Meet our New Press Club President, Tom Eschen

Guiding our club for 2015 and 2016 is Tom Eschen, Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Maryville University. As president of the Press Club, Eschen will help direct the organization’s many educational events and scholarship fundraisers held throughout the St. Louis community each year.

“We have raised a lot of money and supported a lot of students looking to pursue a career in communications,” said Eschen. “That has always been the core mission of the Press Club and I am honored to serve as president for a group that has done, and continues to do, such great work promoting the invaluable role that journalism and the communications arts play in our society.”

A graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia journalism program, Eschen began his career teaching grade school social studies, high school journalism and university-level broadcast communications. He holds a master’s degree in communications from St. Louis University and has over 35 years of experience in development positions at University of Missouri-St. Louis, Washington University, Webster University, Lindenwood University, DeSmet Jesuit High School, and KWMU 90.7.

No stranger to volunteerism, Eschen has served on numerous non-profit boards and committees including DeSmet Jesuit High School, the Capital Campaign Committee of Ursuline Academy, HEC-TV, Double Helix community media, the Black Cat Theater, River Styx literary arts, an advisory council of the St. Louis Sports Commision and the Walker Scottish Rite Clinic for Childhood Language Disorders.

Make Your Reservation for the Media Person of the Year Gala

Press Club board members Trish Muyco-Tobin, Ladue News editor, and William Greenblatt, UPI photographer, are our 2015 Media Person of the Year co-chairs and Tom and Carol Voss are our honorary co-chairs. They and their committees have the ball rolling toward another stellar evening. You will want to be there to enjoy the gourmet dinner, fine wines and the “toasting” of this year’s local MPOY honorees – Jennifer Blome, Don Marsh and Dr. Donald Suggs – along with Candy Crowley, who will receive a national lifetime award, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch slated for special recognition – all at the beautiful Edward Jones atrium and theater.

The talented artist Steve Edwards is creating our signature caricatures and invitations will be in the mail very soon. But don’t wait. You can make your credit card reservations now by going to stlpressclub.org, Or call the office at 314-449-8029. Or send an email to info@stlpressclub.org

Press Club members and one guest pay $125 each (regular price is $150) and half of that is a tax deductible donation. Proceeds for this event fund our scholarships (see listing on page 7) and our enterprise journalism grants.
Welcome New Board Members

Linda Lockhart  As outreach specialist for St. Louis Public Radio, Lockhart works to connect with and engage listeners and readers, primarily through the Public Insight Network. She has worked at numerous newspapers around the Midwest, including the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the St. Louis Beacon, the Capital Times in Madison, Wisconsin, The Milwaukee Journal, and the St. Louis Pioneer Press in Minnesota. She is a founding member of the Great St. Louis Association of Black Journalists, the local affiliate of the National Association of Black Journalists, and served offices with both. She was recently honored with the Living Legend award for her many years of service. Lockhart is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and studied at the Institute for Journalism Education.

Charlotte VM Ottley  has an eclectic and accomplished personal and professional background as a university instructor, EMMY Award winning media executive, producer and on-air talent with CBS- and NBC-owned television stations in both St. Louis and New York tri-state areas. Ottley has represented over 265 history makers with new edge strategies and has authored three books. Donald Trump selected Ottley for inclusion in his book “The Best Advice I Ever Received,” as did Ambassador Rev. SJ Cook for her book: “Sister Strength.” Formerly the President of the National Broadcast Association of Community Affairs, she is the recipient of numerous honors, including the President’s Game Changers Award from the NAACP, 4 Emmy Awards, as well as the first African American Alumni of the Year at SIU Carbondale’s School of Communications. Among her most prestigious honors has been the dedication of a 4,500 sq. ft. building named in her honor: the Charlotte Merritts-Ottley Transitional Women’s Center. Ottley holds a Master’s Degree in Communications from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale and a Certificate for Executive Management from the Kellogg School of Business at Northwestern University in association with the National Minority Supplier Council which honored her with their National Tier I Business Achievement Award. Additionally, she has a Certificate of Clinical Competence and a Certificate in the Healing Arts from the State of Missouri.

Member News

Congratulations to Suzanne Corbett on being named as the 2014 North American Travel Journalists Association Awards Competition Bronze Prize Winner in the category Destination Travel, Domestic Newspaper, “Marching Down Georgia’s Gone with the Wind Trail,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Suzanne was also selected as a Finalist in the category Destination Travel, Domestic Newspaper, “Harbor Hopping in Door County, Wis.,” St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Dennis Heinze, AAA Be Legendary President’s Award Honoree 2014
Bill McClellan Entertains Members at Annual Meeting

Eschen Installed as President - Zigman, Cook, Stoff and Partlow Awarded

Press Club’s December annual meeting and reception drew 65 members and guests.

Guest speaker Bill McClellan shared stories about his experiences as a columnist at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Tom Eschen (left) accepted his Press Club president’s gavel from outgoing president, Bill Smith. Eschen will be Press Club president for 2015 and 2016.

Press Club’s 2014 honorees (from left) Leisa Zigman, President’s Above and Beyond award; Glenda Partlow and Rick Stoff, recipients of the 2014 Catfish award. Amanda Cook, who could not attend, was also named a President’s Above and Beyond awardee.

From left: Rick Stoff, Claudia Burris and Mike Right

Jim Lubbock and Suzanne Corbett

Barbara Washington and Martin Mathews
Press Club Beauty Buzz at Neiman Marcus Raises Scholarship Funds

Close to $13,000 was raised for scholarships at this year’s Beauty Buzz thanks to Neiman Marcus, our chairperson Carol Voss, her co-chairs Wendy Brumitt, Julie Catron and Tricia Voss, and her hard-working committee. It was a frosty February morning, but the buzz inside Neiman Marcus was humming as guests enjoyed socializing over brunch bites and mimosas, then experiencing the latest in skincare and cosmetic information from beauty experts. The morning was topped off with the awarding of prizes donated by generous contributors.

From left, Press Club board members Alice Handelman, who managed Beauty Buzz’s “Take-a-chance-on-gifts,” Aisha Sultan, group leader, and Joan Lee Berkman, who coordinated publicity for the event. Photo by Dick Manlin

Cheresse Pentella, Neiman Marcus public relations director, explaining the agenda for the morning’s activities. Photo by Laura Schnarr

Helping as group leaders, Press Club board members, from left, are: Ben Lipman, Dick Weiss and Matt Murphy. Photo by Laura Schnarr

Awarding one of the many “take-a-chance-on-gifts” to Phyllis Langsdorf is Madeleine Hepperman, a former Press Club intern and scholarship recipient. Photo by Laura Schnarr

“Take-A-Chance-on-Gifts” Donors

Adam Puchta Winery
Albarre Jewelers
Bill McClellan
BUDS florist
Claire Applewhite
Creative Art and Framing Gallery
David’s in Clayton Beauty Salon
Giddyup Jane
Guy and Carmelo Salon
Harlan Steinbaum
International Photography Hall of Fame
Kodner Art Gallery

Lion’s Choice
Maryville University
Maxine Clark and Build-a-Bear
Neiman Marcus
Nutriformance
Olive Street Café
Phyllis Langsdorf
Rina Suggs
Rio Syrup
St. Louis County Library
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
The Great Cover-Up

For those who make, cover, and influence the news.
For those who make, cover, and influence the news.

Beauty Buzz Co-Chairs
Carol Voss  Wendy Brummitt
Julie Catron  Tricia Voss

Beauty Buzz Committee
Joni Antweil  Phyllis Langsdorf
Suzy Bacino  Maggie Long
Gilda Baldwin-Latham  Geralynn Lord
Katie Balkenbush  Holly Middleton
Debra Bass  Lydia Middleton
Cynthia Baxter  Donna Miller
Xanni Becker  Jean Naslund
Faith Berger  Jennifer Nelson
Joan Berkenman  Paige Noel
Barbara Bindler  Stephanie Oliver
Nanci Bobrow  Glenda Partlow
Jessica Brown  Cheresse Petrella
Peggy Brown  Charlotte Petty
Margaret Lee Ciarleglio  Joan Quicksilver
Margie Ciarleglio  Paula Reed
Lisa Cohen  Kym Robertson
Arika Cole  Marie Robertson
Rhonda Cole  Stephanie Roberts
Maxine Clark  Marci Rosenberg
Judy Dudukovic  Marsha Rusnack
Lauren Dunning  Susan Saxe
Tom Eschen  Charmaigne Scott
Ellen Fercho  Sheri Sherman
Mary Gillespie  Susan Sherman
Sharon Greenstein  Barbara Shuman
Alice Handelman  Sweetie Siorek
Natalie Handelman  Ellen Soule
Miran Halen  Norma Stern
Lee Haynes  Aisha Sultan
Jini Howell  Shirley Stennis
Virginia Howell  Mary Swan
Susan Hurst  Pam Toder
Susan Iovaldi  Addie Tomber
Jeanne Roberts Johnson  Charlene Vinson
Betty Kagan  Barbara Washington
Joni Karandjeff  Patty Wente
Connie Klenke  Kathie Winter
Susie Knopf  Leisa Zigman

Beauty Bars
The “Eyes” Have It:  Trish McEvoy and Bobbi Brown
LipLush and Gloss Combo:  Chanel and Tom Ford
Concealer and Flash Bar:  Cle De Peau and Christian Dior
Botanical Bar:  Sisley and Chantecaille
Total Tools and Accessories Bar with The Gorgeous Gadget Guys
Reduce + Tighten and Smooth Bar: ReVive and Natura Bisse

Photos by Laura Schnarr
Press Club members have been sharing their talents and expertise with Gatesworth residents and our own members each month with entertaining and information talks. The Gatesworth donates $100 to our club for each speaking engagement, which goes into our Enterprise Journalism grant fund. The talks are always at 7:30 p.m. and in the Starlight Theater at The Gatesworth, One McKnight Road. (off Delmar just west of I-170).

PRESS CLUB MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. No reservation is needed.

Coming Next

April 29: Aisha Sultan
St. Louis Post-Dispatch Home and Family Life editor,
Sultan will talk about her experiences as a newspaper columnist.

Recent Speakers
March: Bradley Bailey
St. Louis University professor and Contemporary Art Museum
board member, gave a fascinating presentation about contemporary art.

February: Dick Weiss and Charlie Clagett
Weiss and Clagett spoke about the sensational new book they co-authored, Max Starkloff and the Fight for Disability Rights. (Rumors are going around that it may be made into a major motion picture.) Max’s wife, Colleen, brought an exquisite gift basket that a lucky resident won through a drawing.

January: Denny Heinze and Phil Linck
From right, Heinze, regional editor of AAA The Midwest Traveler and Linck, AAA Approved Auto Repair Service Specialist, gave a timely talk on how to prepare your car for winter and tips on driving safely in bad weather. Everyone received a “goodie-bag” filled with useful items for winter driving.

Meet Our Spring Intern Ryan Cockerham

Ryan Cockerham is a recent Maryville University graduate, who received his Bachelor’s degree in Communications last summer, upon winning his class’s Most Distinguished Portfolio Award. Ryan’s professional background includes an accomplished history of strategic organization, marketing and communications, and business development. Throughout his undergraduate years, he had the valuable opportunities to work for Wells Fargo Advisors, CDM Fantasy Sports, CompuCom Systems, Inc., as well as Bentley Productions, LLC in Branson, Missouri, where he worked as a Creative Director for a number of tourist attractions and resorts. He possesses years of leadership experience with DeMolay International, a fraternal organization of higher education, philanthropy and character building, where he has served as Missouri’s President, as well as an International Cabinet Member. Ryan plans to attend law school in the near future, which will further enable him to carry out a life-long dream of fundamentally evolving the current state of certain media related issues involving censorship, radical free-speech, organic nonpartisan ideals, and an inevitable paradigmatic shift in worldwide consciousness and perceptive communication.

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome recent new Press Club members Millie Cain Vice President, Business Development and Community Outreach, at First State Bank and Mike Poepsel, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Mass Communications, Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville.

For those who make, cover, and influence the news.
Press Club Supports Missouri Journalism Education Association

Thanks to the successful Beauty Buzz event at Neiman Marcus in February, your Press Club has added a new $1,000 scholarship for the 2015 Missouri Journalism Association Student Journalist of the Year. He is Daniel Bodden of Francis Howell North High School in St. Charles and will be attending the University of Kentucky in the fall. Press Club will also be giving a $1,000 award to the journalism teacher chosen this month as the MJEA Teacher of the Year.

The Missouri Journalism Education Association (MJEAA) is the largest state scholastic journalism organization formed to help protect and enhance scholastic journalism in Missouri. MJEAA works to provide outreach and support to advisers and journalism programs across the state. MJEAA supports free and responsible scholastic journalism by providing resources and educational opportunities, by promoting professionalism, by encouraging and rewarding student excellence and teacher achievement, and by fostering an atmosphere which encompasses diversity yet builds unity.

2015 Scholarships To Be Awarded

The application deadline for most of these scholarships is May 1. The scholarship committee judges the applications (except for those otherwise listed). The application procedures are at the Scholarship/Internship link at our website: stlpressclub.org

$5,000 Press Club/St. Louis Post-Dispatch David Lipman Scholarship: University of Missouri -- Columbia, School of Journalism student. Winner selected by faculty.

$2,500 Press Club/Neiman Marcus Media Scholarship: Junior or senior student from the bi-state St. Louis area intending to pursue a career in journalism with emphasis in print, digital, or broadcast/television/radio reporting.

$1,000 Press Club Martin P. Quigley Journalism Scholarship: Upperclassman or graduate student attending Webster University School of Communication pursuing bachelor’s or graduate degree in communication field.

$1,000 Press Club Media Summer Internship Scholarships: (3) Sophomore, junior or senior students from the bi-state region pursuing a degree in communication and planning a summer academic internship in a communication field (student arranged) according to the specifications of their college.

$1,000 Internship Scholarships at the Press Club (one each semester) Sophomore, junior or senior during the spring, summer, and fall semesters for students attending a university in the metropolitan St. Louis area (fall and spring) or residing in St. Louis (summer) and able to complete a 130 hour semester-long internship at the Press Club office.

$1,000 Press Club Nancy Miller Journalism Scholarship: Junior or senior student or graduate student from the bi-state St. Louis area pursuing a degree in print journalism.

$1,000 Press Club Roger and Patricia Browning Media Scholarship: Sophomore, junior, senior or graduate students from the bi-state St. Louis area who is pursuing a degree in media related or communication field.

$1,000 Press Club/Neiman Marcus “Best High School Journalism Student” Scholarship: The winning student selected by Missouri Journalism Educator’s Association judging panel.

$1,000 Press Club “Sky’s The Limit” Scholarship: Female high school graduate planning to pursue degree in communication. Selected by Mathews-Dickey Boys’ and Girls’ Club.

$1,000 to $1,500 Journalism Foundation Scholarships: Sophomore, junior, senior or graduate students from the bi-state St. Louis area who are pursuing a degree in media related or communication field. (Sponsors: Times Newspapers, Webster University, Fleishman Hillard, Missouri Professional Communicators, Society of Professional Journalists, Baseball Writers’ Association-St. Louis Chapter)
The Press Club of Metropolitan St. Louis
Announces
The 2015 Media Persons of the Year Gala Honoring

Jennifer Blome
former longtime anchor at KSDK-TV

Don Marsh
host, St. Louis Public Radio

Dr. Donald Suggs
publisher, St. Louis American

Lifetime Achievement Award
Candy Crowley
former longtime political correspondent and host at CNN

Special Recognition
ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

SAVE THE DATE JUNE 11
Thursday, June 11 – 6:00 p.m. Reception / 7:00 p.m. Dinner / 8:00 p.m. Program
Edward Jones Corporate Headquarters
Make credit card reservations at stipressclub.org or call 314-449-8029