

The SampleCase Magazine

UCT United Commercial Travelers

For Members of UCT

Autumn 2023



Two local organizations awarded Bridges of Friendship awards

UCT 2023 convention highlights

UCT going forward

Ann Marshall Scholarship Program awards scholarships

UCT Heaston Scholarship Program awards granted

Transitioning toward a bright future

A note from UCT CEO Lisa Flanary

I hope this message finds you well. In this edition of our membership magazine, I wanted to take a moment to address some important developments at UCT and provide you with insights into the path we are embarking upon.



promises during this transition. To that end, we are in active negotiations with reputable insurance companies to take on the financial obligations and commitments made to our insured members. I am optimistic that we will finalize agreements with these carriers by the close of this year.

serve. In light of these developments, we have taken proactive steps to establish a new organization that will continue the incredible work that UCT has championed for so long. In this issue, our Board chair, Dianna Wolfe, will outline the details of this new initiative, shedding light on the path ahead.

A legacy of fraternalism: UCT's community impact

Throughout our history, UCT has remained a beacon of hope and compassion within our communities. Our members have played an integral role in driving positive change, and you should be proud of your collective efforts to enhance the lives of those less fortunate. As a fraternal benefit society, we have a time-honored tradition of caring for the overlooked and underserved in our communities. This legacy is a testament to the values we hold dear.

A personal pledge: guiding UCT's future

For me, this journey is both an honor and a humbling experience. Our collective goal is to ensure an orderly transition for our insurance operations, and I take this role and responsibility to heart. Alongside your home office leadership team and our dedicated board of governors, I am steadfast in my dedication to seeing UCT embark on its next chapter as UCT North America.

Our current UCT Board of Governors shares a profound commitment to you, our members, and the communities we

Blessings to all –

Lisa Flanary
CEO, UCT

A shift in direction: navigating rehabilitation

As many of you are already aware, UCT is currently operating under an order of rehabilitation from the Ohio Department of Insurance. While this process is complex, I am pleased to report that we are making substantial strides forward.

The challenges we face today are met with unwavering determination and a commitment to ensuring the best possible outcomes for you, our valued members. Our primary focus lies in maintaining transparency and upholding our



Note from UCT President Kenneth Milliser

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You are going to be provided with a lot of information in this issue of *The Sample Case* about UCT, the community service organization, as well as what has happened to the insurance side. Not only that but you will hear about the recognition given to our members for good works performed.



As a community service organization, we recognize our honored members with our Volunteer of the Year awards, this year for a Canadian and a U.S. member. The Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed upon a member, or members, based on their lifetime service through UCT.

The UCT Safety Poster Contest winners and the Bridges of Friendship awardees, again one deserving organization in Canada and one in the U.S., are also included.

You have also been introduced to the insurance side of the UCT ledger, and unfortunately the existence of UCT the insurance company is coming to an end after 136 years. However, there is a way forward.

We have presented a way for UCT, the community service, people helping people, organization to move forward. There is no overnight solution. It will need to be well thought out, planned, taken in steps, and will require the involvement of every member to succeed.

To that end, it is also important to us that we keep all members apprised of the progress. We are planning to continue our town hall sessions and are interested in your input into what subject(s) we present.

Periodically we anticipate using these town halls for updates on our new community service organization, UCT North America. Stay tuned. With your help, we plan on being around for a while and there is definitely more to come.

On the cover: For the second year, two community organizations, one in the U.S. and the other in Canada, were each granted \$5,000 for their programs from UCT Charities through the Bridges of Friendship Award. This year's U.S. recipient was the Family Mentor Foundation in Columbus, Ohio. Through its Buddy Box program, the foundation strives to send kids home on Friday with a healthy snack that they can easily prepare and eat on weekends and over holidays. M.J. Terapak Council 144 in Columbus nominated the foundation for the Bridges of Friendship Award. Here, Council 144 members team with employees of Emerson Reid LLC to assemble nearly 540 Buddy Boxes for the foundation. See [Page 12](#) for more details.

A message from the fraternal team

This is our final issue of *The Sample Case*, a publication that has existed since 1891. Working on this issue has been bittersweet for us in so many ways. We can only tell you that it has been wonderful to bring you the news about everything UCT over the years – indeed, over the decades – and to be a part of UCT history. We wouldn't have missed it for anything.

We feel privileged to have had the chance to work with and know so many caring and inspiring individuals, co-workers and members alike, and we're confident this fine organization's next chapter literally will be one for the books. We wish the best to all of you and continued success to those of you who carry on your community service efforts through UCT North America or on your own. We know you will continue to be what you have always been: People Helping People.

Fraternally,
Linda Fisher, David Knapp, Anita Neal

The Order of United Commercial Travelers of America - Instituted Jan. 16, 1888, Columbus, Ohio
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Board of Governors 2021-2022

Ken Milliser | UCT President | Pickerington, OH
Stanna Funk | UCT Vice President | Gering, NE
Dianna Wolfe | UCT Chairman of the Board | Racine, WI
Richard Redman | UCT Secretary-Treasurer | Baton Rouge, LA
David Van Order | UCT Director | Columbus, OH
Bernie Regenbogen | UCT Director | Saint John, NB
Scott Newcombe | UCT Director | Fitchburg, MA
Thomas "Butch" Liebaert | UCT Board of Governors | Superior, WI
Doug Honeyford | UCT Board of Governors | Sudbury, ON
John Thompson | UCT Chaplain | Pataskala, OH

Home Office Management Team

Lisa Flanary | CEO
Sonja Miller | Controllor
Kevin Roberts | Vice President, Insurance Operations & Agent Services
Dennis Lee | Director, Claims
Linda Fisher | Editor
David Knapp | Art Director



Fraternal Membership Gains for Local Councils

Despite challenges, several local councils worked extra hard to bring new members into UCT and experienced fraternal membership gains as a result. As a reminder, the fraternal membership gains include deaths, lapses, cancellations, reinstatements, and new members. Here is a breakdown of the local councils with gains in each division:

DIVISION I (200 members or more)

No Gains

DIVISION II (100 to 199 members)

Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266 **Gain of 48**
 Cape Girardeau, Missouri Council 534 **Gain of 3**

DIVISION III (99 members or fewer)

Narragansett Council 699, Cranston, Rhode Island **Gain of 7**
 Medicine Hat, Alberta Council 1020 **Gain of 3**
 Cincinnati, Ohio Council 2 **Gain of 2**
 Grande Prairie, Alberta Council 1018 **Gain of 2**
 Lafayette, Indiana Council 341 **Gain of 2**
 Kelowna West Council 1003, Kelowna, British Columbia **Gain of 1**
 Sherwood Park, Alberta Council 1022 **Gain of 1**
 Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926 **Gain of 1**
 Edmonton South Council 1017, Edmonton, Alberta **Gain of 1**

There was one regional council with a fraternal membership gain this year: **Manitoba-Saskatchewan** with a gain of 22.

Anniversary awards

Member recognition is an essential part of UCT's success. This year we awarded 406 pins and certificates to our 25-year members, 351 awards to our 50-year members, 123 awards to our 60-year members, and one award to a 75-year member. Thank you. Your longtime membership means a great deal.

Nearly 100 UCT members enjoyed the safety and comfort of their homes while taking part in the 2023 UCT virtual convention held via Zoom and conference call on June 24. The following are some highlights that came out of the convention.

Outgoing officers receive honors

UCT Chairman of the Board **Dianna Wolfe** received her past international president honors during the convention, as did UCT President **Ken Milliser**. Both were recognized for their dedication and service to UCT. UCT Chaplain **John Thompson** was named a Past UCT Chaplain and the entire Board of Governors were declared past international presidents for their service during difficult times.



Top Writer / Drummers

This year we had one member who attained the level of President's Council for writing over 50 members. **Kathy Chisolm** from Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266 wrote 61 new fraternal members and is the top writer this year. There were 26 Pacesetters who sponsored 3 or more new members and 121 One Award winners who sponsored 1-2 new members. Also, this year we had five Drummers who wrote 10 or more members into UCT.



DRUMMERS

Council	Name	Total Written
266	Kathleen Chisholm	61
534	Jonathan D. Bremer	13
699	Cheryl A. Accinno	10
2000	Austin P. Slattery	10
266	George O. Thomas	10



Medal of Honor Program Recipients

Many local councils made a difference in their communities during the past year through community service and earned Medals of Honor for their efforts. Congratulations and great job to the 18 councils receiving awards:

PLATINUM LEVEL

- Kelowna West Council 1003, Kelowna, British Columbia
- Sherwood Park, Alberta Council 1022
- Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051
- Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266
- Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926

SILVER LEVEL

- Columbus, Ohio Council 1
- Gem City Council 3, Dayton, Ohio
- Lincoln, Nebraska Council 104
- M.J. Terapak Council 144, Columbus, Ohio
- Alliance, Ohio Council 261
- Logansport, Indiana Council 354
- Fraternal Council 380, Jackson, Ohio
- James B. Crisp Council 448, Brandon, Manitoba
- Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
- Pictonian Council 879, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia
- Neepawa, Manitoba Council 924
- Glenboro, Manitoba Council 943
- Buckeye Council 2000, Columbus, Ohio

BRONZE LEVEL

- Boissevain, Manitoba Council 940

Regional and Local Council Newsletter Contest Winners

When applicable, first, second and third place is awarded at both the regional and local council levels. The local council newsletters are judged in two divisions: 199 members or fewer and 200 members or more. Winning councils receive a cash prize.

199 MEMBERS OR FEWER

- First Place – Kelowna West Council 1003, Kelowna, British Columbia
- Second Place – Red Deer, Alberta Council 1021
- Third Place – Fraternal Council 380, Jackson, Ohio

200 MEMBERS OR MORE

- First Place – Lincoln, Nebraska Council 104
- Second Place – Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335

There was no third-place winner in this division this year.



Join Hands Day 2022-2023

This year, several determined councils teamed up with youth in their communities to coordinate projects. Kudos to the councils that reported Join Hands Day events in 2022-2023:

- Alliance, Ohio Council 261
- Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266
- Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
- Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926
- Glenboro, Manitoba Council 943



Members of Jack Kidd Council 755 in Saint John, New Brunswick, spent a day working with local youth to perfect their sewing skills in order to create a mascot costume that the girls designed for The ONE Change, Inc. The project was the council's Join Hands Day event. ONE Change is a grassroots organization and service provider that addresses issues such as crime, poverty, unemployment, poor health and lack of education.



Alliance, Ohio Council 261 members teamed up with students from Minerva Elementary School to raise \$2,880.27 for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital radio-thon through various fundraising events as part of their Join Hands Day event. Students raised \$1,880.27 and Council 261 matched that up to \$1,000. The radio-thon brought in thousands of dollars to help St. Jude's treat the toughest childhood cancers and pediatric diseases.

Mary Nutt and Rick Warner named UCT Volunteers of the Year

You heard right, that's Volunteers of the Year. This year the UCT convention committee made the decision to present two awards to two deserving members, one in the U.S. and one in Canada.

Our U.S. Volunteer of the Year was **Mary Nutt**, a member of Fraternal Council 380 in Jackson, Ohio. Mary is a 17-year member who has served as council 380's local president from 2008-2010 and then again from 2016-to present.



She is an avid supporter of such council and community projects as the growing oaks elementary school food program, operation Christmas child, the community care closet, Matthew 25: Ministries, and many others.

A retired teacher, she tutors students at Northview Elementary School in reading and supports Jackson middle and high school students through various programs. She is an elder at First Presbyterian Church and serves on its mission outreach board.

Our Canadian Volunteer of the Year was **Rick Warner** of Kelowna West Council 1003 in Kelowna, British Columbia.

Rick is a longtime member who serves as both president and treasurer of council 1003. According to his fellow members, he's the glue that keeps the council together. He is the chairperson of the council's charities program, which distributes tens of thousands of dollars to community causes and charities each year.



He is also responsible for securing funds each year through the gaming grant program each year, which helps support the council's community outreach. This year he was able to secure \$22,000. Rick and his wife, Susan, regularly support The Salvation Army and the Kelowna food bank. They are also very involved in their own gated community.

Congratulations to Mary and Rick for their well-earned honors and for their dedication to UCT. We are lucky to have them as members.



Leon and Jerlene Boyte honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

The 2023 UCT Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to two members who have made outstanding contributions over the course of nearly 50 years to their local and regional councils, their communities, and to UCT: **Arthur and Edna Boyte** – affectionately known to all of us as Leon and Jerlene – from Natchez, Mississippi Council 175.

Both Leon and Jerlene have served through the lines of UCT offices at both the local and regional levels, earning their past president and past regional president honors. They have also served on almost every local and regional committee over the years and have served as well on the international level.

Leon and Jerlene have been instrumental in helping to retain local council members and in welcoming new and transferred members on board over the years. They have been a vital part of their local council's community activities and have participated in just about every UCT program there is. They are big proponents of UCT Charities and the programs it supports and the people it helps. In fact, they are such big supporters that they once made a surprise road trip from Mississippi to Columbus, Ohio, to personally present an extremely generous check to the fund.

Leon and Jerlene, words simply can't express how much we love and appreciate you for all that you have done and continue to do for UCT. Thank you and congratulations on this much-deserved award.

According to UCT Chairman of the Board Dianna Wolfe, members like Leon and Jerlene are what UCT is all about. "Leon and Jerlene have made outstanding contributions to UCT locally, regionally, and internationally, and we appreciate it more than they can know. We thank them both from the bottoms of our hearts for all they have done for our organization." Congratulations on a much-deserved honor, Leon and Jerlene.

Check out UCT's safety poster contest winners!

Once again, student artists from across North America were announced as winners of the annual UCT International Safety Poster Contest during the convention. Posters submitted this year focused on such standards as home and fire safety as well as texting and driving and internet safety. Here are this year's winners:

Public, Private & Parochial School Division

UPPER LEVEL

- First Place – K.C. Rose, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335
- Second Place – Ciara Taborn, Capitol Council 95, Springfield, Illinois
- Second Place – Silas Stahl, Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926

MIDDLE LEVEL

- First Place – Dechen Guenther, Boissevain, Manitoba Council 940
- Second Place – Joyce Balfour, Hastings, Nebraska Council 109
- Second Place – Li-Anna Schofield, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335
- Third Place – Connor Ralston, Capitol Council 95, Springfield, Illinois
- Third Place – Grayson Galye, Calgary North Council 1014, Calgary, Alberta

LOWER LEVEL

- First Place – Emily Tetvauld-Taggart, Boissevain, Manitoba Council 940
- Second Place – Laila Vick, Russellville, Arkansas Council 665
- Third Place – Cole Mlady, Hastings, Nebraska Council 109
- Third Place – Eastyn Short, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335
- Third Place – Colin Frazee, Yankton, South Dakota Council 384
- Third Place – Parsyn Neighbors, Capitol Council 95, Springfield, Illinois

Intellectual Disabilities Division

UPPER LEVEL

- First Place – Madeline Franks, Ardmore, Oklahoma Council 151
- Second Place – Jerzie Butcher, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan Council 1027
- Second Place – Michael Duncan, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba Council 923
- Third Place – Dallas Smith, Alliance, Ohio Council 261

MIDDLE LEVEL

- First Place – Sadie Whited, Ardmore, Oklahoma Council 151
- Second Place – Elijah Carlin, Alliance, Ohio Council 261

LOWER LEVEL

- First Place – Joseph Hammon, Alliance, Ohio Council 261
- Second Place – Tayla Thigpen, Ardmore, Oklahoma Council 151



Dechen Guenther



K.C. Rose



Emily Tetvauld-Taggart



Madeline Franks

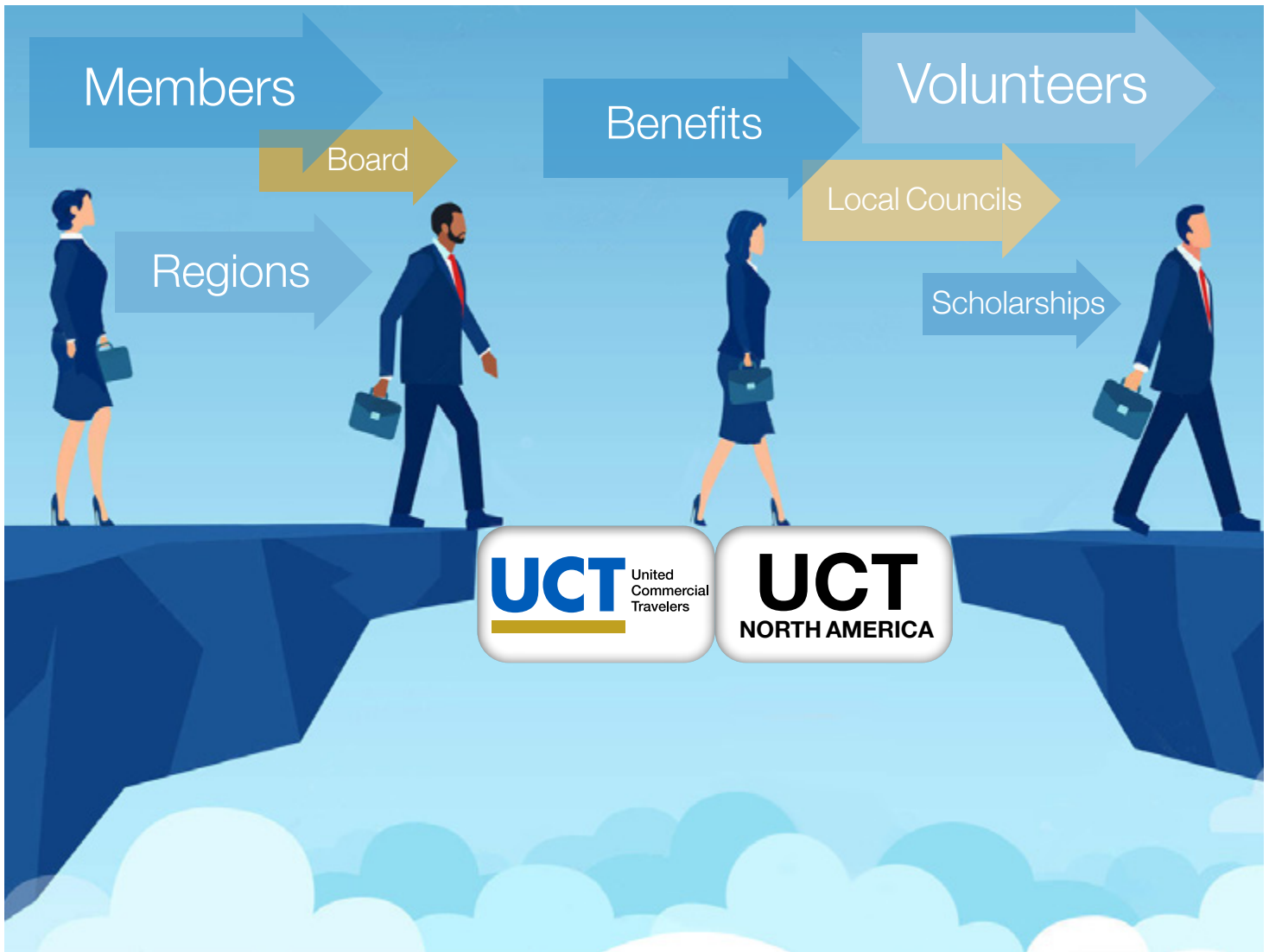


Sadie Whited



Joseph Hammon

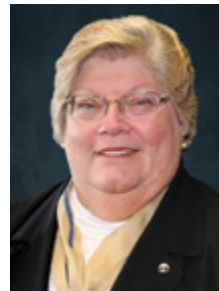




UCT Going Forward

A Q&A with UCT Chairman of the Board Dianna Wolfe

As you have likely read earlier in this publication, United Commercial Travelers, UCT as we know it, is being dissolved and our members transitioned to a new non-profit organization, UCT North America. This is for fraternal/community service purposes only as this new organization will not issue insurance, and therefore will not be regulated by state insurance departments.



We figured folks who are interested in staying involved on a fraternal basis might have some questions about how the new organization will work, so we sat down with Past International President and UCT Chairman of the Board Dianna Wolfe to share what we thought some of those questions might be. Here's what she had to say.

Q Dianna, we've been told that in order to move UCT forward and remain a non-profit organization, the Board of Governors has been working to establish a new non-profit community service organization called UCT North America. This new organization will not issue insurance and so will not be regulated by state insurance departments. Can you provide a little more insight into the

new organization and how it will be structured?

A UCT North America will be based on the “lodge” system, similar to our current parent organization United Commercial Travelers. UCT North America will be the new parent organization over the existing local and regional councils. There will be no changes to the local and regional councils and how they function.

Q Can you tell us a little about how members will be transitioned into the new organization and what they need to do to ensure that happens?

A There will be a transfer of members from UCT into the new UCT North America. Membership information will automatically be transferred into the UCT North America database once it is established. Secretaries and members won't need to do anything.

Q What about new members brought into UCT during the transition period? How will that be handled?

A Until UCT North America is completely up and running, applications and fees should be sent to the UCT North America Secretary Dianna Wolfe for processing.

The start-up team is in the process of setting up a new computer system. There will be different levels of access for officers and secretaries, and they will be able to run reports, update member information, update the member list for their councils, distribute dues notices, send email notifications, etc.

Local council secretaries with a computer will be given instructions for using the new system. The system will save time and postage for our local secretaries. Secretaries without computer access will continue to send their applications to the new UCT North America Secretary for processing.

Q Do you know yet what annual dues will be for members of UCT North America and how they will be collected?

A We anticipate no change to the current \$36 annual dues. (How will dues be collected?)

Q Currently, UCT provides programs and benefits for members: scholarship programs, member benefits & discounts, the Medal of Honor Program, the safety poster contest, the Fraternal Benevolent Fund, the Bridges of Friendship Award, etc. How many of these programs and benefits do you think UCT North America be able to continue to provide?

A Support for these programs must come from dues and other fundraising efforts. We are starting with zero funds, so we are dependent on dues. We hope to slowly re-launch member benefits and programs as our funds increase.

Q How will this transition to UCT North America affect UCT Charities?

A UCT Charities was set up as a separate legal entity, completely independent from United Commercial Travelers and will not be affected by this transition. Similar to our old constitution and bylaws, the new UCT North America Bylaws includes a section that instructs its Board of Directors to appoint members to serve as trustees on the Charities Board. Donations to UCT Charities can be made as usual.

Q Obviously you're going to need some dedicated volunteers to help make this happen. Where is the greatest need and how do members who want to get involved get started?

A Yes! We welcome volunteers. We have several committees and

we're looking to build UCT North America into a modern organization and design it to fit the lifestyle of young and old alike. To volunteer, contact UCT Vice President Stanna Funk. You can also watch for updates on www.uctnorthamerica.org.

Q Is there anything else you want members to know in closing?

A The UCT Board of Governors has worked hard to create the new UCT North America. We're committed to moving this organization in its new form into the future for the benefit of future generations. We encourage all our members to remain open to change and to please stay strong in your support of UCT going forward. We hope to make this organization one that we can be proud of and one that will benefit our families and communities for years to come. We are UCT strong!



Questions:

**Contact UCT North America Secretary
Dianna Wolfe
1009 Westlawn Ave
Racine, WI 53405
Email: dwolfe55@twc.com
Cell: 262.417.5342**

To Volunteer:

**Contact UCT North America President
Stanna Funk
1045 13th St.
Gering, NE 69341
Email: stannaf@hotmail.com
Cell: 307.640.1226**

Visit www.uctnorthamerica.org

Members in Action

Impacting Our Communities

Nothing can stop UCT local councils from doing what they do best – making a difference in their communities. Here's to the councils that have stepped up and stepped out to support local causes and charities.



Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick | Members join with representatives from The ONE Change, Inc., to conduct community clean-up efforts in Saint John's Old North End. The community cleanup was held from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. followed by a barbecue just down the street at the RiverCross Church.



Alliance, Ohio Council 261 | Council 261 is getting set to once again partner with youth from the ROC of Salem to volunteer for the Soap Box Derby taking place late summer. The group will help participants in and out of racers, transport racers from storage to starting points and back, and assist with general activities. Nice planning, Council 261!



Red Deer, Alberta Council 1021 | Kudos to Council 1021 for raising nearly \$1,455 to support community programs for individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities through its two-day garage sale. The council also donated \$1,000 to Action Group Red Deer, \$1,000 to Special Olympics, and \$1,000 to The Lending Cupboard.



Moncton, New Brunswick Council 758 | Friends and volunteers turn out for Council 758's Glen Agnew/UCT Special Olympics Bowling event, an annual project that the council has supported for many years.



Calgary, Alberta Council 1014 | Members Bud Gallo, left, and Linda Barnes, right, of Calgary, Alberta Council 1014 present a \$2,000 check to Madi Carter from Inn from the Cold emergency shelter, a longtime project for the council.



Cranbrook, British Columbia Council 1023 | Kudos to Council 1023 for donating \$450 to Community Action Plan for Children (CAPC), which provides families with preschoolers a place to meet, talk, and play. Pictured is member Elly Opdenkelder, right, presenting the check to CAPAC coordinator Niki Sinhart.



ACT-UCT Dominion Region | Kudos to the members attending the ACT-UCT Dominion Regional Council convention held in Red Deer, Alberta, who took some time to visit the Red Deer Food Bank and drop off a \$1,000 donation. Nice job!



Cape Breton Council 883, Sydney, Nova Scotia | Kudos to Council 883 for awarding \$500 scholarships to five local students. Pictured, left, are member Russell Huntington, member Sam Adams, students Ella Huntington, Hillary Huntington, and Samantha Canova, and member Allan Bragg.



Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051 | Members get set to participate in the Lupus Walk, raising \$500 to donate to the cause.



James B. Chrisp Council 448, Brandon, Manitoba | Members of the Brandon Heat U13 AA softball team turn out to help members of Council 448 in Brandon clean up debris from the ditches along Highway 1. The crew collected over 15 bags of litter.



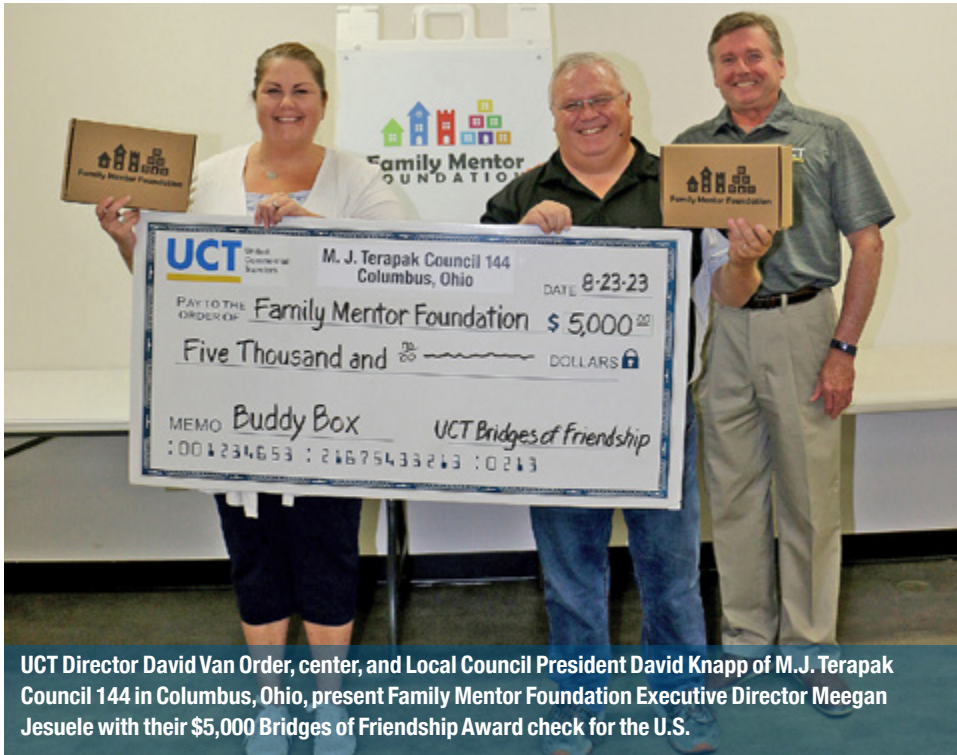
Kelowna West Council 1003, Kelowna, British Columbia | Members Sheila Falk, second from left, and John Grant, right, present a \$1,000 donation to Emily Ball and Bettina Muller to benefit The Kelowna General Hospital Foundation.



Buckeye Council 2000, Columbus, Ohio and UCT Home Office | Kudos to UCT's General Store, operated by the home office's claims department to raise funds for local charities, for donating \$200 to Buckeye Council 2000's Pack the Bag project to collect school supplies for Livingston Elementary School in Livingston, Ohio. Pictured, left, are home office employees Joelle Roegner, Council 2000 president, Carolyn Ellis, Dennis Lee, and Alice Bishop.



Buckeye Council 2000, Columbus, Ohio and UCT Home Office | Thanks to a \$300 donation from Council 2000 and a \$207 donation from the home office's UCT General Store, students at East Livingston Elementary will have the school supplies they need when they return to school at the end of August. Good job to Council 2000 members and UCT employees Joelle Regner and Anita Neal (pictured here) for doing the shopping!



UCT Director David Van Order, center, and Local Council President David Knapp of M.J. Terapak Council 144 in Columbus, Ohio, present Family Mentor Foundation Executive Director Meegan Jesuele with their \$5,000 Bridges of Friendship Award check for the U.S.

Two local organizations awarded Bridges of Friendship awards

For the second year, two community organizations, one in the U.S. and the other in Canada, were each granted \$5,000 for their programs from UCT Charities through the Bridges of Friendship Award. The award is based in UCT's grassroots, the local council, to reward non-profit organizations in local communities that members support through volunteering and donations.

This year's recipients were the Family Mentor Foundation in Columbus, Ohio, and Crescent Valley Resource Centre Inc. in Saint John, New Brunswick. Nominated by M.J. Terapak Council 144, the Family Mentor Foundation, through its Buddy Box program, strives to send kids home on Friday with a healthy snack that they can easily prepare and eat on weekends and over holidays. The program serves

34 schools, assisting over 1,600 children each week and providing over 61,000 Buddy Boxes to hungry students.

Crescent Valley Resource Centre was nominated by its community partner, Jack Kidd Council 755. The CVRC supports families and individuals who are facing challenging life situations, especially low incomes and social isolation. They are committed to providing programs and services that are

“After our first volunteer activity we knew this was a project our council could support, and we believed we could make a substantial difference in the lives of these students.”

– Past International President and UCT Director David Van Order

accessible and inclusive for all and to providing the tools, resources, and necessary support to foster self-sufficiency within the community.

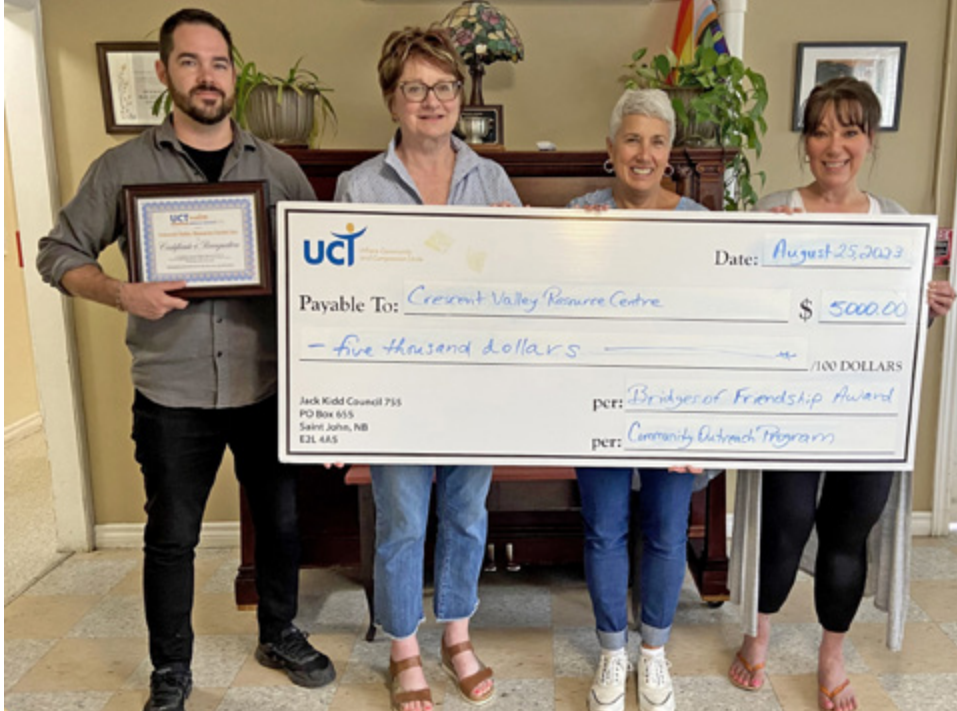
Partners for improvement

The Family Mentor Foundation began in 2013 with a mission to create services and partnerships that help fill in the areas lacking in a child's life. One of the earliest visions of this was to provide food to children who normally qualify for free, or reduced fee, school lunches through a program known as Buddy Bags.

A Buddy Bag was a returnable backpack filled with child-friendly, nutritious food. Buddy Bags were given to kids in need during holiday breaks from school. The program was eventually expanded to also provide nutritious meals each Friday to at-risk children, helping it to evolve into the Buddy Box program of today.

Members of M.J. Terapak Council 144 have been turning out to fill Buddy Boxes with nutritious food since 2019 – and it is one of their favorite projects. Past International President and UCT Director Dave Van Order, a member of Council 144, explains the council's involvement.

“The Buddy Box program was discovered by one of our council members in 2019. After our first volunteer activity we knew this was a project our



Crescent Valley Resource Centre staff members are thrilled to receive their \$5,000 Bridges of Friendship Award certificate and check for Canada from Olivia Donovan. Pictured, left, are Justin Shepard, Anne Driscoll, Olivia Donovan, and Char Levesque.

council could support, and we believed we could make a substantial difference in the lives of these students.

This might seem like a cliché, but an investment in our children is an investment in our community's future. Who could be more deserving than children and their families that don't have the means to provide food away from school? The cost of Buddy Boxes for one student for the year is around \$150. According to the Family Mentor Foundation there are currently 2,000 children waiting to be part of the program. They need our help to conquer childhood hunger in our community. The \$5,000 award will certainly go a long way to provide those meals."

Community and council revitalization

In the same spirit of community partnership, the members of Jack Kidd Council 755 are excited that Crescent Valley Resource Centre Inc. (CVRC) will receive the \$5,000 award for Canada. Last year, the council's other community partner, The ONE Change Inc., was

awarded the inaugural \$5,000 donation in Canada.

CVRC is a neighborhood-based facility serving the residents of a 400-family area since 2008. The centre offers free programming and services aimed at building leadership and resiliency in individuals and families and promoting healthy and active lifestyles.

The programs and services CVRC offers are varied, free, and give the centre the opportunity to work with children and youth, adults and seniors, and newcomers to address issues prevalent in low income neighborhoods, which include literacy initiatives, summer camps, health and wellness services, and food security programs.

According to Community Outreach Program Coordinator Olivia Donovan, Council 755 started supporting CVRC in 2022 when she and fellow member David Hartley Brown, a retired Saint John Police Officer who worked closely with the centre as part of his community policing responsibilities, met with CVRC Executive Director Anne Driscoll and several staff members to look at how the council could support them on a monthly basis. They

"The CVRC staff work very hard and come up with many engaging activities for their clients, and these foster pride in the community and give hope and dignity to the residents."

– Community Outreach Program Coordinator Olivia Donovan

came up with a list of items that would assist with providing funding and purchasing items to assist them. This includes donations, holiday drives, and lunches and snacks for various activities.

"Our community partnership has reinvigorated our members, and they are very proud of the work we are doing in the North End with CVRC," Olivia explained. "There are approximately ten members who regularly assist with shopping and the delivery of items to CVRC; however, our entire council is involved with donations to their cause."

She added that the staff of the Crescent Valley Resource Centre face many challenges in providing a multitude of services to the residents in Crescent Valley, but also in the wider North End of Saint John, which has a low median income.

"The CVRC staff work very hard and come up with many engaging activities for their clients, and these foster pride in the community and give hope and dignity to the residents. Everyone is fighting a battle these days, and to be able to give CVRC a hand up means so much, and it helps all our council members sleep better at night knowing that the children and adults in CVRC might have had a better day because we provided them with something that they needed."

Congratulations to both of these fantastic organizations for the good they do for their communities and their residents – and nice job to the local councils that work with them!

Ann Marshall Scholarship Program awards scholarships

Created to fill the void left by the suspension of the May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund by awarding scholarships to members and the children and grandchildren of members, the Ann Marshall Scholarship Program is now celebrating its third year. The program was named after Fraternal and Scholarship Coordinator Ann Marshall because she helped to administer UCT's scholarship programs for many years and was dedicated to doing so.

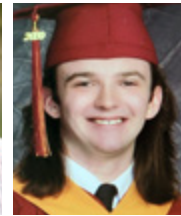
The scholarship is open to students for four years of college undergraduate studies, or two years of a two-year program. Scholarship amounts awarded each year are the same for each student receiving assistance. Applications are reviewed, recipients selected, and funds disbursed by a home office committee with UCT Board of Governors oversight.

This year, scholarships of \$700 each were awarded to 33 students from the United States and Canada for a total of \$23,100. Generous donations totaling \$10,250 were received this year from regional councils, local councils, and individuals.

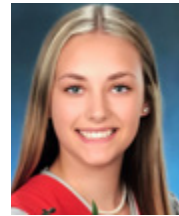
Congratulations to this year's scholarship winners:



Johnathan Austin Buchanan, Virginian



Cole Blight, Winnipeg, Manitoba



Abby Enman, Saint John, New Brunswick



Chloe Freund, Fishers, Indiana



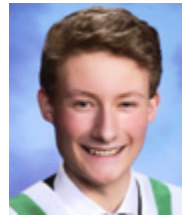
Grace Freund, Fishers, Indiana



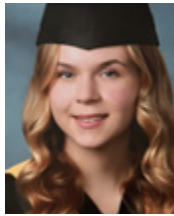
Allyson Guden, Marshfield, Wisconsin



Sabrina Heckens, Papillion, Nebraska



Graeme Baker-Henderson, Edmonton, Alberta



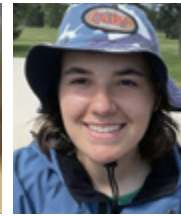
Ella Huntington, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia



Dawson Jeffers, Rolla, Missouri



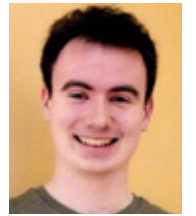
Levi Jeffers, Moscow Mills, Missouri



Fia Johnston, Edmonton, Alberta



Marissa Johnston, Ames, Iowa



Mason Johnston, Pella, Iowa



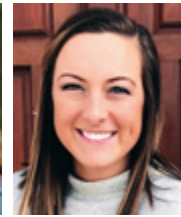
Kacie Keefe, Rawlings, Virginia



Esther Koth, Brooklyn, New York



Sarah Lodge, Granville, Ohio



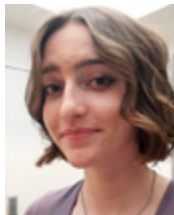
Liesl Miller, Lakewood, Colorado



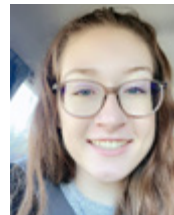
Hunter Mogen, Omaha, Nebraska



Kamryn Moorehead, Virden, Manitoba



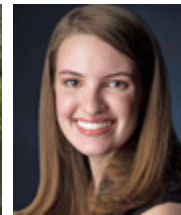
Jenna Murray, Orange, California



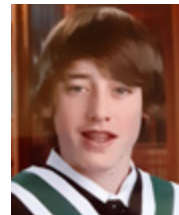
Mackenzie Nelson, Kamloops, British Columbia



Jonathan O'Neil, Pewee Valley, Kentucky



Annelisa Prince, San Bernardino, California



Nathaniel Staggs, Sudbury, Ontario



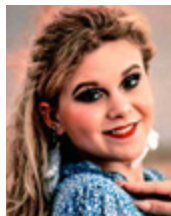
Dan Stewart, Stellarton, Nova Scotia



Ethan Schuld, Ripon, Wisconsin



Beatrice Tabak, Minnedosa, Manitoba



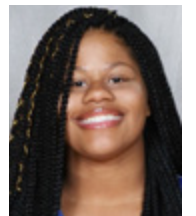
Ciara Taborn, Auburn, Illinois



Ryan Van Order, Orient, Ohio



Alyssa Walker, Sydney, Nova Scotia



Aliana Washington, Akron, Ohio

Not pictured: Justin Prince, San Bernardino, California



UCT Heaston Scholarship Program awards granted

In 2014, a generous \$1.7 million bequest from the estate and trust of deceased member Betty Y. Heaston, allowed UCT to establish the UCT Heaston Scholarship Program, which has funded three scholarships for four years each (a total of \$48,000) in the Heaston name every year since.

To qualify for the scholarships, applicants must show evidence of hard work and overcoming obstacles to achieve their goals. They need to discuss their academic careers and extracurricular activities, and provide examples of hard work, challenges they have had to face, and persistence in the face of adversity. Examples of commitment to community service are also required.

Applications are reviewed each year by the UCT Heaston Scholarship Program committee. Committee members have found the strength and determination of these students inspiring and heartbreaking at the same time. Choosing just three individuals to receive scholarships each year is never easy, but the committee manages to do it. Congratulations to this year's award recipients:

The deadline for scholarship applications each year is March 15. Scholarships are awarded to students with the equivalent of high school senior status. Students must be enrolled and entering a college program in the coming academic year. All funds disbursed are to be used for school-related expenses. All funds disbursed are to be used for school-related expenses and are sent directly to the college/university.



Aubrie Connelly

Merrimack, New Hampshire

The Jack & Betty Heaston Memorial Scholarship - \$6,000 each year for four years

Attending Gordon College, Wenham, Massachusetts



Katrina Nejeley

Nampa, Idaho

The Betty Y. Heaston Memorial Scholarship - \$3,000 each year for four years

Attending the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho



Victoria Mills

Gastonia, North Carolina

The Jack Heaston Memorial Scholarship - \$3,000 each year for four years

Attending Lenoir-Rhyne University, Hickory, North Carolina

In Memoriam

Past International President Kenneth E. Brown

Past International President Kenneth E. Brown of Abbotsford, British Columbia passed away July 12, 2023, at the age of 90. He was honored as a Past International President in 2004 after serving six years on the UCT Board of Governors.



Ken had been a member of Vancouver, British Columbia Council 284 since 1959 and was active at the local, regional, and international levels. He served numerous times as local president of Council 284 and served several terms as local chaplain, earning his honors for both. He also functioned as chairman of virtually every local committee.

He was president of the Oregon-Washington-British Columbia Region in 1988-89, and he also served as regional chaplain and regional parliamentarian as well as chairperson of various committees. He was president of the Grand Counselors' Association for Oregon-Washington-British Columbia and was an area service representative for British Columbia. On the international level, Ken served on several committees and was president of the Grand Counselors' Association for 2000-2001. He was also past imperial ruler of the Imperial Guild, A.M.O.B, and was past ruler of the Shalome Guild.

Ken had decades of experience in the building and construction industry and extensive experience in sales, project coordination, and management. He provided representation to school boards, government agencies and architects in his various capacities. He served for two years on the national board of directors for Construction Specifications Canada and served seven years on the public relations committee for the Amalgamated Construction Association. He retired from his position as Western Canada Sales Manager for Deckster Specialties, Inc. in 1999.

In addition to his involvement with UCT, Ken was active in his community.

He was past president of the West Vancouver Lions Club and was a chairperson of the British Columbia area board of directors of the Northwest Commercial Travelers Association and a vice president of the National Executives of that organization for two years. He also served as vice president of Kidfinders (K.F.I.D.). He served over 11 years in the Royal Canadian Artillery Reserve and as secretary/treasurer for the Artillery Sergeants' Association.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Adeline, and is survived by his two children.

Membership Awards

Our congratulations to the following members for achieving 75, 60 and 50 years of UCT membership. This list reflects membership awards for May 2023 through August 2023.

Please note that only those members receiving their awards during these months are included in this list.

75 YEARS

452 Harry J. Binder

60 YEARS

3 Wayne L. Bankson
4 Harold H. Baumer
14 Gary E. Becker
14 James P. O'Grady
15 Denis P. McCarthy
81 David R. Budge
86 George B. Jones
86 August M. Khilling
86 Charles E. Wimberly
95 Donald F. Bailey
95 Floyd M. Crocker, Jr.
95 Michael Marshall
95 Richard Overocker
95 Delbert L. Robertson
95 Lauren E. Weishaupt
104 James Beason
106 William T. Opie
130 Jack W. Hamm
134 Lloyd L. Larson
160 Thomas G. Hart
174 Harold O. Nofsinger
174 Arlie D. Thompson
203 Samuel F. Falzone
209 Bobby L. Comer
217 Philip J. Kilinski, Jr.
261 Robert L. Brahler
306 Samuel J. Dolan
335 Donald A. Derusha
335 Lawrence H. Nicolai
354 David J. Crockett
354 Richard P. Zink
380 Carl E. Maerker
412 Dean Nourie
414 Donald J. De Luca
452 Roy W. Albers
452 Conrad Anderson
452 John R. Cole
452 Kent W. Miller
452 Richard R. Roberts
452 Ronald D. Utica
452 James K. Wood
532 Dennis C. Perrotti
534 Jerry E. Heberer
623 Albert W. Ward
694 Kenneth E. Abel
699 Stephen F. Chmura

720 Paul J. Elkins

758 Paul P. Thibodeau
762 William F. Murphy, III
788 Robert E. Dixon
790 William F. Tesh
887 Harold Eldred
934 Charles R. Evans
1014 Lyle W. Scobie

50 YEARS

1 Donald E. Russell
3 Steve D. Worley
6 James T. Harmon
6 Richard J. Hartung
6 John C. McLaughlin, Jr.
14 Donald R. Dewig
14 Harold A. Griese
64 Robin L. Archibald
64 David J. Mattson
64 John J. Tibor
67 Albert J. G. Cerbo
81 Bradley S. Bunker
81 Jan G. Bunker
81 Randy B. Johns
86 Mark T. Martin
86 Jesse D. McLaurin
90 A. Ronald Holley
95 Charles M. Best
95 Daniel J. Masley
104 Robert D. Barton
104 Robert K. Barton
104 Charles L. Craig
104 David L. Donovan
104 Randy L. Hickey
104 Douglas B. Morris
106 Richard G. Bugni
106 Stanley L. Martin
106 Richard H. Shockley
106 Gary A. Taylor
109 Robert E. Hobbs
109 Ervin H. Lenser, Jr.
134 Dale F. Beckman
144 Terry L. Goss
144 Albert P. Taylor
203 Robert M. Fredrick
203 Donald L. Gill
203 John H. Heil
203 Jefferson F. Huff
203 David V. Moretti
203 Gerald S. Snyder

217 Charles W. De Voe
249 Carroll L. Twedt
261 Robert J. Gruszeczi
261 Timothy D. Harbert
261 Robert C. Menegay
284 R. Keith Bell
323 John B. White, Jr.
334 Terry L. Clegg
334 Larry E. Morton
334 Ronald W. Stroh
335 Daniel I. Anderson
335 Don F. Hodorowski
335 Wayne A. Nehring
335 Richard J. Vizer
337 Steve J. Dieringer
337 Raymond M. Mallek
337 Kenneth E. Zittleman
354 Richard L. Beeler
354 Steven M. Butler, Sr.
357 Larry G. Hinners
357 Gary E. Nelson
380 Edmond E. Allbright
380 Richard L. Dickerson
380 R. Michael Osborne
380 Edward Sturgill
412 Lawrence P. Allen
412 Paul D. Holden
414 John V. Cestaro
414 John S. Gushue
452 Ed J. Bloom
452 Charles W. Boshier
452 Levi S. Fenner
452 James D. Herman
452 Charles E. Hilton
452 Harold J. McDowell, Jr.
452 Robert J. Parolini

452 John M. Parshall
452 Thomas R. Rose
452 David L. Smith
452 Frederick W. Spanton
452 Albert J. St. Peter
452 Ronald V. White
499 Stephen R. Desselles
534 Terry G. Libbert
598 Richard McDonough, Jr.
623 Richard E. Somdahl
665 David H. McCormick
665 Mac Vineyard
681 Steven J. Auferoth
686 Allan I. Alpert
694 David A. Young
699 Frederick W. Dapp
788 Raymond L. Brown
788 Oscar W. Pittman
788 Buddy E. Street
790 David D. Berdine
790 John T. Berdine
790 Richard E. Freeburg, II
790 Bernard J. Fronczek
790 Edward S. Gobrecht
790 Scott A. Mead
823 Richard A. Flodman
853 Clyde L. Blackwell
887 Durwood R. Carter
934 Leslie E. Fithen
1003 Alan Clark
1016 Victor Kurjata
1016 David Patee
1016 Paul L. Taverner
1028 Lorne W. Kuchelyma
1051 Leopold Rioux

In Recognition

We appreciate the following members who have sponsored one or more new or reinstated fraternal members. Numbers reflect applications approved by the home office from April 1, 2023, through August 30, 2023.

A.C.T. - UCT DOMINION

1020 Felice Beyak.....2
1015 Wendy E. Sulzle.....2
1022 Graham Smith.....1

ARKANSAS-OKLAHOMA- MISSOURI

534 Ronnie G. Cunningham.1
665 Sherry E. Polsgrove.....1
665 John E. Sechrest1

ATLANTIC

781 Line Caron.....7
755 Barbara F. Finley.....4
755 Ann M. Burns3
755 Tom Davidson.....2
755 David G. O'toole.....2
755 Wilhelmina Joyce Pugh.2
755 Patricia M. Beshara1
755 Tony S. Cosman.....1
755 Jimmy R. Doucet.....1
781 Raymond G. Englehart..1
755 Alice I. McCarville.....1
755 Jeanne Smith1
755 Shirley Stein1

MANITOBA-SASKATCHEWAN

266 Kathleen Chisholm30
266 George O. Thomas10
448 Marilyn J. Forsyth.....3
448 Dave L. Poets1
448 Sheila M. Runions1

MISSISSIPPI-LOUISIANA

576 Yvonne K. Davis1

NEBRASKA-KANSAS

152 Chad D. Spink.....1

OHIO-PENNSYLVANIA

1 Charlene E. Geer1
2000 Austin P. Slattery.....1

OREGON-WASHINGTON-B.C.

887 Rene J. Baumgartner1

SOUTH DAKOTA

249 Brian W. Spire1

UPPER MIDWEST REGION

335 Suzanne M. Riedel.....1
335 Henry J. Schneider.....1

Past Regional President Deaths

This list reflects reported Past Regional President deaths from May 2023 through August 2023.

James R. Coy Alliance, Ohio Council 261
Louis Y. DaigleBaton Rouge, Louisiana Council 499
M.E. DaumeGape Girardeau, Missouri Council 534
Verneal J. DodgeBeatrice, Nebraska Council 79
Jane L. Olson ..Andrew Jackson Council 226, Jackson, Mississippi
Serena C. MosenRed Deer, Alberta Council 1021
Al Shears ..George E. Miller Sr. Council 695, West Palm Beach, Florida