



# imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 31 • SEPTEMBER 2012



## TO THE HERO FUND:

I want to sincerely thank the entire organization for the four years of funding towards my college education. All of my accomplishments in college could not have been possible without the funding and work that you do. I graduated with bachelor's degrees in Spanish and international relations, with a minor in history—my cumulative grade-point average was around 3.4. To update you on my current plans: I am working in Washington, D.C., for the summer with C-SPAN as a promotional and media relations intern as well as in a restaurant at nights. I have accepted a position with the U.S. military helping soldiers and their families transition from their service in Afghanistan—the job will require me to move to Germany for 13 months, after which I hope to pursue further education in Washington as a graduate student in peace studies. Thank you all who made this possible for me and others like me.

—Jonathan Pinque, Danville, Ky.

(continued on page 3)

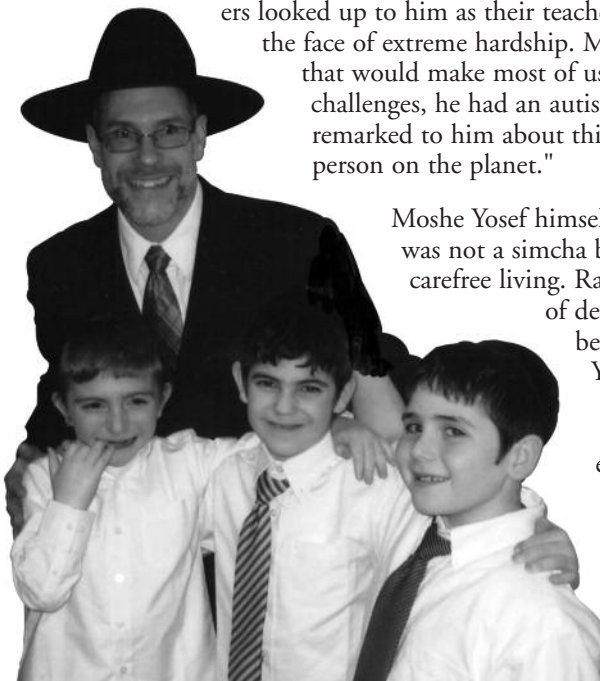
## Family man's actions 'echo to eternity:' Who can retell your greatness, Moshe Yosef?

David M. Reichenberg—known in the Jewish community by his Hebrew name, Reb (teacher) Moshe Yosef—died August 28, 2011, saving the young son of a close friend from electrocution. The 6-year-old boy had made contact with a live electrical charge from downed power lines in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, which swept through Spring Valley, N.Y., Reichenberg's home. Standing nearby, Reichenberg rushed to break the contact, but in doing so was electrocuted. The boy died of his injuries 12 days later. Reichenberg was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously in March.

By Yaakov Astor  
Editor, Zman Magazine

In losing his own life, Moshe Yosef had managed to save a life. It was the ultimate selfless act by a man who epitomized selflessness and sacrifice. Who can retell your greatness, Moshe Yosef?

Moshe Yosef Reichenberg was raised in a typical American Jewish home. In his 20s, he diverted from the paved path of college and professional career to take up with passion the inheritance of his forefathers. And he was a true role model. His legendary smile and joy for life were infectious. Even his Torah teachers looked up to him as their teacher for how to have faith in the face of extreme hardship. Moshe Yosef had hardship that would make most of us break. Among his life challenges, he had an autistic child. And yet, I once remarked to him about this child, "He is the happiest person on the planet."



Moshe Yosef himself embodied *simcha*, joy. It was not a *simcha* born of material plenty or carefree living. Rather it was a *simcha* born of deep faith. People talk about being close to God, but Moshe Yosef truly walked with God. We could see it on his face, all the time, no matter what else was happening in his life. Years ago, his house caught fire, taking along with it all his worldly possessions. All that mattered to him was that his wife and children were safe. The next day, he remarked to one

Mr. Reichenberg with sons (from left) Joshua, Eliyahu, and Akiva. Photo courtesy of Zman Magazine.

(continued on page 3)



HIS HEART WAS IN THE WORK

By Mark Laskow, President Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



In these pages we have frequently commented on the remarkable longevity of the organizations Andrew Carnegie established and endowed in his explosion of philanthropic creativity at the beginning of the 20th century. Just a few have dropped

by the wayside, but more than 20 continue today. Carnegie created for each organization a visionary mission that remains as vital and compelling today as it was a century ago. Yet the strength of his ideas goes beyond mere preservation of what he created. Even today Carnegie's example inspires philanthropy on a scale he himself would admire.

Pittsburgh, home to the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, is blessed with major foundations created by wealthy families like the Mellon, Heinz, and Benedum families, just to name a few. This year a new \$500 million foundation made its public debut, the life work of William S. Dietrich II. Of this amount, \$265 million is dedicated to Carnegie Mellon University and \$125 million to the University of Pittsburgh. Both gifts were among the 10 largest ever made to higher education by an individual. The balance of the fund is dedicated to 13 other universities and charitable organizations, mostly in Western Pennsylvania. The influence of Andrew Carnegie is much in evidence in Bill Dietrich's philanthropy.



Dietrich made his fortune in the steel industry, and he was very aware of what Carnegie had done with the wealth he created through steel. He spoke openly of his desire to follow Carnegie's example and give away the bulk of his own wealth. In fact, he donated his ownership in Dietrich

Industries to a charitable trust while still in his 50s. Like Carnegie, he worked hard on his philanthropy. After the business was sold, Dietrich devoted himself to investing the proceeds, growing them prod-

(continued on page 4)

Third, and longest serving, president was physician, war vet, world traveler

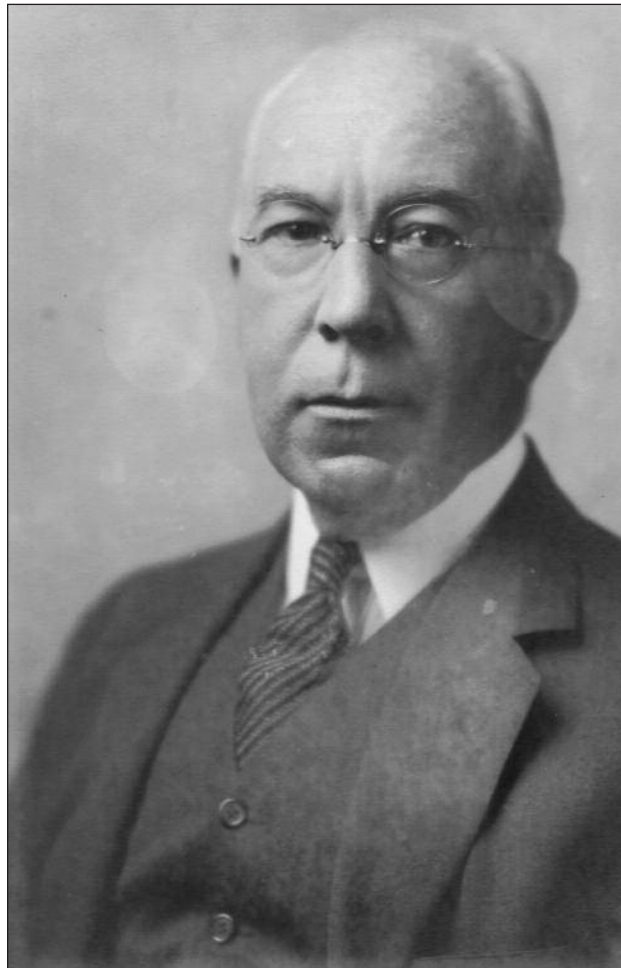
By Mary Brignano Special to the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

3 THIRD IN A SERIES

The Carnegie Hero Fund Commission elevated Pittsburgh's civic image as the 20th century unfolded, revealing the altruistic side of the city of metal, money, and smoke. The Commission's presidents, in their various professions, did the same. In his effective, good-humored, and likeable way, Dr. Arbuthnot was a generous and public-spirited leader for the Hero Fund and the many other organizations he served. Its longest-serving president (1932-1956),

he guided the Commission through the momentous years of the Great Depression, World War II, and the birth of modern America in the 1950s.

Thomas Shaw Arbuthnot (1871-1956) had an infectious gusto for life. A prominent physician, he enjoyed classical music, sports (especially golf), art, adventurous travel, and his many friends. A man of ideas and action whose zest for big game hunting invited comparison with Theodore Roosevelt, he was equally at home on safari or in the operating room. He was a member of the medical staffs of four hospitals, served as president of the Pittsburgh Art Society, wrote books and articles, starred in a film, and in 1936 helped to incorporate the University Hospital Board to represent the interests of the hospitals associated with the Medical Center in Oakland. President of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh from 1927 to 1947, he helped build it into one of the best-equipped and best-known children's hospitals in the country.



Arbuthnot was born into a comfortable family in Allegheny City, today Pittsburgh's North Side, and grew up in the family home in Pittsburgh's East End, where would live the rest of his life. He attended Shady Side Academy, Pittsburgh, and was graduated in 1894 from Yale University, where he played third base on the University Nine, performed with the Glee Club, and was president of the Banjo Club. He earned his medical degree in 1898 from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Because no U.S. physician could at that time be considered properly educated until he had studied in Europe, Dr. Arbuthnot went

Dr. Arbuthnot

(continued on page 3)



## Third, and longest serving, president

(continued from page 2)

abroad for two years of post-graduate work in Edinburgh, Dublin, and London. During that time, he was named a member of the Royal College of Surgeons and a licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians.

Returning to Pittsburgh in 1900, the good-looking, socially prominent young surgeon found his services much in demand. He was invited to join the medical staffs of West Penn, Mercy, Tuberculosis, and Children's Hospitals. In 1909, at the age of 38, he was appointed dean of the underperforming University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and charged with converting it into one of the most prestigious medical schools in the nation. Taken by surprise, he instantly said no. "I kept up the refusal for 12 days," he wrote in a typically witty and self-effacing letter to a friend: *At this time some of my enemies approached me and advised that I accept, stating that while they realized I lacked the mental qualifications for a Dean yet no one in the country was so well situated conditionally. This latter meant that I had no wife and children begging for bread, and that I was on fairly good terms with the hospitals and the medical profession of Pittsburgh, in addition to being the architect of my own time.*

Once he did accept the appointment, Dr. Arbuthnot had his work cut out for him. Medical education in the United States at that time suffered from lax admission standards, slapdash curricula, and a lack of scientific equipment. In 1910 a seminal report by Abraham Flexner, commissioned by the American Medical Association and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, indicted U.S. medical schools for producing "undereducated and ill-trained medical practitioners." The report called for an integration of science and clinical teaching in university-affiliated hospitals as well as a nucleus of full-time faculty.

(continued on page 4)


## Family man's actions

(continued from cover)

of his closest confidants, "I've never been happier. Now all I have is God." It was not just talk in Moshe Yosef. It was the result of working on himself all those years, learning and living Torah and having it sink into his bones.

I attended the shiva. The outpouring from our community was enormous. But even so, the scope of the tragedy was overwhelming. One of his non-observant relatives told me that although she doesn't pretend to understand God's ways, it was apropos that he died the way he did, after a morning of praying, learning Torah, and then making the ultimate sacrifice for someone else's child. He died in the highest state of purity, she said.

I myself couldn't stop thinking about his kids, especially the two youngest boys, a 12-year-old, and one who turned 11 on the third day of shiva. What a way to celebrate a birthday. I looked at these boys and cried. I am still crying. The family has enormous financial needs. The community—us, you and I—are going to have to scramble mightily to meet them, because the children are suddenly bereft of a father. Yes, they have their Father in Heaven. Moshe Yosef would have been the first to say that. But Moshe Yosef was everything to them. He cannot be replaced. And so I am crying. We are all crying.

What a person does in life echoes to eternity. Moshe Yosef's echo will resound in the loudest way forever and ever. I have not even scratched the surface of how truly great his life accomplishments were. These boys, as well his teenage daughter and righteous wife, will always have his memories and his legacy. 

Reprinted with permission.

## TO THE HERO FUND

(continued from cover)

*Pinque, shown at the ancient Mayan site of Uxmal near Merida, Mexico, during a college study tour, was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 2006 for helping to save two teenage boys from drowning in 2005. The boys were passengers in a car that left the road, entered a pond near Pinque's home in Toney, Ala., and sank. Then a 16-year-old high school student, Pinque responded to the pond, swam to the car, and broke out its sunroof. Lying on the car, he pulled both boys from the vehicle. With tuition assistance from the Hero Fund, Pinque went on to attend Centre College in Danville, Ky., graduating this spring.*



## MEDAL 'WITH THE RIGHT FAMILY'

A little detective work on the part of William Gerlach, left, of Eugene, Ore., led to the transfer of a Carnegie Medal his family had been holding to the son of the medal's recipient. It all started on June 26, 1922, when **Granville M. Smith**, 22, saved Gerlach's grandfather, Hans F. Gerlach, 31, from suffocating in a well in Eugene. Hans was overcome by gas when he descended the 26-foot-deep well, and Smith, his step-son, had himself lowered into it in a rescue bid. Both men were drawn out to safety, and Smith was awarded the medal a year later. Hans and his wife held the medal for Smith, and it was ultimately inherited by William Gerlach. Earlier this year, William tracked down Smith's son, Robert M. Smith, right, of Coos Bay, Ore., and in June gave him the medal as the men met in the mausoleum where Granville Smith is buried. "It will be with the right family," William said. While at the cemetery, the men oversaw the installation of a Carnegie Hero bronze marker on Granville's crypt. Granville died in 1992 at age 91.



### RECORD-SETTING SERVICE

William P. Snyder III, left, of Sewickley, Pa., has the distinction of having served the longest—60 years—of any board member in the Hero Fund’s 108-year history. He joined the board in 1951 and retired to honorary status late in 2011. Commission President Mark Laskow presented him an engraved crystal bowl to recognize his service. “I always felt my time on the Commission was an honor and a privilege,” Snyder said. “I will always be proud to have been a part of this great organization.”



4

### BOARD NOTES

*(continued from page 2)*

giously to the level at which they stand today. His careful selection of beneficiaries also echoes Carnegie’s in some ways. Carnegie established the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland to improve scientific research in Scottish universities and aid deserving youth attending university. Dietrich chose Carnegie Mellon University and Pitt for their research excellence and their role in the revitalization of Western Pennsylvania. He even appointed the president of the Carnegie Hero Fund as the first chair of his foundation!

There is a final, tangible piece of evidence of how Andrew Carnegie inspired Bill Dietrich a century later. A visitor entering Bill’s office—now the foundation office—is greeted by a quote at the center of a wall of memorabilia: “My heart is in the work,” signed, Andrew Carnegie.

## Third, and longest serving, president

*(continued from page 3)*



*Dr. Arbuthnot, left, with Commission employees Maurice H. Floto and Marjorie D. Loomis, 1954.*

But Arbuthnot, just a year on the job, won Flexner’s praise. “The admission of students has been much more carefully supervised,” Flexner wrote. “Laboratories have been remodeled and equipped with modern apparatus, whole-time instructors of modern training and ideals have been secured . . . . The entire atmosphere of the institution has clarified.” In 1913 the School of Medicine received an A+ rating from the AMA’s Council of Medical Education, putting it in a league with medical colleges at Johns Hopkins, Harvard, and Yale.

Arbuthnot worked arduously for no pay, and he can only have been cheered by a note from the treasurer of the university board, who wrote that he considered “the work you are doing for your fellow-men in western Pennsylvania the greatest thing undertaken here in years.” The good doctor would be equally hardworking and unselfish in his work for the Hero Fund, which he joined in 1912.

During World War I, Dr. Arbuthnot served for 15 months as a lieutenant colonel in the Medical Corps of the U.S. Expeditionary Forces in France, heading a base hospital organized by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and caring for men who had been horribly wounded and gassed. “A bully spirit was shown by the Pitt men in the taking hold of every kind of job that became necessary,” Arbuthnot reported with typical enthusiasm in 1919. He was cited for capturing a German aviator shot down over the front.


Arbuthnot loved hunting big game in the Rockies, Mexico, Canada, and Alaska—and in 1927, at the age of 56, he traveled to Africa with two exuberant university undergraduates to shoot with both guns and cameras. They returned after five months with trophies and 25,000 feet of motion picture film—and memories so vibrant that Arbuthnot wrote an action-packed book about the safari a quarter-century later. *African Hunt* is full of human interest and vivid descriptions of chattering monkeys, herds of gazelles, lurking hyenas, snuffling hippos, roaring lions, curious giraffes, stampeding elephants, and a “ribbon of pink flamingoes (that) stretched, with occasional breaks, over twenty miles.” A film of the trip, *The Wild Heart of Africa*, premiered in New York in 1929.

*(continued on page 5)*



## Third, and longest serving, president

(continued from page 4)

To commemorate the 100th anniversary, in 1935, of Andrew Carnegie's birth, Arbuthnot produced the elegantly written *Heroes of Peace*, a history of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission he served with such generous spirit for 44 years. He praised Carnegie's giving, and the Commission's work, as "seasoned with the genius that marks the great scientist; that is, a meticulous zeal for pertinent organization, detail, and the ability to suspend judgment and abide by the slow accumulations of tedious, undramatic facts." 

(Profiles of the presidents of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission were compiled by prominent Pittsburgh historian Mary Brignano last year in honor of the 10th anniversary of the election of Mark Laskow, the Hero Fund's seventh and current president. Charles L. Taylor and William J. Holland, the first two presidents, were featured in the March and June issues of imPULSE, and the December issue will continue the series with the profile of the fourth president, Charles A. McClintock [1957-1968]).

### ULTRA-LIGHT FLIGHT

Building and flying ultra-light model airplanes is a passion of Benjamin Saks of Pittsburgh, who was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 2006 for going to the aid of a police officer under assault near Saks's home. During the rescue, Saks was shot in the left hand. He was then a student at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, where he studied architecture. The rescue made headlines in the Pittsburgh media, and Saks's hobby is now doing the same: He participates in the model's international aeronautical competition, most recently in Belgrade, Serbia. The planes, powered by a single rubber band-wound propeller, have reached flight times as long as 61 minutes. Now 27, Saks has been involved with his hobby since high school. "I'm a builder of things," Saks told a reporter, "and these airplanes happen to be the most beautiful things I've ever made." Photo copyright © Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2012, all rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.



### DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN AWARD

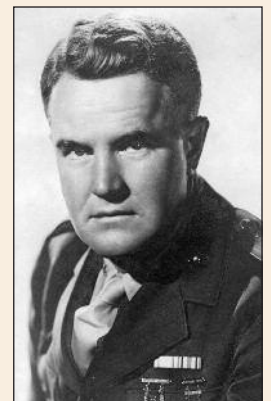


**A. James Dyess** of Augusta, Ga., is the only person to have received both the Carnegie Medal and the Medal of Honor for heroism, and a new award—the Distinguished American Award (pictured)—is now being given to recognize both military valor and a dedication to service that emu-

lates his life. Given by the Jimmie Dyess Symposium, an annual event affiliated with the Augusta Museum of History, the 2012 award went to Douglas Barnard, Jr., former U.S. Congressman, and U.S. Army Col. (ret.) Bruce Crandall.

Dyess received the Carnegie Medal in 1929 for his actions of July 28, 1928, by which he helped to save a woman from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Sullivan's Island, S.C. Sixteen years later, as a lieutenant colonel for the U.S. Marine Corps, he earned the Medal of Honor for heroic duty during World War II in the Marshall Islands. At age 35, he died in combat there on Feb. 2, 1944.

"Our goal is to perpetuate the legacy of Jimmie Dyess," said his son-in-law U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. (ret.) Perry Smith, secretary of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, which was established to perpetuate that award's legacy. The Medal of Honor is the U.S. government's highest military decoration and is



*Lt. Col. Dyess*

bestowed by the President in the name of Congress. More than 3,400 medals have been given since the award's creation by President Abraham Lincoln in 1861. Carnegie Medals have totaled 9,539 since the Hero Fund's inception in 1904.

The Dyess award was given to Crandall—himself a Medal of Honor recipient for bravery during the Vietnam War in 1965—not only for his military valor but for continuing dedication to public service after the war. Barnard received the Dyess award for U.S. Army service during World War II and for lengthy public service after the war, including serving eight terms as a U.S. Representative.

Further information on the Jimmie Dyess Symposium is available from Smith at [genpsmith@aol.com](mailto:genpsmith@aol.com), as are copies of a video on Dyess's life, *Twice a Hero: The Remarkable Story of Jimmie Dyess*.



LATEST AWARDEES  
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 23 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,539 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 27, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON SEPT. 20.

**Bobby Joe O'Quinn III** of Bude, Miss., helped to save Stormy L. Dunaway, 9, from drowning and died attempting to save Audrionna S. Lofton, 7, while the girls were swimming in Okhissa Lake in Bude on April 2 last year. The girls encountered difficulty near the buoy line, which was about 40 feet from the bank. Adults responding from their party included O'Quinn, 19. He waded and swam out to Stormy and then pushed her to another man, who took her to safety. As Audrionna was not visible, O'Quinn swam in search of her. During his efforts, he submerged and did not re-surface. Rescue personnel recovered Audrionna's body within a few hours. O'Quinn's body was located two days later beyond the buoy line in water 35 feet deep. He too had drowned.

**Kirk D. Haldeman**, 51, an insurance agent from Ligonier, Pa., and his friend, **Michael J. Ledgard**, 52, a contractor from Greensburg, Pa., saved at least eight people from assault by a gunman in Ligonier on July 11, 2011. After a man entered the barroom of a pub and grill and had a confrontation with one of the patrons, he left but returned shortly with an assault rifle. About eight to 10 people were in the barroom, Haldeman and Ledgard among them. The assailant pointed the rifle at the patron he had confronted and shot him, killing him. Haldeman stood and, although he was closer to two doors leading from the barroom than he was to the gunman, ran across the room and charged the assailant. He grasped him and pushed the rifle upward. It fired again. Ledgard approached them as Haldeman forced the assailant against a wall. Ledgard took the two men to the floor, the assailant losing control of the rifle. Haldeman and Ledgard secured the assailant until police arrived shortly and arrested him.

**Andrew Ian Hull**, 35, a nurse from Bethel, Conn., saved a coworker from an armed assault on March 2, 2010, in the Danbury, Conn., hospital where they worked. A 28-year-old nurse was attempting to aid an elderly male patient in a corridor when the man produced a loaded handgun and pointed it at her. Hull, about 50 feet away,



*Those easing Roumianka Connelly into a rescue boat include Christine A. Marty, front center, who pulled the woman from her stranded car during a flash flood in Pittsburgh and helped to secure her until the boat arrived. Photo, by Chris Langer, is provided courtesy of Trib Total Media, Pittsburgh.*

was alerted to the situation. He immediately ran through the corridor and took the assailant to the floor. As the other nurse fled, Hull struggled against the assailant for control of the gun, which fired repeatedly, striking Hull. Sustaining gunshot wounds to his neck and a finger, Hull made his way to the emergency room as the hospital's security officers responded and secured the assailant. Hull was hospitalized for treatment of his wounds.

**Nicole M. Autilio**, 36, of Saugus, Mass., and **Paul Corcoran**, 58, of North Andover, Mass., helped to save Mary L. Ciaramitaro from drowning in Diamond Creek, Revere, Mass., on Oct. 13, 2010. Ciaramitaro, 58, was the passenger in an automobile that in a highway accident left the roadway and entered the creek. The vehicle began to submerge as it was carried away by a tidal current. Other motorists, including Autilio, stopped at the scene. She shouted to Ciaramitaro to get out of the car and then, despite having limited swimming ability, entered the water and swam toward the car. Ciaramitaro exited the vehicle and was struggling to stay afloat in the cold, murky water. Another motorist, Corcoran, a marketing director, also swam out. He and Autilio held Ciaramitaro by her hands as they swam against the current toward the bank. They were able to stand atop a submerged sandbar to await help, and responding firefighters took them to safety. Ciaramitaro, Autilio, and Corcoran all required hospitalization for treatment of ill effects sustained in the accident and rescue.

**Joseph Anthony Jones**, 51, a production manager from Greenfield, Ohio, saved Misty M. and Destiny Mathews from a burning automobile after a highway accident on Jan. 30 last year. Mathews, 23, and her daughter, Destiny, 4 months, were passengers in the car, which caught fire at its front end. Hearing the accident from his nearby home, Jones responded to the scene, where he found Mathews partially extended through the front passenger door. Despite flames entering the vehicle at the dashboard, he leaned inside, freed Mathews, and pulled her to safety. With flames spreading, Jones broke out the window of the rear passenger-side door, partially entered the vehicle, and freed Destiny from her car seat, flames encroaching along the car's ceiling. He backed from the car with Destiny moments before flames grew to engulf its interior.

School student **Kyle D. Austin**, 13, of Mattawana, Pa., died attempting to save his friend, Dakota A. Cutshall, 13, from drowning in the Juniata River at McVeytown, Pa., on July 21, 2011. While swimming, Dakota struggled to stay afloat in the deeper water of a hole in the river floor between the bank of the river and the bank of an island at the scene. Kyle was standing in wadable water at the edge of the hole. He immediately jumped into the deeper water and swam across the hole to Dakota. A struggle between the boys ensued, during which they submerged and did not resurface. Firefighters responded shortly and recovered the boys from the

*(continued on page 7)*



## LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 6)

river. Resuscitation efforts were attempted, but they could not be revived, as they had drowned. (See photo.)

**Trevor Fox**, 32, a mechanic from Chino, Calif.; **Anthony V. Savedra**, 33, a welder from Wildomar, Calif., and **Timothy Elbridge West**, 41, a pilot from Riverside, Calif., joined forces to rescue Steven E. Bull, 52, from the burning wreckage of a downed helicopter in El Segundo, Calif., on March 13, 2011. Bull was piloting the commercial helicopter just off the roof of a industrial building when it lost partial engine power and crashed to the ground. It lay on its side there, aflame, and, injured and unconscious, Bull was trapped in the wreckage. Fox, a coworker, immediately responded to the scene. He extended his upper body into the cockpit, despite flames beginning to enter it behind Bull. He released Bull's safety belt and then supported him, even though Bull outweighed him by more than 50 pounds. Savedra and West, two other workers on the job, then arrived, extended their upper bodies into the cockpit, and joined in the effort to free Bull. After West pulled hard on Bull's arm, freeing him, the three rescuers dragged him several feet away. Flames grew quickly to consume much of the helicopter, including its two fuel tanks.

College student **Christine A. Marty**, 21, of Sarver, Pa., helped to save Roumianka Connolly, 69, from drowning during a flash flood in Pittsburgh on Aug. 19 last year. Connolly was stranded in her car, which she had been driving



*Charles J. Wickersham is flanked by the friends who saved his life after he was attacked by a shark while spear fishing in the Gulf of Mexico a year ago. Connor M. Bystrom, in ball cap, jumped into the bloodied water from the party's boat and returned Wickersham to it. The others tended to his wound, a major bite on his thigh, as they sped him to shore.*

on a highway through a low-lying area, when the highway was flooded suddenly during heavy rain. Marty was in one of several other vehicles that became stranded nearby. She escaped to the roof of her car, where she heard Connolly shouting for help. Rather than make her way to the safety of the nearer hillside, Marty got into the water, which reached depths of up to nine feet, and swam to Connolly's car. She pulled Connolly through the open window of the driver's door and, holding her, swam to a vehicle that was floating nearby. With help from that vehicle's driver, Marty supported Connolly until a rescue boat arrived within several minutes and took the women to

safety. Four of the other stranded motorists died in the floodwaters. (See photo.)

**Craig A. Sibley** of Caledon, Ont., and **Connor Frederick Klein** of Cedar Falls, Iowa, saved Dave Dalcourt from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Daytona Beach, Fla., on March 15, 2011. While swimming, Dalcourt, 61, struggled against a strong current that kept him from returning to shore. Sibley, 53, a biotechnology manager, had also felt the current while swimming and was returning to the beach. When he heard Dalcourt call for help, he turned and swam back to him, finding him submerged. A struggle ensued when Sibley took Dalcourt to the surface, and they were carried farther out, to a point about 270 feet from shore. Sibley started to swim toward the beach with Dalcourt but, tiring, called for help to Connor, 16, a high school student who was in the water closer to shore. Connor swam to them and supported Dalcourt, allowing Sibley to catch his breath. Sibley then grasped Dalcourt again, and with Connor on Dalcourt's other side, they towed him to safety.

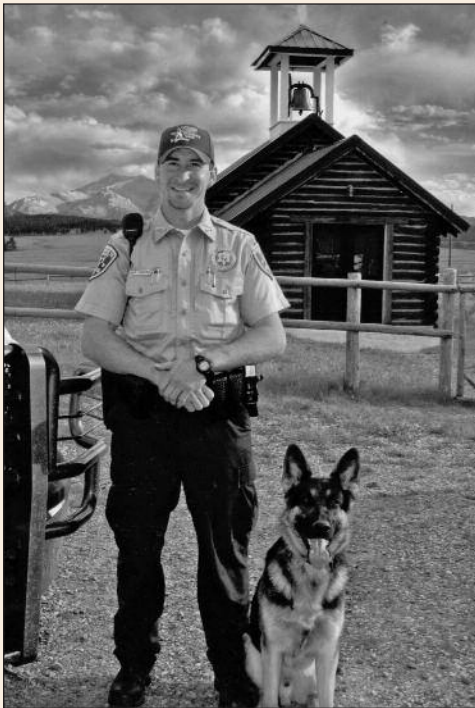
**Connor M. Bystrom** of Holmes Beach, Fla., rescued Charles J. Wickersham from a shark attack in the Gulf of Mexico about six miles off Anna Maria, Fla., on Sept. 24, 2011. Wickersham, 21, was spear fishing with friends, including Bystrom, 22, a surgical veterinarian technician, their boat anchored in water about 38 feet deep. Wickersham was in the water, about 25 feet from the boat, when a shark bit him deeply on his left thigh; the shark was thought to be a nine-foot-long bull shark. Wickersham struck it on the nose with both fists, and it released him. Bleeding profusely,



*Two crosses in the Juniata River at McVeytown, Pa., bear silent testimony to the deaths of 13-year-old best friends Kyle D. Austin and Dakota A. Cusball on July 21, 2011. Kyle, inset, died attempting to save Dakota from drowning while the boys were swimming in the river with friends. Photo courtesy of the Lewistown Sentinel.*

(continued on page 8)

## LATEST AWARDEES

*(continued from page 7)*

*Converse County, Wyo., Sheriff's Deputy Bryan Phillip Gross was a minute from completing his shift on July 28 last year when he joined in the effort to save a girl from drowning in the North Platte River at Douglas, Wyo. He died in the attempt. "There are those who run from the sound of gunfire and those who run toward it," Converse County Sheriff Clinton B. Becker said. "Gross was one who did not turn away and run; he ran toward and embraced what would result in his ultimate sacrifice."*

he shouted to the others that he had been attacked by a shark. Bystrom jumped from the boat and swam to him. He grabbed Wickersham by an arm and, swimming, towed him to the boat, where others in the party pulled him aboard. Bystrom climbed aboard and helped tend to Wickersham as the boat sped to a marina. Wickersham required surgery, including significant suturing, to close his wound. (See photo.)

**Edward J. Power, Jr.**, of Everett, Mass., died after attempting to rescue his sister, Edna M. Power, from their burning home on March 10, 2010. Bedfast, Edna, 80, was in her and her brother's apartment, which was at the front of the second floor of their family's 2.5-story house. Fire broke out at night on the structure's first-floor front porch and spread into the house. Edward, 76, a retired postal worker, descended the stairs and saw the fire. He then turned and went back up to the second floor. A police officer arrived and, from the stairs, saw Edward emerge through the smoke on the second floor. He told Edward to

leave the house, but Edward returned into the apartment. Responding firefighters found him, badly burned, on the floor near Edna's bed and removed him from the structure. He was taken to the hospital, where he died a few hours later. Edna died at the scene.

Structural engineer **Austin Woods Ball**, 33, of River Heights, Utah, attempted to save a girl from drowning in the Fremont River at Torrey, Utah, on July 15, 2011. The girl, 12, was wading downstream of a waterfall when she was drawn by a strong current into turbulent water of the deep pool at the base of the fall. She struggled to stay afloat. Ball, who was nearby, went to the edge of the pool, jumped into the nine-foot-deep water with a branch, and advanced toward the girl. Submerging repeatedly, the girl was unable to grasp the branch. Ball discarded it and struggled to reach her, but both were overcome and submerged. They were shortly swept into shallow water, from which they were recovered, unconscious, by others. Revived at the scene, they were then taken to the hospital, where Ball was detained overnight for treatment of having nearly drowned.

**Bryan Phillip Gross**, 29, a deputy sheriff from Douglas, Wyo., died attempting to help save a 14-year-old girl from drowning in the North Platte River at Douglas on July 28 last year. The girl entered the river from the bank and was carried downstream by the swift current. Those responding to the situation included Gross, whose shift was then ending. He drove to the opposite bank and was seen entering the river and swimming across it toward the girl. He intercepted her about

midstream, spoke to her, and then pushed her toward the bank. Gross was last seen being swept downstream with the girl by the current. The girl was pulled from the river by others. A search for Gross was started when he was shortly discovered to be missing. His body was found in the river three days later; he had drowned. (See photo.)

**Sean C. M. Vorel** of Bennington, Neb., helped to rescue Marcella M. Gilbert, 78, from an attacking pit bull terrier in Bennington on June 2, 2011. Gilbert, 78, was in a fenced-in yard of a kennel when the 70-pound dog attacked her. It took her to the ground and mauled her, inflicting severe injury. Driving by, Vorel, 27, construction worker, saw the attack. Finding the gate to the yard locked, he climbed over the fence and then approached the dog and struck it repeatedly about the head with a board. The dog attempted to attack Vorel as he climbed a fencing partition. After an arriving deputy sheriff stunned the dog with an electroshock weapon, the dog was secured. Gilbert required four months' hospitalization for treatment of her wounds.

**Mitchell Mochinski**, a sales representative from Lester Prairie, Minn., saved an 81-year-old man from drowning in Lake Shore, Minn. on Nov. 5, 2010. Mochinski, 22, was fishing the narrows between Upper Gull and Gull lakes when he saw the man drop from a nearby bridge into the water. As the man made no effort to reach either bank of the 75-foot-wide narrows, Mochinski ran to a point on the bank opposite him. Removing two coats but leaving on two pairs of pants and his boots, Mochinski entered the frigid water. He swam to

*(continued on page 9)*

*Mitchell Mochinski of Lester Prairie, Minn., and his girlfriend Laura Kahmeyer were recognized by the Cass County, Minn., Sheriff's Department for saving a man from drowning in Gull Lake at Lake Shore, Minn., on Nov. 5, 2010. Mochinski entered the frigid water wearing his hunting boots and, numbing, took the man to the bank, where he was assisted by Kahmeyer.*





Mr. Killingbeck

## Fellow paddlers honor Michigan canoeist a year after his sacrificial lifesaving effort

While enjoying one of his life's passions—canoeing—**Douglas D. Killingbeck**, 48, of Milford, Mich., lost his life on May 21 last year in a heroic attempt to save a 16-old-boy from drowning. Nearly a year later, on May 12, he was honored and remembered by family, friends, and fellow canoeing enthusiasts who gathered near the scene of the rescue attempt to hold what is intended to be an annual event, the Doug Killingbeck Memorial Canoe Race.

On the day of his rescue act, Killingbeck was alone, as he often was on the Huron River in eastern Michigan, when a 17-year-old boy begged him to help a friend who was trapped in the boil of water at the base of a dam. Although Killingbeck had just portaged around the dam, he put his canoe back into the water below the dam and paddled toward its base, donning a life jacket along the way. Just shy of the dam, he got out of the canoe but was immediately submerged in the turbulent water. Killingbeck was an excellent swimmer and a certified diver, but the boil



Karen A. Killingbeck accepted her husband's Carnegie Medal along with their daughter Brianna.

overcame him, and it was nearly a half-hour later that his body was recovered from the river. Resuscitation efforts could not revive him. The boy he attempted to save also drowned.

In recognition of his heroic actions, Killingbeck was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously in March.

The memorial race, held in conjunction with the Michigan Canoe Racing Association, consisted of three events, and in one of them, Killingbeck's daughter, Brianna, 16, who has been canoeing since she was a young child, competed as a professional for the first time. Along with one of Killingbeck's long-time paddling partners, she participated in a two-person race that was begun with Killingbeck's widow, Karen, firing the starting signal. Prior to the race, Douglas R. Chambers, the Commission's director of external affairs, presented Killingbeck's medal to Mrs. Killingbeck and Brianna. Killingbeck is survived also by another daughter, Natalie, 13.

### LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 8)

the man, turned him over, and then, grasping him by his shirtfront, swam with one arm to the closer bank, his arms and legs by then numbing. Others helped him pull the man out of the water, and he was revived at the scene. (See photo.)

High school student **Zachary Michael Mortenson**, 15, of Hamilton, Ohio, saved Dane J. Sapp, 21, from drowning in Acton Lake at College Corner, Ohio, on June 8, 2011. While swimming, Sapp became fatigued at a point about 360 feet from the beach. He struggled to stay afloat and called for help. In another party at the scene, Zachary was about to leave the beach when he saw Sapp struggling. He ran 600 feet to a point on the bank opposite Sapp and then entered the water and swam out to him. By then, Sapp was barely able to stay at the surface. Zachary grasped him and in a cross-chest carry swam to wadable water at the bank, towing him. Exhausted, Sapp needed help leaving the lake.

**Laurie Ann Eldridge**, 39, a homemaker from Cameron, N.Y., saved Angeline C. Pascucci, 81, from being struck by a train on June 6, 2011. Pascucci remained in her car after it became stuck on a railroad track. Eldridge was at her nearby home when she saw the stranded car and then heard the horn of an approaching train. The front of the freight train was then about 1,250 feet away but was not visible, as it was approaching the scene from around a bend. Barefoot, Eldridge ran to the car and shouted to Pascucci to exit it. Standing on the ballast, she then opened the driver's door and with difficulty pulled Pascucci out. The train was approaching at undiminished speed of about 40 m.p.h. as Eldridge took Pascucci away from the track. When the car became visible to them, the train's crew applied its brakes, but the train could not be stopped in time. It struck the car and knocked it off the track.

**David M. Reichenberg**, 50, a business operator from Spring Valley, N.Y., died saving Dovid Herbst from electrocution in Spring Valley on Aug. 28, 2011. Dovid, 6, and other members of his family were outside their home after a hurricane-related storm passed through the area, causing damage, including downed power lines. With them was a friend of the family, Reichenberg. As Reichenberg and Dovid's father talked, Dovid made contact with a live electrical charge, which shocked him severely. His father grasped him to free him but likewise was shocked. Reichenberg immediately advanced to Dovid and broke the contact. He was electrocuted and fell to the ground, a live power line atop him. Dovid was hospitalized for treatment of severe burns and died 12 days later. (See cover.)

### A GOOD AND HONEST MAN

My father died 30 years ago in July. Not a day goes by that I don't think of him. I tell his grandchildren about him—they never knew him, but I tell them what a good and honest man he was. He always had time for his children, even after working all day climbing poles.

*Steven Worthington, Willow Grove, Pa.*

*Fred Worthington, Jr., an electric company troubleman, died July 28, 1982, at age 55 attempting to save an 11-year-old boy from electrocution in Philadelphia, Pa. He was posthumously awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1983.*

### GRATEFUL TO RESCUER

I am requesting a copy of your book, *A Century of Heroes*, for Rory Lyons, who heroically and valiantly saved my life after I had been knocked unconscious in an auto accident. This book will be my humble way of trying to recognize heroic actions which have changed my family forever.

I am fortunate to be alive today. Partially because the designers and manufacturing team at Toyota made such a safe car, my 2005 Prius, which protected me during the crash. Then Mr. Lyons's proactive behavior saved me from possible death, if not horrible mutilation in a fire. Following that was the momentous task of the doctors and nurses who brought me back to health during five long weeks in the hospital. Throughout it all, there was my wife, Liz; my son, Jackson; my daughter, Kate; my mother, Elizabeth; and my father, Jack, all of whom were by my side from the day of the accident, providing love, caring, and comfort.

There was not a single person who can be given credit for my life today; instead, there is a host of people who together have contributed to my well being and existence. They all deserve an award for their efforts and will forever be treasured in my heart. Added to that list is now the team at Carnegie Hero Fund, who has connected me with Mr. Lyons and helped make this a gifted time in my life.

*Joseph M. Culley, Danville, Calif.*

*Lyons, of El Cerrito, Calif., pulled Culley from his burning automobile on Oct. 17 last year. A Century of Heroes was published in 2004 to mark the centennial of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. Copies are available on request of its author, Doug Chambers: [doug@carnegiehero.org](mailto:doug@carnegiehero.org)*



### GRAVE MARKERS INSTALLED

The Hero Fund makes bronze grave markers—medallions cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal—available to the families of deceased awardees for display on headstones or urns (see page 18). Two recent installations were made, including by Lana Pentore, above, of Farmington, Conn. Pentore is the granddaughter of **George A. Bradley**, who along with his son, **Harry D. Bradley**,



died while attempting to save a 6-year-old girl from drowning on Jan. 31, 1924. The girl had fallen through thin ice on a pond in Forestville, Conn., and the Bradleys, driving home from chopping wood, broke through after making their way to her. All three drowned. The elder Bradley, pictured here driving his car, was 42, and his son was 17. They were each awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously later in 1924, and the elder Bradley's widow, Lottie, received a continuing monthly grant until her remarriage two years later.



Phillip Kennedy of Toney, Ala., and his mother Frankie Cantrell Kennedy (left) are two of the many proud descendants of **Amos F. Cantrell** (right), who died at age 37 on May 14, 1924, as the result of saving a man from suffocating in a well in New Market, Ala. Cantrell left a pregnant widow—Frankie was born after the rescue—and seven children, and the family grew to include 36 grandchildren and 35 great-grandchildren. “We had to mount the medal to the back of the tombstone because the front didn't have space available,” Kennedy says. “The epitaph on the stone reads, ‘No greater love has any man than to lay down his life for a friend.’” Frankie and a sister are the last surviving of Cantrell's children. “She is so proud of her father,” Kennedy said, “as we all are.” Cantrell was posthumously awarded the medal in January 1926, eleven days before Frankie was born. A continuing monthly grant to his widow was made by the Hero Fund until her death in 1965.



back of the tombstone because the front didn't have space available,” Kennedy says. “The epitaph on the stone reads, ‘No greater love has any man than to lay down his life for a friend.’” Frankie and a sister are the last surviving of Cantrell's children. “She is so proud of her father,” Kennedy said, “as we all are.” Cantrell was posthumously awarded the medal in January 1926, eleven days before Frankie was born. A continuing monthly grant to his widow was made by the Hero Fund until her death in 1965.





Visitors at the Swiss hero fund's centennial observance included, from right to left, Mark Laskow, president of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission; Linda T. Hills, Commission board member; William Thomson of Murthly Perthshire, Scotland; and Brian Fera of Heppenheim, Germany. Hills and Thomson are great-grandchildren of Andrew and Louise Carnegie, and Fera is heading an initiative to re-establish Carnegie's hero fund in Germany.

## Carnegie's Swiss hero fund turns 100, cites new heroes in impressive ceremony

By Linda Thorell Hills, Board Member  
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

On May 11, our sister hero fund in Switzerland, the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation, celebrated its centennial in the capital city of Bern. Representing the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission were Mark Laskow, president, and myself. It is worthy to note that of the 11 hero funds established by Andrew Carnegie in the U.S., Canada, and Western Europe, nine are still in existence, all of them having reached the century mark. That's a remarkable achievement, as it underscores the vision of the founder, in recognizing civilian heroism, as enduring.

Likewise, the string of centennials suggests the dedication of the funds' several generations of directors and board members in carrying out the mission with which they were charged by Carnegie. The Swiss fund has Hans-Ruedi Hübscher, executive director, to thank for 35 years of dedicated leadership.



Hans-Ruedi Hübscher, the Swiss hero fund's executive director

A day of sparkling sunshine gracing the spectacular alpine vista and the beauty of the historic host city enhanced the atmosphere of the Swiss celebration. The heart of the ceremony was the recognition of 19 Swiss heroes, each of whose heroic acts was recounted by a prominent member of the Swiss government in the presence of family, friends,

past awardees, representatives of other Carnegie institutions from throughout Europe and North America, and an impressive gathering of Swiss officials.

(continued on page 12)



### HERO VISITS

Summer visitors to the Hero Fund offices included Carnegie Medal awardee **Mark Andrew Sellers** and family of Lancaster, Pa., who were in Pittsburgh on a college tour. Sellers was awarded the medal in 2008 for his actions of Nov. 17, 2007, by which he saved a 17-year-boy from a crashed and burning car. The car had struck and broken off a utility pole, sending transformers and lines atop the vehicle (below). Not knowing if the car were energized, Sellers struck a glancing blow against it as a test. He then worked to free the boy from the car, which became engulfed by flames. Shown with Sellers are his wife Tara, daughter Joslin, and sons Andrew (left) and Thomas.





### NEW MEMBERS JOIN BOARD; 33-YEAR TREASURER RETIRES

Two new members have been elected to the board of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission: Joseph C. Walton of Laughlintown, Pa., and Michael A. Thompson of Fox Chapel, Pa. In announcing their election, Commission President Mark Laskow said both would serve on the Executive Committee, which is the Hero Fund's awarding body.



Joseph C. Walton

Michael A. Thompson

Walton, an entrepreneurial investor, is vice president of Powercast Corporation of O'Hara Township, Pa., which develops wireless power and radio-frequency energy harvesting for low-power applications. Born in 1955 in Germany, where his father was stationed with the U.S. Army, he is a 1979 graduate of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass., and a 1983 graduate of the University of Texas, where he received a master's degree in business administration. He is a trustee of the DSF Charitable Foundation, Pittsburgh, and is on the boards of Allegheny Cemetery, the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, and the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Foundation, the latter of which he served as president from 2005 until 2007.

Walton's father, James M. Walton, was a member of the Commission from 1968 until his retirement earlier this year. His 44-year tenure on the board included serving on the Hero Fund's Executive and Finance committees, and for 33 years he was the Commission's treasurer. In recognition of his service, the elder Walton was named an honorary board member, a status reserved by the bylaws for those "deserving of special recognition on account of their services to the Commission."

"The Hero Fund was advanced by his counsel," Laskow said, "and we remain in his debt."

Thompson is manager of the electronic publishing division of SAE International, Warrendale, Pa., a non-profit educational and scientific organization serving more than 110,000 engineers and scientists worldwide involved with all forms of self-propelled vehicles. He has been with SAE since 2005 and in his current capacity is the executive in charge of its \$22 million online publishing group. A 1989 graduate of Carleton College, Northfield, Minn., Thompson received a master's degree in business administration in 2003 from

*(continued on page 13)*

## Carnegie's Swiss hero fund turns 100

*(continued from page 11)*

In her keynote speech, the foundation's president, Edith Graf-Litscher, who is a member of the Swiss National Council, told the gathering, "Thousands of people are working daily to sustain life, but in addition there are those guardian angels who happen by at the right time at the right place to do the right thing. Their names and deeds often remain hidden from the public. Fortunately, not always. For 100 years these selfless, courageous people—some of whom give their very lives—have been found by Carnegie's hero funds so that they may be honored and thanked. The Carnegie Rescuers Foundation since its inception has recognized more than 8,400 people in Switzerland who have put their lives at risk to save others."



*The Swiss Carnegie Medal*

Enhancing the festivities were musical performances by a brilliant young Swiss pianist and the Youth Symphony of Bern, and other musical and performance entertainment. The centennial observance culminated with a beautifully presented luncheon in a repurposed historic building that in previous centuries included a grain-storage cellar. The space is now a well designed restaurant with outstanding food and atmosphere.

It was not only an honor, but a humbling experience to be in the presence of the courageous awardees and to join with all those present in welcoming them into the remarkable family of "Carnegie heroes," a family that now spans more than a century of membership. ☒



*Edith Graf-Litscher, right, president of the Swiss hero fund, recognizing some of the fund's latest awardees*



## FRIENDS REMEMBERED



*Ms. Johnson, in photo by Earl Neikirk, courtesy of American Profile*

## 1959 medal awardee, renowned aviator Evelyn Bryan Johnson dies at age 102

**Evelyn Stone Bryan Johnson**, 102, of Jefferson City, Tenn., died May 10. Johnson was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1959 for risking her life to save two men from a helicopter that crashed after taking off from Moore-Murrell Airport, Morristown, Tenn., on April 28, 1958. The helicopter was tilted on its side so that its rotor blades, which continued to spin, struck the runway and caused the craft to bounce up and down as its engine smoked heavily and gasoline leaked from its four ruptured tanks. A flight instructor who worked at the airport, Johnson, then 48, ran to the wreckage, leaned into the cockpit, and turned off the engine switch, and she then sprayed foam onto the engine, diminishing the smoke. One of the men died, but the other, although badly injured, survived.

Johnson learned to fly in 1944—"It was love at first sight," she said. She continued flying until 2006, the year she turned 97, and at that time held the Guinness World Record for logging the most hours in the air—57,635, or the equivalent of 6.5 years—for a female pilot. She owned many airplanes during her life but once said she was often too busy with her flight school to fly them. Known by her students as "Mama Bird," Johnson was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio, in 2007, sharing the distinction with the Wright Brothers, Charles and Anne Lindbergh, Neil Armstrong, and John Glenn.

Johnson's contributions to general aviation went beyond flying and flight instruction. She owned a fixed-base operation for 33 years and for 19 years was a Cessna dealer, flying and selling just about everything Cessna made. In 1953 she was hired as the manager of the Morristown airport, a job she held for more than a half-century, even after a crippling automobile accident in 2006 that resulted in a leg amputation. When asked on her 99th birthday if she planned to retire, she told a reporter, "Heavens, no. I'm too young."

**Barbara J. Aspeslet**, 58, of Surrey, B.C., died July 13. She was the wife of Malcolm R. Aspeslet, who was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1972 for his actions of Oct. 1, 1971, by which he saved her—she was then Barbara J. Beck, a friend—

*(continued on page 15)*

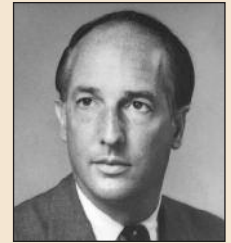
### NEW MEMBERS JOIN BOARD

*(continued from page 12)*

the Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business of the University of Pittsburgh. He is currently on the board of directors of the Ross Mountain Club and is involved with alumni fundraising for Shady Side Academy of Fox Chapel and career counseling for Carleton College's alumni association.



*Dan D. Sandman*



*James M. Walton*

Replacing the elder Walton as Commission treasurer is Dan D. Sandman, who has been a member of the board since 2002. Sandman is retired vice chairman and chief legal and administrative officer, general counsel, and secretary of United States Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh. He too serves on the Hero Fund's Executive Committee and was recently appointed to its Finance Committee. Sandman also serves on the boards of the Carnegie Science Center, the Heinz History Center, and the Pittsburgh Opera, all in Pittsburgh, and Grove City, Pa., College.

### OVERHEARD

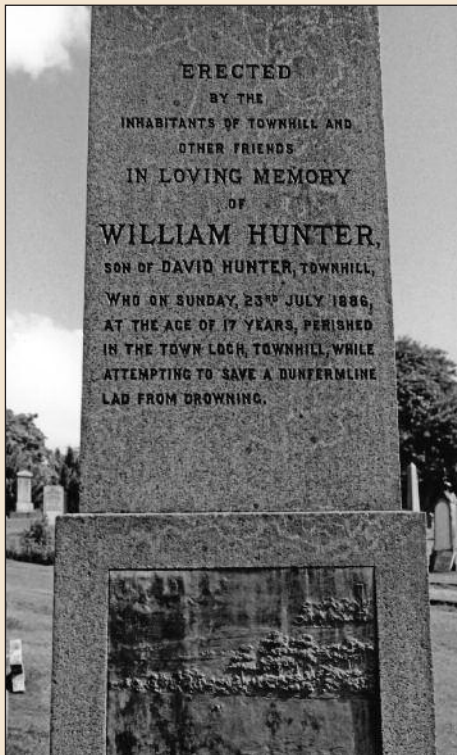
**The bruises are like jewels to me.**—Roumianka Connolly, 69, referring to bruising to her arm as the result of being pulled from her car in a flash flood by **Christine A. Marty**, Carnegie Medal awardee #9528.

**It was like sticking your head in an oven. Wow, this is real. People can die.**—**Rodney Bone**, Carnegie Medal nominee #84388, who helped to save the driver of a burning tractor-trailer.

**He didn't leave me alive for nothing. I don't know what, but that's for sure.**—David Dalcourt, speaking of **Craig A. Sibley**, Carnegie Medal awardee #9529, one of two men who saved him from drowning.

**The dignity which attaches to the individual is the basis of Western Civilization.**—**Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway**, a member of the board of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission from 1972 to 1975.

**The lake was death. The dock was life. The clock was ticking.**—Jerry Paine, on failing to reach the bank after his canoe capsized in frigid water. He was rescued by Carnegie Medal nominees **Stephen Cogswell**, #84694, and **Frank McLaughlin**, #84557.



### HEROES OF CIVILIZATION

A new website—[www.carnegieherofunds.org](http://www.carnegieherofunds.org)—was launched in July in an attempt to give greater exposure to the work of the nine hero funds that Andrew Carnegie established in the years from 1904 to 1911. A joint effort by the funds in the U.S./Canada, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Sweden, the site gives Carnegie’s philosophy behind his initiative: “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.” The site also gives a bit of history, picturing a stone monument in the Dunfermline, Scotland, cemetery that marks the grave of a young man who died in 1886 trying to save a drowning victim. Carnegie’s thoughts on heroism are cut into the monument’s base. In addition to Carnegie’s portrait, the site contains links to the nine funds as represented by their respective country’s flag.



## Carnegie Medal awardee, Army major honored with ROTC drill field dedication



*Maj. Morris*

**Max Adams Morris**, who was awarded the Carnegie Medal for a rescue in 1941, was honored again by Auburn, Ala., University in mid-May with the dedication of a new drill field in his name. The university first honored Morris in 1953 by naming a drill field after him following his death in the Korean War. The original drill field later became the site of student housing.

The impetus for again naming a drill field after Morris began with Dr. Charles M. Hendrix, a member of the Auburn University Heritage Association. Preparing for the event, Hendrix found descendants of another young man who played a role in the rescue on July 10, 1941, but whose name did not appear in the Hero Fund’s records.

On that day Morris, a student at Alabama Polytechnic Institute, now Auburn University, was attending ROTC summer camp at Fort Benning, Ga. Following a rainstorm, a radio antenna became electrically charged, and cadet H. Daughtry Perritt, 22, was shocked and knocked unconscious when he came in contact with it. Another cadet, Wayne B. Nelson, Jr., 20, went to Perritt’s aid, and he too was shocked and rendered unconscious. Morris, 23, learning of the cadets’ plight, grabbed Nelson’s arm and was shocked but was able to pull himself free. He then grabbed Nelson again and was shocked a second time but freed him. When Morris then hit Perritt with a pillow and knocked him free, Morris was again shocked by the charged antenna and severely burned. He fell unconscious. Kelley then lifted the antenna away from Morris with a board. Perritt could not be revived.

For his heroic actions, Morris was awarded the Carnegie Medal in early 1942. After graduating later that year as an honor military student, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army field artillery, and for his service during World War II was promoted to the rank of major and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Ribbon. Morris was serving in the 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division, when he was killed in action in North Korea on Nov. 28, 1950, in the Chosin Reservoir campaign. His remains were not recovered.



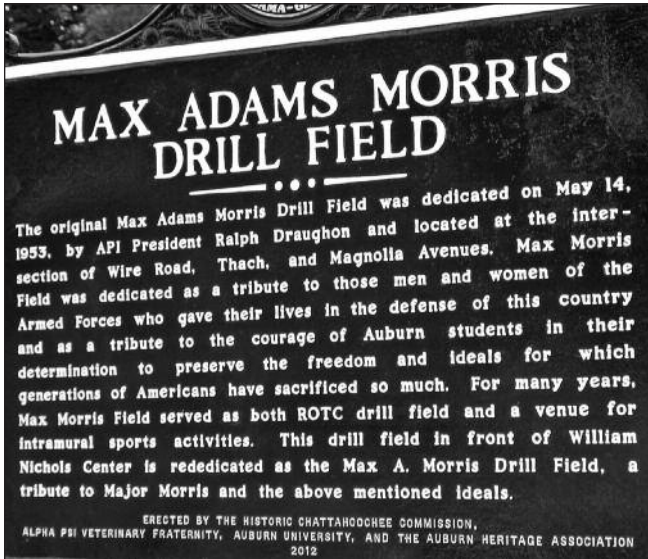
*(continued on page 15)*

*Attending the dedication of the Max Adams Morris Drill Field were, from left, Morris’s son Max F. Morris; Amy Rhudy, curator of the Blount County, Ala., Memorial Museum; Blount County Circuit Judge Stephen D. King; and Melia Morris, granddaughter of Max A. Morris.*



## Army major honored

(continued from page 14)



After locating one of Kelley's relatives, Hendrix began contacting members of the Perritt, Nelson, and Morris families. His efforts culminated with the May 24 dedication of the Max Adams Morris Drill Field, which is located at the front of the ROTC building on the university's campus, and the placement of a historic marker.

Douglas R. Chambers, the Hero

Fund's director of external affairs, attended the dedication and presented Morris's son, Max F. Morris, with a duplicate of his father's Carnegie Medal. Several years ago the original medal and several of Morris's military medals had been stolen. Also in attendance were descendants of the three other families. ❧

## CENTURY-OLD TOMBSTONE PIQUED INTEREST WITH MENTION OF MEDAL

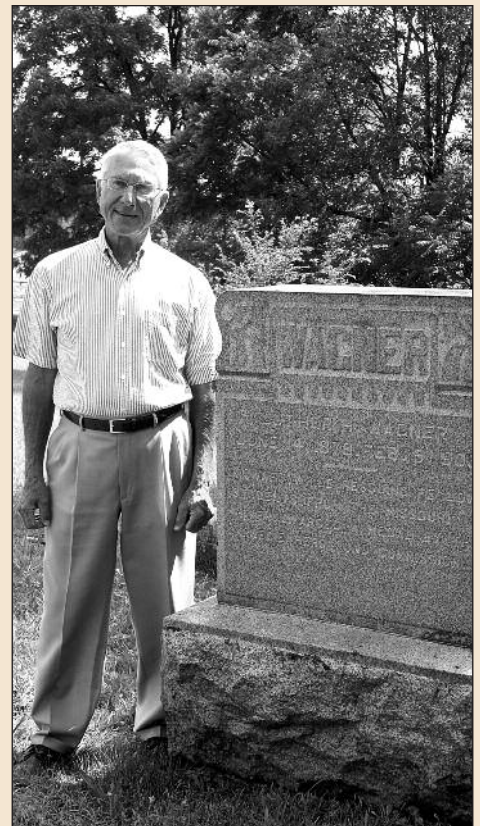
By Chris Brady, Managing Editor  
Standard Journal, Milton, Pa.

You just never know what bit of history you'll find, or where you'll find it. Gary Cronrath of Watontown, Pa., recently came across a rather unique piece of history while strolling through one of the area's least-known cemeteries—Union Cemetery, just outside McEwensville, Pa.

That discovery led to a little research on Cronrath's part and the knowledge that a hero had been buried in the cemetery, resting—in relative anonymity—for more than 100 years. **Luther H. Wagner** of McEwensville, whose family was originally from Milton, died at age 26 on Feb. 9, 1906, while helping to save a teenage girl who had broken through the ice on the Missouri River in Parkville, Mo. Wagner, who was in Missouri studying divinity, received a silver Carnegie Medal for his heroism. He was one of the first 80 recipients of the medal and one of just 620 since 1904 to have received a silver one. Today, just bronze medals are awarded.

Wagner's headstone recognizes the act that claimed his life, and that is what caught

(continued on page 16)



Mr. Cronrath. Photo, by Chris Brady, is courtesy of the Standard Journal, Milton, Pa.

## FRIENDS REMEMBERED

(continued from page 13)

from an attacking grizzly bear while they were hiking in Glacier National Park, B.C. Malcolm was severely injured in the attack. The couple married in 1973.

**Robert E. Brey**, 73, of Natrona Heights, Pa., died July 27. Brey was employed by the Hero Fund from 1973 to 1977 as one of the last of the Commission's "field agents" who traveled throughout the U.S. and Canada investigating cases of heroism that were under serious consideration for the award. Owing to advances in modern communication, most cases are now researched by the Hero Fund's Pittsburgh-based investigators. Brey was a U.S. Navy veteran and served 26 years in the Naval Reserve.



Ms. Aspeslet



Mr. Rose

**J. Evans Rose, Jr.**, 80, of Sewickley, Pa., died July 20. Rose was a trustee of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission from 1979 to 1999 and at the time of his death was an honorary member of the Commission. A 1954 graduate of Yale University, Rose received a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh Law School, where he was editor of *The Pittsburgh Law Review*. Specializing in trusts and estates and corporate and public finance, Rose was associated with the law firm of Rose, Schmidt, Hasley and DiSalle, which was co-founded by his grandfather in 1904, and then with Cohen and Grigsby until his retirement in 2009. Yale classmate Richard Thornburgh, former governor of Pennsylvania and U.S. Attorney General, claimed Rose as a "close advisor" throughout his public career, and in 2000, Rose was courted by George W. Bush at his Texas ranch to help with fundraising. During his time with the Hero Fund, Rose was a member of the Executive Committee.



## CENTURY-OLD TOMBSTONE

(continued from page 15)

Cronrath's attention. "I like cemeteries, and I was walking through this cemetery just for the walk, just randomly walking back and forth," said Cronrath. "I noticed a fairly large stone, one that sat kind of by itself, and read it."

What he saw read, "Luther H. Wagner, June 14, 1879 – Feb. 9, 1906; Drowned while rescuing fellow students from the Missouri River. Awarded a medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission." That piqued Cronrath's curiosity, and a hero is once again being remembered for his act.

According to the Hero Fund's account, Wagner came to the rescue of Katie Crabb, 15, who, along with a companion, had broken through ice on a slough of the river. Wagner was able to support Crabb for a time before sinking. The Milton Evening Standard of Feb. 10, 1906, notes that Wagner was an expert swimmer and was part of a large party of skaters on the river when the ice gave way. He helped to save Crabb but lost his own life.

Wagner's funeral expenses amounted to \$131. The Hero Fund's silver medal came with death benefits totaling \$250, which went to the family. Luther left four brothers, two of whom were ministers, one a canvassing agent, another a dentist.

The Commission's records still have an account of the act. "The board's minute book dates back to 1906 and describes the day, the time of the day," said Doug Chambers, director of external affairs at the foundation. "He was a resident of Milton, a student at Park College. Crabb (at age 15) was a student at the same college. That was interesting."

The foundation has been awarding only bronze medals since 1981. It used to award gold, silver, and bronze medals but decided that there was no need to distinguish the levels of heroism relative to rescues. Wagner's honor was No. 73 overall. Since 1904, the Hero Fund has recognized 9,539 individuals, with awardees named quarterly. Awards are presented to rescuers in the United States and Canada.

As for Wagner, another generation is now recognizing his heroics, thanks to a simple inscription on a headstone and the research of one area resident. "It's great they decided to have it inscribed on the stone," said Cronrath. "Without that, no one today would have ever known who Luther Wagner was."

*Reprinted with permission. Chris Brady is managing editor at the Standard Journal.*

In its December 2007 issue, *imPULSE* ran a list of 10 facts about the Carnegie Hero Fund. We are repeating the feature here, but with a twist: Each of the Hero Fund's employees (conveniently, there are 10) was asked to list a distinctive about the organization. It's an enlightening view.

- 1 **Ernestine F. Atwood**, 17, was the first woman to receive the Carnegie Medal. She was cited for rescuing a 36-year-old man from drowning in Boston Harbor in North Weymouth, Mass., on August 22, 1904.—Susan M. Rizza, the Hero Fund's first female case investigator.
- 2 The Hero Fund has had seven presidents over its 108-year history, and I have had the pleasure of working for five of them—Myrna J. Braun, administrative assistant, hired right out of high school in 1955.
- 3 Death cases are always poignant (over the life of the Hero Fund, 21% of the awards were made posthumously), and the most intriguing and emotional one I worked on was that of **Mark John Thanos** and his father, **John Mikel Thanos**, both of whom drowned trying to save a neighbor boy from a flooded culvert in Chesterton, Ind., in 2008.—Melissa A. McLaughlin, case investigator.
- 4 The average number of nominations for the medal per year for the past 10 year years is 881—and each one crossed my desk.—Jeffrey A. Dooley, investigations manager.
- 5 About 225 letters are typed and mailed (by me) each month to parties in cases under consideration.—Gloria A. Barber, administrative assistant.
- 6 It's a fact: There is no greater honor or privilege for me than to present the Carnegie Medal personally. It confirms that the awardees represent the very best of human behavior.—Douglas R. Chambers, director of external affairs.
- 7 Four people have been awarded the Carnegie Medal twice: Rudell Stitch (1958, 1960), John J. O'Neill, Sr. (1954, 1956), Henry Naumann (1924, 1927), and Daniel Elwood Stockwell (1964, 1992).—Walter F. Rutkowski, executive director.
- 8 The Commission has been recognizing heroic acts for 108 years, and for 27 percent of that period I have been participating in the work as a case investigator.—Marlin Ross.
- 9 Carnegie Medals were initially issued in bronze, silver, and gold, but since 1980, the medals are of bronze only. The last of the 19 gold medals issued was awarded posthumously to **Charles L. Coe**, who died in a fire rescue act on Feb. 6, 1923.—Lydia S. Morin, administrative assistant.
- 10 Carnegie's original grant to the Hero Fund of \$5 million in 1904 has produced more than \$32 million in philanthropic giving to date, maintained an office for more than a century, and seeded the current \$40 million in assets.—David C. Schwab, financial manager.



## GRAVE MARKED



**Sam W. Reed**, 46, of Cambridge, Ohio, was preparing to fish at a farm pond on July 12, 1959, when he was alerted to two teenage girls struggling nearby in the 10-foot-deep water. Without removing any of his clothing, Reed entered the water and waded and swam to the girls, but a struggle with them ensued. The girls, whose combined weight was 90

pounds greater than Reed's, submerged him, and he swallowed water. Reed surfaced with the girls and returned them to the bank with great effort. For his heroic act, Reed was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1960. A veteran of World War II, he died at age 60 in 1973. The family recently installed a Hero Fund grave marker to his burial site's bronze plaque.



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

## THIS SCOUT WAS HELPFUL—AND THEN SOME

Picture it: You are 12 years old, it's a Wednesday evening, which means that two days of school remain before the weekend, and you are doing homework. The neighbor children, meanwhile, are playing outdoors, profiting from the final minutes of daylight. Almost any interruption would be welcome.

In fact, that was the situation in which **Ronald Norman Grant** found himself on Oct. 17, 1962, when his mother noticed that 19-month-old Susan G. Thrush was sitting on the main railroad track that separated the Grant home from the Thrush's in Whitefish, Ont., about 20 miles west of Sudbury. Mrs. Grant called to the girl to get off the track, but Susan ignored her. Her older siblings, busy making their own fun and noise, did not hear her. Aware that a westbound Canadian Pacific freight train left Sudbury daily at 6 p.m., Mrs. Grant told Ronald to go outside and move Susan off the track. It was 6:40 p.m.



*Boy Scout Ronald Norman Grant being congratulated by then Governor General of Canada Georges Vanier at a 1962 ceremony honoring him for the two rescues Ronald performed earlier that year. Vanier and Ronald are employing the left-handed Scout handshake.*



*Mr. Grant*


A Boy Scout, Ronald knew that Scout law obliged him to be, among other things, helpful, and by taking the Scout oath he pledged to help other people at all times. *Helping*, however, is not synonymous with risking one's life. As Ronald prepared to leave the house, he heard the train's whistle; the train was, in fact, then only 600 feet from Susan and moving at about 40 m.p.h., or 59 feet a second.

Ronald ran 50 feet toward the track, vaulted a wire fence, and ran an additional 75 feet to the track on which Susan was sitting. Still moving at 40 m.p.h., the train was then only 100 feet from her. Despite his fear from realizing that his own life was then in danger, Ronald stepped onto the track, lifted Susan with both arms, and moved backward. He rolled down an embankment, Susan in his arms, as the train passed them. Although Susan was not injured, Ronald had wrenched an ankle. Not surprisingly, he was also upset.

Just four months earlier, Ronald saved a girl and man from drowning in the Vermilion River, also in Ontario, and in recognition of both rescues the Boy Scouts of Canada awarded him a Gilt Cross and Bar. When the organization informed the Hero Fund of Ronald's rescue of Susan, the Commission sent an investigator on site to interview Ronald and his mother and the neighbors, as well

as the train engineer. Ronald was subsequently awarded the Carnegie Medal and \$500 to apply toward educational expenses.

The grant helped to defray the cost of Ronald's study at the North Bay campus of Cambrian College (now Canadore College), where he specialized in marketing and hotel management. In the ensuing decades, he worked in the hospitality industry across Western Canada and is currently employed by a major franchise association. He and his wife, Dianne, live in Victoria, B.C.

Although a half-century has passed, memories—and emotions—of the rescue remain sharp. In a recent email to the Commission, Grant, now 62, wrote: "It is indeed humbling to be part of the Carnegie alumni."  —Marlin Ross, *Case Investigator*



**Carnegie Hero Fund Commission**

436 Seventh Ave., Ste. 1101 • Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1841

412-281-1302 • 800-447-8900

www.carnegiehero.org

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit No. 2461

**Address Service Requested**

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!

**Carnegie Hero Fund Commission**

436 Seventh Ave., Ste. 1101 • Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1841

Executive Director & Editor: Walter F. Rutkowski

Telephone: 412-281-1302 Toll-free: 800-447-8900

Fax: 412-281-5751

E-mail: carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org

impulse@carnegiehero.org

Website: www.carnegiehero.org

**MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

A. H. Burchfield III

Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr.

David McL. Hillman

Peter J. Lambrou

Linda T. Hills

Mark Laskow

President

Christopher R. McCrady

Priscilla J. McCrady

Vice President

Ann M. McGuinn

Nancy L. Rackoff

Frank Brooks Robinson

Dan D. Sandman

Treasurer

Arthur M. Scully

Michael A. Thompson

Sybil P. Veeder

Chair, Executive Committee

Joseph C. Walton

Susanne C. Wean

Thomas L. Wentling, Jr.

Chair, Finance Committee

Carol A. Word

**HONORARY MEMBERS**

William P. Snyder III

James M. Walton

✧ THE QUOTABLE A.C. ✧



*It is not the privilege... of millionaires alone to work for or aid measures which are certain to benefit the community. Every one who has but a small sur-*

*plus above his moderate wants may share this privilege with his richer brothers, and those without surplus can give at least a part of their time, which is usually as important as funds, and often more so.*

—From *The Gospel of Wealth*, 1889

➤ CONTINUUM ➤

**GRAVE MARKERS** Bronze grave markers (below), 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 Rizza (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 reports (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.

**imPULSE ON LINE?** Should you wish to receive imPULSE in PDF rather than in your mailbox, let us know: impulse@carnegiehero.org

**CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION**

436 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1101, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1841

Telephone: (412) 281-1302 Toll free: (800) 447-8900 Fax: (412)-281-5751

E-mail: carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org Website: www.carnegiehero.org

