly showed it to our family. Up to then we had lived in black and white.

The title of this article comes from one of Churchill's speeches, exhorting his exhausted people to yet more efforts against Germany. It's been, in personal terms, a long time since then. Yet someday a historian will write of this period, the latter half of the 20th Century, in a single short chapter. Will anyone survive to personally remember all the events of these times? What was it like to see the first color television on the block? That is one question cryonicists are trying to decide. Looked at one way, it's far from the most important question we seek to decide. We have others far more weighty. Looked at another way, it's more important than all the others.

In 1988 I was found to have a brain tumor, which has not gone away. It wasn't in a brain region which affected my thinking but rather one which controlled my physical coordination. The tumor has remained "stable" since then, which means that it hasn't been growing. Every cryonicist knows that someday they will face a similar problem: up to then, they've been healthy (it's an irony that only a few weeks before I had gone through a routine physical. The doctor had declared me healthy, then). Then, what is at first a minor illness grows to a conclusion.

And so, in late April 1990, I was interviewed by a reporter, Cynthia Gorney, for the *Washington Post*. She had already spent some time on cryonics, and knew beforehand that I would be filing a lawsuit. She took me out to dinner in an Indian restaurant, where we talked for hours. And she had noticed something about me, and about the people at Alcor. "You all seem as if you are fighting a war," she said slowly over her lamb korma. To which I nodded in agreement. Of course. We are fighting for our lives.



Thomas Donaldson

The constitutional provisions:

California Constitution, Article I, Sec 1:

All men are by nature free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and obtaining safety and happiness.

US Federal Constitution:

Amendment V: No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Amendment IX: The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Amendment XIV, Section 1: All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

The lawsuit was filed on 1 May 1990. It argues that by Amendments 5, 9, and 14 of the United States Constitution and Article I, Sec 1 of the California Constitution, I have a right to cryonic suspension even before I am declared legally dead. And so, on 1 May 1990, I entered into one major battle of this immortalist war.

Perhaps we may even lose this particular battle. Yet when we entered it we gathered our forces to attack a major fortress that has oppressed cryonicists from the beginning: the Legal Declaration of Death. If we lose this battle now I'm sure that we'll come back again. And again, and again, until we win.

We all understand this Legal Death, since we have all made suspension arrangements. WE know that it is merely a piece of paper signed by a doctor. Yet it still bears down on us. To the noncryonics legal system, to suspend someone before Legal Death constitutes Murder. To suspend them after Legal Death constitutes a trivial personal preference about garbage disposal.

Cryonic suspension only after Legal Death has gone on since we began. It has affected cryonics very deeply. How many people do you know who would define "cryonics" as "freezing people after they are dead"? And of course, how often have you noticed how confusing these people find us? When someone is dead, they say, they are gone forever. How could I be revived? Wouldn't it just be my body, inhabited now not by me but by some malign revenant? We've tried to explain ourselves to these people by renaming it, but they don't accept our names. To be "dead" is *by definition* to be gone forever. No amount of playing with mirrors can convince these puzzled people otherwise.

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH											
STATE OF CALIFORNIA						LOCAL REGISTRATION DISTRICT AND CERTIFICATE NUMBER					
STATE FILE NUMBER			1A. NAME OF DECEDENT—FIRST 1B. MIDDLE 1C. LAST			1A. DATE OF DEATH—MONTH, DAY, YEAR 12B. HOUR					
DECEDENT PERSONAL DATA		3. SEX 4. RACE/ETHNICITY		5. SPANISH/SPIRITANO NO		6. DATE OF BIRTH		7. AGE		8 UNDER 1 YEAR 9 UNDER 24 HOURS 10 UNDER 24 HOURS	
		8. BIRTHPLACE OF DECEDENT (STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY)		9. NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER		10. BIRTH NAME AND BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER					
		11A. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY		11B. IF DECLARED WAS EVER IN MILITARY SERVICE DATES OF SERVICE 19 TO 19		12. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		13. MARITAL STATUS		14. NAME OF SURVIVING SPOUSE OF WIFE, ENTER BIRTH NAME	
		15. PRIMARY OCCUPATION		16. NUMBER OF YEARS THIS OCCUPATION		17. EMPLOYER IF SELF-EMPLOYED, SO STATE		18. KIND OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS			
USUAL RESIDENCE		19A. USUAL RESIDENCE—STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION) 19B.				19C. CITY OR TOWN					
		20D. COUNTY		20E. STATE		20F. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT—RELATIONSHIP					
PLACE OF DEATH		21A. PLACE OF DEATH		21B. COUNTY							
		21C. STREET ADDRESS (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION)		21D. CITY OR TOWN							
CAUSE OF DEATH		22. DEATH WAS CAUSED BY: IMMEDIATE CAUSE ENTER ONLY ONE CAUSE PER LINE FOR A, B, AND C; CONDITIONS, IF ANY, WHICH SAWE HER TO THE IMMEDIATE CAUSE; STATE THE UNDERLYING CAUSE LAST.						24. WAS DEATH REPORTED TO CORONER?		25. WASopsy PERFORMED BETWEEN ONSET AND DEATH?	
		23. OTHER SIGNIFICANT CONDITIONS—CONTRIBUTING TO DEATH BUT NOT RELATED TO CAUSE GIVEN IN 22A.						27. WAS OPERATION PERFORMED FOR ANY CONDITION IN ITEMS 22 OR 23? TYPE OF OPERATION		26. WAS AUTOPSY PERFORMED?	
PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATION		28A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED. (ATTENDED DECEDENT SINCE I LAST SAW DECEDENT ALIVE) (ENTER MD. SA. YR.)		28B. PHYSICIAN—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE		28C. DATE SIGNED		28D. PHYSICIAN'S LICENSE NUMBER			
		29. SPECIFY ACCIDENT, SUICIDE, ETC.		30. PLACE OF INJURY		31. INJURY AT WORK		32A. DATE OF INJURY—MONTH, DAY, YEAR		32B. HOUR	
INJURY INFORMATION		33. LOCATION (STREET AND NUMBER OR LOCATION AND CITY OR TOWN)				34. DESCRIBE HOW INJURY OCCURRED (EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN INJURY)					
CORONER'S USE ONLY		35A. I CERTIFY THAT DEATH OCCURRED AT THE HOUR, DATE AND PLACE STATED FROM THE CAUSES STATED, AS REQUIRED BY LAW, I HAVE FILED AN INQUEST INVESTIGATION.		35B. CORONER—SIGNATURE AND DEGREE OR TITLE		35C. DATE SIGNED					
		36. DISPOSITION		37. DATE—MONTH, DAY, YEAR		38. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR CREMATOR		39. BURIAL/CREMATION LICENSE NUMBER AND EXPIRATION DATE			
		40A. NAME OF FUNERAL DIRECTOR OR PERSON ACTING AS SUCH		40B. LICENSE NO.		41. LOCAL REGISTRAR—SIGNATURE		42. DATE ACCEPTED BY LOCAL REGISTRAR			
STATE REGISTRAR		A.		B.		C.		D.		E.	
		F.									

Not only that, but cryonic suspension only after Legal Death has cost cryonicists both in heartbreak and in money. The heartbreak comes because right now no suspension can happen without that Magic Paper. And so many times a suspension team must sit waiting, while their patient slowly deteriorates, until an indifferent MD signs the Magic Paper. Even with a friendly doctor it causes us trouble. Suspension teams have waited weeks for that Magic Paper: doing nothing but waiting. Patients have had multiple strokes, with more and more brain damage, but just would *not* stop breathing, all while their suspension team waits.

The Legal Declaration of Death has shaped cryonics from the beginning. It's why isolated cryonicists have such a hard time finding others: even if I want suspension, if the nearest center is 2000 miles away why should I join up? They could never reach me soon enough. Most deaths aren't accidental emergencies, but cryonicists have had to treat ALL deaths as accidental. When a patient lies dying the cryonics team must drop everything to run to their assistance.

It's because of the Magic Paper that we can still do little for cryonicists in Australia, or Samoa, or Argentina, or even Montana. And even when a small group of cryonicists starts forming somewhere, they must immediately spend all their effort and money on a suspension kit. (Do you there far away want cryonic suspension? Then spend a tenth of your income on emergency preparations! No wonder recruitment has been so hard).

How has this battle gone so far? Well, there's been an almighty bang when the opposing forces first collided, but very little actual movement as yet.

The bang was the publicity. By pure accident I avoided a lot of the initial stages (I had made quite immovable plans to be in Australia when, without ever consulting me, the first guns were fired). Despite this, I and everyone else at Alcor have been very busy with publicity since. I, Carlos Mondragon, and Mike Darwin have appeared on the Donahue Show; I and Carlos have appeared on "Sonya Live", a CNN program. Alexander von Wechmar, German correspondent in America, came with a team of three to interview me. "Inside Report" has done a story, as has CBS News. Steven Lambert, of the BBC, wants to do a thoughtful British documentary on my case. A team from Spanish National television has interviewed me (and Carlos too, so I understand). Requests for radio interviews have poured in. It became very clear that by suing to allow cryonic suspension before Legal Death I had touched a nerve.

But what about the actual motion? Well, we've filed the suit. That is, in old-fashioned terms, we've sent our herald to announce a battle. Apparently about a month from now we *may* learn when the hearing takes place. If simply filing a suit could make so much noise, I wonder what noise a hearing might cause

There's an irony here which only cryonicists can see. All of these people are reacting to nothing more than a piece of paper. That Magic Paper casts a spell over them still. It affects us so much not because it bewitches us too, but because we must deal with so many others who are bewitched. And so the Magic Paper attains an ersatz reality.

If we win this lawsuit, as everyone hopes, what will we do next? Perhaps we could try to get the Medical Insurance companies to pay for suspension? After all, the money spent fruitlessly avoiding death often equals or exceeds the cost of suspension It would only be rational. But then rationality does not seem common at all on this subject, which is so close to everyone even though they constantly try to look away from it. Perhaps another lawsuit, many years from now.

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

Lawsuits, even about magic, cost REAL MONEY. Alcor needs help to prosecute this lawsuit to a conclusion. Anyone who wishes to see the Legal Declaration of Death excoriated may send their contributions, as much as they feel able, to:

THOMAS DONALDSON LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

c/o Alcor Life
Extension Foundation
12327 Doherty Street
Riverside, CA 92503



FACILITY UPGRADES

by Mike Darwin

Due to a number of directed donations, the Alcor facility has had some upgrades that don't involve new widgets or wadgets for the operating room, ambulance, or administration. A generous member observed that the reception area in the Alcor facility was very small and cramped, and could also use a little redecoration.

Her solution was dramatic and effective: she wrote a check to completely mirror two walls of the reception area from floor to ceiling. The results were amazing *and* gratifying. The reception area looks twice as big as it actually is and certainly a lot more than twice as classy. A couple of subdued wing-back chairs and a beautiful mahogany end table from Dick Jones' house occupy one corner of the office. A 7 ft. tall philodendron (which is probably too large for the area) contributed by Mike Darwin and Steve Bridge sits between two tasteful, wall-mounted light fixtures (which provide indirect lighting).

Future directed donations are needed to select seating which will not crowd the reception area, but which will allow for seating at least three people. Some of the technophiles in Alcor may wonder at this contribution, but keep in mind that the reception area is the first thing people



see when they walk in our door. Our past experience is that it conveys a powerful first impression -- in the past that impression has left a lot to be desired.

The other area which has long needed attention in the facility is the Patient Care Bay (PCB). This area's appearance has been what may be charitably described as *strictly utilitarian*. This has put off not only media people, but some prospective members as well. While we cannot and will not subvert function for the sake of aesthetics, we do need to pay more attention to how we look.

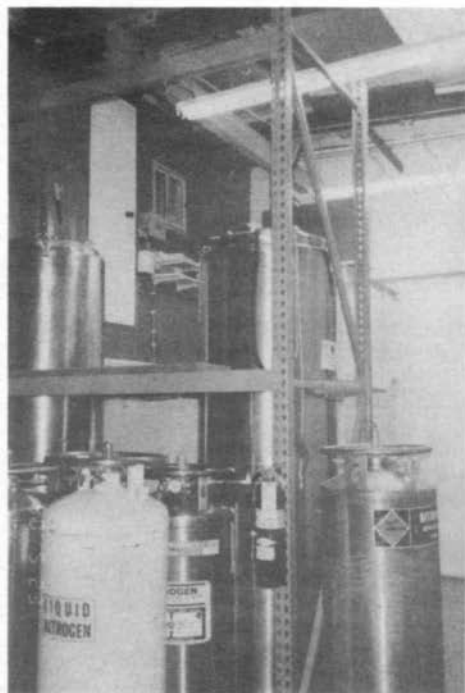
In the harsh glare of the TV camera our PCB has appeared as "crude, cold, and low-rent" to quote one brutally frank member of the Fourth Estate. And even educated technophiles have

aesthetic sensibilities; as one bright young researcher put it, "the fact that you will end up hanging upside down in a steel vat of liquid nitrogen in a drafty industrial warehouse does take some getting used to...."

People, even very bright people, are "lazy" (just like you and me) and are looking for ways to dismiss cryonics out of hand so that they won't have to go to all the trouble of *doing something* about it. Anything we can do to eliminate those reasons for dismissal will help. Merchants and manufacturers have known about this principle for a long time.

To this end, the Patient Care Bay has received a bit of sprucing up. The incomplete wall over the office area has been extended and repainted in a lively orange. This color, while a bit startling when viewed in person, provides a background of warmth and depth on camera which has been missing in the past. It softens the cold clinical or industrial image which to some extent is necessary to the storage operation.

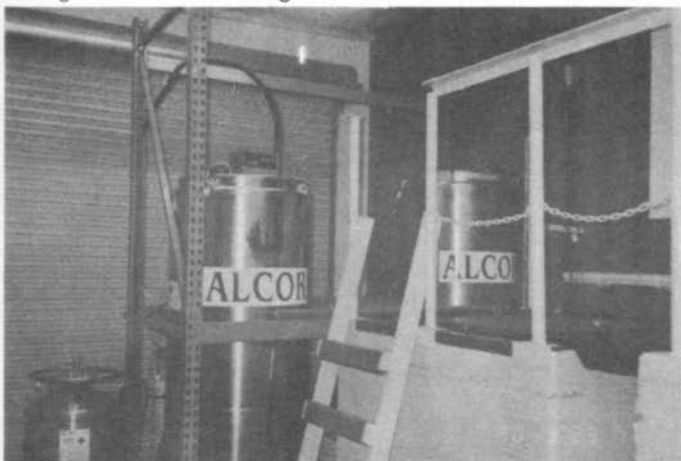
The vaults have also been painted (this was done over a year ago) and a safety railing installed around them to OSHA specifications.



The patient dewars now have the Alcor phoenix logo on them as well as our name in large clear letters (again in the same uniform typestyle which characterizes the rest of our literature). A previous, cruder logo on the patient dewars appeared in a photograph in *People* magazine. The result of that photo was a cryonic suspension and the influx of five additional new Suspension Members (relatives of the suspended patient)! It pays to advertise.

We also now have a cable trough which runs along the walls of the PCB for various lengths and at various heights. The purpose of the cable trough is to house in both an orderly and aesthetic way all the monitoring wires and cables coming from the patient dewars and going to the central monitoring system.

The PCB has also been somewhat "decongested" of equipment not related to storage of the patients. This relocation process will proceed further over the next month or two until there is nothing kept in the PCB but



patient storage equipment.

Outside the facility, Mike Darwin -- via Symbex -- redid the landscaping, installed an outdoor garden lighting system, and "slatted" the fence with opaque strips that match the color of the building. This does much to shield us from the parking areas of our neighbors.

The landscaping has helped to make the exterior of the facility a lot more attractive. As Alcor member Trudy Pizer remarked, "It makes the place seem a lot more human, a lot warmer."

Another much needed exterior change was to replace our worn and tacky "ALCOR" sign on the glass with our Phoenix logo and matching A L C O R. We hope this elevates us a little above the level of "Akbar and Jeff's Cryonics Hut" (a funny, irreverent Matt ("Simpsons") Groening cartoon which appeared in the middle of the Dora Kent publicity in 1988.)

These changes, however "superficial" they may at first appear, will go a long way towards improving our image and helping us to be taken more seriously.

And finally, we have two car phones now: a portable carry-around due to the generosity of Dave Pizer, and a "permanent" type which will be mounted in the ambulance. This will give us much needed real-time communication with facility during emergencies.

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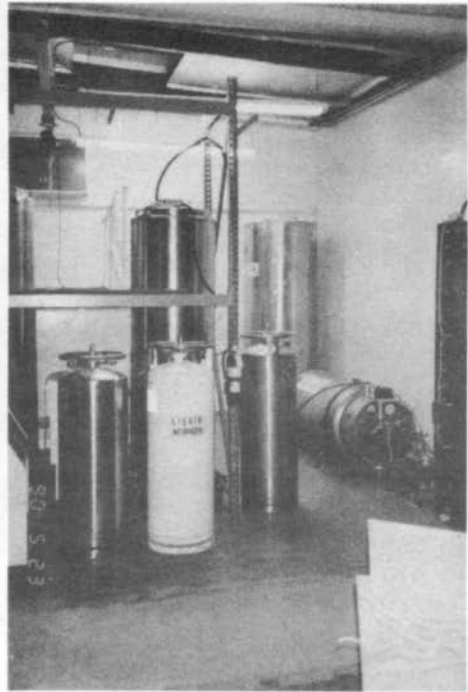
BIGFOOT ARRIVES

In the midst of all the "action" at Alcor, on May 16th, a large tractor-trailer truck rolled up to Alcor bearing a piece of cargo that looked very much like a rocket ship. And, just like a rocket ship this conveyance also offers passage to the uncharted worlds of tomorrow fueled by cryogenic fluid -- in this case, liquid nitrogen instead of the usual liquid hydrogen and oxygen.

The cargo was the new Alcor four-patient cryogenic dewar. A gleaming cylinder of stainless steel almost 9-1/2 feet high and 40 inches in diameter. The name "bigfoot" derives from its heavy-duty supporting base which is nearly 60 inches across! This dewar represents months of design effort by Mike Darwin, Hugh Hixon, and a very competent cryogenic engineer. It also represents what we believe to be the *safest, most durable, and MOST ECONOMICAL* whole-body storage unit available to any cryonics organization anywhere!

Why do we think this? Well consider the following:

1) The unit is made from stainless steel. Our surveys of cattle semen/embryo suppliers and institutions who use *stainless steel* cryobiological dewars indicate that the



working lifespan for an intelligently handled stainless steel dewar is in the range of many decades. This explains why such units almost never turn up on the used market. Similarly, our dewar repair engineer tells us he has routinely seen such vessels in more or less continuous use (with only occasional "refreshing" of the vacuum) for over 40 years.

By contrast, epoxy resin, or "fiberglass" units such the Linde LR-310A and LR-40 have proved to have shorter working lives, developing hard- (or impossible-) to-repair fractures. Taylor-Wharton (previously the Linde division of Union Carbide), once the principal commercial manufacturer of epoxy resin dewars, has recently abandoned them altogether because of reliability problems.

2) The unit is *not* made in-house. This is a major plus, since we don't have the time to spend on such time-consuming projects. We now have a large, reputable, and reliable manufacturer of these units and the up-front, time-consuming prototype work is done. Subsequent units can be ordered with a single phone call.

3) Cost per patient is competitive with that of other storage systems, including those done in-house. This unit can house four patients (When we change to a patient carrier system that will give better space utilization. With the current patient stretcher system, only three patients can be accommodated.) and the marginal cost for the unit (not including shipping) is \$17,000, a cost of about \$4300 per patient. If shipping, internal supports, alarm installation labor and other factors are added in, the cost rises to about \$6,000 per patient; still very economical.

4) But the real advantage comes in liquid use rates. This unit is efficient! Running full it will boil-off about 16 liters per day, or 4 liters per patient, per day. This translates to an annual liquid nitrogen cost (at \$0.25 per liter and assuming liquid nitrogen transfer losses of 10%) of about \$300 per year per patient. This is an ironic number since in 1967, the "start" of the cryonics program, \$300 was exactly the amount of money quoted by Robert Ettinger, Ed Hope of Cryocare Equipment Corporation, and others as being required to pay the liquid nitrogen bill for one year of whole-body storage. (NOTE: If other costs, such as amortization of the dewar over 10 years, caretaking labor, floor space, and so on are factored in, the total cost for care comes to about \$2000 per year, per patient. Also note that the \$300 figure was in 1967 dollars, worth about \$1000 now.)

Bigfoot will reduce our liquid use rate for storing our current population of whole-body patients (six, only of four of whom can fit in the new unit) by roughly 50%.

It should also be pointed out that if we had three or more bigfoots in service we could go to bulk liquid nitrogen delivery and reduce our liquid costs to about \$0.17 per liter, a further reduction in costs of 30 percent.

5) And then there is ruggedness; Bigfoot is designed to be moved fully loaded and to take 1g lateral accelerations. A major problem with past human storage cryogenic dewars



has been the inability to safely move them due to an inadequate bottom support design. This design shortcoming has been remedied in the new unit. The new bottom support has not only been considerably beefed up in strength, it was redesigned to make it more efficient, thus resulting in the very low boiloffs the unit has demonstrated.

The extra ruggedness also means extra seismic resistivity. In earthquake country that is *very* good news.

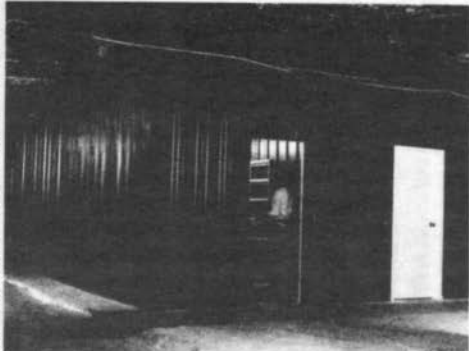
All in all Bigfoot represents a real breakthrough: it is, to our knowledge, the first highly reliable, rugged, economical, and liquid-efficient human storage dewar.

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ALCOR OFFERS ARCHIVAL STORAGE OF DOCUMENTS AND RECORDS

While other cryonics organizations talk about offering "secure" storage of irreplaceable documents, photographs, and memorabilia, (in some cases in cinder block buildings without caretakers or fireproofing); Alcor *now offers it*.

And when we say secure, we mean *secure*. Alcor has made arrangements with *Underground Vaults and Storage, Inc.*, a leading security archiver of records and microfiche for storage of member records, patient records, and member/patient memorabilia. Storage of materials can be undertaken at two different underground sites operated by the firm. UVSI has been in business for over 30 years and currently stores the film masters for the Turner/MGM and UA entertainment groups, as well as corporate records for most of the Fortune 500 companies. Their facilities are located outside Hutchinson, Kansas, 650 feet underground. This is near the geodetic center of the U.S., and in an area far removed from the nearest nuclear war target. Additionally, the underground facility is naturally dry and does not require dehumidification or active care of any kind. If the facility were left unattended due to the end of human civilization, it would remain at a constant temperature of 68°F and a relative humidity of about 48%.



The rates for archiving material in this facility through Alcor are as follows:

Transaction Charge (for receiving or withdrawing new material or starting or terminating the service) is \$20 for each cubic foot of material. Please note that you must provide a complete typewritten inventory/description of the material being deposited. A form is available from Alcor for this purpose.

Perpetual Storage Fee for Paper Records, Microfilm and similar items:

\$200.00 per cubic foot.

Storage of non-document items such as wedding gowns, artwork, and other three-dimensional items is possible and will be quoted on a case-by-case basis.

OUTTA' SPACE & INTO REAL TIME

by Brenda Peters

May 25th through 28th saw the 9th annual *International Space Development Conference* in Anaheim, California, directly across the street from the original Magic Kingdom. In my opinion, there was more magic to be found on OUR side of the street. Dreams permeated the Pan Pacific Hotel. Talk of space habitats, exploring faraway galaxies, and giant telescopes with which we will map our universe. Talk of discovering the origin and age of our universe, of greatly extended lifespans, uploading, downloading. Talk of us as individuals colonizing new planets, walking and living under strange stars and skies, plans for tiny self-replicating molecular robots that will build spaceships to get us around the solar system we live in faster than ever thought possible before. Dreams and talk, talk and dreams!

Eric Drexler was there, drawing a crowd as usual. People wanted to discuss nanostuff. And to my delight people wanted to discuss cryonics. They seemed to be making the correlation. Nanotech is a way of making dreams of life in space come true. It's also a way of making cryonics work, which is a way of making their own personal dreams of life in space come true, dreams that they could personally be found walking around in. Magic. And there in lies the rub. How can WE get there from here? My friends Martin Tays and John LaValley were amazed (after having helped me at several Science Fiction cons) at the positive response we were getting here. I had to say "I told you so." Last year's conference was so successful I had no reason to think this one would be anything less. And this year, more than ever, I felt that "how can WE get there?" was the burning issue in people's minds.

Unfortunately the space movement is going along at a snail's pace and as it becomes increasingly apparent that we're going to need some help if WE are ever to get there, WHO YA' GONNA CALL? If they had doubts about who they were going to call, I think they've figured it out now. This is a great bunch of people; no dummies, these. They work in the space industry and like the pioneers who colonized this country, they're forward thinking and adventurous. These are the kind of energetic dreamers I'd love to have in my future and I think a lot of them are going to be there. They don't just sit around and dream, they take action. That's what cryonics is about. We dream about staying alive and we take action to make it happen. And Alcor's presence at this conference was a way of doing that.

We conducted tours of Alcor and kept our hospitality suite open from 6pm til 5am every morning. I was being asked intelligent, thoughtful questions. Such a delight! It was a lot of work, it was also a labor of love. Our presence was definitely felt and appreciated. Alcor was asked to be a sponsor next year in San Antonio by the 1991 conference co-ordinators. Many people thanked us for being there, adding that Alcor's presence was a real plus to the conference. I can't say if we'll be in San Antonio or not, at this point, but people want us to be, commenting that we are now a familiar, positive, important addition to the space movement. Even newcomers to the idea of cryonics seemed to feel comfortable in our suite and comfortable about discussing it. Being a veteran of these things, I can't tell you what an encouraging and gratifying feeling this is.

By the way, during his speech at the banquet, United States astronaut and current President of the National Space Society, Charlie Walker, while extolling the virtues and efforts of Mark Hopkins, Vice President of the NSS mentioned that if Alcor got Mark he'd have a lot more time to put forth effort on behalf of space. Keith Henson, founder of the National Space Society says that there is no doubt that Alcor is now deeply embedded in the space community's mindset about the future and their chances of getting into space.



But back to the present... I need to pay for THIS conference, first. Since it was not in Alcor's budget to do so, I put this conference on my own credit card. I hope you won't say *I'm* a dreamer. I hope you'll send Alcor a few tax deductible dollars so that it can pay my bill (which just arrived in the mail). I could really use your help! The conference cost me about \$1,200. Any amount we get over and above that will go into a conference fund for Alcor's presence at future conferences. Please put your hand in your pocket and stuff a few dollars into an envelope with a note that it's for Brenda's first mission into space and sent it to me at Alcor.

I must thank Steve Bridge (otherwise known as Luke Skywalker and in case you were wondering the force is definitely with him), Hugh Hixon (my main nanotechnology expert), Martin Tays and John LaValley (collectively known as "Hans Duo" for their hard work and for keeping everyone entertained with a never-ending supply of stories which miraculously always had a cryonics punch line.), Carole LaValley (for loaning me John), Russell Whitaker and Jerry Searcy (for their generous and tireless (and when I say tireless, I mean tireless) efforts and for coming all the way from Las Vegas), Keith Henson and Arel Lucas (for caring so much and for their always delightful and inspiring presence), Eric Drexler (whose very name sends little nanos up and down my spine), Jim (Fly Me To The Moon) Bennett, Maureen Genteman and Marce Johnson (for their charming presence and help in the suite and at the booth), David Brandt-Ericsen for his generosity, his loyal support, and for his van, which we used for the tours of Alcor), Gregory Fahy (for the suspended animation photos for our posters), Mark Voelker and Kurt Schoedel (for strawberries and for coming all the way from Arizona), Steve Harris, Mike Darwin, and Mike Perry (for their support and their always important contributions to the technical conversations), Brett Paul Bellmore (for his many hours of help and for coming all the way from Michigan), Pat Montoure and Terry and Karin Savage (for their encouragements and for making us feel so at home), Margaret Jordan and Duncan Forbes (for their support -- see you back east), Mark Hopkins (for making an appearance), Rich Tumlinson (for his efforts prior to and during the conference and for his creative sense of humor in times of crisis -- see you back east, too), and Rand Simberg (for his article explaining cryonics to space people and for his always-thoughtful support and encouragement).

I also have to thank the hotel for *finally* giving me what I asked for in the first place (this after I made a scene for two hours in the lobby using phrases like: "This is totally unacceptable"; "Who's your boss?"; "What are you going to do about it."; "Do you have any idea how many man-hours (not to mention woman-hours) of preparation have gone into this?"; "I've done everything humanly possible to make it clear to you people what you were supposed to do here."; "What kind of a hotel are you running, anyway?"; and "I'm not leaving this lobby until you get it right." I have since been dubbed "Pitbull" Peters. But in the end, it turned out great, so I won't complain; that is, unless you don't help me pay my credit card. Remember, I know who you are.

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A CON IS A CON IS A CON ...?

by Martin Tays

"Conventions," I said despairingly, "are conventions." People go to them to get drunk, get laid, get away from work/spouse/police/Mike Wallace & Morley Schaeffer. There can't be any fundamental difference in the way anybody acts during a convention. Anybody."

"Yes," Brenda responds, "you could be right. After all, they are only attending the *Ninth Annual International Space Development Conference* (italics not mine. She said it that way, I swear to God. -MT)

"...well, I could be wrong." I mumbled. "I've been wrong in the past. I distinctly remember it. October 3rd, 1980...."

So, hat in hand (actually, helmet on head) my friend John LaValley and I ride off to Anaheim-of-all-places to attend the *Ninthannualinternationalspacedevelopmentconference*, knowing I would *not* be pleasantly surprised.

Naturally, I was pleasantly surprised.

It's remarkable the difference motivation makes in an individual, whether it's someone washing a car, repairing a body, writing a news article, --or attending a convention.

Admittedly, there are some strange individuals on Earth, and some of them wind up at almost any gathering (witness the programmer present who seemed convinced that in the future no individual would be important enough to worry about because of the Harmonious Zen of the Cosmic Tao, Oh De Doo Dah Day. Right....) but all in all they seemed, well, *human*, a test those at conventions I have attended (and defended) in the past had a tendency to pass only by using cheat sheets and cramming the night before.

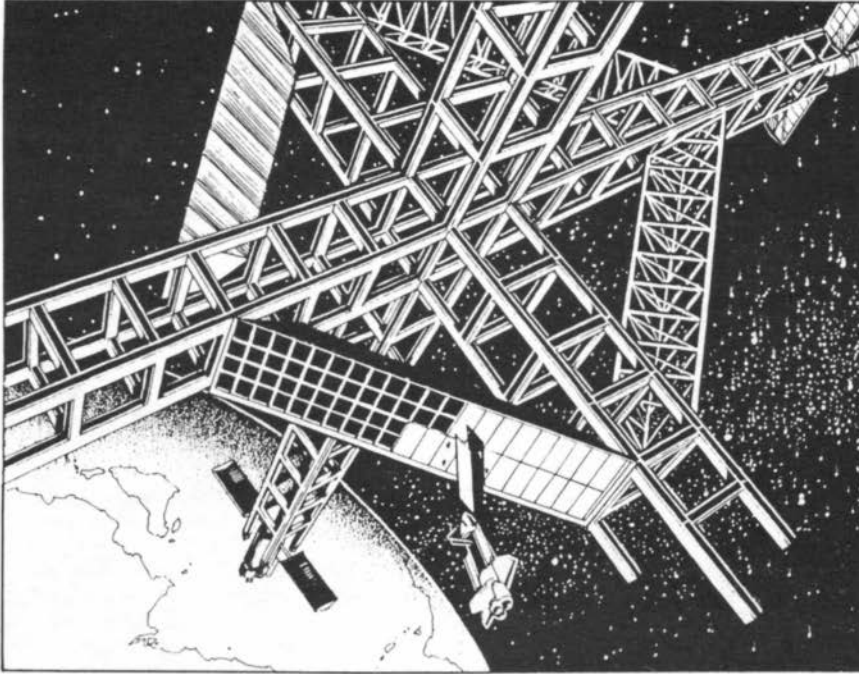
Prepared to defend cryonics from metaphorical accusations of sorcery and deep stentorian voices intoning "Man Was Meant To Pass From This Vale... We Cannot Steal Our Children's Resources... I Rather Look Forward To Being Worm Food..." etc., I was astonished to hear people objecting on (brace yourselves) Technical Grounds. Asking questions like "What about personality loss?" And, "Do you believe it's possible to actually protect those suspended people for the length of time necessary to find the capability to repair their damage?" And, "Can you suggest a *really* good long-term Mutual Fund?"

Needless to say, I was gratified. Actually, thrilled insensate would probably be closer. Since I first became involved in the "...oh, I dunno, what do *you* want to do in five hundred years?" ideas of cryonics, I have been inundated by people saying "Yeah? Why!?" for so long that it took me a while to recognize people saying: Yeah? Why not!"

Their questions were intelligent, their demeanor was non-belligerent, and any who walked away saying no were saying it because they wanted to wait and watch awhile, not because they expected to die and return as Geena Davis' brassiere.

Of the actual conference, I am sad to confess I saw little. Although I spent some time at the Alcor table in the Huckster's Room (actually, Suttler's Room would be more appropriate -- I leave "why" as an exercise for the student. But we digress....) and spent most of my time in the hospitality suite -- either stocking it, manning it (er, sorry, personing it), cleaning it, or (rarely) sleeping in it. But it was definitely worthwhile. There were some great things shaking in our tree.

Friday and Saturday night, in the Room 309 Lounge, Bar, and Grilled, Eric Drexler held court surrounded by at times up to two dozen people. I assumed they were talking about some monumental breakthrough in nanotechnology, until I got close enough to hear someone rebutting that "...perhaps Gumby is merely a metaphor...."



But this is not to say there was no cryonics talk. Far from it. I was cornered by the Michelob Dry by a gentleman from Indiana who stated, I think more out of guilt at eating our food and drinking our beer, that I had thirty seconds to "Give him the pitch". He then glanced conspicuously at his watch.

I took a deep breath, sighed to myself, and tried. "O.K. You're on a ship at sea. She strikes as iceberg: begins to sink. You're off course, no one knows where you are; the lifeboat has a leak, no food, no water. Do you get on?"

His eyes widened a bit as he looked off for a moment, then lowered his arm and said, "Not bad. Let's talk."

They wanted to know. They really wanted to know.

All in all, I came away from the Space Development Conference with a very pleasant reaction and hopeful plans for the future. These people want to go to space, and they are aware that it may take longer than their "lifespan" to reach a point when they can.

And it pisses them off.

I think we should make our reservations now: next year in San Antonio.

* * *

ALCOR AT THE SPACE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

by John LaValley

The International Space Development Conference took place this year at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Anaheim. As much as I hate to start a glowing report on a sour note, I must say that the Pan Pathetic is one BUTT-UGLY hotel. And with a scenic elevator that would not stop on the most useful floor, to boot. Jeez, mon!

But enough nonsense. The fact is that I found the conference very fascinating. Apart from an occasional sojourn to the art show or the huckster room, I almost never left the Alcor suite. This was partly due to sheer laziness, but mostly because of an idea that struck me the first day of the conference.

Alcor's participation was more visible than that of most of the other organizations present. One would have to have been hibernating not to know we were there. To our presence there were two distinct reactions; outright rejection and cautious curiosity. Those who rejected us, I felt, would not be swayed by even the most poetic and profound wisdom. The others would show up sooner or later at the Alcor suite and they would be the ones worth talking to.

This kind of intellectual triage may be unfair to certain individuals, but when time is limited what else can one do?

Anyway, many people *did* come to see us. And while cryonics was still met by criticism, it was rational (!) criticism. People were asking specific questions about Alcor, about cryonic suspension procedures, nanotechnology, and financial considerations. For many of the questions, I had to refer people to Hugh, Brenda, Mike, or even Eric Drexler when he was there. I was constantly referring to *Engines of Creation* and telling people that the book was on sale in the dealer's room. Drexler's phrase, "the limits of the possible," was heard more often than once.

And it seemed to work. People were talking to us, listening to us, and making a very important discovery -- cryonics are people! For not only did we talk of cryonics, but many things, shoes, and ships, and sealing wax -- everything! About eight of us spent several wee morning hours telling jokes (ye gods!).

By no means did we convince everyone to sign up, but we did show that cryonics -- and Alcor -- are serious and viable ways to deal with the future.

Also by no means was I the only one speaking for Alcor. Many of Alcor's most active members were there. Brenda, Hugh, Martin, a gentleman named Russell [Whitaker] and others worked hard to make the hospitality suite a pleasant, fun, and informative place to be during the conference.

We did good. So good, in fact, that we might co-sponsor the conference next year (Oops, was I supposed to say that?). But please, PLEASE let's not be in that ugly hotel again next time.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Alcor has 171 Suspension Members, 484 Associate Members, and 16 members in suspension.

VOLUNTEERS FOR ALCOR

by Joe Hovey

The workload at Alcor continues to increase. Much time is spent on doing grunge work which almost anybody could do: specifically, collating, stapling, counting, labeling, bundling, and mailing both *Cryonics* and the various marketing mailings to people who have requested information; data entry; answering phones; assembling information packages; running errands; doing repairs on both the equipment and the facility; cleaning and maintenance; etc.

Alcor has a membership base that is rich in talent, ideas, and creativity, many of whom have expressed a willingness to pitch in and help when the need arises. But what we need most of all (aside from money) is a corps of volunteers willing to spend a few hours a month on various pick-and-shovel work which at the moment takes up too much valuable time from more critical tasks.

If your time is also too valuable to be spent on such mundane tasks, how about sending us your children, your friends, your neighborhood children, your dogs and cats, anything!

What I would like to do is develop a list of names of people who would be willing to help out around the facility on a regular basis. How many of you out there are willing to work a little extra for a chance at immortality?

Call Joe Hovey at 800-367-2228.

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TREASURER'S REPORT: THE FINANCIAL CONDITION OF ALCOR

by Dave Pizer, with Mike Darwin and Carlos Mondragon

Ever since taking over as Treasurer of Alcor several months ago, I have been busy learning the financial workings of Alcor and trying to assess our financial condition. This has not been an easy or a straightforward task.

The Dick Jones estate brought more money into Alcor than we have been accustomed to handling. If that were the only problem we had to deal with (i.e., how to spend a lot of money we never had before) my job would be easy. However, as it turns out, there are *other* problems.

First, Dick's estate turned out to be much smaller than was originally estimated. This happened because all parties involved (Dick's accountant, their lawyers, our lawyers, and we ourselves) failed to read properly the contract which specifies royalties. As it turned out, instead of getting a fixed stream of royalties from Dick's trust, we will get diminishing percentages of profits from various TV shows. This would not in itself be so bad, except that a great deal of expansion of operations was undertaken on the basis of cash flow projections which turned out not to be realistic. This is never a good situation to be in. The result of this is that there will be no significant Richard C. Jones endowment to sustain the current level of operations when the royalty payments drop off sharply in about two years.

The second problem is that we lost a great deal of money trying to protect the estate from the relatives who wanted to take half of it and to take Dick as well. The fight here

was *not* just over money, but over control of Dick's suspension. A clause in the new trust, which the relatives foisted on Dick 56 hours before his legal death, turned control of his suspension over to his business partner, Jenna McMahon. Vigorous action was called for. As it was, we had the added bad luck of getting an unsympathetic judge and we were lucky to get out with control of Dick's suspension, about 2/3rds of the estate, and almost \$600,000 in legal bills.

As a result we actually received only about one quarter of what we originally expected. By the time we realized all this, most of the money was allocated (people hired, lawsuit undertaken...). Currently there is enough cash flow from Dick's endowment to allow us to continue on our expanded budget until the end of 1991. This means that by 1992 we should be planning to spend only as much as we can generate as income.

At present we are involved in several necessary lawsuits; the suit against the Department of Health Services (DHS) to establish the legality of cryonics in California and our continued ability to operate here, the Donaldson litigation, and various zoning and planning matters related to the DHS suit. These legal actions *should* be over by the end of 1991. Dick's house should be sold by then and all outstanding bills and loans related to litigation should be paid off. In other words, barring unforeseen complications, we will enter 1992 with a clean slate; no unusual expenses or income.

By 1992 we will either be in the planned new facility in Perris, CA (or elsewhere) or be renting additional space near our existing building, as we are physically out of space in our present location. I estimate that by 1992, with the same size staff that we now have and expenses remaining at comparable levels, we will have just enough staff and equipment to give the same level of service we now offer. Using that for a guide, we will need \$350,000 for expenses in 1992 if we are *very careful and conservative*.

Based on the current rate of growth we will probably have approximately 400 Suspension Members by 1992. Even with the new, modest dues increases, this will only generate about \$80,000 income; not all members pay the full amount; some of them get family and/or student discounts. Four members are grandfathered in at zero dues. Additionally, in 1992 we will generate around \$20,000 in gross revenue from magazine subscriptions.

Therefore, without any allowance for contributions to our operating fund, Alcor will have an income of about \$100,000 and a *shortage of \$250,000*. Thus we will have two choices; either cut back expenses to fit into this allowance or figure ways to generate more revenue in 1992. I am against cutting back and think it should be our last resort. I do not think our members would be very happy or feel very safe if we had to run a larger Alcor (300 to 400 members) on an operating budget of \$100,000. Part of the problem in raising money for our operating fund is that currently all of the money that comes in when we do a suspension goes only for actual physical expenses of that suspension (like disposables, chemicals, supplies).

Unfortunately, it takes *people* to do suspensions and right now, every time we do one, we pull administrative staff away from operations, often for days at a time. This is why things like *Cryonics* magazine's production falls behind, billing isn't done in a timely fashion, and so on. Paradoxically, this also puts us in a very difficult position in another respect; every time we do a suspension we are financially *worse off*. The reason for this is in part that we have in no way been actually paying for *real* costs of suspending members (or, for that matter of recruiting members, or doing almost anything else that we do). In the past, when the volume of suspension was very low, we were able to "eat" these costs by just slowing down day-to-day operations and relying heavily on volunteers on the suspension team.

The current increased load of suspensions (a steady average of about 4 a year for the past several years) and the likely growth in the number of suspensions performed per year is putting us in a very difficult position. It is no longer possible to ask volunteers to take off 2-3 days at a time to come in to work on a suspension; not when it has to be done *four times a year* with the prospect of that number going to five, six, or even seven times a year (or more) in the foreseeable future. We are, in short, in a difficult transition period between a largely volunteer, unpaid suspension team, and a more or less dedicated, paid team with a minority complement of volunteers.

To some extent the cost for this was "built in" to the rate schedule for suspension expenses. We have long allocated \$20,000 for up-front costs for both whole body and neuro patients, but have never "used" it. Indeed, compared to cost rises in other sectors of the economy, and particularly in the medical area, we have contained the cost of cryonic suspension amazingly well. Alcor's minimums for suspension have not increased since 1981.

This situation cannot continue. Costs have risen in every area of the suspension program for a number of reasons:

- 1) We must increasingly rely on paid staff as our number of cases rises.
- 2) The gradual accumulation of surplus and discounted medical supplies which we relied on in the past to hold down our costs no longer makes a significant dent in the cost of doing a suspension. We can no longer afford to wait many months until a bargain comes along (like a product for sale at a steep discount because it is near its expiration date) when we know we will be confronting a suspension in a few weeks.
- 3) Our costs for professional services have gone through the roof. We now have to have two physicians on staff, attorneys, a mortician, and others whose services are used every time we do a suspension. The cost of these professional services runs to several thousand dollars.
- 4) We can no longer afford to have the operating fund absorb the expense of having administrative staff diverted to patient care during a suspension.
- 5) The technological level of service we are offering has improved dramatically. That this is justified there can be no doubt; patients treated with the better techniques we are using show little of the terrible swelling and other ischemic injury we have seen in the past. These technological improvements cost money.
- 6) We are facing dramatically increased and costly regulation. We now must have an infectious waste permit and pay a state-licensed infectious waste hauler to pick up our trash. We must attend costly seminars of infectious waste management and hazardous materials management. For a small organization such as Alcor, these costs are significant since they are not yet divided over a large number of suspensions per year.
- 7) We have made no charges for the use (amortization) of expensive equipment such as heart-lung machines, heart-lung resuscitators, the ambulance and so on. Additionally, we have not charged any inventory or restocking costs for disposables as is standard business practice.

A careful cost accounting is now underway examining each and every item and action undertaken during both whole-body and neurosuspension. While the accounting is not yet fully completed, it is clear that our costs in doing suspensions are not being met. Very soon we will have detailed and reliable numbers for these costs, and we will publish them in *Cryonics*.

Of course none of the figured costs address other real long-term cost increases we are likely to experience. For instance, we currently have no malpractice insurance, the people performing suspensions are not board certified surgeons and nurses, and so on. Sooner or later we will have to confront these costs and pay for them. Why? Because the marketplace and the government will require it of us.

So what is the bottom line? It's simple really. Costs are going to have to rise. More of the money coming in from suspensions is going to have to address the real costs of delivering the service. There are a variety of ways to do this and the Alcor Board will be considering them. One way is to raise the suspension minimums to new members, while grandfathering in old members at current levels as compensation for this faith in us and early commitment to cryonics. Vision and staying power ought to have some benefits.

If we decide to raise our income there are several suggestions I would offer:

1. Increase the minimums for suspension on all new members to at least cover costs, including labor.
2. Increase (markedly) the cost of suspension to non-members. This is not only a high-risk area of operations for us, it is also an area where our members are being treated unfairly. Why should someone who picks up the phone when his loved one is already in cardiac arrest or dying pay the same rate as a member who has been paying dues and perhaps otherwise contributing to the organizations for *decades*?
3. We can streamline our paperwork (decreasing the workload) and thus lower the amount we pay to our sign-up workers from \$250 to \$150. (Our ability to do this will depend on the outcome of our lawsuit against the California DHS).
3. We can raise the emergency response dues. At present it costs us over \$1,000 per member if our overhead is pro-rated by the amount of members. Clearly we can't raise our dues to \$1,000, but we can raise them somewhat, certainly more than the modest Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjusted increase the Board just approved.
4. We can more actively solicit donations. We have survived in the past by receiving donations and volunteer services. The message here is very clear. Unless you *want* to pay \$1,000 a year in dues you, as members, are going to have to find ways to cut Alcor's cost of doing business. That means you will either have to contribute more money or more time, or BOTH.
5. We can be more careful on every dollar we spend. We need to tie any growth of our program in any area to *contributed or increased fees* to pay for it. Period. No exceptions.
6. We can offer new services at additional costs, such as offering remote-standby coverage (where we respond to an emergency *before* legal death has occurred).

If the Board cannot raise the revenue required to operate on a budget of \$350,000, then we must cut expenses. This means we will have to fire some of the staff and cut back in other areas. This will be hard to do. The staff is now already too small and overworked and underpaid. Most staff members work 10 to 14 hours a day, 5 to 7 days a week. We are not only short of staff workers but could actually use more.

I believe that cryonic suspension costs much more than we have been charging in the past. If cryonics were to be done in a hospital with a professional staff, liability insurance, malpractice insurance, health benefits, and retirement plans (it takes about 10

people working several days for each suspension and some staff members work several weeks on some suspensions), and with reliable new equipment (not the used and often marginal gear currently in use), and if an investment company were to handle (and charge commissions on) the patient care trust fund, I think a cryonic suspension would cost well over *several hundred thousand dollars* given current lack of economies of scale.

The only reason we have been able to offer cryonic suspensions at such a nominal cost in the past is that we had staff that would work for free (or for very little and we were very small and able to rely on unusual bargains, used equipment, and so on.

Over the next few months I would like to get some input from *all* of you, our members. Any way you look at it, big changes are ahead. We face a tremendous challenge: growing up from a close-knit "cottage" group into a professional organization with hundreds and even thousands of members. Such a transition will not be easy and it will by no means always be pleasant. If we are not to lose our heart and soul in this change, we are all going to have to work together closely and share our thoughts and desires. I need to hear from you. I need your suggestions on how to handle these tough problems and I need to hear about any anxieties or concerns you have. Please, write or call me at my home (619-249-3553) to discuss these issues and brainstorm various ideas.

Lastly, I would like to make it clear that we are in no immediate danger at this time. We are very solvent. Following this article is a pro forma estimated balance sheet and budget which makes our current cash position clear. *The problem is going to hit us in 1992.* The point is, we need to be planning for it *NOW*.

* * *

Alcor Pro-Forma Estimated Balance Sheet July 1, 1990

Assets: Operating Fund

Equipment	\$100,000
Cash (Wells Fargo Checking Account)	5,000
Cash (John Hancock Account)	\$185,000
Acct Receivable form Gemini	\$100,000
Dick Jones House Equity (listing up Sept 24)	\$600,000

	\$990,000

Liabilities: Operating Fund

Debt to Patient Care Fund on Gemini	\$100,000
Debt to Patient Care Fund on Dick Jones	\$100,000

	\$200,000

Net Worth	\$870,000
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Assets: Patient Care Fund

Cash (Capital Preservation - Benham)	\$200,000
Cash (Dryfus - Pacific Horizons)	\$ 4,000
Due from Operating Fund (Gemini)	\$100,000
Due from Operating Fund (Dick Jones)	\$100,000
Equipment and Symbex stock	\$125,000

	\$504,000

Research Fund

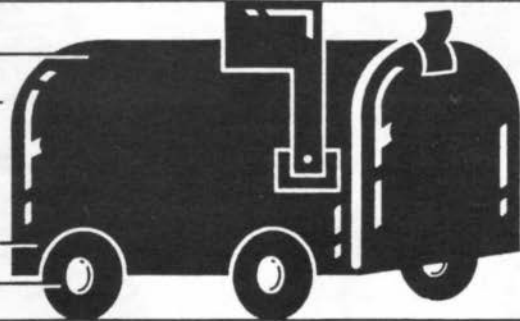
Cash (Capital Preservation)	\$ 1,500
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Total Net Worth	\$1,325,500
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(Also Misc. Accounts Receivable	\$ 6,000)
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Letters to The Editors



Dear Mr. Darwin

Yep. You blew it. First you said that a member had not followed your advice, now you say he had. Sure, do your best including using Alcor funds to save him.

I now have four people for my Massachusetts discussion group and will get it started within the next two months. I am hoping for one or two more people before I get started. Please say the following under *Meeting Schedules* in *Cryonics*: "If you live in Massachusetts and would like to participate in the birth of Boston cryonics please contact Eric Klien (508) 250-0820 (home)."

Sincerely,
Eric Klien
Chelmsford, MA

* * *

To the Editors:

Under no circumstances should Alcor knowingly, willingly, receive stolen property. The suggestion by James E. Davidson in his letter published in the April issue of *Cryonics* that Alcor accept (even *solicit!*) funding from NASA for research into moderate-temperature suspension is completely at odds with the creed of volunteerism that ought to, and I think for the most part does, pervade Alcor.

Even if one's principles are so impoverished as to not recognize the inconsistency and impropriety of accepting such "dirty money", the practical consequences of such a decision must be considered. Whatever may be the terms of any contract associated with such a government grant, Alcor's defense against possible future government intrusion would be enormously weakened if the attacker could point back to past financial support to justify his interference.

In the same issue (page 39), Thomas Donaldson writes disdainfully of bureaucratic "priests" enforcing "rules for Good Conduct among scientists doing any Federally funded research." Does Alcor really want to risk having its fine work subject to that kind of bureaucratic intrusion?

Sincerely,
John E. Kreznar
Los Angeles, CA

* * *

Dear Editors,

In *Cryonics* I read your question of whether Alcor should freeze people that aren't signed up. My opinion is that Alcor should.

Eric Klien stated in one of his letters, written on December 5th of 1989, that Alcor should also charge extra money for these "cases". I feel that is stupid and will land us all in the hole. As it is, we have a hard time trying to freeze each other. The upcoming Donaldson case will be your first example of blind justice. If we collect extra money, then the State can say: "Look your Honor, they're profiting." What then? We look like crooks. We should only charge the minimal amount ... always ... until we have the technology and it works, then we can profit, but for now I think it's too dangerous and should be avoided!

Sincerely,
David B. Christiansen
Riverside, CA

* * * * *



GROWTH

by Thomas Donaldson

The very first thing I'll say here is that there is absolutely nothing profound in this article. I obtained it by the mere exercise of arithmetic. On the other hand, it is easy to have hopes vastly exceeding the possibilities. A bit of arithmetic might tie everyone down to earth ... or at least to some solid body somewhere.

This article will discuss the growth of cryonics, with an attempted estimate of the future, through the numbers. The main idea I'll use is utterly trivial: let's suppose that the number of cryonicists grows *exponentially*. On that basis I can then estimate not just numbers, but what the cryonics community will look like at various points in the future.

If we grant that growth will be exponential, then almost the only thing left is the calculations. But since we don't *have* to grant the assumption, I'd like to discuss justifications for it before starting. Why then is it reasonable to assume that growth will be exponential? Why can't *everybody* just wake up some morning, having seen the light, go down to Arel Lucas or Arthur McCombs, and ask for their forms to fill out? Just to state that shows some of the problems. Even if there were eager acceptance of the idea by everyone, time is needed to actually sign up. Wills and Trusts must be drafted and signed, Powers of Attorney arranged, many other papers assembled (And behind the papers, there is rearrangement of property and human relations: "No, Tina, I'm not giving my estate to you, but instead you are the beneficiary of this life insurance policy ..."). Not only is time needed, but personnel to help the process, who must first be signed up themselves. Yet now we have only three people actively handling that process! So we have an upper bound on just how fast we could grow.

Clearly something would have to happen, and that would take time. Besides which, we all know that cryonics does *NOT* meet with universal eager acceptance. That fact means that people must be Convinced, Converted, or Informed (the CCI process!). Those who do this CCI must of course themselves have first been convinced, converted, or informed, to an even higher degree than normal. It's clear what must happen. Everyone who signs up must first encounter someone else who is already signed up. Only a subset of those signed up will be infectious (i.e., able to CCI) and the encounter usually will be lengthy. (Yes, some people get the idea immediately. *Their* encounter with a live cryonicist consists of a phone call asking for the signup papers. But others may take 10 years of gentle discussion before they come close!). This all boils down to the idea that the rate of growth is some proportion of the existing number of members: which means, essentially, that growth must be exponential and *cannot* be faster.

Exponential growth can achieve spectacular results -- after a while. We all see opportunities to grow still more. Early this year (1990) Alcor recently trained eight more people to handle the mechanics of signup. But all of these efforts are *part* of the exponential growth, they aren't separate from it.

By looking around us at other groups that have grown in size, we can also see that eventually this growth will cease. First the rate will fall off and then finally the group reaches an approximate steady-state size. (Technically, the exponential growth constant becomes *much* smaller, though still positive). I'll call this state "saturation": all of those susceptible to cryonics will have joined up, leaving those outside as highly resistant (for reasons we can only speculate on).

So how fast *is* our rate of growth? I know that we could look much deeper into

history, but just for estimates let's suppose that last year is representative. Alcor had 114 Suspension Members at the start of the year (Jan, 1989), and at the end Alcor had 150 Suspension Members (for this exercise, I restrict myself rigidly to last year *alone*) This means (primitively) that we are multiplying by a factor of 1.36 (approximately) every year. Table I sets out the results of exponential growth at that rate.

* * *

TABLE I
Projected growth of cryonics based on present growth rates

This table does not pretend profundity, only arithmetic. Its real point isn't the exact numbers, but the fact that even high rates will produce little externally visible effects for many years. The growth rate used comes from Alcor's 1989 growth.

Growth rate = 36% per year.

Date	Suspension Members	Associate Members	Dues Income
1991	204	408	\$61,200
1992	277	554	\$83,100
1993	376	752	\$112,800
1994	511	1022	\$153,300
1995	695	1390	\$208,500
1996	945	1890	\$283,500
1997	1285	2570	\$385,500
1998	1747	3494	\$524,100
1999	2376	4752	\$712,800
2000	3231	6462	\$969,300
2001	4394	8788	\$1,318,200

* * *

Table I, primitive as it is, tells us a number of interesting things. First, by the end of this century (2001 AD) the number of cryonicists will reach about four to five thousand. Alcor (or whatever organizations descend from Alcor -- of which more later) will receive over \$1 million dollars yearly in dues. Seen from the outside, perhaps by a visiting journalist, these figures are not very large and not at all impressive. We know we're in a crashing minority now; by the end of the Century we'll still have that status. Seen from the inside, they look far better, of course. Everyone will see rampant growth all around them. It would be easy to forget that the impact of Alcor on society at large may (and likely will) remain tiny.

On the other hand, numbers like these do not suggest we would be anywhere near saturation, not even in California. Nor do they take other cryonics societies into account. However Alcor's growth should be representative, which is all (I feel) we can ask for with current data.

To foreshadow further events, we can use the same principles to estimate the times at which the number of cryonicists will reach other, much higher, numerical milestones. For instance, it will take 28 years from now until the number of cryonicists (in the whole world) can exceed one million people. That number would definitely get the attention of *any* outsider, no matter how indifferent they might be. Yet we would *still* remain a comparatively small minority: clearly worth attention by any politician or interest group,

a group whose affairs would be reported in newspapers all over the world, but *not* a major player in any world scene. Influence would probably even be less than numbers suggest, since cryonicists wouldn't concentrate in any one place. It may be more because cryonicists are biased toward the highly trained or qualified professionals. How that would balance out I don't know.

What about saturation? About 60 to 65 years from now, the number of cryonicists would match the current population of the United States. In terms of signing people up, we might go further: many countries much poorer than the U.S. may slowly increase their wealth, providing still more areas where cryonics might spread. In Brazil, Africa, or India the notion of cryonic suspension rather than death will still remain usually unacceptable, but resistance would be eroding fast. (For those interested, Mexico falls exactly at the world median for wealth per person. By that time Mexico, just south of the border, would have a high proportion of cryonicists, though perhaps not so many as the U.S.).

But 60 to 65 years? Yes, that is how long it would take at present growth rates. *Almost no cryonicist living now can expect to see widespread conversion to the cryonics idea within their "natural" lifespans.* We are, of course, hardly supporters of "natural lifespans". But we have already learned patience on the question of our revival. This point tells us that we must also learn patience even on the question of our acceptance by society at large.

Table I gives only raw total population figures. It's therefore very interesting to look also at other issues involved with this population. How many suspensions can we expect per year as cryonics grows? For that matter, how many suspension teams will be needed for these new cryonicists?

Again, we only have the means for a very rough estimate. Here is an argument: we can assume that the number of suspensions per year will increase in proportion to the number of suspension members. I do not mean that suspensions need only happen for patients who are members. Instead, think of the "suspension rate" and the "membership rate" as two measures of some kind of "public interest in cryonics". We can therefore use this proportionality to derive suspension rates 10 years from now, 30 years from now, and 60 years from now.

In 1989 Alcor suspended two patients on a membership base of about 140 people. Table I estimates a membership of 4400 Suspension Members in 2001, which means about 63 suspensions per year, or 5.2 suspensions per month, worldwide. A suspension team would therefore carry out six suspensions/month for three months of the year and five per month for the other five.

This is a big increase in the suspension rate, but it is not an overwhelming number. A single team, essentially doing nothing but cryonic suspensions all around the world, could keep very busy at this activity. Among other points, they could support themselves purely by doing cryonic suspensions. That's not trivial at all; any further increase would need another team. Yet on the other side, the suspension rate in 2001, just like the number of cryonicists, would not be "large" as society usually measures such things.

To train a suspension team will take considerable effort. Jerry Leaf has long experience in open-heart surgery. The figures above suggest to me that we should start thinking about such training, even now (It might easily happen that other people, just as skilled as Jerry, will defect to cryonics from ordinary medicine, but we should not depend on that).

CRYONICS AT 4000

A second conclusion also comes from these numbers: at some point, cryonics (that is, Alcor) will reorganize, because it must. We currently have a total of three facilities: one in England and two in the United States. By 2001 we might expect about 30 facilities around the world. At the same time, we may have only one or two fully qualified suspension teams. To work on a suspension team will therefore involve considerable travel, either of patients or of the team (probably both!). In fact if not in name, the Suspension Teams are likely to make one independent organization, worldwide, while the facilities will be managed and paid for by local groups.



I believe that officers of Alcor should keep this implication in mind. Any local group running its own facility will sooner or later become impatient with centralization of funds in Alcor Riverside. Eventually we can expect *two* kinds of cryonics society: one that manages a suspension facility, another one providing skilled surgical teams for suspension itself, quite possibly attached to no individual facility at all. Among other points, notice that if we had 30 suspension facilities, then each one would only be used for about three times a year, suspending local members. We might even have three kinds of cryonics society: after all, not every facility needs to engage in permanent storage.

We can also expect some kind of professional standards for operating a cryonics facility. In practice the refusal of a suspension team to work at a particular facility would severely frustrate its acceptance. The team would have great power. At the same time, that team would spend its time freezing people, not inspecting facilities to see that they conform to requirements. A professional body to certify facilities would have to exist.

It's 1990 now, not 2001. These issues haven't arisen yet. But I *am* saying that officers of Alcor should see these issues coming down the road and be prepared for them. It would disrupt years of work for the kind of reorganization I'm suggesting to happen amid hostility and recrimination. It seems to me that if growth follows the pattern I'm suggesting, then some reorganization like this is *inevitable*. (It might happen between friends or between enemies, but it will happen!).

CRYONICS AT ONE MILLION

What about the times 30 and 60 years from now? In 2018 we might have a million members. We could also expect 300 suspension teams and 300 different facilities scattered about the world. In terms of achieving our basic goal, storage until the arrival of a technology for revival and rejuvenation, we would have become very strong, even if still only a small minority in the Earth's population. We would also expect the usual characteristics of an established body of beliefs: annual conventions for suspension perfusionists, for instance. With 300 teams of perfusionists, several scientific periodicals limited solely to cryonic

techniques will exist. A certification board would exist, too.

By the time any group reaches the numbers I have described, somebody will also have engaged in fraud, malpractice, and other moral lapses. A community of one million people will contain all kinds. At a minimum, we'd expect more than one newspaper, at least one of which will be trying to get the goods on everybody. We can also expect scandals. Some cryonicists will go off to prison. Since cryonicists will not form a sovereign state, that in itself will cause confrontation with other issues (currently all deaths in prison are autopsied!). How far should we go in supporting cryonicist prisoners? What if their crimes were against outsiders? What if (as must happen) their crimes were against other cryonicists?

Currently the very small community of cryonics supports at least six newsletters, one literary magazine, and two computer bulletin boards. Considering that worldwide there may be no more than 600 cryonicists of any kind, that's very high. I believe that for a long time cryonics will select people who are highly educated and qualified. After all, even at one million people worldwide we aren't talking about average people. We'd expect very many periodicals and other forms of communication, way out of proportion to the size of the community.

Even now cryonicists have some distinctive approaches to most issues. Reading *LIFEQUEST* suggest that our preoccupations can have an emotional tinge too. There is going to be a specifically cryonics culture: visual art, music, dance, and literature. Reading *LIFEQUEST* gives us some bare indications about how it will differ: preoccupations with identity, among other issues.

HOW LONG UNTIL REVIVALS?

Finally I'd like to discuss a question on everyone's mind. By 2050 (so these rates of growth suggest) cryonicists would form a large nation, scattered throughout the world. Even though not a majority in most states, no politician could ignore them with impunity. Yet we aren't really going for numbers, here. How long will it be until people are revived? Somehow, the number of cryonicists must bear on that question.

Perhaps compared to other cryonicists I have somber ideas about the answer. I've been reading medical and scientific literature which bears, in some sense, on cryonics for many years now. After reading an article, I would write up its results for the cryonics newsletters to publish. The news, long term, is interesting and heartening. Yet one point I continually bump up against is that the authors of these articles show no signs whatever of seeing their implications for cryonics. The authors are always looking somewhere else, almost never turning to see the other, cryonics and immortalist, implications.

I have come to believe personally that any serious project to find better ways to suspend and revive people, or even to find means to rejuvenation and immortality, will need *cryonicists* to carry it out. Yes, a few people who are not cryonicists, scattered through the population, have worked on these questions, particularly that of immortality. I doubt that immortality can come very fast at all from dedicated work with half-hearted public funding. Nor can it come from half-hearted work even with strong funding.

If we are to be revived and rejuvenated, *cryonicists* (ourselves or our successors) will have to fund that research and carry it out. Currently the necessary knowledge doesn't even exist. Yet knowledge alone isn't enough: the British Interplanetary Society proved that by designing a fully effective rocket for lunar exploration in the decade before World War II. It took over 30 years to make that rocket a reality. This story should tell us that the gap in years between knowing how to do something controversial, and actually doing it, can extend past a generation. I don't believe that nanotechnology will speed these events, either. Just because we theoretically know how to build a device to revive or rejuvenate doesn't mean that

the resources to do so will suddenly spring, of themselves, into existence. (Sorry folks! No amount of nanominiature electronic devices can substitute for an actual repair device).

A group of 4000 cryonicists in 2001 has no chance at all of finding effective answers to these questions. Currently Alcor personnel try to do research virtually in their spare time. These are basic projects essential to practical cryonics, with no special lines of support from the rest of us. Hopefully, though, by 2001 we *will* have put in place means to fund research as a matter of routine, and some very serious research projects will go on entirely with cryonicist funding. That will form a good beginning, certainly.

To see serious and *widespread* research aimed at our immortalist goals, at the current rate of growth in the cryonics community, we must wait for something like 60 years, until 2050. I'd expect that as our numbers grow, so will the research enterprise. It will have immediate benefits such as improving the quality of our suspensions. It is also likely to produce some partial means of rejuvenation (look at deprenyl, for instance: but then look at it again. How long will it take to *verify* the effect of deprenyl?).

Depending on the difficulty of these projects, real solutions may come as early as 2060. But if rejuvenation will need a considerable redesign, or revival a highly refined ability to detect remains of memories and personality, then those solutions may take 70 years or more *after that* to arrive. Research on cancer should instruct us here: serious research began about 1900. Almost 100 years later, we have differentiated the problem immensely, curing some kinds along the way. We may find cures for most cancers within this century. (And don't shout down this example, saying how little cell biology they knew then! We too may be totally ignorant of many processes and problems we must find and solve beforehand. Ignorance is a wonderful way to think that a problem is simple.)

In fact, a growth rate of 36% per year *is* explosive by comparison to almost every other human group. Some readers of this article may have decided to wait until cryonics achieves some kind of "general acceptance". Numbers like these should tell them that their wait will extend to 50 years. It may extend more than 100 years. So the numbers put them to a hard choice.

Most cryonicists, even those who openly state their unhappiness with the slow pace, have learned patience in their souls. We know our answers won't come in five to ten years. This article may explicate patience for those outsiders or others who need explication. After all, patience will come after our suspension, if not before. Not peace at all; we do not want peace, but *patience*, for a long wait inside a short sleep.



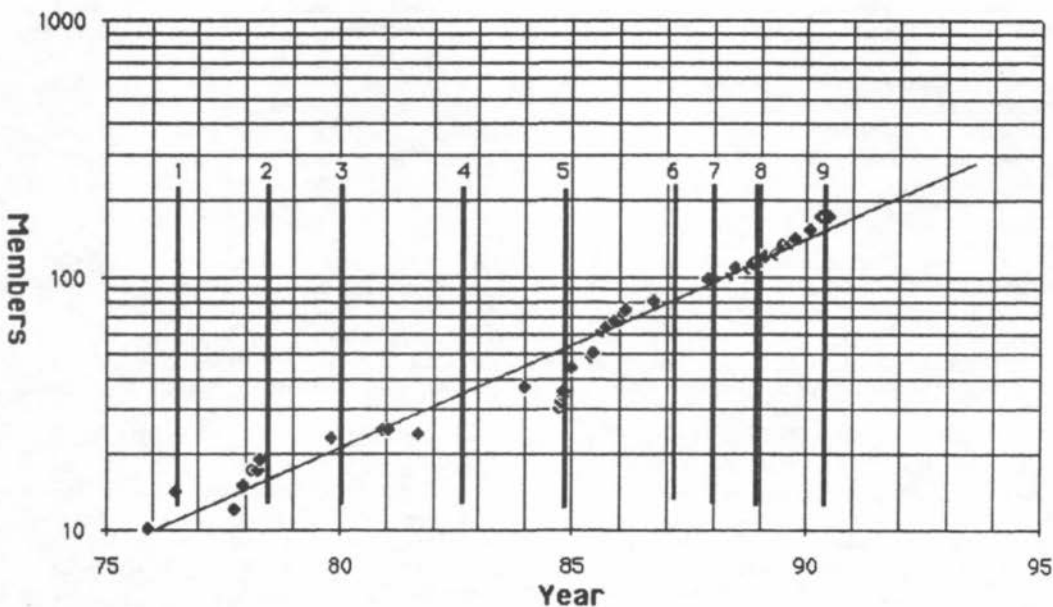
THE NUMBERS

by Hugh Hixon

When Thomas's article came in, it wasn't particularly obvious that the figures he was using for his projection were accurate. We had just gotten our *Macintosh* back from servicing and we have on hand cumulative files of the roster of Alcor Suspension Members, so I reduced and plotted the data. The result is as you see below.

* * *

Alcor Membership

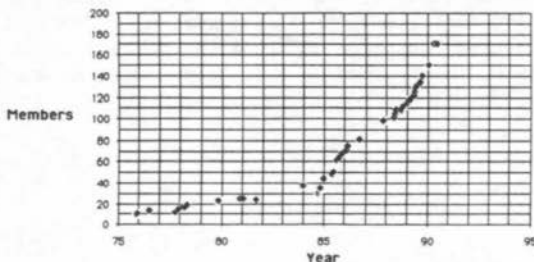


- 1) 1976, July: 1st Alcor member suspended
- 2) 1978, June: Cryovita does first suspension, for Trans Time
- 3) 1980, January: Cryovita does double suspension for Trans Time
- 4) 1982, September: Mike Darwin becomes president of Alcor
- 5) 1984, November: Alcor absorbs Cryonics Society of South Florida
- 6) 1987, January: Alcor moves to Riverside, CA
- 7) 1988, January: Dora Kent affair
- 8) 1988, December: Dick Jones suspension and court fights
- 9) 1990, May: Thomas Donaldson lawsuit

A few comments are in order:

First, the figures are plotted semi-logarithmically. This mathematical trick has the effect of turning exponential growth into a straight line. This makes it a lot easier to determine rate of growth over an extended period. As a counterexample, I have also made the small *linear* plot shown here. It looks more impressive, but it's hard to deal with.

Alcor Membership



Second, the linear result of the semilog plot confirms Thomas in his mechanism of growth of cryonics by a contact process over the long term. Exponential growth is also a phenomenon of epidemic disease and a lot of other biological growth processes.

Third, there are a number of ways to get the rate of growth from this plot. I have done an eyeball straight line fit of the data, taking into consideration the greater significance of the larger (more recent) numbers. Over the past 15 years, Alcor has doubled its number of Suspension Members approximately every 3.75 years. This gives a growth rate of 20% per year, compared with Thomas's figure for 1989 growth of 36% per year.

Fourth, the question arises, why *this* particular rate of growth, obviously remarkably constant over 15 years? There has been a fair amount of cudgeling of memories around Alcor to try and explain this, but so far we have not come up with any real reason for either the smoothness or the transient changes that have occurred. For purposes of reference, I have noted a number of events in Alcor's history on the plot, but there are enough unknown factors that the reasons for change remain opaque.

Fifth, is it possible to change our growth rate, preferably upward. As Saul Kent has remarked, "25 years of slow growth is enough". This is the object of the marketing campaign Saul is running for Alcor, but the effects of this are in the future. One obvious possibility for increasing the rate of "infection" is to increase the number of contacts. This is the reason why publicity is esteemed over word-of-mouth contacts. Our recent increased public exposure due to Thomas's lawsuit seems to be getting the word out more effectively. Particularly interesting will be the effects of the appearance of Thomas, Mike Darwin, and Carlos Mondragón on the Donahue show in mid-July.

Sixth, it is unlikely that the number of suspensions is tightly tied to the number of members. It may well happen that a disproportionate number of new members will be older (We already know that our membership is not at all evenly distributed across all adult age cohorts.), and would thus increase the requirement for suspensions disproportionately to our membership.

Finally, we will be updating this plot as time passes. Stay tuned.

* * * * *



MY EXPERIENCES IN BECOMING AN ALCOR SUSPENSION MEMBER

by Ben Best

Having just completed my cryonic suspension arrangements with Alcor, I find myself somewhat amazed at how lengthy and troublesome the process was. Part of the problem had to do with being Canadian and with my efforts to use Permafrost Cryonic Interment (PCI) as a backup. Nonetheless, advance information on some of the problems would have helped. I believe that the work I have done and this write-up will make the process much simpler for other Canadians seeking to become suspension members with *any* cryonics organization.

My first step in the process was to send Alcor US\$300. For this I got the Alcor

Signing Up Made Simple (SUMS) Manual and the Alcor Work Sheet. Actually, the \$300 mostly pays for the labor at Alcor in making-up the suspension member forms from the data provided in the worksheet. The worksheet asks for personal data including name, address and phone number of: employer, next-of-kin, physician, attorney, executor of estate, and insurance agent. My main delay in returning the worksheet was in my desire to have my insurance arrangements finalized. I needn't have bothered, since the company rejected the policy later anyway, on the basis of my having a cryonics organization as my beneficiary.

Alcor also provides on-going support for individuals through their toll-free 800 number. Unfortunately, this number is only good for states in the US. Canadians must call (714) 736-1703. Nonetheless, Alcor seems somewhat generous in making lengthy long-distance calls originating on their end to answer questions and provide help. The person in charge of helping people with their suspension membership paperwork is Alcor Administrator Arthur McCombs.

I hesitate to mention this, but I found Arthur McCombs a difficult person to work with. [Arthur McCombs replies in the article following this one. - Eds.] He is intensely formal, I was always "Benjamin" or "Mr. Best". A deeper source of conflict, however, is that Arthur seems to have a pre-planned formula which he expects others to follow, whereas I'm the kind of person who is continually challenging assumptions and looking for alternative ways of doing things. But I was not going to allow a personality conflict to stand in the way of making suspension arrangements -- and I recommend this attitude to others. I doubt that most others would have as much conflict as I had with Arthur, though we did work things out eventually, and without ill will, I hope. In fairness to Arthur, his job is probably the most frustrating one at Alcor; dealing with people who are signing-up is doubtlessly a maddening task.

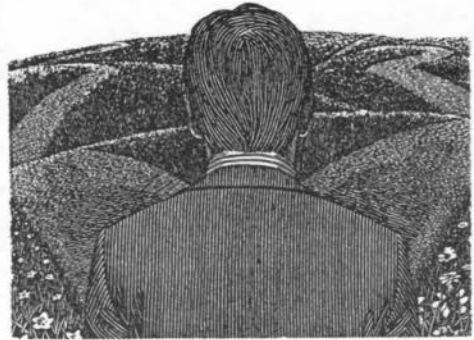
I thought I would get a head start on the process by making a Will that included the section from Alcor's "Signing Up Made Simple" manual concerning the disposition of human remains. I also sought to have an International Will. My lawyer was eager to attack these problems, despite being unfamiliar with them. How much the learning-curve came out of my pocket was driven home when I got a bill for \$450. Then Alcor refused to accept a Will that contains disposition of human remains. Alcor demands a Will that makes no reference to cryonics; instead, a codicil (supplied by Alcor) describes the disposition of human remains. Alcor's request (not required) for "at least one original" Will is inappropriate since (in Ontario, at least) there can only be one original, according to my lawyer. I sent Alcor three copies of my Will and codicil, leaving the originals in my lawyer's vault. I have mixed feelings about the legal assistance (and fee) I received from my lawyer, but I can say that she was fast, sympathetic to cryonics, and is now knowledgeable. Future Wills of the same kind should be cheaper since she has now done the necessary research, although she did say that it would not be less than \$200. She is: Sylvia Tseng; Bassel, Sullivan & Leake; Toronto; (416) 362-2100.

Actually, an International Will probably isn't necessary, so with some shopping-



Signing Up Made Simple

A guide to making Cryonics
arrangements with ALCOR



around it may be possible to get a Will for \$100 or less. Free information is available from Dial-a-Law, 947-3333 (Metro Toronto), 1-800-387-2920 (area code 416), or 1-800-387-2992 (area codes 519, 613 or 705); tapes #10 (How to Find a Lawyer), #785 (Why Make a Will), or #790 (Making a Will); 24 hours a day from touch tone phones. A half-hour consultation with a lawyer is available free through Lawyer Referral Service, 947-3330 (Metro Toronto) or 1-800-268-8326 (Ontario outside Toronto). International Self-Counsel Press (306 West 25th Street; North Vancouver, British Columbia V7N 2G1) sells the book *WILLS: How to Make Your Own Will* in Province-specific editions for BC, Alberta and Ontario -- for \$6. Copies can be ordered by mail, or by phone using VISA or MASTERCARD. The Self-Counsel Press phone number in Ontario is (416) 897-1533.

The Insurance Policy should be independent of the Will - Alcor does not want primary cryonic funding to pass through the estate (or probate). Also, insurance through place of employment is not acceptable to Alcor (you may change jobs or become unemployed). The life insurance I have as a fringe benefit of my job, plus the optional group insurance at my job (very cheap) gives me over \$200,000 in addition to what I got for Alcor.

I went to an Insurance Broker who had access to the *Comulife* computer-assisted life insurance shopping system. Based largely on price, I selected a term-to-100 policy from Financial Life Assurance. After a month-and-a-half I was told that my policy was refused because Financial Life would not accept a cryonics organization as irrevocable beneficiary. I then sought insurance from Metropolitan Life and, despite initial assurances that my beneficiary was acceptable, was again refused (after over a month) on the basis of my beneficiary. I phoned Alcor and was told that New York Life has an administrative policy of accepting cryonics organizations as beneficiaries. I was also told that Transamerica has never given Alcor any problem. Because of the lower cost, I chose to insure with Transamerica.



The Canadian branch of Transamerica was unfamiliar with cryonics cases and went through a lengthy process of endorsement by an American parent branch in Los Angeles. I am told that future cases will not be so time-consuming. After my policy was finally in place, I had to sign a separate form for irrevocability -- and wait for approval.

In the midst of my struggles over life insurance, I phoned the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Hotline (416) 977-2344 and spoke to a Bob MacKenzie. Mr. Mackenzie had not before heard of someone being refused insurance on the grounds of the beneficiary. He had a lawyer from the Canadian Life & Health Insurance Association speak to the underwriters at both Financial Life Assurance and Metropolitan Life.

In both cases the underwriters had refused my policy on the basis of an article entitled "Science Fiction Files A Claim" by Deborah Beck, in the underwriter's magazine *ON THE RISK*. This hostile and ill-informed article claims there is no "insurable interest" for a cryonics organization to be named as beneficiary, and suggests that people who make cryonics arrangements are likely people who believe they will die soon. I sent a copy of the article to Alcor's Mike Darwin, who wrote an extremely incisive 3-page letter to *ON THE RISK*, [and which we will publish in a future issue. -Eds.] which refuted Ms. Beck's article point-by-point. I myself wrote an article on cryonics and mailed it to *ON THE RISK*, although my article was simply a balanced introduction to cryonics for underwriters, and did not make reference to the Beck article.

Mr. MacKenzie, of the Insurance Hotline, had also made enquiries to Financial Life

and Metropolitan Life to confirm his suspicion that I could have gotten around their refusal by making my estate the beneficiary and then, once the policy had been approved, simply change the beneficiary to Alcor. I had heard this devious plan before and was surprised to hear even the insurance companies themselves acknowledging that it would work. Murray Morton, my Insurance Broker, cautioned me that although I could do this change of beneficiaries, it would be best to wait until the end of the 2-year contestability period to do so. Alcor would not accept my estate as beneficiary, and I did not want to wait two years to make suspension arrangements.



Alcor accepts only three arrangements for those using insurance to finance their suspension: irrevocable beneficiary, collateral assignment, and transfer of ownership. The latter two are only applicable to cash value policies and I am strongly convinced that a term-to-100 policy (*not* renewable term) is superior to whole life insurance as a vehicle for funding cryonic suspension. Like cash value insurance, term-to-100 policies have fixed payments until maturity (at age 100). Although they have no cash value to be borrowed-against or sued-for, they do pay face value at age 100 or the time of death, whichever is first. Term-to-100 is less expensive than whole life, and the cash value cannot be appropriated by a spouse or a government. I elected for waiver-of-premium to age 65, meaning that if I become unable to work before age 65, my premiums are insured. My Metropolitan Life term-to-100 policy would have been fully paid-up by age 65, but Transamerica does not have such a feature in their term-to-100 policies. For the sake of interest, I reproduce below tables of yearly rates (\$Cdn) for Transamerican term-to-100 policies:

MALE NON-SMOKERS

Face amount	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000
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AGE

25	\$164.50	\$243.00	\$327.00	\$411.00
30	\$182.50	\$276.00	\$376.00	\$477.00
35	\$228.50	\$360.00	\$502.50	\$645.00
40	\$291.00	\$473.00	\$672.00	\$871.00

FEMALE NON-SMOKERS

Face amount	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000
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AGE

25	\$151.50	\$213.00	\$282.00	\$351.00
30	\$163.50	\$236.00	\$316.50	\$397.00
35	\$191.50	\$294.00	\$403.50	\$513.00
40	\$235.50	\$384.00	\$538.50	\$693.00

A minimalist neurosuspension could be financed with a \$50,000 policy. Myself, I think of insurance as the safety-net side of financing cryonic suspension. I elected for

a term-to-100 policy for \$200,000 -- which I estimate should be adequate to cover at least a neurosuspension in 50 years in the face of inflation, varying exchange rates between US and Cdn dollars, and possible economies of scale with more people making cryonic suspension arrangements. The upside of financing is estate-building. With 10% annually compounded interest, the \$10,000 in my tax-sheltered RRSP would be worth a million dollars in 50 years -- but I hope to do better than that.

I have some concern about irrevocability, but Alcor Administrator Arthur McCombs assured me that if I wanted to change my beneficiary to another cryonics organization, Alcor would give the necessary written permission. I can certainly understand Alcor's position. A sudden death by a suspension member means a lot of fast, up-front expenditures from Alcor, and Alcor must be certain that these expenses are recovered. Ultimately, cryonic arrangements must be based on trust in the integrity of the cryonics organization.

I can recommend my Insurance Broker as the Canadian insurance agent with the greatest knowledge of cryonics and the problems that can arise in obtaining insurance for cryonics purposes: Murray Morton; Toronto; (416) 593-6511. Another agent who is energetic and sympathetic is Dorothy Zajiczek; Toronto; (416) 979-3413. She is employed by London Life (they also refuse cryonics policies), but she can act as an agent for Transamerica or New York Life. Canadians seeking an American Cryonics Society arrangement of funding suspension through a charitable trust can contact Chris Winship; Toronto; (416) 595-1400. He is employed by Canada Life (which refuses cryonics policies), but can also be an agent for other insurance companies.

The forms from Alcor look daunting, 15 different items. However, only seven are required (counting the Will and codicil as two items). The other five required are: (1) Application for Cryonic Suspension; (2) Authorization for Anatomical Donation; (3) Consent for Cryonic Suspension; (4) Cryonic Suspension Agreement; and (5) Patient's Directives to Physician or Health Care Provider. (1) can simply be signed, and requires no witnesses. (2), (3); and (4); as well as two of the optional documents (Living Will and Certificate of Religious Belief) simply require two witnesses. I found two sympathetic witnesses who would be attending a dinner party with me and invited them to come early. Warning them that they would have to write their name, address; and signature about 15 times (everything is in triplicate), the process proved painless. (5) simply required signing in front of a notary.

Thus, the only difficult aspect of the required paperwork was the Will and the codicil -- which didn't need to be as difficult as I made it. So by having a simple Will (which names an executor) and adding Alcor's codicil, by following my footsteps with respect to insurance, and by finding two sympathetic witnesses and a notary public; the reputedly daunting Alcor sign-up requirements should not be very difficult for any Canadian modestly motivated.



I did, however, attempt to complete most of the optional paperwork. My doctor seemed to be very interested and willing to co-operate. Therefore, in selecting a notary to notarize my "Patient's Directives to Physician", I went through the Yellow Pages under "Notaries Public" and located a law firm in the same building as my doctor (in the floor below, as it turned-out). Having a lawyer in the firm notarize my "Patient's Directive" was a dry-run for the "Physician's and Health Care Provider's Affidavit" which, as it turned-out, my physician agreed to sign. Having made an appointment with the lawyer, my doctor and I walked down the stairwell during his lunch break

and signed the Affidavit. As a gesture of goodwill, I also signed the "Agreement to Hold Harmless" and had it notarized on the spot. In no other case of forms (with relatives or executor) did I even mention the "Agreement to Hold Harmless". It should be used only as a last resort.

I have named Cryonics Society of Canada President Doug Quinn the Executor of my estate, so for convenience I selected a notary in the building where I work and made an appointment for late in the afternoon for the three of us to get together for signing the Executor's Affidavit. In this case, the lawyer (notary) refused to accept any payment for this service.

I mailed copies of my Cryonic Suspension Agreement and the NEUROPRESERVATION explanatory document to my next-of-kin. My niece is a notary and works in an office of notaries (she sells real estate). Thus, she had someone in her office notarize her own Relative's Affidavit, and she notarized those of my nephew and brother (her brother and father) during a Christmas get-together. I refused to discuss the religious implications of cryonics with my niece, and simply told her that the only issue that concerned me was whether she intended to help me or oppose me.

My father had been interested-in and agreeable-to cryonics up until the point where I requested that he have a Relative's Affidavit notarized. This thought of trouble and expense brought forth an incredible barrage of irrational and hostile criticism. What if I became reanimated and I don't like the world I have been brought into, he asked. What if it is no different from the world of today? I couldn't help but wonder why he would go to bed at night with the thought of waking-up the next morning. But I didn't argue with him, I simply agreed to do a favor he had been wanting from me in exchange for this favor from him.

I made no attempt to complete the "Attorney's Affidavit" because I do not feel attached to any attorney, at this point.



"Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care" (Medical Surrogate) is not a legally binding document in Canada (nor is the "Living Will", for that matter). I decided not to complete this document nor select a Medical Surrogate. Canadians interested in more information about the legalities in Canada can contact the Canadian euthanasia organization: Dying with Dignity; Marilynne Segin, Director; 175 St. Clair Avenue West; Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P7; (416) 921-2329.

I sent the bundle of forms by registered mail to Arthur McCombs, c/o Alcor. Under separate cover I sent two passport-size photos of my face and my US\$200 first year's Yearly Emergency Responsibility Fee. About three weeks later I received single copies of the forms which I had mailed to Alcor in triplicate. I also received my medical alert bracelet with my Alcor suspension member identification A-1233. May I live happily *ever* after.

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MY EXPERIENCES IN HELPING MR. BENJAMIN BEST BECOME AN ALCOR SUSPENSION MEMBER:

by Arthur McCombs

Yes, it's true: dealing with people who are making suspension arrangements can be a maddening task, and to protect Alcor I often have to assume a formal and professional manner somewhat alien to me and different from the "good old days" when Alcor was smaller and everyone signing up was a known quantity from the start: die hard crazies with whom you could be quite (even outrageously) informal without any worries. These days however I sometimes find myself being polite (if somewhat stiff) on the phone, only to run outside after the call and kick the garbage dumpster and scream. However, it can and still often is one of the funner parts of my job: I have met many interesting people over the phone and had many pleasant (and informal) conversations with them. The degree of formality I present when dealing with people tends to be directly proportional to the degree of difficulty involved with their particular sign up.

Also yes: I (and Alcor) **do** have a pre-planned formula for signing people up, which involves the accumulated wisdom and experience of actually **doing** cryonics over the years. If we didn't, the cost would be in the thousands per member for tailored paperwork (and possible untold legal difficulties by carelessly acceding to every wild request that comes our way). How much of an impediment our standard forms constitute for any one prospective member is directly proportional to that person's desires for unusual variations. Like Mr. Best, most cryonicists are individualists and strongly desire to control their environments (even after they have deanimated); but no matter how much we may wish to accommodate individuals, we are constrained by legal realities and internal policies set by our Board of Directors (designed to, as best as possible, secure our flight into the future against an often hostile world). Requested changes to our policies which can't be handled administratively (by me) are put to the Board in *every* case.

And in fact we do occasionally accede to special requests, and have even made modifications to our suspension documents when members have pointed out areas we agree need improving. This is also a fun part of my job: challenging assumptions and looking for alternative ways of doing things in order to accommodate a member's wishes and improve our procedures for everyone. However, we can't always do this: Mr. Best is incorrect when he says "Alcor demands a Will that makes no reference to cryonics". What in fact happened was that Mr. Best charged ahead without consulting us and paid an attorney \$450.00 to prepare a will that restricted Alcor's sole authority and control over his human remains (in order to specify a permafrost burial backup option) - this was, of course unacceptable. Alcor insists on having absolute and total control over our patient's remains, as we have an absolute, contractual and moral obligation to care for them. (It is somewhat amusing to me that while I am, according to Mr. Best, a robot that sticks with my pre-planned formulas and he is the kind of guy who (obviously much more creative and interesting) is "continually challenging assumptions and looking for alternative ways of doing things"; his \$450.00 attorney, even after two tries, insisted on sticking in his will the authority for his executor to pay for his "funeral expenses" - I guess those pre-planned wills just don't leave much room for alternate ways of doing things).

Anyway, by challenging a few assumptions I was able to finally put together something that accommodated Mr. Best as best we could and still stick with Alcor's pre-planned formula; so now Mr. Benjamin Best is an Alcor Suspension Member. I hope, *Ben*, we'll have the chance for some challenging and informal discussions in the future.

ADVERTISEMENTS AND PERSONALS

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BIODYNAMICA, the first journal of cryobiology, paved the way for today's VITRIFICATION technology. The entire set of BIODYNAMICA, Volume 1 (1934) through Volume 10 (1969) is available to cryonicists at the special concessionary rate of \$50.00 per set, postpaid. Send checks to G.M. Fahy; P.O. Box 3757; Gaithersburg, MD 20885.

* * * * *

MEETING SCHEDULES

Alcor business meetings are usually held on the first Sunday of the month. Guests are welcome. Unless otherwise noted, meetings start at 1 PM. For meeting directions, or if you get lost, call Alcor at (714) 736-1703 and page the technician on call.

ALCOR

The AUGUST meeting will be at the home of:

(SUN, 5 AUG 1990) Bill Seidel
10627 Youngworth Rd.
Culver City, CA

Directions: Take the San Diego (405) Freeway to Culver City. Get off at the Jefferson Blvd. offramp, heading east (toward Culver City). Go straight across the intersection of Jefferson Blvd. and Sepulveda Blvd. onto Playa St. Go up Playa to Overland. Go left on Overland up to Flaxton St. Go right on Flaxton, which will cross Drakewood and turn into Youngworth Rd. 10627 is on the right (downhill) side of the street.

* * *

There is an Alcor chapter in the San Francisco Bay area. Its members are aggressively pursuing an improved rescue and suspension capability in that area. Meetings are generally held on the second Sunday of the month, at 4 PM. Meeting locations can be obtained by calling the chapter's Secretary, Arel Lucas, at (408) 978-7616.

The JULY meeting will be held at the home of:

(SUN, 8 JUL, 1990) Mark Miller and Terry Stanley
Burke Road
Los Altos, CA

DIRECTIONS: Take the G5 Expressway through Los Altos and get off at Main St., going west

(toward the hills). Check your odometer as you leave the Expressway. Bear left as Main changes into Burke. 0.7 miles from the Expressway, a driveway goes up the hill on the right. This is it. There may be an Alcor sign at the road. Please do not park on the driveway.

The AUGUST meeting will be held at the home of:

(SUN, 12 AUG, 1990) John Galt
3707 Poinciana Dr., #110
Santa Clara, CA

DIRECTIONS: Take the Lawrence (G2) Expressway through Santa Clara and get off at Cabrillo, heading west. Cabrillo becomes Poinciana west of the Expressway. 3707 is in the second block west.

* * *

There two Alcor discussion groups in the Greater New York area. Details may be obtained by calling either:

Gerard Arthus, at (516) 474-2949, or Curtis Henderson, at (516) 589-4256

The New York Cryonics Discussion Group of Alcor meets on the the third Saturday of each month at 6:30 PM, at **72nd Street Studios**. The address is 131 West 72nd Street (New York), between Columbus and Broadway. Ask for the Alcor group. Subway stop: 72nd Street, on the 1, 2, or 3 trains.

The meeting dates are as follows:

JULY 21 AUGUST 18 SEPTEMBER 15 OCTOBER 20

The Long Island Cryonics Discussion Group of Alcor meets on the first Saturday of every month, at the home of Gerry Arthus. The address is: 10 Jefferson Blvd.; Port Jefferson Station, L.I., telephone (516) 474-2949.

The meeting dates are as follows:

JULY 7 AUGUST 4 SEPTEMBER 1 OCTOBER 5

* * *

There is a cryonics discussion group in the Boston area. Information may be obtained by contacting Eric Klein at (508) 663-5480 (work) or (508) 250-0280 (home). Tentative meeting dates are Aug 26, Oct 28, and Dec 30.

* * *

Other Events Of Interest

■ *Conference On Biostasis And Reentry* sponsored by *Lifepact* will be held August 24-26 at the *Asilomar Conference Center*, near Monterey, CA. For information, contact Linda or Fred Chamberlain at (916)542-1331 (days) or (916)577-4746 (eves); or P.O. Box 18698, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706.

■ There will be a *European Cryonics Conference* October 26-29 at Gatwick Airport (London). This will include a tour of Alcor, U.K.'s new facility. See the April, 1990 issue of *Cryonics* for details and contact Saul Kent at 16280 Whispering Spur; Riverside, CA 92503; USA for additional information.

ALCOR LIFE EXTENSION FOUNDATION
12327 Doherty Street
Riverside, CA 92503

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