



MESOTHELIOMA

RESEARCH FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

April 2025



Dear Friends and Family,

As we move into spring, and look forward to this year's events, we mark the 24th anniversary of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America. We are exceedingly proud of all we have accomplished. We will continue to work diligently to fund better treatment options and hopefully one day a cure. This year's success, as so many prior, would not have been possible without the efforts of our partners and friends. Thank you all – we are truly grateful.

We would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators and its Western Conference, and the California State Pipe Trades Council. These organizations and the people who put so much effort into curating events continue to go above and beyond the call of duty. Without them, we would not be where we are today.

We kicked off our fundraising season in June, with the California State Pipe Trades' "Aim to Cure" Clay Shoot. Retired UA International Pipe Trades Representative and Foundation Board Member, Jim Kellogg and the California State Pipe Trades, Executive Director, Mike Hartley, hosted the event at Birds Landing Hunting Preserve and did a fantastic job! They generated a record, \$54,000, for the cause. Thank you, Jim and Mike!

Shortly after the "Aim to Cure" event, we joined Local 16 Heat & Frost Insulators for the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational. We are so thankful for the leadership of Local 16 Business Manager, Chris Greaney, Mel Breshears, and retired International President of the Heat & Frost Insulators Western Conference, Doug Gamble, and their tireless army of volunteers. Between leadership, volunteers, donors, and participants, they generated \$100,000 for mesothelioma research!

We closed out 2024 with two events organized by the Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16. The DC 16 Golf Invitational at Alta Vista Country Club, and the Southern California "Aim to Cure" event hosted at Moore-N-Moore Sporting Clay Facility. Each respective event saw huge turnouts of labor leaders, tradesmen, contractors, and vendors. We are more than grateful for the leadership of District Council 16 Business Manager Rodney Cobos, Assistant Business Manager, Doug Marian, and the Director of Organizing, John Ferruccio. With their outstanding efforts, along with the amazing talent of people working behind the scenes, DC 16 and the California State Pipe Trades generated a total of \$250,000 for mesothelioma research! These kinds of results can only be achieved by tireless work and enthusiastic participation.

In addition to a record setting year of fundraising, we were informed by the MESORFA Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, about the progress of Eph-B4 and the antibody PD-1. As you may recall from prior newsletters, combinations of the two treatments were showing great promise in lab studies. At this year's events, Dr. Gill spoke of the

continued success being witnessed in patients currently being treated at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Given these successes, we hope to see this become a viable first line treatment option for those afflicted. We are proud to contribute to these efforts, and to be associated with Dr. Gill and his team of brilliant doctors working at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Their dedication and tenacity towards finding a cure for mesothelioma is beyond admirable.

I must also extend my personal gratitude and thanks to my hero, my husband, Founding Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, of The Paul Law Firm. It became his mission, back in 2001, to be part of finding treatment options, and, one day, a cure for mesothelioma. Thank you for making the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America a reality and for continuing to sponsor ALL costs associated with it. Mr. Paul has allowed us to continue to give 100% of every dollar donated to research. Continued thanks is due to my assistant, Shane Rucker, I am beyond appreciative of his efforts.

In closing, I would like to sincerely thank you, the reader, for your individual support. We know there are so many worthy causes and are humbled you would consider supporting us. This terrible disease predominantly affects your brothers and sisters in the trades, and we hope that by working together, we can make a difference. Please...help us try and make mesothelioma a disease of the past.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ann Paul



Inside this issue:

<i>California State Pipe Trades: "Aim to Cure" Clay Shoot</i>	2
<i>Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament</i>	2
<i>Southern California Pipe Trades DC16 Golf Invitational</i>	3
<i>Southern California Pipe Trades DC16 Aim to Cure Clay Shoot</i>	3
<i>2024: Year in Pictures</i>	4

If you or a loved one has been diagnosed with this horrible disease and would like help, please call 1-800-909-MESO and speak with one of our volunteers.

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

California State Pipe Trades Aim to Cure Mesothelioma Clay Shoot



The June 2024 “California Pipe Trades Aim to Cure” clayshoot, hosted by Foundation Board Member and Retired U. A.

International Pipe Trades Representative, Jim Kellogg, kicked off this year’s fundraising efforts with outstanding success, netting a total of \$54,000 for mesothelioma research! We saw the largest turnout in the history of the event with over 200 shooters converging on the Birds Landing Hunting Preserve and Sporting Clay facility. Representing the Foundation at the event were Board Members, Jim Kellogg and Jerry Neil Paul, and Assistant Executive Director, Shane Rucker.

After a beautiful day on the course, we gathered for lunch and learned how the donations were helping to find the path toward a mesothelioma cure. Jim

Kellogg and California State Pipe Trades Executive Director, Mike Hartley, thanked all who supported the event and spoke about the importance of staying involved. Jerry Paul then provided our group with an update from Dr. Parkash Gill, and his progress in developing new treatments for patients diagnosed with mesothelioma. The progress of the drug Eph-B4 in the FDA approval process, as well as the growing interest shown by other treatment facilities, is a testament to the effectiveness of the treatment. With the support of participants at events such as “Aim to Cure” advances in mesothelioma treatment options will become a reality.

As always, 100% of the money raised during the “California Pipe Trades Aim to Cure” event, will go toward mesothelioma cancer research. With these sizable donations we can be assured that Dr. Gill’s mesothelioma cancer research at USC Norris Comprehensive Medical Center will continue moving in the right direction. Thank you to all who participated and made this year’s shoot a success!



Above, Foundation’s Jerry Neil Paul with CA State Pipe Trades Executive Director Mike Hartley thanking all of the sponsors who participate and make these events possible. Below is 1st Place TNT Industrial Contractors. Great Shooting!



Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Tournament



On June 17, 2024, the 22nd Annual Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational was held at the Green Valley Country

Club in Fairfield, CA. There, we generated funds for mesothelioma cancer research, and clinical trials that will lead to better treatment options. We would like to thank each and every sponsor, golfer, and volunteer who aided us generating over \$100,000! As always, 100% of the funds generated will go toward supporting Dr. Parkash Gill’s research at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

To date, the Roger Hamilton Memorial Golf Invitational has raised over 2 million dollars for mesothelioma research! We owe our utmost gratitude to the Western States Conference Heat and Frost Insulators, the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, as well as all of the building trades’ groups and vendors who con-

tinue to support the battle to defeat mesothelioma cancer. The success of this event has yielded fantastic results in the lab at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and is highlighted by Dr. Parkash Gill’s development of the novel immunotherapy treatment, EphB-4. The combination of the EphB-4 and PD-1 antibody are proving to be so successful that the FDA has designated it a breakthrough! Dr. Gill addressed all attendees of the event, thanking everyone for their continued support, and shared news of his groundbreaking work in the lab and successful treatment of mesothelioma patients at USC.

Without the support from the staff and family of the Local 16 Heat and Frost Insulators, an event of this magnitude would not be possible. We thank Committee Chairman Chris Greaney, Co-chair Craig Rossi, Chairmen Emeritus Doug Gamble and Mel Breshears, Honorary Chairwoman Cindy Hamilton and Committee Members Josh Periera, Bill Hodges, Mark Plubell, Ben Espinoza, Fortino Curiel, Geoff Millar, Rick Johnson, Aureliano Ochoa, Anthony Viscuso, Alan Pierce, Jerry and Elizabeth Paul, and Shane

Rucker. Without your efforts and energy, this event would not have been possible. Your enduring support guarantees continued research and that a cure will be found!



Event Chairmen Chris Greaney and Doug Gamble with their team. Thank you Chris and Doug for your work in putting on a fantastic event. We look forward to 2025!

Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Golf Invitational



This year's Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16 Annual Golf Invitational returned to the beautiful Alta Vista

Country Club in Placentia, CA, marking the event's 21st anniversary. Over 160 golfers attended the event to support finding a cure for mesothelioma, helping to generate over \$140,000 for mesothelioma cancer research!

Representing the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America were Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul, Founding Board Member and Attorney Jerry Neil Paul, Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker.

A great day on the course was followed by an evening of camaraderie between golfers, sponsors, and supporters, as we all shared in the noble fight against mesothelioma. The evening was kicked off by

DC16 Director of Organizing, John Ferruccio. John has overseen the organizing of the event as Chairman for over 15 years and has been instrumental in the growth of this event. After individually thanking sponsors of the event, John introduced Jerry and Elizabeth Paul to speak. Elizabeth thanked all in attendance, and expressed how grateful the Foundation is for being associated with such a supportive group of people. The importance of these types of fundraisers in the research and development of new treatment options is crucial. As always, 100% of the donations go to Dr. Parkash Gill's research and clinical treatment development at USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Gill then addressed all participants and highlighted the promising results of the PD-I and EphB-4 treatment, and its expansion into additional treatment facilities across the United States, along with the hope of having the treatment move further along through the clinical trials process.

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who sponsored, supported and attended the event. Without

your support and the organizing skills of people such as Rodney Cobos, Doug Marian, John Ferruccio, DC 16 Staff and Committee members Jerry and Elizabeth Paul, and Shane Rucker, this event and great turnout would not have been possible. **THANK YOU ALL**



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



The Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America would like to congratulate and thank the Southern California Pipe Trades

District Council 16 for organizing a fantastic event in aid of the search for a cure for mesothelioma. This year's DC16 Aim to Cure Mesothelioma event was held at the Moore N Moore Sporting Clays facility in San Fernando, CA and generated over \$55,000 for mesothelioma research! Representing the Foundation were Founding Board Member Jerry Neil Paul, Executive Director Elizabeth Ann Paul, Director of the Medical Advisory Committee, Dr. Parkash Gill, and Assistant Executive Director Shane Rucker. As always, 100% of the money generated at the event will go directly toward mesothelioma re-

search, supporting Dr. Parkash Gill's clinical trials for better treatment options.

After a beautiful day on the course, event's supporters gathered to learn how their donations are being put to use, aiding in the fight against this terrible disease. Speaking at the event on behalf of the Foundation were Executive Director, Elizabeth Ann Paul, and Dr. Parkash Gill. After thanking Moore N Moore event Chairman, John Ferruccio for organizing another fantastic event, as well as everyone in attendance, Elizabeth spoke of the massive efforts made in developing new treatments for mesothelioma. Dr. Gill, from the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Medical Center, shared his progress in readying immunotherapy treatments EphB-4 and PD-I for the FDA Clinical Trials process, and the traction his research is gaining through collaboration with other doctors affiliated with facilities such as UC Davis and the University of Chicago.

The Foundation would like to personally thank all of those who organized and supported this year's events. Without the skills of people such as DC 16 Business Manager, Rodney Cobos, DC 16 Assistant Business Manager, Doug Marian, and DC 16 Director of Organizing, John Ferruccio, events like these would not be as successful as they are. Their leadership and army of volunteers and supporters make ALL of this possible, and we **THANK ALL OF YOU** for your support and dedication!!!



Event Chairman, John Ferruccio with Jerry Paul as they thank supporters for their generosity and being a part of the solution.

Help Us Update Our Mailing List—To help us update our mailing list and to be cost-effective, please notify the office if you change your address or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter.





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