

#### Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America

December 2012 Winter Edition

# Message from Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul



Dear Supporters:

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family celebrating a healthy and happy holiday season. I would like to take this opportunity, as we look back at 2012 and ahead at the year to come, to pause for a moment to recognize some of the people and organizations who support and contribute to the continued success of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America.

As you will see in this newsletter 2012 has proved to be one of the best years in terms of our fundraising efforts in our 11 year history, generating approximately \$300,000 for mesothelioma research! This is truly an amazing total and we are on track for another great year! As always 100% of the donations received go toward mesothelioma research which would not be possible without the generosity of our donors and the enthusiasm and hard work of our many volunteers.

I would like to first take a moment to extend my many thanks to Dr. Parkash Gill and the doctors working with him at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center for their dedication to finding a cure for Mesothelioma. Without Dr. Gill and his team

there would be far less research being conducted on this this terrible disease and fewer treatment options available to patients. We are extremely pleased with the continued developments and the fantastic news that a new drug, EPH B-4, has been approved by the FDA for Phase I Clinical Trials!

I would also like to thank our partners at the California State Pipetrades, the California State Building & Construction Trades and the JOHNS for their dedication to making mesothelioma a cancer of the past. Without the support from the following people and their organizations we would not be where we are today and we could not be happier with the amazing results we have seen.

Retired International Pipetrades Representative and MRFA Founding Board Member, Jim Kellogg, has been absolutely instrumental in the Foundation's fundraising efforts since it's inception and we cannot thank Jim enough. The leadership of Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 Business Manager, Sid Stolper, District Council 16 Assistant Business Manager, Mike Layton, and District Council 16 Organizer, John Ferruccio, ensure that the Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Clay Shoot and Golf Invitational are successes every year and continue to grow vastly in their popularity with tradesmen and contractors.

The guidance of Retired President of the California State Building & Construction Trades, Bob Balgenorth, Roger Hamilton Golf Invitational Chairwoman, Cindy Hamilton and Roger Hamilton Golf Invitational Committee Members Debra Chaplan, Paul Doolittle, Mitch Johnson and Russ O'Brien has resulted in the overwhelmingly successful Roger Hamilton Golf Invitational but also in the gaining of additional support from organizations such as PhRMA.

The camaraderie felt at the JOHNS Banquet during the recognition of an individual's accomplishments while supporting the Foundation is inspiring and we cannot thank them enough for their continued support. President of the JOHNS and this year's Labor Leader of the Year, Tom Lemmon, as well as Art Cantu, Kirk Crosswhite, Nico Ferraro, Bill Stuckey, Art Lujan and past JOHNS have done so much for their community while supporting great causes.

Lastly I would like to thank you, the reader, for your individual support in making mesothelioma a cancer of the past. Whether you are an individual supporter who donated a vehicle, a tradesman who was exposed to asbestos to provide for their family, a Union labor leader or someone who has lost a loved one to any form of cancer we THANK YOU for recognizing the need for supporting the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America and having a hand in something big!

Yours Truly,

Elizabeth Ann Paul

#### Inside this issue:

Birdslanding Aim to Cure 2 Clay Shoot

Southern California 2 Pipetrades District Council 16 Golf Invitational

Roger Hamilton Memo- 3 rial Golf Invitational

John S. Lyons Memorial . Banquet

Southern California 4 Pipetrades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Clay Shoot

California Bio-Pharma Golf Invitational

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

We're on the web! www.mesorfa.org

#### Birdslanding Aim to Cure Clay Shoot - June 8, 2012



Above, International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg. THANK YOU!!

The June 2012 "Birdslanding Aim to Cure Clay Shoot" event hosted by Foundation Board Member and International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg was a great success bringing in approximately \$60,000 for mesothelioma research. The shooters and supporters of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America

were once again blessed with beautiful weather at the Birdslanding Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay facility near Concord, California. Representing the Foundation were Board Members Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul, Medical Advisory Board Chairman Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

After a fun filled day on the course the shooters gathered for lunch and the always anticipated raffle of prizes. Before the festivities though, Jim Kellogg thanked everyone who attended and spoke about the importance of staying involved to continue raising awareness of mesothelioma research. By doing this we can ensure progress will be made and a cure will be found. Jerry Paul also thanked everyone on behalf of the Foundation and had Dr. Parkash Gill talk about the advancements being made and our hopes for the future. He highlighted the development and submission of the new drug EPH-B4 to FDA Phase I Clinical Trials. With the support of participants in events such as "Aim to Cure" advances in mesothelioma treatment options will be a reality.

As always, 100% of the money raised during the "Aim to Cure" events 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 shoot a success!



California Fish and Game Warden Jerry Kardow (Left) and MESORFA Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker (Right).

### Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 10th Annual Golf Invitational-July 16, 2012



The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to thank and congratulate the Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 for orga-

nizing an amazing event. This year's DC 16 Golf Invitational not only saw their largest turnout out of over 150 golfers but it also marked the event's 10 year anniversary! With this year's proceeds nearing \$90,000, the Invitational has raised approximately \$1,000,000 for mesothelioma research! An amazing number with a grass roots beginning. As always, 100 % of the donations go directly to Mesothelioma Research.

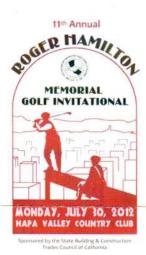
Representing the Foundation at the event was Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, Executive Director, Elizabeth Paul, Medical Director, Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker. After a great day on the golf course Jerry and Elizabeth Paul thanked those who came out to support the Foundation as well as John Ferruccio for his tireless work in making the event a success. Dr. Gill then highlighted the successes being made in the laboratory with the development of EPH-B4 and it being a direct result of the support seen at events such as the Invitational. Dr. Gill also reported the GREAT

news that EPH-B4 was being submitted to the FDA for Phase I Clinical Trials. This was fantastic news that was met with applause and hope for future treatment options.

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!!!

#### Page 3

# Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational-July 30, 2012



year's "Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational" marked the 11th year anniversary in promoting a No Smoking atmosphere in the California State Building Trades while supporting a cure for mesothelioma. As usual the event was a huge success, netting over \$80,000 for mesothelioma research!

The event was established in 2002

through the hard work and dedication of the California Building Trades Vice President and International Representative of the Insulators, Roger Hamilton, U.A. International Representative of the Pipetrades Jim Kellogg and California Building Trades President Bob Balgenorth, who came together to brainstorm ideas for a fundraiser. Roger was the first Chair of the Tobacco Free-Off Golf Tournament Committee and it was his idea to support research into a cure for mesothelioma while promoting less tobacco use in the building trades. Since Roger's untimely passing his wife, Cindy Hamilton, has taken over as Chair of the Committee and has done a magnificent job in filling the venue with 144 golfers every year. She has dedicated many hours of hard work to the event, which has brought friends and supporters together in memoriam of Roger and helped lead the charge for a cure.

Representing the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America were Founding Board Members Jerry Neil Paul and Jim Kellogg, Executive Director Elizabeth Paul, Medical Director Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker. After a beautiful round of golf at the Napa Valley Country Club, both Jerry and Elizabeth Paul

thanked everyone for supporting the event and spoke about the importance of new treatments for mesothelioma. Dr. Parkash Gill then talked about the exciting news coming from the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center highlighting the development of EPH-B4 and its submission to the FDA for Phase I Clinical Trials. Dr. Gill and the Foundation are very excited about the developments and hopeful it will become a mainstream treatment option for mesothelioma patients.

Everyone at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of American would like to thank those who make this event possible and a success. A special thank you goes out to Chairwoman Cindy Hamilton, Honorary Co-Chairman Robert Balgenorth, Chair in Memoriam Roger Hamilton and Committee Members Jim Kellogg, Debra Chaplan, Paul Doolittle, Mitch Johnson, Russ O'Brien, Jerry & Elizabeth Paul, Lynn Schorno and Steve Steele who work tirelessly towards making this event a success every year. THANK YOU!

## John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet - September 8, 2012

This year marked a milestone for the JOHNS who celebrated today's Labor Leader of the Year at their 30th Annual Memorial Banquet. The event was held on September 8, 2012 in San Diego, CA and raised \$5,000 for mesothelioma research! As you may recall the JOHNS meet every year to honor an old friend, John S. Lyons, by recognizing the Labor Leader of the Year, and to raise money for cancer and leukemia research with local charities. Since its inception the IOHNS have donated nearly \$1,300,000.00 to local charities! The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America is honored to be chosen as one of the benefactors of this year's event and in years past.

Local 230 Pipetrades Business Manager, Kirk Crosswhite, and Retired Local 230 Business Manager, Nico Ferraro, shared a

table with the Foundation's Founding Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, Executive Director, Elizabeth Paul, and Medical Director Dr., Parkash Gill. After thanking everyone in attendance Dr. Gill spoke about the development of new cancer fighting drugs that he and his team are working on at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. He highlighted the development and submission of EPH-B4 to FDA Phase I Clinical Trials as being a direct result of the donations received from events such as the JOHNS.

Everyone at the Foundation would like to thank the President of the IOHNS and this year's Labor Leader of the Year Tom Lemmon as well as Art Cantu, Councilwoman Marti Emerald, Kirk Crosswhite, Nico Ferraro, Bill Stuckey, Art Lujan and the rest of the JOHNS for their commitment to making mesothelioma a disease of the past. THANK



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Phone: 1-800-909-MESO (6376)

Internet: www.mesorfa.org

## Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Clay Shoot- October 22, 2012

The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to congratulate and thank the Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 for organizing a fantastic event to help find a cure for mesothelioma. This year's Aim to Cure event was held at the Moore 'N Moore Sporting Clays facility in San Fernando, CA and was an overwhelming success generating approximately \$52,000 for mesothelioma research! Representing the Foundation were Founding Board Members Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board Dr. Parkash Gill, Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker and special guest Carmy Peters from the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. As always, 100% of the money generated at the event will go directly to mesothelioma research to help find a cure for this terrible disease.

After a great day of shooting in the mountains of the Angeles National Forest the event's supporters gathered for lunch, the

always popular raffle of prizes and to learn where their donations are being used. Speaking at the event on behalf of the Foundation was Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul and Medical Director, Dr. Parkash Gill. After thanking everyone in attendance and Mike Layton for organizing a fantastic event Jerry Paul spoke about the roots of the Foundation and the massive efforts taken in developing new drugs for the treatment of mesothelioma. He then introduced Dr. Parkash Gill who spoke about the development of EPH-B4 and it being a direct result of the support seen at events such as the Invitational. Dr. Gill also reported the GREAT news that EPH-B4 was submitted to the FDA for Phase I Clinical Trials and is available to qualifying mesothelioma patients. This was fantastic news that was met with applause and hope for future treatment op-

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's events. Without the

support and organizing skills of people such as DC 16 Business Manager Sid Stolper, DC 16 Assistant Business Manager Mike Layton, DC 16 Director of Organizing John Ferruccio and Retired International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg these types of events would not be possible. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND DEDICATION!!!



#### California Bio-Pharma Golf Invitational-October 29, 2012

The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America was blessed with a sixth and final event to round out our 2012 fundraising efforts. The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America held a Golf Invitational at the Napa Valley Country Club and with the help and support of the California State Building and Construction Trades the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America was the benefactor of the event! The event's proceeds totaled nearly \$11,000, 100% of which will go towards mesothelioma research!

In attendance for the Foundation were

Founding Board Member Jerry Neil Paul and Medical Advisory Board Chairman Dr. Parkash Gill who had the pleasure of sitting with event organizer and President of the California Bio-Pharma Labor Management Association, Chuck Center, and his daughter Jennifer Center for dinner. Dr. Parkash Gill was then given the opportunity to inform the supporters on where their donations were going and the new treatment options they are helping to develop. He discussed the development of EPH-B4 and its submission to the FDA for Phase I Clinical Trials as a direct result of the donations received.

Everyone at the Foundation would like to thank Chuck Center and PhRMA for organizing the event and for choosing us as the benefactor. We hope this is the beginning of a new relationship and continued support! We would also like to thank Bob Balgenorth and Cindy Hamilton at the California State Building and Construction Trades for their tireless pursuit in finding a cure of this terrible disease. Without their support the Foundation would not be where it is today!



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. Parkash Gill at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in Los Angeles. Since the lab's inception Dr. Gill has received FDA approval from the U.S. Government to do conduct Clinical Trials using new mesothelioma treatments he has developed in the laboratory, whose research is 100% funded by the Foundation. A recent example of the research being done by Dr. Gill and the direct results of the donations received, is the submission and approval from the FDA to use EPH-B4 in Phase I Clinical Trials. We are all very excited at the possibilities of a more effective treatment for patients suffering from mesothelioma!