

Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America

Winter 2010 Edition

Message from Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours celebrating a healthy and happy holiday season. I would like to take this opportunity as we look back at 2010 and ahead at the year to come to pause for a moment to recognize some of the people who support and contribute to the continued success of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation. As you will see

in this newsletter, we are on track for another great year of fundraising in spite of the difficult economic times we are all facing. This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors and the enthusiasm and hard work of our many volunteers. I would also like to take a moment to extend my thanks to the doctors working with Dr. Parkash Gill at

USC/Norris comprehensive Cancer Center for their dedication to finding a cure to Mesothelioma and to the victims of this disease and their families who have shared their struggles with me over the years.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your commitment to fighting this terrible disease!!

Inside this issue:

District Council 16 Golf Invitational

1

Roger Hamilton Memo- 2 rial Golf Invitational

John S. Lyons Memorial 2 Banquet

Mesothelioma Research 3 Update: Interview with Dr. Parkash Gill

Aim to Cure Clay Shoot 4

District Council 16 Golf Invitational



2010, saw an amazing turn out of over 140 golfers all supporting the goal of finding a cure for Mesothelioma by generating over \$80,000. As always, 100 % of the donation will go directly to Mesothelioma Research.

Representing the Foundation was Board Member and Paul & Hanley Partner, Jerry Neil Paul, Board Member and International Pipetrades Representative. lim Kellogg, Medical Director, Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker. After a great day of golf Dr. Gill emphasized the necessity of fundraisers in getting drugs through the FDA approval process and in the development of new cancer fighting drugs. With Veglin's introduction to Phase III FDA clinical trials in January of 2011 we will need all of the support we can get. With the support of District Council 16 and its members we can beat this cancer.

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's event. Without the support and organizing skills of people such as Jim Kellogg, Sid Stolper, Mike Layton and John Ferruccio, and Committee members Jerry and Elizabeth Paul, Jack Ferrara and David Harper, this event and great turnout would not have been possible. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR **DEDICATION!!!**

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with this horrible disease and would like help, please call 1-800-909-MESO (6376) and speak with one of our volunteers.

From Left to Right: District Council 16 Organizer John Ferruccio, Board Members Jerry Neil Paul and Jim Kellogg and Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board Dr. Parkash Gill

Everyone at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to thank and congratulate the Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 for organizing another overwhelmingly successful event. The 8th Annual Golf Invitational, held July 26,



The 9th Annual Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational

The 9th Annual "Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational" was held on June 21st, 2010 at the Napa Valley Country Club in Napa Valley, CA and once again saw an amazing turnout, generating over \$80,000 for mesothelioma research! Everyone at MESORFA would like to say THANK YOU to all of our supporters, sponsors and committee members who made this event happen.

You may recall that the event was established through the dedication of U.A. International Representative of the Pipetrades in California and Hawaii Jim Kellogg, California Building Trades President Bob Balgenorth, and then California Building Trades Vice President Roger Hamilton, who came together in 2001 to brainstorm ideas for a fundraiser. It was Roger's idea to support research into a cure for Mesothelioma while promoting less tobacco use in the building trades. Although, Roger had been diagnosed with cancer several months before the first tournament, Roger was determined to make the first event in 2002 a success while having a great time out on the course. Cindy Hamilton has since been Chair

of the Committee for the annual event and has done a magnificent job, dedicating many hours of hard work to bring friends and supporters together to lead the charge for a cure.

This year's event included a very special guest, a mesothelioma survivor and patient of Dr. Parkash Gill's. This gentleman's fight for survival began in 2008 when he was diagnosed with peritoneal mesothelioma. With the help of friends he was put in touch with the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America and began Dr. Gill's Veglin treatment shortly after. Since then he has undergone over 30 rounds of Veglin treatments, shrinking his mesothelioma to a size that could be removed through surgery. He is now living cancer free. This story of survival and triumph over this terrible disease is truly inspiring and serves as a reminder to all of the supporters and sponsors where their donations are going. We applaud his determination to survive and his inspiring outlook on life to beat this cancer and have fun while doing it!

After a beautiful round of golf, supporters came together in the club-

house for drinks and a delicious dinner. Bob Balgenorth and Cindy Hamilton spoke of the great support everyone has shown each year in helping fund progressive treatments and an eventual a cure for mesothelioma. They thanked everyone for their continued support and introduced Jerry and Elizabeth Paul who highlighted how everyone's involvement has ensured progress by introducing Dr. Gill's patient who had just finished a round of golf. This gentleman paid homage to Roger and Cindy Hamilton who he felt helped save his life by choosing to support mesothelioma research. He then told all of the supporters his story of survival and thanked everyone for their support of him and the Foundation.

A special thanks to Insulators Local 16 Business Manager, Steve Steele, Bob and Michaela Balgenorth, Cindy Hamilton, Bob Arns, Debra Chaplan, Paul Doolitle, Jim Kellogg, Russ O'Brien, and Jerry and Elizabeth Paul for their outstanding efforts helping to make this memorable Hamilton event most important in supporting the mission to cure cancer!

John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet

For the 28th consecutive year "The Johns" and supporters joined together to raise money for good causes and to honor those who have dedicated their lives to making their community a better place to live. As in previous years The Johns will donate the proceeds to local charities and has chosen the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America, the Salk Institute and the San Diego Blood Bank Marrow Donor Center as the benefactors. This year's event held September 11, 2010 generated \$5,000 for the Foundation, 100% of which will be donated to Mesothelioma Research.

Seated at the Paul & Hanley

LLP sponsored table and in attendance for the Foundation was Medical Director, Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker who enjoyed the company of Retired Business Manager of Plumbers & Pipefitters Union Local 230 Nico Ferraro and his wife Lynn. After a wonderful dinner in good company Dr. Gill spoke of the importance of donations in getting new cancer fighting drugs, such as Veglin, through the FDA approval process and in the development of new drugs. He highlighted the success seen in Veglin's Phase II clinical trials and it's submission for FDA Phase III trials in January of 2011 as well as the development of EphB-4 as examples.

Everyone at MESORFA would like to congratulate those who were honored at this year's banquet and would like to thank The Johns and it's supporters for their commitment in making Mesothelioma a disease of the past. A special thanks to the President of the San Diego County Building Trades Council, Tom Lemmon, Retired Business Manager of Plumbers & Pipefitters Union Local 230 Nico Ferraro, Business Manager of Ironworkers Union Local 229 Bill Stuckey and Business Agent of the Plumbers & Pipefitters Union Local 230 Jim Cunningham for their graciousness and hospitality at this year's event.

Mesothelioma Research Update: Interview with Dr. Parkash Gill



Assistant Executive Director of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America Shane Rucker recently had the opportunity to sit down with Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board, Dr. Parkash Gill. They discussed the latest developments on the Clinical Trials process for Veglin, the future of the Foundation and the very latest developments in Mesothelioma Research.

Dr. Gill runs the Mesothelioma Cancer Research Lab at USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, which was started originally with seed money from the Foundation. He is also a Professor of Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. He is board certified in Medical Oncology by the American Board of Internal Medicine. His research interests include tumor cell biology; tumor vessel development and identification; and clinical research and development of novel therapeutics in Mesothelioma, leukemia, lymphoma and sarcoma. He is a member of the American Society of Hematology, American Society for

Clinical Oncology and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Following are some of the highlights from their conversation. We hope that Dr. Gill's progress gives you as much hope and optimism as it does us. Thank you Dr. Gill for the hard work you and your team are putting into finding a cure to this terrible disease!

What are this year's plans in terms of research?

This year is going to be really exciting for Veglin and research. Veglin will be introduced into the 3rd and final Phase of the FDA approval process. This should all be happening by the end of the year. This will open up the patient base because the drug will be able to be administered at facilities across the U.S. I'm currently working with the top oncologists and researchers at a few VERY well known facilities and they have agreed to administer it at their hospitals. We are also in talks with pharmaceutical companies who can manufacture Veglin on a much larger scale. Once we are in Phase III we will be able to publicly say where Veglin will be available and who these people are. It truly is very exciting and fun to be a part of this.

What are your hopes for the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America?

The Foundation and its allies in this fight have been instrumental in

getting Veglin and our research to where it is today. With the mainstreaming of Veglin and its use in other facilities I hope to see the Foundation grow as well. Without the help and donations from the Foundation the research into new drugs and the development of Veglin to treat mesothelioma does not exist.

What are some of the new drugs you are working on?

We have some of the brightest researchers in the nation working on finding a cure and some amazing results are coming out. Just look at Veglin. The new drugs mentioned in previous articles and newsletters, EPH-B4 and Delta, are showing great promise of following in Veglin's footsteps. There is still much work to be done but the lab results coming from combinations, of say Veglin with Delta or Delta with EPH-B4, are better than I could have ever hoped. We are very close but like I said there is much work to be done.

Help Us Update Our Mailing List—To help us update our mailing list and to be cost-effective, please notify the office if you change your address or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.



Aim to Cure Clay Shoot



Shooters enjoying a relaxing lunch after the "Aim to Cure" event on April 9, 2010 at Birdslanding Hunting Preserve and Sporting Facility

The "Aim to Cure" mesothelioma clayshoot, hosted by Foundation Board Member and International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg, was a great success bringing in approximately \$75,000 for mesothelioma research. This year's event saw a larger turnout than previous years with 166 shooters and supporters of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America coming together at the Birdslanding Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay Facility. Representing the Foundation at the event was Board Member Jim Kellogg, Medical Advisory Chairman Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

After a cease fire and a delicious lunch Jim Kellogg thanked everyone who attended and spoke about the importance of staying involved in the events and continuing to raise awareness. He then introduced Dr.

Parkash Gill who informed everyone of the great news coming from the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Veglin will be introduced into the 3rd and FINAL Phase of the FDA Clinical Trial process and new mesothelioma fighting drugs, EPH-B4 and Delta, are showing amazing results. This is fantastic news and can be attributed to the support and contributions to the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America.

As always, 100% of the money raised during the event will go to mesothelioma cancer research. With these sizable donations we can be assured that Dr. Gill's mesothelioma cancer research at USC/ Norris Comprehensive Medical Center will be moving in the right direction. Thank you to all who participated and made the events so successful!

Stay tuned for an update in our next edition on the

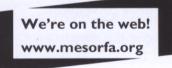
Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 Clayshoot to be held October 11th at
the Moore and Moore Clay Shoot Club in San Fernando, California!!!



5716 Corsa Avenue, Suite 203 Westlake Village, CA 91362

800-909-MESO

Our Goal is to Make Mesothelioma a Disease of the Past!



The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America has a mission: fund research that will lead to the quickest cure for mesothelioma. Mesothelioma, a cancer of the lining of the lungs caused by asbestos exposure, has very few treatment options at this time. Since the year 2001, the foundation has funded the opening of the Mesothelioma Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Gill at the USC/ Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in Los Angeles. In the process, Dr. Gill (a board certified oncologist and hematologist) has received FDA approval from the U.S. Government to do Phase I Clinical Trials on a new mesothelioma treatment drug called Veglin, whose research was 100% funded by the foundation. It proved successful in Phase I and Phase II of the clinical trials for Veglin began July 30th, 2004. Dr. Gill is also in the process of getting approval for Phase I clinical trials for a new molecule, EphB4. We are all very excited at the possibilities of a more effective treatment over what presently is available for mesothelioma victims.

This Newsletter has been

Sponsored by Paul & Hanley LLP.

Phone: 1-800-909-MESO (6376) Internet: www.mesorfa.org