

imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 51 • SEPTEMBER 2017

'ONE HELL OF A GUY' RECEIVES U.S. COAST GUARD LIFESAVING MEDAL

Last fall, **Michael J. Manley, Sr.**, was posthumously awarded the Carnegie Medal for attempting to save his stepson, Andrew Short, from drowning one year earlier. Manley drowned in the rough surf. In June, Manley, of Wilmington, Del., was also awarded the prestigious Silver Lifesaving Medal from the U.S. Coast Guard for the same rescue.



*U.S. Coast Guard
Silver Lifesaving
Medal*

Established by an act of Congress in 1874, the Coast Guard medal, given in grades of silver and gold, is one of the oldest in the U.S., with the silver medal having been awarded only about 1,900 times. It can be awarded to both civilians and military personnel.

A ceremony held June 24 included Delaware Gov. John Carney, Jr., and Rear Adm. Meredith Austin, Fifth Coast Guard District Commander. Indian River Coast Guard Chief James Pond presented the medal.

According to an article posted on Delmarvanow.com, Pond spoke directly to Short and Manley's 5-year-old son, Michael Manley, Jr.

"Every day, men and women of this station train to assist anyone in danger out at sea. What your father did is an inspiration to me and my crew," Pond said.

While vacationing in Virginia Beach, Va., Short was caught by a strong current that took him farther from shore and kept him from returning. Manley waded and then swam to a point near Short, instructing him on how to return to shore. Short followed Manley's directions and safely returned to the beach. Manley drowned in the rough conditions. ► p.4

A Web Completed: President retires from 'jewel of an organization'

When Walter F. Rutkowski walked into the Hero Fund offices in September 1973 as a newly hired field investigator, the future must have gleamed like the resident typewriter keys busy tapping out the stories of countless heroes. Through the years that followed until his recent retirement on June 30, Rutkowski carved a legacy of service that became the gold standard of the Commission, always true to Andrew Carnegie's vision to recognize and support civilian heroes.

Still in the days when the Commission investigated nearly all its cases at the scene of the rescue, the new job took the young Rutkowski on trips to distant states and provinces in pursuit of details of heroic rescues. Travel was nearly constant and often for weeks at a time. Rutkowski made an early impression for his thorough and thoughtful case investigations.

Investigations Manager Jeffrey A. Dooley received training from Rutkowski when Dooley started at the Commission as a case investigator in 1985.

"I was working under the tutelage of Walter, whose thoroughness and devotion to the craft of case investigation fit well with the intrepid tradition of the organization," Dooley said. "His astute observations, terrific writing ability, ►



Walter F. Rutkowski editing a case report in 2005. At that time, Rutkowski was serving as executive director and secretary of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.



BOARD NOTES

DEPARTING PRESIDENT RUTKOWSKI'S LEGACY HELPED ORGANIZATION 'THRIVE'

By Mark Laskow, Chair
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



Organizations that prosper for 113 years must have something special going for them. Walter F. Rutkowski was certainly something special for the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. He brought to the Hero Fund impressive

technical competence along with vision, determination, and dedication to its mission. These traits, coupled with his longevity at the organization, made him a major reason why the organization thrives today.

Walter, himself, would quickly point out that the Hero Fund has a few things going for it besides himself, of all people. This is true. If you look at the more than 20 organizations created by Andrew Carnegie that survive today, you see that they share two key characteristics: initial investment and clear vision. Many of the organizations would not have been founded without Carnegie's generous financial endowment, of course, but that was not nearly enough to ensure survival, much less success. Carnegie's "secret sauce" was his genius for shaping an enduring mission for his creations. He assigned big missions aimed at big issues: peace, ethics, justice, scientific research, and many others. With the Hero Fund, he zeroed in on the importance of altruistic heroism to our culture.

But even brilliance of mission is no guarantee of success, because it requires human beings to execute it in changing societal and economic conditions. What a great mission tends to do, though, is attract great and dedicated people. That is what made Walter so important to the Hero Fund. The mission called the man it needed, when it needed him. For his part, Walter found in the mission a cause into which he poured himself.

In Walter's earliest years, the Hero Fund faced some serious problems. First, a very conservative investment policy had, during seven decades or so, left the Fund with a larger nominal endowment than at its founding, but with vastly lower spending power after accounting for inflation. Against that, expenses had been rising. The cost of supporting traveling investigators on the road was becoming prohibitive, and at the same time it became harder and harder to recruit new investigators into the rigors of that life. Fortunately, the Hero Fund Commission recognized the problems and acted. ► p.4

A Web Completed

► from cover

attention to detail, and vast storehouse of institutional knowledge made him a 'go-to' source for any and all things 'Carnegie,' and I learned a lot from him during the more than 30 years we worked together."

Rutkowski's exceptional writing ability would serve him throughout his career, as it expanded beyond case investigation to encompass all facets of the Hero Fund's mission. He went on to hold the titles of investigations manager, executive vice president, and executive director, creating *imPULSE* in 2005 and serving as its editor through its first 50 issues.

"The newsletter provides friends of the Commission with a glimpse into the inner workings of the organization. Not only does it help to fulfill the mission of the organization by spreading the news of the Commission's heroes and their deeds, but it also allows us to keep everyone updated on the extracurricular activities of the organization," said Eric P. Zahren, the current president and secretary for the Commission.

"Many readers of the newsletter look forward to receiving the issue each quarter, and that's a testament to the work Walter did in crafting a well-rounded, interesting publication during its first 50 issues," Zahren said. "He has set the bar very high moving forward."

Rutkowski was elected president of the Commission on Dec. 17, 2013, and served as the Commission's secretary from 1986 until his retirement.

Rutkowski referred to the Hero Fund as a "jewel of an organization," and did much to enhance and protect its shine.

At the Commission's Annual Meeting, held June 12, Commission Chair Mark Laskow presented Rutkowski with a framed resolution, adopted by the board, honoring Rutkowski's long and successful career. It heralded, in part, Rutkowski's steadfast devotion to the mission of the Hero Fund.

"Administering its work for more than a third of the organization's life, during which time more than 36,000 nominations were considered and over 3,500 awards were given to worthy recipients, Walter has brought honor to the work as envisioned by its Founder," the resolution stated.

Laskow called his long association with Rutkowski one of the highlights of his personal life and professional career. (See more in "Board Notes," left.)

One of the honoraria presented to Rutkowski at the meeting bore a favorite phrase: "The gods send thread for a web begun."

And so it was sent and woven to its completion with great skill and grace by a master weaver, indeed. ☞



Then-Investigations Manager Walter F. Rutkowski, far right, with the rest of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission staff in 1984. Seated from left are Administrative Assistant Myrna J. Braun and Secretary Walter F. Toerge. Back row, from left, President Robert W. Off, case investigators Marlin Ross and James L. Rethi, Jr., Assistant Treasurer Lawrence Wm. Haywiser, Administrative Assistant Dianne R. Bailey, and Case Investigator Bruce Brian Ideson.

 PRESENTING



Carnegie Hero Fund Commission Executive Director Eric P. Zahren, left, presented the Carnegie Medal to Sanford Harling, Jr., and Dana Henderson, the parents of posthumous Carnegie Hero **Sanford Harling III** in a special ceremony held May 2 during a Norristown (Pa.) Council meeting.

On Feb. 5, 2016, Sanford, 12, died after he re-entered his burning home for his father, who was recovering from surgery and required the use of a walker. Harling, meanwhile, escaped the house through a second-floor window.

"When you think of courage, what do you think of? I think of four words: fearless, heroism, bravery, and boldness. These four words describe Sanford for he exemplifies the meaning of courage," said Council President Valerie Scott Cooper. "His selfless courage is an example of family love."

Norristown Fire Chief Thomas O'Donnell and several firefighters were also in attendance.

"We feel really honored to be able to receive this award in honor of Sanford. This is something that will remain in our hearts," Harling said. "Our son was already labelled a hero, but now he's officially a hero in history."



Carnegie Hero **Humberto Sanchez III**, left, holding son, Jayden Sanchez, walks onto the stage to accept his Carnegie Medal, presented by Stockton (Calif.) Mayor Michael Tubbs at a state-of-the-city event held May 18.

In August 2015, Sanchez responded to the scene of a burning vehicle, and, fully entering the car multiple times, worked to free a 4-month-old boy from his car seat's restraints, eventually freeing him from the seat and removing him to safety.

In front of a crowd of about 400 people, Tubbs said Sanchez is an example of why he has so much faith in the community of Stockton.

"Humberto could have given up. He could have said, 'I don't have the resources.' He could have said, 'It's not my job.' But instead Humberto sprung to action. He continued to fight to free this child. He was able to pull this child out before flames completely engulfed the SUV," Tubbs said.

Sanchez also received a key to the city of Stockton and several commendations from federal, state, and local officials.



St. Charles Police Chief James Keegan, left, Suzette B. Turyna, Carnegie Hero **Steven L. Spurling**, and volunteer presenter **Paul A. Ansolabehere** pose with the Carnegie Medal after Ansolabehere presented it to Spurling during a St. Charles (Ill.) City Council meeting held May 15.

In 2016, Spurling, of St. Charles, went to the aid of Turyna, who was bloodied, distressed, and fleeing a man armed with a handgun. The assailant repeatedly shot at Turyna as she fled, Spurling following while calling 911. Spurling then lunged at and tackled the assailant, taking him to the ground, disarming him, and holding him down until police arrived at the scene.

After receiving the medal, Spurling thanked the officers for their response that day and every day.

Ansolabehere, a volunteer presenter since 2016, received the Carnegie Medal in 2011 after pulling the pilot from a burning airplane that had crash-landed in Minnesota.

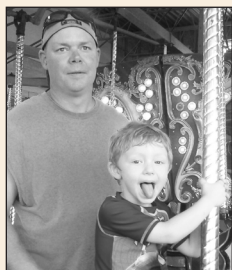


'ONE HELL OF A GUY'

► from cover

Manley's partner of 10 years, Amy Jo Fosdick told reporters that Manley was "one hell of a guy."

The Coast Guard medal requires recipients "rescue, or endeavour to rescue, any other person from drowning, shipwreck or other peril of water."



Michael J. Manley, Sr., with his son, Michael Manley, Jr.

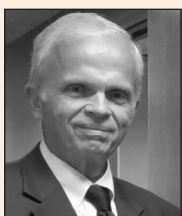
Carney also issued the Manley family a Certificate of Valor.

"We gather with sadness, but with gratitude and with pride (for) what he did," Carney said, according to the article. "We are eternally grateful for his service that day."

LEGACY HELPED ORGANIZATION 'THRIVE'

► from p.2

The investment policy was modernized, with good results, and Robert Off was elected President with a mandate to modernize the Hero Fund's operations. Bob and Walter were able to restructure operations to take advantage of new technologies — the telephone, of course, but then fax and the internet. The Hero Fund was soon able to investigate cases to its standards without a corps of traveling investigators. The overall situation stabilized, and



Walter F. Rutkowski

the Hero Fund's future seemed secure once more. Beyond this, Walter excelled in many areas. He is a skilled, disciplined writer and editor, and his eye for design is evident in all of the Hero Fund's output, including this newsletter. Most of all, he had an encyclopedic knowledge of Andrew Carnegie and his life, times, and works. Within the community of Carnegie organizations, Walter is recognized and appreciated for the depth of his expertise in this regard. If that weren't enough, Walter was also an effective diplomat of sorts. He persistently and successfully cultivated contacts with the European Hero Funds, work which led to the organization of the Carnegie Hero Funds World Committee. He also got to know Linda Hills, Andrew Carnegie's great-granddaughter and persuaded her to join the Hero Fund Commission, to the delight of all.

Finally, Walter was a great friend to this writer. I admired (and accepted) his skill as an editor, historian, teacher, and so much more. I admired the depth of his religious commitment and his knowledge of the theology behind it. Walter was and remains a great friend. Shalom, my friend.

Carnegie Hero's story enlivens Praytor family reunion

Nearly 85 years to the day that **Weldon M. Praytor** helped a man escape from the bottom of a well, Praytor's descendants recognized his heroism at a family reunion held July 22, which included the recent installation of a Hero Fund medallion on Praytor's headstone.



Weldon M. Praytor, right, with his wife, Mildred Praytor, and one daughter.

In July 1932, Praytor was called to the scene where a man, who was near the bottom of a 25-foot-deep well, was in danger of suffocating from sulfur dioxide gas. Then a 21-year-old farmhand, Praytor didn't shy away from the challenge. He helped 60-year-old Steve L. Lynch out of the well in Lindale, Texas, and was later recognized by the Carnegie Hero Fund for the heroic act.

Praytor's family wasn't surprised when they learned of his actions. Praytor's daughter, Laura Alvey, said her father was a selfless man.

"He was always helping people," she said. "He would give the shirt off of his back if he had to."

Praytor, who lived in Hopewell, a small community of Lindale, was given a bronze medal and \$1,000 grant, which he used to build a house for his family. He and his wife, Mildred, who he had married in 1931, raised seven children — two sons and five daughters.

The family has reunited annually since 2001, but this year the event became more involved as the family researched Praytor's act and wanted to educate more relatives about what he did. Organizers opened the reunion to Praytor's side of the family, specifically his late Uncle Robert's children and grandchildren.

"They didn't really know anything about (Praytor's heroic act)," Alvey said. "They were never told the story."

The family also was able to see the medal, as it was handed down to Praytor's grandson, Dwayne Praytor, and he brought it to the event to display.

Alvey said her remaining siblings — sisters Pat Streetman, Nell Hyde, Sue Wortham

and Shirley Abbott, look forward to the reunions as they don't see each other very often due to distance.

"We make a special effort to get together," Alvey said. Her two brothers, Louie Mitchell and Homer Charles (Bud) Praytor, died in 2009 and 2012, respectively.

Weldon Praytor passed away in February 1980 at the age of 68 after battling illness,



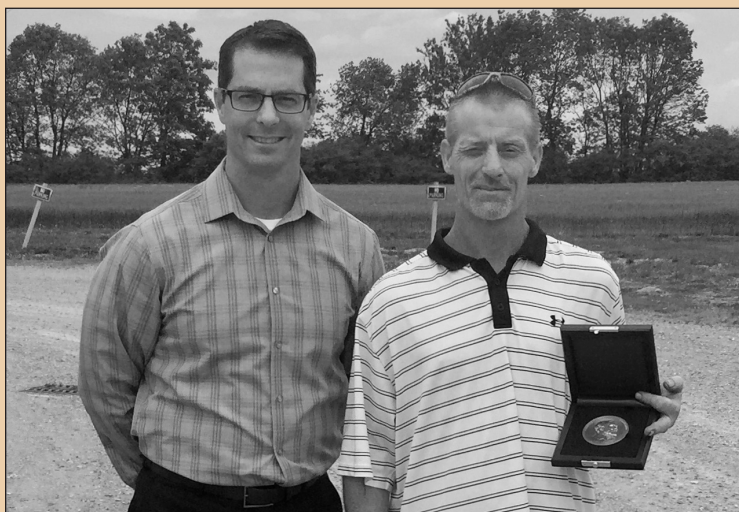
The headstone of Weldon M. Praytor bears a bronze medallion cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal.

including pancreatic cancer. Mildred died in December 1979, six weeks before Praytor's death. They share a double headstone in Hopewell Cemetery.

Bronze medallions cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal are available to families of deceased awardees (see back cover). ☞

— Melissa A. McLaughlin, case investigator

PRESENTING



Carnegie Hero Fund Commission Executive Director Eric P. Zahren presented the Carnegie Medal to **Richard David Greeno** (left photo) and **Lisa McNairy** (right photo) in ceremonies held May 18.

In October 2015, Greeno and McNairy entered a burning house in Circleville, Ohio, and, despite dense smoke, crawled to find 66-year-old Charles C. Rhodes, who used a cane to walk. Working together they dragged him from the burning structure to safety.

Pictured, Zahren, left, presented Greeno with the Carnegie Medal in a private ceremony in Williamsport, Ohio. Also present was Greeno's wife, Kathleen Christman.

Family and friends of McNairy gathered at the Harrison Township Fire Department in Ashville, Ohio, for McNairy's presentation, where she read a text message from Rhodes.

"I want you to know you deserve this award," Rhodes wrote to McNairy. "Be very proud to accept it. You saved my life. (I will) always remember you and love you for it because, as you know, I love life and living it to the fullest."

Pictured are McNairy, center, with her children, from left, daughter Kristi McNairy and son Matt McNairy.



Bogalusa (La.) Mayor Wendy Perrette, left, presented the Carnegie Medal to awardee **Leyton Page**, during a May 2 city council meeting.

More than a year earlier, Page, then 16, was piloting a flat-bottomed boat in the Bogue Chitto River near Bush, La., when it capsized at the base of a dam as he was helping two boys who had been thrown in the boil of water at the base of the dam and were trapped.

Maneuvering to the boys, Page held to them and used his overturned boat to blunt the water's strong flow until others could respond to the scene by boat and take them to safety.

At the ceremony, Page also received a flag that had been flown over the capitol building, presented by Wyatt Lobrano, district director for U.S. Rep. Ralph Abraham, who represents Louisiana's fifth district.



The actions of Carnegie Hero **Timothy Carpenter**, right, epitomize the Carnegie Medal, according to U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot, who presented the medal to Carpenter, of Cincinnati, in a ceremony held May 15.

"We are fortunate to have individuals like him living in our community," stated Chabot in an online post about the presentation. Chabot represents Ohio's first district.

In 2015, Carpenter went to the aid of a woman who had been stabbed repeatedly. As the man began to attack Carpenter, stabbing him twice, Carpenter disarmed him and held him down until police arrived. The woman later died of her injuries, and Carpenter required hospital treatment, but he recovered.



IN OTHER WORKS

**NINE
PHILANTHROPISTS
NAMED RECIPIENTS
OF THE 2017 CARNEGIE
MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY**

The Carnegie Corporation of New York, on behalf of the international family of Carnegie institutions, named nine philanthropists as recipients of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy recently. The awards will be presented in October.

According to the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the medals are in recognition of outstanding and innovative leadership in philanthropy and celebrating Andrew Carnegie's philanthropic ideals in addressing a range of important issues including social entrepreneurship, nuclear nonproliferation, career training, medical research, the arts, culture, school reform in India, women's rights in China, and land conservation in South America.

The 2017 honorees are:

- Mei Hing Chak, China; HeungKong Charitable Foundation
- H. F. (Gerry) and Marguerite Lenfest, U.S.A.; Lenfest Foundation
- Azim Premji, India; Azim Premji Foundation
- Julian Robertson, U.S.A.; Robertson Foundation
- Jeff Skoll, U.S.A.; Skoll Foundation
- Kristine McDivitt Tompkins, U.S.A.; Tompkins Conservation
- Shelby White, U.S.A.; Leon Levy Foundation
- Sir James D. Wolfensohn, U.S.A. and Australia; Wolfensohn Center for Development

"The recipients of the 2017 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy were selected for their distinguished and long-standing contributions to the public good," said Vartan Gregorian, president of Carnegie Corporation.

"The medal reflects Andrew Carnegie's enduring legacy of philanthropy and is rooted in two core principles. First: with wealth comes responsibility. Second: individuals, whether guided by religious, civic, humanistic, or democratic aspirations, have the transformative power to use wealth to advance the public good." ▶ p.7



In saving teacher, hero committed himself to greater destiny

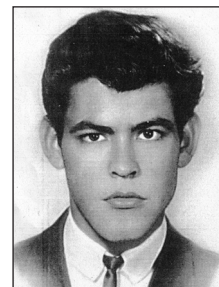
As the residents of Kansas City, Mo., absorbed the news that a young man had been shot protecting his pregnant teacher, a billboard went up: "**Primitivo Garcia** did not hesitate. Join the fund at The Peoples Bank." Only nine months after the shipping clerk nicknamed "Tivo" arrived from Mexico, Garcia's heroism on Nov. 15, 1967, roused his adopted community to demonstrate its appreciation while he remained hospitalized, fighting for his life.

That night, Garcia, 24, was leaving a class to improve his limited English skills when he realized five adolescents were harassing and assaulting his 25-year-old teacher, Margaret R. Kindermann, outside a school. Reverting to his native Spanish, he approached and yelled for them to leave her alone.

Garcia, who stood about 5 feet 7 inches and weighed 150 pounds, managed to pull one of the teens away so Kindermann could flee to safety. But as Garcia backed away from the attackers, one of them shot him with a pistol.

One public appeal for blood donors spurred two dozen people to go to the hospital. Meanwhile, the bank-administered fund quickly swelled to about \$15,000. Informed of the donations – both of money and blood – Garcia reportedly told his Catholic priest, "I am grateful. How can I repay?"

Garcia would not have the opportunity, as he died 13 days after the rescue. His valor touched then-Gov. Warren Hearnes, who made him an honorary citizen of Missouri and sent a letter to Garcia's mother, Gregoria, who was among the relatives who accompanied him to Kansas City.



*Carnegie Hero
Primitivo Garcia*



Primitivo Garcia, far right, with his family, from left, brothers Chano and Alfredo Garcia, sister Irene Garcia, and mother Gregoria Garcia.

"I hope that any Missourian who has taken his citizenship in a great state and a free nation for granted will now strive to meet the example set by your son," Hearnes wrote.

The local teachers' union adopted a resolution stating that all of the city's teachers owed a "monumental debt" to Garcia.

"When he went to the aid of teacher

Margaret Kindermann, he unknowingly committed himself to a destiny far greater than that available to most mortal men," the resolution stated.

The goodwill spread beyond Missouri, as *Time* magazine and other media reported admiringly about Garcia's sacrifice.

In Pittsburgh, the Hero Fund received Garcia's nomination for the Carnegie Medal from a Missouri woman whose son had been recognized for responding to an assault five years earlier. ▶

CARNEGIE MEDAL EXHIBIT WINS AWARDS

Numismatist and medal collector Matthew Campbell of Washington, Pa., has taken his award-winning exhibit about the Carnegie Medal on the road — first to the Central States Numismatic Society's 78th annual convention in Chicago earlier this year and then to the American Numismatic Association's World's Fair of Money held Aug. 1-5 in Denver.

The exhibit won two awards in Chicago — second place in the medals category and the Joseph and Morton Stack award for best exhibit by a first time exhibitor. The national Denver award winners had not been announced by press time.

The exhibit features two Carnegie Medals that Campbell, a member of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists, purchased from eBay auctions. One, a silver medal awarded to **Ivah J. Coles** in 1908 and the other, a bronze medal awarded to **Platt D. Andrews** in 1933. It also features one of the 500 centennial commemorative medallions produced in 2004 for the Commission's 100th anniversary.

Campbell was the driving force behind a memorial event held in August 2016 honoring Coles and other Macoupin County (Ill.) Carnegie Medal recipients.



Medal collector Matthew Campbell's exhibit created for display at numismatic conventions around the nation.

MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY

► from p.6

The Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy was established in 2001 and is awarded every two years to individuals whose philanthropic work embodies the ideals of Andrew Carnegie's vision, serving as a continuous inspiration to others. Having amassed what was then the greatest fortune on earth, the legendary American industrialist decided to give it all away with the stated goal of doing "real and permanent good in this world."

The 22 Carnegie institutions in the United States and Europe nominate the medalists, and a selection committee representing seven of those institutions makes the final selection. The honorees are recognized as catalysts for good whose philanthropy has had a significant and lasting impact on a particular field, nation, or community of people.

The Carnegie institutions will award the medals during a formal ceremony on Oct. 3 at The New York Public Library's Stephen A. Schwarzman Building. Carnegie Corporation of New York will host the private event.

To learn more about the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy (including current and past honorees), visit MedalofPhilanthropy.org.

Hero committed himself to greater destiny

► from p.6

"Since someone was kind enough to inform the Commission of my son's actions several years ago, I cannot pass by this opportunity to do the same for another," she wrote.

After an investigation, the Commission posthumously cited Garcia in August 1968, and then provided monthly financial assistance to his mother to help with living expenses until she died in February 1992. An elementary school named for Garcia in 1993 will be the setting for a 50th-year memorial gathering on Nov. 25.

One of Garcia's siblings, Irene Garcia Mendez, said Kindermann and her family are among those who are planning to attend. Mendez proudly mentioned that the baby that Kindermann was carrying a half-century ago became a mother with a son.

His name: Tivo.

— *Chris Foreman, case investigator*

15:13 calls to mind those in the Hero Fund's 113-year history whose lives were sacrificed in the performance of their heroic acts. The name identifies the chapter and verse of the Gospel of John that appears on every medal. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Of the 9,953 medal awardees to date, 2,031, or 20 percent of the total, were recognized posthumously. **They are not forgotten.**

COMMISSION MEMBER VISITS CARNEGIE HOMELAND

In June, Carnegie Hero Fund Treasurer Dan D. Sandman and his wife, Bonnie, of Pittsburgh, travelled to the eastern coast of Scotland to visit William Thomson, great-grandson of Andrew and Louise Carnegie, and his wife, Tina, at their Dornoch home. Their house is a scant 5 miles from Skibo Castle, which was the Carnegie Family's beloved retreat in the Highlands of Scotland for 80 years.



Dan D. Sandman, left, with William Thomson.



LATEST AWARDEES OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

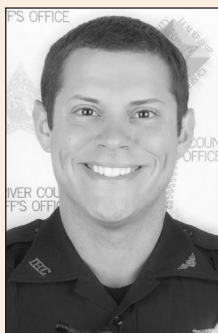
SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 19 INDIVIDUALS HAVE EACH BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,953 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 19, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT CARNEGIEHERO.ORG.

THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON SEPT. 19.

Hospice nurse **Stephanie Melinda Marino**, 35, of Manteca, Calif., saved Anthony H. Ortiz, 27, from being struck by a train in Manteca on June 8, 2016. Ortiz was in a sport utility vehicle that left the highway and stopped upright, straddling a set of two railroad tracks. Marino witnessed the accident and ran to the passenger side of the vehicle. She helped Ortiz stand outside it but then became aware of a commuter train approaching on one of the tracks at about 70 m.p.h. In the seconds that it took for the train to reach the scene, Marino grabbed Ortiz and pulled him toward the rear of the vehicle. She stepped off the tracks as the train struck the vehicle at somewhat of a diminished speed and knocked it away. Debris from the impact struck Marino and Ortiz, who fell to the ground. The train came to a stop about 2,000 feet away.



Linda Nolan



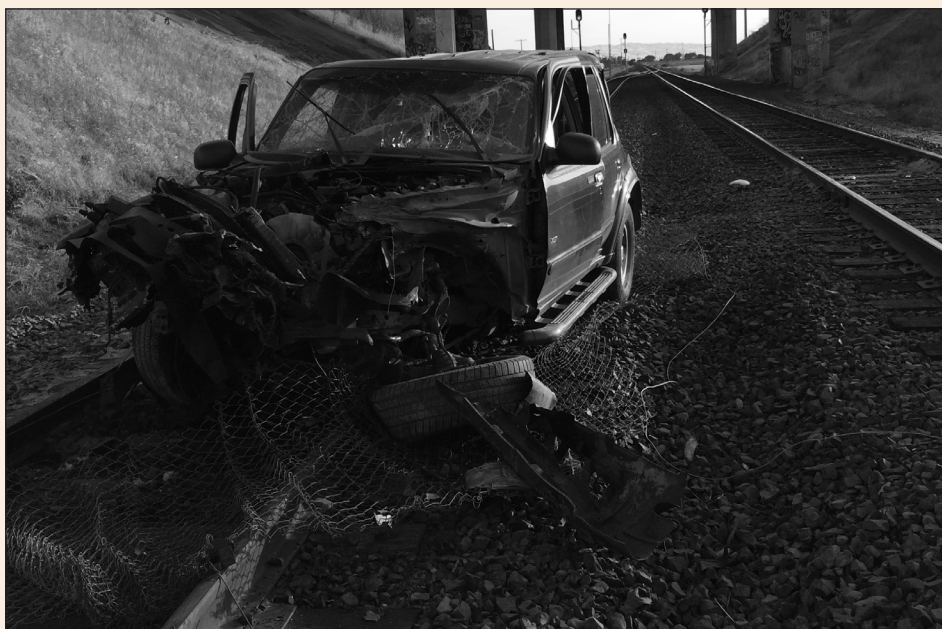
Robert Sunkel



Stephanie Melinda Marino



Scott B. Keller



The demolished sport utility vehicle after it was struck by a train. Stephanie Melinda Marino helped Anthony H. Ortiz from the vehicle, and as a train approached, grabbed him and pulled him away from the tracks. Photo courtesy of the San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission.

Scott B. Keller of Tecumseh, Mich., saved Yusuf Salem, 7, from his family's burning house in Dearborn Heights, Mich., on July 29, 2016. Yusuf was on the second floor of the two-story house after a fire broke out in the kitchen and filled the first floor with dense smoke. On duty, Keller, 41, a police officer, responded to the scene and crawled a short distance into the house but, unable to breathe, had to exit for air. He re-entered the structure and, again crawling, followed the sound of Yusuf's voice. After advancing about 10 feet, Keller stood, ran to the stairs leading to the second floor, and went part way up, finding Yusuf on one of the steps. Keller picked him up, descended the stairs, and returned to the front door. Exiting to safety, he collapsed to the ground. Both he and Yusuf required hospital treatment for smoke inhalation.

Kenneth R. Atkinson, 65, a physician from Centennial, Colo., died rescuing his neighbor, Elizabeth L. Lyons, 44, from an assault on April 4, 2016. Lyons was shot by her husband after she fled from their house and went across the street to a neighbor's property, where the neighbor was working in her front yard. The assailant fired repeatedly toward the women, after which Atkinson left his nearby house, crossed the street, and responded to Lyons. As he was kneeling to tend her and call 911, another neighbor shouted to him that the assailant was approaching. The assailant fired at Atkinson, striking him. Atkinson stood and sought cover at a vehicle parked nearby, but the assailant went to him there and at close range shot him again, mortally wounding him.

Indian River County (Fla.) Sheriff's Deputies **Robert Sunkel**, 25, and **Linda Nolan**, 45, both of Vero Beach, Fla., rescued Cheryl D. Coons from her burning car after a highway accident in Vero Beach on March 23, 2016.

Coons, 58, remained in the driver's seat after her car collided with a tank truck and caught fire. Ten feet away, the truck was also burning, as was the diesel fuel that leaked from it. On duty, Sunkel responded to the scene and broke out the window of the car's front passenger door with his baton. He then opened the door and grabbed Coons but could not free her. Nolan, also on duty, arrived and entered through the same door. She pulled Coons partially over the console and then emptied a fire extinguisher into the car and onto its hood, as flames were intensifying. Sunkel made another entry, grasped Coons, and pulled her to the roadway, and then with Nolan dragged her to safety. Flames grew to engulf the car and destroy both vehicles.

Robbie Goering-Jensen, 49, of Ashland, Neb., saved Gregory L. and Lula M. Damper from their burning house in Omaha, Neb., on Dec. 20, 2015. Gregory, 57, was in a wheelchair in the living room of the one-story house after fire broke at the far end of the structure, and his mother, ►



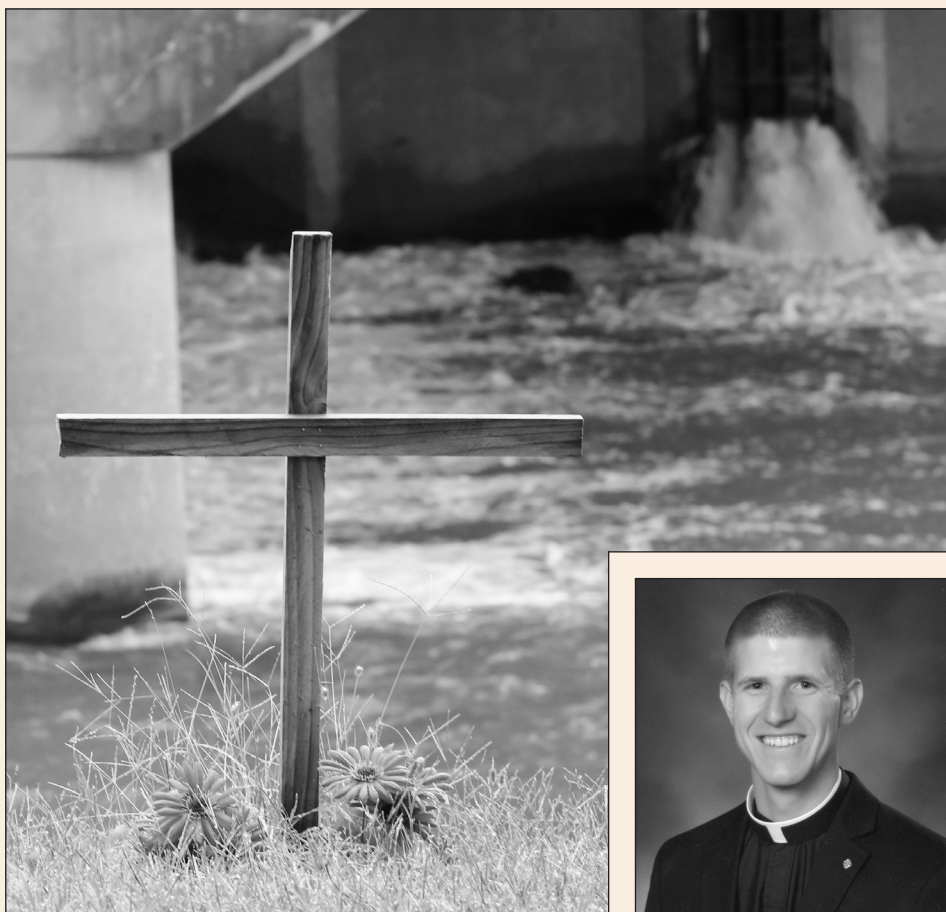
Robbie Goering-Jensen

► from p.8

Lula, 83, was in a bedroom near the living room. On duty, Goering-Jensen, a police officer, responded to the scene and entered the living room through the house's front door. He crawled through dense smoke to Gregory's wheelchair, grasped it, and pulled it, with Gregory, back to the door. Having heard cries for help from inside the house, Goering-Jensen again entered the structure and, again crawling, followed Lula's cries to her room. He stood there, lifted Lula from her bed, and retraced his path back to the front door and outside to safety. Goering-Jensen needed hospital treatment for smoke inhalation.

Omaha, Neb., neighbors **Brett Bailes**, **C. Fredric Holbeck**, and **Dennis Wilson** saved Nathaniel A. Wissink, 28, from a burning car after an accident in Omaha on Feb. 26, 2016. Wissink was unconscious and trapped in the front seat after the car was struck on its driver's side by a pickup truck traveling at high speed. The car burst into flame and was demolished, its back end split almost apart from the front and its fuel tank ruptured. Flames issued from the rear of the vehicle and were spreading toward the front seat. Bailes, 31, a sales manager, was at his home nearby and ran to the car, where he saw another passenger, aflame, step from the wreckage. He extinguished the flames on her. Holbeck, 54, a biologist, who also lived nearby, also ran to the car, finding its driver emerging through a window. He aided him to safety. A third neighbor, Wilson, 66, a retired field investigator, responded to the driver's door, joined by Bailes and Holbeck. In repeated attempts, the men reached through the window opening, locating Wissink but finding that he was trapped. They pulled on him until he was freed and then moved him head first through the opening and dragged him to safety, flames shortly engulfing the car's interior.

Brian G. Bergkamp, 24, a seminary student from Cheney, Kans., died attempting to save



Brain G. Bergkamp went to the aid of Kristen L. Eck whose kayak overturned at the base of a low-head dam. After providing her with a loose life jacket, he was separated from his kayak and drowned. Large photo, by Jaime Green, courtesy of The Wichita Eagle.

Kristen L. Eck from drowning in the Arkansas River at Wichita, Kans., on July 9, 2016. Eck, 26, was in a kayak that went over a low-head dam and overturned in the boil of water at its base. She submerged repeatedly as she struggled to escape the turbulent water. Another kayaker in her party, Bergkamp followed her over the dam. He stopped paddling, keeping his kayak in the turbulent conditions rather than proceeding to

calmer water downstream, as other kayakers were doing. Bergkamp procured a loose life jacket from the water and provided it to Eck, who soon lost hold of it. At some point, Bergkamp was separated from his kayak. Eck was able to escape the boil and float downstream, where she was helped from the river. Bergkamp drowned, his body recovered several days later, farther downstream. ►



From left, Brett Bailes, C. Fredric Holbeck, and Dennis Wilson. Photo courtesy of American Red Cross Kansas/Nebraska/SW Iowa Region.

► from p.9

Three joggers, **David Blauzvern**, 23, an investment banking analyst from Roslyn Heights, N.Y.; **Gary J. Messina**, 56, a police captain from West Islip, N.Y.; and **John J. Green III**, 29, an insurance broker from New York City, saved a man from drowning in the East River at New York City on June 1, 2016. The man was bobbing in the river at a point about 60 feet from a seawall, the top of which was about 8 feet above the surface of the water. Blauzvern immediately climbed over a railing and jumped into the 23-foot-deep water, followed by Messina, who was on duty, and Green. They swam to where the man, who had by then submerged, was last seen, Blauzvern arriving first. He submerged and pulled the man, who greatly outweighed him, to the surface of the water and supported him. Messina and Green then each grasped the man by an arm, and together they swam back to the seawall with him, the swift current carrying them about 600 feet downstream. As there was no egress from the water there, they remained in position, Green securing them by a hold to the wall. A police rescue boat arrived within minutes, but as it could not get close to the wall, the three rescuers swam and were carried by the current as they took the man to the boat. All four were assisted from the water and taken to safety, the man requiring hospital treatment.

Retired truck driver **Louis Daniel Scharold**, 72, of Alexandria, Ky., saved Brian C. Ashcraft, 48, from burning in Grants Lick, Ky., on April 25, 2016. Ashcraft was the driver of a refuse truck that was struck head on by a pickup truck. Both vehicles overturned, the pickup coming to rest upside down and the refuse truck on its driver's side, its front end in close proximity to the wreckage of the pickup. The pickup's fuel tank ruptured in the accident, leaking fuel, and that vehicle caught fire. Scharold witnessed the accident and approached the front of the refuse vehicle, where he saw Ashcraft, who was



Despite intense heat from nearby flames, Louis Daniel Scharold reached through the broken-out windshield of a refuse truck to lead the driver to safety after a violent accident. Photo courtesy of Campbell County Police Department.

dazed, standing in the cab. Despite intense heat from the nearby flames, he reached through the broken-out windshield, grasped Ashcraft, and, backing, led him from the vehicle and away to safety. Flames shortly spread to the front of the refuse truck.

Dennis Joseph Michel, 46, an analyst from Ankeny, Iowa, died helping in the attempt to save his brother-in-law, Jacob B. Seeman, 40, from drowning in the Niangua Arm of the Lake of the Ozarks at Camdenton, Mo., on Aug. 1, 2016. Seeman jumped from a dock to retrieve a boat that was drifting away, but after a few strokes, he struggled and called out for help, alerting Michel and Michel's wife. From the dock, Michel jumped into the 10-foot-deep water and swam to Seeman, joining Michel's wife, who had swum out from the bank. Michel placed an arm around



Dennis Joseph Michel, right, with Jacob B. Seeman, his brother-in-law, whom he attempted to save from drowning in August 2016.

Seeman's upper body as his wife held Seeman by the waist, but Seeman continued to struggle. The men submerged. Firefighters arrived after Michel's wife reached safety at the dock, and a dive team recovered Seeman's and Michel's bodies about 75 feet from the dock. They had drowned.

Robert Conant of Stoney Creek, Ont., helped to save Daniel Fredericks from falling into a ravine at a park in Oakville, Ont., on April 18, 2015. Fredericks, 23, slid about 20 feet down the steep wall of the ravine to recover his dog and then became stranded at a point about 10 feet above the wall's abrupt drop. He held to a tree branch with one arm as he secured his dog with the other. Responding, Conant, 29, an on-duty police officer, tied one end of a worn rope that was at the scene around his chest as a ►



David Blauzvern



Gary J. Messina



John J. Green III



Louis Daniel Scharold

► from p.10

bystander tied the other end to a tree root. Conant then lowered himself to Fredericks, turning to face the ravine and thereby transferring all of his weight to the rope. Although Fredericks outweighed him, Conant helped him to reposition himself so that he straddled the branch. Backup officers lowered a line that Conant used to secure himself further, and firefighters who then responded used ropes and a harness to secure and remove Fredericks and his dog to the top of the cliff, about an hour after his ordeal began. Conant was raised in similar fashion, having spent 30 minutes on the cliff face.

Sean C. Randles of Las Vegas died attempting to save Melanie L. Kushnir from falling at Red Rock National Conservation Area, Las Vegas, on May 28, 2016. Kushnir, 42, was hiking down a sandstone mountain when she slipped and slid in a stream of water toward the nearby brink of a 50-foot cliff. Another hiker in her party, Randles, 49, marketing manager, was near the stream at a point about 6 feet from the edge of the cliff. He lunged at Kushnir as she approached and grabbed onto her. Unable to stop her momentum, Randles held to her as they went over the cliff and fell to the rock shelf at its base. Both suffered severe injuries and died at the scene.

John David Smith saved Kaarisa B. Karley from her burning car after an interstate highway accident in Snoqualmie, Wash., on July 18, 2016. Karley, 70, was slumped over in the front



John David Smith

seats of her car after it was struck from behind by a pickup truck. Demolished, the back of the car was lodged under the truck and caught fire, as did the truck. An off-duty police officer, Smith, 47, of Snoqualmie Pass, Wash., witnessed the accident. He worked to force open Karley's driver's door and then reached inside and grasped her, but she did not move. Smith then knelt on the driver's seat, extended his upper body across the console, and grasped Karley by the shoulders. Repositioning her in the driver's seat, he released her safety belt and, grasping her under the arms, backed from the vehicle with her. Flames grew and spread quickly to engulf the vehicles.

Victor M. Ortiz of Union, N.J., saved a man from being struck by a train in Secaucus, N.J., on Aug.



Victor M. Ortiz

26, 2016. The man went to a point between the rails of a track at a commuter train station as an express train traveling at 60 m.p.h. approached the station on that track. Ortiz, 41, a transit police officer who had responded to the station, advanced to the man, who lay face down on the track and grasped its rails. Ortiz handcuffed one of the man's hands and pulled it from the rail, but the man, who greatly outweighed Ortiz, resisted Ortiz's attempts to remove him from the track. Seeing the train approach, Ortiz stepped between the rails of the track, but the man continued to struggle against him. Ortiz tugged hard on the man as the train, then in emergency braking, bore down on them. He dragged the man from the track just seconds before the front of the train passed them.



Sean C. Randles was descending a sandstone mountain in Nevada, when another hiker in his party, Melanie L. Kushnir, lost her footing and slid. Randles lunged for her, but they both fell over the brink of a 50-foot cliff and died. Photo by Laszlo Heredy.



After John David Smith removed Kaarisa B. Karley from the burning car, flames quickly grew and spread to engulf both vehicles involved in the accident.



PRESENTING



Madison L. Williams, second from right, holding the Carnegie Medal, with her family, from left, grandmother Jan Williams, great-grandfather Carrol McIntosh, and mother Leigh Williams.

Madison suggested holding the May 18 medal presentation at the Brookdale Marysville retirement community in Marysville, Ohio, where her great-grandfather was a resident. Several friends and family members attended the ceremony, as well as many residents from the facility.

A year earlier at age 13, Madison forced herself, head-first, through a 12-inch wide opening into a septic tank in which a 2-year-old boy had fallen. While others held to her legs, she skimmed the surface of 4 feet of sewage until she felt the boy's foot and, grasping it, shouted for others to pull her and the boy up.

"That type of selflessness on the part of someone so young, I think it should give us all hope," said Eric P. Zahren, executive director of the Hero Fund who presented the award to Madison. "Hope that someone like Madison is out there, still willing to risk her life for another human being."

In addition, Mary Holley, Madison's neighbor who witnessed the rescue spoke at the ceremony.

"I don't know very many 13-year-olds who would volunteer to be lowered into a septic system to try to pull somebody out of it. She's a great person," Holley said. "I'm very proud of her because if it were not for her that little boy would have died that night."



U.S. Rep. Chris Stewart, right, presented the Carnegie Medal to Carnegie Hero **Joseph B. Hamblin** of St. George, Utah, during an April 19 presentation at the St. George City Offices.

In March 2016, Hamblin went to the aid of a woman who was unresponsive in the driver's seat of a pickup truck that was moving erratically on a four-lane highway. Despite wearing a medical boot because of recent foot surgery, Hamblin ran onto the highway after the truck, stepped onto the running board at the driver's door, and grabbed the steering wheel through the open window. Hamblin then guided the truck more than 100 feet along the turning lane and across two lanes of opposing traffic into a parking lot.

Stewart, who represents Utah's second district, presented the medal to Hamblin in front of Hamblin's family and friends.

"Joseph chose to be a hero rather than a witness, taking bold action regardless of the risk it presented to his personal safety. Acting without hesitation and with tremendous precision, Joseph saved a life and eliminated a great risk being posed to others," Stewart said.

Also attending the presentation was a representative from Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch's office and St. George Mayor Jon Pike.



In the city of Conyers, Ga., Mayor Randal S. Mills, left, declared June 7, 2017, **Raul Moreno Day**. At a city council meeting held June 7, Mills presented Moreno with the Carnegie Medal on behalf of the Hero Fund as well as a commendation from the city.

"The City of Conyers and the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission applaud and celebrate the selfless efforts of Raul Moreno," stated the mayor's proclamation.

In June 2016, Moreno witnessed an accident in which a dump truck left the roadway and entered a shallow ditch, flames breaking out in the undercarriage of the engine compartment and dense smoke filling the cab. Moreno ran to the driver's side of the truck and broke out the window with pruning shears. He then extended his head and arms through the opening and, holding his breath, bear-hugged the driver and pulling multiple times, inched him from the cab.

Service anniversaries recognized

Long and faithful service by four members of the Commission was recognized at its 113th annual meeting in June – in addition to the celebration of Walter F. Rutkowski's 41 years of service, (see front cover).

Board Chair Mark Laskow presented framed resolutions to A. H. Burchfield III to cite his 30th anniversary with the Hero Fund and to Ann M. McGuinn and Sybil P. Veeder for 25 years of service. In addition, Laskow was presented with a resolution by Vice Chair Nancy L. Rackoff for his 25th anniversary.

Burchfield has served on the Commission's Executive Committee since 1987. In 1991, he was appointed to the Membership (now Governance) Committee and continues to serve there as well.

McGuinn, Veeder, and Laskow were all elected to the board in June 1992.

McGuinn was appointed to the Centennial Committee in 2002 and represented the Commission at the biennial awarding of the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy in Pittsburgh, New York, and Edinburgh.

Veeder was appointed Executive Committee chair in 2002, a position she continues to hold, and in 2008 she was named to the Membership (now Governance) Committee. Veeder is credited with initiating the Commission's post-traumatic stress disorder benefit for awardees, and she serves on the European Hero Funds Subcommittee.

Laskow chaired the Executive Committee from 1998 to 2002. In 1994 he was appointed to the Finance Committee, and he became the Commission's seventh president in 2001 and then its first board chair in 2013. He oversaw the Commission's centennial observance in 2004, and he largely conceived the Carnegie Hero Funds World Committee, still serving as its co-chair.

The resolution cited the members' selfless dedication and skill, stating the Commission appreciates the "four champions of the noble cause for which it was established."



Ann M. McGuinn



A. H. Burchfield III



Mark L. Laskow



Sybil P. Veeder



Members of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission in attendance at the 2017 annual meeting held in June. Standing, from left, are Frank Brooks Robinson, Evan S. Frazier, Robert J. Cindrich, Priscilla J. McCrady, Joseph C. Walton, Thomas L. Wentling, Jr., Ann M. McGuinn, Chair Mark L. Laskow, Susanne C. Wean, Executive Director Eric P. Zahren, A. H. Burchfield III, Christopher R. McCrady, David McL. Hillman, Michael A. Thompson. Seated, from left, are Nancy L. Rackoff, special guest Louise Hills, President & Secretary Walter F. Rutkowski, Linda T. Hills, and Sybil P. Veeder.

OVERHEARD

Everyone needs a Larry in their neighborhood.

– Neighbors of **Lawrence P. Applegate**, Carnegie Medal nominee #88724, who helped to save a man from his burning house.

He didn't die being a hero. He died being himself.

– Son of **Sean C. Randles**, Carnegie Medal awardee #9951, who died attempting to save a fellow hiker from falling from a cliff.

What a day. – **J. Mark Hinson**, Carnegie Medal nominee #88897, on his helping to save a man whose car crashed into an office building.

We said from the beginning that he was a hero.

– Fire chief Tom O'Donnell who responded to blaze where **Sanford Harling III**, Carnegie Medal awardee #9929, died after re-entering structure for his father.

I knew we were in a hairy situation.

– **Nathan Michal Steig**, Carnegie Medal nominee #88247, on his actions during an ice rescue.

It was something that had to be done. I didn't have time to think about it. – **Richard William Dorrity**, Carnegie Medal nominee #88221, who pulled a man from a burning pickup truck.

CARNEGIE HERO JOHN P. WILLIAMS RECEIVES LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS



John P. Williams

In May, the La Crosse County (Wis.) Sheriff's Office recognized Sgt. **John P. Williams** for two separate incidents in 2015.

Williams, of La Crosse, received the Lifesaving Award after he responded to a scene of a farmer stuck under an ATV.

"I couldn't see him and only saw a huge ATV upside down. I cleared some grass and found his face at the front of the ATV. He looked dead and was purple."

Williams lifted the ATV off of the farmer and held it long enough for a firefighter to arrive and pull the man to safety. "It seemed like minutes. No injuries. It was quite the miracle," Williams said.

Williams also received a Life Preservation Award for his role in saving the life of an overdose victim. He was aided by a La Crosse city police officer.

Williams is a 2012 Carnegie Medal recipient and continues to serve the Hero Fund by presenting the Carnegie Medal to new awardees in the Wisconsin region.

In 2011, Williams earned his Carnegie Medal by entering the Mississippi River at night after a man who was carried downstream by a strong current. After both men were carried farther downstream and submerged repeatedly, boaters secured them with a line and fire fighters arrived to take them to safety.



Carnegie Hero who saved child turns 100 years old

By Bret Bloomquist
El Paso Times

One look at **J. Manuel Corral** shows a man who has outrun age.

The Socorro resident, hero and proud naturalized American turned 100 on June 15, though he looks and sounds like someone in his mid-70s.

Randy McKinney has a good idea of how Corral has made it to the century mark, a reason that overlaps with why 57 years ago McKinney lived to see age 4.

"He's a remarkable, blessed young man," McKinney said from his home in Conroe. "He amazes me. I do know there's a reason he's lived such a great life. I don't know all of that reason, but it's his faith, his belief in God. It's the way he's lived."

Corral and McKinney's lives began overlapping on Dec. 23, 1959, in Dell City.

McKinney was a 3-year-old, playing with other young boys on his grandfather's farm. Corral, 43, was a Mexican "bracero," in the U.S. as a seasonal worker on a temporary permit, making \$35 for his family back in Chihuahua.

In the space of an hour, the day and its events went from beautiful to horrific to heroic.

"Some boys were playing in empty barrels, rolling down a little hill near a well," Corral recalled. "The water well had a barrel over it. One of the little boys didn't realize the barrel was over the well. He started moving it and he fell in."



Jesus Manuel Corral accepting an award while holding Randy McKinney, 3. Photo courtesy of the El Paso Times.

Corral. Corral's shoulders were wider than 16 inches, but not much, and this was his moment with destiny.

There would have been no way for him to bend over in the well to grab McKinney, meaning the only option was to tie a rope to Corral's feet and lower him down headfirst.

The fit was tight — his shoulders scraped all the way down, leaving a trail of blood and skin on the well walls. If the rope had broken, he likely wouldn't have made it to Christmas 1959, much less to 2017.

"At that moment, I wasn't scared; there were so many people around and everyone was excited," Corral said. "All I was thinking was to save the little boy. I didn't think about being scared."

That boy was McKinney, who to this day doesn't remember the incident as well as he does the aftermath.

"His mother was trying to reach in and grab him, but he was 30 feet down," Corral said.

The well was less than 16 inches in diameter, which ruled out every worker there on the ranch as a rescuer but one: 5-foot-5, 125-

That came after he pulled McKinney to freedom and was secure back on land.

"I passed out a little bit," Corral said. "When I came to, I was scared. There were a lot of emotions."

There are emotions that linger to this day from an event that had a far-reaching impact. The people of Dell City took up a quick collection and had \$100 to give to Corral, but he didn't

accept it. What he did accept in the months that followed was permanent resident status for himself and his family, which was then able to join him full time in America.

He got a plaque as an honorary resident of Texas from Gov. Price Daniel and a job with Dell City schools.

McKinney's memory is of hugging Corral, wrapping his hands around his neck as Corral held him, at a ceremony a few months later in Dallas when Corral was presented with a Carnegie Medal. The photo of McKinney and Corral and other memorabilia from that day sit on a coffee table in the Socorro home where Corral, who outlived his wife, now lives with his daughter.

He was featured in Guideposts magazine and in a book that told the stories of Carnegie Medal winners, "A Walk on the Crust of Hell."

Corral and McKinney met again in 2009 in a reunion arranged by one of Corral's grandchildren, then hugged again last weekend when McKinney came to Sunland Park for Corral's 100th official birthday party, attended by 250 people.

"They embraced, then they traded jackets," said his daughter, Nellie Dukes. "It was emotional."

McKinney said: "He's such an extraordinary man, so humble, so grateful. He's a great man."

When they meet again and talk, "it's about family," McKinney said.

Corral has certainly left a legacy. He had five children, four of whom are still alive and look as young for their age as he does for his; 10 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren and six great-great grandchildren. "And one more on the way," Dukes said.

Corral also has a great story.

"When people find out I'm from Mexico, one thing they ask me is how I ended up over here," said his son, Victor Corral, who became an American citizen in 1970. "I tell them the story."

It's one the protagonist can still tell as he begins his second century of life.

This article was reprinted with permission. It was originally published in the June 16, 2017 edition of the El Paso Times.



Jesus Manuel Corral holds up the Carnegie Medal. He turned 100 on June 15. Photo by Bret Bloomquist, courtesy of the El Paso Times.

PRESENTING



Carnegie Heroes **Shane S. Mitchell**, left, and **Lisa Missana**, both of Tampa, Fla., unveil their Carnegie Medals for the first time. Volunteer presenter **Ralph Cash Kaschai**, of Orlando, Fla., presented them with the medals at a private ceremony held June 29 in Tampa.

"Welcome to the Carnegie Family," Kaschai told the recipients.

In March 2016, Mitchell and Missana responded to the scene of an accident in which a car entered a retention pond and submerged in water about 10 feet deep. Reaching the scene first, Mitchell entered the water, swam about 80 feet to the vehicle, and submerged repeatedly, reaching through the open driver's window to attempt to release the driver's safety belt. Missana then came upon the scene and entered the water and also unsuccessfully attempted to free the driver. As Missana headed back toward the bank for a cutting tool, Mitchell was able to release the driver's safety belt, and Missana returned. Together they dove again to the car and removed the driver, swimming her to the bank.

Kaschai said the presentation and discussion that followed was enlightening.

Kaschai was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1978, after he helped to rescue two men from a burning sedan in Orlando.

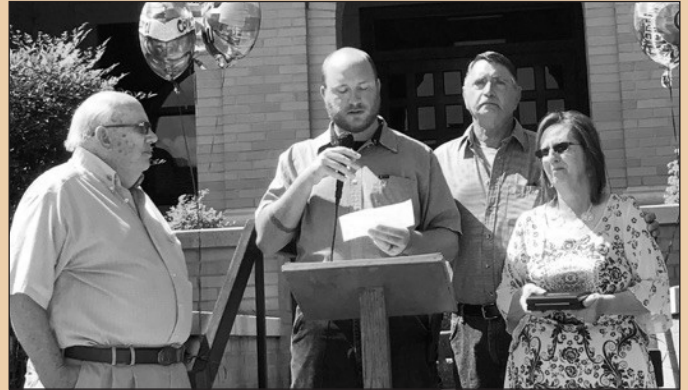


Photo by Theresa Harris

From left, volunteer presenter **Charles S. Harris** of Ooltewah, Tenn., looks on as the family of **Jeromy E. Richardson**, — brother Cory Richardson, mother Robin Richardson, and father Eric Richardson — accept the Carnegie Medal on Jeromy E. Richardson's behalf at a ceremony held June 10 at Courthouse Square in Jasper, Tenn.

In July 2015, Richardson died while attempting to save a man from drowning at a low-head dam spanning the Sequatchie River near Whitwell, Tenn. Richardson was at the bank, when he saw that another man was caught in the rolling boil at the base of the dam. From the top of the dam, Richardson extended a board to the man, but lost his footing and fell into the boil, drowning, along with the man he was trying to save.

"Jeromy E. Richardson is a true hero in every sense of the word," Harris said during the presentation. "He unselfishly — without any real thought of his destiny — put his life on the line for a stranger in trouble."

Richardson's family as well as the parents of the man Richardson attempted to save attended the presentation.

Harris was awarded the Carnegie Medal himself, in 1963, for a water rescue.

From left, Louisiana First Lady Donna Edwards applauds, as Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards presents the Carnegie Medal to **Steven Michael Paulus**, while Paulus's wife Melanie and sons Hunter and Brennan look on. Edwards presented the medal on behalf of the Hero Fund to Paulus, a state trooper, in a June 5 presentation held in the governor's Baton Rouge office.

"Trooper Paulus is a hero, and his courage is an inspiring display of the good works carried out by our law enforcement officers who bravely protect and serve the people of our state," said Edwards.

In February 2016, Paulus responded to the scene of a burning pickup truck that, after being involved in an accident, came to rest with its passenger door against the railing of a bridge. With 3-foot flames issuing from the wreckage behind the cab, Paulus worked to force the driver door open, aided the driver from the vehicle, and then extended his body inside the truck to drag the passenger from the truck as well.

"I am honored and humbled to be held to such a high standard as all of the previous and future recipients, especially those who were awarded the medal posthumously," Paulus said.





TO THE HERO FUND

REASSURED BY GOOD ACTS

My mother told me she received the June edition of *imPULSE* and was so happy and proud to have seen the Carnegie Hero Fund acknowledge her and her family in it. I read it this morning, and aside from being proud of my mother myself, it was great to see the continuing acts of so many people around the country helping other people. For a moment anyway it gave me reassurance that the good acts you honor far outweigh what we usually see on the news these days. I know I speak for my mom when I say we both look forward to reading all future editions to keep that belief and fact in the forefront.

John Roberts, Danvers, Mass.

Roberts's mother, **June E. Roberts**, was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1968 for helping to save a boy from drowning in Chelsea Point Channel, Boston.

THRILLED WITH MEDAL REFINISHING

I just picked the Hero medal up from the post office, and I'm thrilled with the results of the refurbishing. The medal looks GREAT!. Thank you, and the (Commission), so much for all of your help, and information, you have provided in recent weeks. My brother and I much appreciate everyone's efforts.

Don Flynn, Hot Springs, Ark.

Flynn's father, **G. Frank Flynn**, was awarded the Carnegie Medal after, at the age of 14, he helped save a boy from drowning in 1921 in the Machias River near Machiasport, Maine.



G. Frank Flynn's Carnegie Medal before, left, and after the refinishing process.

The Hero Fund will at no cost arrange for Carnegie Medal refinishing to aged and tarnished medals, returning them as close as possible to their original luster. Those wishing to do so should contact Awards Coordinator Jo Braun at jo@carnegiehero.org for more information.

Special guests attend annual meeting

Two special guests attended the Commission's 113th annual meeting in June.

Louise Hills, of Littleton, Colo., is one of the 32 great-great-grandchildren of Andrew and Louise Whitfield Carnegie and is the daughter of board member Linda T. Hills and the late Harold Hills. A graduate of Santa Clara University (Bachelor of Arts in English)

and the University of Denver (master's degree in organizational leadership and project management), she went on to spend the next 10 years at United Launch Alliance in Denver. There, she worked as a master planner, ensuring that all major components of both Atlas and Delta rockets were built and delivered to the launch site on time. Last year, she moved back to Lockheed and is working in integrated enterprise planning.

Colleen Poe, a 2016 graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, performed two songs on the bagpipes at the annual meeting – "Highland Cathedral" and "Andrew Carnegie." She has been playing the bagpipes since she was 9 years old. ☞



From left, Louise Hills, Commission member Linda T. Hills, Colleen Poe, and President & Secretary Walter F. Rutkowski. Louise Hills and Poe attended the Commission's 113th annual meeting as special guests.

FRIENDS REMEMBERED



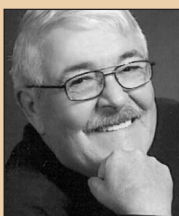
Philip Contreras

Philip Contreras, 55, of Riverside, Calif., died July 27. Contreras was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1988 after he saved a man from a burning car on Aug. 27, 1987 in Compton, Calif. Contreras responded to the scene of a highway accident involving a tractor-trailer and ran to a burning car, which had its roof torn off and was aflame by diesel fuel from the tractor-trailer's exploding fuel tanks. A man, pinned in by his steering wheel, called for help. Contreras entered the car with a piece of lumber, pried the steering wheel from the driver's leg, and pulled him from the car moments before the vehicle's fuel tank exploded.

Carnegie Hero **Berman P. Detty**, 81, of Frankfort, Ohio, died July 16. On Jan. 7, 1988, Detty responded to the scene of a burning car that had been involved in a highway accident. Despite flames virtually engulfing the car and igniting the driver's clothing, Detty reached through the driver's window and pulled her through the window and then dragged her to safety. The car was shortly engulfed in flames, Detty sustaining minor burns. He recovered. Later that year, he received the Carnegie Medal for his actions. "God was helping me," Detty stated in correspondence to the Hero Fund in 2011.



Berman P. Detty



Ronald W. Miracle

Ronald W. Miracle, 68, of St. Charles, Mo., died May 20. Miracle was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1991 after he saved a woman from a burning car on Sept. 29, 1989 in Mesa, Ariz. Despite growing flames and heavy smoke, Miracle entered the vehicle and seized the semi-conscious woman, pulling her to safety, as flames engulfed the interior of the car. Miracle sustained smoke inhalation, but he recovered. Miracle was a veteran of the U.S. Army, having served in the Vietnam War and continuing on as a staff sergeant in the Army for the 20 years that followed.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Carnegie medal presented twice to Carnegie Hero Ruby Hattie Lindsay after she saved teacher from train

By Sharon Sanders
Southeast Missourian

In April 1924, school teacher Marjorie Haines Hobbs and her 15-year-old pupil, **Ruby Hattie Lindsay**, were enjoying a hike in the woods north of Cape Girardeau, Mo., apparently an exercise the friends frequently enjoyed. As they started to cross a train trestle over Little Flora Creek, 6 miles north of the city, they were startled by an oncoming work train.

While Ruby stepped safely off onto a beam that projected over the creek, Hobbs froze in fear.



Ruby Hattie Lindsay

Ruby came to her rescue, pulling her to safety, but both of them ended up in 16 feet of water in the creek below.

Neither could swim, but again Ruby saved her friend's life by holding her head above water until they were rescued.

Three years later, Ruby was given a Carnegie medal for her heroism, along with a monetary gift of \$1,600 that allowed her to attend the Cape Girardeau Teachers College.

Fast forward to May 30, 1959. Ruby, by then Mrs. Cletus Hargis, lost the medal in a fire that destroyed the family's apartment adjoining the Hargis store on Bend Road.

But through the efforts of her family, the medal was replaced by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on May 20, 1967.

Marjorie Haines Hobbs died at age 75 in September 1981, after a career as a third-grade teacher at Brooks and Juden schools in Cape Girardeau County and at Advance, Sikeston and Anniston. She is buried at Hobbs Chapel Cemetery.

Also buried at Hobbs Chapel is the hero school girl who rescued her teacher so many years before. Ruby Lindsay Hargis died on Nov. 26, 1989, at age 80.

Ruby's granddaughter, Janis Rebert, sent me an email about her grandmother.

She informed me that on Memorial Day her family placed a bronze replica of the Carnegie Medal won by Ruby on her tombstone.

The medal that replaced the original lost in the fire is a treasured family memento.

According to Janis, "I have that medal today. I cherish the thought of what it represents. Many descendants of these two women live on because of that 15-year-old girl, who could not swim, (but) saved her teacher's life."

She concluded that her grandmother "was not only a hero at 15, she was our hero all of her life." ❖

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Descendants of Ruby Hattie Hargis mounted a bronze grave marker bearing the likeness of the Carnegie Medal on her headstone.

Southeast Missourian - Monday, May 22, 1967.



Carnegie Award

In 1924, Mrs. Cletus Hargis — then Miss Ruby Lindsay — saved her teacher, Mrs. Ivan Hobbs, from being run over by a freight train while on a trestle. Mrs. Hargis, on the right, and Mrs. Hobbs, in the chair, look over a duplicate of the Carnegie Medal presented Mrs. Hargis for heroism at a get-together Saturday night.

Article appearing in the May 22, 1967 edition of the Southeast Missourian announcing the duplicate medal sent to Ruby Hattie Lindsay after the first medal was destroyed in a fire.



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

Further information is available online 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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THE QUOTABLE A.C.



Power to render service to the Unknown is not given us, except by serving those of His creatures here with us in our own day and generation.

—An address delivered on the opening of new engineering buildings of the University of Edinburgh, October 16, 1906

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 Jo Braun (jo@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 Chris Foreman (chris@carnegiehero.org).

ANNUAL REPORTS Copies of the Hero Fund's most recent annual reports (2015–2016) are available by contacting Gloria Barber (gloria@carnegiehero.org).

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