

THE OHIOAN

The Official Newsletter of the Ohio Grand (Regional) Council

GRAND (REGIONAL) OFFICERS

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(Will be appointed at
Grand Session 2015)

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Message from the Ohio Grand Counselor (Regional President)

Al Lutz

Well the first half of my year has passed already, my how time flies. Donna and I hope that everybody had a wonderful Christmas and a joyous New Year, the weather was perfect for traveling. Now the second half of my year is starting. We have been working on the details of the Grand Convention that is coming up in June at the Holiday Inn in Boardman, Ohio.

We also have been working on a few people about joining UCT; hope everyone else is doing it too, because this is the year to help Supreme Counselor David out.

Well it looks like old man winter is acting up again. I hope he is done by the time March rolls around, so that the Grand Executive Board meeting and Alliance Ladies night will have a nice turnout. Hope that everyone is in good health. May God bless each and every one of you. See ya in March.

Yours Truly,

*Al and Donna Lutz,
Regional President*



Message from UCT Supreme Counselor/President

David Burt

I would like to quote Charles Short, Sect./Treas. Logansport Council # 354, "As we start off another year, we might look back at the last one with its highs and lows".

2015 is an opportunity. **It is a time** to reflect on U.C.T.'s journey and what each of us can do to make a difference going forward. **It is a time** to write new members. **It is a time** to bring people together for a cause or project in our respective communities.

It is an opportunity to let people know who and what U.C.T. is.

The ideas our founding fathers presented are still alive. Phyllis and I witnessed this during our travels. It made no difference the size of the local council, be it small or large.

The dedication of members to their projects and the pride of the members in their local communities stood out.

U.C.T. has spread through out the United States and Canada. We have made a positive presence to thousands of people working with school age children and adults with too numerous of events to list. I appreciate each and every event. I challenge each member to take a fresh look at your events or even try something different this year. This may result in greater participation and renewed interest. Reach out and help keep U.C.T. moving forward.

On behalf of Debbie and Jerry Thomas, U.C.T. Secretary Treasurer, Dayle and Richard Gruszecki, U.C.T. Chaplain, and Phyllis and I, U.C.T. International President, we hope everyone has a healthy, prosperous and Happy New Year.!

*David and Phyllis Burt
Supreme Counselor*



Message from GMD – Homer Huprich-PGC

Greetings!

The holidays are over. Gerrie and I hope you they were as great for you as they were for us. We certainly enjoyed our great grandchildren as they really make Christmas special as it was meant to be.

I had just finished my review of the membership year through January 8, 2015. We started the membership year on April 1, 2014 with 3,141 members.

Unfortunately, we are down to 3,002. Our lapses are slightly over a one to one ratio with new membership. New membership is 210 against lapses of 220. We incurred cancellations of 41 and sadly we had 88 brothers and sisters pass away.

With that being said I would like to turn to the positives. Ohio Grand members wrote 47 new members. Four councils wrote 68% of the 47 members and remaining councils wrote the other 13% or only 15 new members. I want to congratulate all members who have made a difference and wrote new members and especially those four councils who really put forth their efforts to make a gain in their council’s membership. (Cont.)

Next, I would like to say that the remaining new membership was primarily due to the efforts of our commission agents. That gain was 163. Efforts should be made by all councils to contact those members and welcome them into your council and invite them to your council’s monthly meetings. Tell them what we do for our communities. If they are made welcome they very well could become an asset to your council.

We have less than three months to the completion of this membership year. Remember the mottos of our Supreme Counselor – Brother David Burt and Grand Counselor – Brother Alvin Lutz. Brother David’s is **“The Journey Continues”** and Brother Al’s is **“United Coming Together”**. Let’s help them reach their goal and write at least one new member.

Fraternally,

Homer Huprich
Grand Membership Director

Lancaster #6 makes many donations this past Holiday season

Members of the council were busy gathering numbers of clients served, shopping for nonperishable, and delivering old fashioned community friendship. The council for over 55 years has been supporting agencies that provide care, education, and training for the intellectually challenged members of Lancaster and Fairfield County. This past season over \$650.00 dollars was donated to three agencies to help defray cost of Christmas parties, or purchase of supplies for the classrooms where no parties took place.

A check in the amount of \$200.00 and two grocery carts of nonperishable food was (Cont.)

delivered to the Fairfield County Food pantry by David and Phyllis Burt from the council in time for Thanksgiving. Other members from the local council also made donations to the pantry this past year. Director Kellie Ailes remarked that generous donations from the community and businesses would help them serve the community for the holiday season. A family may visit the pantry once a week after going through a thorough screening process. There are several pantries in the area, and they all work together to see that clients are being served according to their standards.

Again, we will sponsor a Youth Baseball team in Fairfield County. This sponsorship has been ongoing for over 60 years. Members have visited the baseball complex and there is much more work to be done, but with volunteers working together a lot has be accomplished.

Lancaster #6 is proud that we are able to show compassion to our local community as well as making donations throughout the year to other worthwhile causes.

Phyllis Burt- Secy. Council #6

Columbus #1

The Council has been very active since the last issue of the Ohioan in August. We are working to obtain the Gold Medal Honor award and are going the right direction if we show a membership gain in March, and we will.

This fall we held a Rummage Sale, a Join Hands Day event, volunteered at the annual Homeless Families Foundation to raise money, and donated \$565.00 to the area Food Bank. Also in December we had our annual youth Christmas Party with all the trimmings and Santa Claus (Jim Edwards). What a busy four months.

Alliance Council No. 261 announces the Annual Past Counselors' and Ladies Night Dinner.

Date: Saturday, 7 March 2015 **Cost:** \$15.00

Time: 6:30 p.m. **New Place:** First Christian Church

Menu: Chicken Marsala-baked, Rosemary Potatoes, **1141 W. Beech St**
Tossed salad, California Blend & Cheese Cake **Alliance, Ohio 44601**

Presentation: Past Counselors, 25 year members *** Handicap Assessable**

Dinner is open to all U.C.T. members and their guest. Please call **Sarah Akins** Sec/Treas at **330-614-2212** (between 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.), 6168 Arbor Rd. NE, Mechanicstown, Ohio 44651 or E-mail sakins6168@yahoo.com to place your reservation. Reservation deadline is **29 February 2015**. All reservations are firm, as we have to pay for the number we reserve. Those making a reservation and not attending will be billed.

Our Ohio Grand Counselor & First Lady, **Al & Donna Lutz from Salem Council # 590**, will be present for our party.

Recognition will be given to our immediate Past Counselor, as well as previous Past Counselors of Alliance #261. All Alliance #261 Past Counselors will be guests of Council. **In addition, we will be having a 50/50 drawing; and all who are in attendance at the conclusion of our party will be eligible for door prize drawings.**

Hope to see you there to share the U.C.T. family spirit and enthusiasm.

Comfort Inn

Cost...\$84.99 net plus tax

2500 West State Street
Alliance, OH 44601

Phone: 330-821-5555
Fax: 330-821-4919
Toll Free: 800-948-5555
E-mail Mgr. gm.oh082@choicehotels.com

Rooms blocked under "United Commercial Travelers", use this as a reference. There are: 15 – King Size, Non-smoking (**Fire safety laws**, maximum of 5 people staying in room.) Free-- Complimentary - Hot Breakfast

Reminder Please **register with hotel before 6 February, 2015** with credit card or deposit. Our room block **expires 6 February, 2015**



CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS to each and every one of you that participated in this years' Ohio Christmas Card. It was a lofty goal to raise \$2500.00 in one month for the purchase of a Kaye Trainer. But with the generosity of each of you and several local councils, we were able to raise \$1,730.00. We haven't quite attained our goal, but this goes a long way towards our project. We are going to hold on to the money until after our March Executive Committee Meeting just in case any of our councils or members has the desire to help boost our total to the \$2,500.00 mark.

Thank You for your efforts in helping the Ohio Region reach our goal through the Ohio Christmas Card.

Now that the New Year is upon us, it is a good time to take stock in our local councils. Have you been as active as you could be? Are there some community projects that your council may have not accomplished yet? Is your membership dropping as most of our councils are? It might be a good time to contact one of UCT's Community Outreach Managers. The Community Outreach Managers can help you plan a fund raising event, community project, special event dinner, golf outing and yes even give you ideas on how to attract new prospective members to your council. Just give us a call or email and we will see what we can do to help your council become and stay successful.

(Cont.)

Your Community Outreach Managers are:

Keith Ward- 502-758-4280

kward@uct.org

Jen Chillinsky- 614-487-9680

ext. 207 jchillinsky@uct.org

Give us a call and let us give you a hand.
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Thanks goes out to the Council's that participated in giving \$100.00 each to the Ohio Christmas Card this year. They were:

Columbus #1, Cincinnati #2, Gem City #3, Dayton Council #3 Ladies Club, Lancaster #6, Canton #41, M.J. Terapack #144, and Alliance #261.
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In Memory of:

Charlene Petry passed away Sept. 12, 2014. Charlene is survived by her loving husband of 53 years PGC Bruce Petry.

Richard Groves Sr. passed away Dec. 17, 2014. Richard was the Council Secretary for Bellefontaine # 508.
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Reminder to All:

PGC Harry Kearns on March 26, 2015 will be 100 years old. Harry has been a member of UCT for 67 years and a member of Zanesville Council #20. He also served the Ohio Grand as Treasure from 1974-1980.

Please send Happy Birthday cards to Harry at:

2906 Olde Falls Rd.
Zanesville, Oh. 43701

NEWS FLASH

The Supreme office is looking for ACTION photos of your local council community service activities for use in The Sample Case and newsletters - and on our website and Facebook page.

To give you incentive to send us your best dynamic ACTION photos, they are sponsoring a quarterly UCT Photo Contest that will pay \$500 to the winning council!

That's right, \$500!

So, get out your cameras and cell phones and start shooting photos now.

2015 contest quarters are:

January-March – Submission Deadline Jan. 31

April-June – Submission Deadline April 30

July-September – Submission Deadline July 31

October-December – Submission deadline Oct. 31
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Councils – continue to work on your Medal of Honor Program for a Gold, Silver or Bronze award or the Community Service award. You have until March 31st.

These awards if obtained benefit your Council financially.

Gold- \$750.00

Silver- \$400.00

Bronze- \$200.00

Community Service- \$100.00

UPCOMING *events – mark your calendars*

March 7, 2015- Ohio Grand Ex. Comm., meeting 2 pm Comfort Inn Alliance

March 7, 2015- Alliance #261 Annual PC's and Ladies Night Dinner 6:30 pm (see details up front)

June 10-13, 2015- Grand Convention Boardman Holiday Inn (details later)

June 28- July 1, 2015- Supreme Convention Wichita, Kansas Hyatt Regency

August 22, 2015- Bucyrus #334 annual Corn Roast (Details later)

Nov. 7, 2015- Salem #590 Swiss Steak Dinner 6:30 pm- (Details later)

OHIOAN- The next issue will be sent out approx. mid May. 2015. Please send all news articles to Tom Smith at tsmith3341@gmail.com by end of April 2015.

Please access the Ohio Grand website at www.uct.org/ohgrand for additional news, past newsletters and events.

TOM SMITH
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