



Dear Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well during this joyous holiday season. As we look back at 2017, I can't help but feel honored being a part of such a wonderful organization and surrounded by people who truly care. I would like to take this opportunity to recap our efforts and recognize a few of the people and organizations who support and contribute to the continued success of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America. We experienced a successful year of fundraising efforts, raising a total of over \$325,000. This will ensure the continued research and development of new treatment options at the mesothelioma research lab at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

This year's fundraising efforts kicked off with the 15th presentation of the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational. The event was held at the pristine Napa Valley Country Club and raised over \$83,000. We were thrilled with the turnout of sponsors and supporters, who all had a fun time on the course while raising both money and awareness for this cruel disease. Almost three years ago, Mel Breshears, Business Manager of the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 16 and Doug Gamble, President of the Western Conference Heat & Frost Insulators and their team, took it upon themselves to en-

sure the continuation of this extraordinary event and honoring Roger Hamilton's legacy. We at the Foundation are deeply grateful to them. What they have done and continue to do is inspirational and is making a difference.

Following the Hamilton Golf Event, the California State Pipe Trades held their 11th Annual Aim to Cure Clay shoot at the Birdslanding Hunting Preserve in Northern California. We saw a huge turnout of over 100 shooters, who came together and raised over \$60,000! As always 100% of the proceeds donated to the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America, go directly towards research. Thank you Greg Partch, Executive Director of the California State Pipe Trades, local union members, contractors and vendors who continue to donate and participate in this event. A very special thank you to Jim Kellogg, Board Member, who continues to dedicate his efforts to the cause!

In July, the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 held their 15th Annual Golf Invitational benefitting mesothelioma research. We witnessed a large turnout of golfers who came out to brave the scorching heat. Together with their supporters, District Council 16 raised over \$100,000! To date their event has raised over \$1.4 million dollars for mesothelioma research and is one of our flagship events. We could not have accomplished these goals without people such as DC 16 Business Manager Mike Layton and DC16 Organizer John Ferruccio. The continued support of District Council 16, the Unions it represents and devotion of past and present event Committee members, have made the event what it is today. We truly thank all of you for everything you do!

Our final event of the year

was the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Clay shoot. We saw nearly 80 shooters take their turns breaking sporting clays at the Moore N' Moore Sporting Clay Facility. Together we generated approximately \$40,000. We are so proud of DC16. These efforts can be directly attributed to the dedication of some very special people. Mike Layton and John Ferruccio, you are heroes for what you have done this year and in years past. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

The Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, spoke at the events and told supporters of the continued promise EphB-4 has showed in clinical trials. Dr. Gill is continuing to treat patients diagnosed with mesothelioma at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. He has seen some amazing results, detailing regression of a patient's mesothelioma! We are so proud of the fact that the developments made in the laboratory are turning into viable treatment options for patients. I can tell you with absolute confidence that we would not be where we are today without the support of our partners at the California State Pipe Trades Council, the Heat & Frost Insulators Local 16, Western Conference Heat & Frost Insulators and the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the reader, for your individual support. Whether you supported us through a personal donation, an auction item, or a participant in one of our events we THANK YOU for recognizing the need for supporting the Foundation!

Blessings,

Elizabeth Ann Paul
Executive Director



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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.

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

Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational



On June 5, 2017, the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational saw its return to the

pristine Napa Valley Country Club. The event is held to raise awareness of mesothelioma while generating much needed funding for the research and development of new treatment options. This year marks the 15th presentation of the event and netted over \$83,000, 100% of which will go toward supporting Dr. Parkash Gill's research within the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Over 140 participants were able to enjoy a beautiful day on the golf course and a wonderful mix of camaraderie and philanthropy.

This event would not have been possible without the leadership of Doug Gamble, the International Vice President, and Mel Breshears, the Business Manager of Local 16. Doug and Mel were gracious enough to help plan and host the event for our community and its success rode upon

the shoulders of their team as they both planned and implemented the day's event. Just two years ago, the Insulators took it upon themselves to ensure not only the continuation of the event, but the honoring of Roger Hamilton's memory through fund raising and awareness efforts. Since its inception, the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational has raised approximately 1.6 million dollars for mesothelioma research in order to try and find a cure to end this malicious disease. For this continued success, we owe our gratitude to the Western States Conference Heat and Frost Insulators, the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, as well as all of the building trades groups and vendors who participated.

After a round of golf, the supporters reconvened in the clubhouse for drinks, dinner, and speeches. Doug and Mel were the first to speak, thanking both the sponsors for their continued support and the volunteers for their role in planning the event. Next to speak were Elizabeth Paul, Executive Director, and Parkash Gill, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, two of the four representatives from the Foundation at the event. The pair informed the sponsors about the history of the Foundation, pointing

out its critical help in the development of better treatment options for mesothelioma. To close their speeches, the two acknowledged the continual support from the staff and family of the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, and for their role in assuming the direction of the event.

An event of this magnitude takes too many people to thank, but certain individuals played a pivotal role in ensuring its success. To Committee Chairman Doug Gamble, Co-Chair Mel Breshears, Stan Danielson, Bill Hodges, Mark Plubell, Ben Espinoza, Chris Greaney, Fortino Curiel, Geoff Millar, Jerry and Elizabeth Paul and Shane Rucker: we wish to express our greatest appreciation. Without your efforts and energy this event would not have been possible. Your enduring support guarantees continued research into mesothelioma. With sustained effort, a cure will be found!



California State Pipe Trades Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay Shoot



June 9, 2017, marked the 11th annual California State Pipe Trades' Aim to Cure

Mesothelioma sporting clay shoot event hosted by Jim Kellogg, retired U.A. Pipe Trades International Representative and former California State Fish and Game Commissioner. Supporters of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America converged on the Birdslanding Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay facility just outside of Concord, California. The event was once again a huge success, raising over \$60,000 for mesothelioma research while raising awareness of the continued development of viable treatment options for mesothelioma. The Foundation was represented by Jerry Neil Paul and Jim Kellogg, both Board Members, as well as

Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker.

After the shoot had concluded, Jim Kellogg thanked attendees. He expressed his gratitude for the continued support of the event, and how meaningful it is to him to be able to see the event's growth. Next, Jerry Paul spoke to the importance of staying involved in the fight to raise awareness and ensure progress in developing new treatment options. He highlighted the development of EphB-4 as a milestone that indicated the viability, importance, and progress of the research. The drug is currently being administered to mesothelioma patients and is being supported by USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. It is clear that with the continued support and involvement of tradesmen and other participants in events similar to "Aim to Cure," advances in mesothelioma treatment options will become a reality.

As always, 100% of the funds raised at the Birdslanding event went directly towards mesothelioma cancer research at Dr.

Parkash Gill's lab at USC Norris Comprehensive Medical Center. With these sizable donations we can be assured that Dr. Gill's research will achieve sustained success. We are extremely grateful to all of the participants in this event. You are all part of the solution!



Jim Kellogg and Jerry Paul speak to donors and supporters of the 2017 Birdslanding Aim to Cure Event.

Please remember The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America in your Will

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Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Golf Invitational



Everyone at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to thank and congratulate the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 for organizing another overwhelmingly successful event! The 15th Annual District Council 16 Golf Invitational saw a full field of 144 golfers, all joining to support the goal of finding a cure for Mesothelioma and collectively generating over \$100,000! Over the last 15 years the DC16 Golf Invitational has raised over \$1.4 million for mesothelioma research with 100% of the donations going directly to Mesothelioma Research! We could not be more proud to be associated with such a great group of people.

Representing the Foundation at the event was Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, Executive Director, Elizabeth Ann Paul,

Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker and Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill. Jerry and Elizabeth Paul thanked all of those who came out to support the Foundation, as well as John Ferruccio for his tireless work in making the event a success year after year. Dr. Parkash Gill then highlighted research and development of new treatments, such as Eph-B4 being offered at USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and the great hope it has given to patients actively participating in the clinical trials. We hope to see Eph-B4 progress through the FDA approval process and one day become a first line treatment option for all mesothelioma patients.

The Foundation would like to personally thank each and every one of the Union Locals, contractors, vendors and individuals who supported the event. We also cannot thank DC16 Business Manager Mike Layton and Director of Organizing, John Ferruccio enough for all of their hard work and continued dedication to this noble cause. They have done a fantastic job year after year and we are overjoyed with the success of the

events and their amazing results. **THANK YOU!**



Dr. Parkash Gill, Jerry Neil Paul, Elizabeth Paul and John Ferruccio at the DC16 Holiday Luncheon where \$200,000 was presented to Dr. Gill for Mesothelioma Research!

Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay Shoot



The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to congratulate and thank the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 for organizing another fantastic event to help find a cure for mesothelioma. This year's DC16 Aim to Cure Mesothelioma event was held at the Moore 'N Moore Sporting Clays facility in San Fernando, CA and was successful in generating approximately \$40,000 for mesothelioma research! Representing the Foundation were Founding Board Members Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul, Executive Director, Elizabeth Ann Paul, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Parkash Gill, Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

After a beautiful day in the Angeles National Forest, the event's supporters gathered for a barbeque lunch and the always popular raffle of prizes. Before giving away some amazing prizes, sponsors and supporters learned where their hard earned money was going and how it was being used to fight this terrible disease. Speaking at the event on behalf of the Foundation were Executive Director, Elizabeth Ann Paul, Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, and Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee Dr. Parkash Gill. After thanking John Ferruccio and Mike Layton for organizing their second successful event of the year, as well as everyone in attendance, Elizabeth and Jerry Paul spoke about the roots of the Foundation and the massive efforts taken in developing new drugs for the treatment of mesothelioma. They 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 DC 16 clay shoot and golf invitational. Dr. Gill reported the promise that

EPH-B4 has continued to show in the FDA Clinical Trials conducted at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. 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 events. Without people such as DC 16 Business Manager, Mike Layton, DC 16 Director of Organizing, John Ferruccio and Retired International Pipe Trades Representative, Jim Kellogg these types of events would not be possible. **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND DEDICATION!!!**



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.

Please remember The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America in your Will

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MESOTHELIOMA
 RESEARCH FOUNDATION
 OF AMERICA

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 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!

For tax purposes, we are a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, I.D. #33-0956493