




MESOTHELIOMA

RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America

February 2019
Winter Edition



Dear Friends,

From our family to yours, a very blessed New Year 2019. May it be filled with health, happiness and love.

We are extremely proud of the recent developments being made in Dr. Gill's lab at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. EPHb-4 and antibody PD-1, when combined, are showing great promise as a viable first-line treatment option for mesothelioma and other cancers. We hope to have some BIG news in the second quarter of 2019... so stay tuned!

2018 marked the 17th anniversary of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America. We are very proud of the work we have accomplished to date. I know that much of the success is due to the efforts of our partners and friends. We especially thank the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators and its Western Conference, the California State Pipe Trades Council, and all the local unions retirees' groups who so generously support our cause.

We kicked off our fundraising season on June 8th with the California State Pipe Trades' "Aim to Cure" clay shoot in Birds Landing, California. Jim Kellogg, Retired UA International Pipe Trades Representative and MESORFA Board Member, and

Greg Partch, Executive Director of the California State Pipe Trades, did an outstanding job organizing an enjoyable event and successful fundraiser.

We followed up this event at Birds Landing with the much-anticipated Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational. We are so grateful for the leadership of Dr. Mel Breshears, Business Manager of Local 16 Heat & Frost Insulators, and Doug Gamble, International President of the Heat & Frost Insulators Western Conference. Mel, Doug and their team at Local 16 put together another event that saw comradery on the course while generating \$65,000 for mesothelioma research!

The year continued with two events organized by the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16. Once again, the DC 16 Golf Invitational and the Southern California "Aim to Cure" events saw large turnouts of labor leaders, tradesmen, contractors, and vendors. A heartfelt thank you goes out to Mike Layton, Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Business Manager, and John Ferruccio, District Council 16 Director of Organizing, who have been instrumental in the planning and success of the DC 16 events.

Thank you for all of your hard work. You are both admired and respected for your generous hearts toward others

The Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, Local 16 Heat & Frost Insulators and its Western Conference, and the California State Pipe Trades continue to go above and beyond the call of duty. This year their combined efforts raised \$275,000 for mesothelioma research. As always, 100% of every dollar donated goes directly towards research, including the funding of clinical trials that are being conducted at the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

This would not be possible without the generosity of our donors and the hard work of our volunteers. Without the support from these groups and the people who work tirelessly organizing their events, we would not be where we are today.

We must also thank the Foundations Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, MD, and the doctors working with him at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center for their dedication to the pursuit of a cure for Mesothelioma. Without Dr. Gill and his team, there would be less research and fewer treatment options available for patients afflicted with this deadly disease.

I cannot conclude my thanks and gratitude without mentioning the Founding Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, of The Paul Law Firm. Thank you for making the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America a reality and for sponsoring ALL costs associated with it. Thank you to my assistant, Shane Rucker, for being my right hand at the Foundation.

In closing, I would like to thank you, the reader, for your individual support in helping to, one day, make mesothelioma a curable cancer. Whether you are an individual, who has donated in memory of a loved one, a tradesman, who was exposed to asbestos while providing for their family, a Union labor leader, who helped to organize an event, a participant in one of the events, or a vendor who supported the cause, we THANK YOU for supporting the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America. In 2018 we raised over \$325,000.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!

Blessings,
Elizabeth Ann Paul
Executive Director



Inside this issue:

California State Pipe Trades Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay shoot 2

Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament 2

Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Golf Invitational 3

Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay Shoot 3

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with this horrible disease and would like help, please call:

1-800-909-MESO (6376) and speak with one of our volunteers.



Please remember The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America in your Will

3011 Townsgate Road, Suite 450, Westlake Village, CA 91361
Phone: 1-800-909-MESO (6376) Internet: www.mesorfa.org

California State Pipe Trades Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay Shoot



The June 2018 "Aim to Cure" event hosted by the California State Pipetrades along with Foundation Board Member and International Pipetrades Representative Jim Kellogg (Retired) was successful in netting over \$70,000 for mesothelioma research!

This year's Aim to Cure event saw a beautiful day and a large turn out of participants to support this great cause. We had a record number of donors supporting the event and witnessed over 160 shooters come out and Aim to Cure Mesothelioma! We returned to the Birds Landing Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay facility in Birds Landing, California which always provides a great venue for the event. Representing the Foundation were Board Members, Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul, Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker, and Medical Advisory

Committee Member, Jonathan Paul.

After making their way through the course, supporters and participants joined for lunch and the always popular raffle. Jim Kellogg kicked off the festivities by thanking everyone in attendance and spoke about the importance of staying involved. Jim then passed the mic to the Foundations Founding Board Member, Jerry Neil Paul, who spoke about the advances being made and the foundation's hopes for the future. Under the leadership of Dr. Parkash Gill at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, with the help of the National Cancer Institute, the combination of immunotherapy treatment PDI antibody will be used with Dr. Gill's treatment EphB-4 in hopes of a cure! With the support of participants in events such as "Aim to Cure" advances in mesothelioma treatment options will become a reality.

As always, 100% of the money raised during the "Aim to Cure" events will go towards mesothelioma cancer research. With these sizable donations we can all be assured that Dr. Gill's research at the USC Norris Comprehensive Medical Center will

move in the right direction. Thank you to all who participated and Jim Kellogg for putting together a fantastic event!



Pictured Above: Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul speak at the "Aim to Cure" event hosted in Birdslanding, California this past June 2018.

Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament

The Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament returned to Napa Valley Country Club for its 16th presentation on June 25, 2018. This year's event saw a turnout of 140 golfers and generated approximately \$65,000! As always, 100% of the funds generated by the event will support Dr. Parkash Gill's research at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The Roger Hamilton Tournament is made possible by the continued support of Doug Gamble and Mel Breshears of the Heat and Frost Insulators. For the third year, Gamble, the International Vice President, and Breshears, the Business Manager of Local 16, have planned and hosted the event. We thank them both as they have taken it upon themselves to ensure the continuation of the event and the honoring of Roger Hamilton's memory. To date, the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament has raised approximately 1.7 million dollars for mesothelioma research! For the continued success, we owe our gratitude to the Western States Conference Heat and Frost Insulators, the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, as well as all of the build-

ing trades groups and vendors who continue to support the battle to defeat mesothelioma cancer.

After a great round of golf, supporters reconvened in the clubhouse for drinks, dinner, and to learn more about how their donations are utilized. Doug Gamble and Mel Breshears were the first to speak, thanking both the sponsors for their support and the volunteers for their roles in making the event a success. Elizabeth Paul, Executive Director of the Foundation shared the history of the Foundation with sponsors, and highlighted its critical help in the development of better treatment options for mesothelioma. Dr. Parkash Gill, Chairman of the Foundation's Medical Advisory Committee spoke about the use of immunotherapy treatment PD-1 antibody in combination with EphB-4 and the successes shown in the laboratory. Dr. Gill added that there have been several recent research publications in collaboration with doctors affiliated with UC Davis and University of Chicago regarding EphB-4! To close, the two acknowledged the continual support from the staff and family of the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, and thanked them for their role in assuming the direction of the event.

An event of this magnitude can be made possible only by a team too large to name. Certain individuals played a pivotal role in ensuring its success and to them we offer out sincerest thanks. To Committee Chairman Doug Gamble, Co-Chair Mel Breshears, Stan Danielson, Bill Hodges, Mark Plubell, Ben Espinoza, Chris Greaney, Fortino Curiel, China Soto, Geoff Millar, Alan Pierce, Jerry and Elizabeth Paul, and Shane Rucker: we wish to express our gratitude. Without your efforts and energy this event would not have been possible. Your enduring support guarantees continued research into mesothelioma. With sustained effort, a cure will hopefully be found!



(Center) Mel Breshears and Doug Gamble with their Team at the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament

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Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Golf Invitational



Everyone at the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to congratulate the Southern California Pipe Trades District

Council 16 for organizing an amazing event! We saw a huge turnout for the 16th Annual Golf Invitational, with a full field of 144 golfers and supporters, coming together for this great cause. Together we generated over \$100,000 for mesothelioma research! As always, 100 % of the donations received will go directly toward research into clinical trials and treatment options for mesothelioma. Year after year, the organizers at District Council 16 have done an amazing job planning and promoting this event and we cannot thank them enough for the continual support and dedication. **THANK YOU!**

Participating in the event on behalf of the Foundation was Executive Director

Elizabeth Ann Paul, Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker. After a great day of golf, Jerry and Elizabeth Paul spoke together, thanking everyone for supporting the event throughout the years and highlighted the developments made at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Parkash Gill, Chairman of the Foundation's Medical Advisory Committee then highlighted the use of immunotherapy treatment PD-1 antibody in combination with EphB-4 and the successes shown in the laboratory. Dr. Gill added that there has been several recent research publications in collaboration with doctors affiliated with UC Davis and University of Chicago regarding EphB-4!

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's event. Without the support and organizing skills of people such as Tournament Director and DC16 Director of Organizing John Ferruccio, Committee Member and DC 16 Business Manager Mike Layton, UA Local 398 Business Manager,

Ray LeVangie, UA Local 484 Business Manager Rodney Cobos, Foundation Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul, Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker this event and great turnout would not be possible. They have all done a fantastic job, year in and year out, and we cannot be more proud of working with these great people. **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR DEDICATION!**



Pictured Above: Elizabeth Ann Paul and Jerry Neil Paul speak to event participants.

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



The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to offer its thanks to the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 for

organizing another amazing event and rounding out our 2018 fundraising season! Business Manager Mike Layton and Director of Organizing John Ferruccio have done an outstanding job in making this event what it has become, and expanding its popularity with more participants and supporters. This year the event brought in approximately \$40,000 and as always, 100% of the net proceeds of the event will go directly to mesothelioma research!

This year we returned to Moore 'N Moore Sporting Clays in the San Fernando Valley, CA, despite a fire completely destroying the facility in 2017. Moore 'N Moore did a fantastic job in getting their operation back up and running and hosting the event— hats off to Cory Moore and his staff. Participating in the event on behalf of

the Foundation were Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker, Medical Advisory Committee Member Jonathan Paul and Attorney Josh Paul, who all had a great time at the event. We all spent a relaxing day in the canyons of the Angeles National Forest, taking a shot at breaking sporting clays, before gathering for a delicious lunch. Supporters heard where and how their generous donations would be used in helping to find better treatment options for this brutal disease. DC16 Organizer John Ferruccio began by thanking those who come out to support the events, as well as those who volunteer their time. Elizabeth and Jerry Paul spoke on behalf of the Foundation, thanking sponsors who continue to support the cause and have been instrumental in the success of the event as well as in the development of new treatments. Jerry Paul highlighted one of the successes with the immunotherapy treatment PD-1 antibody being used in combination with EphB-4 and the promise shown in the laboratory.

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's event. Without the support of people such as DC16 Organizer

John Ferruccio and DC 16 Business Manager Mike Layton, this event and the great turnout would not be possible. They have done a fantastic job year after year, and we cannot be more proud of working with them. **THANK YOU!**



Pictured Above: DC16 Organizer, John Ferruccio





The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America has a mission: fund research that will lead to the quickest cure for mesothelioma. Mesothelioma, a cancer of the lining of the lungs caused by asbestos exposure, has very few treatment options at this time. Since the year 2001, the Foundation has funded the opening of the Mesothelioma Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. Parkash Gill at the USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center in Los Angeles. Since the lab's inception Dr. Gill has received FDA approval from the U.S. Government to conduct Clinical Trials using new mesothelioma treatments he has developed in the laboratory, whose research is 100% funded by the Foundation. A recent example of the research being done by Dr. Gill, and the direct results of the donations received, is the submission and approval from the FDA to use EPH-B4 in Phase I Clinical Trials. We are all very excited at the possibilities of a more effective treatment for patients suffering from mesothelioma!

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