



UCT inAction

Information for UCT's Members and Councils

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Buckeye Council 2000 wins UCT Photo Contest!

Congrats to UCT's Buckeye Council 2000 in Columbus, Ohio, for winning the January-March quarter of our \$500 UCT Photo Contest!

The photo of members assembling activity kits for patients at Nationwide Children's Hospital met all of the judge's requirements - particularly the bold show of the UCT brand! Photos for the April-June quarter are being accepted through April 30.

Some quick photo tips to keep in mind

If you're planning to submit photos for April-June, here are some quick tips for taking attention-getting, contest winning photos:

- **The most attention-getting photos are clear, concise images of members engaged in volunteering.** Try to avoid stagnant check and plaque presentation photos. Your photos need to "grab" the attention of the judges by telling some kind of story that will make them want to know more.
- **Never take photos of people's backs.** Nothing is more boring than a group of people with their backs turned to the camera. It just doesn't work.
- **A directed candid or staged photo? Yes, absolutely!** Even though directed and candid are opposites, it doesn't hurt to offer a little guidance when taking your shot. Ask people to move closer together or to stop for a minute to casually pose or



to look up and smile. When you just grab shots of people volunteering, you don't always get the best results. Directing shots for a better photo is perfectly acceptable.

- **Clearness and light are essential!** We realize you're not professional photographers, but if your photo is blurry or too dark, it's probably not going to make the cut. We're not looking for professional lighting, but the photo at least needs to be clear.
- **Pay attention to your preview screen.** If your subject's eyes are closed, or he or she has a frown, retake the photo. Don't just take one shot. Take many shots, and you'll have a much greater chance of getting that one gem you're looking for.

If you have questions about taking attention-getting photos, contact the Public Relations Department at lfisher@uct.org or at **800.848.0123 x130**. We're always here to help.

For more tips, take a look at the photo contest flyer on the home page of our website (Members' Area/UCT Photo Contest) at www.uct.org.

The 2015 UCT Convention is just around the corner!

Though it might not seem like it, the 2015 UCT Convention is just a few months away! This year's convention will be held **June 28-July 1** at the **Hyatt Regency Wichita** in Wichita, Kansas.

Room rates are as follows and are applicable three days prior and three days following the convention, based on availability:

- **\$99/night**
– single/double rooms
- **\$119/night**
– triplerooms
- **\$129/night**
– quadruple rooms

Reservations must be made by no later than June 2, 2015, by calling 316.293.1234.

Be sure to tell them you're with UCT. We hope to see you there!



2015 UCT Convention service project to benefit Rainbows United

This year's convention service project will benefit Rainbows United, a Wichita organization whose mission is to enhance the lives of children with special needs and their families by bringing together community resources and providing customized services.

Rainbows provides many vital services for children with special needs, birth through age 21, and their families. They are home grown and nationally recognized; a grateful recipient and responsible steward of their contributions and resources. They willingly serve everyone – the family with the ability to pay for services, and their neighbors with few options and resources. Visit www.rainbowsunited.org for more details.

Check out Rainbows United's wish list of items we're collecting at the convention. If you don't plan to attend the convention in Wichita, feel free to send items to: **UCT, Attn: Jen Chillinsky, 1801 Watermark Drive, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215.** We'll make sure they're delivered. We want to acknowledge your donation, so make sure to include your name and council name with your donation.

Rainbows United Wish-List

- Diapers – preemie through adult sizes
- Pull ups, all sizes
- Diaper Wipes
- Sippy cups
- Cups with straws
- Light up toys
- Multicultural books
- Play-doh in various colors
- Preschool Science Books
- Spin or electric toothbrushes
- Frisbees
- Monetary donations

Check out UCT's updated - and easily accessible - Members' Area!

We've got great news for you! We've updated the UCT website to include the Members' Area on the homepage menu. What does this mean? It means you no longer have to login and create a password to access the majority of the Members' Area information that's essential for YOU!

Just click on **Members' Area** and you'll find tabs that will take you to pages detailing our many programs and contests like the Medal of Honor Program, Join Hands Day, the Volunteer of the Year Award, the UCT Safety Poster Contest, the UCT Convention and much more.

Click on the **Member Publications** tab, and you can access information about The Sample Case and the UCT in Action newsletter. Click on the **Member Resource Center** and find UCT fact sheets, logos and guides that you can easily download.

We believe this update will make obtaining information simpler and less time consuming for you! Check out the new Members' Area today at www.uct.org - and let us know what you think!

Please note about the Members' Area

There's still some member information that needs to remain behind login/ password for security. Please note the following:

- Member Benefits & Discounts
- Ancillary Groups
- Board Minutes
- Prospective UCT Board Member Boot Camp
- Order Supplies Online
- UCT Ritual
- UCT Constitution
- UCT Roster
- Applications & Brochures

