“The judge got it right; democracies die in darkness . . . and if we don’t have a free press and if we aren’t allowed to practice the First Amendment, we could become victims of that darkness.”

Bob Woodward, 2015

Dear St. Louis Press Club Member,

Bob Woodward was certainly not referring specifically to St. Louis in the above quote, but his point is valid nonetheless; a strong and robust press is essential to a strong and robust democratic society. And everyone has a vested interest in that, including St. Louisans.

A strong and robust local press is what the St. Louis Press Club is all about. For almost 60 years, we have helped to support one another as media professionals and are now recognized as one of the leading press clubs in the country. Of course, you already knew that because you’re a member. You already knew that the St. Louis Press Club provides a broad array of programs to drive our mission:

• We offer opportunities for networking with other communication professionals in social and informative settings.
• We encourage and support future journalists by awarding scholarships and internships to current students. Since 1972, we have awarded over $500,000 to 253 St. Louis area students.
• We celebrate and highlight the accomplishments and careers of our remarkable colleagues.
• Through our Enterprise Journalism grants, we help shine a light on topics that might otherwise go unreported.
• And our seminars and workshops help working professionals stay current.

As a member, you already knew about the innovative programs, initiatives and fundraising special events that we sponsored in 2015.

• The annual Beauty Buzz, chaired by Carol Voss and her daughters and daughter-in-law, raised money to support the Neiman Marcus Scholarship Fund.
• The annual Media Persons of the Year dinner, chaired by Carol and Tom Voss, Trish Muyco-Tobin and Bill Greenblatt raised funds for scholarships and Press Club programming and honored some of our most trusted and respected colleagues; Jennifer Blome, Don Marsh, Dr. Donald Suggs, the Pulitzer Prize winning St. Louis Post-Dispatch photography staff, and Candy Crowley.
• We honored and supported 13 students in the journalism and communications fields at our annual Scholarship Luncheon, with keynote speaker Jennifer Blome.
• SLPC board member Suzanne Corbett presented a lunch forum at the St. Louis Public Library on the revitalization of Downtown St. Louis, featuring leaders of several historic institutions.
• Our seventh annual Social Media Seminar moderated by SLPC board member Richard Gavatin focused on LinkedIn.
• Board member Cynthia Kagan Frolichstein once again organized the monthly series, Press Club at the Gatesworth, featuring Suzanne Corbett, Jon Bonwich, Alvin Reid, Ellen Futterman and Larry Levin, Carol Weisman, Aisha Sultan, Don Marsh, Gina Galati, Bradley Bailey, Dick Weiss and Charlie Claggett, and Denny Heinze and Phil Linck.
• Board member Jessica Z. Brown organized a live broadcast about media literacy for children with St. Louis Public Radio and the Gateway Media Literacy Partners.

Continued on page 3
Welcome New Board Members

**Denise Hollinshed** is a Crime/General Assignment Reporter with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch since September, 1998. Prior to that, she was a crime reporter with the Belleville News-Democrat from 1990. Hollinshed produces and writes news and feature articles and specializes in writing stories on crime, housing trends, children’s issues, poverty, affirmative action, race and ethnicity, social issues, government and schools. She does videography and photography at crime scenes to help tell stories for her internet reporting. She is also the owner and operator of Eagle Eye Alpaca and Llama Haven, a traveling petting zoo, and writes children’s books based on the characters in her zoo.

Hollinshed has a B.S. from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville where she majored in Journalism and minored in Business Marketing; an Associate of Arts degree from St. Louis Community College in Mass Communications; and is pursuing a graduate degree in Journalism/Mass Communications at Lindenwood University.

**Beth Coghlan** is the News Director for KMOX News in St. Louis and was previously the station’s Managing Editor. She has worked in television for twelve years, before moving from Missouri to Georgia and back to her home city of St. Louis. Coghlan has won a number of awards for her work, such as the Missouri Broadcast Association Award for producing and an Edward R. Murrow for breaking news coverage. When not working around news, she is reading it out loud on a radio station for the blind and print disabled called Minds Eye. She received her B.S. degree in Journalism from Truman State University in the spring of 2000.

**Press Club Spring Intern: Josh Hall**

**Josh Hall** is from Cottleville, Mo. and has recently graduated from Southeast Missouri State University with a Bachelor of Science (Emphasis in Public Relations). Most recently he worked as a Public Relations intern at Osborn Barr on the Monsanto Advocacy Team. In his last year of school he interned with the Department of Athletics in the Information Systems department. He also worked with a variety of student run organizations while at Southeast; including the newspaper The Arrow, Riverfront PR and radio station Rage 103.7.

**Shuman to Receive Lupus Leadership Award**

Our own Barb Shuman is to be awarded the Lupus Leadership Award on March 12, 2016. This award is given to “leaders in our community who have demonstrated outstanding support and commitment to the Lupus Foundation of America, Heartland Chapter and to improving the quality of life for all people affected by lupus.”

**Welcome New Members**

Angelia Bills, Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis
Eric Berger, St. Louis Jewish Light
Christopher Keating, Woodlawn Church
Dana Randolph, St. Louis American
Patrick Barry, Byrne Public Relations
From the President, continued

• Recognizing the importance of high school journalism programs, we funded awards to the Student Journalist of the Year Daniel Bodden (Francis Howell High School) as well as the Journalism Teacher of the Year Dave Davis (Hillcrest High School, Springfield) as determined by the Missouri Journalism Education Association.

• The St. Louis Press Club expanded its presence to the historic Park Pacific building at 13th and Olive, home to CBS Radio, the Lawrence Group and other distinguished media companies. It will provide a space for exhibits, meetings, and press conferences to complement our county office at Page and the Innerbelt.

• Our Annual Meeting at the new Press Club space at the Park Pacific building featured a moving presentation by Aisha Sultan. We also presented the prestigious Catfish Award to Bill McClellan and former Press Club president Bill Smith. Michael Staenberg and the dynamic duo of Tom and Carol Voss received the President’s Award.

• We expanded our programmatic list by including the film industry and its related fields as areas of interest.

• And once again, our quarterly newsletter, The Courier chronicled the Press Club’s activities, programs and members.

That’s a lot. But there’s more to come.

The ancient Chinese curse, “May you live in interesting times,” might have special significance for St. Louisans these days. We have plenty of issues, plenty of problems that need our attention, our collective wisdom and informed and considered action. We do indeed live in interesting times. And because we do, an informed and engaged citizenry has never been more important.

A strong and robust local press is as important today as any time since St. Louis was founded in 1764. Your membership in the St. Louis Press Club demonstrates that you know that. Your membership means something. It matters. We hope you will continue to support the Press Club and perhaps even reach out to a friend or colleague about the benefits of membership, the value of our programming. And consider making a tax-deductible donation.

Very simply put, membership revenue and fundraising proceeds make it possible for us to continue the programs and scholarships that are so important. In other words, no margin, no mission.

Thank you for what you have done and in advance for what you will do. If you choose to send a tax deductible donation, you can do so by credit card at our website, www.stlpressclub.org or by mailing a check. And then stay tuned as we enjoy an even greater 2016.

Bob Woodward would be proud.

Sincerely,
Tom Eschen
President

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Feb. 13, 9 a.m.: Attorney Mark Sableman of Thompson Coburn to discuss “The Legal Side of Creativity” at Missouri Professional Communicators meeting. Press Club members invited. No Cost. Reservations at mpcnfpw@gmail.com or phone 314-471-3966. 12 N. Jackson Ave. (St. Louis Artists’ Guild galleries at Forsyth).

Saturday, Feb. 20, 10:30 a.m.: Beauty Buzzz! Annual scholarship fundraising event at Neiman Marcus in Plaza Frontenac. Reservations and donations. Call 314-449-8029 or email: info@stlpressclub.org or by credit card: stlpressclub.org

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 8:30 a.m.: St. Louis Press Club mini-conference for high school journalism students focusing on the reporting of the 2014 Ferguson protests and community responses. Presentations and panelists will include reporters and community leaders. The Community Room, KWMU studios, 3651 Olive.

Wednesday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.: Press Club at the Gatesworth Speaker Series featuring Debbie Reinhardt, Managing Editor of Auto Club of Missouri magazines, AAA Midwest Traveler and AAA Southern Traveler. She will talk about “Chocolate Destinations in Missouri,” which is also the title of her book. No reservation needed for Press Club members. No cost. Starbird Theater in main Gatesworth building, #1 McKnight off Delmar.

Saturday, March 19, 9 a.m.: “The Future of Print” discussed by Don Corrigan, editor-and-chief of Times newspapers, and Deborah Reinhardt, managing editor of AAA Missouri magazines at meeting with MPC at 12 N. Jackson Ave. (St. Louis Artists’ Guild galleries at Forsyth).
McClellan and Smith Honored with Catfish Award at Annual Meeting

The 59th Annual Dinner Meeting of The Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis was held on December 2, 2015 at the Alumni St. Louis Restaurant in the historic Park Pacific Building, 200 N. 13th Street, in downtown St. Louis. Fifty-one members and guests attended. Our club now has a room at the Park Pacific, which will be used for exhibiting club memorabilia and for meetings or press conferences. Off the restaurant dining room is The St. Louis Press Club Room with a wall of caricatures from our past Media Persons of the Year galas.

President Tom Eschen announced that Bill Greenblatt is President-Elect and will serve as president for 2017 and 2018. Eschen gave a summary of our year’s activities and introduced the evening’s featured speaker, Aisha Sultan, Home and Family Editor for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Sultan gave a moving talk about her recent visit to Pakistan as a journalist and how her extended family’s experiences in that country have affected her.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of Catfish Awards, which are given to recognize members’ exemplary service. Bill McClellan and Bill Smith were this year’s Catfish awardees. Two President’s Above and Beyond awards were also given recognizing the contributions made by Michael Staenberg and Carol and Tom Voss.

The meeting included two motions requiring a vote from the members who were present: the 2016-18 board of directors and the adoption of a new by-laws amendment. Each year a third of the board is elected or re-elected and those elected for 2016-18 are: Joan Lee Berkman, Charlene Bry, Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein, William Greenblatt, Alice Handelman, Jasmine Huda, Matt Murphy, Pam Niehaus, Charlotte Petty, Jan Scott, Barbara Shuman, and Ellen Soule. The by-laws amendment adds a Vice President of Nominations and nominating committee, who in consultation with the President, shall suggest Members of the Board and Officers of the Club. The Vice President of Nominations shall present a slate of Directors and Officers at the November meeting of the Board of Directors and election shall take place at the December annual meeting of the Members. In addition, the Vice President shall suggest to the Board names to fill vacancies on the Board and among the Officers. The club’s officers for 2016 are: President-Elect William Greenblatt, Immediate Past-President Bill Smith, Secretary Kent Martin, Treasurer Benjamin Lipman, Scholarship/Education Vice President Claudia Burris, Enterprise Journalism Vice President Richard Weiss, Programming Vice Presidents Charlotte Petty and Cynthia Kagan Frohlichstein, Membership Vice President Trish Muyco-Tobin, Publicity Vice Presidents Matt Murphy and Margaret Gillerman, and Nominating Vice President Alice Handelman.

Photos from the Annual Meeting

Photograph by William Greenblatt
For those who make, cover, and influence the news.

Aisha Sultan, Home and Family Editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the featured speaker for the Press Club’s annual meeting, sharing details of her experiences in Pakistan with members and guests.

From left, President Tom Eschen congratulating Bill Smith on the club’s highest honor for a member, the Catfish Award.

Stacey Morse accepting the President’s Above and Beyond Award from Tom Eschen on behalf of Michael Staenberg for his generosity to the St. Louis Press Club.

Bill McClellan sharing a few words with the Press Club audience.

Aisha Sultan, Home and Family Editor at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch and the featured speaker for the Press Club’s annual meeting, sharing details of her experiences in Pakistan with members and guests.

President Tom Eschen presenting the Press Club’s fall intern, Jena Trombley of Missouri Baptist College, with a $1,000 scholarship check.

From left, Trish Muyco-Tobin, Tom Eschen and Dave Tobin.

From left, Jasmine Huda and Aisha Sultan.

From left, President Tom Eschen presenting Bill McClellan with the Catfish Award, for his exemplary service to the St. Louis Press Club.

Stacey Morse accepting from Tom Eschen the President’s Above and Beyond Award.

From left, President Tom Eschen presenting Bill Smith with the Catfish Award.

From left, President Tom Eschen presenting Bill McClellan with the Catfish Award.

From left, President Tom Eschen presenting Bill McClellan with the Catfish Award.

Photograph by William Greenblatt

Photograph by William Greenblatt
Saint Louis

and the

St. Louis Press Club

Invite you to attend

Beauty Buzzzzz!

Join us for a spring beauty make-up-mix-and-mingle party to raise a little “fun” and “funds” for media scholarships while learning cosmetic and skincare tricks of the trade from the NM experts.

Saturday, February 20, 2016
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Level One, Cosmetics

Enjoy brunch lite bites from the Zodiac, coffee and mimosas, cosmetic giveaways and a chance to win prizes. Plus a great line-up of looking-your-best bars:

For the Ladies:
Foundations: Bobbi Brown and Laura Mercier
Eyes: Chantecaille and Christian Dior
Skin Care: Revive and Cle de Peau
Lips: Tom Ford and Sisley
Head to Toe Treatment: Natura Bisse and La Mer
Hair: Oribe

Just for the Guys:
Skin Care: Jack Black
Fragrance: Creed
Head to Toe Treatment: Kiehl's

RESERVATIONS:
$30 students * $50 adults * $80 mother-daughter * $100 for three generations
Reservations by email at info@stlpressclub.org, by phone 314-449-8029
Or with credit card at stlpressclub.org
All donations are 100% tax deductible

Chairpersons:
Pamela Toder
Courtney Toder
Paige Noel
Jasmine Huda

Committee:
Stacy Abeles
Joni Antwell
Laurie Badler
Jeanie Bassman
Cynthia Baxter
Faith Berger
Joan Berkmann
Susan Block
Nanci Bobrow
Amy Fenster Brown
Becky Brown
Jessica Brown
Debbie Caplin
Margaret Lee Ciarcleglio
Lisa Cohen
Emily Corson
Brooke Davis
Vicki Dubinsky
Judy Dudukovic
Alyssa Ellis
Tom Eschen
Sherry Farmer
Cynthia Frohlichstein
Diane Gallant
Gayle Garrett
Gail Gerchen
Margie Gillerman
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Judy Harris
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Janie Hochman
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Susan Iovaldi
Katya Jane Johnson
Betty Kagan
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Linda Kline
Susie Knopf
Judy Kramer
Chrisy Laycob
Phyllis Langsdorf
Peter Le Blanc, Jr.
Leslie Litwack
Leslie Lux
Julie Mathes
Kaitlin Mathes
Matt Murphy
Annalee Nissenholtz
Ellen Noel
Sonie Orsay
Gwendolyn Packnett
Glenda Partlow
Charlotte Petty
Jan Potts
Joan Quicksilver
Ann Rabbitt
Marsha Ransack
Cary Renz
Peggy Ross
Betsy Rubenstein
Grace Sarner
Pam Schlichter
Laura Schnarr
Sheri Sherman
Susan Sherman
Barbara Shuman
Susie Sivewright
Abbey Small
Stacy Smart
Jennifer Sonneland
Ellen Soule
Linda Stein
Melodie Tauben
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Heather Zajarias
Fran Zamler