

Cryonics

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**Matters of Life and Death:
The Suspension of Michael Friedman**
by Charles Platt

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Cover: Mike Darwin and Tanya Jones wheel Michael Friedman into an uncertain future in this month's cover story by Charles Platt.

Cryonics

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Issue to press: June 20, 1992.
(...And delayed by another suspension — one not covered in this issue.)

Alcor's 22nd Patient

Michael Friedman, an Alcor Suspension Member since 1987, was put into cryonic suspension on June 2nd, one day after being shot in the back of the head by a client of his. Mr. Friedman, an attorney from Los Angeles, was at the L.A. Law Library using a copy machine when his assailant approached him from behind and put four 9mm rounds into his head, at which point the weapon jammed and the assailant pulled a second handgun and turned it on himself.

To make matters worse, Mr. Friedman was autopsied, but his autopsy and subsequent release to Alcor were tremendously accelerated by the actions of our attorneys. Though it appears that we will be paying the Los Angeles Medical Examiner's Office overtime fees for putting our patient ahead of some forty other cases, we at least secured his release in hours instead of days.

Mr. Friedman is a whole body member, though his brain is being stored separately from the rest of his body because it was removed by the L.A. Medical Examiner to extract bullets. Details of the entire event are scant, and for now we must simply be satisfied with the knowledge that we did our best for him, and that he is now in suspension. The Southern California Chapter of Alcor, just now about to form, intends to pick up where — ironically — Mr. Friedman left off in attempting to establish better relations with the local coroners and medical examiners for quicker release in situations such as this.

See *Matters of Life and Death* by Charles Platt elsewhere in this issue for an excellent, detailed account of the suspension.

The Virtue of the Bracelet

A useful piece of knowledge came to light during this last suspension: the medical alert necklaces, in certain situations, are not effective. In this case, it was obvious to the medical personnel at the scene that attempted resuscitation would be useless, so they did not have occasion to remove the clothing of his upper body. Since Mr. Friedman was not wearing a bracelet, Alcor's first notification came from a family member, nearly four hours after the event.

It's not known presently whether or not Mr. Friedman was carrying an Alcor wallet card. Additionally, it's not known that a bracelet on his wrist would have been sufficiently obvious, or even heeded for that matter. However, it seems likely that his

necklace was *not* seen by the personnel at the scene, whether it would have received any attention or not.

It's probably possible to envision scenarios in which a bracelet *would not* be spotted by emergency personnel and a necklace *would*. It's clear though that in general — and especially in a business setting — a bracelet is more obvious than a necklace, which is probably precisely why many people opt for the necklace. If I had to choose between the two, I would probably choose the bracelet, but if I had to give advice on the matter, I would certainly say *wear both*.

Persons wishing to order additional bracelets or necktags should contact me directly. The cost per piece is \$30, and the new tag will reflect Alcor's 800 number unless you live outside the U.S. and Canada.

There Is Some Justice. . .

The case of *David W. Mitchell, et al., v. John Roe and Alcor Life Extension Foundation, Inc., et al.*, referred to loosely in these circles as "The Health Department Case," was decided at the Appellate level on June 10, 1992. The decision in every way supported the previous decision by Judge Aurelio Muñoz, which was quite solidly in our favor. Will the Health Department appeal this decision, as they did the last one, and as they have promised to do "all the way to the state supreme court"? We don't yet know, and aren't likely to know soon, but it's encouraging to know that David W. Mitchell of the suit's name is no longer a Health Department employee.

The judgment is reprinted in its entirety elsewhere in this issue, and makes an entertaining read to say the least. The last three paragraphs are especially fun, but don't skip directly to them; it's the preceding pages that make them so potent.

Enjoy!

Facility Search Committee

As most people have garnered from the grapevine by now, we did not raise the minimum necessary to purchase the facility in Scottsdale, Arizona. When this topic came up at the last Board of Directors meeting, it became obvious that the entire scenario seemed to come and go too quickly, and that we should mount a more definitive search, with more input from the membership and more opportunity for membership participation.

To this end, we decided to form a

Facility Search Committee, and ask those with a high level of interest in finding a new facility for Alcor to become directly involved in solving the problems we have with our current facility. This will be a demanding project, requiring of its participants a willingness to learn about our needs, and the wherewithal to travel and assess potential sites.

Further, we don't want to see this fall into the Bottomless Committee Pit. We need a solution soon, so please, if this problem is important to you, take a moment to call Carlos here at Alcor and ask for more details.

Why Haven't We Seen You On the Net?

For most of our members, this magazine is the primary line of communication about Alcor and cryonics. For a few dozen, though, spread across the country and around the world, the "hot" topics in cryonics are picked up and examined on a daily basis. Ideas are debated, methods are suggested and challenged, and all of this while the news is still *new*.

If this sounds odd and unfamiliar, then you must be a stranger to the Virtual Community. And although there's a whole electronic environment for you to discover, I'd like to bring to your attention to Cryonet. The Cryonet is the international conference hall for cryonicists, allowing anyone with a computer, a phone, and a modem to be instantly privy to and part of an endless smorgasbord of cryonics-related discussion. The search for a new facility, the status of legal issues, the similarities and differences of the various cryonics organizations, all are grist for the mill.

Sound too good to miss? The Cryonet is on the Internet, at kqb@whscad1.att.com. For a complete listing of all cryomessages to date, send mail to the above address with a subject line of "CRYOMSG 001." (This list, which of course is not the text but just the header lines, is 54 kilobytes by itself.)

New Phone In New York

New York area members, and in fact anyone in the Northeast U.S., will be interested to know that Curtis Henderson, one of Alcor New York's activists, is using his phone as an answering service for people interested in Alcor New York activities. The number for this is 516-589-4256. Leave a message, and someone from Alcor New York will return your call.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In response to Dave Pizer's suggestion for regular donations to supplement Alcor's staff (*Cryonics*, May 1992, page 2), I am committing \$26.00 per month = \$312.00 per year. That amount, small though it may seem, is a noticeable percentage of my discretionary income. . . I am not rich!

According to the May 1992 issue of *Cryonics*, Alcor has 312 Suspension Members. If each member (Alcor staff not included) committed a similar amount, Alcor would have \$97,000.00 (more or less) per year of additional incentive for its salaried personnel.

These commitments need not be permanent. Eventually Alcor's numbers will grow large enough to pay market-competitive salaries from membership dues alone. Until such time, we could improve the lifestyles of some profoundly dedicated individuals.

Sincerely,
Jerry T. Searcy
Las Vegas, NV

Dear Fellow Alcor members,

I am pleased to announce that **Pinnacle Capital Management, Inc.** will be making a grant of \$500 available to any Alcor member for research devoted to either:

1. Proof of the viability of cryonics, or
2. Enhancing the current technology of cryonics.

Please send us:

1. A simple description of your experiment or suggested technological improvement. If you are proposing an experiment, please describe what you hope to prove. If you are proposing a technological improvement, please describe why it is an improvement. Please keep this short and to the point!
2. Your expected budget. Please keep this short and to the point!
3. Your expected time to completion.

If your expected budget is greater than \$500, please submit it anyway. We may lead an effort to raise the total funds!

Please make your proposal short and sent it to the below address. We don't want you to spend a lot of time on the proposal. We want you to spend time on progress.

We look forward to priming the pump of research to help cryonics move forward.

We look forward to working with you.

Live long,
Courtney Smith
President and Chief Investment Officer
Pinnacle Capital Management
67 East 11th St.
New York, NY 10003

Dear Sir:

This is in response to Ben Best's letter in your May 1993 issue. Mr. Best sounds like so many of those johnny-one-note media mavens who push equity mutual funds on the radio. In my view, the uniquely long-term perspective of cryonics argues far more in favor of Carlos' conservative investment approach. Sure, equities have been the place to be in recent years, even decades. They were also supposedly the place to be in the 1930s. Unfortunately, many people who bought stocks in the late 1920s waited until the 1950s just to break even. Historically, equities have yielded only a few percentage points more than fixed income investments. For the few extra points, I for one am not willing to risk being caught in a down market at precisely the time funds are needed for suspension or post-suspension expenses. Stocks can easily lose half or more of their value in a real bear market. Maybe Ben can afford to take that kind of hit. Alcor cannot.

Inflation concerns are overblown. For one thing, as has been pointed out in Barron's, in terms of inflation-deflation cycles over the last 200 years, each period's inflation was wiped out completely by the deflation that followed. In addition, cryonics, like so much other new technology, may well see real costs go down, not up, over time.

In any event, for now cryonics is enough of a gamble; let's not turn the whole thing into a crapshoot. Ben Best may become rich in the stock market.

Good luck to him. Alcor's goal is to preserve life, not make a killing.

Very truly yours,
Bart Vinik

Dear *Cryonics*,

I found the recent article by Carlos Mondragón (March, *Cryonics*) to be a thoughtful study of inflation and suspension funding. I agree that increasing membership dues to provide contributions to a "sinking fund" is probably the best solution. I look forward to seeing some preliminary calculations on this plan. I also hope there is some room for flexibility, such as for students.

Most importantly, I hope that payments to this fund will be tied to how much funding a member has *already* allocated for their suspension. Many of us already have funding far above the minimum precisely because of concerns about inflation. It would be unfair for such members (who have already been paying high insurance premiums for years) to pay the same as members with minimum funding.

Also, many members signed up for neurosuspension have provided whole-body funding levels hoping for the option of switching to whole-body when the technology becomes better. If over-funded neuro members make sinking fund contributions comparable to marginally-funded whole-body members, will they preserve the option of being "grandfathered" in to a whole-body suspension if they so choose?

Sincerely,
Brian Wowk
Winnipeg

Sorry, but under this plan students could not be given any special consideration. The key to the plan was the concept that "everyone's currency depreciates at the same rate."

The plan was to make more frequent increases in funding minimums while offering members the option of augmenting their funding in step with those increases, or, making contributions to the "sinking fund" and getting grandfathered at the old rate. Those who are already overfunded wouldn't need to make the decision until the required minimum reached the level of

their funding. So, if they chose the sinking fund they would not need to begin contributions until then.

As for your last question, I don't see why not. The totals available for suspension would be equal for either member.

—Carlos Mondragón

Dear Editor:

The ongoing debate between Thomas Donaldson and Ralph Merkle about the reasonableness of uploading (among other things) has been very interesting. I would like to dispute Donaldson's most recent contribution to the discussion.

At the end of Donaldson's article about "How We Are Not Computers. . ." in the June '92 issue, he considers a design for a computer intended to simulate a human brain where all possible connections within a component of the brain are made directly in advance. He (rightly) concludes that this design is unworkable.

Then he goes on to decide that it is actually necessary for simulated neurons to be directly connected to each other. He gives two justifications for this, neither of which is valid.

First, he says that virtual connections between simulated neurons merely turn one kind of unused capacity into another. This is right: communicating through an intermediary saves space at the expense of taking more time. Most of the time would be spent ferrying messages back and forth instead of doing the computational work of the neurons. However, since silicon can do its work millions of times faster than neurons, decreasing space at the cost of increasing time is the right thing to do. His straw-man design takes too much space, so disregarding design options that reduce the required space weakens his argument.

Second, he says "Virtual connections may not even work: direct connections between neurons must exist for a reason," and then he doesn't give a reason. There are several reasons natural neurons are directly connected to each other that don't apply to systems designed around a faster computation device.

A natural brain has to be able to react in tenths of a second, and it is built of devices that take milliseconds to work. Thus hundreds of operations of its primitive computing devices can happen before the reaction. Such a system doesn't have time to send messages through intermediaries.

In contrast, consider a system with the same response time built from devices that can do a primitive operation in a picosecond. It can do hundreds of billions of operations before a reaction is required. Almost all of the operations could be spent shuffling messages around.

Another reason neurons are directly connected is that brains are evolved rather than designed. Evolution works by incremental improvement rather than by making large coordinated changes to a system. Virtually connecting simulated neurons will require a communications network and a consistent scheme for assigning unique addresses to the simulated neurons. Such systems could be designed, but I can't imagine building one by incremental improvements.

In a past article, Donaldson objected that simulating a brain with something with a different structure from a brain would get wrong answers because the timing of the inputs to each simulated neuron would be wrong. This problem can be solved by sending, along with each simulated impulse, the time at which the impulse should be received. Each simulated neuron saves away the impulses it receive in a buffer and responds to each impulse when the appropriate time comes. Assuming large enough buffers, and assuming that none of the impulses arrive too late (which should be easy if our hardware is billions of times faster than real neurons!), the simulated neurons could behave the same as real ones.

In conclusion, it seems to me that excellent places to think from could be made out of devices that have little in common with the natural ones we use today. The easiest devices to build would probably have simulated neurons communicating with each other over some sort of network. Donaldson's objections to this design seem invalid.

Tim Freeman

Hi Ralph:

As every Alcor member knows by now, our possible purchase of a building has fallen through because one of the investors has backed out. But members might keep one interesting point in mind: while I think that the case for moving is very good, Parkinson (the English critic of bureaucracy), in addition to Parkinson's Law, made an observation about bureaucracies that members and those consider-

ing membership might consider: it seems that when a group is growing rapidly in strength and influence, they always tend to inhabit crowded, dowdy offices, with everyone squeezed in almost so they can't move, and very unimpressive meeting rooms. It is only when an organization is declining toward extinction that they secure for themselves the beautiful glass and concrete palaces, with fountains everywhere and abstract art on the walls.

As one example Parkinson gave the British colonial service, which, all through the period when the British Empire was growing rapidly, was ruled by people who worked out of tiny and dingy offices in dowdy tenements. It was only when Britain began to liquidate its Empire that the Colonial Office was moved to a glass and concrete palace, with flags and bronze statues of past achievements.

I believe that members and prospective members might wish to keep Parkinson's observation in mind when they come to visit Alcor's offices.

Best,
Thomas Donaldson

Editor:

From what I know through friends and personal experiences, I believe you should examine Phoenix/Scottsdale, Arizona carefully before relocating Alcor there. Phoenix is a very religious and politically backward place. A large number of Mormons live there, which adds to conservatism. Remember that Arizona is one of only two (?) states not declaring Martin Luther King Day a legal holiday. Start reading major Phoenix newspapers and you will see a very conservative place. I have a feeling that "they" would be hostile to Alcor.

Scott M. Toth

Cryonic Suspensions: Cumulative Listing and Some Unusual Highlights

Michael Perry



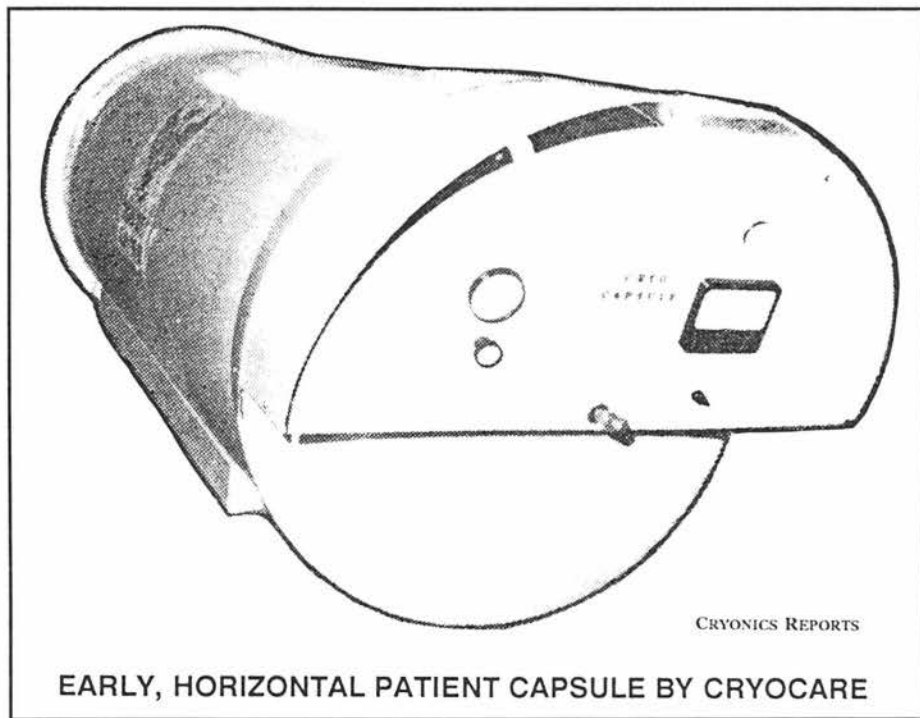
A list of cryonic suspension patients was published in the October 1990 *Cryonics*. Since then there have been over a dozen new suspensions, and some additional information about older ones has surfaced. In addition there are more subscribers to *Cryonics* than ever before, many of whom have not seen the earlier article. Finally, some previously confidential material has now been made public. So, an updated list of suspensions, patients, current status, etc. is included with this article. As before, every suspension is listed for which any amount of reasonable documentation could be found. A few cases included in the earlier list were omitted because the documentation was so scanty that they could have been suspensions already recorded. Although I believe I have accounted for every freezing at a public cryonics organization, it is always possible that there were other, private freezings. As before, I have included doubtful cases, for example the first freezing — in April, 1966 — in which a body that had been embalmed and stored at above-freezing temperature for several weeks was finally quenched in liquid nitrogen. (Ev Cooper would comment on this, "As neither science nor life begins with perfection, neither has the age of cryogenic suspension begun with the faultless model."¹ In general I believe even the doomed attempts have some value, and thus deserve inclusion.) Unfortunately, most of the early suspensions failed; although it is often quite difficult to determine exactly when a suspension was terminated, I have included my best estimates, along with the current status of suspensions that *have* been maintained.

In looking over this list, the first impression may be to take a statistical view, search for recurring patterns, and other-

wise lose sight of the individuals whose tragic dramas (they had to pass through deanimation, after all, and often worse) are lightly outlined here. On the other hand, *the individual is important*, especially from the cryonics perspective, so we would do well, I think, to examine these cases more closely. Unfortunately time and space will not allow doing anything like full justice to this in a few columns of a magazine, but we can continue to ferret out small vignettes of interest.

This time (bearing in mind the generally tragic nature of the events surrounding cryonic suspensions, and in view of certain very recent events that seemed to make it appropriate) I have chosen the topic of *violent deanimations*, that is, where the mode of death was suicide or

murder. These cases are not pleasant, and the relevant suspensions were performed under difficult conditions, generally after a long delay, which may have severely compromised the chances of reanimation. However, there's no denying that they make an interesting study, and serve to highlight what we are all about in unusual ways. Although most cryonic suspensions do not fit the "violent" category, it is quite possible that there are more cases of doing-to-death than the three I've reported on here. These three alone mean that nearly 5% (at least) of deaths leading to cryonic suspension were from willful violence. In none of these cases, however, does it appear that there was any connection between the mode of death and the fact that the victim was to be cryonically



suspended.

The first case I'll report on is one that is little-known, and the available information is scanty and fragmented, but enough is there to form a broad picture of what happened. Donald Kester, Sr., a resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico, shot himself to death in July 1968. "Some time afterwards" relatives made the decision to have him frozen, and made the necessary arrangements with Cryocare Corporation in Phoenix, Arizona, which was headed by Ed Hope. The son, Donald Jr., a psychology professor at Chabot Junior College in Hayward, California, had the primary respon-



THE IMMORTALIST, Nov-Dec. 1976
PATRICIA LUNA WILSON

sibility for funding the suspension. By late 1969 he decided he'd been "suckered" on the hope that his father might one day be restored to life. He retrieved the capsule, had a local welding shop extricate the body (the horizontal capsules then in use were welded shut) and had the thawed body shipped back to New Mexico for burial. Needless to say, it's too bad some other course was not followed, but relatives traditionally have a poor track record for maintaining suspensions.^{2,3}

The second case, one that happily is still in suspension, brought forth one of the most eloquent testimonials ever made to the value of life and the desirability of the cryonics option when the only other course is destruction. This should not blind us to the tragic events surrounding the death, which led to an untimely suspension whose quality could not have been high.

Patricia Luna Wilson was the teenage daughter of noted science fiction author and immortalist sympathizer Robert Anton Wilson. She was working in a used clothing store when, on Oct. 2, 1976, she was brutally attacked and murdered in an apparent robbery attempt. Her body was dragged into a closet, where it lay undiscovered until the next day. The local coroner (in the Bay Area, northern Califor-

nia) insisted on performing an autopsy, but was persuaded not to damage or section the brain. It was then recovered, under the direction of the Bay Area Cryonics Society (now the American Cryonics Society), and

frozen by Trans Time. (In fact she became the first brain-only patient, with the hope, as usual with such cases, that the entire rest of the body would eventually be replaced by procedures related to cloning.) The long delay before freezing the brain (in the neighborhood of 36 hours), and some injury that occurred in the murder, raises a serious question of whether the "original" person can ever be recovered. However

the suspension is being maintained, so long as there appears to be some possibility of eventual reanimation, or even of the recovery of usable information that would otherwise be lost. Her father, acting as family spokesman, released this moving statement to the press:

"We have had the brain of our murdered daughter Patricia Luna Wilson, preserved by the Bay Area Cryonics Society in the hope that future scientific research will allow her to live again through cloning.

"We have taken this step as an expression of our belief in life, our reverence for life — a reverence that Luna manifested every day of her 15 years. Luna loved people and animals; she was a pacifist and a vegetarian. It is our

fervent hope that, whether or not cloning eventually succeeds in this case, scientific research will be aided and this will be one contribution to humanity's conquest of death.

"More importantly, we support the quest for life extension and scientific immortality because it is a fit memorial to Luna, who so loved life, who was so boundless in joy and affection.

"Above all, by this scientific endeavor we express and commemorate our faith in life and our total rejection of death and violence. By this attempt to preserve life, we say 'No' to the dealers in death and violence. We say 'No' to an entertainment industry based on the pornography of violence and the prurience of sadism. And we say 'No' to the creature who, in his blind ignorance of the value of life, killed Luna to steal a few dollars."⁴

The third case of violence takes us from the mid-'70s to almost yesterday. In fact it was *one week ago today*, as I write this, that attorney and Alcor member Michael Louis Friedman was gunned down in a Los Angeles law library, slain by a disgruntled client he hardly knew. The client, 62-year-old James Sinclair, had a grudge against the police for alleged misconduct, and also a history of mental problems. The 38-year-old Friedman had agreed to take his case when another attorney

dropped it after being threatened. Still trying to familiarize himself and photocopying some documents, Friedman was shot at least four times in the back of the head with a 9mm pistol. Then, when this gun jammed, Sinclair turned *another* weapon, a .380 caliber pistol, on himself. His suicide in fact simplified the procedure for obtaining his victim's body from the coroner's office, since there was no prosecution to worry about.

But the delay was considerable — about 26 hours — and the body meanwhile was autopsied. (On the other hand, there

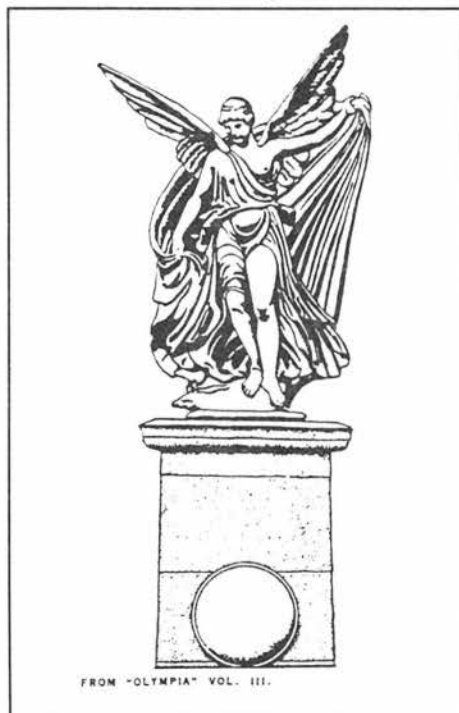


TABLE OF CRYONIC SUSPENSION PATIENTS

Compiled by R. Michael Perry Jun. 1992

Explanatory notes follow.

CASE #	DEANIMATION DATE	NAME/IDENTIFICATION	SEX	AGE	SUSPENSION	STATUS AS OF JUN 1992	SOURCE(S)
1	22 APR 1966F	[FROM L.A. AREA]	F	60s	W/CC	t (c. early 1967)	WFFM, C1, FWR.66.MAY
2	12 JAN 1967	BEDFORD, JAMES H.	M	73	W/CSC	W/ALCOR	WFFM, FWR.67.JAN
3	27 AUG 1967	PHELPS-SWEET, MARIE (MRS. RUSS VAN NORDEN)	F	74	W/CSC	t (c. late 1971)	CR.67.SEP.1, SA.119
4	07 SEP 1967	NISCO, LOUIS T.	M	78	W/CC	t (c. late 1971)	FWR.68.FEB.1, DNM.69. JUL 13, LAT.(81.JUN 14?)
5	LATE 1967	SCHULMAN	F	ELD	W/CC	t (c. 1969)	FWR.68.MAY.5, O.70.DEC.4, C2
6	14 MAY 1968	KLINE, HELEN	F		W/CSC	t (c. late 1971)	CR.68.JUN.120, NA, C2
7	JUL 1968	KESTER, DONALD (SR.)	M	ELD	W/CC	t (c. Oct. 1969)	CR.68.SEP.166; CFDA.69.NOV-DEC.2
8	28 JUL 1968	MANDELL, STEVEN JAY	M	24	W/CSNY	t (c. mid-1974)	CR.68.SEP.162, NA, SAI, MSM, C2
9	06 SEP 1968	STANLEY, C. RUSSELL	M		W/CSC	t (c. late 1971)	CR.68.OCT.190, NA, C2
10	20 NOV 1968	MIHOK, ANDREW F.	M	48	W/CSNY	t (within hrs.)	CR.69.JAN.4
11	04 JAN 1969	DEBLASIO, ANN	F	43	W/CSNY	t (c. 1980)	CR.69.FEB.2, BR.90.AUG 12
12	14 MAR 1969	HURST, PAUL M. (SR.)	M	62	W/CSNY	t (mid-'70s)	CR.69.MAR.6
13	MAY 1970	GREENBERG, HERMAN	M	~ 51	W/CSNY	t (mid-'70s)	O.70.DEC.4, TIC, RMP
14	20 SEP 1970	HARRIS, MILDRED E.	F	55	W/CSC	t (c. mid-1974)	O.70.OCT.1, TIC, NA, SAI, MSM
15	25 JAN 1972	DE LA POTERIE, GENEVIEVE	F	8	W/CSC	t (c. mid-1974)	O.72.FEB.1, NA, MSM
16	13 NOV 1972	"D.L."	F	51	W/CSC	t (c. 1980)	O.72.NOV, O.72.DEC, O.73.JAN, C.81.MAR.4
17	10 DEC 1972	DOSTAL, CLARA	F	60	W/CSNY	t (1973)	O.72.DEC, O.73.MAY, CDR. SB.81.JUN 06.D(3?)
18	FEB 1974	"M.D."	F	ELD	W/IT	W/IT	O.74.MAR
19	09 FEB 1974	"R.M."	M	65	W/IT	N/ALCOR	O.74.MAR, C.81.SEP.11f
20	11 OCT 1974	"S.P."	M	~ 10	W/CSC	t (02 Apr. 1979)	O.74.NOV.1, VMN.90.AUG.3, OMP, C2
21	28 SEP 1975*	LEDESMA, PEDRO	M	62	W/CSC	t (02 Apr. 1979)	OMP, C2
22	16 JUL 1976	CHAMBERLAIN, FRED II (JR.)	M	79	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	I.76.SEP, RMP
23	02 OCT 1976	WILSON, PATRICIA LUNA	F	15	B/IT	B/IT	LER.307, LEM.77.MAR.18
24	1976	BABURKA, MICHAEL (SR.)	M	ELD	W/CSNY	t (c. 1980?)	I.77.NOV.2, C.81.JUN.2, C2

CASE #	DEANIMATION DATE	NAME/IDENTIFICATION	SEX	AGE	SUSPENSION	STATUS AS OF JUN 1992	SOURCE(S)
25	~ SEP 1977	ETTINGER, RHEA CHAL-OFF	F	78	W/CI	W/CI	CI BROCHURE
26	14 JUL 1978	BERKOWITZ, SAMUEL	M	76	W/IT	t (late 1983)	LLM.79.SEP.30, C.83.DEC.1
27	02 NOV 1978	"K.V.M."	F	65	W/IT	N/ALCOR	LLM.79.SEP.71, C.86.APR.24
28	22 JAN 1979	"L.R."	F	76	N/IT	N/IT	TC.79.MAR, C.81.NOV.21
29	15 JAN 1980	"W.D."	M	79	W/IT	W/IT	C.85.NOV.13
30	17 JAN 1980	FOOTE, JANICE	F	36	W/IT	N/IT	SB.80.unk, C.84.SEP.16, C.85.NOV.13
31	02 FEB 1981	"H.H."	M	71	N/IT	N/ALCOR	RMP
32	1982		M	ELD	B/PRIVATE	?	1.83.MAY
33	25 FEB 1984	MARTINOT, MONIQUE	F	49	WF/PRIVATE	WF/PRIVATE	C.84.JUL.1, C.84.SEP.
34	12 FEB 1985	CANNON, TERESA M.	F	68	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	C.86.FEB.17, SWB
35	08 JUN 1987	"R.R."	M	29	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	C.87.AUG.14
36	EARLY NOV 1987	ETTINGER, ELAINE	F	65	W/CI	W/CI	C.87.DEC.1, 1.87.DEC, SWB
37	11 DEC 1987	KENT, DORA	F	83	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	C.88.JAN.1, RMP
38	12 MAR 1988	JONES, VIOLET	F	87	W/IT	W/IT	C.88.APR.1, 1.88.JUN, C.88.JUL.5
39	LATE MAR 1988	"MR. M."	M	85	WP/CSCN	WP	1.88.JUL, RMP
40	08 MAY 1988	BINKOWSKI, ROBERT	M	72	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	C.88.JUN.2
41	07 OCT 1988	"A.S."	F	78	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	C.88.11.15, RMP
42	12 DEC 1988	JONES, RICHARD CLAIR	M	57	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	C.89.JAN.2
43	21 MAR 1989	DONOVAN, EUGENE T.	M	71	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	C.89.APR.1, RMP
44	18 AUG 1989	"O.C."	M	78	W/IT	W/IT	ACS.1.89.JUN, RMP
45	19 AUG 1989	COMOS, CRISTINA	F	21	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	C.89.NOV.20, RMP
46	06 NOV 1989	MORSTOEL, BREDO	M	89	W/IT	W/IT	C.90.MAY.5, TB
47	09 MAY 1990	PILGERAM, CYNTHIA	F	60	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	SWB, RMP
48	09 JUN 1990	FRIED, ARLENE E.	F	68	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	SWB, RMP
49	22 JUN 1990	SCHIAVELLO, ROCCO "ROY"	M	30	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	SWB, RMP
50	29 SEP 1990	"R.S.-D."	F	76	W/PRIVATE (FRANCE)	W/PRIVATE (FRANCE)	TB
51	22 DEC 1990	"F.H."	F	97	W/PRIVATE (NORWAY)	W/CI	TB
52	31 DEC 1990	"M.T."	F	88	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	RMP
53	~ MAR 1991		M	~ 65	W/CI	W/CI	1.APR.91, 1.MAY.91
54	10 JULY 1991	LEAF, JERRY D.	M	50	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	RMP

CASE #	DEANIMATION DATE	NAME/IDENTIFICATION	SEX	AGE	SUSPENSION	STATUS AS OF JUN 1992	SOURCE(S)
55	02 AUG 1991	"D.W."	F	62	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	RMP
56	07 OCT 1991	RUNKEL, WALTER	M	75	W/CI	W/CI	I.OCT.91, I.NOV.91
57	~ OCT 1991		M	ELD	WP/CSCN	WP	I.NOV.91
58	29 NOV 1991	"M.C."	F	80	W/TT	W/TT	C2
59	12 DEC 1991	"P.S."	M	41	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	RMP
60	07 JAN 1992	WHITE, SUSAN	F	73	B/TT	B/TT	I.APR.92.5
61	10 MAR 1992	"C.C."	F	42	B/TT	B/TT	C2, I.APR.92.7
62	19 MAR 1992	"J.D."	M	39	N/ALCOR	N/ALCOR	RMP
63	01 JUN 1992	FRIEDMAN, MICHAEL L.	M	38	W/ALCOR	W/ALCOR	RMP

NOTES: For deanimation date, "F" means date of freezing. Suspension type: W = whole body; WF = whole body, freezer storage at above dry ice temp. (> -78°C); WP = whole body, permafrost burial; N = neuro (head only); B = brain only. t = suspension terminated, usu. by conventional burial (date is given, as accurately as possible). Suspension organizations: ALCOR = Alcor Life Extension Foundation; CC = Cryo-care; CI = Cryonics Institute; CSC = Cryonics Society of California; CSCN = Cryonics Society of Canada; TT = Trans Time. Monique Martineau (France) is maintained by her husband, Dr. Raymond Martineau. Sources: (1) Books: LER = *The Life Extension Revolution* by Saul Kent; SA = *Suspended Animation* by Robert Prehoda; WFFM = *We Froze the First Man* by Robert F. Nelson and Sandra Stanley. (2) Article: TIC = *The Iceman Cometh* by Clifton D. Bryand and William E. Snizek, *Society* Nov.-Dec.'73. (3) Periodicals: ACSJ = *American Cryonics Society Journal*; C = *Cryonics*; CFDA = California Funeral Directors' Association Newsbulletin; CR = *Cryonics Reports*, DNM = Detroit News Magazine, FWR = *Freeze-Wait-Reanimate*; I = *The Immortalist*; LEM = *Life Extension Magazine*; LLM = *Long Life Magazine*; O = *The Outlook*; TC = *The Cryonicist*; VMN = *Venturist Monthly News*. (4) Newspapers: BR = *The Bergen Record*; LAT = *Los Angeles Times*; SB = *The Sacramento Bee*. (5) Court Documents: CDR = Complaint for Declarative Relief, Halpert et al. v. Nelson et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case C-161229, 18 May 1976; NA = Appellant Robert F. Nelson's Settled Statement on Appeal, 2nd Civil no. 63721 (for Superior Court Case C-161229, Los Angeles County), 20 May 1982; SAI = Supplemental Answers to Interrogatories, Los Angeles Superior Case C-161229, 22 Jul. 1980, p. 14. (6) Persons: RMP = Mike Perry; SWB = Steve Bridge; TB = Trygve Bauge. (7) Misc.: C1 = Memo from Ted Kraver; C2 = confidential sources; MSM = Minutes of special meeting of board of directors of Cryonics Society of California, 11 Oct. 1974. OMP = Cemetery records of Oakwood Memorial Park, Chatsworth, Calif.

*Not frozen until approximately 26 July 1976.

are so many coroner's cases to deal with in L.A., several dozen per day, of which roughly one in ten are murder victims, that a body will often lay in a morgue refrigerator, at above-freezing temperature, for two weeks before it is autopsied!) The coroner, in deference to Mr. Friedman's wishes to be cryonically suspended (with considerable negotiating by Alcor attorneys), agreed to process the case as fast as possible, and to refrain from sectioning the brain, though it was removed from the skull. In fact the brain, despite having visible tracks from the shooting and some of the pathologist's cuts, seemed amazingly intact. The biggest problem, no doubt, was the long period of warm ischemia. Due to the wounds, Friedman was not perfused but (like the other cases reported here, as far as I can tell) only straight-frozen. For practical reasons too, the brain was not returned to the head but is being stored separately. (Since he was signed up as a whole-body, his other remains are also

being preserved.) As with Miss Wilson (and all other frozen patients too for that matter), only time can tell how recoverable the identity-critical information will prove to be.^{5,6,7}

The story of Michael Friedman has an almost unbelievable, ironic twist. On Sunday, May 31, the day before he was shot, Friedman had a telephone conversation with Dave Pizer in Phoenix, Arizona. The topic: the possibility of filing suit in Los Angeles County for the right of a murdered cryonicist to be suspended without autopsy! *Mr. Friedman was interested in taking the case.* Unfortunately, he fell victim himself before he was able to do so.⁷

References:

1. *Freeze-Wait-Reanimate* #24 (May 1966) p.1.
2. *Cryonics Reports* Sep. 1968 p. 166.
3. *CFDA Newsbulletin*, Nov.-Dec. 1969, p.2.
4. *The Immortalist*, Nov.-Dec. 1976, p.13.
5. *Los Angeles Times*, Jun. 2, 1992, p.B1.
6. *Los Angeles Times*, Jun. 3, 1992, p.B3.
7. Private communications and/or eye-witness.

Personal Continuity, Death, and Cryonics: 1

Max More



Over the coming months I will write a series of columns explaining personal identity theory — or, as I prefer to describe it, personal continuity theory — and its application to cryonics. I will begin by explaining and defending reductionism and physicalism and the difference between physical and psychological reductionism. I will argue that the latter view is correct and accords with the criterion of death typically employed by cryonicists.

Later, I will examine competing criteria for death, and offer a candidate that bolsters the cryonicist case, and I will discuss the continuity or lack of continuity of individuals undergoing various kinds of radical transformation.

Physicalism: A physicalist or materialist holds that there are no purely mental objects or events. All mental processes are identical with or inseparable from some physical events. Non-Physicalists are either Dualists or Idealists. Dualists think that physical and mental events or entities are equally real and fundamental, whereas Idealists believe that all phenomena are really mental.

Reductionism: Reductionists claim that a person's identity or continuity over time just consists in the holding of other more particular facts. As Derek Parfit expresses it in *Reasons and Persons* (p.211): "A person's existence just consists in the existence of a brain and body, and the occurrence of a series of interrelated physical and mental events." What this view means is that if we know all the particular facts about cognitive and physical events, then we know all there is to know about the continued existence of a person.

Non-Reductionists deny this. They claim that we are separately existing entities. According to them, our continued existence over time does not consist only (or, perhaps, at all) in physical or psychological continuity. A person is something existing apart from their brain and body and their experiences. The commonest version of Non-Reductionism says that a person is a mental entity, a spiritual substance. A different version, one at least superficially compatible with physicalism, denies that we are entities capable of existing apart from our brains and bodies, but that personal identity or continuity is a further fact, and does not consist only in physical and/or psychological continuity.

Uploaders usually hold this view: Thought is impossible without a physical basis (or hardware), but the same thought processes might be supported by a medium other than the original provided by the biological brain.

Reductionists are of two types. Some accept a Physical Criterion of continuity. In essence this view holds that a person continues to exist if enough of their body continues to exist. Usually the brain is thought to be the most important part of the body as far as continuity or survival goes. Other Reductionists, including myself and most cryonicists, accept the Psychological Criterion. According to this, you survive if your psychological continuity is maintained. Psychological continuity is maintained if enough

psychological connections (memories, intentions, desires, values) persist over each stretch of time (say a day).

There are several versions of the Psychological Criterion. These are distinguished by the restrictions they place on the causes of psychological continuity. On the narrowest view, the normal cause of psychological continuity — the continuity of the same brain — is required, making this view identical to the Physical Criterion in practice. A wider view grants personal continuity so long as there is some reliable cause of psychological continuity, even if it is not the normal continuity of a brain. An even wider view holds that the person continues if psychological connectedness is maintained by any means, no matter how remarkable or unreliable.

A physicalist need not accept the Physical Criterion. All the physicalist is committed to is the view that mind or thought is not separable from some physical embodiment. The Psychological Criterion does not deny this. A physicalist who believes in the Psychological Criterion will say that psychological states and processes have no reality apart from some physical instantiation, but may not require their typical embodiment. Uploaders usually hold this view: Thought is impossible without a physical basis (or hardware), but the same thought processes might be supported by a medium other than the original provided by the biological brain.

One argument for the Psychological Criterion is Parfit's Psychological Spectrum case. Parfit describes a case in which a nefarious neurosurgeon has you prisoner and is experimenting on you.

There are a range of cases to consider. By flipping various switches the neurosurgeon can change my memories and personality patterns. In an extreme case, the surgeon would flip many switches, resulting in the loss of all psychological connections between me and the resulting person. The resulting person would be wholly like, say, Napoleon.

By flipping only one switch, the surgeon would cause me to lose only a few memories and to acquire only a few memories which fit the life of Napoleon. The more switches he flips, the more original memories and personality traits are lost and the more memories and personality traits of Napoleon come into existence. There is a smooth spectrum of cases

going from the first cases where we will say that I clearly survive to more extreme cases where I clearly do not survive, being replaced by someone like Napoleon. Looking at any two neighboring cases, where the second of the two cases involves only a very slightly greater change in personality, we cannot believe that I would survive in one of those cases but not the other.

This supports Reductionism since it shows that my existence is not all-or-nothing. We can make sense of the Psychological Spectrum if we accept that in the middle of the Spectrum there is no answer to the question: "Am I about to die? Will there be some person living who will be me?" We know all the facts of the case but the question of continued identity

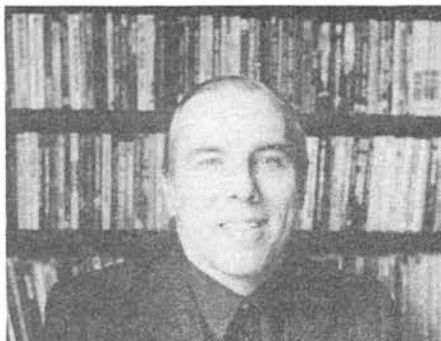
is indeterminate. This indeterminacy remains even though the brain remains throughout the procedure. At the extreme end of the spectrum, I do not survive even though my body and brain continue. This supports the Psychological over the Physical Criterion.

Next time I will apply the Psychological Criterion to various methods of reviving someone from biostasis, and will explain the underlying idea of continuity involved in the Psychological Criterion. This will then allow me to suggest a universally applicable criterion for death and to refute widely accepted contemporary criteria, such as cardiac/respiratory arrest, whole brain death, lower brain death, and neo-cortical death.

Future Tech

Pets and Other Diversions

H. Keith Henson



A long time ago I asked readers to suggest future tech/nanotech subjects I should write columns about. Arthur McCombs was the only one who wrote, so I am going to use up one of his suggestions and ask for more ideas you might like me to write about.

Arthur wanted me to write about pets. Will we still love them in a future in which we have augmented our minds? Would it be possible to (slowly) raise our favorite pets to become our intellectual equals?

There is a recurrent theme in literature back as far as we have literature about talking with animals. The popular books of my childhood based on talking animals included the *Dr. Dolittle* and *Freddy the Pig* series. Disney has raised a talking mouse to one of the defining elements of 20th century culture. I suspect that there is such a deep drive in humans to talk that our fantasies spill over into talking with just about anything. And, truthfully, we can talk to our pets, and they do understand some of what we tell them. Pets (mammals anyway) have another rewarding feature.

In the process of evolving, we lost most of our hair (some of us more than others!), but not our instinct to groom each other. Petting a cat or dog may be a substitute for pawing through each other's long-departed fur. Besides these reasons, people are deeply social creatures. All too often the conflicts of existence or striving for social position, or failures to be accepted, deprive us of the essential social rewards we need to feel good about ourselves. Interacting with a friendly dog or cat can go a long way to compensate for situations where the social rewards are infrequent.

I am sure we could go mucking around with the deep drives in our personalities which cause us to stroke the fur of pets, talk to them or lavish affection on them, but I suspect (following Marvin Minsky's arguments in *Society of Mind*) that the resultant entities would rapidly diverge from what we would think of as human. What directions *they* might go in is a complete mystery to me, although I suspect that the vast majority of them will undergo "existence failure." My reasoning

is that the limbic system "brain rewards" lie at the root of our motivations to do anything at all. True, the quest for these rewards causes virtually all of our social problems, but without the rewards, my bet is that we would do nothing at all. My prediction is that those of us who keep a more or less human personality are likely to still need and enjoy pets.

On Arthur's question of raising pets to become our intellectual equals, I am not convinced that it would be a kind act. Happiness and intelligence may be negatively correlated. I imagine that people will try it though, with many of the problems I discussed in the "Rights of Sentient Beings" column.

An equally interesting possibility would be to map yourself into an animal for a vacation. How about becoming a cheetah? Zero to 60 mph in nothing flat, playing "tag" with antelope, the chase ending with the crunch of bones and the taste of hot blood. To get the other side of the experience, you could try being an antelope. For really weird lips and tongue ex-

periences, slip into an anteater's brain. Like to fly? Want to try it without high tech aids? Try being a bird for the weekend. Lots of possibilities in the local "live ware" shop. Feel like strangling the boss? Find out which nature area she is frequenting for the weekend as a rabbit, and rent yourself a large snake. Or just map yourself into the kitty and explore the neighborhood from the one foot level. If you would like to experience a completely different sensory mode consider a porpoise. I wonder what the water world would be like in 3D ultrasound? Or you could try being a bat.

A long time ago, before the animal rights people made it impossible to get exotics, I had a pet coatimundi. Coatimundies are a social Central and South American relative of the raccoon. Being social they adapt well to humans, are very smart, and unbelievably tough. (They have a mouth full of razor sharp teeth and are more than a match for dogs several times their size — though if a dog wants to play with them, they will happily play for hours.) As pets, coatimundies are very different from dogs or cats and a lot more variable since they have not been selected over thousands of years for compatibility with people. Their sensory mode is mostly nose, being adapted to turning over rocks, rooting through litter, and eating anything they find there. One common feature among all the coatimundies I have known is their reaction to a cigarette. They will break one open and sniff every particle till the cigarette is spread over a three foot circle. It would be a very strange experience indeed to use their sensory input.

Of course, there may be downsides to these kinds of adventures. It is possible that some who try "the animal experience" may not want to come back. Even pets may be dangerous in an unexpected way. We already have a lot of people who are so deeply attached to pets that their interactions with other people becomes a minor facet of their lives. Augmented or constructed pets might satisfy virtually all of a lot of the population's need for social contact. Shading into this would be personal virtual realities containing a host of constructs subjectively indistinguishable from friendly, cooperative, actual people. These might be seductive to a lot of us.

This brings me around to a very strange concept: most or all of people's family life revolving around either augmented pets, or outright constructs. Why would I think there was any chance of this

happening? Men and women have been subject to somewhat different evolutionary forces. There is difference between what men and women (on the average) are and what (again on the average) either sex would prefer as an ideal partner. The effects of constructed ideal mates on the social fabric has been a topic of science fiction stories for decades, often with tragic endings.

Regardless, the process is underway. You can buy a computer which simulates a half dozen 30-cent goldfishes for about \$50,000, but the price is bound to come down.

How Many Are We?

Alcor has 315 Suspension Members, 447 Associate Members (includes 160 people in the process of becoming Suspension Members), and 22 members in suspension. These numbers are broken down by country below.



Country	Members	Applicants	Subscribers
Argentina	0	1	1
Australia	13	1	4
Austria	0	1	1
Brazil	0	0	1
Canada	11	4	20
France	0	0	4
Germany	1	1	2
Holland	0	1	0
Italy	0	2	2
Japan	1	1	0
Lichtenstein	0	0	1
Mexico	0	0	1
Norway	0	0	1
Portugal	0	0	1
Spain	6	2	0
Sri Lanka	0	0	1
Turkey	0	0	2
U.K.	11	6	6
U.S.A.	271	141	260

Business Meeting Report by Ralph Whelan

The June 7 Alcor Board of Directors Meeting took place in Wrightwood, California, and was well attended. The opening topic was that of the recent suspension, which is reported on elsewhere in this issue as *Matters of Life and Death*, by Charles Platt. Michael Friedman, who was the victim of a shooting, is Alcor's 22nd patient. We now have nine whole body patients and 13 neuro patients.

Carlos Mondragón (Alcor's President) reported briefly on our improved financial condition. The first quarter numbers for 1992 indicate further progress in the trend toward financial stability. For our financial reports to show a surplus, we still depend on income from suspensions. However, we're not likely to have a shortage of suspensions in the near future, and our membership growth should eventually make up the difference. Carlos also reported that all of the suggestions of the Patient Care Trust Fund Advisory Committee had been implemented. Eric Klien, a member of that committee, reported at the meeting that by following the suggestions of the committee, our money worked harder for us to the tune of \$1,120 in the month of June.

As the result of an earlier suggestion by board member Brenda Peters, Carlos prepared two potential "mission statements" for the Directors to consider for Alcor. The intention here is that Directors and members can use a well-chosen statement of standards and goals to guide us in making decisions. The two proposed mission statements are:

The Alcor Life Extension Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, charitable foundation primarily engaged in research aimed at the development of reversible suspended animation. Alcor provides cryonic suspension for its members who have arranged anatomical donations for this purpose. Alcor is committed to maintaining the best possible levels of suspension patient transport, cryoprotective perfusion, and long-term care available anywhere in the world. The Alcor Foundation also provides public education in all areas of life extension technology.

The Alcor Life Extension Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization engaged in research directed toward the development of reversible suspended animation, providing cryonic suspension

services including stabilization, transport, cryoprotective perfusion, and long-term storage and care to its members and also providing public education in all areas of life extension technology.

By the next meeting, Brenda will have received any suggestions for changes to the proposed statements. The final form will be voted on at that time.

Since the minimum funding level for the potential new facility in Scottsdale, Arizona was not reached by the deadline, that potential move has fallen through. However, our need for a new facility has not really lessened, despite a favorable ruling in the Health Department suit earlier this week. (See *Mitchell v. Roe Decision*, elsewhere in this issue.) We still fear that the California State Health Department will appeal this case to the California Supreme Court, which they have clearly stated is their intention. (Although perhaps now that the Mitchell of the suit's name is no longer employed by the Health Department, the decision will stand.)

There was some heated discussion of the manner in which this last potential move was handled, as it's been clear that many people were dismayed by the apparent suddenness of the decision to pursue this building in Scottsdale. One thing came across very prominently during the discussion, at least from my perspective: You might pay extra if you choose to take the time to really feel out the membership about a big decision, but it's money well spent.

It was decided that a more formal search should be mounted, with more input from interested members. If you have an interest in being directly involved in the search for a new facility for Alcor, contact someone on the staff directly. (See *Facility Search Committee* in the *Up Front* portion of this issue.)

There was a lengthy discussion of recent Alcor politics that mostly centered around communication, or the lack thereof. There was a clear sentiment from some that *Cryonics* magazine is not doing the job that it used to of informing the membership in great detail of all current events, political, economic, and otherwise. The most specific criticisms were that *Cryonics* did not accurately report the state of Alcor's suspension readiness after Mike Darwin's departure, and that more could be done in general to apprise the membership

of ongoing difficulties, disagreements, etc.

One immediate outgrowth of that discussion is that I offered to write a monthly *Business Meeting Report*, which you are reading right now. My intention is to make this a casual report of current events, covering not just Board decisions, but lengthy discussions that don't see votes as well. I also agreed to begin working up short biographies of each Alcor Director, to be published in coming issues along with personal contact information for each, to allow members to go directly to specific Directors with issues they feel strongly about. I also hope to create, in the near future, a *Cryonics* Editorial Page, which will be dedicated to opinionated discussion of current events. In addition, the *How Many Are We?* portion of each issue will likely be expanded to a full page of detail about Alcor.

Because of recent disagreement about the status of the mailing list of Alcor Suspension Members, two things were decided, one of them by board vote. It was agreed by unanimous vote that the President can authorize release of the mailing list to any Director at his discretion, but that if he decides not to release it, the Director can request a vote of the entire Board of Directors on the issue. It was also decided, although informally, that the release of potentially confidential membership information — such as phone numbers of members who wish to contact each other — was getting too bureaucratic, and was negatively impacting growth. Someone (I forget who) suggested a business reply card be put into *Cryonics* allowing each member to state the precise status of his/her membership re confidentiality. I agreed to arrange this for either the July or August *Cryonics*.

We briefly discussed the recent finalization of the contract between Alcor and Mike Darwin's new company, Biopreservation. This contract makes provisions for Mike's assistance in standbys, transports, suspensions, and training for same.

A more lengthy discussion centered on the recent change of presidency in Cryovita, Alcor's service provider. Hugh Hixon, a Director of Alcor, was replaced as President of Cryovita by Paul Wakfer, a Suspension Member of Alcor, on the Sunday prior to the Alcor meeting. The change probably would not have evoked such heated discussion, except that Paul Wakfer

and others involved in his becoming President of Cryovita are actively pursuing the removal of Carlos Mondragón as President of Alcor. Also, the removal of Hugh Hixon as President was a complete surprise to everyone, including Hugh. The sentiment among some of the Directors of Alcor was that they were uncomfortable having equipment necessary for suspensions in the hands of a company controlled (to some debatable degree) by persons openly hostile to Alcor's current management. The result of this anxiety was a proposal that Alcor purchase, or gather information pursuant to purchasing, its own suspension equipment, to break its dependence on Cryovita.

Naturally, this sentiment was unpopular among those involved in the change of Presidency in Cryovita, who again are (to a large degree) those who wish to see Carlos removed. The dilemma, then, was to determine who was reacting

unreasonably: those who sought an independent capability for Alcor (at great expense; certainly upwards of \$40,000), or those who wished to see the contract between Alcor and Cryovita continue, despite overt animosity on the part of the Cryovita management and shareholders toward Alcor's President. Is spending that kind of money justified when two complete sets of the necessary equipment already exist in this area? (One belonging to Cryovita, one to Mike Darwin's Biopreservation.) Is *not* spending that kind of money justified during a period when political differences have the potential to affect the outcome of a suspension?

Kathy Leaf, Jerry Leaf's widow, also expressed concern about Alcor spending so much for equipment that already exists in this area. Her objection was based on her belief that due to the hardships she and Jerry endured during the Dora Kent saga (during which Jerry lost his job at UCLA,

and hence most of his income), Alcor owes her compensation. She insisted that if we have the money to pay for new equipment, we have the money to pay her. I can say with certainty only that her desire for compensation is a controversial subject. It's possible that two or three of the Directors will be negotiating with her for a solution to the problem.

I'm sure that this ground will be well-trod during the weeks before our next meeting.

Finally, Eric Klien suggested that the duties of the Patient Care Trust Fund Advisory Committee, of which he is a member, be expanded to include investment advice for the Alcor Endowment Fund as well. This suggestion was unanimously approved by the Board, with the proviso that the two functions be held separately.

The meeting was adjourned.

Matters of Life and Death

Charles Platt

I was driving on the Riverside Freeway at the moment when Michael Friedman was murdered in downtown LA. I knew nothing about him, then. I had flown in to Los Angeles that morning from New York City on a one-week visit to gather material for a book that I'm writing about cryonics.

I didn't find out about the shooting till I went out for an early evening meal and used the restaurant's pay phone to call Mike Perry, Alcor's programmer and caretaker. "This may not be a good time to talk," Mike told me in his characteristically laconic style. "I have to spend a while putting labels on bottles. It looks as if we have an emergency suspension."

Several months previously, I'd asked Alcor if I could help out at some future suspension. I wanted to experience it so that I could write about it authoritatively and convey to the general public the optimistic, life-affirming aspects. Now, by coincidence, within hours of my arrival, a suspension was about to take place just a couple of miles from where I stood.

I felt a quick leap of excitement. And then, just as quickly, I felt a twist of guilt because this was a tragic event resulting from someone's loss of life. And yet — perhaps I was not the only one who felt some excitement as well as a sense of dread. A suspension brings us into tangible, intimate contact with the essential mysteries of life and death. This is powerful stuff; it's the stuff that we ourselves are made of. Inevitably there's excitement here — the excitement of a chance to achieve some understanding, maybe even a sense of revelation, about the condition of being human.

* * *

I drove over to Alcor and found Mike Darwin dressed in surgical scrubs, shuffling surplus equipment out of the operating room. I was surprised to see him because I knew there had been hard feelings recently between him and some staff members. Still, he had contracted to provide his services during suspensions,

and I soon saw that there was a clear, implicit understanding — at a time like this, personal differences were instantly put aside.

When I asked if I could help in any way, Alcor's president, Carlos Mondragón, suggested that I could drive the ambulance when it went out to collect the patient. He also asked if I would take photographs of the suspension. I said I'd be glad to, although privately I wondered how I would react to being in intimate contact with a deanimated person. But I didn't share my fears.

I was issued some scrubs of my own and felt foolishly naive, not knowing whether to put them on over my clothes or take my clothes off first. (Answer: strip down to underwear.) Then I started helping to rearrange equipment in the O.R., while Carlos placed urgent phone calls to attorneys and tried to get more information about what had happened to our patient.

Finally the O.R. was more or less ready, and there was nothing to do but wait and see whether a judge could be found to



Photo: Charles Platt

Hugh Hixon, Ralph Whelan, and Tanya Jones remove Michael Friedman from the Alcor ambulance 27 hours after the shooting.

sign a restraining order against an autopsy. We still didn't know much; just that Michael Friedman was an attorney and an Alcor Suspension Member who had been shot in the back of the head by one of his clients. We didn't know what caliber gun had been used, or to what extent Friedman's brain had been damaged. Everyone was pessimistic about his chances, and Mike Darwin spent a fair amount of time trying to decide what suspension protocol would be most appropriate for a man who had sustained major head injuries. "I need a neurosurgeon," he complained, looking weary in the knowledge that none was available.

Meanwhile, two Alcor volunteers called us with bulletins every twenty minutes from the coroner's office. No pay phone was available in the office, so they were using one at a Jack-in-the-Box fast-food restaurant across the street. Their calls contained little or no news, at first, because Friedman's body hadn't even shown up yet. Apparently, the coroner's employees made the rounds of various hospitals, and they didn't return to headquarters until they had a full load of cadavers. Ghoulish, yes, and distasteful; but in the real world (as opposed to the world that cryonicists would like to see) there could be no imaginable urgency or concern about dealing with bodies who were classified as "dead."

Finally, Friedman was delivered to the morgue, but our two volunteers were

denied permission to place ice around him. So we sat around feeling angry and frustrated while our patient's condition deteriorated and his chances of receiving a good suspension diminished, minute by minute.

Then Carlos learned that because this was a murder case, even if we were able to get an injunction against an autopsy, it could probably be overturned and the body could be reclaimed. Michael Friedman was beyond our reach, that night; so we went home. (Carlos stayed up working with our attorneys, to plan the next day.)

* * *

The next day, Alcor's attorney succeeded in persuading the coroner to schedule the autopsy ahead of twenty-five other cases that were pending, thus cutting a day or two off

our patient's waiting time. We were told that we could pick him up after 4 P.M.

I was given a quick briefing on how to drive the ambulance, which was not much different from a big old pickup truck. Carlos gave us a map showing the location of the coroner's office, and we set out, driving in convoy with him driving the Cryovita van. Tanya Jones was sitting beside me in the passenger seat, attempting to study accountancy from books she had brought along (she's working toward an MBA during the moments when she isn't working at Alcor). Mike Darwin was in the back of the ambulance, presiding over a large stock of bagged ice and a picnic chest containing 20% glycerol solution. We rolled along the freeway in a grim frame of mind, fully expecting to find that the person we were trying to save was beyond our help.

* * *

The coroner's office was a boxy, modern, windowless concrete building —



Photo: Charles Platt

Mike Darwin (background) examines the bullet path in the brain, while the brain remains submerged in a cooled 20% glycerol solution. Mike Perry (foreground) makes notes for the historical record, while Hugh Hixon looks on.

like a cross between a hospital and a police precinct. "Two of the worst places you might ever hope to visit," Mike said with the satisfaction of someone who expects the worst and isn't disappointed.

Around the back, we found a parking area close to a loading dock. Four plain white vans were standing there, and I realized, with a little jolt of understanding, that their function was to transport bodies. In the same area, dozens of stainless-steel gurneys had been arrayed in lines, as if they were waiting for casualties from some future massacre.

Carlos went into the building to deal with the paperwork. Mike and Tanya started opening up bags of ice. There wasn't room for me to join them in the back of the ambulance, so I stepped outside. It was a hot, lazy afternoon. Two tough-looking men in blue surgical scrubs were standing around waiting for something, or someone. One of them turned away from me, and I saw that his scrubs were untied at the back, revealing a bullet-proof vest with "Los Angeles Department of Corrections" stenciled on it.

An employee stepped down from the loading dock carrying two huge transparent plastic trash bags, both of them stuffed full of disposable scrubs, paper towels, and white gauze. Everything was heavily stained with blood. He threw the bags into a dumpster and walked back into the building, whistling to himself. Meanwhile, another man wearing a surgical mask started using a broom to wash down the loading dock with disinfectant.

It was very quiet. The only noise was traffic on the freeway a few blocks away, and the occasional *zzzt!* of a fly being zapped by the industrial-strength insect attractors mounted at each end of the dock. This, then, was the reality existing just an instant away from daily life as most people live it: unceremonious oblivion in a place of concrete and white tile. Anyone who complains that cryonics seems grim, or morbid, or distasteful, should take a look at the alternative. A guided tour of the local coroner's office could win converts to cryonics in the same way that a tour of a slaughterhouse might make meat-eaters into vegetarians.

* * *

When Michael Friedman was wheeled out, he was a pale shape in a translucent plastic body bag. We transferred him to the Alcor MALSS (Mobile Advanced Life Support System), then used the hydraulic

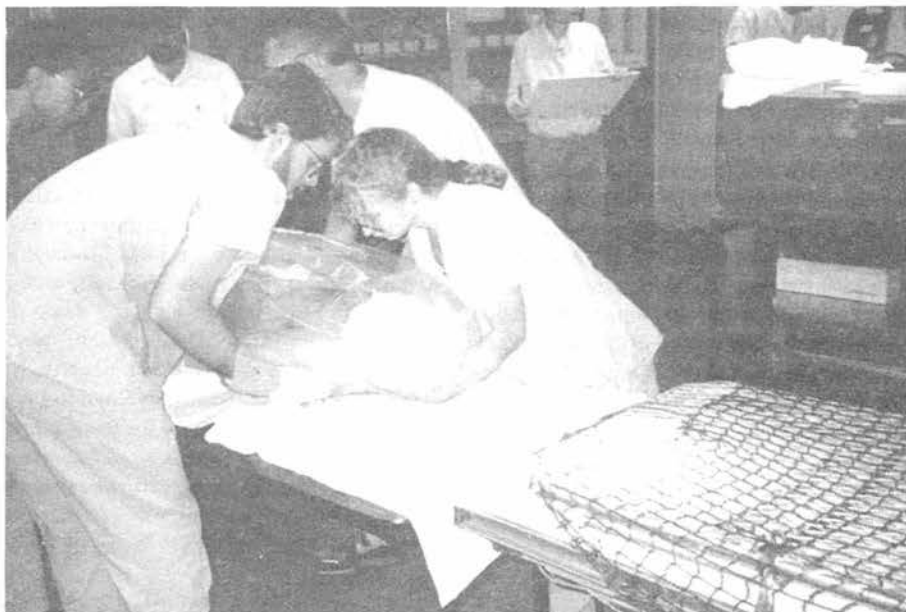


Photo: Charles Platt

Left to Right: Carlos Mondragón, Ralph, Mike, and Tanya prepare for the move into the silicone oil cooling stage.

lift to move him into our ambulance. Mike and Tanya donned latex gloves and peeled back the plastic, at which point we found that Michael's brain had been bagged separately and placed over his groin. Carefully, Mike transferred it into our chest full of glycerol solution. He was surprised to find that the brain seemed more or less intact; not shredded by the gunfire, as we had feared. However, saw-cuts had been made during the autopsy, the two hemi-

spheres had been almost entirely separated, and there were holes left by probes. Mike inserted a thermocouple into one of the probe holes and found that the brain was at 19° Celsius — about 66° Fahrenheit. Evidently, despite our requests, Michael Friedman had not been kept properly cool during the twenty-four hours since he had been shot.

Mike found that the body was going into secondary flaccidity — the state that



Photo: Charles Platt

Clockwise from top: Ralph, Mike, Mark Connaughton, Hugh, and Carlos lower Mr. Friedman into the silicone oil bath.

follows rigor mortis, caused by enzymes breaking down proteins in the muscles. Similar reactions must have already begun in the brain. Thus, we feared Friedman would have little chance of being brought back to life with his personality and memories intact — largely because of the delays which we had been powerless to prevent. Still, he had paid for a whole-body suspension, and stated that we should freeze anything and everything remaining, so we were committed to doing whatever we could. Mike started placing ice over him, and Tanya started making notes that would go into his records.

Through all of this, I was taking photographs. With an odd sense of detachment I realized that I wasn't feeling at all squeamish, even when getting close-ups of the brain floating in glycerol, tinged with blood, surrounded by fragments of pale gray tissue that had become detached and were floating free. Nor did it disturb me unduly to look upon the body. The skin was pale, but not so pale that it looked abnormal. There was no blood (it had all been cleaned away), and as far as I was concerned, he looked as if he were alive. I almost expected him to raise a hand, move his shattered jaw, or cry out. This was my denial, I suppose. But in wanting Michael to be alive, I don't think I was different from most cryonicists. We all want to deny

the inevitability of death; that's why we do what we do.

* * *

When we got back to Alcor, we wheeled our patient into the operating room and conducted a more thorough examination than had been possible in the ambulance. His brain was x-rayed, and a drawing was made showing the damage that had been inflicted by the autopsy. Temperature sensors were placed in strategic areas of his body. We had to face the fact that it was too late for the kind of washout and perfusion that would normally have been done; the perfusate simply couldn't penetrate to the places where it might have been effective. So after minimal preparation, Michael Friedman was wrapped and transferred directly to a big cooling tank, like a box-shaped Jacuzzi with thick walls of thermal insulation.

He was immersed in silicone oil, which blocks of dry ice were lowered into while the solution was stirred by a centrifugal pump. The temperature probes that had been attached to his body were plugged into a digital/analog converter, which fed their numbers into a daisywheel printer. Every few minutes the printer came to life in a staccato burst, tabulating the gradual descent to -78.5° Celsius.

Much later, Michael Friedman would be moved into one of the dewars full of liquid nitrogen. There, he will wait among his fellow passengers through time, journeying in stasis toward a future that we can only guess at.

* * *

I feel deeply privileged to have participated in a suspension, even though I wasn't qualified to do very much and the suspension itself was severely constrained by factors outside our control. Decades in the future, I like to believe that people may look back at cryonics in the twentieth century with the same respect that we feel today when think of Goddard's primitive pioneering work in rocketry or Pasteur's early attempts to understand disease. Our resources are limited, and we still don't know how to provide proper protection against freezing damage. But in attempting to overcome death as we do, we have taken a step that has never before been taken in the history of our species. To be a part of this effort, even on a very limited scale, is more than I ever expected to achieve in my own lifetime.

I offer this written account to future generations as a humble little snapshot of cryonics as it actually was practiced, warts and all, on June 2nd, 1992.

LOCAL NEWS / WEATHER / EDITORIAL PAGES

SECTION
B

TUESDAY
JUNE 2, 1992 CCI

METRO

Los Angeles Times

HIGHLIGHTS

ATTORNEY SLAIN: A client shot and killed his lawyer inside the Los Angeles County Law Library and then killed himself. **B1**

OUT OF BUSINESS: A longtime auto dealership on Olympic Boulevard called it quits. The recession had already been taking its toll, but the damage and theft from the recent riots were too much to overcome. **B1**

POLICE CHANGE? A move to abolish the Long Beach Police Department and turn the entire city over to the Sheriff's Department has divided many in this city of 430,000, while also catching the attention of law enforcement groups around the country. **B1**

Client Kills His Lawyer, Himself at Law Library

■ **Crime:** Witness quotes gunman as saying 'attorneys have ruined the world' before he shot the victim several times.

By STEPHANIE CHAVEZ
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Saying "attorneys have ruined the world," a gunman shot and killed his lawyer inside the Los Angeles County Law Library on Monday afternoon and then killed himself as dozens of people ran for cover, police and witnesses said.

James Sinclair, 62, approached his attorney, Michael Friedman, 38, at a photocopy machine and fired several rounds before

his gun jammed. No library patrons were injured.

"It was something like 'attorneys have ruined the world, attorneys have done enough damage to the people,'" said Yvette Sterling Fajala, an attorney who was nearby. Terry Dawson, who was also present, said he heard the gunman say "now is the day of the justice" after firing at Friedman. Another witness heard the gunman say "I finally got you."

Please see SHOOTING, B4



Bodies of James Sinclair and attorney Michael Friedman lie covered at law library.

Mitchell v. Roe Decision

By Justice Gates, with concurrence by Justices Nott and Manella

Appealing from the judgment entered in favor of Alcor Life Extension Foundation, Inc. (Alcor), and two of its members, the Department of Health Services, its Office of the State Registrar and their respective heads (referred to collectively as DHS unless otherwise indicated), seek a determination from this court "that death certificates and disposition permits cannot be issued for bodies of persons who have designated Alcor as a donee pursuant to the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act [Health & Saf. Code, 7150 et seq.] and have directed Alcor to store their bodies in cryonic suspension."

As set forth in Alcor's first amended complaint, "Cryonic suspension (also known as cryogenic suspension) is a process by which the legally dead but biologically viable body of a person who has been ill or injured is preserved at low temperatures until such time as medical science may be capable of reviving the person and implementing effective cure or treatment of the illness or injury. Since 1964, the practice of cryonic suspension has become widespread, with organizations formed in major cities to provide cryonic suspension for their members. The first reported cryonically suspended person has been maintained in that state since 1967."

The question here tendered is peculiarly unique and extremely narrow in scope and, hopefully, our affirmation of the challenged judgment will completely preclude this particular issue from arising again in the future. That is to say, we merely examine the propriety of the trial court's decision concerning DHS' recent actions which have resulted in the denial of death certificates (Health & Saf. Code, 10375) and disposition permits (Health & Saf. Code, 10376) to Alcor members who have been placed in cryonic suspension. Neither side contends these individuals are not legally dead (Health & Saf. Code, 7180) and otherwise entitled to death certificates. Their conflict relates solely to the obtainment of disposition permits.

The trial court has expressed no

opinion on the validity of cryonics or the manner in which it should be regulated, nor do we. The initial determination of such issues, at least in the absence of conflict, is clearly an administrative or legislative function.

Even DHS, despite its determined efforts to render Alcor's operations illegal, asserts "this case is not an attempt to prohibit cryonic suspension activity." In fact, until questioned by us, in both its opening and closing briefs, DHS expressed a willingness to grant Alcor all necessary documentation if it would but utilize subterfuge to disguise its actual structure and the true nature of its operations. By way of example, although subsequently recanted, DHS in its reply brief had stated: "[T]he Department has encouraged Alcor to obtain a license as a cemet[e]ry or mausoleum or appoint another entity, such as a research institute, hospital, or physician, as the donee under the U.A.G.A., so that Alcor's members can have their bodies or body parts cryonically suspended legitimately. However, Alcor has refused to do so."

Turning to the specific contention at hand, section 10375 of the Health and Safety Code provides: "No person shall dispose of human remains unless (a) there has been obtained and filed with a local registrar a death certificate, as provided in chapter 5 (commencing with Section 10200) of this division [Division 9, Vital Statistics], and (b) there has been obtained from a local registrar a permit for disposition."

Appellant Office of the State Registrar is charged with executing the state's vital statistic statutes (Health & Saf. Code, 10000 et seq.), including those pertaining to disposition permits. (Health & Saf. Code, 10375 et seq.) It also has supervisory power over local registrars to insure uniform compliance with the requirements of vital statistics laws. (Health & Saf. Code, 10026.)

Health and Safety Code section 10376 identifies three permissible methods of treating with human remains for the pur-

pose of the disposition permit: interment in a cemetery; cremation; and burial at sea. Viewed merely semantically, under the Health and Safety Code's circular definitions (see Health & Saf. Code, 7003, 7005, 7009, 7012, 7015) Alcor might possibly be said to be operating a mausoleum. However, such statutory language was aptly characterized in *Cemetery Board v. Telophase Society of America* (1978) 87 Cal.App.3d 847, 855, as "virtually nonsensical," and neither party, albeit for different reasons, now wishes Alcor to be so considered.

DHS has also recognized "scientific use," a disposition associated with the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act as an additional means of legally dealing with human remains. An anatomical gift of all or part of individual's body may be made to the following donees:

"(1) A hospital, physician, surgeon, or procurement organization, for transplantation, therapy, medical or dental education, research, or advancement of medical or dental science.

"(2) An accredited medical or dental school, college, or university for education, research, or advancement of medical or dental science.

"(3) A designated individual for transplantation or therapy needed by that individual." (Health & Saf. Code, 7153, subd. (a).)

For a number of years Alcor was apparently permitted to operate under that act. However, in March 1988, the Chief of the Office of the State Registrar, David Mitchell, in a letter making explicit reference to Alcor, advised the Riverside County Coroner that burial permits may not be issued for cryonic suspension. Mitchell further admonished that state law provides for "storage" of a dead body only if it is used "for scientific purposes or qualifies as a gift under the Anatomical Gift Act" and pointed out that disposing of

a dead body anywhere in the city or county, except within a cemetery, is a misdemeanor.

Three months later, in response to an inquiry from the Riverside County Department of Health, Mitchell stated if Alcor was storing bodies or body parts in its facility, it would be "guilty of a misdemeanor" and "should be reported to the local District Attorney for investigation and prosecution as appropriate."

Shortly thereafter, DHS, through its Office of the State Registrar and pursuant to its supervisory authority over local registrars, issued a "Handbook for Local Registrars of Birth and Death" which instructed local registrars that disposition of human remains by cryonic suspension does not constitute "scientific use" within the meaning of this Uniform Anatomical Gift Act. The 1990 version of this book, the most recent one available at the time the instant summary judgment motion was heard, similarly specified: "The holding of human bodies in cryonic suspension does not constitute the operation of a cemetery, nor does arranging to have one's body so placed meet the scientific use requirements of the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act."

The authority cited for this statement was 63 Ops.Atty.Gen. 879 (1980). In its representation of DHS on this appeal, the Attorney General still purports to rely upon that opinion despite making suggestions which are totally inconsistent with the views it expressed there. Of course, such an opinion, even when correct, a debatable proposition here, would not be binding on this court. (*California Assn. of Psychology Providers v. Rank* (1990) 51 Cal.3d 1, 17.)

DHS now advises that it subsequently altered its posture, concluding "it does not have the authority to determine whether or not cryogenic suspension of dead bodies or body parts constitutes valid science research and that such question should appropriately be decided by the Legislature." However, this shift in position does not aid Alcor since DHS refuses to recognize Alcor as a "procurement organization" for purposes of the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, the donee category into which Alcor might possibly fit.

A procurement organization is defined as "a person licensed, accredited, or approved under the laws of any state or by the State Department of Health Ser-

vices for procurement, distribution, or storage of human bodies or parts." (Health & Saf. Code, 7150.1, subd. (j).)

DHS points out that Alcor has not been "licensed, accredited or approved" to function as a procurement organization, though obviously Alcor could not possibly have done so since DHS has not established any procedure or mechanism which would permit Alcor or any other organization even to make application therefor. DHS then announces its intention to await "further guidance from the Legisla-

Mitchell stated if Alcor was storing bodies or body parts in its facility, it would be "guilty of a misdemeanor" and "should be reported to the local District Attorney for investigation and prosecution as appropriate."

ture prior to even considering Alcor as a possible procurement organization." It argues that Health and Safety Code section 7150.1 is merely a definitional provision.

Understandably, the trial court declined to accept this "catch-22" approach which exposes Alcor to potential criminal liability. Therefore, it "permanently enjoined and ... ordered [DHS] to desist from prohibiting, instructing or directing against, or otherwise interfering with, the registration of deaths or the issuance of disposition permits for the bodies of persons who have designated Alcor as a donee pursuant to the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (Health and Safety Code 7150 et seq.) and who have directed that Alcor place their bodies in cryonic suspension, provided that ... [i]n the event and at such time as [DHS] implement[s] an otherwise lawful licensing and registration system for procurement organizations pursuant to the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act, plaintiff Alcor will be subject to lawful and reasonable licensing and registration requirements."

Under the circumstances, particularly in the absence of any evidence that Alcor's operations pose an actual threat to the public health, we agree with the injunctive relief ordered by the trial court. We need not determine whether each of the court's individual findings was correct. It is enough that we agree DHS' sudden and unexplained about-face with respect to Alcor's status as a donee under the Uniform

Anatomical Gift Act cannot be premised upon Alcor's failure to secure a license as a procurement organization when DHS has failed to establish a mechanism for obtaining such a license. Such conduct is, at the very least, inconsistent with the DHS' basic duty to administer and enforce the statutes pertaining to the registration of death certificates and issuance of disposition permits.

In that regard, DHS frankly acknowledges that its "Office of the State Registrar [is] charged with the duty ... of registering births, deaths, marriages, etc." but declares it is "at [a] loss as to how to register the status" of cryonically suspended persons without first receiving "specific guidance from the Legislature." However, like the trial court, we take a more sanguine view of appellants' abilities. In any event, if, in carrying out the trial court's mandate DHS proceeds in a fashion contrary to that envisioned by the

Legislature because of lack of statutory guidance, that body will no doubt take corrective action.

DHS also poses a number of what it characterizes as "serious questions," e.g.: "Should cryonically suspended people be considered 'dead' or should a separate category of 'suspended' people be created? How should such people be registered in official records? ... [W]hat happens to the estate and the assets of the 'decendent' after the decendent is put in cryonic suspension? ... [W]hat would happen to such estate and assets if and when cryonic suspension is successful and decendent is restored to life? Whose identity is the person to assume or be assigned and what of the record of the person's death? Alcor also stores body parts, such as human heads and hands. In such cases, whose identity will the suspended heads and hands assume upon their restoration; the identity of the original owner of the body part or the identity of the new body to which the body part will be attached?"

These are, of course, but a few of the presently imaginable conundrums which could arise should Alcor at some future time actually succeed in reviving the currently dead. Nonetheless, we are confident that those persons who will then head our various branches of government will be far wiser than we and entirely capable of resolving such dilemmatic issues without our assistance.

The judgment is affirmed.

On the Absence of Democracy in Alcor

Carlos Mondragón

"Democracy is that form of government where everybody gets what the majority deserves."

— James Dale Davidson

Alcor, by the deliberate intent of its founders, and reinforced by the continuous intent of its Board of Directors, is non-democratic. Like most non-profit institutions, new directors are elected by the existing board.

It's been a very long time since we've discussed our organizational structure in this magazine. And lately I've seen several plans put forth with the aim of changing the corporate by-laws to allow for partial or total election of officers and directors by the membership. The stakes in cryonics are as high as they can ever get (personal survival), so I believe that this issue deserves considerable attention every time it comes up.

As we get more optimistic over the question of whether or not cryonic suspension will be clinically successful, (i. e., as the eventual development of technology capable of reanimating suspension patients seems more likely), the issue of organizational survival gets increasing priority. Repair technology won't do any of us any good if the organization that froze us collapses financially, or dissolves into a mess of litigation or divisive in-fighting.

Often our structure has been defended on the grounds that it gives inherent stability. That's true: historically there are plenty of examples of institutions (universities, churches, hospitals) with self-perpetuating governing bodies that have lasted centuries with their fundamental purposes and values intact. When considered along with the inherent problems of popular democracy, this argument seems to be especially powerful as applied to cryonics. Mike Darwin, in the April, 1987 issue of *Cryonics* (the context was a comparison of Alcor and the democratically structured American Cryonics Society), laid it out quite well:

... We have compared our structure

to the College of Cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church. It is a structure which has in part resulted in the preservation of the church as a functioning entity for nearly 2,000 years. It works by allowing the seasoned leadership to select individuals to replace themselves who have risen through the ranks and who are intimately familiar with the operation of the organization and who are intellectually and ideologically sound. How much do you know about cryonics or ACS? Both ACS and Alcor are faced with a situation where most of our members are geographically scattered. Most are not interested in being full time cryonicists or even becoming closely involved in the day-to-day decisions and issues which are involved in running a cryonics organization. As this letter illustrates, the issues are complex and subtle. You would not want to have the chief of the medical staff at a hospital selected by ballots from patients in any political sense! And yet, the ballots are cast, just as they are cast for Alcor's leadership. How? By people deciding to join the organization and utilize its services. People who are members of Alcor (or who go to a physician, or a grocery store for that matter) are free to vote too: with their feet....

... Alcor is undemocratic ... we do not select our leadership on the basis of a popularity contest. What we do not want, and will not do, is to subject Alcor to a public relations contest, where people are selecting "leaders" on the basis of an image or a line of hype. ... As it is, our board meetings are open to our members and many of our decisions are vigorously discussed by members attending the session with the not infrequent result being a modification or reversal of a proposed course of action.

I would go further still and point out that virtually all successful, growing for-profit or nonprofit corporations are NOT democratic and their boards are not elected by members' votes. Even the government of the United States is NOT democratic in the strict sense, but rather is

republican with a lot of selection of successors by responsible and knowledgeable "insiders." It is unfortunate, but true, that most of our government's failures have been in areas where "mutual consensus" decision making is employed, or where selection of a job candidate has degenerated into a public relations contest with generous dollops of mudslinging tossed in.

This attitude still prevails among Alcor's board. New members of the board have been chosen over the past few years based on their technical skills, their understanding of how cryonics works and of what issues it confronts, their history of work and commitment, and their personal values. Politicians, "great communicators," and "image makers" need not apply.

As persuasive as this point of view is pragmatically, it doesn't quite answer the issue of why individual suspension members should not have direct influence (by vote) over their chosen suspension organization as a matter of principle. It is, after all, *your* life. And if, perchance, an evil or just plain inept form of demagoguery prevails, then market forces still apply: you can take your membership elsewhere. True enough — for animate cryonicists.

When I signed up with Alcor, I had utterly no influence over its policies. But I was convinced that every one of Alcor's board members held the conviction that their first and absolute priority was to guard the interests of *deanimate* members. This is still the case today.

This attitude is not based on altruism. It is an unusual example of long-range rational self-interest that we can visualize that we ourselves will one day be in a helpless condition, our only chance of resuming our lives dependent on the organization we selected. Up until that situation obtains, each of us individually has a plethora of options: everything from persuasion to resignation. But once you can no longer exercise those options, do you want your survival to be in the hands of a

popular democracy for an indeterminate amount of time?

Cryonic suspension patients can't vote, or even lobby on specific issues. With that in mind, Alcor's dedication to its members in suspension is both extraordinary and necessary. And our well-deserved reputation in that area has been a magnet for persons with their own self-interest in mind. (How many organizations can get and keep as highly individualistic a membership as Alcor has?) I have yet to hear any reasoned argument for fixing what isn't broken.

I don't mean to imply that Alcor's directors are infallible or that we haven't made our share of mistakes. What I do

mean is that the system we use works. So far, it has achieved its primary purpose by having maintained the organizational priority while personnel changes took place. Of the directors who were in office when I signed up, (ten years ago) only three are still on the board. And only one current director (Paul Genteman) has been on the board since the very early days of the organization. Alcor has had six presidents in its twenty year history. This is an unusually high rate of turnover, and yet the dedication to patient care established by Linda and Fred Chamberlain is as strong as ever (I am my own first hand example: I took the office because I wanted to fight for the survival of one patient in par-

ticular).

The hot summer months are bringing to Alcor a new experience. We are seeing some pretty bitter political maneuvering. That this situation is a fierce topic of discussion within the board of directors is proof that "disenfranchised" members do indeed have strong influence. Judge Alcor's constitution and its board by how well it keeps cool, and its priorities. A few years from now if we should again happen to consider the issue of our organizational structure, we'll look back on 1992. I predict that we'll be glad that we are not a democracy.

Cryonics and Libertarianism

Howard S. Katz

The cryonics movement has been primarily concerned with the medical and biological questions which go to its heart. But I would here like to argue that there is another issue which deserves the concern of cryonicists: the degree of freedom in our society.

Most cryonicists, being more rational and far-seeing than the average person, already have an interest in freedom, but that interest is usually treated as peripheral to cryonics. It is considered that there is no necessary relation between them. I would like to argue that this is a mistake. If the cryonics enterprise is to be a success, then political freedom is a necessary prerequisite.

A fundamental assumption made every time a person is suspended is that the next several hundred years will witness rapid technological progress so that the discovery of the cure for the person's fatal disease is a reasonable probability. Cryonics is based on the assumption of progress. But a study of history shows that progress is the exception, not the rule, in human affairs. Most societies in most periods of history have blindly repeated the motions of the past and stubbornly resisted change. It is only since the 1780s that rapid progress, such as we today take for granted, has occurred, and it has only occurred in a few western cultures.

If one surveys the period of human history from the establishment of Christianity to the Protestant Reformation (approximately 300 AD to 1500 AD), not only was there no technological progress, but the kind of political stability needed for cryonic suspension units to remain intact did not exist. Wars ravaged the countryside. Crime was rampant. In most parts of Europe money did not exist for long periods of time.

Neither were things any better in other cultures. A trip from Plymouth, MA (my present home) to Providence, R.I. (my birth place), which I make easily in an hour and a half, was impossible in the year 1620. This was not due to the absence of automobiles at that time. Plymouth was controlled by the Wampanoag tribe, and Providence was controlled by the Narragansett tribe, their deadly enemies. If you were a member, or ally, one of these tribes, then to fall into the hands of the other would mean death by slow torture. Safety and stability can be measured by the fact that the chief of the Wampanoag tribe kept moving from place to place and changing his name to keep his enemies off guard. Similar conditions obtained throughout North and South America and in Asia and Africa.

All of these facts demonstrate that progress is not a natural phenomenon; it is

not an expected part of the human condition. It is a rare and delicate flower which grows only when and where the conditions are right.

To further make this point, consider that the progress we have had did not develop gradually. It appeared suddenly in a few Calvinist cultures (e.g. Holland, Switzerland, England, and the United States) shortly after the Reformation and then spread to nearby cultures.

The thesis of this article can be stated as a syllogism: Cryonics is based on the assumption of political stability and economic and technological progress.

Both of these factors are in turn based on liberty.

Therefore cryonics cannot succeed unless liberty triumphs.

If we study the beginning of progress in a country such as England, we find that immediately preceding it there occurred a revolution in liberty. The English Calvinists fought a determined battle for liberty through the 17th century, a battle which culminated in the Glorious Revolution, the declaration of rights and the political philosophy of John Locke. Locke's philosophy was most consistently implemented by America's founding fathers after the American Revolution, and its economic implications were drawn out by Adam Smith. It was after these two events (both

of which occurred in 1776) that progress, as we know it in the 20th century, began.

But if liberty is the cause of progress, then there is reason for great alarm. This is because, like the ancient Romans, America has recently given up on liberty. The central event here was the New Deal of the 1930s. This movement overthrew the principles of limited governmental and property rights which underlay the progress of the 19th and early 20th centuries. From 1933 to 1970, the conservatives opposed the New Dealers and fought for traditional American values, and due to this opposition the anti-liberty program, although established in principle, was not implemented in practice to a large degree. During this time progress slowed but did not stop. However, in 1971 Richard Nixon announced that he was a Keynesian and imposed price and wage controls on the American economy. Altogether he took a number of steps which signified the conservative capitulation to the New Deal. Since that time, liberty has been dead in America. And since both major political factions favored the New Deal, the anti-Libertarian measures were dramatically extended. As an example of this, consider the size of the budget deficit (a proxy for the depreciation of the currency by the printing of money). From 1933 to 1970, New Dealers advocated deficits, but since the conservatives advocated a balanced budget, even when they (the New Dealers) were in power a compromise was effected, and the deficits were small. Once Nixon adopted Keynesianism, the deficits started to mount. The same conservatives who had shrieked in horror at Kennedy's \$7.1 billion deficit in 1962 are planning a deficit in the neighborhood of \$400 billion for 1992.

Americans do not like to admit that their great age is over and that their country is in decline, so facts which support this conclusion are not widely reported. Nevertheless they are true. Real wages of the American worker peaked in 1972 and have been in decline for the past 20 years. The proportion of Americans who own their own homes peaked about 1980 and has been in decline for a decade. To make up for the shortfall in income, many have extended the mortgage on their house; many others are working overtime and the nation as a whole has been borrowing from the Japanese.

(In 1991, in the middle of the great public wailing and gnashing of teeth over the state of the economy, average hours worked rose to 41, close to a record week-high.)

Americans still buy as many cars as they did 30 years ago, but since the '70s the cars have been getting smaller. Between 1980 and 1992 the length of time that the average American had to work to earn the average car went from 6 months to 8 months.

Through the 19th century a pattern developed of new inventions coming along and being made cheaply in mass production so that everyone could own them. This was the case with the electric light, the radio, the automobile, and countless other devices. In the 1930s, it was widely expected that the airplane would be next on this list. Just as telephones had been playthings of the rich in the late 19th century, so were airplanes in the '30s. Eventually there was a telephone in every home. Why not an airplane in every yard?

But the airplane never made it. In the 1930s the government stepped in and regulated airplane production. By the early '50s, progress in small planes had stopped (the tricycle gear being the last major change). In the 1980s, sales of small planes fell from a peak of almost 18,000 per year to just over 1,000 per year. Today general aviation is once again a plaything for the rich.

Airplanes are a good example because the technology that might have dramatically advanced the field has already been invented. In many cases, government regulation would even prevent the new idea from getting off the drawing board; but in this case the invention was made, and government then entered to prevent it from being put into practice. In 1975 Burt Rutan invented a new kind of airplane. It was safer, cheaper, faster, stronger and more economical on gas than previous designs. However, it would have required a major change in manufacturing processes. The new planes were made of a different material and by a different technique. The major manufacturers of small planes (Cessna, Piper, and — to a lesser extent — Beech) did not want to change. The FAA, acting in their interest, suppressed the design, and the Pentagon stole part of Mr. Rutan's concept for the stealth bomber. Interestingly, home-building is one small area of aviation which has been deregulated (due to the political activism of George Beaugaris in the late '40s). Home builders took to the Rutan design avidly, and today there are more new planes which come out of American garages and back yards each year than are mass produced by the major manufacturers.

The main reason that liberty is a pre-

requisite for progress is that human beings are parochial. In any field, in any culture, at any time in history, a group of people working on a problem tend to think that they are the "best and the brightest." They form a little clique, pat themselves on the back and dismiss all outside ideas with the label: NOT INVENTED HERE! History is full of such mediocrities who have opposed virtually every great invention. The reason that liberty is a prerequisite of progress is that generally the mediocrities gain control of the government agency and use it to suppress any ideas that came from outside their own clique.

In the Middle Ages, an artist or inventor would have to get the support of a member of the aristocracy (the government of the time) before his idea could be actualized. During this period there was no progress. But in the 19th century America, an artist or inventor only had to get the support of a wealthy businessman who believed that the idea would sell. There was no government agency with the power to suppress an idea. During this period there was a torrent of progress. Ayn Rand described the dynamics of this process in her novel *Atlas Shrugged* via the conflict between the State Science Institute and Hank Rearden. A good example of this in reality is the fanatical campaign waged by the Food and Drug Administration against laetrile.

There is naturally a great deal of prestige in the field of medicine associated with the person who is the first to find a cure for cancer. So when the early laetrile advocates presented their (partial and incomplete) findings, much more was at stake than the scientific facts. Perhaps if the discoverer of laetrile had had an "in" with the official board, things would have been different. It is interesting to note at this time that in the early '50s, one of the members of this board was a strong defender of smoking, and this gentleman later died of lung cancer. At any rate, he and the other members ruled against laetrile, and it became labeled as "quackery."

Later, as more evidence piled up, the establishment was trapped. It could not admit that it was wrong. The present ruling from the Supreme Court is that terminally ill cancer patients cannot choose to take laetrile. Human testing to follow up the very promising animal experiments is forbidden. And laetrile advocates (as well as advocates of other alternative approaches) operate from Mexico.

I mention laetrile because in a sense I have been able to perform a human experi-

ment. Harold Manner demonstrated that a combination of laetrile, vitamin A and several proteolytic enzymes caused 90% tumor remission in rats. I simply mixed apricot kernels (containing amygdalin, the naturally occurring form of laetrile) in a carrot salad (rich in beta carotene, the precursor of vitamin A) and took 500 mg of bromelain (one of the proteolytic enzymes). After 3-4 weeks of this, I noticed that several of my moles were shrinking in size, and at this writing several of them have shrunk away to almost nothing. The significance of this is that a mole is simply a benign tumor, that is, a cancer which is held in check by the body's immune system. Clearly the Manner combination had enabled my body to overcome the cancer cells and shrink the tumor. It is a sobering thought that the cure for cancer might already be here, and is today being suppressed by the cancer establishment using the power of government on the principal: NOT INVENTED HERE.

There are still men of intelligence and ability in the world, and they are still working to bring forth great new inventions. But this is not enough to ensure progress. There are also petty and small-minded men who occupy the established chairs in every field and who do

not want to admit that anyone is better than they are. These men have always worked to suppress progress (the movie *Tucker* is another example), and most of the time they have succeeded. But in the 19th century they failed. In our age, with the aid of the government, they are succeeding.

In our society, there is only one group which stands for the re-establishment of traditional American freedoms; this is the Libertarian movement. Although many bad things have happened in the past 60 years, the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe shows that the issue is not all one way. The battle between freedom and slavery goes on today, and the question is yet to be decided.

But the resolution of this issue is of vital importance to cryonics. What will happen to cryonic suspension units if the country breaks up into several different parts and falls into civil war? What is the hope for finding cures for existing diseases if the government and the establishment badger every innovator and drive him out off the country? What if crime continues to rise and law breaks down, as it did in the Middle Ages? What if some court holds the administrator of your suspension unit responsible for things totally beyond

his ability to control (as courts do today via the deep pockets doctrine), and he throws up his hands in disgust, abandoning the unit?

So while cryonicists must pursue their own project, they must also join with other innovators and anti-establishment groups and enter the political struggle for liberty. They must enter it not merely as a sideline and as individuals but as a movement, because the cryonics enterprise cannot succeed unless liberty prevails. Previously I have tried to demonstrate how the paper money system, which is merely one of the New Deal's violations of liberty, can destroy the cryonics enterprise via the depreciation of the currency. What I am arguing here is that the problem is much more general. We need a full restoration of American liberty as it existed from 1788 to 1932. Lacking this, the chances for cryonics to succeed are very small.

The issue will not be fully resolved in our lifetime. But what we do, or fail to do, will have an effect; those who follow us will work on what we have built. And cryonicists, of all people, should be able to take the long view. Andre Marrou is running for President on the Libertarian party ticket in 1992. His campaign is a good focus for your support.

New Cryovita President

Saul Kent

Riverside, CA, May 31, 1992: At a stockholder's meeting at its offices in Riverside, CA today, Paul Wakfer was chosen to replace Hugh Hixon as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cryovita Laboratories. Hixon had served as Cryovita's President and CEO ever since the cryonic suspension of Jerry D. Leaf in July 1991.

Jerry Leaf founded Cryovita in 1978 in order to conduct low temperature biological research, with the ultimate aim of achieving human suspended animation. In 1979, Cryovita began to offer cryonic suspension services to the Alcor life Extension Foundation and continued to do so until Leaf was placed into suspension. In the mid 1980s, Cryovita collaborated with Alcor to conduct pioneering experiments in which dogs were placed into liquid state

suspended animation (at temperatures just above 0°C) for up to four-and-a-half hours, with subsequent full recovery.

Wakfer is a suspension member of Alcor who recently came to Riverside from Toronto, Canada in order to use his talents on behalf of the cryonics movement. In the early 1970s, he fulfilled all his Ph.D. requirements in Mathematical Logic (except the writing of his thesis) at McMaster University in Canada. Wakfer has expertise in computer hardware, software, and operating systems on mainframes, mini- and micro-computers, and ran his own computer consulting business in Toronto from 1985-1990.

Wakfer was a mainstay of the Ontario Libertarian Party in the late 1970s and became President of the Libertarian Party of Canada in 1978, before forming his own

political party in 1980, which he ran until he became disillusioned with political activity in 1982.

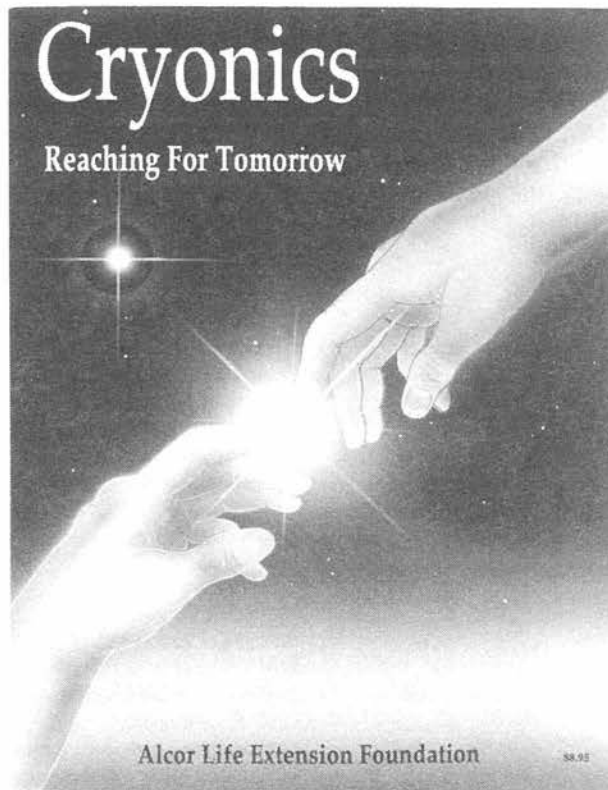
"In recent years, Cryovita has been unable to do any research because of increasing demands for cryonic suspension services," said Wakfer after taking office. "I intend to change all that. Although Cryovita will continue to play a role in the cryonic suspension of Alcor members, its primary activity will be research to perfect suspended animation. I intend to get Cryovita rolling by investing some of my own money in the company, and by working tirelessly to help the company succeed. I'm grateful for the opportunity to lead Cryovita and to play a role in advancing the science of cryonics."

Cryonics Is . . .

Low-temperature preservation of terminal patients when medicine is unable to heal them. This treatment is called *cryonic suspension*. The goal of cryonic suspension is the transport of today's terminal patients to a time in the future when cell/tissue repair technology is available, and restoration to youth and health is possible — a time when freezing damage is a fully reversible injury and cures exist for virtually all of today's diseases, **including aging**.

It is our belief that if human knowledge and medical technology continues to expand in capability, people with conditions that would cause them to (incorrectly) be considered dead by today's medicine will be routinely restored to life and health. This coming control over living systems should allow us to fabricate new organisms and sub-cell-sized devices for repair and resuscitation of patients who will have been waiting in cryonic suspension.

There is already substantial scientific evidence available that current suspension techniques are preserving memory and personality — and that the repair and resuscitation technologies we envision will be developed within the next 50 to 150 years.



Non-members may call toll-free (800) 367-2228 or write (see reverse for address) and receive the book, *Cryonics - Reaching for Tomorrow* for free (regular retail price: \$8.95, member price: \$5.00.)

Alcor is . . .

The Alcor Life Extension Foundation: a non-profit tax-exempt scientific and educational organization. Alcor currently has 17 members in cryonic suspension, hundreds of Suspension Members — people who have arrangements to be suspended — and hundreds more in the process of becoming Suspension Members. Our Emergency Response capability includes equipment and trained technicians in New York, Canada, Indiana, and Northern California, with a cool-down and perfusion facility in Florida and the United Kingdom.

The Alcor facility, located in Southern California, includes a full-time staff with employees present 24 hours a day. The facility also has a fully equipped and operational research laboratory, an ambulance for local response, an operating room and the world's largest and most technically advanced cryogenic patient storage facility.

All Alcor Directors and Officers are required to be full suspension members.

Call toll-free (800) 367-2228 or write (see reverse for address) for the free book, *Cryonics: Reaching for Tomorrow*.

Table of Charges and Dues

Sign-Up Package: \$100 (certain limitations apply; call 1-800-367-2228 for details)

Whole Body Suspension Minimum: \$120,000

Neurosuspension Minimum: \$41,000

Outside U.S. Surcharge: \$10,000

Annual Adult Dues: \$288.00

Additional Adult Family Member Annual Dues: \$144.00

Additional Family Member Child's Dues (under 15 years of age): \$72.00

Adult Student Annual Dues (must be full time student): \$144.00



You can tour the Alcor facility in Riverside, California under the expert guidance of the Alcor staff. The facility is open to small groups (15 people or less) who wish to learn how terminal patients are placed into suspension and how they are cared for at -320°F .

The Alcor tour also features a discussion of the scientific evidence that patients in cryonic suspension have a realistic chance of being restored to life, health, and youthful vigor as well as a fascinating exploration of the advances likely to come in the 21st century and beyond. The tour provides an invaluable opportunity for you to have your questions about cryonics and the prospect of an extended human lifespan answered.

The Alcor tour is free of charge. If you'd like to make arrangements, call (800) 367-2228.

Yes, I want to make cryonic suspension arrangements with Alcor. Please send me ___ Sign-Up Package(s).

Name _____ Age _____

Sign-up fee: \$100 per person.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Payment enclosed (check or money order). Bill me.

I understand that an Alcor Sign-Up Coordinator will contact me at the above number.

Order Form

NOTE: All prices include postage and handling and are in U.S. dollars. Minimum order \$5.00. Overseas orders must be paid for with U.S. dollars by Traveler's Cheques or International Money Order. All orders are subject to availability and all prices are subject to change.

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Subscriptions:

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- Alcor Suspension Membership Packet \$100.00

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EXTROPY: The Journal of Transhumanist Thought, #8. Ideas Futures Markets, Dynamic Optimism: Epistemological Psychology, Artificial Life, more Futique Neologisms, Extropia: An Evolving Extropian Community, Human-Transhuman-Posthuman, reviews of new Drexler and others. \$4/issue from Extropy, PO Box 77243, Los Angeles, CA 90007-0243. E-mail info from more@usc.edu.

Do you want to keep up with science and technology bearing on cryonics? **PERIASTRON** is a science newsletter written by and for cryonicists, only \$2.50 per issue. **PERIASTRON**, PO 2365, Sunnyvale CA 94087.

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LIFE EXTENSION FOUNDATION OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA provides members with "inside" information about high-tech anti-aging therapies. For free information call 1-800-841-LIFE.

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.

The **SUN, JULY 12** meeting will be at the home of:
Virginia Jacobs, 29224 Indian Valley Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA

Directions: Take the Harbor Freeway (US 110) south to Pacific Coast Highway (State 1) and get off going west. Go along Pacific Coast past the Torrance Municipal Airport to Hawthorne Blvd. Turn left (south) on Hawthorne and go up into the hills past the Peninsula Shopping Center (Silver Spur Rd.). Hawthorne takes a long curve around to the left. Indian Valley Road is a little over two miles beyond the Center, on the left. 29224 is about 0.2 mi up Indian Valley Rd., opposite Firthridge Rd.

The **SUN, AUGUST 9** meeting will be at the home of:
Russell Cheney, 5618 Ruby Place, Torrance, CA

Directions: Take the Harbor Freeway (110) south from the San Diego (405). Exit on Carson, going west (right), and go all the way to the west end of Carson, in Torrance. Follow Carson as it angles right (north) and becomes Howard Avenue. Go about 1/4 block and turn right onto Ruby Place. There is a bear in the front yard.

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, followed by a potluck. Meeting locations can be obtained by calling the chapter's Secretary, Lola McCrary, at (408) 238-1318 or (E-mail) Lola@lucid.com.

The **SUN, JULY 12** meeting will be held at the home of:
Ralph Merkle and Carol Shaw, 1134 Pimento Ave., Sunnyvale, CA

After the business meeting and potluck there will be an *Introduction to Cryonics* talk at 7 PM, followed by a question and answer period.

Directions: Take US 85 through Sunnyvale and exit going East on Fremont to Mary. Go left on Mary to Ticonderoga. Go right on Ticonderoga to Pimento. Turn left on Pimento to 1134 Pimento Ave.

The **AUGUST** meeting is a **BEACH PARTY!**
Time: Sunday, August 9th, early afternoon to sunset.
Place: Bonny Doon

This is about 6 miles north of Santa Cruz, off of highway 1, just south of the little town of Davenport. Look for the "Bonny Doon" road heading inland, and park in the roadside area just south of the intersection. The beach is up the embankment and across the railroad tracks.

It's a "clothing optional" beach, and is about as far north as you can go and still be fairly sure the beach won't be fogged in. Note that if you plan on spending lots of time in the water, some sort of heat loss prevention device is suggested (i.e., a wet suit).

There are two Alcor groups in the **Greater New York area**. Details may be obtained by calling either Gerard Arthus, at (516) 689-6160, or Curtis Henderson, at (516) 589-4256.

The **Alcor New York Group** meets on the the third Sunday of each month at 2:00 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. If you're in CT, NJ, or NY, call Gerard Arthus for details at (516) 689-6160, or Curtis Henderson, at (516) 589-4256.

Meeting dates: **July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18.**

New York has a newsletter, its members are working aggressively to build a solid emergency response capability with full state-of-the-art rescue equipment, two Alcor Certified Tech's, and four State Certified EMT's.

The **Alcor New York Stabilization Training Meeting** meets on the second and fourth Sundays of every month, at 2:30 PM, at the home of Curtis Henderson. The address is: 9 Holmes Court, Sayville, L.I. For details call Curtis at the above number.

Alcor Indiana is now forming. They have a newsletter and a full local rescue kit, and two of the members have taken the Alcor Transport course. If you are interested and in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, or Michigan, the Indiana group meets in Indianapolis on the second Sunday of each month, at 2:00 PM. (Note: the June 14 meeting will begin at 1:00 PM) Call Steve Bridge at (317) 359-7260, or Richard Shock at (317) 872-3066 (days) or (317) 769-4252 (eves) for further information.

There is a cryonics discussion group in the **Boston area** meeting on the second Sunday each month at 3:00 PM. Further information may be obtained by contacting Walter Vannini at (603) 595-8418 (home) or (617) 647-2291 (work).

Alcor Nevada is forming in Las Vegas. Their meetings are on the second Sunday of each month at 5:00 PM in the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. **Directions:** Take 95 south from Las Vegas, through Henderson, where it forks between 95 and 93. Bear right at the fork and stay on 95 past Searchlight until you reach the intersection with 163, a little before the border with California. Go left on 163 and stay on it until you see signs for Laughlin. You can't miss the Riverside Casino. For more information, call Eric Klien at (702) 255-1355.

There is a an Alcor chapter in **England**, with a full suspension and laboratory facility south of London. Its members are working aggressively to build a solid emergency response, transport, and suspension capability. Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month at the Alcor UK facility, and may include classes and tours. The meeting commences at 11:00 A.M., and ends late afternoon.

Meeting dates: **August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1.**
The address of the facility is:
Alcor UK, 18 Potts Marsh Estate, Westham, East Sussex

Directions: From Victoria Station, catch a train for Pevensey West Ham railway station. When you arrive at Pevensey West Ham turn left as you leave the station and the road crosses the railway track. Carry on down the road for a couple of hundred yards and Alcor UK is on the trading estate on your right. Victoria Station has a regular train shuttle connection with Gatwick airport and can be reached from Heathrow airport via the amazing London Underground tube or subway system.

People coming for AUK meetings must phone ahead — or else you're on your own, the meeting may have been cancelled, moved, etc etc. For this information, call Alan Sinclair at 0323 488150. For those living in or around metropolitan London, you can contact Garret Smyth at 081-789-1045, or Russell Whitaker at 071- 702-0234.

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