



imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 15 • SEPTEMBER 2008



REAL-LIFE HERO DRAWS ON HIS OWN EXPLOITS

Marc Patterson of Kamloops, B.C., found himself at a loss for words when trying to describe his rescue of a 12-year-old boy who was being attacked by a cougar while on a camping trip last year near Clinton, in south-central British Columbia.

Where words failed him, drawing did not. Patterson produced a series of cartoon sketches that documented the rescue, and he submitted the collection to the Hero Fund during its investigation of the heroic act. Patterson and 25 others from throughout the United States and Canada were chosen to receive the Carnegie Medal at the Commission's June 26 meeting. Their actions are described on pages 8-10.

Patterson, 46, started drawing when he was in high school and resumed the activity while in treatment for a disabling brain injury he sustained in 1994. While attending a meeting of the Kamloops Brain Injury Association, he became acquainted with a wheelchair-bound man who was depressed. Patterson created a story about the man, named him "Lightning Spokes," and made him a superhero, ending up with a 25-page comic book that became a tool in the man's therapy. "My goal was to help my buddy," Patterson said. "It's great to see a man smile instead of thinking about death."

Retired cop, 77, relied on instinct saving officer from armed assailant

By Jennifer H. Cunningham • Herald News, Passaic, N.J.

It's not the first time the retired Paterson, N.J., police captain, who tackled a gun-wielding ex-cop near his home, sprang into action without regard for himself, his family and former coworkers said.

"When I was a little girl, we were still living in Paterson and we heard an alarm go off in a jewelry store," Rosa Marmo said of her dad, Philip Bevacqua. "My father pretty much left me and my mother in the car and chased the man." And although he didn't catch the jewelry thief all those years ago, "the guy dropped the jewelry," Bevacqua said with a smile.

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Philip Bevacqua, right, of Totowa, N.J., is congratulated by his former boss, retired Paterson, N.J., Police Chief Lawrence Spagnola, on the day after Bevacqua rushed to aid a Totowa police officer under assault by a gunman. Bevacqua was awarded the Carnegie Medal in July for his actions, which are detailed on page 9. Photo by Dave Bergeland of the Herald News, Passaic, N.J.



Delegates of four Carnegie hero funds meet to discuss experiences, ideas

SWEDISH HERO FUND ACTIVE IN RESEARCH, LIFESAVING

Carnegiestiftelsen—the hero fund Andrew Carnegie established in 1911 for Sweden—impressed us with its innovative and constructive approach to the use of its resources. The foundation’s primary work, of course, is to recognize civilian heroes, but since Sweden is a small country, there are only about two to four awards a year, or roughly the same ratio, given its population, as in the U.S.

About 20 years ago the organization amended its bylaws so that it could use its funds more effectively, such as by supporting research and programs directed toward saving lives. One area of research involves head injuries from traffic accidents, a common cause of death. The board found many cases in which those who sustained head injuries that appeared to be treatable, and who indeed appeared to be recovering, died unpredictably, even though treatment may have been immediate. The reasons are not well understood, and the Swedish fund is helping in the attempt to understand them fully. One board member is a neurophysiologist who identified the area as worthy of support.



Swedish rescue boat, the “*Carnegiestiftelsen*”

Carnegiestiftelsen funding is also supplied for researching the relationship between sleep deprivation and traffic accidents. It has been found that fatigued drivers have accidents at a rate comparable to drunken drivers, but an interesting fact is that sleep-deprived drivers under the age of 24 are more prone to accidents than older ones. Oddly, sleep-deprived drivers over 24 seem to be more able to stay awake and are therefore at a lower risk for accidents. Further, people suffering from sleep apnea are nine times more likely to be in traffic accidents.

The Swedish hero fund supports organizations such as Doctors Without Borders, which researches trauma treatment in connection with warfare. Funding is also applied to research into new motorcycle helmets and an early warning system for cars to detect large animals, such as deer, by the side of the road.

The organization’s name can be found on one of the rescue boats (see photo) serving Sweden’s coast and

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By Linda T. Hills • Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

Representatives of four of Andrew Carnegie’s 11 hero funds discussed areas of common interest at a June meeting in Stockholm that was hosted by the Swedish fund, *Carnegiestiftelsen*. Topics ranged from the mechanics of case investigation to raising the profile of the awards given by each organization.

Delegates from the Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Hero Fund Commission were its president, Mark Laskow, and the writer, one of the newer members of the board. In addition to Gustaf Taube, chairman, and several members of the board of *Carnegiestiftelsen*, the other funds represented were the Carnegie Hero Fund Trust, serving the U.K. out of its headquarters in Dunfermline, Scotland, and the recently re-established German fund, the *Carnegiestiftung fuer Lebensretter*, based in Karlsruhe. There are 10 hero funds in Western Europe, all established in the seven years following the initial success of the U.S.-based fund, which Carnegie conceived in 1904.



Enjoying the Stockholm waterfront during their June meeting were representatives of Carnegie’s hero funds in Sweden, the U.S., and the U.K. From left: Nora T. C. Rundell (U.K.), Mark Laskow (U.S.), Gustaf Taube (Sweden), Linda T. Hills (U.S.), Angus Hogg (U.K.), and Roland Örtengren (Sweden).

Although all of the hero funds have essentially the same mission—recognizing civilian heroism—each is independent of the others with its own funding, bylaws, awarding requirements, and operating procedures. Until recently, representatives of the funds met only on historic occasions, such as the 150th anniversary in 1985 of Carnegie’s birth. Since the inauguration of the international Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy in 2001, however, the hero funds—as well as Carnegie’s other endowed institutions—have been getting together every two years, when the biennial award is given.

As these “family reunions” have proven that there is a value in sharing ideas, the “Stockholm ’08” delegates are looking into holding a joint meeting of the hero funds every two years, in the year between Medal of Philanthropy presentations, thereby providing for an annual forum. Further, we are attempting to stimulate interest among the hero funds that have not been participating, as we feel they are missing out on something of great value. We want them to feel welcome and get them excited about attending so that they too will leave energized to carry out their missions enriched by shared ideas with colleagues.

The gathering in Stockholm was enthusiastically embraced by all participants. One area discussed was case investigations. In giving insight into how this is done by the U.S. fund, Laskow said that the complicated cases are difficult to investigate but that reports filed by official agencies—such as police, fire, industrial safety bureaus—help immensely. Delegates from the U.K. fund said they would like to improve their reporting process, as the initial source for information, generally newspaper clippings, may or may not be supported by investigation. In Sweden, the police help to gather the facts of a rescue incident.

The length of time that the investigations take—two years is not uncommon—is sometimes a dilemma, as recognized by the delegates, all of whom expressed a desire to expedite the process. The delay in awarding has consequences for the hero funds in general, as the acts of heroism are usually in the public’s mind right after the event but

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LESSON IN ALTRUISM

Eleventh graders in Rabbi Richard Kirsch's Introduction to Psychology class at Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School, Livingston, N.J., welcomed the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, Douglas R. Chambers (necktie), to their classroom in early June to talk about awardees of the Carnegie Medal and the work of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. Rabbi Kirsch (standing, far right) learned of the Hero Fund while searching the Internet for resources on altruistic behavior. He thought his students would benefit from an outside perspective on why individuals act selflessly in behalf of others, and in a subsequent letter he confirmed that they did: "(The) presentation provided a special opportunity for the students to learn first hand about some of the ways the principles of psychology are applied in 'real life.' This is information that they will never get from a textbook!"



Delegates of hero funds meet


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may no longer be remembered when the award is given. The chance to make the public more aware of the hero funds and their work is thus diminished.

How then to give the awards a somewhat higher profile—"without overdoing it"—was also discussed. Laskow said that the centenary of the U.S. fund in 2004 generated positive response from the medal recipients who attended. He mentioned also that a copy of the centennial book is still given to each new awardee, along with a short video that was produced for the occasion. The additions have greatly enriched new awardees' appreciation of the medal and the rich history represented by the generations of heroes that have gone before them. Personal presentation of the medal is a part of the recognition process. Laskow stated that the U.S. fund participates personally in about 10 per year while all medal presentations in the U.K. are in person, as they are in Sweden.

Laskow informed that the Commission awards close to 100 heroes a year, with about 1,000 nominees recorded annually. The U.K. delegates informed that they recognize six or seven heroes a year, which is about the same ratio per capita as in the U.S. and Sweden.

Laskow informed also that the nature of the hazards threatening life has changed over the years, including a reduction in industrial accidents as the result of increased safety standards. He noted that many are nominated for the award for rescuing victims of burning vehicles, as well as for water and ice rescues and also assaults. U.K. delegates informed that they have more water rescues, but those involving pleasure craft rather than commercial ones such as fishing vessels. Rescues from recreational activities often provide numerous nominees for all of the represented funds.

We thank Gustaf Taube and all members of Carnegie Stiftelsen for their gracious welcome to Sweden and for hosting this valuable conference. It is worthwhile to note that in today's world the hero funds established by Andrew Carnegie a century ago are still vibrant in recognizing and rewarding one of mankind's finest qualities. 

BOARD NOTES

WE REMEMBER

By Mark Laskow, President
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



What would Andrew Carnegie, the consummate entrepreneur and "change agent" of his day, think of the Internet? His business achievements suggest that his own information network was quite efficient, if less

technologically advanced. I started to write, "less electronic," but then remembered that Carnegie's breakthrough job was as a telegrapher, surely as revolutionary in its time as is the Internet today.

The echoes of Carnegie's philanthropy reverberate throughout the Internet. In January I read an item in Glen Reynolds's *Instapundit* (one of the most widely-read blogs, a kind of Internet newsletter) that linked to an online article in *Metro Pulse* of Knoxville, Tenn., about our 1951 medal recipient, Frankie Housley. (Formally, Mary Frances Housley.)

Jack Neely, a Knoxville journalist, wrote about Housley under the headline, "The Bravest Woman in America: Anybody Remember Frankie Housley?" He recounted the heroic efforts of Housley, the only stewardess aboard an airliner that overshot the runway and burst into flames at the Philadelphia airport in January 1951. She was just 24, with only five months of experience, but she rose to the challenge of organizing the evacuation of the passengers as smoke and fire engulfed the airliner and began to invade the cabin. Nineteen of the passengers escaped. Housley and six others did not. One who did not was four-month-old Brenda Joyce Smith, found in Housley's lap as she sat on the floor of the charred airliner.

Neely went on to write a moving follow-up article in March, telling the stories of some of the descendants of those whom Housley helped escape, people who may owe their very existence to her bravery 57 years ago. He mentioned that Housley was awarded the Carnegie Medal and is memorialized on our website.

It is a delight when a journalist such as Neely revives a story like this, but it only highlights the Hero Fund's perpetual mission. It is our job, as best we can do it, to find and recognize every heroic act, not just those that receive contemporary acclaim but, for example, one that might take place in an isolated beaver pond in Saskatchewan (George W. Haas, 2001). And it is our job to remember Housley and every one of those heroes, every one of their acts, every day. Our website, with its searchable record of each hero and each rescue, can help you remember as well. Carnegie the Telegrapher would appreciate that.



20TH ANNIVERSARY REFLECTION

This is the 20th anniversary of my award. I am married and have an 8-year-old child. One of the children I helped was 9 at the time. This puts a new meaning to it for me now. My family and I are returning to the beach where the rescue happened on June 14. I have always been proud of my medal and grateful to the Carnegie Hero Fund. Thank you.

Martin Benfield, Hudson, N.C.

(In 1988, Benfield, then 27, helped to save two brothers, aged 9 and 11, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Surfside Beach, S.C., after a current took the boys out from shore. Submerging and swallowing water on his return to the beach with the boys, Benfield was semiconscious and required a night's stay in the hospital for having nearly drowned.)

CANNOT 'DO NOTHING'

I was awarded the Carnegie Medal last year and am writing to thank you for selecting me. I have had a hard time getting completely over the incident for which I am being called a "hero."



Mr. Henrich

I have done a lot of thinking about what might have been. About six months prior to my rescue actions, I watched my partner die. He collapsed at a fire scene from a massive heart attack, and even though paramedics were on hand and he was airlifted to the hospital quite

quickly, he did not survive. Last year he was honored by having his name inscribed at the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington, D.C. I am thankful that I was not the second officer from our department to be honored in such a fashion.

That experience made me more grateful that I am here to receive awards of my own, that I am able to see my family and friends, and that I am able to start a family with a wife whom I otherwise would not have been able to marry.

After learning more about the Carnegie Medal and its history, I am shocked that it does not get more attention. I guess our society is more worried about which Hollywood stars or professional athletes get arrested next, or which grocery stores they shop at. The award embodies so much about what should get more attention: people's selfless acts to help those around them. I know that my actions were not driven by the desire for recognition but by a theme that seems common

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Springhill mine disaster, town's heroics to be called to mind on 50th anniversary

Oct. 23 will mark the 50th anniversary of a major coalmine disaster in Springhill, N.S., that claimed the lives of 75 miners. The subsequent, exhaustive, efforts by almost 400 individuals over a period of nine days resulted in the rescue of 99 other miners and won recognition by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in the form of a gold medal.

The medal was mounted on a bronze tablet that bears an embossed resolution by the Commission commemorating the heroic acts. The award, pictured here, was first displayed in Halifax but then was returned in 1988 to Springhill, where it remains on display in the town hall. It recognizes the heroism of the officials and workmen of the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, Ltd., and of the Springhill doctors who risked their lives to an extraordinary degree to save the entombed miners.

The disaster occurred when a deep underground convulsion, known as a bump, occurred in a mine that at 4,000 feet was considered the deepest in North America. The bump caused excavated coal seams to compress with explosive force, releasing large volumes of methane gas.

Within an hour volunteer rescuers arrived. Despite the danger of a second bump, they entered the mine in shifts, many of them working a minimum of eight hours a day. Altogether a total of 379 rescuers, including company officials, workmen, and two local doctors, worked voluntarily in the rescue efforts under hazardous conditions. The officials accompanied the miners underground to give direct supervision.

After almost six days, the exhausted rescuers made contact with 12 survivors on the other side of a rock fall. A copper tube was passed through an air line to the men, and water, coffee, and soup were pumped to them while a doctor shouted instructions. A rescue tunnel was broken through to the trapped miners, and, two days later, additional survivors were found.

The gold medal was the first awarded by the Commission since 1923. It is similar to the award made to honor the heroes of the Steamship Titanic, which was lost off the banks of Newfoundland in 1912. In addition to these two "group awards," 19 other gold medals were given, to individuals, by the Hero Fund. Medals awarded currently by the Commission are of bronze only.

The third and only other group award by the Hero Fund was made in 1980 to honor the heroism of employees of Mobay Chemical Corporation and the Dravo Corporation, who on Jan. 31, 1978, entered a cloud of oxygen-nitrogen vapors at a chemical plant in New Martinsville, W. Va., to rescue workmen who were aflame. The rescuers were in constant danger of their oxygen-saturated attire being ignited, and some did in fact sustain fatal burns.

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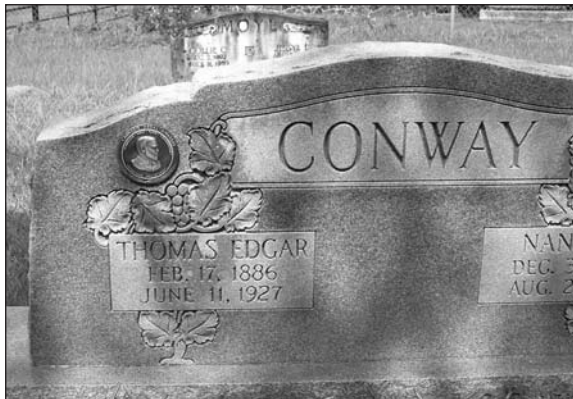


Hero's actions recalled after 98 years with placing of bronze grave marker

The Hero Fund provides a bronze grave marker, made in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal, to the families of awardees now deceased (see "Continuum," page 11). The marker is available free of charge and in one case it came with personal installation.

If anything, the granddaughters of 1912 awardee Thomas Edgar Conway are loyal to his memory. In April of 2003, one of them emailed the Commission asking if a duplicate medal could be struck to replace the original, which she said had been lost. As the Hero Fund maintains a stringent policy regarding replacement medals, all that could be provided her was a parchment certificate containing a summary of Conway's actions and confirming that the award was made.

Five years later, in June, another granddaughter made a similar request, as she was beginning to work on a family history. She too was sent a certificate. Apparently her research put her in touch with yet another granddaughter, who was the holder of the medal, having received it from her sister...who had gotten it from their mother...who had in turn received it from *her* mother. The medal, incidentally, was awarded for a 1910 rescue by which Conway threw a runaway horse to the ground, thereby saving the lives of a woman and three children who were in a buggy being pulled by the horse. The act took place in Center, Texas.



The family accepted the Hero Fund's offer of both the marker and its installation, as a representative was to be in Texas on a medal presentation near the cemetery in which Conway is buried (see "Twice honored," page 10). With Mapquest and a little sweat on a Texas-hot July day, Douglas R. Chambers, director of external affairs, found Neuville Country Cemetery a few miles south of Center, then found the gravesite and affixed the marker. After 98 years, Conway is still remembered as a hero. ☒

Springhill mine disaster

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The anniversary of the Nova Scotia disaster will not go unnoticed in Springhill, a town of 3,500 in the north central part of the province. Valarie Alderson, daughter of one of the explosion's victims, Raymond Tabor, is a member of the committee organizing memorial events, which will include a candlelight service, an art display, and a concert featuring The Men of the Deeps, a choir of working and retired coal miners from the island of Cape Breton, N.S. ☒

SWEDISH HERO FUND

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its larger lakes. The boat was purchased largely through funds from the estate of a man who himself was rescued from drowning, and the funds are overseen by the Carnegie Stiftelsen board. The rescue vessel, technologically sophisticated and highly maneuverable, is manned by volunteers and has effected numerous sea rescues. Financial support has also been given for the training of a German shepherd dog, which is skilled in water rescue and locating victims both under water and in burning structures. There is significant public appreciation for these programs as well as recognition for the good works of the hero fund itself.

— Linda T. Hills

TO THE HERO FUND

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to the heroes you select: *I have to do something because I can't stand here and do nothing.*

I applaud the efforts of the Carnegie Hero Fund to show that heroes walk among us every day, never knowing when they're needed or what they are needed for. Not only as people who serve the public in every day life, such as police officers, but more importantly as common persons who do not think of getting hurt while helping, only doing everything possible to help. I don't see myself as brave, only afraid to let someone down because I did nothing.

Benjamin S. Henrich, River Falls, Wis.

(On Feb. 17, 2007, Officer Henrich of the Prescott, Wis., Police Department responded to the scene of an accident, in which a pickup truck left the roadway and crashed into a house, severing its natural gas line. As Henrich, 28, attempted to rescue the driver, the gas exploded, setting fire to the house and truck and throwing Henrich at least 15 feet from the structure. Henrich sustained cuts and burns. The driver died at the scene.)

BACK TO LIFE

Thank you so much for making me one of your heroes. This is truly a great honor. Having a brain injury has made life a 13-year challenge. Not many people are willing to hire a man who has fallen 50 feet with many broken bones. This award has brought me back to life. The medal will shine above my fireplace mantel. The wonderful cheque will help complete my mountain house, where the cougar attack took place. I also send my deepest thoughts to all of the Carnegie Heroes who have died while risking and sacrificing their lives saving the people who were in harm's way. Thank you once again.

Marc Patterson, Kamloops, B.C.

(Patterson was cited by the Hero Fund in June. An accounting of his heroic act appears on page 9, and page 1 carries a description of his drawing talents.)

TRUE TO HIS WORD

Thank you for selecting my husband, John A. Klang, for the Carnegie Hero award. Speaking on behalf of his family, we are very honored that such a prestigious award has been given him. John was totally dedicated to his students and staff and gave his life protecting them.

John and I had talked just a couple of days before that Friday about what he would do if someone brought a gun to school. He simply stated, "They wouldn't get past me." He was true to his word. I believe it was John's fate that he was hired as principal at Weston, that our Lord knew he would see to it that nothing would happen to the children and staff if anything like this were to occur. It would have been a heavy burden for him to bear had anyone else been hurt and he survived.

Although we are devastated by this senseless tragedy, we are finding strength in the kind words spoken

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TO THE HERO FUND

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about John and the acts of generosity and support from not only local communities but from all over the state and nation. John would have been very humbled to be chosen for this award. He never approved of accolades for himself, but in this case even he would have to accept that it is very fitting.



Mr. Klang

The world is diminished because he is gone...but it is still a better place because he was here.

Sue Klang, Cazenovia, Wis.

(Klang, 49, principal of Weston High School, Cazenovia, died of gunshot wounds on Sept. 29, 2006, after intercepting a 15-year-old student who entered the school armed with a loaded shotgun and handgun. Klang struggled against the boy in a hallway and then, although wounded, disarmed and detained him. Of the 375 students and staff in the facility, no one else was injured.)

LEADING LADY

6 July 16 was designated "Jane F. Conley Day" in Scottsboro, Ala., to honor one of the town's leading citizens, who is shown here with Mayor Dan Deason. Conley, 90, was recognized for "an eventful life of service to her community," according to Chasity Brown of The Daily Sentinel, who described her as having a quick smile and graceful manners and "never seen without her lipstick and nail polish." Conley is also an awardee of the Carnegie Medal for helping to save a girl from drowning in the Tennessee River at Guntersville, Ala.,



in 1930. Then 13, Conley swam to the girl, who was 16, and supported her for a considerable time, until a boater aided them to the bank. Hero Fund scholarship aid enabled Conley to attend The University of Alabama, from which she was graduated with a degree in English in 1939. The university gave her its distinguished alumna award in 1976, and last

year, Alabama Lt. Gov. Jim Folsom, Jr., named her Honorary Lieutenant Governor in recognition of her service as receptionist for his father, Gov. James E. Folsom. (Photo courtesy of The Daily Sentinel.)

Retired cop saves officer

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On July 16, 2007, the grandfather of six elbowed and then repeatedly punched a gunman near his home after the man ran over an ex-girlfriend and her lawyer and later wounded Totowa police officer John P. Sole.

In a half-hour conversation over coffee and pastries inside the kitchen of his split-level home, Bevacqua, surrounded by his wife, Maria, and two of their four children, said being a police officer for half his life instilled a drive to aid those in distress. "All I wanted to do was help the officer," he said while flexing his now black-and-blue forearms. An eagle and American flag tattoo masked most of the bruises.

Detective Bob Smith, who worked with Bevacqua on the "Mod Squad," an anti-mugging police unit created in the early 1970s, recalled Bevacqua leaping to the defense of his brother, then a patrolman, after he was ambushed by a burglar.

"My brother was chasing the suspect into an alleyway," Smith said. "A fight ensued over my brother's gun. Philly was just coming around the corner and noticed there was a bluecoat in trouble. He whacked the suspect in the head with a night stick."

Bevacqua was enjoying the cool summer evening on the deck in his backyard with his wife and his sister that day more than a year ago when he said he heard four or five gunshots. Then 77, he raced down the steps to the front of his house and saw Sole and the gunman "tussling" and saw blood covering Sole's arm.

"I heard him say 'Put it down,'" Bevacqua said. "I didn't notice anybody helping him. I went across the street and went right after the guy." After he punched the assailant, Bevacqua said, the man turned to face him with a gun in hand. Seconds later he saw Sole shoot the gunman in the chest. Before that, Bevacqua said, he didn't realize the assailant was armed.

"You could have even been shot by the cops," Rosa told her father. "I know," he replied, and shrugged.

Totowa Mayor John Coiro, who spent most of Monday night with Sole at the hospital, said he briefly spoke to Bevacqua early Tuesday to thank him for his heroism. "He became involved in a situation that most people wouldn't get involved with," Coiro said. "It's nice to see that there are people out there who will help when others are in need. We're thankful that he was there when he was there."

But his family chided him for putting his sense of duty over his own well being. "By the time we got to the end of the driveway, I thought, 'Oh my God, he's gonna get shot,'" said Maria, his wife of 54 years. "Then I saw the blood running down his arms and I thought he was shot. I called him a crazy old fool."

"My only concern was 'Is he okay?'" Rosa said. "He could have had a heart attack." His son, Joseph, said the family felt a range of emotions about their father's actions. "We're happy," he said. "But we were afraid at the same time."

The Paterson native credits a three-year stint in the Army, more than 25 years with the Paterson police force, and sporadic weight-lifting sessions in his basement with keeping him in fighting condition. "I try to keep in shape," he said.

Former Paterson Police Chief Lawrence Spagnola, who patrolled with Bevacqua when he came onto the force more than 30 years ago, said he wasn't surprised about Bevacqua's heroism. "Whenever I worked with him, I didn't have to worry about my back," he said.

Back in the kitchen, Bevacqua said he even felt a little sorry for the gunman, who was pronounced dead later that night. "I felt bad a little bit, but he brought this on himself," he said. "I think he lost it." ❏

'ORIENTAL FLOWER' REVISITED



Visitors to the Hero Fund offices this summer included Bruce and Donna Green of South Portland, Maine, shown standing in the photo. In addition to visiting old haunts in Pittsburgh—Bruce is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and Donna of Carnegie Mellon University—they wanted to see where one of Donna's mother's paintings, "Oriental Flower," is displayed. That site is above the desk of Hero Fund Administrative Assistant Gloria A. Barber, shown seated. The painting is a watercolor done in pinks and greens in about 1985 when the artist, Anetta Brenneman Staffon, was in her 70s.



The Hero Fund acquired the painting (close up shown) in 2001 after Staffon's death in June. What made the acquisition appropriate was that Staffon was awarded the Carnegie Medal for her actions of Aug. 26, 1929, by which she saved a man from drowning in Lake Sheridan, Pa. Then 17, Staffon pulled the unconscious 20-year-old man, "who was quite heavy," to the surface of the water and towed him with difficulty 25 feet to the end of a pier. Subsequent scholarship aid from the Hero Fund enabled Staffon to attend Carnegie Tech, now Carnegie Mellon University, where she studied art and design.

Staffon had a successful career as a high school art teacher and over the years won awards for her own artwork. She last resided in Wilton, Maine, where in her lakeside home she was inspired by the beauty of her natural surroundings.

FRIENDS REMEMBERED

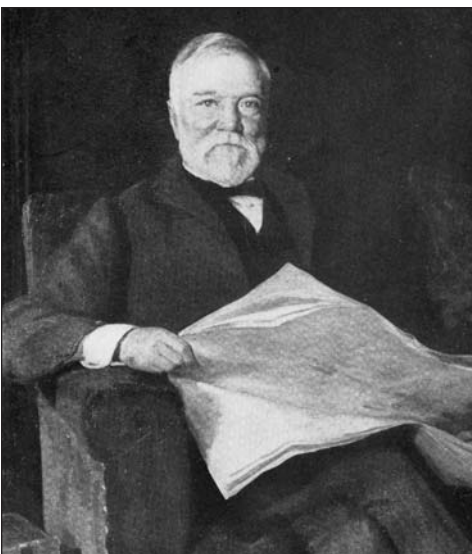
James L. Disney, 49, of Aldan, Pa., died May 31. Disney received the Carnegie Medal in 2003 for saving a small boy from his family's burning row house on Nov. 12, 2001, in Upper Darby, Pa. A member of the Upper Darby Police Department since 1986, Disney and other officers responded to the scene, where Disney found the boy on the stairs to the house's second floor. He grabbed the boy but then fell with him back to the main floor. Holding the boy, Disney crawled from the house to safety. According to his obituary, which is posted on the page of the Hero Fund's website (www.carnegiehero.org) that carries his case summary, Disney was known for his wit and vivacity.

Daryle E. Rearick, 90, of Valencia, Pa., died June 28. Rearick worked for the Hero Fund from 1956 until retiring in 1981. As report coordinator, he was responsible for condensing the case investigators' reports on heroic acts into clear, concise "case minutes" for submission to the awarding committee. He is remembered for his unrelenting quest for thoroughness in research and precision in expression. Hero Fund Executive Director Walter F. Rutkowski, whose casework was mercilessly edited by Rearick in the 1970s, said that Rearick taught him "more about telling the truth than all of my Sunday School teachers." "You called this nominee a conductor," Rearick once wrote in a many-point memo. "Would that be railroad, symphony, or electrical?"



Mr. Rearick

THE QUOTABLE



When war ceases, the sense of human brotherhood will be strengthened, and "heroism" will no longer mean to kill, but only to serve or save our fellows.

—From "War as the Mother of Valor and Civilization." Portrait by Howard Russell Butler.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATED

The Hero Fund is greatly served by a network of volunteers throughout the U.S. and Canada who routinely nominate candidates for recognition. By his tally, Verrill D. Stalberg, 71, of Bellingham, Wash., has secured the award for 18 heroes by submitting accounts gleaned from newspapers and the radio. It's a personal mission; Stalberg's grandfather, Randolph Osborn, received the medal at age 45 for his actions of Sept. 12, 1905, by which he attempted to save a small boy from a runaway, horse-drawn buggy. Osborn was knocked down and suffered a fractured skull, and the child escaped injury.





LATEST AWARDEES
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 26 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,199 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON JULY 2, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON OCT. 2.

High school student **Lykesia Lilly**, 18, of Polkton, N.C., helped to save her nephew, Adrian A. Clark, 6, from drowning in a well in Burnsville, N.C., on May 6, 2007. Adrian entered the 50-foot-deep well in some fashion and called for help as he clung to its wall about 15 feet down. Water filled the well to that point. Lilly entered the well feet first through its 14-inch opening, lowered herself, and then dropped into the water. She tied one end of an electrical cord around Adrian, and he was lifted out of the well by others. Lilly then climbed from the well.

Dennis H. Morton, 38, a distribution center employee from Prineville, Ore., helped to rescue Oma D. Pratt from her burning mobile home in Prineville on Aug. 12 last year. Morton drove upon the scene and learned that Pratt, 54, was inside the burning structure. He entered it through the front door, despite rapidly advancing flames and dense smoke, which restricted visibility. Morton crawled into the living room and found Pratt on the floor. He moved her toward the door, where others assisted in taking her to safety. Pratt was hospitalized for severe burns and died 10 days later.

Giankarlo Squicimari, 31, a sales representative from Miami, Fla., died attempting to help save Erika M. Hernandez, 12, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Palm Beach, Fla., on May 27, 2007, and **H. Lee Cooper**, 44, a sales executive who was vacationing from Westport, Conn., helped to save Erika and saved Michael C. Sagaro from drowning. As Erika struggled in the water, her mother shouted for help, attracting the attention of Squicimari and his friend, Sagaro, 32. They entered the water and started to swim out to Erika, who was about 180 feet from shore. Sagaro reached Erika and began to take her in, but Squicimari struggled in the current and was overcome. Also alerted to the situation, Cooper entered the water and swam to Sagaro and Erika. He took hold of Erika and towed her to shore, and then he swam back out for Sagaro and returned him to the beach. Others recovered Squicimari, who had drowned.

Brian K. Smith, 40, a college student from Arcata, Calif., died helping to save his nephew, Asa G. Segura



Two of the newest Canadian awardees of the Carnegie Medal are Deborah Chiborak, left, and Gerard Beernaerts, both of Winnipeg, Man. They flank Winifred M. Lindsay, whom they pulled from the path of a train in Winnipeg on April 17 of last year.

Smith, 7, from drowning in the South Fork of the Trinity River at Salyer, Calif., on July 22, 2006. Asa, his father, and others were swimming in a shallow stretch of the river when they entered an area where the water was at least 12 feet deep and its current, strong. Asa's father supported him and called for help. Smith, who was nearby on the bank, ran into the river and swam to them. He grasped Asa and struggled to return to the bank, but he submerged, as did Asa's father. Another member of their party took Asa to the bank. Both Asa's father and Smith drowned.

Alexander J. Machado of Milton, Del., rescued Craig S. Burgholzer from his burning pickup after a nighttime accident on March 3 of last year in Milton. Burgholzer, 23, remained in the cab of his truck after it left the roadway and came to rest upside down in a field, aflame on its underside. Machado, also 23, a maintenance employee, heard the accident from his nearby home and, responding, saw Burgholzer trapped inside the vehicle, trying to fight the flames back. Machado kicked out the window of the driver's door, reached inside, and pulled Burgholzer head first from the vehicle, which was destroyed in the accident and fire.

Diesel mechanic **Jeffery Allen Connell**, 33, of Mason, Mich., helped to rescue Aron E. Wallace, 84, from a burning house in Vandercook Lake, Mich., on June 29, 2007. At night, Connell drove upon the scene and found flames issuing from the one-story house. He forced open the front door and entered the structure. Using a wall of the living room to guide him, Connell found Wallace, who was badly burned, in the kitchen. He struggled to drag Wallace to the front door, receiving

aid from a responding deputy sheriff. Wallace died the next day. Connell required hospital treatment for smoke inhalation, and he recovered.

Fifteen-year-old **Samara Marie White**, a high school student, died Nov. 7, 2006, while attempting to save her sister, Alexia M. VanCleve, 4, from their family's burning house in Davison, Mich. Alexia and two of her sisters were in bedrooms on the second floor after fire erupted at night on the first floor. Samara, asleep on the first floor, was alerted to the fire. She went upstairs to alert her sisters and entered Alexia's bedroom. All other occupants of the house fled to safety as flames grew quickly. Samara and Alexia, found in Alexia's bedroom, succumbed to smoke inhalation.

Curtis Dawson, 47, of Astoria, Ore., helped to rescue David M. Schmelzer from drowning in the Columbia River at Astoria on Dec. 3, 2005. Schmelzer, 67, was the captain of a tugboat that capsized in the swift ebb tide at night while towing a barge. Dawson, assistant engineer, was a deckhand on the barge and witnessed the accident. Seeing Schmelzer float alongside the barge, he jumped into the river, swam to him, and pulled his head above water. Another deckhand threw a rope to Dawson and pulled the men to the side of the barge, and a responding bar pilot helicopter lowered a sling that was used to lift Schmelzer from the water. Dawson received hospital treatment for cold-water immersion.

Andres Morales, 36, a mechanic from New York City, rescued Cheryl C. Smith, 38, from a knife assault at night in Manhattan on April 24 of last year. While

walking home, Smith was approached by a man who threatened her with the weapon, demanding her purse and other possessions. Morales, who was her friend, had just parked nearby and was approaching on foot. When he then ran to Smith, the assailant turned on him, and the men struggled, freeing Smith. The assailant stabbed Morales repeatedly before fleeing. Morales required hospitalization for treatment of his wounds.

Deborah Chiborak and **Gerard Beernaerts**, both of Winnipeg, Man., teamed up to save Winifred M. Lindsay from being struck by a train in Winnipeg on April 17, 2007. Lindsay, 89, was crossing a railroad track in her mobility scooter when she fell onto the rails with the scooter atop her. A passing motorist, Chiborak, 51, restaurant owner and operator, saw the accident and started toward Lindsay as a train approached at about 35 m.p.h. A city bus arrived, and its driver, Beernaerts, 50, also started toward her. As Chiborak grasped Lindsay, Beernaerts pulled the scooter off her. They then pulled Lindsay from the track, the front of the train passing them within seconds. Lindsay was uninjured, but Chiborak suffered a strained back. (See photo.)

Three Alabama coworkers on assignment in Hawaii entered the surf to save a 14-year-old boy, Rick C. Abille, from drowning in the Pacific Ocean at Hanalei on Dec. 17, 2006. Rick was knocked off his boogie board while swimming at the mouth of the Lumahai River. **Jeffrey W. Sellers**, 34, a network administrator from Hazel Green, was leaving the water because of the strength of the current, but on hearing Rick shout for help, he swam to him and took him on his back. They became caught in the breakers. One of the other coworkers, **Patrick S. Payne**, 41, a network engineer from Grant, also swam out to help, but he too was battered by the waves, and he struggled to stay afloat. The third coworker, **Dwayne D. Trotti**, 43, a system engineer from Killen, entered the surf with two body boards. He made his way to Sellers and attempted to give him one of the boards, but a wave separated them. Trotti then swam to Payne and gave him a board. Payne lost the board and was swept farther out. Rescue personnel returned him to shore, as they did Sellers and Rick. Sellers, Payne, and Rick required hospital treatment for having nearly drowned. Found floating off shore, Trotti was returned to the beach, but he could not be revived.

Craig M. Gouker, 47, of Hanover, Pa., died attempting to save Cesar Salazar from suffocating in a below-ground vault in Owings Mills, Md., on Aug. 16, 2006. At work on a paving job, Salazar, 22, entered the 24-foot-deep vault through a manhole to retrieve a tool. He lost consciousness in the oxygen-deficient atmosphere. From nearby, Gouker, his foreman, was alerted. After calling for help, Gouker climbed through the manhole and began to descend to Salazar. He

too lost consciousness and fell to the bottom of the vault. Responding rescue personnel removed both men and then worked to resuscitate them. Both died of asphyxia.

Philip Bevacqua, a 77-year-old retired police captain from Totowa, N.J., rescued a Totowa police officer from assault by a gunman on July 16 last year. John P. Sole, 41, struggled against the gunman on the street near Bevacqua's home. The man had just shot him twice and at gunpoint forced him to the pavement. Bevacqua ran to the scene after hearing the gunshots. He approached the assailant and punched him repeatedly, freeing Sole to retrieve his service weapon. Sole then fired at the assailant, felling him. Other police officers arrived and secured him. Sole required hospital treatment for his wounds.

Travis Wayne Koehler of Las Vegas, Nev., died attempting to save Richard M. Luzier from suffocating in a sewer system lift station in Las Vegas on Feb. 2, 2007, and **David A. Snow** of Henderson, Nev., helped attempt to save him. Luzier, 48, was climbing from the belowground pit after working on a pipe when he fell to the bottom of the 10-foot-deep pit and lay unconscious in wastewater. His coworker, Koehler, 26, a journeyman engineer, immediately entered the pit and lifted Luzier's head out of the water before he too lost consciousness in the pit's oxygen-deficient atmosphere, which contained toxic fumes. Another coworker, Snow, 29, an engineer, entered the pit in a rescue attempt, but he also lost consciousness and collapsed. Responding rescue personnel removed the men. Snow survived but suffered acute respiratory distress. Luzier and Koehler died at the scene.

Charter boat captain **Richard T. Antonino**, 37, of Plymouth, Mass., rescued James C. Randolph from a burning automobile after an accident near Antonino's home on April 24 of last year. The car came to rest upright against a utility pole, with flames issuing up its sides. Antonino ran to the scene and opened the driver's door. He leaned into the car and attempted to release Randolph's safety belt but was repelled by the heat. He entered again, released the belt, and then with difficulty grasped Randolph and pulled him from the vehicle. Others helped Antonino drag the man to safety. Both men required hospital treatment for burns.

Police officer **DeWayne W. Griffin**, 26, of Amarillo, Texas, rescued Bobbie J. Miller, 70, from her burning house in Amarillo on June 26, 2007. At night, fire broke out at the rear of the house, entered a bedroom, and filled the house with dense smoke. On duty nearby, Griffin responded to the scene. Gaining access to the structure through its front door, he entered but was forced out by the smoke and heat. He re-entered, crawled about 25 feet toward the bedrooms, and found Miller standing in a doorway near the burning bedroom. Griffin dragged her to the front door and

outside. Both needed hospital treatment for smoke inhalation.

Marc Patterson of Kamloops, B.C., rescued Colton T. G. Reeb from an attacking cougar while on a camping trip near Clinton, B.C., on Aug. 1, 2007. Colton, 12, was attacked by a 70-pound cougar, which took him to the ground. Patterson, 45, who is a disabled construction worker, responded immediately from nearby. He kicked the cougar in the head repeatedly, but it would not release Colton. He then grasped the cougar by its neck and applied pressure, causing it to release him. Colton fled. Patterson and the cougar struggled briefly, the cougar then freeing itself. Colton was hospitalized two weeks for treatment of wounds that required nearly 300 sutures.

Michael William Baldwin and his wife, **Sandra S. Baldwin**, of Wausau, Wis., rescued Justin P. Carstensen, 17, from his burning pickup truck after an accident in Merrill, Wis., on July 31 last year. Justin was unconscious in the driver's seat of the pickup, which was off the road and aflame. Baldwin, 41, a delivery driver, and his wife, 38, a registered nurse, soon arrived at the scene. Baldwin opened the driver's door and released Justin's safety belt, but Justin remained entangled by it even as he slumped partially through the doorway. Mrs. Baldwin reached into the cab to support Justin as her husband cut the belt, having to stomp on flames at his feet as he did so. The Baldwins then pulled Justin from the pickup and dragged him to safety.



Kenneth W. Ringeisen of Virginia Beach, Va., was a masonry contractor...and a devoted friend. He died May 20, 2007, attempting to save a fishing buddy from drowning.

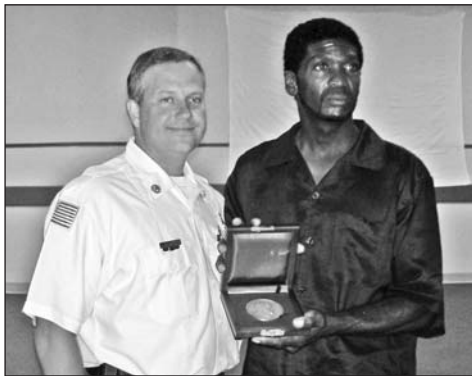
Kenneth W. Ringeisen, 65, a masonry contractor from Virginia Beach, Va., died attempting to save his friend Donald M. Adams, 53, from drowning in the Western Branch of the Lynnhaven River at Virginia Beach on May 20, 2007. Adams and Ringeisen were fishing from a boat when Adams lost his pole to the water. He reached for it but entered the river and

(continued on page 10)



TWICE HONORED

On April 13 of last year, Columbus Cook, then 49, of Jacksonville, Texas, was working in his parents' yard when he was alerted to a fire in a nearby house. He responded to the scene immediately and learned that the house was occupied. Cook, shown at right, entered the structure but was forced out by heavy smoke. A second try met with similar results, but on a third attempt he found a 38-year-old man in a bedroom. Cook carried the man to safety. As Cook's heroic effort was soon known by most of Jacksonville (pop. 14,000), located in the rolling hills of East Texas, the town honored him with its Community Enrichment Award, its highest citizen honor. Cook is the ninth person to get the award. In July, members of the community gathered again to honor Cook's heroism when Douglas R. Chambers, the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, presented him a Carnegie Medal. Among those present were Cook's parents and pastor, the mayor, a state representative, and Brent Smith (left), Jacksonville's fire marshal, who hosted the event. Smith, who was the first fire official to respond to the scene, said that in his more than 20 years with the department, he had never witnessed such bravery by a civilian.



IO

LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 9)

submerged. Surfacing, he was nearly immobilized by the cold water. Although fully attired, Ringeisen dived from the boat. The men were together briefly before separating, and the boat drifted away. Adams maneuvered to a small island nearby and waded from the river. Ringeisen drifted with the current and submerged. He was removed from the river shortly but could not be revived. (See photo.)

State police trooper **Nicholas P. Leary**, 38, of Plainfield, Conn., rescued Brenda Malarkey, 39, from her burning apartment in a house in Danielson, Conn., on Aug. 9, 2007. Responding to the scene of the night-time fire, Leary went to Malarkey's apartment and made repeated attempts at entry, but dense smoke forced him out. Re-entering by crawling, he proceeded to Malarkey's bedroom and found her lying on the floor next to the bed, which was aflame, as was the wall beside it. He grasped Malarkey and dragged her from the apartment to safety. Severely burned, Malarkey died four days later.

All in a day's work: Free(z)ing up a medal from its fire-damaged Lucite display block

Even in a high-tech world, sometimes all a problem needs is a good whack with a hammer.

That's how the Carnegie Medal awarded to Donald W. Frederick of Beaumont, Texas, was freed from a block of Lucite after the block was damaged in a house fire (top photo). Frederick was awarded the medal in 1968 for saving a woman from being struck by a runaway truck, and at the time, the Hero Fund embedded the medals in Lucite for preservation and display. Lucite is a hard, transparent plastic.



As the medal is a cherished possession, Frederick turned to the Hero Fund for help in restoring it. After consulting a few contacts in the coin- and medal-collecting field, Douglas R. Chambers, the Commission's director of external affairs, learned of two ways to remove Lucite: Immerse it in acetone (the active ingredient in nail-polish remover) or freeze and shatter it. Since the acetone treatment would be time-consuming, requiring repeated applications, Chambers took the hammer route, which he thought would be more fun.



After the medal's day-or-so repose in the office freezer, Chambers applied five or six hard blows (center photo), freeing it, mostly, save for some Lucite in the small crevices around Andrew Carnegie's eyes and ears. An acetone bath, followed by a rubbing with fine steel wool, quickly finished the job.

Emerging virtually unscathed, the medal was shipped to the Hero Fund's medal supplier, Greco Industries, of Danbury, Conn., for professional polishing and a protective coating (bottom photo). It was then given a new home in a felt-lined, wooden box and returned to Frederick. ☞





HERO FUND CLEANS UP HARWICK MINERS GRAVE

After suffering years of neglect, the overgrown site of the mass grave of many of the victims of the 1904 Harwick, Pa., mine disaster was spruced up in the spring by the Hero Fund in time for a Memorial Day observance. The grave, a part of St. Mark's Cemetery in nearby Springdale, contains a 22-ton granite monument that also showed the effects of neglect and age—it darkened considerably over the years, or since it was erected in 1906 by local unions of the United Mine Workers of America.

A number of trees within and just outside the site had grown to overshadow it, to say nothing of their dead limbs and leaves that contributed to an unkempt look. Poison ivy invaded the plot, along with other weeds, and a chain-link fence surrounding the site was choked by unwanted vines (middle photo). The Hero Fund's effort to keep Mother Nature at bay included removing several trees, trimming others, cutting the grass, reseeding as needed, raking leaves, and power-washing the monument (bottom photo). All of the work was completed just in time for a Memorial Day ceremony by members of Post 1437 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Post 764 of the American Legion, both of Springdale. Don Boulton of the American Legion is shown standing by the newly cleaned monument in the top photo.



The Hero Fund's history is rooted in the disaster, which claimed the lives of 179 miners and two rescuers. Touched by the efforts of the rescuers, Andrew Carnegie presented medals to their families and within two months established the Hero Fund to recognize civilian heroism throughout the U.S. and Canada.



GRAVE MARKERS Bronze grave markers (above), cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal, are available at no cost to the families of deceased awardees. They are designed for mounting on stone or bronze memorials. Contact Susan Marcy (susan@carnegiehero.org) or write her at the address given below.

MEDAL REFINISHING The Hero Fund will refinish Carnegie Medals at no cost to the owner. The medals are to be sent to the Hero Fund's office by insured, registered mail. Allow a month for the process. The contact is Myrna Braun (myrna@carnegiehero.org).

OBITUARIES Written accounts of the awardee's life, such as contained in an obituary, are sought for addition to the awardee's page on the Commission's website. Contact Doug Chambers (doug@carnegiehero.org).

ANNUAL REPORTS Copies of the Hero Fund's 2007 annual report are available, as are those of the centennial report of 2004, which lists the names of all awardees from 1904 through 2004. Contact Gloria Barber (gloria@carnegiehero.org).

"A CENTURY OF HEROES" The centennial book describing the first 100 years of the Hero Fund is available through the Commission's website (www.carnegiehero.org).

COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL A silver medal struck in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal to commemorate the 2004 centennial of the Hero Fund is available for purchase through the Commission's website.

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Drifting house in Cape Cod Canal in which Carnegie Medal awardee drowned helping others.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

LONG ISLAND EXPRESS

Seventy years ago this month—on Sept. 21, 1938—the northeastern coast of the U.S. experienced one of the worst natural disasters in American history, a hurricane that, in terms of death, destruction, and injury, surpassed both the San Francisco earthquake and the Great Chicago Fire.

The Category 3 hurricane struck Long Island, N.Y., in the afternoon and continued north at 60 m.p.h. into New England, an unusually swift speed for which it was dubbed locally as “The Long Island Express.” The edge of the hurricane scoured the countryside at speeds of 120 m.p.h. for a time, with much higher gusts recorded, including one at 186 m.p.h. in Milton, Mass. Wind, fire, floodwaters, and tidal surges all caused damage throughout New England as the storm moved into Canada at 9 p.m. and dissipated over arctic Quebec.

In just 6.5 hours, the hurricane killed more than 680 people and injured 4,500 more, destroyed or damaged more than 75,000 buildings, and felled more than 200,000 trees. In terms of today’s U.S. dollar, property damage was about \$4.7 billion. Such dire straits spur some to exhibit extraordinary heroism. The Hero Fund recognized four such heroes:

On the night of the storm, William P. McGrath, 30, and others had been wading in the floodwaters of the East River and Long Island Sound, off Throgs Neck in the Bronx, helping stranded residents reach higher ground. One of the men who were helping

lost his footing and began to drift away. McGrath swam toward him, and both men submerged. Their bodies were found after the tide receded.

Hours later, near Weekapaug, R.I., five people were stranded in an inn that had been surrounded by the rising waters of Quonochontaug Pond and Block Island Sound. At 1 a.m., Henry M. Morris, a 27-year-old carpenter, with a rope tied around his chest and its free end held by others, made five trips into the water to reach stranded victims. He took them one by one to safety.

Farther north, in Barrington, R.I., Richard W. Holmes, 14, fled the rising Warren River with two women and sought refuge on higher ground. Having spotted a house, they waded toward it. Richard and one of the women reached it safely, but the other woman was caught outside. Richard left the house and used a piece of wood as a makeshift raft to support her. He then swam to summon aid, and when the water level fell, the women were rescued.

McGrath, Morris, and Holmes were each awarded the Carnegie Medal and \$500, McGrath posthumously.

At his home in Gray Gables, Mass., where the Cape Cod Canal joins Buzzards Bay, 54-year-old Hayward Wilson observed water rising toward a nearby house, occupied by three women and an 11-year-old boy, all nonswimmers. Wilson made his way to the house, resisting the wind by holding onto trees and bushes. Water continued to rise, and the house drifted into the canal and continued for two miles until it struck a bridge pier. Hours later, would-be rescuers broke through the roof and found the five occupants on the second floor, all drowned. A bronze medal was awarded to Wilson’s widow. ✎ — *Marlin Ross, Investigator. Excerpts from “A Wind to Shake the World,” by Everett S. Allen.*

imPULSE is a periodic newsletter of the CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION, a private operating foundation established in 1904 by Andrew Carnegie. • The Hero Fund awards the CARNEGIE MEDAL to those throughout the United States and Canada who risk their lives to an extraordinary degree while saving or attempting to save the lives of others. • The Commission also provides financial assistance, which may include scholarship aid and continuing grants, to the heroes and to the dependents of those awardees who are disabled or die as the result of their heroic acts.

Further information is available on-line or by contacting the Commission.

Any ideas? imPULSE welcomes your submissions for publication, and your ideas for consideration. Be in touch!

Address change? Please keep us posted!

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