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"The Club with a Heart"

THE Hundred Call

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Volume XLVII, No. 4
WINTER 2016

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Club President Awarded St Edmund Medal of Honor

The Hundred Club President, James "Skip" Thomas, was honored on October 14, 2016 at the 13th Annual St. Edmund's Medal of Honor Mass and Dinner. The Medal of Honor was established in 2004 by St. Edmund's Retreat on Enders Island to recognize leaders in the local, regional, national, and international communities for extraordinary service to the Catholic Church and community. The award is named in honor of St. Edmund, the 13th century Archbishop of Canterbury and patron of St. Edmund's Retreat.

Each year, Father Tom Hoar, President of St. Edmund's Retreat and founder of the St. Edmund's Medal of Honor tradition, seeks input from the Retreat's Board of Directors, the local community, church, civic and business leaders to identify four to six Medal of Honor recipients who reflect the qualities of St. Edmund throughout a lifetime of service to their communities.

"The Medal of Honor holds up as role models men and women who live the life of virtue within the context of their own experiences," said Father Hoar. "It's easy to talk about a life of virtue from the church pulpit. But it is quite another to celebrate such a life in a public forum, in the context of the corporate boardroom, the local non-profit and the civic and political realms. That's why the Medal of Honor dinner is such a joyous event."

Skip was recognized not only for his forty-two years of service in the law enforcement community, both at the municipi-

pal and state levels, but also for his selfless volunteer activities. Skip has been a member of the Blue Mass Committee for the Hartford Archdiocese since the program's inception. His continuing service as Chairman of the Connecticut Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation and President of The Hundred Club of Connecticut was also acknowledged. Several colleagues from both organizations attended the dinner, as well as Skip's wife, Jane, and their two daughters, Joanne and Jenna.



Father Tom Hoar (L), President of St. Edmund's Retreat, presents the St. Edmund Medal of Honor to Skip Thomas

Skip was introduced by Stonington Police Chief Darren Stewart and James O'Boyle, former Police Commissioner for the Town of Stonington and member of the Law Enforcement Memorial Board of Directors. Both individuals are former recipients of the Medal of Honor. Each presenter noted that Skip's life exemplified selfless devotion to others and reflected the life of the Retreat's patron. "In the tradition of St. Edmund of Canterbury, Skip Thomas is an ordinary person living an extraordinary life. He truly is a person of virtue, compassion and grace," Chief Stewart commented.

Other 2016 honorees included Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin, Ireland; Dr. Kitty Harris, founder of The Foundation for Recovery Initiatives; Mother Dolores Hart of the Abbey of Regina Laudis; and Bob Valenti, founder of the Valenti Family of Dealerships in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

About St. Edmund's Retreat

Enders Island is in Fishers Island Sound, at the mouth of the Mystic River. The eleven-acre island has been variously known as Barker's Island, Dodge Island and Keeland's Island. Today Enders Island is connected to Mason Island by a causeway and is easily accessible by car.

Dr. Thomas B. Enders and his wife Alys VanGilder Enders purchased the small uninhabited island and began to develop it as a private estate in 1918. Mrs. Enders was responsible for overseeing much of the work in constructing the main house, a grand and stately arts and crafts style home that serves as one of the central buildings on the Island.

While planning her estate, Mrs. Enders contacted Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan of the newly created Norwich Diocese to discuss the gift of Enders Island to the Church. Bishop Flanagan recognized the need for a new novitiate for the Society of St. Edmund, an order of priests and brothers headquartered in Vermont, which fosters spiritual renewal, evangelization, and social justice. In January 1954, seventeen days before her death, Mrs. Enders transferred the deed of her beloved Island to the Society of St. Edmund. Her intentions were that the Island would be used as a place of spiritual formation of those preparing for ministry in the Church and as a retreat for priests, especially those from the Diocese of Norwich.



Skip and Jane Thomas, with daughters Jenna Amirault (L) and Joanne Wheatley (R)

In the Fall of 1954, the Society of St Edmund, known as the Edmundites, began using the Island as their novitiate. The need for a novitiate waned in the 1960s, so the Edmundites began to hold retreats for those in recovery from addiction and for retreats for parishes as well as for priests and religious.

Today, Enders Island is an independent ministry with its own Board of Trustees. The facility developed into a diverse and dedicated ministry of spiritual renewal and healing. Programs include directed, guided and private retreats for lay, religious, and clerical individuals and groups, as well as the Recovery Residence, a post-treatment residential addiction recovery program for young men. The program houses up to ten students from three to twelve months in order to maintain individualized focus for each resident. Additionally, the St. Michael's Institute of Sacred Art was established to promote and preserve the beauty and traditions of art in the life of the Church.

Officers Pay Tribute To Fallen K-9

Wethersfield Police Department canine Thor was honored Thursday, December 8, 2016, with a service that included hundreds of officers from departments as far away as Bridgeport and Ridgefield, and a flyover by a Life Star helicopter.

Four police pall bearers carried a glass casket containing Thor's ashes, slowly walking behind a bagpiper and past two lines of officers in dress uniforms, all saluting the K-9 that died from injuries suffered during a foot chase last month.

Wethersfield police were called to a Silas Deane Highway motel on the report that a Hartford woman had been abducted and was being held there. As the officers approached the motel, the suspect took off on foot and ran into thick woods.

"They deployed and they ... started tracking through the thicket and they actually came across the suspect, who was reported to be armed, and per protocol the handler released the K-9 and the dog went after the suspect to track him," Police Chief James Cetran said.

The handler, Officer Nuno Martins, lost sight of Thor and the suspect in the woods, Cetran said, but later a resident in Rocky Hill reported seeing the suspect in his backyard.

"We knew something was wrong because that dog would have never given up," Cetran said at the memorial service.

The dog was found that night by state police bleeding from many cuts and was taken to a veterinary hospital in Middletown, where he died from a blood clot after a transfusion. The suspect was apprehended a week later hiding in a Hartford dumpster.



Police officers from throughout the state honor canine Thor

During the ceremony, Martins was presented with an American flag by K-9 unit supervisor Jennie Rivera and a plaque and proclamation by state Representative Russ Morin and state Senator Paul Doyle in honor of Thor's service.

"What a testimony to the brotherhood of law enforcement to see all of you here today," Morin said. "Family is the word that comes to mind and it is really touching."

At the end of the ceremony, a Wethersfield dispatcher called in on a police radio. With everyone listening, the call came out: "Dispatch to Thor. Dispatch to Thor. Dispatch to Thor" — and one final message: "Godspeed."



Hundred Club Benefits from Regional Efforts

GHAR Golf Outing Aids Club

The Greater Hartford Association of REALTORS® (GHAR) Annual Charity Golf Tournament took place on September 12th at the Country Club of Farmington. The 18-hole golf course, located close to the center of town, was designed and opened in 1892.

The 12th Annual GHAR Charity Golf Tournament raised \$14,000 from their generous sponsors, attendees and Association members. Prior to the outing, the GHAR named The Hundred Club of Connecticut as the beneficiary of the charity event. This was the first year that the tournament was held at the Farmington facility and the first time that The Hundred Club was the recipient of its charitable donation.



Leslie Mattos, GHAR Golf Committee member; Bill Sydenham, Hundred Club Managing Director; and Peter Sulick, United Bank Vice President

The organizers credited the tournament's success, in large part, to their partnership with United Bank, the tournament's Title Sponsor. They also expressed gratitude to Platinum Sponsor Farmington Bank and Gold Sponsor Stanley Black & Decker. The tournament's volunteers and participants were recognized for making the tournament a popular and productive tradition.

The GHAR, the largest local real estate trade association in Connecticut, serves over 3,400 members in the 57-town Greater Hartford real estate brokerage community. The Association provides technology, training, networking and business support to members, and supports a healthy real estate market by upholding high professional and ethical standards through a Code of Ethics, ongoing education and certification programs. As the advocate for the real estate brokerage industry, GHAR is the Voice for Real Estate® in the Greater Hartford region.

"I'd like to thank our REALTOR® community, participants and sponsors and we are proud to donate \$14,000 to such a deserving charity like The Hundred Club," said Mike Tracy, GHAR Golf Committee Chair. "This tournament is not only a great time but a great way for REALTORS® to support the community."

CT United Ride Continues Support

The Hundred Club of Connecticut was, once again, the recipient of a very generous donation from the CT United Ride and the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut (UPFFA).

The CT United Ride is an annual fund raising event that honors those who lost their lives as a result of the tragedies that occurred on 9/11, as well as those who continue to put their lives on the line each day.

Following the attacks in 2001, Frederick Garrity, Jr. and the Fairfield County Labor Council organized a motorcycle ride fundraiser to support the victims of 9/11. The first event held on September 30, 2001 attracted 500 riders. Due to its initial resounding success, "CT United Ride" has continued as a tribute each year honoring the memories of the fallen and continuing to support those affected. The UPFFA of CT has been the sponsor of the event, which is the largest 9/11 tribute in the State of Connecticut, since 2005.

The monies raised the first year went to three 9/11 victim relief funds in New York City: the Police Officers' Fund; the Firefighters' Fund; and the United Way. As the CT United Ride remains a tribute to 9/11, all monies that were raised from the second year on, go to the emergency relief funds that benefit Connecticut police officers, firefighters, local United Way branches, as well as local Police Explorers and Cadets who help provide the safe staging for the event. The Hundred Club has benefited from this fund-raising event for the past fifteen years.

The 16th Annual CT United Ride was held on Sunday, September 11, 2016 drawing an estimated 2,500 participants. Each motorcycle rider and passenger donates \$25.00. The ride travels, with full police escort, 60 miles through eleven cities and towns. Beginning at Norden Park in Norwalk, riders pass through Westport, Wilton, Georgetown, Redding, Bethel, Newtown, Monroe, Trumbull, Fairfield, and ending at Seaside Park in Bridgeport.

On Friday, October 21, 2016, Fred Garrity, Jr., the Executive Director of CT United Ride, and Peter Carozza, the President of the UPFFA, held a ceremony to disburse \$40,000.00 in proceeds to representatives of eighteen recipient organizations. Bill Sydenham, a past participant in the ride, accepted this year's \$10,000 gift on behalf of The Hundred Club.

In acknowledging the two significant gifts, Club President Skip Thomas said, "The Hundred Club is very grateful to the Greater Hartford Realtors' Association and the Connecticut United Ride for their very generous donations that will be used to continue our mission of helping the families of the correctional officers, firefighters, and police officers who have died in the line of duty."

"Both of these organizations, through these gifts, recognize and support the first responders that protect the communities within Connecticut, 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year. They clearly showed their support for the 'Club With A Heart'."



Club Convenes for Annual Meeting and Luncheon

More than 200 members and guests assembled at the Sheraton Hartford Hotel in Rocky Hill on Monday, November 2, 2016 for the 49th Annual Meeting of The Hundred Club of Connecticut. NBC Connecticut News Anchor Gerry Brooks once again served as the Master of Ceremonies. After a warm welcome to all, Gerry acknowledged the current and retired public safety personnel, guests, and dignitaries.

The meeting opened with a procession of color guards representing the Connecticut State Police and the Waterbury Fire Department, led by bagpiper Pat Whelan. The Club's officers and directors for 2017 assembled at the front of the room and were recognized by the members. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Hundred Club Chaplain Father Michael Dolan offered a prayer of thanksgiving.



Directors of The Hundred Club of Connecticut assemble at the Annual Meeting



Retired New Canaan Police Chief Edward Nadriczny

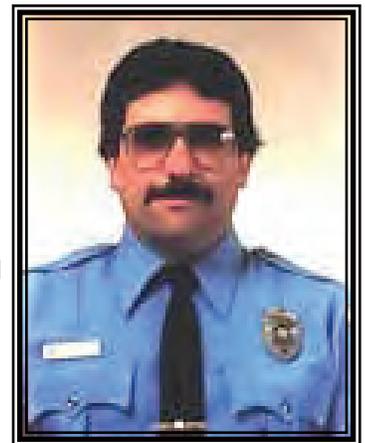
The event's keynote speaker was retired New Canaan Police Chief Edward Nadriczny. A 37 year veteran of the department, Nadriczny retired in 2013, after serving as Chief for eight years. He joined New Canaan's police department in 1977 as a 22-year-old. During his nearly four decade career, he rose through the ranks as a Patrolman, Sergeant, Youth Officer, Lieutenant, Training Officer, Captain and finally Chief of the Department. A graduate of the FBI National Academy, he oversaw the accreditation of the department, expansion of Animal Control, introduction of a motorcycle unit, reinstatement of the K9 patrol unit, and the implementation of the School Resource Officer program. Nadriczny's dedication to his profession is reflected in his position as President of the Fairfield County Chiefs of Police Association and as a member of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association.

In his remarks to the membership, Chief Nadriczny offered a unique perspective of The Hundred Club. He said that, as a young police officer, he saw vehicles displaying the bronze shield of the Club, but never knew what the organization was or what impact it could have in his life. He then recounted the death of his friend and colleague, Officer James Martin.

Officer Martin was working the 3-11 shift on July 23, 1992, when a severe thunderstorm struck the Town of New Canaan. There was heavy rain, dangerous winds and low visibility. Officer Martin was dispatched to the report of a possible motor vehicle accident on Valley Road. When he exited his vehicle, Martin came into contact with a live electrical wire and was instantly electrocuted. To this day, it is unknown whether he stepped on the wire or it fell on him. Nevertheless, the accident caused critical and debilitating injuries. Erik Dam, the Police Chief at that time, was going home and observed Officer Martin on the ground. Chief Dam, along with responding Sergeant Steve Wood, were able to remove the downed wire from the stricken officer's legs. Sergeant Wood began CPR and Officer Martin was transported to Norwalk Hospital. He was later transferred to the Bridgeport Hospital burn unit, where he died the following day.

The members of the New Canaan Police Department were deeply shaken by the sudden death of their friend and co-worker. For many on the force, including the young Ed Nadriczny, this was their first experience with the loss of a colleague. Their grief over the death of Officer Martin was only compounded by their concern regarding the dire consequences that could face his family.

On July 26th, two days after Officer Martin's passing, the department received a letter from Ed Funk, the Managing Director of The Hundred Club, informing the agency that the Club was ready to assist the Martin family and the police department when it was appropriate. Ten days later, the Club provided Officer Martin's widow, Lauren, with a check for \$5,000 for burial expenses and have been assisting her family ever since. That initial gesture by Ed Funk and the continuing generosity of The Hundred Club made a deep and lasting impression on Chief Nadriczny.



Officer James Martin

Club Convenes for Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Having noted the origin of his appreciation of The Hundred Club, the Chief detailed its many benefits to the families of public safety officers. "In its 49 years of existence, the Club has provided \$12 million in assistance to 98 police families, 137 firefighter families and seven correction officer families." Adding, "The Club provides an initial grant to the surviving spouse of \$10,000. It then provides computers and scholarship programs to the surviving children, offers up to \$25,000 per year for college expenses, provides a summer camp fund, holiday gifts for all of the families, and reviews special funding requests as needed."

Asking, almost rhetorically, "Why is The Hundred Club important?" Nadriczny said, "I can sum that up in three words, '*the surviving families*'."

"There are many surviving spouses here today who the Club has faithfully and consistently helped. These individuals are very appreciative of The Hundred Club's assistance as it has made it easier to cope with the day-to-day needs of their families."

Again referring to his friend, James Martin, Nadriczny noted that The Hundred Club was very important to the entire Martin family. Officer Martin's father died on Friday, October 28, less than a week before the Annual Meeting. Mr. Martin was a proud member of The Hundred Club ever since the death of his son. Mr. Martin was appreciative of how the Club aids the surviving families and was very grateful for the assistance it provided to his son's family. In his obituary, Mr. Martin requested that any donations in his memory go to The Hundred Club of Connecticut. "That," Nadriczny declared to the membership, "is how special and important he viewed your work!"

In concluding, Nadriczny noted that the Club's website states, "We care for our public servants. We recognize their sacrifice and are morally bound to take care of those who have given their all for us. We are indeed the Club with a heart!" Addressing the members present, he said, "Thank you all for what you have done and will do for our surviving families. You are very special people with truly big hearts."



Waterbury Fire Department and Connecticut State Police Honor Guards retire the Colors after the Opening Ceremony



Seated (L-R) Father Michael Dolan, Andre Charbonneau, Sr., Andre Charbonneau, Jr.; standing Edward Nadriczny, Skip Thomas



Surviving family members, guests of The Hundred Club, pose with bouquets presented by Managing Director Bill Sydenham



Campus Public Safety — In the Line of Fire

Georgia Southwestern State University Officer, Jody Smith, was laid to rest on December 14 at the institution's Student Success Center Storm Dome. Smith and his best friend, Americus (GA) Police Officer Nicholas Smarr, were killed when they responded to a domestic situation near the campus of the university the week before. Officer Smith became the second campus police officer murdered in the last thirty days.

Hundreds of police officers lined the street outside Detroit's Ford Field to honor the Wayne State University police officer who died a month earlier. The officer, Collin Rose, was shot and killed November 22 while conducting a traffic stop in a neighborhood near campus.

"As police officers, we're trained to prepare for any incident, except one: losing a fellow officer in the line of duty," Anthony Holt, Wayne State's Chief of Police, said during Rose's funeral.

At his memorial service, Rose was praised for his work with local elementary school children and his "trademark smile". Rose, who was 29, was also described as a longtime friend of the local animal shelter where his fiancée worked. When he died, the officer was just one credit short of earning a master's degree in dispute resolution -- a degree that Wayne State will now award him posthumously, along with a promotion to sergeant.

Rose is the first Wayne State police officer to die while on duty, but his death and that of Officer Smith are recent incidents that college police say serve as reminder of how dangerous their job can be.

"The perception that many people have long held is that college campuses are especially safe places," said Randy Burba, chief of police at Chapman University and president of the International Association of College Law Enforcement Administrators. "Not unlike our colleagues who are policing professionals in municipal and county departments, we work very hard to preserve many aspects of our college and university campuses across the country that make those perceptions largely accurate even today. But it is important to recognize that the violence that has imbued our cities and communities has sadly encroached upon and remain a visible element of the national landscape of higher education."

On November 28, an eighteen year old Ohio State University student drove a speeding car into a group of pedestrians outside a classroom building before jumping out of the vehicle and stabbing several people with a butcher knife. Eleven people, mostly students, were injured in the attack. An Ohio State police officer, Alan Horujko, was near the scene at the time, investigating reports of a gas leak. Within two minutes of the student's car jumping the curb, Horujko shot and killed him.

University and U.S. officials have not yet confirmed the student's motive, but Josh Earnest, White House press secretary, said that the student "may have been motivated by extremism and may have been motivated by a desire to carry out an act of terrorism." The Islamic State also claimed that the student was inspired by the terror organization. Calling the student "a soldier" of ISIS, the group said that he "carried out the operation in response to calls to target citizens of international coalition countries." The organization, which released the statement through its news service, did not claim to have advance knowledge of his actions, though it has repeatedly called on its followers to conduct independent "lone wolf" attacks.

A similar attack took place last year at the University of California, Merced. Over the course of 15 minutes, Faisal Mohammad, a first-year student, stabbed two other students, a university staff member and a construction worker. Campus police chased Mohammad to the university's Scholar's Lane bridge, where they shot and killed him. In March, the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that the student was acting alone but had been inspired by ISIS.

"The job has always been dangerous, and perhaps even more so than policing in a city because there is a perception that campuses are safer," William Taylor, Chief of Police at Collin College in Texas and former president of IACLEA, said. "Generally, they are. However, anything that can happen off campus can happen on campus."

In July, two officers at El Centro College were shot and injured dur-

ing a deadly sniper attack on Dallas police. The El Centro officers were guarding the entrance to the college when the sniper shot out the glass doors. One officer continued to help defend the college with bullet fragments still lodged in his stomach.

In 2014, a former Florida State University student opened fire outside the university's Strozier Library, injuring three people. Hundreds of students were inside the library when the man began shooting outside the building with a semiautomatic handgun. He then entered the library, shot a student library employee and reloaded his gun before returning outside to face police. Police and the gunman fired more than 30 rounds at one another before the assailant was shot and killed.

A year earlier, a police officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sean Collier, was shot and killed in his patrol car by the two men responsible for the Boston Marathon bombing, which had occurred earlier that week. Collier had been responding to reports of a disturbance on campus, which turned out to be the Tsarnaev brothers.

"No area is immune from this type of violence, including college campuses," David Perry, chief of police at Florida State, said. "It's happening everywhere, and incidents like what happened at Ohio State are a reminder that everyone has to be prepared, from the police officers to the students and employees on campus. I would say in the last five to seven years, campus police have significantly improved their procedures in preparing for these events. We've begun to talk about it more because of the frequency of events around the country."

In the past decade, campus police officers have gained new legal authority and have become increasingly armed. According to a report released last January by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, nearly 70 percent of colleges and universities in 2012 operated full law enforcement agencies with sworn police officers. About 94 percent of those officers were authorized to use a firearm. In total, 75 percent of campuses said they used armed officers in 2012, compared to 68 percent of colleges when the survey was last conducted in 2005.

At the same time, college campuses are among the safest locations in the country, and were so even prior to the increase in armed officers. The same Bureau of Justice Statistics report found that campus agencies recorded 45 violent crimes per 100,000 students in 2012. A separate report found that, between 1995 and 2002, adults between the ages of 18 and 24 who were not enrolled in college experienced 24 percent more violence than college students.

But Burba, president of IACLEA, said that the attacks at UC Merced, Florida State and Ohio State demonstrate why college police cannot let that perception of safety lead to complacency. Increasingly, through memoranda of understanding signed with local law enforcement, college police are also called on to patrol and protect areas surrounding campus. That's what Smith, the Georgia Southwestern officer, and Rose, the Wayne State officer, were doing when they were shot.

This blurring of jurisdictional lines has led not only to campus police protecting people during mass shootings and stabbings, but also helped place them at the center of national debates. Last year, a University of Cincinnati police officer followed a car off campus before pulling it over for not having front license plates. Within minutes, the driver of the car -- an unarmed black man -- was dead. The officer, who was white, had killed the driver. The killing sparked protests on campus and across the city.

The officer was charged with murder, but a jury was unable to reach a verdict in November, and the judge declared a mistrial. A date for a retrial has not been set.

"I feel strongly that the culture of violence that continues to more rapidly and fully intrude upon campuses of higher education must bring solutions that resolve the inconsistencies in how we staff, train, empower and resource campus law enforcement professionals," Burba said, "so that college and university campuses do not become the assumed 'weakest link' in any community in terms of safety and security."