

## Green, Scott

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**From:** Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 06, 2013 8:14 AM  
**To:** 'Paul Stevens'  
**Subject:** CONNECTING: Bob Thomas in Guinness Book, twice; Kurtz previews new show; Newsonomics of sports; News IQ quiz; MailOnline; Women in journalism; Amish papers thrive; Post Magazine struggle; BuzzFeed worst nightmare

Colleagues,

AP's legendary entertainment reporter **Bob Thomas** is now in the Guinness Book of World Records – twice!

His daughter **Janet Thomas** shared the following from Elizabeth Smith of Guinness:

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that I have awarded your father with two records- congratulations!

Details of his achievements are as follows:

### **Longest career as an entertainment reporter**

The longest career as an entertainment reporter is 66 years and was achieved by Bob Thomas (b. 26 January 1922, USA) who worked as a Hollywood reporter for the Associated Press from 1944 to 2010, in Los Angeles, California, USA.

*Bob Thomas began reporting at the age of 22, covering his first Academy Awards ceremony for the Associated Press in March 1944. He has interviewed the likes of Doris Day, Frank Sinatra, Clark Gable, Bing Crosby, Charlie Chaplin, and Marilyn Monroe, to name a few. On the job of reporting, Thomas said "Always hope for the unexpected, and pounce on it when it happens. It can be a great life, you know." Thomas' career has also been celebrated with his own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.*

### **Most consecutive years of Oscars coverage by an entertainment reporter**

The most consecutive years of coverage of The Oscars (Academy Awards, USA) by an entertainment reporter is 66 years and was achieved by Bob Thomas (b. 26 January 1922, USA), who covered his first Oscars ceremony in March 1944 and continued to do so for every consecutive year until his 66th (and last) ceremony on 7 March 2010.

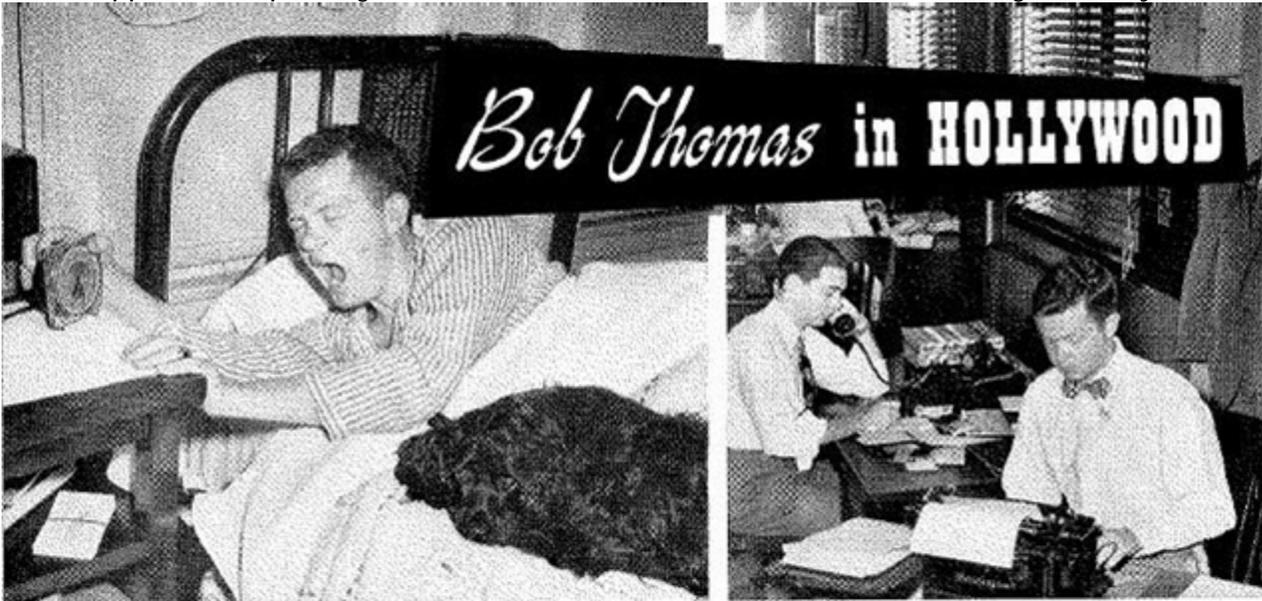
On a personal note, it was an absolute joy reading about your father's career and life achievements. Please do pass on my sincere congratulations on two incredibly well deserved Guinness World Records titles.

All the best,  
Liz

**Elizabeth Smith** Records Manager – TV T: +44 (0)20 7891 4545  
Guinness World Records Ltd. 184-192 Drummond Street, London, NW1 3HP



Janet sent along kudos to **Valerie Komor** and **Francesca Pitaro** for their help in finding supporting documents for the application. Speaking of which, here is an AP World from 1946 featuring Bob early in his AP career:



"Ho hum", yawns Bob, starting another day. Bob is 24, single, has a seemingly inexhaustible supply of energy and the envied job of writing The AP's PMs Hollywood column for 300 member papers.

Hard at work in AP's Hollywood office in Citizen-News building. Bob's assistant, Armand Archerd, known about town as "Ack Ack", telephones.



Visiting another movie set, Bob listens to a funny story from Betty Hutton. She's full of them. So is Bob.



An item from Hal Peary, "The Great Gildersleeve", in front of the Brown Derby in Hollywood.



After dinner at home, Bob makes a nightclub or two, here checks his coat at Ciro's.

• Harry W. Cowe, Wirephoto operator in the Seattle bureau, who as a staff sergeant served as a photographer for 38 months in the European theater, has just been awarded the Bronze Star.

His citation said that "Sergeant Cowe demonstrated exceptional resourcefulness, energy and devotion to duty in the operation of camps established by the United States strategic air forces in Europe to provide facilities for war correspondents, inspecting results of the strategic air offensive. His tireless

and extremely effective work as a photographer and courier reflects credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

Cowe, after service as group photographer for a Spitfire outfit during the African show, joined what was known in army circles as "Vessels Task Force", headed by Lieut. Col. Jay Vessels, former Minneapolis AP staffer. Boss over the entire outfit was Col. Max Boyd, now Cairo chief of bureau.

• NORMAN, Okla.—Tom Yarbrough, AP war correspondent and now St. Louis correspondent, was elected an alumnus member of Alpha of Oklahoma chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at the University here on April 23.

Yarbrough was honored by the scholastic fraternity for his six years of outstanding work in the foreign news field for The AP. The following day he addressed the Oklahoma School of Journalism on the techniques of a war reporter.



On his way to the studios, affable Bob meets Elizabeth Scott and, apparently, enjoys his work.



After his morning studio appointments, Bob has a luncheon interview with Geraldine Fitzgerald in her dressing room. Normal lunch: salad, glass of milk.



Bob also covers radio, music, television. He's pictured with Red Skelton at studio.



Of Hollywood's social life, there is always pull-enty. Often Bob works almost around the clock. Here he talks to bandleader Desi Arnaz at a ringside table.



Finally, a glance at the morning papers and so to bed, Bob's Cocker Spaniel, Stoneface, retiring, too.

• **FRANKFURT**—AP staffer Richard O'Regan sprang a surprise on his colleagues at the Frankfurt press camp by slipping out of the office on March 23 for a secret wedding with Betty Anne Hill, civilian worker in the historical division of the USFET. The marriage followed a shipboard romance when the couple met aboard the Queen Elizabeth, Europe-bound last September.

O'Regan began his newspaper career in Liverpool, England, later worked on

the Philadelphia Bulletin and for the United Press before joining The AP. His bride, from Brooklyn, formerly worked for the American Red Cross at Nancy and in Heidelberg. AP cameraman Robert Clover shared the secret, attending the German civil ceremony.

• **LONDON** — Miss Helen Camp and George Palmer, members of The Associated Press foreign staff, were married on May 13 in London at the City of London registry office. The bride is assigned to AP's London bureau. Pal-

mer is in London on vacation after service in Cairo, Jerusalem and Baghdad. Both are from New York City.

• George Steiner, London traffic bureau chief, was hospitalized at Frankfurt, Germany, while on a special assignment there and embarked on an army hospital ship at Bremerhaven on April 25. He arrived in New York on May 5, and, after a medical examination, returned to his home at Phoenix where he is now recuperating, pending further assignment.

Bob is 91 and lives with his wife Patricia in Encino. If you'd like to drop him a note, their address is: 16509 Adlon Road, Encino, CA 91426. And his byline continues on the wire – the latest, his wire obituary on Eydie Gorme when she died last month at the age of 84.

Welcome to our newest Connecting member - newly retired **Steve Hilton**.

Paul

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### **Howard Kurtz Previews Brand-New Fox News Show, Media Buzz**

(Says Kurtz: "I like to say that Twitter is the new AP, except that it harnesses far more brainpower than a wire service ever could.")

<http://foxnewsinsider.com/2013/09/04/howard-kurtz-previews-media-buzz#ixzz2e1jZwNXF>

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### **The newsonomics of big sports money - and news**

<http://www.niemanlab.org/2013/09/the-newsonomics-of-big-sports-money-and-news/>

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### **The News IQ Quiz**

<http://www.pewresearch.org/quiz/the-news-iq-quiz/>

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### **Ten Surprising Facts About MailOnline, the Site That Ate the News**

<http://adage.com/article/media/ten-facts-mailonline-site-ate-news/243920/>

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### **Software seeks to measure women's participation in journalism**

<http://www.poynter.org/latest-news/top-stories/221605/software-seeks-to-measure-womens-participation-in-journalism/>

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**Amish Newspapers Thrive in Digital Age** (Shared by Ralph Gage)

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323608504579025273046278380.html?utm\\_source=API+Newsletter+subscribers&utm\\_campaign=692dca2b4e-Need\\_to\\_Know\\_September\\_4\\_2013\\_4\\_2013&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_e3bf78af04-692dca2b4e-31693269](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323608504579025273046278380.html?utm_source=API+Newsletter+subscribers&utm_campaign=692dca2b4e-Need_to_Know_September_4_2013_4_2013&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_e3bf78af04-692dca2b4e-31693269)

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**Washington Post Magazine struggles with advertising relationship** (Shared by Bob Daugherty)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/erik-wemple/wp/2013/09/05/washington-post-magazine-struggles-with-advertising-relationship/>

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**BuzzFeed is the media industry's worst nightmare — profitable, growing and investing in news** (Gage)

<http://paidcontent.org/2013/09/04/buzzfeed-is-the-media-industrys-worst-nightmare-profitable-growing-and-investing-in-news/>