

OPC Gears Up for a Banner Awards Dinner

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 25

by Sonya K. Fry

The champagne is on ice, microphones are “testing, testing,” and congratulations are floating in the air. It must be time for the OPC Annual Awards Dinner. This year’s dinner will be held at the Mandarin Oriental at Columbus Circle on Wednesday, April 25. The Reception at 6 p.m. is sponsored by the computer company Lenovo. The “Meet the Winners” Reception after dinner is sponsored by Thomson Reuters. With cocktails at both ends of the evening, it promises to be a great dinner.

The program will begin with the Candlelighting Ceremony in honor of journalists killed in the line of duty in the past year, like reporter Maria Colvin and French photographer Remi Ochlik who were killed in Syria in February and countless others who covered the Arab uprisings, the drug wars in Mexico and corruption in Russia and lost their lives in pursuit of a story. Joao Silva, photojournalist for *The New York Times* who lost both legs

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Ted Turner, above, will receive the OPC President’s Award. Lester Holt, top right, and Alison Smale, right, will present the awards.



AP Panel to Discuss War-Time Censorship

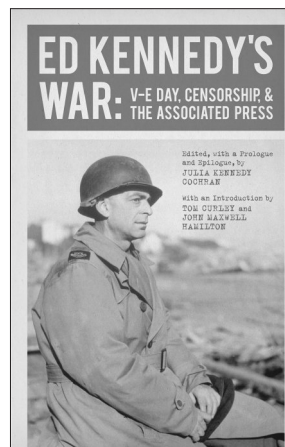
EVENT PREVIEW: MAY 8

On May 7, 1945, Associated Press reporter Ed Kennedy became the most famous — or infamous — American correspondent of World War II. On that day in France, General Alfred Jodl signed the official documents as Germans surrendered to the Allies. Army officials allowed a select number of reporters including Kennedy to witness this historic moment, but then instructed the journalists that the story was under military embargo. In a courageous but costly move, Kennedy defied the military embargo and broke the news of the Allied victory, generating instant controversy with rival news

organizations angrily protesting, and the AP firing him.

In *Ed Kennedy’s War: V-E Day, Censorship, and the Associated Press*, Kennedy recounts his career as a newspaperman from his early days as a stringer in Paris to the aftermath of his dismissal from the AP. During his time as a foreign correspondent, he covered the Spanish Civil War, the rise of Mussolini in Italy, unrest in Greece and ethnic feuding in the Balkans. During World War II, he reported from Greece, Italy, North Africa, and the Middle East before heading back to France to cover its liberation and

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OPC Awards: *Continued From Page 1*

in Afghanistan after stepping on a land mine in October 2010, will light the ceremonial candle and usher in a moment of silence.

Lester Holt, Weekend Anchor for NBC News and Alison Smale, Executive Editor of the *International Herald Tribune* will share duties presenting the 27 awards in categories ranging from photography to online commentary.

Alison Smale was deputy foreign editor at *The New York Times* before she went to the *IHT*. Previously as Vienna bureau chief for The Associated Press, she covered the fall of Communism across Eastern Europe, the rise of Milosevic and Serbian nationalism and the 1990's Balkan wars. She was posted in Moscow from 1983 to 1987 where she chronicled the transition from Andropov to Gorbachev. Smale was in New York on September 11th and helped to organize much of the prize-winning *New York Times* coverage of that event and the subsequent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. She is fluent in French, German and Russian.

Lester Holt joined NBC News in 2000. His assignments include reporting from the Kuwait/Iraqi border as U.S. forces prepared to



Joao Silva will light the candle to honor those journalists killed in the line of duty in the past year.

launch an invasion of Iraq, reporting from the front lines in Lebanon on the war between Israel and Hezbollah, the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Haiti, and last year he covered the political and civil unrest in Cairo and the earthquake and nuclear crisis in Japan. Holt was the primary anchor for MSNBC's coverage of world events and before that he was at WBBM-TV in Chicago for 14 years where he was anchor for the evening news. He is currently the Weekend Anchor for "NBC Nightly News" and Co-anchor of the weekend edition of the "Today" show.

OPC President David A. Andelman has selected Ted Turner as the recipient of this year's President's Award. Turner founded the Cable News Network in 1980 as the first 24-hour news channel. At

its inauguration he famously said, "We won't be signing off until the world ends. We'll be on, and we will cover the end of the world, live, and that will be our last event...we'll play 'Nearer, My God, To Thee' before we sign off." His daring venture changed news forever. His philanthropy is legendary with the \$1 billion gift to support U.N. causes through the U.N. Foundation. In 1991, Turner became the first media figure to be named *Time* magazine's Man of the Year.

Dinner Co-Chair William J. Holstein, President of the OPC Foundation, has been leading the charge on selling corporate tables. Sir Harry Evans, formerly editor of *The Sunday Times* of London from 1967 to 1981 and now editor-at-large for Thomson Reuters is co-chair of the dinner committee.

OPC member dinner tickets remain \$250 for a member and \$250 for one member guest. Non-member tickets are \$600. Table pricing is \$15,000, \$12,000, \$9,000 and \$6,000 for tables of 10. Reservations are essential for this annual black-tie event. Please join us in celebrating the best in international reporting. OPC members have been sent a printed invitation in the mail.

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40 West 45 Street, New York, NY 10036 USA • Phone: (212) 626-9220 • Fax: (212) 626-9210 • Website: opcofamerica.org

Long and Winding Road to Success in News Business

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

On July 4, 1986, the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, as he did every year, gathered the American community, correspondents, residents, and those assorted Russian friends who dared risk a trip to the gardens of Spaso House to celebrate Independence Day. But this was an especially unusual year. Ted Turner was in town and he was all set to inaugurate the Goodwill Games — an international athletic competition he'd ginned up, gathering 3,000 athletes from 79 countries, many of whom had boycotted the 1980 Moscow Olympics and the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games in tit-for-tat actions provoked by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

As the CBS News correspondent in town, I had a problem. Turner had a boycott of his own in force: No cameras at the Goodwill Games except those of CNN, which he'd founded six years earlier. Still, I was persistent. In the corner of the gardens, Ted was holding court. I identified myself and he stood, looked me up and down and leaned in and whispered, "How'd you like to box for America?" I finally managed to stammer, "Sure." He beamed and said, "You look like a bantamweight." I demurred. He continued, "Reagan's boycott of my Games has removed the entire

American boxing team, since they're all military folks reporting to the commander-in-chief. I have no boxers, so how would you like to box for America," he repeated. "You do that for me and I'll let your CBS camera inside." Now, I'd been in wars, revolutions, witness to a raft of carnage but never with my own blood involved. And it wasn't gonna happen then, either.

Ten days later, I was at the Bastille Day celebrations at the French Embassy in Moscow. President François Mitterrand showed up, so had Turner who spotted me and gestured to Mitterrand, "Can you introduce me?" I did the honors and they hit it off, but that introduction still didn't get a camera into the stadium.

On April 25, I will have the privilege of paying homage to this giant among us as I present Ted Turner with the President's Award for Lifetime Achievement. Turner is one of our true visionaries and a transformative figure in the media industry. If you're in the hall, you'll also have an opportunity to read in *Dateline* magazine, edited by our own **Tim Ferguson**, the moving and masterful tribute to Turner by NBC's **Tom Brokaw**.

As it happens, my first job in New York was in the fateful summer of 1965, when WINS went all-news, the world's first. "Fah," scoffed skeptics. "Who'd ever want all

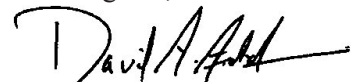
news, all the time?" Lots of folks it seems. Turner took that 24-hour news model global with words and pictures.

April will also mark the official debut of Global Parachute — what I believe will become a resource for all journalists. Our launch will feature 15 countries with overviews, fact sheets, contacts and, most precious of all, wikis written by on-the-ground reporters. Launch funds came from the Ford Foundation; we're seeking additional funding to add countries and broaden **opcglobalparachute.org's** network of journalists.

Finally, a shout out to our two interns: **Rixey Browning**, who's helped administer awards, pitched in with Global Parachute and co-authored press freedom letters and wrote the feature on page 11, and **Marissa Miller** who pilots the OPC's Facebook and Twitter pages and live Tweeted our recent book night with **Andrew Nagorski** and wrote the event recap (see page 4).

Of course, our April 25 Awards Gala hardly means the end of our year's activities. We're already planning events in May so stay tuned as the OPC goes from strength to strength.

Best regards,



David A. Andelman

AP Event: *Continued From Page 1*

the German surrender negotiations. His decision to break the news of V-E Day gave him front-page headlines in *The New York Times*. In his narrative, Kennedy emerges both as a reporter with an eye for a good story and an unwavering foe of censorship.

The book was edited by Kennedy's daughter, Julia Kennedy Cochran. Cochran has worked as a journalist for The AP, Reuters and *Business Week* before working as a marketing manager for high-tech companies.

OPC member Tom Curley, President and CEO of the AP, wrote the introduction to the book and will lead the panel discussion that will include the topic of wartime

relations between the military and the news media. Panelists include John Darnton, who was with *The New York Times* for four decades and now curates the Polk Awards; George Bria, retired AP foreign correspondent who knew Ed Kennedy; Sally Buzbee, AP's Washington bureau chief; and John Maxwell Hamilton, Professor of Journalism at Louisiana State University and author of *Journalism's Roving Eye*, a history of American foreign reporting.

This event takes place on Tuesday, May 8 at 6 p.m. at AP headquarters, 450 West 33 Street. Books will be for sale and signing. Please RSVP to the OPC at 212-626-9220 or sonya@opcofamerica.org.

Book Offers Inside Perspectives on Hitler in Germany

EVENT RECAP: MARCH 19

by Marissa Miller

The topic of Adolf Hitler is by no means an anomaly within the sphere of history writing. Myriad authors and historians have published an array of books on the infamous Führer and his rise to power. But in Andrew Nagorski's latest book, *Hitlerland*, he uses firsthand accounts of American journalists and diplomats living in Germany during the days of Hitler's ascent to power.

On March 19, the OPC hosted Nagorski for a discussion of his new book at Club Quarters. Accompanying Nagorski in his book talk was Sabine Anton, a German correspondent for Europe's largest television network *RTL*. As a native of Berlin, Anton offered her own personal insight into Germany's history and led the book talk with her questions for Nagorski.

Of Polish descent, Nagorski has always been interested in just how Hitler and his followers could have gained total control of Germany so quickly. His parents were political refugees who escaped from Poland and came to the United States, making this transformation of Germany personal. As an author of four previous books focusing on Eastern European and Soviet history, it was no surprise to Nagorski to write another book on this subject matter. However, he explained, he wanted to write about Hitler in a way that no other historian or author had done before. He realized that no book had been published from the perspective of Americans living in Germany during the 1920's and 30's. He said he wasn't sure there would be a sufficient amount of sources to substantiate his work, but through research, he found a breadth of unpublished memoirs, interview transcripts, and varying types of correspondence that all provided detailed insights into the lives of Americans and their perceptions of Hitler.

The talk transitioned into a discussion of the prominent characters in the book. Nagorski explained that he wanted "to present his work as watching events through their eyes" and give readers a window into what life was like for these Americans. He said some of the attitudes held by the German people leading up to World War II, run counter to how Americans imagine what it was like to be in Germany. Nagorski said that when Jesse Owens went to Berlin for the 1936 Olympics he was warmly welcomed by the German people. The sociologist and historian W.E.B. Dubois found that Germans treated him with "uniform courtesy and consideration." He found less racism in Germany than in the U.S. so it was difficult for some to fathom the extreme antisemitism that was taking hold in Germany.

Most observers, whether they admired or saw an ominous leader in Hitler, agreed that he was a master



Author Andrew Nagorski, his wife Christina, OPC President David Andelman and Jochen Wolter, Press Consul for the German Consulate

of stagecraft. Hitler would begin the rallies with a soft, rational voice and as he gathered momentum, he became agitated. At the end, which is all Americans saw in newsreels, he looked like a raving lunatic, waving his arms and screaming, but Nagorski said that if you were at the rally, you might have had a different impression. Reports from American journalists varied greatly from seeing Hitler as a clownish figure who would soon disappear from the political scene to those who came to admire his ability to tap into the German people's psyche and anger after World War I. Looking back, people see Hitler as evil personified, but when he was a politician gathering steam in Munich, the view was much different.

Nagorski observed that there were many more journalists in Berlin at that time, about 50 in the 1930's. American newspapers, wire services, radio and even smaller city dailies sent correspondents overseas. *The Chicago Daily News* office at the intersection of Friedrichstrasse and Unter den Linden became more like a mini-diplomatic mission with reception areas for visiting Americans.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Steve Govoni
Senior Financial
Writer/Market Analyst
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Douglas Jehl
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Washington, DC
Active Non Resident

Gary Regenstreif
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The Wall Street Journal
Active Resident

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Active Resident

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Robert Nickelsberg
Charles Wallace

PEOPLE...

The People column is written by **Susan Kille**. For news tips, e-mail susan@opcofamerica.org.

OPC SCHOLARS: **Elizabeth Dickinson**, winner of the 2007 I.F. Stone Scholarship from the OPC Foundation, has joined *World Affairs Journal* as a blogger and contributing editor. She lives in Abu Dhabi, having previously worked as assistant managing editor at *Foreign Policy* magazine and Nigeria correspondent for *The Economist*. She held internships with *The Wall Street Journal Europe* in Brussels and *The New York Times* West African bureau in Dakar. Her writing has appeared in *IRIN News*, *AllAfrica.com*, *International Herald Tribune*, *Newsweek International*, and the *Mail and Guardian*.

WINNERS

The media center of the Local Coordinating Committees of Syria, a group of citizen journalists and activists in a country largely inaccessible to Western journalists, was awarded the Google-sponsored Netizen Prize for 2012 by Reporters Without Borders (RSF). In announcing the award, which includes €2,500, on March 12, RSF described how the group collects and verifies on-the-ground information of the Syrian uprising from citizen journalists, translates it into English and distributes it on the group's website and through social media.

In a report issued the same day as the prize, RSF added Bahrain and Belarus to its "Internet enemies" list with Burma, China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia,

Syria, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. RSF added India and Kazakhstan to its list of countries "under surveillance" due to concerns of increasing Internet censorship while dropping Venezuela and Libya from that list. RSF said 2011 was the deadliest year for "netizens," a term that combines citizen and Internet and implies an interest in using the Internet to open access and advance free speech. RSF said five netizens were killed in 2011 and at least 200 arrested, with 120 in jail.



Elles van Gelder and **Ily Njiokiktjien** won first prize in the World Press Photo Multimedia Contest for "Afrikaner Blood," which follows teenage Afrikaner boys in South Africa who attend a nine-day camp where they learn self-defense and how to combat a perceived threat. **Vincent Laforet**, the jury chair, said the project was "an incredibly well crafted and nuanced piece with a very cohesive structure and refined execution." Both women are from the Netherlands. Van Gelder is a foreign correspondent who covers sub-Saharan Africa and Njiokiktjien is a photojournalist who has worked in South Africa, but is now based in the Netherlands.



Activist Jasmine accepted the RSF prize on behalf of activists inside Syria.

PRESS FREEDOM

MONTREAL: Quebec provincial police raided the home of *Le Journal de Montreal* reporter **Eric-Yvan Lemay** on March 15, taking his fingerprints, computer and clothes he wore while visiting hospitals for an exposé about lax protection of confidential patient records.

Lemay, who at press time had not been charged, was with his pregnant wife and two young children when police arrived at 6:45 a.m. to serve a search warrant. **George Kalogerakis**, managing editor of *Le Journal*, says the seized material will be sealed as the newspaper contests the warrant in court. The raid, reported RSF, followed a complaint by a hospital accusing Lemay of "theft of property worth less than \$5,000" and "trafficking in identifying information."

RAMALLAH, West Bank: A

few days after Israeli Defense Forces conducted an early morning raid on Palestinian television stations to shut down the stations, remove transmitters and seize computers and other documents, the OPC Freedom of the Press Committee wrote in protest to Israeli Prime Minister **Benjamin Netanyahu**, citing "an escalating campaign against the media in the West Bank and in Israel itself." "One would expect that a democratic nation that aspires to the respect of the world would have a much better record than it has," wrote **Jeremy Main** and **Larry Martz**. In addition to decrying the raid on the Palestinian stations, the March 9 letter noted that an Associated Press photographer was arrested briefly in December, and a few days later, injured by a gas canister fired at his legs and also that a "female photographer for *The New York Times*, although pregnant, was forced to go through an X-ray machine three times last fall while Israeli soldiers laughed at her."

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan:

Internet users and providers in Tajikistan as well as international press groups are voicing concerns about online censorship after the

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government on March 9 lifted a six-day ban on Facebook and several news websites. “A year and a half after the last episode of this kind, the Tajik authorities have gone back to large-scale cyber-censorship,” RSF said. “This major blocking initiative is as unacceptable as it is absurd.”



Abdolfattah Soltani

TEHRAN, Iran: **Abdolfattah Soltani**, a human rights lawyer jailed since September 2011, was told March 5 that a revolutionary court had sentenced him to 18 years in prison and a 20-year ban on working as lawyer. Soltani is a founder of Nobel peace laureate **Shirin Ebadi's** Centre for Human Rights Defenders. On March 6, an appeals court upheld a six-year jail sentence for another of Ebadi's colleagues, **Narges Mohammadi**, a journalist who served as spokeswoman for the Centre for Human Rights Defenders.

MOGADISHU, Somalia:

Deaths in February and March raised the number of journalists killed in Somalia over the past five years to 28. **Ali Ahmed Abdi**, who worked for Radio Galkayo and the news website Puntlandi.com, died when he was shot three times in the head by unidentified assailants as he walked home in Gasoor village on March 4. **Abukar Hassan Kadaf** was killed outside his home in Mogadishu on February 28 by



Ali Ahmed Abdi

gunshots fired by two unidentified men. Kadaf had run Radio Somaliweyn until the station was looted and shut down by Al-Shabab in 2010. Reports said that Kadaf, who was also active in politics, planned to restart the station.

CHALMENT, Louisiana:

American journalists condemn other countries for not protecting journalists, but we do not always need to look overseas. After complaints by the International Press Institute and others, Sheriff Jack Stephens of St. Bernard Parish near New Orleans apologized February 28 and said that his deputies will no longer use photographs of WVUE-TV reporter **Lee Zurik** for target practice. Stephens, who admitted that the incident happened more than once, declined to initiate disciplinary action, saying that no ill will or threat was intended. Zurik reported last fall about alleged voter fraud by sheriff's department employees.



Luis Agustín González

BOGATA, Colombia: A provincial court on February 28 upheld the defamation conviction of **Luis Agustín González**, editor of the *Cundinamarca Democrática*, while overturning a libel conviction issued last October when a municipal judge found Gonzalez guilty of both charges after publishing an article critical of a former governor and senator. The municipal judge had ordered Gonzalez to spend 20 months in prison and to pay a fine equivalent to 20 “minimum salaries,” or approximately \$5,500. The provincial court lowered the prison term to 18 months and 18 days and

the fine to 17 minimum salaries.

MURDERS

Fausto Evelio Hernández Arteaga, who worked at Radio Alegre de Sabá in the northeast of Honduras, died March 10 after being attacked with a machete while riding his bicycle, news reports said. Most of his wounds were on his neck and face. The local police chief told AFP that multiple witnesses had seen the crime, but no one wanted to assist in the investigation. Authorities have not determined the cause of the attack, but ruled out robbery as the journalist was found with all of his belongings. RSF reports 26 journalists have been killed in Honduras in the past decade, 19 since the June 2009 coup.

A Haitian radio journalist died March 5 after his vehicle came under heavy gunfire from unknown assailants. **Jean Liphète Nelson** was the manager of Radio Boukman, a community radio station he had founded in 2004 in Cité Soleil, the poorest neighborhood in Port-au-Prince.

Rajesh Mishra died March 2 from injuries suffered a day before when he was hit on the head with an unidentified weapon while he was at a public tea stall in Rewa, a town in Madhya Pradesh in central India. According to the *Hindustan Times*, Mishra had received telephone threats after writing reports for the Hindi-language weekly *Media Raj* alleging “irregularities” in a chain of boarding schools owned by **Rajneesh Banerjee**, owner of another Rewa-based Hindi newspaper, *Vindhya Bharat*. News reports said five men, including Banerjee, were arrested in connection to the attack on Mishra.

RSF said it was “stunned” to learn that a court in the Dominican Republic acquitted three men on March 1 in the 2008 murder of **Normando García**, a cameraman employed by the Santiago-based TV station Teleunión. RSF noted that the court chose not to hear

the testimony of the police officer who led the investigation.



Nepalese policemen tussle with journalists during a protest in Kathmandu in March 2010. Journalists were demanding an increase in security after well-known newspaper publisher Arun Singhaniya was killed.

On March 1, 2010, **Arun Singhaniya**, owner of *Janakpur Today* newspaper and Janakpur Today Radio, was shot and killed by a gunman on a motorcycle after he stepped out of a prayer service in Janakpur, Nepal's second largest city. He was the second person affiliated with *Janakpur Today* to be murdered within a year. Two years later, his family still lives in fear and is increasingly desperate to see the case solved. Representatives from 14 international organizations joined the Nepalese Federation of Journalists in a fact-finding and advocacy mission to investigate the case and other threats to press freedom in Nepal. At a February 27 press conference in Kathmandu, the groups said impunity prevails in the majority of media killings and expressed concerns over self-censorship and weaknesses in Nepal's draft constitution, due to be adopted this year, that threaten press freedom.

Following the deaths of two Brazilian journalists in one month, which were reported in the March edition of the *Bulletin*, the OPC's Freedom of the Committee wrote President Dilma Vana Rousseff on February 27 that the "most disturbing part about these murders was their clear political motivation. Both men attacked corruption in local politics, and their deaths were clear warnings for other journalists

covering these and similar cases. If the murderers are not quickly found and punished, these cases will pose a continuing threat to press freedom in Brazil."

Two journalists — a brother and sister — were found strangled to death on February 26 near their home in El Alto, Bolivia, just outside the country's capital, La Paz. **Verónica Peñasco Layme**, communications director for Radio San Gabriel, and **Victor Hugo Layme**, a journalist with Radio Pachamama, had been missing since about 5 a.m. the day before when Verónica was to have led a morning broadcast. The murders remain unsolved, but at least five street demonstrations have been held in response to the deaths and a government decree ordered the media to provide transportation for employees between home and work during the hours of 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.

UPDATES

CHICAGO: The Chicago News Cooperative run by **Jim O'Shea**, an OPC member, suspended its operation and website at the end of February. In a letter posted on the website, O'Shea said the decision was made "so we can reassess our operations and determine if there is a more sustainable path to the future." The non-profit news organization provided news to *The New York Times* and competed online with the *Chicago Tribune* and the *Chicago Sun-Times*. O'Shea is former managing editor of the *Chicago Tribune* and past editor-in-chief of the *Los Angeles Times* and author of *The Deal From Hell*, a book about how Chicago real estate investor **Sam Zell** came to acquire those newspapers.

ISTANBUL: **Nedim Şener**, a reporter for *Milliyet* and winner of the 2010 International Press Institute's World Press Freedom Hero Award, and three other Turkish journalists were freed from jail March 11, a year after they were detained and began awaiting trial



Journalist Nedim Şener was released from prison in March.

on charges that they were part of a plot to overthrow the government. The four were among 13 defendants, six of whom remain in jail.

After a court ordered the release of Şener, **Ahmet Şık**, **Sait Çakır** and **Coskun Musluk**, Şener promised to keep investigating the January 2007 assassination of an ethnic Armenian journalist, **Hrant Dink**. A recent trial acquitted 19 men of conspiring to kill Dink and gave one man a life sentence. The Journalists Union of Turkey says about 100 journalists are currently imprisoned, but the government disputes that figure and insists that most jailed journalists were arrested for activities other than reporting.

LONDON: Headed to the Olympics? Space will be tight but through the London Press Club, OPC members can have access to facilities at the Adam Street Club, home of the London Press Club, just off Trafalgar Square. For a fee of £100, a limited number of special memberships are available to cover the three weeks of the Olympics and the week before and after. For information, contact kate.oreilly@londonpressclub.co.uk.



When planning a trip to London, keep in mind the OPC's association with Club Quarters, which has recently opened its fourth hotel in London at Lincoln's Inn Field, near Chancery Lane and Holburn. Weekend and holiday rates for OPC members start at £67, plus members can receive a "Night on the House" certificate for every business stay

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after the first stay. Club Quarters also has London locations near Gracechurch, Trafalgar Square and St. Paul's.



Jim Sciutto has left ABC News after 13 years to become chief of staff and senior policy advisor to Gary Locke, the U.S. ambassador to China. Sciutto, who was based in London as ABC's senior foreign correspondent, has reported from more than 50 countries.

MANILA: The Philippine Department of Justice on March 13 reversed an earlier decision and



Gerardo Ortega

recommended that murder charges be filed against ex-governor Joel Reyes in the January 2011 death of **Gerardo Ortega**, a journalist and environmentalist who was gunned down in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. The accused gunman, a former security guard for Reyes, named Reyes in the murder but last

June the Justice Department found the statement unsubstantiated. Ortega's supporters petitioned for a new investigation that led to a three-person panel that found probable cause to file charges against Reyes.

NEW YORK: Two new members have recently joined the OPC Board of Governors when two elected members resigned. **Travis Fox** and **Nikhil Deogun** resigned so the OPC went back to the summer election and brought in two new members who were next in the number of votes. **John Martin**, a foreign correspondent for ABC News from 1975 to 2002 and a teacher of television news writing at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and **Paul Brandus**, writer of the West Wing Report on Twitter and sponsor of the OPC's Whitman Bassow Award, will fill out the terms of the departing board members.

Junger Starts Medic Training for Freelancers

Sebastian Junger said he was inspired to establish Reporters Instructed in Saving Colleagues (RISC) and train freelance journalists to treat life-threatening battlefield injuries, because he believes his friend **Tim Hetherington** could have survived a mortar attack in Libya last April. Photojournalist **Chris Hondros** was mortally wounded in that attack, while a piece of shrapnel cut Hetherington's femoral artery, a serious injury but one where fast action could have prolonged his life until he reached a doctor. Instead, Hetherington bled out and died in the back of a pickup truck. RISC plans three training programs a year. The first will be April 18 to 20 in New York, followed by a fall session in London and a winter one in Beirut. For information, go to the website: www.risctraining.org.

Hetherington, a photographer, and Junger, a writer, made the 2010 Oscar-nominated documentary "Restrepo" about their year-long tour with a platoon in the Korengal Valley in Afghanistan. They shared in a 2007 OPC award for work done during that tour. They discussed the film and recent books each had published during an OPC book night in November 2010. Hetherington died eight days before he was to serve as co-presenter at last year's OPC Awards ceremony and receive a citation for his own photography in the book *Infidel*.



PHILIPPINES: In June 2011, the Philippines placed third behind Iraq and Somalia on the Committee to Protect Journalist's Impunity Index, which spotlights countries where journalists are slain and their killers go free. In March, two Philippine journalists were wounded in shooting incidents. Two unidentified men on a motorcycle on March 5 shot Radio Mindanao Network DYRI station host **Fernando Gabio**. On March 11, unidentified assailants beat **Fernan Angeles**, who works for *The Daily Tribune*, and shot him several times near his home in Manila.

SANTO DOMINGO, D.R.: The Dominican Republic's first lady, Margarita Cedeño de Fernández, filed criminal forgery charges on March 5 against television commentator **Marco Martínez**, who alleged that she has millions of euros stashed in a Danish bank account. According to Dominican media, Fernández's attorney accused Martínez of falsifying documents to attack the honor and reputation of the first lady,

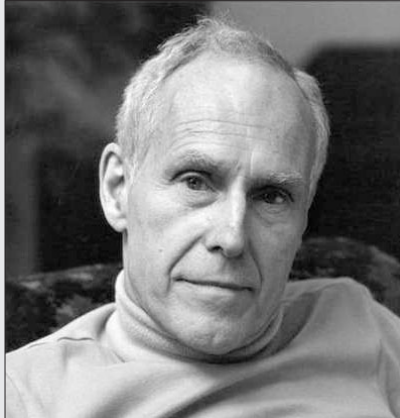
People Remembered: Free Speech Champion, Barney Rosset

Barney Rosset, who died February 21 at age 89, was a provocative publisher, fierce defender of the First Amendment and an OPC member since 1961.

He introduced American readers to European writers like Samuel Beckett, Eugène Ionesco, Jean-Paul Sartre and Jean Genet and published Che Guevara, Ho Chi Minh, Allen Ginsburg and William Burroughs. In the 1960s, his Grove Press imprint published D.H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and Henry Miller's *Tropic of Cancer*, two decades-old erotic books that had never been distributed uncensored in the United States. He picked up *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* after Doubleday dropped it. He published the literary journal *Evergreen Review* from 1957 to 1973. To do all that, Rosset risked prison and financial ruin and fought hundreds of court cases against censorship. He was largely responsible for breaking down U.S. obscenity laws in the 1950s and 1960s.

He made millions that helped pay his legal bills when he imported the steamy-for-the-time Swedish film "I Am Curious (Yellow)." That popular film was among the many cases that took Rosset to the Supreme Court.

Rosset, who had said in an interview that he was not a good businessman, sold Grove in 1985 and published *Evergreen Review* online and books under new imprints, Foxrock Books and Blue Moon Books. In 2008, the National Book Foundation awarded him the Literarian Award for "outstanding service" to American letters. Algonquin Books plans to release his autobiography, *The Subject Was Left-Handed* — a title he took from his FBI file.



who is running for vice president.

SEOUL: **Steve Herman**, an OPC member and Voice of America bureau chief in Seoul, Korea, is the new president of the Seoul Foreign Correspondents Club. Herman served as both chairman of The Foreign Press in Japan as well as president prior to moving to Korea.



Steve Herman

TRIPOLI, Libya: **Nicholas Davies-Jones** and **Gareth Montgomery-Johnson**, two British journalists, left Tripoli on a flight to London March 18 after being detained for nearly a month and accused of spying. They were cleared of all charges. The men, who

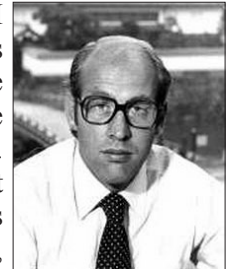
were working as freelancers with the Iranian state-owned Press TV, were held by the Swehli militia after their capture on February 22 until they were transferred March 14 to the custody of the Libyan government.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: **Brian Lamb** is stepping down as chief executive officer of C-SPAN, the public-affairs cable network he helped found in 1978 and has led ever since. **Rob Kennedy** and **Susan Swain**, who have worked with Lamb for decades, will become co-chief executives on April 1. Lamb, 70, will remain as chairman of the board and take on the new title of executive chairman. He will continue to host his Sunday night program "Q&A."

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Ted Marks, a former president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club

of Japan, died February 24 from prostate cancer. Marks, 69, was a veteran foreign correspondent who served in the Navy SEALs during the Vietnam War. He frequently reported on wars and civil strife throughout Asia and the Middle East and was on the team of UPI correspondents who covered the climax of the war in Indochina. Marks spent much of his career at UPI, where his posts included Bangkok bureau manager; general manager for North Asia with responsibility for all editorial and business affairs in South Korea, Japan and Taiwan; marketing director for UPI's conversion to satellite communications; executive assistant to the president; and vice president and general manager for the New England division.



Paula Lerner, an award-winning photojournalist, died March 6 after a long battle with cancer. Lerner, 52, focused much of her work on issues facing women, children and girls. Her work "Behind the Veil" was an in-depth multimedia piece about the lives of women in Kandahar, Afghanistan, which won an Emmy in 2010 for New Approaches to News and Documentary Programming.

Her photos appeared in many publications including *Smithsonian*, *People*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *Business Week*. Her most recent book titled *Afghan Stories* is available at Blurb.com.

Double Tragedy Strikes the Journalism Community

by Charles M. Sennott

The news that **Marie Colvin** was killed while reporting in Syria hit like a gut punch this morning. I had to pull over on my commute to take it in, and take in the extraordinary tragedy of losing two of the best Middle East correspondents of our generation in the space of one week.

The terrible news came to me in the pleasant tones of the BBC World Service in the early morning broadcast where I so often heard Marie give us accounts of what was happening on the ground in the Middle East in her vivid, breathless and irreverent way.

Most recently I saw Marie in Egypt where she was positively giddy with excitement over the still-unfolding revolution, and the extraordinary moment we were witnessing in history. She wanted to be hopeful for the Egyptians, Tunisians, Libyans and Syrians who had risen up against tyrants. But she also knew somewhere down deep that, in the end, this would not go well.

And it sure as hell hadn't at the end of February as the Syrian regime showed the world just how ugly it is willing to get to put down this brave rebellion.

All of us who care to try to understand the Middle East have lost something incalculable in the deaths of Marie Colvin of the *Sunday Times of London* and **Anthony Shadid** of *The New York Times* within the span of a week. Both died in Syria doing their job and doing what they believed mattered. For them, it was worth the risk. And both often said so.

More than just talented and courageous colleagues, they brought a depth of experience and an ear for truth on the Arab street that was simply unparalleled.

Marie was my good friend, as was Anthony. And she and Anthony couldn't have been more different. He was a listener. She was a talker. He was Lebanese-American and she was Irish-American. He was the consummate bureau chief, becoming grounded in the countries he covered and particularly in Lebanon where he had recently restored his family's homestead. She was the classic parachute artist, sweeping into the big story from her home in London and taking her place at the bar after deadline wherever correspondents were staying to cover the big story. She always had a story to tell that usually ended in a laugh that rattled the glasses on the bar.

Every time I saw her mischievous smile complementing that eye-patch she picked up covering the conflict in Sri Lanka, I knew I was in the right place to get the story.

For the past 20 years, our paths crossed everywhere

the story of the Middle East was breaking from the first Gulf War to the Israeli-Palestinian intifadas I and II to Iraq and Afghanistan and, of course, Egypt and the so-called 'Arab Spring' (though she didn't like to call it that.)

One of my fondest memories was when Marie and

I were walking around in Ramallah commiserating on how many times we had requested an interview with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat only to be turned down. We calculated we had both spent five years trying to get him to talk about the collapsing "peace process" and the descent into violence.

This was in the spring of 2002 in the aftermath of September 11th as the intifada was raging once again

and it seemed the world was hardly watching the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We had both just been in Afghanistan, if I remember correctly, and we were trying to take a day off covering the plodding and predictable Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Our despair was interrupted by one of Arafat's most trusted aides who said, "Okay, how about now? Come with me right now and we will see Abu Ammar (the nom de guerre for Arafat.)"

We shrugged our shoulders and walked from our friend **Nasser Atta**'s home in Ramallah straight into a three-hour lunch with Arafat where he loaned us his own stationary to take notes on since neither of us had a notebook.

"That's how it happens! You just gotta be there," Marie said as we rushed from the interview to write up the "exclusive" for our newspapers.

And she was always willing to "be there." As was Anthony. And that is the essence of ground truth. That is what it is all about. The only way you can hear the sound of truth is there on the ground.

They couldn't have been more different, but together these two journalists were like Bose engineering that bring together the high and low sound waves, bass and treble, in high fidelity to allow us all to hear the music of the Arab world.

They let us tune in to the sounds of the people who sway to the Egyptian legend Umm Kulthum's triumphal music of Arab nationalism and the dark, brooding voice of the Lebanese singer Fairuz who captures the tragedy of the Middle East. And now from Syria, they have brought us the sad stereo effect of two deaths — a long, mournful ballad like the "prayer for the dead" pouring out of the minaret of a mosque.

Charles M. Sennott is an OPC member and founder of Globalpost.com



Marie Colvin

In Ecuador, a Thinly Veiled Threat From Correa

by Rixey Browning

The headline looked like a victory for press freedom: Ecuador's President Rafael Correa announced he was dropping his cases against six journalists whose work had offended him, and he pardoned them from prison terms and crippling fines totaling \$42 million. But after taking in the details, the champagne went flat. In truth, Correa was signaling that he was still waging his long battle to dominate the media of Ecuador — and that he still held the whip hand.

By the fines and sentences imposed, the case against the leading daily *El Universo* was the most outrageous. The newspaper was sentenced to a potentially bankrupting \$40 million in fines, and **Emilio Palacio**, a columnist, and the brothers **Carlos, César and Nicolás Pérez**, the top executives of the paper, were each given prison sentences of three years. Correa had sued for criminal libel for a column Palacio wrote referring to the president as “the Dictator” and warning him that “there is no statute of limitation for crimes against humanity.” Palacio was referring to a potential coup d'état in 2010 when Correa, trapped in a hospital by rebellious police, was rescued by the military — in Palacio's account, after he ordered the soldiers to fire on the hospital.

After a local court imposed the sentences, defense lawyers charged that Correa had had his own lawyer write the judge's decision. But the verdict was upheld on appeal by the nation's highest court, and it was only after that ruling that Correa, under pressure from neighboring governments and press watchdog groups including the OPC, issued his pardons. The net result: The precedent in the case is firmly in place, and the journalists of Ecuador are on notice not to offend the president.

In the second case, the authors of the book *El Gran Hermano* (*The Big Brother*), **Juan Carlos Calderón** and **Christian Zurita**, each faced \$1 million in fines for ex-

posing the favors Correa did for his brother, Fabricio Correa, including state contracts for Fabricio and his business associates worth more than \$600 million. Ecuador's government was also overcharged by \$140 million for these con-

tracts, according to *Inmediato*, a Quito-based newspaper. The Correa brothers have since fallen out, and Fabricio has publicly toyed with running against Rafael for the presidency. But Rafael sued Calderón and Zurita for criminal defamation, charging that his honor had been impugned. In such cases, truth is not a defense — a fact that by itself argues that criminal defamation laws should be abolished as an offense not only against press freedom, but against basic fair play.

Correa, a left-leaning ally of Venezuela's Hugo Chavez who has been feuding with conservative media since he took office in 2007, underscored his message with a blunt warning: “There is forgiveness, but it is not forgotten.” And in the aftermath, his followers -- known as *Correistas* -- have started an online campaign calling for “no more attacks against Ecuador” in the global press. This campaign targets organizations defending global freedom of expression, as well as the national and international media. Journalists in Ecuador can be glad that their colleagues have escaped draconian punishment. But the threat of more of the same still hangs over all their heads.



Protestors on February 16 after Ecuador's high court ruled against *El Universo* newspaper in a libel suit filed by President Correa.

New Books: Continued From Page 12

age when even the most astounding of talents and access to the highest courts could not overcome being a bastard and bisexual — what was then a double taint with a power unimaginable to us now.

GLOBAL

CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT LARA LOGAN, inspired *No Woman's Land – On the Frontlines With Female Reporters* and also wrote its foreword. The book, published in March by the International News Safety Institute, is a collection of articles written by 40 women from a dozen countries who have covered conflict, disasters, corruption and civil unrest around the world.

INSI says this is the first book dedicated to the safety



of women journalists and that the idea arose from the brutal sexual attack on Logan while she was reporting in Cairo. Other contributors to the book include the BBC's **Lyse Doucet** and **Caroline Wyatt**, CNN's **Hala Gorani**, Fox News's **Jennifer Griffin**, Al Jazeera's **Zeina Awad** and the former Egyptian state TV anchor **Shahira Amin**.

“The stories tell of the risks and the safety measures these women must take to get the story,” said INSI Deputy Director **Hannah Storm**, who compiled and edited the book with her colleague **Helena Williams**.

— by Susan Kille

New Books

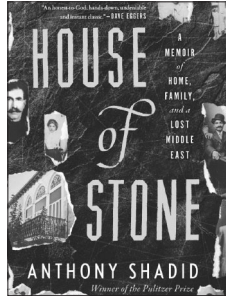
MIDDLE EAST

IT IS GOOD TO KNOW

Anthony Shadid's voice, intelligence and insight are still with us.

In November 2005, Shadid brought his mother and daughter with him when he spoke to OPC members about his book that had just been published, *Night Draws Near; Iraq's People in the Shadow of America's War* [Henry Holt & Co, 2005]. Every *Bulletin* reader knows that Shadid, an OPC member who died February 16 in Syria while reporting for *The New York Times*, will not be talking to us about *House of Stone: A Memoir of Home, Family, and a Lost Middle East* [Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, February 2012].

Shadid, however, has much to tell. *House of Stone* has been widely and positively reviewed after its publication date was moved up a month following Shadid's death on February 16. The book relays how and why Shadid rebuilt



and moved into the abandoned and battered house of his great-grandfather in Jedeidet Marjayoun, a town in southern Lebanon. In the three generations since the family migrated to Oklahoma, the home had suffered from neglect and a half-

exploded Israeli rocket that struck the upper story. His new neighbors derided the project but were glad for the money Shadid was willing to spend.

Shadid writes that his motivation was "bayt and the desire to resurrect what once stood for something." *Bayt*,

Shadid writes, is an Arabic word that "translates literally as house, but its connotations resonate beyond rooms and walls, summoning longings gathered about family and home."

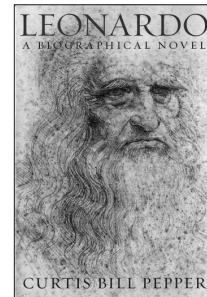
Shadid mixes past and present and the history of the Ottoman Empire in telling the story of his family's migration, the reconstruction of the house and the restoration of his own spirit. This home is the place where Shadid returned last spring when he and three other journalists working for *The New York Times* were released after being captured in Libya.

EUROPE

L *LEONARDO: A BIOGRAPHICAL NOVEL* [Alan C. Hood & Co., January 2012] is the product of 15 years

of research by **Curtis Bill Pepper**, an OPC member and former Rome bureau chief for *Newsweek*. This is Pepper's seventh book. He left *Newsweek* following the success of his first book, *The Pope's Backyard* [Farrar Strauss, 1966].

The idea for *Leonardo* followed Pepper's studies in the Italian Renaissance at the University of Florence. With the skill of a storyteller



and the investigative skills of a journalist, Pepper paints a portrait of Leonardo da Vinci, the Renaissance polymath whose talents ranged from painting to engi-

neering to botany to astronomy and beyond. Leonardo has been called the most diversely talented person who ever lived but despite his influence in art and science, the man himself has remained mysterious and remote.

Pepper, who divides his time between New York and Umbria, Italy, explored archives and records that allowed him to write an intimate and deeply compelling account that illuminates Leonardo's life, work, mind, conflicts and character. Pepper fills in the gaps of what is known about a man who remained an outsider in an

(Continued on Page 11)

Coming up...

OPC Awards Dinner
April 25
Mandarin Oriental
In New York City
See page 1 for details

AP Book Night:
Ed Kennedy's War
May 8, 6 p.m.
AP Headquarters
See page 1 for details

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA