Brokaw Receives Standing Ovation at Awards Dinner

EVENT RECAP: APRIL 24

by Aimee Vitrak

The past year was just as daunting in terms of press freedom and its toll on journalists and journalism as in years past, but the mood in the room managed to be festive. Perhaps journalists have grown numb to the bad news, or at least decided to honor those journalists who were tenacious and even lucky enough to walk away from scenes in Syria, China, Southern Africa, Nigeria, Honduras, Afghanistan and many other dangerous and difficult places to tell the story, when so many of their compatriots have not.

The 74th OPC Annual Awards Dinner started on the thirty-fifth floor of the Mandarin Oriental where guests mingled around two well-stocked bars, rounds of hors d’oeuvres and celebratory image panels that honored this year’s recipients, all courtesy of party sponsor, Lenovo. The room became loud and elbow-to-elbow with people dressed in tuxedos and cocktail dresses. Jamie Doran arrived wearing a tartan kilt and Fabio Buccairelli wore aviator sunglasses, but they were award winners so shaking up the status quo seemed a part of their job and gave a rebel quality to the room.

The candle that is lit at the beginning of the dinner honors those journalists who are killed or missing in action. This year’s tribute was again a moving one with Diane and John Foley lighting the candle for all journalists and in particular, for their son James Foley who has been missing in action in Syria since Thanksgiving Day 2012. The Foley family has launched an internet campaign freejamesfoley.org to raise awareness for their son’s situation and to urge the Syrian government to release him. The Foleys are all-too familiar to concerns of journalist safety and press freedom as James was also taken for a month by the Libyan

War Portrayed Beyond the Camera

EVENT PREVIEW: MAY 15

Photojournalists on War, the much anticipated, ground breaking visual and oral history of America’s nine-year conflict in the Middle East will publish on May 15 with a book launch event at 25CPW Gallery in New York presented by author Michael Kamber, The University of Texas Press and the OPC.

A reception and book signing will take place at 6:30 p.m. followed by a discussion at 7:30 p.m. with Kamber, Dexter Filkins, and photojournalists featured in the book at 25CPW Gallery in New York.

With visceral, previously unpublished photographs and eyewitness accounts by the world’s top news photographers, Kamber, a writer and photojournalist for more than 25 years, interviewed 39 colleagues for the book, many from leading news organizations like Agence France-Presse, The Associated Press, the Guardian, the Los Angeles Times,

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OPC Awards Dinner
Photos by Michael Dames

After-party revelers from left: OPC board member Toni Reinhold, OPC members Andrew Lluberes and Edie Lederer and OPC Executive Director Sonya K. Fry.

Fabio Bucciarelli tests his Robert Capa Gold Medal for authenticity.

NBC colleagues Richard Engel, left, and Tom Brokaw.
government in April/May 2011.

The Hal Boyle Award winner submitted her work to the judges anonymously, one of two winners of the night to do so. (The other was CNN for the David Kaplan Award, which remains “anonymouse.”) Upon winning, the *Los Angeles Times* identified the journalist of the winning entries to be Raja Abdulrahim. Judge coordinator Arlene Getz wrote in the introduction to this year’s winners, “Not since the Cold War have there been ‘Anonymous’ entries to the OPC awards. In 1969, the Robert Capa Gold Medal went to an anonymous Czech photographer who covered his country’s upheavals. Only after the collapse of the Soviet Union was the name of the photographer revealed.” Abdulrahim took the award and went off stage without giving an acceptance speech. It was unclear if her leaving without speaking was intentional for her safety or a shyness that gave way last minute, but it turned out that it was only a misunderstanding at the podium and she was called back up to accept her award and address the audience. “I’d rather sneak into Syria than talk in front of a crowd,” Abdulrahim said.

She relayed an experience she had a year before when she spent the night in a Jordanian jail trying to get into Syria and was caught by a Jordanian soldier. “Aside from having a rifle shoved in my face, it was a pretty easy experience,” she said. She shared a cell that night with a brothel madam who said that if she was taken to jail, don’t go to cell block 3, those women are dangerous, they will cut you. “Luckily the next day I was released thanks to help from the U.S. Consulate,” she said. “But [my experience is] one of the most minor of hazards that journalists face when reporting on Syria. The challenges that we face in Syria underscore what the activists that we rely on face daily. The activists sometimes look at us and say, ‘we know why we’re here but why are you here?’ And I think for any journalist who’s inside Syria and sees the situation and desperate need for coverage on the ground knows that answer.”

Thomas Nast Award winner Rob Rogers from the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* put together a slideshow of his work and wanted to illustrate how at odds cartoonists can be with editors and so he drew different brains. On the first illustration, Rogers showed that the largest part of the cartoonist’s brain is “toilet humor,” whereas the smallest part of the editor’s brain is “sense of humor.”

The Feature Photography Award was won by Oded Balilty of the Associated Press for his photos of an ultra orthodox wedding outside of Tel Aviv. “I’ve been covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for the AP for over a decade. If you would have asked me do you believe you’ll be in New York getting an award for wedding pictures, I would have said it would never happen,” he said as the audience laughed. “This is the first time I’ve won something for work that is happy and it’s very important for me that we can show from the same office the conflict, but also the other side of life in Israel.”

Another astonishing winner was Alberto Arce for the Robert Spiers Benjamin Award for reporting from Latin America. Arce is a one-man reporting team for the Associated Press in Honduras, one of the most violent countries in the world. “Everybody says I’m brave, but I think my editors are brave because they invest in having a person in a place where nobody cares,” he said. “The challenge for me is to put a small village on the mosquito coast on your map.”

Tom Brokaw, intrepid NBC News anchor from 1982 to 2004, received the President’s Award with a standing ovation. “These are evenings of renewal for our profession,” he said. “I was struck tonight of the sense of nobility, honor, courage and importance that these winners represent.” He said that the winners, hailing from a varied background, men and women, reflect a changing tide in a type of reporter that was not on the ground twenty years ago. Technology and “borderless” states have accelerated the news cycle and what it means to be a foreign correspondent. “We were reminded last week in Boston that it is a world without borders. Where is overseas? We are caught up in wars that are stateless. we are also dealing with other profound changes in the economic make up of this world — smaller planet with many more people. I find people have an enormous appetite for wanting to know not only what happened but what it means.”

Lenovo gave all winners a laptop that turns into a tablet. William J. Holstein served as dinner chair and filled the room to capacity selling tables and Arlene Getz of Thomson Reuters served as Head Judge.
2012 AWARDS AND WINNERS

HAL BOYLE AWARD
Best newspaper, news service or online reporting from abroad
Raja Abdulrahim
Los Angeles Times
“Inside Syria”

CITATIONS:
Staff of the Associated Press
“Inside the Syrian Resistance”

David Barstow
The New York Times
“Wal-Mart Abroad”

BOB CONSIDINE AWARD
Best newspaper, news service or online interpretation of international affairs
Jeremy Page
The Wall Street Journal
“A Murder Shakes China”

CITATION:
Liz Sly
The Washington Post
“Syrian Civil War”

ROBERT CAPA GOLD MEDAL AWARD
Best published photographic reporting from abroad requiring exceptional courage and enterprise
Fabio Bucciarelli
Agence France-Presse
“Battle to Death”

CITATION:
Manu Brabo
Associated Press
“Syria’s Civil War”

OLIVIER REBBOT AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in magazines or books
Samuel James
Freelance for Harper’s Magazine
“The Water of My Land”

THE JOHN FABER AWARD
Best photographic reporting from abroad in newspapers or news services
Bernat Armangue
Associated Press
“Conflict in Gaza”

FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD
Best feature photography published in any medium on an international theme
Oded Balilty
Associated Press
“The Ultra Orthodox Wedding”

LOWELL THOMAS AWARD
Best radio news or interpretation of international affairs
Brian Reed, Habiba Nosheen, Sebastian Rotella, Ana Arana
WBZ’s This American Life with ProPublica and Fundacion MEPI
“What Happened At Dos Erres”

CITATION:
Kelly McEvers, Deborah Amos, Doug Roberts
National Public Radio
“Syria”

DAVID KAPLAN AWARD
Best TV spot news reporting from abroad
Anonymous CNN Correspondent and Photojournalist, Tamara Hunt, Tony Maddox, Parisa Khosravi, Deborah Rayner and CNN International Newsgathering Staff
CNN
“Damascus Undercover”

CITATION:
Scott Pelley, Patricia Shevlin, Elizabeth Palmer, Heather Abbott, Justine Redman, Andy Stevenson
CBS Evening News
“Shot by the Taliban, Malala’s School”

EDWARD R. MURROW AWARD
Best TV interpretation or documentary on international affairs
Scott Pelley, Jeff Fager, Bill Owens, Henry Schuster
CBS News – 60 Minutes
“Killing Bin Laden”

CITATION:
Pamela Yates, Peter Kinoy, Paco deOnis
Skylight Pictures / PBS-POV Series
“Granito: How to Nail a Dictator”

ED CUNNINGHAM AWARD
Best magazine reporting from abroad
Russ Rymer with photographer Lynn Johnson
National Geographic Magazine
“Vanishing Languages”

CITATION:
Evan Osnos
The New Yorker
“Boss Rail”

THOMAS NAST AWARD
Best cartoons on international affairs
Rob Rogers
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

CITATION:
Signe Wilkinson
Philadelphia Daily News and The Philadelphia Inquirer

MORTON FRANK AWARD
Best international business news reporting in magazines
Michael Riley, Ashlee Vance with Zoe Schneeweiss
Bloomberg Businessweek
“It’s Not Paranoia If They’re Stealing Your Secrets: Inside the Chinese Boom in Corporate Espionage”

CITATION:
Brett Forrest
Bloomberg Businessweek
“Empire at the End of the Earth”
MALCOLM FORBES AWARD
Best international business news reporting in newspapers, news services or online
David Barboza
The New York Times
“China’s Secret Fortunes”
CITATION:
Liam Vaughan, Gavin Finch, Andrea Tan, Katie Linsell, Jesse Westbrook, Lindsay Fortado, Joshua Gallu Bloomberg News
“Libor: The Biggest Bank Scandal”

CORNELIUS RYAN AWARD
Best non-fiction book on international affairs
Peter Bergen
Crown Publishing Group
Manhunt: The Ten-Year Search for Bin Laden from 9/11 to Abbottabad

MADELINE DANE ROSS AWARD
Best international reporting in the print medium or online showing a concern for the human condition
Mark Jenkins with photographer Lynn Johnson
National Geographic Magazine
“The Healing Fields”
CITATION:
Alan Katz and Michelle Wiese Bockmann Bloomberg News
“High Seas Injustice”

DAVID A. ANDELMAN and PAMELA TITLE AWARD
Best international reporting in the broadcast media showing a concern for the human condition
Najibullah Quraishi and Jamie Doran
WGBH Frontline and Clover Films
“Opium Brides”
CITATION:
Tim Sandler, Chris Hansen, Kristen Powers, Allan Maraynes NBC News – Dateline
“The Hansen Files: Trial and Error”

JOE and LAURIE DINE AWARD
Best international reporting in any medium dealing with human rights.
Sebastian Rotella, Ana Arana, Brian Reed, Habiba Nosheen ProPublica, Fundacion MEPI and WBEZ’s This American Life
“Massacre, Memory and Justice in Guatemala”
CITATION:
Alissa J. Rubin
The New York Times
“Afghanistan’s Vulnerable Women”

WHITMAN BASSOW AWARD
Best reporting in any medium on international environmental issues
Peter Gwin with photographer Brent Stirton
National Geographic Magazine
“Rhino Wars”
CITATION:
International Consortium of Investigative Journalists The Center for Public Integrity
“Plunder in the Pacific”

ROBERT SPIERS BENJAMIN AWARD
Best reporting in any medium on Latin America
Alberto Arce
Associated Press
“Honduras”
CITATION:
Nick Miroff and William Booth
The Washington Post
“Mexico’s Middle Class”

BEST MULTIMEDIA NEWS PRESENTATION
Best use of video, interactive graphics and slideshows to report on international news
Thomas Jennings, Sabrina Shankman, Travis Fox, James Milward, Pietro Gagliano, Ryan Andal, Ashlee Lougheed, Sam Bailey, Andrew Golis
Based on reporting by Sebastian Rotella of ProPublica WGBH/Frontline & Secret Location
“A Perfect Terrorist: David Coleman Headley’s Web of Betrayal”
CITATION:
Rick Loomis, Kenneth R, Weiss and Staff of the Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles Times
“Beyond 7 Billion”

BEST INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING
Best investigative reporting in any medium on an international story
Michael Forsythe, Shai Ostter, Natasha Khan, Dune Lawrence, Ben Richardson, Henry Sanderson
Bloomberg News
“Revolution to Riches”

BEST COMMENTARY
Best commentary on international news in any medium
David Ignatius
The Washington Post
“Foreign Affairs”
CITATION:
Nicholas D. Kristof
The New York Times
Columns on Human Rights
OPC Awards Dinner
Photos by Michael Dames

At the pre-party from left: Tom Gjelten, Emma Daly and Rick MacArthur

From left: Larry Martz, Bob Sullivan and Evelyn Leopold share a toast.

After-party from left: OPC Foundation Executive Director Jane Reilly, OPC Foundation President and Dinner Chairman Bill Holstein, wife Rita Sevell and OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry.

Former OPC Presidents Allan Dodds Frank, left, and Bill Holstein, flank current OPC President Michael Serrill at the pre-party sponsored by Lenovo.

Right: OPC Foundation board member Kate McLeod, far right, with three Jerry Flint foundation scholarship winners from left: Rachel Will, Natalie Bailey and Valerie Hopkins, with Tom Brokaw.

Former OPC President Roy Rowan, left, speaks to Tom Brokaw.
OPC SCHOLARS

Ben Hubbard, who won the 2007 Stan Swinton scholarship from the OPC Foundation, wrote the lead story in *The New York Times* on April 28. The story established that the armed opposition in Syria to the government of President Bashar al-Assad has been radicalized with many fighting brigades led by extremists and Islamic law being applied in rebel-held areas. Without moderate or secular rebel forces, the United States finds itself with tough policy choices and few natural allies. Hubbard recently began reporting from the Middle East for *The Times*, after having worked in the area for *The Associated Press*.

Paul Sonne, winner of the 2008 Swinton scholarship, was the lead writer of a front-page story in *The Wall Street Journal* in late March about major beer companies selling cheap, potent beer to Africans. He won the Malcolm Forbes award for best international business reporting in newspapers in 2012 for “Censorship, Inc.,” a front-page series that described how Iran, Egypt, Libya and Syria used technology from Western and Chinese companies to spy on dissidents, conduct surveillance and track mobile phone use. During a visit to New York, where he attended OPC’s Tchotchke Party on March 8, he said he is moving from London to the *Journal’s* Moscow bureau, which will put him in his academic and linguistic sweet spot.

James Matthews, who received the OPC Foundation’s 2010 Emmanuel R. Freedman scholarship, he won the Best First Book prize from the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies. His book, *Reluctant Warriors: Republican Popular Army and Nationalist Army Conscripts in the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939*, was previewed in the September 2012 Bulletin. A translation in Spanish will be out soon. Judges wrote: “Matthews’ work is meticulously researched and engagingly written with verve and wit.”

WINNERS

Stellar foreign reporting had its usual showcase in this year’s Pulitzer Prizes. Three of the four awards won by *The New York Times* were for foreign news: David Barboza earned the International Award for his exposure of corruption at high levels of the Chinese government, including billions in secret wealth owned by relatives of the prime minister. Barboza won the triple crown of journalism awards this year: the OPC Malcolm Forbes, the Polk and the Pulitzer.

David Barstow and Alejandra Xanic von Bertrab won Investigative Reporting honors for their reports on how Wal-Mart used widespread bribery to dominate the market in Mexico; *The Times* received a staff award in the Explanatory Reporting category for its penetrating look into business practices by Apple and other technology companies that illustrated the darker side of a changing global economy. Both photo awards were for overseas coverage: the Feature Photography award went to Javier Manzano, a freelancer, for an image distributed by Agence France-Presse of two Syrian rebel soldiers tensely guarding their position as beams of light stream through bullet holes in a nearby metal wall and Breaking News Photography honors went to a team from The AP – Rodrigo Abd, Manu Brabo, Narciso Contreras, Khalil Hamra and Muhammed Muheisen — for their compelling coverage of the civil war in Syria.

OPC member and CNN chief international correspondent Christiane Amanpour was honored in April with the Arab American Institute Foundation’s first Anthony Shadid Award for Excellence in Journalism, named for *The New York Times* correspondent and OPC member who lost his life last year while on assignment in Syria. The University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Center for Journalism Ethics also named an award for Shadid and it was awarded in April to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel’s Mark Johnson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning science reporter.
A journalist in Marathi, India, in March returned an investigative journalism award, citing the failure of his story to change government policy. The journalist, Kishor Naik Gaonkar, chief reporter for the daily Goa Doot, received the Lambert Mascarenhas Award for his investigative series on “A plot to sell Tiracol village.” In a move opposed by local residents, almost the entire village had been purchased to be the site of a golf course. “A failed story is not worthy of an award,” Gaonkar said.

Hungary’s right-wing government reversed itself in March after it faced fierce criticism for giving its top state journalism award to Ferenc Szaniszlo, a presenter for the pro-government Echo TV channel who is notorious for spreading Jewish conspiracy theories and describing the country’s Roma minority as “human monkeys.” After wide protests, Szaniszlo agreed to the government’s request that he return the award.

PRESS FREEDOM

A group called the Syrian Electronic Army hacked into Twitter accounts of major news organizations. Newsrooms and Wall Street were shaken April 23 when hackers using The AP account sent a false report that President Barack Obama was injured in an explosion at the White House. In minutes, the Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 143 points. A prompt correction was made, the market rebounded and the AP account was suspended until security was increased. A week later, the group hacked into accounts at The Guardian in London and sent bogus Tweets that included anti-Israeli sentiments, “Long Live Syria” and the “Syrian Electronic Army Was Here.” In both cases, experts said hackers gained entry in “phishing” attempts that sent employees e-mails with malicious links or attachments that, once clicked, allowed access to corporate systems.

Anonymous, the controversial hacking collective, has raised nearly $55,000 to fund the development of its crowdsourced news platform, Your Anon News. According to the group, the site will include feeds for livestream events “as they are taking place instead of the 10-second sound bites provided by the corporate media.” Money to be used for development and hosting fees was collected on the fundraising site Indiegogo. Contributors were awarded Anonymous memorabilia including mugs, t-shirts and hoodies.

With the court-martial of Pfc. Bradley Manning expected to begin in June, journalists are concerned about the lack of public access to court documents, such as transcripts and court orders. The U.S. military’s highest court ruled 2-3 on April 16 that it had no power to consider media challenges to military judges’ rulings on access to courts martial. The New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights, which had sued seeking access to documents in the ongoing case, said it was considering an appeal to civilian courts. Manning is charged with violating the Espionage Act by releasing secret government files to WikiLeaks.

Leading human rights organizations, including Human Rights Watch, the American Civil Liberties Union and Amnesty International, wrote President Barack Obama in April calling for an end to the secrecy surrounding the use of military drones. In a nine-page letter, the groups said the administration should “publicly disclose key targeted killing standards and criteria; ensure that U.S. lethal force operations abroad comply with international law; enable meaningful Congressional oversight and judicial review; and ensure effective investigations, tracking and response to civilian harm.

Domenico Quirico, an experienced war correspondent for Italy’s la Stampa newspaper, has not been heard from since April 9, three days after he entered Syria from Lebanon. After a search was unable to locate Quirico the paper announced the disappearance on April 29 in the hope that publicity would turn up leads, said Mario Calabresi, the paper’s editor-in-chief. Four Italian journalists were kidnapped in Syria in early April and released after a little more than a week in captivity.

French photographer Pierre Borghi returned to Paris on April 14 after being kidnapped and held captive for four months in Afghanistan. Borghi had been working in Afghanistan from 2011 to 2012 for the French charity group Solidarités International and had moved to Kabul last year with hopes of establishing himself as a photographer. He was released in Wardak province, just outside the capital.

The Mexican federal government must do more to fully implement recent institutional measures designed to improve journalist safety, according to a report released April 11 by the International Press Institute (IPI)
and the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA). The report also reveals that Mexican state governments are a major obstacle to press freedom in Mexico through their failure to prosecute crimes against journalists and the efforts of some state governments to control information through the harassment and intimidation of journalists.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) is demanding that Mexico investigate the disappearance of Sergio Landa Rosado, a crime reporter in the Gulf coast state of Veracruz, where 12 journalists have been slain or gone missing since 2010. Landa has been missing since January 23, his first day back at work at Diario Cardel after being away for more than a month following an earlier kidnapping. Journalists at Diario Cardel told CPJ that the day after Landa reported on the murder of a taxi driver early in December, two SUVs and a car with men carrying assault rifles came to the newspaper office and took Landa away. Authorities gave pursuit and Landa somehow escaped. Landa’s colleagues and his wife, Isabel, said that while he was held, Landa’s kidnappers told him that he was going to be killed for writing about the cab driver.

Private daily newspapers returned to Myanmar in April for the first time in almost 50 years. Private dailies in Burmese, English and other languages had been commonplace in the former British colony — then called Burma — but were forced to close under military rule in 1964. Although still far from perfect, media controls have been relaxed as part of reforms launched by the government of President Thein Sein, who took office in 2011.

Gunmen broke into the offices of four independent newspapers in Baghdad on April 2 and stabbed and beat five employees. Iraqi officials said that the assailants — some wearing military uniforms — also damaged computers and office furniture. They used batons and knives, but not their pistols. CPJ ranks Iraq among the most dangerous places in the world for journalists.

The president of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, pardoned Mamdouh Hamamreh, a Palestinian journalist, after a one-year prison sentence for insulting Abbas on Facebook was upheld by a West Bank appeals court March 28. The president’s legal adviser said that Abbas respected freedom of opinion and expression and that he had not personally filed a complaint against the journalist.

MURDERS

A conviction for the murder of Regina Martínez Pérez, a correspondent for the Mexican news magazine Proceso, has brought outrage, not closure. About 400 people protested April 28 in the center of Veracruz’s state capital, Xalapa, carrying signs that said the government was an accomplice in the death of Martínez, who more than a year ago was found beaten and strangled to death in her home in Xalapa. On April 9, Jorge Antonio Hernández Silva was sentenced to 38 years in prison for the murder. Authorities said the motive was robbery. Martínez’s colleagues say Hernández was set up and his confession coerced. They say Martínez’s critical reporting on state officials was the likely motive. On April 14, a report by Jorge Carrasco in Proceso seriously questioned the state’s case against Hernández. Two days later, Proceso reported it had learned of a plot by Veracruz officials to harm Carrasco. CPJ, IPI and WAN-IFRA have called on the Mexican central government to investigate the threat to Carrasco and to safeguard his well-being.

A Maoist group has claimed responsibility for the April 27 killing of Jitendra Singh, a journalist who worked part-time for the Hindi daily Prabhat Khabhar in Khunti, a western district of India. Singh also ran a construction business and the motive for the murder was unclear.

Paraguay’s celebration of its Day of the Journalist on April 26 was observed by mourning Carlos Manuel Artaza, who was murdered the day before near the capital of Asunción. Artaza worked in the press department in the Amambay governor’s office and was driving his car when he was shot five times by two men on a motorcycle. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said Artaza is the second journalist to be killed in Amambay this year with the February murder of

(Continued on Page 10)
radio station owner and manager Marcelino Vázquez yet to be solved. The Day of the Journalist marks the unsolved 1991 death of Santiago Leguizamón, a radio station manager.

The hacked bodies of Daniel Martínez Balzaldúa and another man were found early on April 24 in the northern Mexico city of Saltillo next to a message similar to others found at killings by drug cartels. Martínez, a photographer, had recently been hired by the daily newspaper Vanguardia to cover social events. Colleagues said he left the office around 3 p.m. April 23 to cover an event. He never arrived. Vanguardia criticized statements from authorities that the men were involved in illegal activities. While it is unclear if his death was related to his job, even society news can be dangerous in some areas of Mexico. Cartel leaders at social events can get angry if they are included in photos, or if they want attention, become incensed if they are left out.

Mario Vendiola Baylosis, a Filipino radio journalist, was riding his motorcycle home from work on April 22 when he was shot three times and killed by two motorcycle gunmen in Kabasalan, in the southern province of Zamboanga Sibugay. Police believe the gunmen followed him.

Mohamed Ibrahim Rageh, who worked for Somali National Television and Radio Mogadishu, was shot dead by two gunmen who trailed him home on April 21, according to RSF. He was the fourth journalist in 2013 killed in Somalia.

A suicide bombing April 16 at an election rally in Pakistan killed Aslam Durrani, news editor of the Urdu language Daily Pakistan, and injured other journalists: Durrani’s colleague Azhar Ali Shah and Express News reporter Ihtesham Khan. More than 20 people were reported to have died in the attack. Political violence has increased in the run-up to May 11 elections.

Less than five weeks after one murder, a second journalist for the daily Vale do Aço has been killed in Brazil’s southeastern state of Minas Gerais. Walgney Assis Carvalho, a photojournalist who worked as a freelancer, died April 14 after a man walked up behind him in a restaurant and fired three shots at close range. Crime reporter Rodrigo Neto de Faria was shot and killed by two men on a motorcycle on March 8. Four journalists have died this year in Brazil.

Fausto Valdiviezo, a well-known Ecuadorian television reporter and anchor, was fatally shot April 11 in his car after leaving his mother’s home in the coastal city of Guayaquil. According to news reports, Valdiviezo had been attacked the day before while driving but had not reported the incident to police.

Several news organizations and journalists group reported that Rahmo Abdulkadir was shot dead by two gunmen in Mogadishu on March 24. She was described as the second female journalist to die in Somalia in eight years. A month later, however, Tom Rhodes, East Africa consultant for CPJ, questioned if there was a murder. In a blog on the CPJ website, Rhodes wrote that despite a close-knit society in Somalia that no journalist there “had been able to confirm further information about the reported victim, track down any family member, or substantiate any other journalism credentials.”

UPDATES

Charles and David Koch, the combatively conservative billionaire industrialists, have emerged as likely bidders for the Tribune Company’s eight regional newspapers. The papers include five of the country’s largest 50 newspapers: the Chicago Tribune, the Los Angeles Times, The Baltimore Sun, the Orlando Sentinel, the South Florida Sun Sentinel and the Hartford Courant. The papers, valued at roughly $623 million, would be a relatively small deal for Koch Industries, which has annual revenue of about $115 billion. Several Tribune staffers have been quoted, both on and off the record, saying that the Libertarian leanings and lack of journalism experience of the Koch brothers have made them
re-evaluate and look favorably at another possible contender: Rupert Murdoch.

While an active member of several organizations, Allan Dodds Frank also finds time to be an award-winning investigative reporter. Frank, a past president of the OPC and founder of OPC’s Global Parachute website opcglobalparachute.org, has won the 2013 Guardian Award from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, the world’s largest anti-fraud organization. The award, which will be presented during the group’s June conference in Las Vegas, is bestowed annually on a journalist whose “determination, perseverance, and commitment to the truth have contributed significantly to the fight against fraud.” Frank was recognized for a broadcast and print career where he has specialized in complex fraud cases, including Bernard Madoff, Martha Stewart and Tyco’s Dennis Kozlowski, insider trader Raja Rajaratnam and savings and loan kingpin Charles Keating.

The top news and editorial editors of the International Herald Tribune are moving to new jobs as part of a reorganization that will see the paper rebranded this fall as the International New York Times. Alison Smale, who became executive editor of the IHT in 2009, will become Berlin Bureau chief while Dick Stevenson, who most recently was chief Washington correspondent, will become the top editor in Paris. Stevenson’s title will be Europe editor and he will report to two editors at The New York Times, Foreign Editor Joe Kahn and Assistant Managing Editor Larry Ingrassia. Also, Serge Schmemann, the IHT editorial page editor since May 2003, has agreed to take on a new writing role within the editorial department. A search is under way for an international opinion editor to replace Schmemann, who will remain based in Paris.

And, another Ingrassia also has been given an international portfolio. Paul Ingrassia, Larry’s brother and the recently named managing editor of Reuters Thomson, is moving from New York to London, where he will oversee global editorial management. Ingrassia, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and the former President of Dow Jones Newswires, joined Reuters in April 2011 and previously held the title deputy editor-in-chief, Reuters.

George Bookman, a longtime OPC member, was the subject of a lengthy profile in the March newsletter of the Society of Silurians, one of the many journalistic groups that has benefitted from his membership. Bookman, who turned 98 in December, had a career that can best be described in a lengthy profile. He has worked for the New York World-Telegram, McClure’s Syndicate, U.S. News, The Washington Post, the Office of War Information, Time, Fortune, the Wall Street Stock Exchange, the New York Botanic Garden and his own consulting business. After many years as head of OPC’s Admission Committee, Bookman stepped down last summer as chairman but continues to serve on the panel.

David Fondiller, a former OPC board member and past editor of the Bulletin, has a new title in recognition of larger responsibilities at The Boston Consulting Group, a global management consulting firm and one of the largest private companies in the United States. In March, he was named director of Public Relations and Communications. He joined BCG six and a half years ago as director of Media Relations for the Americas region.

Steve Coll, a former managing editor of The Washington Post, in March was named the next dean of Columbia University’s journalism school. He will begin the job July 1, replacing Nicholas Lemann, who is leaving after 10 years. Like Lemann, Coll writes regularly for The New Yorker. In 1990, Coll and David A. Vise won a Pulitzer for a series of Post articles about the Securities and Exchange Commission. One of his books, Ghost Wars, won a Pulitzer for nonfiction in 2005 and also won one of Coll’s two OPC awards. In April, Coll told the university’s daily student newspaper that he’s interested in expanding the graduate journalism school’s program from one year to two.

Sylvia Nasar, the John S. and James L. Knight professor of business journalism at Columbia University and the author of the book A Beautiful Mind, filed a lawsuit in March accusing the university of misdirecting $4.5 million in funds over the past decade. Nasar, who is seeking $923,000, claims Columbia breached a contract by failing to pay

(Continued on Page 12)
research fees assigned to her by the Knight Foundation and by creating “phantom I.T.” expenses that she says she never incurred. Despite the dispute, in April the Columbia Journalism School’s Twitter feed sent congratulations to Nasar, who is a tenured professor but on leave, after she was named a Guggenheim Fellow in the field of creative non-fiction.

As recipient of OPC’s 2013 President’s Award, Tom Brokaw was, of course, in attendance at our annual awards dinner on April 24. But three nights later, he stayed away from the White House Correspondents’ Association Dinner. Brokaw, whose storied career included being a White House correspondent during the Watergate era, had skipped the correspondents’ dinner for a number of years but his public criticism made news in 2012. He said the final straw was seeing Lindsay Lohan as a guest. “What kind of image do we present to the rest of the country?” he asked on “Meet the Press” in 2012. “Are we doing their business, or are we just a group of narcissists who are mostly interested in elevating our own profiles?” In April of this year he told Politico his criticism stands, saying the dinner has “gone down market...in too many ways.”


TORONTO: The Lionel Gelber Prize for the best non-fiction book in English on foreign affairs was awarded in March to Chrystia Freeland, a former OPC board member, for Plutocrats: The Rise of the New Global Super-Rich and the Fall of Everyone Else.

The Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto in cooperation with Foreign Policy sponsors the prize, which brings $15,000. As part of the award, Freeland, managing director and editor of Consumer News at Thomson Reuters, delivered the annual Lionel Gelber Prize free public lecture on April 15 in Toronto.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: The trial for the August 2011 murder of Viola Drath, an OPC member, was postponed in March until December after Albrecht Muth, who was married to Drath and who is accused of killing her, was hospitalized during a hunger strike.

Muth, 48, has denied any role in the death of his 91-year-old wife. News reports have described a bizarre, difficult and sometimes violent marriage. Drath worked for Handelsblatt, a German business newspaper, and The Washington Times. She wrote Willy Brandt: Prisoner of His Past, a 1975 biography of the former German chancellor and The Reemergence of the German Question, a 1988 proposal for German unification.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Everett Ortner, an OPC member for almost 30 years, died in May 2012 at the age of 92 from complications from a fall. After graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1939, he served in the Army in Europe during World War II, receiving a Bronze Star. For 33 years, until his retirement in 1985, he was an editor at Popular Science magazine. He and his wife, Evelyn, who died in 2006, were recognized among the most influential leaders of the revival of the Brooklyn neighborhood of Park Slope and of older urban areas across the country. After buying an 1886 brownstone, the Ortneres became pioneers fighting bank redlining, city slum clearance and the flight to the suburbs. They inspired a generation that followed them to renovate homes, plant trees, fight crime and turn around urban neighborhoods.

Murrey Marder, a Washington Post reporter remembered for his tenacious coverage of Joseph R. McCarthy’s anti-communist crusade, died March 11 in Washington from the complications of a stroke. He was 93. He began his career at 17 as a copy boy at the Evening Public Ledger in Philadelphia. During World War II, Marder served in the South Pacific as a Marine Corps combat correspondent. He joined The Post in 1946 and in 1957, opened the paper’s first foreign bureau, in London, and traveled the world as chief diplomatic correspondent. As a widower with no immediate survivors, he started a public watchdog program affiliated
with Harvard University’s Nieman Foundation for Journalism by using a large portion of his retirement savings – $1.3 million of Post stock.

A.B.C. “Cal” Whipple, who as a 25-year-old correspondent for Life magazine helped save an iconic photograph from World War II censors, died March 17 in Greenwich, Conn., of pneumonia. He was 94. In 1943, Whipple was assigned to the newly completed Pentagon when photographer George Strock sent film from the South Pacific that included a photo of three American soldiers who died on a landing beach in New Guinea. The men were not recognizable but the image was censored under a rule prohibiting publication of photos of American troops killed in combat. Whipple and his colleagues at Life believed the photo showed the reality of war and he pushed his request all the way to the President Franklin D. Roosevelt. After Life published the photo on a full page next to an editorial, War Bond sales skyrocketed and the censorship rule was abolished. Whipple retired from Life in 1975 after a series of jobs that ended with executive editor of Time-Life Books.

George McArthur, who reported all over the world and served as Saigon bureau chief for The Associated Press and the Los Angeles Times, died April 12 in Fairfax County, Va. He was 88 and died from complications of a stroke. He covered Vietnam until the war’s end in 1975 and remained with the Times until 1979, continuing to report from Asia. Born in Valdosta, Georgia, McArthur was one of several youthful AP staffers first dispatched to Seoul after communist North Korea’s invasion of South Korea in 1950. He later reported from Paris, Cairo, Manila and Saigon, serving as AP bureau chief at the latter three posts.

OPC member Al Neuharth, one of the most influential and controversial figures in modern newspapers, died April 19 from complications of a fall. Neuharth, who was 80, grew up in humble circumstances in South Dakota and built Gannett into a huge chain by buying newspapers with monopolies in small to medium markets and then raising ad prices and cutting costs. He was an innovator who used satellite technology, polling data and a new definition of news to create USA Today. When the paper launched in 1982, critics called it “McPaper” for its short, easy-to-read articles, color-coded sections and bright graphics that included a full-page weather map. But Neuharth had the last laugh as other publications copied its design and when USA Today had the highest circulation in the country. The Freedom Forum is a foundation established by Neuharth backed by Gannett money. Freedom Forum sponsored programs at its media centers around the world and at the Newseum, which at itsFoundations, which at its foundings was built in Washington, D.C. Its motto was “free press, free speech and free spirit for all people.”

Sam Jameson, who was long regarded as one of the deans of the Western press corps in Tokyo, died April 19 in Tokyo after a stroke. After graduating from Northwestern University’s School of Journalism with a master’s degree in 1959, he worked for the Chicago Tribune for one year before being drafted by the Army and sent to Japan, where he worked for Pacific Stars and Stripes. Jameson spent a year studying Japanese after his 1962 discharge and in 1963, became the Tribune’s Tokyo bureau chief. In 1971, he moved to the Los Angeles Times and headed the paper’s Tokyo bureau until 1996. While other reporters in Japan often used Western diplomats as sources, “Western diplomats in Japan used Sam as a source,” said Bob Gibson, a former Times foreign editor.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

John Daniszewski  
Senior Managing Editor  
Associated Press  
Active Resident

William M. Dermody, Jr.  
Editor, World News/Military Affairs  
USA Today  
Active Non-Resident

Patrick Hyndman  
Director, Communications  
Quebec Government Associate Resident

Stefania Rousselle  
Freelance Video Journalist  
Paris, France  
Active Overseas

Roxana Saberi  
Freelance Reporter  
Active Resident – Young

Gil Shefler  
Staff Writer  
JTA News Agency  
Active Resident – Young

Linda Goetz Holmes, Chair  
George Bookman  
Felice Levin  
Robert Nickelsberg  
Charles Wallace

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE
More than four years ago, the merciless beating of Russian journalist Mikhail Beketov provided vivid evidence of the Russian government’s refusal to tolerate dissent or permit any real degree of freedom of expression. Beketov’s death on April 8, after years of suffering as a brain-damaged invalid unable to speak and confined to a wheelchair, has spurred new protests from defenders of press freedom.

The OPC’s Freedom of the Press Committee, which has written more than 60 letters protesting such cases since 2003, wrote the following letter to President Putin:

H.E. Vladimir Putin  
President  
The Kremlin  
Moscow  
Russian Federation  
Your Excellency:

Ever since his savage beating four years ago, no case — not even the notorious killing of Anna Politkovskaya — has better exposed your government’s ruthless crackdown on dissent better than that of Mikhail Beketov. Now his death releases him from the suffering inflicted on him, and reminds the world again of your pillaging of the environment, the Russian economy, press freedom and human rights.

There is no need to rehearse the details of Beketov’s efforts to expose and prevent the destruction of part of the Khimki forest to build a highway, the repeated acts of violence directed at him, or the beating in 2008 that cost him a leg and a finger and damaged his brain. To stop his writing, his assailants took special pains to mangle his hands. The perfunctory “investigation” that followed soon wound down, and Beketov since then has been an invalid, unable to speak and confined to a wheelchair. As one of his environmentalist colleagues has put it, “In essence, they killed him back then. He was just dying all these years. That’s all.”

Your Excellency, there seems little hope that you will ever understand or repent the damage you are doing to your country. Perhaps one day, even the long-suffering Russian people, accustomed as they are to being abused, will have had enough and demand an end to it. The Overseas Press Club of America, an independent organization of journalists that has defended press freedom around the world for more than 70 years, hopes that day will soon arrive.

Respectfully yours,

Larry Martz  
John Martin

Beaten Russian Journalist Dies After Four Silent Years

by Larry Martz

More than four years ago, the merciless beating of Russian journalist Mikhail Beketov provided vivid evidence of the Russian government’s refusal to tolerate dissent or permit any real degree of freedom of expression. Beketov’s death on April 8, after years of suffering as a brain-damaged invalid unable to speak and confined to a wheelchair, has spurred new protests from defenders of press freedom.

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Respectfully yours,

Larry Martz  
John Martin

Mikhail Beketov, the Russian journalist who suffered a brutal beating that made him a symbol of impunity and the oppression of the free press, died of heart failure on April 8. He was 55.

As the editor of Khimkinskaya Pravda, a newspaper based in Khimki, a small town outside Moscow, he published a series of exposés about the planned destruction of the Khimki Forest to make way for a toll road between Moscow and Saint Petersburg. He was threatened repeatedly, his car was set on fire and his dog left dead on his doorstep. He did not stop his investigations.

In November 2008, two assailants wielding metal rods savagely beat him. He was left using a wheelchair and unable to speak because shards of his skull had lodged in his brain. Three fingers and one of his legs had to be amputated. His attackers, who some now consider his murderers, have not been arrested.

Two days after Beketov’s death, the OPC’s Freedom of the Press committee sent a powerful letter to Russian President Vladimir Putin harshly critical of Putin, the unsolved case and the lack of press freedom and human rights in Russia.

— by Susan Kille

All Freedom of the Press Committee letters dating to 2004 are archived online at opcofamerica.org.
(Continued From Page 1 Book Night)


The in-depth interviews presented in Photojournalists on War offer first-person, frontline reports of the war as it unfolded, including key moments such as the battle for Fallujah, the toppling of Saddam’s statue and the Haditha massacre. The photographers vividly describe the shocking and heroic actions they and other journalists undertook in trying to cover the war, and the role of the media and issues of censorship that changed as the war intensified. The

(Continued From Page 16)

the world. Caryl handles the complex interactions and results well by weaving reporting on Western, Soviet, Chinese, and Islamic political traditions and events. To simplify his points is difficult but for better and for worse, religion and market forces grew stronger with these leaders. For example, the religious revivals in Poland and Afghanistan hastened the collapse of the Soviet Union. In England, Thatcher dismantled nationalized industries and disciplined labor unions while Deng used pro-market reforms to turn his country from the Cultural Revolution into today’s economic powerhouse.

Caryl’s ability to produce a readable, detailed and gripping narrative undoubtedly grew from his extensive foreign reporting experience.

From 2004 to March 2009 he headed the Tokyo Bureau of Newsweek. Previously, he served four years as Newsweek’s Moscow Bureau chief, a post he had held earlier for U.S News & World Report. Before moving to Moscow, Caryl spent 13 years as a freelance journalist in Germany. After 9/11 he reported in Iraq and Afghanistan as part of Newsweek’s coverage of the war on terror. He is now a senior fellow at both the Legatum Institute and the Center for International Studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; a contributing editor at Foreign Policy and a regular contributor to The New York Review of Books that won the 2010 OPC Award for Best Online Commentary.

WESTERN EUROPE

Kurt Tucholsky was one of the most important journalists of the Weimar Republic and one of the first to warn against the threat of the Nazis. He was a prolific journalist, satirist, poet and cabaret writer whose versatility caused him to use several pseudonyms. Politically, he was a socialist and pacifist.

Tucholsky was born in Germany in 1890 and was the son of a Jewish merchant. He was financially independent and had a sharp wit. The Nazis hated him, and drove him out of Germany. In 1933, his books were banned and burned. In 1936 he committed suicide in exile in Sweden.

The New York Times obituary for Tucholsky said that “more than any other person, he foresaw what was coming” in Germany and “that was one of the reasons why after the Nazi revolution he virtually never wrote anything on the subject. ‘I have written about it all years ago,’ he said to friends ‘There is nothing for me to add.’”

Tucholsky has not been forgotten. On May 15, Berlinica Publishing is releasing Berlin! Berlin! Dispatches from the Weimar Republic, the first collection of Tucholsky’s political and cultural essays to appear in the United States. Anne Nelson, author of Red Orchestra: the Story of the Berlin Underground and the Circle of Friends Who Resisted Hitler, wrote the foreword. The introduction is by Ian King, the chairman of the Kurt Tucholsky Society.

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

— by Susan Kille
New Books

MIDDLE EAST

David Rohde’s Career as a war correspondent ended, as he told the recent OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon, with a promise to his family after he escaped kidnappers who held him for more than seven months in Afghanistan. After decades as a foreign correspondent for The Christian Science Monitor and The New York Times, the two-time Pulitzer winning correspondent is now a foreign affairs columnist for Thomson Reuters.

In Beyond War: Reimagining American Influence in a New Middle East [Viking, April], Rohde argues the United States is mishandling its foreign affairs.

He looks back on the past decade in Afghanistan, Egypt, Iraq, Pakistan, Tunisia and Turkey and the struggle across the Middle East between conservative Muslims, some of whom are violent jihadists, and more secular, more moderate Muslims. The winner will influence culture and politics and define Islam for decades. While condemning radicalization and terrorism and saying that change won’t come overnight, Rohde says the U.S. needs to use diplomacy, education, trade and investment to find and keep allies in the region.

He argues that the U.S. should rebuild its diplomatic ranks and foreign policy institutions, make realistic goals and keep long-term commitments while reducing its reliance on the military. He is also critical of profit-driven contractors working with the military who have gained power as the country’s overseas civilian institutions crumble. President Barack Obama’s 2009 Cairo speech on Islam and the Middle East, captured the region’s imagination in what seemed a watershed moment, but Rohde describes a follow-up that has been more than disappointing.

The U.S. has a history of backing dictators that hasn’t brought stability, he says noting that American military force alone will not defeat militants and terrorism. “Local moderates will,” he writes, “by slowly weakening, marginalizing, and discrediting radicalism in the long term.”

GLOBAL

A Collection of History—changing leaders from around the world and across the political spectrum made 1979 a year to remember, Christian Caryl writes In Strange Rebels: 1979 and the Birth of the 21st Century [Basic Books, May].

This was the year conservative Margaret Thatcher became Britain’s first woman prime minister and stayed in the job for 11 years; newly rehabilitated Deng Xiaoping began to liberalize the Chinese economy; Ayatollah Khomeini established an Islamic republic in Iran; Pope John Paul II, the first Slavic pope, challenged Communism when he traveled to Poland and the mujahideen in Afghanistan rose up against the Soviets with the tacit support of the U.S.

Caryl, a veteran foreign correspondent now based in Washington, tells the stories of these revivalist, reactionary and radical leaders and how their very different counter revolutions combined in ways that changed

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Upcoming Event

Book Night:

Michael Kamber’s Photojournalists On War With Dexter Filkins

May 15
Reception at 6:30 p.m.
Talk at 7:30 p.m.
25CPW Gallery

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