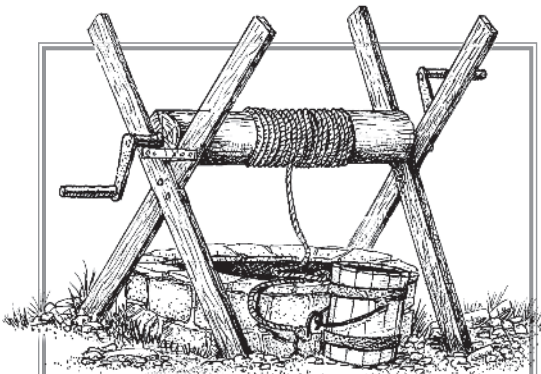




imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 18 • JUNE 2009



WELL RESCUES RECALLED

Carnegie Medals were awarded for rescues from wells 84 and 100 years ago by farmers in Alabama and Kansas, and the rescues remain a part of the heritage of each of the families.

After the Hero Fund provided details of his grandfather's 1925 heroic act, Phillip Kennedy of Toney, Ala., drew the above sketch of the figuring well structure. See pages 4 and 5 of this issue of *imPULSE*.

FLIGHT SURGEON NAMED TO HERO FUND BOARD

Civilian flight surgeon Peter J. Lambrou, M.D., of Pittsburgh has been elected to the board of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.



Dr. Lambrou

In announcing the election, which was held at the Commission's annual meeting in February, board president Mark Laskow appointed Dr. Lambrou to the organization's executive committee, which is the Hero Fund's

awarding body. In that capacity, he fills a position long held by a medical doctor, to whom the board

(continued on page 2)

BOARD NOTES

Teens who acted sacrificially are 'true heroes of civilization'

By Mark Laskow, President • Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

One was a high school freshman from New Jersey who could easily make his friends and family laugh. Another, from Texas, was an intelligent, creative young woman who had just graduated from high school. The third, a high school junior from Oregon, was "a good kid" who wore a thrift-store plaid suit to church each week.

Each was a teenager who died in a sacrificial attempt to save the life of another, and each was recognized by the Hero Fund in March with the posthumous award of the Carnegie Medal (see pages 8-9). Each left an indescribable void in the lives of their families.

It was the death of a teenager 123 years ago in his hometown of Dunfermline, Scotland, that prompted Andrew Carnegie to think about what constitutes heroism in a civilized society. Seventeen-year-old William Hunter had tried to save a boy from

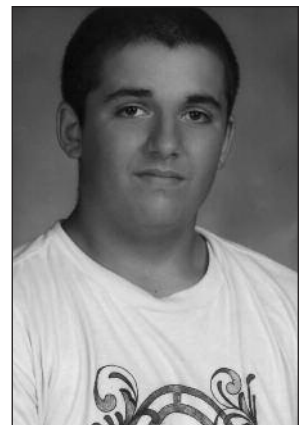
drowning in the "town loch" on July 25, 1886, but lost his life in the attempt. Writing of the incident from his summer home in Cresson, Pa., three weeks later, Carnegie concluded, "The false heroes of barbarous man are those who can only boast of the destruction of their fellows. The true heroes of civilization are those alone who save or greatly serve them. Young Hunter was one of those and deserves an enduring monument." *(continued on page 2)*



Mr. Barfuss



Ms. Butler



Mr. Ferrell



FLIGHT SURGEON NAMED TO BOARD

(continued from cover)

appeals for both medical aspects of heroic acts under consideration and assessment of injuries sustained by rescuers applying for disability benefits.

"Peter will bring a wealth of unusual experience to our deliberations," Laskow said. "We welcome him aboard."

Dr. Lambrou's predecessors were Jerald A. Solot, O.D., who recently relocated to Colorado, and E. Bayley Buchanan, M.D., who actively served on the board from 1975 to 2002 and who is now an honorary board member. Earlier, the Commission's third president (1933-1956) was a doctor, Thomas S. Arbuthnot, who was dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and president of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

"A doctor's knowledge of trauma as well as natural disease contributes some insight for arriving at the proper decision on cases in question," Dr. Buchanan said.

A native of Pittsburgh, Dr. Lambrou is president and founder of the Center for Aviation Medicine, Pittsburgh, one of the largest practices in the eastern United States devoted exclusively to aviation medicine. Nationally recognized as an authority in the area of aeromedical recertification, Dr. Lambrou is a senior medical examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration. His practice focuses on specialized assistance to airmen who have lost their medical certificates for specific diagnoses with the ultimate objective of restoring their health and reinstating their medical certificates.

Formerly an assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Medicine, Dr. Lambrou developed relationships with all aspects of general and commercial aviation. He has extensive experience in the human factors and aeromedical aspects of aircraft accident investigations, having participated in numerous National Transportation Safety Board investigations of major airline and helicopter accidents. He served as the flight surgeon and medical director of flight operations for a major air carrier, playing an industry-leading role in the worldwide exploration of human factors, which ultimately led to an early iteration of crew resource management.

A professional pilot and airline captain himself, Dr. Lambrou has been flying for 40 years and has accumulated thousands of hours of flight time in domestic, international, transoceanic, and Caribbean operations. He holds numerous certificates and ratings, including flight instructor and airline transport pilot.

Dr. Lambrou is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and received his doctor of medicine degree from Hahnemann University School of Medicine, Philadelphia, Pa. He is also a graduate of the University of Southern California School of Engineering.

Teens who acted sacrificially

(continued from cover)

The "enduring monument," for which Carnegie made a financial contribution, was erected and still stands in Dunfermline Cemetery, and it bears his words on its base. The same words appear as the philosophical basis in a document that Carnegie wrote 18 years later in establishing the Hero Fund in 1904. The organization's "Deed of Trust" provides for an enduring monument of a different sort, "a medal...which shall recite the heroic deed it commemorates."

Since then, 9,262 Carnegie Medals have been issued throughout the United States and Canada, including 1,930, or 21% of the total, which were awarded posthumously. The three teens cited in March are joined by two others whose heroic actions were also sacrificial: A 40-year-old mother from Franklin, N.H., who died in a house fire attempting to save her daughters, and a young father, 31, from Fruitport, Mich., who died after helping to save a friend from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Delray Beach, Fla.

Carnegie's words may not assuage the grief borne by the families of these heroes, but the Commission's efforts seek to ensure that their last actions are not only remembered, but honored with a dignity that reflects their nobility. The recent posthumous teenage awardees:

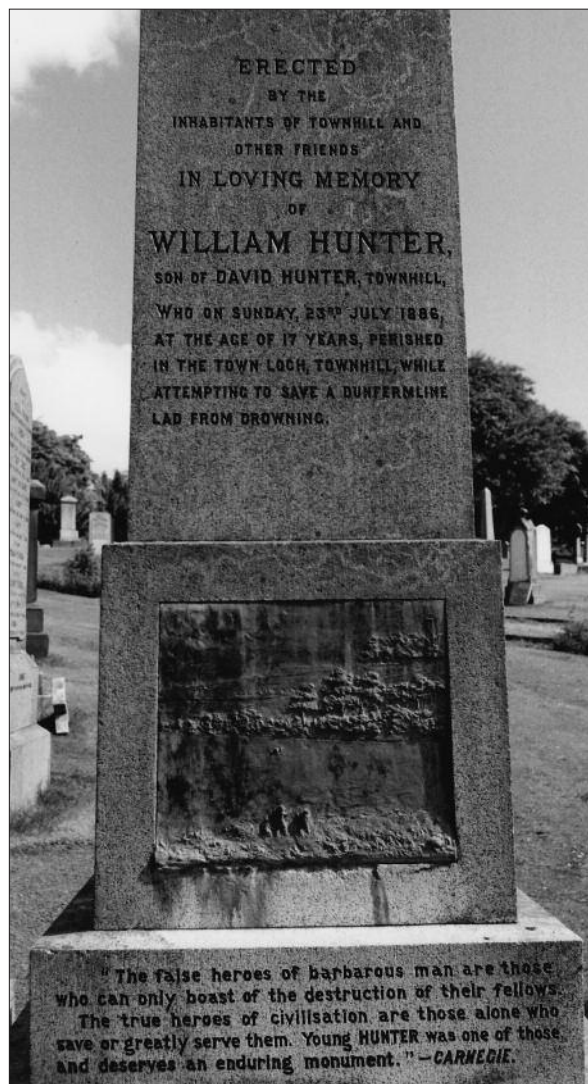


Mr. Laskow

• **Robert Ferrell, 14**, escaped from his first-floor bedroom after a nighttime fire in his family's century-old, Jobstown, N.J., house. Realizing that his mother was on the second floor, he returned inside. "How Bob had the courage to re-enter that kind of nightmare is beyond anyone's understanding," his older sister later wrote. "Except for the knowledge of the unconditional love and loyalty Bob had for her." From another sister: "Bobby was wise beyond his years. He had the biggest heart I've ever known."

• **Courtney E. Butler, 16**, and some friends were on an outing along the Paluxy River near Courtney's Stephenville, Texas, home. When one of the group became caught in turbulent water, Courtney immediately entered the river for him. "We are devastated by her loss," her father wrote. "There is consolation and beauty in what she did as her final act on earth." Her mother said

(continued on page 3)



Monument memorializing Robert Hunter, Dunfermline Cemetery, bears Carnegie's words on its base.

PENNSYLVANIA HEROES



Two western Pennsylvanians who were named Carnegie Medal awardees in December received their medals from the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, Douglas R. Chambers, in April. In the top photo, Conservation Officer Clint J. Deniker of Grove City is shown (center left) holding his medal among fellow officers and staff of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's northwest regional

headquarters in Franklin, Pa. A year earlier, Deniker rescued a man from an overturned and burning car after an accident on a rural road near Deniker's home. After widening an opening in the wreckage, Deniker cut the man's safety belt, freed his trapped leg, and then pulled him from the vehicle. Soon after, flames entered the car's interior and spread nearly to engulf it.

Jeffrey S. Peters, Jr., left, of Meadville was recognized for rescuing a neighbor from her burning mobile home following an explosion caused by leaking propane. The September 2007 explosion caused extensive damage, and fallen debris pinned the woman in her bedroom. Peters, then 18, entered the structure, lifted the debris from her, and carried her to safety. The home was destroyed, and the woman suffered severe burns but survived.



TO THE HERO FUND

HIS PROUD MOMENT

I just wanted to thank you for honoring my father. He passed away on Dec. 17 and receiving the Carnegie Medal in 1956 was one of his proudest moments. Several years ago we had his medal inserted into a desktop plaque, which he kept on a table by his chair so whenever someone stopped over it would surely become the topic of conversation. During his funeral service we had the medal displayed along with newspaper articles of the event. Until then I don't think everyone understood what the fuss was all about. It takes a special person to risk their life to save another's.

Ken Walker, Jr. • Exton, Pa.

(See "Friends Remembered," page 10, for obituary and photo of Kenneth M. Walker, Sr.)

CARNEGIE A PILLAR

I am honored to accept the Carnegie Hero Medal from your Commission. I appreciate your recognition for my prior actions.

Andrew Carnegie was a great industrialist in his time and was often misunderstood. In my opinion, he was one of the very foundational pillars this country has been built on. I am honored to accept this award from this foundation based on the philanthropy of such a distinguished gentleman. I only wish industrialists of today's age would conduct themselves in a similar fashion.

I will be donating the grant to several local charities, a cancer research project at Cornell University, and to the general fund of the main hospital I work at (non-profit). Thank you again for the great honor.

A.J. Skiptunas III, D.O. • Wrightsville, Pa.

(Dr. Skiptunas was awarded the Carnegie Medal in March. See pages 8-9 for a description of his heroic act and his photo.)

SECOND NATURE?

Thank you for the recognition, medal, and monetary gift. I still have a difficult time with being called a hero for something that should be second nature in responding to someone in need of assistance.

When a reporter asked me what possessed me to run up to a burning truck not knowing if someone was alive or not, I told I believed he would have done the same if he would come upon an accident. He paused and said he hoped that is what he would do, but thought he probably would have frozen and not known what to do and would be afraid of injuring himself.

When I received your book, *A Century of Heroes*, I read of those who had lost their lives in rescuing others. It made me realize that God put me at that place at the right time to save a life and protected both of us from harm. My prayers go out to the many families whose loved ones died as a hero.

Thank you once again for your generosity and for carrying out such a great work.


Michael J. Zimmerman • Morton, Ill.

(Awarded the medal in December, Zimmerman donated the accompanying financial grant to a hospice foundation and a church-sponsored home for the handicapped as a way of "making the funds do more good.")

Teens who acted sacrificially

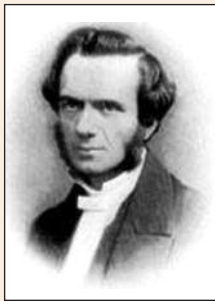
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that Courtney's act "speaks in itself of the spirit of the individual who values human life to that measure."

• **Ross McKay Barfuss**, 16, of Aloha, Ore., was tossing a football with family members and friends on a Pacific Ocean beach when he saw that an 11-year-old boy from another party was caught in the extremely turbulent surf. Ross entered the water and made two attempts to reach him, but the rough seas claimed both boys. "We don't look at him as a hero," his father told a reporter. "He was simply trying to help a friend in need." "He wasn't a hero in his death," his mother said. "He was a hero in his life. He was that personality. That smile. That suit." 



GREAT OCCASIONS DO NOT
MAKE HEROES OR COWARDS;
THEY SIMPLY UNVEIL THEM
TO THE EYES OF MEN.
SILENTLY AND IMPERCEPTIBLY,
AS WE WAKE OR SLEEP,
WE GROW STRONG OR WEAK;
AND AT LAST SOME CRISIS
SHOWS WHAT WE HAVE BECOME.



— Brooke Foss Westcott
(1825-1901)
English churchman
and theologian

The Hero Fund recently
gave 1988 Carnegie Medal
awardee Kenneth R.

Vandegrift of Knoxville,
Tenn., a copy of its centennial book, *A Century of
Heroes*, the book's accompanying video, and a recent
annual report. Vandegrift was a 40-year-old construction
superintendent from Santa Paula, Calif., when
in 1987 he and a police officer saved a man from
his burning car after a highway accident.

Being brought up to date on the Commission's activities
caused some reflection on Vandegrift's part. "Reading
through the report and book, I was humbled by the
actions of so many of the award recipients," he wrote.
"I am sure that you hear or read this from a great
number of people, but it is nonetheless a true emotion
that sweeps over many of us.

"Prior to my receiving the Carnegie Medal, I had the
privilege of meeting some 'heroes' who would also
later receive the medal. In particular I met the widow
of Theodore Hansen who died attempting to save a
young boy from drowning (in Oxnard, Calif., on June
17, 1987). I also met Michael N. Knieriem, who rescued
two young children from a burning condominium
(in Newbury Park, Calif., on Oct. 2, 1987). After
rescuing one child, he re-entered the condo to rescue
the other with great difficulty. When pondering the
actions of Ted Hansen (ultimate sacrifice) and Mike
Knieriem, I felt that my actions paled by comparison.

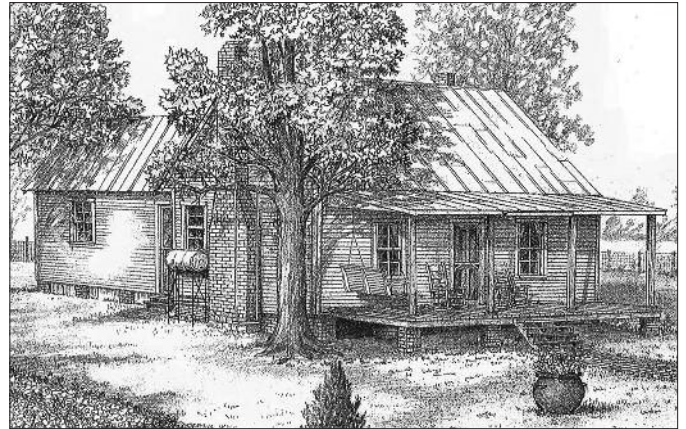
"After reading so many of the accounts recorded, I
also thought of the magnitude of the actions taken by
so many ordinary people: Approximately one in five
medals are awarded posthumously. I have also come
to the conclusion that the common thread woven
through all of the accounts of heroism was that
'action' was spontaneous without forethought.

"With that in mind," Vandegrift wrote, he wanted to
share the Westcott quote, above, although he did not
know of its origin or author.

"Thank you for the honor bestowed on me in 1988,"
Vandegrift concluded, "and for allowing me to be in
such company."

Sacrificial heroism by Alabama farmer is part of this large family's heritage

Amos Franklin
Cantrell was a share-
cropper in northern
Alabama whose yearly
earnings by the mid
1920s were only
\$500. Life was hard
for him and his
wife—with seven
children and an
eighth on the way—
and then he died on
May 14, 1925, while
saving a man from
suffocating in a well.



Sarah Cantrell's farmhouse as sketched by grandson Phillip Kennedy:
"I remember swinging on the porch swing"

Cantrell and his
family lived on rented
land out of New Market, about 15 miles northeast of Huntsville. Their holdings were
scarce and included two mules that were not then paid for. At about 9 a.m. on the
Thursday on which he died, Cantrell, 37, was plowing a field with those mules when
he heard screams for help coming from a neighboring farmhouse. Responding to the
scene 500 feet away, Cantrell found that a man engaged to deepen a 60-foot dry well
was overcome by marsh gas at the bottom of the well. His "uncanny breathing" could
be heard plainly by those gathered at ground level.

Having been in a few wells previously and knowing that they sometimes contained
"damp air," Cantrell volunteered to descend into the well for the victim. With a rope
tied around him, he was lowered to the bottom of the well, where he removed the




Amos F. and Sarah Cantrell, with three of
their children

rope, secured it to the victim, and then
signaled to be lifted. Those at the surface
raised the men, but as they neared the
top, Cantrell fell back into the well, the
fall breaking his neck and killing him.
The victim, 40, was removed from the
well. He remained unconscious until
the next evening and was ill for several
weeks afterward.

Cantrell was awarded the Carnegie
Medal posthumously on Jan. 27, 1926,
and 11 days later his widow, Sarah, gave
birth to their eighth child, a daughter.

The award included a monthly grant to
help Mrs. Cantrell meet living expenses, and it continued until the time of her death
at age 75 in 1965. She never remarried but managed to buy a house on 15 acres
closer to town where, with help from a brother, she reared her children through
farming, including raising chickens for food and eggs.

All eight children married, remained in the area, and gave Mrs. Cantrell 36 grand-
children and 35 great-grandchildren. One of her grandsons, Phillip Kennedy of
Toney, Ala., is the son of Mrs. Cantrell's eighth child, Frankie, who with two sisters
are the only surviving of Cantrells' children. Kennedy recalls vividly his grandmother's
farm, which included a stock barn, smoke house, pig stalls, and a root cellar.

"I am proud of my family, my mother, and my grandmother," Kennedy said.
"Most of all, I am proud of Amos Franklin Cantrell, my grandfather." Kennedy, 56,
skilled in printing and graphics, has channeled his pride into chronicling his heritage,
including producing the accompanying sketch of his grandmother's farmhouse. The
house was torn down after her death—no photos of it are known—and the medal
itself was donated to the Huntsville Library. 

Florida fishing guide, attorney cited for 2007 ocean rescue off Key Largo

Of the 200 or so gathered for the March 17 presentation of the Carnegie Medal to recent awardees James Christopher Koch of Homestead, Fla., and Jeffrey S. Bass of Miami, no one was more fortunate to be present than a 68-year-old grandfather from Miami Lakes. Because of the awardees' actions 18 months earlier, Norberto Martinez was spared certain death after a boating accident in the Atlantic Ocean off Key Largo.


The medals were presented at the Ocean Reef Cultural Center in North Key Largo by former Commission member S. Richard Brand. Brand, who served on the Hero Fund's board from 1999 until his relocation to Florida in 2006, had nominated Koch and Bass for the award and volunteered to present the medals when the awards were announced last October. After making the presentation, Brand introduced Martinez to the assembly, describing the severe injuries he had sustained in the accident. As were his rescuers, Martinez was received with applause.

It was on Sept. 29, 2007, that Koch and Bass entered the path of Martinez's out-of-control boat to pull the unconscious man from the water. Martinez had been thrown from his 18-foot vessel after it struck a channel marker about a half-mile from shore, and the circling boat then struck him and inflicted severe injury, including broken ribs and multiple lacerations to his back. Koch, then 39, a fishing guide, was the captain of a nearby boat that had Bass, 40, an attorney, as a client. Seeing Martinez floating face down and inert, they took their smaller craft to him, pulled him aboard, and then took him to shore. Martinez recovered after hospitalization.

Martinez's boat, meanwhile, continued to circle for 20 minutes, or until responding towboat crewmen disabled it.

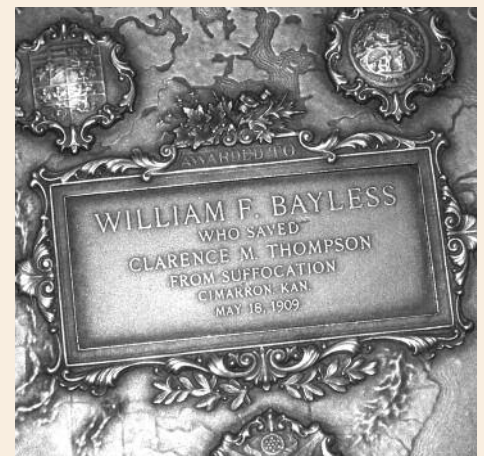


Norberto Martinez, pulled from the path of his runaway boat

The presentation's audience, which included the rescuers' and Martinez's family members, weren't the only ones impressed by the men's heroism. In describing the Hero Fund's work, Brand said that Koch and Bass represent the thousands who have been recognized since 1904 for acting unselfishly on behalf of another human being with no regard for their own safety. "When you bring all of the parties together, you really appreciate the true greatness of the work the Commission does," Brand said. "I'm so proud to have been a part of the effort." 



James Christopher Koch and Jeffrey S. Bass, third and fourth from left, received Carnegie Medals from former Hero Fund board member S. Richard Brand, left. They were recognized for their efforts in behalf of Norberto Martinez, second from left. Photos by Carol Ellis/Little Salt.



CENTENNIAL OF WELL RESCUE: 'SPLENDID, QUIET COURAGE'

May 18 marked the 100th anniversary of a heroic act by a farmer from Kansas, and the Carnegie Medal that was subsequently awarded to him is still held proudly by the family.

William F. Bayless, who was born in 1885 in Freeman, Md., responded to the 45-foot-deep well in Cimarron in which two fellow farmers had collapsed at the bottom. The father of one of the men, Clarence M. Thompson, had followed them into the well and tied a rope to each so that they could be hauled to the surface. The gas in the well affected him, however, and he too lost consciousness.

At that point, according to the *Cimarron Gazette*, "Fred Bayless, regardless of the terrible fate of the others, volunteered to go down after the elder Thompson. He made the rope fast to him and the latter was raised to the surface. By clinging to the sides of the well and climbing desperately for a small part of the way, Bayless was able to escape the worst of the gas until the rope could be again lowered. He was pulled up just in time to escape the fate of the others." The first two farmers died, and Thompson was in precarious condition but survived. He too was awarded the medal. According to family folklore, Bayless was suffering from whooping cough around the time of this event.

The *Cimarron Gazette* continued, "Of the splendid, quiet courage of the young man, Fred Bayless, who unhesitatingly went down to what seemed certain death, in view of what had previously happened, too much cannot be said."

Along with the medal, Bayless received a grant of \$1,000 from the Hero Fund. He spent some of the money on a set of mules for the farm, some of the



Mr. Bayless

(continued on page 7)



SOON 100, CARNEGIE HERO IS RECORD-SETTING PILOT

Carnegie Medal awardee Evelyn S. (Bryan) Johnson of Morristown, Tenn., turns 100 later this year, and 6.5 of those years have been up in the air. Johnson is not only a pilot (featured in *imPULSE* No. 6, June 2006), but a record-setting one: Her 57,635 hours of flying time are the most for any female pilot (according to *Guinness Book of Records* and as recently verified by the National Aviation Hall of Fame). Johnson took her first flying lesson in 1944 and by 1952 she was an examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). She was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1959 for saving the pilot of a helicopter that crashed at the Morristown airport, where she worked. Although she has not been flying for the past few years, she's still working at Moore-Murrell Airport, as the manager. Don't ask her when she plans to retire; her stock answer: "When I'm old enough." (Photo by Earl Neikirk, *American Profile*.)



6

HAVE YOU SEEN

OSCAR LEIVA? Most recently of Reno, Nev., he was named a recipient of the Carnegie Medal in 2007 but relocated before the medal was struck. We are holding it for him. Leiva was 34 and a forklift operator at the time of his heroic act in late 2005.

The family of **ROY KENNETH DAVIS?** At age 14, Davis, of Louisville, Ky., died in 1919 attempting to save a boy from drowning in the Ohio River. His medal was found in 1999 by a 10-year-old boy, Chris Lanham, raking leaves in his family's backyard in Louisville. Lanham is trying to track down the Davis family.

The Carnegie Medal belonging to **LINCOLN J. PARTRIDGE?** Partridge, of Bristol, Maine, died at age 43 in 1907 attempting to save a man whose clothing became caught in the belt wheel of a saw. A great-granddaughter from Jacksonville, Fla., surmises the medal was sold at the time of her grandmother's passing.

Please send any leads on the above to impulse@carnegiehero.org

Renovated Carnegie birthplace museum showcases philanthropist's history, legacy

The Andrew Carnegie Birthplace Museum in Dunfermline, Scotland—incorporating the stone cottage in which the great industrialist-turned-philanthropist was born in 1835—was reopened on March 23 after an extensive two-year renovation. William Thomson, Carnegie's great-grandson, was on hand to cut the ribbon, joined by other Carnegie descendants: Thomson's sister Louise Suggett and his daughter Alice.



The Carnegie Birthplace Museum in Dunfermline, Scotland, includes the small stone house (at left) in which Andrew Carnegie was born.

First opened in 1928, the facility is set in the heritage quarter of the city, Scotland's ancient capital. Following a six-figure upgrade by the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust, the revitalized museum now elegantly showcases the legacy of the man who became a giant of the American steel industry and then fathered modern philanthropy with the systematic distribution of his wealth. In addition to the Dunfermline Trust, Carnegie's 22 endowed institutions include the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh and its U.K. counterpart, the Carnegie Hero Fund Trust, also headquartered in Dunfermline.



Reopening the museum after extensive renovation were Dr. David B.B. Smith (at podium), chairman of the Carnegie Dunfermline and Hero Fund trusts, and William Thomson (seated), Carnegie's great-grandson and honorary president of the Carnegie U.K. Trust.

The freshly polished façade of the free attraction invites the public to take a journey through time, reliving Carnegie's rise to become the richest man in the world. While retaining its original art deco architecture and paneling, the refurbished venue now incorporates state-of-the-art interactive displays and digital wall graphics that depict Carnegie's story. The windows in the main exhibition hall have been given colorful glass to enhance a bright and vivid display area.

Weekly weaving demonstrations—Carnegie's father maintained a handloom business on the first floor of the cottage—complement the refurbishment, which includes also an improved cafe, shop, and events space to support a contemporary character. Goal of the project was to inspire a wider audience for Carnegie's story and to ensure that it is instilled for future generations. The story includes Carnegie's legacy of his having helped millions—including those long past his time—and it contends that individual contribution can have profound and lasting effect on the character of a nation.

At the ceremony, Thomson thanked the Dunfermline Trust for preserving Carnegie's memorabilia and for "maintaining and enhancing his great reputation both as a businessman and a philanthropist." Thomson, who is honorary president of another of the four U.K.-based Carnegie institutions, the Carnegie U.K. Trust, was involved in the museum's last makeover 25 years ago.

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30 YEARS' SERVICE CITED BY HERO FUND



At one of its recent meetings, the Hero Fund marked the 30th anniversary of the election of Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr., left, to the board. He was given a certificate of appreciation by Mark Laskow, Hero Fund president. Hilliard joined the Commission in 1979 and has since served on its executive committee, the Hero Fund's awarding body, where he is known for his loyal attendance, intense interest in the cases...and quick wit. A native and resident of Pittsburgh, Hilliard is a graduate of Princeton University and a retired businessman. He joins five others on the 21-member board who have served at least three decades.

NEIGHBORS

Carnegie Medal awardee William G. S. Sherman, Jr., of Elizabeth, Pa., is the computer programmer for the Allegheny County, Pa., Bar Association, which is located in the Koppers Building in downtown Pittsburgh. His rounds take him to an 11th-floor division of the association and on one such visit he noticed that its new neighbor was...the Carnegie Hero Fund, which moved into the building last December. Acquaintances were resumed, and Sherman was given a lapel pin and a copy of the Commission's centennial book. Sherman, 66, was awarded the medal 50 years ago for his actions of June 15, 1957, when as a 14-year-old schoolboy he saved a girl from drowning in Slippery Rock Creek at Harlansburg, Pa. "The Carnegie Medal is something that transcends my life," Sherman said. "Regardless of my successes and failures, the symbol of recognition of having once risen above myself is treasured."



CENTENNIAL OF WELL RESCUE: 'SPLENDID, QUIET COURAGE'

(continued from page 5)

family members questioning the value of the purchase since the mules were apparently cantankerous.

Less than a year after the rescue, Bayless married Florence Beryl Amos, on March 30, 1920. They lived in the Cimarron/Dodge City area and raised eight children: Clarence, Grace, Edith, Lacey, Edward, Marie, Aielene, and Fred. Only Aielene is living although descendants also include many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren. Bayless died in 1962 in Dodge City. —By Marsha Bayless, granddaughter, with assistance from other grandchildren, Ramona Klein, Deanne Kilian, and Duane Bayless, and Karla Dassel, wife of grandson J.E. Dassel.



Duane Bayless, 49, of Olathe, Kan., is keeper of the Carnegie Medal awarded to his grandfather, William F. Bayless. Duane is the son of one of the rescuer's eight children, Edward.

MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY TO BE GIVEN IN OCTOBER

The fifth biennial awarding of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy will take place on Oct. 15 in the Celeste Bartos Forum of the New York Public Library, Manhattan. Given by a consortium of Andrew Carnegie's 22 endowed trusts and institutions, the award recognizes world-class philanthropists for their charity in art, culture, health, education, science, and the environment.

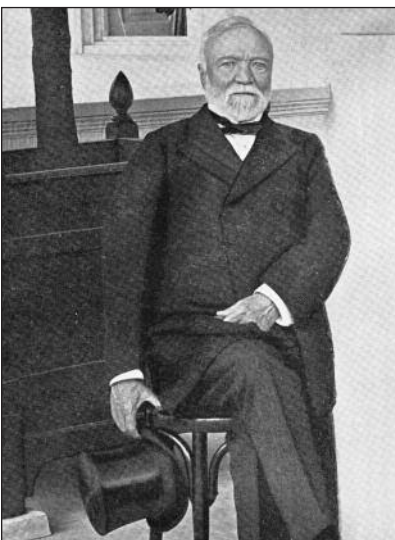


Five awardees of the medal (pictured) will be announced later this year. "Our task in selecting the winners was not an easy one," Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, said. The Carnegie Corporation is organizing the event, which was last held in Pittsburgh in 2007.

Previous medal awardees include Eli Broad, Ratan Tata, Ted Turner, His Highness the Aga Khan, and the Rockefeller, Heinz, Mellon, Cadbury, Sainsbury, Hewlett, Packard, and Gates families.

Each of the medalists draws from Carnegie's principles, "taking philanthropy to new heights for commitment, daring, and vision," Gregorian said. The Hero Fund, joined by its sister funds in Western Europe, will be represented at the presentation, which will include a tour of Carnegie's East 91st Street mansion, now home to the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum.

✧ THE QUOTABLE A.C. ✧



The greatest force is no longer that of brutal war, which sows the seeds of future wars, but the supreme force of gentleness and generosity—the golden rule.

—From War as the Mother of Valor and Civilization, 1910



LATEST AWARDEES
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 19 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,262 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 2, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON JULY 1.

John A. Lloyd, 64, a retired teacher from Fernandina Beach, Fla., helped to save William G. Wynne, 7, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Fernandina Beach on May 25, 2007. William and his father were swimming when a strong current kept them from returning to shore. Lloyd, who had been walking on the beach, went out about 150 feet to them. He grasped William and struggled to return to shore, but rough water conditions and the strong current thwarted his efforts. Lloyd kept William afloat until two lifeguards arrived. One of them took William to safety as the other rescued Lloyd, who could no longer move his legs. William's father drowned.

Ross McKay Barfuss, 16, a student from Aloha, Ore., died attempting to save River Jenison from drowning in the Pacific Ocean at Gleneden Beach, Ore., on March 8 of last year. River, 11, was swept from the beach by the extremely turbulent surf and struggled to regain his footing in the nine-foot break-

ers. Ross, in another party, immediately entered the water for him but was felled by a wave. Regaining his footing, he made a second attempt but again was taken down by the surf and was soon lost from sight. River was recovered by others, but he could not be revived. Ross's body was recovered a month later.

Dairy farmer **James D. Crocker**, 52, of Valley City, Ohio, rescued Douglas K. Spielberger, 49, from a burning sport utility vehicle after an accident outside Crocker's home on Sept. 3, 2007. On its driver's side, the vehicle caught fire in the engine area. Unable to gain access through the vehicle's side doors, Crocker opened its rear hatch and stepped inside. Although the vehicle was filled with smoke and flames were beginning to enter it, he made his way to Spielberger, grasped him underneath the arms, and dragged him out of the vehicle, which was shortly engulfed by flames. Crocker sustained minor burns to his back, chest, and legs.

Shalinder Kaur Basran, 58, attempted to rescue Navreet K. Waraich, 23, from assault on Oct. 29, 2006. During an argument in their apartment, which was in a house in Surrey, B.C., that was owned by Basran, Waraich was stabbed repeatedly by her husband. Basran responded to the apartment's outside door and gained entry to the unit when the assailant opened the door. She saw Waraich lying on the floor, bloodied and pleading for help. When the assailant picked up a knife and approached Waraich, Basran grasped him and pulled him away. She took him outside and remained with him until police arrived. Waraich died of her wounds.

Marina manager **Richard Conine**, 49, and his coworker **Joshua E. Mattison**, 24, a yard worker, saved Charles L. Mingo from drowning in Harris Bay of Lake George in Queensbury, N.Y., on April 2, 2008. Ice fishing, Mingo, 62, broke through weakened ice into water about 15 feet deep and could not climb back out. Conine, of Queensbury, had been watching him from the marina. He took a rope and life ring to the end of one of the docks, where he was joined by Mattison, of Fort Ann, N.Y. Although the ice was deteriorating, opening sections of water, the men made their way about 800 feet toward Mingo, crawling the last several feet. Conine threw the ring to Mingo but could not pull him out. He and Mattison braced their feet into the slushy surface of the ice, pulled Mingo from the open water, and dragged him toward the bank. Responding firefighters took Mingo to safety in a hovercraft.

Clerc Higgins Cooper, 14, a student from New Orleans, La., helped to save two men from drowning in Lake Ponchartrain, New Orleans, on Jan. 13, 2008. Clerc and two friends were sailing when they saw a disabled boat at a point about 500 feet from shore. As they approached, it capsized, sending the two men and a woman into the 58-degree water, where they struggled. Clerc swam to the two men and gave a flotation device to one of them. She then swam to the capsized boat for a flotation device for the second man. As her friends returned the woman to shore, Clerc waited atop the overturned boat, which was carried toward a seawall. She and the two men were taken to safety by others.

Robert Ferrell, 14, student, died attempting to save his mother, Michelle A. Ferrell, 53, from their burning home in Jobstown, N.J., on Feb. 27 of last year. After fire broke out on the first floor of the house at night, Robert escaped the structure, as did a sister and brother. Realizing that their mother had not exited the house from her second-floor bedroom, Robert re-entered the structure and proceeded upstairs. Police officers who arrived shortly attempted to gain entry but were forced out by deteriorating conditions. Firefighters removed Ferrell and Robert from the second floor. Both had died of smoke inhalation.

Gregory Bryant, a delivery driver from Port Hadlock, Wash., attempted to rescue a woman from her burning house in Chimacum, Wash., on May 21, 2008. Sandra J. Bundy, 74, was inside her two-story house after fire broke out there and spread nearly to engulf the structure. Traveling nearby, Bryant, 20, saw smoke. He ran to the front door of the house, where he saw Bundy lying on the floor just inside. Despite blistering heat and flames that were consuming the house, Bryant crouched and entered it. He grasped Bundy and dragged her outside. Bundy died at the scene, and Bryant was hospitalized a week for treatment of serious burns.



A. J. Skiptunas III, D.O., spent a few days in the hospital after rescuing a woman from a vicious dog attack. Photo, by John Pavoncello, is courtesy of The York, Pa., Dispatch.



John A. Lloyd, a retired teacher, interrupted his daily walk on the beach to help rescue a 7-year-old boy who was drowning in the Atlantic Ocean. Lloyd hadn't swum for several years but was amazed at "how it all came back when I needed it." Photo by Wendi Zongker of The Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville.

Teacher's assistant **Beth MacDonald**, 40, died attempting to save her daughters Molly J., 11, and Jennifer R., 9, from the family's burning carriage house in Franklin, N.H., on March 23, 2008. The girls were spending the night on the second floor of the carriage house when an accidental fire erupted on the first floor. From the main house, the girls' parents discovered the fire. While their father reported it, MacDonald went to the carriage house and entered. The father followed her there, but deteriorating conditions thwarted his entry. Firefighters located Molly, Jennifer, and MacDonald in the structure, all victims of smoke inhalation.

Jeffrey M. McNeil of Midwest City, Okla., attempted to rescue John H. Gumm, 78, from his burning house in Midwest City on March 22 of last year. On duty, McNeil, 32, a police officer, responded to the scene, where he found significant flames issuing from the house and blocking its front door. He went to the rear of the structure and, despite intense heat and dense smoke that restricted breathing and visibility, entered through the rear door. Seeing Gumm about 10 feet ahead, he crawled to him, grasped him by the feet, and dragged him to the rear door. Gumm died at the scene, and McNeil suffered smoke inhalation, for which he required hospital treatment.

Christopher Hess, a project engineer from Philadelphia, Pa., saved Corey Baxter, 6, from drowning in the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia on April 19, 2008. Corey was in a car that left a parking area and dropped into the river. It sank in water about 12 feet deep. Hess, 28, responded and, seeing bubbles in the water, jumped into the river and in repeated dives searched for Corey. Learning that Corey was in a vehicle, Hess dived again, located the car, and opened its driver's door. On a final dive, he entered the car, found

Corey in the front seat, and surfaced with him. A marine officer took him to the bank by boat. Hess sustained cuts to both hands.

Courtney E. Butler, a 16-year-old from Stephenville, Texas, died attempting to save her friend Carlos Manzano, 19, from drowning in the Paluxy River at Glen Rose, Texas, on May 29, 2007. Manzano entered the river, which was flooded from heavy rains, and became caught in turbulent water at a low-water crossing. He yelled for help. Courtney immediately entered the river in a rescue attempt but also became caught in the turbulent water. Manzano was washed downstream, to where he clung to a tree until he was rescued by a sheriff's deputy. Also swept downstream, Courtney drowned.

Millwright **Christopher A. Howard**, 36, of Warren, Ore., rescued Matthew T. Lovo, 32, and his son, 7, from an out-of-control truck in St. Helens, Ore., on Aug. 7, 2007. Traveling at about 30 m.p.h. on a four-lane highway, Lovo was driving a tractor-trailer when he lost consciousness and fell to the floor of the cab. The rig crossed the highway as his son took over the steering wheel and turned off the ignition. Howard was approaching in his vehicle when the truck crossed his path. Seeing that a boy was attempting to control it, Howard ran after the truck, mounted the tractor, and entered. He stepped hard on the brake pedal, taking the rig to a stop.

Shawn William Edele, 31, a cable installer from Fruitport, Mich., died after helping to save his coworker, John P. Van Etten, 23, from drowning in Atlantic Ocean at Delray Beach, Fla., on May 31, 2007. Van Etten and Edele were wading and swimming in the ocean when Van Etten was pulled farther from shore. He tried to swim back but made no progress

against the current. Edele, who was in knee-deep water nearer shore, swam out to him and supported him to keep his head out of the water. A wave broke over and separated them. Edele was pulled farther out, but Van Etten managed to struggle ashore. Rescue personnel recovered Edele but could not revive him.

Mapleton, Ill., mayor **Kenneth A. Oedewaldt**, 63, saved David L. Peterson from a burning church in Mapleton on March 7 of last year. Peterson, 36, lay semiconscious on the floor of the wooden church after fire broke out in its furnace room. Oedewaldt, a retired chemical plant employee, entered the smoke-filled structure, went to the rear of the building, where the furnace room was housed, and found Peterson. In the dense smoke, Oedewaldt fumbled with the lock on the back door but was able to open the door. As he dragged Peterson outside, an explosion in the furnace room spread flames, which grew to engulf the building, destroying it.

A. J. Skiptunas III, 49, a radiologist from Wrightsville, Pa., rescued a friend, Mary E. Caldwell, 63, from an attacking dog in Windsor, Pa., on Oct. 6, 2007. Caldwell was campaigning in a neighborhood when a pit bull mix dog charged her, biting her severely on the leg and taking her to the pavement. When Skiptunas, who was nearby, ran to aid her, the dog lunged at him, biting him on the chest and then, hard, on his right hand. Using his left hand, Skiptunas pulled the dog off and pinned it to the pavement with his knee. Others arrived to secure the dog and tend to Caldwell. Both she and Skiptunas required hospitalization for treatment of their bite wounds.

Maintenance worker **Ledford Wayne Arthur**, 53, of Paint Bank, Va., saved his supervisor, Dennis D. Williams, 48, from being electrocuted while at work in New Castle, Va., on April 20, 2007. The men were repairing a commercial electric oven in the high school where they were employed. While removing a heating element from the oven, Williams received an electric shock, and his hands locked on the energized element. Standing next to him, Arthur saw him convulse and knew what was happening. He immediately lunged at Williams and pushed him away from the oven, feeling a shock as he did so.

Francis William O'Hara of Riverside, R.I., attempted to save Jose A. Orellana, 43, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Narragansett, R.I., on July 16, 2007. Orellana was swimming when a rip current took him farther from shore and prevented him from returning. Nearby on the beach, O'Hara, 48, an off-duty firefighter, became aware of the situation. He waded and swam about 150 feet to Orellana and then, hooking him by the arm, began to tow him to shore. En route, Orellana went limp, submerging his face. O'Hara repositioned him and continued toward shore. Orellana was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead of drowning.



2008 CARNEGIE HERO IS NATIONAL AWARD FINALIST

A posthumous awardee of the Carnegie Medal, **Travis Wayne Koehler**, was named one of the 51 finalists for the 2009 "Above & Beyond Citizen Honor," an award given annually in Washington, D.C., by the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. The finalists represent each state and the District of Columbia, and Koehler, of Las Vegas, was the Nevada finalist. He was nominated for his sacrificial actions of Feb. 2, 2007, by which he attempted to save a coworker from suffocating in a sewer system lift station.

Other Carnegie Medalists have been nominated for the honor in previous years, including **Jencie Regina Fagan** of Reno, Nev., and **John A. Lloyd** (see page 8), of Fernandina Beach, Fla., both in 2008. Fagan went on to capture the top award, which is given to U.S. civilians who demonstrate "service over self" by having made a difference in the lives of others through extraordinary heroism or extensive commitment. More information is available on www.aboveandbeyond365.com or through the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

The Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for valor in combat, has gone to 3,500 since its inception by Abraham Lincoln in 1861. The Above & Beyond Citizen Honor is presented by the surviving awardees of the Medal of Honor, now fewer than 100.



Mr. Koehler

Koehler, 26, a journeyman engineer, lost consciousness in the oxygen-deficient atmosphere of the lift station after entering it for a coworker who was lying unconscious in wastewater. Both men died, and a second rescuer was overcome but survived, albeit with severe respiratory distress.

FRIENDS REMEMBERED

TYPICAL WAS HIS CONCERN FOR OTHERS



Judge Gordon

Charles Gordon, 80, of Encino, Calif., died Jan. 30. Gordon, an administrative law judge for the state's Workers' Compensation Appeals Board, was awarded the Carnegie Medal for going to the aid of a lawyer being held hostage by a gunman in Gordon's courtroom in 1991. The lawyer, Lynn P. Peterson of Glendale, Calif., recalls, "Most folks would have taken one look at the situation and headed for a safe place to call the police, but not Judge Gordon. He walked directly into the courtroom, toward the guy with the gun while talking continuously in that low, soothing voice you use to put the kids to sleep—and then tackled him, sending both to the floor and the gun sailing across the courtroom floor.

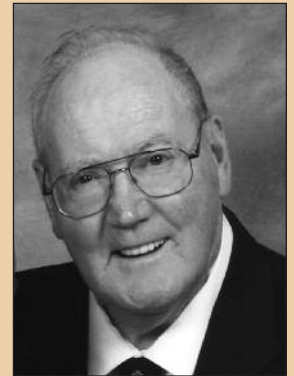
"When the state police arrived and started to pick the gunman up, Judge Gordon called out, 'Be careful! He has a bad back!'

"Typical of Judge Gordon and his concern for others. Also typical was his reaction to the various commendations he received as a result of his actions, among them the Carnegie Medal. He never understood what all the fuss was about. He felt he did what any other person would have done in the situation. I could never convince him that his was an extraordinary reaction to a difficult situation.

"He was a truly exceptional man who loved his family more than anything and always saw the good in everyone. He will be missed."

Darrell Van Etten, Sr., 68, of Reading, Pa., died Feb. 21. In 1986, Van Etten, then a 45-year-old construction foreman, saved a man from his burning car after an accident in Hamburg, Pa. Van Etten and his daughter, 23, witnessed the accident, in which flames entered the car's interior. After they opened the driver's door, Van Etten leaned into the car, unfastened the man's safety belt, and pulled him free. Both men were burned, but they recovered.

Kenneth M. Walker, Sr., 83, of Winter Haven, Fla., died Dec. 17. At age 30 in 1955, Walker saved three coworkers from a potentially fatal fall after a scaffolding malfunction on a Pennsylvania Turnpike bridge in Edgely, Pa. Walker clung to an I-beam 80 feet above the ground while effecting the rescue largely with his legs. Two other men dropped to their deaths. Walker, formerly of Exton, Pa., required 10 days' hospitalization for treatment of injuries sustained in the rescue and was awarded the medal in 1956.



Mr. Walker

BUILDING BRIDGES



"Ordinary heroes" was the theme of a character education class in the Bridges School of Paris, Ill., and the Hero Fund fit nicely into the curriculum. Teacher Carla Bridwell (kneeling second from left, first row) learned of the Hero Fund after reading about it in the local paper, and she contacted the office to inquire about a presentation. Obliging, Douglas R. Chambers, the Commission's director of external affairs, went to Paris in the spring to address the class, which is pictured here with two other teachers, and he found the experience as rewarding for him as it was for the students. "Bridges Safe School" is an alternative education program for students in grades 6-12 who display inappropriate behavior resulting in multiple suspensions or expulsion eligibility from regular schools. The program provides an opportunity in a community setting for students to work on developing anger control, positive social skills, personal responsibility, and job skills while continuing their studies. The core belief of the Bridges program, serving about 100 students in eastern Illinois, is that every student is valuable, and its goal is to help each become a productive and caring citizen. In addition to Paris, school sites are in Mattoon and Shelbyville.


Helicopter heroes recognized for saving flood-stranded couple

Officers in the aircraft division of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol typically use their helicopters for traffic control, searches, and transport. On Aug. 19, 2007, two state troopers working with a local fire chief effected a rescue by helicopter, the likes of which had never before been attempted by the agency.

It was on that date that a couple from Kingfisher, Okla., became stranded in their pickup truck in a stretch of farmland that was flooded by the heavy rains of tropical storm Erin. Troopers Brian Scott Sturgill, then 41, of Harrah and Joseph Edward Howard, 34, of Shawnee responded to the scene and with Randy Poindexter, 33, the Kingfisher fire chief, literally plucked the couple from the bed of their truck and lifted them, one at a time, to dry land.

Sturgill piloted the helicopter while Howard, the co-pilot, directed him, sometimes literally inches at a time, to positions that allowed Poindexter to make physical contact with the victims. Poindexter did so from a perch on the craft's skid, lifting first the woman, 66, and then her husband, 72, on a return trip.

The success of the mission was not assured, since none of the men had ever been involved in anything remotely similar to what they encountered. The muddy floodwaters masked submerged fence lines and other obstructions that would have caused the helicopter to crash had it struck them while hovering at the water surface. Compounding the challenge was taking aboard fully clothed, soaked adults in a craft already overweighted with the three rescuers. Further, neither of the victims could aid much in their grasp of the helicopter during transport, and in fact both fell back into the water on the first rescue attempt of each, causing repeated maneuvers.

The rescue was broadcast as it was occurring and was watched by the couple's daughter out of state. Suffering only minor effects from their ordeal, the couple quickly recovered and the next day shared "a big hug" with their rescuers. "We knew we were their only hope," Howard said. He, Sturgill, and Poindexter were named Carnegie Medal awardees last October and were presented with the medals at a private ceremony in the patrol's hangar in Oklahoma City in late February. 




Randy Poindexter, left, chief of the Kingfisher, Okla., Fire Department, and Lt. Brian Scott Sturgill of the Oklahoma Highway Patrol were given Carnegie Medals by the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, Douglas R. Chambers, at a private ceremony in the highway patrol's hangar in Oklahoma City. With a third rescuer, Trooper Joseph Edward Howard, the men performed an extraordinary helicopter rescue of two people whose truck was stranded in floodwaters.

Renovated Carnegie birthplace museum

(continued from page 6)

"In its new form," he said, "the museum will continue to be the foremost repository for Carnegie history and an integral part of the life of the citizens of Dunfermline."

The museum's upgrade is the second major initiative of Carnegie's Dunfermline interests in as many years. Last spring, all four of the U.K. trusts moved their headquarters to a new facility, the Andrew Carnegie House, located in the city's Pittencrieff Park, itself a Carnegie gift to the public. 

CONTINUUM



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 most recent annual report (2007) 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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FROM THE ARCHIVES

NOVA SCOTIA STEELWORKER'S HEROISM 80 YEARS AGO NOT FORGOTTEN

The Commission's annals attest to the heroic actions of industrial workers who, in an era when the workplace often proved dangerous, risked their own safety to assist coworkers facing a mortal threat.

One such act was that of Semko Sawczyuk, who left his native Galicia, a province of Austria-Hungary, in 1912 at the age of 19 to join other Ukrainian-speaking immigrants in the Whitney Pier section of Sydney, N.S. By 1928, he and his wife Domka had purchased their own home and had four children. Sawczyuk, then 35, had worked in the city's Dominion Iron and Steel Co. mill for 11 years and was a boiler washer. The mill was then one of the largest in the British Empire.

On March 15 of that year, Sawczyuk and coworker Alexander McNeil, 23, were cleaning a boiler at the mill. Extending one foot above a grate on which the men were standing was a horizontal shaft turning at about 55 revolutions a minute. Officials concluded later that McNeil lost his balance and fell backward against the shaft and that his clothing became caught and twisted around it. McNeil himself was then whirled around the shaft.

Sawczyuk attempted to free McNeil, but he too was caught by the revolving shaft and then was thrown onto the grate. Coworkers were immediately aware of the accident and ran to the scene, where they shut off the power to the shaft.

McNeil suffered severe head and upper body injuries and was dead at the scene. Sawczyuk, although conscious, was bleeding heavily. His left hand had been severed, and the rest of the arm was nearly torn off. The mill maintained its own hospital on the grounds, and Sawczyuk was taken there for treatment. Three days later the mangled arm was amputated surgically, but Sawczyuk did not tolerate the resulting shock and died the following day, leaving a widow and four children. Ten months later, the

Commission awarded the Carnegie Medal to him posthumously for his heroic attempt.

Although the province of Nova Scotia had a Workers' Compensation Board, which provided some monetary benefits to families of workplace victims, there were no other federal or provincial aid programs. Recognizing the family's need, the Hero Fund

approved a monthly grant to Mrs. Sawczyuk in an amount that exceeded her provincial benefit, and the grant continued until her death in 1974. During those 46 years, the Commission maintained close contact with Mrs. Sawczyuk, including personal visits by the Hero Fund's representatives.

Sawczyuk's granddaughter, Catherine Domka Covey, who taught in elementary schools in Sydney and Halifax and now lives in the New Glasgow area, often assisted her "Baba" with Commission correspondence. Although born after the death of her grandfather, she is well aware of his selfless act: "When I was a little girl and I heard what (my grandfather) did, it touched me to realize that he would do that... I'm very proud of him." ❏ —Marlin Ross, Investigator



Semko and Domka Sawczyuk on their wedding day, Sydney, Nova Scotia, April 20, 1912.

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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