

## Green, Scott

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**From:** Paul and Linda Stevens <stevenspl@live.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2014 8:27 AM  
**To:** 'Paul and Linda Stevens'  
**Subject:** CONNECTING: AP is hiring; Mailbox; Metrocard; Richard Inskeep death; Bergen Record scoop; Christie; Reporter and intel official; Hard truths on digital; Advance-weather; Who is this man?

Colleagues,

**Brian Carovillano**, the Associated Press' incoming managing editor for U.S. news, notified AP employees Thursday about several recent hires and more than a dozen open positions nationwide, a move that comes amid concerns over understaffing following dozens of newsroom departures in 2013.

His announcement made headlines in the Huffington Post and Politico, and here are some links: (Thanks to shares by John Bolt, Bob Daugherty and Mark Mittelstadt)

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/09/associated-press-hiring\\_n\\_4569625.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=media](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/09/associated-press-hiring_n_4569625.html?utm_hp_ref=media)

<http://www.politico.com/blogs/media/2014/01/associated-press-staffs-up-180908.html>

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### Connecting Mailbox

**Dave Lubeski (AP Broadcast, 1974-2009):** I'm responding to your "Stuff about us" remarks and will gladly share a few thoughts. I once asked a former staffer to help with a project I was working on and he told me he'd gladly do anything for the mother ship. That's how I now fondly refer to the AP. When I left the AP after 35 years I became the SID for George Washington University in DC for a couple of years and was a hospital volunteer for another year-and-a-half after that. Now, when anyone asks me what kind of work I did I don't even bother to mention anything other than the AP.

One distinction I believe I hold, regarding my AP career, is that I covered more Olympics than any other AP reporter. From Montreal to Beijing I was there for 17 in a row, summer and winter. **Bud Weydert** helped me research it and unofficially it appears no other AP staffer had more. Bud and I worked Olympics together beginning in 1984 when I was the sports director for Broadcast and a few years before he became the director of special events from the 90s through Beijing in 2008.

There is nothing more exciting, or more involved than preparing and executing Olympic coverage. We'd begin our planning with meetings with the organizers of the Games at least two years in advance of Opening Ceremonies and at the end of an Olympiad we'd briefly bask in the success of another Olympic coverage and would immediately begin working on the next one. Bud, **Darrell Christian**, then **Terry Taylor** (when she became sports editor), **Brian Horton** (and later **Mike Feldman**) and I traveled far and wide to meet with organizers multiple times during the process. **Jerry Hogan** and later **Bruce Hanselman** were also frequent fellow travelers on our preparation trips.

I covered Olympics in 12 countries and the USA and even got to attend my 18th and final Olympics in Vancouver in 2010 when I was at my SID job. My AP best 17 in a row may not stand forever, but anyone who is going to surpass that amount still has a few to go. It is something I'm proud to have accomplished during my AP days. The Olympics certainly provided my greatest AP moments, highlighted by being in the Lake Placid Field House for the Miracle On Ice, an event I wasn't assigned to cover, but I decided to accompany my broadcast colleague who had the assignment.

**Marc Wilson**, responding to recent post that Linda Deutsch has worked with 11 chiefs of bureau in Los Angeles in her 47-year career: I worked for six COBs. The late **John Robert Starr** in Little Rock was one of my favorites – and the quirkiest. He claimed to be the only COB who was simultaneously COB and Guild chairman. Little Rock had six staffers and he was the only member of the Guild when he was appointed COB. So – he claimed – was both guild steward and COB for a while. He said negotiations were harsh on both sides, until the Guild finally appointed a more reasonable steward.

John Robert had worked in Little Rock with fellow staffers **Keith Fuller** (future GM), **Tom Dygard** (future Indianapolis Chicago and Tokoyo COB), and **Wick Temple** (future VP and ME). Starr claimed he was by far the smartest of the lot – but unwilling to leave Arkansas to climb the AP ladder.

Before he was COB, Starr tried to help organize the Guild at the Arkansas Gazette. The effort lost by one vote, and the tie-breaking vote was cast by a Gazette staffer who rose to be editor. So, for all the years that John Robert was COB he refused to step foot in the Gazette building. (Shortly after I arrived in Little Rock, I visited the Gazette's library/morgue for background info, and Starr made me write up a visit report to send to New York.) John Robert usually got angry because of some member request at the annual state meeting and would leave the convention early. He was interesting and fun.

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### Connecting birthdays

**Richard Horwitz** suggests, regarding the new Connecting birthday greetings, that I include the email address of the birthday girl or boy being recognized, so that colleagues who choose can drop them a congratulations note. Several of you asked for **Lew Ferguson's** address when we started with Lew's birthday yesterday. So I will include that in the future. Which reminds: If you haven't already, send me an email with your birth date (month and day). And you'll get a Happy Birthday recognition on your special day or birthday week from Connecting. Send to me at [stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com) in this format – Date, Your Name, Your email address (Example: Dec. 5, Paul Stevens, [stevenspl@live.com](mailto:stevenspl@live.com)). For those who have already responded, I have your email address and no need to send.

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**Mark Mittelstadt** notes that former New York staffers among us, and current staffers, will find this of interest:

### So Long, MetroCard: NYC Subway Cards Will Soon See Their Last Swipes

[http://www.fastcompany.com/3024544/fast-feed/so-long-metrocard-nyc-subway-cards-will-soon-see-their-last-swipes?utm\\_source=facebook](http://www.fastcompany.com/3024544/fast-feed/so-long-metrocard-nyc-subway-cards-will-soon-see-their-last-swipes?utm_source=facebook)

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**Richard Inskip**, an icon of Indiana journalism, passed away Wednesday at the age of 89. I was privileged to work with him during my time as Indianapolis bureau chief, and then with his daughter, current Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette publisher **Julie Inskip**, as a regional vice president. Julie, a Connecting colleague, served on the AP board of directors from 2000 to 2009.

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20140108/LOCAL/140109385>

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Welcome to the newest member of Connecting - **Steve Shirk**.

Paul

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**Tip from publisher led to Bergen Record's scoop on bridge lane closing scandal** (Mark Mittelstadt)

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/erik-wemple/wp/2014/01/09/the-record-nails-christie-story/>

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**Side-splitting tweets from Chris Christie news conference**

<http://www.rawstory.com/rs/2014/01/09/best-tweets-during-chris-christies-press-conference/>

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**How The Media Marketed Chris Christie's Straight Shooter Charade** (Bill Beecham)

<http://mediamatters.org/blog/2014/01/09/how-the-media-marketed-chris-christies-straight/197500>

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**Even state lawmaker misses journalist as moderator of Chamber legislative breakfast**

<http://politicalsmokeout.tumblr.com/post/72771907480/chamber-breakfast-quiet-with-pre-screened-questions>

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**John Miller: 'Almost no difference' between reporter, intelligence official**

<http://www.politico.com/blogs/media/2014/01/john-miller-almost-no-difference-between-reporter-180902.html>

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## **Seven hard truths about digital era journalism**

[http://www.cjr.org/realtalk/realtalk\\_010914.php](http://www.cjr.org/realtalk/realtalk_010914.php)

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## **Advance Digital editor tells staff how to cover extreme winter weather**

<http://jimromenesko.com/2014/01/09/memo-winter-weather-coverage-strategies-that-work/>

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## **Who is this man? Many Americans don't recognize top news anchor** (Latrice Davis)

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/01/09/who-is-this-man-many-americans-dont-recognize-top-news-anchor/>