



The Omaha Press Club Education Series examines **Gangs in Omaha**

In the early 1980s, the Omaha Police Department didn't even use the term "gang activity." In spite of what both police and the media knew, the public spin was that gangs were in Minneapolis, Kansas City, Chicago – but not in Omaha.

That changed over the years, and today the Omaha Police Department's Gang Unit works seven days a week, collaborating closely with schools, the Omaha Housing Authority and uniform patrol officers – whom they consider their eyes and ears.

Two individuals who know the situation well serve as our Noon Education Forum speakers on June 19:

Lt. Ken Kanger, who is in charge of Omaha Police Department's Gang Unit and has 21 years of law enforcement experience, and Janece Pannkuk, executive director of Impact One.

NOON FORUM **Thursday, June 19**

Noon to 1 p.m. Forum begins promptly at noon
\$15 per person includes lunch,
which begins at 11:30 a.m.

CALL 402-345-8008 FOR RESERVATIONS
or e-mail jeaniec@opc.omhcoxmail.com

Reservations must be accompanied by OPC
member number or credit card.

24-hour cancellation policy or no refund

NON-PRESS CLUB MEMBERS WELCOME

Validated parking in the DoubleTree Hotel garage.

Bring your ticket.

The Omaha Press Club--22nd floor –
First National Center, 1620 Dodge St.

Join us to celebrate excellence in journalism

JOURNALISTS OF EXCELLENCE HALL OF FAME INDUCTION AND EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM AWARDS PRESENTATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

5:30 P.M.

RECEPTION • PRESENTATION • DINNER

Omaha Press Club: \$40 each; table of eight \$320

Call 402-345-8008 for information or reservations

or email to: jeaniec@opc.omhcoxmail.com

These journalists will be inducted into the OPC Hall of Fame on June 7: Bob Dorr • Carl Keith • Joe McCartney • Rob McCartney • Mary McGrath



Photo by Gary Willis
Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold explains to a Noon Forum crowd his plans to lead UNMC to new heights in the competitive health care industry.

OPC Hero: Gary Kerr

An ongoing feature spotlighting members whose volunteer work for the club goes above and beyond.

By Judy Horan
OPC Committee Chair

In 1999, then-OPC President Bill Kelly asked Gary Kerr to chair an Education Committee that would plan monthly Noon Education Forums.

Kerr liked the idea of a continuing program to educate members and the general public. "We're a press club, and the Omaha Press Club should be doing things like this."

That was 15 years ago, and the committee is still going strong. "We think about ideas not only Press Club members would be interested in, but the general public," Kerr said.

"Things I think will work often don't. And things I look at and say 'Nobody is coming to this,' we get a full house for," Kerr said with a laugh.

Sometimes there are surprises. "One time we really filled the club was when we had Nebraska poet Ted Kooser, who was then the U.S. Poet Laureate," Kerr said. He felt the Pulitzer Prize-winning poet was an important speaker, but didn't expect the turnout he received.

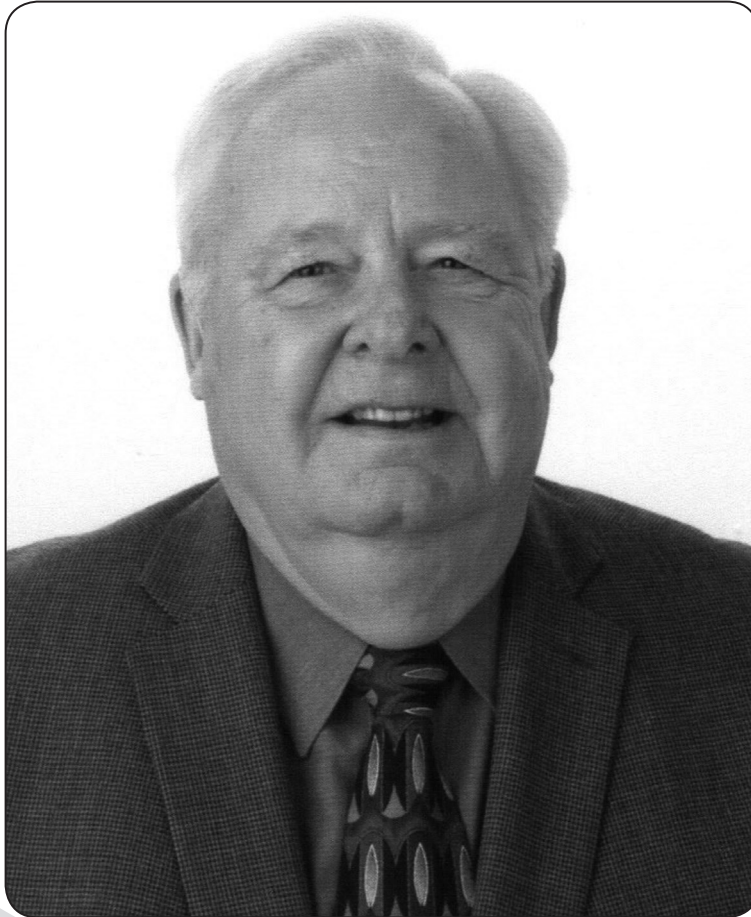
"But I'm a news person, and so things in the news are what I look at."

People who show up at the Omaha Press Club are only part of the audience for the Noon Education Forums. KIOS Public Radio broadcasts the speeches during a noon hour a few days later.

Noon Forums that always fill the club are political debates moderated by Kerr. A Nebraska 2nd Congressional District debate is held every two years. This year's will most likely be in October. "We also

want to try to do a gubernatorial debate this year," he said.

Kerr clarifies that "we" refers to the Omaha Press Club and the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha, who are co-sponsors. His wife, Karren, is a former national board member of the League of Women Voters and was president of the Nebraska league.



Service to the OPC

Kerr served on the OPC board of directors from 1998 to 2004. He was secretary in 1998. He was honored as a "Face on the Barroom Floor" in 2000 and was inducted into the OPC Hall of Fame in 2011.

The year he retired from WOWT, Kerr appeared on stage at the 1999 Omaha Press Club Show to recite his "Top 10 Things I Plan to Do in Retirement." It wasn't his first appearance in the show. In

the 1970s, he showed up on stage in a gorilla suit.

A farm boy from South Dakota, Kerr joined WOW-TV (now WOWT) and Radio in 1964 as assistant farm director. The first television station in Nebraska, WOW-TV then was only 15 years old. Also that year, another South Dakota country boy, Tom Brokaw, worked down the street at KMTV.

Kerr became WOW-TV's chief newscaster in 1971. He also worked briefly at KSCJ Radio and KTIV in Sioux City.

Kerr held the record as Omaha's longest-tenured TV newscaster when he left WOWT in 1999. The veteran journalist was called the "Walter Cronkite of Omaha" and "dean of Omaha TV newscasters." The UNO School of Communication presented him a Lifetime Achievement Award.

When Kerr said goodbye to his television audience on New Year's Eve 1998, he reminisced about stories covered over 35 years: civil rights and Vietnam War protests in the 1970s. "I questioned whether the nation would survive," he said. The farm recession of the 1980s. The unbridled prosperity of the 1990s. The change in 1991 of the Strategic Air Command to Strategic Command. "A few

jobs were lost, but the devastating impact on Bellevue some had predicted never happened."

Gary and Karren Kerr have two sons, Justin in Chicago and Aaron in Minneapolis, and five grandchildren.

They spend time on the farm in South Dakota where Gary Kerr grew up to become a respected newscaster. He is one of the long-time contributors who generously give their time to make the Omaha Press Club a great place to be.

Former OPC Show talent brings one-man comedy to Community Playhouse

By Katie Broman

Pat Hazell's contributions to local entertainment include a performance in an Omaha Press Club Show in 2000. Hazell hosted a sketch called "Who Wants to be a Jillionaire?" with billionaire contestants Warren Buffett, Walter Scott Jr. and Joe Ricketts. The comedy was part of the Omaha Press Club Foundation's annual scholarship fundraiser.

Now the former Omahan is bringing his one-man comedy show, "The Wonder Bread Years," to the Omaha Community Playhouse for a limited run, June 13-29.

"The Wonder Bread Years" is a throw-back to the baby boomer generation. Jerry Seinfeld has called the show "milk-snorting funny." It also has been called, "pure unpasteurized nostalgia" by the *Los Angeles Times* and "genuinely funny Americana humor" by the *Omaha World-Herald*.

Hazell is one of the original writers for "Seinfeld", a "Tonight Show" veteran, a critically acclaimed playwright and a contributing commentator for National Public Radio.

"The Wonder Bread Years" will be in the Howard Drew Theatre at the Omaha



Community Playhouse, June 13-29. Tickets are on sale now at the Playhouse box office by calling 402- 553-0800 or by email at

www.omahaplayhouse.com.

Maybe someday he will return to the OPC Show stage.

Cartoon by Jim Horan



IT'S EITHER BIGFOOT OR A
GIANT CIRCUS CLOWN.

OPENING NIGHT FIREWORKS BUFFET

FRIDAY, JUNE 13

7 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. | Adults \$16 • Children \$10

Fireworks display after team introductions and awards

Tossed Salad • Coleslaw • Buttered Corn • Whipped Potatoes & Gravy
Slow-Cooked BBQ Beef Brisket • Southern Fried Chicken • Deviled Eggs
Baked Beans • Potato Salad • BBQ Baby Back Ribs • Vienna Hot Dogs

Dessert: Brownie à la Mode

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 402-345-8008

HOME RUN DERBY & FIREWORKS BUFFET

THURSDAY, JULY 3

7 p.m.- 9 p.m. | Adults \$18 • Children \$10

Featuring Fireworks from TD Ameritrade Park

Tossed Salad • Coleslaw • Buttered Corn • Deviled Eggs • Baked Beans
Potato Salad • Whipped Potatoes & Gravy • Steamship Round
Southern Fried Chicken • BBQ Baby Back Ribs • Vienna Hot Dogs

Dessert: Brownie à la Mode

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 402-345-8008

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Keep cool and have a blast at the club

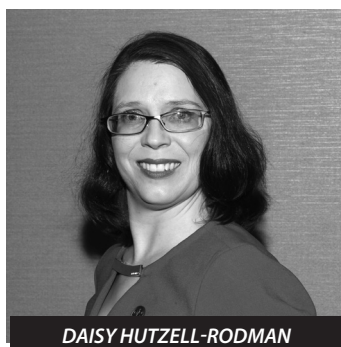
By Daisy Hutzell-Rodman

OPC President

Happy summer, everyone. Memorial Day weekend came in with a blast – a heat blast, that is. The OPC will be a great place to cool off during these warm summer nights, while still enjoying the sights of the city. One of my favorite events, the Excellence in Journalism Awards and Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame banquet, happens June 7. That's the same night as the Downtown Arts Festival, so please be aware of this when driving downtown.

I look forward to media members young and old coming together to celebrate our profession on this important night at the club.

The week after that is the fireworks banquet to kick off "that baseball event." In the past, I always have had scheduling conflicts during the OPC fireworks banquets, but I was fortunate



DAISY HUTZELL-RODMAN

Photo: HOWARD K. MARCUS

this year to experience the fireworks that blew during the end of the club's scholarship banquet. Now

I can officially say there is no better place from which to watch fireworks than the OPC. The big pluses are the amazing view -- and the facts that the OPC has air conditioning but no bugs!

One event I try to attend at least once a year is the Winemaker's Dinners. To create this event, Steve gives wine professional Teryl "Terry" Greene a menu, and then she deliberates on the best wines to pair with the vari-

ous dishes for the price allotted. Greene knows her business well enough to be willing to try different pairings, such as pairing the Thunderbird Salad with red instead of a traditional white.

Greene recently told me "I've very much enjoyed the winemaker's dinners at the OPC. The food has just been marvelous. The desserts, especially, they're all made by hand. I think their food is outstanding. People are missing out by not coming more often."

The next Winemaker's Dinner will be July 18, and the menu is in this issue.

One of my goals for this year is to provide two professional development sessions, and this goal is coming along nicely. The Professional Development Committee, led by Past-President Chris Allen, has come up with a great plan for fall sessions that will serve print and broadcast journalists, along with pub-

lic relations professionals.

The event is projected to be held in conjunction with the Public Relations Society of America. We are working on the exact details, but look for more information in this newsletter in the July/September issue.

Membership keeps increasing, thanks in part to the revamping of the First National membership category. And the Marketing/ Membership Committee is changing its meeting date to Tuesday. This small but effective group is open to new members.

We look forward to welcoming President-elect Todd Murphy and Secretary Sean McGuire starting this month. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Bridget Brooks, bw@buildimage.com or 402-393-4600.

One goal of the first meeting is to start a media membership drive. We are pressing forward at the club – come join us.



2013-14 Officers

Daisy Hutzell-Rodman.....President
Omaha World-Herald

Todd Murphy.....President Elect
Universal Information Services

J.J. Bartlett Treasurer
First National Bank

Sean McGuire Secretary
E.D. Bellis Healthcare Consultants

Bridget (Weide) Brooks ... Past President
Image Building Communications

Board of Directors

Terms run Feb. 1 to Jan. 31
for years listed

Chris Allen (2013-2015)	University of Nebraska at Omaha
Tom Becka (2014-2016)	NRG Media
Allen Beermann (2013-2015)	Nebraska Press Association
Deb Daley (2013-2015)	Creighton University
Harland Fogle (2014-2016)	U.S. Air Force (retired)
Willie Garrett (2014-2016)	Journal Broadcast Group
Judy Horan (2014-2016)	Horan Communications
Liz Hruska (2014-2016)	Nebraska Legislative Fiscal Office
Nicole Lindquist (2014-2016)	UNMC
Gary Sadlemyer (2013-2015)	KFAB Radio

Communications Committee

Tamsen Butler	402-871-9872
Henry Cordes	402-444-1130
Susan Eustice, Co-Chair	402-898-5908
Willie Garrett	402-953-7427
Judy Horan, Co-Chair	402-397-6155
Daisy Hutzell-Rodman	402-444-1328
Sara Ammon	402-957-0795
Howard K. Marcus	402-444-1397
Don Summerside	402-556-5547
Gary Willis	402-493-1373
Nicole Lindquist	402-559-9149

Committee Chairs

Communications Co-Chairs	Susan Eustice, Judy Horan
Education	Gary Kerr
Excellence in Journalism Awards	Willie Garrett
Executive Committee	Daisy Hutzell-Rodman, Todd Murphy, J.J. Bartlett, Sean McGuire, Bridget Brooks
"Face on the Barroom Floor"	Tom O'Connor
Hall of Fame	Judy Horan and Todd Murphy
Marketing/Membership	Bridget Brooks
Professional Development	Chris Allen

OPC Foundation

Henry Cordes <i>President</i>	Trustees
Steve Jordon <i>Vice President</i>	Chris Christen
Eileen Wirth, Ph.D. <i>Secretary</i>	Dave Hamer
Larry Weber <i>Treasurer</i>	Howard K. Marcus
Scott Darling <i>Past President</i>	John Prescott
	Joe Weber
	Dave Ogden, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The summer fun season is underway

With the summer months in full bloom, your club's management and staff look forward to the season's special events and to our annual closing.

This year we are doing a general cleaning and maintenance during the July 27-Aug. 18 closing -- and, of course, the renovation of the Agnew Room. Also each year we update our menus, adding new items while keeping the old favorites. If you have something you would like to see on the menu, please send me an email to opcdirector@gmail.com, and we will do what we can to accommodate your request.

The new Agnew Room is going to have a lounge-type appetizer menu with a few simple items and a few more upscale choices. The regular dinner menu also will be available for your pleasure.

As for the summer schedule, look for the many events we have planned with college baseball in town. The opening ceremonies Fireworks Buffet -- on Friday, June 13 -- is always a great event with the unique view we have from the club. My personal favorite, though, is the Fathers' Day Grill -- on Saturday, June 14 -- with a buffet format plus the bonus that you order your steak to your liking from the kitchen.

The OPC Reuben

It has been suggested that I include in my monthly column a description or history of the items that make our OPC menu special. A



good idea, I agreed, so here is my first go at it:

Omaha has a claim to fame on inventing the Reuben Sandwich, and we at the Press Club feel we have the city's best Reuben. Other area club members come to the Press Club just for our Rueben sandwich.

The old-school Rueben was prepared as follows: sauerkraut drained in a colander overnight (to prevent the sandwich from being soggy). Some chefs would mix the kraut with Thousand Island dressing, combine rye or pumpernickel bread with a slice of Swiss cheese, the sauerkraut, corned beef brisket and the Thousand Island, then grill the sandwich until hot. Many chefs would grill both sides of the bread

and then finish the sandwich in the microwave. A restaurant that served a lot of Ruebens would make multiple sandwiches ahead of time and wrap them individually, then store on a sheet pan in the walk-in cooler until needed.

Here is how the Rueben has evolved at your club:

- Our chefs start by buttering both slices of the bread and placing them on the grill.
- Immediately place a slice of Swiss cheese on both pieces of bread.
- Apply dressing on both slices of bread (Villamonte's Reuben Dressing can be purchased at most local Hy-Vee stores).
- Grill and brown the kraut separately to dry the excess liquid.
- Grill separately the sliced lean eye-of-the-round corned beef
- Add the corned beef to the sandwich, then the kraut on top of the beef.
- Combine the breads and slice at a bias. Voila!

Personal note

I am personally looking forward to a summer getaway with a family fishing trip to Canada.

Thank you all and I look forward to seeing you at the club.

Steve Villamonte CEC, BS

*Executive Director
Omaha Press Club*

WINEMAKER'S DINNER

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 402-345-8008

FRIDAY, JULY 18 • 6 P.M.

Price: Members \$40 • Nonmembers \$60

Hors d'oeuvres

Tuna Tartare with Japanese Aioli on a Crispy Wonton,
Beef & Salmon Carpaccio

Appetizer

Shrimp-Stuffed Mushroom, Finished with a Riesling Buerre Blanc

Sorbet

Grand Marnier Orange

Salad

OPC Famous Thunderbird Salad Served in a Parmesan Crisp

Entrée

Slowly-Roasted New York Strip with a Caramelized Baby Onion Jus
Crispy Risotto Cake, Pomegranate-Glazed Baby Carrot

Dessert

Classic Strawberry Frasier with OPC Truffle

FATHER'S DAY GRILL

FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 402-345-8008

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Adults \$25 • Children \$10

Choice of:

Prime Rib of Beef
Ribeye
New York Strip
Club Steak

Buffet

a la carte

Lyonnais Potatoes • Baked Beans • Corn-on-the-Cob • Vienna Hot Dogs
Potato Salad • Pasta Salad • Coleslaw • House Salad • Deviled Eggs
Assorted Brownies • Strawberry Shortcake

Have dinner with a winner

Join us for the Excellence in Journalism Awards and Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame induction on June 7 at the Omaha Press Club. Be present at this combined event to honor this year's award winners, and then applaud the 2014 Hall of Fame inductees.

The OPC Excellence in Journalism Awards began in 2005. The program has raised nearly \$5,000 for the Omaha Press Club Foundation. This year's Excellence in Journalism Awards sponsors are: Bland and Associates, Nebraska Press Association, Darin Kotil Pediatric Dentistry, the Nebraska Broadcasters Association and Universal Information Services

The OPC Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame began in 2008. The Hall of Fame sponsors are: Nicole Bukacek-Prime Communication Inc., Dave Sushey, Marcotte-Andy Alloway,

Deeb Realty-Farhan Khan, Heritage Communications-Brian Gubbels and DataShield Corporation.

Journalists to be inducted into the 2014 Hall of Fame are:

Robert Dorr, *Omaha World-Herald*: In 41 years at the

World-Herald, Dorr served as city editor and religion writer but was most widely known for his skills as a reporter. He retired in 2001.

Carl Keith, *Omaha World-Herald* (post-humous): The morning editions of the *World-Herald* from

1966 to 1990 owed much of their character to Keith, the newspaper's night managing editor for nearly a quarter-century. He died in 2008.

Joe McCartney, WOW Radio/Television, UNO, Union Pacific: McCartney was a reporter and documentary producer at WOW Radio and Television from 1960 to

OMAHA PRESS CLUB
OPC HALL OF FAME & JOURNALISM AWARDS DINNER
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2014
5:30 p.m. | \$40 each | \$320 TABLE OF EIGHT
FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL 402-345-8008

Hors d'oeuvres
 Beef Tenderloin Carpaccio, Assorted Savory Flatbreads

Salad
 OPC Famous Thunderbird

Entree
 Chicken Wellington:
 A classic variation with a boneless chicken breast, portabella duxelle and brie in puff pastry, finished with a port wine demi-glaze

Dessert
 Fresh Fruit Gateau Riche with OPC Signature Truffle

1965 and inspired future journalists while teaching at the University of Nebraska at Omaha until 1978.

Rob McCartney, KETV: A television journalist for 30 years, Rob McCartney (no relation to Joe) has been KETV's main newscaster since 1995. His KETV team has

won numerous journalism awards.

Mary McGrath, *Omaha World-Herald*: McGrath's move into city news at the *World-Herald* in 1967 led the integration of women in local media. The award-winning journalist joined the newspaper in 1957 and retired in 2000.

Event Listings

June 7
Excellence in Journalism awards & Hall of Fame dinner

June 13
Opening Ceremonies
Fireworks Buffet

June 14
Father's Day Grill

June 19
Noon Education Forum

July 3
Fireworks Buffet

July 18
Winemakers Dinner

July 27-Aug. 18
Club closed. Reopens Aug. 19

Sept 1
Labor Day, Club Closed

Sept. 19
Mike & Stephanie Johanns Face on the Barroom Floor

Submissions for the JULY/AUGUST issue are due on or before June 20.

OMAHA PRESS CLUB OFFICE STAFF

Executive Director..... Steve Villamonte
 Email opcdirector@gmail.com
 Planning & Event Coordinator Christine Villamonte
 Email opcchristine@gmail.com
 Administrative Manager..... Jeanie Campbell
 Email opcjeanie@gmail.com

Office 402-345-8587
 Fax 402-345-0114
 Restaurant 402-345-8008
 Website www.omahapressclub.org

NEWSLETTER

Tamsen Butler Graphics Editor
 Don Summerside Copy Editor
 Office 402-345-8587
 Fax 402-345-0114

CANCELLATION POLICY:

All reservations must be cancelled 48 HOURS in advance.



Hours of Operation

Lunch
 Monday – Friday 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Bar
 Tuesday – Saturday 4:30 p.m. to Close

Dinner
 Thursday – Saturday 5:30 p.m. to Close

