

imPULSE

A Periodic Newsletter of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission ISSUE 27 • SEPTEMBER 2011



'LEBENSRETTNER'

Carnegie Medals are awarded in Switzerland, too—by the Hero Fund's sister organization, the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation, funded 100 years ago by Andrew Carnegie. Two of the newest Swiss awardees, Moritz Rüegger and Violetta Schär, were recognized in May by the foundation on its annual Rescuers Day in Bern, the Swiss capital. Rüegger and Schär, both 24, were honored for attempting to save a 17-year-old boy from being struck by a train in Aarau, Switzerland, on Jan. 8 of this year, Rüegger receiving a gold medal and Schär a silver. Shown in a photo shoot after the ceremony, they are holding a sign that reads "Lifesaver!" in German. Their photo—and those of others taken during the ceremony—are shown on the foundation's website, www.carnegie.ch. The Hero Fund sent three representatives to Switzerland to participate in the event, details of which appear on pages 10 and 11.

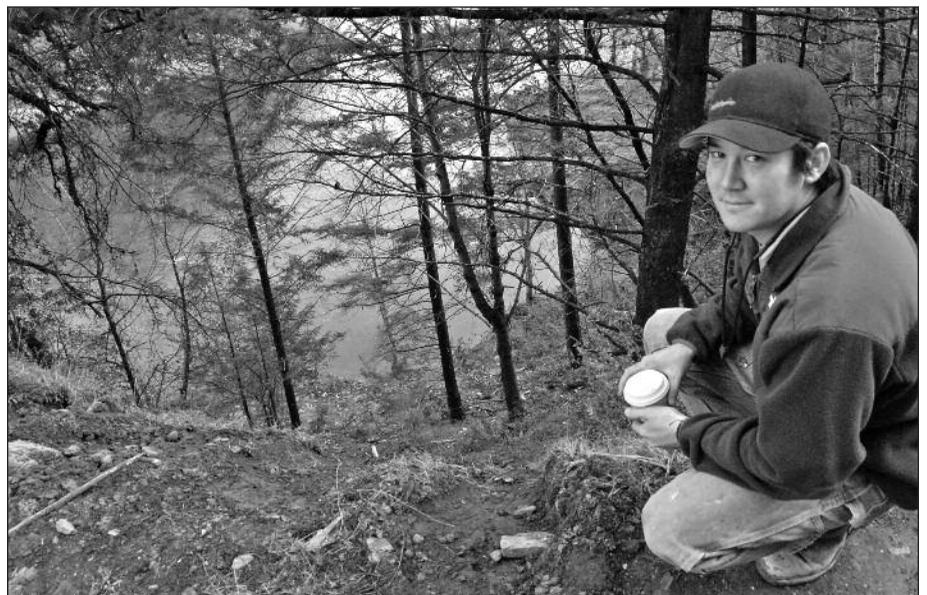
Accident response prompts reflection: Remember the blessings of each day

By the Rev. Eric T. Moore Duff
Trinidad, Calif.

On my way to a meeting during a major storm, I was flagged down as I traveled on a two-lane highway here in northern California. A man and his wife had witnessed a car hydroplane over the edge and then down a steep embankment and into the Trinity River. The man was in the water trying to rescue the driver when I arrived. After determining that there was no cell phone coverage in that place, my first thought was that both would be cold. I grabbed two winter coats that I had brought along in case the rain turned to snow on the passes and raced down the embankment.

When I arrived at the river, **Joshua P. S. Paik-Nicely**, the rescuer, had managed to bring the man to the bank. Both were still partly submerged in the water. Together we managed to haul the man, Kenny Dison, a deputy sheriff, out of the water and onto the rocky bank of the river. He was coherent and able to tell us that he had no feeling in his legs. We were careful not to move him any more than necessary because of his injuries.

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Joshua P. S. Paik-Nicely, 30, of Burnt Ranch, Calif., was awarded the Carnegie Medal in June for saving a man from drowning after his car went over a steep embankment and entered the Trinity River at Salyer, Calif. Paik-Nicely, a general contractor, is pictured at the scene in a photo by Phil Nelson of The Trinity Journal, Weaverville, Calif. Details of Paik-Nicely's actions, and those of the other 19 newly named medal recipients, are on pages 7-9 and 11.



SIX PREDECESSORS SET HIGH STANDARD

By Mark Laskow, President
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission



I was sitting in the Hero Fund offices recently, and during a lull in the proceedings my gaze fell on a cluster of photographs on the wall, photographs of a very distinguished group of men. I realized they were my six predecessors as president of the Hero

Fund. My first reaction was that I hardly belonged in a succession of such serious and visually distinguished men. I decided to learn more about them.

"Learning more" around here means asking Walter Rutkowski, executive director of the Hero Fund and master of all things Carnegie. As usual, Walter had at his electronic fingertips biographies of these six gentlemen. As I read them, I quickly realized that I have a lot to live up to, to stand in this distinguished line.

Of the six, I knew only Bob Off personally. He was my immediate predecessor, serving from 1979 until 2001. Before becoming a banker, Bob flew 29 combat missions as a B-24 pilot in World War II and earned a Distinguished Flying Cross, among other awards. Now, I am also a pilot, but I've never dropped a bomb and certainly have never been shot at. Bob set a high standard for service to his country.

Charles Taylor, the first president (1904-1922), was famous as a great innovator in the chemistry and metallurgy of steel. More important to me is Andrew Carnegie's description of Taylor as "one of the best men that ever lived." As far as I know, no one has said the same of me, but it gives me a goal to strive for. Taylor also served as chair of the Carnegie Relief Fund.

Then there were William Holland (1923-1932) and Thomas Arbuthnot (1933-1956).

Holland came to Pittsburgh as a pastor (he married Henry Clay Frick and Adelaide Childs) but went on to become Chancellor of Western University of Pennsylvania, now known as the University of Pittsburgh. There he started the schools of law, medicine and dental surgery, and the departments of electrical and mining engineering. To top that off, he became director of the Carnegie Institute and oversaw its ground-breaking excavation and exhibition of dinosaur skeletons - *Diplodocus carnegii*.

Arbuthnot was a physician who served in the Medical Corps in World War I, then became dean of

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Accident response prompts reflection

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A woman joined us and helped to stabilize his neck while we waited for emergency assistance. We cut away his shirt and covered him with the jackets I had brought down. Later the three of us helped to carry him up the embankment along with police officers and other emergency personnel.

I've been thinking about the lessons I've taken away from this experience. The first that comes to mind is: *Stop*. The parable of the Good Samaritan came to mind as we carried Kenny up the hillside. Had Josh not responded so quickly, I doubt that Mr. Dison could have survived his ordeal. It is not always clear what to do in these situations. Sometimes we arrive after the fact and are simply in the way. However, we can't know unless we look and ask. How often do we read about people who witness terrible events and fail to respond? This is often what we remember afterwards. Though it may put us at risk (as in the case of Josh's plunge into the river), life can do that to us.

Another lesson: *Stay fit*. I believe I climbed up and down that hillside four times, and helping carry Mr. Dison up was certainly the most grueling. A week later I could still feel the fatigue in my muscles. But staying fit is not only about our physical bodies; it is also about our spiritual lives. While we waited at the riverbank, we were able to pray together. Before he left in the ambulance, I offered a healing prayer and blessing. I first ascertained that Kenny would not object to this. "Are you a religious man?" I asked him. His response was immediate and positive. I don't ever remember being refused a prayer at a crisis time like this. It is something we can do. It brings comfort, and I like to remember that even God needs to be asked.

Sadly, about two hours later a woman and her son drowned at the same spot. No one witnessed their tragedy. Why were we able to help Kenny Dison and not the other two?

We recently read a lesson from the Gospel of Luke (13:1-9) that describes a similar tragedy. A tower in the town of Siloam fell and killed 18 people. Jesus asks if they were worse "sinners" than anyone else and then answers his own question: "No, I tell you..." Things happen. God does not do them to us.

I believe these experiences teach us to "number our days" and remember the blessings of each day, and the opportunity to serve, sometimes in ways we could never imagine. The resurrection of Jesus reminds us that life continues in mysterious ways even though it seems to end in sadness and tragedy. Let our prayer be that God will help us through the ups and downs that life brings, and receive us into those heavenly places when it is time for life as we know it now to end. ☒

The Rev. Eric Duff, 53, is a social worker for Fresenius Medical Care in Eureka and McKinleyville, Calif. This piece first appeared in The Times-Standard of Eureka, Calif.

LIFE FRIENDS



Donald George Gough, right, saved a life on May 23, 2007, thus making a friend for life in Gordon R. Kingston. Gough, 64, of Abbotsford, B.C., plunged into the Similkameen River at Manning Park, B.C., to pull Kingston, then 83, from his car, which had accidentally entered the high, swift, and cold water. He gave up his line for Kingston, who was then pulled to the bank by others. Untethered, Gough returned the bank, the current washing him farther downstream. "We've become close friends," Gough says, "and keep in touch

regularly and get together for a meal and visit." Kingston lives in Chilliwack, B.C., about 30 miles from Gough. Gough received the Carnegie Medal for his rescue in June 2010.

'Like a stone thrown in a pool, the ripples just keep going on'

By Patricia Hamel Nakoneczny • Boyne City, Mich.

On March 22, my mother, Margaret Haggerty Hamel, and her twin sister, Marion Haggerty Feeny, turned 90. They have come a long way and lived rich lives since that tragic Christmas Eve in 1926 when their father, **James B. Haggerty**, was killed in an industrial accident trying to save another.



Carnegie Medal awardee James B. Haggerty is shown in this 1921 photo with his wife, Mary; their twin daughters Marion and Margaret; and their sons, Martin and Lawrence. Haggerty died Dec. 24, 1926, attempting to save a man from suffocating in a railroad tank car at the Detroit, Mich., company where they worked. Shortly after his death, Mrs. Haggerty was given a monthly grant by the Hero Fund to help sustain the family, and it continued for 50 years, or until her death on Oct. 22, 1977.

ing family, but an integral part of the story was also how the Carnegie Hero Fund was instrumental in saving a family.

The Carnegie Medal traveled to many schools as the grandchildren shared the tale as part of their history classes. Their personal family story certainly offered a broadened perspective to the dry historical facts! The medal now resides in its own special chest as it travels among family members. Its message has been spread to younger family members as well as others in presentations to community groups.

Like a stone thrown in a pool, the ripples just keep going on. I wonder if those who made this award had any idea that there would still be an impact on one family 85 years later.

Thank you from the families of Marion and Margaret. ☒



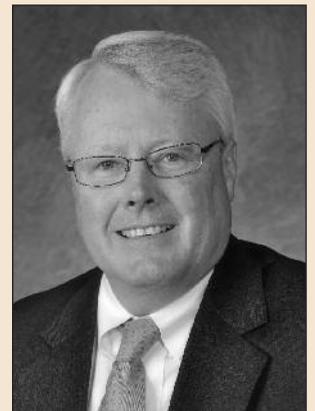
The twins on their 90th birthday: Marion Haggerty Feeny is at left, and Margaret Haggerty Hamel, right, is flanked by her daughters Diane Wallen, left, and Colleen Siroonian.

ARTHUR M. SCULLY III JOINS HERO FUND BOARD

The newest member of the board of the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission is no stranger to its work. You might say it's been in the family for almost a half-century.

Arthur M. Scully III was elected to the board in June and was promptly named a member of its executive committee, which is the Hero Fund's awarding body. He follows in the footsteps of his father, Arthur M. Scully, Jr., who was elected to the board in 1964 and served faithfully for the next 46 years, or until his death last October at age 82. The elder Scully also served on the executive committee and was active on the Hero Fund's audit and finance committees.

"We are fortunate to have Arthur on the board," Commission President Mark Laskow said. "He brings a wide range of experience in non-profits as well as the public spiritedness that so characterized his father."



Mr. Scully

A native of Pittsburgh, Scully is vice president of development and communications for Magee-Womens Research Institute and Foundation, Pittsburgh, where he is responsible for fundraising and increasing awareness for what is the largest women's health research institute in the U.S. The mission of the institute is to advance knowledge in the field of reproductive biology and medicine, translate discoveries into improved health for women and their infants, and train the next generation of reproductive health research scholars.

Since its inception in 1992, the institute has brought more than \$185 million in project funding to Pittsburgh from the National Institute of Health and other sources.

Before assuming his association at Magee-Womens in 2006, Scully was vice president of St. Margaret Hospital of UPMC, Pittsburgh, a position he held since 1986, and executive director of the St. Margaret Foundation since 1997. He joined the hospital in 1983 and the following year was named director of development. Scully is a 1982 graduate of Slippery Rock, Pa., University, where he majored in health sciences. He and his wife, Deborah, are the parents of two sons.

In addition to his work at Magee-Womens, Scully is chair of the advisory council of the Pennsylvania

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100 years of doing 'real and permanent good in this world'

By Vartan Gregorian, President • Carnegie Corporation of New York

CARNEGIE'S 1911 VISION DRIVES FOUNDATION'S WORK

Carnegie Corporation of New York, which was established by Andrew Carnegie in 1911 "to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding," is one of the oldest, largest, and most influential of American grantmaking foundations. At the time of its founding, the Corporation was the largest single philanthropic trust that had ever been established. From its original \$135 million endowment (equivalent to roughly \$3 billion today), the Corporation has made grants totaling more than \$2 billion over its 100-year history. In the last decade alone, Corporation grants have totaled almost \$1 billion.

Through its century of grantmaking, the Corporation has applied what Carnegie called the principles of "scientific philanthropy" to changing times while always working in harmony with the historical mission and legacy of the foundation. The Corporation's efforts remain focused on the two issues that Carnegie considered of paramount importance: international peace and the advancement of education and knowledge.

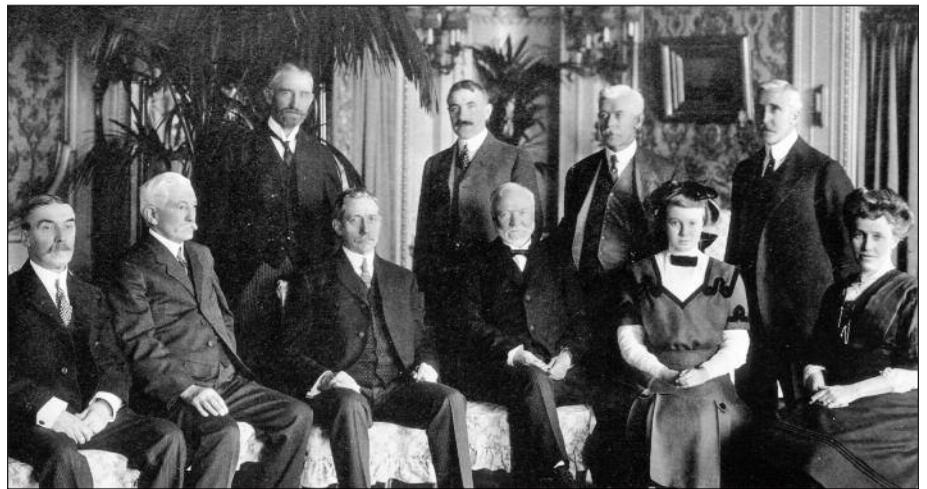
Some notable contributions of Carnegie Corporation include expansion of U.S. higher education and adult education, advancement of research on learning and cognitive development in early childhood, promotion of educational and public interest broadcasting, advancement of minorities and women in pre-college and higher education, heightening public understanding of the education and health needs of children and adolescents, and investigation of risks of superpower confrontation, nuclear war, and ethnic and civil strife.

Since its establishment, the Corporation has helped establish or endow a variety of institutions, including 2,509 Carnegie libraries in the U.S. and abroad, the National Research Council, the Russian Research Center at Harvard, and the Children's Television Workshop. It has funded the publication of books and studies as well as the organization of conferences and international exchanges, both scholarship and media outreach aimed at enriching public understanding of vital national and international issues, and other activities. Its work and that of its grantees have exerted a substantial influence on public discourse and policy.

In keeping with Carnegie's mandate, the Corporation also honors the founder's passion for international peace and the strength of U.S. democracy. While Carnegie's primary aim was to benefit the people of the U.S., he later determined to use a portion of the funds for members of the British overseas Commonwealth. Currently, this area of grantmaking focuses on selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

Carnegie served as the Corporation's first president. His intention was for the foundation to carry out its philanthropic work in perpetuity, so that "even after I pass away the [wealth] that came to me to administer as a sacred trust for the good of my fellow men is to continue to benefit humanity for generations untold."

Carnegie Corporation of New York, the philanthropic foundation to which Andrew Carnegie bequeathed the bulk of his fortune in 1911, charging it to do "real and permanent good in this world," is observing its centennial this year. The milestone is a time to pause and take stock and then forge ahead with a renewed sense of purpose. It does not signal that we have come to the end of an era, but that we have reached a marker on a continuum that leads into the future—a future, surely, of great work that will build on successes of the past, heed the lessons of failure, and use that accrued wisdom to contribute to the strength and vitality of our society, our nation, and our democracy.



The original members of Carnegie Corporation of New York, 1911. Seated to right of Carnegie are his daughter, Margaret, and wife, Louise.

That is as it should be, because this foundation was established, in part, to be a kind of barometer of culture and society. In his letter of gift, dated Nov. 10, 1911, Mr. Carnegie wrote—using the simplified spelling he was devoted to—"Conditions upon the earth inevitably change; hence, no wise man will bind Trustees forever to certain paths, causes or institutions...I disclaim any intention of doing so. On the contrary, I give my trustees full authority to change policy or causes hitherto aided, from time to time, when this, in their opinion, has become necessary or desirable." With that extraordinary mandate, we have been able to carry out the most critical task of a foundation, to use private resources to make an *investment* in the public good, particularly when other means to do so may be lacking.

Thus, our inclination is less to celebrate our centennial than to mark it as a time of renewal. We take our inspiration from the past but always face forward. That is not to say that there is not a great deal to be proud of in our history—there certainly is! We are particularly proud of our dedication to transparency, which has been a feature of our work from the very beginning. The Corporation was the first foundation to produce an annual report, and it was one of our early trustees who declared that it was incumbent upon foundations to have "glass pockets." In more recent times, we have adhered to that tradition by writing about Corporation grants and initiatives that did not work out, so that other organizations may benefit from what we have learned and not repeat our mistakes.

We are also proud of the great faith that Andrew Carnegie placed in the Corporation's trustees, who, from the day of its founding, have been a remarkable group of people. They include Nobel laureates, a future secretary of state, a secretary of education, senators, governors, a mayor, military leaders, media leaders,

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100 years of doing good

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notable businessmen and women, college and university presidents, presidents of the National Academies, scholars, top scientists, a former secretary-general of the United Nations, a foreign minister, and a minister of finance.

It also bears noting that over 100 years, the Corporation has had only 12 presidents, an indicator of stability and continuity. Those who followed Mr. Carnegie as the Corporation's first president were extraordinary leaders who brought talents in the fields of education, public service, science, the humanities, social sciences, industry, policymaking, and more. Another noteworthy point: since the Corporation's early days, many who have dedicated themselves to its work, including its first and current presidents and several trustees, were themselves immigrants or had immigrant roots. A long-standing interest in the conditions affecting immigrants to the U.S. can be seen in Corporation initiatives, which currently include focusing on immigrant civic integration as a means of increasing civic participation and strengthening U.S. democracy.

The grantmaking we do in this area, as well as all others, is rooted in the power of ideas and not just the amount of funding we are able to provide. Money has too often been used as an excuse for a lack of ideas or for inaction, allowing the claim that inability to carry a project through is because of a paucity of funds rather than a lack of vision. Having a true insight into how to advance a cause is not based on the amount of money available. That is why the hallmark of our grants is often their potential to have real impact, not how large they are. Many of our grants are not large at all, and that's something else to be proud of. I've seen small grants make big impacts on global peace and security. A small amount of money can go the proverbial long way.

Whether Corporation grants are large or small, one thing is sure: they are not parochial. Long before the term "global" became part of the vernacular, Andrew Carnegie envisaged a world in which the best efforts and instincts of men and women to help their fellow human beings would reach across oceans and continents. He understood that conflicts do not stop at specific borders, nor do diseases or poverty or tyranny or injustice. Likewise, knowledge and wisdom also have the ability to transcend barriers. It was for those reasons that Mr. Carnegie charged the Corporation with "advancing and diffusing knowledge and understanding" for the betterment of the people of the U.S. as well as in certain other parts of the world.

In this and other aspects of his philanthropy, if the adage about imitation being the sincerest form of flattery is indeed true, then both Andrew Carnegie and his contemporary, John D. Rockefeller, should be very proud of themselves, because it was their concept of philanthropy that set the bar for many of the philanthropists who have followed them. It was Mr. Carnegie who wrote what almost every modern-day philanthropist has cited as their "how-to" manual for giving: *The Gospel of Wealth*, in which he famously stated, "The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced."

In Andrew Carnegie's eyes at least, the ultimate object of philanthropy in the U.S. was to strengthen our democracy. He dedicated a lesser-known book, *Triumphant Democracy*, "To the beloved republic, under whose equal laws I am made the peer of any man." Thus does the heart, soul, and ideals that formed Mr. Carnegie's philosophy of giving come full circle: he was born a poor boy, became a rich and educated man in a new country that provided him with unlimited opportunity, and in turn, he believed—deeply and unquestionably—that with wealth comes responsibility. Thus, it was his obligation to give back what had been given to him.

Andrew Carnegie fulfilled that obligation, and through the work of the more than 20 organizations and institutions he created, he continues to do so today by helping to strengthen our nation, educate its citizens, contribute to knowledge, support efforts to honor the autonomy and liberty of the individual, and advance our ability to remain self-reliant. Mr. Carnegie believed that the success of our society and

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BOARD NOTES

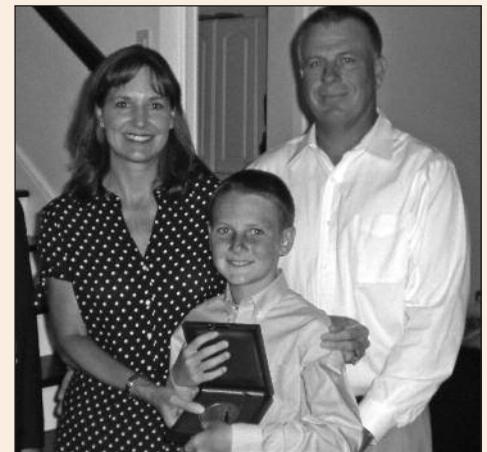
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the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and president of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. Arbuthnot was also the uncle of his successor as president of the Hero Fund, Charles McClintock (1957-1967). Our records reveal little of McClintock's personal background beyond his nickname, "Spook." Perhaps we are meant to know no more.

McClintock's successor, Bob Off's predecessor, was Stewart McClintic (1968-1978). McClintic, trained as an engineer, was a banker and president of Eye and Ear Hospital in Pittsburgh.

When I consider this group of men and their accomplished lives, I am driven to the very best I can for the Hero Fund. I am buoyed in this effort by the conviction that it was the genius of Andrew Carnegie's design for the Hero Fund that attracted these men to its work, and that same genius might make my own efforts good enough for the work.

(Laskow joined the Commission in 1992 and is completing his 10th year as president in 2011.)



SHE DID WHAT HAD TO BE DONE

Julie Fitzpatrick, 39, of Lighthouse Point, Fla., was awarded the Carnegie Medal last December, and she received it on June 28 at a Lighthouse Point City Commission meeting. Accompanied by her husband, Larry, and their son, Glenn, Fitzpatrick was recognized for helping to save an indeterminate number of people from being struck by a runaway boat in the Atlantic Ocean off Pompano Beach, Fla., on Aug. 23, 2009. As her husband drove their boat alongside the runaway, Fitzpatrick jumped aboard it and took it to a stop. Says Fitzpatrick: "If my husband had not driven the boat so well and my son had not followed directions so well, then I wouldn't have been able to do what I did. It's not something you expect to do; it was just doing what needed to be done. It also reminds me of the appreciation that I have for the members of our military forces and fire and police departments, because they risk their lives every day."



TO THE HERO FUND

THOSE WHO DO SHARE

Sometimes in my own life I get so discouraged at the refusal to consider kindness or sharing from those around me who have so much more and could so easily give, instead of remaining aware of those who do share. I think it is notable that many of your recipients are very ordinary people, not leaders or "successful" people. But whatever they may be, their stories inspire me, and thank you for rewarding them! We all need to remember such acts are possible.

Cindy Wineburgh, Frankfort, Ind.

LEFT SPEECHLESS

To say I was shocked to be considered and then awarded the Carnegie Medal does not cover my feelings of gratitude and humility. After opening your award letter, my wife and I just looked at each other and began to cry.

In my almost 66 years of life God has put me in the right place at the right time on six different occasions to save nine lives. A thank-you had always been enough, so to receive your award truly leaves me speechless. I cannot believe that I was included with some of the other recipients—especially those six who lost their lives in their actions. I plan to donate at least 20 percent of my good fortune to charity.

Richard L. Brown, Enfield, Conn.

Brown was awarded the Carnegie Medal in June for saving his neighbor from a burning house. See pages 8 and 9 for the details of his heroic act and his photo.

GOOD TO READ ABOUT HEROES

I just wanted to extend my warmest thanks after receiving your book, *A Century of Heroes*, in the mail today. I am really looking forward to reading it. It is a most attractive book and it is wonderful to be able to read about heroes for a change. Good luck with all of your work! Kind regards from Australia,

Gabriel Spira, Lyneham, Australia

The Hero Fund's centennial book is available by contacting its author, Douglas R. Chambers: doug@carnegiehero.org

ARTHUR M. SCULLY III

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Organization for Women in Early Recovery (POWER), the goals of which are to help women reclaim their lives from addiction to alcohol and other drugs and to reduce the incidence of addiction in future generations. He formerly served on the boards of the Fox Chapel, Pa., Area School District; the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy; Allegheny Cemetery, Pittsburgh; and Family Resources of Pennsylvania, where he was vice president.

OVERHEARD

I know what my dad would have done, because he had already done it.—John L. Crosby, Jr., Carnegie Medal Awardee #9445, after helping to save a man from drowning. His late father saved a man from drowning 57 years earlier.

Anyone in their right mind would have done what I did.—James A. Short, Jr., Carnegie Medal Awardee #9449

I didn't expect to catch a person.—Doug Nagle, Carnegie Medal Nominee #83333, who helped to save a man from drowning while fishing in the Mississippi River

100 years of doing good

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our democracy is a model for a better, brighter world for men and women everywhere. Carnegie Corporation of New York could not be prouder of the part we have played in sustaining that mission throughout our first 100 years. It is with renewed dedication, energy, and commitment that we move forward into the next chapter of an ongoing story that will be written by the next century of our work.

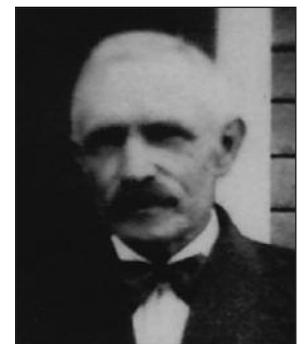


Dr. Gregorian

Dr. Gregorian was named President of Carnegie Corporation of New York in 1997, after having served as president of both Brown University and, earlier, The New York Public Library. He majored in history and the humanities at Stanford University, receiving his Ph.D. in 1964. In 2004, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civil award, from President George W. Bush. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed him to the President's Commission on White House Fellowships.

Permanent display in railroad museum features crossing watchman's heroism

The heroic sacrifice of a Baltimore & Ohio Railroad crossing watchman in 1926 has been permanently memorialized in a new display at the B & O Railroad Museum in Baltimore, Md. As the watchman, Alexander F. Dunn, was posthumously cited by the Hero Fund, a Carnegie Medal is featured in the three-panel display, as is a description of the Hero Fund and its founder, Andrew Carnegie.



Mr. Dunn, about 1919

The display came about largely through the efforts of Dunn's grandson, Raymond E. Dunn, 86, and his daughter, Susan D. Dunn, both of Silver Spring, Md. "My father had long wanted to place a marker near the spot where his grandfather died," Susan said. "But in talking with local city and railroad officials, a variety of issues was noted." A CSX Corp. representative suggested having the display at the museum, which was "a perfect solution," according to Susan. Through mergers and affiliations with the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad and other lines over the years, B & O Railroad evolved into CSX in 1986.

Alexander F. Dunn, the father of eight and grandfather of 13 at the time of his death, had been a crossing watchman for the B & O for 35 years. On Monday,

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LATEST AWARDEES
OF THE CARNEGIE MEDAL

SINCE THE LAST ISSUE OF *imPULSE*, THE FOLLOWING 20 INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE CARNEGIE MEDAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS TO 9,452 SINCE THE HERO FUND'S INCEPTION IN 1904. THE LATEST AWARDS, WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 29, ARE DETAILED ON THE COMMISSION'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CARNEGIEHERO.ORG. THE NEXT ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDEES WILL BE MADE ON SEPT. 27.

Kevin Robert Gooding, 43, an autoworker from Stoney Creek, Ont., rescued a 68-year-old man from his burning car after a highway accident in Hamilton, Ont., on Nov. 21, 2008. Flames burst out on the back of the man's car, which was carrying two five-gallon containers of gasoline, and spread to the vehicle's interior. Driving nearby, Gooding witnessed the accident and stopped at the scene. He opened the car's front passenger door to find the man, conscious but dazed, lying on the front seat, his jacket aflame. Gooding leaned inside and patted out the flames on him. He then grasped the man and pulled him to the pavement. After helping him regain his footing, Gooding escorted the man away from the car, which was soon engulfed by flames. (See photo.)

Daniel W. Lemon, 35, saved Olivia E. Schuller, 10, from her father's burning house in Minneapolis, Minn., on Sept. 12, 2009. Olivia, 10, was in a first-floor bedroom when natural gas that had leaked into the structure ignited and exploded. Falling debris pinned her to the floor, and flames erupted throughout the wreck-



A massive explosion fueled by leaking natural gas wracked this house in Minneapolis, Minn., trapping a 10-year-old girl in the debris of a first-floor bedroom. Daniel W. Lemon of Roseville, Minn., was visiting a few doors away and responded to the scene. He crawled through the bedroom window, freed the girl, and took her to the window, where they exited to safety.

age. Lemon, a store manager from Roseville, Minn., was visiting nearby. Hearing screams from the bedroom, he went to one of its windows and saw Olivia just inside the room. Despite flames in that room, Lemon entered through the window, freed Olivia, and pulled her to the window. A neighbor who had responded joined him there and helped in taking her to safety. Just after Lemon cleared the room, flames grew quickly to engulf it. (See photo.)

A general contractor from Burnt Ranch, Calif., **Joshua P. S. Paik-Nicely**, 29, saved Kenny R. Dison, 30, from

drowning in the Trinity River at Salyer, Calif., on March 12 last year. After his car left the highway in heavy rain and entered a pool of water along the bank of the river, Dison escaped the vehicle but, badly injured, could not swim back to the bank against an eddy in the pool. Paik-Nicely witnessed the accident, entered the 45-degree water, and swam 25 feet through the eddy to Dison. Although Dison outweighed him, Paik-Nicely started to swim back to the bank but made no progress against the eddy's current. He then took Dison to a rock at the edge of the pool, where another man who had arrived helped in fully removing him from the river. (See page 1.)

Joseph D. Hayes, 51 a maintenance technician from Sayreville, N.J., rescued Cheryl A. Napolitano from an attacking dog near his home on Aug. 31, 2007. Napolitano, 44, was walking her small dog when an 80-pound, mixed-breed pit bull attacked her and her dog, taking Napolitano to the pavement and mauling her. Hayes heard her scream. He immediately ran to the scene, where he grasped the dog by its hind legs and pulled it off Napolitano. When the dog then resumed its attack, Hayes kicked and punched it, and he aided Napolitano to her feet. The dog turned on Hayes, biting him, and it menaced Hayes and Napolitano as they walked away. Napolitano and Hayes both required hospital treatment for their bite wounds, Hayes bitten on his chin.

Martin C. Allarding, of Hastings, Mich., died after helping to save Wayne R. Seeley, Sr., 64, from drowning in Middle Lake, Hastings, on Jan. 4 last year, and **Steven J. Bolo**, also of Hastings, saved Wayne's wife, Nancy V., 63, and helped to save Wayne. The Seeleys were riding an all-terrain vehicle on the ice-covered lake when the vehicle broke through thin ice. Their friend, Allarding, 63, a retired maintenance supervisor,

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After witnessing an automobile crash and burst into flame, Kevin Robert Gooding of Stoney Creek, Ont., leapt into action. He opened the car's front passenger door, patted flames out on the driver, and removed him from the vehicle. Photo, by Sheryl Nadler, is courtesy of The Hamilton Spectator, Hamilton, Ont..



LATEST AWARDEES

(continued from page 7)

and Bolo, 62, a retired machine repair worker, responded from about 100 feet away. Although he had a history of heart disease, Allerdig grasped Wayne and attempted to pull him from the open water. Bolo grasped Nancy, pulled her onto solid ice, and dragged her away from the hole. As Allerdig was struggling to pull Wayne out, Bolo joined him, grasped Wayne, and with Allerdig removed Wayne from the open water and dragged him away. Using his all-terrain vehicle, Allerdig was driving Nancy toward his nearby home when he suffered a fatal heart attack.

Police officer **Mark Iovino**, 41, of Bayshore, N.Y., helped to rescue Lesley Berman, 56, from her burning house in Westbury, N.Y., on Jan. 11, 2010. Berman was in her second-floor bedroom after fire broke out in that room and filled the floor with dense smoke. First responders included Iovino and three other officers, all of whom entered the structure. Climbing to the second floor, Iovino crawled into the burning bedroom. He located Berman about 15 feet into the room and then stood, grasped her, and, guided by one of the other officers, returned to the bedroom door, dragging her. Iovino handed Berman off to the other officers, who took her outside to safety as Iovino fled the house for air. Iovino required hospital treatment for smoke inhalation.

Richard A. Johnston, 55, of Pittsfield, N.H., died attempting to save his daughter, Heidi M. Johnston, 26, from their burning apartment on June 8, 2009. Heidi remained in the family's second-floor apartment after fire broke out in the unit's kitchen early in the morning. After alerting help, her father, Richard, who was a dishwasher, ascended the exterior stairs to the



Wearing a breathing mask that he uses in his job as a construction worker, Liviu Talos of Detroit, Mich., climbed through a bedroom window of his neighbor's house after a nighttime fire filled the structure with dense smoke. He found a 9-year-old girl in the bedroom and handed her out to safety before diving through the window to escape the deteriorating conditions. Photo, by Marcin Szczepanski, is courtesy of the Detroit Free Press.

unit's only door and re-entered. He proceeded through a hall toward the kitchen and was last seen turning into the living room as flames from the kitchen intensified and blocked further access to the door. Responding firefighters found Richard in the living room and Heidi in the adjacent bedroom. Both had succumbed to effects of the fire.

Daniel L. Diaz of Kent, Wash., died helping to save a 12-year-old boy from drowning in the Columbia River at Rowena, Ore., on July 4, 2009. The boy was attempting to swim across a 300-foot-wide inlet along the river when he became fatigued and called out for help at a point about halfway across. In another party at the scene, Diaz, 33, a mechanic, was on a dock that

extended into the inlet. He entered the water and swam about 125 feet out to the boy. Diaz spoke to the boy, and he and the boy started to swim to the dock. After they had gone about 100 feet, Diaz experienced difficulty and called for help. Others responded to aid him, but he submerged. The boy swam to the dock and exited the water to safety. Diaz drowned.

Peter Shane Ambler attempted to save Michael S. Stewart from drowning in the Pacific Ocean at the mouth of Netarts Bay at Netarts, Ore., on Oct. 6 last year, and **Narong Khaokham** died helping in the attempt. Stewart, 61, was crabbing in the bay when his 12-foot boat was carried by a very strong tidal current into the ocean, where seven-foot waves were breaking. He yelled and signaled for help. Ambler, 44, a store manager, and Khaokham, 67, a retired carpenter, both of Dallas, Ore., were also crabbing in the bay, in Ambler's 18-foot boat. They immediately responded, approaching Stewart's boat in the breaker zone about 300 feet from shore. Stewart threw them a rope twice, but it fell short each time. On a third pass, Khaokham threw a line to Stewart, and Stewart caught it. A large wave then capsized Stewart's boat. Ambler and Khaokham pulled Stewart aboard their boat, but then another large wave caused it to capsize. Surfacing, Ambler secured a hold of both Khaokham and his overturned boat as they were carried farther out to sea. A Coast Guard helicopter responded and rescued Ambler; he recovered after hospital treatment. Khaokham was removed from the water by firefighters using a personal watercraft, and Stewart by a Coast Guard rescue boat. Neither could be revived. (See photo.)

Frederick T. Smith, 53, a welder from Daleville, Va., rescued his neighbor, Paul D. Knight, 46, from Knight's



Richard L. Brown of Enfield, Conn., center, was returning home when he saw his neighbor's house on fire. He entered the structure and removed Walter L. Bushey, left. Shown with the men is Bushey's wife, Hazel. Photo by Jim Michaud of the Journal Inquirer, Manchester, Conn.

(continued on page 9)

LATEST AWARDEES*(continued from page 8)*

burning house on April 7, 2010. Knight collapsed in the second-floor hall of his house while fighting a fire that had broken out in a room off the hall. Alerted, Smith entered the house and ran upstairs. Dense smoke in the hall precluded visibility, and rapidly spreading flames were advancing. Smith called to Knight and, hearing him cough, crawled through the hall to him. Since Knight was inert, Smith grabbed him, dragged him to the top of the stairs, and then hauled him down to the first floor and outside to safety. Knight was hospitalized for treatment of smoke inhalation and burns. Smith also sought medical attention for smoke inhalation.

Kevin M. Daniels, 44, of Lequille, N.S., rescued his neighbor, Harvey E. Bailey, 60, from Bailey's burning house on May 28, 2010. Bailey was alone in his wooden house after fire broke out on the first floor. Daniels, a disabled carpenter's helper, responded and kicked in the front door but was unable to enter the house because of the flames. He ran to the rear door and saw Bailey lying on the floor about 15 feet inside. Despite smoke extending nearly to the floor and spreading flames, Daniels crawled to Bailey, who was lying near the room of the fire's origin. He grasped Bailey and backed to the rear door and outside, drag-

ging him. Bailey was hospitalized for treatment of significant burns, and Daniels also was taken to the hospital, for observation.

Aircraft mechanic **Randell Ranson**, 39, of Heber City, Utah, attempted to save Thanish Kalis, 46, from a fire on the tarmac at the Salt Lake City, Utah, International Airport on July 16 last year. While helping to secure a helicopter to a flatbed trailer, Kalis, 46, was struck by the helicopter. He fell to the pavement, the helicopter crashing next to the trailer and leaking fuel. At a nearby hangar, Ranson witnessed the accident. He ran to Kalis despite seeing the puddling fuel and grasped him by the arms to move him. The fuel ignited explosively, throwing Ranson 10 feet back and setting fire to the helicopter wreckage. Others removed Kalis, who died at the scene. Ranson was hospitalized overnight for treatment of burns to his legs, face, and left forearm.

Bobby A. Qualls, Jr., died attempting to save his daughter, Kylie F. Qualls, 15, from drowning in a flash flood at their home in Linden, Tenn., on May 2, 2010. Kylie, her brother, and their father, Qualls, 44, maintenance worker, were inside their home, which was on the bank of Brush Creek, when quickly rising water from heavy rains caused the creek to overflow its banks. Qualls took his son to safety on the highway

fronting the property and then turned back into the floodwaters for Kylie, who was holding to a tree about 100 feet away. He struggled against an extremely swift current in the rising waters, stopping to hold to a tree. After several minutes, Kylie was swept downstream, as was Qualls. Their bodies were recovered the next day.

James A. Short, Jr., of Andover, Mass., rescued David J. Johnston from his burning apartment in Cape Coral, Fla., on March 17 last year. Johnston, 63, who was an invalid, was in the living room of his duplex apartment when fire erupted at the oxygen equipment he used. He yelled for help. Short, 52, plumber, who lived in the adjacent apartment, responded to Johnston's unit, entered, and, despite intense heat and dense smoke that limited visibility, searched for him. Seeing Johnston lying on the floor near a burning recliner in the living room, Short pulled him to his feet and to the unit's back door. He dragged Johnston outside, moments before an explosive rush of flames engulfed the room. Johnston required hospitalization for his burns.

James Hobbs, 44, of Hollywood, Fla., died attempting to save Nancy Alvarez, 42, from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean at Dania Beach, Fla., on June 25, 2010. While swimming in the ocean, Alvarez had difficulty returning to shore. In another party at the beach, Hobbs, who was disabled, was alerted to her situation. He entered the water and swam out toward Alvarez, who was about 300 feet from the beach. When he had nearly reached her, Hobbs appeared to have difficulty in the water and was carried farther out. Others who responded returned Alvarez safely to the beach. Several men swam out to Hobbs, finding him unconscious and floating face down. They returned him to shore, where rescue personnel attempted without success to revive him.

Richard L. Brown of Enfield, Conn., saved his neighbor Walter L. Bushey from a burning house on April 23, 2010. Bushey, 79, who used a wheelchair, was inside his one-story house after fire erupted in the attached garage. As he attempted to flee, his wheelchair became lodged in an interior doorway. Brown, 64, disabled, observed flames and smoke issuing from the house and approached it. Despite recovering from recent surgery and having difficulty with mobility, Brown climbed over the front porch railing, to avoid the nearby flames, and entered the house. He located Bushey, dislodged his wheelchair, and took it outside to the porch, where others aided by lifting Bushey to safety. Brown and Bushey received hospital treatment for smoke inhalation. (See photo.)

Construction worker **Liviu Talos** of Detroit, Mich., saved Tahani Shohatee from her family's burning house on July 15, 2010. Tahani, 9, was in her first-floor bedroom after fire broke out in the living room and

(continued on page 11)

Narong Khaokham, who was born in the rural village of Udon Thani in northeast Thailand in 1943, immigrated to the U.S. and settled with his daughter in Oregon about five years before his death in an act of heroism on Oct. 6, 2010. One of 11 children, he was the father of six and the grandfather of seven. Khaokham was a Buddhist, and his remains were transported by the local temple to the village of Roi Et in Thailand where he and his wife once made their home. Khaokham loved both gardening and being out on the water, catching crabs. It was while he was boating in Netarts Bay, Ore., that he attempted to save a distressed boater from the rough surf. Both men died after their boats capsized.



Heroes feted on 'Rescuers Day' by Carnegie's century-old Swiss fund

MEETING HEROES WAS 'EXPERIENCE OF REALITY'

By Peter J. Lambrou, M.D.
Carnegie Hero Fund Commission

In contrast to the activities of many foundations, the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission uniquely provides its directors with the opportunity to appreciate and directly recognize the heroic efforts of individuals, an experience that has proven to be both challenging and gratifying. On infrequent occasion, members of the board are fortunate enough to share those experiences with sister foundations whose goals and objectives parallel those of the Hero Fund.



Dr. Lambrou is shown here, at left, with Maj. Gen. Andreas Stettbacher, medical chief of the Swiss Army and board member of the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation of Bern, Switzerland.

In May, I had the opportunity, along with my distinguished colleague and fellow director Carol Word and the Hero Fund's executive director Walter Rutkowski, to travel to Bern, Switzerland, to attend the annual celebration of Rescuers Day as invited guests of the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation. In contrast to the Hero Fund's awarding of medals through-

out the year, mostly by foundation staff, the Swiss foundation awards fewer medals, but all at the same time, in person, and at one spectacular event. This year's event was beautifully formal and presented in a multilingual fashion in order to optimize the experience for all of those in attendance. The awardees and their accomplishments were truly the centerpiece of the day, and the entire experience was very connected and very personal.

For me as a director, it was the first time I had the occasion to meet a "hero" personally. It was the first time I was able to actually talk with the individual whose actions resulted in the saving of another's life and hear their accounting of the events. I was completely fascinated by the humble demeanor of these heroes and quite taken by their intense concern for another's safety without regard for their own. For the first time, I got to see with my own eyes just what a real hero looked like—and they were not always what I had envisioned. This was an "experience of reality" that was unexpected and heart-

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Representatives of the Hero Fund joined its sister organization, the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation of Switzerland, on May 20 for that foundation's annual Rescuers Day, held to honor Swiss civilians for performing extraordinary acts of heroism. The foundation was established 100 years ago, after a gift of \$130,000 was made by Andrew Carnegie on March 22, 1911, to the Swiss Federal Council.

In a formal ceremony at the Bellevue Palace Hotel in Bern, 27 Swiss heroes were feted by the foundation at this year's event. Representing the U.S.-based Carnegie Hero Fund Commission were board members Carol A. Word and Peter J. Lambrou and executive director Walter F. Rutkowski. They presented the Swiss foundation with a Commission resolution commending it for a century of success in its efforts and lauding its executive director, Hans-Ruedi Hübscher, for his leadership—and for his loyal friendship to the Hero Fund. Hübscher has visited the U.S. on several occasions to attend Carnegie-related events in Pittsburgh and New York City.

Ms. Word, who was accompanied by her husband, William E. Trueheart, said she was impressed by the elegance of the ceremony as well as by the quality of individuals serving on the Swiss fund's board, including its president, Edith Graf-Litscher, who is a member of the Swiss Parliament. The board also includes another member of Parliament as well as the U.S. ambassador and the medical chief of the Swiss Army. Hübscher, 62, is on the executive staff of the Swiss Federal Ministry for Justice and Police and for the past 34 years has overseen the work of the foundation during evenings and weekends.

For Dr. Lambrou (see accompanying article), getting to meet the Swiss awardees gave a "tremendous realism that was heartwarming."

The U.S. guests found many similarities in the work of the U.S. and Swiss funds, including the basic awarding requirement that the rescuer must risk severe personal injury or death while saving or attempting to save the life of another. Cases nominated for recognition from either fund undergo thorough investigation, and those chosen for an award receive a medal, with the dependents of those killed performing an act of heroism becoming eligible for

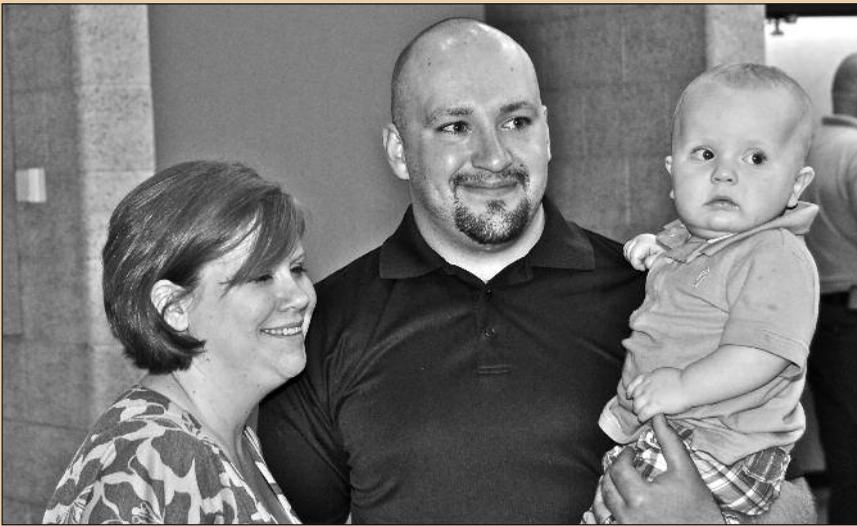


Leadership of Andrew Carnegie's Swiss and U.S.-based hero funds includes, from left, Edith Graf-Litscher, president of the Swiss fund; Carol A. Word, board member of the U.S. fund; Hans-Ruedi Hübscher, executive director of the Swiss fund; and Peter J. Lambrou, board member of the U.S. fund. At right is Hübscher's wife, Pina.

continuing financial support. Since its official inception in 1912, the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation has honored 8,406 Swiss heroes and given more than \$3.9 million to the awardees or their survivors. Annually, 25 to 40 individuals are honored from among 140 to 150 cases brought to the foundation's attention.

Unlike the Pittsburgh-based Hero Fund, the Swiss fund awards different grades of medal—bronze, silver, and gold—and it includes high-precision Swiss wristwatches and helicopter and hot-air balloon rides in its presentation. The degree of danger to which the rescuer is exposed helps to determine the level of award.

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RESCUE SPARKS INTEREST IN FIREFIGHTING

Timothy McCarthy was at home in Overland Park, Kan., when in the early hours of March 16 last year he heard a crash nearby. Leaving the house, he saw a car on fire about 800 feet away. McCarthy called 911 as he ran to the scene and, once there, saw that flames about four feet high covered the back of the car and had spread to most of its interior. Three teenagers were inside the vehicle, but McCarthy could see only the driver. He reached through the window of the driver's door and pulled the driver, an 18-year-old male, head first from the vehicle. With the help of a passerby, he extinguished flames on the driver's shirt with his hands. Police and firefighters arrived shortly, but by then the car was engulfed by flames, which claimed the lives of the other occupants. McCarthy suffered first- and second-degree burns to his right hand that required hospital treatment.

Subsequent to the rescue, McCarthy has become friends with the responding firefighters, sparking an interest in becoming one of them. The interest was further kindled when on June 15 the Overland Park Fire Department hosted a ceremony at which McCarthy was presented a Carnegie Medal by the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, Douglas R. Chambers. After the presentation, McCarthy, a service technician, was given a behind-the-scenes tour of the department's firefighting equipment, and he was encouraged by the deputy chief to take the necessary courses at a local community college so that he could apply to become a firefighter. The Hero Fund informed him that he was eligible for tuition assistance, if needed. McCarthy, 24, is shown here with his wife, Carrie, and their son, Carter. Officiating at their wedding was the father of the boy that McCarthy saved.

Heroes feted on 'Rescuers Day'

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The Swiss foundation is one of 10 hero funds started in Western Europe by Carnegie, seven of them in 1911. Of the 10, eight are still in existence, with the French and German funds now inactive, falling under the burden of lack of resources. Hübscher said the Swiss fund itself is not immune to financial difficulties, quite an abrupt turn-about after 90 years of generating sufficient gains on capital to support activities. "This comfortable situation changed completely unexpectedly and very decisively," he said. "During 2007 and 2008, the foundation suffered a very substantial loss.... To worsen the situation, the foundation had to sell a part of its investment funds to stay financially liquid." He said the foundation's chances of survival are reduced to seven to 10 years without depending on donations, sponsors, and/or joint ventures.

"We have a duty to secure the deed of Andrew Carnegie," Hübscher said, "as it is socio-politically valuable today, to give the foundation a long-standing perspective. We deal with heroic people. It's an unbelievably positive work, a matter of the heart." 

LATEST AWARDEES

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filled the floor with dense smoke. Talos, 45, responded from his house across the street. He mounted a garbage can beneath Tahani's bedroom window and twice attempted entry but was forced back each time. After donning a breathing mask, Talos entered the bedroom and crawled across it in search of Tahani. As he returned toward the window, he came upon her. Talos picked her up, handed her outside to others, and then dived through the window to the ground, injuring his shoulder. Tahani died the next day. Talos inhaled smoke and required surgical repair of his shoulder. (See photo, page 8.)

Mandeville, La., real estate developer **John L. Crosby, Jr.**, 58, helped to save a man from drowning in Lake Pontchartrain at Mandeville on April 19 last year. In a suicide attempt, a 30-year-old man jumped from the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at a point about 11 miles from the closer shore. Approaching in his vehicle, Crosby saw him jump. Crosby called police, but, concluding that the man would not survive without immediate aid, he jumped into the 15-foot-deep water after him. He grasped the man and supported him, treading water, until police arrived shortly. The officers and Crosby secured the man to a rescue basket, and he was lifted to the causeway deck, followed by Crosby. Crosby and the man were both treated at the scene for hypothermia. (See photo.)



He didn't have a life ring when he needed it, but John L. Crosby, Jr., of Mandeville, La., still managed to save a life. He jumped off the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway at a point about 11 miles from the closest land and supported a would-be suicide victim until police arrived and lifted both back to the causeway deck. Photo, by Ellis Lucia, is courtesy of The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, La.



HERO'S CHARACTER INSPIRES HIS FAMILY

By Michael D. McMillan
Duncanville, Texas

My father died this past April, and with this great loss came a renewed relationship with siblings and cousins. We are sharing stories as well as pictures and family documents.



*David R. McMillan,
Carnegie Medal awardee*

My father was named after his father, **David R. McMillan**, who was the recipient of a Carnegie Medal for rescuing two men from a burning car in Santa Ana, Calif., in 1952. My grandfather was the chief probation officer of Orange County, Calif., from 1939 until his death in 1967—I was only 13 when he died at the age of 64. Though

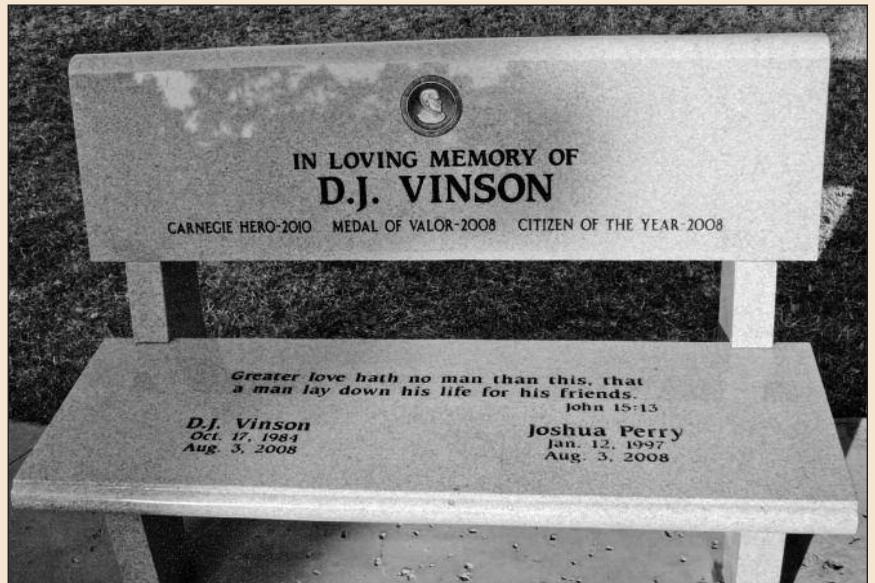
an important figure in the state of California—his death was marked with a resolution passed by the senate of California's legislature—he was a humble man, and I never remember hearing about the rescue that resulted in him receiving the medal.

At that time, my grandmother appointed me the caretaker of the medal as the oldest grandchild. My mother kept it for me until I left home. As usually happens, you learn things about your ancestors after they are gone that you wish you would have asked them while they were still living. During the grieving process for my father, my family shared what we knew about his father's Carnegie Medal.

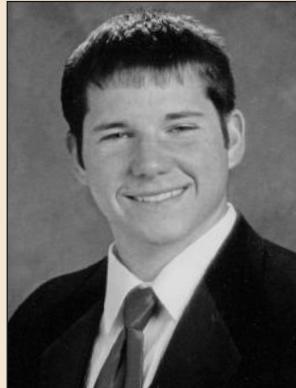
Today I received in the mail from my stepmother an assortment of old documents, including my father's birth certificate, my parents' marriage license, my grandparents' death certificates, etc. Included were six original letters from 1953-54 between my grandfather and the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. The first was the original letter from the Hero Fund notifying him he had been chosen as a recipient and asking if he would accept the award.

Then there was a copy of his acceptance letter: "...it is somewhat embarrassing to me to be thought of as a hero. The circumstances were such that I can only feel thankful that I happened along in time." Then a letter saying the medal was being shipped, and one from him saying he got it: "As I had never even seen one of these medals, I did not know what to expect. It certainly is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship." Today is the first time I have "heard" my grandfather say anything about the event or his medal—pretty special!

It is good to recall such heroic accomplishments as an inspiration to those of us who remain here. My nephew graduated from high school this spring. He is named David R. McMillan III, so it is important for him to know the character of his namesake.



ON-SITE MEMORIAL



A granite bench in memory of their son **Gary DeWayne Vinson, Jr.**—"D.J."—was placed in Riverfront Park, Albany, Ga., this summer by his parents, DeWayne and Beth Vinson of nearby Sylvester, Ga. The younger Vinson, shown at left, died August 3, 2008, at age 23 while attempting to save an 11-year-old boy from drowning in the Flint River at the park, and the boy's name, Joshua Perry, is also engraved on the bench. Joshua also drowned in the incident. At the time of his death, Vinson had started his own business and was saving to attend college. He was awarded the Carnegie Medal posthumously last year, and a bronze marker cast in the likeness of the medal is mounted on the bench. The cost of the bench was covered by donations from the public.

FALLEN OFFICER HONORED

The Carnegie Medal awarded posthumously to **Carmen F. DeGregorio, Jr.**, of Millville, N.J., in April was presented to his widow, Adrienne, and twin children Carmen and Virginia, 16, in July at a meeting of the Millville City Commission. DeGregorio, 51, who was a retired officer of the Millville Police Department, died Nov. 29, 2007, two days after rescuing a woman from assault in Millville. The woman's boyfriend was attempting to abduct her in the trunk of a car at a convenience store when DeGregorio intervened. He freed her, but the assailant then chased him down and struck him with the car, inflicting fatal injury. DeGregorio was nominated



for the award by Lt. Dan Baer of the police department, who with several other officers was on hand for the emotional presentation. The medal was given by Douglas R. Chambers, the Hero Fund's director of external affairs, to Mrs. DeGregorio, who said that her husband "was my hero before I married him and he's always been my hero. And I miss him so much." Photo, by Cody Glenn, is courtesy of the *The Daily Journal*, Vineland, N.J., and is used with permission.

Permanent display in railroad museum

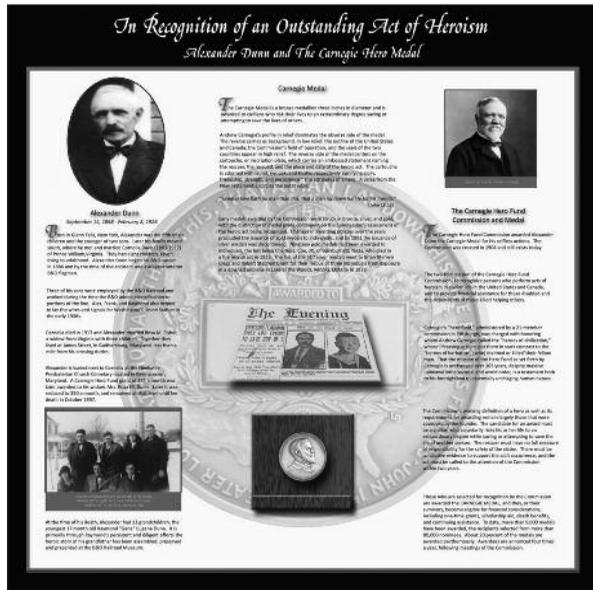
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Feb. 28, 1926, he was on duty at the Chestnut Street crossing in the Washington, D.C., suburb of Takoma Park, Md. Dunn, 67, was well regarded by the neighborhood parents and children as a friendly and careful watchman.

At 8:45 a.m., E. Alexander Gregory, 9, was on his way to school, which was less than 500 yards from the crossing. When he reached the crossing, Dunn motioned for him to wait, as a Washington/Cumberland local was pulling slowly along the tracks. Dunn could also see another train approaching—quickly—from the opposite direction. It was the Capitol Limited, which made few stops in its 700-mile journey from Chicago to Washington. As the first train passed, he yelled and waved frantically at Gregory to remain off the tracks, but Gregory began to cross. “The train made so much noise that (he) couldn’t hear,” a 10-year-old witness reported.

Seeing the boy’s danger, Dunn ran into the path of the approaching express train. Both he and Gregory were struck and killed, their bodies thrown into a ravine along the tracks.

Dunn was awarded a silver Carnegie Medal later that year, and his widow was given a monthly support grant that lasted until the time of her death in 1957. As the medal has been lost over the years, the replica on display at the museum is appreciated by the family. And the display is a natural for the museum, as Dunn is one of only 128 medal awardees from Maryland and the only one from that state who was a railroad crossing watchman. 



One of the panels in the display at the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum featuring Carnegie Medal awardee Alexander F. Dunn



Raymond E. Dunn, left, is a grandson of Carnegie Medal awardee Alexander F. Dunn. He is shown with Dave Shackelford, chief curator of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, the oldest and most comprehensive museum of its type in the world. Welcoming 200,000 visitors a year to its 40-acre site, the museum houses railroad artifacts ranging from art and furniture and toys to rolling stock, all assembled from the 1830s to the present.



MEDAL LINKS DAUGHTER TO LONG-GONE FATHER

Helen C. Thedford Parrigin of Houston, Texas, had a memorable 96th birthday in April when her family presented her with mementoes from the Hero Fund pertaining to the heroic actions of her father, **Larkin Thedford**, in 1916. Thedford, pictured below, died on May 20 of that year during his attempted rescue of a six-year-old boy from drowning in the Navidad River at Lolita, Texas. A farmer, 43, he entered the river fully clothed and swam out to the boy, who was a nonswimmer, after the boy



jumped into the river from a small boat. He reached the boy but sank, and both drowned. Parrigin, only 13 months old at the time, was one of seven children, with an eighth to be born a few months later. In addition to the Carnegie Medal, which was awarded in October of that year, the family received a monthly grant, which continued to Parrigin’s mother until the time of her death in 1954. According to Parrigin’s family, the medal is one of the few memories she has of her father, and she recalls taking it into a closet and holding it just to be close to him. The Hero Fund gave Parrigin a parchment certificate confirming that the award was made and a bronze marker for her father’s grave, and her family reports that she was “absolutely ecstatic” to receive them. Parrigin is shown here with her son and daughter-in-law, Patrick and Barbara Absher, of San Antonio, Texas.



FRIENDS REMEMBERED



HANDS-ON LEARNING

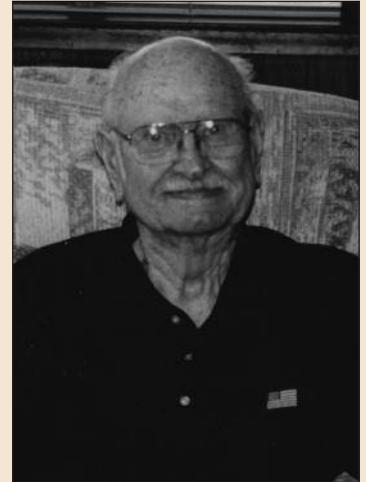
Awardee Hannah Lynn Goorsky, 31, of Pomona, Calif., shown displaying her Carnegie Medal, is entering her third year at Western University College of Veterinary Medicine, Pomona, and is making advances, including learning canine surgery. "It seems so intense now," she writes of the procedure.

"Maybe one day it will be easy!"

Goorsky is one of two dozen students who are receiving tuition, book, and fee assistance from the Hero Fund, which makes scholarship aid available to all pre-retirement awardees of the medal and the dependents of awardees who are disabled or killed in the performance of their heroic acts. Goorsky received the medal in 2004 for going to the aid of a zookeeper who was being mauled by a 320-pound tiger.



William F. Bauman, 89, of McKinney, Texas, died July 21. He was awarded the Carnegie Medal for his actions of May 5, 1951, in saving a boy from drowning in the Brazos River at Whitney, Texas. The boy, 17, was trapped in the backwash at the face of a dam, and Bauman, then 29, swam out to him and supported him for more than a half-hour, or until rescuers came and removed both from the river. Bauman was in contact with the Hero Fund over the past few years, informing in 2005 that he was proud of his medal: "It was one of the best things that ever happened to me." He was a U.S. Navy veteran, serving during World War II.



Mr. Bauman

Pauline Joos, 62, of Stewartstown, N.H., died Dec. 28. She was the widow of Dennis Joos, who was awarded the medal for his actions of Aug. 19, 1997, by which he died attempting to save a woman from assault by a man armed with an assault rifle. The gunman, who had just killed two state police officers, was shooting at the woman when Joos, 51, a newspaper editor, confronted him and fought for control of the rifle. The woman also died of her wounds. Mrs. Joos was a beneficiary of a widow's grant from the Hero Fund at the time of her passing.



Baxter S. Pynn, 81, of St. Anthony, N.L., died June 24. He was awarded the medal in 1971 for saving an 18-year-old college student from England from drowning in the Atlantic Ocean off the rocky coast of Newfoundland two years earlier. The young man was fishing when a wave washed him from shore, breaking his leg, and carried him seaward. Pynn, then 39, who was the assistant light keeper at the St. Anthony Lighthouse, took a 16-foot boat through the waves to the student, who had been swept 1,200 feet out. Despite the boat's roll and pitch in turbulent water, Pynn drew the student aboard and returned him to safety.

Mr. Pynn

Michael S. Rucinski, 40, of Ocean Springs, Miss., died July 13. He was awarded the medal in 2006 for saving two boys, aged 10 and 12, from drowning in Bluff Lake at Brooksville, Miss., on March 13 of that year. After taking

the boys to the bank separately, Rucinski swam back out and rescued their mother, who had encountered difficulty while attempting to rescue the boys herself. The boys' grandmother later wrote, "We could have lost them all but for his actions. He is surely a hero in my book also. Thank you again, Mike. I will be forever grateful to you."

George L. Smith, 85, of Augusta, Maine, died July 22. He was awarded the medal in 1969 for his role in helping to save a 20-year-old man who had become stranded on Mount Washington, N.H., after being caught in an avalanche. He suffered frostbite on his face but recovered. Smith was also the recipient of the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for heroism during the Battle of the Bulge in Luxembourg in World War II.

MEETING HEROES

(continued from page 10)

warming at the same time, an experience that confirmed in my own mind the value of our own work at the Commission and provided me with a better understanding of the motivations of our benefactor, Andrew Carnegie.

It is a good thing that we do here and I am privileged to be a part of it. Thank you to our colleagues at the Carnegie Rescuers Foundation of Switzerland for this incredible experience. Keep up the good work.

Dr. Lambrou, a civilian flight surgeon, is president and founder of the Center for Aviation Medicine, Pittsburgh. He joined the Commission in 2009.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

A BOATMAN'S HEROISM



The Strathgartney as seen from its stern

A routine boat trip on the West River, near Charlottetown on the Canadian island province of Prince Edward Island, was an occasion of extraordinary heroism more than 90 years ago.

On the morning of Aug. 16, 1920, **William McRae**, 46, and his business partner began a new workweek by transporting a load of lumber in their 55-foot boat from Bonshaw,

another island town, to Charlottetown. The evening before, William M. McLeod, 25, of Boston, visiting an uncle who lived near McRae, volunteered to accompany the men, and McRae agreed.

Their boat, the *Strathgartney*, was powered by a 30-horsepower gasoline engine, and a cabin covered most of its deck. In addition to carrying freight, McRae and his partner used the boat to transport passengers to and from Charlottetown, and the business supplemented McRae's income as a farmer.

The West River was connected to Charlottetown Harbor, to the northeast, which opened onto the Northumberland Strait, itself a part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Except for its channel, which was about 40 feet deep, the river was shallow with a bed of thick mud and tall aquatic plants. Tides influenced the current and depth of the river, and McRae and his partner had to rely on a rising tide to return to Bonshaw, which meant leaving Charlottetown at about 8:30 p.m. that day. An hour later, already night as summer was drawing to a close, the men could see no farther than 15 feet into the darkness.

McRae, the captain of the boat, was at the wheel at the back, or stern, of the boat, while McLeod and McRae's partner stood atop the

cabin. Eager to be of assistance, McLeod used a 20-foot pole to sound the river to avoid those shallow areas where the boat risked running aground or having its propeller tangle in the plants.

When the boat was about eight miles from Bonshaw, McLeod lost his balance and fell into the river. McRae yelled to his partner: "Billy's overboard! Reverse the engine!" McRae threw a life ring into the river, but, by then, the boat, which had been traveling at about 20 m.p.h., was at least 100 feet past the point where McLeod had fallen.



McRae's grandson David MacFadyen, near the 90th anniversary of the heroic act, in a photo by Jim Day of the *The Guardian*. Photo provided as a courtesy.

Known to be an excellent swimmer, McRae jumped off the boat and swam away into the darkness. His partner heard him say twice to McLeod, "Keep your head up, Billy!" The partner called out to McRae but received no response.

Minutes later the partner heard a boat at a nearby dock and called out for help. That boat arrived at the *Strathgartney's* side and its occupants along with McRae's partner attempted in vain to find the two lost men. They returned to the bank, where the partner sought help in Bonshaw. Despite a diligent search, the bodies of the two men were not found until five days later.

McRae left a widow and nine children at home. A year later, the Hero Fund awarded the Carnegie Medal to him posthumously, giving it to his widow, Florence. A monthly grant to Mrs. McRae was also authorized, and it continued until her death in 1943. A similar grant was then made to one of their daughters, Inez, until her death in 1967.

Last year, one of McRae's grandsons, David MacFadyen, 61, of Cornwall, P.E.I., told a reporter from the *The Guardian*, Charlottetown's newspaper, that he felt a strong connection to McRae, even though he never met him. He said he was 7 or 8 when he learned about his grandfather's heroic act. "I heard the story so often and read about it. It was a very tragic and sad event," MacFadyen said. "We just have so much pride and love for that man." ❖ — Marlin Ross, *Case Investigator*

A Deplorable Double Drowning **Conflict**

Accident Last Night

On The West River

SEP 4 - 1920

Captain McRae, of the "Strathgartney" and William McLeod, of New Haven, Lose Their Lives Near Mc-

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

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

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

Address change? Please keep us posted!

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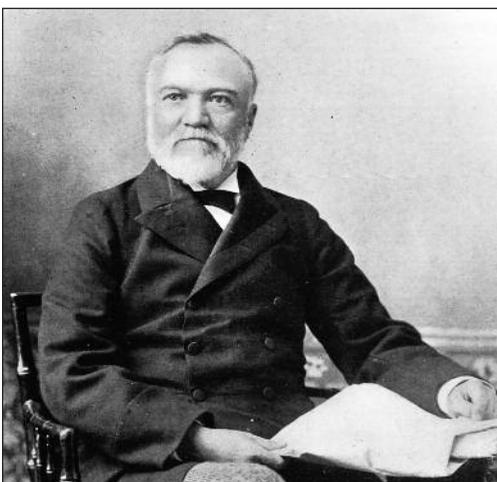
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No great institution and no great thing, nor any great man, is truly great without differing from others. There must be individualism.

From an address delivered at the University of Edinburgh, Oct. 16, 1906.

✧ CONTINUUM ✧

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

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

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

ANNUAL REPORTS Copies of the Hero Fund's most recent annual reports (2008-2009) are available, as are those of the centennial report of 2004, which lists the names of all awardees from 1904 through 2004. Contact Gloria Barber (gloria@carnegiehero.org).

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

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

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