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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • July/August 2013

## Full Slate and Online Voting in Annual Election

by Azmat Khan

In leading this year's election committee, Bill Holstein and I made it our mission to seek out as diverse a group of talented, motivated candidates as possible, whose values and ideas for contributions embody the OPC's mission. In particular, we sought to encourage a new generation of journalists to take more responsibility within the OPC, and we're thrilled about this year's election slate.

Candidates include journalists from television, print, radio and photojournalism who draw from varying demographics, ages and media organizations. As you can read from their campaign statements, they bring ambitious agendas to enhance the OPC ranging from addressing whistleblower protections to promoting the use of innovative technologies in storytelling to drawing more under-represented individuals into international reporting.

This year's OPC Board election is also different than in years past because it's a very competitive one. At last year's annual meeting, several OPC members called for the club to have more of a competition to the annual election, and this year we

have 10 candidates running for five positions as Active board members and four others running as Associate board members. It's a competitive election and we're grateful to so many candidates who are enthusiastic about shaping the organization.

Whatever the outcome of the election, we're hopeful the coming two-year term will bring more growth, action and an OPC that keeps pace with the digital age.

For the first time the OPC will hold its election online. For those averse to the Web, fear not: you may still cast a paper ballot by e-mailing [sonya@opcofamerica.org](mailto:sonya@opcofamerica.org) or calling

the OPC office at 212-626-9220.

The OPC is using the online voting website **balloteer.com** to host its secure election. You will receive an e-mail in early July with a link to the election at the e-mail address where you receive OPC electronic correspondence. If you have not received this link by the end of July e-mail [sonya@opcofamerica.org](mailto:sonya@opcofamerica.org) to obtain the link.

Each ballot requires a log-in, which is your e-mail address where you received the ballot link. The system allows one voting ballot and delineates between Active and Associate members.

(Election Slate Begins on Page 2)

## OPC to Screen "The Patience Stone" in August

### EVENT PREVIEW: AUGUST 6

by Sonya K. Fry

The OPC offers members the chance to see the film "The Patience Stone" on Tuesday August 6. The film is about a young Afghani woman who tends to her comatose older husband. The war swirls outside their window and tanks roll in the streets. Fearing for the lives of her two young daughters she takes them to the safety of a relative's home while she returns daily to care for the unresponsive man. As weeks go by, she begins to give voice to her previously private thoughts, memories and grievances. Her husband becomes her "patience stone" or *syngue sabour* in Persian lore, absorbing one's suffering and secrets until it finally shatters.

The filmmaker Atiq Rahimi was born in Afghanistan but became a refugee living in Paris attending the



Sorbonne. *The Patience Stone*, the first novel written by Rahimi, won the 2008 Prix Goncourt, France's most renowned literary award. He was wary of turning it into a film, but did so when he met Golshifteh Farahani, a superstar Iranian actress who is also in exile in Paris.

The film will be shown at 6 p.m. at the SONY Screening Room 550 Madison (between 55 and 56th Streets). Check in at the Sky Lobby where you will receive a ticket and then proceed to the 7th floor screening room. RSVP by calling the OPC office 212-626-9220 or email [sonya@opcofamerica.org](mailto:sonya@opcofamerica.org).

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# Election Slate

## ACTIVE

### JANE CIABATTARI

I would like to return and help the OPC move forward in its 75th year with my previous OPC board experience. I have organized the showing of films and programs, headed the committee that revised the club's Constitution and By-laws, served as an OPC officer (VP and Secretary), co-chaired the awards judging process and acted several times as nominating committee chair, most recently in 2012.



My goal was recruiting new board members with multi-platform experience as well as stellar traditional credentials. I am a regular contributor to NPR.org and The Daily Beast. I spent three years as president of the nonprofit National Book Critics Circle and am now online VP, in charge of website/blog and social networking.

### MARTIN DICKSON

I have been the U.S. Managing Editor of the *Financial Times* since

September 2012. As a former Africa Editor of the *FT*, I know first-hand the difficulties of reporting from tough, developing world countries. In my previous job, as Deputy Editor of the *FT* in London, I worked closely with our global team of correspondents on stories of acute sensitivity, liable to political, legal or censorship challenges.



I believe strongly in the causes championed by the OPC: freedom of the press, the safety of journalists and the importance of powerful international reporting in explaining the complexities of the world. All are under threat, be it from governments or a lack of public engagement in international affairs and shrinking editorial budgets. The OPC performs a vital role countering these forces, but it could be even more effective if it dynamically harnessed the power and reach of social media.

### JO LING KENT

I am interested in bring a fresh perspective to an organization I respect and admire. As a member of the Foreign Correspondents Club of China for two years while a field pro-

ducer with CNN in Beijing, I helped to organize events and forums that addressed a spike in censorship and material challenges



faced by journalists covering China, politics and human rights. I've also organized an annual International Women's Day event in Beijing, London and Houston since 2006 that links underprivileged girls to community mentors in public schools in China.

My hope is to help foster interest in international journalism among young journalists, promote the use of technologies for storytelling in emerging markets, and promote more international journalism in the U.S. I'm currently a business reporter covering international markets at Fox Business Network and Fox News. Previously, I was an investigative reporter with NBC Connecticut and a campaign embed reporter with NBC News covering the 2012 presidential election. I'm fluent in Mandarin and continue to cover China for Fox.

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## EVELYN LEOPOLD

I am an independent journalist based at the United Nations and contribute to the Huffington Post and other publications. I was Reuters bureau chief at the U.N. for 17 years. At Reuters I also was a news editor for North America, the editor for the company's Africa region, based in Kenya, and associate editor worldwide. Earlier, I was a correspondent in London, Bonn, New York and Washington D.C.



I chair the Dag Hammarskjöld Fund for Journalists and was awarded the gold medal for U.N. reporting by the U.N. Correspondents Association. I received an Alicia Patterson Fellowship and co-authored a book in German on women in East Germany. I am also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Newswomen's Club of New York.

## JOHN MARTIN

I am a writer, photographer and editor of two sports newsletters reported and distributed internationally and a freelance writer covering professional tennis for *The New York Times*. I retired in 2002 as a national correspondent for ABC News and taught reporting at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism from 2002 to 2010. I am currently researching a memoir based on nearly 50 years as a newspaper and television journalist (working title: *Jump Cuts: A Reporter's Life in the Age of Arledge*).



During my term as an OPC board member, I accepted a temporary assignment as acting chairman of the Freedom of the Press Committee, where I served in the 1990's under Norman Schorr. As an active correspondent, my arrests in Mexico, Nicaragua and Brazil taught me

the vital role played by governments and journalism organizations in securing freedom and legal protections for reporters. I support the initiatives to use social media to reinforce OPC's reputation as a dedicated defender of press freedom. As the club approaches its 75th year, our mission remains clear: protect journalists and the principles of journalism at all levels at home and overseas.

## ROBERT NICKELSBURG

I have been a photojournalist associated with *Time* magazine for nearly 30 years based in Latin America, South and Southeast Asia. I have photographed the war in Iraq for *Time* and *The New York Times*. My new book, *Afghanistan — A Distant War*, covering the rise of Islamic fundamentalism in the 1980's through the invasion of U.S. — NATO troops to the present, will be published in October 2013.

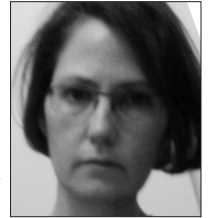


I've been able to focus on promotion of the Club by serving on the Admissions Committee and participated on the OPC photography awards jury in 2012 and 2013. I would like to strengthen the OPC board's efforts to attract more photojournalists and documentary filmmakers and offer greater depth and diversity to its events program and expand the use of visual narratives on the OPC website.

## KRISTINA SHEVORY

The OPC has been an integral part of my career since I won an OPC Foundation scholarship in 1998. The award gave me the freedom to move to St. Petersburg, Russia to work on the language skills I acquired serving in the U.S. Army and to realize my dream of becoming a foreign correspondent. The experiment worked: I became managing editor of the *St. Petersburg Times*, an English-language newspaper, and an AP, Dow Jones and *Businessweek* stringer.

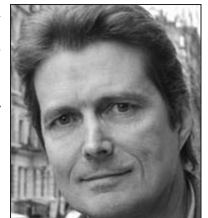
When I returned to the U.S., I tracked Texas politics at the AP, covered regional business at the *Seattle Times* and followed the oil and gas markets at TheStreet.com. Thanks to connections I made at the OPC, I was able to take a stab at another dream: become a full-time freelancer for *The New York Times*. Six years later, I write regularly for the paper on military affairs, business and real estate.



I'd like to reach out to young foreign correspondents to build the next generation of stalwart club members. Arts organizations, like the Met, have groups for those under 40 to build their membership and fundraising base and I think it is necessary in this changing time for the OPC to have the same.

## MARTIN SMITH

I have been a producer for WGBH's Frontline for 28 years and have covered major international news events from the fall of Communism in Russia to investigation of the emergence of Osama bin Laden and the Al Qaeda network. In 1998, I founded Rain Media, an independent production company. I began my career at CBS News and wrote my first documentary "Guatemala" in 1982 which won a George Polk Award and an Emmy. I have won four OPC Edward R. Murrow Awards.



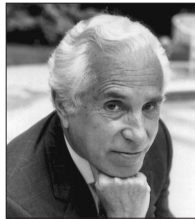
I would like to focus on bolstering ongoing OPC efforts to protect press freedoms for reporters as well as for the local fixers, translators and drivers who risk their lives to support them. I am also interested in the protection of whistleblowers while grappling with defining what kind of information releases best serve our society.

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## SEYMOUR TOPPING

In half a century of work as a reporter, editor and Pulitzer administrator rarely have I witnessed viable journalism under such severe pressures as today. As a Board member I am committed to reinforcing the leadership of OPC in the struggle for a free, secure and independent press worldwide. I am an Emeritus Professor of International Journalism at Columbia University and am running for a second term.



## CHARLES P. WALLACE

I have more than 30 years experience as a foreign correspondent, working for UPI, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Fortune* and *Time* magazine. In that time I was based in Moscow, Africa, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Italy and Germany. In my years overseas, I also had the pleasure of experiencing some of what the best foreign press clubs had to offer including Hong Kong, Bangkok, London, Tokyo, Berlin and the wonderful Associazione della Stampa Estera in Italy. I would like to share some of these insights with the OPC. My feeling is that we could do more between the annual awards dinner to engage our members and perhaps even attract new members.



I'd like to see more events that brought in experts from outside, perhaps academics, politicians or even diplomats from abroad, who could discuss such issues as what is happening in China and Europe these days. I regularly attend gatherings at the Asia Society that would appeal to journalists. I think there would also be broad interest in symposia to help our members stay up to date with the latest in social media

and technology as it relates to foreign news coverage.

## ASSOCIATE

### BILL COLLINS

I am Communications Director at Ford Motor Company based in New York and am a former journalist. I have served two previous terms on the OPC Board and am a member of the Freedom of the Press Committee. I currently head up the Public Relations Committee for the OPC's 75th Anniversary. My top three priorities for the OPC include: raising the OPC's profile through earned and social media; increasing membership by targeting younger journalists and digital media; broadening its reach by partnering with top-notch organizations that share our mission.



### EMMA DALY

I am the Communications Director at Human Rights Watch, overseeing all media communication coming from the organization since July 2007. Before joining Human Rights Watch, I spent 18 years as a journalist, mostly as a foreign correspondent, working for *The New York Times*, *The Independent*, *Newsweek*, the *Observer* and Reuters, among others. I have contributed to several books including *Secrets of the Press* – *The Penguin Book of Journalism* and *Crimes of War: What the Public Should Know*.



After almost 20 years as a foreign correspondent and another seven at HRW, I understand the value of reporting from the ground. We need independent journalists gathering information first-hand in order to understand the world around us. Technology helps us to stay connected, but there is no substitute for

the eyewitness account and analysis.

## DANIEL SIEBERG

I've led Google's Media Outreach team which works with journalists to empower them through training on digital tools and the Internet. Prior to that, I was an Emmy-nominated technology reporter for ABC News, CBS News, CNN, BBC News and the *Vancouver Sun*. I've traveled the globe and am a passionate supporter of conveying international stories to a U.S. audience.



As a board member of the OPC, I'd like to continue the push for journalists to master innovative technologies. Indeed, this is a revolutionary time when access to information has never been greater, but communicating it in the right way for a modern and increasingly mobile society is essential. I'd also like to see more journalists in emerging markets participating in the creation of such tools and how they can impact their industry and reach new audiences.

## ABI WRIGHT

As the OPC approaches its 75th Anniversary, we have an opportunity to rethink and update the focus of the organization to better reflect changes in the news media, harness new technologies to strengthen our community and secure the OPC for future generations of journalists. I am interested in continuing to support the important work of the Freedom of the Press committee, as I have for the past two years with social media interns from Columbia, and continuing to participate in the reform of the awards process, building on the success of this year's ceremony and dinner.



## OPC SCHOLARS

**Adriane Quinlan**, who won the OPC Foundation's 2013 Flora Lewis Internship, will start work in July reporting for *The Times-Picayune* of New Orleans. She is a Yale graduate who in the lead-up to the 2008 Olympics worked in China as a freelancer and speed typist. The move to the Big Easy means putting on hold her plans to return to China, but Quinlan said the position was too good to pass up. Her beat will be Jefferson Parish.

## WINNERS

The June 6 headline read like it was from *The Onion*: "Hugo Chávez Given Venezuela Journalism Prize." But indeed, Venezuela's National Journalism Prize Foundation jury unanimously elected to give the country's former president its highest honor, the Simón Bolívar National Journalism Award. Chávez, who died March 5, was honored despite accusations that he had persecuted the press during his 14 years in power. OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee wrote Chávez at least 10 times since 2005, decrying press conditions in Venezuela. **Lil Rodríguez**, a journalist and jury member, explained that while neither Bolívar nor Chávez were journalists "we have never had better communicators than the two of them." While the award may have surprised press advocates, one element of news reports did not; members of the foundation jury are seen as government supporters.

**Roman Anin**, a Russian reporter who investigates corruption in Russia, and **Umar Cheema**, a Pakistani journalist known for courage and muckraking, won the 2013 Knight International Journalism Award. The International Center for Journalists administers the awards, which recog-

nize reporting that makes a difference to people around the world. Four of Anin's colleagues at *Novaya Gazeta* were murdered in the last decade, but he continues to document high-level corruption and helps break stories with international outlets including the *Financial Times* and BBC. Cheema was kidnapped and tortured in 2010 after writing stories critical about the government. Since then, he has shown how car smugglers make huge untaxed profits. He mined data to expose how lawmakers spend little time in Parliament working on legislation and that 70 percent of legislators did not file income taxes in 2011, including President Asif Ali Zardari.



Anin



Cheema

## PRESS FREEDOM

**WASHINGTON:** An open letter sent June 10 to Congress by a bipartisan coalition of 86 civil liberties organizations and Internet companies — including the American Civil Liberties Union, Mozilla, FreedomWorks, the Electronic Frontier Foundation and reddit — called for a congressional investigatory committee into recent revelations about unchecked domestic surveillance. The letter was accompanied by the launch of StopWatching.us, a petition calling on Congress to provide a public accounting of the United States' domestic spying capabilities and to bring an end to illegal surveillance.

**NEW YORK:** Fifty-five journalists fled their homes in the past year with help from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ). The most common reason to go into exile was

the threat of violence, such as in Somalia and Syria, two of the most deadly countries in the world for the profession. Others fled the threat of prison, especially in Iran, where the government deepened its crackdown ahead of elections. CPJ released its annual survey of journalists in exile to mark World Refugee Day on June 20.

**NAIROBI:** Members of the news media were kicked out of the media center in the Kenyan Parliament on June 5 and told they may only cover parliament when invited. National Assembly Clerk Justin Bundi ordered that computers and office furniture in the media center be removed to allow space for committee rooms. Legislators were angered about coverage of plans to raise their annual pay from \$78,000 to \$126,000 while the average Kenyan earns \$1,800 in a year. The media center was established in 2009 with the assistance of the U.S. government, which contributed \$29,440.

**DUBLIN:** In a resolution passed during its 28th World Congress here in June, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) called on Philippine President Benigno Simeon Aquino III to expedite justice in the 2009 massacre of 58 people including 32 journalists in Maguindanao province; 90 of the 196 accused remain at large and only three of the principal suspects have so far been arraigned. The IFJ Congress, attended by more than 300 journalists representing organizations from more than 100 countries, was concerned with "confirmed reports that the accused are coercing families to accept monetary settlements in exchange for signing affidavits of desistance."

**ISTANBUL:** Turkish and foreign

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journalists covering recent unrest in Turkey have been the victims of arbitrary arrests and police violence. Although exact figures are unknown, Turkey is believed to have the highest number of journalists in the world in prison. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan accused foreign media outlets such as CNN, the BBC and Reuters of “fabricating news” about the protests, alleging a conspiracy against Turkey. On June 18, the pro-government daily *Takvim* published a fabricated interview with **Christiane Amanpour**, an OPC member and chief international correspondent for CNN, alleging that she said she was ordered to cover the ongoing protests to destabilize Turkey on behalf of international business interests. Amanpour condemned the article on Twitter posting: “Shame on you @Takvim for publishing FAKE interview with me.”

**SÃO PAULO:** At least 25 journalists have reported being attacked or detained amid protests that swept Brazil in June, growing from discontent over public transportation fare hikes into wider nationwide demonstrations against government policies, according to the CPJ. A spike in violence over the past two years has made Brazil one of the most dangerous countries for journalists, CPJ said. Brazil is the 10th worst country in CPJ’s Impunity Index, which spotlights countries where the killers of journalists go free.

**QUITO:** Ecuador’s legislature on June 14 passed a law that will tighten media regulations, raising concerns about press freedom and giving a key victory to President Rafael Correa, who repeatedly has clashed with independent journalists. Correa said the law would force news organizations to act fairly. **Carlos Lauría** of the CPJ said the wording was vague enough that it left ample room to define a variety of content as being

in violation of the law, opening the door to censorship.



Ndege

**ZINDER, Niger:** Al Jazeera’s correspondent **Yvonne Ndege**, camera operator **Romuald Luyindula**, producer **Mohammed Abubakar** and driver **Rabiu Abdullahi** were released June 17 after being arrested and held for three days in the eastern part of the country for “travelling without accreditation.” The team was released without charge to make its way back to the border into Nigeria.

**ATHENS:** The June 11 action of Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras to cut costs by closing its state-run television and radio broadcaster Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation, known as ERT, outraged the country’s powerful labor unions, opposition parties and press advocates. The move put some 2,600 journalists out of work. The government called ERT, which began in 1938, a “haven of waste” and it has a small audience share. A court ordered the station back on the air but agreed with the government that it should be relaunched as a smaller, independent public broadcaster.

**KOLKATA:** Indian authorities arrested at least 14 people after a June 7 attack on three journalists in which one reporter was almost burned alive. The journalists — **Barun Sengupta** of Chhobish Ghanta TV, **Ashtik Chatterjee** of ABP Ananda TV and **Tona Singha Roy** of Kolkata TV — were attacked while covering clashes between rival factions the day after Trinamool leader Jitu Lal

was murdered. Reports said that the assailants carried flags of the ruling Trinamool Congress party. Sengupta said he was dragged into an abandoned house, beaten and doused in gasoline. “They were about to burn me alive when some locals stormed inside and after a scuffle managed to protect me,” he said. Sengupta and Chatterjee were treated for severe head injuries.



Tracy

**CARACAS:** After being arrested and accused of spying in late April, **Tim Tracy** was released and expelled from Venezuela on June 8. Tracy was accused of espionage and fomenting violence in which eight people died after the presidential election following the death of Hugo Chávez. The country’s Minister of Interior and Justice Miguel Rodríguez announced the release through Twitter, posting: “The gringo Timothy Hallet Tracy, captured committing espionage in our country, has been expelled from the national territory.”

**AMMAN:** The Jordanian government on June 2 blocked access within the country to about 300 news websites under a new law that the sites’ editors and international journalism experts described as censorship aimed at quelling criticism of King Abdullah II. The law, enacted in September, requires sites to register with the government, pay \$1,400 in licensing fees and hire unionized journalists as editors. Hundreds of news sites have sprung up in recent years in Jordan and many say they cannot afford to comply with the

law. Ninety-two sites that registered continued to operate as usual and those that had been blocked within Jordan remained available outside the country.

**SINGAPORE:** A government policy took effect in June that requires news websites that report regularly on Singapore and have at least 50,000 viewers a month to obtain licenses and to remove content considered objectionable by the government within 24 hours of notification. Newspapers and television have long been tightly supervised in Singapore, and officials maintain that the Web policy is not meant to muzzle freedom of expression. Human Rights Watch said Singapore is undercutting its status as a financial center by expanding censorship to the Web and urged the government to withdraw the new licensing requirement.

**BEIJING:** Friends of **Du Bun**, a Chinese journalist who has worked for *The New York Times* as a freelance photographer, said Du was escorted by police from his apartment on May 31. Du Jirong, his sister, said on June 18 that Du is being held but that his family had not received a detention notice. In late May, Du had published a book titled *Tiananmen Massacre*, which compiles previously published accounts from various government sources, and he recently released a documentary about a forced-labor camp.

**KAMPALA:** After an 11-day closure by the Ugandan government, the daily newspapers *Daily Monitor* and *Red Pepper*, and two radio stations that broadcast from the headquarters of Monitor Publications Limited (MPL) that owns the *Daily Monitor*, resumed operating May 30. Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said that MPL was allowed to reopen after accepting restrictions. Under

the agreement, it must ensure that articles are “properly sourced, verified and factual” and that they do not create “tension,” incite “ethnic hatred,” “cause insecurity” or “disturb law and order.” Two days before the agreement, police fired tear gas at journalists in Kampala protesting the media crackdown after reports in the two newspapers sparked a rare public debate on who will succeed aging President Yoweri Museveni.

## MURDERS



Pere

The body of **Thomas Pere**, a reporter for the state-owned *New Vision* media group in the Ugandan capital, was found on June 17 in a field a few miles outside Kampala. He was last seen in the *New Vision* newsroom at around 8 p.m. June 16 before he left to go home. The police said Pere died from a blow to the head, but they did not think he was killed where the body was found. Pere covered society stories for the entertainment and supplements sections and it was not clear if the murder was linked to his job. His mobile phone, wallet and credit cards were found in his pockets, suggesting that robbery was not a motive.

**Jose Roberto Ornelas de Lemos**, the head of a newspaper known for reporting on crime and corruption, was shot to death June 11 in a town outside Rio de Janeiro, the latest in a string of apparent assassinations of Brazilian journalists. He was shot at least 40 times by four masked men while visiting a bak-

ery, witnesses said. Police believe the motive may have been to silence the reporting done by his newspaper, *Hora H*.



de Lemos

**Ahmed Ali Joiya**, a Pakistani reporter who had been working for several newspapers and magazines, was killed by gunfire May 26 while in a market in Bhangrana. Two street vendors were also injured in the attack. Police said Joiya had told them about death threats from a man wanted in more than 150 murders, robberies and kidnappings. Police said they had asked Joiya to be careful and inform them of any meetings with strangers.

A trial of five men accused in the 2006 murder of investigative reporter **Anna Politkovskaya** began June 21 in Moscow. Politkovskaya, a fierce critic of the Kremlin who wrote for *Novaya Gazeta*, was gunned down in the entrance to her Moscow apartment. On trial are three brothers from Chechnya, their uncle, and a former police officer. The Russian supreme court overturned the 2009 acquittal of three of the men. A new jury was chosen for a new trial. Lom-Ali Gaitukayev is accused of organizing the hit, while his nephew Rustam Makhmudov allegedly pulled the trigger.

Last December, Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov, a former police officer, was given an 11-year sentence after cooperating with investigators and admitting keeping track of Politkovskaya's movements and providing the assassin with a gun. Politkovskaya was the first winner of OPC's Artyom Borovik Award for outstanding reporting by a Russian journalist.

A court in Thailand ruled May 29 that **Fabio Polenghi**, an Italian

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photojournalist, was shot and killed by a bullet fired by a soldier during a government crackdown on street protesters in May 2010. The inquest ruling established the circumstances surrounding his death but failed to apportion blame to any individual military commanders or politicians in power at the time. After talking to Polenghi's sister, Elisabetta, RSF urged authorities not to pardon those responsible for the fatal shot.

## UPDATES

**NEW YORK:** Job moves are hard to predict these days. After two decades on the faculty of Columbia Journalism School, **Sree Sreenivasan**, a former OPC board member, has become the first chief digital officer of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Sreenivasan, who for the last year has had a similar title at the journalism school, said he looks forward "to forging new connections between the superb, expansive collections of the Met — which are a true representation of our shared global history — and the 2 billion people who use the Web."

**Fred Ferguson**, an OPC member, accepted the **National Hemophilia Foundation** leadership award in June given posthumously to Betty Jane and Robert Henry, Ferguson's sister and her husband. The Henrys established the foundation in 1948 after their son, Lee, was diagnosed with hemophilia. In 65 years, the organization has grown to a national network of 51 chapters. Ferguson said he had many memories of his nephew, who was 19 when he died of a throat hemorrhage after choking. The Henrys later established Hemophilia Research Inc. to provide research grants. The award was presented at the foundation's Spring Soiree in Manhattan. Ferguson told the 350 attending, "Betty, Jane and Bob would be tremendously proud of the turnout tonight and of all you have done for the Foundation."

The **Marie Colvin** Center for International Reporting at Stony Brook University on Long Island has received a pair of \$50,000 donations: one from **Christiane Amanpour**, an OPC member and chief international correspondent for CNN, and another from **Rupert Murdoch**, whose donation was given through the News Corp. Foundation. Amanpour, who was the inaugural speaker for the Marie Colvin Distinguished Lecture Series in February, had previously donated \$10,000 to fund a reporting trip to Kenya for 16 students in the school's "Journalism Without Walls" course, which has also sent student journalists to Russia, Cuba and China.

OPC member **Fareed Zakaria** celebrated the fifth anniversary of his CNN show, "Fareed Zakaria GPS," on June 2. In the five years since his show launched, Zakaria has interviewed almost 600 different guests from almost 60 countries and 35 heads of state.

**WESTPORT, Connecticut:** **Jon Meacham**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning author whose most recent work is *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power*, was honored May 22 with the 15th Westport Public Library Award during the library's annual fundraiser called "Booked for the Evening." Meacham, executive editor of Random House and former editor of *Newsweek*, received the Pulitzer for *American Lion*, his bestselling 2008 biography of Andrew Jackson. He is also the author of the bestsellers *Franklin and Winston* and *American Gospel*. Previous winners of the Westport library award include **Tom Brokaw**, **Doris Kearns Goodwin**, **Adam Gopnik**, **Pete Hamill**, **David Halberstam** and **Calvin Trillin**.

**PARIS:** **Ai Weiwei**, the dissident Chinese artist, has become an "ambassador" for RSF. "Human rights activists in China know about this important organization," Ai said.

"For an artist, a designer, it's of the utmost importance to be able to express the truth and the reality of the world."

**WASHINGTON:** OPC member **Susan Glasser**, former editor in chief of *Foreign Policy*, has joined Politico to head new long-form journalism and opinion divisions, including managing Politico's new magazine. Glasser joined *Foreign Policy* in 2008 after it was purchased by *The Washington Post*, where she was an editor. She led *Foreign Policy*'s ambitious expansion in print and online. Among the numerous awards during her tenure was last year's OPC award for online general excellence. Glasser spent four years as co-chief of the *Post*'s Moscow bureau and covered the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, including the battle of Tora Bora and the invasion of Iraq.

In the spirit of the spring graduations, **Paul Brandus**, an OPC board member and a member of the White House press corps, contributed an item to TheWeek.com with more than 60 pieces of advice for high school graduates. They include: Beer is really an awful thing to drink. Costs too much, tastes lousy and makes you fat. Don't mess with the IRS. You'll make mistakes; learn from them quickly and move on. Splurge on a good trench coat; it'll last forever and doubles as a blanket or pillow.

**CHICAGO:** Former OPC board member **Klara Glowczewska**, editor in chief of *Condé Nast Traveler*, spent a day working undercover as part of her magazine's Travel Confidential series. She donned the uniform of a housekeeper at the Waldorf Astoria Chicago and worked an 8½ hour shift. She made beds, cleaned bathrooms and gained a lot of insight on travelers. "Other than the sudden spotlight thrown on the profession by the Dominique Strauss-Kahn episode," Glowcze-



**Glowczewska in Chicago**

wska wrote, "I must admit that I've never much considered the women pushing their carts in hotel hallways, the ones we all see but barely acknowledge and occasionally even forget to tip."



**Debra and Marc Tice, at an interview during a previous trip to Beirut in November 2012.**

**BEIRUT:** The parents of **Austin Tice**, a U.S. journalist from Texas missing in Syria since August, flew here on June 23 to "seek out people who can help facilitate his release," according to a family spokesman. Tice smuggled himself into Syria to report on the uprising and the U.S. State Department has said it believes Tice was detained by Syrian officials as he was preparing to leave. Tice is one of two American freelance journalists missing in Syria; **James Foley** was last seen November 22, 2012. Earlier in June, Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz of Texas joined Sens. Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte, who represent Foley's home state of New Hampshire, in urging Secretary of State John Kerry to raise awareness about Tice and Foley.

## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

The death of **Michael Hastings** at age 33 in a fiery solo car crash in Los Angeles early in the morning of June 18 shook the journalist

community and sparked conspiracy theories. Hastings, who often wrote about national security, won a Polk Award for a *Rolling Stone* profile that led to the 2010 ouster of Gen. Stanley McChrystal, commander of American forces in Afghanistan. Most recently he covered politics for the news website BuzzFeed but remained a contributing editor at *Rolling Stone* and also wrote for *GQ*. Hastings covered the Iraq War for *Newsweek* and wrote the 2008 memoir *I Lost My Love in Baghdad: A Modern War Story* after his fiancée died in Iraq. BuzzFeed editor **Ben Smith** said that shortly before Hastings died he told friends and colleagues that he believed he was being investigated. After WikiLeaks said Hastings had asked for its help with an FBI investigation, the FBI released a statement denying that Hastings was under investigation. The Los Angeles Police Department said it had found no evidence of foul play in the death. Writing about Hastings, Smith linked him to the tradition of **Hunter S. Thompson** and Watergate-era journalism. Like **David Halberstam**, the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Hastings reported fearlessly from dangerous war zones only to die in a car crash.



**Hastings**



**Hastings's car accident.**

**Edward Hotaling** had a wide-ranging career but is probably best

remembered for a single question to sports commentator Jimmy "the Greek" Snyder. Hotaling, who was 75, died June 3 on Staten Island of a heart attack. In his early 20s, he lived outside Tehran and wrote for an Iranian publisher. Next, he worked for the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris and then moved to Greece, where he taught, wrote and reported, including covering the Greek coup in French for Radio Luxembourg. Hotaling also reported on the Six-Day War in Israel. After returning to the United States, he wrote for the *Village Voice* and worked as a CBS producer before becoming Middle East bureau chief for CBS News and McGraw-Hill World News. In 1977, he joined WRC-TV in Washington. While researching a report on the 200th anniversary of the building of the White House and the Capitol, Hotaling found documentation that African-American slaves worked to erect both buildings. The discovery led to a Congressional task force to determine how to honor the slaves. Snyder's reply to Hotaling's question about racial progress in professional sports led to Snyder being fired by CBS.

**Hal McClure**, who covered two Arab-Israeli wars for The Associated Press, died May 26 in Laguna Hills, California after complications from surgery following a fall. He was 92. He spent 21 years overseas starting in the 1950s. He covered the unresolved 1961 disappearance of Nelson Rockefeller's son off the coast of New Guinea; Pope Paul VI's 1964 visit to the Holy Land, the first by any pontiff; and the Arab-Israeli wars in 1967 and 1973. After his final AP assignment as chief of bureau in Newark, N.J., McClure became a film documentarian, traveling around the world with his wife, Dorothy.

# International Press Clubs Converge in Warsaw

by Sonya K. Fry

Warsaw was the site of the annual meeting of the International Association of Press Clubs (IAPC) under the direction of **Jaroslaw Wlodarczyk** of the Press Club Polska. Jarek is an energetic man who ran the meetings, planned the programs and even acted as tour guide on excursions in Warsaw and Gdansk.

Belarus, Berlin, Brussels, Jerusalem, New Delhi, Mongolia, New York, Paris, Prague, Vienna, and Warsaw were the clubs in attendance. Decisions were made to admit the Mongolian Press Club, Press Club Brussels Europe, the International Press Club of Prague and the twelve press clubs in the Asia-Pacific Association of Press Clubs and also to recognize the new Jerusalem Press Club as a Provisional for the year since it had not been officially launched yet and was only beginning its membership drive. Belarus journalists who have been under the wing of the Press Club in Warsaw applied for full status, but since a press-club-in-exile is not something the IAPC had ever dealt with before, it was decided to give Belarus Observer status.

The IAPC, founded in 2002, has not had a clear focus nor a robust website, so much of the meeting time was devoted to discussing how to advance the future of the organization and how to incorporate more member clubs.

The OPC, in conjunction with the Press Club Polska, organized a panel discussion on the Freedom of Media and Security of Journalists. The panel included OPC member **Andrew Nagorski** who had served as bureau chief for *Newsweek* in Warsaw, Moscow, Rome, Bonn, and Berlin. Nagorski is currently Director of Public Policy at the EastWest Institute. The other panelists were **Kasia Madera**, a BBC World News presenter and journalist, **Jas Gawronski**, an Italian journalist of the family that founded the prominent Italian newspaper *La Stampa*, **Lucie Morillon**, head of Reporters Without Borders Advocacy and Research Desk, was the expert on journalist security. The discussion was moderated by **Jaroslaw Gugala**, journalist and presenter of Polsat TV evening news. The event held at the Polish Press Agency was attended by 60 people was made possible by a grant from the Ford Foundation. FedEx paid for the shipment of *Dateline* magazines, which were distributed at the panel discussion.

During the panel, Nagorski contrasted the historical differences that journalists faced from the Cold War to the present. "It's worth noting that, despite all the dangers today to freedom of the media and the huge problems we have with security for journalists, there are some positive trends," he said. "There's no better example than the country we're now in. I covered Poland in the 1980s, when I had to play cat-and-mouse games with the security services to interview someone like Zbigniew Bujak,



OPC member Andrew Nagorski poses with Sonya Fry by a mobile Solidarity truck that urged people to vote.



Panelists from left: Kasia Madera, Andrew Nagorski, Jas Gawronski and Lucie Morillon speaking.

the underground leader of Solidarity who was the country's most wanted political fugitive. I was led by Solidarity contacts through back alleys, jumped in and out of cars, and went



Lech Walesa and Sonya K. Fry

through all sorts of other drills to avoid being followed. Today, that's hard to imagine. Political life is free and the media is free. And the country has taken off economically, banishing the chronic shortages and depravation of the bygone era. As elsewhere, the media is facing plenty of competitive pressures, but no more so than everywhere else."

The highlight of the IAPC gathering was a black-tie dinner in the Royal Palace. The first Free Speech Award was granted to Reporters Without Borders and was presented by Lech Walesa, Solidarity leader, Nobel Prize winner and former Polish President. Members of the IAPC had voted on the awardee. **Gerald Sapey**, President and **Christophe Deloire**, General Secretary of RSF,

(Continued on Page 11)

# The Man Who Saved the OPC in 1995: George Burns

by William J. Holstein

OPC member and former Treasurer **George Burns** had two strokes at the beginning of June. He is in a nursing facility in Westchester, but his wife Barbara plans to move him to a facility closer to their home on the Upper Westside by July. George, who suffered from dementia, was attending the day program previously and knows the staff and some residents since George is a very social guy. **Bill Holstein** who lives in Westchester visited George on Wednesday, June 20 and recalled this story:



**Bill Holstein, left, during a recent visit with George Burns.**

I was elected President of the OPC in 1994 but the news on the financial front was not good. The Club was technically broke because of years, perhaps decades, of mismanagement. George, who was Treasurer, made some progress on settling old debts but by 1995 we owed a printer more than \$20,000 for an issue of *Dateline* magazine as well as printing and mailing the *Bulletin*, as I recall, and we had only a few thousand dollars on hand. George and I decided to play bad cop/good cop with the printer to see what we could do.

I summoned the printer to the very impressive *Business Week* conference room on the 40th Floor of the McGraw-Hill Building. All the awards that *Business Week*

people including myself had won were displayed on the walls. It was clear that we were in the inner sanctum of a major journalistic organization.

The news was dire, I told the printer. I put on my best bad-guy face, the utter face of realism, and told him we could not, and would not, pay him. It was a tough meeting. But toward the end, George, displaying his best Irish charm, began talking to the printer about how he might be able to work something out after the meeting. A few days later, George called me to say that

the printer, miraculously, had settled for an amount of cash that we actually could pay.

George described it this way in his 1995 Treasurer's Report: "As to our condition, we finally wiped out all outstanding debt. In 1994 we completed payments on a Chase Bank debt that went back to the 1970s. In 1995, we settled a disputed debt of nearly \$20,000 for \$5,000. For the first time in many years, we face the future free of the burden of old debt."

My more emotional response was, Bankruptcy was avoided! George had saved the OPC!

George and I retold that story to each other for the following 20 years. It was one of our finest moments.

(Continued From Page 10)



**OPC member Rita Cosby**

accepted the award.

The OPC had another presence at the dinner: member **Rita Cosby**, a three time Emmy Award winner and special correspondent for CBS's "Inside Edition." Cosby is well-known in Poland because of the book she wrote in 2010, *Quiet Hero: Secrets From My*

*Father's Past* about her Father who was a Polish Resistance fighter in the Warsaw Uprising during World War II. Cosby gave a moving speech about discovering her Father's past as a young man in Poland before he emigrated to the U.S.

Guests also had a sneak preview of **Andrzej Wajda's** film "Walesa." Wajda, who spoke just before the film, is an Academy Award lifetime achievement winner. The film clips were about the making of the film, but Walesa did not attend because

he wants to reserve judgment until the film is ready for distribution. Nagorski said, "I was struck by how Robert Wiekiewicz, probably Poland's best character actor...captures Walesa's mannerisms, intonation and quirks. I covered Walesa for a long time, and, based on what I've seen so far, I think he's absolutely nailed him." The film is scheduled for release in October.

After such a tumultuous history with 85 percent of Warsaw totally destroyed during World War II, there is a vitality, resilience and determination in the Polish nation that is remarkable. I visited Gdansk with the IAPC group, which has a jewel of a town center recreated to look as it did when it was part of the Hanseatic League in the 13th century. Krakow is also a lovely old city that was not destroyed during the war and is famous as the home of Pope John Paul II and the site of Oskar Schindler's factory which was featured in Steven Spielberg's film "Schindler's List."

Spending time in-person with people who I usually correspond with via e-mail or phone was a good opportunity for the OPC to exchange information and extend our network of friends.

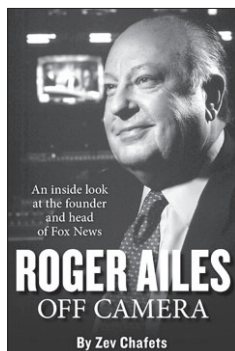
# New Books

## NORTH AMERICA

**OPC MEMBER ROGER AILES** is the subject of a new biography and a recently delayed book. He made headlines with an appearance in another new book and he reportedly is working on an autobiography. That's a lot of print for a television guy.

Ailes, who should need no introduction to *Bulletin* readers, is the savvy political strategist who made Fox News Channel into the planet's most popular cable news network. It should come as no surprise that politicking is suspected behind the scenes of these books.

**Zev Chafets** said his book, *Roger Ailes: Off Camera* [Penguin/Sentinel, March], is not an authorized biography, but Ailes has said he picked Chafets, author of 2010's *Rush Limbaugh: Army of One*. What is not in dispute is the book is seen as favorable to its subject and that in his preface,

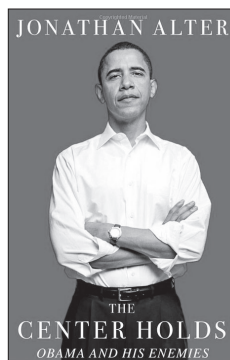


Chafets writes that Ailes allowed him wide access at Fox News, "which is usually about as reporter-friendly" as Tehran.

Some media observers saw the cooperation with Chafets as a way to counter a book by Gabriel Sherman of *New York* magazine that definitely is not autho-

rized. After *Off Camera* was published, Random House pushed back publication of Sherman's *The Loudest Voice in the Room: The Inside Story of How Roger Ailes and Fox News Remade American Politics* from May to next January.

But book-publishing politics aside, Chafets has a captivating subject in Ailes, an undeniable genius with canny political instinct and shrewd understanding of our media-saturated society. Chafets repeats some well-known stories about Ailes but introduces others while taking readers from his childhood and through a career that has mixed populism, politics and showbiz savvy. Headlines generated by the book have focused on zingers by Ailes about politicians from both parties as well as media figures, but Ailes also talked to Chafets about his hemophilia, his



expectation that he will die within 10 years and a memory box he's leaving for his 12-year-old son, Zac.

Ailes also made headlines after the publication of *The Center Holds: Obama and His Enemies* [Simon & Schuster, June] by **Jonathan Alter**, a columnist for Bloomberg

View and contributor to MSNBC, a Fox competitor. Ailes, who is one of the enemies the title refers to, received a disproportionately large amount of attention for a book that is about Obama after Alter described a paranoid executive who is afraid to go in the front door of News Corp.'s headquarters building and is "routinely" called "cuckoo" by his boss, Rupert Murdoch. Ailes responded to Alter by calling those suggestions and more "patently, provably false."

— by Susan Kille

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see page 1 for voting details

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