



WINTER
2004

LIFESIGNS

A PUBLICATION OF LIFESHARE BLOOD CENTERS

www.lifeshare.org

RARE GIFT EXPANDS LIFESHARE'S REACH



Laboratory Director Trudie Allen hands John Moulds gloves to wear as he places a few of the rare blood samples back into the container filled with -365 degree liquid nitrogen. John is a true example of the "cold hands, warm heart" description. His gift will benefit patients with rare blood traits who need blood transfusions for many years to come.

The results of years of scientific blood tissue research and the collection of samples that include the rarest of the rare have been entrusted to LifeShare Blood Centers as an invaluable gift from John Moulds and his wife, Dr. Joann Moulds.

For over 30 years, John Moulds has worked to collect and store rare blood tissues that are used in special cases involving patients whose blood types are difficult to cross match. Dr. Peter Agre used some of John Moulds' collection in the research for which he was awarded the 2003 Nobel Prize for

Chemistry. Now these priceless samples are managed and stored at LifeShare Blood Centers Laboratory in Shreveport.

On Christmas Eve Day in the holiday gift giving spirit, a man with a white beard, dressed in red appeared at LifeShare in a cargo van that held three large containers of rare blood tissues. Some are so rare they cannot be obtained anywhere else in the United States.

John and Joann had carefully packed the cells in special containers, filled them with liquid nitrogen and personally transported them from eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey to Shreveport, Louisiana. In order to remain viable the cells had to be kept at minus 365 degrees Fahrenheit during the entire trip! John said he figured it was less likely to be 100 degrees in Shreveport in December rather than August.

The cells are important because they are used to help identify compatible blood donors for patients whose blood is difficult to match. Most times, patients just need type A, B, O or AB blood. The positive or negative Rh factor is also considered. But as John Moulds explained, "The Rh factor presents itself in 52 different ways. In looking for blood compatibility, it is usually only necessary to consider two Rh factors, positive or negative. But in some special cases, some of the other factors must also be matched."

Rh is not the only way blood type differences present themselves. However, it is the most recognizable factor to the general public, since when we give our blood type, we are used to saying, "O positive" or "AB negative."

"It is an honor to receive this gift," said Margaret Wallace, LifeShare Blood Centers President and CEO. Trudie Allen, Laboratory Director added enthusiastically, "Now LifeShare Blood Centers is the repository of literally thousands of rare samples, a collection that is second to none in the world." These rare cells will help in cross-matching the blood of a patient and a potential donor so that the blood transfusion can be safely made.

Patients who receive multiple transfusions for sickle cell anemia or who have not been exposed to common viruses that create antibodies in the blood can be difficult to match. All patients must have compatible blood for transfusion. The transfusion of incompatible blood can lead to further serious medical problems for a patient who is already injured or ill, and can even be fatal.

The Moulds' generosity will help ensure that LifeShare Blood Centers will be able to identify compatible blood for patients who have blood types that are difficult to match here at home and abroad.



Standing in front of the van loaded with John Moulds' collection of priceless rare blood tissue samples are from left to right: Dr. Joann Moulds; Margaret Wallace, President and CEO of LifeShare Blood Centers; Trudie Allen, Lab Director at LifeShare; and world renowned immunohematologist John Moulds. LifeShare staff members greatly appreciate the Moulds' overwhelming generosity.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



My heart-felt thanks go to John Moulds for his priceless gift to LifeShare Blood Centers. Never could I even imagine that the world-renowned immunohematologist would give his collection of rare reference cells to LifeShare. (An immunohematologist is a technologist who identifies the reason that a patient is not compatible with regular donor blood in the blood bank.)

John Moulds' primary focus in the many years that I have known him is the patient. He also is extremely enthusiastic about teaching technologists who have an interest in learning to resolve the most difficult transfusion compatibility problems. The day he arrived with his wife Joann to deliver the red cells, I asked one of our technologists if she knew John Moulds. She beamed and said that she knew of him from reading blood-banking articles. I said that if she wanted to see him he was in our laboratory. She almost fell off her chair at the thought that **THE** John Moulds could be in our blood center!

When John decided that LifeShare would be the home of his priceless, lifelong collection of reference cells, his wife Dr. Joann Moulds, decided that she too would donate her personal collection of rare cells. Dr. Moulds is a research scientist working in DNA extractions and research at Drexler University in Philadelphia.

We have been blessed in two ways – a visit from the Moulds to our center and the gift of a precious resource to

assist us in resolving the most difficult transfusion problems. While it is easy for everyone to understand our awe over a visit from well-known people, only other people in blood banking can truly comprehend the priceless nature of the gift.

Being entrusted with the management of the cells gives LifeShare an opportunity to educate our communities on their importance. When a patient needs blood, the tech at the hospital merely selects a donor unit of the same blood type from units supplied by LifeShare. The tech then tests it with the patient's sample of blood to make certain that the unit is "compatible". If the unit is incompatible, a tech at the blood center must then perform additional tests so that the reason for the incompatibility can be defined and compatible blood found. Generally this is not difficult and the reagent red cells needed for the testing are readily available at the blood center lab.

The difficulty comes when the reagents normally available are not enough to define the problem. Then the patient's blood sample must be sent to a facility that has a collection of these rare cells that can be used to define the reason for the incompatibility. The gift from the Moulds provides us with rare cells that enable LifeShare to resolve compatibility difficulties at our own community blood center rather than sending them to facilities far away. That means local patients with rare blood traits will receive compatible blood sooner because the rare cells needed for cross matching are located right here at LifeShare.

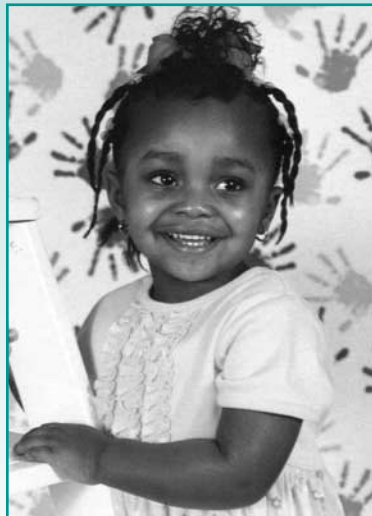
It is indeed an honor and a privilege for our blood center to be the recipient of such a precious gift.

Thank you, John and Joann!

Margaret E. Wallace,
President & CEO

LAKE CHARLES

Three-year-old Payton Leah Griffin has leukemia and needs a bone marrow transplant. In an attempt to find a bone marrow donor, Payton's family held a combination blood drive and bone marrow registration drive in Lake Charles. 54 individuals gave blood and 130 people joined the bone marrow registry. Payton's parents are encouraging African-Americans to join the lifesaving programs of blood and marrow donation for Payton and others suffering life-threatening diseases.



STAR SPOTLIGHT

Special thanks to 23 year old Brandy Broussard, a Criminal Justice & Sociology major at McNeese State University who paints special banners for blood drives held at the University. Brandy is an active member in the Student Union Board, Student Government Association, Alpha Epsilon (Women's Honor Society), Lambda Alpha Epsilon (Criminal Justice Honor Fraternity), and the McNeese Housing Committee. This senior from New Iberia, Louisiana was elected Homecoming Queen on October 11, 2003, which was the week of the blood drive. She is deciding on a career in law or with the FBI after her December graduation. LifeShare will surely miss her and the great artwork and advertising she provided for the blood drives. Hopefully, we can find someone to follow in her footsteps. It will be difficult.



NOTABLE EVENTS

BEAUMONT



The Eva Dujay Foundation contributed \$20,000 to LifeShare-Beaumont to help purchase a new computerized donor registration system called the Talisman. The Dujay Foundation funds are managed by the Hibernia Trust Department. Present at the check presentation were (from left to right) LifeShare Medical Director, Dr. Gary Levy; Hibernia Vice-President and Trust Officer, Ms. Jean Moncla; LifeShare Board of Trustees member, Bob Hoepner; LifeShare President and CEO, Margaret Wallace; Chairman LifeShare Board of Trustees, Mike Harris; Hibernia Vice-President and Trust Officer, Shaheen Farah and LifeShare Southern Region Executive Director, Debbie Madar.

Word came later that a \$30,000 grant would also be received from the Mamie McFaddin Ward Heritage Foundation.



Dedicated platelet donor, Mr. Gregg Price made his 19th gallon donation on September 11, 2003. His personal goal is to give 20 gallons of blood before he turns 75 years old. Pictured with Mr. Price is Christy Conner, LifeShare-Beaumont Donor Tech II.

MONROE/RUSTON



The Mid-South Regional Old Car Club held its annual fall car show in support of LifeShare Blood Centers-Monroe. Almost 90 antiques, classics and hot rods filled the vacant lot on the corner of Lamy Lane and Louisville Avenue on behalf of LifeShare-Monroe. Over \$500 was contributed to LifeShare by the Old Car Club as a result of the successful show. A classic Chevy was strategically parked to draw attention to the LifeShare banner proclaiming Our Focus is Saving Lives.



The Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation contributed over \$3,000 toward the blood sciences education program offered through LifeShare called "My Blood, Your Blood" (MBYB). The Weyerhaeuser Foundation provided enough funding to place MBYB modules in the elementary and middle schools in both Bienville and Lincoln parishes. Pictured are (left to right) Weyerhaeuser representative, Moe Letlow; Lincoln Parish School Superintendent, Dr. Charles Scribber; Bienville Parish School Superintendent, Mr. William Britt and Resource Development Coordinator for LifeShare, Daphne Terral.

LIFESHARE MONROE BEGINS SERVING SOUTH ARKANSAS

LifeShare-Monroe has expanded its service territory to include counties in South Arkansas and the Ashley County Medical Center. LifeShare-Monroe was invited to provide blood products and services to the area on the recommendation of a new lab director, who had previously worked with LifeShare at Union General Hospital in Farmerville. LifeShare is visiting the communities of Ashley County on a regular basis and invites businesses, schools and churches to support LifeShare by hosting a blood drive. For more information contact Tara Day, Donor Recruiter at (318) 322-4445.

LIFESHARE RESPONDS TO PLEA FOR PLATELETS

September's Hurricane Isabel left parts of North Carolina devastated and without electricity. Without electricity automated platelet donations could not be collected by the blood centers in North Carolina. This meant platelet supply levels for patients in North Carolina hospitals could not be maintained.

LifeShare Blood Centers responded to the plea for platelets by collecting additional units in our Shreveport and Beaumont facilities and then shipping the life-saving blood products to the affected areas. Apheresed platelets have a shelf life of only five days, which made the timely transfer of the blood products even more critical. LifeShare would like to thank the generous platelet donors who responded to the emergency need. Together, we save lives!

BLOOD DONOR HEROES

Mr. Donald Hummel arrived early and gave blood first at the 12th Annual Pecanland Mall M*A*S*H Bash in Monroe. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) member Mary Ann Jones helped serve refreshments and congratulated Mr. Hummel on his lifesaving donation.



When she is not cooking, the host of the popular morning TV show, "What's Cooking?" is giving blood. Stacy Thornton donated blood at M*A*S*H Bash and regularly supports the blood center through promotion of blood drive events and other important blood center information on her live cooking show that airs each weekday.



Another first was an automated donation of red blood cells with the ALYX system by dedicated whole blood donor, Scott Brandle. The ALYX system was introduced to Monroe donors at the annual M*A*S*H Bash event.



Monroe's M*A*S*H Bash is sponsored by the National Guard. Guard members help decorate the mall, recruit blood donors and even give blood themselves. Pictured are Guardsman James Ross and LifeShare-Monroe Donor Tech, Amanda Jones.



Thirty-one donors braved Monster Mash in Monroe on Halloween Day. LifeShare employees got into the spirit, pictured are Janice Washington, Tara Day, Carolyn Hayes and Kortney Deveny. KNOE-TV and Basic - Your Best Buy - appliance store, sponsored the event.



Monroe's Monster Mash was not scary to 25-time blood donor, Debbie Demaree. Demaree won a TV/VCR donated by Basic - Your Best Buy. KNOE-TV Promotions Manager, Bill Elliott, awarded the gift to Demaree.

LIFESHARE MONROE OPENS DOORS TO NEW FACILITY

LifeShare-Monroe has relocated to a newly renovated facility on Kilpatrick Boulevard. The former KTVE-TV Studio is now the new home of LifeShare-Monroe. The larger facility allows the blood center staff to operate more efficiently and encourages further development of new services as patients' need for blood continues to expand. Financial contributions from many area residents and businesses have made the new facility a reality. Funding through the state's Capital Outlay program also helped finance the purchase and renovation. Friends of LifeShare are invited to stop by and see the new facility. A grand opening celebration will be held soon.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO LIFESHARE BLOOD CENTERS

\$2,300

Anonymous (All centers)

\$300 - 500

Women & Children's Hospital (LC)
 Mid South Regional Old Car Club (M)
 Northrop Grumman (LC)
 Rapides Regional Medical Center (A)
 Baxter Health Care (S)

\$100 - 275

Employee Lunch Fundraiser (S)
 Combined Federal Campaign (A)
 United Way of NELA (M)
 Lorenzi, Sanchez & Palay, LLP (LC)
 Dr. & Mrs. Robert E. Harrison (M)

Up to \$99

Combined Federal Campaign of NWLA (S)
 United Way of NWLA (S)
 Paul Danner (M)
 Pizza Hut (A)
 John H. Pere (M)
 Judge J. N. Dimos (M)
 Mr. & Mrs. George Self (M)

MONROE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

\$454,615

State of Louisiana, Capital Outlay funds

\$7,500

Lincoln Parish Police Jury

\$2,500

The Thomas H. & Mayme P. Scott Foundation

\$100-130

Architecture +
 Mr. & Mrs. Karen Haik
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 St. Francis Medical Center

\$25-99

Delta Diagnostics
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LifeShare is happy to express appreciation to other contributors to the Employee Campaign:

Marguerite Branch
 Mary Brinkerhoff
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 Dawn Harrell
 Tina LeJeune
 Shelia Nick
 Darlene Williams

MY BLOOD YOUR BLOOD

\$3,260

Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation (M)

TALISMAN DONOR SCREENING COMPUTER SYSTEM

\$ 30,000

Mamie McFaddin Ward Heritage Foundation (B)

\$ 20,000

Dujay Charitable Foundation (B)

THANK YOU!

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90th Birthday of Mrs. Jane Strausser

by Mr. & Mrs. I. Sackman Marx

Please send your monetary contributions to LifeShare Blood Centers in the enclosed envelope. For more information on gifts to LifeShare Blood Centers, please call (318) 222-7770, ext. 517.

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*LifeShare is a non-profit Community Blood Center, governed by a Board of Trustees,
licensed by the Food and Drug Administration, inspected and accredited by the American
Association of Blood Banks, and a member of America's Blood Centers.*

ONE DONATION...TWICE THE AMOUNT

The new automated ALYX System collects two units of red blood cells during one donation process. For years LifeShare has offered the opportunity to donate either platelets or plasma through automated donation or apheresis – the medical term for using an automated instrument to remove a specific component of the blood. Now, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the automated collection of red blood cells. The machine used to collect two units of red blood cells is called the ALYX.

An ALYX donation takes 20 to 25 minutes to complete, about 10 minutes longer than the average whole blood donation. Since twice the amount of red blood cells is collected, a blood donor is eligible to give again in 112 days instead of 56 days. The donor criteria are slightly more restrictive with minimum height and weight requirements, which are different for men and women.



Red blood cell transfusions are typically in the greatest demand. In the United States, approximately 14 million units of red blood cells are transfused to patients compared to about 2 million units of platelets and 4 million units of plasma. ALYX donations can help prevent possible blood shortages by collecting two units of red blood cells from one single donor.

Scheduling an ALYX donation can be more convenient for busy blood donors who may be more likely to give every four months instead of every two months. Another convenient advantage is the availability of the ALYX system on mobile blood drives. Donors do not have to be in a LifeShare facility to make a double red cell donation.

LifeShare was the first blood center in the United States to be licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to use the ALYX.

For more information on the ALYX donation process, contact the LifeShare Blood Center nearest you.

ALYX
COMPONENT
Collection System