



The Order of

UNITED COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS OF AMERICA



A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand Council #31

124th Supreme Session Report

Hyatt Regency Hotel – Jacksonville, Florida, July 16th to July 20th, 2011

We had 19 members from our A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand Council #31 in attendance. Ten Members representing your Grand Council reporting on different aspects of the 124th Supreme Session were as follows: Supreme Conductor **Larry Pilon** PGC (1015 Calgary North) completing his 3rd year and was elected Supreme Junior Counselor at this session - “Congratulations Larry”, Supreme Board of Governors PGC **Jerry Giff** (1051 Sudbury), appointed Delegate Grand Counselor **Dave Syrota** (1020 Medicine Hat), Elected Delegates: Grand Conductor **Jack Blenkinsop** (1025 North Bay), Grand Treasurer **Sylvia Herman** (1016 Edmonton) and Grand Secretary PGC **Rick Warner** (1003 Kelowna West); Elected 1st Alternate: Grand Past Counselor **Serena Olsen** (1021 Red Deer), Alternates Appointed and Elected Committee Members: PGC **David Cumming** (1023 Cranbrook) appointed to Canadian Task Force and elected Regional VP of Grand Counselor’s Association; PGC **Chris Phelan** (1015 Calgary North) elected President of Canadian Delegation and appointed to Jurisprudence Committee, PG Chaplain **Melorie Davies** (1047 Ottawa 2000) elected 2nd Vice President of Canadian Delegation, appointed to 2011 Fraternalist of the Year Committee and appointed as Chair of the 2011 Press Committee. PGC Gary Mighton (1047 Ottawa 2000) appointed to UCT Charities Trust Fund but Gary, wife Eleanor and sister Joan unable to attend due to Gary’s health problems. Gary is in our prayers and we all wish him a speedy recovery. Nine other members in attendance were: **Carol Pilon, Shirley Giff, Glenda Syrota, Christine Blenkinsop, Ed Irwin, Corey Phelan, Susan Warner, Lindsay and Marilee Maxwell** with 2 sons Kristopher and Brad. Lindsay worked with UCT Head Office people throughout the session. Gary and I have been co-ordinating the Supreme Session Reports for about 14 years but due to Gary’s health problems, I will be coordinating this 124th Supreme Session Report. Much thanks to the first mentioned “10 members” for their excellent reporting of this 124th Supreme Session. Supreme Conductor Larry is continuing to report on his journey to being elected Supreme Counselor at 125th Supreme Session, June 30th to July 3rd, 2012 in Calgary, ALTA. Yahoo!! This will be a great Supreme Session so everyone please do your best to attend and to be there to give your support to our “**FIRST Supreme Counselor Larry Pilon and First Lady Carol Pilon**”!!!

Executive Officer Past Grand Chaplain Melorie Davies (Ottawa 2000 Council 1047:

Hotel Accommodations: The Hyatt Regency Riverfront Hotel is a beautiful hotel located at 225 East Coastline Drive in downtown Jacksonville with a UCT convention rate of \$99.00 plus taxes which was very good for a hotel of this caliber. The meeting facilities were excellent, all rooms had a view of the St. John’s River or the Jacksonville skyline and there was a pool and a hot tub top on the roof of the hotel. The staff was very friendly making sure everyone was looked after accordingly and everyone enjoyed the delicious meals in the restaurant, the special breakfasts, lunches and dinners for our various events. We enjoyed having some lunches together at the Landing which was near our Hotel and on Monday night, July 18th, about 50 Canadians from our A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand, Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand and Atlantic Grand enjoyed the excellent food at Vito’s Italian restaurant at the Landing and a good time was had by all.

UCT Charities: Gary has been a member of the UCT Charities Trust Fund for many years and he was appointed to UCT Charities Trust Fund for 2010/2011 by Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner. The UCT Charities Trust Fund Annual Meeting was held Sunday, July 17th at 2:00 pm and President of UCT Charities Trust Fund Supreme Conductor Larry Pilon was in attendance. The UCT Charities Trust Fund collected \$24,500.00 in donations from the floor this year with a total of 126 scholarships totaling \$95,000.00. This year the Charities Trust Fund will again donate \$10,000.00 to the Canadian Special Olympics in December if funds are available from investments and interest earned this year. Our A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand Council #31 members presented 25 cheques for a total of \$4,867.00 to UCT Charities Trust Fund as follows: A.C.T./UCT

Grand Council #31, A.C.T./UCT Grand Council #31 meeting fines, Calgary North 1015, Cranbrook 1023, Edmonton 1016, Grande Prairie 1018, Kelowna West 1003, Medicine Hat 1020, Membership Contest Winners 3 cheques: Joyce Pierre \$20.00., Larry Pilon \$20.00 and Lindsay Maxwell \$20.00, Moose Jaw 1027, Ontario Provincial Meeting, Orillia 1064, Red Deer 1021, Sherwood Park 1022, St. Albert 1024, Sudbury 1051, Thunder Bay 1039, Toronto East 1065, anonymous donor Harold Raven of Red Deer 1021, anonymous donor – Dave Carnes Sudbury 1051, personal cheque from Eleanor and Gary Mighton of Ottawa 2000 Council 1047 in memory of my son Randal Davis, 2 personal cheques from myself, Melorie Davies of 1047 Ottawa 2000, one cheque in memory of my parents Catherine and Harold McCutcheon and another cheque in memory of my loving son Randal Davis. Thanks for all your generosity in the past, present and looking forward to our A.C.T./UCT Councils and members supporting the UCT Charities in the future. Gary was appointed to the UCT Charities Trust fund for 2011/2012 by incoming Supreme Counselor Randy Young.

Past Grand Counselor Jerry Giff (Sudbury 1051) – Supreme Board of Governors

Canadian Delegation Association Meeting – Sunday July 17th, 3:00 pm – City Terrace 7 – 3rd floor:

The Canadian Delegation Association meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, July 17th, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency Riverfront in Jacksonville, Florida by President Chris Phelan. Representatives in attendance from our 4 Canadian Grand Councils were as follows: A.C.T./UCT, Atlantic, Manitoba/Saskatchewan and Oregon/Washington/BC. The business session was completed in a timely fashion, including a review of the Treasurer's report and an update from the Canadian Task Force. The meeting was advised that Larry Pilon through ongoing discussion with Special Olympics Canada had arranged to have the UCT logo placed on the Special Olympics website, acknowledging our ongoing support as a major sponsor.

It was decided the Canadian Hospitality room would open following the banquet on Tuesday evening, July 19th, and it will be a cash bar. Gordon Woodworth, Atlantic Grand Council was presented to the delegation as a candidate for a future Supreme office.

New UCT VP Sales, John Marshall was introduced by Lindsay Maxwell. John assured all in attendance that work was now underway to enhance product offerings to members and perspective members in Canada.

Elections and installation officer, PSC Wes Cosman conducted the election process for 2011-2012 as follows:

President - **Melorie Davies** - A.C.T./UCT

First Vice - David Pugh - Atlantic

Second Vice - Jean Thomas - Man/Sask

Third Vice - **Rick Warner** - A.C.T./UCT

Sec/Treas - Myrtle Hudson - Man/Sask

Past Pres - **Chris Phelan** - A.C.T./UCT

All A.C.T./UCT delegates, members and guests were in attendance and the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Delegate, Grand Secretary Past Grand Counselor Rick Warner (Kelowna West Council 1003)

Opening Ceremony & Memorial Service – Sunday July 17th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm- Grand Ballroom – 2nd floor

The 124th Annual Supreme Session Opening Ceremonies and Memorial service took place on Sunday, July 17th, 2011 at the Hyatt Regency in Jacksonville, Florida.

PSC Ron Hedglin served as the Master of Ceremonies.

The Supreme Board of Governors was introduced and escorted into the service including A.C.T./UCT members, **Supreme Conductor Larry Pilon** and his wife **Carol**, **Board of Governors Jerry Giff** and his wife **Carol**. **Chris Phelan** and **Rick Warner** unveiled the respective Provincial flag for Larry and Jerry.

All PSC and Auxiliary PSC were recognized for their contributions to the Order.

Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner welcomed everyone and declared 124th Supreme Session officially opened.

Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner announced his Committee members for this 124th Supreme Session and he appointed **Melorie Davies** as Chair of the Press Committee.

The Necrology Committee then took the stage and as each deceased member's name was read, a candle was lit. When our Past Grand Secretary **Neil B. Pickering's** name was read, the Canadian contingent rose in Neil's honor. Eulogies were then given for Past Supreme Counselor's Lawrence C. Sommers, Gerald F Booth,

Auxiliary Past Supreme Counselor Allene G. Mills and the 1995 Fraternalist of the Year, Normand J. Dumont. A moment of silence was held in honor of the men and women serving in the American and the Canadian Armed Forces. Music and Vocals were performed by Lisa Mitchel and Susan Vogel. Benediction was done by Supreme Chaplain David Kraemer.

Past Grand Counselor Chris Phelan (Calgary North 1015)

Grand Counselor's Association – Monday July 18th, 8:30 – 10:30 am – Grand Ballroom – 2nd floor:

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.; **Dave Syrota, Serena Olson, Jack Blenkinsop, Larry Pilon, Jerry Giff, Chris Phelan,** and **Dave Cummings** Regional Vice President on the GCA were in attendance. Memorial service members attended and there was 19 Past Grand Counselors passed away last year. The Secretary's report was given and we stand at 422 members with 287 in the burial fund. The Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner paid a visit and wished the members a good meeting. A Treasurer's Report by David Accinno that this year 9 scholarships were awarded for a total of \$2,400.00 also 2 donations of \$500.00 for the scholarship fund was received. Committee Reports were in the workbook. The President's report was read and all reports passed. Business from the floor:

2011 Proposed Amendments to the UCT Constitution. 1, 2, 4, 7, 8 passed, 2, 5, 9 rejected, 6 was withdrawn. The Elections for 2011 – 2012 as follows: Sid Toleno President, Oregon/Washington/BC, First Vice President: **Dave Cummings** A.C.T./UCT, VP regional Gord Woodworth Atlantic, VP regional Jo Ann Pauli Colorado-Wyoming, VP regional Jane Mason, Mississippi-Louisiana and Don was elected VP Regional. Michael Quinn Secretary, New England, Treasurer David Accinno New England, **Dave Cummings** was appointed to State of the Order Committee and I was appointed to the Finance and Audit Committee. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.. Congratulations to **Dave Cummings** for his election to First Vice President as next year Dave will be President. Thanks Dave for representing A.C.T./UCT in this important organization.

Delegate Grand Secretary Past Grand Counselor Rick Warner (Kelowna West Council 1003)

Internatiion Sec/Treasurer Association Meeting – Monday July 18th, 8:30 – 10:30 am – City Terrace 9:

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Tom Rice. Invocation was given by Chaplin Phyllis Burt. Allegiance to the US Flag and salute Canadian Flag although there was not one present. Attendance record passed around the room. Roll call of the Officers by Secretary Donna Hayes. Two new members present and one quest. Appointments for various committees were announced.

Guests Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner, Supreme Junior Counselor Randy Young, Supreme Past Counselor James Walsh and CEO Joseph Hoffman dropped in and each spoke on the success this past year and continued success for the upcoming year.

The following reports were given:

Presidents report by Tom Rice. Secretary Donna Hayes and Treasurer Joe Yanello reports were handed out and a short overview and explanation was given. All reports moved & adopted. Bank balance \$34,133.87. Motion to adopt last years minutes, copies were mailed out to all members. Executive committee report by Lawrence Shafer moved & adopted. Visitation committee left to visit Grand Counselors Association meeting. There was no unfinished business or new business. Jerry Thomas, Supreme Treasurer discussed the E – Post Card and 990 reports, which are for the U.S. only. These reports have to do with tax exemptions for fraternal organizations. Failure to comply and tax exemption is lost. Necrology report was performed by ISTA Chaplain Phyllis Burt with assistance from Susan Vogel. Eight members passed this year. Guests Sid Toleno and **David Cumming** of the Grand Counselors Association came by and had a few words for ISTA. Visitation committee of David Lee, Tom Hoffman and James Grove returned and reported on their visit with GCA. Press committee Myrtle Hudson and Glenda Dickey made their report. Election of officers was held by PSC Tom Smith. Mary Komives President, Linda Melatere First Vice President, Donna Hayes Secretary, Joe Yanello Treasurer, Larry Shafer and Homer Huprich Executive Board, Page **Rick Warner** elected, defeated Sarah Desselles, Tom Rice Past President. Sharon Kossman was given her Past President honors. Forty seven voting members were present.

Resolution committee reported no Resolutions. Installation of Officers and appointments for the following committees: State of the Order: **Sylvia Herman**, Resolutions: **Rick Warner**, Necrology, Press and Chaplain Phyllis Burt. Motion by David McKay to ratify all accomplished today and carried. Meeting adjourned.

Grand Executive Officer Past Grand Chaplain Melorie Davies (Ottawa 2000 Council 1047)

The “First Lady’s Luncheon” – Monday July 18th, 11:15am – River Terrace 1 – 3rd floor:

First Lady Mary Wagner was our host for the “2011 First Lady’s Luncheon” with both women and men in attendance and chose as her theme “Angeletic” with beautiful Angels of different colors as centerpieces at each table and an Angel for each of her ladies at the Head Table. Mary welcomed everyone to her luncheon and Invocation was by Supreme Chaplain’s wife Mary Krammer. Grace was sung to the tune of Edelweiss: Bless our Friends, Bless our Food, Come, Oh Lord, and sit with us. May our talk glow with Peace, May your wisdom surround us. Friendship and Love may it bloom and grow, Bloom and grow Forever, Bless our Friends, Bless our Food, Come, Oh Lord, and sit with us. Mary thanked the ladies of Iowa for letting them use their prayer.

What a wonderful delicious lunch consisting of salad, roast pork, gravy, green beans, baby carrots, escalloped garlic potatoes, squash, rolls, iced tea, coffee or tea followed with a great desert of Blueberry Cheesecake.

After lunch, First Lady Mary proceeded with introductions of head table including **Carol Pilon**, wife of Supreme Conductor **Larry Pilon** and **Shirley Giff**, wife of Board of Governor **Jerry Giff**. Six other ladies from our Grand Council in attendance were: **Glenda Syrota**, **Christine Blenkinsop**, Grand Treasurer **Sylvia Herman**, **Corey Phelan**, **Susan Warner** and Grand Executive and Past Grand Chaplain **Melorie Davies**.

First Lady Mary Wagner made the introduction of our special guest and said we were going to step back in time to the 19th century in Jacksonville with one of its most influential residents, Henry Flagler. Henry was one of Northeast Florida’s key developers and “Father of Tourism” who gave a very interesting history presentation of his life in St. Augustine, Jacksonville etc. He then took time to chat with guests about his not so ordinary life. First Lady Mary said she had chose #3 as the winner of the beautiful angel at each table and the winner at our table #28 was: our only gentleman, Jack who was very pleased he won. Everyone received a lovely book mark with a beautiful poem saying “Friends are Angels sent to us on the wings of a blessing”. There were many wonderful door prizes and this was the first year no one from our Grand won a prize. In closing, First Lady Mary thanked her Committee from her Grand for their help with door prizes, centre pieces, decorating etc and thanked everyone for attending her “2011 Lady’s Luncheon”.

Delegate Grand Conductor Jack Blenkinsop (North Bay Council 1025)

Monday Afternoon Business Session – July 18th, 1:30pm – Grand Ballroom 5 – 8 – 2nd floor:

Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner opened the 124th Supreme Business Session with the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag and a salute to the Canadian Flag. The attendance was then confirmed by Roll Call. Our Grand had 4 voting delegates and 4 voting Past Grand Counselors. The password was confirmed and then all the Committees appointed had all their reports accepted as printed. Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner then gave a short outline of his activities in the past year. Including visits to councils in the U.S., Stewart and his wife Mary made two trips to Canada and they visited 18 Councils. He ended his report by encouraging all of us to ask someone to join our great fraternal organization and to always continue to help others.

Past Supreme Counselor Jim Walsh presented the Supreme Board of Governors Report and he outlined the following initiatives.

- Implementation of the new logo and marketing plan.
- Establishment of an Education Committee for Supreme Board members
- Collins Barrow appointed as auditors.
- UCT Charities Trust exceeded the \$2 million goal.
- Expansion of the community outreach program-Keith Ward and Tony Symsak
- Sponsorship of The American Special Hockey Association (ASHA) for children who are mentally challenged. \$5,000 available for development of this organization in Canada.

Many more projects and initiatives were mentioned. Jim Walsh encouraged all the delegates to view the work of the Board of Governors on the UCT Website. The Necrology Report was given and then the Fraternalist of the Year Committee including **2010 Fraternalist of the Year Melorie Davis** gave their report with the highest UCT Award, **2011 Fraternalist of the Year** presented to **Tommy Walker** from Auburn IL. As this was my first visit to a Supreme Convention, I was a little in awe of the proceedings so I hope I didn’t miss anything. It is truly a pleasure to be part of an organization that has been helping others for 124 years.

Grand Past Counselor Serena Olsen (Red Deer Council 1021)

Grand Counselor's & Grand Membership Director's Breakfast

Tuesday Morning – July 19th, 7:00 – 8:00 a.m – City Terrace 5 – 3rd floor .:

Grand Counselor **Dave Syrota**, Grand Past Counselor **Serena Olsen**, Past Supreme Counselor Keith Ward and several members from Grands across USA and Canada attended this breakfast with Supreme Junior Counselor, Randy Young. The main subject of conversation centered about our membership loss with the total being around 35,000 for the past year. The new logo as well as the Volunteer Co-ordinator Handbook presented to us by Keith Ward hopefully will instill some positive results in Local Councils. We were encouraged to reach out to younger people and share with them that we need their knowledge with networking through face book and other means of communication and need to change our approach so we can learn from them.

“Together we can grow if we are open to change”. Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner brought greetings from the Board of Governor's and he encouraged all in attendance to work to the best of our abilities.

Delegate Grand Treasurer Sylvia Herman (Edmonton Council 1016)

Tuesday Morning Business Session: – July 19th, 9:00 am – Grand Ballroom 5 – 8 – 2nd floor:

May E Tisdale Scholarship Fund: Sister Kathy Mullis gave the Treasurers report confirming last year's donations of \$29,839.72. Announcement of the passing of Aiden Mills was mentioned. Each year 50 Scholarships are given to family members, information on Guidelines and Applications for Scholarships are available through UCT Website. Two Scholarships went to students in Saskatchewan and one to Winnipeg. A student from our ACT/UCT Grand, Council 1027 Moose Jaw was a recipient.

ISTA (International Secretary Treasurers Association: Announced the attendance of 47 Members, with 2 new members attending for the first time. Joseph Yanello gave his Treasurers report with a balance of \$34,133.87. New Executives were nominated and elected. Grand Secretary **Rick Warner** was elected as Page to the executive line and I was pleased to be appointed to the State of the Order Committee.

Jurisprudence Committee- Presented Ten Amendments, #1 - #7, #9 and #10 accepted. Amendment #8 was challenged on the floor. A vote was taken with 213 Delegates in attendance, 127 for the Amendment and 86 against. A majority of 2/3 was required. Amendment # 8 was defeated.

The Sulzbacher Centre in Jacksonville: Presented a video on their Shelter which provides a stable environment for homeless individuals and families as they work toward finding their way home. This facility helps 340 people each day. UCT toiletry drive presented a challenge to all councils to meet the goal of providing 10,000 toiletry items to this facility and this goal was exceeded with over 25,000 items received.

Membership Expansion “Add One Member” presentation by Ann Marshall and Lindsay Maxwell for signing 50 new members. The Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand received this award.

Community Service Award for Volunteers plus hours was presented to North Bay 1049.

Medal of Honour Awards

Medal of Honour Gold – **1018 Grande Prairie, 1051 Sudbury and 1022 Sherwood Park**

Honourable Mention – **1039 Thunder Bay**

Examining Finance Committee- reviewed all items and found no irregularities for concern with all completed in a timely and efficient manner. Increased costs for Supreme Session from Greenville to Indianapolis were acceptable. A modest profit is being maintained. Thanks to Mr. Heckler for his assistance.

Auxiliary Past Supreme Counselors & Auxiliary Past Grand Counselors- First Lady Mary Wagner announced 16 members attended their breakfast. Presentations made to May E Tisdale and UCT Charities Trust.

Past Grand Counselor David Cumming (Cranbrook Council 1023) – appointed to Canadian Task Force and elected Regional Vice President of the Grand Counselor's Association

Tuesday Afternoon Business Session - July 19th, 1:30pm – Grand Ballroom 5 - 8, 2nd floor:

The bible was opened at 1:30 by Chaplin David Kraemer and Supreme Councilor Stewart Wagner declared the beginning of the business session. Nine members of the AMOB joined on stage to give their colorful report. Tony Zanzak introduced Mike Hickey who gave a short presentation on ASHA (American Special Hockey Association). Bible was closed for the presentation of cheques to the following charities: UCT Charities Trust

Fund, May E. Tisdale Scholarship Fund and the UCT Fraternal Fund. Our A.C.T./UCT Grand Council was well represented and presented 25 cheques totaling \$4,867.00

Supreme Councilor Stewart Wagner turned the gavel over to Past Supreme Counselor Wes Cosman to conduct the elections with the following results:

Supreme Counselor	Randy Young
Supreme Junior Counselor	Larry Pilon
Past Supreme Counselor	Stewart Wagner
Secretary/Treasurer	Gerald Thomas
Conductor	Robert Kellogg
Page	David Burt
Sentinel	Tom Hoffman

The Candidates for future consideration were introduced as follows: Caroline Dobschensky, Michhel Quinn, and Gord Woodward of Atlantic Grand.

A short break was called and 11 UCT children participating in the “Kids Program” were presented by Sandy Schaefer.

Press Committee Report chaired by **Melorie Davies** and the winners from our Grand were as follows:

<u>Newsletters:</u>	Toronto 1065 and Sudbury 1051
<u>Safety Posters:</u>	Public School – Upper Level – 3rd – Calgary 1014
	Public School – Middle Level – 2nd – Orillia 1064
	Intellectual Disabilities – Middle Level – Calgary 1014
<u>Join Hands Day:</u>	Cranbrook 1023

Roses for the Living Awards:

24 roses were given out with the explanation that any more would lessen the significant of this presentation
Congratulations to our A.C.T./UCT Grand Secretary **Rick Warner** who received his Rose, pin and Certificate.

Grievance Committee Report: - Some light hearted banter comprised of this report.

Sheriff's Report: Some laughs were had and all were fined appropriately.

The Bible was closed and the meeting was over for another day.

Grand Executive Officer and Past Grand Chaplain Melorie Davies (Ottawa 2000 Council 1047)

Supreme Banquet – Tuesday, July 19th, - 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the Grand Ballroom - 2nd floor:

The Supreme Banquet started with a Social Hour from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom foyer hosted by the Hyatt Regency Hotel which gave everyone a chance to mingle with others. There were 19 of our Canadian Delegation in attendance including Supreme Conductor **Larry Pilon** and wife **Carol**, Board of Governors **Jerry Giff** and wife **Shirley** sitting at the head table and **Lindsay Maxwell** sitting with Columbus Head office. The Supreme Officers with their wives were paraded in and seated at the head table. Past Grand Counselor Mel Schwartz served as the Master of Ceremonies. We then had pledge of Allegiance, Salute to Canadian Flag, singing of Star Spangled Banner and the singing of O'Canada.

There was an introduction of the head table guests followed by comments from Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner who thanked everyone who had been such good hosts to him and his lovely wife Mary. He said they will cherish all the good memories of everyone they had met through out their journey in Canada and the United States for many years to come. The Invocation was done by Supreme Chaplain David Kraemer.

The dinner was excellent and consisted of salad, garlic bread, filet mignon with mushrooms, potatoes, squash and asparagus with a desert of fresh Blueberries Cheese Cake and was enjoyed by everyone.

Supreme Board of Directors and outgoing Supreme Past Counselor Jim Walsh of Hooksett, NH, received his Past Supreme Counselor honors. A presentation of Past Supreme Chaplain Pin was presented by Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner to Supreme Chaplain David Kraemer of Bourbonnais, ILL. A Special Presentation was done by artist David Knapp, Columbus Head Office, of portraits to Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner and his wife Mary of St. Anne, ILL. The Benediction followed by Supreme Chaplain David Kraemer.

Delegate Grand Counselor Dave Syrota (Medicine Hat Council 1020)

Canadian Hospitality Room – Tuesday Evening July 19th, - 9:00 p.m.:

After the banquet the Canadian Hospitality Room was opened around 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening. Members from ACT/UCT Dominion Grand, Atlantic Grand, Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand and Oregon/Washington/BC Grand were in attendance. This was a come and go evening with approximately 60 people attending, including guests from the Home Office and the other US Grand Councils. This provided us the opportunity to meet and socialize with the other members. The Canadian Hospitality room was operated on a cash bar basis and was opened from 9:30 p.m. to midnight. A good time was had by all!!!!

Delegate Grand Counselor Dave Syrota (Medicine Hat Council 1020)

Wednesday Supreme Business Session & Installation – July 20th, 9:00 am – Grand Ballroom 5 – 2nd floor:

The Wednesday Supreme Business Session was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner. The Resolution Committee represented by Chairperson George Thomas of Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand presented one resolution which was passed. The UCT Charities Trust Fund finalized their report and collected \$24,500.00 in donations from the floor this year. A total of 126 scholarships were given out totaling 7 - \$95,000.00. The May E. Tisdale Educational Trust Fund also reported they collected \$9,830.00 this year. The Sheriff's report was given with a total of \$621.00 collected in fines which were donated to the May E. Tisdale Fund. Chairperson Dave Poets of the Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand presented the State of the Order Committee Report. The report highlighted each report submitted with positive recommendations presented to the delegates. There was no unfinished or new business presented.

Installation of the Supreme Officer then took place.

Supreme Counselor Randy Young,

Supreme Past Counselor Stewart Wagner,

Supreme Junior Counselor Larry Pilon,

Supreme Conductor Robert Kellogg,

Supreme Page David Burt,

Supreme Sentinel Tom Hoffman,

Secretary/Treasurer Gerald Thomas,

Board of Governors George Bohn, **Board of Governors Jerry Giff,**

Supreme Chaplain Stephen Desselles.

Supreme Counselor Randy Young gave his opening remarks and announced his Supreme Standing Committees for 2011/2012 and other appointments. The following Canadian delegates and members appointed as follows:

State of the Order: Chairperson Gordon Woodworth Atlantic,

Examining Finance Committee: **Grand Counselor Dave Syrota** A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand,

Necrology Committee: **Chris Phelan PGC** A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand,

Delegates-at-Large: Dave Poets Manitoba/Saskatchewan Grand,

Canadian Operations Task Force: **Jerry Giff PGC, David Cumming PGC** and **Lindsay Maxwell** Advisor

A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand, UCT Charities Trust Fund: **Gary Mighton PGC** A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand.

Next year the **125th Supreme Session** will be held **June 30th to July 3rd 2012 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.**

Yahoo!!!! PGC Larry Pilon of 1015 Calgary North will be inducted as our “**First Supreme Counselor from A.C.T./UCT Dominion Grand Council #31**”. **Congratulations Larry!!!!**

The 124th Supreme Session ratified and closed at 10:30 a.m.

Special report - Supreme Junior Counselor Larry Pilon PGC (Calgary North Council 1015) –

The Supreme Session in Jacksonville, Florida was another successful one, bringing to an end a very busy year on the Supreme Board of Governors. Carol and I along with the rest of the Board Members, their spouses and some management from Home Office arrived a day early and spent an enjoyable outing touring St. Augustine, the oldest City in the United States. The history, the buildings, the food and shopping was fantastic. It's always a treat to spend a little relaxing time with everyone, renewing friendships and sharing fellowship before the hectic round of business meetings begin. The Board meetings ended Friday night and we started preparing to greet delegates registering early on Saturday and Sunday. Generally this offers the Board an opportunity in between numerous other committee meetings to communicate and answer any questions anyone may have in regards to the upcoming Session. There is little time to spare once the Opening Ceremonies conclude on Sunday evening as the business Sessions begin Monday morning.

It was hot and humid in Jacksonville, not only outside but also inside as there were many heated discussions during the Session pertaining to all the amendments that were proposed. All in all, cooler heads prevailed and all but amendment #8 were passed. So, it's back to the drawing board for next year's proposal.

This past year has not been without change as we have replaced our Vice-President of Sales with John Marshall who comes to us with a very good resume. John has a very challenging task ahead of him as sales are down especially with the Medicare supplement product and as a result, our membership numbers are down significantly. The Medicare supplement product is not competitive at this time as a few larger companies are lagging behind in increasing their fees. Although some of the new products are showing positive signs especially the Dental, Vision and Hearing product. It takes a minimum of one year for a new product to show some profit. The commissionable products in Canada are slow to get off the ground but we are told that the Final Expense plan and the Emergency Travel products are good and competitive. We are hopeful to introduce a Dental, Vision and Hearing product soon in Canada as well.

UCT is very active on the fraternal side as well. You would have seen the exciting write up in the Sample Case on our support and involvement with the American Special Hockey Association. It is a great opportunity for UCT, not only to get more recognition but in keeping with the good work UCT does in their local communities throughout North America. We are also very active in pursuing the development of Special Hockey in Canada. Meetings are set up with Hockey Canada, Calgary Flames and other NHL teams to promote their involvement. This project, we hope will become a huge part of UCT, so check out your communities now and in the near future as a Special Hockey Team may already exist. Contact me or the UCT Office if you have any information or if you wish to get involved. This is also a great opportunity to get our younger people involved and hopefully generate new members which we desperately need.

Carol and I want to say "Congratulations" to all the A.C.T./UCT Grand Members who have been appointed to Supreme Committees. It's great to see how many people from our Grand are taking on significant roles in the Supreme realm and they are very deserving of their appointments and elected positions. We are very proud of all of you and we are looking forward to seeing everyone at the 18th Grand Session in Medicine Hat, AB, the first week of June and of course at the 125th Supreme Session in Calgary at the end of June 2012. We are getting a bit nervous as our year as Supreme Counselor is coming up so fast but also very anxious as we hope to get an opportunity to come and visit you and share our experience. We have managed to get a great rate at the Hyatt Regency for all Delegates and guests coming to Calgary, so please book early as we only have a certain number of rooms available. Come and experience a Supreme Session and extend your stay for some Calgary Stamped and Exhibition fun. Let's show the rest of the UCT Domain what Canadians are all about and make this the "Most Memorable Supreme Session ever". YAHOO!!!!!!

Yours and Fraternally;
Supreme Junior Counselor Larry Pilon

Highlights of A.C.T/UCT Dominion Grand Council #31 at 124th Supreme Session
Hyatt Regency Hotel Riverfront – Jacksonville, FL. July 16th to July 20th, 2011

“CONGRATULATIONS” to all Members elected or appointed to positions on Committees, Members and Councils receiving UCT Awards for this 124th Supreme Session and to our Members appointed to Committees by Supreme Counselor Randy Young, members appointed and elected for other committees for the 125th Supreme Session, June 30th to July 3rd in Calgary AB when our **“PGC Larry Pilon will be elected Supreme Counselor”**. Our Members and our Local Councils are to be commended for their accomplishments and achievements at each Supreme Session and very pleased to advise the following highlights at the 124th Supreme Session with regards to Appointments, Elections and UCT Awards:

Past Grand Counselor Larry Pilon (1015 Calgary North) Supreme Conductor and elected to Supreme Junior Counselor, served as chairperson of Canadian Task Force and President of UCT Charities Trust Fund at this Supreme and appointed to the Canadian Task Force for the 125th Supreme Session;

Past Grand Counselor Jerry Giff (1051 Sudbury) of Supreme Board of Governors served on the Canadian Task Force at this Supreme Session and appointed to the Canadian Task Force for the 125th Supreme Session;

Past Grand Counselor David Cumming (1023 Cranbrook) elected First Vice President and appointed to State of the Order Committee of the Grand Counselor’s Association, served on the Canadian Task Force at this Supreme and appointed to the Canadian Task Force for the 125th Supreme Session;

Past Grand Counselor Gary Mighton (1047 Ottawa 2000) appointed to the UCT Charities Trust Fund for the 125th Supreme Session;

Past Grand Counselor Chris Phelan (1015 Calgary North) served as President and elected Past President of Canadian Delegation, served on the Jurisprudence Committee, appointed to Grand Counselor’s Assoc. Finance and Audit Committee at this Supreme and appointed to Necrology Committee for the 125th Supreme Session;

Delegate Grand Counselor Dave Syrota (1016 Medicine Hat) appointed to the Examining Finance Committee for the 125th Supreme Session;

Delegate Grand Secretary Past Grand Counselor Rick Warner (1022 Kelowna West Council) elected 3rd Vice President of Canadian Delegation Committee, elected Page and appointed to the Resolution Committee of the International Secretary Treasurer’s Association at this Supreme Session;

Delegate Grand Treasurer Sylvia Herman (1016 Edmonton Council) appointed to International Secretary Treasurer Association State of the Order Committee at the ISTA Meeting at this Supreme Session and

Grand Executive Officer Past Grand Chaplain Melorie Davies (1047 Ottawa 2000) served as 2nd Vice President and elected President of the Canadian Association Delegation, as the 2010 Fraternalist of the Year served on the 2011 Fraternalist of the Year Committee and was appointed to the Chair of the Press Committee by Supreme Counselor Stewart Wagner at this Supreme Session.

UCT Awards:

2011 Roses for the Living Award – only 24 presented at the Supreme Level

Delegate Grand Secretary Rick Warner PGC (1022 Kelowna West Council)

Medal of Honor Awards – we had 4 Councils qualified as follows:

3 Medal of Honor Gold: 1051 Sudbury, 1022 Sherwood Park and 1018 Grand Prairie

Honorable Mention: 1039 Thunder Bay

Community Service Award: for Volunteers plus hours was presented to **1049 North Bay.**

Join Hand Day: 1023 Cranbrook

Newsletters: Councils 199 or fewer - **1st place - 1051 Sudbury and 2nd Place - 1065 Toronto East**

Safety Posters: Upper Level - **3rd Place - 1014 Calgary, Middle Level - 2nd place - 1064 Orillia**

Intellectual Disabilities Middle Level - **3rd Place - 1014 Calgary**

Sulzbacher Center Project a great success!!

This year’s Supreme Session Community service project, collecting toiletries for Sulzbacher Center, was a greater than expected success. Our goal was to collect 10,000 items for Northeast Florida’s homeless adults and children. Nearly 25,000 items and more than \$1,300.00 was collected, providing once again our UCT’s commitment to community and compassion. Thanks to all the members of our Councils in Canada and USA.

Grand Executive Officer Past Grand Chaplain Melorie Davies