CALL TO ACTION TO PREVENT, DETECT AND TREAT ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES

Keynote Speaker: Paul Brodeur
Former New York Journalist and Author

Saturday, April 1, 2006
8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Mount Sinai School of Medicine
One Gustave L. Levy Place
New York, New York 10029
Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is an independent organization founded by Linda Reinstein and Doug Larkin on April 1, 2004. It is fully staffed by volunteers. ADAO will not be influenced by outside sources such as drug companies, law firms or companies that manufacture or use asbestos.

### ADAO's Goals:

- Serve as the united voice for all asbestos victims
- Unite asbestos victims Educate the public and medical community about asbestos related diseases
- Support research that leads to early detection, prevention and a cure
- Ensure equitable compensation for victims and their families
- Ban the use of asbestos

### ADAO Will:

Seek to give asbestos victims a united voice to help ensure that our rights are fairly represented and protected, including:

- Our right to medical research and treatments aimed at early detection, prevention and a cure for asbestos related diseases;
- Our right to file suit based on the merits of our individual asbestos related injustices;
- Our right to fair compensation.
- ADAO strives to implement an asbestos national asbestos disease database registry - to help unite victims of these tragic asbestos-related diseases.
- ADAO also works to support efforts to ban the use of asbestos and help protect future generations.

[www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org](http://www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org)
Senate Resolution 402

Designating the first day of April 2006 as `National Asbestos Awareness Day'.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES
109th CONGRESS
2nd Session

Designating the first day of April 2005 as ‘National Asbestos Awareness Day’.

Whereas dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;
Whereas the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;
Whereas these fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis and other health problems;
Whereas asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;
Whereas the expected survival time for those diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;
Whereas generally little is known about late stage treatment and there is no cure for asbestos-related diseases;
Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases may give some patients increased treatment options and might improve their prognosis;
Whereas the United States has substantially reduced its consumption of asbestos yet continues to consume almost 7,000 metric tons of the fibrous mineral for use in certain products throughout the Nation;
Whereas asbestos-related diseases have killed thousands of people in the United States;
Whereas asbestos exposures continue and safety and prevention will reduce and has reduced significantly asbestos exposure and asbestos-related diseases;
Whereas asbestos has been a cause of occupational cancer;
Whereas thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure;
Whereas a significant percentage of all asbestos-related disease victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;
Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975; and

Whereas the establishment of a “National Asbestos Awareness Day” would raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure:

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate designates the first day of 1 April 2006 as “National Asbestos Awareness Day”.

Asbestos Awareness Day Conference:
CALL TO ACTION TO PREVENT, DETECT AND TREAT
ASBESTOS-RELATED DISEASES

Overview of Conference Schedule:

8:00 - 8:45 am  Registration, Coffee
8:45 - 8:50 am  Welcome, Conference Goals
8:50 - 9:00 am  "Asbestos Kills" Slide Show
9:00 - 9:15 am  "Breath Taken: The Landscape and Biography of Asbestos"
9:15 - 9:30 am  Tribute to Victims and Their Families
9:30 - 10:45 am  Session I
10:45 - 10:55 am  Break
10:55 - 11:45 am  Session I continues
11:45 - 12:00 pm  Session I Discussion
12:00 - 12:15 pm  Asbestos Awareness Day Awards
12:15 - 1:15 pm  Lunch - Keynote Speaker: Paul Brodeur
1:15 - 2:15 pm  Session II
2:15 - 3:00 pm  Session III
3:00 - 3:15 pm  Break
3:15 - 4:15 pm  Session IV
4:15 - 5:15 pm  Session V
5:15 pm  Adjourn

Keynote Address: Paul Brodeur
Paul Brodeur was a staff writer at The New Yorker for many years, and is the author of four books about the asbestos hazard. In October 1968, the magazine published his pioneering account of the danger posed by asbestos inhalation; in 1971, it published his warning about the occupational and environmental hazard created by the spraying of asbestos insulation on the girders of high-rise buildings; and in 1973, it ran his four-part series exposing the culpability of leading asbestos manufacturers and company medical doctors for knowingly inflicting deadly disease upon thousands of workers. These articles helped launch the greatest toxic tort litigation in the history of American jurisprudence. In 1985, Brodeur published another series of articles that documented the history of the asbestos litigation and appeared in book form under the title "Outrageous Misconduct: The Asbestos Industry on Trial." In 2005, he wrote an Op-Ed piece for the Los Angeles Times that revealed the true nature of asbestos disease. He continues to be an outspoken advocate for asbestos victims and seeks justice and compensation for the tens of thousands of asbestos workers suffering from asbestos diseases.
Dear Registrants, Speakers, Honorees, Volunteers and Guests:

Dedicated victims, families, friends, doctors and environmentalists, among many others, have joined our crusade to fight for asbestos disease awareness. The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization sincerely thanks our each of you for unselfishly giving your time, support and contributions during the past year. Our office is the Internet, fueled not by large corporate donations, but by the power of the people. In the last twelve months, we have united more than 3500 people and have nearly 100 active volunteers. For a moment, close our office and imagine ADAO without Ellen, our Webmaster. Darkness would fall; support and awareness would cease. Thank you, one and all, for a year of endless support. ADAO is an independent and respected organization because of you.

Fear, despair and isolation are paralyzing, but knowledge is power. We can’t change history, but we can give hope to the future.

Jordan, you are a man of great distinction, quietly humble, enormously gifted and possessed of kindness beyond belief. We are blessed that you are the National Spokesperson for ADAO.

Asbestos Awareness Day offers a beacon of hope for hundreds of thousands of current and future victims of asbestos diseases. ADAO is elated that the United States Senate has seen fit to acknowledge the severity of the asbestos problem in the United States and around the world. We strongly encourage the Senate to build on the righteousness of this day, by promptly enacting a complete ban on asbestos. That is the only way we can hope to eliminate this insidious epidemic. ~

Alan Reinstein

Alan Reinstein, ADAO President
Global Action to Ban Asbestos: April 28, 2006

Groups representing international labor are making a global asbestos ban a top priority of this year's activities on International Workers' Memorial Day (April 28). The Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) are mobilizing their members throughout the world to "engage in peaceful demonstrations and petitions at Canadian Embassies and Consulates to convince the Canadian government to call a halt to its aggressive marketing and promotion of asbestos in developing countries such as India, Zimbabwe and Brazil." In a recent press release, BWI General Secretary Anita Normark said:

"Today's exposures guarantee an epidemic lasting at least another generation, with the asbestos graveyards shifting from the developed to the developing world."

On April 28, other unions are also engaging in activities to raise awareness of the global asbestos scandal. Such action will raise public and media awareness and increase the pressure on the International Labor Organization, the World Health Organization and United Nations to do what is needed and ban the use of this acknowledged carcinogen.

Support for the worldwide asbestos ban from other sectors of the international community will also be forthcoming on April 28. The publication of a petition by Parliamentarians, being circulated by Belgian Senator Alain Destexhe, will be timed to coincide with the day of action. As of now, 80 politicians from Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, North America and the Middle East have signed up to the document which states:

“In the spirit of humanity and equality, we declare that each human being has the right to live and work in a healthy environment. It is not acceptable that a substance which is too harmful to be used in the European Union is used in Asia, Africa and Latin America; it is not acceptable for an industrialized country to dump asbestos-contaminated ships in a developing country. A global asbestos ban is the first step in the campaign to rid humanity of the threat it faces from asbestos. As Parliamentarians we will endeavour to lobby national governments, regional and international bodies and work with international labor, NGOs, groups representing asbestos victims and others to secure a global ban. The time for action is now!"

To provide a vehicle for the expression of public outrage at the continuing trade in this deadly substance, another petition is being circulated; it is hoped that asbestos victims, campaigners, medical professionals and concerned individuals will endorse this petition by logging on to the website: http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/878671812
Asbestos Awareness Day International Conference

The 2nd Annual Asbestos Awareness Day Conference, organized by the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization, strives to provide the most advanced medical, occupational and environmental information available about asbestos related diseases to individuals throughout the world. The conference is hosted at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City in conjunction with the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health.

Saturday, April 1, 2006, Mount Sinai School of Medicine

8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:45 a.m. Welcome and Conference Goals
   Alan Reinstein, President, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization and mesothelioma victim
   Linda Reinstein, Co-founder and Executive Director, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization
8:50 a.m. “Asbestos Kills” Slideshow
   Jordan Zevon. National Spokesperson, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization
9:00 a.m. “Breath Taken: The Landscape and Biography of Asbestos”
   Bill Ravenesi, Photojournalist and Author
9:15 a.m. Tribute to Victims and Their Families
   Marilyn Amento, ADAO National State Representative Co-Director and Pennsylvania State Representative
9:30 a.m. SESSION I. Early Detection and Treatment of Nonmalignant and Malignant Asbestos Related Diseases among Asbestos-Exposed Populations
   Co-Chair: Philip J. Landrigan, M.D., M.Sc., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
   Co-Chair: Stephen M. Levin, M.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
   Epidemiology
   Philip J. Landrigan, M.D., M.Sc., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
   Detection and Diagnosing Nonmalignant and Malignant Asbestos Related Diseases
   Stephen M. Levin, M.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
   Steven Markowitz, M.D., Queens College
   Albert Miller, M.D., Mount Sinai School of Medicine
   Harvey Pass, M.D., NYU School of Medicine and NCI Cancer Center
   Treating Nonmalignant Asbestos-Related Diseases
   Michael R. Harbut, M.D., M.P.H., FCCP, National Center for Vermiculite and Asbestos-Related Cancers
   Treating Malignant Asbestos-Related Diseases
   Scott Swanson, M.D., Director of Thoracic Surgery at Mount Sinai
   Mary Hesdorffer, R.N. Nurse Practitioner, Columbia University Mesothelioma Center
   Robert Taub M.D., PhD, Columbia University Mesothelioma Center*
10:45 a.m. Break
10:55 a.m. Session I Continues: Early Detection and Treatment of Nonmalignant and Malignant Asbestos Related Diseases among Asbestos-Exposed Populations
11:45 a.m. Session I Discussion
12:00 noon Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization Asbestos Awareness Day Honorees
   Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award Honorees
   Paul Brodeur
   Dr. Yasunosuke Suzuki
   Announcement: Dr. Jacqueline Moline, MD, MSc, Suzuki Education Fund
   Tribute of Hope, The Honorable Harry Reid, United States Senator*
   Tribute of Inspiration, The Honorable Chuck Strahl, Member of Parliament, Canada
   Tribute of Hope, James Fite, White Lung Association
12:30 p.m.  **Lunch**  
Jerrold Nadler, *Congressman New York Eighth Congressional District*  
Keynote Speaker: Paul Brodeur, *Former New York Journalist and Author*

1:30 p.m.  **SESSION II. Prevention of Occupational and Environmental Exposure to Asbestos: Regulatory Enforcement, Education and Training**  
Chair: Richard Lemen, Ph.D., *Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization Science Advisory Co-chair, Assistant Surgeon General (retired), Former Deputy Director of NIOSH*  
Jonathan Bennett, *New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health*  
Michael Bowker, *Journalist*  
J. Brent Kynoch, *Environmental Information Association*  
Kathleen Burns, Ph.D, *Sciencecorps Org*

2:15 p.m.  **Session II Discussion**

2:30 p.m.  **SESSION III. Global Asbestos Advocacy**  
Chair: Arthur L. Frank, M.D., Ph.D., *ADAO Science Advisory Co-chair*  
Barry Castleman, Sc.D, *Environmental Consultant*  
Laurie Kazan-Allen, *International Ban Asbestos Secretariat*  
Paul S. Zygielbaum, MS, MBA, ADAO Volunteer and Mesothelioma *Victim*

3:00 p.m.  **Session III Discussion**

3:15 p.m.  **Break**

3:30 p.m.  **SESSION IV. Canadian Mining and Exportation of Asbestos**  
Chair: Patrick Martin, *Member of Canadian Parliament*  
Chuck Strahl, *Member of Canadian Parliament and Mesothelioma Patient*  
James Brophy, Ph.D., *Executive Director, Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers*  
Abe Reinhartz, M.D., *Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers*

4:00 p.m.  **Session IV Discussion**

4:15 p.m.  **SESSION V. Roundtable Discussion: Victims’ Support and Resources**  
Chair: Linda Reinstein, *Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization*  
Panelists:  
James Fite, *White Lung Association*  
Brad Black, M.D. *Center for Asbestos Related Disease (CARD)*  
Gayla Benefield, *Lincoln County Asbestos Victim’s Relief Organization (LCAVRO)*  
Mary Hesdorffer, *Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center*  
Kimberly Flynn, *9/11 Environmental Action*  
Barry Robson, *Asbestos Disease Foundation of Australia*

5:00 p.m.  **Session V Discussion**

5:15 p.m.  **Adjourn**

*Speaker may be unable to attend*
For Immediate Release:
Monday, March 27, 2006

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) Awards Top Honors to Leading Voices in Asbestos Awareness

Awards to be Received at Second Annual National Asbestos Awareness Day Conference on April 1

Redondo Beach, CA … March 27, 2006 — The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) today announced the honorees for the Tribute of Unity, Tribute of Hope and Tribute of Inspiration Awards to be presented at the second annual Asbestos Awareness Day Conference on April 1, 2006 at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Honorees are recognized for their outstanding work and dedication to asbestos awareness related activities. In addition, two Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Awards will be presented to individuals who have achieved significant medical and educational advancements towards asbestos related research and awareness.

United States Senator Harry Reid, Senate Minority Leader, will be presented with the Tribute to Hope Award for his endless support in helping asbestos victims; The Honorable Chuck Strahl, P.C., M.P. and mesothelioma patient, will be recognized with the Tribute to Inspiration Award for his strength and grace in coping with his mesothelioma diagnosis; and James Fite, The White Lung Association, will receive the Tribute to Unity Award for his work to unite, educate and empower asbestos victims, activists and public health workers.

Dr. Yasunosuke Suzuki will be presented with the Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding work towards the medical advancements regarding asbestos-related diseases. Dr. Suzuki has conducted numerous studies on cancer research while working alongside Dr. Selikoff for more than three decades, one of which led to a global re-examination of asbestos use. Paul Brodeur also will be awarded the Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award for his great success in raising awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure. Mr. Brodeur is a prominent writer and author who has composed several pieces and published books on the health hazards of asbestos.

“The honorees are truly inspirational human beings; their commitment, compassion and leadership have illuminated the darkness and brought hope to many whose lives have been so badly affected by these debilitating and fatal illnesses,” said Linda Reinstein, Co-Founder & Executive Director of the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization. “Asbestos Awareness Day is a landmark step towards education, prevention and a cure. More than 30 million homes and buildings across the nation contain asbestos - these incurable and often deadly diseases are not going way.”

Asbestos Awareness Day is an opportunity to recognize accomplishments, remember and honor loved ones and increase awareness about the dangers of asbestos. Details will be posted on the ADAO website, www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org.
Paul Brodeur was born in Boston and educated at Phillips Academy Andover and Harvard College. During the middle nineteen-fifties he served as an intelligence agent in charge of counter espionage and sabotage at the first nuclear underground storage depot in Europe—a job that left him with a lasting appreciation for the potential harmful consequences of the modern technological society. Following his military service, he became a staff writer at The New Yorker where he remained for more than thirty-five years. In 1968, he wrote a pioneering piece about the asbestos health hazard for the magazine, and over the next twenty years was the author of several series of articles and four books on the subject. A second article, published in 1971, was instrumental in the promulgation of a nationwide ban on the practice of spraying asbestos on the steel girders of high-rise buildings. A subsequent series exposed what Brodeur called the medical-industrial complex—a widespread conspiracy between company physicians and their employers, who had failed for decades to inform asbestos workers and other workers about deadly occupational health hazards. This series, later published as a book entitled Expendable Americans, won the National Magazine Award for 1973. Not surprisingly, in addition to informing the public about the massive occupational and environmental threats posed by asbestos, Brodeur's early articles and books were used as road maps by the plaintiff bar, and thus helped launch the greatest toxic tort litigation in the history of American jurisprudence.

Subsequently, his definitive pieces on the depletion of the ozone layer by man-made chemicals won the Journalism Award of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and resulted in his being elected to the United Nations Environmental Program's Honour Roll for outstanding environmental achievement. In 1975, he wrote about the pervasive health hazard posed by chemical solvents, such as tricholoethylene, and the following year he not only became the first journalist to describe the health hazard posed by microwave radiation, but also predicted that such radiation would one day prove to be carcinogenic. In this connection, it is interesting to note that thanks to the political influence of the cellular telephone industry and apathy on the part of the Food and Drug Administration, virtually no studies of the health effects associated with the microwave radiation given off by cell phones have been conducted in the United States in recent years. However, three independent sets of epidemiological data from Sweden not only demonstrate significant increases in the incidence of inner ear tumors among long-term cell telephone users, but also a correlation between which side of the brain the tumors are occurring upon with whether the user is left or right handed.

Between 1989 and 1993, Paul Brodeur wrote a series of groundbreaking articles for The New Yorker on the pervasive health hazard associated with exposure to the electromagnetic fields given off by high-voltage and high-current power lines, as well as by faulty household wiring. These articles appear in books entitled Currents of Death and The Great Power-Line Cover-up.

An assessment of the role of government and the electric utility industry in suppressing overwhelming epidemiological evidence of the carcinogenicity of electromagnetic fields— even after the EPA had declared them to be cancer-producing—appears in Brodeur's 1997 memoir which is entitled Secrets: A Writer in the Cold War, and which was cited by The New York Times as being on of the best 100 books published that year. In addition to nine books of non-fiction, Paul Brodeur is the author of two novels and a collection of short stories. One of his novels, The Stunt Man, was made into a film with the same title starring Peter O'Toole.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is pleased to award Paul Brodeur the Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award.
Professor Yasunosuke Suzuki was born in 1929 in the small Japanese seaside village of Shimoda, a place that had been made famous because it is where Admiral Perry first landed in 1858. His family owned the transportation network in the province, and his father was a senator to the Japanese Diet. As a child, he suffered through the war, and with his middle school classmates was forced to work in a distant military munitions plant. After the war, he was educated in Tokyo at the elite Keio University, and received his M.D. degree from the School of Medicine in 1953. It was during this time he met Mieko, his wife of more than 50 years, who came from a family of doctors who operated a hospital.

He completed one-year internship in Tokyo at the Setagaya National Hospital, and in 1954 obtained his medical license from the Japanese Government. His mentors told him that if he truly wanted to understand medicine, it was best to first study the causes of diseases, then only after that was understood, the various methods of treatment. Determined to become a pathologist, in 1954 he joined the Department of Pathology in the Keio University School of Medicine. He was given the rank of “Assistant of Pathology” and trained for the next 9 years mastering three skills: (1) pathologic diagnosis of human diseases using autopsy and biopsy samples, (2) teaching of pathology to medical students, and (3) completion of original research.

In 1959, he was awarded the Doctorate of Medical Sciences in the field of Pathology, his second doctorate. The following year he was selected to be sent abroad as an International Post Doctoral Research Fellow at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH). He came to the New York University School of Medicine to be trained under Professor Johannes Rhodin, at the time the world’s top investigator of kidney structure using electron microscopy. After one year training, he moved in 1961 to the Mount Sinai Hospital Renal Pathology Division under Dr. Churg, and he published several papers related to kidney pathology.

A few years later, in 1966, Dr. Suzuki was invited to re-join Mount Sinai as a Research Associate. In addition to renal pathology with Dr. Churg, he started to investigate pathology of asbestos related diseases with Dr. Irving J. Selikoff. The research on asbestos related diseases included pulmonary asbestosis, the development and formation of asbestos bodies and electron microscopy of human malignant mesothelioma. These findings were published in several journals. (Amer. J. Path. 55:79, 1969; Lab.Invest. 21: 304, 1966; Env. Res. 3:107, 1970; WHO-IARC. 74, 1973). In 1973, Dr. Suzuki again returned to Japan to serve as Chairman and Professor of Anatomy at Fujita-Gakuen University School of Medicine.

However, in response to Dr. Selikoff’s invitation, he returned to Mount Sinai in 1975 as Research Professor of Community Medicine and also as Research Associated Professor of Pathology. For the next 31 years, from 1975 to 2006, he devoted his time solely to the investigating the pathology of asbestos related diseases. One of his most significant contributions was providing support to Selikoff’s groundbreaking epidemiological study on asbestos insulation workers. Slide by slide, he reviewed the pathologic autopsy and biopsy samples taken from approximately 5,000 cases of insulation workers and confirmed the diagnosis of asbestos related diseases. The results of this study led to a global re-examination of asbestos use, and to massive class action suits by workers who had died from cancer, and the results of this research still are with us today. He was promoted to Professor of Pathology in 1989 and in 1991 to Professor of Community and Preventive Medicine.

Up to the present, Dr. Suzuki has published a total of 171 peer review scientific papers. Over 100 papers were related to asbestos related diseases and approximately 40 papers concerned kidney diseases. Adding together his assistance in 300-400 mesothelioma litigation cases, the 5,000 original cases in the Selikoff study, and around 30 cases of baboons he examined on-site in Africa, Dr. Suzuki estimates that over the course of his career in research, he has examined and written up approximately 538,000 individual slides. Suzuki has received several honors including in 1993 the Ramazzini Award. Other awards include the honorary title of Guest Professor at Tokai University School of Medicine (1993-1996) and Honorary Visiting Professor of Pathology at Keio University School of Medicine (1999-2000).

He served as a consultant for Food and Drug Administration, from 1988 to 1989 and from 1985 to 1997 as a member of the National Cancer Institute, Cancer and Leukemia B Group, Malignant Mesothelioma Pathology Panel. Dr. Suzuki is a member of various academic societies including Fellow of Collegium Ramazzini, American Association of Pathologists, American College of Toxicology, Federation of American Society for Experimental Biology, American Association for Cancer Research, American Medical association, the Harvey Society and New York Academy of Science.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is pleased to award Dr. Yasunosuke Suzuki the Selikoff Lifetime Achievement Award.
The Honorable Harry Reid, United States Senator
Tribute of Hope Honoree

Born and raised in the small desert mining town of Searchlight, Nevada, Harry Reid has spent his life fighting to ensure every American has the same opportunities for success that he has had despite his humble upbringing.

Growing up, Reid’s father was a hard rock miner. His mother took in wash. Neither of his parents graduated from high school and his dad never graduated from eighth grade.

Opportunity was scarce in Searchlight and Reid made the most of the chances he got: attending Searchlight’s two-room elementary school through eighth grade, hitchhiking 40 miles as a teenager to attend the nearest high school, graduating from Utah State University and putting himself through George Washington University’s Law School by working nights as a member of the U.S. Capitol police.

Reid, who married his high-school sweetheart Landra at age 19, returned with his family to Nevada after law school. He held a number of local offices before serving in the U.S. House of Representatives for two terms and then winning a seat in the United States Senate in 1986.

In the Senate, Reid has shunned special interests and the partisan bickering that typify the nation’s capital. He’s known for his no-nonsense ability to talk straight and get things done.

A former boxer, Reid has said he “prefers to dance, but he knows how to fight.” It’s this philosophy he has shown as Senate Democratic Leader. Reid assumed this post after the 2004 elections, and he has quickly developed a record as a strong and effective leader.

Under his leadership, Democrats have led the fight for tough and smart national security policies, to strengthen and protect Social Security, to make sure our troops and veterans have the resources they need, to restore fiscal discipline in Washington, DC, and to make sure the government addresses the needs of the American people, not special interests.

Reid and his wife Landra still live in Searchlight. They have five children and 15 grandchildren.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is pleased to award Senator Reid the Tribute of Hope award.
Chuck has lived his entire life in the Fraser Valley. He was a partner in a successful road construction and logging contracting firm, and was responsible for managing several operations throughout the Fraser Valley. He and his wife Deb have been married since 1975, and have four children and four grandchildren.

Mr. Strahl was diagnosed with mesothelioma last summer. His strength, grace and positive attitude have been an inspiration as he deals with his unfortunate situation. And he didn’t let it stop him from continuing his important work in the Canadian House of Commons. Mr. Strahl wrote an open letter to his constituents to explain his condition.

Some newspaper columns 'write themselves'. Some of them are written after extensive research, while others are just human-interest stories. Often, (for a part time, occasional writer like me) they happen in a fit of emotion anger or compassion. This one doesn't seem to fit any of the above, although there are elements of each one in it, I think. This column is about me (always a difficult subject), and it is about my cancer…I didn't start the summer with cancer, but I did start with some medical problems that I kept sort of quiet. My lung collapsed at the beginning of July, but I thought it was just the flu or perhaps pneumonia, and I was too busy and too stubborn to rush into the doctor's office. By the time I saw him in July, he had me go immediately to the Emergency Room, where they re-inflated my lung and sent me home.

The following week I toured the north part of our riding...when I returned, however, the lung had recollapsed, and they stuck me in the hospital for a couple of days while they worked on it. But there were ongoing problems, so down I went to Vancouver General where I spent last week going through a third operation and a bunch of tests. The news didn't get better. By week's end the pathologists had determined that the lining of my lung (the pleura) had developed cancer, likely because of an exposure to asbestos when I was a young man. My logging days included a time when we used open asbestos brakes on the yarders, and while my exposure wasn't that lengthy, it was intense. Typically, 20-25 years later, the asbestos works its ugly magic. Unfortunately, I'm right on time.

Throughout the Fall of 2005, Mr. Strahl continued his important work as the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons through a very difficult and raucous House. Mr. Strahl remains a calm example to his colleagues of how politicians should behave and has earned the respect of his fellow Members of Parliament regardless of their political leanings. On January 23rd, after the longest Canadian election campaign in 25 years, Mr. Strahl was reelected and his party was elected the new government. Despite his illness, Mr. Strahl has continued to throw himself into his work, agreeing to serve when the new Prime Minister asked him to be Canada’s new Agricultural Minister.

Again, in his own words:

A column like this could have the word "unfortunately" sprinkled throughout, and it is the perfect word for the situation. Unfortunately, I was exposed to asbestos. Unfortunately, my body couldn’t handle it. Unfortunately, it targets the lungs. Unfortunately, there is no cure, only treatment. Unfortunately, like all cancer, the disease has an awful, debilitating effect on your family and friends, all of whom want to help, can’t believe it is happening, and just wish they could do something to make the world 'right' again. I’m none too thrilled with it all either. The treatment will be determined in the next few days, and I’ll have to start that soon. It won't be any fun, but it has to be done and I’ll just get at it when they're ready. I'm hoping to be able to keep working while this happens, and the shock and the disbelief will slowly make way for reality for me and Deb and those around us...I simply can't be bitter about it, because so many people are expressing their love in so many ways to Deb, and me and we are so glad our Christian faith is mature and well grounded. Things will be fine...Cancer is a serious disease, but those of us diagnosed with cancer don't want to be rushed off the playing field and sidelined any too soon. I'll be in there sluggin’ for now, and much of what comes up will be simply business as usual.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is pleased to award Chuck Strahl the Tribute of Inspiration award.
Jim Fite
Tribute of Unity Honoree

Written by Dr. Barry Castleman and Laurie Kazan-Allen

Jim Fite is from Oklahoma and became active in high school in Black voter registration and civil rights demonstrations at segregated businesses. He worked with projects sponsored by the NAACP, the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, and the Congress on Racial Equality. He worked in projects as a poll watcher, worked to investigate vote-counting fraud and community education in Alabama, Oklahoma and New York. He left college after one year, organizing anti-war demonstrations and walkouts and strikes by students, and working with anti-poverty groups in New York and California in the mid-late 1960s.

Jim worked at day labor, truck driving and then in a solder-grinding booth at General Motors in Los Angeles. This job was notorious for lead exposure and a dirty job he was at first told would lead to better work in a year. He was a member of the UAW civil rights committee and supported the UFWU organizing drive in California fruit and vegetable farms.

He noticed harassment of potential employers and landlords by the FBI. Only years later did his father, a history professor, tell him that he, too, had been visited by the FBI about Jim. Then, there was factory work in Chicago, broken by trips to Harlan County, Kentucky. There, coal miners were in conflict with the anti union elements in the Ku Klux Klan. The women's group which supported the strike needed a lawyer from outside town, which the courageous civil rights workers sought to provide.

Jim worked in construction and then landed a job in the Bethlehem shipyards in Baltimore in 1978. At the direction of a union leader, he took off to work at an HMO set up with public funds. Here, he saw that marketing managers strongly discouraged selling policies to shipyard workers as bad risks for health care. He also learned about insurance and the workers' compensation system.

The White Lung Association was set up in 1979 by Jim and two other unionists with a small foundation grant, in southern California. WLA got shipyards to confront asbestos problems, even getting medical support and doing pulmonary function tests at the WLA office. The American Lung association was prevailed upon to provide its mobile X-ray unit. Hundreds of thousands of leaflets were handed out at union meetings, with advice to seek medical and legal services. Campaigns were waged across the country to get asbestos properly removed from schools, preceding national legislation in 1987. Then, Jim became a licensed inspector, supervisor, and trainer of asbestos removal specialists. WLA has been the voice of the asbestos victims at state legislatures and in Congress. WLA has endeavored to represent victims' interests, educate the public, and enact laws and regulations (now a ban on the sale of asbestos products).

He was active in the formation of the Baltimore Homeless Union after closing of the shipyards and steel mills in Baltimore left many former union members homeless.

Jim Fite is an exemplary human being. I have known him well for over 25 years, and his total commitment to trying to make this world a better place is awe-inspiring. A radical in the very best sense of the word, it is our pleasure to salute his courageous life of service to the poor, workers, the homeless, and the asbestos victims.

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is pleased to award
Jim Fite the Tribute of Unity award.
Marilyn Amento is ADAO’s National State Representative Co-Director and State Representative for Pennsylvania. Marilyn is the widow of Joe Amento, Jr. who died of mesothelioma at the age of 53, only 6 months after his first symptom. Joe was exposed to asbestos approximately 40 years prior while visiting his dad at one of the several asbestos plants in the small Borough of Ambler, a Philadelphia suburb. Marilyn is also the mother of two pre-teens. She channels her grief and anger with the asbestos industry by working with ADAO, and educating the public, government officials, and the medical community about the harmful effects of asbestos.

Gayla Benefield is ADAO’s first Tribute of Hope Award recipient. She lost both her father, who was a miner, and her mother to asbestos-related diseases. After realizing the tragedy of what was happening in her hometown of Libby, Montana, she became an outspoken advocate to inform the world of the dangers of asbestos. Gayla has been featured in two films, “Dust to Dust,” and “Libby, Montana.” Over sixty members of her family have either died of asbestos-related disease, been diagnosed, or are at high risk. Gayla is also co-founder of Lincoln County Asbestos Victim’s Relief Organization (LCAVRO).

Jonathan Bennett is Public Affairs Director for the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health, a workers’ health training and advocacy organization. NYCOSH consists of some 200 local unions and over 400 individual union members, health and safety activists, injured workers, healthcare workers, attorneys, public health advocates, environmentalists, and concerned citizens. For more than 25 years, NYCOSH has been a leader in effort to prevent workers from being exposed to asbestos and ensuring that anyone injured by asbestos receives adequate compensation. NYCOSH trains over 6,000 workers every year and maintains a large website that offers information on all aspects of safety and health in the workplace, including online documents (fact sheets, checklists, etc.) and of a list of links to other sites on the subject (government sites as well as sites of social partners, institutes and so on). There is also a guide to looking for online information on safety and health.

Brad Black, MD is the Lincoln County (Montana) Health Officer. Dr. Black has been closely involved in all aspects of the current screening program and the establishment of the new Center for Asbestos Related Disease (CARD). A pediatrician by specialty, he additionally spent 26 years as the physician leader of the urgent care center and as emergency room physician. He has also worked in cooperation with local physicians and a number of pulmonary specialists who have handled many Libby asbestos patients in the past, including Dr. Alan Whitehouse of Spokane. All of the physicians in Libby have been involved in the development of the CARD, and are supportive of Dr. Black leading this care effort.

Michael Bowker is an investigative journalist who specializes in telling the home stories behind today’s health, science, and environmental issues. He has written four books and hundreds of articles for a variety of publications. Among his books are: Fatal Deception: The Terrifying True Story of How Asbestos is Killing America and also Fatal Deception: The Untold Story of Asbestos: Why it is still legal and killing us.

James Brophy, PhD, the Executive Director of the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers was the recipient of Canada’s Environmental Health Silver Award in 2003. “Asbestos is the most studied and identified occupational carcinogen,” says Brophy, “and the fact that its dangers were hidden from workers is an object lesson in the workings of our economic system.” “It’s a serial killer responsible for millions of people prematurely losing their lives,” he says. “If we are going to win the war on cancer, we have to build a society that thrives on the energy and drive of its citizens — one that truly prioritizes human life and human health. Mr. Brophy has a PhD in occupational health from Stirling University in Scotland.
Kathleen Burns, PhD is the director of Sciencecorps, which provides assistance to communities and workplaces where chemicals, particles, or radiological hazards pose health risks. She was part of the team that developed the first health-based alternatives to workplace standards in the 1980s and has worked on the development of systems such as the Toxics Release Inventory that provide people with information about workplace and community hazards. She is currently working on obtaining and disseminating information on workplaces and communities where asbestos contamination has been covered up in the past. She is also working on the development of worker safety standards for the next generation of hazardous respirable particles that are being introduced into workplaces across the country, nanoparticles.

Barry Castleman, ScD, is an Environmental Consultant trained in chemical and environmental engineering. He holds a Doctor of Science degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. He has been a consultant to numerous agencies of the US government and other governments, international bodies, and environmental groups dealing with a wide range of public health issues. He has testified as an expert in civil litigation in the US, on the history of asbestos as a public health problem and the reasons for failures to properly control asbestos hazards. Dr. Castleman has spent the past 35 years working on asbestos as a public health problem.

James Fite, the 2006 recipient of ADAO’s Tribute of Unity Award, is the National Secretary of the White Lung Association the oldest and largest organization of people with asbestos diseases in the world. WLA has been recognized to be an important participant in legal actions around the United States and is an important advocate for the rights of injured working people and their families.

Kimberly Flynn is co-coordinator of the 9/11 Environmental Action Group, a native of New Orleans and a 9/11 survivor. Ms. Flynn has been an outspoken critic of the EPA. She was quoted on a radio program when asked about the quality of their response, "It was an experience of struggle. My group and the community groups and labor groups that went into these meetings at EPA Region 2 in the summer of 2002, brought to EPA many recommendations for important improvements to EPA's testing and cleanup protocols. EPA, unfortunately, ignored our recommendations, then, in 2003, the EPA's Inspector General released its report on EPA's environmental response, and lo and behold, every recommendation that we had made was in the IG report Chapter 6 on the indoor cleanup. We were right, the EPA was wrong."

Arthur L. Frank, PhD, MD is co-chair of ADAO's Science Advisory Board and serves as Professor of Public Health and Chair of the Department of Environmental and Occupational Medicine at the Drexel University School of Public Health in Philadelphia. Trained in both occupational medicine and internal medicine, Dr. Frank has been interested in the health hazards of asbestos for more than 35 years. He has published extensively on the hazards of asbestos, and clinically cared for asbestos affected patients. He has lectured internationally about the problems of asbestos, and worked in many settings looking at the diseases caused by this material.

Michael R. Harbut, MD, MPH, FCCP is Chief of the Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine: Clinical Assistant Professor, Wayne State University, School of Medicine, Detroit, Michigan. An Internationally known expert in the diagnosis and treatment of environmental and workplace diseases Dr. Harbut has been named co-Director of the National Center for Vermiculite and Asbestos Related Cancers. He is the co-author of the American Thoracic Society’s 2004 Recommendations for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Non-Malignant Disease Caused by Asbestos Exposure. Dr. Harbut is a past chair of the occupational and environmental health section of the American College of Chest Physicians and has served on the Board of Directors of the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation. Dr. Harbut brings his expertise to address the need for early diagnosis and aggressive treatment of asbestos related diseases.
Mary Hesdorffer, RN a member of ADAO's Medical Advisory Board has been a Clinical Research Nurse for the Mesothelioma Center of Columbia University/Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center for the past 8 years. She assists patients in the clinical setting as well as educates and writes about mesothelioma. In the future, she intends to post information about different aspects of diseases associated with asbestos exposure. She will use a team approach with experts in the field of medicine, pain management, pulmonary medicine, nursing, and pharmacy to give comprehensive and reliable information.

Laurie Kazan-Allan is Founder and Coordinator of the International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS), an independent body set up in 1999 to campaign for a global ban on asbestos and justice for all asbestos victims. As the editor and publisher of the British Asbestos Newsletter, she has been writing about international asbestos issues for more than 15 years. Ms. Kazan-Allen is an adviser to the UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Occupational Safety and Health and was Guest Editor of asbestos special issues of the International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health in 2003 & 2004 and Joint Editor of the Annals of the Global Asbestos Congress 2004. In 2005, she received the ADAO Tribute of Unity Award as well as the Antonio Raposo Tavares Medal from the City of Osasco, Brazil.

J. Brent Kynoch is the Managing Director of the Environmental Information Association (EIA). EIA was founded in 1983 as the National Asbestos Council. Since that time, EIA has served its members to collect, generate and disseminate information about environmental issues in buildings and facilities. EIA provided the first available asbestos abatement worker training throughout the country, through a “New Directions” grant from OSHA, provided from 1986-1989. Still today, EIA continues to provide worker training throughout the nation through its cadre of field training instructors. In addition to his work at EIA, Mr. Kynoch heads Kynoch Environmental Management, Inc. (KEM). KEM provides value engineered consulting services within the asbestos abatement industry and has earned a reputation as one of the leading consultants in asbestos inspection, assessment, abatement design, and management. Mr. Kynoch is a sought-after asbestos expert and educational trainer.

Philip J. Landrigan, MD, MSc, is a physician, a board-certified specialist in occupational medicine, and Chairman of the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. He is Editor-In-Chief of the American Journal of Industrial Medicine. He is President of the Collegium Ramazzini, an international scientific society in occupational and environmental medicine. Dr. Landrigan presented testimony before the US Senate Committee on the Judiciary on April 26, 2005 entitled “A Fair and Efficient System to Resolve Claims of Victims for Bodily Injury Caused by Asbestos, and Other Purposes.”

Richard Lemen, PhD, is co-chair of ADAO's Science Advisory committee. He is a former Assistant Surgeon General of the United States and also served as the Acting Director and the Deputy Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health before his retirement. He has been a practicing epidemiologist for more than thirty years and has taught graduate level classes on environmental and occupational health issues, including asbestos, at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He has also testified in litigation on behalf of asbestos victims, Dr. Lemen is a world-renowned author, speaker, and lecturer on this topic.
Speakers and Honorees - Asbestos Awareness Day - 2006

Stephen M. Levin, MD is Medical Director of the Mount Sinai – Irving J. Selikoff Center for Occupational and Environmental Medicine, in the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York. The Center is funded by the New York State Department of Health and is part of a statewide network of occupational medicine clinics established by the state legislature to examine and treat workers who have developed illness or injury caused by their exposures at work. Dr. Levin has testified in the senate regarding the asbestos exposure at Ground Zero and surrounding area on 9/11.

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler represents New York's Eighth Congressional district, one of the most diverse districts in the nation. Congressman Nadler was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1992 after serving for 16 years in the New York State Assembly. Throughout his career, he has championed civil rights, civil liberties, efficient transportation, and a host of progressive issues such as access to health care, support for the arts and protection of the Social Security system. He is considered an unapologetic defender of those who might otherwise be forgotten by American law or the economy, and is respected specifically for his creative and pragmatic legislative approaches. In his roles as an Assistant Whip and a senior member of both the House Judiciary Committee and the House Transportation Committee, Congressman Nadler has the opportunity on a daily basis to craft and shape the major laws that govern our country. From his leadership in response to the September 11th terrorist attacks on his district, to his insight and policymaking prominence on issues facing Israel and the Middle East, Nadler has constantly sought to be steadfast and responsive in his service to New York and the nation.

Steven Markowitz, MD, is a Professor at Queens College, Center for the Biology of Natural Systems. In June 2004, Queens College received a five year $3.57 million grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide health monitoring of 500 Ground Zero workers from 2004 to 2009, offering medical check-ups for each participant every 18 months. Dr. Steven Markowitz serves on the Executive Steering Committee for the overall program, the World Trade Center Technical Review Panel of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Scientific Advisory Board of the World Trade Center Registry.

The Honorable Patrick Martin is a Member of the House of Commons and Leader of the Liberal Party in the Canadian Parliament. He is a strong opponent of asbestos and introduced legislation advocating April 1 as Asbestos Awareness Day in Canada.

Albert Miller, MD, FACP, FCCP is Professor of Clinical Medicine, New York Medical College, Clinical Professor of Community Medicine at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Pulmonary Program Director at St. Vincent Catholic Medical Centers of New York. Dr. Miller had the honor to be one of “a group of ten of the nation’s most prominent physicians in the area of pulmonary function” who was “interviewed at length at the Chicago offices” of the ABA by the Commission, to establish a Standard for Non-Malignant Asbestos-Related Disease Claims.
Speakers and Honorees - Asbestos Awareness Day - 2006

Harvey Pass, MD is Professor of Surgery and Director of Thoracic Surgery and Thoracic Oncology at New York University in New York, NY. Dr. Pass was the Head of Thoracic Oncology at the National Cancer Institute from 1986-1996. Before moving to New York, he was Professor of Surgery and Oncology for Wayne State University and the Karmanos Cancer Institute. Pass was also awarded America’s Top Doctors Honor by Castle Connolly's Guide for the last five years. Dr. Pass has co-authored over 250 original reports and abstracts on mesothelioma and lung cancer. He has edited three editions of Lung Cancer: Principles and Practice, and the first edition of Malignant Pleural Mesothelioma: Advances in Pathogenesis, Diagnosis, and Translational Therapies. He is a funded Principle Investigator for the NCI Early Detection Research Network (EDRN) and directs the Mesothelioma Biomarker Discovery EDRN Laboratory at NYU in the search for early detection markers for mesothelioma in “high-risk” asbestos-exposed individuals.

Bill Ravanesi, Photojournalist and producer of the acclaimed national traveling mixed-media exhibition, “Breath Taken: The Landscape and Biography of Asbestos.” Bill is the Boston Campaign Director for Health Care Without Harm, an international coalition of over 400 non-profit organizations working to transform the healthcare industry worldwide so that it is ecologically sustainable and no longer a source of harm to public health and the environment. After learning in the 1980s that his father had life-threatening pleural mesothelioma, Bill began recording & photographing people suffering from asbestos-related diseases. He documented many of the industrial sites in North America where asbestos was “put to work.” Breath Taken, through its inclusion of both contemporary and vintage portraits and landscapes, narrative, industry advertisements, objects, and voice, is his attempt to put a “human face” on this colossal tragedy.

Barry Robson, President of the Asbestos Disease Foundation of Australia, first came across asbestos in the 1966 when he started to work on the waterfront in Sydney, Australia as a wharflie (longshoreman). For the next 38 years until he retired in 2002, Mr. Robson had been, in one form or another, involved with the terrible diseases from which people exposed to asbestos suffer. In 1996, after he was elected to a full time position with the Maritime Union of Australia (MUA), he and union lawyers started the first case for compensation for union members. After 5 years, the case was won. Subsequently, over 200 cases were for the members of the MUA. In 2003, Mr. Robson was elected President of Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia. Mr. Robson was also part of the campaign to make James Hardies Corporation in Australia pay compensation to all asbestos victims. Mr. Robson also helped change the laws for victims and families to get access to the legal system for justice. He lobbied successfully to set up a research institute for the study into all the diseases that come with exposure to asbestos.

The Honorable Harry Reid is the Senior U.S. Senator from Nevada and Democratic Leader of the U.S. Senate. Senator Reid is a friend to the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization and victims of asbestos. Senator Reid’s leadership is responsible for the passage of Senate Resolutions in 2005 and 2006 declaring April 1 as Asbestos Awareness Day. He won the first of two terms in the United States House of Representatives in 1982. In the House, he championed issues important to Nevada families, introducing the Taxpayer Bill of Rights as well as legislation to protect Nevada's wilderness. He was elected to the Senate in 1986, and re-elected in 1992, 1998, and 2004. He has served as the chairman or senior Democratic member on several important committees and subcommittees.

Abe Reinhartz, MD is an occupational health physician with the Occupational Health Clinic for Ontario Workers in Sarnia, Ontario. He has over 20 years of experience in occupational medicine. Since arriving in Sarnia in 1999 the Occupational Health Clinic has secured over 22 million dollars in compensation for victims of asbestos related disease as well as other occupational diseases.

www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org
Speakers and Honorees - Asbestos Awareness Day - 2006

Alan Reinstein is President of the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization and a mesothelioma patient. Alan’s exposures to asbestos occurred in a variety of ways, including: working in a shipyard as a nuclear engineer, installing asbestos floor tiles, using joint compounds, potting soil and other asbestos contaminated products. Now, almost three years after his diagnosis, he has recovered well from several procedures to remove fluid from behind his lungs and subsequently underwent chemotherapy treatments. This ordeal left him, his wife Linda and daughter Emily, very wounded. They now channel their energies into a worldwide action network, ADAO, which has more than 3,500 supporters and 100 active volunteers. ADAO serves as a “Voice of the Victims.”

Linda Reinstein is Executive Director and Co-Founder of Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization. She became an activist when her husband Alan was diagnosed with mesothelioma in 2003. Reinstein has been invited to address politicians, businesses, and health advocates about the deadly mineral. Since the co founding ADAO in 2004, Reinstein has written and produced the slideshow “Asbestos Kills” and “Asbestos: The Dust, Disease, and Death”. Reinstein solicited and compiled articles from renowned experts and published Reflections, an online asbestos disease book, with international distribution. Presently ADAO has an international network of volunteers and experts dedicated to asbestos disease education and prevention.

Chuck Strahl, ADAO’s 2006 recipient of the Tribute of Inspiration award, is a Member of the Canadian Parliament for Chilliwack – Fraser Canyon in Southern British Columbia. First elected in 1993, Chuck was re-elected in 1997, 2000, 2004, and 2006 by increasing margins. He has served in numerous high profile positions within his party including Whip and House Leader of the Official Opposition. He has also served on numerous Parliamentary committees including Foreign Affairs, Procedure and House Affairs, Industry, and Natural Resources. In 2004, he was appointed Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. On February 6, 2006, Prime Minister Stephen Harper appointed Chuck Strahl as Canada’s 31st Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and Minister for the Canadian Wheat Board. Chuck is also a mesothelioma patient.

Professor Yasunosuke Suzuki was born in 1929 in the small Japanese seaside village of Shimoeda. He was educated in Tokyo at the elite Keio University, and received his M.D. degree from the School of Medicine in 1953. He completed one-year internship in Tokyo at the Setagaya National Hospital, and in 1954 obtained his medical license from the Japanese Government. He was given the rank of “Assistant of Pathology” and trained for the next 9 years. In 1959, he was awarded the Doctorate of Medical Sciences in the field of Pathology, his second doctorate. A few years later, in 1966, Dr. Suzuki was invited to re-join Mount Sinai as a Research Associate. He started to investigate pathology of asbestos related diseases with Dr. Irving J. Selikoff. The research on asbestos related diseases included pulmonary asbestosis, the development, and formation of asbestos bodies and electron microscopy of human malignant mesothelioma. At Dr. Selikoff’s invitation, he returned to Mount Sinai in 1975 as Research Professor of Community Medicine and also as Research Associated Professor of Pathology. For the next 31 years, from 1975 to 2006, he devoted his time solely to the investigating the pathology of asbestos related diseases.

Scott Swanson, MD is Director of Thoracic Surgery at Mount Sinai. He received his MD from Harvard and did a Residency in Thoracic Surgery at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, and two Residencies in Cardiac Surgery, one at Brigham and Women's and the other at Children's Hospital in Boston. Dr. Swanson is principal investigator on a Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital protocol for the Multimodality Therapy of Stage IIIB non-small cell lung cancer secondary to malignant pleural effusion of tumor satellitosis. This is a novel treatment strategy for a very difficult and advanced stage of lung cancer that involves induction chemotherapy followed by radical surgery and post-operative radiation therapy.
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Robert Taub, MD, PhD is a medical oncologist and Director of Columbia University Mesothelioma Center. He directs the Connective Tissue Oncology Program at the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center, where there are a number of ongoing multimodality studies of patients with pleural and peritoneal mesothelioma. The Center is based at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons where Dr. Taub is also a Professor of Clinical Medicine.

Jordan Zevon, ADAO's tremendous National Spokesman, is a teacher, singer, and song writer. Jordan was executive producer of his father, Warren Zevon's, final album The Wind. He also co-produced "Enjoy Every Sandwich: The Songs of Warren Zevon" which features an all-Star cast of singers and musicians. Jordan recently released his own EP entitled Jordan Zevon which is available from CDBaby.com. Jordan's immeasurable commitment to asbestos victims and concerned citizens has provided a united voice that will continue to help ensure that their rights are fairly represented and protected, while raising public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and often deadly asbestos related diseases.

Paul Zygielbaum is a survivor of peritoneal mesothelioma. He is a veteran business executive and community volunteer. He holds master's degrees in Engineering from Caltech and in Business from Golden Gate University. He and his wife, Michelle, were married in 1972 and have three grown children.

Help Support Asbestos Awareness

Show your support for Asbestos Awareness and help keep ADAO alive by purchasing official ADAO "Asbestos Awareness" blue wristbands for $5.00 per wristband, with free shipping within the United States. Order Now! -

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Thank you for your support!

www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org
Alan is such an incredible husband, father and friend. It is because of his mesothelioma diagnosis almost three years ago, that ADAO was founded. Prior to his diagnosis, Alan was a successful regional manager for an IT consulting company, skied black diamond runs, climbed Half Dome and ran even the NY and LA marathons.

Alan felt so strongly about asbestos disease awareness education and prevention, that he gave Doug and I the encouragement and funding for the 1st year. Alan spoke to countless patients and their families and always found an inspirational message of hope.

Alan was diagnosed with mesothelioma at age 63, on the day after Father’s Day in 2003, with mesothelioma, an incurable cancer caused by inhaling perhaps a single fiber of asbestos up to 50 years ago.

In July 2003, Alan chose the radical Extrapleural Pneumonectomy (EPP) which involved the removal of his lung, pleura, pericardium, and diaphragm as a ‘treatment’. This surgery is one of the most horrific surgeries that a person can undergo.

Roughly 10,000 Americans per year die of cancer caused by asbestos. One of out every 125 deaths of men over the age of 50 is caused from asbestos. About 35 million homes built before the late 1970s contain asbestos, usually in the insulation, floor tiles, or roofing material. Only when the material gets disturbed, maybe during a remodel or tear down, do the fibers pose a risk. Nearly everyone can think of a time he or she could have been exposed. Scientists suspect that victims’ DNA makeup may contribute to the onset of disease, in conjunction with simple exposure.

My courageous husband insisted on making the trip from California to New York City for the 2nd Annual Asbestos Awareness Day. Alan, we are so proud and your courage and strength is inspirational. Emily and I adore you. You are the wind beneath our wings. ~ Love, Linda and Emily
In Memory of Edmond Grant
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
June 15, 1933 - July 4, 1997

I never thought nine years could seem like nine days. As I go about enjoying my life...the theatre, vacations, cruises to exotic places .... all the wonderful retirement things we had worked so hard for and planned for during our 30 years together .... I look around and see only his memory.

A selfish asbestos industry, more concerned with profit than workers lives allowed Ed to work with and throw asbestos about like confetti even though they knew it would kill him down the road. His death was no accident of the workplace; it was a deliberate calculated risk. The industry lives in denial, without remorse yet lobbies to support a deadly product that should have disappeared 50 years ago. How much blood money do they need?

When I think of those hundreds of thousands of people, including Ed who but for greed would likely be here this day and instead of a conference against asbestos we could be devoting our time and money to just causes that are not within our ability to end. We can end asbestos in all its forms.

End this industry for Ed, the fallen and for everyone yet to fall. Asbestos is my shame as a Canadian. By Tim Devlin

In Memory of
Albert Black
Mt. Holly, NJ 1926 - 2003
by Raye Black

In Memory of
Roger Heuertz
Deerfield Beach, FL 1929 - 2005
The Henneuse & Tornese Families

In Memory of
Ron Simkins
Rancho Mirage, CA 9/17/41 – 12/8/03
You are always in my heart. I miss you.
Love Janet

www.asbestosdiseasesawareness.org
Paul and Michelle Zygielbaum

Congratulate the sponsors, organizers, and participants of the
Second Annual
Asbestos Awareness Day Conference

On their commitment to ending the ongoing,
Worldwide tragedy
Caused by asbestos.

We join you in remembering those many who have died,
Encouraging those who are now suffering, and
Comforting their loved ones.

We stand with you in the struggle to achieve justice
For all asbestos-disease victims and to
Save future generations from this heartbreak.

We wish you a productive conference with great impact.
In Loving Memory

of

John Giannini

1954 - 2005
Sterlings Heights, MI

We all miss you,
Love you.
We will keep you with us
In our hearts
Forever.

Lee, Noelle and Oscar

John carried this poem in his wallet and bravely tried to live according to its message.

From "Songs of Myself"
by Walt Whitman

I think I could turn and live with animals,
They are so placid and self-contained,
I stand and look at them long and long.
They do not sweat and whine about their condition,
They do not lie awake in the dark and weep for their sins,
They do not make me sick discussing their duty to God,
Not one is dissatisfied, not one is demented with the mania of owning things,
Not one kneels to another, nor to his kind that lived thousands of years ago,
Not one is respectable or unhappy over the whole earth.
You Were A Boy
by Julie Amento (Age 10)

You were a boy and you were in danger
And then you grew up.
   It got you.
   It causes you to be in heaven.
O dad, O dad, come back.
   I wish I had a shrine for you,
   And about you,
   To remember you.
You were so grateful, so grateful indeed.
   Why was the dust so dangerous?
   You did great on earth with us,
   And then your time was up.
So I look at the sunset,
   And close my eyes,
   To think of you and me together,
   So happy together.
Sun gleams as bright as the smile on your face.
   I can't believe you are gone.
   More gone than a dried up well
   But still in my heart.

Hi, I'm JOEY! I'm 12 years old. My DAD died 11 days after my 10th birthday from mesothelioma caused by asbestos. What happened to my DAD is he started out with the TERRIBLE cancer, mesothelioma. Then he had it spread all over his body. He was so sick that we had a hospice person brush his teeth and help him go to the bathroom. My DAD made a joke about brushing his teeth. When the person said she would help him brush his teeth, he said, "I don't have any teeth!" He died a few days later.

When my DAD was about my age, he played on a hill full of TERRIBLE asbestos when he visited his DAD who worked at a factory that used asbestos. He also got it from doing the laundry when his DAD got home.

Joe was quite a guy - gentle person, good friend, great Dad and a wonderful husband and best friend. In his personal ad in the Philadelphia Magazine in September 1989, he described himself perfectly: Kind, considerate. A year after I answered that ad, we were married. When our two children were born, Joe was in heaven. He loved playing with them, indoors and out. I always had to tell him, "Honey, once in a while, let the kids pick out the game." At the first sign of Spring, Joe would be outside playing ball with Joey and Julie, teaching them how to catch and hit. Joe coached their teams. He loved all the kids and all the kids loved him. He never let anyone on the team be discouraged by an error or a strike out. Joe always cheered them on to try again.

Now it is Spring 2006. I see the Dads outside catching and hitting with their kids. Joe is not out there. It's just not fair.
In Loving Memory of
Ronald B. Johnson and Francis E. (Bud) Cole

October 29, 1912 - March 19, 1987  September 15, 1923 - April 12, 2001

By Margy Johnson Urnberg – ADAO Nevada State Representative
http://www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org//patients_supporters/tribute.html

As one of eight children, I chose to ask my siblings to write about the qualities of our dad. All of us recognized that his smile was as big as his heart; he was as honest as the day is long, he read us stories, and pushed us in a tire swing he made, worked hard, and always had a charitable heart. He was a believer that all work was honorable and nothing was beneath him. He did whatever was necessary to take care of his family. His garden was legendary and always had an over abundance which he willingly shared with others who were in need. At times, these families wanted to know how they could repay him. His standard reply was, “Someday you'll meet someone that needs help. If you help them, that's payment enough.” He was a sweeper and laborer at the Zonolite/WR Grace mine. Mesothelioma took him from us in 1987 at the age of 74. I joined ADAO to honor my dad’s legacy of “paying it forward.”

Bud was my 2nd dad, father of my best friend Lynda. Bud was a decorated WWII Veteran where he was awarded the Purple Heart. His granddaughter Lisa wrote, “He was everything you imagine when you think of a Montana man. Bud was a strong, resolute man, tougher than rusty nails, and bigger than the entire outdoors that surrounds his town of Libby. Bud will more than likely be remembered more as a victim of what happened in Libby, Montana rather than the real man of Libby Montana he was.” Bud was the father of 5 children, a logger, horseman, hunter, gardener, and friend. He was taken by asbestosis at the age of 78 in 2003.
Cliff and Thelma Moss moved their family to Libby, MT in 1962. They were loving parents to 3 sons who loved to hunt, fish, and camp out every chance they got. Cliff worked at the sawmill for almost 20 years. He enjoyed working with wood and had a talent to carve fine objects in great detail. Cliff and Thelma had a large garden that they worked in all summer. Vermiculite from the mines was added to the soil to hold moisture and add fertilizer to the ground. One of Cliff and Thelma's great joy was to have their grandchildren help harvest the garden and share with them at the dinner table. Holidays were very special to them. Cliff passed in 1987 of mesothelioma, and Thelma passed in 2001 of cancer. They were wonderful parents and we miss them greatly!

Mel and Katherine Bowker enjoyed the beauty and peaceful living of Libby, MT beginning in the 1950's. They raised 7 children, and opened their home to several other teens until they graduated from high school. Mel moved mobile homes and Katherine grew a large garden, which was covered with vermiculite to assure a better harvest. Vermiculite was used throughout their home and property. Mel and his sons worked as mechanics in Libby for over 30 years. They enjoyed building stock cars and racing them on weekends. Mel passed in 1992 at the age of 62 from a heart attack and asbestos related cancer. Katherine passed in 2002 at the age of 70. She had been diagnosed with asbestosis 3 years earlier. They died too young and we miss them very much!

Dale Bowker lived in Libby most of his life. Dale worked for WR Grace in the mine for several years in the early 70's. He moved his wife and two daughters to Spokane for 5 years where he worked as a carpenter and then returned to Libby. Dale was an extremely talented carpenter and handy man. His family and friends knew they could count on Dale to fix any household or mechanical problem. He was there to help even with his medical disabilities. Dale was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in his early 30's, and asbestosis in his early 40's. Dale died at the age of 45 in December 1999. We miss him very much!
The Miners and Community members of Libby, Montana

One simply cannot remember one without remembering all.
We also honor the tireless efforts of Gayla Benefield, Les & Norita Skramstad in their never ending fight for justice for all victims everywhere not just in Libby, Montana.

More than 250 souls have been lost to asbestos in Libby.
The following list represents only a portion. More than one-third of the population of this community has been diagnosed with asbestos related diseases.
Our thoughts, prayers and well wishes are with them.

| Adkins, D | Day, Harold | Koehler, K | Peterson, C |
| Adkins, E. | Deshazer, B | Koehler, Ross | Peterson, Donald |
| Ahrennel, M. | Dutton, Edward | Lewis, J. Sr. | Peterson, Wayne |
| Alford, George | Eggert, D.S. | Lockwood, B | Post, M. Red |
| Baker, Walter | Engle, R | Lyle, G | Powell, P |
| Basham, Clyde | Erickson, R | Lyle, Jim | Preston, Derward |
| Beaulieu, Thomas | Everett, M | Maynard, L | Priest, Virgil |
| Belangie, Raymond | Farris, G | McComas, M | Rayome, Richard |
| Bennet, M | Fields, W | McMillan, Roy | Riley, Darlene (Toni) |
| Bentley, George | Garrett, L. | McNair, Michael | Risley, Stuart |
| Billadleau, Elmer | Garrison, Jack | Mercer, Charles | Sagen, Kenneth |
| Blech, R | Haines, Orville | Miller, B.M. | Shows, W |
| Boothman, Allen | Hall, S | Miller, Lloyd | Shrewberry, Harold |
| Bowker, Dale | Hamilton, Ernie | Mitchell, G | Smith, Arnold |
| Bowker, Katherine | Hammer, Henry | Moss, Cliff | Smith, Donald |
| Bowker, Mel | Hendrickson, Ed | Moss, Thelma | Smith, James |
| Bundrock, Arthur | Hoppe, Louis | Munro, Alice | Smith, Rex |
| Callum, L.M. | Hostetler, Harry | Murray, Homer | Stanley, H |
| Carolan, P | Hugill, Glenn R | Murray, Thomas | Taylor, Glenn |
| Carr, B | Hutton, D | Nelson, Buck | Thieman, Paul |
| Carr, Lloyd | Hutton, J | Nelson, Gerald | Thompson, Dale |
| Carrol, C | Jacobson, Maurice | Noble, Dorthe | Tisher, Fay |
| Challinor, James | Johnson, Ronald | Noble, Harvey | Urdahl, Albert |
| Cohenour, Robert | Joireman, Lee | Olsen, K | Vatland, Margaret |
| Cole, Floyd | Kaeding, Don | Olson, J | Vatland, Perley |
| Cole, Francis (Bud) | Kair, Morris | Orr, Ed | Vinion, Bud |
| Comas, M.C. | Kelly, M | Ostheller, Harry | Vinron, Jack |
| Craver, T | Kenworthy, J. | Palmer, Anna | Waltman, H |
| Creighton, B | Kittlison, Wayne | Palmer, B | Welch, Lilas |
| Crill, Harold | Knipprath, L | Palmer, H | Whittlake, Edward |
Ron Diana loved to laugh; the party didn’t get started until Ron was there. As much as he loved to belly laugh, he also loved philosophy, to examine life’s purpose: how he could experience it all in just one lifetime.

When Ron’s daughter, Kate was growing up they both looked forward every year to the annual “Father Daughter Sweetheart Dance.” Kate and Ron most of all though loved to go fast on anything, wagons, bicycles, riding mowers, skies, skates, and cars. Nothing could get in their way of searching for that thrill of the ride. Ron also enjoyed parties and company at the house all the time. Kate’s sweet sixteen, Easter, Christmas, New Years or just a gorgeous summer evening to sit on the deck by the pool watching the sun go down behind the pine trees on his much loved home at Coles Crossing with friends and family.

Ron was a much dedicated advocate of Taoist & Chinese healing philosophy’s and was a beloved teacher to many in his 25 years of teaching meditation and Tai Chi. He loved to travel and went all over the globe teaching what he felt was the truest way to maintain good health and fitness.

At Ron’s memorial service one friend said, “Ron’s secret medicine was his laughter and sense of humor.” The saddest day for his family is July 1, 2005 but we shall always be blessed with the memory of his smile, how broad it was, and how it touched so many. We miss him so much that it’s just too difficult to really believe he is truly gone.

Pictures: Center: Ron’s beautiful smile; Clockwise from Left: Ron teaching Tai Chi; Ron scaled this mountain in China in 2001; Ron and little Katie; and Ron between Sweet 16 Katie and wife Bonnie with ????????.
Greatly missed!!

A father's touch, a daddy's kiss,
A grieving daughter, you're greatly missed.

An empty house, an empty chair,
A father's love, no longer there.

A broken heart, tear filled eyes,
Another soul to fill the sky.

Many memories in my mind,
Some I laugh, some I cry.

The times we shared, the laughs we had,
Things I miss when I think of you dad!!

Loved and missed by your
Daughter, Debra
Son-in-law, Glenn
Grandkids, Glenn, Jackie, & Chad, and
Great Grandson, Tanner Swagart
Warren Zevon died of mesothelioma on Sept. 7, 2003. The news made headlines all over the world. His distinctive body of work, the grace with which he handled his diagnosis and his determination to die as he had lived -- making amazing music -- combined to add a special heartbreak to the news.

Mr. Zevon’s fellow professionals were especially aware of his worth: A stunning array of popular music royalty perform on his final album, “The Wind,” which Mr. Zevon began after being told he had only months to live. And top artists from Jackson Browne to Bob Dylan had already sung or played on his recordings over the years. “The Wind” was honored with two Grammy Awards, and Mr. Zevon and his song, “Keep Me In Your Heart,” formed the centerpiece of a Grammy ceremony tribute to industry members who had passed away.

Thought, passion, humor, and precision characterized Mr. Zevon’s lyrics. Those qualities drew many writers who eagerly collaborated with him on songs -- Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Paul Muldoon, Carl Hiaasen, Mitch Albom -- as well as those who simply counted him as a friend, such as Dave Barry and Jonathan Kellerman. Surely, no other “heavy metal folk singer,” as he called himself, had so many books dedicated to him. Then again, there was and will be no other heavy metal folk singer -- no other Warren Zevon.

On Nov. 6, a few months after his death, the official Warren Zevon Bulletin Board (WZBB found at www.warrenzevon.com) made its debut, and his most dedicated fans -- or “customers,” as Mr. Zevon preferred -- gathered there online. Like Mr. Zevon, the WZBB is unique. It is a true community, perhaps because its members came together in grief. When we first joined to celebrate Mr. Zevon’s life, we also began to learn about mesothelioma, and about ADAO.

It seems incomprehensible that such a brilliant artist could be taken from us by a disease that is so easily preventable -- and that asbestos is still not banned. The simple fact that none of us will ever again eagerly await a CD filled with brand-new Warren Zevon compositions, or arrive at a concert venue absurdly early in hope of speaking to the man himself, because of a deadly material that is still not banned is mind-boggling -- and infuriating.

Warren Zevon is irreplaceable, but with ADAO’s help, tragic deaths like his can be stopped. The members of the WZBB wholeheartedly support ADAO and the work it is doing to help mesothelioma victims and to prevent, detect and treat asbestos-related disease. We’re proud that Jordan Zevon, Warren’s son, is ADAO’s national spokesperson.
Warren Zevon
1947 - 2003

Warren was the smartest guy I’ve ever met. Don’t get into an argument with him; he’ll best you in every instance. He had an amazing amount of information stored in that incredible mind of his, stuff that he could pull out at random without warning. It was quite evident in his music, whose lyrics were full of allusions to famous outlaws, historical events most textbooks no longer mention and the peculiarities of authors and physicists. But he could do that in person, too – once we were talking on the phone and from out of nowhere, he talks about Gustav Klimt, the Austrian Secessionist painter best known for “The Kiss.” Every conversation was a learning experience with him, and I couldn’t tell you if it was intentional or not.

Warren said he really didn’t want to be a teacher, that his job was to make music. However, I can hardly think of anyone from whom I learned more. Warren taught me the importance of words. At the time, I was a funky 25 year old who thought of herself as a nice pretentious poet-type who had license to bend words. Warren laughed at that, and demanded that I use the right word for whatever it was I was trying to describe. My vocabulary grew immensely; I now use words like archilochian (pertaining to bitter or sarcastic verse) and supralacular (to the last drop) on a regular basis.

Warren also taught me about God with a classic exchange of e-mails:

Me: How do you build a relationship with God? Through experience?
Warren: No, that’s how you build a relationship with American Express.

In addition, I learned how not to schedule a tour, how much money a personal manager really makes, why tact is important, why Dr. Zhivago is among the most beautiful books ever written and why I should never accept Federal Express packages from Hunter S. Thompson. These are very, very important things to know. Especially to friends who appreciate these things.

The current catchphrase regarding Warren’s life is “Enjoy Every Sandwich,” the ability to indulge in every moment. But Warren’s life also held another meaning, one that resonates deeply in my life. Like Warren, I had a semi-infamous father. I often feel compelled to live up to him. But through my friendship with Warren, I discovered that in the end the legacy I leave belongs to no one else. Warren owed no one anything. He is recognizable on his own terms through his intellectually stimulating music, his storied, fiery personality, and his instantly quotable lines. He left to me the legacy of becoming myself without worrying about those who have come before me. It is rare that a friend with such a gift comes along. It is the legacy we will pass on together.

Deep peace,

KT Lowe,
The Warren Zevon Other Page
zevonaticism.tripod.com
In Memory of
Meso Warriors
and
In Honor of all Caregivers

As a Meso survivor and a phone volunteer at MDAnderson Network and Bloc Cancer Center for over 10 years, I have had the wonderful to meet many Meso families. My husband and I would like to honor the Caregivers and Meso Warriors who are fighting. And, to the memory of those Meso friends that have gone on before us ... 

"Another songbird falls silent on Earth,
And in the heavens another star
Blinks into existence
In the evening skies
To help light the way for the rest of us."

Bud and Jill Vaughn
To my father. You were always the anchor in our family, the person who kept us grounded. The ship may have shifted from time to time but you held on, never letting go. As time passes we have come to realize even through your passing, you still have us anchored. Holding on as the winds blow shifting us about, we know you will never let us go until we see each other again.

**Miss Your Laughter, Fun, and Gentleness**

I miss your laughter, fun, and gentleness.
I miss the things I used to do for you.
I miss the time, now filled with emptiness, when each day was a stage for something new.
I miss your love, though mine for you remains, a passion with no outlet to the sea.
A teardrop in a desert that contains what's left of the maternal ecstasy.
I miss your presence, like a silent chord that anchored even solitude in grace.
I miss, for my love's labor, the reward of seeing some small pleasure in your face.
All these I miss, and yet they are all here within my heart, far more than I can bear.
I love you Daddy, my dear sweet daddy. Continue to give us your strength.
With every beat of my heart, your daughter

Melinda Lynn Robinson

Drawing by Kim Babin
Held in Our Thoughts, Taken to Our Dreams, Kept in Our Hearts

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A Special "Thank You" to our Corporate Sponsors

Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc. (FDI), formerly Centocor Diagnostics, was acquired by Fujirebio, Inc. of Tokyo, Japan in November 1998. Fujirebio, Inc. is a leading healthcare company in Japan with a focus on diagnostics. The name Fujirebio (pronounced Fuji-Ray-Bee-Oh) symbolizes restoration of health.

At FDI, our core technology is based on our proprietary monoclonal antibodies originally developed to detect a variety of tumor markers. These antibodies have been utilized in the past to develop a menu of in vitro diagnostic tests. Furthermore, our proven manufacturing processes and facilities have established us as the premier global partner with leading diagnostic companies.

Our corporate strategy enables us to develop innovative products to fulfill unmet medical needs of physicians and clinical diagnostic laboratories throughout the world. We plan to further maximize our growth by investing in new technologies and products, expanding our existing product line and our current market share in previously untapped markets. www.fdi.com.

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The Center for Visual Arts in the Public Interest is proud to have sponsored the nationally acclaimed traveling photographic exhibition for the last 15 years.

Breath Taken: The Landscape and Biography of Asbestos, an exhibition by Bill Ravanesi

Joe Darabant, JM worker © Bill Ravanesi

Center for Visual Arts in the Public Interest, Inc.
19 Pleasantview Ave
Longmeadow, MA 01106
413-427-7006

www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org
Congratulations ADAO
On this
2nd Annual Asbestos Awareness Day
From the
International Ban Asbestos Secretariat

The International Ban Asbestos Secretariat (IBAS) was established in 1999; it is an independent non-governmental organization which has two objectives:

A worldwide ban on asbestos
and
Justice for all asbestos victims.

IBAS monitors, analyses and disseminates news received from the ever-expanding network of individuals and groups involved in the international movement against asbestos, as well as information from legal, medical and industry sources. IBAS produces written material and organizes conferences to raise the profile of asbestos issues. To date, conferences, meetings or workshops have been held in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, England, France, Greece, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Poland, Scotland, Singapore, Slovenia and Wales. In July 2006, the Thailand Asbestos Conference will build on the momentum generated by the three-day Global Asbestos Congress held in Tokyo in November 2004.

Although IBAS works closely with the International Ban Asbestos Network, Ban Asbestos and national asbestos victims’ associations, there are no organizational or financial links to these groups. The work of IBAS is coordinated by Laurie Kazan-Allen; more information is available on the website: http://www.ibas.btinternet.co.uk
CONGRATULATIONS

To
White Lung Asbestos Information Committee

For their brave work
Pioneering the fight against the
Asbestos industry

And Enduring, to advise and assist
Our work,
As the battle goes forward into
21st Century

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization
With
9/11 Environmental Action

April 1, 2006

www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org
Cancer Monthly is the only centralized resource of cancer treatment results. It enables patients and physicians to see the median survival rates, toxicities and other information for hundreds of Phase I, II, and III clinical trials for various types of cancer. Currently, the results of 45 therapies for mesothelioma are available. [www.cancermonthly.com](http://www.cancermonthly.com)

Surviving Mesothelioma

In June 1997, Paul Kraus was diagnosed with mesothelioma and given only a few months to live. Nearly nine years later, he is alive with a good quality of life. In his new book *Surviving Mesothelioma and Other Cancers: A Patient's Guide*, Mr. Kraus offers solid practical advice on what he did to beat the odds so that others can too. Available now on Amazon.com [www.survivingmesothelioma.com](http://www.survivingmesothelioma.com)
Message from the Asbestos Awareness Day Editor

The 2006 Asbestos Awareness Day Program had long been evolving in my mind and heart. My goal was to give attendees a useful "Who's-Who-in-the-Fight-Against-Asbestos-Disease" program to serve as a reference for years to come. Not too long after work started on the program, however, it no longer became work to me.

The Memorial Tributes started coming in and the Program took on much more meaning. Not only did I discover the numerous dedicated professionals, government officials, activists, caregivers and asbestos victims that comprised the massive brain power ADAO attracted for the landmark conference, I also soon developed a bond with the victims and with their families. The beauty of poems written by a daughter about her dad, or by a mesothelioma victim putting life in perspective! The great pictures of the innocent asbestos victims … the happiness, and pride and life in their eyes of these people who senselessly lost their lives to asbestos disease, my husband, Joe, among them … I was deeply touched.

It is my hope that the 2006 Asbestos Awareness Day Program will be a future reminder and reference:

- A reminder of the thousands and thousands of innocent people who have already lost and will lose their lives to asbestos and
- A reference to all those who dedicate their lives to fight against asbestos and asbestos disease.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Amento


Ambler, Pennsylvania
Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization is staffed 100% by volunteers. We would like to acknowledge all of our volunteers for organizing this conference and making the voice of the victims of asbestos-related diseases heard in Washington and throughout the World.

**Together we have made a difference.**

Alan Reinstein, President ● Linda Reinstein, Executive Director and Co-Founder ● Jordan Zevon, National Spokesperson ● Doug Larkin, Communication Director and Co-Founder ● Richard Lemen, PhD, Science Advisory Co-chair ● Arthur Frank, MD, Science Advisory Co-chair ● Herman Hamilton, Executive Director's Assistant ● Sean Shields, Graphic Designer ● Craig Cadwallader, Web Designer ● Mike Mason, Firefighters's Representative ● June Breit, RN, Patient Support ● AWC Joseph R. Grossi, U. S. Navy, Veterans' Representative and Washington Representative ● Jill Vaughn, ACOR Representative ● Lorraine Kember, Australian Representative ● Tim Devlin, Canadian Representative ● Terry Britton, United Kingdom Representative ● Melissa Rose, Alabama Representative ● Kenny Moss, ● Alaska Representative ● Lorie Payne, California Representative ● Sharry Erzinger, Co-Chairman AAD 2006 Conference and Colorado Representative ● Lindsey S. Fillman, Florida Representative ● Robert Gatling, Georgia Representative ● Lisa Warner, Illinois Representative ● Debra Swagart, Indiana Representative ● Ellen Patton, Maryland Representative ● Elaine Masten, Michigan Representative ● Shelly Kozicki, Care Giver Support Team and Missouri Representative ● Gayla Benefield, Montana Representative ● Bonnie Diana, New Jersey Representative ● Margy Urnberg, Girl Friday and Nevada Representative ● Ray Turpin, New York Representative ● Marilyn Amento, ADAO National Representative Co-Director and Pennsylvania Representative ● Lynn Robinson, Tennessee Representative ● Elane Cuell, Utah Representative ● Wendy Stoeckler, Wisconsin Representative ●

**ADAO Asbestos Awareness Day Committee**

Co-Chairpersons - Bonnie Diana & Sharry Erzinger

Speakers and Agenda - Linda Reinstein

Registration - Margy Urnberg & Ellen Tunkelrott

Sponsorships - Paul Zygielbaum

Program & Tributes - Marilyn Amento

Publicity - Doug Larkin

ADAO Administrative Assistant - Herman Hamilton