



imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 22 • JUNE 2010



OVERPASS RESCUE

Unsecured, **Michael William Stoney** of Tustin, Calif., struggled to keep a suicidal woman from falling 35 feet from the inches-wide edge of a highway overpass in Dana Point, Calif. In April, he and passerby **Scott T. Hartigan** of Capistrano Beach, Calif., were each awarded the Carnegie Medal for their roles in the rescue. Details of their actions—and of those of the 20 other latest awardees of the medal—are on pages 7, 8, and 12. (Photo by Eddie Schneckloth, Park City, Utah.)

Caring for her sick child prepared new Carnegie hero to act in crisis

By Stacy L. Behan • Carnegie Medal Awardee #9344

I am a stay-at-home mother of two and have been for the last nine years. Our younger son Conor, who was born in 2002, has had many difficulties in his young life. When he was 10 months old, he was diagnosed with a bleeding disorder—his platelets don't function properly. Often he would have unstoppable nosebleeds and other issues due to this disorder, requiring many hospital stays.

When Conor was 2, he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. He also had cancer in his spinal fluid, which put him at high risk for relapse. Conor's protocol was for three and half years, and it was a grueling, uphill battle to beat the disease. During that time, we befriended many other families going through the same fight our son was in.

Nothing in my life had prepared me for the emotional roller coaster that was then Conor's journey. We were in a position where we had to watch young children lose their lives to cancer, and it really took a toll on what ultimately becomes important, life. Conor taught me that life is the most important gift and should be valued, even if many things are beyond control.

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Carnegie Medal awardee Stacy L. Behan and husband Michael with sons Brendan and Conor.



BOARD NOTES

CONNECTED TO HISTORY: PEOPLE, EVENTS INTERTWINE

By Mark Laskow, President Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



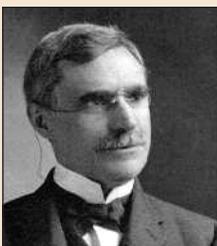
The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission is not a historical society in the sense that most use that term. While our work honors heroism, and its attendant moral values are of perpetual importance, our daily focus is on the here-and-now

task of finding and recognizing heroic acts. Yet we are as interested as most in the people and events that gave birth to our organization and shaped its early development. They are intertwined in unexpected ways, and the connections persist to this day.

You will read in this issue of our recent visit to the house in Cresson, Pa., which Andrew Carnegie and his family occupied in the summers of 1874-1886. It was the site of pivotal events in his life. In that last season in Cresson, Carnegie's mother Margaret died of pneumonia as Carnegie lay seriously ill of typhoid. While devastated by his mother's death, Carnegie was also freed to marry Louise Whitfield. Their great-grandchild, Linda Thorell Hills, is a member of the Commission and participated in the visit to Cresson.

Before that trip, Linda enjoyed dinner with Thomas L. Wentling, Jr., another member of the board. Tom, a member of the Commission for 19 years, is the great-grandchild of Thomas Lynch, a business associate of Carnegie and one of the original members of the Commission.

Lynch was president and general manager of the Frick Coal and Coke Company and was in charge of coal mine operations in the Connellsville, Pa., district. In January 1891, he was called to the scene of a massive mine explosion that killed 109 miners. Contemporary reports are that Lynch himself entered the mine in the effort to locate survivors and remove



Thomas Lynch



Thomas Lynch Wentling, Jr

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Carnegie's "Braemar Cottage" in Cresson, Pa.

Early Carnegie thinking on heroism penned at his summer retreat cottage

Louise McCartney Frederick is well aware of the history of her 14-room home in the small, one-time resort town of Cresson, located in the Allegheny Mountains of west-central Pennsylvania.

The house was once owned by Andrew Carnegie, who bought it in 1873 for use as a summer retreat. He called it "Braemar Cottage," naming it for an area in the Highlands of his native Scotland. Of significance to the Hero Fund is that on Aug. 14, 1886, Carnegie wrote a letter on Braemar stationery containing his thoughts on civilian heroism: *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.*

Carnegie was responding to news accounts of the drowning of a young man in a rescue attempt in his hometown of Dunfermline, Scotland, three weeks earlier. The original letter, acquired by the Hero Fund in 1999 and reproduced on page 3, addresses Carnegie's intentions on donating to a memorial for the young man, William Hunter, but its broader sentiments were carried forward to 1904 when he established the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

The cottage, and his time in Cresson, figured prominently in Carnegie's life. Sitting on tableland between the summit of Allegheny Mountain and Laurel Ridge, "Cresson became a popular and prestigious health and recreational resort when its springs were discovered to have medicinal value, and holiday seekers discovered the pure mountain air," according to Sr. Anne Frances Pulling, writing in *Around Cresson and the Alleghenies*.

Surrounded by hundreds of forested acres criss-crossed with riding paths, the Cresson springs were recommended by a local physician. At his urging, a hotel was built in the



Braemar Cottage has been in the family of Louise A. Frederick, center, since 1932. She hosted a tour of her home by Hero Fund representatives, including Mark Laskow, left, president of the Commission, and Linda Thorell Hills, a member of the Hero Fund board.

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Summer retreat cottage

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late 1800s on the hillside adjacent to the rail line. The “Mountain House” could accommodate 900 guests, and it provided kitchen services to those, such as the Carnegies, who preferred to live in their own nearby cottages. The sun in the mountains, tempered by cool morning and evening breezes, made a welcome contrast to summers in the congested cities of Pittsburgh and New York where Carnegie normally lived from June until late October. The cottages’ wide, sheltering verandahs and floor-to-ceiling windows were designed to catch breezes.

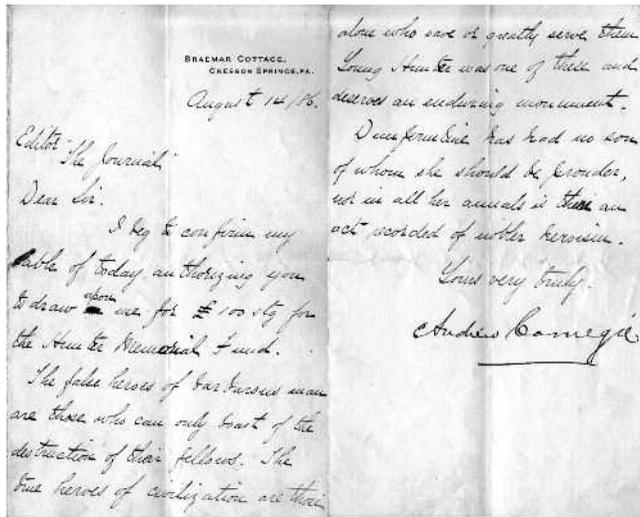
Ironically, despite the healthful environment, Carnegie and his mother, Margaret Morrison Carnegie, suffered severe illnesses at Cresson. Mrs. Carnegie died of pneumonia there in November of 1886 while Andrew lay ill of typhoid fever. He recovered and went on to live another 33 years but never visited Cresson again.

Frederick’s family came into the picture in 1932, when her parents Hugh and Alice McCartney moved their 10 children—an 11th was born two years later—into the cottage. “The house was much larger than our previous home and it scared us a little at first,” Frederick says. “My first impression was seeing a huge front porch and then opening the front door and finding 14 spacious rooms to explore. On our first night in this gigantic house we slept on the floor because our beds had not been assembled yet.

“Mamma told us that the house once belonged to Andrew Carnegie, the great steel baron. Mr. Shields, at Cresson High School, told the same story to some of my older siblings. I remember that there was a frame from an old sink in the cellar, with Andrew Carnegie’s name inside. This served as some proof that the story was true. Mamma most likely burned it for firewood at some point. Too bad, for it surely would be worth some money these days.”

Frederick’s proofs of the house’s legitimacy are now more sophisticated. She has a copy of the 1873 land lease by Cresson Springs Company to Carnegie and points to a 1931 book, *Millionaires and Grubb Street*, by James Howard Bridge, a Carnegie associate. The “little frame cottage at Cresson Springs in the Alleghenies” is pictured in the book, and major Carnegie biographers, including Joseph Frazier Wall, Peter Kraas, and David Nasaw, all write of the times he spent there.

That era in Carnegie’s life holds great interest for one of his great-grandchildren, Linda Thorell Hills of Littleton, Colo., who is a member of the Hero Fund’s board. She and other Hero Fund representatives visited Cresson in April and were welcomed into the cottage by Frederick, who let her guests roam freely throughout the structure. After 78 years, Frederick was as delighted to meet a member of the Carnegie Family as Hills was to visit the home of her ancestors.



The text of Andrew Carnegie’s Aug. 14, 1886, letter, on Braemar Cottage stationery, to the editor of the Edinburgh, Scotland, Journal: “Dear Sir: I beg to confirm my cable of today authorizing you to draw upon me for 100 pounds sterling for the Hunter Memorial Fund. 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 these and deserves an enduring monument. Dunfermline has had no son of whom she should be prouder, nor in all her annals is there an act recorded of nobler heroism.”

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BOARD NOTES

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the bodies of the dead miners. It was a tough year for miners in the district and for Lynch. Nine striking miners were shot during a prolonged strike at a nearby mine. The deaths are variously attributed to sheriff’s deputies and Pinkerton guards.

Lynch’s industrial travails proved a turning point for him. According to the Waterford County Museum in Ireland: “Lynch took these tragedies very seriously, and for the rest of his life he strove to improve the safety and working conditions of his miners. Lynch is credited with having coined the phrase ‘Safety First,’ and he had safety guidelines (these were printed in different languages for the immigrant workers) posted at all the mine sites.”

The Colorado School of Mines Magazine (September 1911) reported that Lynch sent four men to Europe to study safety procedures there, and he even established a safety competition among mine superintendants. Most telling, the company spent money on safety. “That the Company has been thoroughly convinced of the great need is proven by the money it has spent and is spending to make its mines and mining and surface works safe places to labor,” the magazine reported.

The parallel with Carnegie’s life is intriguing. There are frequent suggestions that Carnegie’s philanthropy was motivated by the Homestead Strike of 1892. His recent biographer, David Nasaw, has turned up documentation that Carnegie was planning his massive philanthropic campaign as early as his 1887 marriage to Louise, years before the catastrophic strike. There is no doubt at all, however, that the Harwick mine disaster of 1904 led Carnegie directly to establish the Hero Fund that year. Both Lynch and Carnegie turned tragedy into progressive action.

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RESCUED, RECOVERING, AND APPRECIATIVE

On an early-April visit to Pittsburgh, where she has been accepted by Carnegie Mellon University, Loren B. Schaller, 18, seated at left, and her mother, Linda, right, residents of San Francisco, Calif., stopped by the Hero Fund’s offices to express their appreciation for assistance given by the Hero Fund to Loren. Three years ago, on May 19, 2007, Loren was



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DOING RIGHT ERADICATES FEAR

On behalf of my brother John and myself, we would like to offer you our sincere gratitude for selecting us as recipients of your most prestigious award. Words alone cannot express the humble yet exhilarating feeling we experienced when we received your letters selecting us for this distinction.

We are deeply grateful for your award as well as for the opportunity to save a man who means so much to so many people. Sometimes doing the right thing eradicates all fear and any danger that may be present.

Once again, we thank all the commissioners, your staff, and the foundation for the award and God for giving us the privilege of helping another human being.

Lawrence F. Kelly, Beaver Meadows, Pa



Kelly, left, and his brother John F. Kelly of Drums, Pa., were awarded medals in April (see page 7) or saving a friend from drowning after he fell through the ice on a lake while ice fishing.

FATE CHANGED

I suppose that many of the people acknowledged by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission may have not realized it at the time but they have changed fate for future generations. It's quite amazing to our family that using the power of the Internet we were able to find this information and that the memory of this incident that so profoundly affected our family is still documented somewhere and, heroic acts are not forgotten.

Joel Ives, Fair Lawn, N.J.

Ives is the nephew of Roy and Ida Wenitt, who were saved from drowning in East Chester Bay,

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Medal and memory of 1919 hero live on, through members of his extended family

When given a Carnegie Medal by her 89-year-old father that had been in the family for years, Sarah E. Whitis of Klamath Falls, Ore., had a double mystery on her hands: Whose medal was it? And if it did not belong to a member of the family, would the awardee have descendants that she could track down?

Stuck in its original presentation case, the medal did not provide ready access to its cartouche—the decorative panel on the reverse side bearing the embossed name of the awardee. Whitis was hesi-

tant to force the medal from its mount, fearing damage to it or to the case. She knew only that the medal was handed down to her mother, who died in 1988, from her mother, who died in 1963, and that it may have been awarded to Whitis's grandfather.

"If the medal was not awarded to a family member," Whitis said, "I would have liked to return it to the awardee's family. I believe it is something families should pass down to their kids along with the story (of the heroic act). I love the stories you have preserved." Whitis reflects Andrew Carnegie's thinking in establishing the Hero Fund in 1904. "The medal shall recite the heroic deed it commemorates," he wrote in the Deed of Trust, "that descendants may know and be proud of their descent."

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Sarah E. Whitis with Carnegie Medal awarded posthumously in 1920 to the brother of her step-grandfather

Caring for her sick child

(continued from front cover)

The evening of the crash, I was up watching Conor to make sure he was not bleeding. He had lost a tooth earlier in the day, and I was worried that he may need to go to the hospital to have his doctors monitor the bleeding. I had just gotten him a glass of water and was settling him back to bed when my husband and I heard the crash, about a quarter-mile from our house. I could see the flames from our bedroom window and knew immediately that time was of the essence if we were going to be able to help someone. I started running for the car, and my husband phoned 911.

When I reached the car, I didn't think of anything other than getting the young man out. I think the danger of the situation caused my adrenaline to kick in, and I was able to wedge the door open, unbuckle him, and pull him to his safety, away from all the flames. He was already burned, and his breathing was erratic, due to smoke inhalation. I know that I saved his life, but I have to give credit where credit is due. My son Conor has taught me to act in a crisis. He has been such an inspiration in my life and he is the reason I was able to save that young man's life.

Conor is two years in remission from his cancer, but he will have to deal with the ramifications of radiation therapy and chemo for the rest of his life. He is a special needs child who has profoundly affected who I am today and who I was the evening of the accident. ❧

(Behan, of Tivoli, N.Y., was awarded the Carnegie Medal in April. See page 8 for further details of her heroic act.)

Replacement of stolen Carnegie Medal secures hero's place in family's history

By Nola Singleton Camaliche • Granddaughter of Carnegie Medal Awardee #1991

Returning home from work one day in February, I found a small package leaning on my front door. Little did I know how this package would affect me, as well as my dear father, who is 85. I carefully opened it, unfolding the cardboard flaps on one end and then gently unwrapping the tissue paper to find a beautifully crafted cherry wood box inside. Lying on the satin and velvet lining of the box was a bronze medallion of exquisite craftsmanship bearing an embossed accounting of my grandfather's sacrificial rescue actions. I felt an enormous sense of pride as I flashed back to my youth and the story of my family's heirloom Carnegie Medal that my father affectionately spoke about.

It was 1924 when my grandfather, **Noah T. Singleton**, died at age 40 while attempting to save a friend from drowning in a cove of Beard Lake at Midland, Texas. The following year, the medal was presented to my widowed grandmother, Della Mae Singleton, along with a monthly grant to help her meet living expenses. My grandparents had five children, and at the time of my grandfather's death my grandmother was carrying unborn twins, my father and his sister. Even though my father never got the opportunity to meet his own father, he was repeatedly told of his father's act of bravery and was shown the medal. When my father became a young man, the country was at war and he enlisted in the military. My grandmother gave him the medal to serve as a reminder of his noble heritage and to bring him luck and protection.

During his entire tour with the Army in World War II, the Carnegie Medal was always with my father. Sadly, it was stolen, along with other personal belongings, while he was en route across Texas returning home. My father had been riding in a truck, and during a stop for coffee his duffle bag was taken from the back of the vehicle. Needless to say, he was heartbroken. He never did recover the medal. As far back as I can remember, even to a tender age, I can recall his sadness when he spoke of it.

Motivated by a saddened and aging father and inspired to bring new awareness of this great story to our growing family, I inquired of the Hero Fund about replacing the medal. I was informed that medal re-issuance fell under stringent policies because of the number of requests, made not only by the awardees—totaling more than 9,000 over the past 106 years—but by the exponentially increasing number of their descendants. After much effort in documenting events, I was informed that a replacement medal was authorized.

I did not realize just how much of an impact the decision would make. As I recalled the story of my grandfather being awarded the medal, and coupled with holding its replacement in my own hands, I came full circle in understanding fully my father's passion for it. I now sense his feelings of loss and sorrow at having the original medal stolen from him, and I also sense enormous pride in being a direct descendant of a noble and heroic man, one who gave his life for another.

My father was unaware of my efforts to get a replacement medal. When I gave it to him, his eyes swelled with tears, and his normally steady hands shook a bit with excitement. Usually not at a loss for words, he became choked up, and all his crackling voice could muster was, "How can this be?"

The entire room was filled with a sense of promise, a promise to continue our family's legacy of having a good name and a great man among its generations. ❧



Noah T. Singleton, Jr., of Price, Utah, with a duplicate of his father's Carnegie Medal. With him is daughter Nola Singleton Camaliche, who secured the medal replacement, presented it to him, and captured their sentiments for imPULSE. Photo by Nola's husband Joey Camaliche

NOW 94, ATLANTA WOMAN WAS GEORGIA'S SIXTH HEROINE

The number of Carnegie Medal awardees who are female and now over the age of 90 has to be a small one, given that only 8.9 percent of the total number of awardees are women.

Margaret Williams Herrington of Atlanta, Ga., who turned 94 in February, is in that select class. She was awarded the medal in 1932 for saving a boy from drowning in a creek in Conyers, Ga., and she keeps it on display in her home.



Herrington was only the sixth female from Georgia to have been awarded the medal by 1932. She was a 14-year-old schoolgirl from Oxford, Ga., on May 24, 1930, when she saved W. Herbert Dick, 15, from drowning in Big Haynes Creek. Battling a current of 3 m.p.h., she supported the boy over a course of 70 feet before a man in wadable water drew them in with a fishing pole. Herrington used award funds of \$975 to pay for her education at Oxford College of Emory University and the University of Georgia, earning a degree in teaching in 1936. She married her husband Elliott after graduating, taught third-graders for a year, and then was a substitute teacher for several years.

Herrington still lives in the house she and her husband built in 1947. The couple raised three daughters, Lynn, Penelope, and Margaret, and now there are nine grandchildren and "about the same number" of great-grandchildren. After 54 years of marriage, during which the couple lived in California and New York, Elliott died in 1990. "We liked to move around and see different places," Herrington said. "We wanted to see the country." As a widow, Herrington kept up her travels, joining a group she found through her bank. Her trips took her all over the country and Europe, mainly Germany. "I've been to Alaska and Hawaii and everywhere in between," she said.

One nice turn for Herrington and her husband came in 1970, when she was reunited with the boy she rescued. Every Sunday for the next 15 years he and his wife brought them vegetables and fruits from their garden.

—Melissa A. McLaughlin, Case Investigator



TO THE HERO FUND

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New York, N.Y., by Samuel Alpert after a boating accident on Sept. 6, 1936. Alpert, 29, a hairdresser from the Bronx, N.Y., was awarded the Carnegie Medal for his actions. Wenitt's son, Ivan, was born after the rescue and "obviously wouldn't be here today if not for the heroics" of Alpert, said Ives, his cousin.

SERVING AFGHAN POLICE

Hope all is well with you and your staff. I left the New Castle (Del.) Police Dept. and am currently working in Kabul as a mentor to the Afghan National Police. Never had an opportunity to thank the staff for bestowing me with such an honor, a very humbling experience, but my daughter was very proud. So please extend a big thank you to the Commission and advise them I am using my experience as a police officer to further the Afghan Police service to community.

Paul D. Allston, Dover, Del.

Allston was awarded the medal in 2006 for helping to save a man from drowning in the Delaware River at New Castle.

REDIRECTING TO LIFE

I wish to thank the Commission for sending me not only the annual report but the video, *Heroes Among Us*, as well as Doug Chambers's autographed copy of *A Century of Heroes*. He did an excellent job editing the centennial edition.

I was not aware of Herb Eyman's death. He was a true gentleman. As for me, I am soon to be 82 years old, so memories are very important. One of the nicest memories was the awarding of the Carnegie Medal. I left the priesthood in 1984 to marry my wife. However, before I left, the good Lord gave me a few opportunities to be a service to desperate men and women on the verge of suicide. None equaled the drama of the March 1966 shooting—nor the danger. The satisfaction of redirecting a few lonely souls to life rather than death is also a part of this old man's long life of memories.

I am so grateful for your kindness to me after all these years. I pray that God will continue to bless you all and that men and women will come to demonstrate "no greater love" for others.

Joseph B. Coleman, Ashland, N.H.

Coleman was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1967 for saving two girls who were being held hostage by a gunman in Providence, R.I. Then a parish priest, Coleman negotiated with the gunman and in a cloud of tear gas launched by police secured their freedom. The gunman was arrested. Above, Coleman references Herb Eyman, a Hero Fund investigator whose sketch on another case appears in "From the Archives," this issue.

Medal presentations to new awardees commenced locally by past recipients

When 2003 Carnegie Medal awardee **Chris A. Cole** of Lewis Run, Pa., suggested that new awardees of the Carnegie Medal be presented their medals by past awardees living locally, the idea was aired in the March issue of *impULSE*.

It was well received. Several past awardees—from North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Michigan, and British Columbia—volunteered their services. Awardee **Charles S. Harris** (1963) of Chattanooga, Tenn., says the idea is "brilliant." He wrote, "To be awarded by a previous recipient should just add to the honor of the presentation."

Awardee **William B. Sterne** (1971) of Courtenay, B.C., found himself "in complete agreement" with the proposal. "I am currently retired from the Canadian Armed Forces after 39 years of service. I joined the Air Force in 1952...and was fortunate to serve as a commanding officer on two occasions. In these positions I had the good fortune to recognize outstanding performance through promotions and the award of various certificates. It would be a great honour and a pleasure to award the Carnegie Medal to a future recipient."



Forest City, N.C., police officers Brandon Rothrock, center, and Joshua A. Bumgarner were each presented the Carnegie Medal by past awardee David C. Parker, Jr., left.

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The Historic Capitol of the State of Florida at Tallahassee was the setting for Thomas A. Trento, center, to present medals to Dalton Lewand, second from left, and Mark C. Moore, second from right. In attendance were State Representatives Adam Hasner, left, and Dean Cannon, right.

LATEST AWARDEES
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 22 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,349 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 15, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON JUNE 24.

Jon Jesko, 49, a carpenter superintendent from Michigan City, Ind., rescued Joseph M. Grabiak, 76, from an assault at a service station in Michigan City on May 6 last year. When an assailant put a gun to Grabiak's side and demanded his keys, Grabiak struggled against him but fell to the pavement. The assailant kept him at gunpoint as he attempted to rob him. In his truck nearby, Jesko witnessed the assault. He ran to Grabiak and threw a cup of hot coffee in the assailant's face, and then he wrestled him to the ground. Another man removed the gun from the scene as Jesko held the assailant down until police arrived shortly and arrested him. (See photo.)

School teacher **Christopher Adam Skeet**, 30, of Chicago, Ill., helped to save a boy from drowning in the Des Plaines River in Des Plaines, Ill., on Sept. 15, 2008. A teenaged boy fled his school and was located by Skeet and others along the river, which was swift and flooded from heavy rains. When the boy jumped into

the river and was carried downstream by the current, Skeet, fully clothed, jumped in after him, but the current and the boy's struggling impeded his initial attempt to tow him back to the bank. They were pulled farther downstream before Skeet got the boy to the bank. Others there, including police, pulled them from the river.

Rory Ahearn, 57, of Danbury, Conn., helped to save Erik M. Lageroos, 26, from drowning in Candlewood Lake on Jan. 11 last year. Lageroos was cross-country skiing on the ice-covered lake when he broke through at a point 500 feet from the bank. He climbed back out and called for help. Ahearn, who lived on the bank there, pushed a rowboat out to him. Lageroos held to a line at the bow of the boat as Ahearn started back in, pulling the boat. He broke through the ice en route, striking his head on the boat. He held to the boat as firefighters arrived and pulled him, and then Lageroos, to safety. Both men required hospitalization, and they recovered. (See photo.)

Scott T. Hartigan, 46, a business operator from San Juan Capistrano, Calif., and **Michael William Stoney**, 35, a California Highway Patrol officer from Tustin, Calif., helped to save a woman from falling from a highway overpass in Dana Point, Calif., on Oct. 27, 2008. The woman, 39, had climbed onto the narrow ledge of the overpass and was holding by her fingers to a chain-link fence along its edge. Hartigan, a motorist who stopped at the scene, scaled the 10-foot fence and positioned himself on the four-inch ledge, about 35 feet above the highway pavement. He straddled the woman, pinning her to the fence, as she struggled against him for several minutes. Stoney arrived and made his way

about 80 feet along the ledge to Hartigan and the woman. He helped to secure her to the fence and then directed Hartigan back to the deck of the overpass. When others on the overpass cut a hole in the fence, Stoney passed the woman through it to safety and then followed her. (See photo, page 1.)

Brothers **Lawrence Francis Kelly**, 59, a retired welder from Beaver Meadows, Pa., and **John Francis Kelly**, 65, a retired miner from Drums, Pa., saved their friend Joseph J. Galada, Jr., 63, from drowning in Lake Irena in Hazleton, Pa., on March 14 last year. While ice fishing, Galada broke through weak ice about 250 feet from the bank. He called for help. The Kelly brothers, who were nearer the bank, took a plastic sled with them as they made their way toward Galada. The ice cracked as they approached, and they closed the distance to him on their stomachs. The Kellys extended the sled to Galada and, requiring repeated attempts, pulled him from the open water, their efforts creating a channel in the ice over the course of several feet. They then walked him back to the bank. (See "To the Hero Fund," page 4.)

Christine Rose Nguyen, 48, a homemaker from New Brighton, Minn., died after saving her daughter, Anne R. Schaper, 17, from an armed assailant outside their home on July 17, 2008. Nguyen and her daughter had just returned home and were standing on opposite sides of their car when Anne's former boyfriend, holding a loaded handgun, approached. Knowing that he had been stalking Anne, Nguyen moved into his path to block him as Anne re-entered the car and fled through its other side. The assailant shot Nguyen in the abdomen. Anne escaped to safety, but Nguyen died of her wound within a few hours.

Systems administrator **Charlton Lee**, 32, of San Marcos, Calif., rescued his next-door neighbor, Kendra L. Beebe, 35, from an assault on Aug. 10, 2008. Beebe was in her back yard when a man approached and stabbed her repeatedly. Alerted by her screams, Lee responded to Beebe's property as Beebe fled through her house to the front porch. Lee saw her there, with the assailant beside her, menacing her with the knife. He told the assailant to put the knife down, and then he entered the porch, moved the knife away from the assailant, and tended to Beebe as the assailant remained nearby. The assailant walked away but was apprehended by police.

Jamie Hamley of Sioux Falls, S.D., rescued Cody R. Doohen from his burning automobile after an accident in Sioux Falls on Jan. 27 last year. Doohen, 20, was unconscious in the front-seat area of the car after the vehicle collided with another and caught fire. Approaching the scene, Hamley, 33, a delivery handler and college student, witnessed the accident. He went to the passenger side of the vehicle and emptied a fire extinguisher through the door window. He then extended his upper body into the car, grasped Doohen, and pulled him out. Hamley dragged Doohen to safety moments before flames spread to engulf the car.



When a 76-year-old man was held at gunpoint outside a service station, Jon Jesko of Michigan City, Ind., left his nearby truck and took the assailant to the pavement. Photo, by Joe Malan, is courtesy of *The News-Dispatch*, Michigan City



Rory Ahearn pushed an aluminum rowboat across thin ice on Candlewood Lake near his home in Danbury, Conn., to rescue a cross-country skier who had broken through. Photo, by Carol Kaliff, is courtesy of The News-Times of Danbury.

Elijah Jarred Wittum, 16, a high school student from Cleveland, N.C., saved Marlon Porfirio, 15, from drowning in the South Yadkin River at Cooleemee, N.C., on May 30 last year. Marlon shouted for help as he was swept downstream by the very swift current of the river, which was swollen and muddied from heavy rain. From wadable water near the bank, Elijah immediately entered the deeper water and swam downstream after Marlon. Both boys then submerged, but Elijah broke free. He found Marlon and swam toward the bank with him as the current carried them farther downstream. Fishermen helped both from the water.

Jeremy Dylan McCarroll, 20, a college student from Highlands Ranch, Colo., died attempting to save his friends Amber N. Jeffers, 18, and Joseph A. Shedron, 22, from a burning house in Littleton, Colo., on Aug. 3, 2008. Fire broke out on the first floor of the house, where Jeffers, Shedron, McCarroll, and two other young men were spending the night. McCarroll and the two others awoke to flames and fled the house to safety. On hearing screaming, he and one of the other men re-entered through the front door. McCarroll went to the second floor as flames spread quickly. The other man sustained burns as he fled the structure, but firefighters found the bodies of Jeffers, Shedron, and McCarroll in the debris of a second-floor bedroom.

Scott Poley, 55, a vocational school internship coordinator, and **Samuel D. Gauss**, 38, the school's principal, helped to rescue Amy L. Lindsay from an assault on the school's campus in Painted Post, N.Y., on March 14, 2008. Her estranged husband in pursuit, Lindsay, 35, drove onto the campus, and when her

vehicle overturned, her husband pulled her from it and started to beat her with the butt of an assault rifle. Poley, of Elmira, N.Y., witnessed the crash and responded to the scene with Gauss, of Corning, N.Y. They shouted at the assailant to stop the attack, but he repeatedly pointed the rifle at them and ordered them back. As the assailant resumed the attack, Poley charged him from behind and tackled him, but the assailant retained control of the rifle. A police officer arrived to overpower the assailant as Poley and Gauss worked to disarm him. Gauss removed the rifle from the immediate scene, and Poley helped the officer to subdue the assailant as other officers arrived and arrested him.

On Christmas Day 2008, **Charles H. Monnier** of Molalla, Ore., rescued Christopher J. Friesen, 21, from a dog attack outside Monnier's home. Before dawn, Friesen was walking on the sidewalk when two adult dogs, of American Bulldog mix, charged him, took him to the ground, and bit him repeatedly, tearing off much of his clothing. Monnier, 66, a retired lumber foreman, heard Friesen scream and, clad only in nightclothes, ran toward him. Swinging a shovel, Monnier hollered at the dogs, but the larger, 80-pound animal turned on him before backing down. Both dogs left the scene. Friesen needed hospital treatment for his bite wounds.

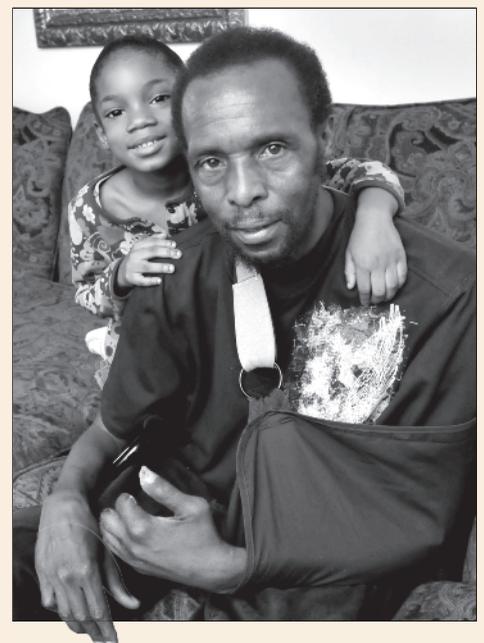
Michael J. Hickey, 35, a truck driver from Patchogue, N.Y., rescued Karl Hawkins and Jean Hastic from a burning passenger van after an accident in Queens, N.Y., on July 12, 2006. Hawkins, 44, and Hastic, 60, were among nine passengers in the van when it left the highway and struck a tree. Fire erupted immediately and

spread to the van's interior. Driving upon the scene, Hickey entered the van through a side door and pulled Hawkins out. Despite flames then throughout the van's interior, he stepped inside again, freed Hastic, and carried her away. Hawkins and Hastic needed treatment for burns. Five of the other passengers died in the van.

Stacy L. Behan, 40, a homemaker from Tivoli, N.Y., rescued a man from his crashed and burning car outside her home on April 26 last year. Late at night, Robert T. Chilinski, 26, was unconscious in the car after it left the highway, overturned, and came to rest upright and aflame. Behan ran to the car in her nightclothes after hearing the accident. She found the driver's door ajar and opened it further. Wedging the door open with her back, she extended her upper body into the burning car and unlatched Chilinski's safety belt. Although he outweighed her by 55 pounds, Behan pulled Chilinski from the vehicle. Others then arriving took him farther away to safety. (See page 1.)

Hospital security officers **Thomas J. Connors**, 52, of Islip Terrace, N.Y., and **Eric Surbito**, 28, of Ronkonkoma, N.Y., helped to save Alice Benedict from a burning convent on the hospital's grounds in Port Jefferson, N.Y., on Jan. 11, 2009. Benedict, 74, was overcome by smoke on the second floor of the two-story building after fire broke out on the first floor. Alerted to the fire, Connors and Surbito responded to the convent, broke through a door, and entered. Dense smoke

(continued on page 12)



Duane E. Vanlanham of Saginaw, Mich., rescued his neighbor from three pit bull mix dogs but sustained serious injury when the dogs turned on him. He is shown here with his niece Kiara Baston, 5, in an Oct. 23, 2009, photo taken by Jeff Schrier (© 2009, The Saginaw News. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.)

Medal and memory of 1919 hero

(continued from page 4)

The first mystery was solved when Whitis's husband Mike Riley "popped" the medal out of its case to reveal the name of the awardee: **Albert A. Slaline**. Hero Fund records indicate that Slaline died at age 21 on July 4, 1919, while attempting to save a 15-year-old boy from drowning in the Little Miami River at Miami, Ohio. The medal, accompanied by a grant of \$1,000, was given in 1920 to Slaline's parents, with whom he lived in Cincinnati. Slaline had been a huckster earning \$25 a week, most of which he gave to his parents. As he was single, he could not have been Whitis's grandfather, but he was survived by two brothers, ages 16 and 26.

The second mystery was thus solved: Whitis's grandmother in a second marriage wed Slaline's older brother, who would have been 26 in 1919. Whitis learned that her step-grandfather—"Grandpa Ed"—had owned the medal since he was the only one left of his family, and since he apparently had no descendants himself, the medal was passed down to his wife's family. Whitis plans to give it to her son, now 19, "so that he and his future family will know the story. Hopefully, it will continue to be passed down among the generations."

"It was a fun journey to research the medal's history," Whitis said. "I'm glad that Albert's memory and story still live with us." ❄

FRENCH HERO FUND CEASES OPERATIONS



A ceremony to mark the transfer of the remaining assets of Carnegie's hero fund in France—*Fondation Carnegie*—to the Franco-American Commission for Educational Exchange was held in Paris in February at the residence of Charles H. Rivkin, U.S. Ambassador to France. With the 200,000-Euro transfer, the commission, which administers the Fulbright program between France and the U.S., has announced the creation of a Fulbright grant named for Carnegie to be given to a Franco-American academic exchange program in which students will

reflect on the sense of citizen commitment—"in the spirit of the foundation." Since it was established in 1909 by Andrew Carnegie, the *Fondation Carnegie* recognized those who performed acts of civilian courage and provided aid to the widows and orphans of awardees for a century, making more than 1,200 awards.

In addition to the ambassador, those attending the transfer ceremonies, numbering about 60, included foundation and commission board members as well as representatives of the French ministries of education and the interior. A tribute was paid to the final heroes named by the foundation in 2009, the youngest of whom present was 19 years old. In addition, the president of *Fondation Carnegie*, Admiral Brac de la Perrière, presented to Arnaud Roujou de Boubée, director of the Fulbright Commission, the original letter from Carnegie to Georges Clemenceau, France's prime minister in 1909. A bust of Carnegie that was displayed in the foundation's offices (shown above, with Jocelyne Gauthier of the French Ministry of the Interior) was given to representatives from the Franco-American Friendship Museum in Blérancourt, France.

In the photo at right, Mr. de Boubée is pictured standing second from left; Mr. Rivkin sixth from left, and Mr. de la Perrière seventh from left. The photo above was taken in 2000 by Paul Snatchko, then a case investigator for the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.



REUNION

The Hero Fund's sixth president, Robert W. Off, seated, hosted its seventh, Mark Laskow, standing at left, and one of its board members, Linda Thorell Hills, of Littleton, Colo., at his home in Ligonier, Pa., in April.

Off, 90, now an honorary member of the Commission, joined the Hero Fund board in 1973. He was shortly elected treasurer and then became president in 1979. Retiring in 2001, he served 22 years in the latter capacity—the second longest tenure



of all the Hero Fund presidents. During his administration, grants in excess of \$10 million were made, computerization was introduced, and office procedures were streamlined, resulting in a tripling of the value of the Hero Fund's portfolio. Before joining the Hero Fund, Off was a vice president for Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh. Hills joined the board in 2007, but she and Off probably met 25 years ago when both attended an event in Dunfermline, Scotland, to mark the 150th anniversary of the birth of Andrew Carnegie. On succeeding Off as president, Laskow told him, "I don't think anyone could have done more for the Commission than you have. You have been an example of the loyalty and energy that the best civic leaders display."

RESCUED, RECOVERING, AND APPRECIATIVE

(continued from page 3)

stabbed repeatedly while in a bakery in San Francisco by a man who was improperly released from a solitary cell at San Quentin State Prison the previous day. Those responding to aid her included **Kermit R. Kubitz**, 60, an attorney from San Francisco who struggled against the assailant. Kubitz himself was stabbed twice, and both he and Loren required hospitalization. Loren's medical treatment included nerve-transfer surgery on her right arm, and on Christmas Day 2007 she awoke to find that she was regaining movement in the arm. Her recovery is now almost complete. Kubitz was awarded the Carnegie Medal for his actions, and Loren was given a grant to help with her medical expenses. Shown with the Schallers is Susan L. Marcy, the Hero Fund investigator who researched the case.



❁ OVERHEARD ❁

In my heart of hearts, I want to believe that anybody would have done the same thing.

—Scott Poley of Elmira, N.Y., Carnegie Medal Awardee #9340

God blessed me with two very brave compassionate boys, and he took one of them home.

—Patty McCarroll of Littleton, Colo., mother of Jeremy McCarroll, Carnegie Medal Awardee #9339 (posthumous)

My wife said, 'Be careful,' but of course the immediate urge is, 'I hear my neighbor calling for help.'

—Charlton Lee of San Marcos, Calif., Carnegie Medal Awardee #9336

I felt bigger than the world because I saved two children.

—Adolfo Garcia, Immokalee, Fla, Carnegie Medal Nominee #82737

LUCITE RESTORATION



For a period about 40 years ago, Carnegie Medals were encased in a block of Lucite, a hard, transparent plastic that was used to enhance the medal's protection and display. *But how to protect the Lucite?*

William B. Sterne of Courtenay, B.C., who was awarded the medal in 1971 for rescuing a man from a burning car in Carp, Ont., came up with a solution. "I found a product that did a good job of removing the scratches in the Lucite, which certainly detracted from the medal's appearance," Sterne wrote (his medal is pictured above). "I am pleased to display my medal encased as presented and believe that other recipients might feel as I do."

Sterne recommends using Novus No. 1 Plastic Clean & Shine, Novus No. 2 Fine Scratch Remover, and Novus No. 3 Heavy Scratch Remover. The products come in two-ounce plastic containers and cost Sterne about six Canadian dollars each. "I considered them well worth the price," Sterne said. Novus, Inc., the manufacturer, is located in Savage, Minn.

Medal presentations

(continued from page 6)

As medals for the awardees named last December were just finished in April by the manufacturer, personal presentations were promptly arranged by two of the volunteers. **David C. Parker, Jr.**, of Davidson, N.C., presented medals to **Brandon Rothrock** of Ellenboro, N.C., and **Joshua A. Bumgarner** of Bostic, N.C. Both awardees, members of the Forest City, N.C., Police Dept., repeatedly braved intense flame to rescue an elderly woman from her home at night. The presentation took place at the police department.

"I am extremely grateful to the Carnegie Hero Fund," Parker said in presenting the medals, "and would not likely be where I am today without the monetary award and scholarship." In 1986, Parker, then a 16-year-old high school student, saved a man from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico at Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Thomas A. Trento of Delray Beach, Fla., received a Carnegie Medal in 1983 for rescuing a man from a burning car after a highway crash a year earlier in Cherry Hills Village, Colo. Trento was a 31-year-old seminary student at the time. He made arrangements for the presentation of medals to Tallahassee, Fla., residents **Mark C. Moore** and **Dalton Lewand**, who also were cited for their roles in a burning vehicle rescue: The men saved an elderly couple from their burning automobile in Tallahassee on July 5, 2008.

The ceremony took place at Florida's Historic Capitol in Tallahassee, with two members of the state legislature in attendance. They presented Moore and Lewand tributes by the Florida Legislature, and earlier the heroes met with Florida Attorney General Bill McCollum in his office. "It was an excellent day for Florida and Carnegie!" Trento reported.

The Hero Fund's director of external affairs, Douglas R. Chambers, is coordinating future presentations by volunteers to awardees named in April. Anyone wishing to participate in the program is to be in touch with him: doug@carnegiehero.org

HONORED AGAIN...47 YEARS LATER



Carnegie Medal awardee **Linda F. Schmidt Bradley**, standing at right, had something of a "this-is-your-life" moment when she was honored at a private dinner in March by her long-time friends John and Virginia Warner, seated, of Allison Park, Pa. Bradley has been Mrs. Warner's hairdresser for the past 43 years and on one visit showed her the Carnegie Medal that she received for saving a 10-year-old boy from drowning in the Allegheny River in Pittsburgh in 1963. Learning of the award, Mr. Warner contacted the Hero Fund for details and in response received a summary of the case plus other assorted materials on the Commission. He arranged for the Hero Fund's executive director, Walter F. Rutkowski (behind the camera) to make a surprise presentation to Bradley at the dinner.

The evening transported Bradley back 47 years to the summer between her 10th and 11th grades. While sunbathing on the bank of the river one day in June, Bradley, then 16, became aware that the boy, a nonswimmer, had stepped into water beyond his depth and was flailing wildly. Bradley saw him sink and then jumped in after him, but she could not find him in the murky water. When she started to surface for air, the boy touched her by the ankle, and she then removed him to safety. The boy required hospitalization, but he recovered. Bradley received a financial grant from the Hero Fund, which she used to attend beauty school, and the award "changed my life," she said. Pictured with Bradley, of Eau Claire, Pa., is her husband Michael.

76 years later, hero's Carnegie Medal proudly displayed in her niece's home



Senior class photo of 1934 Carnegie Medal awardee Marion W. Robinson

1934 Carnegie Medal awardee **Marion W. Robinson** of North Auburn, Maine, left no descendants when she died in 1999, yet her legacy is cherished by her extended family...and her medal is "proudly displayed" in the home of one of her nieces, Peggy J. Hahn of Wells, Maine. Robinson was cited by the Hero Fund for her actions of Dec. 10, 1932, by which she saved a 15-year-old boy from drowning in a pond after he broke through thin ice.

"It does not surprise me that Marion risked her life that day," Hahn said. "The aunt I knew was kind, pleasant, and loving. She did not talk much about the actual rescue, but she kept a scrapbook filled with articles on receiving the Carnegie Medal, and the medal was always on display in her home."

Robinson was 17 at the time of her heroic act. She had been skating with friends on a mill pond when the boy, "in quest of a Christmas tree," according to a contemporary news account, broke through thin ice while crossing the pond. He entered the frigid, eight-foot-deep water at a point about 40 feet from the bank. Heavily clothed, Robinson, 17, a high school senior, skated toward him, but the ice broke beneath her, also. She broke a path to the boy, who had submerged by then and was unconscious, and pulled him by his coat collar back to the surface of the water. Requiring repeated attempts, she made her way toward the bank, breaking ice en route, and then received aid from her brother in getting the boy onto land.

Their clothes and hair were caked with ice, but both Robinson, who fainted from her exertions, and the boy suffered no lasting ill effects. In addition to the medal, the Hero Fund gave Robinson a \$1,000 grant, which she used to attend business school. She then worked as a secretary for a department store.

Hahn said her aunt "would be pleasantly surprised that we are still talking about her courageous act all these years later. I miss her and think about her often."

Hahn herself was a beneficiary of Robinson's generosity. Robinson inherited a camp in North Auburn, and she and her husband Raymond Broadbent, whom she married at 27, spent most of their free time there. "She welcomed everyone to visit," Hahn said. "She loved children although she had none of her own, and she looked forward to visits by her nieces and nephews. She would give us big coffee tins filled with her molasses icebox cookies, which she made when she expected visitors. She knew how disappointed we would be if we didn't receive them."

Robinson was the sixth woman from Maine to be awarded the Carnegie Medal—the state's 99 awardees to date include a total of 15 women. "She was an outdoors person her whole life," Hahn said. "She loved to swim in the summer and ice skate and snow shoe in the winter. She went fishing, ice fishing, hunting, and picking strawberries and blackberries. She and her husband planted flower gardens and had bountiful vegetable gardens."

Hahn is considering placing a Carnegie Hero grave marker in her aunt's memory (see page 13). "I think you offer a great ongoing service to the medal winners and their families," she said. "You must be proud to be able to honor these heroes." 



Aunt Marion's North Auburn, Maine, cabin



WELCOME SIGN

A new sign installed earlier this year welcomes visitors to the Hero Fund's office suite and also serves to brighten the 11th floor corridor of the Koppers Building, downtown Pittsburgh, where the organization has been at home for the past 18 months. Back lit by energy-efficient LED lighting, the sign features Andrew Carnegie's signature, an idea borrowed from the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The sign was designed by Kolano Design and made by Advance Sign Co., both of Pittsburgh.

CHARACTER EDUCATION IN CHICAGO

Chicago has become a frequent stop in the Hero Fund's joint effort with the Heartwood Institute, a Pittsburgh-based provider of character education programs for schools throughout the country. In late April, Douglas R. Chambers, the Commission's director of external affairs, visited the city, for the third time in the past year, to talk with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders of the Garrett A. Morgan School in the city's South Side. In addition to talking about the Hero Fund, Chambers showed a film on its history that also includes highlights of several rescues performed by awardees of the Carnegie Medal. That prompted one student, Keyshaw Spence, to relate later how he had saved his brother from being run over by a vehicle five years earlier. Chambers and Keyshaw are pictured here.





LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 10)

precluded visibility, and, unable to breathe, they exited for air. Re-entering, Connors heard Benedict call out for help as he advanced toward the second floor. Surbito re-entered and with Connors proceeded to the second story, where they found Benedict on the floor. They took her down to the first floor, where they met arriving firefighters. Benedict and her rescuers all required treatment for smoke inhalation.

Duane E. Vanlanham, 48, a disabled laborer from Saginaw, Mich., helped to rescue his neighbor Bridgetta N. Hadley from a dog attack on March 5 last year. Hadley, 41, was attacked by three dogs of pit bull mix, which took her to the ground and bit her about the arms and legs. Her screams alerted Vanlanham, who lived nearby. Vanlanham ran to Hadley and struck one of the dogs with a stick, and as he worked to free Hadley of the dogs, a car stopped there, and Hadley entered it. The dogs took Vanlanham to the ground and mauled him, inflicting severe injury to his legs and feet. Police arrived and dispersed the dogs. Hadley and Vanlanham required hospital treatment, including surgery, Vanlanham developing complications that necessitated amputation of several fingers and toes. (See photo, page 8.)

High school students **Jimmy Avant**, 18, of Chicago, Ill., and **Adrian Alexander Jones**, 16, of Maywood, Ill., died attempting to save Melvin Choice, Jr., 15, from drowning in the Fox River at Algonquin, Ill., on Nov. 14, 2008. Melvin was one of a group of high school boys that, late at night, took several paddleboats onto the river at the camp where they were attending a seminar. The boat that Melvin and two of the other boys were in was taking on water at about the center of the river. Jimmy and Adrian, who were among other students on the bank, boarded a paddleboat and made their way toward the disabled boat. Melvin entered the 42-degree water from that boat in an attempt to swim, but he began to struggle in the eight-foot-deep water. Fully dressed, Jimmy dived from his paddleboat and swam toward Melvin, as did Adrian. The three boys struggled and then submerged. Divers recovered them from the river several hours later. All had drowned.

MEA CULPA

imPULSE regrets errors of omission and commission in its March 2010 issue:

Dr. Sybil P. Veeder, who chairs the Commission's Executive Committee, joined the board of the Hero Fund in 1992, not 2002 as reported (page 2).

The photo of D. Chester Connor (page 3) was taken by Suzette Wenger of Lancaster, Pa., Newspapers (Intelligencer Journal and Lancaster New Era), and it was published with permission, as was the accompanying article on Connor, by Lori Van Ingen. The credits were mistakenly omitted.

OFFICIAL THANKS



Accustomed as the Hero Fund is to *giving* certificates for merit, it was a refreshing change to *receive* one. In announcing his graduation from Georgia Southern University last month, **Steven M. Gartner** (pictured) of Alpharetta, Ga., crafted a "certificate of appreciation" for the Hero Fund to acknowledge the scholarship aid he received to help with tuition costs.

Gartner majored in sport management and on May 8 received a bachelor of science degree. He was awarded the

Carnegie Medal in 2007 for saving a 12-year-old boy from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico at Miramar Beach, Fla., on April 1, 2006. Then a 17-year-old high school student, Gartner was on spring break when he and two friends braved dangerous water conditions to save the boy and three other children.



Summer retreat cottage

(continued from page 3)

"The visit enabled me to cross the great divide of time and reach back to touch the past," Hills said. "It was nearly 125 years ago that my great-grandfather was last in that house and yet its history makes it feel closer. I have also not been to places where my great-great-grandmother Margaret is known to have lived. Louise Frederick could not have been more gracious."

The day's visitors also included Commission president Mark Laskow, director of external affairs Douglas R. Chambers, and executive director Walter Rutkowski, and historian Lu Donnelly of Pittsburgh, who specializes in Western Pennsylvania architecture. Particularly taken by the cottage's 13-foot ceilings, plaster crown molding, and ingenious transoms and wood trim, Donnelly is concluding that the structure was built to be a very comfortable dwelling, suitable for an upper class family, despite its outwardly modest appearance. Its style, she concludes, is "Gothic Revival now masquerading as a bungalow."

"I treasure the memories of this big old house," Frederick said, "and the loving family members who occupied it over the past 70 years. I enjoy frequent visits from many relatives and friends. The door is always open." 

FRIENDS REMEMBERED

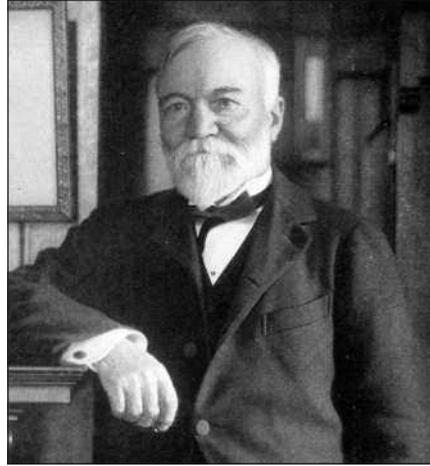
John C. Bowers, 69, of Wintersville, Ohio, died April 29. Bowers was one of two ambulance attendants who were awarded the Carnegie Medal for their actions of Dec. 15, 1972, following an explosion at a coke plant in Weirton, W.Va. Then 32, Bowers and the other attendant ignored warnings of a possible second explosion and, using only flashlights for illumination, entered the basement of the plant where the explosion had occurred. Despite spreading flames, they removed one worker from the immediate scene and returned for others, but a second explosion thwarted that rescue attempt. Bowers was an emergency medical technician and a fire chief. He leaves his widow, three children, and five grandchildren.

Robert B. Foley, 88, of Quincy, Mass., died Dec. 15. He was awarded the medal in 1950 for saving a boy from drowning in Elm Brook at Bedford, Mass., after the boy broke through ice and sank. Fully clothed, Foley entered the water and swam under the ice to search for the boy, finding him on the bottom. A U.S. Navy veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, Foley was a retired real estate operations manager for New England Telephone Company.

✧ THE QUOTABLE A.C. ✧

Dealing with petty affairs tends to make small men; dealing with larger affairs broadens and strengthens character.

—From *The Gospel of Wealth*, 1889



☁ FROM THE ARCHIVES ☁

BACK FROM THE BRINK



Mr. Zernach at his home near Atlanta

Eighteen-year-old **Edmund L. Zernach** of Lawrenceburg, Ind., spent a warm spring day 55 years ago with a church youth group at Clifty Falls State Park, in the southern part of the state. He could not know that before the day was through he would become a hero whose actions would be acclaimed by the American Legion, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, and even President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Zernach was a Boy Scout with a passion for the outdoors. That was one reason he went on the day trip on May 1, 1955. The other was his interest in one of the girls in the youth group.

During the afternoon, another member of the group, Gordon A. Teaney, 14, was atop the wall of a 170-foot-deep canyon through which a creek flowed and dropped in a series of scenic waterfalls. The top of the wall sloped downward sharply for about 20 feet, at which point the wall became vertical over the 150 feet to the bottom of the canyon. The creek dropped at that spot to form Clifty Falls.

Wanting to get a closer look at the canyon, Gordon made his way down the slope but lost his balance and rolled toward the bottom of it. Fortunately his left foot caught on a sapling only five feet from the edge of the precipice. Zernach, who was on the canyon floor, heard rocks falling and looked up to see one of Gordon's arms extending over the brink.

(continued on back cover)

☁ 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 (2008-2009) 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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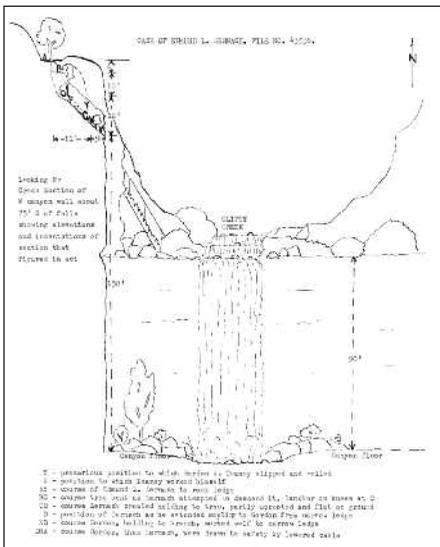
Further information is available on-line or by contacting the Commission.
Any ideas? *imPULSE* welcomes your submissions for publication, and your ideas for consideration. Be in touch!
Address change? Please keep us posted!
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FROM THE ARCHIVES

BACK FROM THE BRINK (continued from page 13)



Hero Fund investigator Herb Eyman produced highly detailed sketches of the cases he investigated, including the Zernach rescue

Zernach and three other young men climbed to a point above Gordon. One of the young men concluded it would be foolish to attempt a rescue on the steep slope and left in search of a pole, and another left to get a rope at the ranger's station. As they waited, Zernach and the remaining young man encouraged Gordon not to despair, but Gordon remained fearful, and the limited movements he made on the slope sent more rocks sliding down into the canyon.

He slid down the slope by holding onto another sapling, but the sapling bent and fell toward the ground, becoming partly uprooted. Although he did not lose his hold on the sapling, Zernach was swung outward and landed on his knees about five feet from the edge of the slope and six feet from Gordon. After using hand-over-hand holds on the sapling to position himself on a small ledge nearby, Zernach extended the sapling toward Gordon. Gordon grasped it and worked his way to the ledge.

The pair remained imprisoned on the slope for several minutes, or until a 75-foot electric cable was brought to the scene. One end of the cable was tied to a tree atop the wall, and the other was lowered to Gordon. Zernach tied it around him, and he was raised to safety. The process was repeated for Zernach. Gordon had been on the slope for about 25 minutes, and although neither he nor Zernach was injured seriously, both were understandably anxious.

Almost a year later—on his 19th birthday—the Hero Fund awarded Zernach a bronze medal and funds that helped pay his tuition at Purdue University. A year after that, President Eisenhower presented him with the Young American Medal for Bravery. Zernach obtained a degree in forest management in 1959 and, except for two years in the U.S. Army, spent the next 38 years working in forestry before retiring. Now 73, he currently resides in Peachtree City, Ga.

Zernach concluded that the risk of Gordon meeting certain death by sliding into the canyon was too great.

—Marlin Ross, Case Investigator