President’s Message: Press Club’s Media Person of the Year

Dear Press Club members,

Since 1988, when Joseph Pulitzer, Jr. was saluted as our very first Media Person of the Year, the Press Club has honored more than 30 individuals and organizations for their inspiring contributions to the field of communications in our region.

It is a diverse club – from PR giant Al Fleishman, to nationally renowned sportscaster Bob Costas, to TV newscasters Vickie Newton, Mike Bush and Leisa Zigman. Yet all of the honorees are linked by their longstanding and unyielding commitment to media excellence.

The newest award recipients embody that spirit. Hall of Fame baseball writer Rick Hummel, our Media Person of the Year, is among the most highly respected sportswriters in the nation. Bob Uecker, whose self-deprecating brand of humor and long history in the sports broadcast industry has made him a true American icon, will receive a national lifetime achievement award. Bob Duffy, respected former arts critic for the Post-Dispatch and a key force behind the online St. Louis Beacon, will be recognized for his lasting contributions to St. Louis media.

The January 21 evening of dinner and entertainment at the Edward Jones corporate headquarters in Des Peres guarantees an unforgettable experience, not only for the honorees, but for all of those in attendance. Proceeds from the event go to help support media scholarships and internships, enterprise journalism grants and the media archives at the St. Louis Public Library.

Whether you decide to participate with a single ticket or by signing on as a presenting sponsor, know that you are funding programs that will have a real and lasting impact on the Gateway region.

Bill Smith, President St. Louis Press Club

**MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR PAST Awardees:**

- 1989 Bob Hyland
- 1990 Al Fleishman
- 1991 Bob Broeg & Bob Burnes
- 1992 Mary Kimbrough
- 1993 Julius Hunter
- 1994 Bob Costas
- 1995 Karen Foss
- 1996 Martin Duggan & Ray Hartmann
- 1997 Bill McClellan
- 1998 Charles Brennan
- 1999 Wendy Wiese & Bill Wilkerson
- 2000 Charlene Sherman Bry & Karen Carroll
- 2001 Greg Freeman & Dick Ford
- 2002 Mike Bush & Bernie Miklasz
- 2003 St. Louis Post-Dispatch
- 2005 KETC-TV & KWMU-FM
- 2006 Charles Klotzer & St. Louis Journalism Review Russ Mitchell -- National Journalism Achievement Award*
- 2007 Joe Buck -- Jack Buck National Media Person of the Year Award*
- 2008 Vickie Newton & Larry Conners
- 2010 Mike Shannon
- 2012 Leisa Zigman

*The National Journalism Achievement Award and the Joe Buck National Media Person of the Year Award were established to recognize achievement of St. Louis media professionals whose journalistic accomplishments have led to national media prominence.
Kent Martin

Meet Our Newest Board Member

Kent Martin is a Communications Executive for Ameren Missouri, where he manages implementation of strategic communications and marketing efforts that support the visions and goals of the company. His present duties include management of the company’s social media programs and media newsletters.

After receiving his master’s degree from the University of Missouri School of Journalism, Martin joined KMOX Radio as a reporter. His work, both locally and nationally, garnered numerous honors, including the George Foster Peabody award, a regional Emmy, The Champion-Tuck Award for financial reporting, the National Association of Science Writers and the National Association of Black Journalists award for the best newspaper feature. He has also been honored by the Associated Press, United Press International and the Missouri Broadcasters Association.

Martin has practiced PR in several industries, including telecommunications, mining, beverage, non-profit and agriculture. He has supervised national strategic communications campaigns for Anheuser-Busch and MCI Communications and has communications experience handling media relations for the Doe Run Company and the 1996 TWA Flight 800 crash off Long Island.

His work for non-profits has been for the March of Dimes and the Family Resource Center in St. Louis. He served pro bono as volunteer communications director for the National D-Day Memorial Foundation and coordinated media relations when it was commemorated by President George Bush in 2001.

Member News

Ladue News editor-in-chief Trish Muyco-Tobin, along with general manager Andrea Griffith and the entire Ladue News staff, would like to express their sincere thanks to The Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis’ board of directors, who acted as an advisory panel for selecting the winners of this year’s LN Charity Awards. We extend special thanks to the following board members for their time and participation: Claire Applewhite, Suzanne Corbett, Cynthia Frohlichstein, Alice Handelman, Ben Lipman, Joan Quicksilver, Jan Scott, Barb Shuman and Bill Smith. The 2013 Ladue News Charity Awards winners were: The Angel Band Project, Animal Protective Association, The Haven of Grace, Immigrant & Refugee Women’s Program and Pony Bird Inc. The awards ceremony was held June 13 at Palladium Saint Louis.

Claire Applewhite has published the fourth book in her ‘Nam Noir series, “Tennessee Plates,” and is currently producing a new album, “Night Rain,” to be released November 1.

At the Mississippi Governor’s Conference on Tourism, Suzanne Corbett was named Mississippi Travel Writer of the Year for her story on Vicksburg’s sesquicentennial commemoration and history surrounding the greater Vicksburg area. The award recognizes media partners who have done an outstanding job in presenting Mississippi’s tourism stories.

Suzanne Corbett, newly named Mississippi Travel Media Writer of the Year and Vicksburg CVB Director Bill Seratt during the 2013 Governor’s Tourism Awards, held in Tunica, Mississippi.

Welcome New Press Club Members!

New Members: Eric Butler and Julie Erickson
PRESS CLUB’S MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR GALA
HONORING RICK HUMMEL, BOB UECKER, AND BOB DUFFY

Rick Hummel: 2014 MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR
Rick Hummel, veteran St. Louis Post Dispatch sports columnist, will be honored as Media Person of the Year for his many contributions to sports journalism in our community.

Bob Uecker: National Journalism Achievement Award
Bob Uecker, iconic sports radio broadcaster and a former Cardinal’s baseball player, to be honored for his many decades of bringing baseball to life through his spirited and insightful commentary.

Bob Duffy: Lifetime Achievement Award
Bob Duffy, a longtime critic and cultural affairs editor for the Post-Dispatch for three decades until 2005, and a founder of the St. Louis Beacon, a recognized national leader in non-profit, online journalism to be honored for his lifetime of achievement.

You won’t want to miss this special evening as the Press Club recognizes media communication at its best. Enjoy a delightful reception, delicious dinner and entertaining award program at the Edward Jones corporate headquarters on Manchester in Des Peres. Press Club has honored and roasted distinguished persons in the local media with this event since 1988, enabling us to support media scholarships and internships for future journalists, grants for local investigative enterprise journalism, and the media archives at the St. Louis Public Library.

For reservations, go to stlpressclub.org or email info@stlpressclub.org

PRESS CLUB ANNUAL MEETING

6 to 9:30 p.m. Thursday, December 12
World’s Fair Room, The Forest Park Highlands
5163 Clayton Avenue (across from the Planetarium)

It may be business, but it’s more like a party! Enjoy drinks and generous offerings of hors d’oeuvres, carved roast beef and delicious pasta. The evening’s annual business will be the announcements of our president-elect, the election of our 2013-2015 board members, and the presentation of this year’s Catfish Award. We’ll cap it off with a talk by the ever-entertaining and informative Dick Weiss of St. Louis Post-Dispatch and St. Louis Beacon.

Reservations by email at info@stlpressclub.org or by credit card payment at stlpressclub.org
Members $30 and Guests $32
A capacity crowd attended this year’s scholarship luncheon at the Norman Probstein Golf Clubhouse in Forest Park to recognize and honor the many students who received both Press Club and Journalism Foundation scholarships. The entertaining and informative program on “Cartooning in St. Louis” featured St. Louis Post-Dispatch “Weatherbird” cartoonist Dan Martin and Mike Phoenix, author of numerous books on the history of cartooning in St. Louis. The following is a list of scholarship recipients who were honored at the July 18 Luncheon:

- $2,500 Press Club Media Scholarship: Sam Masterson, Webster University
- $2,000 Nancy Miller Journalism Scholarship: Daniel Bauman, Webster University
- $1,000 Press Club Martin P. Quigley Journalism Scholarship: Kelly Boruff, Webster University
- $1,000 Press Club Summer Internship Scholarships (3): Christa Corrigan, University of Missouri – Columbia (FOX-2/KPLR); Rhyan Hensen, Butler University (PBS); Benjamin Manhanke, Murray State University (Press Club)
- $1,500 Fleishman-Hillard Journalism Foundation Scholarship: Sini Stephan, University of Missouri - Columbia
- $1,000 Missouri Professional Communicators Journalism Foundation Scholarship: India Everett, University of Missouri - Columbia
- $1,000 Webster-Kirkwood Times/ Webster University Journalism Foundation Scholarship: Sierra Hancock, Webster University
- $1,000 West End Word/Webster University Journalism Foundation Scholarship: Kelly Kriegshauser, Webster University
Recent Events

Press Club’s Gatesworth Speaker Series

June: **Richard Weiss** of Weisswrite, LLC -- a writing, editing and coaching service – and former St. Louis Post Dispatch city editor – spoke about today’s world of social media.

July: **Katy Quigley Gurley** -- daughter of the late-great Martin P. Quigley, a Press Club founder and public relations superstar -- presented a fascinating lecture on writing memoirs and the making of the Martin Quigley documentary.

August: **Robert Cohn** – Editor-in-Chief Emeritus of the St. Louis Jewish Light – gave an update on Israel and the turmoil in the Middle East

St. Louis Public Library’s 25th Anniversary of the Media Archives Celebrated

On Saturday, September 7, Press Club members and guests gathered to tour the newly renovated main St. Louis Public Library and to view special exhibits from the Media Archives that were on display in the Great Hall and in the Special Collections area.

CONSIDER DONATING MEDIA ARTIFACTS AND MEMORABILIA TO THE MEDIA ARCHIVES OF THE ST LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY – THIS IS A GREAT RESEARCH REPOSITORY THAT PRESERVES ST. LOUIS’ RICH MEDIA HISTORY

Remembering Gary Ferguson

Long time Press Club member Gary Ferguson passed away on July 2 at the age of 88. Born in Stockton, Kansas, 1925, he completed his undergraduate studies at Yale University while also enrolled in the Navy college training program, later going on to attend graduate school at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. After college he worked as a reporter for the Providence, Rhode Island Journal then The News Leader in Richmond, Virginia before being called upon to serve as an officer in the Navy during the Korean War.

Ferguson came to St. Louis in 1954 as a reporter for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch where he worked for seven years. He then joined Fleishman-Hillard as a public relations consultant and senior partner. In 1971, he established his own PR firm, Gary Ferguson Associates, managing a number of civic and school campaigns involving inner city issues such as neighborhood economic development and public education. Ferguson sold his firm in 1988, but continued as a public relations consultant until his retirement in 1999. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Doris, along with their four children and their families.

For those who make, cover, and influence the news.
SAVE THE DATES:

PRESS CLUB’S MEDIA PERSON OF THE YEAR GALA
HONORING

RICK HUMMEL    BOB UECKER    BOB DUFFY

Tuesday, January 21, 2014
6 to 9:30 p.m.

Press Club Annual Dinner and Meeting
December 12, 2013, 6 to 9:30 p.m.