Congrats to the 2016 UCT Heaston Scholarship winners!

Join Hands Day 2016 - impacting communities across North America

2016 UCT annual convention – check out the highlights!

UCT.org
Autumn 2016
Meet Bob Miller, UCT’s new director of sales

Bob Miller is UCT’s new director of sales. He is responsible for working with existing agents, recruiting new agents and developing new sales distributions for UCT’s product line.

Bob brings more than 15 years of insurance related experience to UCT. His most recent position was as sales & relationship consultant for Nationwide Innovative Solutions. Before that he was the East Region Territory Sales Manager at Kemper Specialty Insurance in Dallas, Texas. He has a business administration degree from Columbus State Community College and is a licensed agent for life, health, and variable annuities in Ohio and 14 other states.

Welcome, Bob! We look forward to working with you.

A note from Joe Hoffman

I was recently approached by a local firm to join them as a managing partner. It is a company that is doing very interesting things globally, and it was an opportunity that was very intriguing. It was a difficult decision, but after more than seven years as CEO at UCT, I have decided to leave to pursue this new venture. I have mixed feelings about it. I am excited about the new company, but I am sad to leave UCT, a truly great organization.

After struggling financially in the late 90s and early 2000s, UCT is now in very good financial shape. We are one of the best capitalized companies in the fraternal system and in the life and health industry, and while the health industry lost money in 2014 and 2015, UCT made money.

I know the senior management team will continue to do a great job, and the home office staff will continue to do the outstanding work they always do. My successor will inherit a company that is poised for sustainable growth and profitability, so I am comfortable leaving for something new. I know UCT will not just survive, but will thrive in the years to come.

It has been a pleasure and I wish everyone at UCT all the best.

Comments from UCT Chairman of the Board Tom Hoffman

On behalf of the UCT Board of Governors, I want to thank Joe Hoffman for his service and leadership as UCT’s CEO over the past seven years. Best wishes to Joe and his wife, Loretta, as they pursue this next opportunity.

Be assured the Board will work to ensure continued leadership and will keep the membership informed as we move forward.

Thank you for your understanding as we transition to new leadership.
Note from UCT President Gorden Woodworth

I want to start off by saying what an honor and privilege it has been to given the opportunity to serve as your UCT president for the ensuing year. Judy and I look forward to meeting many great UCT members as we travel throughout North America and witness first hand all the good deeds that you do within your local and regional councils.

Now that the UCT convention is over, it is time to start working on increasing our member to member sponsorship and signing new members. This year we have an international membership committee, and I look forward to all local and regional councils working on this fundamental part of our organization – membership.

In this issue of The Sample Case you will find highlights of the 129th UCT Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. You will note a few changes that took place during this year’s convention: keynote speaker Phil Gwoke, a casual banquet, numerous workshops, and a delegate and guest survey. We also managed to get a lot of important business completed. One main item was the adoption of an amendment allowing 16 year olds to become fraternal members.

I would like to welcome new officers UCT Director Dianna Wolfe from the Wisconsin Region and UCT Board of Governors Member Dave Syrota from the ACT-UCT Dominion Region. Welcome also to UCT Chaplain John Lind from the Atlantic Region. Congratulations to all, and I look forward to working with you during this year.

The sixth annual convention community service project, Kosair Kids® Book Blast, was a huge success, and a big thank you goes out to all of you. You can get all the details on Page 6.

As you now know, Joe Hoffman has left his position as UCT’s CEO to pursue another opportunity. I wish him the best in his new venture and thank him for the support he gave me during my time on the UCT Board.

The theme for this year’s membership year is “Lighting Our Future.” Tom Hoffman built the future, now it’s time to light our way. We need to grow our membership. To steal a phrase, “If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go with others.” Well, we want to go far, and we need new members to do this. Let’s all make the effort to at least try and replace ourselves. All successful companies and organizations have a succession plan, and we are no different. Let our succession plan be to replace ourselves by writing at least one new member.

Let’s all look forward and light our future, with an overall membership growth for 2016-2017.

On the cover: Children and grandchildren of UCT’s home office employees participate in UCT’s bring your child to work day event to benefit the Mid-Ohio Foodbank’s Operation Feed campaign. The young volunteers spent the day assembling food kits for hungry local families.

On the cover: The Order of United Commercial Travelers of America
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Canadian Office: 403.277.0745 Toll-free: 800.267.2371

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Board of Governors 2016-2017
President: Gorden Woodworth, Dartmouth, NS
Vice President: Human Loehman, Aledo, TX
Chairman of the Board: Thomas Hoffman, Pasadena, TX
Secretary-Treasurer: Stephen Desjardins, Baton Rouge, LA
Director: Chris Linfield, Calgary, AB
Director: Mary Applegate, Caledon, ON
Director: Dianna Wolfe, Racine, WI
Board Member: Glenn Steurer, Quincy, MI
Board Member: Dave Syrota, Medicine Hat, AB
Chaplain: John Lind, Coldbrook, NS
Senior Vice President and CFO: Kevin Hecker
Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer: Ronald Hes
Vice President, Fraternal: Sandy Sheler
Director, Sales: Bob Miller
Director, Insurance Operations: Joe Hys-O’Dunne
Director, Claims: Barry Spencer
Chief Agent for Canada: Linda Fisher
Editor: David Knapp
Art Director: David Knapp

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www.uct.org | THE SAMPLE CASE
Nearly 300 UCT members, delegates and guests traveled to Louisville, Kentucky, July 3-6, for our annual convention. As always, great times were had, valuable information was shared, individual and council successes were recognized, and the 2016-2017 UCT Board of Governors was elected.

This year’s convention featured some positive informative and educational additions that we hope to continue in the future. Motivational speaker Phil Gwoke jumpstarted the convention’s opening night with an energized presentation about reaching multiple generations with the UCT message while a member to member panel discussion on the second day of business meetings provided members with important information about revitalizing local councils. In addition, several workshops focusing on the value of UCT insurance and the personal benefits of volunteering were held.

Take a look at the convention highlights on the next few pages and think about joining us for our 2017 convention, which will be held July 3-6 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, South Carolina. In fact, for those deciding Greenville is the place to be next summer, you can make reservations NOW at https://resweb.passkey.com/go/UnitedCommercialTravelers617. We hope to see you there!

Keynote speaker Phil Gwoke kicks off the convention’s opening night by inspiring members with his intergenerational message! Phil is a generational expert with a firm belief that the right motivation, training and support can make it easy for every generation to work together to achieve remarkable results. His advice and ideas apply directly to the challenges UCT faces, and members walked away from his presentation excited by what he had to share.

The second day of business meetings start off with an informative member to member panel discussion presented by, left, members Dianna Wolfe of Racine, Wisconsin Council 337; Jessica Spring of Buckeye 2000 Council in Columbus, Ohio; and Sam Adams of Cape Breton Council 883 in Sydney, Nova Scotia. Topics included the benefits of using social media and traditional media to promote local councils, making big impacts through small volunteer projects, and creating and coordinating signature events in local communities.

Councils with membership gains recognized

For the first time in a long time, UCT experienced a membership year with regional and local council gains! Regional councils that showed the largest membership gains this year included:

Division I (1,000 members or more)
Ky.-Va.-W.Va.-Md.-D.C.
Nebraska-Kansas Regional Council
Wisconsin Regional Council

Division II (500-999 members)
Minnesota-North Dakota Regional Council
Oregon-Washington-British Columbia Regional Council
Southeastern Regional Council

Division III (499 members or less)
Mississippi-Louisiana Regional Council
Montana-Utah-Idaho Regional Council
Texas Regional Council

Nine local councils also had membership gains during the year:

Division I (200 members or more)
Hastings, Nebraska Council 109
Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335
T. Glenn Joyce Council 548, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Division II (100-199 members)
Hill City Council 130, Lynchburg, Virginia
Hot Springs, Arkansas Council 136
Tyler, Texas Council 306

Division III (99 members or less)
Grand Forks, North Dakota Council 64
Boise, Idaho Council 313
McComb, Mississippi Council 576

In addition, Kathy Chisholm of Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266 was this year’s champion writer. Congratulations, Kathy!
COUNCILS TAKE HOME MEDALS OF HONOR

UCT’s Medal of Honor Program is an incentive initiative for increasing local council activity. Kudos to the councils taking home Medal of Honor awards for 2015-2016:

Gold Medal Award
Kelowna West Council 1003, Kelowna, British Columbia
Sherwood Park, Alberta Council 1022
Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051
Columbus, Ohio Council 1
M.J. Terapak Council 144, Columbus, Ohio
Logansport, Indiana Council 354
Coldwater, Michigan Council 452
Neepawa, Manitoba Council 924
Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926
Boissevain, Manitoba Council 940
Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
Cape Breton Council 883, Sydney, Nova Scotia

Community Service Award
Cincinnati, Ohio Council 2
Gem City Council 3, Dayton, Ohio
Providence, Rhode Island Council 67
Alliance, Ohio Council 261
James B. Chrisp Council 448, Brandon, Manitoba
Salem, Ohio Council 590
Pictouion Council 879, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia
Glenboro, Manitoba Council 943

AMENDMENT LOWERING THE AGE REQUIREMENT FOR FRATERNAL MEMBERSHIP PASSES

A proposed amendment to UCT’s constitution lowering the required age for fraternal membership to individuals 16 years of age and older passed unanimously at the convention. UCT is exploring options to increase interest, grow membership, and attract young people, and it is believed that getting members involved at the high school level will help with these efforts.

COUNCILS WIN BIG IN NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE CONTEST AWARDS

Regional and local councils that publish newsletters for members throughout the year received newsletter contest awards at the convention. This year’s extra for their efforts – cash prizes! Winners were:

Regional Council Newsletter Contest Winners
1st Place ($100) – Manitoba-Saskatchewan Regional Council
2nd Place ($75) – Ohio Regional Council
3rd Place ($50) – ACT-UCT Dominion Regional Council

Local Council Newsletter Contest Winners
199 Members or less
1st Place ($100) – Cape Breton Council 883, Sydney, Nova Scotia
2nd Place ($75) – Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051
3rd Place ($50) – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Council 1031

200 Members or more
1st Place ($100) – Racine, Wisconsin Council 337
2nd Place ($75) – Providence, Rhode Island Council 67
3rd Place ($50) – Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335

Regional Council Website Contest Winners
This year’s new regional council website contest saw two councils recognized for their outstanding UCT websites! Congrats to:
1st Place – New England Regional Council
2nd Place – Ohio Regional Council

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2016-2017 UCT Standing Committees

State of the Order Committee
Tom Heaton, Ky.-Va.-W.Va.-Md.-D.C., Chairperson
Linda Boudreau, Atlantic
Sid Toleno, Oregon-Washington-British Columbia
Ken Milliser, Ohio

Jurisprudence Committee
Tom Rice, Iowa, Chairperson
Stanna Funk, Colorado-Wyoming
Jean Thomas, Manitoba-Saskatchewan
Luis Serna, Southeastern

Examining Finance Committee
Kevin McCarville, Atlantic, Chairperson
Rick Redman, Mississippi-Louisiana
Mark McMurtrey, Arkansas-Oklahoma-Missouri

Memorial Committee
JoAnn Quinn, New England, Chairperson
Linda Poplewski, Michigan
Susan Vogel, Texas
Ron Shively, Ohio
John Lind, Atlantic

Delegates-At-Large
Ron Swenson, ACT-UCT Dominion
John Prouty, Minnesota-North Dakota
Travis Holcomb, Indiana
Dennis Baxter, California-Nevada-Arizona
Priscilla Turner, Pennsylvania
Richard Grambsch, Wisconsin
Dana Wright, Ky.-Va.-W.Va.-Md.-D.C.
Marcia Hoos, Illinois
Larry McLeod, Atlantic
Bernie Regenbogen, Atlantic
James Smith, California-Nevada-Arizona
Doug Honeyford, ACT-UCT Dominion
Neil Cameron, Manitoba-Saskatchewan

CONGRATS TO OUR PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Outgoing UCT Chairman of the Board David Burt and outgoing Board Member Jerry Giff received their Past International President honors in Louisville and were recognized for their dedication and service to UCT. Thomas (Butch) Liebaert was also honored as a Past UCT Chaplain.
Myrtle Hudson receives UCT’s Lifetime Achievement Award

Myrtle Hudson of James B. Chrisp Council 448 in Brandon, Manitoba, was honored with the UCT Lifetime Achievement Award during the convention.

Myrtle has dedicated a big part of her life to UCT for more than 30 years. During that time she has given 100 percent to our organization on a local, regional and international level. Whether it’s coordinating UCT safety poster contests, locally and regionally, or volunteering for or heading up community service projects, she has been actively making a difference where she lives for decades.

Myrtle has served through the lines of offices at both the local and regional levels, earning her past president and past regional president honors. She has served as local secretary and has served on or chaired many local committees. She was also regional secretary for 29 years and has worked on numerous regional committees. At the international level, she was honored as the 2002 Fraternalist of the Year and has been on a number of committees.

Thank you, Myrtle!

Manitoba’s Neil Cameron is 2016 Volunteer of the Year

Neil Cameron of Minnedosa, Manitoba, was named the 2016 Volunteer of the Year at our convention.

“I’m very humbled and honored to receive this award,” Cameron said after being named this year’s award recipient. “It’s certainly not something I ever expected. The Minnedosa community has been so supportive of me and my family during good times and bad, and I’m just glad to be able to give back in some way; to make a difference.”

Neil has been a member of UCT’s Minnedosa Council 926 for 15 years. According to his fellow members, he is an energetic UCT advocate whose volunteer contributions within the community are not marked by one large project, but by many small, varied, everyday thoughtful acts.

Some of these “small” everyday acts include working with the local Rotary Club to raise funds to send local youth to other countries as a part of student exchanges, raising funds for the Canada Food Bank, serving as Mr. Fix-it at the 50 Plus Senior Centre, and spending countless hours providing transportation for seniors, individuals with handicaps, and cancer patients.

Some of his other contributions include working with the United Church’s men’s group to raise money for youth projects, spending numerous hours each week visiting hospital patients and care home residents, helping out with the Spring Town Cleanup, and volunteering once a week at a local elementary school.

Congratulations, Neil!

UCT members help Kosair Kids® Book Blast!

UCT is committed to serving communities in the spirit of compassion - and we make sure good causes in and around our convention host cities know that every July. This year the focus was on Louisville’s Kosair Kids® Book Blast for kids up to age 12. The book blast is a program of Kosair Charities, which works to protect the health and well-being of children in Kentucky and Southern Indiana by providing financial support for clinical services, research, pediatric healthcare education, and child advocacy.

UCT members were called upon to help support this worthy cause’s reading program by donating 1,500 NEW books to the blast – and to say that the goal was exceeded is an understatement! Members generously contributed over 2,000 books and more than $3,000 to support the program, proving once again that UCT is, indeed, where community and compassion unite. Thank you, UCT members!

Members of Sudbury, Ontario Council 1051 take a break while loading over 1,000 books that were collected and transported to the convention in Louisville. The books benefited our convention service project for the Kosair Kids® Book Blast, helping us exceed our 1,500 goal in a BIG way! Many thanks, Council 1051!!
Three members join the UCT Board of Governors

**UCT Director Dianna Wolfe**

A resident of Racine, Wisconsin, Dianna has been an active member of Racine Council 337 since 1982. She served as local secretary-treasurer, earning her past local officer honors, and currently functions as secretary-treasurer – and has done so for more than 20 years.

She has served through the Wisconsin Regional Council line of offices and earned her past regional president honors. She has been regional membership director and an auxiliary regional president and is, in fact, the first woman in Wisconsin to serve as both auxiliary regional president and regional president. She has also served on a number of committees on the international level and has been a Fraternalist in Action.

She is a former owner/operator of Packer Inn and has worked as a document control supervisor, a quality assurance manager, and a regulatory affairs specialist. She is currently a senior regulatory affairs specialist with Medline Industries, Inc.

Dianna is a longtime UCT volunteer who puts in countless hours each year giving back to her community through her council. She is a recipient of the Medline Torch Award and has been honored as QA Person of the Year. She is a charter member of VFW Auxiliary #8375.

She is the daughter of UCT Past International President Ed Stuebe and the late Addie Stuebe and has the distinction of being the first child of a past international president to be elected to the UCT line of international offices.

**UCT Chaplain John Lind**

A resident of Coldbrook, Nova Scotia, John joined Scotia Council 838 in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1983, becoming an active member and serving through the line of offices of the Atlantic Regional Council, earning his past regional president honors in 1990. He also served through the line of offices of the Atlantic Regional Council, earning his past regional president honors in 1996. He has served on several committees on the international level.

John is a graduate of Dartmouth High School, the Granton Institute of Technology, and the Naval Technical Apprentice Training School. He worked as a stationary engineer, machinist, welder, and diesel mechanic before being hired by the Department of Defense in 1969. There he was responsible for the operation and management of power and cooling plants, maintenance shops, managing electrical, water and fuel budgets, and supervising 175 personnel. He retired in 1996.

John was a 20 year fundraiser for Nova Scotia Drug Dependency Services and was chair and co-chair of the UNITED APPEAL campaign for Maritime Command. He has also volunteered for Citizens on Patrol and the Berwick Food Bank. He is a member of the Berwick United Church Committee of Stewards/Trustees.

**Board of Governors Member David (Dave) Syrota**

Dave lives in Medicine Hat, Alberta, and has been a member of Medicine Hat Council 1020 since 1996. He has earned his past local president honors, and he currently serves as the council’s secretary-treasurer, an office he has held since 1997.

He has also been active on the ACT-UCT Regional Council level, serving through the line of offices and earning his past regional president honors. In addition, he has served on several committees on the international level. He has been on the examining finance committee for five years and served as its chairperson for the past two years.

Dave was employed with the cooperative retail system for 35 years, extensively in the finance area, and held the positions of retail accountant, controller and regional finance controller for Federated Co-operatives Ltd. He presently operates his own bookkeeping and income tax preparation business.

His community service efforts are focused primarily on making a difference through his local UCT council. He has been involved with a number of fundraising events such as Bingo, Casino and helping with the Medicine Hat Exhibition & Stampede program’s advertising and sales.

The UCT Board of Governors for 2016-2017 was elected and installed during UCT’s recent annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Board members are:

- **UCT President** Gorden Woodworth, Atlantic
- **UCT Chairman of the Board** Tom Hoffman, Texas
- **UCT Vice President** Numan Loafman, Texas
- **UCT Secretary-Treasurer** Steve Desselles, Mississippi-Louisiana
- **UCT Director** Chris Phelan, ACT-UCT Dominion
- **UCT Director** Mary Applegate, Southeastern
- **UCT Director** Dianna Wolfe, Wisconsin
- **UCT Board of Governors** Glenn Suever, Michigan
- **UCT Board of Governors** David Syrota, ACT-UCT Dominion
- **UCT Chaplain** John Lind, Atlantic

www.uct.org | THE SAMPLE CASE
Young artists from across North America were announced as winners of our annual UCT International Safety Poster Contest during the convention. Posters submitted this year in the public, private and parochial school and intellectual disabilities divisions focused on issues as diverse as dealing with cyber bullying, avoiding the dangers of texting and driving, and keeping safe at the zoo. Great job, winners!

Public, Private & Parochial Division

Upper Level
1st Place – Maris Waldner, Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926
2nd Place – Celia Chu, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan Council 1027
2nd Place – Bret Wyatt, River City Council 11, Portsmouth, Ohio
3rd Place – Samantha Johnson, Fenimore Council 249, Mitchell, South Dakota
3rd Place – Faith Upright, Williamsport, Pennsylvania Council 350

Middle Level
1st Place – Renae Stahl, Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926
2nd Place – Kennedy Greenlaw, Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
2nd Place – Coty Taborn, Jacksonville, Illinois Council 182
3rd Place – Elana Palomaki, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin Council 335
3rd Place – Kira Johnson, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Council 1031
3rd Place – Faith Upright, Williamsport, Pennsylvania Council 350
3rd Place – Emilie Mika, Fenimore Council 249, Mitchell, South Dakota

Lower Level
1st Place – Micaela Hernandez, Logansport, Indiana Council 354
2nd Place – Olivia Hanhoff, Fenimore Council 249, Mitchell, South Dakota
2nd Place – Madison McDonald, Baissevain, Manitoba Council 940
3rd Place – Kara Thiessen, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Council 1031
3rd Place – Ciara Taborn, Jacksonville, Illinois Council 182
3rd Place – Nicole Koetter, Cincinnati, Ohio Council 2

Intellectual Disabilities Division

Upper Level
1st Place – Touba Jafary, Vancouver, British Columbia Council 284
2nd Place – Lindsay Robson, Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick
2nd Place – Bryan Barnett Jr., Flagship City Council 216, Erie, Pennsylvania
3rd Place – Breanna Bosley, Arthur E. Wagner Council 687, Kankakee, Illinois
3rd Place – Kurt Besaw, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba Council 923
3rd Place – Mathieu Cyr, Madawaska Council 830, Edmundston, New Brunswick

Middle Level
1st Place – Cora Fuchs, Jacksonville, Illinois Council 182
2nd Place – Paolo San Ramon, Vancouver, British Columbia Council 284
3rd Place – Joe Bussmas, Fenimore Council 249, Mitchell, South Dakota
3rd Place – Jonathan Derlin, Flagship City Council 216, Erie, Pennsylvania
3rd Place – Savannah Nottke, Cincinnati, Ohio Council 2

Lower Level
1st Place – Samuel Kingston, Salt Lake Council 81, Salt Lake City, Utah
2nd Place – Summer Stackhouse, Alliance, Ohio Council 261
2nd Place – Zachary Spinoff, Capitol Council 95, Springfield, Illinois
3rd Place – Monet Jackson, Saginaw, Michigan Council 43
3rd Place – Braeden Schell, Williamsport, Pennsylvania Council 350
3rd Place – Jean Pelletier, Madawaska Council 830, Edmundston, New Brunswick

Check out the Members’ Area of our website at www.uct.org to view this year’s winning posters or to download guidelines for the 2016-2017 contest.
The May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund has been awarding scholarships to the children and grandchildren of UCT members for 56 years. Each year the number of scholarships given varies according to contributions received. This year 35 scholarships of $500 each were awarded, thanks to the generosity of individuals and councils.

The May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund is designed to help students meet the financial challenges of higher education. The fund is supported solely through memorials, gifts and donations and is administered by Auxiliary Past International Presidents.

Congratulations to the 2016 May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund scholarship recipients!
Members in Action

Chautauqua, New York Council 202 | Members get ready to participate in the first annual Chautauqua Lake dragon boat race, which helped raise funds for the Chautauqua Lake Association. Council 202 helped sponsor the event—and earned a medal in the race! The team paddling sport of racing dragon boats has its roots in southern China and has become popular around the world. Congrats, Council 202!

Bathurst, New Brunswick Council 827 | When UCT gives back, we really give back! A great big WOW to Council 827 that, in sponsorship with Friends of Healthcare, donated $1 million to the Chaleur Regional Hospital Foundation Major Fundraising Campaign. Council president Rene Beaudet is also the chairperson of Friends of Healthcare. The money was raised through the council’s Bingo program, which over the years has allowed Council 827 to contribute more than $14,000,000 to various community causes and charities. Pictured, left, are council president Rene Beaudet, council member Wendy Aube, fundraising chairperson Rene Legacy, and past council president Emile Babineau.

Fraternal Council 380, Jackson, Ohio | Member Judy Hamilton packs up her car with food and toys to deliver to the Jackson County Dog Pound, one of the council’s ongoing projects. Council 380 had a busy summer helping others—forming personal care packages for the Jackson County Homelessness Committee, boxing up craft supplies for students at Child’s Garden Day Care, and collecting books for Kosair Charities. Keep up the good work!

Pictonian Council 879, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia | Kudos to Council 879 for supporting the United Way of Pictou County’s Bike for Kids program. The program provides bikes for underprivileged kids, and Council 879 has donated more than $8,000 to it to date. Pictured, left, are member Iva Fraser-Campbell, Bike for Kids Coordinator Delaney Collins, and member Henry Walsh.

Texoma Council 90, Denison, Texas | Members Lisa Mitchell, left, Susan Vogel, and Nancy VanKirk get ready to pack up the books Council 90 purchased for the Kosair Kids® Book Blast, UCT’s 2016 convention service project. Across North America, UCT councils came through—and drove long distances with cars full of books—to make the project a success!

Indiana, Pennsylvania Council 598 | Good job to Council 598 for purchasing and presenting gardening gloves and tools to the Indiana Community Gardens’ “Growing Green Thumbs” youth garden club! The community garden project is designed to develop an interest in gardening and growing food in kids grades K-6.
Congratulations to Council 746 member Paul Wentzell, right, for receiving the city of Fredericton's Unsung Hero Award. The award recognizes community volunteers who go out of their way to help promote the city through community events and good citizenship. For more than 25 years, through his council and on his own, Paul has been the driving force behind numerous fundraisers and volunteer projects benefiting Fredericton.

Congratulations to member Allan Bragg, center, left, for receiving the ATV/CTV Maritimer of the Week award for the week of June 20. The award is presented each Friday to a person nominated by a CTV News at 5 viewer for community service efforts or heroic deeds. Presenting the award to Allan is fellow member and then Atlantic Regional Council President Sam Adams.

Thanks to the cooperative efforts of two past international presidents and their regional councils, Fort McMurray, Alberta, wildfire recovery programs received a bit of a boost. Past International President Ron Hedglin challenged the Illinois Regional Council to donate $500 to the recovery, and he personally matched that amount. Hearing about the challenge, Past International President Ken Brown challenged the Oregon-Washington-British Columbia Regional Council to donate $500, and he matched that, bringing the combined grand total to $2,000. Great job, everyone!

Ashton Bacon, left, a 5th grade student at St. Patrick’s Catholic School, and his teacher Sara Monahan celebrate his safety poster contest wins. Ashton took first place at the local level in the contest sponsored by Council 95 and won second place at the Illinois Regional Council level.

Member Melorie Davies gets set to deliver some handmade care items to patients at the Irving Greenberg Family Cancer Centre. Since 2008 Melorie has logged 13,570 hours making slippers, hats, afghans, and other items for local cancer patients. What a heart you have, Melorie. Great job!

A shout out to Council 15 for teaming with the 11U baseball team to collect and deliver nearly 800 food items for Faith Lutheran Church! The two groups have been joining forces for several years to help hungry individuals in their community. Good job!

Member Allan Bragg, center, left, for receiving the ATV/CTV Maritimer of the Week award for the week of June 20. The award is presented each Friday to a person nominated by a CTV News at 5 viewer for community service efforts or heroic deeds. Presenting the award to Allan is fellow member and then Atlantic Regional Council President Sam Adams.
Each year, Join Hands Day brings together youth and adults to create and coordinate joint volunteer community service projects. UCT local councils across the U.S. and Canada have been making a difference in their communities by participating in this event for more than 15 years.

This year 13 local councils reported Join Hands Day projects. Kudos to the members and the youth they joined with to impact their communities by coordinating local festivals, cleaning and sprucing up local parks and highways, supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities, and brightening the lives of seniors.

Cranbrook, British Columbia Council 1023
Members joined with individuals from local youth groups to volunteer for the 31st Annual Children’s Festival! The group teamed up to help with many of the festival’s free activities including face painting, hair decorating, cookie making, stilts walking, magic tricks, juggling lessons and more.

Columbus, Ohio Council 1
Seven members and the first grade students from the New Livingston Avenue Elementary School in Columbus joined hands to build and plant a colorful flower bed for the school’s playground.

Mile High Council 15, Denver, Colorado
Council members partnered with bowlers and coaches from the Catdog Bowling Team to sponsor a bowling tournament for 17 Special Olympics athletes. Participants were awarded trophies, medals and certificates for their efforts.

Providence, Rhode Island Council 67
Members and local youth pitched in to spruce up Homestead Garden Park. The group’s activities included mowing grass and planting flowers.

Janesville, Wisconsin Council 108
Council members and Special Olympics athletes joined together to hold a Seeds of Hope campaign at a local venue, raising $700 for the Janesville Agency 7-02 Special Olympics of Wisconsin.

Roanoke, Virginia Council 174
Members teamed up with the 9th Street Church of the Brethren Youth Group to make “happy plants” for shut-in and elderly church members. The group painted clay pots, hot glued candy to wooden sticks to go into the pots, and cut and arranged artificial flowers to go in the pots once the candy was eaten.

Regina, Saskatchewan Council 266
Five members and nine UCT Junior Soccer players brightened the lives of residents of Regina Lutheran Home by creating and delivering small pots of spring flowers to senior citizens. Council 266 conducts events at Regina Lutheran Home several times a year, including Easter and Halloween.

Williamsport, Pennsylvania Council 350
Members joined with local youth to volunteer for the annual Williamsport Soap Box Derby. The group helped participants with their racers and other necessary activities throughout the day.
Logansport, Indiana Council 354

Four members and 15 members of Boy Scout Troop 202/227 got together to spend a day painting the landing and steps at the local Girl Scout Camp.

Salem, Ohio Council 590

Members partnered with youth from the ROC of Salem to volunteer for the Super Kids Soap Box Derby. The group helped participants in and out of racers, transported racers from storage to starting points and back, and assisted with general activities.

Jack Kidd Council 755, Saint John, New Brunswick

Members joined with students from Inglewood School to create greeting cards for residents of two local special care homes and an independent living community. The students used poems they had written as the content for the cards.

Neepawa, Manitoba Council 924

Three members teamed with 10 local Girl Guides and their two leaders to plant lily beds along Highway 16. Afterward the group enjoyed a lunch of hot dogs, watermelon, and ice cream bars.

Minnedosa, Manitoba Council 926

Members and local youth spent a day cleaning up a walking trail and dog park at Rivers Edge Park along the Saskatchewan River. A picnic of hot dogs, juice and cookies was shared after the event.

Members of Williamsport, Pennsylvania Council 350 turn out to help youth participating in their area’s Soap Box Derby.

Members of Neepawa, Manitoba Council 924 and the local Girl Guides spruce up Highway 16 by planting lily beds along the highway’s edge.

JOIN HANDS DAY 2017

One of UCT’s primary objectives is helping others through community service. Join Hands Day is a perfect way to get your council involved in volunteering - and to make younger individuals aware of who we are and what we do. If you’re looking for a great community service project, this might be it!

Though Join Hands Day traditionally takes place on the first Saturday in May, councils may conduct events any time during the year. For more details contact Ann Marshall at amarshall@uct.org or at 800.848.0123 x126, or Jessica Spring at jspring@uct.org. You can also find more information on the Members’ Area of our website.

Al Funk, right, of Janesville, Wisconsin Council 350 teams with a Special Olympics athlete to sell Seeds of Hope at a local venue. Members and athletes raised $700 for their local Special Olympics.
Past International President Robert K. Marshall


Bob joined Fredericton, New Brunswick Council 746 in 1965 where he served through the line of local offices and received his past local president honors. He moved to Scotia Council 838 in Dartmouth in 1981. He served extensively at the Atlantic regional level and received his past regional president honors in 1986. In addition to being on the UCT Board of Governors, he was active on a number of committees on the international level and was a member of the Grand Counselors’ Association.

Bob was a hardworking man who achieved great success. He announced for radio stations CHSJ and CFBC in Saint John, New Brunswick, as well as CFNB in Fredericton. He was sales manager at Atlantic Packaging Products Ltd., and he retired from there in 2003. He received his Advanced Toastmaster – Bronze in 2001 and earned his Competent Leader (CL) Award in 2005. He was an active and dedicated member of First Baptist Church.

Predeceased by his parents, Lewis Forbes and Aileen (Hilyer) Marshall, and an older brother at birth, Bob is survived by his wife of 53 years, Donna (Wilson); his sons, Stephen (Chantal) of Montreal, QUE, Robert (Carrie) of White Rock, B.C., and Peter (Cheryl) of Halifax; his grandchildren, Chris (Cassandra), Nick, Ally, Chase, Lexi, Jordan, Noah, and Elise; and a great-grandchild, Hudson.

Check out the other scholarships UCT offers!

May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund

This fund grants scholarships to the children and grandchildren of members. Children and grandchildren of members may apply for a scholarship from the May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund. Guidelines and application are available for download at www.uct.org/UCH in Action. Applications are due Nov. 15.

The UCT Heaston Scholarship Program Application & Guidelines are available for download at www.uct.org/UCT in Action. For more details contact Ann Marshall at amarshall@uct.org or at 800.848-0123 x126, or Jessica Spring at jspring@uct.org or at 800.848.0123 x100.

Congrats to the 2016 UCT Heaston Scholarship winners!

 BIG congratulations to the 2016 UCT Heaston Scholarship recipients, who will receive a total of $48,000!

Darrius McLean, Columbus, Ohio - $6,000 each year for four years, attending Saginaw Valley State University

Jameese Harris, Houston, Texas - $3,000 each year for four years, attending West Virginia University

Depika Tamang, Manchester, New Hampshire - $3,000 each year for four years, attending Rivier University

A major criterion for the UCT Heaston Scholarship Program is for applicants to show evidence of hard work and overcoming obstacles to achieve their goals. Applicants need to discuss their academic careers and extracurricular activities, and provide examples of hard work, challenges they have had to face, persistence in the face of adversity, and examples of commitment to community service.

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 and will be sent directly to the college/university.

Applications are due March 15 and scholarship awards are announced after April 1.

The UCT Heaston Scholarship Program Application & Guidelines are available for download at www.uct.org/UCT in Action. For more details contact Ann Marshall at amarshall@uct.org or at 800.848-0123 x126, or Jessica Spring at jspring@uct.org or at 800.848.0123 x100.
Jeannine joined the UCT Auxiliary in 1978 and was a member of Fayetteville Council 491 where she served through the line of local offices, earning her past president honors. She served through the line of offices of the Arkansas Regional Council and received her past president honors, and she was a past regional chaplain. On the international level, she served for many years on the May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund Committee.

Jeannine earned a bachelor’s degree’s major in education, and she was a member of Eastern Star, the Daughters of the Nile, the Social Club (OES), Olive Branch Shrine #3, Beta Sigma Phi, the Northwest Arkansas Symphony, and the Fayetteville Country Club Association. She was also involved with the American Association of University Women (AAUW), the Garden Club, the Metropolitan Club, and others.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husbands Dr. A. W. McMurtrey Jr., and George Presley; stepson Robert Presley; step-grandson Billy Hampshire; and step-granddaughter Natalie Elizabeth McNelly. She is survived by her sons, Winfield McMurtrey III (Cindy), Ward McMurtrey, M.Sc., and Mark McMurtrey (Jack); and her stepchildren, Janis, Don, Michael Ted (Tangi), and Steve Presley. She is also survived by four grandchildren and four step-grandchildren.
We all know that re-energizing our local councils is vital to UCT’s growth and success. For many councils re-energizing basically means starting over, and members are uncertain where to start. While this might seem like a daunting undertaking, it doesn’t have to be an unpleasant one. Many members find that making the effort to reenergize their council often reignites their energy as well! Here are six suggestions for getting started.

1. **Make your meetings what your members want**

   Everyone’s time is valuable and in short supply, so it’s important to make sure your council meetings are productive for everyone who attends. If attendance is dwindling, maybe it’s time to take a survey of your membership to see what kind of meeting appeals to the majority and adjust accordingly.

   For some councils socializing while discussing council business over lunch or dinner is how they choose to meet. Others want their meetings to be short, sweet and to the point. Still others like to conduct the bulk of business through emails and dispense with face-to-face meetings altogether. Some councils mix it up and conduct some form of all these throughout the year. The way you meet is really unimportant as long as the majority of members are happy with the way meetings are conducted – and they stay involved.

2. **Make new members feel valued**

   New members are essential to your local council. New members can increase capacity, bring new perspectives and ideas, and re-energize longtime members who might be feeling a bit burnt out. When you’re lucky enough to find these new members, it’s important from Day 1 to make them feel welcome, to allow them to share their ideas and opinions, and to work as a council to turn some of those ideas into action.

   When a new member comes on board, introduce yourself and get to know him or her. Offer a brief orientation about your council and UCT. Introduce them to other council members to help foster a sense of connection. Ask them to get involved in council projects. The sooner a new member gets involved, the more likely they are to stay involved. Most importantly, listen, listen, listen to their ideas and implement them! If you’re open to it, new members can add a charge of needed energy to your council and its involvement with your community.

3. **Start impacting your community**

   Get your council involved in local community service projects that interest your members or create your own projects for ultimate UCT awareness. If you’ve been out of action for a while, start volunteering for local causes and charities. Wear UCT apparel – it can interest others in finding out who you are and what UCT does. People want to be part of a group that’s doing good things in their local areas, so you might attract some new volunteers or even new members! If you’re feeling a little more creative, plan and coordinate your own projects for local causes for maximum impact and awareness.

   Having a hard time getting started? Contact your local chamber of commerce or read your local newspaper to see what current opportunities are available. Or contact Community Outreach Managers Keith Ward or Jen Szymczak. They’re always available to help you come up with ideas and walk you through projects from start to finish.

Six suggestions for re-energizing your local council!

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**The Sample Case | Autumn 2016**

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**Online Bonus**
4Create a local council website

If you can create a Word document, you can administer a local council website. Seriously, it’s as simple as that. Having a council website allows your members to keep up to speed with local council happenings - and it’s a great way for potential members to find out who you are, what you do, and when you do it!

UCT provides website templates for all local councils. If your council doesn’t have a website set up and you want to have one, contact David Knapp, Jen Szymczak, or Linda Fisher for help getting started.

5Use local media to help create UCT awareness

Media coverage of your activities and service projects is vital to increasing council recognition within your community and attracting new members. Holding a UCT event? Make sure it’s covered by engaging your local TV, newspaper and radio outlets through the use of press releases, media alerts, and follow-up calls. It’s easier than you might think, and it won’t cost you a penny!

Need help? The UCT Media Guide, available on the Member Resource Center page of the Members’ Area of our website at www.uct.org, can walk you through it step by step. Linda Fisher is also always on hand to help. All you have to do is ask!

6Get social through Facebook!

Today there’s really no better way to reach members and potential members than through social media. Having a local council Facebook group is a great way to reach out to members with details about meetings and events – and a perfect place to post project photos and videos for others to comment on and share. It’s an easy way to “market” your council to friends and acquaintances, and it’s an avenue to connect with other volunteer and service groups.

Are you ready to create a social media presence on Facebook – and maybe Twitter, Snap Chat or Instagram – and start sharing news about your local council and its projects with members and potential members? Let David, Jen or Linda help you get started by giving them a call or dropping them an email.

These are just a few tips to help you get started on reenergizing your council. We’re here to help! Give us a call or send us an email, and we’ll be happy to work with you.
Helping Special Hockey Programs

UCT Gives Back to Special Hockey video contest coming again soon!

Back by popular demand – the UCT GIVES BACK TO SPECIAL HOCKEY VIDEO CONTEST for special hockey programs!!

So, get your cameras ready and start working on your 2 ½ minute videos now. That’s right, UCT is at it again awarding $10,000 and $5,000 to two special hockey teams for first and second place in the 2nd UCT GIVES BACK TO SPECIAL HOCKEY VIDEO CONTEST!

A few changes are being made to the contest this year:

- The total number of votes per video will NOT be posted on Facebook – so no weekly updates either! The voting period will last only four weeks.

- Each participating team is required to create a short video up to 2 ½ minutes long explaining how the $10,000 would help their program.

- The top 10 videos will be posted on the UCT Facebook page for voting, and the video receiving the most votes will win $10,000. The video with the second most votes will receive a second place prize of $5,000.

- You can view videos and vote at www.facebook.com/UCTinAction.

- Submissions will be accepted Oct. 1-31, 2016.

- The top 10 finalists will be posted on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/UCTinAction on Nov. 7, with voting taking place until midnight on Dec. 2.

- The winning videos will be announced on Dec. 3 and the special hockey teams awarded the $10,000 first place and $5,000 second place cash prizes in December.

Contact Jen Szymczak at jszymczak@uct.org or at 800.848.0123 x207 with any questions.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of the 50 United States, D.C. (void in Puerto Rico) and Canada (excl. Quebec). Must be 18 or older (U.S.) or age of majority (Canada) to enter. One first-place prize of US $10,000 for your team, and one second-place prize of US $5,000 for your team is available to be won. Limit one entry per person per team. Odds of winning the prize depends on the number and caliber of eligible submissions and the number of votes received. Math skill-testing question required in Canada.
Our recent convention in Louisville gave us a chance to kick off the third year of our UCT Kaye Trainer International Capital Campaign. Many thanks to the councils and individuals that donated a total of $5,300 to purchase skating devices for special hockey teams.

Arkansas-Oklahoma-Missouri Regional Council

California-Nevada-Arizona Benevolent Foundation

Minnesota-North Dakota Regional Council

Glenn and Cathy Suever

As most members know by now, the purpose of the capital campaign is to supply every special hockey program throughout North America with a Kaye Trainer skating device, which includes the suspension and harness. Each device costs $2,500, including shipping. The campaign is ongoing until we reach our total goal of $200,000, or 80 Kaye Trainers.

Thanks to the generosity of UCT members and councils, the Kaye Trainer has helped so many special hockey athletes and teams, but there are still so many teams who could benefit from this device. To date, more than $70,000 has been raised for the campaign, but we still have a long way to go – and we need your help to do it! We urge councils and members to get involved by donating either the full $2,500, or whatever you or your council can contribute to the total campaign. Think of it this way – if each local council contributes a minimum of $150 to the campaign by Dec. 31, we can start out 2017 at 50 percent of our goal!

Each time we reach or receive $2,500 in donations, we’ll order and donate one Kaye Trainer to a special hockey program. If you or your council donates the full $2,500, you get to choose which special hockey program will receive the Kaye Trainer – and your name will go on our campaign wall of fame plaque at the home office.

Donations can be made online at www.uct.org through PayPal, or checks can be made payable to UCT Charities* and mailed to the UCT home office at: UCT, Attn. Jen Szymczak, 1801 Watermark Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, OH 43215. Each time a donation is made, the amount and the donor is made visible on the UCT home page.

Want to know more about the Kaye Trainer campaign and how it’s helping individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities? Take a look at the campaign video at http://www.uct.org/uct-in-action/kaye-trainer-international-capital-campaign/

* UCT Charities is a tax-exempt organization, and your donation qualifies as a tax deduction. The tax ID number is 31-1486573.
Lighting Our Future

The 2016-2017 theme is “Lighting Our Future.” Carrying forward from Tom Hoffman’s theme of “Building our Future,” let’s continue to light our way going forward. The framework of UCT is complete, now we need to focus all of our energy and resources toward membership growth. We have to replace ourselves. The total success of any team is the success of all of its individual members. I know if we all look ahead this year and shine the light of hope and celebrate the past successes of UCT, we will see growth.

UCT is a main contributor to many causes and charities throughout the U.S. and Canada. We need to continue with our charitable work and contributions to help those less fortunate than ourselves. Just look at the The Sample Case and you can see all of the causes and individuals that YOU help. It’s amazing the amount of good a small group of people can do in so many areas while having fun doing it.

Methods of doing business have changed over the many years UCT has been in existence; however, the needs of those less fortunate have not. More and more people rely on our support. To continue with this support we need membership growth. While we have been adding an average of 5,200 new members a year over the past four years, over 90 percent of those new members are from the sale of commissioned insurance products. Our member-to-member sales have averaged only 450 per year. We can do better. I encourage each and every one of you to look around, find your replacement, and bring at least one new member into our organization this year.

I look forward to visiting with as many of your local and regional councils as possible and witnessing first hand all of the good work that you and your members accomplish within the UCT domain.

Gorden Woodworth

Welcome to UCT Membership Development Awards.

An important part of our organizational culture is built around how we share the UCT message and welcome new members. UCT Membership Development Awards is our way of thanking you for helping us grow.

UCT has once again partnered with Boost Rewards, a web-based, integrated program for rewarding and tracking member performance and retention. Backed by integrated partnerships with the Internet’s largest retailer, Amazon.com and with Visa, Boost offers online, point based programs that allow flexibility in selecting awards. What does this mean for you? In the U.S., it means you’ll be able to reward yourself with items of your choice from a catalog of thousands of products! For Canadian members, you can receive Visa gift cards for recruiting new members.

UCT is proud to offer this program, and we look forward to meeting new members who are excited to share in this year’s theme of “Lighting Our Future.”

*Rules information for 2016-2017

Only new or reinstated insured members sponsored through one of UCT’s non-commissionable products and/or fraternal membership qualify for award credits. Applications must be received and approved at the Home Office between April 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017. Reinstated members must have been out at least 24 months for the sponsors to receive new award credits. Those wishing to attain President’s Club status must sponsor 50 or more new or reinstated members who have been out at least 24 months. Further, the new and/or reinstated members must still be members in good standing at the end of the membership year in order for the sponsoring member to attain President’s Club status.