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## Connecting - August 19, 2016

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Fri, Aug 19, 2016 at 8:57 AM

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# Connecting

August 19, 2016

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Colleagues,

Good Friday morning!

Congratulations are in order to:

The **AP Summer Olympics photo team** - featured on CBS This Morning on Thursday morning.

AP Executive Editor **Kathleen Carroll** - selected Thursday to receive the 2016 Front Page Award for Lifetime Achievement from The Newswomen's Club of New York.

Paul

## 'CBS This Morning' highlights AP photographers' Olympic work



In an interview with "CBS This Morning," Deputy Director of Photography Denis Paquin and photographers David Goldman and David Phillip explain the AP's photo operation in Rio, including the use of robotic cameras.

AUGUST 18, 2016, 8:44 AM - The Summer Olympics have been a blur of non-stop action, full of visual moments. Thousands of photos have been taken in Rio, inspiring the world through snapshots of competition, triumph and heartbreak. Ben Tracy

reports on the AP photographers who explain what it takes to medal in Olympic photography.

[Click here](#) to view the video.

## Honoring Executive Editor Kathleen Carroll

By **LAUREN EASTON**

AP Executive Editor Kathleen Carroll will receive the 2016 Front Page Award for Lifetime Achievement from The Newswomen's Club of New York, the organization announced Thursday.

The announcement said:

*This award is decided by peers and given to a working newswoman who has amassed a significant body of work over at least 20 years. It recognizes a newswoman's leadership, contributions to journalism overall and opportunities created for other newswomen through her work and service. This award also recognizes Kathleen Carroll's untiring work on behalf of freedom of the press and journalists around the world.*



Under Carroll's leadership, AP significantly deepened its commitment to investigative reporting, established bureaus in North Korea, Myanmar and Saudi Arabia and won numerous awards, among them five Pulitzer Prizes, including the [Pulitzer for Public Service](#).

Carroll, who has led AP's global news operations for 14 years, currently serves as vice-chair of the Committee to Protect Journalists. She was the first journalist to address the United Nations Security Council about journalist safety.

Carroll will leave AP at the [end of the year](#).

"Kathleen Carroll could not be more deserving of the Front Page Award for Lifetime Achievement," Sandy Rowe, chairman of the board of directors of the Committee to Protect Journalists, said in the announcement. "As the leader of AP's worldwide news operation and as vice chairman of the Committee to Protect Journalists, she works relentlessly to ensure that journalists can work without fear of reprisal. Whether testifying before the United Nations Security Council or meeting with government officials worldwide, she makes the safety of journalists her priority."

The Front Page Awards will be presented on Nov. 10 at The Down Town Association in New York.

[Click here](#) for a link to this story.

## Connecting mailbox

***Shulins' story brightened my day***

**Andy Lippman (Email)** - Nancy Shulins came up like sunshine this morning and brightened my day. (See Thursday's Connecting)

There is a reason she was named a special correspondent, and it's all written out - in word and deed.

Thanks to Connecting for showcasing Nancy's work.

I've been a fan for years. I'm guessing that she picked up a few more fans after this people read this story.

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## ***Every AP staffer should be 'Goodwill Ambassador'***

**Gene Herrick (Email)** - In responding to Connecting's thoughts on AP folks assisting, cooperating with, and doing good ole membership outreach, I would suggest that any AP staffer, or administrator, who had direct contact with a member, did their best to assist the member.

A staffer working a news desk, and contacting a member paper or station, knew he/she was the "Face" of the AP, and their behavior and personality should be positive and cooperative.

It was the specific job of AP bureau chiefs and other executives to be the main member contact person. The guy, or gal, on the desk, were actually the main contact people, even though they talked news business. AP photographers, in my day, were often the face-to-face contact with the AP members.

Often, when I would go into a city, or little town, to cover a story, I was often told that "You are the only AP photographer or newsman we have ever seen." We were sort of oddities and often heroes. I can remember being questioned at great length about my experiences. Also, the photo staff of some papers I visited while covering a story in Minnesota, looked forward to me taking them out for lunch and a beer.

While working out of Memphis in the 50's, I was often contacted by Arkansas Chief of Bureau Clem Brossier, who would tell me that an Arkansas publisher and his wife

were coming to Memphis, and would I, and my wife, take them out for dinner and a visit to the Peabody Hotel for dancing. Tennessee Chief of Bureau Ed Ball did the same thing for some of his member editors. "Be sure to take a bottle of Jack Daniels with you when you go to xxxxx. Ed would always say, "You know how to handle on your expense account," which meant extra miles of driving, and "rental of ladders," which came in at one dollar per foot!

AP photographers, and other AP newsmen, were really "Goodwill Ambassadors" to our members, and maybe of equal importance, to the community at large.

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## ***Connecting sky shot - Tucson***



**Mark Mittelstadt (Email)** - Mary and I were on our way home from a late afternoon showing of the Meryl Streep movie "Florence Foster Jenkins" and enjoying the sunset over mountains west of Tucson when we looked to the east and saw this beautiful moonrise over the Catalinas.

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## ***In support of flossing***

**Linda Sargent (Email)** - I asked my dentist what he thought about the dental floss story. He shook his head in disgust and then suggested that the answer to whether to floss or not could be solved by smelling of one's floss after starting to floss again after a three week hiatus.

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## ***It all started for me in HerEx Building***

**Harold Waters (Email)** - The photo of the LA HerEx Bldg. brought back a flood of memories for me. I started my AP career as an office boy (later called a Printer Attendant) in that building in November, 1945.

As I remember, I took the elevator in the lobby up to the second floor. Walked up a flight of stairs and exited a door that led to the roof. Took a few more steps and entered a room leading into the AP day office. The office was often referred to as "The Penthouse" because of its location. I was recently discharged from the Army after serving 2 1/2 years in Europe during WW2. Had only a high school education, nothing pertaining to journalism except a couple of semesters of typing.

Ben Bates was the Traffic Chief, Hub Keavy the Bureau Chief. Mr. Bates told me that my lack of any technical training, or journalistic abilities, my future with the AP didn't look too bright. They didn't need any foxhole diggers at the time. But he explained they had need of an Office Boy. He explained the duties and pay.

I accepted the office boy job for \$18.75 weekly.

Working the early shift, 5 a.m.-1:30p.m. I received \$3.75 extra weekly. I was also given a Street Car Pass because of the trips I would make between the AP day office in the HerEx. Bldg and the night office in the LA Times Bldg.

During this time, I trained as Wirephoto Operator. In November of 1947 I was awarded a job in Detroit. We drove into Detroit Thanksgiving morning and snow covered the ground. Snowflakes big as half dollars were falling. That ain't funny to a couple from sunny California who didn't even have overcoats.

That stay lasted till March of '48. I bid on a Dallas job, so we were off to Texas.

We've been here ever since.

I worked nearly 20 years as an Operator. Was promoted to staff photographer. Worked that job many years. Enjoyed the heck out of my three jobs with AP. Best job I've ever had.

I think that's pretty good for a guy who had no special training or education. I owe it all to the Lord and the many people along the way who guided, helped, and encouraged me.

And it all started in that beautiful LA Herald Examiner Building!

## Connecting profile - Rik Stevens



**Rik Stevens (Email)** - After 10 years in daily newspapers in Saratoga Springs and Schenectady, NY, Rik Stevens joined AP in 2000 in Albany and was named news editor in July 2001. Over the next 12 years, he directed coverage of the New York state report north of New York City to the Canadian border and west to Buffalo. What a span it was! He spent three weeks working relief reporting/editing shifts in the NYC buro following the Sept. 11 terror attacks and was reporting at Ground Zero the day U.S. planes began the attack against the Taliban in Afghanistan.

He also led coverage - in a crazy two-month span in 2009 - of the crash of Continental Flight 3407 that killed 50 people outside of Buffalo, and the mass shooting of 13 people at a community center in Binghamton. Those stories served as the shakedown cruise for the East Desk.

He was named Northern New England correspondent in 2013, based in Concord and with oversight of NH, VT and ME. Among some of the stories he led while there, one of the most gripping was the sexual assault trial of the graduate of an elite prep school that had turned out such luminaries as John Kerry, Robert Mueller and Garry Trudeau.

Stevens left AP in January, 2016 and, after spending seven months working with his hands on home improvement projects, was hired in August by Bloomberg

Intelligence. He'll move to New York City in September and begin editing business analysis for the company's client-facing dashboard. That'll get him closer to his two daughters and soon-to-be three grandsons.



By **JOHN DANISZEWSKI**

For 80 years, AP has organized the longest-running college football poll of its kind. Every week through each season, AP's marquee listing tells who's up, who's down and most significantly, who's No. 1. The 2016 preseason poll will start the buzz again when it comes out this Sunday.

But in this anniversary year, AP Sports wanted to do something extra: Produce a composite poll showing which 100 teams ranked highest over the full eight decades and 1,103 polls. The result - anchored by Ralph Russo, Paul Montella and Howie Rumberg - was an exclusive package that dramatically moved the needle on digital, social media and in print, while further boosting the profile of the AP Top 25 poll. It earns the Beat of the Week.

"Many people know AP only because of the poll," said deputy sports editor Noreen Gillespie, who noted it drives traffic to AP's college football Digital News Experience, or DNE, a website that customers can integrate into their own digital products. "The brilliance behind this group's work is that they were able to take something that was solely AP's -- and in part, defines AP Sports -- and extend that brand."

But how do you track so many polls, going back so far? The foundation of the project was an archive compiled by Montella, agate desk newsman in New York Sports. He has been the tabulator of the weekly poll from 1989 to the present. For the years before his tenure, Montella used a book by Lowell R. Greunke titled, "Football Rankings: College Teams in the Associated Press Poll, 1936-1984." To fill in the '84-'89 gap, Montella went to newspaper archives. And as time allowed, he added, "I worked backward to double-check the work of Greunke. Every poll has been double-checked."

Data in hand, Russo went to work on analysis, and not simply to pinpoint the all-time No. 1. Russo, AP's college football beat reporter, crafted a package that includes a series of decade-by-decade pieces rolling out over the weeks leading up to this year's season opener on Aug. 25. Assistant sports editor Howie Rumberg shepherded the project from start to finish.



When the all-time Top 100 poll came out, response was immediate, huge and predictably partisan.

There was plenty of praise from fans of No. 1 Ohio State, No. 2 Oklahoma and No. 3 Notre Dame but harsh criticism from fans of No. 4 Alabama, who believe their team should have been ranked higher given that it has more national championships (10) than any other program. No. 7 Michigan fans also were critical as they complain anytime rival Ohio State is No. 1 on any list.

"I did about 10-12 sports talk interviews in the couple days following its release, most in Alabama," said Russo, who noted that some down-ballot fans also had fun with the rankings, "like Arizona State coming in ahead of Arizona."

One website perhaps summed it up best with this headline: "The AP Ranked The Top 100 All-Time College Football Programs And You're Going To Be PISSED Your Team's Not Higher."

Robust debate continued for days among commenters on websites, sports columnists in newspapers, and across talk radio and Twitter. "It's what makes the poll so perfect for social engagement," said Barry Bedlan, AP's deputy director of sports products.

The first AP tweet about the composite poll has driven more than 36,000 clicks, making it the most clicked-on from any AP Twitter account of 2016. It has been retweeted 5,416 times.

<http://collegefootball.ap.org/ap-poll-all-time> , <http://collegefootball.ap.org/top-100>

For creatively showcasing and updating a historic AP brand, the college football poll, Russo, Montella and Rumberg share this week's \$500 prize.

Others whose work impressed the judges:

Aya Batrawy, business writer, Dubai; Paisley Dodds, investigative reporter, London; Lori Hinnant, terrorism writer, Paris, for using thousands of documents, interviews and court testimony to show that the majority of early Islamic State group recruits had very little knowledge of Islam, which made them susceptible to indoctrination. <http://yhoo.it/2aZ6lDj>

Dan Sewell, correspondent, Cincinnati, for mining his own social media experience to identify a trend of people increasingly blocking or even unfriending Facebook friends because of ugly postings and comments about the election. <http://apne.ws/2brC7kd>

Alison Noon, temporary legislative relief, Sacramento, California, for using data to show that a decade after voters approved \$400 million in parks funding in poor areas, fewer than half of the parks had been built. <http://bit.ly/2aHVeR9>

Michelle Smith, correspondent, Providence, for being first to report that the site of a 2003 fire that killed 100 people was being used as a stop in "Pokemon Go," upsetting survivors and relatives of those killed. The game also incorrectly described the fire as having killed 200 people. <http://bit.ly/2b22t8L>

Mike Sisak, East social media/UGC editor, for breaking the news that Amtrak has quietly begun settling lawsuits from last year's Philadelphia crash. He also found that Amtrak, though accepting responsibility for the crash, is demanding strict confidentiality in reaching settlements. <http://wapo.st/2btiepJ>

Tales Azzoni, Madrid sportswriter, for breaking the news that Lionel Messi reconsidered his retirement from international soccer and was returning to Argentina's national team. <http://apne.ws/2bghMJG>

Amy Taxin, reporter, Orange County, California, for getting an exclusive interview with Santos Lopez Alonzo, a former Guatemalan soldier charged with helping carry out a massacre during that country's civil war 34 years ago; she had been tipped about his impending deportation. When a source confirmed his plane had left the U.S. for Guatemala City, Taxin alerted AP's Sonia Perez in Guatemala who became the first reporter to speak with Alonzo on arrival. <http://bit.ly/2bllLt7>

Jason Patinkin, stringer, South Sudan, for revealing that dozens of South Sudanese soldiers raped several foreigners, carried out mock executions and shot dead a local journalist while forcing everyone to watch during a rampage after last month's renewed violence in the capital, Juba. The U.N. secretary-general has announced he will launch an independent special investigation into the rampage. <http://apne.ws/2aW9Suj>

John Leicester, sports columnist, for an exclusive from the Rio Games that looked at how international track and field authorities have forced intersex athletes to submit to surgery and hormone therapy so they can continue competing. <http://bit.ly/2bs7M0s> <https://youtu.be/NxcdycvPRrE>

Sharon Cohen, national writer, Chicago, for spotting a trend amid the national opioid crisis: Some prosecutors in hard-hit states are charging dealers after fatal overdoses not just with selling drugs but with causing deaths. <http://apne.ws/2aUmbmF>

Youkyung Lee, newspaper person, Seoul, South Korea, for revealing how South Korean government officials were routinely withholding, on trade-secret grounds, crucial information about toxins used in Samsung computer chip production, which sick workers needed to obtain compensation. <http://apne.ws/2bB6wLJ>

Eddie Pells, national writer, Sports, and Pat Graham, sports writer, Denver, for exclusive interviews with sprinter Justin Gatlin and Loren Seagrave, the coach of Darya Klishina, who is the only Russian athlete competing in Olympic track and field. <http://apne.ws/2biQzGu> <http://bit.ly/2bnsy4l>

Jacques Billeaud, reporter, Phoenix, for examining campaign fundraising reports of Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio and finding the combative lawman had raised a whopping \$10 million in his re-election bid for a seventh term, the bulk of it from out-of-state contributors. <http://bit.ly/2baQdpw>

David Porter, reporter, Newark, and Ezra Kaplan, intern, New York City, for revealing that an aide to New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said he lied when he said no one from his administration was involved in the George Washington Bridge lane-closing case. <http://yhoo.it/2b4r4JQ>

(Shared by Valerie Komor)

## Welcome to Connecting



**Brad Cain - [birdoz@comcast.net](mailto:birdoz@comcast.net)**

**Richard Shafer - [richardshafer@hotmail.com](mailto:richardshafer@hotmail.com)**

**John Schweitzer - [johnogem@aol.com](mailto:johnogem@aol.com)**

# Stories of interest

## ***Princeton HR department: Don't use word 'man'*** (College Fix)

GENERIC TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS	
Don't Use	Use
average man	average person, ordinary person
best man for the job	best person for the job
layman	layperson, non-specialist
man (when referring to humanity)	human beings, humanity, humans, individuals, people
man and wife	spouses, partners
man hours	person hours, work hours
mankind	humankind
man made	artificial, handmade, manufactured, synthetic
manpower	personnel, staff, workers, workforce
to man	to operate, to staff
workmanlike	skillful

The Princeton University HR department has largely wiped the word "man" from its vocabulary.

The relatively new policy in effect at the Ivy League institution spells out the directive in a four-page memo that aims to make the department more gender inclusive.

Instead of using "man," employees are told to use words such as human beings, individuals or people.

Other guidelines? Instead of "man and wife" use spouses or partners. Switch out "man made" with artificial, handmade or manufactured. Don't use the verb "to man,"

as in to work something, instead use to operate or to staff. Throw out workmanlike and replace it with skillful.

[Click here](#) to read more. Shared by Ralph Gage, who noted: "I hope this crap does not find its way into the Stylebook!"

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### ***R.I.P. Gawker, 2002-2016*** (Poynter)

Gawker.com will shut down at the end of next week, the website reported Thursday.

Over more than a decade, the pioneering website produced a cadre of talented writers and editors, oodles of attention-grabbing scoops, became the scourge of the Manhattan media scene and a magnet for lawsuits.

It sometimes drew attention - and derision from established media - for stories that veered toward the stuff of tabloids, such as a 2015 story about a Condé Nast executive allegedly soliciting a male escort.

The site was ultimately driven to bankruptcy by lawsuits brought by lawyer Charles Harder and bankrolled by Silicon Valley billionaire Peter Thiel, who waged a covert legal war against the site's parent company.

[Click here](#) to read more.

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### ***The Top News Events That Got America Talking About Race*** (New York

Times)

Every day last year, Twitter users turned to social media to talk about race.

They voiced frustrations, offered opinions, spread news and shared reflections on race no fewer than 1.5 million times per day, according to a new Pew Research Center analysis. Typically, the number was even higher, with an average of 2.2 million daily Twitter posts on race. On some days, the chatter was much louder.

The Pew analysis, published on Monday, traced the contours of a continuing conversation about race, revealing how social media serves as an outlet as the nation reckons with racial inequality and injustice, particularly around tragedy.

[Click here](#) to read more.

## The Final Word



**Today in History - August 19, 2016**



## By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Aug. 19, the 232nd day of 2016. There are 134 days left in the year.

### Today's Highlight in History:

On Aug. 19, 1991, Soviet hard-liners stunned the world by announcing that President Mikhail S. Gorbachev had been removed from power. (The coup attempt collapsed two days later.)

### On this date:

In A.D. 14, Caesar Augustus, Rome's first emperor, died at age 76 after a reign lasting four decades; he was succeeded by his stepson Tiberius.

In 1812, the USS Constitution defeated the British frigate HMS Guerriere off Nova Scotia during the War of 1812, earning the nickname "Old Ironsides."

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces landed at Benedict, Maryland, with the objective of capturing Washington D.C.

In 1918, "Yip! Yip! Yaphank," a musical revue by Irving Berlin featuring Army recruits from Camp Upton in Yaphank, New York, opened on Broadway.

In 1934, a plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler.

In 1936, the first of a series of show trials orchestrated by Soviet leader Josef Stalin began in Moscow as 16 defendants faced charges of conspiring against the government (all were convicted and executed).

In 1942, during World War II, about 6,000 Canadian and British soldiers launched a disastrous raid against the Germans at Dieppe, France, suffering more than 50-percent casualties.

In 1955, torrential rains caused by Hurricane Diane resulted in severe flooding in the northeastern U.S., claiming some 200 lives.

In 1964, The Beatles opened their first full-fledged U.S. tour as they performed at San Francisco's Cow Palace.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Kansas City.

In 1980, 301 people aboard a Saudi Arabian L-1011 died as the jetliner made a fiery emergency return to the Riyadh airport.

In 1991, rioting erupted in the Brooklyn, New York, Crown Heights neighborhood after a black 7-year-old, Gavin Cato, was struck and killed by a Jewish driver from the ultra-Orthodox Lubavitch community; three hours later, a gang of blacks fatally stabbed Yankel Rosenbaum, a rabbinical student.



Ten years ago: Israeli commandos raided a Hezbollah stronghold deep in Lebanon. (Israel said the raid was launched to stop arms smuggling from Iran and Syria to the militant Shiite fighters; Lebanon called the operation a "flagrant violation" of a U.N. truce.)

Five years ago: Three men - Damien Echols, Jason Baldwin and Jesse Misskelley - who'd spent nearly two decades in prison for the nightmarish slayings of three Cub Scouts in Arkansas, went free after they agreed to a legal maneuver allowing them to maintain their innocence while acknowledging prosecutors had enough evidence against them. Danell Leyva beat two-time defending champion Jonathan Horton for his first title at the U.S. gymnastics championships in St. Paul, Minnesota.

One year ago: Longtime Subway pitchman Jared Fogle agreed in federal court in Indianapolis to plead guilty to allegations that he'd paid for sex acts with minors and received child pornography. (Fogle pleaded guilty in Nov. 2015 to one count each of distributing and receiving child porn and traveling to engage in illicit sexual conduct with a child, and was sentenced to more than 15 years in prison.) Islamic State militants beheaded 81-year-old Khaled al-Asaad, a leading Syrian antiquities scholar who'd spent most of his life looking after the ancient ruins of Palmyra.

Today's Birthdays: Actor L.Q. Jones is 89. Actress Debra Paget is 83. USTA Eastern Tennis Hall of Famer Renee Richards is 82. Former MLB All-Star Bobby Richardson is 81. Actress Diana Muldaur is 78. Rock musician Ginger Baker (Cream, Blind Faith) is 77. Singer Johnny Nash is 76. Actress Jill St. John is 76. Singer Billy J. Kramer is 73. Country singer-songwriter Eddy Raven is 72. Rock singer Ian Gillan (Deep Purple) is 71. Former President Bill Clinton is 70. Actor Gerald McRaney is 69. Tipper Gore, wife of former Vice President Al Gore, is 68. Actor Jim Carter is 68. Rock musician John Deacon (Queen) is 65. Actor-director Jonathan Frakes is 64. Political consultant Mary Matalin is 63. Actor Peter Gallagher is 61. Actor Adam Arkin is 60. Singer-songwriter Gary Chapman is 59. Actor Martin Donovan is 59. Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Anthony Munoz is 58. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ivan Neville is 57. Actor Eric Lutes is 54. Actor John Stamos is 53. Actress Kyra Sedgwick is 51. Actor Kevin Dillon is 51. Country singer Lee Ann Womack is 50. TV reporter Tabitha Soren is 49. Country singer-songwriter Mark McGuinn is 48. Actor Matthew Perry is 47. Country singer Clay Walker is 47. Rapper Fat Joe is 46. Olympic gold medal tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez is 45. Actress Tracie Thoms is 41. Actor Callum Blue is 39. Country singer Rissi (REE'-see) Palmer is 35. Actress Erika Christensen is 34. Actress Melissa Fumero is 34. Pop singer Missy Higgins is 33. Actor Peter Mooney is 33. Actress Tammin Sursok is 33. Country singer Karli Osborn is 32. Olympic silver medal snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis is 31. Actor J. Evan Bonifant is 31. Rapper Romeo is 27.

***Thought for Today: "Don't worry about people stealing your ideas. If your ideas are any good, you'll have to ram them down people's throats." - Howard H. Aiken, American computer pioneer (1900-1973).***

# Got a story to share?



Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.
- **Life after AP** for those of you who have moved on to another job or profession.
- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

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