

Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • April 2014

Dinner Highlights Foreign Correspondents and OPC Jubilee

EVENT PREVIEW: APRIL 24

by Sonya K. Fry

All OPC Awards Dinners are special to the Club. Still, in the past few years, hearts and minds have been focused on making the OPC's 75th Anniversary Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 24 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel an extra special occasion. Early in the day, OPC representatives will participate in a special ceremony to flick the switch that lights up the Empire State Building. Throughout the dinner, the New York landmark will be bathed in blue—the official color of the OPC—in honor of the Club's anniversary and gala.

The keynote speaker is former foreign correspondent and current U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations **Samantha Power**. She began her journalism career covering the Yugoslav Wars from 1993 to 1996. In 2003, her second book, *A Problem from Hell: America and the Age of Genocide* won the Pulitzer Prize. In 2004, *Time* magazine named her one of the 100 most influential people in the world and in 2007 she wrote a regular column



From left: Samantha Power, Bob Simon and David Muir

for *Time*. She became a scholar of U.S. foreign policy and an advisor to then-Senator Barack Obama and subsequently President Obama.

OPC President **Michael Serrill** has selected veteran foreign correspondent **Bob Simon** as this year's recipient of the OPC President's Award. Simon began his reporting career 42 years ago in Vietnam for

CBS News. He has also reported from the CBS London and Tel Aviv bureaus and in 1987 was named the CBS News Chief Middle East Correspondent. He has won several OPC awards, most notably for coverage of Vietnam, Egypt and the Rabin assassination in Israel. He is currently a full-time correspondent for "CBS-60

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OPC Board Appoints New Executive Director

The Board of Governors of the OPC has appointed **Patricia Kranz**, a longtime overseas correspondent and editor, as its new Executive Director. Kranz will assume her new post upon the retirement of Executive Director **Sonya Fry** in May.



Patricia Kranz

Kranz lived and worked in Moscow for almost a decade, first as a freelancer, then for *BusinessWeek*, covering the collapse of the Soviet Union and the creation of a new democratic Russia. She subsequently worked as European editor and national editor for *BusinessWeek*, as a top business editor for *The New York Times*, as a vice president for

investment bank Morgan Stanley and, most recently, as an editor for Reuters.

Kranz has a bachelor's degree in European history and French from the University of Michigan and a master's in international affairs from Columbia University. She also studied French language and civilization at the Sorbonne.

Kranz brings a rich background in overseas journalism to the OPC," says OPC President Michael S. Serrill. "During her time at *BusinessWeek*, *The Times* and Reuters she demonstrated an ability to manage big projects with skill. The Board

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Minutes,” a show he has contributed to for 18 years.

The Awards Presenter is **David Muir**, Weekend Anchor of ABC News. Muir is also co-anchor of 20/20, ABC news magazine. Muir joined ABC News in 2003 and in 2012 was the first American journalist to report from Mogadishu on the Somali famine. He also reported on the Israeli war with Hezbollah and was in Gaza in 2007 to cover the Hamas coup. The nuclear accident at Chernobyl in the Ukraine, the earthquake in Haiti and the uprisings in Tahir Square were covered by Muir for ABC World News.

OPC Foundation President **William J. Holstein** is the Awards Dinner Chairman who is responsible for corporate dinner support of the event. **Robert Friedman** of Bloomberg News served as head judge for the 22 award categories. A special edition of *Dateline* magazine is being produced under the editorship of OPC Board members **Charles Wallace** and photo editor **Robert Nickelsberg**, designer **Nancy Novick** and OPC intern **Mariam Haris**. The magazine will feature writers and photographers who covered some of the biggest events through decades of OPC history.

The OPC’s first dinner was held in February 1940 and celebrated the publication of *The Inside Story*, a book of behind-the-scenes stories by foreign correspondents, edited by **Robert Spiers Benjamin**. Guests included dignitaries such as former President Herbert Hoover, Alexander Kerensky, a major political leader of the Trudoviks, a moderate socialist party that was swept away during the Russian Revolution, OPC founding members **Irene Corbally Kuhn** and **Robert Benjamin** and OPC’s



A scene from the first OPC Dinner in 1940, which is on the invitation mailed to OPC members.

first President **Wythe Williams**, London correspondent for *The New York Times* who covered WWI. That first awards dinner had an ambitious international menu and the Mandarin Oriental will do a modern adaptation of the original menu for the Jubilee Dinner.

Pricing for this year’s dinner is \$250 for OPC members and one guest; \$750 for non-members. Table prices are \$7,500 (Friend), \$9,000 (Sponsor), \$12,000 (Patron), \$15,000 (Fellow). With the Lenovo-sponsored pre-party and Daimler-sponsored after-party, the event promises to be a jubilant celebration of the OPC.

The 75th Anniversary OPC Awards Dinner takes place on Thursday, April 24 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 80 Columbus Circle at 60th Street. Reception begins at 6 p.m., Dinner starts at 7 p.m., and the Meet the Winners After Party ends the evening.

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Feifer's Book Looks at Russia From the Inside

EVENT PREVIEW: MARCH 31

by Patricia Kranz

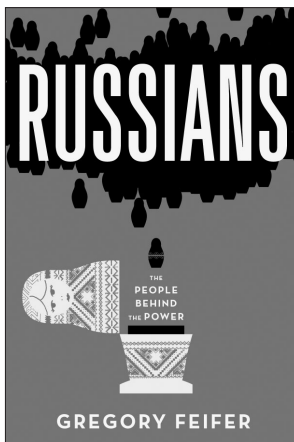
Gregory Feifer's timing could not have been better. Following the Sochi Olympics and Vladimir Putin's aggressive actions in Ukraine, people around the world are more interested in Russia than they have been since the Soviet Union's collapse more than two decades ago.

Feifer's new book, *Russians: The People Behind the Power*, explores the seeming paradoxes of life in Russia by unraveling the nature of its people: what is it in their history and their conception of themselves that makes them baffling to the West? Feifer corrects pervasive misconceptions by showing that much of what appears inexplicable about the country is logical when seen from the inside.

The former NPR Moscow correspondent draws on his family history and his decade of experience as a journalist there to create a portrait of today's Russia from the bottom up. From wealthy oligarchs to the destitute elderly babushki who beg on Moscow's streets, he tells the story of a society bursting with vitality despite living under authoritarian rule. And he makes clear why Putin remains popular at home even as the gap widens between the super-rich and the great majority of



Gregory Feifer



people.

In August 1991, Feifer was an undergraduate spending a summer in Moscow when a group of hard-liners tried to carry out an ill-fated coup to extend Soviet rule. He returned in 1999 as a journalist and stayed for eight years. In 2008, he covered the Russia-Georgia war from the breakaway Georgian region of South Ossetia and traveled to Siberia, Belgrade and Berlin to report on the Kremlin's use of Gazprom, the Russian gas monopoly, as an instrument of foreign policy.

In a blurb Stephen Sestanovich says "This is one of the best-ever books written by an American journalist trying to make sense of Russia. Full of wonderfully poignant family reminiscences, acute cultural insight, and off-color Russian jokes."

Joshua Rubenstein, who reviewed the book for *The New York Times*, will be the interlocutor. Rubenstein is a longtime Associate at Harvard University's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies and the author of biographies of Leon Trotsky and the writer Ilya Ehrenburg.

The Book Night reception at Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street, begins at 6 p.m. and the Talk at 6:30 p.m. Books will be available for sale. To RSVP, call the OPC at 212-626-9220 or e-mail sonya@opcofamerica.org.

Bloomberg Honors OPC's 75th, OPC Toasts Lederer

EVENT RECAP: MARCH 11

by Mariam Harris and Aimee Vitrak

It was an early morning for those who attended the 7:30 breakfast on March 11 at Bloomberg's midtown headquarters on the 28th floor. Fueled by coffee, breakfast staples and plenty of good cheer, 90 people saluted the OPC's 75th Anniversary and Fay Gillis Wells Award recipient, Edith Lederer.

Matt Winkler, Editor-in-Chief of Bloomberg News and an OPC member, began the event by talking about how organizations like the OPC provide vital support to journalists and journalism. He noted that Bloomberg News's editorial operations include 1,900 editors and reporters in

more than 150 bureaus, which gives the organization daily reminders of the precariousness of reporting the news and the varying limits of press freedom around the world.

The OPC celebrates its 75th anniversary this year with special events to highlight the achievements of the Club and its members. The breakfast was sponsored by Bloomberg News and also allowed the Club to pay tribute to long-time member and Associated Press reporter Edith "Edie" Lederer.

Edie accepted the second OPC



Edith Lederer accepts the Fay Gillis Wells Award from OPC President Michael Serrill.

Fay Gillis Wells Award, which is given to a woman journalist of exceptional achievement. The award

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was established in 2009 to honor founding OPC member Fay Gillis Wells. The first recipient was Ruth Gruber who accepted the honor at the 2009 OPC Awards Dinner.

OPC President Michael Serrill presented Edie with the certificate and a check for \$3,000. During her acceptance speech, Edie paid tribute to Fay Gillis Wells. She said she honestly did not know who Wells was until she learned she was to receive the award. "Now that I have investigated her amazing career I am especially honored to be receiving this award," she said. "She had a life-long love affair with flying and was a founding member of the Ninety-Nines, the first organization of women pilots, along with Amelia Earhart."

When a friend asked when Edie was going to take flying lessons, she replied, "In my next life."

Like Wells, Edie has covered news all over the globe. Edie has worked for the Associated Press for 48 years and has visited all but one continent covering wars, famines and political upheavals. She is currently AP's Chief Correspondent for the United Nations. She said, "I have had a privileged seat in that front row of history."

After the speech, Edie sat down to talk with OPC Board member and 75th Anniversary Committee Chair Brian Byrd. He asked three questions and let Edie do what she does best: tell stories. She told the audience about how she snuck into Afghanistan while posing as a carpet seller. The customs agents scrutinized her while holding a 45-caliber pistol pointed at her temple. She later shared a laugh with a colleague who had also used the carpet sales alibi.

Bloomberg News provided a buffet breakfast menu of scrambled eggs, potatoes, sausage, fruit cup, orange juice and coffee. Karen Toulon, OPC Foundation Board member and New York Bureau Chief for Bloomberg News, organized the breakfast.

Edie ended the program with advice to aspiring foreign correspondents: learn more languages; get a good background in economics and business and learn about technology and how to use it.



Photos: Peter Foley

From left: OPC Executive Director Sonya K. Fry, Serrill, Lederer and interlocutor OPC Board member Brian Byrd.

Excerpt of Lederer's speech: When I look back at this life, I realize how lucky I was to come of age at the dawn of the women's liberation movement, and to have a mother who was a teacher and encouraged me to live my dream....

At a time when it was very easy to count the number of women reporting "hard news," I was hired by AP in New York in 1966 as a temporary fill-in to cover local news. My temporary assignment has lasted 48 years — and it has taken me to every continent except Antarctica covering wars, famines, nuclear issues and political upheavals. I'm still hoping to get to Antarctica! It's quite incredible to look back and see how much the news business has changed in my lifetime.

When I joined AP, reporters wrote on typewriters. And in my early years overseas I often filed by tel-ex.... There was pressure to file quickly — but not the intense pressure of today's highly competitive media world.... And I often ask myself, in this race to be first — and with the plethora of competing media platforms — have we made progress in providing a real understanding of events, both domestic and international?

I have had a privileged seat in that front row of history. I have reported on wars from Vietnam and Afghanistan to the Mideast, Bosnia and Northern Ireland. I have watched innocent civilians collapse and die of starvation in Ethiopia and Somalia. And I have seen the butchery of the Rwanda genocide.

I have written about the growing disparities in a world where over 1 billion people go to bed hungry every night while another 1.5 billion are overweight or obese — and a tiny percentage enjoy unimaginable riches.

When I look back at all the death, despair and dissonance that I have seen in my life, I have often asked myself what would make a difference? My best answer is just one word — tolerance. And I ask you all, wouldn't it be wonderful if every child in the world was required to be taught, from a very young age, to be tolerant of other people's race, religion, ethnicity, gender and political beliefs? That's my dream for the future — because it would almost certainly lead to a more peaceful world. And on that note, I would like to thank the OPC for this wonderful award which I will treasure.



Lederer researched Fay Gillis Wells and realized they had many things in common, except piloting an airplane. "Next life," Edie said.

OPC SCHOLARS



An advertisement for GlobalPost's "Generation TBD" project.

Lauren Bohn, who won the 2012 H.L. Stevenson Fellowship, and her reporting partner, **Chika Oduah**, were among 21 journalists who won GroundTruth reporting fellowships to create "Generation TBD," a year-long GlobalPost Special Report on youth employment. GlobalPost Executive Editor **Charles Sennott**, an OPC Foundation board member, is overseeing the project. Bohn and Oduah will report and produce a multimedia look at how Nigeria's millennials are combating woeful inequities in an increasingly vital, though tenuous, oil-rich country. The projects will culminate in October with a conference hosted in New York by International House, which is under the directorship of former OPC member **Calvin Sims**.

A project that **Jonathan Jones**, who won *Harper's Magazine* Scholarship in memory of I.F. Stone in 2009, and **A.C. Thompson** reported for ProPublica won the Digital Feature division in the annual Best in Business Awards of the Society of Business Editors and Writers (SABEW). The award honored "Life and Death in Assisted Living," which chronicled the last months of an elderly woman's life in an assisted-living facility, and neglect, cover-up, and incompetence behind the scenes.

Jeff Horvitz, who won the OPC

Foundation Scholarship in memory of **Fred Wiegold** in 2009, was a finalist in two divisions of the SABEW contest, for his work at American Banker. Horvitz is now a Knight-Bagehot Fellow at Columbia University.

Lauren Rosenfeld, who won the 2012 Walter & Betsy Cronkite Scholarship, shared a Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards prize for "Rape in the Fields/Violación de un Sueño," a collaborative project led by the Investigative Reporting Program at U.C. Berkeley Journalism School with the Center for Investigative Reporting, Frontline and Univision. Rosenfeld was associate producer. **Abi Wright**, an OPC associate board member, is director of the awards.

WINNERS

Azhmat Khan, an OPC board member, is one of 10 journalists who received a fellowship from the International Reporting Project to travel to Brazil in April on a two-week reporting trip. The fellows will examine the progress Brazil has made with several of the Millennium Development Goals adopted by the United Nations, including reducing poverty and hunger and improving the health of its citizens. Kahn is a senior digital producer and reporter who heads the digital team at Al Jazeera America's flagship show, *America Tonight*.

Reporters **Adam Goldman** and **Matt Apuzzo** along with editor **Ted Bridis** and The Associated Press have won



Khan



Goldman

the 2014 Anthony Shadid Award for Journalism Ethics for a report in December on the disappearance of Robert Levinson, a former FBI agent who went missing while working in Iran in 2007. The award given by the University of Wisconsin's Center for Journalism Ethics, is named for **Anthony Shadid**, an OPC member who died in 2012 while reporting in Syria for *The New York Times*. Apuzzo now works for *The Times* and Goldman works for *The Washington Post*.



Apuzzo



Bridis

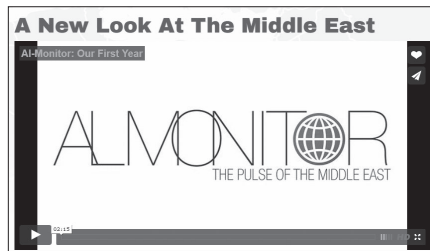
The **Chris Hondros** Fund gave its third annual grant to Reporters Instructed in Saving Colleagues (RISC), an organization that was formed in response to the deaths of Hondros and **Tim Hetherington**, photojournalists mortally wounded during a mortar attack in Libya in April 2011. The \$5,000 award to RISC was announced March 14, which would have been Hondros' 44th birthday. **Sebastian Junger**, an author, journalist and close friend of Hetherington, established RISC to train and equip journalists to treat life-threatening injuries on the battlefield.

Al-Monitor, a news and opinion website based in Washington D.C. that covers the Middle East, has been awarded the Free Media Pioneer Award for 2014 from the International Press Institute (IPI). Al-Monitor was founded in 2012 by **Jamal Daniel**, a Syrian-Lebanese-American businessman. Its editorial board includes academics, notable journalists and leading business

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people and it partners with 17 news organizations in Israel, Iran, Turkey, the Emirates and other Middle Eastern countries.



A screenshot of a video that recaps the website's first year. <http://al-monitor.com/pulse/about>

PRESS FREEDOM

The European Court of Human Rights ruled March 4 that Turkey breached the right to a fair hearing and freedom of expression of two journalists, **Hasan Karakaya** and **Abdurrahman Dilipak**. The case concerned a judgment against Karakaya and Dilipak, who in 2000 wrote separate articles for the Islamist daily *Akit* criticizing a high-ranking military official. The official's family sued and the two were fined. Appeals were denied. The court found "that Dilipak and Karakaya had not been given the opportunity to participate in the civil proceedings against them or to defend their interests."



Karakaya



Dilipak

A U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Texas filed a motion March 5 to dismiss 11 of 17 charges against **Barrett Brown**, a journalist based in Dallas who has written for *The Guardian*, *Vanity Fair* and The Huffington Post. Brown, whose case was the subject of a report in the October 2013 *Bulletin*, has been jailed since September 2012 and is the only American in Reporter's With-

out Borders' 2013 international list of imprisoned journalists. He still faces a possible maximum prison sentence of 70 years, but an additional 35 years have been removed through the dismissed counts. The dropped charges include the most controversial: that he transferred stolen property by posting a hyperlink to a website containing hacked material. Lawyers and press advocates criticized the government for seeking to prosecute Brown for publishing of a hyperlink and said the case could put a chill on the culture of linking across the Web.



Brown

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Lau recovering in a hospital after the attack in February.

Kevin Lau, who in January was removed as editor of the *Ming Pao* daily in Hong Kong, was slashed three times February 26 by an attacker who fled with an accomplice on a motorbike. Lau's ouster stirred protests about press freedom in the Chinese territory. More than 90 percent of *Ming Pao*'s staff signed a petition demanding management explain Lau's replacement by a journalist from Malaysia. Lau is recovering from life-threatening wounds to his lungs. Nerves in his legs were also damaged. Two suspected hitmen arrested in mainland China were returned to Hong Kong and charged March 18 with the attack. Nine Hong Kong residents were also arrested in connection with the attack. The Hong Kong police commissioner said there was no evi-

dence to tie the attack to Lau's work as a journalist, an assertion that was protested by Lau, his family, colleagues and international press advocates.

In its annual survey of members released in March, the Foreign Correspondents' Club of China in Beijing reports in 2013 "it became more obvious than ever that the Chinese authorities abuse the press card and visa renewal process in a political manner, treating journalistic accreditation as a privilege rather than a professional right, and punishing reporters and media organizations for the content of their previous coverage if it has displeased the government."

While more than 80 percent of correspondents who responded said they received new press cards within seven working days and new residence visas within the 15 working days, the club said it was clear that foreign employees of *The New York Times* and Bloomberg, which had published articles about the finances of relatives of leading government officials, were treated differently. The cases of three staff members of *The New York Times* were cited: Beijing bureau chief **Philip Pan** has spent 22 months waiting for a journalist's visa; reporter **Chris Buckley** has waited 17 months for a visa; reporter **Austin Ramzy** had to leave China at the end of January because the visa application he filed last June had not been processed.

March 16 marked the 1,000th day of imprisonment for **Reeyot Alemu**, an Ethiopian journalist serving a five-year sentence after she was found guilty on terrorism charges in January 2012. Reeyot, an English teacher, is the recipient of the UNESCO-Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize,



Alemu

the Hellman/Hammett award and the International Women's Media Foundation Courage in Journalism Award. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), the Ethiopian government has convicted 11 independent journalists and bloggers including Reeyot and **Eskinder Nega**, the winner of Pen America's PEN/Barbara Goldsmith Freedom to Write Award, under a sweeping anti-terrorism law since 2011.

MURDERS

In an assassination-style killing, **Nils Horner**, a longtime foreign correspondent for Swedish Radio, was shot March 11 on a crowded street in Kabul. The Fidai Mahaz group, a breakaway Taliban group, claimed responsibility and accused Horner of being a spy for the United Kingdom. The Fidai Mahaz group has been linked to the 2008 kidnapping of **David Rohde**, an investigative reporter for Reuters who at the time was working for *The New York Times*.



Horner



Afghan police monitor the site of the deadly attack on Horner.

Two journalists were killed within two days in Syria. **Omar Abdul Qader**, a cameraman working for the Beirut-based TV station Al-Mayadeen, died March 8 while covering clashes between government and rebel forces in the eastern province of Deir Al-Zour. New re-

ports said he was shot in the neck by a sniper. **Ali Moustafa**, a freelance photographer from Canada, was among seven people killed March 9 in a bomb blast in a rebel-held section of Aleppo.

Muthanna Abdel Hussein and **Khaled Abdel Thamer**, Iraqi cameramen for the state-run Al-Iraqiya TV station, died March 10 in a suicide bombing at a police checkpoint in Babylon province. Dozens of Iraqis waiting to pass through the checkpoint were killed. The Iraq Journalists Syndicate reported that the two men were covering preparations for next month's parliamentary elections.

A court in Pakistan convicted six men March 1 in connection with the 2011 murder of **Wail Babar**, a reporter for *Geo* who covered drugs, crime and deadly turf struggles in Karachi. Two men, tried in absentia, were given death sentences and four were given life sentences. CPJ says 46 journalists and media workers have been killed in Pakistan for their work since 2007. Babar's is the first case successfully prosecuted.

John Gilligan, the chief suspect behind the notorious 1996 murder of Irish journalist **Veronica Guerin**, was shot twice March 1 when two masked men broke into his brother's house near Dublin. Police described the attack as an attempted murder. Before her murder, Guerin had been investigating Gilligan's criminal empire for Ireland's *Sunday Independent*. Gilligan was never convicted in connection with Guerin's death, but he had made threats to the journalist and



Gilligan



Guerin

her young son. He was recently released from prison after serving 12 years for drug trafficking. Guerin, who received the 1995 International Press Freedom Award from CPJ, became a global icon for journalistic freedom and investigative reporting after her death and the subject of the 2003 eponymous film starring Cate Blanchett, which the OPC offered to members in preview.

UPDATES

BARCELONA: **Marc Marginedas**, a journalist for *El Periodico* who was kidnapped by Islamist rebels and held for almost six months inside Syria, was released March 1. He made his way into Turkey the next day and was flown home by the Spanish Air Force. Marginedas, a veteran war correspondent who had made two other reporting trips to Syria, was kidnapped near Hama on September 4, three days after he arrived in the country. At least 30 journalists are thought to remain kidnapped inside Syria, including two American freelancers: **James Foley**, who was kidnapped on Thanksgiving Day in 2012, and **Austin Tice**, who disappeared in August 2012.



Marginedas

MARTINBOROUGH, New Zealand: As the centerpiece of its 40th anniversary year, the National Press Club presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to **Bernard Diederich**, an ex-pat considered the longest practicing journalist in the nation's history. Diederich, a former *Time* magazine Central America bureau chief who lives in San Antonio, Texas, has found new fame as an eyewitness chronicler of British author Graham Greene, whose heyday was on Diederich's Caribbean turf. Diederich was in New Zealand to

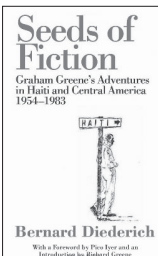
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Greene, left, with Diederich in Panama in 1976.

promote his book on his travels with Greene, *The Seeds of Fiction: Graham Greene's Adventures in Haiti and Central America 1954-1983*. Diederich has also written books on the Duvaliers of Haiti, Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic and the Somoza dynasty of Nicaragua. Club members boarded a bus in Wellington for the presentation in the remote Wairapa Valley, where Diederich's pioneering forebears settled and where family members still farm. Club stalwart **John Hayes**, who is a member of parliament for the Wairapa district, presented the award.



WASHINGTON: **Paul Brandus**, an OPC board member and founder and bureau chief of West Wing Reports, a White House-based news service, has signed on with Lyons Press, a division of Globe Pequot Publishing, to write *Under This Roof*. It is a history of the White House, how it has expanded over the last 200 years, and will tell some of the more colorful, but largely unknown things that have happened there to presidents and their families. It is scheduled to be in bookstores in late 2015, just in time for the 2016 presidential election.



Brandus

Peter Goodman, an OPC member, in March was named editor-in-

chief of *The International Business Times*, the flagship digital publication of IBT Media, the company that bought *Newsweek* last year. Goodman will leave a job as executive business editor and global editor at The Huffington Post, where he recently helped oversee the launch of its global publication, WorldPost. In his new job, Goodman will oversee 10 country editions in seven languages. In February, Goodman won the digital commentary award in SABEW's Best in Business contest for columns described as "not just well reported and opinionated, they are also hard-hitting."



Goodman



Dozier giving the keynote address at the 2014 OPC Scholars Luncheon. During her speech, she warned aspiring correspondents about getting too comfortable in their beats or careers.

Kimberly Dozier, who was the keynote speaker at the OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon in February, has been named the 2014-15 General Omar N. Bradley Chair in Strategic Leadership, a joint faculty appointment of the U.S. Army War College, Dickinson College and Penn State University Dickinson School of Law and School of International Affairs. She is the first woman to hold the position and while in residence, she will teach at all three schools and do research for a book on resiliency, the intelligence community and special operations. She is leaving her job as an intelligence reporter for The Associated Press but will be a contributing writer for The Daily Beast. Dozier

covered the Iraq War for CBS News from 2003 to May 2006, when she was seriously injured in a car bombing that killed two colleagues, a translator and a U.S. soldier.

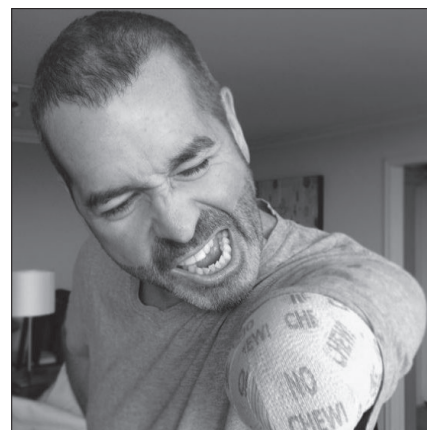
OPC board members **Azmat Khan** and **Toni Reinhold** are among the participants April 5 at Conversations in Journalism, the first student-run conference at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Anka Wessang, director of the Press Club of Strasbourg, visited OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry** in February. Wessang had just completed a State Department-sponsored tour of the U.S., which ended in New York. Fry and Wessang have previously met at various European press club meetings.



Wessang and Fry

Miles O'Brien, a correspondent for PBS and former CNN anchor, suffered an injury during an overseas reporting trip in February that became life threatening and resulted in his left arm being amputated. The accident happened as O'Brien was finishing a solo trip first to Japan for the third anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear plant meltdown and then



O'Brien demonstrates a sense of humor while showing where the limb was amputated with "no chew" tape wrapping the wound.

to the Philippines. He was packing his camera gear when a heavy suitcase fell off his cart and hit his arm. He said his arm hurt but he wasn't overly concerned. The bruise grew increasingly painful and when his hand became numb two days later he saw a doctor who admitted him to a hospital for acute compartment syndrome, a condition where a dramatic increase in pressure within a muscle compartment cuts off blood flow. Before O'Brien underwent surgery to relieve the pressure, he was warned that amputation could result. His arm was amputated above the elbow. He went on to finish the projects began overseas, saying working has been part of his recovery.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Joel Brinkley, who died March 11 in Washington, D.C., was the son of broadcast news commentator **David Brinkley** but he established his own reputation early when as a 29-year-old reporter covering the Cambodian refugee crisis for *The Louisville Courier-Journal* he won the 1980 Pulitzer for international reporting. He was 61 and died from acute undiagnosed leukemia, which led to pneumonia and respiratory failure. Brinkley left Louisville in 1983 for *The New York Times*, where he spent 23 years reporting from Washington, D.C., and overseas and served as Jerusalem bureau chief and as an editor. Leaving *The Times* in



Brinkley, right, and Jay Mather in 1980 celebrate winning a Pulitzer Prize for the series "Living the Cambodian Nightmare."

2006, he became a professor at Stanford University and continued his interest in foreign affairs as a freelancer and syndicated columnist. He left Stanford late last year and took a leave from column writing to serve as a tactical adviser for the special inspector general for Afghan reconstruction. He wrote several books, including 2011's *Cambodia's Curse: The Modern History of a Troubled Land*. Survivors include his wife, **Sabra Chartrand**, a former *Times* reporter whom he met when both were reporting in Israel.

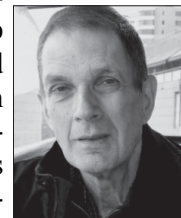


The profile photo from Power's Facebook page.

Matthew Power, a freelance journalist, died March 10 while in Uganda where he intended to spend a week with an explorer who is attempting to walk the more than 4,000-mile route of the Nile River. On his third day with the expedition, Power was overcome by the heat and died, presumably of heatstroke. He was 39 and married to **Jessica Benko**, also a freelance journalist with overseas experience. Power, who lived in Brooklyn, was a contributing editor at *Harpers Magazine* and also wrote for *GQ*, *The New York Times*, *Outside* and *Men's Journal*, which had sent him to Uganda. Power's best known pieces included the killing of a conservationist by poachers in Costa Rica, a Philippine shantytown that survived off a massive trash dump, a drug resistant malaria in Cambodia and the destruction of Buddha statues in Afghanistan by the Taliban.



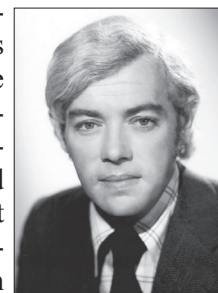
Alan Gersten, who covered Latin America for Reuters, died in March, following a long battle with leukemia. Earlier in his career, Gersten was maritime editor of the *Journal of Commerce* and business editor of the *Rocky Mountain News*. An accomplished journalist, Gersten received a Knight-Bagehot Fellowship and won a Gerald Loeb Award, which is given for outstanding business and financial journalism. He was a past president of the New York Financial Writers Association. He was also the author of *A Conspiracy of Indifference: The Raoul Wallenberg Story*, the story of Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews before being arrested by the Soviets and ultimately disappeared.



Bill McLaughlin, a diplomatic and foreign correspondent who headed bureaus in Germany and Lebanon for CBS News in the late 1960s and 1970s, died March 7 in Waterbury, Connecticut. He was 76 and the cause was cardiac arrest. McLaughlin, who lived in France, spent most of his 27-year television news career with CBS but left for two years in 1979 to report for NBC News as its United Nations correspondent. For CBS, he covered the Vietnam War, the Six-Day War in 1967, the conflict between India and Pakistan in 1971, the Arab-Israeli War in 1973 and the 1981 shooting of Pope John Paul II.

He was part of the CBS team that received an OPC Award for its coverage of the murder of 11 Israeli athletes by Palestinian terrorists at the 1972 Olympic Games. He received

(Continued on Page 10)



(Kranz, continued from page 1)

and I look forward to working with her.”

Serrill praised current Executive Director Fry as “the best thing that ever happened to the Overseas Press Club. She carried the Club forward for 20 years, through good and sometimes rocky times. After her many years at the helm, there are few prominent figures in international journalism who don’t know Sonya. Under her administration, our annual awards dinners were always carefully organized and impeccably elegant. We will

miss her terribly, but wish her a very happy retirement.”

Kranz is a longtime OPC member and a familiar face at OPC programs. “I am thrilled to join the staff of an organization that helps international journalists do their jobs and honors those who do it best,” she says. Kranz says one of her goals will be to recruit more young overseas journalists to the OPC. “We need to engage them where they live, which is on social media,” she says. Kranz lives in New York City with her husband and seven-year-old son.

(People, continued from page 9)

another OPC Award for his part in the 1974 CBS Reports documentary “The Palestinians,” which included an interview with the Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat. Survivors include his wife, the former **Huguette Cord’homme**, whom he met at the CBS Paris bureau.

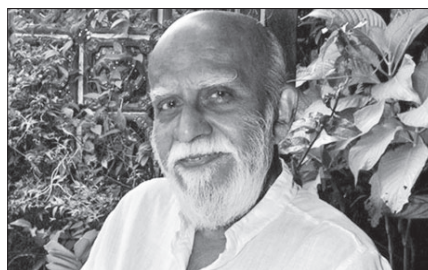
Jerry Norton, 67, who worked overseas for most of his 25 years with Reuters, died December 15 after a long battle with a brain tumor. Norton was a Commodity News Services/Unicom News reporter in Washington, D.C., before becoming regional editor in Hong Kong and executive editor in London.



He was business editor of the *South China Morning Post* before joining Reuters and working as a senior correspondent or veteran editor in Hong Kong and Tokyo, bureau

chief in Singapore, bureau chief in Indonesia and lastly, editor in Washington, D.C. He was twice based in Singapore and twice president of Singapore’s Foreign Correspondents Association, besides being a member of the FCC in Hong Kong and the FCCJ in Japan. After retiring in 2011 from Reuters, he was executive director of the Young America’s Foundation National Journalism Center until he became ill. Norton, who served in the Army in Vietnam where he earned a purple heart and other decorations, will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery on April 11.

Vernon Ram, a long-serving editor at the *South China Morning Post* and a former OPC member, died December 16 at age 87. He died of pneumonia after a hip operation that followed a fall at his home on Lamma Island, which is part of Hong Kong. Ram was born in Mumbai and named Ramachandran. In an obituary written for the Foreign Correspondents’ Club, his wife, **Jane**, wrote that Ram attributed numer-



ous rejections by English-language publications to his Indian name and “picked a new name out of a telephone directory, stabbing the pages at random.” After that, Ram began his career as a sports reporter in India and covered three Olympics: Helsinki in 1952, Rome in 1960 and Tokyo in 1964. While in Tokyo, he was hired to redesign and improve the sports section of the Hong Kong *Tiger Standard*, forerunner of *The Standard*. There, he met his wife, who wrote music reviews. He joined the *Post* in 1970 as an assistant editor and worked in posts ranging from writing editorials to editing the education section. In 1986, he left the *Post* and established his own company offering editorial services.

(New Books, continued from page 12)

in 1936 while in exile in Sweden. Weil died in Auschwitz.

An afterword to *Rheinsberg* was written by Dr. Peter Boethig, the director of the Kurt Tucholsky Literaturmuseum in Rheinsberg, a quaint town north of Berlin where the story takes place in a rural landscape.

Berlinica is owned and operated by Dr. Eva C. Schweitzer, an OPC member and author who divides her time between Berlin and New York, where she works as a cultural correspondent. Berlinica brings books,



movies on DVD and CD music from Berlin to America. The work is in English or subtitled.

Also due in May from Berlinica is *Berlin 1945. World War II: Photos of the Aftermath*, a book with black-and-white pictures taken by Russian soldiers after the fall of Berlin, shown for the first time in the United States. The author is Dr. Michael Brettin, the history editor of the *Berliner Kurier* newspaper. Peter Kroh, the former *Kurier* photo editor, edited the photos.

— by Susan Kille

A View From 40th Street During the OPC Revolution

OPC 75TH ANNIVERSARY

by Sibby Christensen

As editor of the *OPC Bulletin* during the 1960s, I witnessed only a slice of the Club's long history. But arguably it was its most exciting, exasperating, argumentative and game-changing slice.

The Club already was aboil in September 1963, when I arrived at its townhouse headquarters at 54 West 40th Street to manage OPC's weekly eight-pager. Madame Nhu, South Vietnam's fiery first lady, had been booked to appear at a coming Club "Newsmaker" luncheon, and the reaction was polarized. People calling into the Club often expressed outrage, then in the next breath, demanded a seat at the event. Response was so heavy the event had to be moved to the Waldorf's Grand Ballroom.

It was a taste of what was to come: a weekly schedule in New York crammed with luncheons, press conferences, and book nights, each to be covered in the *Bulletin*. These stories ran alongside regular coverage about correspondents working in hotspots abroad. A few personal vignettes:

■ About to send a new issue to the printer in late November 1963, I was alerted by Club Treasurer **Jim Sheldon** about disturbing news showing up on the UPI ticker installed at the Clubhouse. President Kennedy had been shot. In the anxious hours ahead, I remade the front end of the *Bulletin*, including a roundup of coverage and a quick Polaroid shot of members watching the ticker. Still, one member complained that I hadn't remade the whole issue.

■ Burgess Meredith, who portrayed famed WWII reporter **Ernie Pyle** in a movie, had lunch one day with former OPC President **Will Yolen**. Yolen phoned, suggesting a photo of the actor inspecting memorabilia in the Club's Ernie Pyle Room. As I arrived for the shoot, Meredith doubtfully eyed me, a female person with an old Speed Graphic. "I only pose for professional photographers," he announced. After Yolen assured his guest that I was a "real" photographer, I got the shot.

■ Of all the people I photographed at the Club only two — Richard Nixon and cabaret star Hildegarde — did the corny bit of waving directly to the camera.

■ "When they're young, they still bother to focus," cackled **Dickey Chapelle** in her inimitable steam caliope voice when she saw me toting the camera. OPC board member, writer/photographer (*National Geographic*, et al), she was vocally supportive of women, the military and all things journalistic. She was to die on

the job in Vietnam in November 1965, when she met the business end of a booby-trapped landmine.

■ A few days after Chapelle's death, the East Coast power grid collapsed. I was marooned in my upstairs office just as her photo agent, Nancy Palmer, arrived at the building with a packet of pictures for the next *Bulletin*. Palmer climbed 11 flights up the darkened stairwell to deliver the photos, and she watched as I organized the layout by flashlight. Then we both descended the stairs to the Club's cozy candlelit bar on the ground floor, packed with members enjoying sandwiches and drinks, being offered fast and free to beat refrigerator meltdown.

■ Two *Bulletin* chairmen, **Paul Grimes** of *The New York Times* and his successor, **Larry Mihlon** of McGraw-Hill News Service, strongly supported me and the OPC members who volunteered to help with coverage. The latter included **Ed Edwin**, a political expert doing research for NBC News, and **Blythe Foote Finke** of the USIA staff. **Betty Etter**, a veteran of women's magazines, came in weekly to compile the popular "People & Places" column. Artist **Kay Kato** offered her sketches, and **Jerry Robinson**, who invented the Joker character as a staff artist for Batman comics, gave us free use of his syndicated "Still Life" feature, centered on world affairs.

■ "Ticker" notes were a central and cohesive reason for the *Bulletin*'s existence. Club members around the world kept the home base in New York abreast of activities of the overseas press corps, and at the same time, connected with each other. An incomplete list would include **Bernard Redmont** (Westinghouse Broadcasting) from Paris, **Dennis Redmont** (AP) from Rome, **Joe McGowan** (AP) from New Delhi, **Welles Hangen** (NBC News) from Hong Kong, **Al Kaff** (UPI) from Tokyo, **Jay Axelbank** (UPI) from Moscow, and **Bob Tuchman** (AP) from London. (Tuchman gave me a leg-pull with postings about colleague **Milton Marmor**'s midwinter travel plans, ending with Marmor staying home, "because I always wanted to see England.")

All good things come, if not to an end, less frequently. Battered by strong financial headwinds and internal turmoil in the late 1960s, the OPC cut back *Bulletin* issues and pages. In 1970 I was ready to move on, with fond, if tumultuous, memories. But **Will Oursler**, then-OPC president, asked me to stay on, not as an employee but as a member of the OPC.

Sibby Christensen, managing editor of the OPC Bulletin, 1963-1970, is retired from The Associated Press, where she edited the AP World Magazine. She is a past-president of New York Women in Communications, Inc.



Dickey Chapelle

New Books

NORTH AMERICA

COURTROOM ARTISTS ARE

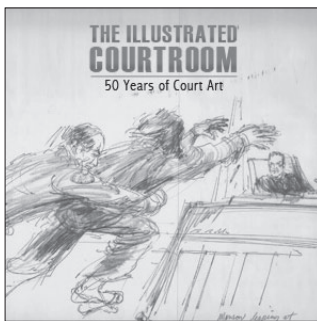
celebrated in the new book *The*

Illustrated Courtroom:

50 Years of Court Art.

The craft of courtroom illustration blends art and the immediacy of news to report from trials where cameras are barred.

The cover illustration shows Charles Manson leaping at a judge. Other well-known subjects in its dozens of illustrations include David "Son of Sam" Berkowitz, John Gotti, Patty Hearst, Michael Jackson, Bernard Madoff, Jack Ruby, O.J. Simpson, Martha Stewart, the Watergate burglars and key Iran-Contra players. One section features the era's most compelling and dynamic lawyers.



Courtroom artist Richard Tomlinson's 1989 depiction of an un-named defendant.

"This is, as far as we know, the first book that really examines this intriguing intersection of journalism, law and art," said Tim Harper, editor of CUNY Journalism Press that is releasing the book in April.

Drawings and insights from some of the biggest courtroom dramas of the last half-century are provided by Howard Brodie, Aggie Kenny, Bill Robles, Richard Tomlinson and Elizabeth Williams, all award-winning artists. The book gives an eyewitness view of trials and

looks into the minds, work-styles and artistic philosophy of the artists.

The book is edited by Williams, a

courtroom illustrator who has covered the trials for The Associated Press and worked for every major television network and many other news organizations. Sue Russell, a crime journalist and author whose work includes *Lethal Intent*, a biography of executed serial killer Aileen Wuornos, supplies the narrative.

CUNY Journalism Press was launched less than two years ago by Stephen Shepard, former dean of the CUNY Graduate School of Journalism and an OPC member. The new imprint has built an impressive catalog.

EUROPE

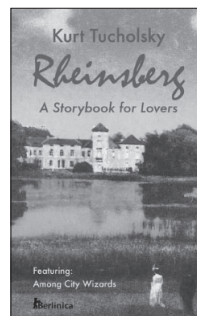
KURT TUCHOLSKY WAS ONE of the most important journalists of the Weimar Republic but his first literary success was a novella, *Rheinsberg: A Storybook for Lovers*, about a young couple named Wolfie and Claire on a romantic weekend. The book, released in 1912, will be published by Berlinica in May for the first time in English.

Life did not have a happy ending for Tucholsky and Else Weil, who served as the model for Claire.

With the end of the World War in 1918, Tucholsky became the chief editor of *Ulk*, a satiric magazine in Berlin, for which he had written anonymously as far back as 1907. In 1920, he married Weil, a physician

who was one of the first German women to study medicine, but the couple later divorced. In 1933, his books were banned and burned. The Nazis hated him, and drove him out of Germany. He committed suicide

(Continued on Page 10)



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Book Night:
Gregory Feifer's
Russians: The People
Behind the Power
March 31

75th Anniversary
Awards Dinner
with Samantha Power,
Bob Simon and David Muir
April 24

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