

New President: OPC ‘More Crucial’ Than Ever Before

By Chad Bouchard

The election of a new Board of Governors rings in a new era for the OPC, along with fresh challenges and aims. On Wednesday, Aug. 20, the board revealed election results for officers and 10 Active and three Associate board members.

Club members elected Marcus Mabry, an author and editor-at-large at *The New York Times*, to replace outgoing President Michael Serrill, assistant managing editor of Bloomberg Markets, who will remain on the board.

The meeting was sobered by news that journalist James Foley was executed at the hands of his captors. Outgoing president Michael Serrill asked for a moment of silence for Foley before passing the traditional gavel. Mabry said the club faces an “awesome task” ahead.

“What we do at the OPC I think is more difficult now, by almost every measure, than it’s ever been before,” he said. “And it’s also more crucial now, by almost every measure, than it’s ever been before.”

Inside. . .

Event Previews	2
Marcus Mabry’s Welcome.....	3
Foley Remembered.....	4
Tyler Hicks in Gaza.....	5
Video Chat Recap.....	5
People & Press Freedom.....	6-10
Q&A with Steve Herman.....	11
New Books.....	12

Other elected board members include Calvin Sims, president and CEO of International House, who will serve as first vice president; Abigail Pesta, freelance journalist, who was elected second vice president; and Panchito Bernasconi, vice president/news for Getty Images, who will serve as third vice president. Tim

Ferguson, editor at Forbes Asia, will take over as the club’s new treasurer, and Jonathan Dahl, editor-in-chief of WSJ/Money, will take the helm as secretary.

Ten Active members were elected to the board, including Jacqueline Albert-Simon, Rukmini Callimachi, Deidre Depke, Chris Dickey,



Incoming OPC President Marcus Mabry, right, shakes hands with outgoing President Michael Serrill after accepting the traditional gavel.

Peter S. Goodman, Azmat Khan, Dan Klaidman, Paul Moakley, Lara Setrakian and Liam Stack.

The club also elected three Associate board members: Brian Byrd, Emma Daly and Bill Collins.

Board members’ titles and affiliations are listed in the masthead on page 2.

Covering Conflict After James Foley

EVENT PREVIEW: SEPT. 9

James Foley’s murder and other recent tragedies have rekindled discussion about the safety of journalists, particularly freelancers, when reporting on upheaval.

The OPC has partnered with the Columbia Journalism School and the DART Center for Journalism and Trauma to present a panel titled “After James Foley: Covering Conflict When Journalists Are Targets.”

Panelists include OPC award winner, board member and *New York Times* foreign correspondent Rukmini Callimachi; Reuters columnist

and former *New York Times* reporter David Rohde, who was abducted by members of the Taliban in 2008 and spent seven months in captivity before escaping; Phil Balboni, GlobalPost CEO and co-founder, who fought for Foley’s release since his abduction on Thanksgiving Day 2012; and Nicole Tung, a freelance conflict photographer and friend of Foley’s who first discovered him missing.

The event will get underway on Thursday, Sept. 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbia Journalism School Lecture Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

What in the World...

EVENT PREVIEW: SEPT. 18

As traditional press organizations shrink their foreign bureaus, three surprising media outlets are expanding overseas operations.

On Sept. 18, the OPC is co-sponsoring a panel discussion at New York University's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute titled "What in the World are BuzzFeed, Mashable, and VICE News up to as They Expand Their International Coverage?" featuring editors from this hip digital trio.

Mashable global news editor Miriam Elder, BuzzFeed foreign editor Miriam Elder and VICE News editor-in-chief Jason Mojica will be on hand to discuss their strategies. Amy O'Leary, a member of *The New York Times* innovation report team, will moderate.

The event is free and open to the public, but attendees are required to RSVP on Eventbrite or by calling (212) 998-8044. The discussion will get underway at 6:30 p.m. on the 7th floor of 20 Cooper Square, and is sponsored in collaboration with OPC and the Carter Journalism Institute's Global and Joint Program Studies and Studio 20 program.

Remember to Vote...

...on the proposed amendment to the OPC constitution allowing those engaged in journalism-related work to be considered as candidates for active membership. Check your email box for more information on the proposal and instructions for voting online. Deadline is Sept. 17.

Photo Winners Share Secrets

EVENT PREVIEW: SEPT. 25

For an up-close view of photographs that won OPC awards this year, and a chance to meet some of the photographers, join the OPC Sept. 25 at the Columbia University School of Journalism.

The event will include a photo exhibit showcasing work by Tyler Hicks of *The New York Times*, who won the OPC's Robert Capa Gold Medal and a Pulitzer Prize for his photos of the Kenyan mall massacre; OPC board member Robert



Tyler Hicks, left, and Robert Nickelsberg

Nickelsberg, who won the Olivier Rebbot Award for his book *Afghanistan: A Distant War*; and Jerome Delay of AP, who won the John Faber Award for his photos of unrest in the Central African Republic.

Hicks and Nickelsberg will join a 2009 OPC winner, Sarah Voisin, and James Estrin, editor of *The New York Times Lens Blog* to discuss best practices in international reporting.

Voisin, a photographer for the *Washington Post*, won the John Faber award in 2009 for her photos of Mexico's drug war.

The event starts at 6:30 p.m. at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, 2950 Broadway. Please RSVP by emailing patricia@opcofamerica.org or calling the OPC at 212 626-9220.

OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA • BOARD OF GOVERNORS

PRESIDENT
Marcus Mabry
Editor-at-Large
The New York Times

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Calvin Sims
President and CEO
International House

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Abigail Pesta
Freelance Journalist

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
Pancho Bernasconi
Vice President/News
Getty Images

TREASURER
Tim Ferguson
Editor
Forbes Asia

SECRETARY
Jonathan Dahl
Editor-in-Chief
WSJ.Money

ACTIVE BOARD
Jacqueline Albert-Simon
U.S. Bureau Chief
Politique Internationale

Rukmini Callimachi
Foreign Correspondent
The New York Times

Jane Ciabattari
Columnist
BBC.com

Deidre Depke
Journalist and
Author

Chris Dickey
Foreign Editor
The Daily Beast,
Paris

Peter S. Goodman
Editor-in-Chief
International Business Times

Azmat Khan
Senior Digital Producer
Al Jazeera America

Dan Klaidman
Deputy Editor
Yahoo News

Evelyn Leopold
Independent Journalist
United Nations

Paul Moakley
Deputy Director
Photography and
Visual Enterprise
Time magazine

Robert Nickelsberg
Freelance
Photojournalist

Lara Setrakian
Co-Founder & CEO
News Deeply

Martin Smith
President
Rain Media

Liam Stack
Reporter
The New York Times

Seymour Topping
Emeritus
Professor of
International Journalism
Columbia University

Charles Wallace
Financial Writer

ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBERS
Brian I. Byrd
Program Officer
NYS Health
Foundation

Bill Collins
Director, Public &
Business Affairs
Ford Motor Company

Emma Daly
Communications Director
Human Rights Watch

Daniel Sieberg
Senior Marketing
Head of Media Outreach
Google

Abi Wright
Director
Alfred I. duPont –
Columbia University
Awards

PAST PRESIDENTS

EX-OFFICIO
Michael Serrill
David A. Andelman
John Corporon
Allan Dodds Frank
Alexis Gelber
William J. Holstein
Marshall Loeb
Larry Martz
Roy Rowan
Leonard Saffir
Larry Smith
Richard B. Stolley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Patricia Kranz

OFFICE MANAGER
Boots R. Duque

EDITOR
Chad Bouchard

OPC Bulletin
ISSN-0738-7202
Copyright © 2014
Overseas Press Club of
America

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

China Hands Reconnect

EVENT PREVIEW: SEPT. 12

The OPC's China Hands reunion on Sept. 12 is gaining momentum. Fellow sponsors, the Foreign Correspondents Club of China (FCCC) and the Asia Society's ChinaFile, have helped identify and draw in top talent to discuss some of the hottest issues involved in China coverage today as well as reflect on coverage over past decades.

The event kicks off with a lunch at 12:30 p.m., costing \$20. The charge for attending afternoon panels, the cocktail party and the dinner is \$50 per person.

"Covering China's Economy" is the topic that will be explored during lunch. Panelists include Orville Schell, director of the Center on U.S.-China Relations at the Asia Society; Pete Engardio, an OPC award winner and longtime Hong Kong correspondent for *BusinessWeek*; and John Bussey, assistant managing editor and executive business editor of *The Wall Street Journal*. Afternoon sessions will be held in the Priestly Room on the second floor of CQ.

The first at 2:00 p.m. is entitled, "Covering The Contradictions of Today's China." Moderators are Dorinda Elliott and Marcus Brauchli. The panel will ask: How do we address the life of China's middle class; very real gains in open society; and the emergence of a civil society in the environment and the arts?

Panelists will be Barbara Demick, outgoing Beijing bureau chief of the *Los Angeles Times*; Evan Osnos, former Beijing correspondent for *The New Yorker* and author of *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China*; and Gady Epstein, Beijing bureau chief for *The Economist*.

At 3:15 p.m., Jocelyn Ford, representing the FCCC, will coordinate a discussion about the Chinese government's crackdown on the Western media. Panelists include Joseph Kahn, foreign editor of *The New York Times*; Kathleen McLaughlin, a Knight Science Journalism fellow at MIT; and Minky Worden, director of global initiatives, Human Rights Watch.

The third panel, at 4:30 p.m., will discuss how social media and the Internet have transformed China coverage. Susan Jakes, editor of ChinaFile, will coordinate. Speakers include David Wertime, editor of *Tea Leaf Nation*; Rose Tang, a social media activist and writer who survived the Tiananmen massacre; and Emily Parker, author of *Now I Know Who My Comrades Are: Voices From the Internet Underground*.

The panels will be followed with an Open Bar at 5:30 in the living room of Club Quarters. A Chinese dinner will then be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, at 1 East 42nd Street. The events will be videotaped. To make a reservation, call the OPC office at (212) 626-9220 or email patricia@opcofamerica.org.

Mabry Welcomes New Board

By Marcus Mabry

The work of the Overseas Press Club has rarely been more difficult – or more important.

Our world is more interconnected and complex than ever. We have the technology to tell stories nearly instantaneously from anywhere on the surface of the planet. And humankind has an unquenchable thirst to absorb them.

Yet journalists – of the professional and citizen variety – are besieged by threats, mortal and existential. The resources American journalism organizations commit to covering the world continues to fall. Governments around the world assassinate reporters with impunity. And our own government has made it a point to go after whistleblowers and journalists. (We hope the attorney general's words that no journalist should go to jail for doing her job will dictate the future of the case against *New York Times* journalist James Risen.)



Erica Lansner

Mabry

On the day that I received the honor of being elected your president, President Obama addressed the world and the murderers of American journalist James Foley.

"Today, the entire world is appalled by the brutal murder of Jim Foley by the terrorist group ISIL. Jim was a journalist, a son, a brother and a friend. He reported from difficult and dangerous places, bearing witness to the lives of people a world away."

The first word Obama used to describe Foley was "journalist."

Like many foreign correspondents, he was working in a dangerous place. Like many foreign correspondents, he did not have health care and a pension provided by a big company where he was a staff reporter.

If the OPC is to remain relevant and to grow, we must answer the needs of all foreign correspondents, editors and producers. That will be the priority of my tenure as OPC president. We will redouble our efforts to increase membership, with a particular emphasis on recruiting younger members. To wit, the board voted in June to reduce the rate for members under 30 to just \$20!

But we will also increase our programming and our networking opportunities for all OPC members. And we will seek to increase the services and support that we can offer, in particular, our freelance members.

I could not ask for a better OPC board to tackle these substantial challenges. I have had the privilege to work with many of our new and returning board members – both at the OPC and in our day jobs. In some cases, for decades (Chris Dickey). This board is also our most diverse in OPC history. I think that diversity will serve us well as we seek to grow the OPC.

I could not be more honored – or more humbled – by this great challenge.

A Chance Meeting with James Foley Remembered

By Susan Kille

Add to the things being said about James Foley, that he had a great smile and was charming over cocktails.

Foley came to the 2012 OPC Awards Dinner with colleagues from GlobalPost to accept the Best Online Coverage of Breaking News award for “The Libyan Rebellion.” I looked around the room at the pre-dinner reception for someone to talk to and chose a tall, handsome man who seemed to be alone.

He said this was his first OPC Awards Dinner and didn’t see many people he knew. We settled into small talk. Normally, he didn’t go to such things, he said, because he spent a lot of time overseas. At present, however, he was working in the GlobalPost offices in Boston and there was a ticket that allowed him to attend.

He said he had been in Libya and contributed to the material that won the award. Left unsaid was that the previous year he was captured by pro-Gaddafi forces and held captive for 44 days. Standing there in his tuxedo with that smile, he showed no signs of the ordeal. I later read that after Libya, GlobalPost wanted him in Boston for a while.

I’d like to remember more. We talked by the two-story wall of windows near the bar on the 35th floor of the Mandarin Oriental overlooking Central Park. Surely, we spoke about the view. Like many good journalists, he was easy to talk to.

Foley didn’t stay long in Boston. He returned to Libya and witnessed the fall of Moammar Gaddafi. He was kidnapped in Syria on Thanksgiving Day 2012. His parents, Diane and John Foley, came to the 2013 OPC Awards Dinner and led the traditional opening of the dinner by lighting a candle to remember journalists killed, injured, missing or abducted. Reports came at different times saying that he was alive and being held with other kidnapped journalists.

Then, a video surfaced Aug. 19 showing his beheading by a member of Islamic State. People who watched the video said Foley showed incredible bravery and no fear. The OPC joins journalism organizations, human rights groups, the U.N. Security Council, public officials and ordinary people around the world in condemning Foley’s barbaric death by the vicious monsters of

the Islamic State. Just before Marcus Mabry was elected president of the OPC on Aug. 20, he joined Michael Serrill, the outgoing president, in a joint statement denouncing Foley’s murderers and offering condolences to his family.

“The OPC deplores this savagery both on behalf of Jim’s family and the international journalism community,” the statement said.

“The Islamic State, aka ISIS or ISIL, is right to worry that reporters will disclose to the world its crimes against

humanity disguised in religious garb. That is our job. But around the world, from Beijing to Moscow to Kiev to Tel Aviv to Washington, journalists are under attack, whether on battlefields or in the courts, for doing their jobs too well.”

Foley was a regular freelance correspondent for GlobalPost, but he also worked for other news outlets. GlobalPost, which was co-founded by OPC Foundation Board Member Charles Sennott,

has said it hired a security firm and spent millions of dollars trying to free Foley.

“Was Jim reckless? Should we pull back from working in places like Syria where the peril seems to be thickening like a dark, toxic plume on the horizon? Will this change the way we cover stories?” Sennott wrote on Aug. 22.

“The short answer is: Of course this event will change us. It soberes us. It reminds us that the work journalists in the field are doing is increasingly perilous. It confirms that we have to redouble our efforts to stick to standards and practices for working safely in the field.”

In the video of Foley’s murder, the Islamic State vows to kill Steven Sotloff, an American freelance journalist who has been missing in Syria in August 2013, if America does not stop airstrikes on Iraq. Islamic State has released a video claiming to show his beheading. Sotloff has written for *Time* magazine, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Foreign Policy* and *World Affairs Journal*.

After negotiations by the government of Qatar, Peter Theo Curtis, a freelance American writer held captive for nearly two years by a rival terrorist group in Syria, was freed Aug. 24 under circumstances there were not immediately clear. Relatives were quoted saying they were told no ransom was paid in accordance with the strict no-ransom policy of the United States.



James Foley, left, attended the 2012 OPC Awards dinner with a group from GlobalPost accepting the Best Online Coverage of Breaking News award for “The Libyan Rebellion.”

Michael Dames

Tyler Hicks: Through Lens, 4 Boys Dead by Gaza Shore

By Tyler Hicks

GAZA CITY — My day here began at 6 a.m. Photographing something as unpredictable as war still has a routine.

It is important to be out the door at first light to document the destruction of the last night's bombings. By midmorning, I check in at the hospital's morgue to see if families have come to pick up the dead for burial.

When the routine is broken, it is because things can go horribly wrong in an instant. That is how it happened in Libya in 2011, when three colleagues and I were taken captive by government soldiers and our driver was killed.

On Wednesday, that sudden change of fortune came to four young Palestinian boys playing on a beach in Gaza City.

I had returned to my small seaside hotel around 4 p.m. to file photos to New York when I heard a loud explosion. My driver and I rushed to the window to see what had happened. A small shack atop a sea wall at the fishing port had been struck by an Israeli bomb or missile and was burning. A young boy emerged from the smoke, running toward the adjacent beach.

I grabbed my cameras and was putting on body armor and a helmet when, about 30 seconds after the first blast, there was another. The boy I had seen running was now dead, lying motionless in the sand, along with three other boys who had been playing there.

By the time I reached the beach, I was winded from running with my heavy armor. I paused; it was too risky to go onto the exposed sand. Imagine what my silhouette, captured by an Israeli drone, might look like as a grainy image on a laptop somewhere in Israel: wearing body armor and a helmet, carrying cameras that could be mistaken for weapons. If children are being killed, what is there to protect me, or anyone else?

I watched as a group of people ran to the children's aid. I joined them, running with the feeling that I would find safety in numbers, though I understood that feeling could be deceptive: Crowds can make things worse. We arrived at the scene to find lifeless, mangled bodies. The

boys were beyond help. They had been killed instantly, and the people who had rushed to them were shocked and distraught.

Earlier in the day, I had photographed the funeral for a man and a 12-year-old boy. They had been killed when a bomb hit the car in which they were riding south of Gaza City, severely injuring an older woman with them.

There is no safe place in Gaza right now. Bombs can



Tyler Hicks / The New York Times

The aftermath of an airstrike on a beach in Gaza City on Wednesday, July 16. Four young Palestinian boys, all cousins, were killed.

land at any time, anywhere.

A small metal shack with no electricity or running water on a jetty in the blazing seaside sun does not seem like the kind of place frequented by Hamas militants, the Israel Defense Forces' intended targets. Children, maybe four feet tall, dressed in summer clothes, running from an explosion, don't fit the description of Hamas fighters, either.

This article was published in the New York Times on July 17, and appears here, along with Tyler Hicks's photograph, with permission from the Times. Tyler Hicks is an OPC member and winner of the 2013 Robert Capa Gold Medal Award.

Adriana Gomez Licon: 'Don't Get Killed for Color'

EVENT RECAP

By Chad Bouchard

Sometimes, it's better to wait for trouble to simmer down before rushing in to cover a story. "Don't get killed for color," a fellow reporter once told 2013 OPC winner Adriana Gomez Licon. A city near Mexico's northern border with Texas had been evacuated after a spate of drug violence.

About 300 refugees fled to a shelter. Gomez Licon was itching to cover the aftermath, but Dudley Althaus, a friend who worked for The Houston Chronicle, rec-

ommended talking to refugees before venturing into the city. "Who is going to talk to you, the bullets?"

That was just one of many safety tips Gomez Licon shared during a live OPC video chat on July 16. During the Q&A session, the Mexico-based Associated Press reporter covered how to report safely and protect sources when investigating hostile groups.

She won OPC's Madeline Dane Ross award for her story, "Death of a Beauty Queen," in which she investigated the death of a young woman killed in a gun

(Continued on Page 8)

PEOPLE... By Susan Kille susan@opcofamerica.org

OPC SCHOLARS

Alexander Besant, who won the OPC Foundation's Alexander Kendrick Memorial Scholarship in 2011, began work in July as a curator of Facebook's mobile application Paper, which is intended to serve as a phone-based equivalent of a newspaper or magazine. Besant, a contributor to the OPC's Global Parachute, has written for GlobalPost, The Associated Press, Hearst Newspapers and *The Globe and Mail*.

Anna Nicolaou, a 2014 OPC winner, started work in August as a digital editor and reporter for *Financial Times* in New York. She won the 2014 Standard & Poor's Award for Economic and Business Reporting and had an OPC Foundation fellowship in the Reuters Bureau in Brussels.



Anna Nicolaou, left, with Reuters Fellowship recipient Portia Crowe.

Jad Sleiman, the 2013 David R. Schweisberg Memorial Scholarship winner, is now a staff reporter based in Germany for *Stars and Stripes*. Sleiman, a former Marine, covers Afghanistan, the Middle East and Africa.

WINNERS

Two Americans are among the four 2014 winners of the Maria Moors Cabot Prizes for outstanding reporting on Latin America and the Caribbean, the oldest international awards in journalism. Columbia University's Graduate School of

Journalism, which administers the prizes, chose **Frank Bajak**, chief of Andean news for the AP; **Tracy Wilkinson**, Mexico Bureau chief for the *Los Angeles Times*; **Paco Calderon**, cartoonist for *El Heraldo de Mexico*; and **Giannina Segnini**, who was until recently the editor of the investigating team of *La Nacion* in Costa Rica. A special citation is being given to **Tamoa Calzadilla** and **Laura Weffer** for work they did with the investigative unit at *Ultimas Noticias* of Venezuela. The awards will be presented Oct. 15 at Columbia University. Members of the Cabot Prize board include OPC member **Abi Wright**, executive director of Professional Prizes at the Columbia Journalism School.

Asma Shirazi, a journalist in Pakistan, has become the second woman to win the Peter Mackler Award for Courageous and Ethical Journalism. Shirazi, who has been described as Pakistan's first female war correspondent, was host of a popular television talk show that was banned by former military ruler Pervez Musharraf. The award, which is administered by Global Media Forum in partnership with Reporters Without Borders and Agence France-Presse, will be presented Oct. 23 at the National Press Club. It honors journalists who fight courageously and ethically to report the news in countries where freedom of the press is either not guaranteed or not recognized. The award is named for **Peter Mackler**, a veteran journalist who was chief editor for North America at AFP when he died in 2008. OPC members **Marcus Brauchli** and **Rebecca Blumenstein** serve on the award's board.

UPDATES

ISTANBUL: Four days after **Alissa J. Rubin**, Paris Bureau chief

for *The New York Times*, was seriously injured in an Aug. 12 helicopter crash in Kurdistan, she was back on the front page with a story she dictated here from her hospital bed. She said she knew she was alive when she heard herself groan. The helicopter was carrying aid to Yazidi refugees in the Sinjar Mountains. The crash killed the pilot and injured other passengers, but none as seriously as Rubin who suffered broken bones and a fractured skull. **Adam Ferguson**, a freelance photographer working for the *Times* who was accompanying Rubin, pulled her from the wreckage. She won an OPC award in 2009 for best magazine writing from abroad.

PARIS: John Morris, a longtime OPC member, was described in an Aug. 14 posting on the Lens blog of *The New York Times* as "perhaps the best-known living photo editor." Lens wrote about the publication of *Quelque Part en France: L'été 1944 de John G. Morris (Somewhere in France: John G. Morris and the*



John Morris

Summer of 1944), a book that was featured in the June issue of the Bulletin. Photos from the book were displayed this summer at the International Center of Photography in

New York. Morris, 97, was the London photo editor for *Life* throughout World War II, where he edited the photographic coverage of the war in Europe including **Robert Capa's** photos from the D-Day invasion. He later became picture editor of *Ladies' Home Journal*, executive editor of Magnum Photos, an assistant managing editor at *The Washington Post* and picture editor of *The New York Times*. Morris is the subject of "Get the Picture," an award-winning documentary that was released on DVD in August.

PARIS: **Stefania Rousselle**, an OPC member, reports that she and multimedia editor **Mimi Chakarova** are working to have their feature-length documentary "Men: A Love Story" ready in time for the Sundance Film Festival that begins in January. Rousselle described it as "an unprecedented dark comedy about men's thoughts on women, sex and love" presented in a "collection of stories told in an honest, uncensored, uncompromised, unapologetic and definitely not politically correct narrative." She is an award-winning freelance video journalist based in Paris.

BEIJING: Tsinghua University Press will publish a Chinese translation of *On the Front Lines of the Cold War: An American Correspondent's Journal From the Chinese Civil War to the Cuban Missile Crisis and Vietnam* by **Seymour Topping**, an OPC board member. The book, originally published in 2010 by Louisiana State University Press, documents Topping's travels and reporting for the International News Service, the AP and *The New York Times* during a tumultuous period.



Michael Dames

Topping

LOS ANGELES: OPC member **Kathy Eldon** reports that she and her daughter,

Amy Eldon Turteltaub, had the opportunity in August to meet Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani teen-age activist who was shot in the head in 2012 by the Taliban for advocating for girls education. Eldon described Malala as a "true hero" and "creative activist extraordinaire, who is using the power of story telling to impact the world."



Murray Rosenbaum

Eldon

CAPE TOWN: *It's a Black/White Thing* by OPC member **Donna Bryant** has been shortlisted for the City Press Tafelberg Nonfiction Award, given for books that add to the understanding of society, history and politics in South Africa. The book was reviewed in the June *Bulletin*.

TOKYO: **Brian Bremner**, who had been assistant managing editor of Bloomberg Businessweek, is headed to Tokyo to become managing editor for enterprise for Bloomberg News in Asia. He spent 15 years in Asia, with stints in Tokyo and Hong Kong, and won the 1998 Overseas Press Club of America's Morton Frank Award for coverage of the Asian financial crisis.

WASHINGTON: **Steve Centanni**, a veteran foreign correspondent for Fox News, is retiring. He traveled throughout the Middle East and reported from the Gaza Strip, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq and he also covered the 2011 murder trial of the Somali pirates who killed four Americans after hijacking their yacht. He and Olaf Wiig, a freelance cameraman from New Zealand, were kidnapped in Gaza and held for 13 days in August 2006. Ten days after the kidnapping, a video was released showing the two men in Arab robes reading from the Koran to indicate their conversion to Islam. Centanni said he and Wiig had been forced at

gunpoint to make the video. For the last several years, Centanni has been based in Washington.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Fred Ferguson, an OPC member since 1984 who once edited the *Bulletin*, died Aug. 22. He was 82. Ferguson began his career as a stringer on *Pacific Stars and Stripes* during the Korean War covering the southern Japanese Islands. He spent 27 years at United Press International, where his father had also worked, and served as a reporter and editor at bureaus in Mississippi, New York and New Jersey. He later became regional executive for New Jersey, Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware. One of his fondest memories was escorting former President Harry S. Truman on his daily walks. At the OPC's first Tchotchke Night in 2010, Ferguson shared a story about hiding a walkie talkie under a baby carriage to dictate scoops from outside a Russian mission on Long Island. After leaving UPI, Ferguson worked in public relations, first for 8 years at an agency now known as Ogilvy PR and then at *PR Newswire* for 15 years. A favorite phrase of his was: "Now I'm a flack instead of a hack!" Ferguson was a second-generation member of the Silurians. His father, also named Fred, was a boyhood friend of Roy Howard (of Scripps-Howard fame) and spent many years as president of the Newspaper Enterprise Association.

In a career that spanned Morse code to satellites and the Internet, **Tony Beard**, the longtime communications manager in the London Bureau of *The New York Times*, was often compared to Q, James Bond's technology expert. He died Aug. 17 at age 80. He spent 46 years in the bureau – 1955 to 2001 – seeking faster, easier and less cumbersome ways to transmit stories and photos. **John Burns**, a two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and former London Bureau chief,

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

said Beard “had seen the likes of me – young man in a hurry, impatient of cautions from those minding the home front, eager to escape the office and head out to the badlands – many times over the years. He had grown accustomed to his meticulously prepared technological wizardry disappearing out the door of his base in the London Bureau, only to return, if it ever did, abused and battered, and to the expectations that he could somehow wring replacements from his stores, and explain it all to the budget overseers in New York. And he did all of this with a meticulous courtesy, a tolerance for overblown stories of derring-do, and a good humor that marked him out as a truly civilized man.”

Chapman Pincher, a British journalist who unmasked Soviet spies and tormented prime ministers, was 100 years old when he died Aug. 5 at his home in Kintbury, England. He had an extraordinary 30-year career unearthing state secrets as the defense and science correspondent of *The London Daily Express*, then England’s best-selling newspaper. Pincher, who was known as “the lone wolf of Fleet Street,” worked as a one-man investigative unit producing scoop after scoop of postwar military secrets. He was proud of being likened to a kind of official urinal in which ministers and defense chiefs could stand patiently leaking. He retired from the *Express* in 1979 and went on to write more than 30 books. His best-known book was 1981’s *Their Trade Is Treachery*, where he made the case that Roger Hollis, a former director general of MI5, was a Soviet spy. Those charges were denied. Pincher published his last book in February, a memoir titled *Dangerous to Know*. His son said Pincher had made a



Pincher

final joke shortly before his death: “Tell them I’m out of scoops.”

Jim Frederick, a foreign correspondent, editor and author died July 31 in Oakland, Calif. He was 42 and his wife said the cause of death was cardiac arrest. Frederick wrote *Black Hearts: One Platoon’s Descent into Madness in Iraq’s Triangle of Death*, an account of the 2006 murders of an Iraqi family, and the rape of their 14-year-old daughter by four U.S. soldiers. Frederick worked for *Men’s Journal* and *Working Woman* magazines, but spent most of his career at Time Inc., where he was a reporter and editor for *Money* and *Time* magazines. At *Time*, his jobs included managing editor of Time.com, Tokyo Bureau chief and senior editor in London in charge of the news weekly’s international coverage. In 2008 while he was in Tokyo, he was the co-author of *The Reluctant Communist*, with Charles Robert Jenkins, a U.S. soldier who deserted his post in Korea in 1965, crossed the border and remained in North Korea for 40 years. After leaving Time Inc. in 2013, Frederick had traveled extensively with his wife, *Time* senior editor **Charlotte Greensit**, whom he met while stationed in London.



Frederick

Kenneth B. Noble, a reporter who headed the West Africa bureau of *The New York Times* from 1989 to 1994, died July 17 in Gainesville, Fla. He was 60 and died of congestive heart failure. Noble also covered business in Washington and was the newspaper’s Los Angeles bureau chief during the O. J. Simpson trial. While reporting from two dozen countries along Africa’s west coast, Noble covered the civil wars in Liberia and Angola, the AIDS pandemic in Zaire and coup attempts in Nigeria. After leaving the

Times in 1997, he taught journalism at the University of Southern California and at the University of California, Berkeley.

(Continued From Page 5)

battle between drug cartels and the Mexican army. Her reporting took her deep into the state of Sinaloa, a violent center of the country’s drug industry.

Gomez Licon used social media to gather information and develop a network of sources before going to the area, and took digital security precautions while reporting on the ground. She shared some of her best common-sense advice for correspondents working in dangerous places.

Gather information about your destination before you go, and familiarize yourself with local media. Always have an exit strategy. Identify two or three alternative escape routes.

Travel in groups. Plan your reporting with other journalists or a fixer, and tell your plans to trusted allies. Be a moving target. Change your location frequently, and don’t spend too much time in one place.

Keep your Facebook settings private, and disable geolocation on apps such as Twitter and Instagram. Keep GPS features turned on for private apps like Find Friends, which can help editors or police track you down if you drop out of contact.

Gomez Licon also addressed the particular dangers of reporting as a woman. She said she remains vigilant of her surroundings, and on guard when approaching groups of men. But mostly, she hasn’t found gender to be a barrier to her reporting, and in the Sinaloa it might have been an advantage.

“In this kind of story I think it helped me that I was a young woman, that I could sort of relate to the lives of these young women,” she said. “I found that the mother sort had a motherly attitude toward me, and I think that helped her to really get into how she felt.”

PRESS FREEDOM UPDATE... By Susan Kille

Press freedom advocates were struck this summer by an unexpected similarity between Tehran and Ferguson, Mo.: both detained reporters for *The Washington Post*.

Jason Rezaian, the Tehran Bureau chief for the *Post*, and his wife, journalist **Yeganeh Salehi**, were arrested on July 22 along with a photographer and the photographer's non-journalist husband. Iran officials, who waited until Aug. 18 to give a statement, said the arrests were for security reasons. The photographer, whose family asked that her name not be published, was released Aug. 21; her husband was freed July 28. Rezaian and the photographer are dual American-Iranian citizens. Salehi, who reports for *The National* in Abu Dhabi, is an Iranian citizen. Rezaian and Salehi have not been heard from since their arrest.



Rezaian

It is not unusual for journalists detained in Iran to be held in solitary and to be unable to contact their employers or family, said OPC member **Roxana Saberi**, an American-Iranian journalist who in 2009 was held in Tehran for 100 days on charges of espionage. Saberi, who works for Al Jazeera America in New York, said she believed international pressure helped lead to her release. **Douglas Jehl**, foreign editor of the *Post* and an OPC member, said, "we are deeply troubled by this news and are concerned for the welfare" of Rezaian and Salehi.

In Ferguson, **Wesley Lowery** of the *Post* and at least 10 other journalists were detained and released without charge while covering protests that followed the fatal shooting of an unarmed teenager by a police officer. The OPC joined other press groups and human rights organizations protesting detentions of journalists.

"Throughout its history, the OPC has mostly sought to safeguard reporters on hazardous assignments

outside the United States," **Howard Chua-Eoan**, chairman of the Freedom of the Press Committee, and **Michael Serrill**, OPC president said in a statement dated Aug. 19. "It is therefore with both shame and outrage that we condemn the police actions in Ferguson that have put not only American reporters at risk in their own country but also have endangered journalists from other nations who have come to cover the story."

Getty Images photographer **Scott Olson** was among those detained. **Pancho Bernasconi**, an OPC board member and Getty's vice president for news, said in a statement that Olson later told him: "I want to be able to do my job as a member of the media and not be arrested for just doing my job."

Ferguson is not the only troubling domestic press freedom issue. On Aug. 14, advocacy group Roots Action presented the Justice Department with a petition with more than 100,000 names asking that the U.S. government stop all legal action against **James Risen**, a reporter for *The New York Times* who may be jailed for not revealing a source. Risen, who has exhausted all legal appeals, has refused to testify prosecution of a former CIA official whom prosecutors believe provided classified information that appears in Risen's 2006 book, *State of War*. Fourteen Pulitzer Prize winners released statements on Aug. 11 in support of Risen.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan showed rare agreement with neighboring Pakistan when it expelled **Matthew Rosenberg**, a correspondent for *The New York Times*, on Aug. 20. In May 2013, Pakistan expelled Rosenberg's colleague **Declan Walsh**, who now covers Pakistan from London. Rosenberg, who split



Rosenberg

his time between Washington and Kabul, was denounced as a spy and banned from returning to Afghanistan after he refused to reveal sources for a story. It was the first expulsion of a Western journalist from Afghanistan since the Taliban was ousted in 2001.

Statements issued in July and August by the Foreign Press Association in Israel about the treatment of journalists covering the latest conflict in Gaza faulted both Israel and Hamas but came down particularly hard on Hamas for intimidating foreign reporters. The FPA represents about 480 resident correspondents and hundreds more visiting Israel and Palestine each year.

And while democracy has swept Latin America in recent decades, the Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas has found that the region falls short on a major component of democracy: transparency in government. In August, the center released *Transparency and Accountability: Journalism and Access to Public Information in Latin America and the Caribbean*, a free e-book that explores access to information in 11 Latin America countries and the Caribbean region.

MURDERS

The International News Safety Institute in July released "Killing the Messenger," a biannual survey of news media casualties around the world. INSI found that Ukraine was the most dangerous country for journalists in the first six months of 2014 with seven journalists killed. Iraq, Syria and Pakistan were next on the list. INSI said 61 journalists died carrying out their work in the first half of the year, a distressing increase from the 40 journalists who had died in the same period during 2013.

Since the last Bulletin, these deaths have been reported:

Simone Camilli, an Italian video journalist based in Beirut for the AP,

(Continued From Page 9)

died Aug. 13 in an explosion in the Gaza Strip, becoming the first international journalist killed in the latest Gaza conflict. He was killed along with Palestinian journalist **Ali Shehda Abu Afash**, who was serving as Camilli's interpreter and who worked regularly with foreign correspondents. They were among six people killed in the explosion, which occurred when an unexploded-ordnance squad in Gaza attempted to defuse a bomb. Four others were injured, including AP photographer **Hatem Moussa**. At least nine Palestinians working in the media have been killed since the start of fighting on July 8. In addition to Abu Afash, the dead include two members of the Palestinian Network for Journalism and Media, the editor **Mahmoud Al-Khassas** and a photographer, **Rami Rayan**; also **Khalid Hamad**, a cameraman for Continue TV; **Hamdi Shehab**, a driver for the Media 24 news agency; **Baha Edeen Gharib**, Israeli affairs editor for Palestinian TV, and his 16-year-old daughter Ola; **Abdurrahman Abu Hina**, a programming staffer at Al-Kitab TV, **Mohammed Smirir**, who worked for the Gaza Now website; and **Khaled Hamed**, who worked for Ray News Agency.

Colleagues of **Octavio Rojas Hernández**, a Mexican journalist, linked his Aug. 11 murder to a story published two days earlier in which he tied a local police chief to a criminal gang. Rojas was shot four times outside his home in the state of Oaxaca. Authorities said the killer was a young man who said he came to purchase a car. Rojas, the fifth journalist to be murdered this year in Mexico, was a reporter for *El Buen Tono*, a daily newspaper in the nearby state of Veracruz, the site of violent turf wars between drug gangs. Two weeks earlier, community radio journalist **Indalecio Benítez** narrowly survived an ambush in Luvianos that killed his 12-year-old son.

Luis Carlos Cervantes Solano, the director of the community radio station in northern Colombia, was gunned down Aug. 12 after accusing the local mayor's staff of plotting to kill him.

Two killings this summer brought the 2014 death toll of journalists in Honduras to seven. **Nery Francisco Soto Torres**, a television news anchor in northern Honduras, was killed outside his home on



Aug. 14. The attackers did not steal money or belongings, causing officials to rule out robbery. The body of **Herlyn Iván Espinal Martínez** was found July 21 at a ranch in the Yoro province, three days after he was kidnapped.

The body of **Timur Kuashev**, an independent journalist in the autonomous Kabardino-Balkar republic in the Russian Caucasus, was found Aug. 1 in woods near Nalchik, the republic's capital. An editor at *Dosh*, a magazine where Kuashev worked as Nalchik correspondent, said that Kuashev regularly received threats.

Nolberto Herrera Rodríguez, a television journalist in Mexico, was found July 29 stabbed to death in his Guadalupe home. He had been stabbed more than 20 times. Herrera Rodríguez worked for a station in Zacatecas state, a notorious drug-trafficking hub.

Kaled Aghah Yaghubi, a radio show host in Afghanistan, was gunned down July 13 in front of his children in his home in Mazar-e-Sharif, the capital of the northern province of Balkh. The manager of the radio station said the attacker rang Yaghubi's doorbell about 1 p.m. and opened fire when the journalist's 4-year-old son opened the door.

LETTERS

The July/August Bulletin included a story about the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. Lucy Birmingham, president of the FCCJ, made these comments in a letter to the OPC:

- The membership campaign was launched last year in October and finished this year in March.
- The FCCJ is still solidly run by journalists. The public interest incorporated association status simply requires that we gear 50% of our activities toward the public. The club has already been doing close to this for years, so it's not a big change. One of the big advantages of this new status is the right to receive donations. This will be a great help to us.
- At the same time, we decided that as a group of foreign reporters, we were not equipped to handling the complexities of a full restaurant and banqueting operation, which was posting large losses. We therefore decided to bring in an outsource partner, one of Japan's biggest hotel and restaurant operators, allowing the Board and Club management to focus on the journalistic activities that are at the core of what we do.
- A handful of members filed one lawsuit against the club. In short, we had to outsource or face possible closure. We faithfully negotiated financial packages for full-time, regular employees, and others. Probably the part-timers were let go.
- The building in the photo is not the proposed new location, which has not yet begun construction.
- As always, we look forward to visits by OPC members when coming to Japan.

Meet the OPC Members: A Q&A with Steve Herman

By Susan Kille

Steve Herman is a well-traveled OPC member who served five consecutive years as chairman of The Foreign Press in Japan and a one-year term as president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. He also was president of the Seoul Foreign Correspondents Club. He recently agreed to answer a few questions from the OPC.

Current assignment and title Southeast Asia bureau chief/ correspondent, Voice of America (responsible for covering 20 countries).

Hometown Nomad roaming Asia for 25 years, who owns a house in Tokyo, currently lives in Bangkok, has Nevada residency and is a Cincinnati native (and still a Reds fan).

Age 54.

Education M.A. in Public Diplomacy earned at Mountain State University after many years of classroom and online learning at various universities, including American University, Harvard and The New School.

Languages Able to converse fluently in Japanese with sushi chefs, can give taxi directions in several languages, including Korean and Thai.

First job in the business Helping an older friend hawk newspapers to passing motorists at a Cincinnati intersection. Years after that in the late 1970s, I worked part-time at several radio stations in southern Nevada while going to high school and college simultaneously.

Countries I've reported from More than 20 (mostly in Asia, but also in the Middle East, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, etc.).

Organizations I've reported for An alphabet soup over the last 35 years including freelancing for ABC, CBC, CBS, CNN, NBC and NPR before becoming a staff correspondent for VOA.

Best advice about journalism I've received "Don't stay in this business if you want to make money."

My best advice to budding correspondents "You'll stumble onto your best stories by serendipity. So always carry around a high-quality discreet camera and have some way to jot notes."

While traveling, I always... Try to find one good restaurant and hotel I can recommend to colleagues. (See my 200 reviews on TripAdvisor.)

My journalism heroes are Ambrose Bierce, Lafcadio Hearn, Edward R. Murrow, Ernie Pyle, Neil Sheehan



Steve Herman reporting from the Maidan (Independence Square) in Kiev, Ukraine in 2014



Herman, right, inside an air force helicopter over Sri Lanka as the civil war comes to a close in 2009.

and Samuel Langhorne Clemens.

Dream job The one I have right now.

Place I'm most eager to visit Antarctica, even though I hate the cold.

The country I most want to return to Bhutan. I've been there five times and it's as close to the fabled Shangri-La as there is on this planet with its simple Buddhist bliss and ema datshi national dish (made of yak cheese and chili peppers). The arra moonshine isn't bad either.

Books I've authored Two forgettable novels, a pictorial about Bhutan and a salacious travel guide decades ago that had modest success under a nom de plume I still dare not reveal.

Twitter handle: @W7VOA

Want to add to the OPC's collection of Q&A's with members? Contact Susan Kille at susan@opcofamerica.org.

New Books

UNITED STATES

WITH BEARS IN THE BACK-yard: *Big Animals, Sprawling Suburbs, and the New Urban Jungle* joining a long list books that include *Killer Animals*, *Killers of the Seas* and *The Devil's Garden*, you could wonder if OPC member Ed Ricciuti wants people to stay inside reading instead of venturing outside. Ricciuti said he just wants people to have a healthy respect for wild animals when outside.

Ricciuti is a science journalist, naturalist, and former curator at the New York Zoological Society (now the Wildlife Conservation Society) who has traveled the world writing about wildlife. A steadfast interest in how humans think about and interact with wild animals has led to more than 80 books for adults and young people and four file cabinet drawers filled with his articles for publications such as *Audubon*, *Field & Stream*, *Outside*, *Wildlife Conservation*, *Science Digest*, *USA Today*



and *Fly Rod & Reel*.

Bears is chiefly concerned with urban wildlife in the United States, but the concept grew from Ricciuti's reporting on socio-economic issues of wildlife conservation in developing countries "and trying to make people here understand why a poor African farmer might not look favorably on elephants when they are trampling his crops and kids." He saw parallels between villagers in Zimbabwe struggling with elephants and suburbanites in Westchester County, N.Y., coping with deer.

Urban wildlife once meant rabbits, raccoons and possums but now coyotes, cougars and bears show up in backyards and on streets. In *Bears*, Ricciuti explores the latest research on what is happening and what it means while telling readers how to protect themselves from dangers.

CHINA

EVAN OSNOS WITNESSED

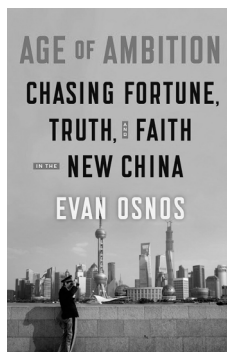
A time of extraordinary growth and upheaval in China as a foreign correspondent based in Beijing from 2005 to 2013, first for the *Chicago Tribune* and then for The New

Yorker. In *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China*, Osnos writes about what he calls China's Gilded Age and "the collision of two forces: aspiration and authoritarianism."

Readers of Osnos's "Letters From China" for *The New Yorker* know his skill in story telling and his sense of irony. Fans will recognize some portraits of the political elite, billionaires, dissidents, members of the newly prosperous middle class and everyday people but Osnos has revisited them as their lives evolved. He reworks his earlier reporting and adds to it to trace China's journey from poverty to a world power.

The transformation of China, Osnos writes, was 100 times the scale and 10 times the speed of the first Industrial Revolution that created modern Britain. The rewards of that dramatic economic ascent may be unevenly distributed, but he reports that by "almost every measure, the Chinese people have achieved longer, healthier, more educated lives."

Osnos, who won two OPC awards for reporting from Asia, will be among the speakers at the China Hands Reunion, described on Page 3, that the OPC is co-sponsoring on Sept. 12. He is now based in Washington for The New Yorker. — By Susan Kille



Upcoming Events

**After James Foley:
Covering Conflict**
7 p.m. Sept. 9

China Hands Reunion
12:30 p.m. Sept. 12

**Amendment Vote
Deadline:**
5:00 p.m. Sept. 17

What in the World
6:30 p.m. Sept. 18

From the Outside In
6:30 p.m. Sept. 25

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

The OPC Is Going Green!

Starting in October, the OPC *Bulletin* will be e-mailed to members. This will save the club thousands of dollars a year on printing and postage costs as well as help the environment. If you wish to continue to receive a printed copy of the *Bulletin* through the post office, e-mail patricia@opcofamerica.org or call the OPC at 212 626-9220 and we will be happy to send it to you.