



## Message from Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours enjoying a healthy and happy start to 2012. I'd like to take this opportunity in the first newsletter of the year to look back at some of the highlights of the last year here at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America.

We have been very busy with fundraising events. We held a number of events last year including the U.A. Pipetrades District Council 16 Cure Meso Clayshoot, Jim Kellogg's Cure Meso Birdslanding Clayshoot, U.A. Pipetrades District Council 16 Golf Invitational, the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational and the 29th Annual John S. Lyons Memorial banquet in San Diego. We were overwhelmed by the turn-out and success of these events, particularly at a time when so many are struggling financially.

The generosity of our supporters and hard work of those who made these events possible are truly inspiring. People like you are so important to our mission: funding research that will lead to the quickest cure for mesothelioma. Thank you all for your continued help and support.

There are also a number of



From Left to Right: Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board Dr. Parkash Gill, Ann Gill, Executive Director Elizabeth Paul and Board Member Jerry Neil Paul

new, exciting developments to look forward to in 2012.

First is great news recently shared with us by our friends at the California State Building Trades Council. They are working with the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturing Association (PhRMA) to co-host a golf event to benefit and raise money for the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America.

A special thank you goes out to Cindy Hamilton who was integral in making this event happen. Cindy is a long-time supporter of the Foundation. Along with California State Building Trades President Bob Balgenorth and Retired International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg, she

has helped organize an annual golf event in Napa Valley in memory of past International Insulators Representative Roger Hamilton that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the Foundation and mesothelioma research over the past ten years.

Thank you Cindy!

In other exciting news, we here at the Foundation are working on expanding some of our support services for victims of mesothelioma and their families. Jennifer Paul will be coming on board as Care Support Coordinator to help form and lead support groups for mesothelioma victims and their families.

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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.**

## Message from Executive Director (continued)

As always, 100% of every dollar raised by the Foundation goes to the mesothelioma cancer research of Chairman of the Medical Advisory Board Dr. Parkash Gill at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in Los An-

geles and beyond. Our continued support has helped Dr. Gill expand his research capabilities by establishing additional laboratories, adding to his team a Board Certified Thoracic Surgeon and Oncologist, as well as col-

laborating with physicians at UC Davis and at a lab in San Diego to work together in creating additional treatment options. Thank you all for your continued support in fighting this horrible disease.

## 2011 District Council 16 Cure Meso Clayshoot

The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America (MESORFA) would like to thank everyone who attended this year's Cure Meso Clayshoot and those at Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 who made the event possible.

This year's event was again held at Moore 'N Moore Sporting Clays facility in San Fernando Valley, CA and was a huge success generating approximately \$36,000 for mesothelioma research. Participating on behalf of the Foundation were Founding Board Member Jerry Neil Paul and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker. As always, 100% of the money generated at the event will go directly to mesothelioma research to help find a cure for mesothelioma. After enjoying the beautiful Southern California weather

and the picturesque canyons of the Angeles National Forest shooters gathered for a BBQ and learned how their donations are helping. Speaking on behalf of District Council 16 was Assistant Business Manager Mike Layton who thanked everyone who came out to support the event and those who volunteer their time at MESORFA. Speaking on behalf of the Foundation were Jerry N. Paul and Shane Rucker who thanked everyone in attendance and those who had a hand in making the event such a success.

Dr. Parkash Gill then spoke about the progress being made by his team of doctors at USC Norris Cancer Center and the introduction of Eph-B4 into human trials. This is fantastic news and highlights the importance of donations and fundraising events in getting cancer

fighting drugs into treatment centers around the world.

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's Cure Meso Clayshoot. Without the support and organizing skills of people such as District Council 16 Business Manager Sid Stolper, D.C. 16 Assistant Business Manager Mike Layton, D.C. 16 Director of Organizing John Ferruccio and International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg these type of events would not be possible.

**THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND DEDICATION!!!**

## 29<sup>th</sup> Annual John S. Lyons Memorial Banquet

The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to thank the JOHNS for their donation of \$5,000 for mesothelioma research. The John S. Lyons Foundation, better known as the JOHNS, holds an annual memorial banquet to honor an old friend, John S. Lyons, by recognizing today's Labor Leader of the Year and to raise money for cancer research and local charities.

As always, 100% of the donation received by the Foundation will go to-

wards research into treatment options for mesothelioma.

A special thank you to our friends at the JOHNS who made this possible, including San Diego County Building Trades Business Manager and JOHNS co-Chairman, Tom Lemmon, and his fellow JOHNS award recipients, Retired U.A. Local 230 Business Manager, Nico Ferraro, and current U.A. Local 230 Business Manager Kirk Crosswhite.

Without their help, our relationship with research facilities in San Diego would not be possible. They are at the forefront of encouraging Dr. Parkash Gill and the Foundation to continue having a nexus in San Diego, CA where Dr. Gill is actively working with a lab of researchers to further his research into better treatment options for mesothelioma, as well as other cancers that may respond to anti-angiogenesis treatments.

Please remember The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America in your Will

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Phone: 1-800-909-MESO (6376) Internet: [www.mesorfa.org](http://www.mesorfa.org)

## 2011 District Council 16 - Annual Golf Invitational

On July 25th, 2011 the Southern California Pipetrades District Council 16 held the 9th Annual Golf Invitational benefitting the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America.

The event saw a great turnout from the plumbers, pipefitters and steamfitters unions who make up District Council 16. They came together to raise approximately \$80,000, every penny of which will go to support Dr. Parkash Gill's mesothelioma research. We want to thank everyone who attended and those who had a hand in making the event such a success. Your generosity and hard work are essential to the fight to make mesothelioma a disease of the past.

Representing the Foundation at the

event were Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, Medical Advisory Board Chairman Dr. Parkash Gill and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

After a fantastic day of golf in sunny Southern California participants and organizers joined for dinner and to hear from Dr. Parkash Gill who is heading the research into mesothelioma treatments at the USC Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Gill spoke about the importance of the support and the role it plays in making progress fighting this disease and highlighted the development of a new cancer fighting drug, B-4, as an example. With the help of the National Cancer Institute Dr. Gill hopes to have B-4 submitted to FDA Phase I clinical trials in 2012.

Also speaking on behalf of MESORFA was Founding Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, who personally thanked all of those who had a hand in organizing the event and all of those who offered their support. The mic was then turned over to John Ferruccio who offered encouraging words on why we do this every year and began the awards presentation and the always popular raffle.

Without the support and organizing skills of people such as Jim Kellogg, Sid Stolper, John Ferruccio, Mike Layton and Committee members Jerry and Elizabeth Paul, Jack Ferrara and David Harper the event would not be possible. **THANK YOU ALL!!!**

## 2011 Aim to Cure Event

The May 2011 "Aim to Cure" event hosted by Foundation Board Member and retired International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg was a great success, netting over \$70,000 for mesothelioma research!

The shooters and supporters of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America converged on the Birdslanding Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay facility near Concord, California to raise awareness and donations for mesothelioma cancer research. Representing the Foundation were Board Members Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

After the event Jim Kellogg thanked everyone who attended and spoke about the importance of staying involved to continue raising awareness of mesothelioma research. Shane Rucker also spoke on behalf of the Foundation and talked about the advances being made and our hopes for the future.

Under the leadership of Dr. Parkash Gill at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer center, new cancer fighting drugs will soon be available. Dr. Gill, with the help of the National Cancer Institute, hopes to have the new drug B-4 submitted to the FDA for Phase I clinical trials in 2012. 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 Jim Kellogg for a fantastic event!

**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.

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## 2011 Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational

On June 6th, 2011 the "Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational" celebrated its 10 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!

As you may recall the event was established in 2002 through the hard work and dedication of then California Building Trades Vice President and International Representative of the Insulators Roger Hamilton, U.A. International Representative of the Pipetrades in California and Hawaii 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. To date the event has grossed over \$1,100,000 for mesothelioma research. **THANK YOU ROGER, CINDY, BOB AND JIM!**

Participating on behalf of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America was Founding Board Member Jerry Neil Paul and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker. After a beautiful round of golf at the Napa Valley Country Club, both Jerry and Shane spoke about the importance of new treatments for mesothelioma and exciting news coming from the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. In addition to the anti-angiogenesis drug VEGLIN, Medical Advisory Board Chairman, Dr. Parkash Gill, and his team have developed a new drug called

B-4. B-4 has shown amazing results in lab studies and is set to be submitted to the FDA clinical trials program in 2012 with the help of the National Cancer Institute. Dr. Gill and the Foundation are very excited about the developments and eager to begin treatment in mesothelioma patients.

Everyone at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America 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, Robert S. Arns, 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. We would also like to thank Michaela Balgenorth, Arlene Holm and those who sacrificed their day volunteering their time at the event. **THANK YOU!**



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

**We're on the web!**  
[www.mesorfa.org](http://www.mesorfa.org)

**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. Veglin proved successful in Phase I and Phase II of the clinical trials which 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 Law Offices of Jerry Neil Paul**

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