



# imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 40 • DECEMBER 2014



Malo Enrique Paul

## HEROIC 16-YEAR-OLDS GAVE LIVES FOR OTHERS

Of the 21 named recently by the Hero Fund as the latest awardees of the Carnegie Medal (see pages 6-8), two were 16-year-old sophomores, **Madison Leigh Wallace** and **Malo Enrique Paul**. Both died in their rescue attempts, and their families, of Spanish Fork, Utah, and Ruskin, Fla., respectively, are left to mourn them.

It was the death of a teenager in 1886 that got Andrew Carnegie thinking about heroism. After a 17-year-old boy drowned in a lake in Carnegie's native Dunfermline, Scotland, in a rescue attempt, Carnegie wrote: "The false heroes of barbarous man are those



Madison Leigh Wallace

who can only boast of the destruction of their fellows. The true heroes of civilization are those alone who save or greatly serve them." The Hero Fund was born of his convictions.

Madison, the oldest of six children, was in her school's bands and the state's Youth Philharmonic Orchestra. "She wanted to be a writer," her family said. "Instead, her story was written in our hearts." Madison drowned trying to save her younger brother. Malo, an only child, loved basketball, art, reading, and being in his church's praise group. "Malo always was defending someone being bullied," a friend told a reporter. Now, his mother, Laurie Jones, said, "He's always going to be watching over everyone." Malo died after attempting to save a friend, also from drowning.

## Like father, like son: Two heroes, 16 years apart, in the same family

It's not unusual for members of an immediate family to be recognized individually as heroes for participating in the same rescue act, but in the Fredrickson household of Schaumburg, Ill., the second Carnegie Medal is going onto the mantel 16 years after the first.

The more recent, shinier medal will belong to **Tyler T. Fredrickson**, a high school sophomore who turns 16 on Christmas. His father, **Thomas S. Fredrickson**, 49, president of an air cargo company, was cited by the Hero Fund in 1998—before Tyler was born—for saving a small boy from drowning. "I thought it was cool that he would do that," Tyler told a reporter, Eric Peterson of the local *Daily Herald*. "I thought it was neat that he got nominated," his father said, "but then he won!"

Tyler is one of four youths who helped to save a police officer and his 10-year-old son from drowning in the Vermilion River at Oglesby, in northern Illinois, on June 28 last year. The pair had been rafting down the river when they were pulled by a swift current against the face of a low-head dam and could not free themselves. The raft was in danger of flipping its occupants into the rolling boil of water below the dam.

Tyler, three male friends, and their mothers were rafting in another party and came upon the scene and discovered the victims. The boys in one raft and the women in another, they navigated past the dam successfully, but then the boys turned their raft back toward the dam to aid the victims as the mothers pulled over to the bank. The boys were successful in taking the 10-year-old into their raft, but then it too became lodged against the face of the dam, putting Tyler and his friends in the same danger as the officer and his son.



Thomas S. Fredrickson, right, with his Carnegie Medal, shown with newly named medal awardee, son Tyler. Photo, by Joe Lewnard, is courtesy of the Daily Herald.

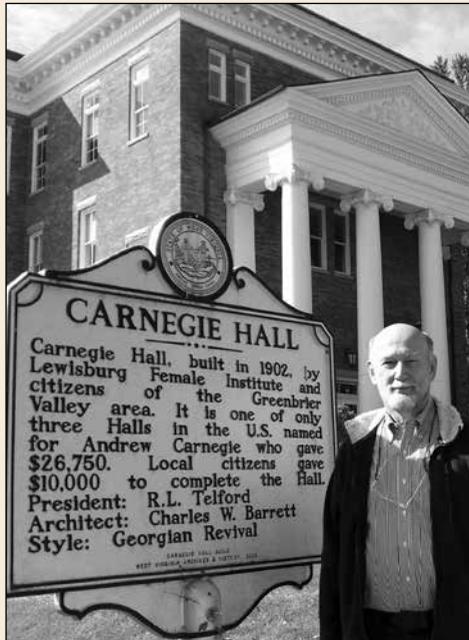
(continued on page 9)



### CARNEGIE INITIATIVES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

By Mark Laskow, Chair  
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

Andrew Carnegie’s accomplishments are best known for their grand scale, such as the creation of the modern steel industry. As well, his philanthropy displayed an incredible span. He created a series of organizations that lead research and action on global concerns, such as the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs (which just celebrated its 100th anniversary—see page 9), the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Carnegie Institution, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.



Mr. Laskow gets to Carnegie Hall

Carnegie also launched a series of organizations and projects that reach deep into cities and small towns across the U.S. and several other countries. I was well aware of the many libraries and church organs he sprinkled across the country, but on a recent October day I was dropped at random into a small town deep in Appalachia and was startled to find myself standing in front of a Carnegie Hall—the one in Lewisburg, W.Va., as opposed to the better known one on 7th Avenue in New York City.

How was I “dropped at random” in Appalachia? Well, I was flying along, happy as a clam, when a flashing engine warning light suggested that I land right there, wherever “there” happened to be. And I did! There was some smoke, but no flames. No problem. There are many ways to make random selections, and on that particular day this was my way.

(continued on page 3)

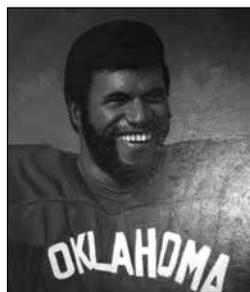


Vicky Anderson, center, holds the street sign bearing her father’s name, along with Ron Washington, member of the Murfreesboro, Tenn., City Council. At left is Monica Green, Anderson’s sister. Photo, by Helen Comer, is provided as a courtesy by The Daily News Journal, Murfreesboro.

## Posthumous awardees memorialized by hometowns in civic dedications

A bridge in Maryland and a street in Murfreesboro, Tenn., have something in common: Each was dedicated recently in honor of a posthumous awardee of the Carnegie Medal.

“Jerry Anderson was a hero on the field of football,” said Murfreesboro Mayor Shane McFarland in August. “But more importantly he was a hero in the bigger game of life.” McFarland was referring to the heroic rescue by Murfreesboro native **Jerry O. Anderson**, who died May 27, 1989, after helping to save a boy from drowning in the Stones River at Murfreesboro. Twenty-five years later, his heroism was permanently marked by the city in naming a residential street in his honor. Family and friends were on hand for a dedication ceremony.



Mr. Anderson

Anderson was no stranger to lifesaving. Five years earlier, to the day, he helped victims of flash flooding in Tulsa, Okla. In the incident that claimed his life, Anderson, 35, was fishing from the bank of the river when two 12-year-old boys became caught in the river by its swift current. As one of the boys made his way to safety, Anderson entered the river fully clothed and swam to the other. He grasped the boy around his chest and fought the current to return him to the bank, and then he pushed the boy toward safety. The boy survived, but Anderson submerged and drowned. His widow, Darlene D. Anderson, was awarded his Carnegie Medal later that year.

Anderson had already made a name for himself, in football. He was a gridiron legend at Murfreesboro’s Central High School and then played for the University of Oklahoma Sooners in 1975, a national championship year, and in 1976. He then played professionally in the National Football League for the Cincinnati Bengals and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, and in the Canadian Football League, retiring in 1981.

\*\*\*

At a half-mile wide at its widest by one mile long, southern Maryland’s Cobb Island is a small speck of land in the waters off Chesapeake Bay, 45 miles south

(continued on page 3)

## Posthumous awardees memorialized

(continued from page 2)

of Washington, D.C. The island is in the juncture of the Potomac and Wicomico rivers and comprises a community of the same name complete with its own volunteer fire department. A bridge one-tenth of a mile long is how you get there from the mainland.

**Christopher Allen Staley**, a 22-year-old landscaper, was an active member of the Cobb Island Volunteer Fire Department and, despite his youth, was a “steady fixture” at the fire station, according to the chief. On Aug. 6, 2011, Staley died attempting to save a friend from drowning in the Wicomico River. The department considers him to be its first member to die in the line of duty since its formation in 1946.

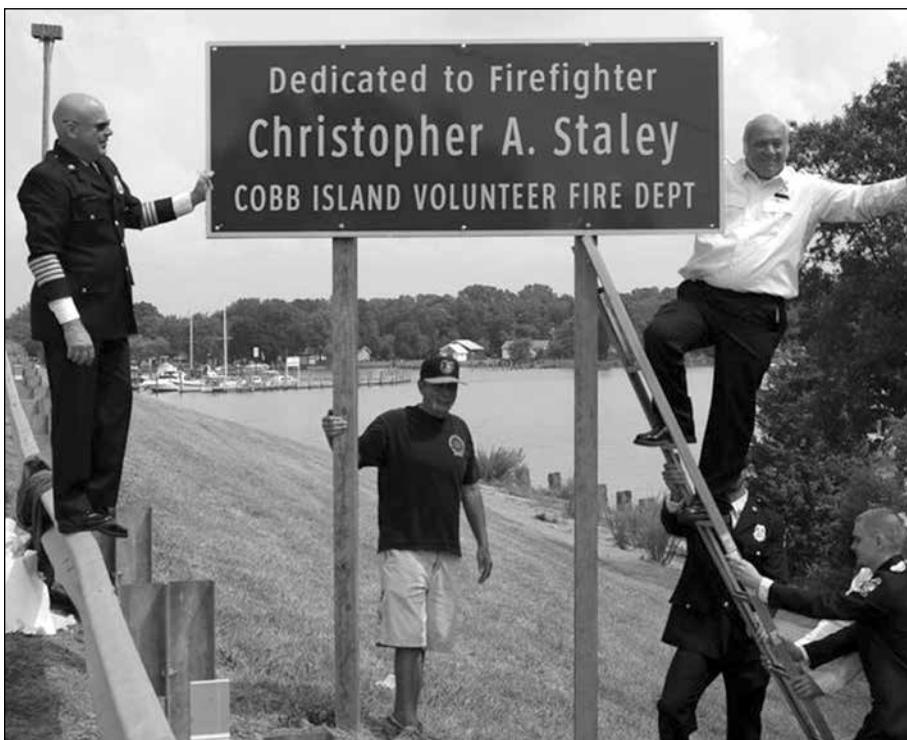
The rescue attempt occurred while Staley and his friend were attending a birthday picnic at a public park off the island. Deciding to take a swim, the friend, 24, jumped from the end of a pier that jutted 600 feet into the river and shortly began to struggle and submerge. Staley jumped in after him. He too submerged, and neither man re-surfaced. Their bodies were recovered hours later.

Staley was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously in March of this year. It was given to his father, Kenny L. Staley, Sr., also a member of the fire department. Hearing the emergency call on his pager, Kenny responded to the scene on the day of the incident, not knowing that his son was involved. It was the second tragedy in a short time for the family, as Staley’s older brother died in a work-related accident five months earlier.

Efforts began in late 2013 to have the Cobb Island Bridge dedicated to Staley for his heroic rescue attempt, and in early August the initiative was completed with a ceremony attended by representatives of government and the Cobb Island fire and emergency medical services departments. ☒



Mr. Staley



Firefighters of Cobb Island, Md., unveil a sign at the Cobb Island Bridge, which was dedicated to one of their own, Carnegie Medal awardee Christopher Allen Staley.

### BOARD NOTES

(continued from page 2)

Andrew Carnegie built this Hall at the request of James Laing, a resident of Lewisburg who was born in Carnegie’s hometown of Dunfermline, Scotland, as a classroom building for the Lewisburg Female Institute (later renamed Greenbrier College for Women). Carnegie donated \$33,000, or about \$875,000 in today’s dollars. Greenbrier College closed in 1972, but its campus today is home to the New River Community and Technical College. Lewisburg’s Carnegie Hall today serves as a regional cultural center.

Over time, Carnegie built about 2,500 libraries. Of these, two are located within 80 miles or so of my new favorite airport. He helped purchase about 7,600 church organs, although I don’t know how many are in this region. And don’t forget the Hero Fund itself. Of the 9,718 heroes we have recognized across the U.S. and Canada, six performed rescues in the rugged mountains of Virginia and West Virginia within a 50-mile radius.

I am reminded of the popular joke about New York’s Carnegie Hall. A tourist approaches some famous musician on the street—let’s pick on Jascha Heifetz—and asks if he knows how to get to Carnegie Hall. Heifetz replies “Yes. Practice!” Maybe that’s not likely to happen in Lewisburg, but famous musicians have been known to walk its streets, with notable performers such as Taj Mahal, Gillian Welch, Isaac Stern, Ralph Stanley, and George Winston having performed in its Carnegie Hall.

3

### OVERHEARD

**It was going to kill me. I did not doubt it for a second.**—**Craig M. Randleman**, Carnegie Medal nominee #86552, who was attacked by a pit bull terrier after he helped to rescue a girl from being attacked by the dog.

**I’ve probably been in safer places.**—**Pawel Kruszewski**, Carnegie Medal nominee #85929, who crawled into an overturned and burning vehicle to rescue its three occupants.

**But what motives urge him [a brave person] on? The time for consideration is always brief. The house on fire, the drowning man, the run-away animal, the express-train thundering down on the child, give no time to weigh risks or consider motives. Men are in emergencies the puppets of their past, which of sudden pulls the unseen wires and determines action. The gun was loaded long ago: occasion pulls the trigger.**—**S. Weir Mitchell, M.D.**, “Heroism in Every-Day Life,” *American Century Magazine*, December 1902.



**ONTARIO NICKEL MINER DIED SAVING DOWNED COWORKER**

**Harold Clayton Gabourie** was a 33-year-old miner from Sudbury, Ont., when he died in the early hours of Jan. 3, 1936, as a result of helping to save a coworker from suffocating in a nickel mine in Falconbridge, Ont., the day before. He was a married man with two young children, and a third was born 24 days later.



*Mr. Gabourie*

A native of Tweed in southeast Ontario, Gabourie moved to Sudbury to work in the nickel mines. On the day of his heroic act, he was at the 750-foot level of the mine, from which a vertical raise was being extended upward through ore. When a fellow miner at the top of the raise was overcome by carbon monoxide, Gabourie and a coworker, **Dmetrie Benuik**, 31, climbed 220 feet on a series of ladders over the course of 10 minutes to reach him.

Although somewhat affected by the gas themselves, Gabourie and Benuik helped to fasten the downed miner in a bucket that was then lowered by cable to safety at the base of the raise. That miner recovered, but as they descended, Gabourie and Benuik were affected by the gas. Benuik made it to safety, and he recovered, but Gabourie

*(continued on page 5)*



*Benuik's grave stone, with reference to his award of the Carnegie Medal (close-up). Photos by Shawn Flint of Mountain View Cemetery, Thunder Bay, Ont.*

*A sad day's solemn 100th anniversary marked Carnegie departure from Skibo*

Skibo, the Carnegie Family's beloved retreat in the Highlands of Scotland for 80 years, was the scene of a solemn ceremony on Sept. 14. One hundred years earlier to the day, as World War I—The Great War—was breaking out in Europe, Andrew Carnegie, 78, departed for the U.S., never to return to his summer home or his native land. He died in 1919.



*Located on the banks of the Dornoch Firth (river estuary) off the North Sea on the eastern coast of Scotland, Carnegie's former 22,000-acre estate is the site of Skibo Castle, references to which date back to at least 1211. Much of the present structure—which includes Pittsburgh-made steel—was built after the Carnegies took ownership in the late 1890s.*

Now privately held as the members-only "Carnegie Club," Skibo hosted a small gathering of guests, staff, and Carnegie descendants to mark the anniversary of that poignant day and to dedicate a museum within the castle. Present for the occasion were Hero Fund board member and treasurer Dan D. Sandman and his wife, Bonnie, of Pittsburgh, and representing the Carnegie Family were five of Andrew and Louise Carnegie's great-grandchildren, Louise Suggett, Gail Boggs, and William, Margaret, and Mary Thomson, all of whom

live nearby. The minister of the cathedral in Dornoch, an ancient town four miles away, gave a blessing of peace.

"What was so poignant for me," Margaret Thomson said, "was standing in the front hall laughing and chatting with so many lovely people...but thinking of that day one-hundred years before and wondering whether the piper piped 'round the castle to wake the family, whether they gathered 'round the organ to sing the hymns after breakfast, and imagining how quiet the hall would have been that day with the staff lined up to say good-bye and no one knowing what lay ahead."

In one of now six generations of Carnegie descendants on both sides of the Atlantic, Margaret read to the gathering from the journal of her grandmother,



*Andrew Carnegie at Skibo in 1914.*

*(continued on page 5)*

## 100th anniversary

(continued from page 4)

Margaret Carnegie Miller (1897-1990), who was the only child of Andrew and Louise Carnegie. “All of the young men on the estate had been called up and were off to join the army or the navy,” Miller, who was then a teenager, wrote. “Horses were needed to pull the artillery, and all ours were taken. . . The pair I enjoyed driving so much were allowed to stay until we left. It was a sad afternoon when I drove them for the last time.”

The day is further described by Carnegie biographer Joseph Frazier Wall in his history of the estate, *Skibo* (Oxford University Press, 1984): “The Carnegies made their annual farewell to the household staff on the morning of 14 September, about a month and a half earlier than was their usual custom. As might be expected, the parting was more tearfully emotional in this sad autumn, but no one, least of all Carnegie, realized that this was his final farewell to beloved Skibo. Driving by auto to the train station at Bonar Bridge, the Laird of Skibo had an opportunity for a good view of his estate. The trees that he had planted along the roads were in the brightest autumnal foliage, and the hills beyond were at their deepest heather purple, the traditional color for royalty—and also for mourning.”



*Carnegie great-granddaughter Margaret Thomson officially opened Skibo's museum, the first phase of a four-year rolling exhibition of the estate during the First World War. At right is Peter Crome, chairman and managing director of the Carnegie Club.*



*Hero Fund board member Dan D. Sandman, right, and his wife, Bonnie, visited Skibo in September and attended the memorial ceremony with five of Andrew and Louise Carnegie's great-grandchildren, including, from left, siblings Mary, William, and Margaret Thomson.*

### 15:13

(continued from page 4)

fell 40 feet to the bottom of the raise and was rendered unconscious. He was taken to the hospital and died after midnight.

For their actions, Gabourie and Benuik were each awarded the Carnegie Medal on Oct. 30, 1936. The awards were both made posthumously, as Benuik was killed in another mining accident two weeks earlier. He is buried in Mountain View Cemetery, Thunder Bay, Ont.

Gabourie's award, given to his widow, included a modest monthly grant to help her meet her family's living expenses. Mrs. Gabourie moved to Toronto in August 1936 and, never remarried, received the grant for the next 55 years. She died in 1994 and is buried alongside her husband in Tweed. Of her and her husband's children, the youngest, Clayton James Gabourie, of Port Severn, Ont., survives. (With thanks to historian Ken R. Johnson of Langley, B.C., a former resident of Thunder Bay.)

*15:13* calls to mind those in the Hero Fund's 110-year history whose lives were sacrificed in the performance of their heroic acts. The name identifies the chapter and verse of the Biblical quote from 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 9,697 medal awardees to date, 1,994, or 21% of the total, were recognized posthumously. **They are not to be forgotten.**

### TO THE HERO FUND

#### HERO FUND A “POSITIVE INFLUENCE”

With the help of the tuition aid I received from the Commission last year, I received admission into my university honors laureate society and am currently on track to graduate with honors this spring. In my case, the Commission has had a very positive influence on my academic career and I am very grateful.

*Cameron C. Gilbert, Spokane, Wash.*

*Gilbert was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 2011 for his actions of March 24, 2009, by which he rescued a college student from an attack by a man wielding a knife. Gilbert is currently attending Whitworth University, Spokane.*



LATEST AWARDEES  
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 21 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,718 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON SEPT. 30, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON DEC. 22.

**Robert Wayne Knoll**, 24, a cook from Ripon, Wis., saved Jeffrey S. Decker, 34, from being struck by a train in Oshkosh, Wis., on July 20 last year. Decker was thrown from his motorcycle and landed on a railroad track as a train was approaching on it at about 25 m.p.h. Unconscious, he lay partially between the rails of the track. Knoll was in his car stopped nearby and witnessed the accident. Seeing the train approaching, he immediately ran about 70 feet to Decker, crossing the track to reach him. As the train bore down on them, although in emergency braking, Knoll grasped Decker by the shoulder and his belt and pulled him from the track when the front of the train was about 20 feet away. They had cleared the track by a few feet as the front of the train passed and then stopped about 300 feet beyond them.

**Justin Lowell Hanley**, 43, a wild land firefighter from Miles City, Mont., saved Chava L. and Shoshana L. Berry from drowning in the Yellowstone River at Miles City on Aug. 4, 2013. Sisters Chava, 14, and Shoshana, 10, were wading along the bank of the river when the current pulled them into deeper water and carried them downstream. Hanley, who lived nearby, responded to the river and ran several hundred feet along the bank to a point just beyond the girls. He entered the water, and the strong channel current pulled on him, but he reached the girls at a point about 250 feet from the bank. He held Chava, who was inert, with one arm and then grasped Shoshana with that hand. Using his free arm, Hanley stroked back toward the bank, the current continuing to take them downstream. Fatigued and suffering abrasions, Hanley reached the bank with the girls at a point about 700 feet downstream from where he entered the river.

**Tony J. Schmidt**, 52, a business operator from Hayesville, N.C., teamed up with **Brannon Passmore**, 27, a construction foreman from Blairsville, Ga., to save Nicholas A. Yebba from drowning in the Nottely River at Blairsville on May 29 last year. Yebba, 29, was unconscious in the front seat of his automobile after it left the highway, entered the river, and submerged in water about 12 feet deep at a point about 35 feet from the closer bank. Driving on the highway,



*Justin Lowell Hanley, a firefighter for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), jumped up from the dinner table in his home near the banks of the Yellowstone River in Miles City, Mont., and went to the rescue of 10- and 14-year-old sisters who were being carried away by the river's swift current. "I had tremendous help from above and a huge amount of adrenaline during the rescue," he said. Photo courtesy of the BLM Eastern Montana-Dakotas District.*

Schmidt witnessed the accident and responded to the bank, as did Passmore, another motorist. Not seeing anyone emerge from the car, the men entered the river and swam to it. They submerged and pried open the vehicle's rear hatch, which sent personal

items from the car, startling them. After surfacing for air, Schmidt made repeated dives into the car to locate, free, and remove Yebba. He took Yebba to the surface and then with Passmore returned him to the bank as first responders were arriving.



*Tony J. Schmidt credits his "being in the right place at the right time" for the successful rescue of a motorist from his submerging car after it left the roadway and entered a river. He is shown with fiancée Nan Fein. Photo is courtesy of the Clay County Progress, Hayesville, N.C.*

**Andrew Calvin Zimmer**, 50, a die setter from Emporium, Pa., helped to rescue his disabled neighbor, Krista L. Losey, 28, from her burning apartment on Dec. 27, 2012. Losey lay in a bed in the living room of her apartment after fire broke out in the rear of the unit and filled it with dense smoke. Seeing smoke and flames issuing from the structure, Zimmer and three other men who responded to the scene repeatedly entered the apartment and, despite intense heat, crawled about the living room in search of Losey before having to retreat for air. On his last attempt, Zimmer crawled a different course, which took him toward the fire. He found Losey's bed and then stood, picked her up, and started toward the door but fell to the floor with her. Grasping Losey again, Zimmer dragged her to the door, from which point the other men took her to safety. Flames grew to engulf the apartment.

High school student **Madison Leigh Wallace**, 16, of Vermillion, S.D., died attempting to save her brother, Garrett M., 6, from drowning in the Big Sioux River at Sioux Falls, S.D., on March 14, 2013, and **Lyle Eagle Tail**, 28, of Sioux Falls died attempting to save Madison and Garrett. While at a municipal park with his siblings, Garrett fell into the river from

(continued on page 7)

## LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 6)

its abrupt rock bank and disappeared into a thick layering of foam created by the cascading water. Madison, who was nearby, went into the river feet first in an attempt to locate him, but she too was lost from sight as she entered the foam. From another party in the park, Eagle Tail, a restaurant employee, responded to the scene and let others hold to him as he lay on the bank and attempted to reach Garrett and Madison. He fell from their grasp into the river. Garrett surfaced, made his way to the bank, and was pulled to safety, but Madison and Eagle Tail drowned. (See photo.)

**Donnie Navidad**, 61, a government employee from Stockton, Calif., attempted to save a woman from effects of falling on Nov. 24, 2013. A 20-year-old woman sat on an outside ledge atop the highest deck of a stadium in Oakland, Calif., drawing attention from those on the concrete concourse 67 feet below. One of them, Navidad, moved to a point directly beneath the woman as she started to fall. He bent at the knees and stretched out his arms to catch her. Navidad grasped the 100-pound woman as she struck him and was knocked to the pavement, the woman landing nearby. The woman required hospitalization for treatment of severe injuries, and Navidad was treated at the emergency room for contusions to an arm and shoulder. He recovered.

Paramedic **Perry Hookey** and field mechanic **Lance O'Pry** saved William D. Ballard, 43, from the burning wreckage of a tractor-trailer after an accident in Vallejo, Calif., on Jan. 10 last year. Ballard had been driving the vehicle and was trapped in the wreckage. Off duty nearby, Hookey, 47, of Vacaville, Calif., heard the accident and immediately responded to the scene, as did O'Pry, 42, of Napa, Calif., who had witnessed the accident. Seeing Ballard suspended by his safety belt in the cab, flames overhead, they removed pieces of the wreckage to provide access to him. Despite intense heat in the cab, the men worked to free and remove Ballard. The tractor was shortly engulfed by flames. Ballard was taken to the hospital, where he died of his injuries. Hookey sustained first- and second-degree burns to an arm, for which he received hospital treatment.

College student **Joseph C. Inman**, 24, of Vancouver, Wash., saved a boy from his burning automobile after an accident in Battle Ground, Wash., on July 21 last year. The boy, 16, remained in the driver's seat of the two-door car, unconscious, after the nighttime accident as flames issued along the exterior of the driver's side. Inman came upon the scene shortly. Believing the car to be occupied, he immediately ran to its passenger side and kicked the window of the passenger door, displacing it. He then reached into the car and unlocked and opened



*A four-unit apartment house in Emporium, Pa., went up in flames as neighbor Andrew Calvin Zimmer was shoveling snow from his walk. Zimmer was one of four men who made repeated trips into the first-floor unit in search of a bedfast woman there. He located her in the blinding smoke and dragged her to the front door, where the other men removed her to safety. Photo courtesy of Endeavor News, Emporium.*

the door. Despite seven-foot-high flames along the driver's side, Inman entered the vehicle to kneel on the passenger seat. He grasped the boy's right upper arm and, backing, pulled him from the car and onto the pavement, where a woman joined him in carrying the boy to safety. Flames grew quickly to engulf the vehicle.

**Michael Homeier**, 37, a farmer from Ellsworth, Kan., and **Sean Petersen**, 45, a retail manager from Topeka, Kan., rescued Jonah C. Turner, 9, from his family's burning sport utility vehicle after an interstate highway accident in Ellsworth on May 28 last year. Badly injured, Jonah lay in the back of the vehicle after it struck the rear of a tractor-trailer. Working on his farm nearby, Homeier heard the accident and went to the scene, as did Petersen, who had been driving on an access road there. By then the vehicle had caught fire at its front end, and flames were entering the passenger compartment and rapidly progressing. Homeier fought the flames with a fire extinguisher, and, after Petersen located Jonah, he broke out the vehicle's rear windows with the extinguisher. Gaining entry through those windows, the men lifted Jonah to the level of the windows for removal by Petersen. Homeier then withdrew from the vehicle, flames growing quickly to engulf it.

University police officer **Christopher Heleine**, 28, of Brazil, Ind., saved Mark D. McKinley, 30, from a burning automobile after a vehicle accident in Terre Haute, Ind., on Nov. 14, 2012. After his car struck vehicles in a parking lot and caught fire at its front end as its engine continued to run, McKinley lay unconscious in his smoke-filled vehicle, slumped over the console. Heleine, a university police officer, responded to the scene and saw that McKinley was unresponsive. He used a fire extinguisher against flames that had advanced to the front passenger door and then opened it, releasing smoke. Heleine entered the car, released McKinley's safety belt, and, backing, exited the car as he started to pull McKinley out. Another officer assisted in fully removing him. They dragged McKinley to safety, flames quickly spreading to the interior of the car and to the other vehicles nearby.

**Matthew Hare**, 36, a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer from Kelowna, B.C., saved a woman from drowning in Okanagan Lake at Kelowna on Nov. 27, 2013. At night, a 21-year-old woman struggled to stay afloat in the lake, in water about 115 feet deep at a point about 275 feet from the closer bank. Hare, who was on duty, drove to a point from which he could access the bank and then ran 600 feet to the lake. He entered the 48-degree

(continued on page 8)



## LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 7)

water and swam to the woman. Other officers had thrown seat cushions into the lake, and, grasping one of them, Hare pulled the woman's shoulders onto it. Propelling himself with his legs while pushing the woman, Hare returned to the bank, the woman losing consciousness as they proceeded. Others helped him and the woman from the water. Both Hare and the woman were taken to the hospital, where Hare was treated for mild hypothermia.

**Colin D. Fath**, 14, and his brother, **Graham W.**, 11, and their 14-year-old friends, **Matthew I. Grammas** and **Tyler T. Fredrickson**, all students from Schaumburg, Ill., helped to save James P. Elenz, 45, and his son, Ryan J., 10, from drowning in the Vermilion River at Oglesby, Ill., on June 28 last year. Elenz and his son were rafting on the river when they became caught in the rolling boil of water at the base of a low-head dam. They could not free themselves as water flowing over the dam entered their raft. In another party, Colin and the three other boys were approaching the dam in a raft and saw that Elenz and his son were stranded. From a point below the dam, the four boys took their raft to Elenz's. Elenz handed Ryan over to them, but then the boys' raft became caught by the current and held against the face of the dam and Elenz's raft was released. Elenz went downstream to alert help as the boys used their paddles and hands in an attempt to get out of the boil. Water over the dam entered the raft, and two



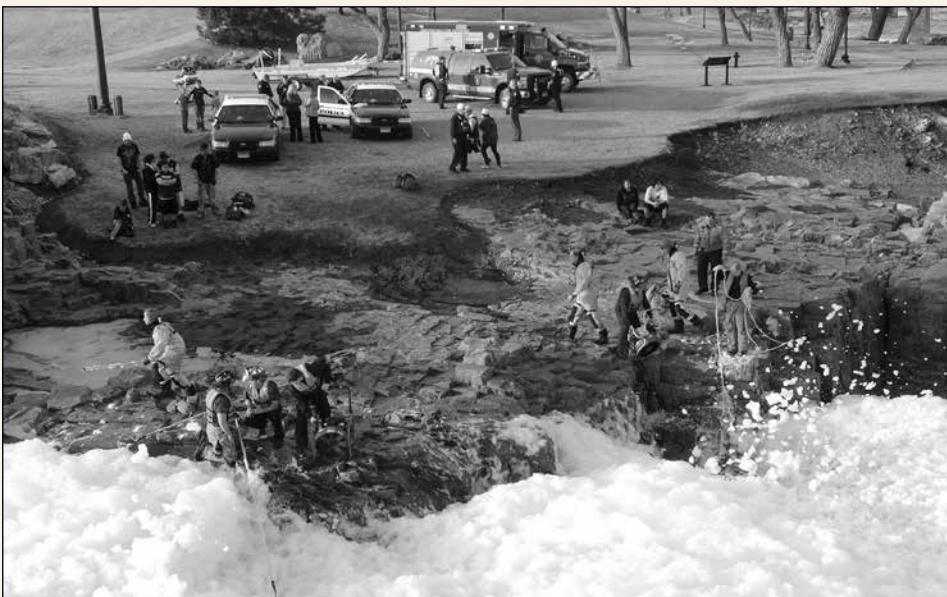
*Four young men rafting on a river turned into a lifesaving team when they went to the rescue of James P. Elenz and his son, Ryan, at far left in the photo. The Elenzs' raft was stranded against the face of a low-head dam and was in danger of capsizing in the rolling boil of water below it. The four rescuers, Matthew I. Grammas and Graham W. Fath in the first row and Colin D. Fath and Tyler T. Fredrickson in the second, managed to free Elenz, but then their raft became stranded against the dam. They were pulled to safety by Aurora, Ill., police officers Rick Ahlgren and Daniel Eppard, at right, who approached the scene while kayaking. Photo courtesy of the City of Aurora.*

of the paddles were lost to the river. Two kayakers came upon the scene several minutes later and from the bank threw one end of a line to the boys. The kayakers then pulled the raft from the boil and to safety. Ryan was treated at the scene for mild hypothermia, and the four rescuers resumed rafting down the river. (See photo.)

**Gerald A. Madrid**, 53, a bail bond agent from

Albuquerque, N.M., rescued Adam D. Alvarez from an assault in Albuquerque on April 28, 2013. A disturbed man armed with a knife approached Alvarez, 48, as he was directing the choir during a service in a church sanctuary. Shouting that he wanted to kill Alvarez, the man stabbed him repeatedly. Madrid, who was in the choir, witnessed the attack. Although he was close to a door leading from the church, Madrid ran across that section of the sanctuary and charged the man, pinning him against a wall. Alvarez fled to safety. Madrid attempted to take the assailant to the floor, but the assailant stabbed him repeatedly in the back. Madrid collapsed. Several men from the congregation subdued the assailant and secured him until police arrived shortly and arrested him. Alvarez and Madrid were hospitalized for treatment of their stab wounds.

High school student **Malo Enrique Paul** of Niceville, Fla., died after attempting to save his friend J'melia N. Richardson from drowning in the Gulf of Mexico at Fort Walton Beach, Fla., on June 8 last year. While swimming, J'melia, 15, was caught by a strong rip current that took her farther from shore. Struggling in the water, she called for help. A member of her party, Malo, 16, was in wadable water closer to shore in that vicinity. He waded and then swam toward J'melia, but the current continued to pull her farther out, and she submerged. Falling just short of reaching her, Malo began to struggle in the water. A man from their party swam to J'melia and returned her toward shore, and then he and others retrieved Malo, who had been overcome by conditions. Unconscious, Malo and J'melia required hospitalization, and Malo died eight days later.



*Sioux Falls, S.D., firefighters used fans and hoses to disperse foam to gain access to the Big Sioux River at the point in a city park where the river drops in a series of cascades over its rocky bed. A 6-year-old boy fell into the river at this site, and his sister, Madison Leigh Wallace, 16, entered in an attempt to save him. Kyle Eagle Tail was at the park with friends, and he then entered the river for both Madison and her brother. The brother made his way to safety, but both Madison and Eagle Tail drowned. The foam results from the rush of runoff water that contains agricultural chemicals. Photo, by Elisha Page, is provided as a courtesy by the Argus Leader, Sioux Falls.*



IN OTHER WORKS

### CARNEGIE ETHICS COUNCIL TURNS 100

Joel H. Rosenthal, president of the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, addresses guests at the Council's centennial observance, held in October in New York City, where the Council is based. The Council was established in 1914 as the Church Peace Union, comprising religious leaders with the "divine mission" to end war. Funded by a \$2 million grant from Andrew Carnegie through the Carnegie Corporation of New York, it was Carnegie's last major philanthropic endeavor. Rosenthal read from his "Letter to Andrew Carnegie" at the gathering: "We have learned over the past 100 years that ethics matter. And here is where our Council has tried to do its part. Ethics as we practice it goes beyond moral assertion to entertain competing moral claims. For us, ethics invites moral argument rather than moral assertion. Ethical inquiry enables us to include all moral arguments, religious and secular. It gives equal moral voice to all while giving us the tools to think for ourselves and stand our ground accordingly."



## Like father, like son

(continued from cover)

As the officer's raft was released during the transfer, he left the scene to alert help.

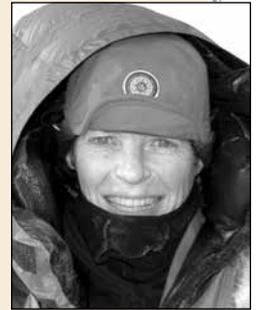
Two kayakers, meanwhile, were making their way toward the dam and came upon the situation. Pulling over to the bank, they used a line to pull the stranded raft and its occupants to safety. Tyler and his friends were tired after the rescue but resumed rafting. His award of the Carnegie Medal—with one going to each of his friends also (see page 8)—was announced in September.

The elder Fredrickson's rescue act also took place in a river in northern Illinois. Thomas was fishing for walleye from the bank of the Fox River at Algonquin on Feb. 2, 1997, when he saw a 5-year-old boy tumble into the river from the opposite bank. Although it was in the 30s that day and some ice was along the bank, Thomas removed only his jacket and started to wade across the 200-foot-wide river. He lost his footing and was pulled by the current, but then he swam to the midpoint of the river and waited for the boy, Alberto, to float to him. After intercepting Alberto, Thomas took him to the opposite bank. Both needed hospital treatment, and they recovered.

Corporate staff memory at the Hero Fund, going back 40 years, could yield only one other set of family members awarded the medal for different acts of heroism. **Patrick W. Mott** of Rathdrum, Idaho, was recognized for attempting to save a man from drowning in 2005 after the man fell through ice on a lake about 700 feet from the closer bank. Mott, a retired logger, was 65 at the time. Eighty-three years earlier, in 1922, his father, **H. Herschel Mott**, 36, a river driver from Ione, Wash., also attempted to save a man from drowning. ❧

### POLAR EXPLORER, EDUCATOR TO LEAD NORWEGIAN HERO FUND

When Carnegie's hero fund in Norway, *Carnegie Heltefond for Norge*, needed a new leader, it turned to someone well experienced in the discipline...and, for that matter, in risk. Liv Arnesen, an internationally recognized motivational leader who has also played the diverse roles of polar explorer and educator, was recently named board chair of the hero fund.



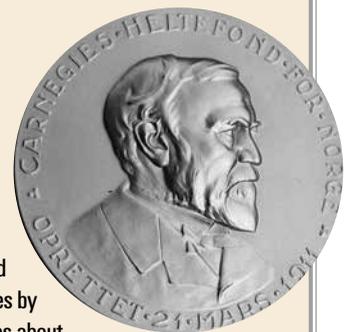
Ms. Arnesen

Established on March 21, 1911, the *Heltefond* grants awards to people who, on Norwegian territory, perform voluntary acts of civilian courage to save the lives of others "in peaceful pursuit and surroundings," and, for a heroic act to be recognized, it must involve risk to the rescuer's life. A board of three members appointed by the Ministry of Trade and Industry governs the fund. In addition to the chair, members are the U.S. Ambassador to Norway and a Norwegian citizen.

Arnesen was born in Bærum, Norway, on the outskirts of Oslo, where at an early age, she was immersed by her parents in their passions, cross-country skiing and polar history. More to the point, she learned about the hero fund as a young girl when she read news accounts about the awardees' heroic acts.

A self-proclaimed "keen but not fanatical" outdoors enthusiast, Arnesen is most interested in the development of adults and children, and her experiences have made her a role model for women and girls. She ignites passion in others to reach beyond their normal boundaries by sharing her own stories about exploring some of the most remote places on earth.

In 2001, Arnesen and American polar explorer Ann Bancroft became the first women in history to sail and ski across Antarctica's landmass in a 94-day, 1,717-mile trek. Five years earlier, she climbed the north side of Mount Everest, getting to within 6,200 feet of



Norway's Carnegie Medal

(continued on page 11)



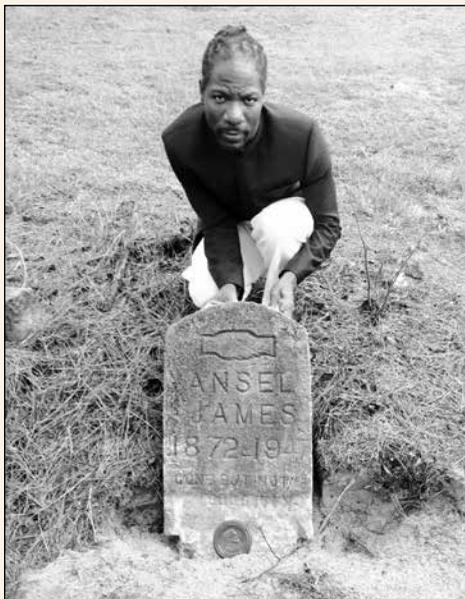
### 'GRANDDADDY' A HERO, MAN LEARNS WITH PRIDE

Phillip N. Frazier, 41, an educator from Washington, D.C., knew since he was a lad that his great-great-grandfather, Ansel James (the Hero Fund's records identify him by the surname "Jeems"), was a hard-working man who had a farm. Last year, while at a family wedding in Salley, S.C., Frazier learned from a cousin that James rescued a man who was trapped in a well. "The story was fascinating to hear," Frazier said, "as I'd never heard any mention of Granddaddy Ansel apart from my grandmother."

Thus taking on a family research project, Frazier uncovered James's story through investigation at the Library of Congress, and then he uncovered James's grave stone, which was hidden by a bush in the cemetery of New Beginning United Methodist Church of Norway, S.C. Learning from the *Baltimore Afro-American* newspaper that James was awarded the Carnegie Medal for a 1945 act of heroism, Frazier contacted the Hero Fund for details and requested a bronze grave marker that the Commission makes available to the families of deceased awardees (see back page).

"The discovery of the tombstone, like news of the heroic act, filled me with so much pride," Frazier said. "I decided that I wanted to keep the memory of my great-great-grandfather alive by placing the marker on his stone for the community to see and to remember Ansel James." Frazier made the pilgrimage to South Carolina in August, but with something of a heavy heart, as his grandmother, Christine I. Moore, who had asked Frazier to take her along, died in July at age 88. Frazier went ahead with the visit, doing so, he said, in honor of his grandmother.

(continued on page 11)



Mr. Frazier, at grave of heroic great-great-grandfather.

## Physician's study of altruism in 1902 may have guided early Commission

Independent research on civilian heroism in the early 20th century by a respected physician from Philadelphia may well have contributed to putting philosophical and operational legs to Andrew Carnegie's novel idea in 1904 of recognizing ordinary people for taking extraordinary actions in behalf of others.

Silas Weir Mitchell (1829-1914), M.D., was a contemporary of Carnegie (1835-1919) and a friend. A surgeon for the Union Army during the Civil War, Dr. Mitchell is recognized as the founder of American neurology as well as a prolific author, having written more than 150 medical papers along with novels and poetry. In 1902, Carnegie named him a founding trustee of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, D.C.



Dr. Mitchell

The case for Dr. Mitchell's association with the fundamental precepts of the Hero Fund came to light recently in a study by Dr. Simon Wendt, an assistant professor in the department of American studies at the University of Frankfurt, Germany. Dr. Wendt has just completed a paper in which he touches on the Progressive Movement in the U.S., and in it he describes how American society's traditional definition of a hero—largely thought of in military terms—expanded in the latter part of the 19th century to include heroism in everyday life. Carnegie's new Hero Fund made its mark in helping to revise and establish the tradition, Dr. Wendt said. (A fuller description of Dr. Wendt's findings will appear in the March 2015 issue of *imPULSE*.)

Through his writing, Dr. Mitchell may have influenced the early Commission. After Carnegie appointed 21 leading Pittsburghers to serve as Hero Fund trustees in the early months of 1904, a five-member "organization committee" convened to produce the Hero Fund's bylaws and requirements for awarding. In his research, including time spent in the Commission's offices in 2009, Dr. Wendt concluded that the results of the committee's discussions were "conspicuously similar" to conclusions reached by Dr. Mitchell as appearing in an article in the Dec. 1902 issue of *Century Illustrated Magazine*.

Under the heading, "Heroism in Every-Day Life," the article tells of Dr. Mitchell's attempts to study altruistic tendencies in American society, and he defined extreme altruism to be "what unaided individuals did when face to face with emergencies where the act was dangerous." The essence of that definition forms the basis of what the Commission—from its beginning—considered a hero to be, someone who voluntarily risks his or her own life while saving or attempting to save the life of another person. Carnegie himself had long held the similar thought, writing in 1886, "The true heroes of civilization are those alone who save or greatly serve" their fellow man.

Adopting a scientific approach to explore the issue, Dr. Mitchell contracted a clipping service and over the course of 10 months culled hundreds of accounts of "perilous self-devotion" from more than 20,000 newspapers in the U.S. He winnowed the results to arrive at 717 examples of those who risked their lives to save others. Similarly, using clipping services has long played a role in the Hero Fund securing nominations for the award of the Carnegie Medal, and the search in modern times has expanded to include the use of Internet search engines.

Dr. Mitchell categorized his findings: Of the 717 cases, 258 were water-related rescues, 194 were fire rescues, 109 were railway-related, and 156 were classed as miscellaneous, a "curious variety" of rescues, including from animal attacks, wells, and electrocution. As did Dr. Mitchell, the Hero Fund, over 110 years, has found

(continued on page 11)

## Physician's study

(continued from page 10)

that it is not impossible to categorize the various threats to everyday life and, further, that in any given year, fire- and water-related threats remain the predominant ones to which the heroes respond.

The Mitchell experiment also delved into what motivates the hero to act, an issue still debated today (see "Yale study on altruism," page 14). The doctor wrote, "I have many times asked men to tell me why they took such risks. Usually they replied that they did not know and were simply conscious that they must do the thing. One, a man of unusual intelligence, said when thus questioned, 'I had a sense of queer mental confusion, and then I did it. I have never been able to feel that I had any conscious motive.'" (Additional Mitchell quote in "Overheard," page 3.) Carnegie fully recognized the phenomenon, saying in the Hero Fund's early days that he "knew well" that heroic acts are impulsive. ☒



### 22 YEARS LATER

Twenty-two years later, Carnegie Medal awardee **Richard A. Philibert**, second from left, of Manchester, N.H., formally met the man he rescued, Jason S. Rowland, third from left, of Rumford, Maine. "It was the first time we had ever spoken face-to-face," Philibert said of the September meeting at an antique car show in Windham, Maine. Philibert, then 44, rescued Rowland, then 21, from assault, when Rowland was attacked by a man armed with a knife on Sept. 6, 1992, while working behind the counter at a donut shop in Manchester. Although Philibert followed up on Rowland's condition through Rowland's mother, he did not want to disturb Rowland in the hospital, he said, but through the years he thought of Rowland frequently. A phone call near this year's anniversary of the rescue prompted the meeting. "I consider him a son," Philibert said. "It was nice to see the man he turned into. He's doing really good." Rowland said it meant a lot to him to be able to meet the man who he said saved his life. "I fought back tears, as I am certain he did," Rowland told the Hero Fund. "In a world that is filled with so much violence and bad news, it is nice to know that there are still heroes out there who put their lives in danger, and sometimes give up their lives, so others may live." Both Philibert and Rowland said they would like to get together again. Shown with the men are Rowland's parents, Jack and Janice Rowland.

## POLAR EXPLORER

(continued from page 9)

the summit before altitude sickness forced her to descend. She made international headlines in 1994 by becoming the first woman in the world to ski solo and unsupported to the South Pole—a 50-day, 745-mile expedition—and two years before that she led the first unsupported women's crossing of the Greenland ice cap. Her expeditions have been featured by the BBC, CNN, CTV, National Public Radio, *NBC Nightly News*, and NBC's *Today Show*, and she has been featured in national print publications, including *People*, *USA Today*, *New York Times*, *Ladies Home Journal*, *Glamour*, *Sports Illustrated*, *O* (the Oprah magazine), and *Time for Kids*. In 2001 she was named a *Glamour* magazine's woman of the year.

An author, Arnesen wrote *Nice Girls Do Not Ski to the South Pole*, which is about her 1994 expedition, and she has written a management book with Norwegian Jon Gangdal, *Can I Do It? From Dream to Reality*. Beyond writing and exploration, Arnesen has taught and coached high school and college students for more than 20 years and is involved in the rehabilitation of drug abusers. She holds degrees in Norwegian language and literature, history, sports, and counseling and a master's degree in management.

## "GRANDDADDY" A HERO

(continued from page 10)

James was 63 on Feb. 16, 1945, and while cleaning a well that day was alerted to an accident in another well three miles away. A farmer in Salley, James was also skilled in digging and cleaning wells and in fact worked six months earlier in the well in which the accident took place. Responding to the scene, he learned that a man was trapped at the bottom of the 50-foot-deep well, buried by collapsing sand up to his armpits.

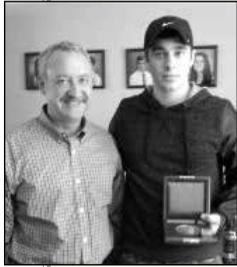
Although it was dark, James took a lantern and was lowered by bucket into the well. For the next three hours he laboriously dug the sand away from the victim and sent it to the top by bucket, uncovering the victim to his knees. But still he was stuck. James then reached through the sand and with a pocketknife cut the man's shoelaces, allowing him to be pulled from his shoes. Both the victim and James were raised to safety. The victim could not stand and was confined to bed for three days to recover.

James, who was awarded the medal and a \$500 grant by the Hero Fund the following year, was uninjured. He died of a stroke in 1947, the newspaper describing him as a "good citizen and industrious worker, and a real gentleman of another era."



NEW YORK HEROES MEET

Alexander Lias Travis, 18, right, of Kirkville, N.Y., was named a Carnegie Medal awardee in June, and who better to present the medal to him than another awardee, Michael T. Chura, left, of Baldwinsville, N.Y., who received his medal in 2011. The heroes



are practically neighbors, living in the greater Syracuse area, and when Chura learned of Travis's award, he volunteered to make the presentation. A retired Syracuse District Fire Chief, Chura, 53, told the Hero Fund that in his work, a personal presentation

"proved both the importance (of the award) and the achievement." Travis was cited by the Hero Fund for saving an elderly man from drowning in a reservoir last year after the man's car accidentally left the roadway and entered the water. Chura's heroic act took place in 2010 when he and his family were on vacation in Egg Harbor Township, N.J. Coming upon an overturned and burning car occupied by a retired nurse, Chura entered the vehicle and worked to release the woman's safety belt. Flames were entering the vehicle as others pulled the woman out and Chura exited to safety. "We told each other our stories," Chura said of meeting Travis in early October, "and then we talked about how we handled all the press and the weird things that happened during our rescues." Chura now teaches firefighting as a career at the high school level.

12

MUCH APPRECIATED

The Hero Fund wishes to thank:

- **United States Steel Corporation**, Pittsburgh, for its recent financial contribution. U.S. Steel, successor to Andrew Carnegie's steel business, had for many years given office supplies to the Hero Fund, and this grant continues the tradition.
- **Gary J. Levine** of Las Vegas, Nev., for his most recent financial donation.
- **David Moy** of Pittsburgh, who in October finished his many-year association with the Hero Fund as its computer consultant. Moy, an independent contractor now off to a new venture, designed the Hero Fund's database and maintained its information systems...at what we suspect were below-market rates. All the best.
- The Pittsburgh office of **Mullen**, the advertising agency that designed and maintains the Hero Fund's website ([www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org)), for its pro bono work.



**Melvin E.—“Gene”—Windsor**, 74, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., died Aug. 24. He was one of four men to be named awardees of the Carnegie Medal for their heroic actions in the wake of the crash of an Air Florida jet in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 13, 1982. During a winter storm, the jet struck a bridge shortly after takeoff from National Airport and, breaking apart, fell through ice on the Potomac River. Windsor, then 41, was an officer for the U.S. Park Police, working as a rescue technician for its aviation section. Although the section's chief pilot, **Donald W. Usher**, had earlier concluded that it was "absolutely inconceivable that we would fly" under the prevailing conditions, he and Windsor took the unit's jet-powered Bell Ranger helicopter to the scene, where they found six of the flight's 79 passengers and crew among ice floes in the river at points about 250 feet from the closer bank. All others aboard the plane had died in the crash.

With Usher piloting the craft, Windsor worked unsecured through the helicopter's open door as they made repeated passes to the victims, dropping a line to them and pulling them to the bank one at a time. "If he falls out," Usher later said, "we're really in trouble." For one of the victims, Windsor stepped from the cabin to stand on a skid, reached down for the victim, and held to her as they were ferried to the bank. Both Windsor and Usher were awarded the medal later that year, along with two other men, who entered the river from the bank to participate in the rescues. Reunited for the first time 20 years later, all four heroes gave video-taped interviews that are a part of the Hero Fund's centennial film, a copy of which is sent to every new awardee of the medal. (The film is available for viewing on the Hero Fund's website, [www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org).) In 2004, Windsor and his wife, Maureen, attended the Hero Fund's centennial dinner in Pittsburgh, where the accompanying photo of him was taken.



Mr. Benson

**Carl E. Benson**, 92, of Ames, Iowa, died Oct. 11. At age 14 in 1936, Benson attempted to save another 14-year-old boy from drowning in a creek in Anita, Iowa, after the boy fell from a bridge into 10-foot-deep water and drifted among pieces of ice. Benson, fully clothed and wearing boots, entered the creek from the bank and swam 25 feet to the boy. The boy submerged him, but Benson broke away. He swam toward the boy, but the boy sank before Benson could reach him. The boy drowned. Benson swam to safety, and for his efforts he was awarded the medal in 1937. Benson served with the U.S. Marines during World War II and

(continued on page 13)

## After rescuing neighbor from a fire, hero gave funds for smoke detectors

Before he died unexpectedly last March 21, Carnegie Medal awardee **Robert P. Davies** of Golden Valley, Ariz., anonymously donated \$1,000 to the Golden Valley Fire District to help offset the cost of providing smoke detectors for needy families. After his death, Davies's friends and family made sure news of the donation was made public so that his legacy could live on.

On Dec. 21, 2012, Davies, then 48, helped to save his neighbor, a 92-year-old woman, from her burning mobile home. He entered the structure through a window in a smoke-filled bedroom and, as flames were breaching the door to the room, lifted the woman outside to safety, with help from Golden Valley Fire Chief Thomas O'Donohue. The woman did not have smoke detectors in her home, O'Donohue said. Davies was awarded the medal in December 2013.



Mr. Davies

After Davies died, his girlfriend, Earlene Mahar, said it was important to his family and friends to attach his name to the donation. "I want his name and his actions to live on," she said. "I wanted there to be something positive in his death."

The Robert P. Davies Memorial Residential Safety Program has funded the installation of six smoke detectors in three homes. Davies wanted to get smoke detectors in as many residents' homes as possible, O'Donohue said. "We're hoping with more donations, this program will continue indefinitely."

Others in the Golden Valley community have already donated to the fund, including some firefighters and those who have received the smoke detectors, Donohue said. "We encourage those who receive help to give back what they can to the fund." The program includes the purchase of batteries and smoke detectors, which firefighters install. To apply for assistance, applicants must demonstrate need.

Mahar said Davies cared much about the Golden Valley community, and now she wants the public to know that. "He's not here anymore, so he doesn't get a say. I wanted people to know how much he loved Golden Valley and how much he cared about the people of Golden Valley and their safety," she said. "This was the first place he felt like he could call home."

"He was a great man, and we are so glad to be able to honor his legacy this way," O'Donohue added.  —*Julia Panian, Case Investigator*



Golden Valley, Ariz., firefighters install a smoke detector, funded by the Robert P. Davies Residential Fire Safety Program, in a local home. Davies, a Carnegie Medal awardee, started funding the smoke detectors anonymously before his death.

### FRIENDS REMEMBERED

(continued from page 12)

then returned to Iowa, where he became a successful businessman who was highly respected in the community.

**Joseph Hardenbrook**, 81, of Jacksonville, Fla., died Aug. 8. He was awarded the Carnegie Medal in 1969 to recognize his saving a man from drowning in the St. Johns River at Green Cove Springs, Fla., on Jan. 27, 1968. The man had escaped



Mr. Hardenbrook

his car, which had entered the river, and called for help. Hardenbrook, then 34, a mechanic, was driving on the bridge and stopped at the scene. Although he suffered from asthma, he jumped from the bridge 25 feet into the water, swam to the man, and attempted to take him to a bridge piling, but he could not make any progress against the current. When someone then threw a truck tire into the river, Hardenbrook swam to it and towed it to the man. Both held to the tire as the current carried them downstream to the point where a boater reached them and took them to the bank.



Mr. LaRocca

**Joseph E. LaRocca**, 82, of North East, Pa., died Sept. 22. LaRocca was a case investigator for the Hero Fund in the early 1960s, or during the time when most case investigations were done on site, requiring extensive travel throughout the U.S. and Canada. (One of his

cases is the subject of "From the Archives," on page 15 of this issue of *imPULSE*.) From 1967 to 1986, he lived in Alaska, where he was a freelance reporter, including serving as field correspondent for *The New York Times* and doing investigative work for the Hero Fund. Returning to North East in the late 1980s, he published a book and was working on two more.

**Gale O. Shreffler**, 90, of Plum, Pa., died May 31. In 1961, he and a neighbor, **Albert Collins**, were each awarded the medal for saving a mother and her two children, ages 3 and 10, from a burning house in their Pittsburgh neighborhood after a gas explosion on March 19 of that year. The victims were on the second floor of the brick structure when the explosion buckled its walls, blew out all the windows, and sent flash flames through all of the rooms. Shreffler and Collins responded to the scene, entered the burning living room, and went upstairs to find the victims in one of the bedrooms. Shreffler carried the younger child downstairs and outside to safety as Collins followed, leading the mother and the older child. Shreffler was a World War II Air Force veteran and an awardee of the Purple Heart for injuries suffered at Iwo Jima.



### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US: *imPULSE* TURNS 10

With the publication of this issue of *imPULSE*—No. 40—the Hero Fund’s quarterly newsletter concludes its 10th year of publication. We have lasted a decade!

The initiative started on the heels of the Commission’s centennial observance when then-President Mark Laskow got up from the banquet table on Oct. 16, 2004, and, having brushed shoulders with several awardees of the Carnegie Medal, concluded that the sense of community he experienced among the awardees and their families should be fostered in a continuing way. “Issue No. 1,” a modest, eight-page offering, rolled off the presses in March 2005.

Given the nature of the Hero Fund’s work, the newsletter’s name suggested itself, but with a boost from the centennial event’s keynote speaker, Pulitzer-Prize winning author and historian David McCullough: “We are here to honor people who are willing to sacrifice everything, on impulse perhaps, but what a **golden impulse**, to preserve the individual life that’s threatened.”

Now as then, *imPULSE* seeks to be not only a means of communicating the Hero Fund’s activities, but moreso a way of giving further recognition to those who, having been awarded the Carnegie Medal—either six months or 110 years ago—were willing to risk everything for the benefit of others. They inspire us, and they deserve attention. Along the way, we’ve tried to enlighten our reading public about Andrew Carnegie and his various good works and to serve as a platform for others to share their thoughts on the award, their favorite hero, or even the subject of heroism itself (submissions welcomed: [impulse@carnegieiehero.org](mailto:impulse@carnegieiehero.org)).

A word of acknowledgement must be made of the agency that designed a workable format for the newsletter in early 2005 and continues to oversee its production. Goldie Z. Ostrow’s “Zbrand Group” of Pittsburgh is a knowledgeable, creative bunch, of whom Brad Hrutkay skillfully packages the news we’re honored to print.—*W. Rutkowski, Ed.*

## Heroes may act first and think later, according to Yale study on altruism

People who risk their lives to save strangers do so without deliberation, according to a Yale-led analysis of statements from more than 50 awardees of the Carnegie Medal. The study was published in October in PLOS ONE, the open-access, peer-reviewed scientific journal published by the Public Library of Science (PLOS). The journal covers primary research from any discipline within science and medicine.

“We wondered if people who act with extreme altruism do so without thinking, or if conscious, self-control is needed to override negative emotions like fear,” said David G. Rand, the Yale University psychologist who authored the study with Ziv G. Epstein of Pomona College in Claremont, Calif. “Our analyses show that overwhelmingly, extreme altruists report acting first and thinking later.” The study’s conclusion is not unlike Andrew Carnegie’s observation in 1904 when he established the Hero Fund: “I do not expect to stimulate or create heroism by this fund, knowing well that heroic action is impulsive.”



*Professor David G. Rand of Yale University*

Rand, who studies human cooperation, recruited hundreds of participants to read 51 published statements made by individuals who had received the medal. Participants analyzed the statements for evidence of whether they acted intuitively or with deliberation, as did a computer text-analysis algorithm.

“What you don’t find in the statements is people who say, ‘I thought it over and I decided it was the right thing to do,’” Rand said. Instead, most responded like

**Christine A. Marty**, a 21-year old college student who rescued a woman in a car during a flash flood in Pittsburgh in 2011. “I’m thankful I was able to act and not think about it,” Marty said. She was awarded the medal a year later.

Other statements analyzed were by awardees **Darryl F. Starnes** and **Kermit R. Kubitz**. At age 70 in 2011, Starnes, a retired insurance examiner from Mechanicsville, Va., helped to save a woman from her crashed and burning sport utility vehicle. Awarded the medal late that year, he said, “I just did what I felt like I needed to do. You don’t think about someone making that big a deal out of it.”

Kubitz, an attorney from San Francisco, Calif., was 60 when in 2007 he rescued a teenaged girl who was being attacked in a bakery by a man armed with a knife. Kubitz immediately engaged the man and was himself stabbed. “I had only two thoughts,” he said. “One, I have to get him out of the door, and two, oh my God, this guy could kill me too. I ended up on my back with the knife in my ribs. I think it was just instinct. Kind of like my tendency, that nobody in my platoon is going to get attacked without me doing something. If it were my daughter, you’d do it for me. You’d do it in an instant. And I’d do it for you.”

The findings are consistent with Rand’s previous studies of cooperation in economic games, where participants choose whether or not to share resources. In those studies, forcing subjects to think carefully tends to lead to selfishness whereas promoting intuition can increase cooperation. Rand cautions that intuitive responses are not necessarily genetically hard-coded. He believes people learn that helping others is typically in their own long-term self-interest and thus they develop intuitive habits of cooperation, rather than having an innate cooperative instinct preserved in social humans by evolution.

“The optimal evolutionary outcome is to be able to learn, adapting to whether you were born into a situation where it is typically good to cooperate or to be selfish,” he said.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

## Lineman spared electrocution, falling

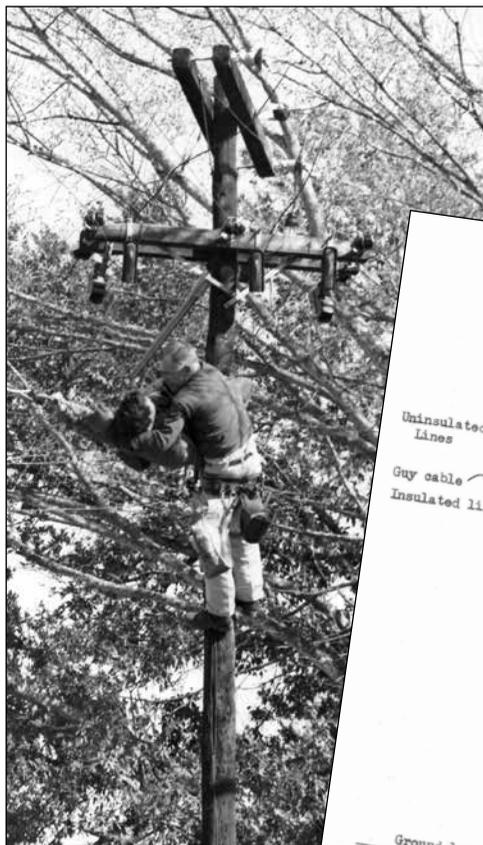
Feb. 29, 1964, brought sunny and warm weather to Foley, Ala., and at 9 a.m. the temperature was a comfortable 65 degrees. Two linemen who lived in the town—**L. D. Dunn** and Acie M. Southern—must have appreciated the pleasant day as they began a job on an electric utility pole. At 35 feet high, the pole supported two sets of cross arms near its top; the lower set was strung with three uninsulated electric lines, each carrying 2,400 volts.

To maintain a relatively safe position while working on the pole, each of the men was equipped with a strap that looped around the pole and hooked to the safety belt worn around his waist. The weight of the lineman kept tension on the pole strap, but if that tension were relaxed, the lineman risked falling.

Southern was working at about the same level as the lower of the two cross arms, and Dunn was about five feet below him. After Southern signaled to another worker, at ground level, he dropped a part, after which he contacted one of the uninsulated lines and received a shock.

Dunn, hearing Southern's moaning and gasping, looked up and saw his unconscious coworker sliding down the pole. With his eight years of experience as a lineman, Dunn had received safety training, including emergency procedures, and he was very aware of the fatal danger that Southern faced—as well as anyone attempting to extricate Dunn from the uninsulated wires or prevent him from falling about 30 feet to the ground.

Dunn climbed to Southern and held him in his arms, his head only eight inches from one of the uninsulated lines. Meanwhile, Southern's safety helmet fell off, further exposing him to additional electric shock. To attempt to revive Southern while retaining his hold on him, Dunn applied mouth-to-mouth



resuscitation for about three minutes, until Southern began to revive.

With his reviving, however, Southern began to kick and flail his limbs, at one point knocking Dunn's safety helmet off. For about three minutes, Southern struggled

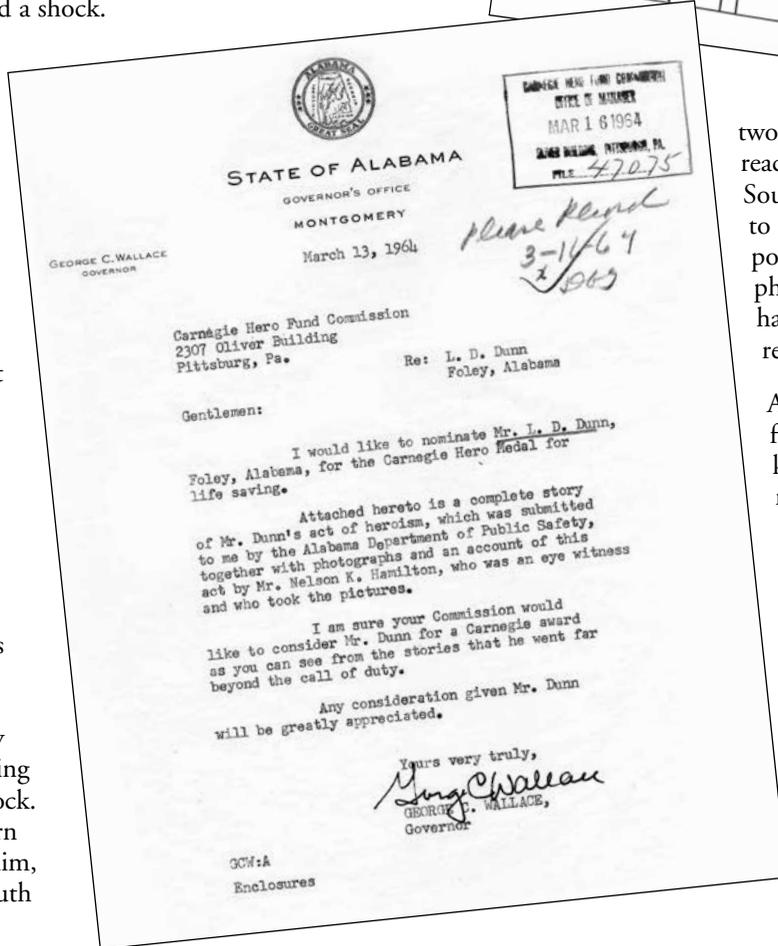
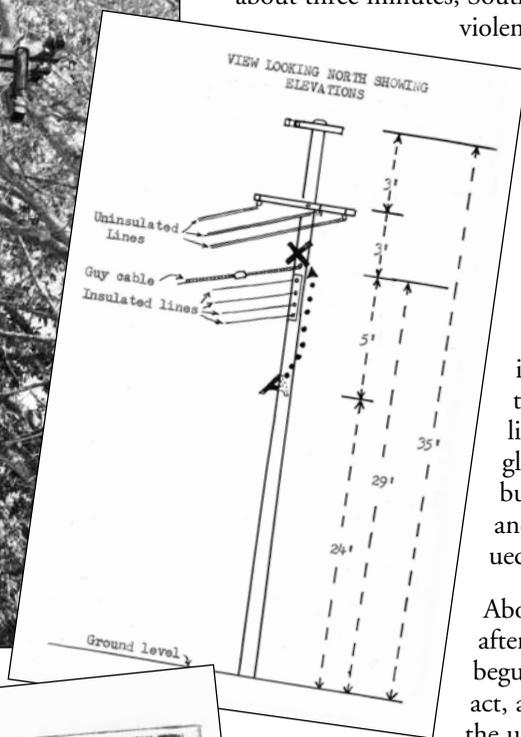
violently, unintentionally hitting Dunn in the head and abdomen. Several times Southern's hands and feet were only about three inches from the uninsulated lines. His struggling diminished but did not stop, and Dunn continued to hold him.

About 10 minutes after Dunn had begun his rescue act, a truck from the utilities company arrived on scene, and

two workers were raised by boom to reach Dunn and Southern. They took Southern from Dunn and lowered him to the ground, Dunn descending the pole unaided. A professional photographer from Foley, Nelson K. Hamilton, had also arrived, and he captured the rescuer and victim on film.

At the hospital, Southern was treated for a burn on his right leg. He was kept overnight and released the next day, and he recovered. Dunn, exhausted and anxious, sustained a bruise and a small cut. He went home but returned to work the following day.

Two weeks later, then-Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama nominated Dunn for the Carnegie Medal, and the Hero Fund made the award in October of that year. The medal was accompanied by a grant of \$750.   
—Marlin Ross, Case Investigator



**Carnegie Hero Fund Commission**

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

412-281-1302 • 800-447-8900

www.carnegiehero.org

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

**Address Service Requested**

NOTICES: © Carnegie Hero Fund Commission and/or its suppliers, 2014, U.S.A. All rights reserved. This newsletter is governed by our terms & conditions (see <http://carnegiehero.org/terms-conditions/>), including our privacy notice (see <http://carnegiehero.org/privacy-policy/>) (or direct an inquiry to us directly by using the above contact information).

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

Further information is available on-line or by contacting the Commission.

*Any ideas?* *imPULSE* welcomes your submissions for publication, and your ideas for consideration. Be in touch!

*Address change?* Please keep us posted!

**Carnegie Hero Fund Commission**

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

Editor: Walter F. Rutkowski, President

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)**MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION**

A. H. Burchfield III

Robert J. Cindrich

Robert M. Hernandez

Thomas J. Hilliard, Jr.

David McL. Hillman

Linda T. Hills

*Of the Carnegie Family*

Peter J. Lambrou

Mark Laskow

*Chair*

Nathalie Lemieux

Christopher R. McCrady

Priscilla J. McCrady

*Vice Chair*

Ann M. McGuinn

Nancy L. Rackoff

Frank Brooks Robinson

Dan D. Sandman

*Treasurer*

Arthur M. Scully

Michael A. Thompson

Sybil P. Veeder

*Chair, Executive Committee*

Joseph C. Walton

Susanne C. Wean

Thomas L. Wentling, Jr.

*Chair, Finance Committee***HONORARY MEMBERS**

William P. Snyder III

James M. Walton

**THE QUOTABLE A.C.**

*There are times in most men's lives that test whether they be dross or pure gold. It is the decision made in the crisis which proves the man.*

— *Autobiography*, 1920, p. 296

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:doug@carnegiehero.org)).

**ANNUAL REPORTS** Copies of the Hero Fund's most recent annual reports (2010-2012) are available by contacting Gloria Barber ([gloria@carnegiehero.org](mailto:gloria@carnegiehero.org)).

**A CENTURY OF HEROES** The centennial book describing the first 100 years of the Hero Fund is available through the Commission's website ([www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org)).

**COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL** A silver medal struck in the likeness of the Carnegie Medal to commemorate the 2004 centennial of the Hero Fund is available for purchase through the Commission's website.

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

**CARNEGIE HERO FUND COMMISSION**

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

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

E-mail: [carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org](mailto:carnegiehero@carnegiehero.org) Website: [www.carnegiehero.org](http://www.carnegiehero.org)