

OPC, Coalition Sign Pact to Boost Freelancer Safety

By Emma Daly

Diane Foley, mother of the late freelance reporter James Foley, was guest of honor at a panel discussion to launch “A Call for Global Safety Principles and Practices,” the first industry code of conduct to include media companies and freelancers in an attempt to reduce the risks to those covering hazardous stories. The guidelines were presented to an audience of journalists and students during two panel discussions held at the Columbia University School of Journalism’s Stabile Student Center on Feb. 12 and introduced by Dean Steve Coll.

The first panel – David Rohde of Reuters, OPC President Marcus Mabry, Vaughan Smith of the Frontline Freelance Register, John Daniszewski from the AP and Charlie Sennott of the Ground Truth Project – introduced the guidelines and the thinking behind why they’re needed. In a world of increasing risk for journalists, including local reporters

and the freelancers who are assuming an ever-greater burden in covering dangerous stories, the panelists see these principles as a first step toward greater responsibility and accountability by both reporters on the ground and their editors.

“I am deeply proud of the OPC and the OPC Foundation’s part in this long overdue effort,” Mabry said.

Sennott flagged the horrific murder of Jim Foley as a crucial moment in focusing all our minds on the need to improve safety standards, despite efforts over the past couple of decades to introduce hostile environment and medical training, as well as protective equipment and more affordable insurance cover. 2014 was particularly grim for the Associated Press, which had the deadliest year in its 169-year history, with the deaths of photographer Anja Niedringhaus in Afghanistan, and videojournalist Simone Camili and translator Ali



Rhon G. Flatts

David Rohde of Reuters, left, and Marcus Mabry speak to students and media about a new industry code of conduct.

Shehda Abu Afash in Gaza.

By the launch on Thursday almost 30 news and journalism organizations had signed on to the principles, including the OPC and OPC Foundation, AFP, the AP, the BBC, Global Post Guardian News and Media, PBS FRONTLINE and Thomson Reuters. New signers since then include the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines, notorious for its entrenched culture of impunity for the murder of journalists.

While the document is long on “should” rather than “will” or “must”

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Panel to Share Work From Women Activists

EVENT PREVIEW: March 16

When reporting on an international crisis, it’s important for journalists to seek out the voices of women. In partnership with Peace is Loud, the Norwegian Foreign Ministry and International Civil Action Network (ICAN), the OPC will host a forum March 16 highlighting the work of women activists in North Africa and the Middle East.

Panelists are: Egyptian journalist

Rana Allam; Pakistani activist Mos-sarat Qadeem; acclaimed filmmaker Gini Reticker; and ICAN co-founder Sanam Anderlini. Prior to the panel, clips will be shown from the upcoming multimedia project *The Trials of Spring*, featuring women activists in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as clips of interviews conducted with women activists in the region on how to combat extremism and militarism. The program will run about 75 minutes.

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– “Editors and news organizations should show the same concern for the welfare of local journalists and freelancers that they do for staffers,” for example, the panelists agreed that doesn’t diminish its value. By signing on to these principles, the media companies and freelancers are making a moral commitment to ensure that freelancers on assignment are properly trained, equipped and compensated.

Payment for freelancers was raised several times as a critical issue – Smith urged editors to pay freelancers at an acceptable level and on time, rather than two or three months late. And on the second panel, freelance photographer Nicole Tung pointed out that better pay translates into safer assignments – the ability to hire a dedicated driver, for example, rather than rely on a local taxi.

The second panel, chaired by host Bruce Shapiro of the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, brought together Tung, Steven Adler of Thomson Reuters, Rob Mahoney of the Committee to Protect Journalists and Judith Matloff of Columbia.

Clearly journalist safety is in the air: Rohde said the guidelines came out of several meetings of news executives and press freedom advocates in the United States, noting that there are similar ongoing initiatives.

Questions from the audience flagged some skepticism that the guidelines would make a real difference to those most at risk in the field. Ron Haviv of VII Photo Agency, which declined to sign, argued that the wording was tantamount to saying “we should wear seat belts in the car, not that we must wear seat belts.”

The organizers are working now on a compliance and

MARCUS MABRY PRAISES NEW SAFETY STANDARDS

The OPC’s participation in the process of formulating and now promulgating the first-ever news industry standards for safety goes to the core of our mission: promoting and building excellence in foreign correspondence.

The protocols also align with the OPC in another aspect: our reorganization to tackle the challenges of today’s foreign correspondents, who are increasingly freelancers and local journalists.

I could not be happier that the OPC is a part of such a broad and storied group of news organizations, journalist groups and press-freedom watchdogs. We are all stronger in one another’s company. And most importantly, as momentous as these guidelines are, they are only the beginning. This is just the first step in a process that will include conferences and possibly a formal consortium to deal with these issues and others as foreign news coverage expands.

It is about time. Indeed, it is past time. And I am deeply proud of the OPC and the OPC Foundation’s part in this long overdue effort. Like I said, it is just the beginning.

– Marcus Mabry, OPC President

governance mechanism to give teeth to the principles and ensure that media outlets and journalist organizations live up to the spirit and letter of the guidelines.

“This is just the beginning, but we think it is a good start to a process of making sure freelancers are provided the respect, the dignity, the protections and ultimately the fair pay they deserve,” said Smith, founder of the 500-member Frontline Freelance Register.

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Simon: War Changes You

By Susan Kille

Bob Simon, senior foreign correspondent for “60 Minutes,” died Feb. 11 in a car accident in New York City. Simon, who was 73, received OPC’s President’s Award last April.

“It’s a terrible loss for all of us at CBS News,” “60 Minutes” Executive Producer Jeff Fager said in a statement. “It is such a tragedy made worse because we lost him in a car accident, a man who has escaped more difficult situations than almost any journalist in modern times.”

Simon died after the livery cab he was riding collided with another vehicle and then ran into a median barrier on the West Side Highway. The other people in the accident survived.

Simon spent almost five decades as a correspondent for CBS, joining the network in 1967. He covered more than 30 overseas conflicts and was aboard one of the last helicopters out of Saigon in 1975. He reported from Tel Aviv, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Cyprus, the Falkland Islands, the Persian Gulf, Yugoslavia and American military actions in Grenada, Somalia and Haiti. In January 1991, Simon and his CBS News team were captured by Iraqi forces and were imprisoned for 40 days; he wrote about the experience in the book *Forty Days*. He won 27 Emmys, four Peabody awards and six Overseas Press Club awards.

“War is an intense experience and it changes you,” Simon said, when he accepted the President’s Award from Michael Serrill last April at the Overseas Press Club’s 75th Anniversary Awards Dinner. He said he believes

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Measuring Two Media Giants

Commentary by Michael Serrill

I have seven or eight episodes of “60 Minutes” backed up in my DVR – too often I am doing something else at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday night. I will now watch them solely to savor my last taste of the reporting and writing of CBS’s Bob Simon, killed in the tragic crash of a livery cab in New York.

When I was president of the OPC I chose Bob for my second President’s Award, a tribute to his 40-odd years of international journalism. There was something about Bob that set him apart from other broadcast journalists. You sensed a vivid intelligence behind the stories he told. There was the wry humor, the always interesting choice of topics and, most of all, the fine writing. The latter is best displayed in Bob’s book, *Forty Days*, a gripping tale about his captivity by Iraqi forces at the start of the first Persian Gulf war. Bob’s knowledge of the world beyond our shores was encyclopedic – from Vietnam to Sarajevo to Tel Aviv to Nairobi. He was one of the few reporters to give us a view of Africa that didn’t focus on poverty and violence. His piece on the Congolese orchestra whose instruments were fashioned from junk is a classic, along with his series of stories on the journeys of the Lost Boys of Somalia.

Most importantly, you never questioned whether Bob Simon was telling you the truth. He emanated integrity and credibility, in the same way as did another journalist who died last week, *New York Times* media critic David Carr. Which brings us to Brian Williams, who was suspended by NBC for six months after the veracity of stories he told – mostly on talk shows – about his adven-

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The Brian Williams Age: And That’s the Way It Isn’t

Commentary by Mort Rosenblum

Brian Williams’ silky smooth – and slimy – apology for inserting himself into action in which he did not take part focused hard light on a troubling reality: America has lost a vital connection to the world, its shared daily reliable briefing.

When I recently ragged on Williams, a wise graybeard colleague noted that few people pay serious attention to network evening newscasts. True, and that’s a tragedy.

This is not nostalgia for the old days – they weren’t all that great, in fact – but a simple truth. Nations cannot deal with crises without common definition of threat and potential remedy. In early days, that came from grunts and gestures while gnawing on mammoth bones by the fire in front of a cave. That, skipping some stuff in between, evolved into a glowing screen in the living room.

Walter Cronkite was the most trusted man in America. Each night, he concluded, “And that’s the way it is.” When he finally went to Vietnam and reported what he saw, Lyndon Johnson threw in the towel.

Today, that legacy is gone. We have Scott Pelley, a real

reporter with no need to weave myths about himself. But the problem is beyond individuals. We no longer have a common reliable source. Most of us graze from an endless smorgasbord of tasty tidbits of little food value.

The irony is bitter out here in Arizona. Cronkite’s name is affixed to a journalism school in Phoenix, which has mountains of money and some very good faculty. Its journalism curriculum is solid. But, it declares, it teaches “the skills necessary to pursue careers in today’s changing newsrooms and public relations agencies and with the core values of integrity and accuracy exemplified by the school’s namesake.”

My guess is the school namesake’s would suffer a stroke reading that. His whole life, and the culture he championed, was about telling the truth. Public relations agencies do the polar opposite. Their goal is to rack up numbers, to figure out what most people want to hear and to shape the message for higher sales – or ratings.

It’s a Brian Williams age, and it’s not just him. Alas, poor Walter – and the rest of us.

Panel Probes French and American Bounds of Satire

EVENT RECAP

By Chad Bouchard

Responses to last month's attacks on journalists at the French magazine *Charlie Hebdo* brought to light key differences between French and American attitudes about satire and free expression. Many American media defended freedom of expression, but also declined to publish cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammed. In France, newsstands sold out of a special printing of the magazine, which depicted the prophet's image on its cover.

A range of views about deliberately offensive humor was reflected among panelists in an OPC panel discussion on Feb. 12 titled "Toujours la Différence: Why French and American Satirical Cartoonists Are Different. Are Pictures Multilingual?"

Signe Wilkinson of the Philadelphia Daily News, a three-time winner of the OPC's Thomas Nast award for best cartoons on international affairs, told attendees that her readers had shown "selective" outrage about religious symbolism in cartoons.

"To me, the whole issue of what's sacred and what's not depends on whether it is favorable to the group whose symbol it is," she said.

Wilkinson said her name had appeared on lists of journalists considered to be most anti-Semitic, most anti-Catholic and most anti-Muslim all in a single year. "Cartoonists don't kill people, humorless fundamentalists do," she added.

Guénola Pellen, editor-in-chief of *France-Amérique*, said France has a long tradition of offensive humor with roots that stretch back before the French revolution. "It's difficult maybe for some Americans to grasp this humor because it's particularly mean and heavy, and anarchist, in a way," she said.

Felipe Galindo, widely known as Feggo, a Mexican cartoonist working in the U.S. who has been published in *The New Yorker* and *The New York Times*, was a close friend of Georges Wolinski, one of the cartoonists killed in the *Charlie Hebdo* attack.

"When I saw his name among the people assassinated, I was really shocked, and I was very angry," he said. Galindo is currently looking for a space for an exhibition of cartoons in New York, partly as a way to cope with the grief.

Asra Nomani, a Muslim feminist author and former Wall Street Journal reporter, urged people to speak more honestly about intolerance. "This culture of censorship, this culture of checking yourself, has made it so that in 2015 it's very difficult for us to talk in America about issues regarding Islamic extremism," she said.



Left to Right: Signe Wilkinson, Guénola Pellen, Felipe Galindo, Asra Nomani and Jacqueline Albert-Simon.

Moakley Shares Unique Challenges in Covering Ebola

EVENT RECAP

By Chad Bouchard

Journalists face a host of increasing dangers when reporting in hostile zones or unfamiliar territory. But the deadly Ebola epidemic in West Africa, one of the biggest stories of 2014, posed unusual challenges for newsrooms and journalists.

On Feb. 3, the OPC and the New York University Center for Global Affairs held a forum about how to tackle such stories, which demand unique considerations like gear, quarantines, special health insurance and meticulous contingency planning.

Paul Moakley, a member of the OPC Board of Governors and *Time* magazine's deputy director of pho-

tography, began following the story over the summer and talking to photographers on the ground.

Insurance companies would not

lance photographer.

"If you hire somebody you also have to do a 21-day quarantine, and besides paying for an assignment these days when resources are pretty limited, how can we cover a 21-day quarantine? Could we guarantee that the person would do the quarantine and be safe?" Moakley said.

Editors began to mull the idea of naming Ebola Fighters as Person of the Year weeks before the final decision was made on the famously secretive annual issue.

They hired Jackie Nickerson, a U.K. citizen with an eye for intimate portraits who was also fully covered by nationalized health care, to take photos of the Ebola fighters. She shot four of the five covers

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Paul Moakley and Alexis Gelber talk to audience members during a forum on Covering Ebola at the NYU Center for Global Affairs on Feb. 3.

cover journalists on assignment in Liberia during the outbreak. World Health Organization guidelines, not to mention sticky ethical dilemmas, made it hard for them to hire a free-

Martin Smith Traces Roots of Terror in ‘The Rise of ISIS’

EVENT RECAP

By Chad Bouchard

The group once known as ISIS, now called the Islamic State, was taking root in Syria and Iraq long before it began its campaign of terror and brutality.

Before Islamic State seized a string of cities along the Tigris River, before its members killed thousands of people and drove hundreds of thousands more from their homes, and before the organization started claiming responsibility for the brutal murders of journalists and other captives, a quiet civil war was fueling anger from radicalized Sunni Muslims against the Iraqi government.

In the hourlong Frontline documentary *The Rise of ISIS*, OPC Board of Governors member Martin Smith, who wrote and produced the film, traced the group's evolution from a dwindling band of extremists in 2011 to the international movement it has grown into today.



Martin Smith speaks to attendees during a Q&A session after a special screening of ‘The Rise of ISIS.’

Chad Bouchard

Smith spoke to attendees after a special screening of the film at Club Quarters on Jan. 22. He said many Sunnis took up arms after witnessing atrocities in Syria and brutality against protesters in Iraq.

“There is still a network of people who feel this is a righteous cause,” Smith said during a Q&A session. “There is a calling throughout the Sunni world that says ‘this is a just cause and we must support it.’”

A member of the audience asked what Smith made of the lack of coverage in Western media of precipitating events in Iraq and ISIS's momentum before it gained a foothold and began seizing cities.

“It was a surprise. And it really was instructive about how little we know about what's going on in the world when we're not paying attention,” he said. “It just shows how much can fit on the front page of *The New York Times*. There's a big world.”

Smith is currently working on a follow-up documentary that will focus on conditions inside Syria.

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that “humor more than anything else,” keeps foreign correspondents “somewhat sane.”

“Normal people think we are insane and they are right. The only question is whether covering all those wars makes us crazy or whether we are bonkers to begin with – which is what made us do it,” he said, adding that he believes his generation of correspondents was inspired by an “overdose of Hemingway, when we were too young to digest it.”

Simon displayed his sense of humor at the dinner but he also criticized journalism for not doing a better job debunking allegations of weapons of mass destruction that President George W. Bush used to justify the Iraq War. “I think we, correspondents, bear some responsibility,” he said. “With all our resources we didn't call Bush's bluff in time, before it was too late.”

Simon is survived by his wife, Françoise, and their daughter, Tanya, who is a producer for “60 Minutes” in New York.

(Continued From Page 3, Serrill)

tures in Middle East war zones was called into question. What was he thinking? That's one's first reaction when you see clips of Williams making assertions that could easily be checked with the soldiers with whom he purportedly faced danger. He has apparently accepted his punishment without protest. Brian is a friend of the OPC – he did a marvelous job presenting our awards a few years ago. I don't think the death sentence is warranted here. I for one am looking forward to seeing a chastened newsman named Williams back on the air this summer.

OPC Video Memoir Series Capturing Member Histories

OPC members might have noticed the new “Video” tab on the top-right side of our website, where we've been posting interviews and personal stories from veteran members. This oral history project is managed by former OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry, funded by a Ford Foundation grant and launched as part of the club's 75th anniversary year.

Check out our archive for interviews with Roy Rowan, Jim Bittermann, Mort Rosenblum, Alan Riding, John Morris, Robert Pledge, Seymour Topping, Audrey Topping, Edith Lederer and Richard Stolley.



Left to right: Lesley Topping, Edith Lederer, John Daniszewski and Sonya Fry pause during an interview.

PEOPLE... By Susan Kille

OPC SCHOLARS

Frederick Bernas, winner of the 2013 Walter and Betsy Cronkite Scholarship, belongs to a collective of 30 photographers who produced *The Warld Cup*, an exhibit shown in Brazil and Argentina documenting poverty and hardship in Brazil while the country's government spent vast sums to stage the World Cup. The collective is seeking partners to produce a book and take the exhibition around the world.

Olivia Crellin, who won the Theo Wilson Scholarship in 2014, has a five-month fellowship with BBC News in Washington. Last summer, Crellin had an OPC Foundation fellowship with *The Wall Street Journal* in Madrid.



Olivia Crellin speaking at the 2014 OPC Foundation Scholarship Luncheon.

Gregory Johnsen, who received the 2006 David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship, was a guest on the "Charlie Rose" show in January for a panel discussion on Libya, Yemen and the four-year anniversary



Gregory Johnsen speaking at the New America Foundation in December 2012.

men and the four-year anniversary of the Arab Spring. Johnsen is the author of *The Last Refuge: Yemen, al-Qaeda, and America's War in Arabia*.

WINNERS

OPC Board member **Rukmini Callimachi** was a winner of the George Polk Awards in Journalism for 2014. Callimachi, who writes for *The New York Times*, won the award for international reporting for exposing how European nations funded the Islamic State by secretly paying millions of dollars in ransom for kidnapped citizens. Six *Times* reporters won the health reporting award for providing the earliest and most reliable coverage of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa: **Helene Cooper**, **Daniel Berechulak**, **Sheri Fink**, **Adam Nossiter**, **Norimitsu Onishi** and **Ben Solomon**. A three-year investigation into international tax dodges won business reporting honors for The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, working as part of The Center for Public Integrity. **Rania Abouzeid** won the foreign reporting award for "The Jihad Next Door," published online by *Politico Magazine*. James Verini won the magazine award for a *National Geographic* piece on the seeming futility of U.N. intervention in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

With six of 14 awards, public broadcasters were again the big winners Jan. 20 when the Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Awards were presented. Perhaps more notable is that Netflix won its first award while broadcast networks received no honors. Two duPont awards went to projects that won OPC honors last year: NPR's "Planet Money Makes a T-Shirt" and "Sea Change: The Pacific's Perilous Turn" by *The Seattle Times*. Other duPont awards for international coverage included

Frontline for "Syria's Second Front" and Netflix for *Virunga*, a documentary about rangers in the Congo who protect endangered mountain gorillas. **Abi Wright**, an associate member of the OPC board, administers the awards, which are regarded as the broadcasting equivalent of the Pulitzer Prizes.

Buzzfeed News in January named **Joshua Hersch**, who was the Middle East correspondent for the Huffington Post, as the site's second Michael Hastings National Security Reporting Fellow, a one-year appointment given in honor of Hastings, an award-winning journalist killed in a car accident in 2013.

UPDATES

HONG KONG: Being called "an absolute prick" and a "piece of shit" by a former public relations executive elicited a classy response from **Keith Bradsher**, an OPC member who is Hong Kong bureau chief for *The New York Times*. In the February issue of *Car and Driver*, Jason Vine, who worked for Chrysler, Ford and Nissan, said he became friends with most journalists covering the auto industry. "The only ones I didn't become friends with were assholes – like Keith Bradsher of *The New York Times*," Vine said, going on to add the descriptions above. Bradsher responded on the website of media blogger Jim Romenesko that he has been "quietly grateful" to Vine for acknowledging his reporting by telling other journalists, although not him, that Ford engineers referred to a safety feature as "Bradsher bars." Bradsher said: "If Jason comes through Hong Kong, I'll certainly invite him to the Foreign Correspondents' Club and try to buy him a beer."



Bradsher

Michael Dames

PALM BEACH, Fla.: On Jan. 21, **Robert Nickelsberg**, an OPC Board of Governors member, talked about his nearly 30 years of photographing Afghanistan for *Time* magazine and other publications at FOTOfusion, an annual conference at the Palm Beach Photographic Centre. *Afghanistan: A Distant War*, his book about his work in Afghanistan, won the 2013 OPC Olivier Rebbot Award. On Jan. 28, Nickelsberg was a panelist at Boston University during a discussion of the Future of Long-Form Visual Journalism.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif.: In an interview with Capital New York posted Jan. 30, **Jonathan Dahl** explains why he left *The Wall Street Journal*, where he was editor-in-chief of WSJ.Money magazine and executive director of page one, in October to become managing editor of Ozy, a digital news startup. "I couldn't resist the challenge," he said. "No question, *The Journal* was great to me – it was home for three decades. But from the first, Ozy struck me as utterly new and original. We're a digital magazine that focuses on fresh trends and people who aren't getting covered anywhere else. We're not afraid to go long, to go global. And we're also not afraid to staff up and build resources, which, sadly, is a huge struggle in my industry these days."

NEW YORK: **Sheila Nevins**, an OPC member and president of HBO Documentary Films, was one of three women honored in early February at the fifth annual Athena Film Festival presented by Barnard College's Athena Center for Leadership Studies and Women and Hollywood. Nevins' productions have won 47 Emmys, 21 Oscars, and 31 Peabody Awards. Also, she won a personal Peabody for excellence in broadcasting.



Nevins

Astrid Stawiarz/Getty Images

Four OPC members are among 150 photographers and 75 editors, curators, gallerists and book publishers offering young photographers two days of free private critiques in April during the third annual New York Portfolio Review. The event is sponsored by *The New York Times'* Lens Blog and the City University of New York's Graduate School of Journalism. **Santiago Lyon**, director of photography for The Associated Press and a former OPC Board of Governors member; **Paul Moakley**, an OPC Board of Governors member and deputy director of photography at *Time*; **Vaughn Wallace**, deputy photo editor at Al Jazeera America; and **Jonathan Woods**, senior multimedia editor at *Time*, have agreed to do critiques. Lyon will also speak about building an editorial portfolio.

Lynsey Addario, an OPC member, is a photojournalist known for her work covering conflicts and human rights issues but she is now drawing attention for her writing. An excerpt from *It's What I Do: A Photographer's Life of Love and War*, a book published in early February by Penguin Press, was published Feb. 1 in *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*. In the excerpt, entitled "What Can a Pregnant Photojournalist Cover? Everything," Addario writes that while pregnant with a son born in 2011, she accepted all assignments except military embeds and hid her pregnancy as long as she could: "I adamantly didn't want any of my editors or colleagues to know that I was pregnant until I could no longer hide it. I worried about being denied work or treated differently." Addario received a MacArthur fellowship in 2009 and in 2010 won the OPC's Olivier Rebbot Award for "Veiled Rebellion: Afghan Women" in *National Geographic*.



Addario

Wikimedia Commons

pursuing a law degree at Yale University, worked with collaborators in Iran to have his Shared Studios collective stage "Portals," an art project to foster conversation by providing a "portal" between New York and Tehran. For two weeks in December, people in New York could step inside a customized shipping container at Lu Magnus Gallery and converse with someone in Tehran, while images of each party were projected onto a wall. Text translation was provided. Bakshi, a former journalist who served on the OPC board, said he wants to create a network of these shipping containers around the world.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Peggy Polk Sullivan, an OPC member who spent 32 years with United Press International, died Jan. 13 at her home in New Orleans. She was 79. Sullivan, known professionally as Peggy Polk, reported on politics, religion and the arts and made headlines herself. While a junior at Radcliffe College, she became the first woman to complete 10 parachute jumps and earn a license from the U.S. Parachute Association. Sullivan joined UPI in Albany, N.Y., and went on to work in Boston, New York, Washington, Moscow, Madrid and Rome, where she spent 18 years as bureau manager and covered Italian politics including the wave of terrorism in the 1980s, wrote about Italian fashion and closely covered the papacies of Paul VI and John Paul II. After leaving UPI in the mid 1990s, she worked for a year on publications for the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization and then joined Religion News Service, where she worked exclusively on the Vatican until 2005. In 2006, she married **Scott Sullivan**, a former *Newsweek* correspondent who won an OPC award in 1984.

Stuart Loory, a White House and Moscow correspondent who was an early hire at CNN, died Jan. 16 at his

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Amar Bakshi, an OPC member

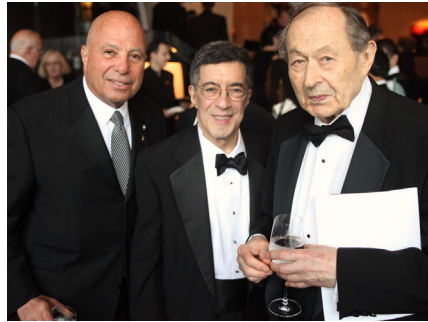
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home in Brooklyn. He was 82 and suffered from lung cancer. Loory worked in Washington and Moscow in the early 1960s for the *New York Herald Tribune*, served briefly as a science writer for *The New York Times* and became White House correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times* during the Johnson and Nixon administrations, earning a place on Nixon's "Enemies List." After leaving the *Los Angeles Times*, he taught journalism at Ohio State University and was managing editor of the *Chicago Tribune*. He joined CNN as head of the Washington bureau in late 1980, shortly after the 24-hour news channel went on the air. His credibility and contacts were seen as crucial in getting CNN, which many at the time saw as a dubious undertaking, off the ground. He opened CNN's Moscow bureau in 1983 and four years later was tapped to lead "World Report," which gave American viewers a sampling of overseas news broadcasts. He finished his broadcasting career in 1997 as executive vice president of Turner International Broadcasting in Russia and then taught journalism at the University of Missouri, where he edited the magazine *Global Journalist*. His books included 1968's *The Secret Search for Peace in Vietnam*, with **David Kraslow**, a *Los Angeles Times* colleague.

Jacques Lhuillery, who had served since July 2012 as Tokyo bureau chief of Agence France-Presse, died Jan. 18 at age 61 in France after a battle with cancer. Lhuillery began his tenure with AFP in 1979. Before arriving in Japan, he had postings in Tehran, Madrid, The Hague, Beirut, Lagos and Abidjan. He was celebrated by his colleagues for his passion for journalism and for his excellent imitations of French presidents.

Al Webb, an American reporter awarded a military medal for battlefield heroism while covering the war in Vietnam, died Jan. 25 in Banbury,

England. Webb, who was 79, spent most of his career as a reporter, editor and bureau chief for UPI. His death was attributed to complications of pneumonia and diabetes. Webb, **Charles Mohr** of *The New York Times* and **David Greenway** of *Time* received the Bronze Star for helping to evacuate a gravely wounded Marine during the Tet Offensive in 1968. He covered many major stories, including the civil rights movement in the United States, the early NASA space missions, the 1978



Left to right: **Richard Leibner**, **David Andelman** and **Sandy Socolow** at the OPC Awards Dinner in 2011.

Jonestown Massacre in Guyana. His overseas postings for UPI included London, Brussels, Hong Kong and Beirut. In the early 80s, Webb moved to *U.S. News and World Report* and returned to London, where he met his wife and settled. He became a British citizen and, according to friends, became a rare American to embrace the game of cricket.

Sandy Socolow, a longtime executive at CBS News, died on Jan. 31 in New York City. He was 86. His sons said the cause was complications of cancer. Socolow, a New York native, began a 30-year career at CBS in 1956 as a writer for the morning news. He soon found himself writing for a midday news program and forming a lifelong bond with its host, **Walter Cronkite**. Socolow held powerful positions at CBS including co-producer and executive producer of the "CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite," Washington bureau chief and vice president of CBS News, in which

he supervised all hard news; but perhaps his biggest role was as liaison to the network's biggest star. It was a role he continued to play until Cronkite died in 2009, with the two teaming on various projects after Cronkite's retirement. When Socolow was honored in December with the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society of the Silurians, his former colleagues spoke of his brilliance and described him as the conscience of CBS News.

Arnaud de Borchgrave, a foreign correspondent who became the confidant of world leaders, died Feb. 15 in Washington after a battle with cancer. He was 88. Born a Belgium count, he volunteered during World War II to serve in the British Royal Navy. He later gave up his aristocratic title to become a U.S. citizen in 1957. After the war, he was hired by United Press and became bureau chief in Brussels, succeeding **Walter Cronkite**. He joined *Newsweek* in 1950 and spent decades as a correspondent and editor who parachuted into global hotspots, including, by his count, 17 wars. De Borchgrave's exclusive reports, personal daring and expense accounts were legendary. His back-to-back interviews with Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat in 1971 brought one of his five OPC awards. He left *Newsweek* in 1980 after a disagreement over his coverage of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Although he never had worked at a newspaper, in 1985 he became editor of *The Washington Times*, which had been recently launched by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. He retired from the paper in 1991 and became the top executive at the much-diminished United Press International. Subsequently, he became editor at large at the *Times* and UPI, which was purchased in 2000 by the Unification Church's news affiliate.

PRESS FREEDOM UPDATE... By Susan Kille

The freeing of three Al Jazeera English journalists who had been imprisoned in Egypt since December 2013 is good news at a time when journalism has little to celebrate.

Peter Greste, a former BBC reporter, was deported to his native Australia Feb. 1 under a recent decree that allows President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to deport convicted prisoners who are citizens of other nations. Greste's two colleagues, **Mohamed Fadel Fahmy** and **Baher Mohamed**, were freed Feb. 13 pending a retrial on charges that they supported the banned Muslim Brotherhood. Fahmy, who had dual Egyptian and Canadian citizenship, has renounced his Egyptian citizenship in hopes that he will be deported to Canada. Mohammed is an Egyptian citizen unable to benefit from the deportation decree.

A day before Greste left Egypt, the homicidal zealots of the Islamic State released a video in which it claimed to have beheaded **Kenji Goto**, a Japanese journalist who spent more than two decades covering conflict zones as a freelance television



Al Jazeera journalist Peter Greste, right, and his family speak to reporters in Brisbane, Australia, on Feb. 5.

cameraman and author. As when the extremist group released images last year of decapitated American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, the video appeared after demands set by the group were not met. A third American journalist, Luke Somers, was killed by his

captors during a failed Dec. 6 rescue attempt in Yemen by U.S. commandos.

On Feb 5., the parents of **Austin Tice**, an American journalist who has been missing in Syria since August



USA Director of Reporters Without Borders Delphine Halgand, left, with Marc and Deborah Tice, parents of journalist Austin Tice, during a news conference at the National Press Club on Feb. 5.

2012, along with Reporters Without Borders unveiled a #FreeAustinTice campaign that will include banners on hundreds of websites of major media groups. Marc and Debra Tice criticized the Obama administration's current hostage policy and said they are taking part in meetings for a White House policy review on how to handle hostage cases.

Supporters of **Jason Rezaian**, the *Washington Post*'s Tehran correspondent who has been held for more than six months, are concerned that a hard-line judge with Iran's Revolutionary Court has been assigned to the Rezaian's trial. Iran's state news agency reported in January that Rezaian was indicted but did not describe the charges. The judge, Abolghassem Salavati, has been under sanction by the European Union since 2011 for human rights violations. The International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran said Rezaian had not had access to legal counsel since his arrest.

A harrowing 6,500-word account by **Angela Köckritz**, who was a correspondent for four years in China, about the lack of press freedom in China

was published Jan. 14 by the German newspaper *Die Ziet*. Köckritz details the October arrest and continued detention of her Chinese research assistant, and her own repeated Kafkaesque interrogations, including one session lasting more than 4½ hours. Köckritz said she chose to leave China after she was accused of being a spy and helping to organize pro-Democracy protests in Hong Kong.

Zhang Miao, Köckritz's assistant, was arrested in October in Beijing while trying to attend a poetry reading in support of Hong Kong demonstrations. Köckritz describes her attempts to contact Zhang, who she was told had testified against her. Köckritz said she was encouraged to plead guilty to charges she did not understand. Authorities repeatedly threatened that she would lose her visa and other unspecified consequences, Köckritz said. *Die Ziet* said it held off publishing the piece until it was clear that diplomatic efforts were not leading to Zhang's release.

The Foreign Correspondents' Club of China in Beijing issued a statement in support of Köckritz. "The FCCC condemns, in the strongest terms, the intimidation of one of its members in this outrageous way," the statement said. "We hope that our members will continue to report on Zhang Miao's detention and treatment."

Once again, Congress is considering what would be first major reform of the Freedom of Information Act since 2007 with legislation that was introduced Feb. 2 in the House and Senate. Separate but similar bills unanimously passed both chambers last year but the Senate vote came just before Congress adjourned and the House did not vote on changes in the bill.

In addition to the execution of Goto by the Islamic State, at least eight other journalists were killed in

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recent weeks.

• The decapitated body of Mexican journalist **José Moisés Sánchez Cerezo** was found Jan. 24, three weeks after he was abducted from his home in Veracruz state by nine armed men. Sánchez founded and edited *La Unión*, a weekly print and online newspaper that often criticized city authorities and decried local crime and the poor quality of municipal services. His body was discovered after a gang member and former police officer reportedly confessed to his role in the crime. Relatives said Sánchez had received

threats from the mayor and others.

• The International Federation of Journalists reported the deaths of two Iraqi journalists in January. **Adnan Abdul-Razza**, a photojournalist for the Sama Mosul television channel, was reportedly murdered Jan. 25 by the Islamic State in Mosul while **Ali Al-Ansari**, a cameraman for Al-Ghadeer satellite television, was fatally injured in crossfire on Jan. 23 while covering the battles between the Iraqi army and the Islamic State in Mekkadyah, north of Baghdad.

• According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, five broadcast journalists were killed Jan. 25 when gunmen ambushed a convoy in South

Sudan. They were among 11 killed in a government convoy, which was on its way back from a visit with families of individuals killed by gunmen in a Jan. 22 attack. According to CPJ, killed were **Musa Mohamed**, director of the state-run radio station Raja FM; **Adam Juma**, **Dalia Marko** and **Randa George**, reporters for Raja FM; and **Boutros Martin**, cameraman for the Western Bahr el Ghazal branch of South Sudan Television.

• **Khalid Mohammed al-Washali**, a Yemeni TV correspondent, was one of the six people killed Jan. 4 by a roadside bomb that injured 25 others. The attack was reportedly carried out by Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

Roger Cohen Chases Ghosts in ‘The Girl From Human Street’

EVENT RECAP

By **Chad Bouchard**

New York Times columnist Roger Cohen chased a lot of ghosts while writing his memoir, *The Girl From Human Street*. The book follows his family’s emigration from Lithuania to South Africa, England, the United States and Israel. It also follows the story of his mother, the titular “girl,” who suffered from deep depression.

“Behind that family story there was a broader story of displacement, of upheaval, of leaving home behind in every generation,” he told attendees at a book night Jan. 14 at Club Quarters.

Inspiration for the book started with the discovery of a box in his parents’ attic in Wales, U.K., which contained two suicide notes that she had written before unsuccessful attempts to end her life. The box also included notes from his father, a physician, as he monitored her ups and downs.

Cohen wrote that his mother had been institutionalized and subjected to insulin shock therapy and electroshock therapy, after which she seemed “hollowed out, like a tree struck by lightning.”

Cohen saw a connection between the constant displacement of his family and the mental pain that afflicted her, and set out to tell what he called “a Jewish Odyssey of the 20th Century.”

The book night took place only a week after the *Charlie Hebdo* shootings and attacks at a Kosher supermarket in Paris. Cohen said he is alarmed by rising anti-Semitism across Europe and increasing fear among Jews. He said reports that Jews in the Netherlands had removed Mezuzahs from their doorways “made me feel so sick.”

“I think Europe’s pretty combustible right now. It’s dangerous. I’m troubled,” he said.

Former OPC President Allan Dodds Frank, who moderated the discussion, asked Cohen what he hoped his children would gain from reading the book.

“I think it’s important to know where you come from. And it’s important for things to be open. It may be tempting to hide things, painful things, and there have been many painful things in my family, but I think in the end, I don’t think silence is good. My hope is that it will be a foundation for my children to build their lives and their happiness.”



Roger Cohen, right, reads from his memoir as former OPC President Allan Dodds Frank looks on.

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for the issue, and along with photographer Bryan Schutmaat profiled 23 Ebola fighters featured in the magazine.

Moakley traveled with them to Liberia in November as photography director for the project. He secured a visa at the last minute and hopped on a charter flight to Mon-

rovia. He said workers there were constantly exposed to bodies, many of them abandoned, and Ebola patients in excruciating pain.

“Ebola basically prevents you from acting like a normal human being and reacting the way that you want to,” he said. “You can’t be human. You can’t touch people. You are constantly in a state of fear.”

Meet the OPC Members: a Q&A With Kristina Shevory

By Susan Kille

Kristina Shevory is a longtime freelance reporter who writes regularly for *The New York Times* about business and the military. She is an Army veteran and a former staff reporter for the AP, *The Seattle Times* and TheStreet.com. She has written for *The Atlantic*, *Newsweek*, *Wired*, *Businessweek*, Fox News, *Foreign Policy* and the *New York Post*, among others.

Hometown: Austin, Texas.

Education: University of Texas at Austin, a geology degree with journalism minor.

Languages: Russian, Spanish.

First job in journalism: I was a paid editor at *The Daily Texan*, the University of Texas' student newspaper that had a \$2 million budget and a six-day-a-week publishing schedule. We routinely went head-to-head with the local newspaper on the news of the day.

Countries where you have reported from: I lived in Russia for several years running an English-language newspaper and writing for *Businessweek*, Dow Jones and the AP on politics and business. I've also reported out of the Caucasus, Pakistan and Brazil.

When did you join the OPC? I won an OPC scholarship and have remained a member because of all the wonderful mentors I've met through the group. Thanks to them, I found a book agent and started writing for *Businessweek* and *The New York Times*.

Why did you join the Army? One of the best decisions I've made was enlisting in the Army straight out of high school. I would do it again and would urge anyone to do the same. Military service exposes you to a wide cast of characters and personalities you normally wouldn't meet in a newsroom and gives you confidence to attempt what may otherwise seem undoable.

How did your eight years in the Army shape your reporting? Every time I meet a service member or veteran, whether I'm on the job or off, I tell them straight away that I served in the Army. It immediately engenders a sense of camaraderie that I'm one of them and understand what's going on. Many in the military, I've found, are suspicious of reporters and assume we're clueless, particularly if you're a woman. But tell a vet or a service member that you, too, served and their faces brighten, their tone lightens and you're now part of the club. You're told things other reporters don't hear and offered opportunities that others are not. To wit, I convinced Erik Prince, the Navy Seal who founded Blackwater, to work with me on a recent long-term project for *Newsweek* because of my veteran status. He knew he could trust me to approach the story with an open mind and that I understood his business.



Erin Trieb

Kristina Shevory

Tell us about your Alicia Patterson Foundation fellowship: Every year, the foundation funds a handful of journalists nationwide who propose in-depth projects on international and national affairs. I pitched my dream project: Let me write about special operations troops and freelance soldiers. They agreed and I've been working on stories, like the one with Erik Prince, about the role of military contractors and special operations forces, like Green Berets and Navy Seals, in the wake of the U.S.-led wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Reporting on the world has become far more dangerous, in part because more major news outlets depend on freelancers. How can risks be reduced for freelancers working overseas? Pay freelancers a living wage. Get rid of the no-questions-asked policy of news assignments. When a freelancer receives \$100-\$300 per story for an overseas assignment, they can't afford a hostile environments course or conflict medical insurance and will do everything on the cheap. They won't hire a security team or driver in dicey places and will rely on public transportation. Editors should take on as much responsibility as the freelancer does in dangerous locales.

Best advice about journalism you have received: Never work for free.

Favorite quote: "No matter how slow you go, you are still lapping everybody on the couch." Translation: Even when it seems like you're getting nowhere, whether that's with a story or race training, you're so much further along than all those people who do nothing but *talk* about going overseas, pitching that big project or approaching that reluctant source.

Where you most want to return: Pakistan. I traveled widely across Pakistan last year while on assignment for *Foreign Policy* and found the country absolutely engrossing with loads of characters and under-reported stories.

Twitter handle: @shevoryr

Want to add to the OPC's collection of Q&As with members? Please contact patricia@opcofamerica.org.

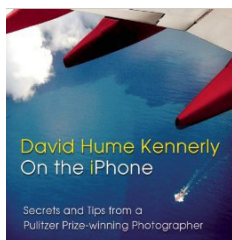
New Books

PHOTOGRAPHY

DAVID HUME KENNERLY, a long-time OPC member who has won most major photojournalism honors, challenged himself in 2013 to make at least one good iPhone photo every day. His success can be enjoyed in *David Hume Kennerly On the iPhone: Secrets and Tips from a Pulitzer-Prize Winning Photographer* [Goff Books, October 2014].

With striking photos, Kennerly tells and shows how the iPhone camera works and how he uses it to maximum advantage, but his approach takes the book beyond smartphones. His tips and insights on light, portraits, color, texture, composition, details, overcoming familiarity, patience, persistence and editing make the book a general guide to all-around better photography.

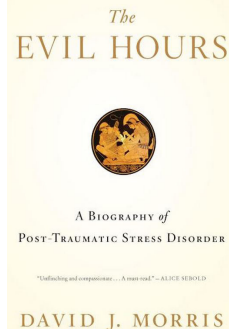
Creating great photos is about the eye, not the equipment, Kennerly says. The principles he outlines apply to any camera and to amateurs or profession-



als. He writes that working with the fixed lens in a smartphone camera has sharpened his eye, making him get closer and be more observant.

He donated 53 photographs from the book to support the creation of the David Hume Kennerly Scholarship in Art at Youngstown State University, the alma mater of Ed O'Neill, a frequent photo subject who wrote the book's foreword. O'Neill, Kennerly's neighbor in Santa Monica, is an actor best known for his Al Bundy character in the television series "Married ... with Children."

Kennerly, who was 25 when he won a Pulitzer Prize for a 1971 portfolio that included images from Vietnam and Cambodia, has covered eight wars, was President Gerald Ford's personal photographer and is a television director and producer. American Photo Magazine included him in "One of the 100 Most Important People in Photography."



first applied to Vietnam veterans in 1970.

PTSD is now the top health concern of American military veterans, no matter when they served, but affects victims of rape, natural disasters and other terrible events. And, as Morris frankly describes about himself, it affects journalists. After reading the book, Tom Ricks, a longtime *Washington Post* war correspondent, revealed his own struggles with PTSD in a piece for *The New Yorker*.

"A species of pain that went unnamed for most of human history, PTSD is now the fourth most common psychiatric disorder in the United States," Morris writes. Experts say PTSD will affect nearly 8 percent of Americans at some point in their lives.

Morris, whose writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Slate*, *The Daily Beast*, and *The Los Angeles Times*, ended his third reporting trip to Iraq in October 2007 after almost being killed by a roadside bomb. He returned to the U.S. "with a powerful feeling of alienation from my countrymen," who had no concept of what it is like to be in a war and didn't want to know. An explosion in a movie caused him to run out of a theater. Frightening dreams and other symptoms followed. He realized he was "on the other side of something." He began working his way through academic literature on PTSD and then launched research of his own. He says "the journalism bug bit me" when he worked with Judith Miller of *The Times* in 1992.

— By Susan Kille

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Nick Barnets
Freelance
Active Overseas

Donald Frazier
Freelance
Active Non-Resident

Alessandria Massi
Middle East Reporter
International Business Times
Active Resident

MP Nunan
Freelance
Active Resident

Anya Schiffrin
Professor and Director
International Media, Advocacy
& Communication
Columbia University
Associate Resident

WAR TRAUMA

IN "THE EVIL HOURS: A BIOGRAPHY OF Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder," [Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, January 2015], David J. Morris, a war correspondent and a former Marine lieutenant, draws on personal experience but "biography" in the title does not refer to him. The book is an examination of a condition described in historical writing, previously known in the modern era as shell shock but now with a name

'HAS THE AMERICAN MEDIA MISJUDGED CHINA?' NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK & E-BOOK

A record of the OPC's historic gathering of China correspondents last fall is now available in book form. The book includes an introduction from Bill Holstein and transcriptions of the day's insightful panel discussions. Search for the book on Amazon.com to order a paperback copy or to download an electronic version to your Kindle. Proceeds benefit the OPC.