

A Publication of the Immortalist Society  
**LONG LIFE**

**Longevity Through Technology**

Volume 46 - Number 03

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# Why should You Join the Cryonics Institute?

The Cryonics Institute is the world's leading non-profit cryonics organization bringing state of the art cryonic suspensions to the public at the most affordable price. CI was founded by the "father of cryonics," Robert C.W. Ettinger in 1976 as a means to preserve life at liquid nitrogen temperatures. It is hoped that as the future unveils newer and more sophisticated medical nanotechnology, people preserved by CI may be restored to youth and health.

## **1) Cryonic Preservation**

Membership qualifies you to arrange and fund a vitrification (anti-crystallization) perfusion and cooling upon legal death, followed by long-term storage in liquid nitrogen. Instead of certain death, you and your loved ones could have a chance at rejuvenated, healthy physical revival.

## **2) Affordable Cryopreservation**

The Cryonics Institute (CI) offers full-body cryopreservation for as little as \$28,000.

## **3) Affordable Membership**

Become a Lifetime Member for a one-time payment of only \$1,250, with no dues to pay. Or join as a Yearly Member with a \$75 initiation fee and dues of just \$120 per year, payable by check, credit card or PayPal.

## **4) Lower Prices for Spouses and Children**

The cost of a Lifetime Membership for a spouse of a Lifetime Member is half-price and minor children of a Lifetime Member receive membership free of charge.

## **5) Quality of Treatment**

CI employed a Ph.D level cryobiologist to develop CI-VM-1, CI's vitrification mixture which can help prevent crystalline formation at cryogenic temperatures.

## **6) Locally-Trained Funeral Directors**

CI's use of Locally-Trained Funeral Directors means that our members can get knowledgeable, licensed care. Or members can arrange for professional cryonics standby and transport by subcontracting with Suspended Animation, Inc.

## **7) Funding Programs**

Cryopreservation with CI can be funded through life insurance policies issued in the USA or other countries. Prepayment and other options for funding are also available to CI members.

## **8) Cutting-Edge Cryonics Information**

Members currently receive a free subscription to Long Life Magazine, as well as access to our exclusive members-only email discussion forum.

## **9) Additional Preservation Services**

CI offers a sampling kit, shipping and long-term liquid nitrogen storage of tissues and DNA from members, their families or pets for just \$98.

## **10) Support Education and Research**

Membership fees help CI to fund important cryonics research and public outreach, education and information programs to advance the science of cryonics.

## **11) Member Ownership and Control**

CI Members are the ultimate authority in the organization and own all CI assets. They elect the Board of Directors, from whom are chosen our officers. CI members also can change the Bylaws of the organization (except for corporate purposes).

The choice is clear: Irreversible physical death, dissolution and decay, or the possibility of a vibrant and joyful renewed life. Don't you want that chance for yourself, your spouse, parents and children?

To get started, contact us at:

**(586) 791-5961 • email: [cihq@aol.com](mailto:cihq@aol.com)**

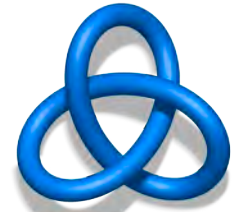
Visit us online at [www.cryonics.org](http://www.cryonics.org)





# LONG LIFE MAGAZINE

A publication of the Immortalist Society



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# Conventions, Conferences and Cryonics

It's election time again at CI and IS, and we're proud to present the candidates here in *Long Life* to help you make an informed decision for the 2015 Board of Directors positions. I encourage you to look over the candidate's statements and consider contacting candidates directly if you have questions or issues you'd like to know their opinions on before you vote.

This issue also features an overview of the CI and IS election process by York Porter, who explains the ins-and-outs of how the elections are conducted and the reasoning behind those procedures.

CI's Joe Kowalsky reports on the 2014 Teens and Twenties conference he attended in Deerfield Beach, Florida on page 21. For those of us interested in the next generation of cryonics leaders, Joe's report, highlighting the diverse talents and enthusiasm of the group who attended, is encouraging.

If you're inspired to attend a cryonics event yourself, we have a few options in this issue. First and foremost, the CI / IS AGM is a great opportunity to join cryonicists from around the world to learn, exchange ideas and socialize with an extraordinary group of people. Please note, the meeting is open to the public, so it's also an excellent opportunity to invite any non-members you may know and introduce them to cryonics and the worldwide cryonics community. The 2014 AGM is Saturday, September 6. Details can be found on page 9.

Two additional conferences of note include the Second Annual Symposium of Applied Cryobiology October 4-5 in Dresden, Germany and the 2014 Venturist's Society Cryonics Convention November 7-9 in Laughlin, Nevada. All the details, including reservation information can be found on pages 26 and 27.

Conferences and events like the AGM provide members an excellent opportunity to educate themselves, network and just plain have a fun and rewarding time with fellow cryonics enthusiasts.

Looking forward to meeting you at this year's AGM!

— *Douglas Golner - Managing Editor, Long Life*



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# 2014 ELECTIONS EDITION

## Vote, Vote, Vote!

*By: York W. Porter*  
*Immortalist Society President*

I'm sure it's somewhat of a surprise to see my name on this page instead of Dennis Kowalski's, the present Cryonics Institute President. Dennis is running for re-election to the CI board and, under a policy established by *Long Life* magazine, no candidate for office can write any more than the other candidates in the issue just preceding the election.

So, Dennis or someone else from CI will return to this page in the next issue. For now, I wanted to share a couple of things with you and talk about the magazine and the important issue (no pun intended) of the election itself.

This time we sort of "took a break" in the magazine from dealing with the more technical aspects of cryonics and tried to have an issue that was more around the topic of what members could do. A report on the last Teens and Twenties meeting is part of these pages. Info on some upcoming events is in here as well. Robert Ettinger, due to his prolific pen over the decades, is featured in a column concerning the motivation of folks that don't join us in our efforts. As usual, the writing is as applicable today as when he wrote it a few decades back and his insights are well taken.

The statements of various candidates for the Board of Directors of the Cryonics Institute remain one of the main things in this issue. To refresh your memory, CI has a Board of Directors consisting of twelve individuals. Each year, at the annual meeting, a group of four stands for re-election to a three-year term. These board members are elected "at large", meaning that the membership only decides on who shall be on the board. The board members themselves then pick officers (President, VP, etc.) from their own group. Voters don't elect officers themselves but, again, elect people to serve on the Board of Directors. Then the Directors decide who among them shall be officers.

In the Immortalist Society, all business, including the direct election of officers (President, VP, etc.), is conducted at the meeting.

In the case of the Cryonics Institute, most of the votes for Board of Director's members are done by proxies that are checked and mailed in by voting members.

A little confusing, perhaps, (there is an expanded article on the election process later in the magazine) but the main, and most important thing, as far as you are concerned is that you need to participate and vote, vote, vote your conscience on these important offices. Robert Ettinger was a unique figure in history. But even unique figures in history don't accomplish things entirely on their own. It always takes the work of other people to bring the idea of one person to life, no matter how valid the idea.

So, again, your job is to get involved and the most important way you can do that, at the moment, is by voting in the election. All of the CI candidates have provided a way for you to get in touch with them. If you have questions, don't hesitate to ask them. Check with other folks you may know in the cryonics community. But, again, vote, vote, vote on the important jobs of leadership in CI and IS.

## Good News On The Research Front

I'm pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached between the Immortalist Society, of which I'm honored to be the President, and Advanced Neural Biosciences, Inc. for a round of research for the second half of this year. The research will be directed towards the further evaluation of the vitrification mixtures available at CI with the ultimate hope of producing a publishable paper on their level of effectiveness.

ANB, Inc. is a company started and operated by Aschwin and Chana de Wolf. We have had an excellent relationship with them in the area of research in the past and look forward to more of their great efforts in the future. In this latest project, these researchers will continue their efforts to "make the best better", as the old 4-H organization saying goes. Look in the next issue for an article explaining in more detail the latest work of ANB, Inc. We want to make cryonics as strong as it can be and research is one of the best ways to do that.







## You've signed up for Cryonics Now what should you do?

Welcome Aboard! You have taken the first critical step in preparing for the future and possibly ensuring your own survival. Now what should you do? People often ask "What can I do to make sure I have an optimal suspension?" Here's a checklist of important steps to consider.

- ☐ Become a fully funded member through life insurance or easy pre-payments

Some members use term life and invest or pay off the difference at regular intervals. Some use whole life or just prepay the costs outright. You have to decide what is best for you, but it is best to act sooner rather than later as insurance prices tend to rise as you get older and some people become uninsurable because of unforeseen health issues. You may even consider making CI the owner of your life insurance policy.

- ☐ Keep CI informed on a regular basis about your health status or address changes. Make sure your CI paperwork and funding are always up to date. CI cannot help you if we do not know you need help.
- ☐ Keep your family and friends up to date on your wishes to be cryopreserved. Being reclusive about cryonics can be costly and cause catastrophic results.
- ☐ Keep your doctor, lawyer, and funeral director up to date on your wishes to be cryopreserved. The right approach to the right professionals can be an asset.
- ☐ Prepare and execute a Living Will and Power of Attorney for Health Care that reflects your cryonics-related wishes. Make sure that CI is updated at regular intervals as well.
- ☐ Consider joining or forming a local standby group to support your cryonics wishes. This may be one of the most important decisions you can make after you are fully funded. As they say-"Failing to plan is planning to fail".
- ☐ Always wear your cryonics bracelet or necklace identifying your wishes should you become incapacitated. Keep a wallet card as well. If aren't around people who support your wishes and you can't speak for yourself a medical bracelet can help save you.
- ☐ Get involved! If you can, donate time and money. Cryonics is not a turnkey operation. Pay attention and look for further tips and advice to make both your personal arrangements and cryonics as a whole a success.



# Worldwide Cryonics Groups

*If you know of, or are considering starting a support, standby or other cryonics-related group in your area, please send details to [immsoc@aol.com](mailto:immsoc@aol.com). We'll be using Long Life to list existing groups of interest as well as help spread the word and encourage new organizations. (New additions to the list are denoted with an asterisk).*

**AUSTRALIA:** The Cryonics Association of Australasia offers support for Australians, or residents of other nearby countries seeking information about cryonics. [caalist@prix.pricom.com.au](mailto:caalist@prix.pricom.com.au). Their Public Relations Officer is Philip Rhoades. [phil@pricom.com.au](mailto:phil@pricom.com.au) GPO Box 3411, Sydney, NSW 2001 Australia. Phone: +6128001 6204 (office) or +61 2 99226979 (home.)

**BELGIUM:** Cryonics Belgium is an organisation that exists to inform interested parties and, if desired, can assist with handling the paperwork for a cryonic suspension. The website can be found at [www.cryonicsbelgium.com](http://www.cryonicsbelgium.com). To get in touch, please send an email to [info@cryonicsbelgium.com](mailto:info@cryonicsbelgium.com).

**BHUTAN:** Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help for the transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr and authorities in Thimphu & Paro. Contacts : Jamyang Palden & Tenzin Rabgay / Emails : [palde002@um.edu](mailto:palde002@um.edu) or [jamgarnett@hotmail.co](mailto:jamgarnett@hotmail.co) Phones : Jamyang / 975-2-32-66-50 & Tenzin / 975-2-77-21-01-87

**CANADA:** This is a very active group that participated in Toronto's first cryopreservation. President, Christine Gaspar; Vice President, Gary Tripp. Visit them at: <http://www.cryocdn.org/>. There is a subgroup called the Toronto Local Group. Meeting dates and other conversations are held via the Yahoo group. This is a closed group. To join write: [csc4@cryocdn.org](mailto:csc4@cryocdn.org)

**QUEBEC:** Contact: Stephan Beauregard, C.I. Volunteer & Official Administrator of the Cryonics Institute Facebook Page.

For more information about Cryonics in French & English: [stephanbeauregard@yahoo.ca](mailto:stephanbeauregard@yahoo.ca)

**DENMARK:** A Danish support group is online. Contact them at: [david.stodolsky@socialinformatics.org](mailto:david.stodolsky@socialinformatics.org)

**FINLAND:** The Finnish Cryonics Society, (KRYOFIN) is a new organization that will be working closely with KrioRus. They would like to hear from fellow cryonicists. Contact them at: [kryo-niikka.fi](mailto:kryo-niikka.fi) Their President is Antti Peltonen.

## FRANCE:

- SOCIETE CRYONICS de FRANCE Roland Missionnier would like to hear from cryoni-

cists in Switzerland, Luxembourg and Monte Carlo, CELL: (0033) 6 64 90 98 41, FAX: (0033) 477 46 96 12 or [rolandmissionnier@yahoo.fr](mailto:rolandmissionnier@yahoo.fr)

- Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help for the transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr and authority in Toulouse Area. Contact : Gregory Gosselin de Bénicourt / Email : [cryonics@benicourt.com](mailto:cryonics@benicourt.com) Phone : 09.52.05.40.15

**GERMANY:** There are a number of cryonicists in Germany. Their homepage is: [www.bio-stase.de](http://www.bio-stase.de) (English version in preparation.) if there are further questions, contact Prof. Klaus Sames: [sames@uke.uni-hamburg.de](mailto:sames@uke.uni-hamburg.de).

**GREECE:** Greek Cryonics Support Group. Sotiris Dedeloudis is the Administrator. Find them at: <http://www.cryonics.gr/>

**INDIA:** Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help for the transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr and authority in Bangalore & Vellore Area. Contacts : Br Sankeerth & Bioster Vignesh / Email : [vicky23101994@gmail.com](mailto:vicky23101994@gmail.com) Phones : Bioster / 918148049058 & Br Sankeerth / 917795115939

**ITALY:** The Italian Cryonics Group (inside the Life Extension Research Group (LIFEXT Research Group)) [www.lifext.org](http://www.lifext.org) and relative forum: [forum.lifext.org](http://forum.lifext.org). The founder is Bruno Lenzi, contact him at [brunolenzi88@gmail.com](mailto:brunolenzi88@gmail.com) or Giovanni Ranzo at: [giovanni1410@gmail.com](mailto:giovanni1410@gmail.com)

**JAPAN:** Hikaru Midorikawa is President Japan Cryonics Association. Formed in 1998, our goals are to disseminate cryonics information in Japan, to provide cryonics services in Japan, and eventually, to allow cryonics to take root in the Japanese society. Contact [mid\\_hikaru@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:mid_hikaru@yahoo.co.jp) or <http://www.cryonics.jp/index.html>

**NEPAL:** Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help for the transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr and authorities in Kathmandu. Contact : Suresh K. Shrestha / Email : [toursuresh@gmail.com](mailto:toursuresh@gmail.com) Phone : 977-985-1071364 / PO Box 14480 Kathmandu.

**\* NETHERLANDS:** The Dutch Cryonics Organization (<http://www.cryonisme.nl>) is the local standby group and welcomes new enthusiasts. Contact Secretary Japie Hoekstra at +31(0)653213893 or email: [jb@hoekstramedia.nl](mailto:jb@hoekstramedia.nl)

\* Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help, funeral home, transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr and authority at Amsterdam with branches in other cities. Contact : Koos Van Daalen / Phone (24 Hours) +31-20-646-0606 or +31-70-345-4810

**\* NORWAY** : Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help for the transport & hospital explanation about the cryonics procedure to the Dr, funeral home and authority at Sandvika. Contacts : Gunnar Hammersmark Sandvika Begegravelsesbyrå / Phones : 011-47-2279-7736

**PORTUGAL:** Nuno & Diogo Martins with Rui Freitas have formed a group to aid Alcor members in Portugal. Contact: [nmartins@nmartins.com](mailto:nmartins@nmartins.com) or visit [www.cryonics.com.pt/](http://www.cryonics.com.pt/)

**RUSSIA:** KrioRus is a Russian cryonics organization operating in Russia, CIS and Eastern Europe that exists to help arrange cryopreservation and longterm suspension locally, or with CI or Alcor. Please contact [kriorus@mail.ru](mailto:kriorus@mail.ru) or [daoila.medvedev@mail.ru](mailto:daoila.medvedev@mail.ru) for additional information or visit <http://www.kriorus.ru>. Phone: 79057680457

**SPAIN:** Giulio Prisco is Secretary of the Spanish Cryonics Society. Website is <http://www.cronica.org.sec>. He lives in Madrid and he's a life member of CI and is willing to serve as a contact point for Europeans. He can be contacted at: cell phone (34)610 536144 or [giulio@gmail.com](mailto:giulio@gmail.com)

**\* UNITED KINGDOM:** Cryonics UK is a nonprofit UK based standby group. <http://www.cryonicsuk.org/> Cryonics UK can be contacted via the following people: **Tim Gibson:** phone: 07905 371495, email: [tim.gibson@cryonics-uk.org](mailto:tim.gibson@cryonics-uk.org). **Victoria Stevens:** phone: 01287 669201, email: [vic-stevens@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:vic-stevens@hotmail.co.uk). **Graham Hipkiss:** phone: 0115 8492179 / 07752 251 564, email: [ghipkiss@hotmail.com](mailto:ghipkiss@hotmail.com). **Alan Sinclair:** phone: 01273 587 660 / 07719 820715, email: [cryoservices@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cryoservices@yahoo.co.uk)

\* Can help Cryonics Institute Members who need help, funeral home, transport at London. Contact : F.A. Albin & Sons / Arthur Stanley House Phone : 020-7237-3637

**INTERNATIONAL:** The Cryonics Society is a global cryonics advocacy organization. Website is [www.CryonicsSociety.org](http://www.CryonicsSociety.org). They publish an e-newsletter FutureNews. Phone: 1-585-643-1167.

*Please note, this list is provided as an information resource only. Inclusion on the list does not constitute an endorsement by Long Life magazine or our affiliated organizations. We urge our readers to use this list as a starting point to research groups that may meet their own*

*individual needs. We further note that readers should always use their own informed judgment and a reasonable amount of caution in dealing with any organization and/or individual listed.*



# Cryonics Institute Membership Statistics:

As of July 2014, the Cryonics Institute has 1,160 members, up 10 from our last report. Of the 1,160 Members, 562 have funding and contracts in place for human cryopreservation. Of these 562, 164 have arrangements for Suspended Animation Standby and Transport.

There are 124 human patients and 106 pet patients in cryopreservation at CI's Michigan facility.

CI continues to be an industry leader in terms of both membership and practical affordability for all.



## Cryonics Institute Membership by Country:







# 2014 ANNUAL GROUP MEETINGS

**Meetings Scheduled for Saturday, Sept 6, 2014**

## **Cryonics Institute AGM**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Cryonics Institute will be held on Saturday, September 6, 2014 at 3 P.M. (EDT) at the main facility, 24355 Sorrentino Court, Clinton Township, Michigan 48035.

For more information including maps and available hotel accommodations, please visit [cryonics.org](http://cryonics.org). To RSVP, please email the CI Facility at [CIHQ@aol.com](mailto:CIHQ@aol.com) or phone 1-586-791-5961. The meetings are open to the general public, but we do request that we be informed ahead of time if additional guests will be attending.

Meetings offer a great opportunity to see the facility, to meet other members, to get a sense of the status of the Cryonics Institute in operation and to meet Officers, Directors and Staff.

## **Immortalist Society AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of The Immortalist Society immediately follows CI's AGM at the CI facility. IS will be electing the organization's 2015 officers at the meeting.

### **AGENDA:**

- Call to Order
- President's Report
- Secretary's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Long Life Editor's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Nomination and Election of 2015 Officers
- Adjournment





## Cryonics Institute Board of Directors Election Information

The twelve Directors of the Cryonics Institute Board are elected by the membership for three-year terms with four directors elected at each Annual General Meeting. The elections are held by proxies with the results counted by a "Teller's Committee" of three voting members of CI who are *not* themselves members of the Board of Directors or candidates in the election. The results are announced during the Annual General Meeting, which is, this year, scheduled to be held on Saturday, Sept. 6th.

This year, the three incumbents, Dennis Kowalski, Andy Zawacki, and Steve Luckyx decided to seek re-election. Long time Board member and past CI President Ben Best decided not to run. Three other candidates, Stephan Beauregard, Kevin Doyle, and David Stodolsky have "thrown their hat into the ring" as well. On the following pages are statements by each of the candidates. They are listed/given in alphabetical order. The length of the statement was entirely up to the candidate, with a limit of around 650 words maximum. Inclusion of a photo was entirely up to the candidate.

## Long Life Candidate Statements Disclaimer

In the following pages, candidates for the Board of Directors' seats of the Cryonics Institute present information. Each of these

individuals is a bona fide candidate as best as can be known by the Immortalist Society at press time for *Long Life* magazine. *The information presented here, however, represents solely and entirely the view of the candidates themselves. The Immortalist Society cannot guarantee the validity of any individual's candidacy nor the validity of their statements and/or viewpoint and any claims made are entirely those of the candidates themselves.*

Other candidates than those who submitted information here may decide to run for a seat on the CI Board of Directors as well but they are unknown to us at press time and/or have decided not to contact us or to provide information here. Further, *in no way should the appearance of any information here be considered an endorsement (or repudiation) of the viewpoint and/or claims of any candidate or of the information contained in each statement.* Each candidate is offered the opportunity to have a maximum of one page/roughly 650 words in the magazine in the issue closest to the election. Voters should, in this election as in any election, read and consider carefully the information contained in these statements and, where applicable, try to verify, to the best of the voter's ability, statements of fact and the validity of candidate's viewpoints as contained herein. In most/all cases, contact information for the candidate is provided. *The appearance here does not guarantee the factual or valid nature of statements of the candidates and it is up to each voting member to engage in a reasonable amount of due diligence in evaluating candidates' statements and in voting for candidates in this election. More general information about the election process is contained in a separate article in this issue.*







## Stephan Beauregard

Hello Dear Friends,

I am Stephan Beauregard, CI Facebook Administrator and Volunteer. I am a candidate for the next Board Election. Here is my little story in a few words in order to help you to know better who I am.

I am 45 years old. I am an only son. I live in Canada & in the

USA. I lived in Europe a few years ago too.

I am bilingual: French and English and I traveled in 71 countries and territories. I started to work at 12 years old as a newspaper peddler and I graduated in 1986 from High School. I did many jobs and volunteering (charitable causes) which gave me various experiences. I started my first enterprise at 20 years old and I was also project manager at Ensam, a prestigious engineering school in France. In 2003 I founded an advertising society with my wife in (Quebec) Canada. I love to meet & help people and I like to organize events. I also like taking care of animals.

My hobbies are: improving my knowledge in health, science technologies; photography, trekking, snorkeling, scuba diving, skating, snowmobile, playing with my cat Sushi; playing music, composing and singing.

I am a happy and positive man, not complicated, dedicated and loyal. I like truth, honesty, friendship and sincere people. I stay away from toxic persons who judge me without really knowing me by contempt or by jealousy. I love to have challenges and goals in my life and I like when projects go forward.

My inspirations are some people that I am proud to have met: Jeanne Calment, who died at 122 years old, Neil Armstrong, Dalai Lama, Hubert Reeves...;but also people that I haven't gotten the chance to meet: Gandhi, Leonardo da Vinci, Gary Yourofsky, Auung San Suu Kyi, Nelson Mandela, Captain Paul Watson, Elvis Presley... But my first real inspiration is: my Love and best friend Magali who is everything for me. She was so courageous to fight against a brain tumor and a broken artery in her head a few years ago.

I have been interested in Cryonics since 1993. I did many radio and

TV interviews in Europe and in North America since 2005.

I want to contribute to promote Cryonics all over the world.

At the 2013 AGM, I had clear goals. One year later, here are the results:

- As Administrator of the CI Facebook page, I succeeded to increase the number of fans and made the page more attractive and dynamic with articles and discussions.
- I convinced and helped persons to become CI members.
- I found willing people to help Cryonicists in Bhutan, France, India, Nepal and in hospitals.
- I translated the membership Agreement & related documents in French (In the CI Website)
- I started an agreement (for services of ice bath, perfusion and local & international transports) with a Funeral Home in Quebec (Canada) for less than \$4000 only. My goal is now to finalize details about this agreement and duplicate this structure in the other Canadian Provinces & Worldwide (Australia, Belgium, England, France, Germany, Greece, Spain, Switzerland, Neatherlands and U.S.A. (Arizona, California, Florida & other States

Now it is your turn to take the right decision and make the difference! No matter your country, you will be able to count on me to help you.

If you want a friendly Director, who likes working as a team, with familial values, leadership, positive outlooks & clear goals with results, vote (4) me!

Thanks, Danke, Dank u, Dziekuje, Gracias, Grazie, Merci

Best regards,

Stephan

The e-mail for contacting Stephan is [stephanbeauregard@yahoo.ca](mailto:stephanbeauregard@yahoo.ca)







## Kevin Doyle

My name is Kevin Doyle and I am running for the position of CI Director. (After many years of fine service Ben Best is retiring from the board). I'm hopeful that I can help with the challenging work the Cryonics Institute has ahead re: growth, stability and changing the public perception of our efforts. I'm fully supportive of the current efforts of many groups like the CSC to put local standby teams/procedures in place.

Being from Canada, I could possibly present a bit of an international perspective. I have run a large-scale beef farm operation all my life as so have some understanding of ground level work and organization, as it were.

I have a BSc in Mechanical Engineering from Queens University and a M.E.Sc from the University of Western Ontario and have worked in Nuclear Power Generation for many years. I have a Ph.D. in Operations Research from the University of Toronto and have experience with optimization projects in the health care field, the equipment maintenance field, the area of organizational behaviour, etc. I presently operate my own consulting organization.

Kevin can be reached by phone at 519-596-8540 or email at [kevind@bmts.com](mailto:kevind@bmts.com).



## Dennis Kowalski

CI President **Dennis Kowalski** is a Fire Fighter and a Nationally Registered EMT-Paramedic (NREMT-P) for the city of Milwaukee. He is also certified in advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), advanced pediatric life support (PALS), and as a CPR Instructor for the American Heart Association. As a Fire Fighter and Paramedic, Dennis

has substantial experience dealing with life and death. His training and skills have given him numerous opportunities to be a part of saving lives while helping others in great distress. In addition to his day job, he also teaches emergency medicine at the Milwaukee Fire Academy and the Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Center. He also works special events as a paramedic with the Bradley Center Sports Arena. He has been a National Registry examiner at local technical colleges where he helped to certify many new Emergency Medical Technicians & Paramedics. As for problem solving under pressure, he has managed and set up emergency triage at mass casualty incidents. He feels that his knowledge & experience in emergency medical services will make him a vital asset to CI's board of directors and he is eager to share what he has learned as a bridge between conventional emergency medicine and cryonics.

Dennis was raised in a small suburb outside of Milwaukee. Always a competitor, he proudly took home the golden gloves title in boxing in 1986. In 1987, after high school, he served in the US Marine Corps on a special assignment to Alpha company 3rd Reconnaissance (an intelligence gathering unit hand picked for covert military operations.) During this service, he held a secret clearance in communications. In 1991, he attended the University of Waukesha to study philosophy and astronomy. Science has always been and continues to be a great love of his. From 1991 to 2003, he worked with the US Postal Service supervising operations. In his time at the USPS, he

received training in budgeting, finance, marketing and was awarded several citations for revenue generating suggestions and proposals.

Dennis has volunteered for many charitable causes including USMC Toys for Tots, Disabled American Veterans, and currently Project Staying Alive, an urban initiative to teach children alternatives to violence. He also works with the FOCUS & Survive programs, designed to educate the community about fire safety and prevention. He has served on committees for Equal Employment Opportunity, Quality Control, MPO Sportsman club, Wisconsin Mycological Society and as a political action volunteer. He also is a member of the Cato Institute, a public policy research organization dedicated to the principles of individual liberty. He is happily married to his wife Maria. They have 3 young boys, a dog and a cat.

Dennis's goals are to see positive growth and stability in CI membership. He'd like to see local support groups formed to promote comradeship, marketing and emergency response. He would also like to continue to provide solutions to the various challenges and problems facing cryonics today and into the future. Advocating for Cryonics and Nanomedicine are essential to his philosophy. As someone dedicated to helping others, he sees advancements in these technologies as the logical conclusion to the quest for prosperity and longevity.

Dennis has served as CI's president for the last two years. During his term he has overseen many positive changes and continued growth and strength in our membership. If you approve of the job he is doing please cast your vote for him this election.

He can be contacted at: [Dennis@Cryonics.org](mailto:Dennis@Cryonics.org)





## Steve Luyckx

Steve Luyckx was born in Detroit, Michigan, one of six children. He graduated from Michigan State University in '86 (BA Logistics) and obtained a Masters degree in Finance a few years later. He currently lives about 20 miles from CI's headquarters and is married with three children. His hobbies include long distance running (20 marathons), golf and financial planning for friends and family.

His professional career includes two decades at Daimler/Chrysler Financial and in 2009, Steve became the President of a joint venture between ADP and Reynolds to develop specialized financial software for automotive dealerships.

He has been one of the longest serving board members dating back over 20 years and has attended every annual meeting since 1988. Steve brings a unique value to the board having 25+ years business experience with a strong financial background. He also maintains his license as a registered representative and continues to provide insights as a member of CI's investment committee and "inside auditor" of CI's financial/accounting practices.

"Serving on the CI Board of Directors for the years that I have has been a great honor to me. CI is a very important part of all our lives and I would be very appreciative if voters would allow me to continue my long service to this outstanding organization. Whether on the board or not, I plan to stay an active member which will include being a trusted advisor to our current President"

Steve can be reached by email at [sluyckx@gmail.com](mailto:sluyckx@gmail.com)







## David Stodolsky

The current mismanagement at CI, resulting in a loss of desirable progress, has compelled me to seek election to the CI Board. While critical of the current management of CI, I believe that more effective resource utilization will make it possible to achieve desired goals, as follows:

First, a free speech forum must be made available to members. This type of free and open communication was, in fact, promised by Dennis Kowalski. However, I was secretly deleted from the CI E-mail List prior to the 2013 election. After this misconduct was exposed, I was added back to the List, but only to witness moderation of all messages. Some messages were secretly blocked. This practice is unacceptable and damaging to organizational decision making.

Second, back-room vote counting must be replaced with verifiable and privacy-protected elections conducted by a certified provider, such as SafeVote. However, a fair vote assumes that people have access to the information needed to reach an informed decision. Information about the number of non-member emergency suspensions, the minutes of meetings, etc. is being withheld from members.

Therefore, thirdly, CI must start observing Michigan Law, which requires that business owners-CI Voting Members-have access to all business records. Hiding of information to "ensure member privacy" is a false argument. Rather, real action must be taken to protect member privacy.

Fourth, I will insist that CI returns to its previous practice of making decisions at Board meetings and of making the results of those meetings available to all members. I will urge the Board to hold open meetings, enabling input from all members. Under the current leadership, Board decision making is kept secret.

Fifth, online participation in Annual Meetings would eliminate the disadvantage that those located remotely experience. I proposed this in 2011 and it should have been adopted long ago. An organization that claims to be taking its members to the future must use modern governance methods, if it is to be taken seriously. A

more democratic, transparent organization with an informed and engaged membership will be in a much better position to deal with the real issues we face.

Membership growth has stalled, even though we know from surveys that between 20% and 50% of people find cryonics to be an acceptable option. We are missing obvious opportunities, such as more effective cooperation with the funeral industry.

The membership is CI's greatest resource. But, it is merely being manipulated via public relations activity, instead of being actively involved and mobilized by CI's leadership. Combined with the increased secrecy, this means that an organizational

collapse could occur without warning. Democracy can only function effectively when there is an informed electorate. This will allow a return to focusing on CI's mission: achieving the growth and stability that will ensure that suspended members remain safe until reanimation is possible.

If elected, I will stop the misuse of CI resources to influence elections. Since 2011, members have been deceived by misleading statements. Information unfavorable to the leadership has been secretly censored. The President has ordered that certain candidates' information be distributed while block that from others. CI's law firm was used to attack a candidate.

It appears that the Board is only capable of merely public relations responses at this time. It is only when criticism is raised outside CI of obviously abusive practices that we have seen productive action. The response to misconduct has been to cover up abuses. Hypocrisy, autocracy, secrecy, and amateurism remain the most accurate description of the Board's operation. Even simple, obviously needed changes are ignored. For example, the format of the emergency response telephone numbers on the website was not correct. Repeated member complaints about this since 2011 were ignored until this year, when another member and I reasserted the need for changes.

Documentation supporting the above statements can be found by an Internet search for "Stodolsky Cryonics Institute"

E-mail: [dss@secureid.net](mailto:dss@secureid.net)

Skype/Twitter: davidstodolsky





## Andrew Zawacki

I have worked for the benefit of the Cryonics Institute for more than twenty-nine years. I am in charge of the day-to-day operations, patient suspensions, patient care and member relations at CI. I have served as a Director of the Cryonics Institute for six years and I am also serving as the Corporate Secretary.

Andy can be reached by e-mail at [cihq@aol.com](mailto:cihq@aol.com) and by phone at 586-791-5961.

# Counting Up The Votes

By: York W. Porter  
Immortalist Society President

## Some Basic But Essential Info About the Cryonics Institute and Immortalist Society Elections

*(The following column offers general information/advice on the elections in both CI and IS. It should be noted by the reader, however, that Mr. Porter is neither an attorney nor a parliamentarian so any significant legal/procedural questions should be referred to an appropriately trained individual).*

In this issue of *Long Life*, you should have statements by various candidates in their attempt to get elected to the Board of Directors of the Cryonics Institute. The purpose of this column is to educate, at least to some degree, both Cryonics Institute members, as well as Immortalist Society members, about some of the procedures used in dealing with the actual balloting that goes along with electing members to lead each organization. Things shouldn't get too complicated in what follows, although, like all election information, it can't help but be a little bit tedious at times. A modicum of patience is suggested and, if necessary, reading parts of the column at any one sitting may be advisable.

The first thing that has to be kept in mind is that the Cryonics Institute ("CI") and the Immortalist Society ("IS") are two *entirely separate organizations*. While both of them are dedicated to advancing the concept of cryonics, they have quite different job tasks. As a general rule, one may think of CI as engaging in the "nuts and bolts" of cryonics, the preparation for and long term storage of individuals, while IS works in the areas of research and education as its two primary assignments.

As might be expected, the two organiza-

tions have two different corporate structures and ways of doing business. We'll deal with the Cryonics Institute first.

A Board of Directors sets management policy of CI, on a day-to-day basis, subject to any corporate resolutions members may have passed. This Board of Directors consists of twelve persons. These twelve persons can be thought of as subdivided into three groups of four. Each group of four serves three-year terms. The first year a group of four people are elected. The next year a second group of four persons are elected. The third year the last group of four persons is elected and the process repeats itself over and over.

That means that, in any one year, only four people are up to be voted on out of the twelve people that serve. The purpose of that is to provide stability to the Board in that a group totally hostile to cryonics would need, at the very quickest, at least two elections in a row in order to gain majority control. It would also mean that they would have to win 7 out of the 8 seats up for election in those two elections in order to have a controlling majority on the CI board that quickly, if they started "from scratch". While not impossible, that's a pretty tall order to fill.

Plus, the hostile group would have to "fly under the radar" as, in order to both vote





and sit on the Board of Directors, they would have to become either lifetime members or yearly members for three years. In addition, they would have to have a completed cryonic suspension contract with full funding for that contract *and* remain undetected as “anti-cryonics” for the time needed to get elected. I’m sure it might be able to be done but it would be difficult.

## Proxies

Now to the “nitty-gritty” about the actual voting process in CI. The first thing that should be noted is that CI uses a “proxy” instead of a mail ballot. Proxies are an old device used by corporations to enhance the ability of stockholders/members who are unable to attend a meeting to participate in the meeting. It might not give one the ability to have the same direct measure of participation as a person who takes the time, effort, and expense to show up but, especially in this day of electronic devices and communications, it can be a pretty potent device.

There are two types of proxies. The first one is a “general” proxy, where one gives a person who is going to be at the meeting the power to vote on all matters on your behalf. The second type is a “specific” or “limited” proxy, where you instruct an individual on how to vote on a specific matter. The CI election ballot is an example of a specific/limited proxy.

The great thing about proxies is that they are subject to be changed and/or withdrawn by the user as long as this is done in a reasonable time period before the vote is counted. In the case of “mail ballots”, in which one marks the ballot and drops it in the mail, the “die is cast” when the mail ballot hits the post office. If you find out a fact that gives you a different viewpoint and change your mind and, well, too late. With a proxy, if you find out the information and/or change your mind soon enough, you can change the proxy to vote a different way. Pretty neat, huh?

There is one downside to the proxy and that is that you have to sign it. That means, of course, that you don’t have the measure of privacy that a person casting a secret ballot would have. The reason for the signing is to identify the proxy in case you change your mind (or in case someone challenges the proxy as not being legitimate). The only way to hold an entirely secret election that involves members at a distance and using non-electronic ballots, would be mail ballots which, as mentioned, have a downside of their own.

## The Actual Vote

Most of us are familiar with the concept of “majority rules”, as happens in many elections throughout the world for everything from Senior Class President, to all the various governmental offices. The method that CI uses is a common, but not quite as frequently used, one of “cumulative voting”.

Cumulative voting is a process that tries to give a little more balance than the strict “majority rules” method. It is frequently used in corporations to enable a significant minority of voters to have at least some representation on the Board of Directors of their corporation. It’s a little bit complicated and outside of the scope of this article to completely explain but the bottom line is that a determined and large enough group of members can insure at least some representation on the board. That means that their representative would be in a position to be at all board meetings and to be privy to all information that a board member is entitled to look at. Even if the group doesn’t gain enough Board members to have a majority on the Board of Directors, they are in an excellent position to act as a “watchdog” on that Board and to insure that their voice gets heard among the people who are responsible for running the corporation on a day-in and day-out basis. It makes for an excellent way to insure all significant viewpoints are put forth to the

Board.

Just how “significant” you ask? Well, to elect one board member where, as in our case, four board members are running at a time, if my calculator is running right, it takes 20% of the total votes plus one more vote, all cast for a single candidate, to guarantee that you can elect that candidate to the Board. So, if a group of members representing 20 percent of the CI votes plus one more vote wants at least one person on the Board, they can do so. This aspect of cumulative voting allows a significant minority to have a Board member, should they wish to band together. It doesn’t, fortunately, allow any splinter group of just any size to do that, which helps to foster cooperation between various factions in an organization.

In an interesting example of this, a “proxy fight” broke out in Loew’s Incorporated, which made motion pictures under the trade name of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer several decades ago. Then famous attorney Louis Nizer in his book *My Life In Court* chronicles this fight. After a long fight and the dust finally settling, the minority shareholders still had a representative on the Board of Directors even though they hadn’t been successful in getting their way in a disagreement with the way the company was being managed. That, in a nutshell, is the strength of cumulative voting. The majority rules but the minority isn’t without its own strengths in trying to get things done and isn’t just entirely subjugated to the majority view..

## Strategies for Cumulative Voting

I suppose there are probably strategies for cumulative voting but I won’t get into those as I’m not that familiar with them and I’m sure a search on the Internet would yield many more pages with better information than I could write about here.

The best strategy in my mind is simply, as



most members do, to vote for the candidates that you think will do the best job for the welfare of the members, both those members who have already undergone the procedures associated with cryonics, and those, like myself, who expect to be under the care of CI at one point or another. At times I've cast all my ballots for one individual. At others, I've given some votes to one person and some votes to another.

Remember that you have, in this election, four total votes to give per proxy. You can give all four to one candidate, if you wish. You can also, for example, give one vote to each of four candidates. You could give, should you wish, two votes to one candidate and a vote to another with your last of four votes for a third person. Any combination that you wish, as long as the total doesn't add up to more than four, will be fine when ballots are counted.

## Actually Doing The Count

After you mail your ballot in, it is placed in a "ballot box" by whoever checks the mail (Combination CI Director and employee Andy Zawacki in most cases) More about the ballot box later.

In the Cryonics Institute vote counting, we employ a method that has been used by many organizations down through the decades. We use what is called a "Teller's Committee". In short, this is normally composed of three, non-board members of CI who are, nevertheless, voting members of the organization. For the past several years, I have been privileged to serve on this committee along with some of my fellow CI voting members.

Although there are three of us who normally perform the count, any CI member, voting member or not, who wishes to observe the process is more than welcome to do so. We hold the count, normally, in the last room

on the right (the room just past the CI office area) as you come into the CI facility office area and we do it with the door closed. We normally do this the morning of the day the annual meeting is scheduled.

Any member is welcome to watch although, if we have too many folks, we'll need to move to a bigger room. The reason we use the room we use is that we once tried to count the ballots in the Boardroom and a family member of a recent patient kept coming in the room, which is where some pictures of our patients are on the wall. The family member was understandably distraught and was crying and was very upset so we moved to the room we use now to do the count in.

We only shut the door to keep out noise as counting the votes is very, very tedious work and we are, frankly, trying to work as diligently as we can to make sure the count is accurate. I can only assure members that nothing nefarious is going on at all and that, to my knowledge, no member of CI, whether on the Board or not, has tried to intervene in any way whatsoever with our attempts to do an accurate and honest count. Frankly, given the caliber of folks involved with CI, I would be deeply shocked if they did but, given the caliber of the folks I have worked with on the Teller's Committee, it wouldn't do the folks out to have a crooked election one whit of good.

Again, any CI member is welcome to observe the count. Please contact me at the e-mail of [porter@kih.net](mailto:porter@kih.net) (which is the one normally on page 4 of the magazine) or at the more closely checked one, when it comes to cryonics, of [york@kih.net](mailto:york@kih.net), if you wish to watch the count. Candidates along with their representatives are strongly urged to be there to protect their interests. Again, nothing nefarious is going on but the Teller's Committee is composed of fallible human beings and any additional set of eyes would help correct possible errors.

The only caveats are that we ask everyone to

be reasonably quiet and if an individual feels the need to go in and out of the room too much to where it creates a distraction, they'll probably be politely but firmly asked to do one or the other.

Please also note that non-board members of CI are the ones doing the count, although I believe some time back we made a small error and used a board member whose term was ending that afternoon and who had elected not to run again. Even in that case, there were two other non-board members in the room and we haven't repeated that mistake. We begin the count by obtaining the container that the ballots are stored in (the "ballot box"). This is a small, basically translucent plastic container that has a lightweight chain around it secured with a padlock. The only two keys to the padlock are sealed in an envelope that is taped to the front of the box. The envelope the keys are placed in has a seal of a Notary Public on it. This seal would be broken if anyone tried to remove the keys before the Tellers Committee did so.

Upon retrieving the box, it is carried into the "counting room" and then the envelope containing the keys is inspected for its integrity. The keys are then retrieved and the ballot box is opened in front of the Teller's Committee/whomever else is in there observing. The envelopes containing the ballots are removed and separated into roughly equal amounts among the three tellers. The envelopes containing the ballots are then opened and the signature portion of the ballot is folded under the ballot so that, when actual counting begins, it will be difficult to know who voted for whom while the count is going on.

Counting of the ballots is done starting with myself as Chief Teller. I silently mark on a tally sheet and then pass the ballot I have just examined on to the next teller. They mark a tally sheet and then pass the ballot on to the final teller, who does the same.



Approximately every twenty to twenty five ballots or so, we stop and total up the results so far. If we make an error, we recount from the point that the last agreed count occurred. We recount again if another error occurs. As I stated, we take the job very seriously and do our best to insure an accurate count. It is a very tedious and, for me at least, a very, very tiring process. The counted ballots are placed in a corner of the room away from the ballots yet to be counted.

At the end of the count, a sheet is typed up and signed by the Teller's Committee members. This information is held confidential until the appropriate time during the annual meeting, when the results are announced to the crowd.

## Storing the Ballots In Case a Recount Is Needed

After the ballots are counted, they are then placed in my possession where they are taken to my home in Kentucky and stored until, generally speaking, sometime during the Xmas season.

The reason for the ballots ending up in my possession after the count is completed is that there is always the possibility of someone calling for a recount. That means that someone has to keep them for at least thirty days after the election (I keep them somewhat longer before they are destroyed by fire "just in case").

It was felt that since I had already helped in the count and since leaving them at CI headquarters might be more likely to lead to charges at a recount that they had been tampered with, they could be placed in my safe keeping since I would be five hundred miles away.

The ballots are sealed in envelopes after the count and never opened again and they are then destroyed by fire, normally around the

first of the year. To repeat myself, someone has to keep them for at least a while and, for the reasons noted, as well as the fact that I am a CI voting member as opposed to some outside entity, it seemed prudent and more private for members to place them in my safekeeping. Anywhere you store them, until the "recount" date has passed, someone will have access to them, regardless. Even if one rented, say, a safe deposit box at a bank, someone has to take them there and then they have to be picked by someone in order to be recounted or destroyed. If anyone has a better approach, let me know.

Anyone wishing to watch the process needs



to be prepared to be at the CI facility on Saturday morning. The time we start is somewhat fluid but is normally between 9 and 11 o'clock Detroit time. E-mail me at [porter@kih.net](mailto:porter@kih.net) and I'll try to get back to you as soon as I can on the specifics. You might also place a phone call to CIHQ Friday evening or early Saturday morning as well if you are interested in observing.

Hopefully the above has given you at least a glimpse into the election process used by CI. If you have any suggestions (and we were grateful to have received some last year), please let us know. Obviously, whether a particular procedure is used or not is ultimately

up to the membership but we appreciate any good thoughts.

The election procedure in the Immortalist Society is much simpler than that of CI. All officers in IS (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer) are elected for one year terms. Since IS doesn't do any long term care and storage of individuals but is dedicated to the more fast moving fields of education and research, this allows the members to make a quick change in the organization's leadership, if they so choose.

Another feature of IS bylaws is the ability to have an undetermined number of "members at large" of the organization. Although one member expressed an interest at last year's meeting in serving in such a capacity, the general consensus at the last annual meeting was, however, that at this time enlarging the IS board didn't seem necessary. In any event, names are placed in nomination and a vote is held. Secret ballots are used if a contested election occurs. For the past few years this hasn't occurred and the incumbents have been elected unopposed.

The bottom line is that all IS elections (as well as other IS business) are held at the meeting with nominations from the floor among those who took the time, trouble, and expense of attending. It's just a different way of doing business and, it appears, each seems to suit the organization that uses it.

In closing, hopefully this article has given you some basic information about how both CI and IS go about doing one of their most important functions which is, of course, the election of people to try to lead the organizations through the days ahead. It's up to you to do your part, now, and vote for the people you think will best carry on with the outstanding concept that Robert Ettinger developed.





# 2014 Teens and Twenties Conference

by Joe Kowalsky



I recently had the honor of attending the “Teens & Twenties Conference” in Deerfield Beach Florida. The conference was a gathering of young members of Cryonics organizations from around the world. I was one of a select group of “elder statesmen” (or as expressed more eloquently and descriptively in Yiddish, alter cockers) in attendance, myself as representative of the Cryonics Institute.

This provided me an especially interesting perspective. I became involved with Cryonics when I was 13 years old and for a long time was the youngest member, and then the youngest Board Member, of the Cryonics Institute. I am ambivalent about my new role. While it is nice to know that my 35 years of experience in the Cryonics world may be helpful to these young people, I was confident (when I was their age) that by the time I reached my current age Cryonics would be a fully established and proven science.

The other “elder statesmen” – most of whom have given far more to Cryonics than have I – were Doug Baldwin (Alcor), Ben Best (Life Extension Foundation), Bill Faloon (Life Extension Foundation/Sponsor), Aubrey de Grey (SENS Research Foundation), Cairn Idun (Alcor/Co-ordinator and planner of the Conference), Michael Perry (Alcor/Cryonics Historian), Neal VanDeRee (Church of Perpetual Life) and Mark Voelker (Alcor).

The conference was sponsored by Bill Faloon and the Life Extension Foundation and was put together by Cairn E. Idun. Cairn’s efforts

were rewarded with a conference that ran as smoothly as a ballet and seemed equally unscripted. That is the sure sign of very hard work. These young people reminded me of what I lived among as a student at Columbia University: premier abilities and intellect coupled with enthusiasm and drive. Putting them together in one room made the percolation of ideas a given.

Cairn’s goal, however, was not just to get these people together for a weekend but also to give them – our “next generation” – the chance to meet and get to know one another so that they would have a structure for ensuring further interaction and the success of our grand adventure. I believe that she has succeeded, and that an annual “refresher” continues to be warranted. We owe her (and all who assisted her) a debt of gratitude for the work she has done and continues to do. The author M. Scott Peck wrote in his book *The World Waiting to be Born: Civility Rediscovered* that the “civil CEO” – the smart CEO -- does what is necessary to bring in new talent to take over for him/her in the future. There is a vested interest in this as they will be taking care of us in all likelihood. Cairn’s vision is helping to ensure this goal.

Participant Spencer Cohen described the conference by paraphrasing *So Long and Thanks For All the Fish*. He said that it was nice, for a few days, to step out of the asylum and into a place of sanity. But if, indeed, most people are insane and it is not a metaphor, do we



not have the duty to try to share the importance of what we do with them? (I emphasize “try” as it is in most cases impossible to help people who do not want to be helped.) I am happy to say that that is something that most of us do try to do.

One of the tenets of Nikolai Fedorovich Fedorov, and a principal of the church of Perpetual Life is that, “man will give his energy to a cause when he regards it as duty.” Bill Faloon quoted this and expressed his own feeling of duty in the development and promotion of Cryonics. I had heard of Bill Faloon for years but this was my first opportunity to meet him. He is a wealthy man who supports many Cryonics and Cryonics-related ventures. Mr. Faloon did not inherit wealth. He worked hard and was tenacious when many would have given up. He told of starting the Life Extension Foundation (“LEF”) in 1977 but not getting his first member until 1980. LEF was not cash flow positive until 1982! And “cash flow positive” does not mean making a good living – that took still longer. Despite the yeoman’s effort it took to achieve financial success, and the selfishness that this could engender, he has instead given away millions of dollars and continues to do so. It is true that he thinks that the ventures which he supports will help him personally, but they also are, or will be, helpful to the many thousands of us involved in Cryonics. In speaking with him, and hearing his discussions with people about their health or other issues (people approached him at every break and he always took time to discuss with a smile) it is clear that his efforts are those of a man of concern for others not just for himself.

The participants were an impressive mix from around the world: 12 members of the Cryonics Institute, 22 members of Alcor, and one each from the American Cryonics Society and Kriorus. Participants came from Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Nevada, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Ohio and Utah as well as from Brazil, Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and Russia. The participants were largely male, though there was a decent contingent of women. I would encourage more women to attend to help further diversify this event.

The resumes of these people would be impressive for people twice their age. Here is a sampling David Halversan is working on a cure for cancer at the SENS Research Foundation; Jata Mackey goes around the country collecting tissue samples from very long lived individuals to try to determine genetic similarities; Jonathan Gill is studying social work (it is extremely important that we have people who can actually talk with other people!); Xiaoxi Wei, originally from China, seemingly has knowledge of everything related to science and Cryonics; Carrie Wong is a student of Geology and Philosophy and her “day job” has her working in gold exploration; a participant – please people help me remember his name! – develops businesses so that he has the money to fund Cryonics and related research ven-

tures. And again, that is just a sampling!

The conference could be divided into five parts:

1. Meet, greet and get to know you
2. Speakers
3. Informal meetings over food or otherwise on various predetermined and impromptu topics
4. Fun at the pool, a talent show, the beach and other fun and relaxing interactions
5. Field trip to the Church of Perpetual Life

Before the conference began, participants Matthew Deutsch, Robert McIntyre (who deserves thanks for putting together a spreadsheet of participants and contact information), Mike Perry and I went to the beach. I cannot imagine four more different people hanging out together on the beach. We had a great time! Mike got some pics of flying birds and I do not believe removed his shoes or long pants. Matthew and Robert went out into the water and when they returned had a fascinating conversation that I was able to half follow. And I meditated with the help of sunshine, sunscreen and my ancient MP3 player. (This relaxation time was later supplemented by nights at the pool and in the hot tub with most of the participants kicking back and hanging out until well past midnight.)

Back at the hotel, we assembled in the conference room provided. Everything took place in one large room which was both efficient and forced us to mingle frequently. For the formal parts of the conference we sat around the outside of a set of tables set in a rectangle, so that we could all look at one another easily. The microphones were placed one on each side of the two longer tables. The meet and greet portion was interwoven over the weekend. Several times during the conference each of us was given a few minutes to come up to the microphone and say whatever we wanted about ourselves. Some repeated similar things; some totally different things about themselves.

The speakers – most of the “Elder Statesmen” listed above – each provided short talks on diverse topics which we thought would interest the participants. Remembering that the conference was focused on the participants rather than on us, we spoke briefly.

Meals were buffet style and yummy with an emphasis on variety and healthy foods. Each of us old folks was assigned to a table. The participants sat where they wished, with the understanding that they should move to different tables at different meals to get to know all of us. The meal conversations touched on everything that you can think of: from politics to science to comedy to art. I was surprised to



find that most of the people – at least most of those who spoke to me – were strongly libertarian and several polyamorous. (Coming from the mid-west, and in contact with mostly cryonicists of my own generation, I am used to more conservative cryonicists.) Their insights were interesting and I was not sure if they represented a systemic shift in the philosophies and ideas of the next generation of cryonicists, a youthful attitude which would mellow over time, or merely an under-representative selection of cryonicists. I am libertarian on some issues but not nearly to the extent of most of the people with whom I spoke. (Some people have in the past called me a left-wing fanatic and others have said that I am just right of Atilla the Hun.) But I am always glad to hear diverse opinions that differ from mine. It helps me to question and analyze my thoughts and ideas. I like to think, though, that Cryonicists cover the spectrum of philosophical and political positions. If our theses are correct and if our movement is to succeed, it should be “obvious” and accepted irrespective of our other ideas – as today penicillin is used by Conservatives, Liberals, Communists, and everyone in between (and outside).

Saturday night, before pool time, we had the opportunity to see some of these young people’s non-Cryonics related talents. We were regaled with comedic sketches, parodies, music and even belly-dancing. These are not two dimensional Cryonics puppets but rather well-rounded individuals with passions for many things and a zest for life!

The last event, held on Sunday morning, was a trip to the Church of Perpetual Life. Bill Faloon spoke briefly, followed by Dr. Aubrey de Grey. The topic of their talks was unconventional medicine and techniques for treatment of cancer and other life threatening illnesses which have shown success but which have not been embraced by the medical establishment. Richard Peritz, of RCP Productions and The Shalom Show, was on hand to chronicle the event. A video can be found on the website of the Church of Perpetual Life or at <http://www.churchofperpetuallife.org/#!past-events-videos/c1js>.

Unfortunately my Aunt had had surgery and I went to visit her during this time so I cannot report on the event personally. But I did watch the video and recommend it. I have respect for the scientific



and medical establishment. But they are human beings and have limited time and resources, not to mention their own biases and other human shortcomings. It is up to us to stay on top of things which they might miss and/or which the private sector pharmaceutical companies do not have a financial interest in telling them about.

I returned in time to have a delicious lunch with church members and our participants. After this last batch of smiles and hugs, buses left for the airport and I for my car.

Friends, things are moving forward. And if we should succumb to illness, aging or disease, we are and will be in good hands.







# Cryonics Directors: the Next Generation

## Where Will They Come From?

by Jim Yount - C.O.O. [American Cryonics Society](http://www.american-cryonics-society.org)

### Meet the Camel

The camel is sometimes and metaphorically referred to as “a horse designed by a committee.” What a great metaphor! Meet the committee: the committee gathers together several times a year to review the design of the camel and to direct the camel train on its future path. It is an awesome responsibility the members of the committee take upon themselves. That committee is, of course, a cryonics organization’s Board of Directors.

The Camel is a beast with an attitude. The Cryonics Camel laughs at the very idea that cryonics is an “ambulance to a hospital of the future.” He knows that the road to the future will be so rough and rocky that a *camel* is needed to traverse the terrain. His hump is stuffed with cash, the real “fuel of the desert;” not all needed right now, but it can be a long way between watering holes. His big splayed feet are tough and sure; he won’t slip down into the sand carrying his precious cargo to oblivion. His feet and sharp teeth, when reluctantly used, may ward-off attack.

At the Cryonics Institute (CI), as with the Immortalist Society (IS), and the American Cryonics Society (ACS), the Directors (Camel designers and drivers in our metaphor) are chosen from *amongst members*. Unless there are *some* members of these organizations of sound ability, there can be no Directors so endowed. Additionally, since all three

organizations depend upon votes of the members, the ultimate quality of the “camel drivers” is dependent upon the wisdom of individual members to choose from among the candidates. It is also dependent upon the election process to be fair and impartial.

We in the US, as in many Western countries, are dependent upon the committee to make things happen. We have institutionalized widely accepted standards of conduct, such as *Robert’s Rules of Order*, as a way to see that committees function properly, with all members having a chance to be heard, but not to monopolize discussion. These rules also allow decisions to be made, with everyone knowing exactly what the decisions are. This is done by proposing resolutions, discussing or debating those resolutions, and then voting to accept or reject the resolution that then becomes a policy or law for the organization.

Because these standards for running committees are so widely accepted, anyone who has served on a committee knows these procedures and can go to some other organization to be a member of a committee, even for a *very different purpose* than that of his first committee, and can quickly act as a productive member of the new committee. He knows the ropes. This is one of the many strengths of the committee system.

Since so many organizations depend upon

the committee for operations, it is not surprising that the structure and size of committees has been a topic that has been studied and written about extensively. Economic and probability theorists, as well as behavioral scientists have examined such things as the optimum size of a committee for best effectiveness, and the factors that make for good decision making. See, for example: <http://psychology.about.com/od/psychologynews/qt/groupsize.htm>

Our trip across the desert (or *through time*, if you will) is very long, and apt to be arduous. It behooves us, especially in the selection of our organizations’ Directors, to choose them wisely.

### From Hierarchy to Polyarchy

The Kalamazoo Public Library’s guide to Starting a Nonprofit gives us a pretty good synopsis of the duties of the board of directors:

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*“The board is responsible for governing*

*A board of directors has legal, governance and stewardship responsibilities for the nonprofit organization. It develops the mission and governance policies; hires/supervises the lead staff person (if there is employed staff); secures the*



*funds needed to carry out the mission; and, assures financial integrity, accountability, and transparency throughout the organization.”* <http://www.kpl.gov/ONEplace/starting-a-nonprofit.aspx>

This synopsis is consistent with the Cryonics Institute's Articles of Incorporation and By-laws, but do the CI Directors *really* do all that?

Because of his rightful stature as the “Father of Cryonics,” and founder and guiding light of CI, Robert Ettinger had an inordinate amount of influence. I recall attending a number of CI General Annual Meetings where, after some rather free-flowing discussion on various subjects, Robert would simply announce what he intended do. No one objected and, in my opinion, such ad hoc decisions have generally led to the success CI has enjoyed. Having such a heavy hand at the helm also helped CI avoid the infighting and turf wars that have characterized many cryonics organizations.

Such a governance style, which I would characterized as *hierarchical*, while effective, is dependent on the continuation of the leader. In the absence of the leader, unless another strong leader emerges, the organization takes on its designed structure as that of a polyarchy with the directors actually fulfilling the “job description” of governing as a committee.

It seems to me that CI is still working out the kinks of their transition from hierarchy to polyarchy and having capable directors (or camel drivers, in the analogy), is more important than any time in its history.

## The CI Directors of the Future

CI is fortunate to have had, and currently have, dedicated and capable board members, though it seems to me that they don't

currently have enough board members with strong science backgrounds for an organization that purports to *do science*.

Given how dependent CI is upon their directors, are there steps CI can take *NOW* to increase the likelihood of having dedicated and capable directors in the future? After all, our purposes are rather open-ended and apt to take a good long time to achieve; plenty of time for rascals or well-meaning fools to make mistakes, perhaps fatal to patients.

I suggest four things to attain that goal: training, practice, recruitment, and attitude.

## Training

Read the article by Joseph Kowalsky in this current edition of *Long Life* magazine on the recent “Teens & Twenties Conference” in Deerfield Beach, Florida. Joe gives us a detailed account of this latest annual meeting, sponsored and paid for by Saul Kent and Bill Faloony's Life Extension Foundation, and run by cryonicist Cairn Idun. Cairn is also the creator and coordinator for the Asset Preservation Group, that brings together people from the various cryonics organizations who are seeking ways to preserve personal assets past the time of deanimation. The Life Extension Foundation provides travel and expense money for young attendees of the Teens & Twenties Conference.

The Teens & Twenties conferences grew out of the perceived need of cryonicists to have reliable people in the future with knowledge of cryonics and with leadership skills. A particular interest was to identify and train future trustees of cryonics trusts, though the young people who attend such leadership conferences could well be the future officers and directors of CI, IS, Alcor, or ACS.

This model could well serve the needs of CI and other cryonics organizations to identify and train future directors. Other than encouraging young people who are CI

members to attend future Teens & Twenties Conferences, CI could organize leadership training sessions of its own. These could piggy-back on the present Teens and Twenties meetings, being held the day before or after the meetings in Florida with the permission and cooperation of the present organizers of the Teens & Twenties meetings of course. CI could also could piggy-back on the CI Annual General Meeting, being held a day before or after our annual get-together.

What would such leadership conferences teach? Cryonics First Response training, how to organize and hold a meeting, the ABC's of cryonics government, cryonics ethics, fund raising, crisis management, dispute resolution.

## Practice

For more than thirty years, in the San Francisco Bay Area, the American Cryonics Society as well as Trans Time held monthly board meetings. This pattern of both frequent and regular meetings was followed with other cryonics organizations elsewhere. Currently, ACS meets less frequently, though there have been suggestions that we go back to the prior frequency schedule. Such frequent meetings resulted in a lot of spinning of wheels (projects discussed but not undertaken), but they also were practice in how to run organizations. The best practice in how to run a cryonics organization is actually running a cryonics organization!

Cryonics organizations have a conundrum. On the one hand, if they encourage the formation of local groups the quality of suspensions for people who deanimate in places where there is a strong local group may be better. Local people can talk to the local Medical Examiner and pour on the ice. On the other hand, such local groups may emerge as competitors to existing organizations. They may decide to build their own facility, thus depriving cryonics as a whole of

*continues on page 27*





## 2nd International Symposium on Applied Cryobiology Organized by the German Association for Applied Biostasis

The German Society for Applied Biostasis (DGAB) organizes its second international scientific conference. The symposium **“Applied Cryobiology – Scientific Symposium on Cryonics”** will be held on **October 4th to 5th** in **Dresden, Germany**.

The DGAB (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Angewandte Biostase e.V.) was established in May 2006. The association promotes research and the application of methods in biostasis, aiming at life extension and in particular at cryonics.

The conference focuses on the scientific fundamentals of cryonics with topics including biostasis and applied cryonics as well as nanotechnology. The purpose of the symposium is to bring together scientists and cryonics professionals as well as the interested general audience in order to promote the scientific foundations of cryonics, to stimulate discussions and improve personal exchange regarding these topics.

Invited speakers include:

Ben Best – Cryonics Institute  
Peter Gouras – Columbia University  
Aubrey de Grey – SENS Research Foundation  
João Pedro de Magalhães – University of Liverpool  
Max More – Alcor Life Extension Foundation  
Aschwin de Wolf – Advanced Neural Biosciences

The ‘Robert-Ettinger-Medal for outstanding merits in the fields of cryonics’ will be awarded during the conference.

### Call for abstracts

Authors are invited to submit an abstract for oral contributions. The deadline for abstract submission is **July 31st, 2014**. All talks will be held in English. A proceedings volume will be published.

The conference will be held at the [Dorint Hotel Dresden](#). The early bird conference fee is 50 EUR until July 31st. The normal conference fee is 80 EUR after July 31st. It covers admission and coffee breaks on both days.

For details of registration, accommodation and abstract submission, see the conference website at <http://biostase.de/symposium-2014.html>

Contact email: [symposium2014@biostase.de](mailto:symposium2014@biostase.de)





# 2014 VENTURIST'S CRYONICS CONVENTION

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the publication in 1964 of *The Prospect of Immortality*, by Robert Ettinger, the book that started the cryonics movement. If you want to find the best information from authoritative sources about the current and foreseeable state of the cryonics movement as of this year, you have an excellent opportunity this coming November. The Society for Venturism is announcing its second Cryonics Convention at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort in Laughlin, Nevada, to be held on November 7, 8 and 9, 2014 at the Resort's Starview Room, a conference facility which offers a panoramic view of the Colorado River and the desert mountains beyond. The Starview Room also has space for the attendees' dining and for exhibition tables.

The convention will feature speakers who will discuss developments of interest to cryonicists, transhumanists, futurists and life extensionists. Some scientists who work in cryobiology and in the science of aging will report on their cutting-edge research.

Other speakers representing the main cryonics organizations will report about developments at their respective organizations. Yet other speakers with long involvement in cryonics will discuss the history and philosophy of the cryonics movement on its 50th anniversary, the movement's current status, and where we would like to see it go in the coming years. And Mr. Laughlin himself will appear to take questions from the audience about anything, which he will answer with his humor and shrewd business sense, just like he did at last year's convention. The Society for Venturism will publish a list of speakers and their presentations in about a month at the Venturists' website: <http://www.venturist.info>.

Mr. Don Laughlin, a longtime cryonicist, has worked with the Society for Venturism to make the convention very convenient and affordable. The registration fee, payable to the Society for Venturism, is only \$75. You have to reserve your own room accommodations through the Riverside Resort (details to be announced) at special low rates by men-

tioning that you are coming to the convention. Mr. Laughlin has arranged to provide all the meals for the attendees at special discounted rates inside the Starview Room so that you don't have to go down to the busy casino for your meals. The Starview Room also has a cash bar to provide beverages.

Attendees who have appropriate products or services they would like to offer or sell to cryonicists – books, T-shirts, supplements, CD's, magazines, etc. - will also be able to reserve free table space at the convention.

So mark your calendars in November for this event, and keep on the lookout for the updated information about the convention at the Venturists' website, <http://www.venturist.info>. If you would like more information, email Mark Plus, Secretary of the Society for Venturism at [mark.plus@rock-etmail.com](mailto:mark.plus@rock-etmail.com). You can also call him at (928) 273-8451.

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## Finding the Next Generation of Cryonics Directors

*continued from page 25*

the advantage of centralization in cryogenic storage. However, if we expect for young cryonics organization members to have the skill set to someday be good Directors of those organizations, they must have practice. The solution to the conundrum is to encourage local groups in spite of the fact that some are almost sure to be future competitors.

### Recruitment

Any of us who know ACS, IS, or CI members with particular skill sets that may make them good directors should encourage such tal-

ented people to run for their organization's board. It has been my experience that people are sometimes a bit shy to hold themselves out as candidates. Encourage them! They may be quite busy. The fact is that the people who are the busiest are often exactly the people we want on our board.

Sometimes there are young people, particularly students, who just don't have the money to attend the CI Annual General Meeting, or to visit the CI facility at other times, during semester break, for example. Why not offer to pay their way? The funds can come from CI, IS, ACS, or from anyone with a few bucks!

### Attitude

We can't just talk a good game; we have to really WANT to encourage young people, or older people who have the skill sets, to become directors. Yes, they can be a bit of a pain, often not even understanding the basics of how a company is organized and run. They may also be a competitor for the position now held by some very competent present director. Remember, once even the cryonics camel was young and dumb, and now here he is wandering around the facility trying to get anyone he meets to admit that it is hump day!





# Robert Ettinger: *The Legacy Continues*

Introduction by:

**York W. Porter**

**Immortalist Society President**

*One of the things that has been puzzling to me, and to others, down through the decades, is why cryonics hasn't caught on in a widespread way and our membership isn't in the millions. The answer, regrettably, isn't "logic and reason". While quite necessary as the underlying "bedrock", the logic and reason behind cryonics is impeccable. Robert Ettinger was not only one of the most decent persons I've ever met, but also one of the smartest. He was able to make logical connections between things in a way that I never would have done in a hundred years. As Mr. Ettinger and others have pointed out, however, it is more about psychology than about logic and reason. Another great American, Abraham Lincoln, once said that if you are trying to convince someone of something, you must first convince him you are his "true friend". Lincoln further characterized this as the "drop of honey" that is "the highroad" to his reason. In this article from May of 1986, Robert Ettinger talks about the motivations of humans as it relates to cryonics. For those not familiar, Tom Swift is a fictional character that began appearing in the decade Robert Ettinger was born. The books about Swift had interesting titles for the time, such as "Tom Swift and His Motorcycle" and "Tom Swift and His Giant Telescope", etc. and they emphasized the use of science and technology in their dramatic plots. While not intended as a "How to Convince Folks to Join In With Our Efforts" article, Robert Ettinger does write in a piercing way about some of the psychology behind resistance to becoming a part of what is an otherwise quite logical and rational thing to be involved in.*

## "Tom Swift & the Axe Kneelers"

In an Oriental country, captives in a row are kneeling for the headsman's axe, waiting without struggle or protest. It happens. They may have fought bravely before capture, but now they offer no resistance or even outcry. Incredible? Inexplicable? Is it possible to understand the psychology of the axe-kneeler?

Certainly he is understandable, goes the standard answer: in fact, he is admirable. He is facing reality and preserving his dignity. Since escape is hopeless, struggle is not only useless, but unseemly; hence the hapless captive protects the only thing he has left--his self-esteem. He labors under no juvenile delusion that he can emulate Tom Swift, that he can save himself by derring-do or tactical cunning or mechanical ingenuity; he understands the "human condition" and he makes his peace.

This conventional wisdom is by no means vacuous: perhaps the axe-kneeler is right, given his temperament and estimate of the situation. After all, he is only going back to the universal womb; he will be no worse off after he is dead than he was before he was here. But Americans are apt to judge him less generously and attribute his passivity to ignorance, herd instinct, and lack of individualistic spirit.

The foolishness of clinging to custom, even when it is clearly counterproductive, is most easily discerned in *other* people's customs, of course. Eleanor Roosevelt was reportedly baffled by the sweepers of India, who worked bent over all day with short-handled brooms, and could not be persuaded to save their backs by putting on longer handles.

Kow-towing to custom, when that is self-destructive, is just another kind of axe-kneeling, and Americans do their share of it, especially



in defending as “natural” and even “beautiful” (!) the downhill drag of old age. It is not difficult to understand the submissive attitudes of those who have never seen old age and death successfully battled, but neither is it easy to excuse the surrender of those who know a battle is possible--and is being fought.

There are other points of view; many questions, complexities, and subtleties remain. In the issue, the axe kneeler may have the better of it, and for that matter a contented cow may be better off than a human. Indeed, when there is an imbalance in your hormones, you may feel that the best thing is never to be born, and the second best to die young, as the fellow said. But I think that most Americans, when they have really had a chance to think about it, will make the straight-forward decisions: life is better than death, and struggle is preferable to surrender. They will continue to rely on courage, cunning, and optimism, and place their bets on Tom Swift and his cryocapsule....

## Dancing with Death or “How Do I Love Thee? Let Me Discount the Ways.”

Still thinking about axe-kneelers, in the context of why potential immortalists need motivation, we expand on the immemorial making-a-virtue-of-necessity, or the white lie habit.

Since people have never known life without sentence of death, it requires no subtle psychologist to see the rewards in acceptance. Even rape victims have sometimes been advised “When faced with the inevitable, relax and enjoy it.” (That is seldom said any more, even in jest, which is a hopeful sign.)

It isn't possible to enjoy death, since the dead feel nothing whatever, but it *is* possible to enjoy the anticipation. All that is needed is to whip up a nice little delusion.

Some of our inventions are too obvious to dwell upon. Since life--and especially death--are unfair, one way out of despair is to make up a story-book world, and imagine yourself a character there in. One can focus on some homely (or even ugly) little scenario, and ride that into the sunset: my son David has called this the *dramatic fallacy*; or we could call it the “curtains” syndrome.

It is only necessary to concentrate your attention on some dramatic feature of your life, and play hero or heroine. If you were a soldier of the Wehrmacht, you could go to glory as a hero of the thousand-year-Reich. If you were a mixed-up prepubescent, you could wander off and die in the streets, and then they would be sorry. If you were

a Mafioso, you could get yourself killed in an act of spectacular vengeance, and then you would get respect. Even if you were an ordinary oldster, wasting away in a nursing home, you could put on a brave and smiling face, make careful disposition of your personal effects, and enjoy the loving attention.

In other words, you act (hence tend to feel) as though you are a character in a drama; then whatever “works” in a drama is O.K. for you too. And you're dead before it might dawn on you that death isn't drama, and you aren't an actor, and the “curtain” has a cold, uncaring, impersonal finality beyond imagination.

In previous times, all this pretense was not bad, but good. The truth doesn't always make us free--sometimes it just makes us afraid.

Fear is only good if it is useful. During the ages when death was the unconquerable foe, it didn't help much to fear death, especially death from old age--hence it made sense not to fear it, even to welcome it. A lie is often better than the truth. Only a moron or a monster would tell a dying child the truth. For that matter, much of our every-day courtesy is based on the need to smooth over the rough road of life with little deceptions. In years gone by, fairy tales and private fantasies about death were no worse than--say--a castaway on a desert island making up imaginary companions. When reality is rotten, we hide from reality, and while that may be insanity, it is also good sense.

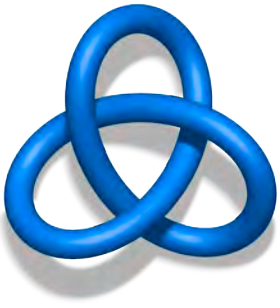
But the rules of the game have changed. Now it is possible to *win*--and not just pretend to win. But this demands unprecedented mental agility, a radical revision of thinking habits as old as humanity. In the last quarter century, only about one American in a million has managed to jettison the ancient cargo.

As Larry Niven would say, it's evolution in action. Adapt or die.

*(Editor's Note: This material is from an occasional feature that appeared in The Immortalist (the previous name of Long Life Magazine). It was sometimes adapted from past material which, I believe, explains Robert Ettinger's use of “Americans” in the text here. The phenomenon he discusses is, of course, universal. As an FYI item for the reader here, I believe the Larry Niven that Mr. Ettinger refers to at the end of the article is the well known science fiction writer.)*







# Final Thoughts

York W. Porter - Executive Editor

## *“Latin...”*



Back in my high school days, the mother of one of my closest friends told me that she thought that all high school graduates should be required to study Latin. I was astonished to hear this from a lady whose only job, so far as I knew at the time, had been as a housewife with the enormous responsibilities of a husband and three children to keep up with. Like all young people, the thought of this very nice woman, around whose home I spent an inordinate amount of time, having had a life before children and her husband, didn't seem to quite register with me. It seemed to me that she and her generation had been adults forever.

But, of course, it wasn't so. This lady proceeded to explain to me that before she got married, she had held down a job as a secretary in a business in our town. Practicing, to the best of my recollection, the now somewhat forgotten art of shorthand, she said that Latin had been an immense help to her when she ran across an unusual word or phrase while she was taking down dictation or typing up documents for the business. Since the influence of the Romans on our ancestors was widespread for those of us using European languages, it began to make sense, even to a “wet-behind-the-ears” teenager like myself. Ah, the tapestry of history!

Some of us became enthused at the lady's suggestion and pursued it through talks with one of our high school teachers. He offered to hold a class in Latin for us if enough students could be rounded up. Alas, it was not to be, so my dream of taking Latin classes fell by the wayside and I spent my days in high school as a very poor example of a student of French. Later on, in my college days, I managed to lower the bar even further by becoming an even worse example of a student of the language of German.

My curiosity about Latin, however, remained. Down through the years I bought books on Latin which, alas, were only destined to gather dust on my bookshelves. It appears I was more interested in the thoughts of learning the language than in the hard and tedious work of actually doing so. This was a trait held over from, apparently, my high school days when, if it was a nonproductive activity, I was all for it and in it, generally speaking, “up to my neck” and then some.

But, the influence of Latin remained. On the courthouse in my hometown in Virginia, the use of what seemed to be a “V” in the place of a “U” in the spelling of “Courthouse” loomed before me. On our coinage, the phrase “E Pluribus Unum” (Out of Many, One), is a common and frequently overlooked example of Latin stamped out, literally, by the millions.



And it is the whole point of this column. No good idea, no matter how valid, how meritorious, how worthwhile, ever stood alone and was successful. No individual, even one the stature of Robert Ettinger, ever accomplished anything entirely on his or her own. It is only when the efforts of others come into play that an idea of worth is able to come to its full and final fruition. Cryonics is no different in that regard.

Down through the past few decades, I've seen, both at a distance and up-close, several good men and women, many of whom are now patients in the care of cryonics organizations, put their shoulder to the wheel trying to help this world and life-changing concept to go forward. They have toiled, by and large, pretty much in obscurity, working day-in and day-out, as time permitted, to do the things that were necessary to keep this concept alive, even in times when it appeared that their efforts might turn to naught. Their efforts have varied from actively writing and speaking on behalf of cryonics to simply quietly spreading the word among friends and neighbors about this wonderful concept. They did whatever they could to help.

And that's where you come in. In a demonstration, many years ago, a man took a single piece of paper and handed it to the smallest one of us in the room and asked the person to tear it in two. This they accomplished without hesitation. He then handed a local telephone book to the strongest person in the room and asked them to tear it in two. They could not do it. I don't know what the Latin phrase is for "Strength in numbers" but the "E Pluribus Unum" phrase is close enough for yours truly.

All of us interested in cryonics are of one mind when it comes to it's usefulness and of the value of living. But being of one mind isn't simply enough. We need to band together, as best as we can, for the strength and influence that comes from being a group instead of just being lonely voices crying in the wilderness. We need, in short, you and your involvement in cryonics organizations. Like all organizations, they aren't perfect, consisting, as they do, with imperfect human beings as members. But they can be made more perfect, strong, and influential. In order to do that, we need as many folks as possible. If you haven't joined up, please do so today. It's our own version of "E Pluribus Unum".



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