



imPULSE

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CARNEGIE 'FAMILY' AWARDS MEDALS FOR PHILANTHROPY

Philanthropy is not charity. Philanthropy works to do away with the causes that necessitate charity.

With those words, Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, hosted the presentation of the 2009 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy in mid-October. Established in 2001 to mark the centennial of Andrew Carnegie's philanthropy, the award is given every two years by Carnegie's 20-plus endowed institutions, including the Hero Fund, to recognize those individuals and families with exceptional and sustained records of philanthropic giving.



Dr. Gregorian

"Private wealth serving the public good" is the theme of the Nobel-class award. The 2009 recipients helped establish and support non-profit organizations in the U.S. and abroad that span the fields of medicine, education, culture, and science. "Their philanthropic records embody Carnegie's ideals that with wealth comes responsibility," Dr. Gregorian said.

The awardees are...

- **Michael R. Bloomberg**, mayor of New York City
- **Rahmi M. Koç**, representing the Koç Family of Turkey
- **Gordon and Betty Moore** of the San Francisco Bay Area
- **Sanford and Joan I. Weill** of New York City

Additional coverage begins on p. 2



HIS FATHER'S SON

Although funerals for his father and grandfather were held only the day before, Chesterton, Ind., High School senior John M. Thanos, No. 44, played against Valparaiso, Ind., High School on Sept. 19 last year. Both teams circled John and his family in a pre-game moment of silence. John's father, **Mark John Thanos** (below, at right) and grandfather, **John Mikel Thanos** (left), died Sept. 14, 2008, while attempting to save an 11-year-old neighbor boy from drowning in a flooded ditch near their homes in Chesterton, and Carnegie Medals were recently awarded to their families (see p. 8 for a description of their heroic act).

John's father was a high school teacher and basketball coach and also coached John and his younger brother Michael in several sports. According to the boys, he was their biggest fan, often at the 50-yard line, shouting from the bleachers to the players, coaches, and referees. His widow, Victoria, told a reporter, "Mark has always been the type of person who did what needed to be done. There's no question that John had to play in tonight's game. He's his father's son." The boys' grandfather, known as "Papou," was a Korean War veteran and retired school custodian. John is now a student at Purdue University, and Michael is a high school freshman. Photo, by Thomas Quinn, and quotes are courtesy of the The Vidette Times, Valparaiso.





ENDURING MISSION EXAMINES PERSONAL MORAL DECISIONS

(At the recent Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy ceremonies in New York, representatives of a few of the Carnegie institutions presented brief descriptions of their mission and activities. Laskow made the following comments on the Hero Fund and its work.)

*By Mark Laskow, President
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission*

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission is the first of that small band of Carnegie creations that specialize in locating a particular kind of human behavior, investigating it, evaluating it against a well-designed set of standards, and judging that behavior against those standards. In this we have much in common with the judiciary, especially the criminal courts, but the similarity ends there. While the courts deal with one extreme and dismal end of the spectrum of human behavior, we deal happily with the other. We search the U.S. and Canada for those among us who have risked their lives to save other human beings.

The hero funds lie at the extreme end of another spectrum, as well. Other Carnegie-created organizations deal with broad issues of culture, science, and war and peace on a global scale. The hero funds deal with intensely personal moral decisions by specific individuals. Many of the heroic actions we recognize take place in great isolation—at sea, in the wilderness, or along a lonely highway. The rescuer could often make the anonymous decision to walk away, without repercussions. Even when a crowd is present, the rescuer has the option to remain a passive onlooker. The hero funds find and recognize those heroic individuals who do not walk away, those who do not remain in the crowd.

The Hero Fund has developed award criteria based on the original deed of gift from Andrew Carnegie and

our own 105 years of experience as hyper-specialist in the business of making awards. When I first came to the Fund, a mere 88 years into its existence, I was struck by the simplicity, elegance, and completeness of the award criteria as a means of evaluating the altruism of an actor in a rescue. The



Hero Fund President Mark Laskow addressed representatives of Carnegie's institutions at the Medal of Philanthropy presentation.

(continued on page 3)

Interests of 'the common man' are at heart of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy

Four individuals and families whose giving proves that they share Andrew Carnegie's ideal of devoting personal wealth to the common good are recipients of the 2009 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy.

Representatives of the Hero Fund joined colleagues from most of Carnegie's 20-plus other endowed institutions in New York City in October to give the award. Consisting of a bronze bust of Carnegie and a medallion, it was presented at an impressive ceremony in a hall of the New York Public Library. Bill Moyers, author, journalist, and host of *Bill Moyers Journal*, presided at the event, which was attended by past awardees, descendants of Andrew and Louise Carnegie, and a host of luminaries, including presenters Caroline Kennedy and David Rockefeller. Moyers joked that no room held such wealth since King Tut's tomb was sealed.

Sponsor of the event was the Carnegie Corporation of New York, which established the award in 2001 on the centennial of Carnegie's major philanthropic initiatives. Nominations for the medal are submitted by the various Carnegie organizations, and selection is by a committee that comprises their representatives. The committee is chaired by Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation, and its honorary chair is Carnegie's great-grandson, William Thomson of Scotland. Thomson, who was present along with fellow great-grandchildren Kenneth Miller of New York and Linda T. Hills of Littleton, Colo., and great-great-grandchild Louise M. Hills of Littleton, told the gathering that Carnegie was "surely looking down" on the event with approval.



Awardees of the 2009 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy, from left: Sanford and Joan I. Weill, Gordon Moore, Rahmi Koç, and Michael R. Bloomberg.

Carnegie's philanthropic career began in the 1870s. In *The Gospel of Wealth*, which he published in 1889, he outlined his philosophy of giving, asserting that the rich are trustees of their wealth and are under a moral obligation to reinvest it in society in ways that promote the welfare and happiness of the "common man." Carnegie believed that one who "dies rich dies disgraced," implying a lack of imagination or foresight in disposing of wealth for the good of society. By the time of his death in 1919, Carnegie had been true to his convictions: He had invested nearly all of his fortune of \$350 million—or \$4.5 billion in today's dollars—to advance education, science, culture, and international peace.

The 2009 medal awardees have a philosophy of giving in common with Carnegie, and they represent it in a diverse cross-section of commitment and geographic location. "By celebrating their philanthropic work," Dr. Gregorian said, "the Carnegie family of institutions seeks to highlight the importance of philanthropy in our modern societies. The medal is also an opportunity to celebrate Carnegie's philanthropy and the many contributions of the organizations he founded." The 2009 awardees of the medal:

Michael R. Bloomberg, the 108th mayor of New York City, was found by the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* to be the leading individual living donor in the U.S. in 2008. His \$235 million in giving that year is consistent with a pattern over the past decade of steadily increasing donations. Bloomberg has served and contributed to organizations promoting public health, medical research, education, arts and culture, and social services. He has been a major donor to Johns Hopkins University, where the university's school of public health is named after him. Known for funding both "tried-and-true" institutions as well as taking risks on less-proven programs, Bloomberg has brought attention to causes that, although solvable, have long been ignored, such as reducing tobacco use, improving global road safety, and removing illegal guns from city streets. Across all of his giving, there is a strong and

(continued on page 4)



Lucy E. Ernst rowing on Porters Lake, northeastern Pennsylvania, in 1905, the year of her heroic act

Descendants of early Carnegie hero share her courage and perseverance

Carnegie Medal awardee **Lucy E. Ernst** of Philadelphia, Pa., risked her life to save that of a cousin in 1905, and more than a century later, three generations of descendants can claim similarly remarkable feats. “Although small in stature, Lucy had a big heart,” says grandson Ed Weihenmayer, 69, of Amelia Island, Fla. “Her courage and perseverance have been passed down to her blood line, maybe by means of her genes but certainly through her character.”

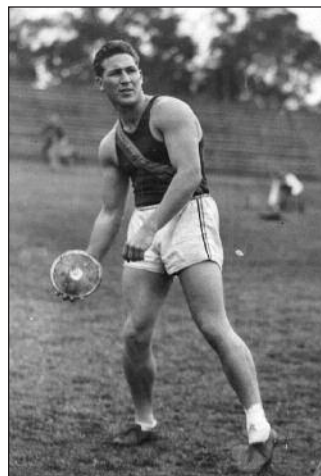
On July 8 of that year, Ernst, 20, and her cousin Harry E. Schoenhut, 16, were gathering birch bark in a grove about a quarter-mile from the clubhouse of the Porters Lake Hunting and Fishing Club in northeastern Pennsylvania when Harry was bit by a rattlesnake. The Hero Fund’s contemporary account is descriptive of what happened next:

“Miss Ernst, noticing that something was wrong with her companion, rushed to his side, but he hesitated to tell her what was wrong and rolled over on the ground, holding his left hand over the bite, about four inches from the shoulder. When he finally showed her the

(continued on page 6)



Great-grandson Erik Weihenmayer, most famous blind athlete in the world, uses the pitch of the ice when he taps it to determine a good place to strike his climbing tool



Son Barney Berlinger, outstanding amateur athlete in the U.S. in 1931

ENDURING MISSION

(continued from page 2)

Hero Fund has applied these criteria and made just over 9,300 awards in those 105 years, or currently about 100 a year, more or less. That is an annual rate of about one in 3.4 million residents of the U.S. and Canada.

I was inclined to claim that our responsibility for both countries made us the only multinational hero fund but hesitated because that implied an opinion about the status of Scotland vis-à-vis the United Kingdom. I’ll abandon my claim rather than join that discussion! *(I need not have worried. My friends from Carnegie’s U.K. Hero Fund Trust remind me that their mandate includes Ireland. There are, without a doubt, two multinational hero funds.)*

If we are to continue our mission for another century, we must be good financial stewards. The market crash of 2008 affected our portfolio as it did everyone else’s, but we had enjoyed good performance in the years preceding. As a result, the effects were unpleasant but survivable. We had good control of our budget going into the crisis and were able to flex expenditures down a bit to minimize the demands on the portfolio in the downturn. Like many U.S. foundations, we must deal with required payouts that are perilously close to the long-term real return on our investments. We meet payout requirements by adjusting the cash award that accompanies the medal, and in the face of the market crash, we used that flexibility to reduce the award somewhat. It is our experience that, while our awardees appreciate the cash award, it is secondary to the honor of receiving the medal.

When I became the seventh president of the Carnegie Hero Fund in 2001, a reporter with too much time on his hands called to ask about my plans for the organization. Since my predecessor had served for 22 years, he assumed that I surely had changes in mind. I replied that my mission was not change, but rather maintaining the Hero Fund’s unwavering focus on the enduring values of heroism and altruism.

That turned out to be true as far as it went, but in retrospect there have been changes. The first Medal of Philanthropy ceremony in 2001 acquainted us more intimately with the wider world of Carnegie’s philanthropy and in particular with our fellow hero funds in Europe. The subsequent gatherings in Washington, Edinburgh, and Pittsburgh, together with our centennial celebration in 2004, opened the world for us, and that has, in turn, changed how we handle important aspects of our work. In particular, we have become much more effective at communicating to awardees the history of the Carnegie Medal. For our centennial we produced a book and a video designed for this purpose. We also have begun to award selected medals in person. Finally, we are working to expand communications with and among the awardees. They seem to like that, and we do too!



COLORADO TRUCKER IS TWICE HONORED

Jorge L. Orozco-Sanchez, a “big-rig” truck driver from Firestone, Colo., was selected as the Goodyear North American Highway Hero of 2008, and then in September he was awarded the Carnegie Medal. Both awards were for his heroic actions following an accident involving his truck and a sport utility vehicle in Lucerne, Colo., in October of last year.

The sport utility vehicle, containing a mother and her two young daughters, ages 4 and 1, collided head-on with Orozco-Sanchez’s tractor and caught fire. With flames on the front of both vehicles, Orozco-Sanchez, then 30, used his fire extinguisher to break out a rear window of the sport utility vehicle. After releasing the older girl from her car seat, he removed her through the window and took her a safe distance away. Returning to the vehicle, he used the extinguisher to put out the flames on the vehicle’s other rear door. He freed the younger girl from her car seat, removed her from the vehicle, and took her to safety.



Jorge L. Orozco-Sanchez and wife Susie with Carnegie Medal

Orozco-Sanchez then returned to the vehicle for the girls’ mother, but intolerable flames and heat thwarted his effort. She died at the scene.

Orozco-Sanchez’s tractor and trailer were destroyed in the accident, and, having little to fall back on, he worried that he might have to pursue another line of work. The trucking industry learned of his actions and plight, however, and pulled together to make it possible for him to purchase new equipment and return to the road. Goodyear contributed new tires for both the tractor and the trailer.

Orozco-Sanchez was first recognized by Goodyear at the Mid-America Trucking Show earlier this year and again in October at Truck Show Latino in Pomona, Calif. Douglas R. Chambers, the Hero Fund’s director of external affairs was invited by Goodyear to attend the Pomona show, at which he presented the Carnegie Medal.

Orozco-Sanchez was nominated for the medal by Commission member Linda T. Hills, who resides in Colorado and read news accounts of the accident and rescue.

GRAVE MARKER PLACED

Edward Hoopes of Pittsburgh was joined by his daughters Pamela Hoopes, left, and Katherine Hoopes Mihm, both also of Pittsburgh, in placing a marker on the headstone of his mother’s grave. The bronze marker, cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal, is available to the families of awardees now deceased (see “Continuum,” p. 11). Hoopes’s mother, **Katherine Mansfield Hoopes**, after whom his daughter is named, received the medal for saving a woman from drowning in the West River at Guilford, Conn., on July 17, 1931.

Residing in Pittsburgh, where she was a graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology, Katherine Hoopes, then 26, was vacationing in New England at the time of the rescue, which she performed while fully clothed. Hoopes, who was 10 at the time of his mother’s death, says the medal is one of his most cherished possessions.



Interests of ‘the common man’

(continued from page 2)

consistent focus on innovation and a rigorous assessment of data. Bloomberg said he learned philanthropy from his parents while watching his father write checks to the NAACP from a modest bookkeeper’s salary.

The Koç Family of Turkey has an extraordinary legacy that began more than 80 years ago with the work of patriarch Vehbi Koç, an entrepreneur and humanitarian. The family has contributed to the growth of Turkey through a strong sense of obligation to its people and cultural heritage. Much of the family’s philanthropy is carried out through the Vehbi Koç Foundation, the first private foundation in Turkey and now one of Europe’s largest. Philanthropic efforts have been to improve the quality of the country’s healthcare and educational systems and to promote its cultural resources. One initiative was the establishment in 1993 of Koç University in Istanbul, which provides world-class education. The family also carried out numerous environmental projects through the Koç Group of companies and by supporting non-governmental organizations. Rahmi M. Koç, vice chair of the board of the Vehbi Koç Foundation, accepted the medal on behalf of the family.

Gordon and Betty Moore established the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation in 2000 with a gift of \$5 billion. The foundation focuses on environmental conservation, science, and the San Francisco Bay Area. The couple’s philanthropy is evidence-based, with giving to institutions and causes that they believe can produce significant and measurable results. In that spirit, the Moores and their foundation awarded \$600 million in 2001 to Caltech, one of the largest gifts ever to an institution of higher education, to keep Caltech at the forefront of research and technology. Other major gifts, to Caltech and the University of California, followed, to help build the world’s largest optical telescope, which has a mirror 30 meters across. Passionate about improving the quality of healthcare, the foundation approved the 10-year Betty Irene Moore Nursing Initiative in 2003, intended to improve patient safety and outcomes through nurse-led initiatives in acute-care hospitals within the five San Francisco Bay Area counties and beyond. Gordon Moore is founder of Intel.

Giving by **Joan and Sanford I. Weill** spans more than a half-century and totals more than \$800 million, according to *BusinessWeek*. Major beneficiaries include Carnegie Hall and Cornell University Medical College and Graduate School of Medical Sciences as well as the university’s Weill Bugando Medical Center in Tanzania. A long-time proponent of education, the Weills instituted a joint public-private partnership in New York City in 1980 that established the Academy of Finance, which prepares high school students for careers in financial services, hospitality and tourism, information technology, and engineering. Other beneficiaries are Sidra, a 380-bed teaching hospital in Qatar; New York Presbyterian Hospital; Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center; The New York Weill Cornell Medical Center’s Women’s Health Symposium; Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan; and Citymeals-On-Wheels. The couple raised a record \$60 million through a \$30 million matching gift for the Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall, which promotes music education in classrooms around the world. ☒

Carnegie's U.S., European hero funds share similar interests and concerns

Trustees and staff of the various Carnegie institutions who attended the Medal of Philanthropy presentation in October took advantage of being together at the biennial forum—a family reunion of sorts—to attend to other business. Representatives of four of the 11 hero funds that Andrew Carnegie established met in the offices of the Carnegie Corporation of New York to share aspects of their work and discuss issues that they have in common. Mark Laskow, president of the Pittsburgh-based Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, chaired the meeting. Also representing the Commission were members Carol A. Word and Linda T. Hills and Walter F. Rutkowski, executive director.

As the funds took a few minutes to share news of their activities over the past two years, it became apparent that each faces the twin challenges of identifying and factually establishing the heroic acts and then providing public recognition on a timely basis. The worldwide recession over the past year has also had its impact, with the U.S. fund reporting a decrease in its portfolio that imposed limits on both grant and administrative expenses.

Centennial observances were also discussed, as all of the funds were established from 1904 to 1911. The U.S.-based fund is the oldest of the group and observed its centenary in 2004 with a commemorative publication, video, and event. The U.K. Hero Fund Trust, based in Carnegie's native Dunfermline, Scotland, was established next, in 1908, and its first century was marked last year not by events, according to Nora T. C. Rundell, chief executive, but by giving commemorative gifts and issuing grants to its roster of beneficiaries. The Carnegie Rescuers Foundation of Switzerland, represented by Hans-Ruedi Huebscher, will observe the centennial of its 1911 founding with an event in 2012.

The meeting's participants spent considerable time discussing how to involve the other European hero funds in gathering regularly. In addition to the four countries represented, Carnegie established hero funds in Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, and Italy. Not all are active, as the German fund is in bankruptcy and the French fund—*Fondation Carnegie*, Paris, founded in 1909—has just announced that it is considering closing its doors and turning over its archives to the Franco-American Friendship Museum in Blérancourt and its remaining funds to the Franco-American Commission in Paris. That commission is considering creating a prize that would be named after Carnegie and that would help fund a joint school project between France and the U.S. The competition would include an essay on the meaning of heroism today and some research on Carnegie's life and work.

Hero fund representatives had the chance to get a look at Carnegie's personal life when they joined trustees of some of the other institutions for a tour of his East 91st

(continued on page 11)



Representatives of Carnegie's hero funds from the United States, the United Kingdom, Sweden, and Switzerland are, from left: Walter F. Rutkowski (U.S.), William Livingstone (U.K.), Carol A. Word (U.S.), Gustaf Taube (Sweden), Hans-Ruedi Huebscher (Switzerland), Agneta Ahlbeck (Sweden), Mark Laskow (U.S.), Linda T. Hills (U.S.), Angus M. Hogg (U.K.), Claire Gemmell (U.K.), David B.B. Smith (U.K.), Nora T.C. Rundell (U.K.), and William Thomson (U.K.). Hills and Thomson, cousins, are great-grandchildren of Andrew and Louise Carnegie.

TO THE HERO FUND

SLEEPS AT NIGHT

Thank you very much for the beautiful medal and the generous gift of money. I will cherish the medal my whole life. The money was a gift from God, as I am a dairy farmer trying to stay in business during a time of very low milk prices.

I would like to think anyone would have done what I did. A person has to live with their actions and be able to sleep at night. Thank you again.

James D. Crocker, Valley City, Ohio

Crocker was in his pajamas the evening of Sept. 3, 2007, when he responded to an overturned and burning vehicle near his property. He entered the vehicle through its rear hatch, made his way to the driver's seat, and then dragged the driver to the rear of the vehicle and outside. Crocker, then 52, sustained minor burns to his back, chest, and legs. He was awarded the medal in March.

CONTINUING TO AID

I am happy to inform you of my successful completion of the bachelor's of social work degree that I have been working on for the past six years. The convocation was in June and it was a beautiful day with my family and friends coming together to celebrate with me. I am the first member of my immediate family to have achieved a university degree, so this was really a big event for all of us. My family has greatly supported me throughout this process. We also all felt highly supported by the Commission since I received the Carnegie Medal.



Ms. Abbott

The Hero Fund's assistance with my education for the past several years was a true gift. I was able to completely focus on my studies and this was a huge relief! I completed my degree with a final grade-point average of 84.25%.

I wanted to send my sincere thanks and gratitude for all of your support. Thank you for assisting me in achieving my degree. I will use my education to the best of my ability to assist those in need. Currently I am working full time for the provincial government in the foster care program, supporting foster parents who raise children that are in care. This is a challenging, yet meaningful job. I am honoured to continue to give to my community in a positive way.

Lori Michelle Abbott, Regina, Sask.

Abbott was awarded the medal in 2006 for saving an 11-year-old boy from drowning after he broke through the ice on the Qu'Appelle River in Lumsden, Sask., in 2004. Then 26, she partially disrobed, entered the frigid water, and aided the boy to safety. Abbott is now a graduate of the University of Regina.



The author, at an 1812-era fort site in Macon, Ga., photographing historical etchings

IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME

*(Sept. 2 marked the 47th anniversary of the rescue act by **Charles S. Harris** of Ooltewah, Tenn., that resulted in his receiving a silver Carnegie Medal at age 21. We caught up with him when he nominated a hero for the award recently and, sensing a born writer, asked for his reminiscence. Harris is the author of one book, *Civil War Relics of the Western Campaigns, 1861-1865*, and the coauthor of a humorous book about hunting for Civil War relics with a metal detector, *Never Mace a Skunk II*. He and his wife Teresa are on the staff of a magazine about relic hunting, *The American Digger*.)*

*(In an interesting aside, Harris informed that in 1968 he crossed paths with another Carnegie Medal awardee, **Evelyn S. [Bryan] Johnson** of Morristown, Tenn. Johnson failed Harris on his first flight test for a pilot's license when he got into a "death spiral." A few months later she passed him "with flying colors. I learned a lot from that incident," he said. Harris went on to become an aerial photographer for the Tennessee Valley Authority.)*

*By Charles S. Harris
Carnegie Medal Awardee # 4675*

The Carnegie Medal resides in a prominent location in our home, but I rarely talk about it unless someone asks, or my wife, kids, or grandkids point it out to a visitor. Rarely do I bring up the medal or the story behind it. It is the gracious icing of an event that tragically happened to someone else, and I just happened to be at the right place at the right time with the ability to help someone in need.

My family were members of a boating club and normally each summer made three or four boat trips of 40 to 150 miles on holiday weekends. Over Labor Day weekend in 1962 about 20 boats made the downriver trip to Guntersville, Ala., a long peninsula that has

(continued on page 10)

Descendants of early Carnegie hero

(continued from page 3)

wound, she immediately put her lips to it and drew out some of the poisonous blood. The arm was turning black and swelling rapidly, and to accelerate the flow of blood, Miss Ernst secured Schoenhut's pocketknife and cut the wound. Not being satisfied with the success of her operation, she again placed her lips over the cut, doing this repeatedly while making their way to, and at, the clubhouse, which they reached after stopping once Schoenhut became too faint to walk.

"The clubhouse was deserted. It was seven miles to the nearest dwelling, 14 to the nearest railroad station, and 21 miles from Stroudsburg, where the nearest physician resides. Physicians did not arrive until four hours later, when they found Schoenhut to be out of danger. Miss Ernst had been relieved of her charge previous to their arrival, by other members of the club who had arrived. She fainted and was ill from the shock and excitement about a week. She had a fever blister on her upper lip, which prominent physicians say made it extremely hazardous for her to place her lip in contact with the poison. There was also danger of infection through the mouth..."

Ernst married and became the mother of an athletic son, Barney Berlinger, who in 1931 was given the Sullivan Award by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU)—the "Oscar" of sports awards given to the greatest amateur athlete in the country. Berlinger had won the decathlon championship at the Penn Relays in 1929, 1930, and 1931. At age 19, he represented the U.S in the Olympics in 1928 in Amsterdam, finishing fourth. He missed the 1932 Olympics because of a severe hamstring injury but later that year went one-on-one against the 1932 Olympic decathlon champion, Jim Bausch, in Madison Square Garden, beating him convincingly. In 1933, when all 10 events were still completed in one day, he set

(continued on page 7)

COLD WATER RESCUE ENDS ON WARM NOTE



On Nov. 1, 2008, **Chloe Van Alstine**, a 17-year-old high school senior from Wells, N.Y., rescued a man from drowning in the cold waters of Lake Algonquin, Wells. Ten months later, on a hot day in August, she was presented with a Carnegie Medal just yards from where the rescue took place. It was late in the afternoon on that November day when a man driving a sport utility vehicle near the lake lost control of it. The vehicle entered the lake and began to sink about 90 feet from the bank. The 48-year-old man escaped the vehicle but then floundered in the 10-foot-deep water.

Chloe, who was on the opposite bank after just taking a 1.5-mile run, witnessed the accident. She ran to the opposite bank and waded a few feet into the lake, but when the 50-degree water then took her breath away, she wondered if she should continue. It was only a momentary doubt. Chloe swam to the man, pulled his head above the surface of the water, and started back toward the bank. A man who had launched a rowboat reached them, and Chloe and the victim held to the boat as the man paddled them to safety.

On hand for the lakeside medal presentation were Chloe's father, John; the town manger, a number of friends, and newspaper reporters. Chloe had to be relieved of her duty as a lifeguard at the town beach for the occasion. Two weeks later, she started her first year at Ithaca, N.Y., College. Representing the Hero Fund was Douglas R. Chambers, director of external affairs, shown here with Chloe. Photo, by Christine Meixner, is courtesy of the Hamilton County, N.Y., News.

FIRE TRAINING

A demonstration of the risks encountered by rescuers in burning buildings was given to the Hero Fund's investigative staff in late October by MSA North America, the world's leading manufacturer of sophisticated safety products, based in Pittsburgh. The demonstration consisted of a "live burn" that was conducted at the Allegheny County, Pa., Fire Academy by the academy's instructors. Flames were started in one corner of a building designed



for the purpose, and Hero Fund staffers observed the characteristics—and quantity—of the smoke and heat that were quickly generated. MSA personnel on hand demonstrated the company's thermal-imaging equipment, which enables firefighters to see in smoke-filled environments, thereby aiding in search and rescue efforts. Those present at the demonstration included Al Wickline, far left, who is the academy's administrator; Priscilla J. McCrady, stooping, who is vice president of the Commission, and Jeffrey A. Dooley, far right, the Hero Fund's investigations manager. Dooley said the demonstration "brought home" the dangers of rescue acts taking place in burning buildings. Traditionally, rescues from burning—in either vehicles or buildings—are the most prominent type of case awarded by the Hero Fund.

Descendants of early Carnegie hero

(continued from page 6)

the decathlon's point-score record, losing 26 pounds in the process. His Sullivan Award was the second given, following the inaugural award in 1930 that went to golfer Bobby Jones.

Berlinger's son, Barney Jr., now 71, of Carversville, Pa., and Weihenmayer, his cousin—Ernst's grandsons—captained their respective University of Pennsylvania and Princeton University football teams in 1959 and 1961. Barney competed twice in the national decathlon championships, finishing 9th and 10th. Weihenmayer was an attack pilot for the Marine Corps in Vietnam, and two of Ernst's great-grandsons, Barney Berlinger III and Bill Hyndman V, flew helicopters for the Army in Bosnia.

Weihenmayer's son, Erik, 41—another great-grandson—is the most famous blind athlete in the world. Legally blind since birth and completely blind since age 13, Erik, of Golden, Colo., has skied the Alps, biked the length of Vietnam, and completed the Primal Quest, the world's most brutal adventure race. He is better known as the only blind person to climb Mt. Everest. Other climbing feats include the Seven Summits, the highest peaks on every continent; the 3,100-foot overhanging rock face of El Capitan in Yosemite National Park, Calif.; and the 3000-foot ice waterfall, Polar Circus, in the Canadian Rockies.

Two other great-grandchildren won U.S. national squash championships, Nina Porter receiving the 18-and-under women's title and sister Sophie Porter the title.

Golfing titles are abundant among Lucy's descendants. Granddaughter Gail Porter Anderson has won the women's golf championship at Wilmington, Del., Country Club 10 times. One of her sons, Chris, won the Delaware Open Golf Championship seven times, and another, Todd, won the Delaware and Philadelphia Junior Amateur Championships. Another great-grandson, Will Weihenmayer, won the Huntingdon Valley, Pa., Club Golf Championship at age 18.

"Lucy didn't run track or play football, squash or golf," Weihenmayer said, "but she set in motion a family that embodies the same qualities that she displayed in saving cousin Harry's life. She would be proud of her legacy." Ernst died at age 75 in 1961. ❧

LOST CENTURY-OLD MEDAL RETURNS TO HERO'S FAMILY

William Maher of Woburn, Mass., thought his grandfather's Carnegie Medal was gone for good. That is, until three months ago, when he received a call from the Hero Fund informing him that the medal was being returned to the office by Jeff Okso of Amherst, Ohio, who found it in his father's possessions.

Okso's father attended auctions and may have acquired the medal at one of them years ago. "I tried to find a connection between the families but couldn't," Maher said. "There was an aunt who lived out that way, but she did not know (Okso)."

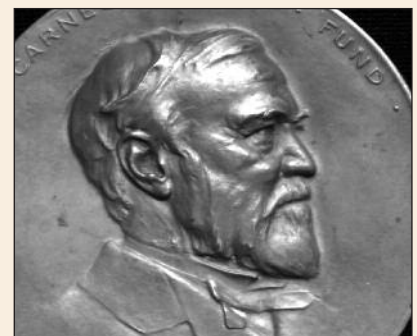
Maher's grandfather, **Thomas F. Maher**, a civil engineer, was awarded the medal to recognize his heroic act of September 29, 1906, when he rescued an 8-year-old boy from drowning in Dorchester Bay in Boston. "Overheated from working on a steam roller," his case summary reads, Maher, then 39, jumped from a dock, swam 25 feet to the boy, and returned him against the current to the dock.

The awardee died in 1937 at 70 after an accident in which he fell down a flight of stairs, but the medal keeps his memory alive. "It's amazing," his 81-year-old grandson, a retired microwave engineer, said. "I never thought I would see it again."

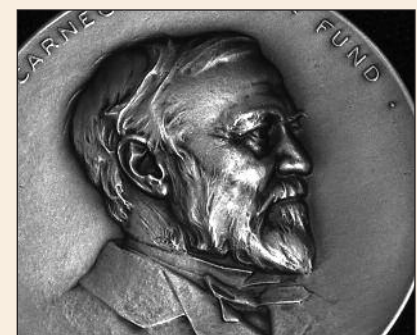
Like Okso's father, Maher's grandfather went to auctions. "I remember one time he came home with an electricity generator. He got it running and when you sat in a wooden chair, you wouldn't feel a jolt but your hair would stand on end," Maher recalled.

Maher received the refinished medal in late October and immediately shared it with his family. "We had

(continued on page 10)



before



after



LATEST AWARDEES
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 20 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,304 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON SEPT. 29, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON DEC. 22.

Mark John Thanos, 48, and his father **John Mikel Thanos**, 74, both of Chesterton, Ind., died attempting to save a neighbor boy, Douglas P. Zehner, 11, from drowning in a flooded drainage ditch near their homes on Sept. 14, 2008. Caught in the extremely swift current of water that was flooding the ditch after heavy rains, Douglas shouted for help and then was swept into a culvert. Mark, a high school teacher, and John, a retired custodian, responded from their home and entered the ditch, but they too were swept into the culvert. Douglas emerged safely from the other end of the culvert, but Mark and John were caught inside. They drowned. (Related story, p. 1.)

Jorge L. Orozco-Sanchez of Firestone, Colo., saved sisters Peyton, 4, and Morgen Nicklas, 1, from a burning sport utility vehicle after a highway accident in Lucerne, Colo., on Oct. 28, 2008. The girls remained strapped in their car seats in the vehicle after its head-on collision with a tractor-trailer. Both vehicles burned

at their joined front ends. Orozco-Sanchez, 30, the truck's driver, broke out one of the sport utility vehicle's windows, leaned inside, and released Peyton. After taking her to safety, he opened one of the vehicle's rear doors, leaned inside, and freed Morgen. Intolerable heat and flames precluded the rescue of the girls' mother, who was the vehicle's driver. (Related story, p. 4.)

Allen Drew Nelson, 29, of Brooklyn, N.Y., saved Josephine Harrison, 36, from drowning in the Colorado River at Dotsero, Colo., on July 14 last year. Harrison was separated from her inner tube while floating down the river and lost consciousness in the cold, swift water. Nelson, a laborer, had been fishing on the bank and saw her approach. He entered the water and, directing his course at an angle to intercept her downstream, bounced off the riverbed until he was in water over his depth. Intercepting Harrison, he securing a hold of her and swam to the opposite bank, which was closer, the current taking them 200 feet farther downstream.

Friends **Mark Barnard**, **Michael David Landry**, and **Andrew Douglas Hilderman**, each 21 and from Regina, Sask., rescued Julie E. Wharram, 25, from her overturned and burning automobile after an accident in Armstrong, B.C., on July 23, 2007. Wharram was trapped inside the car, suspended upside down by her safety belt. Traveling together, Barnard, a carpenter; Landry, an electrician; and Hilderman, a landscape manager, stopped at the scene. They fought the flames with available aids, but fire spread to the car's interior. Landry crawled partway through the driver's window and cut Wharram's safety belt with a knife. Barnard and Hilderman then reached inside and grasped her, and the

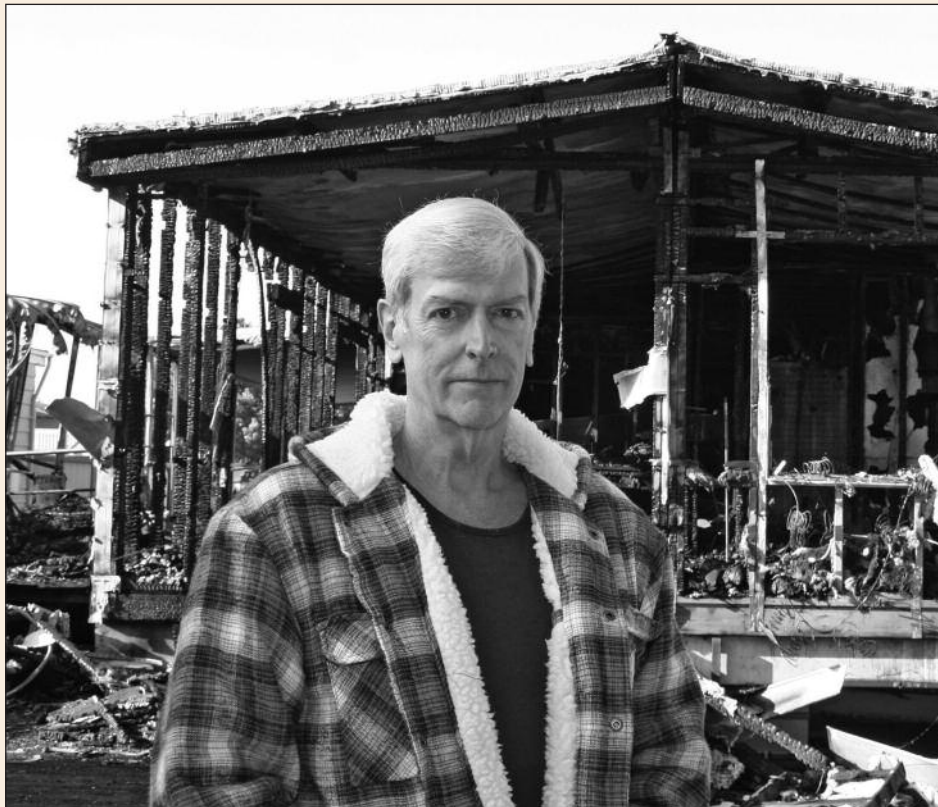
three men pulled her from the vehicle shortly before flames grew to engulf it. Wharram required lengthy hospitalization for extensive and serious burns. (See photo.)

Police officer **Timothy Tonkin**, 44, of Smithtown, N.Y., helped to save James A. Leone, Jr., 39, from drowning after his sport utility vehicle entered Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., at night on Oct. 12 last year. Dispatched to the scene, Tonkin swam about 60 feet out to the vehicle, which by then was submerged in deep water but for a few inches at its rear roofline. Using his metal baton, he broke out a window, reached inside, and pulled Leone out, but Leone's weight sent Tonkin deeper into the water. He surfaced but struck his face against the vehicle. A man in a dinghy had grasped Leone and with Tonkin held him to that vessel as they maneuvered it to the bank.

California Highway Patrolman **Robert Stanford Rand** of San Clemente, Calif., helped to save a woman from falling from an overpass in Laguna Hills, Calif., on Aug. 10, 2008. The woman, 22, stood outside a chain-link fence atop the overpass and threatened to jump the 50 feet to the highway below. Rand, 43, and other officers responded. As some of them attempted to secure the woman by holds through the fence, Rand stepped onto an inches-wide ledge outside it and moved about 65 feet to her, another officer following. They grasped the woman, but she struggled against them as she dangled over the highway. Rand and other officers pulled her back up to the overpass and held her to the fence until a fire truck arrived and lowered her and the officers to the ground.

Robert Villarreal, Jr., 45, of San Antonio, Texas, rescued a 12-year-old boy from a knife assault in San Antonio on Jan. 23, 2007. A 12-year-old boy was stabbed by a mentally ill woman in the kitchen of his home. Driving by, Villarreal, a customs and border protection officer, was alerted. He entered the house and, unarmed, approached the woman, who was restraining the boy with one arm while pointing a kitchen knife and carving fork at his neck. Villarreal lunged at the woman, wrested her away from the boy, and dragged her outside and restrained her until police arrived.

John Augustus Baker II of Brunswick, Ga., and **Joel Edmond Moody** of St. Simons Island, Ga., saved Sarah M. and Emily A. Wagner and Laura King from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at St. Simons Island on July 23 last year. Sarah, 19; her sister Emily, 15; and their friend Laura, 15, were on a sandbar about 300 feet off the beach when the incoming tide stranded them there. Responders included firefighters who were neither trained nor fully equipped for water rescue. One of the firefighters, Baker, 25, entered the water with a rescue tube, as did Moody, 45, a teacher, who had been walking on the beach. Having to swim across a strong lateral current and against the incoming tide, the men made their way to the sandbar. Baker positioned Emily and Laura on the rescue tube and returned to shore, pulling them, as Moody, also using a rescue tube, returned with Sarah.



Bruce A. Baxter of Petaluma, Calif., rescued an elderly neighbor from her burning mobile home. Photo by Victoria Webb of the Argus-Courier, Petaluma.



Robert P. Bercel of Richmond, Mich., pulled a man from an overturned and burning van after a highway accident. Holding his award certificate and his grandson Noah Bean, he is shown here with, from left, daughter Tiffany Bean, wife Linda, and parents Al and Sharon Schildt. Photo, by Todd McInturf, courtesy of The Detroit News.

Robert P. Bercel helped to save William J. Shepherd from his burning van after an accident in New Haven, Mich., on Sept. 28, 2007. Shepherd, 78, was trapped inside the vehicle, which came to rest on its driver's side after a collision with a tractor-trailer. The vehicles were only a few feet apart, with flames issuing from the front of the tractor and the exposed underside of the van. Bercel, 46, a laborer from Richmond, Mich., stopped at the scene, removed the van's windshield, and stepped inside. With flames growing on the outside of the van, he freed Bercel and backed from the vehicle, pulling him to safety. (See photo.)

Adam W. Lucas, 22, a technical support specialist from Manchester, N.H., and **Scott O. Clarke**, 43, a public works employee from Nashua, N.H., saved Lisa D. Ladd, 54, from her burning automobile after a highway accident in Sugar Hill, N.H., on Sept. 6 last year. When Ladd's car rolled onto its passenger side, fire erupted on the engine. Other motorists, including Lucas and Clarke, stopped at the scene. Lucas reached through the open window of the driver's door but was unsuccessful in freeing Ladd from her safety belt. With a special tool, Clarke cut Ladd's shoulder belt while Lucas supported her. Clarke then mounted the car, reached inside, and cut Ladd's lap belt. The men maneuvered her from the vehicle moments before flames increased to engulf it.

Accountant **Bruce A. Baxter** of Petaluma, Calif., rescued his neighbor Mary E. Newman, 87, from her burning mobile home on Dec. 22, 2008. Newman was in her living room after an accidental fire broke out in that room. Alerted to the fire by the structure's smoke alarm, Baxter, 58, gained entry through the front door and saw Newman, whose attire was aflame, in the far

end of the living room. He crossed the smoky room to her, lifted her from the couch, and patted out the flames on her attire. Grasping her, Baxter ushered her to the front door and outside to safety as flames spread quickly to engulf that end of the mobile home, destroying it. (See photo.)

Rosetta M. Albright, 47, of Sapulpa, Okla., died saving Havana Jastrzemski, 4, from the family's burning mobile home on Nov. 17 last year. Havana was in the bedroom in one end of the structure after fire broke out in the hall outside that room at night. Her mother and others, including Albright, escaped but realized that Havana and her grandfather were still inside. Albright

re-entered the mobile home and went through the burning hall to the far bedroom. Havana's mother received Havana as she was passed safely through a window in that end of the structure. Flames spread. The bodies of Albright and Havana's grandfather were found below the window.

Tanya M. O'Donnell of West Harrison, N.Y., helped to save Kinley S. McDonald, 10, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Chatham, Mass., on Aug. 31, 2008. Kinley was swept from a sandbar into deeper water and struggled against a strong current that took her farther from shore. From a point on the beach, Tanya, 17, an off-duty lifeguard from another municipality, waded and swam to Kinley and supported her but could make no progress against the current in returning to shore. A harbor patrol boat reached them at a point about 750 feet from the beach, and they were returned to safety.

Joseph F. Kelly, Sr., of Levittown, Pa., died attempting to save Jeffrey Williams from being struck by a vehicle on an interstate highway in Philadelphia, Pa., on Feb. 18, 2008. At night, Williams, 43, entered the highway in a wheelchair by going the wrong way on a ramp. Kelly, 55, driver, was approaching in his vehicle at that time. He parked in a safety zone just past the ramp, donned a reflective vest, and crossed the highway to Williams, calling out to him. Kelly was attempting to move Williams from his position at the far shoulder as a pickup truck approached, moved onto the shoulder without slowing, and struck them. Both men died at the scene.

Jacob T. Carr, 33, rescued his next-door neighbor, James J. Frings, Sr., 70, from his burning house in Jacksonville, Ore., on Nov. 15 last year. Frings lay in the living room of his house after fire broke out in the structure. Carr, a vascular technologist, responded to the front door of the house and opened it to intense heat, dense smoke, and ammunition that was detonating in the spreading flames. Carr called out repeatedly to Frings and then saw his hand at a point about 10 feet from the door. He crawled to Frings, grasped him about the forearm, and, retracing his steps, dragged Frings to the front door and outside to safety.



Twenty-one-year-old pals from Regina, Sask., teamed up to rescue a young woman from her overturned and burning automobile in Armstrong, B.C. From left: Mark Barnard, Michael David Landry, and Andrew Douglas Hilderman. Photo by Roy Antal of The Regina Leader-Post.



RIGHT PLACE

(continued from page 6)

various bridges and causeways leading to the community and waterside motels.

Just before noon on Sunday, Sept. 2, we were still in our motel taking it easy. One of the club members knocked on our door and told me to grab my camera and take photos of an accident about a quarter-mile out on a causeway. Two cars had collided and entered Big Spring Creek, an arm of Guntersville Lake. I ran to the scene, where I heard someone say that two young girls were trapped inside one of the cars, which was submerged in water 11 feet deep about 30 feet from the bank.

I removed my wallet, watch, camera, and glasses, jumped into the water, and swam to the location of that car. On the first few dives I tried to find an opening into the car, which was lying on its side, driver's side down. After finding the front passenger window open, I entered the car, each dive reported to me later as being one to two minutes each. On the seventh dive I found the first girl entangled in the pedals and pulled her out. She was revived on shore.

In repeated dives I found the second girl crumpled up on the rear parcel shelf. During the last dive, the front seat broke loose and jammed against the ceiling of the car. How I got out I still do not yet know. My father was timing the dives and believed I was a goner because of the length of the last dive. Although I removed the second girl from the car, she was too far-gone to be resuscitated.

Then I became an idiot. A wrecker appeared on the scene, and I took its cable, dived down, and tied it to the car's front bumper. That was the last that I remembered for about 30 minutes. Someone else pulled me out of the water, and it was better than 20 minutes before I could sit up without everything spinning on me.

I should have drowned that time and two others during my life and should be horrified of the water, but that is not the case. Would I do the rescue again if the circumstances presented themselves? Probably yes, even at the age of 68, but I could not swear to that statement. Only the good Lord knows.

MEDAL RETURNED

(continued from page 7)

a family dinner and passed it around the table," he said. "It was amazing to see it again." He added that he would make sure the medal stays in safe keeping now that he has it back. "I'm not going to lose it again, that's for sure."

—Melissa A. McLaughlin, Case Investigator

Last double awardee of medal dies, was cited for rescues in '63 and '91

Daniel Elwood Stockwell, 67, of Roxbury, N.H., one of only four double awardees of the Carnegie Medal in the Hero Fund's 105-year history, died Sept. 15 after a courageous battle against cancer.

Stockwell received his first medal in 1964 for his actions of a year earlier, by which he saved a young man from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Phippsburg, Maine. Then a 20-year-old college student, he fought the cold, rough surf to effect the rescue, which had already been attempted by another man. The other rescuer, **Dale Arnold Hatch**, 18, who was also awarded the medal, lost his life, but Stockwell prevailed, and the victim was spared.



DANIEL ELWOOD STOCKWELL

"Ordinary much of his life, but when the occasion arose, he was Superman..."

Well into his career as an educator in 1991, Stockwell, then principal of Monadnock Regional High School, Swanzey, N.H., faced every principal's worst nightmare: A 16-year-old boy armed with a high-powered rifle opened fire in the school cafeteria and then held 15 seventh-graders hostage in a classroom. In what the Hero Fund considered an exemplary display of duty well above expectation, Stockwell, then 49, entered the room and offered himself as a substitute hostage, thereby

freeing the students. Staring down the barrel of the gun for 40 minutes, he spoke to the youth until responding police could subdue him. The second medal was struck.

"Not once in his lifetime but twice did Dan show he had the fortitude to offer his life in behalf of others with no guarantee of safety for himself," Mark Laskow, Hero Fund president, said. "Any medal pales in comparison to valor of that extent."

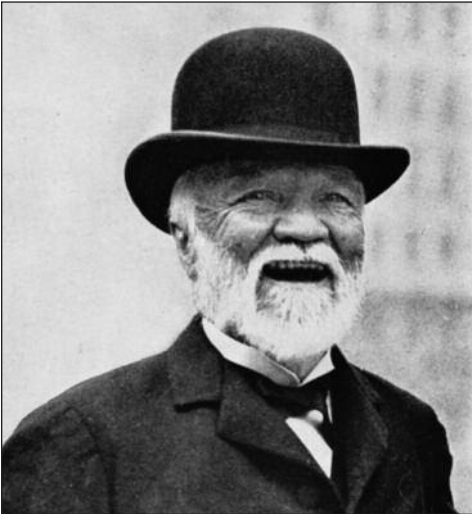
Stockwell's widow Merry gave this assessment of his courage to Anika Clark of The Keene, N.H., Sentinel: "He said to me that being brave is not being unafraid. It's doing what you need to do even though you're afraid. He was Superman...which of course means that he was an ordinary Clark Kent much of his life. But when the occasion arose, he was Superman."

The Hero Fund's association with Stockwell continued after his second rescue act. One summer about 10 years ago, he dropped by the office unexpectedly, and it took some convincing on his part to introduce himself, as he was in full-leather motorcycle attire. Stockwell was an avid motorcyclist as well as an award-winning horseback rider.

"We followed Dan's illness with the expectation that he would prevail again," Laskow said, "but the lesson now is this: Dan's death reinforces the mortality of us all just as his life showed the magnanimity of spirit of those who rise above themselves by giving without reserve."

The other double awardees of the Carnegie Medal are **Rudell Stitch**, a professional boxer from Prospect, Ky., who helped to save a man from drowning in the Ohio River at Louisville, Ky., on Sept. 16, 1958. Less than two years later, on June 5, 1960, Stitch, 27, died attempting to save another man from drowning at the same spot. **John J. O'Neill, Sr.**, of Yonkers, N.Y., a highway maintenance employee, twice rescued women who had fallen into the Hudson River from the Yonkers City Pier. The rescues occurred on May 5, 1954, and Dec. 29, 1956. **Henry Naumann**, a railroad crossing watchman from Hammond, Ind., was struck by a train each time he acted to rescue women attempting to cross the tracks in Hammond. The first heroic act, on June 16, 1924, was successful, but Naumann lost his right leg in the second incident, on March 30, 1927.

✦ THE QUOTABLE A.C. ✦



*The workman who rejoices
in his work and laughs
away its discomforts is the
man sure to rise, for it is
what we do easily, and
what we like to do, that
we do well.*

—From *The Empire of Business*, p. 295

FRIENDS REMEMBERED



Mrs. Jaguszczak


Natalia Lobur Jaguszczak, 84, of Marianna, Pa., died Sept. 19. She was the widow of **Stephan Jaguszczak**, who was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously for his actions of Nov. 7, 1960, by which he attempted to save a man from suffocating in a railroad tank car at a food plant in Pittsburgh. The car had been used to transport tomato paste, and when the victim lost consciousness inside it, Jaguszczak and another coworker entered to rescue him. Both rescuers died in the attempt, but the victim survived. Mrs. Jaguszczak was given a monthly grant by the Commission to help her meet living expenses, and over the years Hero Fund staffers developed a relationship with her since she lived near Pittsburgh and had no close relatives.

Leon A. Williams, 83, of Marrero, La., died June 13. Marrero was awarded the Carnegie Medal for helping to save a man from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico on August 14, 1960. The victim was a crewman of a ship that capsized and began to sink about four miles from shore, and he was trapped in an airspace. Williams, then 35, was the captain of another vessel that arrived at the scene. Wearing breathing equipment, he and a diver entered the capsized boat repeatedly, having to dive 16 feet. After locating the victim, Williams surfaced so that the victim could have use of his air mask. The victim was freed after being trapped for five hours.

European hero funds

(continued from page 5)

Street mansion, which was built in 1902 and served as the Carnegie Family home until 1919. Now home to the Cooper Hewitt Museum, the structure is essentially true to its period, with much of its appointment intact. By addressing their respective areas of activities, trustees of the Carnegie institutions meeting at the museum hinted at the full scope of Carnegie's interests and funding (see "Boardnotes," p. 2). In addition to the hero funds and the Carnegie Corporation of New York, institutions represented included Carnegie College of Dunfermline, Carnegie Hall of New York, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, the Carnegie U.K. Trust, Carnegie Mellon University, Carnegie Library and Museums of Pittsburgh, and others.

Further insight of Carnegie's mind as pertaining to his philanthropy was provided by David Nasaw, author of a recent biography, *Andrew Carnegie*. In addressing what motivates people to give—human nature? religion? guilt?—Nasaw said the question as applies to Carnegie should be, *Why doesn't everyone give?* Philanthropy was natural for Carnegie, Nasaw said, and he viewed himself a trustee of his money in channeling it for the benefit of others. 

✦ 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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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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FROM THE ARCHIVES**TRAGIC RESCUE ATTEMPT IN TEXAS**


It was the Fourth of July, 1922, and **Guy L. Stanford**, his wife, and their four children were camping at Picnic Bend, on the north bank of the North Concho River, in San Angelo, Texas. Normally the stretch of the river near where the family had pitched a tent was 100 feet wide and shallow, but the previous day it had rained heavily and the river had risen to overflow its banks, at one point reaching 10 feet in depth. The normally calm river had become a muddy, surging stream.

Stanford had told his children and two friends who were visiting not to enter the water, but while he was tending to his infant daughter, one of the friends, a 17-year-old girl, waded through the shallow floodwater on the bank of the river and then continued farther out. Suddenly she lost her footing and began to be pulled downstream by the swift current. She screamed, attracting the attention of Stanford.

Stanford left the tent and, when he saw what was happening, ran to the water's edge. Reaching it required him to crawl through a barbed-wire fence.

A shoemaker, Stanford, 39, was of average height but was slight of build at 120 pounds. Although he was thought to be at least a good swimmer, his physical condition was somewhat weakened by a kidney ailment. Despite that, Stanford waded into the river and proceeded to the girl, who had managed to grasp hold of a tree stump rising out of the water. She continued to scream.

At the stump, the water was wadable at three-and-a-half feet, but its swift current negated any advantage to Stanford or the girl of being able to touch bottom. Stanford reached out to the girl, but she lunged at him and grasped him by both of his shoulders. The jolt was enough to cause Stanford to lose his footing, and both he and the girl were pulled downstream by the current. With Stanford's children watching from the bank, Stanford struggled to swim out of the current, but the added weight of the girl, who was still clutching him, overcame his effort. Stanford and the girl submerged, and then Stanford resurfaced briefly before submerging again. He continued in that fashion for about 500 feet before submerging a final time. Their bodies were found two days later. Both had drowned.

On the day following the rescue attempt, another resident of San Angelo—Carnegie Medal awardee **Charles F. Hull**—reported the heroic act to the Commission after learning of its particulars. That November, after a thorough investigation in San Angelo, the Hero Fund awarded a bronze medal to Stanford's widow, Ethel, and a monthly grant, which continued until her death in 1981 at age 95. Visits to Mrs. Stanford over the years by the Hero Fund were appreciated by her. She told one such visitor that she considered the representatives as sons and had yet to encounter a "dud" among them.  —Marlin Ross, *Case Investigator*

Two of Guy and Ethel Stanford's children in about 1925: J. A., on the family burro, and Juanita. Juanita's son, Stephen L. Mayo of San Antonio, Texas, is now in possession of his grandfather's Carnegie Medal. Although born years after his grandfather's heroic act, Mayo knew some of the details of the incident as told him by his elders.

