



GRAND COUNSELOR

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer. It seemed to fly by very quickly.

I had the pleasure to attend the Supreme Session in Jacksonville and represent our Grand as your Grand Counselor. Our Grand is well represented and respected at the Supreme. The main concern is membership decrease. This year our Grand will have 6 members on Supreme Committees: Chris Phelan – Necrology, David Cumming – 1st Vice President Past Grand Counselor's Assoc., Gary Mighton – Charities Trust, Melorie Davies – 1st Vice President Canadian Delegation, and two new appointees; Rick Warner – International Secretary/Treasurer Assoc. and Dave Syrota – Examining Finance Committee. Congratulations to Rick Warner for receiving the “Roses for the Living” Award. Supreme Counselor Randy Young and his wife Sandi visited Alberta August 24th to September 3rd. They spent this time visiting a number of Councils in our Grand. Calgary North # 1015 hosted an evening and dinner, they visited Fort Steele which was hosted by Cranbrook followed by an evening dinner. Sherwood Park also hosted an evening dinner. Two noon luncheons were also held; one in Red Deer and the other in Medicine Hat.

As mentioned, the decrease in membership is our main concern. This being said, our Membership Committee will be in touch with all Councils during the year, working on and looking for ideas for adding new members.

Hopefully all Councils have a Volunteer Co-ordinator in place to ensure this new project can be successful.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me or any member of the executive.

Fraternally yours,
Dave Syrota – Grand Counselor

MEDAL OF HONOR

After seeing the membership report we have 7 Councils that are even or on the plus side for members.

Councils should be reminded that just because you do not hold 12 meetings but do meet the other requirements there is still Silver or Bronze medals available as well as the COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD.

For those Councils that I have not talked to in the last month can your secretary please email me or call me? I would like to hear from each Council so that I know if they are doing the Medal Of Honor and if not, why not.

My email is hazerinc@hotmail.com

Fraternally

Lyle Silzer Grand Junior Counselor Chair Medal of Honor

Footnote: Medal Winners ACT/UCT Dominion Grand
Gold: Sudbury # 1051, Sherwood Park # 1022
Silver: Grand Prairie # 1018
Community: Thunder Bay # 1039

MEMBERSHIP EXPANSION

Greetings ! Happy Thanksgiving! I know all Councils are busy with their Fall Activities and this is a reminder that attracting New Members to our great organization is very important. For those who sign new members, the following rewards will be presented at the next Grand Session in Medicine Hat: 1 member \$ 20.00, 2 members \$ 30.00 and 3 or more \$ 40.00. To date we have only signed up 11 new members for this year. Good Luck.

Serena Olsen - Grand Past Counselor
Grand Membership Chair.

SECRETARY

At our Grand Session in Red Deer it was suggested by our membership to try and use email as much as possible to cut some expenses. At this time I do not have an email address for all Council Secretaries but a big " THANK YOU " goes out to those Secretaries who have provided this information. Since June I have been emailing correspondence to our Councils. If you are not receiving this communication please let me know. Our 2011/2012 budget is for a deficit so I am trying to cut some of the Grand Secretary Expenses. By emailing correspondence out to Executive Officers and Local Councils there has been an impact on postage, envelopes, paper and toner costs. On our recent Executive Conference Call a new conference provider was used (Global Crossing) at a savings approaching 75% from our previous Telus costs. I am now considering a switch of the FAX service from Telus to Shaw to reduce monthly billing.

Only Edmonton #1016 and Nanaimo # 1004 have not sent in their A16 and A21 forms. At this time UCT will be withholding any monies due to these Councils until the forms are submitted.

As a Delegate to the Supreme Session I was elected to serve on the ISTA board and the Canadian Delegation. I will do my best to represent our Grand at future Supreme Sessions as I serve on these two Committees. I hope all Councils had a great summer and I look forward to working with everyone this year.

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Rick Warner - Grand Secretary

GRAND TREASURER

It was an honour and a privilege to represent our Grand at the Supreme Session in Jacksonville, Florida. Thank you to all Councils for giving me the opportunity to attend these very informative sessions. On June 21, 2011 our investments in Ontario Bonds matured. While we investigated other financial institutions, we chose to invest in TERM deposits at TD Canada Trust, the bank that we currently use. The funds were split into four term deposits maturing in 5years, 3 years, 2 years and a smaller amount for 1 year. This will allow us the opportunity to access funds on maturing dates if necessary and as rates improve over the years we will have the advantage on maturity each year.

Our focus to reach a balanced budget for upcoming years is a challenge but we are using every opportunity to cut back on expenses (paper and postage) and are using e-mail to keep in touch whenever possible.

I am impressed with all Councils for their efforts in paying their invoices on time and allowing me to keep my bookkeeping current.

Thanks again!

Sylvia Herman - Grand Secretary

DISABILITIES AND CHARITIES

Summer is over and it's time to get to work. During the Supreme Session in Jacksonville , we listened to a presentation from ASHA (American Special Hockey Association) . It seems like a natural for Canadian Special Athletes. I think we can do something with this program. Over the next few months I will be contacting various hockey associations to get some feedback on what their involvement might be and promoting this idea to local Councils. I will be sending out a monthly letter to Councils to give some ideas on year round programs to support individuals with Intellectual Disabilities from our own Councils.

I will also be promoting the position of Volunteer to help get the message out.

Miscellaneous Charities are developed locally and we do a lot of good work. I am hoping that each Council that appoints a Volunteer Co-ordinator will get the recognition and success they deserve.

Respectfully submitted

Jack Blenkinsop Grand Conductor
Chair. Miscellaneous and Intellectual
Disabilities Comm.

MEMBERSHIP

At the end of September we had 2358 members in our Grand. This included 13 new members, 1 transfer, 73 lapsed, 6 cancellations and 6 deaths.

The Councils with plus membership are Edmonton South # 1017, Grand Prairie # 1018, and North Battleford # 1028. Councils with even membership are Orillia # 1064, Sherwood Park # 1022 and Swift Current # 1032

Fraternally

Lorne Kuchelyma - [Grand Page](#). [Membership Committee](#)

SAFETY

As mentioned in earlier reports your Grand had three winners at the International Poster Competition. Calgary #1014 and Orillia # 1064 are sure to try again. These contests are an excellent way to get Youth involved with safety and helps your Council to demonstrate your interest in promoting safety.

I hope each Council will dedicate at least one General meeting to Safety. Get your other agencies involved. They are more than willing to provide a speaker and helpful information on topics such as: Residential, Travelling, Weather and Relaxation Safety.

Check out the UCT web site at www.uct.org or the links through www.act-uct.com for ideas on programs and Poster Contest Rules.

Fraternally

Gil. Hartley [PGC](#) [Grand Executive Comm.](#) [Chair Safety Comm.](#)

CANCER

Congratulations and much thanks again to 25 out of 28 Councils for sending in your 2010 Local Cancer Reports whether participating or not – very much appreciated. Our 17 Local Councils are to be commended for the much needed \$67,194.67 to find a cure for this dreadful disease plus the 2,334 hours volunteered by members for 2010 which was greatly appreciated by your Grand. Members have been involved in various events etc for 2011 and hopefully we can come close to or exceed the 2010 amount. It would be Great!

Please submit your Cancer reports from your local Chairs by March 2012, making sure to show money raised and hours volunteered by members for a final Cancer Report for the 19th Grand Session in Medicine Hat AB in June 2012.

Fraternally

Melorie Davies [Grand Executive Comm. Chair. Cancer Committee](#)

e-mail melorie@magama.ca, Tel. 613-729-6922

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Greetings everyone! Summer has passed so quickly: it seems it was only yesterday that we were at the Grand Session in Red Deer.

I have been very busy and apologize for not getting in contact with the Councils, but I did get Edmonton Council 1016 to get the UCT Logo into community visibility on August 31st.

Edmonton Council 1016 usually sponsors 4 players into the Children's Ability Fund "Tee Fore Two" Golf Tournament, with a bit extra for charity. I proposed to the Board that for an extra \$200.00 we could sponsor a hole and get some publicity: they accepted.

By sponsoring a hole the UCT Logo appeared on the Leader Board in the Clubhouse, on the GPS system on the carts, on the welcome placards and Hole Sponsor Placard. The 'Thank You' published in the Edmonton Journal show Edmonton Council 1016.

What publicity for a small investment! I designed the signage to read: (UCT Logo) Edmonton Council 1016(O/A A.C.T./UCT Edmonton Club)

This still made people aware of who we are as some people do recognize "ACT". It did generate some questions from people on the course and I gladly enlightened them. Had, I not been chosen as one of the players, I would have been at the hole talking us up!

I encourage all Councils to think of how they can get the UCT name out into their community. A small step leads to many more and eventually bigger ones. Yes, it requires some work, but, get a Volunteer Coordinator in place and take it from there. Those Councils who already have a Volunteer Coordinator- Bravo! I want to hear from you; tell me who your Volunteer Coordinator is and give me contact information. I am here to give you whatever assistance I can with important role.

Fraternally

Lil McDermott - [Grand Sentinel Volunteer Coordinator Chair](#).

e-mail l.mcdermott@shaw.ca Tel. 780-475-0451 fax 780-475-6018

PUBLIC RELATIONS/ WELCOME

The Medal of Honor and other awards that our Councils receive on a yearly basis demonstrate, along with the Newsletter content that our Grand is a very active in our communities.

Whenever possible, local media reporting will help show our non-members and the community at large that ACT/UCT (UCT) is an important element in supporting Fraternalism and Compassion as we contribute our time and support for worthwhile causes.

Invite those whom you support to assist in your projects whenever possible and host a welcome meeting to which they are invited. Who knows? They may become a valuable member in your Council.

Some of the examples of reaching out are demonstrated elsewhere in this issue and I would encourage your Volunteer Coordinator to use the support that is available through the Grand and at Supreme to assist with your efforts.

Fraternally

Gil. Hartley Grand Executive Committee - Chair Public Relations / Welcome Comm.

MEMBER RETENTION

Hello all Councils. As always we are working towards maintaining our membership. If you do not have a membership chairperson, you should then have someone assigned to continue working with the Retention Comm. and New membership. Membership and Retention require around the clock surveillance.

That one phone call may be all that is needed to remind a lapsed member to pay and continue his or her membership. It is more personal when someone from the Council calls with the concern of membership.

At present we have 101 members who have not renewed. After some phones calls 4 of these renewed. The remaining lapsing members will be contacted over the next month.

If any of your Grand Executive can be of assistance, please give them a call.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if every Council had a Plus Number this year.

Dwight Hunter Grand Executive Comm. Membership Retention Comm.

BENEFITS

Watch out for the upcoming Dental, Vision, Hearing and Critical Illness benefits for Canadian Members. You may be able to see better, hear better, smile nicer and have some financial assistance. Watch your North of the Border News.

COUNCILS IN ACTION

