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"The Club with a Heart"

THE HUNDRED CALL

JAMES A. BARONE
 President

VOLUME XXXVII, NO. 1 Phone (860) 633-8357 Fax (860) 633-8350 e-mail: hundred@portone.com www.hundredclubofct.org Joseph A. Owens, Editor JANUARY 2005

Richard Brown Dies; President in 1994

One of the most dedicated members of The Hundred Club, Richard H. "Dick" Brown, died suddenly Oct. 12 at New Britain General Hospital. Mr. Brown was president of The Hundred Club in 1994 and remained active following his presidency as a director. During the past decade he served on several committees and at the time of his death was chairman of the Special Assistance Committee. Mr. Brown's wise counsel was often sought by the men who have held the club's top office in recent years.



Richard Brown

Born in Bristol June 20, 1932, the son of Harry and Florence (Uffendale) Brown, he was educated in local schools. During the Korean Conflict he served with the 7th Infantry unit, 13th Engineers Battalion in Korea. As a civilian he heeded the advice of his wife, Gloria, and

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undertook a career in law enforcement. Mr. Brown joined the State Police Dept. in 1957 and served in that agency until 1968 when he accepted an appointment as an investigator of major felonies in the State's Attorney's office for Hartford County. Ten years later he was named chief inspector for major crime investigations and supervisor of inspectors for the office of the Chief State's Attorney.

In these positions Mr. Brown was highly instrumental (continued on page 4)

Barone '05 President

Firefighters Hailed By Governor Rell At Memorial Event

The public official who was highly instrumental in the creation of the memorial dedicated to fallen firefighters was honored during the annual memorial service Oct. 17 at the Fire Academy in Windsor Locks.

Expressing appreciation for the citation she received, Gov. M. Jodi Rell declared, "This memorial serves as a permanent reminder of the bravery and dedication of all of our fallen firefighters. It also serves as a place where we can pay

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Firefighters Dies While in Training

A young member of the Prospect Volunteer Fire Dept. died while taking part in training exercises. According to reports, Robert A. Griffin, 38, collapsed between 2 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., March 13, during a simulated maze exercise at the Regional Fire School in Wolcott. He was taken to St. Mary's Hospital, Waterbury, where he was pronounced dead.

"Bob had completed the maze once and did great," said Jackie Wahl, a fellow firefighter. According to fire officials, the trainees, wearing full firefighter apparatus, crawl through a maze of obstacles in a pitch black trailer. The

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Cmsr. Boyle Praises Hundred Club's Role

As he accepted the gavel — the symbol of the presidency — James A. Barone hailed The Hundred Club as "one of the finest clubs in the United States."

The outgoing president, Ralph A. Giansanti, said it was an emotional time for him because his father-in-law, Richard H. "Dick" Brown, a past president of the



James Barone — Cmsr. Leonard Boyle

Photos: Pages 2&3

club, had died a week earlier. He described Mr. Brown as "a patriot" and "a man of kindness." Mr. Giansanti expressed his admiration for the man who encouraged him to join The Hundred Club.

In closing, Mr. Giansanti said members have good reason to be proud of their club.

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BARONE PRESIDENT (continued from page 1)

He noted that since its formation in 1967 the club has provided families of its "Fallen Heroes" with more than \$7 million.

Public Safety Cmsr. Leonard C. Boyle, who attended the event Oct. 21 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Cromwell, in the company of State Police Commandant Col. Edward J. Lynch and Lt. Col. Vincent McSweeney, called attention to the "emotional support" the club provides.

Members of the protective services, he said, are keenly aware that if a tragedy occurs The Hundred Club will provide tangible assistance for their families. This knowledge, he explained, translates into emotional support as they face the risks of their professions.

"You, the members of The Hundred Club, stand behind these men and women every day and they appreciate all that you do," he declared.

In his brief remarks, Mr. Barone said, as he humbly accepted the presidency, an old saying came to mind: "I am not afraid of tomorrow, for I have seen yesterday, and I love today."

Past President Peter Guerra served as master of ceremonies. Music during the cocktail hour was provided by a group from Hartt School of Music, Hartford. ■



Matt Service



André Charbonneau — John O'Brien



Peter Guerra



Peter Curley



Mary and James Barone — Madeline and James Barone



Andre W. Crumbie

Mrs. Ustjanauskas

Mrs. Ada Ustjanauskas, widow of the club's founder Anthony Ustjanauskas, was present at the session. Also on hand was her son, Andrew. Both Mrs. Ustjanauskas and Andrew assisted Mr. Ustjanauskas in processing the paperwork related to the club in the early days. ■



Philip Baribault



Edward Funk — Paul Young



James McCavanaugh — Jerry Kalinsky

"Hundred Call" Online

Members who wish to receive *The Hundred Call* online should visit www.hundredclubofct.org, the club's website and select the "Newsletter Articles" link where the instructions are located. After completing and submitting the form, the member will receive an e-mail requesting confirmation of the member's electronic subscription.

Members who do not choose the electronic option will continue to receive a hard copy by mail.



Andrew Santacroce



Chief (Ret.) Clarence Drumm — Chief Jack Drumm



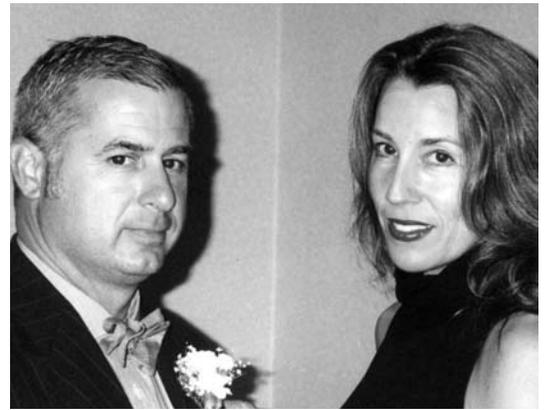
Alan Cox — John Mullen



Col. Edward Lynch — Lt. Col. Vincent McSweeney — Helen Dolan



Mikel Reynberg — Ada Ustjanauskas



Ralph and Patricia Giansanti



William McCue



Lisa Sachatello — Kim Dingwall



Leah Fiano — Joel Janenda



Richard Hurley



John, Manny and Irene Makiaris



Virginia Pagani — Dennis Weir



George Edwards — William Riordan



Lt. Gov. (Ret.) Joe Fauliso



Jason and Sandra Manafort



John Pellegrino



Jeffrey and Morreene Crown



Brendan Kennedy

FIREFIGHTER DIES (continued from page 1)

purpose of the exercise is to confront trainees with conditions they may face while fighting a blaze.

Mr. Griffin is the first member of the Prospect Volunteer Fire Dept. to lose his life in the line of duty. The department is 60 years old.

Mr. Griffin was born Jan. 12, 1966, the son of George and Wendy (Ziebell) Griffin. A graduate of W. F. Kaynor Regional Vocational Technical School, Waterbury, he had been employed in the lithographics industry.

Delegations of firefighters from throughout New England paid their respects at the wake and the memorial service at the East Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in Naugatuck.

Mr. Griffin is survived by his wife, Petra, and two daughters, Siage and Daizmin; two brothers, Jeffrey Griffin of Plymouth and Michael Griffin of Torrington; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Representatives of The Hundred Club have visited the Griffin family. ■

Tributes to Brown

Officials of The Hundred Club paid high tribute to the late Richard H. "Dick" Brown.

Describing Mr. Brown as an integral part of the "moral fiber of The Hundred Club" 2004 President Ralph Giansanti said, "He never put himself first. Within him was a deep desire to help people in need. He was a man with a great attitude — a wonderful outlook on life."

Angelo Tomasso, a founding member and past president of the club, recalled that when he invited Mr. Brown to become associated with him at Tilcon, Inc., he received letters from three judges complimenting him on his decision.

"Dick," he said, "was a true gentleman. He was thoroughly honest — a straight shooter. I have lost a dear friend."

James A. Barone, the club's 2005 president, spoke of Mr. Brown's compassion and the fact that he was held in high regard by all at The Hundred Club.

Managing Director William E. Sydenham, Jr. said, "Personally, I have lost a great friend. The same can be said of The Hundred Club. Not enough good things can be said about Dick. When it came to the club, no job was too big or too small for Dick." ■



Gov. M. Jodi Rell was presented a citation by the Firefighters Memorial Committee for her role in the creation of the Memorial dedicated to firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty. At right is Chief (Ret.) Edward F. Haber of Berlin, master of ceremonies.

BROWN (continued from page 1)

in the resolution of numerous highly publicized cases including the massacre in 1974 at the Donna Lee Bakery in New Britain. Five people were murdered. Despite a scarcity of evidence, Mr. Brown, working with other professional investigators, tracked down the two shooters who were subsequently convicted.

The murder of Plainville Officer Robert Holcomb in 1977 was another case in which Mr. Brown's talents helped bring about the arrest and conviction of the guilty party.

Following his retirement from state service, Mr. Brown served as Director of Corporate Security for Tilcon, Inc.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Rev. Michael J. Dolan in Our Lady of Mercy Church, Plainville. In his eulogy, Father Dolan described Mr. Brown as a man who was "the salt of the earth." He observed that Mr. Brown died a few days short of his 53rd wedding anniversary and that the Brown family had lived in Plainville for 43 years.

Father Dolan said, "Mr. Brown was a man of convictions — a man who lived a difficult life well."

In addition to his wife, the former Gloria Anastasion, Mr. Brown leaves a son, Richard H. Brown, Jr. and his wife Akika of New Britain; two daughters and sons-in-law Laura and Jeffrey Schaefer of Plainville; and Patricia and Ralph Giansanti of Avon; five grandchildren, two brothers and sisters-in-law Donald and Margaret Brown of Harwinton; and David and Ruth Brown of Florida; and several nieces and nephews.

Burial with full military honors was in St. Joseph Cemetery, Plainville. A State Police Honor Guard was present at the wake and the funeral services. ■

FIREFIGHTERS HAILED (cont... from page 1)

our respects — and perhaps find peace."

The Governor explained that the annual memorial service provides an opportunity not only to recognize the men and women who lost their lives in the line of duty but also honor "the firefighters who continue to serve throughout the state."

Noting that there are more than 26,000 career and volunteer firefighters in Connecticut's largest cities and smallest towns, Mrs. Rell asked that people pause every so often and recognize "the tremendous job" performed by these men and women.

In closing, Mrs. Rell told the audience, "We have an obligation to remember the fallen heroes not just today, but every day."

Atty. Gen. Richard Blumenthal, in brief remarks, paid tribute to the firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty. He praised the day-to-day around the clock work of Connecticut firefighters.

Six additional names were added to the honor roll, bringing the total to 313. The latest names etched in the panels surrounding the black granite Memorial are: Maurice F. Fitzgerald, Waterbury Fire Dept., Nov. 23, 1925; Henry F. Gabianelli, Paugasset H&L Co. #4, Nov. 22, 1968; Kenneth J. Jeffrey, U.S. Sub. Base Fire Dept., Dec 31, 2003; Noel B. Raston, Mansfield Vol. Fire Co., Oct 17, 1961; Gerald F. Schumann, Madison Hose Co. #1, March 16, 2003; and Robert A. Griffin, Prospect Volunteer Fire Dept., March 13, 2004. ■