

Medal of Philanthropy coverage, p. 3

# imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 12 • DECEMBER 2007

## HARD WORK, HERO FUND AID SUSTAIN HER FOR 70 YEARS

By Marlin Ross • Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

On a warm evening in June 1937, residents of Eureka, Kans., gathered along the banks of the Fall River, inside the city limits. Frank Wesley Brown, 26, was there, along with his wife, Mabel. Brown was fishing at the base of a dam while a group of teenagers was wading downstream from him. Suddenly, a 16-year-old girl stepped into water where she could no longer touch bottom, and she began to struggle. Her friends' shouts caught the attention of Brown and others on the bank. Fully clothed, Brown jumped into the water, swam to the girl, and supported her briefly before both submerged. Two other men had also entered the water, and the girl was taken safely to the bank.

When Brown was located, submerged and against the dam, he could not be saved.

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Mabel Brown



High school senior running back—and Carnegie Medal awardee—Jonathan Pinque, of Athens, Ala., crosses the field with unofficial team mascot Brennan Ashmore, 8. (Photo by Kim Rynders reprinted through the courtesy of The News Courier, Athens.)

## Unlikely pals: High school hero bonds with chronically ill child

By Kelly Kazek • The News Courier, Athens, Ala.

After Jonathan Pinque scored a touchdown for East Limestone High School, Athens, Ala., during a playoff game last season, he spied a small, red-haired boy cheering loudly in the stands. Jonathan, a standout running back, didn't stop after the touchdown, instead crossing the field and jumping a fence to get to the boy. He handed the touchdown football to the grinning recipient, 8-year-old Brennan Ashmore.

That ball now has a prominent place in Brennan's bedroom. His words dripping with enthusiasm, Brennan says: "My favorite football player is Jonathan. He's my best friend—a football player and a brother, too."

For those who don't look beyond the surface, Jonathan, 18, and Brennan may seem an unlikely pair of pals. One's preparing to enter adulthood, the other is in elementary school. One is physically imposing in football pads and cleats, the other sometimes needs a wheelchair to get around.

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## HARD WORK, HERO FUND AID SUSTAIN HER FOR 70 YEARS

(continued from cover)

For his heroic act, Brown was posthumously awarded the Carnegie Medal. But because of her husband's heroism, Mrs. Brown became a widow, who, at age 26, was faced with raising two small children—ages 5 and 17 months—in the midst of the Great Depression.

Fast forward 70 years: Mrs. Brown, now of Yates Center, Kans., is 97, and her two children are great-grandparents themselves. Life after her husband's death was indeed hard, but Mrs. Brown responded to its demands with hard work.

It was such widows whom Carnegie had in mind when he founded the commission in 1904. He wrote, "In the case of death (of a rescuer), the widow and children... (are) to be provided for until she remarries, and the children until they reach a self-supporting age." Four months after Brown's death, Mrs. Brown was given a continuing monthly grant to supplement her other income as a way of mitigating the loss of her husband's wages. The association continues to this day.

Anyone who remembers 1937 will recall that jobs, other than farmwork, were scarce. The national unemployment rate that year was 14.3% and mushroomed the following year to 19%, compared to the August 2007 rate of 4.6%. Brown, like so many other young men around Eureka, had worked on the family farm before seeking other employment. For a while he drove a truck for a grocery concern, but as the depression worsened, he remained unemployed for almost a year. By 1937 he had found work as a laborer and then a truck driver with some of the New Deal's "alphabet agencies."

If it was difficult for a man to find a job near Eureka in 1937, it was almost impossible for a single mother, such as Mrs. Brown. Although the Social Security Act had been enacted two years before, no benefits were paid until 1940—and even then they were limited to "old-age" pensions. The hodgepodge of governmental social assistance programs provided no more than a minimum of relief. For example, a family consisting of a mother and two minor children could receive clothing worth \$2.55 a month and food worth \$1.50 a month. The recipient, for her part, was expected to work and earn a certain amount every month.

While Mrs. Brown took in laundry on occasion, she did not enter the job market until her children, daughters Mareta and Carol, were in grade school. She worked as a saleswoman in a "five and ten cent store," but in 1943 she was hired as a cashier and later as a book-keeper for a public utility. She remained employed there until she retired in 1975. As a teenager, Mareta worked as a clerk in a movie theater, and when she quit to take a new job, Mrs. Brown filled her place. On a usual weekday, Mrs. Brown worked at the utility during the day and at the theater in the evening. She maintained that schedule until the theater closed in 1963.

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## Unlikely pals: High school hero, ill child

(continued from cover)



Jonathan Pinque, center, with friends Jacob B. Green, left, and Ricardo Jaramillo II. Jonathan pulled both through the sunroof of a car that submerged in a pond in Toney, Ala., on March 20, 2005. He received the Carnegie Medal a year later. (Photo by Michael Mercier reprinted through the courtesy of *The Huntsville, Ala., Times.*)


Football is the common love that drew the two into a friendship, but what sealed the bond was something less tangible: shared courage and tenacity. "I guess that's what attracted Jonathan to him," Brenan's father Pat said. "Jonathan's a strong kid and Brenan is also."

Brenan was born with hydrocephalus and has undergone nearly 40 operations since then to help stop symptoms of the undiagnosed syndrome that resulted. Shunts drain fluid from his head and spinal cord and he is frequently in pain, but when he's feeling well, a smile almost never leaves his face.

Jonathan has prospects to play college ball and won a Carnegie Medal in May 2006 for risking his life to pull two unconscious friends from a

car that was submerged in a pond. He first learned of Brenan and his condition from his coach, a longtime friend of the Ashmores. Brenan and Jonathan soon knew each other well as Brenan became a fixture at games and an unofficial team mascot.

Jonathan finds Brenan inspiring. "He's always supporting us," he said. "He has more faith than anybody in our fan base. We expect him to be out there, to come out on Fridays and watch us. It really helped us last year when we were losing a lot of games. We thought, if this kid can go through all this, we need to just pull together and do the best we can."

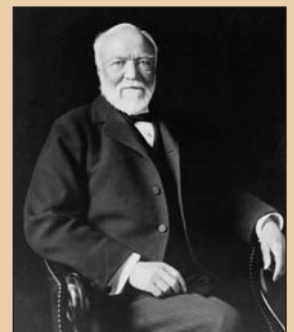
Brenan's parents are happy to see their son's friendship with Jonathan grow, "Jonathan gave Brenan his game jersey for Christmas," Pat said. "He's done some amazing things for Brenan. He's a good role model."  (Reprinted with permission.)

### CARNEGIE'S WORDS IN HIS OWN VOICE

The gift of a digitally restored copy of the only known recording of Andrew Carnegie's voice was presented to Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, by James R. Mellon II during the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy ceremony in October.

The recording, made in 1914 when Carnegie was 78, was produced in Thomas Edison's sound studio in the Bronx, N.Y. In the six-minute recording, Carnegie reads passages from an essay, "The Gospel of Wealth," which he had written 24 years earlier. The essay reflects Carnegie's thinking that a man of means is to administer his estate "for the good of his fellows." In so doing, Carnegie wrote, "he will approach his end no longer the ignoble hoarder of useless millions...but rich in the affection, gratitude, and admiration of his fellow-men."

The recording can be heard on the website of the Edison National Historic Site ([http://www.nps.gov/archive/edis/edisonia/motion\\_picture.htm](http://www.nps.gov/archive/edis/edisonia/motion_picture.htm)).





*Awardees of the 2007 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy are, from left, Eli Broad, Teresa Heinz, James R. Mellon II, and Ratan N. Tata. (Photo by Gene Puskar.)*

## *Medal of Philanthropy awarded in Pittsburgh, Carnegie 'hometown'*

Pittsburgh rolled out the red carpet the third week in October as host for the presentation of the 2007 Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy. The Nobel-class award, given biennially by the family of Carnegie's 20-plus worldwide foundations and institutions, was bestowed on the Heinz and Mellon families of Pittsburgh, Eli Broad of Los Angeles, and the Tata family of India.

First given in 2001, the award honors those whose philanthropic spirit echoes that of Andrew Carnegie. Dr. Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, said that Carnegie "was determined to use his private wealth imaginatively, constructively, and systematically to address the fundamental problems of mankind, rather than simply to assuage symptoms." The corporation has computed that, in today's dollars, Carnegie gave away \$30.4 billion in those endeavors.

Dr. Gregorian said that the 2007 medalists draw from Carnegie's principles, "taking philanthropy to new heights for commitment, daring, and vision. They have each identified discrete challenges and have used far more than their collective wealth to introduce change. Their work demonstrates conviction and courage and, often, an embrace of the seemingly impossible."

In accepting his award, Broad referred to Carnegie's 1889 essay, "The Gospel of Wealth," in which Carnegie boldly articulated his view that the rich are merely trustees of their wealth and are under a moral obligation to distribute it. The most famous line of that piece: "The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced." Broad added his own thoughts: "He who gives while he lives knows where it goes."

The award—a medal and a bronze bust of Carnegie—was presented during an impressive ceremony in Carnegie Music Hall, at which Tom Brokaw, former NBC News anchor, was master of ceremonies. "Never have so many people accumulated such great wealth," Brokaw told the gathering, in reference to modern-day capitalists. He said the medal awardees represent the "great moral responsibility" that comes with great wealth.

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### 2007 AWARDEES OF CARNEGIE MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY

Receiving the award for the Mellon Family was **James R. Mellon II**, of New York City, who represented the descendants of Thomas Mellon, founder of a Pittsburgh banking empire in 1870. Thomas's son Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury under three U.S. presidents, started the family's philanthropic activity with the donation in the 1930s of his extensive art collection to form the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. In addition to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the family's philanthropy is extended through the Pittsburgh-based Richard King Mellon Foundation, which gives priority to regional economic development, quality of life in southwestern Pennsylvania, land preservation, and watershed restoration and protection. Other family philanthropists include William Larrimer Mellon, who founded Carnegie Mellon University's business school, and Sarah Scaife, a supporter of numerous Pittsburgh institutions.

The Tata Family was represented by **Ratan N. Tata**, who was introduced by the former president of India, A. P. J. Abdul Kalam. The family's legacy extends back to the 19th century, when Jamsetji N. Tata started the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Today, various family trusts give away eight to 14 percent of the net profits from Tata Sons, the controlling company of the family's businesses, to enhance science, medicine, social services, health, civil society and governances, rural welfare, the arts, education, and the needs of children. Using a philosophy of "constructive philanthropy," the family has established pioneering institutions in social sciences, cancer research and treatment, and tropical disease research. Accepting the award, Ratan Tata, chairman of Tata Sons, was visibility moved by the honor.

**Teresa Heinz**, wife of U.S. Sen. John F. Kerry of Massachusetts, accepted the award in behalf of the Heinz Family, whose sustained philanthropic giving has supported the environment, education, economic opportunity, and the arts, as well as efforts to enhance the lives of women and children. The widow of Sen. H. John Heinz III, Teresa Heinz is chair of the Pittsburgh-based Heinz Family Philanthropies and the Heinz Endowments, two of the nation's most innovative philanthropic institutions. In 1995, the family made one of the largest grants ever to benefit the environment, \$20 million to establish the Washington, D.C.-based H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment, which focuses on scientifically sound environmental policies.

**Eli Broad** accepted his award after receiving videotaped plaudits by former President Bill Clinton. Broad, who built two Fortune 500 companies from the ground up over a five-decade career in business, and his wife Edythe are founders of the Broad Foundations. With assets of more than \$2.5 billion, the foundations focus on entrepreneurship for the public good in education, scientific and medical research, and the arts. Major

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### 2007 AWARDEES OF CARNEGIE MEDAL OF PHILANTHROPY

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initiatives include the \$1 million Broad Prize for Urban Education, the Broad Superintendents Academy, and the Broad Institute for School Boards. The foundations also serve as a lending library of more than 1,200 artworks that have been loaned to more than 400 museums and galleries worldwide.

### PAST AWARDEES OF PHILANTHROPY MEDAL

#### 2001

Walter H. and Leonore Annenberg (U.S.)  
Brooke Astor (U.S.)  
Irene Diamond (U.S.)  
Gates Family (U.S.)  
Rockefeller Family (U.S.)  
George Soros (U.S.)  
Ted Turner (U.S.)

#### 2005

His Highness, the Aga Khan  
Cadbury Family (U.K.)  
Hewlett Family (U.S.)  
Packard Family (U.S.)  
Sir Tom Farmer (U.K.)  
Agnes Gund (U.S.)

#### 2003

Sainsbury Family (U.K.)  
Dr. Kazuo Inamori (Japan)

## Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy

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Family members of the awardees attended the ceremony, and one of the Mellon family members present was James M. Walton, who has been on the Hero Fund's board for 40 years. He is the organization's treasurer and serves on its executive and finance committees.

At a luncheon preceding the ceremony, Dr. Gregorian announced that the Carnegie Corporation of New York is awarding \$400,000 to libraries to honor the awardees. The Los Angeles Public Library is to get \$100,000 in honor of Broad, and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will receive \$300,000 in recognition of the Mellon, Tata, and Heinz families. Funds given in behalf of the Tata family will be used to build a collection that reflects the family's home country of India.

The award ceremony capped two days of events that were designed to celebrate Carnegie's legacy of giving through systematic philanthropy and to showcase Pittsburgh, his adopted hometown. Carnegie at age 13 and his family settled in Pittsburgh after emigrating from Scotland, where he was born in a stone cottage in Dunfermline, and those attending the event were given "Carnegie legacy" tours during which they saw his old neighborhood.

Pittsburgh—ranked America's most livable city by Places Rated Almanac—was a logical choice to host the presentation, according to Hero Fund president Mark Laskow. "The city is heir to Mr. Carnegie's business legacy, beneficiary of many of his philanthropic interests, and home to four Carnegie institutions," Laskow said. Representatives of those institutions—the Hero Fund plus Carnegie Mellon University, the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh—formed the event's host committee.

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### WELCOME A-BOARD

Linda Thorell Hills, of Littleton, Colo., attended her first Hero Fund board meeting in September after being elected to the Commission earlier in the year. She is shown with Thomas L. Wentling, Jr., who chairs the Hero Fund's finance committee. One of 15 great-grandchildren of Andrew Carnegie, Hills becomes his first descendant to serve on the board.



Board and staff members of five of Andrew Carnegie's 11 hero funds, and other guests, attended Medal of Philanthropy events, then met over dinner in the Duquesne Club, Pittsburgh, where they are pictured. On the floor, from left: Thomas L. Wentling, Jr. (U.S.), Ann M. McGuinn (U.S.), Sybil P. Veeder (U.S.), Linda T. Hills (U.S.), and Walter F. Rutkowski (U.S.). Middle row, from left: Eileen J. White (U.S.), Jessie Spittal (retired, U.K.), Myrna J. Braun (U.S.), Mark Laskow (President, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, U.S.), Melissa A. Spangler (U.S.), Susan L. Marcy (U.S.), and James M. Walton (U.S.). Standing, from left: Nora T. C. Rundell (U.K.), Andreas Wolf (Germany), Gloria A. Barber (U.S.), Marlin Ross (U.S.), Andreas Huber (President, Carnegie Stiftung fuer Lebensretter, Germany), Ann-Christine Lindeblad (Sweden), Gustaf Taube (Chairman, Carnegie Stiftelsen, Sweden), Agneta Ahlbeck (Sweden), David B.B. Smith (Chairman, Carnegie Hero Fund Trust, U.K.), Robin Watson (U.K.), Jeffrey A. Dooley (U.S.), Hans-Ruedi Huebscher (Executive Director, Carnegie Rescuers Foundation, Switzerland), William Thomson (Hon. President, Carnegie U.K. Trust), and Douglas R. Chambers (U.S.) (Photo by Dave Rentz, Visual Perceptions, Inc., Pittsburgh.)

## BOARD NOTES

EXHILARATING,  
HEART-RENDING

By Mark Laskow, President  
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



There are times when being part of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission seems like the easiest nonprofit job in the world, and a few times when it seems like the hardest.

Fundamentally, the Hero Fund's business is to

explore the very best aspects of human character. It is incredibly uplifting to study our case notes and the details of the heroic acts we consider. Even in those cases we decline, we are considering very positive behavior by the candidates. It is a joy to the soul to spend time studying and discussing heroes and their acts.

If that isn't enough, Andrew Carnegie's generosity relieved us of one of the onerous duties of a board member, i.e., fundraising. (He did not, of course, relieve us of our duties to be good stewards of the endowment!) We raise funds occasionally, for some activity beyond the mission of our endowment, but it does not dominate our lives. Heroes do.

But I said also that at times this can seem like one of the hardest jobs. It is truly heart-rending to read of cases in which the hero died in the rescue. We work hard to be objective and deal with the facts in a businesslike way, but have no doubt that the reality of their sacrifice is always present with us. At times it can be quite overwhelming. I will never forget the day in November 2003 when we awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously to the survivors of the 12 miners killed in a rescue at the Brookwood Mine in Alabama. Twelve families, 12 widows, many children and parents, and so many tears. Proud tears, but tears nevertheless.

Whatever I felt that day was nothing compared to what the survivors experience every day of their lives after the disaster. And it really is beside the point. Carnegie created the Hero Fund not for his edification or that of the Commissioners, but for the heroes. That remains the total focus of what we do. But we are human as well and cannot deny the exhilarating or the heart-rending impact of our work.



Presidents of Andrew Carnegie's four Pittsburgh-based institutions that hosted the 2007 Medal of Philanthropy events are, from left: Dr. David M. Hillenbrand, Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh; Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Mark Laskow, Carnegie Hero Fund Commission; and Dr. Jared L. Cohon, Carnegie Mellon University. (Photo by John Heller. Copyright, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 2007, all rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.)

## Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy

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The Hero Fund's role on the committee was in obtaining funding for the presentation ceremony, and again, logic suggested the major donors. Laskow worked with Hero Fund board member Dan D. Sandman to secure grants from Pittsburgh-based United States Steel Corporation, which was formed in 1901 with the sale of Carnegie Steel Company, and from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, the premier health system in western Pennsylvania. A forerunner of one of the UPMC hospitals, UPMC Shadyside, was the beneficiary of financial support from Carnegie and his wife Louise, whose names appear on a bronze tablet in the hospital lobby in acknowledgement of their gifts.

Previous sites for the awarding ceremony were in New York City (2001), home of the Carnegie Corporation; Washington, D.C. (2003), home of Carnegie Institution of Washington; and Edinburgh, Scotland (2005), where Carnegie's four U.K. foundations—the Hero Fund Trust, Dunfermline Trust, U.K. Trust, and the Trust for the Universities of Scotland—are based in Dunfermline.

In addition to the family of Carnegie's institutions being present in Pittsburgh, his literal family was represented. Andrew and Louise Carnegie are survived by 13 of their 15 great-grandchildren, three of whom attended the ceremony: William Thomson of Perthshire, Scotland; Kenneth Miller of New York City; and Linda T. Hills of Littleton, Colo. Two "great-greats"—Hills's children—also attended, Scott R. Hills of Los Angeles and Louise M. Hills of Littleton.

Hills and Thomson are the only Carnegie descendants to be actively involved in the Carnegie institutions. Hills was named to the board of the Hero Fund earlier this year, and Thomson is both honorary president of the Carnegie U.K. Trust and honorary chair of the Medal of Philanthropy selection committee.

In his own right, Thomson, who was visiting Pittsburgh for the first time, is a leader in the field of philanthropy. Asked what his great-grandfather might make of today's philanthropists, he told *Contribute New York*, "One of the big changes is that we're more international in our outlook. In Carnegie's time, there was a

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### CHANGED FOREVER

On Sept. 6, 1992, while working at a fast-food establishment, I met two men who would change my life forever. One of them was, in the best way I can describe, a knight. I was stabbed seven times in the chest by the other man before Richard A. Philibert (a Carnegie Hero award holder and, on that night, a random customer) took charge and stopped the attack. It has been almost 15 years now but is still something I think about daily.

As I approach the anniversary this year, words cannot describe how thankful I am to the bravest man it has been my honor to have met. After the attack, I served 6.5 years' active duty in the U. S. Marine Corps with brave, honorable, and courageous men and women of this nation. If it were not for Richard and the countless other men and women who sacrifice their safety and their lives so others may live, I and many others would have never had a chance. My heart, my tears, my thanks.

Jason S. Rowland, Rumford, Maine

### REMINING OTHERS

I received the medal for the gravestone and it looks awesome. Words cannot convey how I felt looking at it. I lost Dad's original medal, and I am hoping this helps others to remember what he did.

Lovina Fields, Palmyra, N.Y.

(Note: At age 26, Arthur L. Thorne saved three women from drowning in the Erie Barge Canal at Port Gibson, N.Y., on July 9, 1936. He died in 1969.)

### HERO'S LEGACY

The Hero Fund is a wonderful organization for recognizing local heroes in an extraordinary way while inspiring and comforting our next generation.

My father, Phillip Lee Patrone, was attending West Virginia University where he played as the "other guard" along side Jerry West when he received the Carnegie Medal in 1961. He was in his hometown of Bellaire, Ohio, visiting on a college break when the incident occurred. Ironically, he was walking alongside the Ohio River to a high school field house to practice basketball. When he heard a woman screaming in the icy, cold waters of the Ohio River, he could do only what was and continues to be in his nature, jump in and rescue her.

This is a legacy that I believe is his most important legacy to his children and grandchildren, not all of the sports records that he had and continues to have.

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## U.S., European Carnegie funds tour sites of shared heritage



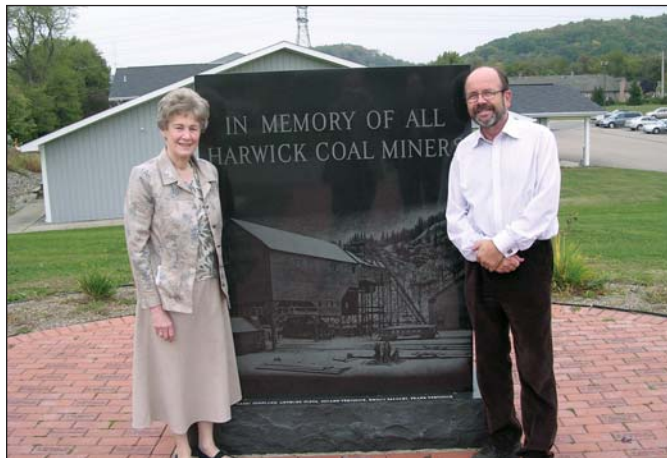
Emilio Saldari—"Chummy"—a retired coal miner from the Harwick mine, points to the site of the 1904 explosion. Flanking him from left are: Sybil Veeder, Gustaf Taube, Gregor and Agneta Ahlbeck, Inger Taube, Joe Rosiejak, Jessie Spittal, Melissa Spangler, Andreas Huber, and Douglas Chambers.

Representatives of four of Carnegie's 10 hero funds in Europe who attended Medal of Philanthropy festivities also took part in auxiliary events and tours that better acquainted them with each other and with their funds' common history.

The agenda was launched at a dinner (see photo, p. 4), during which the head of each delegation spoke briefly on that fund's recent activities. Mark Laskow, president of the U.S.-based Carnegie Hero Fund Commission, emceed the event, introducing, in turn, Gustaf Taube, chair of Carnegiestiftelsen (Sweden); Hans-Ruedi Huebscher, executive director of the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation (Switzerland), Dr. David B. B. Smith, chair of the Carnegie Hero Fund Trust (U.K.), and Andreas Huber, president of Carnegie Stiftung fuer Lebensretter (Germany).

For some of the visitors, it was their first trip to the U.S., but they had met each other in Mannheim, Germany, in 2006 for the inauguration of the German hero fund, and also in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 2005 for that year's presentation of the philanthropy medal.

A breakfast gathering the next day followed in the Commission's downtown Pittsburgh offices. Guests had the opportunity to view the Hero Fund's "refreshed" website ([www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org)). Also shown was the updated version of a 12-minute video that was produced for the Hero Fund's centennial in 1904. The video may be viewed on the website. (continued on page 7)



Jessie Spittal, left, and Gustaf Taube are shown beside the Harwick miners' memorial, which is on the grounds of the Springdale Township Fire Department. Spittal is a retired 30-year member of the board of the Carnegie U.K. Hero Fund Trust, and Taube is chairman of the Carnegiestiftelsen, the hero fund in Sweden.



*Hero fund representatives viewed the debut of the Commission's updated website in the office of Douglas Chambers (left), director of external affairs. Beside him, from left, are: Tina Thomson, Jessie Spittal, William Thomson, Agneta Ahlbeck, Gustaf Taube, Gregor Ahlbeck, and David Smith.*

## Tour sites of shared heritage

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Guests were then given a tour of the estate of Henry Clay Frick, now an art and historical center that includes an art museum, a car and carriage museum, and Frick's beautifully restored Victorian mansion, "Clayton." Frick became Carnegie's business partner after meeting him in 1881 in New York City, and he provided the coke, a coal product, used in Carnegie's steel mills. Carnegie's legacy in Pittsburgh does not include any of the homes in which he lived.

Harwick, the small, former coal-mining community on the bank of the Allegheny River about 12 miles northeast of Pittsburgh, was the next stop on the tour, as the hero funds trace their origin to a massive explosion at the Harwick Coal Mine. More than 180 were lost in the Jan. 25, 1904, disaster, including two men who attempted the rescue of any survivors. So touched was Carnegie by the men's heroic sacrifice that he established the Hero Fund Commission within three months of the explosion to recognize those who risk their lives to save others—the "heroes of civilization," as he called them. Beginning in the U.K. in 1908, the hero funds of Europe were established in quick succession.

There is little to see at the overgrown site—the mine was closed in 1970—but visitors captured a "sense of place" once occupied by a large tipple, outbuildings, and rail yards. Making the industry come alive for the moment was retired miner and local resident Emilio Saldari, who gave a history of the mine and a description of coal mining in Pennsylvania. Saldari is active in memorializing the Harwick miners at sites at the nearby fire hall and at the cemetery along the river where many of the victims of the 1904 explosion are buried. ☒



*Andreas Huber, president of the German hero fund, stands by the marker on the mass grave of the miners killed in the 1904 Harwick mine explosion.*



*William B. Bodine, Jr. (hand raised), director of the Frick Art and Historical Center, Pittsburgh, welcomes hero fund visitors.*

### TO THE HERO FUND

*(continued from page 6)*

Thanks to the distinguished members of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission over the years who have made this possible.

*Janie Reese, Granger, Ill.*

### A BETTER PLACE

Thank you very much for all you do. Although I might have helped to save someone's life physically, your commission helped me financially. I owe a great debt of gratitude to you...this award has thrust me into the limelight as nothing else ever has.

I am so grateful to you for being an instrument for good. Every day we have the choice to do good or bad and the collective whole makes the world a better or worse place to live. Your humanity will always be a blessing and a remembrance to my family and me.

*Marc J. Ellison, American Fork, Utah*

*(Note: The writer was awarded the Carnegie Medal this year for his efforts of Sept. 24, 2006, by which he helped to save a young girl from falling from a steep wall in American Fork Canyon.)*



### FAMILY HERITAGE

June Thompson Carr, left, of New Castle, Pa., celebrated her 77th birthday in September by visiting the Hero Fund's offices to learn more of the Nov. 18, 1919, actions of her father, George L. Thompson, for which he was awarded the Carnegie Medal. Thompson, 28, was just back from serving with the U.S. Army in France during World War I when he lost an arm in an industrial accident in the New Castle Works of the Carnegie Steel Company. Working as a millwright's helper, he was attempting to free a coworker from a revolving shaft of heavy equipment when he was drawn into the machinery himself. Both men survived. Born 11 years after the accident, Carr said she never knew her father to be disabled. "All we ever had to do for him was to roll up one sleeve." Shown with Carr are her husband Ernie and their daughter Janet Zellmann. The family left Thompson's medal to be refinished and took with them a grave insignia to mount on his tombstone. Thompson died in 1950.



LATEST AWARDEES  
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 19 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,130 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON SEPT. 20, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT [WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG](http://WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG).

Three high school friends, **Kyle DeLapp** and **Hooman Nourparvar** of Roswell, Ga., and **Steven M. Gartner** of Alpharetta, Ga., teamed up to save three boys from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico at Miramar Beach, Fla., on April 1 of last year. Carried seaward into deep water by a strong current, the boys, aged 9, 10, and 12, yelled for help. Kyle, 17; Hooman, 18; and Steven, 17, were on the beach nearby. Although posted flags indicated dangerous water conditions, they entered the gulf and went out about 300 feet to the boys. Kyle swam the 10-year-old toward shore while Hooman took the youngest boy in and Steven towed the oldest in. The current impeded the rescuers' progress, and for several minutes they struggled to overcome it and finally reach wadable water. Exhausted and aching, the rescuers recovered after resting.

**Melvin Guevara**, a special officer with the Orange County, Calif., Sheriff's Department, died attempting to save John J. Olivas from being struck by a vehicle in Cerritos, Calif., on New Year's Day, 2006. Olivas, 20, was the driver of a vehicle that crashed at night and came to rest on a freeway. Off duty, Guevara, 24, of Tustin, Calif., stopped at the scene. He crossed traffic lanes to reach the disabled vehicle, then he reached through a window and unfastened Olivas's safety belt. Another vehicle approached at high speed and struck Guevara, killing him. Olivas escaped to safety.

Emergency medical technician **Robert Danforth**, 39, of Troy, Maine, saved Sandra M. Hubbard, 49, from drowning in the Sebasticook River at Pittsfield, Maine, on Sept. 7 of last year. Hubbard's car left the highway in an accident, entered the river, and began to submerge in 19-foot-deep water. Nearby, Danforth heard her scream for help. Although he was recuperating from recent surgery, he swam 30 feet across a swift current to the car, pulled Hubbard out, and, despite her struggling, towed her to the bank.

College student **McKenzie Anne Perry**, 20, of Mount Pleasant, S.C., and **Kary L. Hodge**, 28, an activities assistant from Willimantic, Conn., saved Betty R. Kindley, 55, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Sullivan's Island, S.C., on June 25, 2006, after she was swept by a rip current a far distance from shore. On the beach nearby, Perry and Hodge



*John Eli Marsh, left, and his son, John Morris Marsh, right, flank brothers Brian R., left, and Wilson Ivany, whom they saved from exposure after the Ivany's fishing boat swamped in rough water of Smith Sound off Lower Lance Cove, Nfld. & Lab. Photo, by Barbara Dean-Simmons, courtesy of The Packet, Clarenville, Nfld. & Lab.*

were alerted. Although they could not see Kindley, due to distance and rough surf, they entered the water and began to swim out for her, as did others. Perry reached her first and began to coach her in swimming toward shore. Of the others who had entered the water, only Hodge reached Kindley and Perry. She too aided Kindley in swimming by coaching her. When the women were about 300 feet from shore, a firefighter arrived on a personal watercraft and, with Kindley aboard, took the women to safety.

Two Staten Island, N.Y., residents, **Jon Daniel Kalleberg**, 39, a computer technician, and **Donald K. Casey**, 45, an off-duty firefighter, saved a trucker from his burning rig after an accident in Brooklyn, N.Y., on Sept. 13, 2006. Franklin Montes, 58, remained in the cab of his tractor-trailer, which had struck an overpass pillar, overturned, and broke into flame. Kalleberg and Casey were traveling on the highway and witnessed the accident. They ran to the front of the cab, reached through the windshield, and freed Montes just moments before a major explosion at the tractor sent debris flying. Casey required hospital treatment for first-degree burns to his face and forearms.

**Daniel William Bailey**, 43, of Fort Frances, Ont., an officer with the Ontario Provincial Police, was off duty when he helped to rescue two women from a burning Jeep in Central Elgin, Ont., on Aug. 1, 2006. Friends Catherine A. Moffat, 37, and Andrea L. Higgins, 38, remained strapped in their seats after their vehicle overturned and caught fire at its front

end. Visiting his brother at a nearby residence, Bailey ran to the scene, where he cut Moffat free. Then, despite growing and spreading flames, he reached inside the vehicle, cut Higgins's safety belt, and helped remove her to safety. Moffat died of her injuries, and Bailey needed hospital treatment for burns to both forearms.

**Patrick McGeough, Jr.**, now of Key West, Fla., and **Derrick Kyle** of Hewitt, Texas, attempted to help save a woman from drowning in Hewitt on May 14 of last year after her van partially entered a flooded drainage ditch during heavy rain. McGeough, 26, warehouse employee, and Derrick, 16, high school student, held to the driver's side of the van, but then it moved fully into the ditch, taking them with it. Derrick was washed through a 70-foot-long culvert but emerged to safety at its other end. The van pinned McGeough to the culvert until he was freed by firefighters. The woman, Lois F. Fair, 57, was pulled uninjured to safety. McGeough and Derrick required hospital treatment.

**Patrick Duerden**, 27, a police constable for the Toronto, Ont., Police Service, was on paid-duty detail when he was alerted to a house fire nearby. He entered the structure but was forced out by smoke. Crawling, he re-entered, crossed the kitchen, and found Catherine A. Blackwood, 70, on the floor near the fire's room of origin. He dragged her by the legs to the door and outside to safety. Both he and

*(continued on page 9)*




## Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy

(continued from page 5)

tremendous desire to put money back into America and to make America big. Now, the perspective is global, that we'll make the world better for everybody."

Also visiting Pittsburgh for the first time were a few of the representatives of Carnegie's European hero funds. Carnegie established 10 such funds in Western Europe after the success of the Pittsburgh-based Commission, which he founded in 1904. In what is becoming a tradition, hero fund representatives meet during the week of the Medal of Philanthropy festivities, and this year they were hosted by the Commission at a dinner in the Founders' Room of the historic Duquesne Club in downtown Pittsburgh. Carnegie and a fraternity of other prominent 19th century industrialists started the "gentlemen's club" in 1873 to introduce a cultural venue to the city, and the club, known for its fine dining, artwork, and furnishings, is now recognized as the best of its kind in the U.S.

The Duquesne Club had also catered a dinner the previous evening for 350 guests of the Medal of Philanthropy celebration. Setting for that meal was the ornate concourse of the historic Pennsylvania Railroad Station, which was built in 1900. The location was appropriate, since Carnegie as a young man worked for the railroad, establishing contacts that would serve him throughout his career. Among those at the dinner welcoming visitors to the celebration were the governor of Pennsylvania, Edward G. Rendell, and the chief executive of Allegheny County, Dan Onorato, both of whom spoke of the vital work of foundations in serving the public good. 



### LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 8)

Blackwood were taken to the hospital, where Duerden was treated for smoke inhalation. Severely burned, Blackwood died later that day.

**John Eli Marsh**, 69, and his son **John Morris Marsh**, 36, fishermen from Lower Lance Cove, Nfld. & Lab., saved brothers Wilson and Brian R. Ivany from exposure at Lower Lance Cove on Dec. 5, 2005. Wilson, 50, and Brian, 44, were returning to port on Smith Sound when their boat swamped in high waves and emptied them into the frigid water in a remote area. Brian went ashore, but Wilson submerged. Also returning to port, Marsh and his son came upon the victims. They pulled Wilson aboard their boat, but with difficulty since he was heavy in his saturated attire. Marsh and his son then maneuvered in shallow water close to the bank for Brian, their boat's propeller scraping rock. With Brian aboard, the men resumed their trip to port. Wilson and Brian needed hospital treatment for hypothermia. (See photo.)

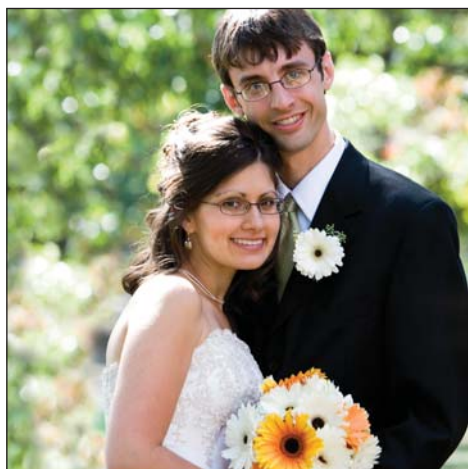
**Samantha L. Wood** of Sterling Heights, Mich., saved 4-year-old Brian Dawkins from his family's burning mobile home in Sterling Heights on Oct. 17, 2006. From a residence nearby, Wood, 34, homemaker, responded to the scene and, despite flames issuing from the mobile home and spreading inside, entered. Crawling, she located Brian in a bedroom closet. Clutching him to herself, Wood crawled back to the door and exited to safety. Wood received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation.

**Andrea Gail Aites**, who was visiting from Loveland, Colo., and **William E. Wright, Jr.**, of Oscoda, Mich., saved two boys from drowning after they fell through the ice on Van Etten Lake in Oscoda on Jan. 10 of this year. Joshua D. Cooper, 6, and John M. Andrick, 9, broke through about 40 feet from the bank. Aites, 55, a homemaker, crossed the ice to the boys. She pulled Joshua from open water and started to carry him in but then fell through herself. She broke a path through the ice the rest of the way. Wright, 37, an aircraft mechanic, responded from his nearby home about then. He waded out to solid ice and then broke a path through it toward John. With difficulty, he returned to the bank with John. Both boys required hospital treatment for hypothermia.

Real estate developer **M. Sean Venezia**, 44, of Danville, Calif., rescued Robert E. McKinley III from a burning vehicle after an accident in Venezia's neighborhood on Oct. 26, 2006. Robert, 16, remained in the driver's seat of a sport utility vehicle that crashed into a tree and caught fire. Venezia heard the accident and, approaching the car, opened the driver's door. He reached into the vehicle, grasped Robert, and pulled him to safety as flames grew to engulf the vehicle, destroying it. Robert sustained leg burns.

- ① The Hero Fund was considered by founder Andrew Carnegie to be the "pet" among his various benefactions. "It's my pet," he wrote, "because no one ever suggested it."
- ② The youngest awardee of the Carnegie Medal was a seven-year-old girl who died in a house fire while saving her brother. The oldest was an 86-year-old woman who died in a house fire attempting to save her son.
- ③ Over the 103-year life of the Hero Fund, 9,130 Carnegie Medals have been awarded from among 80,000 nominees throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- ④ The original Carnegie Medal bore three national seals: those of the U.S., Canada, and Newfoundland, which was a British colony when the medal was designed. The seal of Newfoundland was removed during a redesign of the medal at the time of the Hero Fund's centennial in 2004 to reflect its having joined the Canadian confederation in 1949.
- ⑤ 1,901 awardees of the Carnegie Medal (or 21%) died in the performance of their heroic acts.
- ⑥ Hero fund grants, scholarship aid, death benefits, and continuing assistance totaling \$30 million to date have all been funded by Carnegie's initial \$5 million endowment.
- ⑦ William P. Snyder III joined the Hero Fund board in 1951 and is the longest ever to serve in that capacity.
- ⑧ The more-populated states and provinces tend to be home to the most Carnegie Medal awardees: California, New York, Pennsylvania, Ontario, and British Columbia.
- ⑨ The Hero Fund gives monthly grants to 71 families of awardees who were killed or disabled by their heroic acts. The total annual expenditure is about \$290,000.
- ⑩ Rescues from assault were rare in the Hero Fund's early days. From 1904 through the 1970s, 83 persons who intervened in an assault were recognized, whereas the number for the decade of the 1990s was 118.





Brandon and Lena Abbs

**'HEROES SAVE GENERATIONS, THEY SAVE ENTIRE FAMILIES'**

When Brandon R. Abbs and Lena W. Steinhorn of Iowa City, Iowa, were making plans last year for their Sept. 30, 2007, wedding, they decided each to select a charity to which their guests could make a donation in lieu of a gift. Brandon decided on the Hero Fund since part of his family's history is shared by the Commission.

Brandon's great-grandfather, Adolph Gunia, was the only survivor of a massive coal-mine explosion in 1904 in Harwick, Pa., that claimed 181 lives. Then only 16, Gunia was rescued from the mine "more dead than alive," according to news accounts, but he lost his own father and brother in the disaster. Two of the other victims were men who had entered the mine in rescue attempts. Learning of their efforts, Andrew Carnegie conceived the Hero Fund within weeks as a means of recognizing those who risk their lives while saving or attempting to save the lives of others.

"The people that saved my great-grandfather and the people that you honor are the embodiment of selfless action," Abbs said. "They never act thinking that there may be benefit to themselves. Carnegie's generosity and your mission ensure that acts of heroism are recognized and valued by civilization at large."

Abbs and his wife also made a monetary contribution to the Hero Fund, in honor of their wedding guests. The wedding would not have been possible without the actions of the heroes at the Harwick mine, Abbs said. "Their sacrifice astounds me, and it is in their honor as



Adolph Gunia

well that we present this gift, thanking them for making our family possible."

Abbs said his family is proof that acts of heroism save not only individuals, "but rather they save generations; they save entire families."

**SHE RETURNED THE HONOR**

The Hero Fund lost a good friend on Aug. 26 with the passing of **Maryland Wilson Shytles**, 91, of Greenville, S.C. Dr. Shytles was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1931 for helping to save a friend from drowning, then she was given scholarship aid by the Hero Fund to help with her undergraduate college education. She earned a bachelor's degree from Winthrop University, Rock Hill, S.C., and master's and doctor's degrees in communications from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Shytles never forgot the Hero Fund's assistance and in fact repaid it in full with her professional services, kind gestures, undying loyalty, and affection, not to mention her sending a box of magnolia blossoms one lush spring. She often wrote about the Hero Fund and its awardees for publication and in the 1990s organized a gathering of women from South Carolina who had been given the medal.



Maryland Wilson Shytles

Dr. Shytles first came to the attention of the Hero Fund shortly after her heroic actions of July 11, 1928. Then only 12, she played a major role in saving a 13-year-old friend who was trying to swim the 500 feet from a boat to the bank of Lake Kanuga in Hendersonville, N.C. Young Maryland towed her semiconscious friend 200 feet to where they were aided by other boaters.

In resuming contact with the office in 1989, when she broached the idea of writing an article for *Sandlapper*, *The Magazine of South Carolina*, Dr. Shytles said it felt "like going home again." She cited her communication a half-century earlier with Commission executive C. B. Ebersol, saying he was a "guardian angel, piloting me through my undergraduate years and continuing to counsel and advise me long after my award was depleted. Whatever success I experienced professionally, I owe to him and to the Commission."

The *Sandlapper* article, "More Than a Medal," appeared in the May/June 1990 issue. Others followed, including for the *Georgia Journal* and the *North Georgia Journal*, the latter of which contained her account, "Hero of the Highlands," about the dramatic rescue act of 1911 by Charles N. Wright (cousin of Wilbur and Orville) and William L. Dillard. "Small towns can produce big men," Dr. Shytles wrote, "and courage is confined to no one race."

Dr. Shytles spoke often of her relationship with the Hero Fund, according to her niece, Ruth L. Jones, of Portland, Ore. "On behalf of the family, I would like to thank you a million times over," Jones said. "We will keep her medal in the family forever." Dr. Shytles's grave, in Christ Episcopal Church Cemetery, Greenville, is marked by the Hero Fund's bronze insignia.

**Doris M. Moakler Kolodzeske**, 80, of Superior, Wis., died Oct. 3. At age 15, Kolodzeske was awarded the Carnegie Medal for attempting to save a friend, also 15, from being struck by a train in Manitowoc, Wis. Both girls were hit by the locomotive, Kolodzeske suffering severe injuries and her friend fatal ones.

**HARD WORK, HERO FUND AID SUSTAIN HER FOR 70 YEARS**

(continued from page 2)

Until 1998, Mrs. Brown lived in Eureka, but that year, at age 88, she moved to Fort Scott, Kans., to be closer to Mareta, maintaining her own home and independence. The following year, she moved to Yates Center, where she shares her home with Carol in the reward of quiet retirement. She does some cooking and enjoys watching television. Although she is bothered on occasion by arthritis, she acknowledges her good fortune in that she does not have more serious health problems.

When asked about her longevity, Mrs. Brown seemed to take it for granted. What she does not take for granted is her association with the Hero Fund, whose 70-year file on her burgeons with thank-you notes. "I do appreciate Carnegie helping me so much," she wrote recently. "So many things I can do with their help."

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Hero Fund records of 1907 disaster aid in current research on its victims

By Dr. Joseph L. Tropea (ret.) • George Washington University

As the idea for the Carnegie Hero Fund was born of efforts to save miners' lives, conserving memories of miners lost is consistent with both its origin and spirit. In this centennial year of the greatest mining disaster in U.S. history, it is fitting to recognize the important role the Hero Fund played in enabling us to remember its victims and their families.

At about 10:20 in the morning on Dec. 6, 1907, in Monongah, W. Va., explosions burst through mines 6 and 8 of the Fairmont Coal Company. Within minutes, more than 360 men on the company's payroll died, among them the subjects of the Austrian-Hungarian, Russian, and Ottoman empires, and more than 170 Italians, as well as many Americans. Less than a week after the explosion, two representatives of the Hero Fund, Frank M. Wilmot, secretary, and George A. Campsey, investigator, arrived in Monongah to assess the situation. In a few days, through "intelligent advice and keen business suggestions," they enabled an organization, the Monongah Mines Relief Committee, to collect funds for distribution to the miners' dependents, many of whom lived abroad. The Hero Fund also provided a sizeable contribution to the committee.

The legacy of the Hero Fund and the relief committee is a great source of information that is allowing the construction and "return" of memories of the miners to their living descendants. From the committee's files, we developed a database on the miners and their families and then conducted field research, including locating and interviewing some of the miners' surviving children. Without the Hero Fund's efforts, these research findings might have remained buried. While many discoveries were not easy, the following two examples would have been impossible without the committee's files.

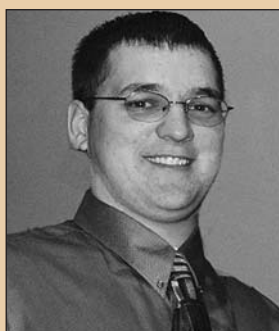
(continued on back cover)



The Carnegie Hero Fund donated \$35,000 in relief funds for the survivors of the 360 victims of the 1907 Monongah, W. Va., mine explosion.

### GRAVE MARKER INSIGNIAS

One of the first gravestone insignias to be offered to families of deceased awardees of the Carnegie Medal was installed in early September on the grave of Justin Paul Faur. Shown at right, Faur, 23, who was a farmhand, was awarded the medal posthumously last year in recognition of his sacrificial act of April 16, 2005, by which he attempted to save his employer from suffocating in a pit beneath the floor of a barn in Andover, Iowa. Both men died as the result of the accident, Faur 14 days after it. The insignias, cast in bronze, were designed to replicate the look of the medal and are available at no cost to the awardees' families. Contact Susan L. Marcy (susan@carnegiehero.org or toll free at 1-800-447-8900) or write to the Hero Fund for further details.



## CONTINUUM



**GRAVEMARKERS** Bronze gravemarkers (above), cast in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal, are available at no cost to the families of deceased awardees. They are designed for mounting on stone or bronze memorials. Contact Susan Marcy (susan@carnegiehero.org) or write her at the address given below.

**MEDAL REFINISHING** The Hero Fund will refinish Carnegie Medals at no cost to the owner. The medals are to be sent to the Hero Fund's office by insured, registered mail. Allow a month for the process. The contact is Myrna Braun (myrna@carnegiehero.org).

**OBITUARIES** Written accounts of the awardee's life, such as contained in an obituary, are sought for addition to the awardee's page on the Commission's website. Contact Doug Chambers (doug@carnegiehero.org).

**CENTENNIAL ANNUAL REPORT** Copies of the Hero Fund's 2004 annual report, which lists the names of all awardees from 1904 through 2004, are available at no cost by contacting the office. Contact Gloria Barber (gloria@carnegiehero.org).

**"A CENTURY OF HEROES"** The centennial book describing the first 100 years of the Hero Fund is available for purchase 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 also available for purchase through the Commission's website.

### CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION

425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 1640  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1823  
Toll free: 800-447-8900  
E-mail: carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org  
Website: www.carnegiehero.org



## FROM THE ARCHIVES

HERO FUND RECORDS OF 1907 DISASTER  
AID IN CURRENT RESEARCH ON ITS VICTIMS*(continued from page 11)*

For a century, the belief prevailed that Stanley Urban was the disaster's sole survivor. Early reports and official records suggested otherwise, but the information was so misleading that it took a good while before we realized the identities of other survivors: a father and his son who escaped the explosion and returned to Italy in 1908. We visited the family home in Pescocostanzo, Italy, last August—a home purchased with funds provided by the relief committee. We informed the family of the disaster and the significance of the father's and son's escape. The memory of that visit for the family—and us—will not be forgotten.



Through local legend and the syndicated series, "Strange as it Seems," a widow of the Monongah explosion was

*One mine victim's family went back to Italy, then returned to West Virginia. Their survival has been chronicled by recent research.*

primarily known as a bizarre woman who, for almost three decades, daily carried coal from the mine to her backyard. Yet this view did not comport with what we were uncovering through our research, including visits to the Monongah cemetery and collaboration with her descendants. We found that this woman and her five children, supported by relief funds, departed for Italy after the explosion to assess their prospects. They returned to the U.S. within a year after the woman realized conditions would be worse for her children in Italy. Back in Monongah, she took in laundry while her three elder sons entered the mines to support their younger brother. This youngest son became president of his high school class and a physician. The woman's daughter also achieved university graduation status, married well, and taught French literature. The story we are developing of this woman, of struggle and courage, challenges the cruel stereotype that enveloped her memory for far too long. Not surprisingly, her descendants are elated to see her portrayed in a more humane and realistic way.

The Carnegie Hero Fund is heroic to us, and to families of the miners we reach, for more than giving gifts to heroes. Its legacy includes enabling knowledge of persons whose lives ended so abruptly and who likely would have remained unknown – as would the travails of their families who carried on after they were lost. ☒

*Dr. Tropea is retired chair of the department of sociology, George Washington University, where he directed workshops in support of post-communist transformations. He is the grandson of Italian immigrants, all of whom settled in West Virginia. With his daughters, and colleagues in Italy and West Virginia, he volunteers research efforts into the Monongah Disaster and related areas.*

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**

425 Sixth Avenue, Ste. 1640 • Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1823

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

Fax: 412-281-5751

E-mail: [carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org](mailto:carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org)  
[impulse@carnegiehero.org](mailto:impulse@carnegiehero.org)

Website: [www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org)

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