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Mesothelioma Foundation Newsletter

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The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America presents our newsletter, written by founding board members Jerry Neil Paul, Attorney and Partner in the asbestos litigation law firm of Paul, Hanley & Harley, LLP, and Elizabeth Ann Paul, Executive Director.

Mesothelioma Research Foundation Moves Ahead; Veglin in Phase 2 of Clinical Trials!

The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America, www.mesorfa.org, was founded in 2001 by board members James W. Kellogg, International Representative of the Pipe Trades in California and Hawaii, Jerry Neil Paul, founding partner of the law firm of Paul, Hanley and Harley LLP, and his wife, Elizabeth Ann Paul, the Executive Director of the foundation. Mission: expedite the finding of a cure for Mesothelioma. As you know, Mesothelioma is caused by exposure to asbestos, typically in the building trades. Microscopic size fibers of asbestos are breathed in, for example, at the workplace, home, or while working on brakes. Wives and children also contract this insidious killing disease by exposure to the trades- men's clothing.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Veglin helping Local 250 member!*
- *Special Recognitions*

Veglin (Phase 2) — Continued

Dr. Gill, because of our funding, has been perfecting a treatment called Veglin. Veglin is a molecule that has been recreated by Dr. Gill, which attacks and cuts off only the blood vessels that feed the malignant Mesothelioma tumor. Veglin is now in Phase 2 clinical trials. Over the years 2002/2003/2004 Veglin was given intravenously 5 days a week, every other week, for a period of 4 months to around 50 outpatients. It had very minimal bad side effects and appears to have been very successful.

Now, Dr. Gill has gotten FDA approval to give Veglin in a shot form (syringe) where you can take it home and inject it, or have someone give you the shot daily, for 4 months, with medical follow ups at USC/Norris. It's now our understanding that the Veglin trials have gotten the favorable attention of the National Cancer Institute, whom has also granted some funding for this significant research. We can thank Dr. Gill for doing so much in such a short time with only approximately a million dollars of funding from the foundation and NCI. However, more is needed to start and finish the final phase 3 clinical trials.

Pipefitter Billy Joe Speicher, retiree out of **UA Pipefitters Local 250**, has been taking Veglin since last July 12, 2004. Since that time his Mesothelioma tumor had not grown and all troublesome fluid buildup has stopped. Knowing the typical life span of a Mesothelioma victim is 9 months after diagnosis Billy Joe is doing pretty good. He is still home and enjoying his family. He actually flew to Washington DC with us to testify against the bad asbestos bill being proposed in front of US Senator Spector just a few months ago (January 13th).

The next step is to be able to not just stop but destroy the tumor. In that regard, if we all pitch in, hopefully a successful Veglin cure may become a reality. Please feel free to browse our WWW.MESORFA.ORG website where you can ask Dr. Gill your medical questions.

Special Recognitions

We want to salute and let it be known we are extremely grateful to all of the individuals and organizations that provided the funding that made this great progress possible with special appreciation to:

- **The Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, under *Sid Stolper's* leadership and its affiliated local unions, sponsors, vendors and contractors** who participate at the Council sponsored Annual Golf Tournament. The event has been a huge success generating a significant amount of funding for mesothelioma research. District Council 16 has successfully garnered the help and cooperation of Irwindale Speedway, which should be another wonderful annual fundraiser.
- **President of the California State Building Trades, *Bob Balganorth*, *Cindy Hamilton* (Executive Director of Built) and *Debra Chaplan* (Assistant to the State Building Trades President)** for their bold leadership in bringing forth annually it's affiliated local unions, sponsors, vendors and contractors at the Roger Hamilton Annual Golf Tournament (event and dinner) which has generated a significant amount of funding for Mesothelioma research.
- **U.A Pipe Trades International Representative and Board Member *Jim Kellogg***. Through his efforts two annual golf events in California provide over \$150,000 a year in mesothelioma research funding for the foundation. The annual golf tournaments (events and dinners) have been huge successes. Jim has also garnered the help and cooperation of many individual donors. Jim we salute your bold efforts to fund cancer research.

Sponsored by Paul, Hanley & Harley

The Mesothelioma Foundation Newsletter is sponsored and paid for by Paul, Hanley & Harley LLP with offices in Los Angeles, San Diego and Berkeley. The firm has about 150 staff including approximately 30 attorneys. The firm handles the following type of claims:

1. Asbestos related Mesothelioma and lung cancers
2. Benzene / Solvent related AML type Leukemia cancers
3. Manganese related welding disease accompanied with Parkinson's like symptoms known as Manganism
4. Lead impaired children due to lead in paint/dust in older homes built before 1978 and toys.
5. Severe industrial or personal injury claims.

Recent jury Trial verdicts won by Paul, Hanley & Harley

- A 68 year old pipefitter contractor with mesothelioma residing in the Salinas / Monterey area of California won an over \$11,000,000 judgment against Union Carbide Corporation! Paul, Hanley & Harley Partner *DEAN HANLEY* was the lead trial attorney.
- In another recent case a trial jury verdict of over \$2,000,000 was awarded to another mesothelioma victim against Caterpillar Corporation. Partner *PHIL HARLEY* was the lead trial attorney.
- \$1,500,000 in settlements against various defendants in a solvents / lymphoma type claim with additional defendants remaining in trial.

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