



## Axel W. Carlson **UNsung HERO AWARD**

The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation honored Bob Crane, Joel Fisher, Doug Neal and Matt Oehlbeck during a reception in front of nearly 200 people at the Stanley Hose Company.

While all four men have varying levels of involvement with the Stanley Hose Company, they were recognized individually for their contributions to the Sherman community.

Bob, nominated by his granddaughter, Danielle Crane, is a volunteer at the Stanley Hose Company and is an EMT, ALS and Recue Captain. He is a chair holder on the Westfield Memorial Hospital Board of Directors and volunteers at the local food pantry when needed.

Joel, a science teacher at Sherman Central School, has volunteered with the Stanley Hose Company for 20 years. He has been a second assistant EMS, grant writer and currently serves as financial secretary of the organization. Through his grant writing efforts, Joel has secured over \$250,000 for the company to purchase new equipment, take training courses and more. He also serves as a girls youth basketball and softball coach.

Doug is also involved with the EMS program at the Stanley Hose Company. In addition, he also volunteers for fundraisers, special events and activities at the company. A member of Sherman Community Church, Doug has lent his talents to help renovate and remodel the church building as well as provide maintenance to the Yorker Museum.

Last, but certainly not least, Matt has been a member of the company since he was 18 years old. Today, he serves as fire chief, a position he has held for the past 14 years. In addition to that, he is a member of the Chautauqua County Fire Advisory Board and Chautauqua County Chief's Association.

For 32 years, the Axel W. Carlson "Unsung Hero" Award has been presented annually to residents of the southern Chautauqua region who have made significant contributions to their community through his or her efforts while neither receiving, nor expecting, reward or recognition.