

## ON BOARD

**Marc Emral**

*Community Press*  
President

**Mike Rutledge**

*Cincinnati Post*  
Contest chairperson

**James Pilcher**

*Cincinnati Enquirer*  
Program coordinator

**Bob Weston**

*Reuters*  
Hall of Fame chairperson

**Renee Sexton**

*WCPO-TV*  
Treasurer

**Greg Korte**

*The Cincinnati Enquirer*  
FOI Chairperson

**Felix Winternitz**

*Cincinnati Business Magazine*  
State contest chairperson

**Joe Wessels**

*Free-lance*  
President-elect  
Webmaster

**Lisa Mauch**

*The Community Press*  
OnPress newsletter

Send an e-mail to all board members  
at [board@cincyspj.org](mailto:board@cincyspj.org). Everyone on  
the current list will get it.

## MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

**Emil Dansker**

*Professor emeritus*

**James Ott**

*Free-lance*

**Andrea Tortora**

*Cincinnati Business Courier*

**Bryan Westbrook**

*SPJ chapter president*  
*University of Cincinnati*

**Geri Boyle**

*Free-lance*

## Society of Professional Journalists

May 2004

# Walnut Hills woman returns from D.C. to be keynote speaker at SPJ banquet

She's come a long way since her days in Cincinnati. Now Elisabeth Bumiller is a *New York Times* White House Correspondent.

The Walnut Hills High School graduate will be the keynote speaker at this year's Queen City Pro Chapter's banquet Friday, June 11, at the Millennium Hotel's Grand Ballroom.

After high school, Bumiller earned her Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Northwestern University and her master's in journalism from Columbia University.

Her first gig after college was reporting for the *The Washington Post* style section. She then served as a foreign correspondent for the *Post* both in Japan and in India.

After leaving the *Post*, Bumiller joined the *New York Times* as a metropolitan reporter. Then she moved up to city hall bureau



**Bumiller**

chief. Bumiller has been covering the White House for the *Times* since Sept. 10, 2001. Most recently, many may have seen her as a panelist during the Democratic presidential primary debates, broadcast on CBS.

She is also the author of two books, *May You Be the Mother of a Hundred Sons: A Journey Among the Women of India* and *The Secrets of Mariko: A Year in the Life of a Japanese Woman and Her Family*, and the co-author of *For Women Only: A Revolutionary Guide to Overcoming Sexual Dysfunction and Reclaiming Your Sex Life*.

Tickets are \$55. For more information or to order tickets, visit

[www.cincyspj.org](http://www.cincyspj.org). You can pay with a credit card online. Or mail a check to Society of Professional Journalists: Queen City Pro Chapter, P.O. Box 1934, Cincinnati, OH 45201-1934.

### Hall of Fame inductees

**Henry Segal**, editor/owner of the Cincinnati-based *American Israelite*, for 55 years until his death in 1985 and Cincinnati correspondent for the *New York Times* for 30 years, also a charter member and former president of the Cincinnati chapter of SPJ/SDX. The late **Thom Gephardt**, editorial page editor of the *Enquirer* for 32 years who became well-known for the character "Mr. Whig" that he created to espouse his political views in a Sunday column.

**Dick Rawe**, who did everything on the *Cincinnati Post* from copy boy to city editor during a newspaper career that spanned 50 years and ended in 1993. He covered business news, real estate, aviation, and also was an editorial writer, senior investigative reporter, and assistant city editor.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Why do we belong to the Society of Professional Journalists? That is a question only you can answer. As for me, I belong because I believe we need SPJ to help all journalists do their jobs. No, SPJ won't necessarily help you get your story written. But SPJ is there pushing our causes and standing behind us.

Our Cincinnati Pro Chapter stood along side *CityBeat* when one of its freelance reporters was subpoenaed to appear before Cincinnati City Council.

The national organization, most recently, called on Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to respect the First Amendment rights of journalists to gather news when he speaks at public events. This came after a federal marshal required news reporters in Hattiesburg, Miss., to hand over a tape recording and erase a digital recording of a Scalia speech.

SPJ is always there to recognize the good in our

ranks. Our chapter is proud that two local news organizations were recipients of Sigma Delta Chi awards.

- Jeff Hirsh and Jeff Barnhill of WKRC-TV won for their documentary "Finding Family," the story of a Holocaust survivor's return to Europe.

- Laure Quinlivan, Phil Drechsler, Bob Morford and Kevin Roach of WCPO-TV won for public Service in Television Journalism for their "Cincinnati Archdiocese Investigation."

Locally, our chapter is readying the annual banquet where we recognize the best in journalism here. Our chapter is also planning several programs throughout the rest of the year to help us all do our jobs better.

But we need you help. We need you input on what YOU need our chapter to do. We have a dedicated board, but the board cannot do the job alone. Tell us what is the best time for you to attend a meeting or program.

On a personal note, this is the first and last president's letter you'll probably read from me. Because of time and other considerations I am leaving the board. I've been here a long time and we have a good core group of younger members on the board who have the enthusiasm and the drive to make our chapter better. I wish them luck.

# SPJ conference brings issues to light for discussion

By Joe Wessels

This year's Region Four SPJ Conference brought together journalists and panelists from around the country, bringing attention to issues important to journalists working in today's changing profession.

Besides panel discussions, including one with recent *Toledo Blade* Pulitzer-prize winning reporter Joe Mahr and editor Kurt Franck, Region Four held a brief meeting discussing issues important to Society members. Besides this meeting, panels included local journalist and Miami University professor Patricia Gallagher-Newberry.

At the annual "Mark of Excellence" awards luncheon for college journalists, the University

of Cincinnati's *News Record* garnered 14 awards. Several members of the student chapter attended the weekend event.

Issues discussed included next year's conference, scheduled for April 15-17, 2005 at West Virginia University, said Terry Wimmer, who is helping coordinate the conference. Developing plans include adding another optional day to the event allowing out-of-towners to explore the area's natural beauty. Details are expected in the coming months.

It was also announced that the region's 2006 conference will be in Cincinnati, combining both Region 4 (Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia) and Region 5's (Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky) conferences.

At the Society level, this year's SPJ National Convention will be

Sept 9-11 in New York City at the Grand Hyatt. Speakers include former CBS Evening News and award-winning anchor Walter Cronkite, Public Affairs Television founder Bill Moyers and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

Next year's convention will be in Las Vegas, though no specific hotel or dates have been announced, said Bruce Cadwallader, regional SPJ director and SPJ national board member.

Finally, it was announced that the regional directors fund has reached a near-zero balance. The fund is used to pay critical expenses the regional director incurs traveling to member chapters throughout the region. Invoices will be sent to local chapters asking to contribute to the fund.

## IN RECOGNITION

In February, Hometown Communications Network honored their *Community Press* and *Community Recorder* employees at its annual award breakfast.

Among those recognized were:

- Jennie Key—Best Breaking News
- Jennie Key—Best Non-Breaking News
- Melanie Laughman—Best Feature Story
- Heidi Fallon—Best Continuing Coverage/Series
- Heidi Fallon—Best Column Writing
- Ben Walpole—Best Sports Story
- Nancy Daly—Best Editorial Writing
- Jennie Key—Best Headline
- Eric Spangler—Best Photo/Graphic
- Dick Maloney, Nancy Daly, Charlene Rodenbaugh, Forrest Sellers, Jeremy Johnston, Tami Sanderson-Reinbeck—Best of the Rest.

The contest was judged by fellow journalists from *Sun Newspapers* in Minneapolis/St. Paul and Cleveland; *Observer* and *Eccentric* newspapers and *Livingston County Daily Press* in Michigan; and the Ohio Department of Education.

Also recognized were Marc Emral, managing editor, for 15 years of service, and Dick Maloney, editor, for 20 years of service.

### 2003 SPJ Awards

The Cincinnati SPJ chapter hosted its 2003 "Awards for Excellence" banquet June 27 at the Millennium Hotel downtown, with retired federal judge Nathaniel Jones as the keynote speaker. Three new members of the Cincinnati Journalism Hall of Fame were also honored: James Gillespie Birney, who published an anti-slavery newspaper in Cincinnati in the 1830s; Emil Dansker, *Enquirer* reporter and long-time journalism teacher; and beloved *Post* photographer Melvin Grier. And awards were given out in 40 print, radio and web categories, with *Enquirer* reporters Debra Jasper and Spencer Hunt winning the chapter's biggest award, the Gerald White Memorial Prize, for their investigative work, "Ohio's Secret Shame."

## Handing over tapes: a sticky situation

By Pete Weitzel

Reporters Committee for  
Freedom of the Press

How should a reporter respond to a law enforcement request to hand over tapes?

The Reporters Committee hasn't put up any guidelines on the subject, and the closest report they've done was a cover story for the 2000 issue of *Media and the Law*. It was on the arrest of reporters covering demonstrations. It might be worth referring your folks to that, even though it isn't precisely on target.

No one knows of a situation under federal or state law that gives law enforcement a legally defensible right to seize a tape or require a reporter to erase it. But that does not mean they cannot or will not arrest you if you refuse. The remedies in law are all after the fact. In most such incidents, photographers have gotten film back, charges were dropped and the police organizations have issued an apology. And papers have sometimes recov-

ered legal costs under state law or privacy protection act.

So you'll almost certainly win later in court if there was nothing in your behavior they can use as an excuse for a secondary charge. So, advice to reporters. Here's my take:

1. Be prepared to be arrested.
2. Have a discussion now with your editors on how they would like you to respond. It makes sense to have a procedure worked out with counsel, based on federal and state law and any local precedents. And you need to know your if publication will support a legal fight over a tape recording.
3. Know whom to notify if you are asked to surrender a tape, if that is someone other than your editor. Have that phone number memorized or programmed into your cell phone, or both.
4. Be polite and respectful at all times.
5. Do not physically resist, but if possible, put the offending recorder in a pocket or purse before the officer can physically seize it.
6. If requested to erase the tape, or give up the recorder and/or tape,

ask under what legal authority the officer is acting and indicate you would like to talk to your editor or attorney (depending on whom you've been told to contact) before surrendering, the newspaper's property. That immediately elevates the issue. It's no longer a matter of bullying or intimidating a single reporter, and the potential of a law suit is clearly implied.

7. Call your editor/counsel on the cell phone and let him/her talk with the officer.

8. If none of that has done any good, tell the officer you will not physically give up the recorder or the tape unless put under arrest.

9. If arrested, and the recorder or tape is physically taken, caution the officer against erasing the tape, noting that would be both destruction of property and of evidence in the case. It wouldn't hurt to know what the particular chapter/section of the law is involved so you can mention it in passing.

pweitzel@rcfp.org  
www.rcfp.org

# COMINGS & GOINGS

**Felix Winternitz** has been named senior editor of *Ohio Magazine* as well as being named editor of a sister publication, *Cincy Business Magazine*. He was a free-



**Winternitz**

lance writer, covering Cincinnati weekly for the *Dayton Daily News* and writing a column for *CityBeat* and co-writing three books: *Insider's Guide: Cincinnati*, *Panoramic Ohio* and *Daytrips From Cincinnati*. He worked at *Cincinnati Magazine* and the *Cincinnati Enquirer* prior to his free-lance career.

**Becky Chambers**, assistant city editor at *The Cincinnati Post*, recently accepted the position of editor at the *East Oregonian*.

In January **Amanda York** began working as the Frankfort reporter for *The Kentucky Post*. She went to the *Post* after working at the *Cincinnati Business Courier* where she covered commercial real estate.

**George Schutte** took over for his father, **Dave Schutte**, as the East office sports editor at



**G. Schutte**

*Community Press*. Before coming to *Community Press*, George was a for five years at the *Cincinnati Enquirer* covering high school sports. He then worked as high school crew chief at the *Enquirer* for almost two years. Dave Schutte continues to work as a sports contributor for the *Community Press*.

**Kathy Eubanks**, The *Post's* director of community services, left April 23 after many years with the

paper to take the position of Navigation Project Assistant at Meldahl Dam on the Ohio River, for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers out of Huntington, W.Va.

Filling Eubanks' position will be **John Vissman**, a former vice president of Forward Quest, who worked for years as executive director of the Ensemble Theater.

**Lisa Biank Fasig** joined the *Business Courier* in September, from the *Providence (Rhode Island) Journal*. Fasig covers retail, Procter & Gamble Co., and banking. She previously worked at the *Enquirer* as a retail reporter.

**Steve Watkins** joined the *Business Courier* in September as a part-time reporter. Watkins covers public companies and produces the *Courier's* Investors Edge section.

**Sacha DeVroomen Bellman** is a visiting journalism instructor at Miami University. Formerly of *The*

*Kentucky Post*, Sacha worked free-lance for for many publications, including *CityBeat* and *Community Press*. She was also editor of the now defunct *Equine Edition* and is co-author of *Insider's Guide: Cincinnati* and *Daytrips from Cincinnati*.



**Devroomen Bellman**

**Rob Daumeyer**, *Business Courier* editor, won an eight-month Knight-Wallace Fellowship at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he is studying the impact of race on the economic development of inner cities. Daumeyer will return to the *Courier* in May.

**Krista Ramsey** has joined the *Enquirer* as an editorial writer. Krista had been communications director for the Sycamore

Community Schools district and before that was a columnist for the *Enquirer*, specializing in education coverage.

**Rick Green**, assistant managing editor for local news at *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, has left to become managing editor for *The Desert Sun* in Palm Springs, Calif.

**Julie Engebrecht**, formerly the *Enquirer* sports editor, has filled the position.

**Rosemary Goudreau**, managing editor at the *Enquirer*, left to become the editorial page editor at *The Tampa Tribune*.

**Michael Perry**, who was the assistant sports editor at the *Enquirer*, is now the sports editor.

**To make a submission to "Coming & Goings" send information and, if possible, a headshot to [onpress@cincyspj.org](mailto:onpress@cincyspj.org).**



## SPJ Board Members

From left to right: sitting; Renee Sexton, Marc Emral, Lisa Mauch; standing; Mike Rutledge, Felix Winternitz, James Pilcher, Joe Wessels, Gregory Korte, Bob Weston, Emil Dansker.

Society of Professional Journalists  
Queen City Pro Chapter  
P.O. Box 1934  
Cincinnati, OH 45201-1934



[www.cincyspj.org](http://www.cincyspj.org)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### NY Times Speaker

• On Monday, June 14, at 7:00 p.m. **Gail**

**Collins**, *New York Times* editorial page editor, will speak at the Mercantile Library.



**Collins**

Collins, an award-winning columnist with the *New York Times* since 1995, is talking about "Writing to Change the World." This event is the second annual Harriet Beecher Stowe Lecture.

Cost is \$40. For more information, call 513-621-0717 or visit [www.mercantilelibrary.com](http://www.mercantilelibrary.com)

### HS Journalism Workshop at OU

• The 59th annual Ohio University E.W. Scripps High School Journalism Workshop, takes place June 23-26.

The program is a great opportunity to get hands-on experience in newspaper reporting, writing, editing, design and news judgment.

This year's workshop features a special general session on covering campaigns and elections. All activities are held on the Ohio University campus in Athens, Ohio.

The workshop is structured to give students both classroom and hands-on learning experience in journalism.

Attendees will participate in a critique of their own high school newspaper/

broadcast program; general sessions that will cover special topics, such as the First Amendment, Legal Issues and Covering Elections; and a "news team" effort that will produce a newspaper or news broadcast.

In order to participate, students must: be an editor or reporter with their high school newspaper/radio/TV (or have a very strong interest in a career as a journalist); be dedicated to spending an intensive three-and-a-half days learning and working as a journalist; and be a 2004-2005 junior or senior in high school. Enrollment is limited to 75 participants.

For more information, contact Lisa Lopez Snyder, Director, OU High School Journalism Workshop at 614-792-9906, or [ChaacCom@aol.com](mailto:ChaacCom@aol.com).



### SPJ meetings/events

• The next two board meetings are:

–Friday, June 25, noon at *CityBeat* newspaper offices, 811 Race St., fifth floor.

–Friday, July 23, noon at the Cincinnati Public Library main branch, 800 Vine St. (Room to be announced.)

–A program on "Convergence in the Newsroom," at the end of June. Final date TBA.

–A special guest speaker to be announced; mid-summer date.

Keep checking the SPJ web site for updates.

**To submit news items, columns or any other information to *OnPress*, please e-mail [onpress@cincyspj.org](mailto:onpress@cincyspj.org). We welcome any contributions.**