



July/August 1998

## ONPA Founder Dies

George A. Smallsreed Jr., one of the founders of ONPA, died of natural causes at his Pickerington, Ohio home on May 16th at the age of 75.

His feathered adorned cowboy hats and turquoise jewelry made him easy to pick out in a crowd. While his wardrobe made people take notice it was his photographs that made people pay attention.

Smallsreed's career started at *The Columbus Dispatch* where he worked from 1946-66. He served as chief photographer from 1948 to 1956 and then became photographer for the paper's Sunday magazine.

In 1957, Smallsreed was named Newspaper Photographer of the Year by the National Press Photographers Association and Encyclopedia Britannica.

Smallsreed's work at *The Dispatch* twice received Pulitzer Prize nominations.

He left the Dispatch to become chief photographer for the U.S. Trotting Association from where he retired in 1985.

In 1983 he won the Proximity Achievement Award given by the Harness Writers Association and was voted the Golden Camera Award by the North American Harness Publicists Association. The Proximity Achievement Award is among the most coveted honors in the sport of harness racing.

Smallsreed received the Dan Patch Award for long and meritorious contributions to harness racing in media in 1996.

In 1951 Smallsreed and nine other photographers met in New Philadelphia with NPPA president Bob Boyd to form the Ohio Press Photographers Association (as it was known until 1963). It was the third NPPA chapter.

He served as the association's first vice president and was elected as president for three terms.

In 1968 Smallsreed was the recipient of ONPA's highest honor, the Robert Carson Memorial Award.

At the 1998 ONPA convention in Cincinnati the still photographer of the year award was renamed the "George A. Smallsreed, Jr. Award" by the board.



Smallsreed

## President's Message

We will all miss George Smallsreed and his unique enthusiasm for living life. George was a bit intimidating to people who first met or saw him. He was always dressed in his full Western regalia and was always the loudest and most confident voice in a room full of photojournalists.

I certainly didn't know what to make of him when I first came across him at an ONPA convention. He was a bit scary and I never could figure out all those harness racing pictures. But as I got to know George it became obvious that he was a very gentle caring man whose



Ed Suba, Jr.

passion for photography was second to none.

That, I think, is what George would want all of us to remember him for. Taking the best pictures, no matter what the subject matter, is what counts.

I once read that the best job is one that you would do for free. I'm convinced George felt the same way about being a photojournalist and that will be a lesson I will always be thankful he helped me understand.

Goodbye, but also congratulations to Doug Oster, former photo editor at *The Medina Gazette*, who is now the night picture editor at *The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Doug is one of Ohio's hidden gems of a photographer that never seemed to get a break and land a staff position on a bigger newspaper that he deserved.

Doug, in my opinion, was the epitome of being the friendly competitor. I looked forward to shooting an event with Doug because I know I would have to really be on my toes to get a good shot because I knew he'd get one. He always had time to look at your work and had a knack for editing that helped the pictures tell the story and look good on the page. He certainly will be missed.

Doug's replacement as still vice president is Lisa Dutton from *The Blade*. Lisa's is back at work and getting back into the swing of things.

I'll be the first one to eat crow without mustard if the NPPA problems get resolved quickly and without too much damage. I've not been happy with the organization for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Israel at 50 - 1st place Feature Multiple - April, Eric Albrecht/*The Columbus Dispatch*



George A. Smallsreed, Jr. receives the National Press Photographers Association Photographer of the Year award from then vice president Richard M. Nixon during a White House ceremony in 1957.

## NPPA Flying Short Course To Take Off In Cleveland

The first stop on the NPPA annual Flying Short Course seminar this year is the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Cleveland, Ohio.

The Flying Short Course is by far the most popular of all the educational programs sponsored by NPPA. The traveling seminar visits 5 cities over seven days bringing with it a top flite faculty of speakers for both still and television photographers and editors.

Kim Fatica with WOIO/WUAB-TV, Cleveland is the chairman for the local event. He's still in need of sponsors so if your publication or station would be interested in lending financial support don't hesitate to contact Fatica. He can be reached at 1-800-929-4343.

This year the FSC will feature the current NPPA Television Photographer of the Year, John Malat of KSTP-TV in Minneapolis. He will share his work and thrill you with his ability to combine images and sound for powerful storytelling.

The award winning husband and wife team of Regional POY Tim Griffin and reporter Kim Reimland of KOMO-TV in Seattle will show what teamwork is all about.

Included in the list of presenters is Heinz Kluetmeir whose work on the staff of *Sports Illustrated* has virtually defined great sports photography. He is the senior staff photographer at SI and has served twice as director of photography for the publication.

College Photographer of the Year, Penny Delos Santos, who is a recent Masters graduate of Ohio University's School of Visual Communications will also be a presenter.

Mary Ann Golon, Director of Photography for *U.S. News & World Report*, is a member of the faculty. She has also worked at *Time Magazine* as a deputy picture editor. She served the on-site photographic efforts of *Time* and *Life Magazine* during the Gulf War, and has coordinated

some time, feeling that they have lost touch with the everyday photojournalist as well as some runaway egos. So somehow I wasn't surprised when this news broke.

There is a famous line in the movie "All the President's Men" that said "Follow the money. The money IS the story." I hope this isn't the tip of the

iceberg. Besides, it's just another reason why joining the ONPA is such a bargain. Only half your dues go towards paying for the officer's vacation homes in Florida.

Plans for the Dayton convention are moving ahead and the board has met once and will again in the fall to fine tune not

coverage of the Olympics from 1984 to 1996.

Howard Bingham is a Los Angeles freelancer who spent his career capturing the moments of Muhammad Ali's personal and public life. He has contracted work with *Life Magazine*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Look*, *Newsweek* and other periodicals.

The final faculty member is Vice President Al Gore's personal photographer, Callie Shell. Previously, Callie has worked as a staff photographer at *USA Today*, *The Pittsburgh Press* and *The Nashville Tennessean*.

The panel's wide range of expertise each year is what makes this program as popular as it is.

Registration forms should be in the mail soon. Cost for NPPA members is \$40, non-members \$50 and students \$20.

Hotel rooms at the Sheraton are \$79 per night for a single or double. The cutoff date for the convention rate is September 23.

The program's popularity over the years has turned each stop into a two day affair with local committees arranging a second day of educational programs as well. Plans are under way to offer a bonus program for those registered for the Flying Short Course. The bonus program will be held Friday, October 16th.

ONPA member Al Detrich with the *Block News Alliance* has committed to speak on Friday's program.

Detrich's story the Children of the Underground was a Pulitzer finalist last year as well as winning the ONPA Ohio Understanding Award.

Since the story was published last year Detrich has continued to follow the story and recently traveled to Europe to continue his work documenting the plight of these children on the run.

Other speakers are being finalized for the bonus program so stayed tuned.

The program won't be complete unless you're there in a seat so make sure you get registered.

Remember if you can lend a hand or

only the convention but the contest as well. If you have any suggestions feel free to send one of us a note.

Contrary to what they may have heard, Ohio University students ARE allowed to join the ONPA. It might be an advantage to a university that is trying to build the premiere photojournalism program in the country to have more of its students be members of the state organization than high school students across Ohio who now out number OU students as members of ONPA.

Finally, please stop asking me about the hospitality room photos from the Cincinnati convention. I'm not at liberty to discuss them but believe me you're better off forgetting they ever existed. There are some things that even photojournalist's weren't meant to know.

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## On the move Pulitzer winners meet in Tokyo

**Douglass Oster**, photo editor at *The Gazette* has left his position in Medina to join the staff of, *The Post-Gazette* in Pittsburgh, Pa.

It has been a reunion for Oster and **Pam Panchak-Cohn**. The two worked together during Oster's first stint at Medina before he left to join the staff of *The Vindicator*.

The two are now photo editors in Pittsburgh under **Curt Chandler** who worked previously at *The Plain Dealer*.

Oster's position at *The Gazette* has been taken over by staff photographer **Shirley Ware**.

**Kimberly Barth**, has joined the staff of *The Beacon Journal* in Akron, leaving *The Chronicle-Telegram* in Elyria.

Barth also worked for *Agence France-Presse* covering pro sports in Cleveland. That position has now been filled by **Anthony Onchak**.

The staff at *CNS This Week* in Columbus has several new faces. Among them, **Chris Parker**, formerly with *The Times-Recorder* in Zanesville.

Also joining *This Week* is **Stephen Counsel** who had been freelancing and **Lorrie Cecil** former intern at *The Columbus Dispatch*.

**Rachel Rice** has left her position at *The News Journal* in Mansfield to join the staff at *The Port Clinton Times Herald*.

**Richard Sittler** is back working in Ohio at *The Marion Star*. Sittler had been working in Columbus, IN at *The Republic* and had previously worked at *The Piqua Daily Call*.

**David Colabine** moves to *WKRC-TV* in Cincinnati from *WYTV-TV* in Youngstown.

**Cara Owsley** of *The Repository* in Canton has left to join the staff at *The Sun Herald* in Biloxi, MI.

The Pulitzer Prize Photography Exhibition in Tokyo brought all of the Pulitzer Prize photo winners for the last 55 years together for the first time. The exhibit, titled, "Eyes of History: 55 Years of Pulitzer Photographs", opened Feb. 12th at the Bunkamura Museum of Art. More than 4,000 people viewed the show each day in the first week. After one month the show then continued to travel through Japan for the rest of the year.

*Plain Dealer* photographer Scott Shaw and eight other past winners attended the event, as well as Michael Pulitzer, administrator of the prize.

Shaw's photo won the 1988 spot news photography award. It pictured rescue workers with Baby Jessica McClure after she was trapped in an abandoned water well for 58 and a half hours in Midland, TX. He was with *The Odessa American* at the time and worked 62 hours in a 66 hour period while covering the

rescue.

A symposium and forum were held as well as a book signing for the Japanese only photography book that showed the exhibit's 230 photos taken by the 88 Pulitzer Prize winners. Also on exhibit were cameras, clothing, newspaper clippings and other personal articles from the photo shoots and announcements of the awards.

A photo of Shaw being doused by champagne upon news of his winning and the front page of *The Odessa American* were a part of the display. The front page showed his winning photo which all of the rescue workers in the photo had signed.

Shaw went with his wife, Brynne, a former *Plain Dealer* staffer, who is currently directing her energy toward their two-year-old daughter, Carson, as well as freelancing.



Scott Shaw with his Pulitzer Prize winning photo of the rescue of Jessica McClure, part of the "Eyes of History: 55 Years of Pulitzer Photographs" exhibit in Tokyo.

## Thomson, Goodson Sell Papers

A four-for-one newspaper swap between Ogden Newspapers Inc. and Thomson Newspapers involves three Ohio newspapers.

Ogden, based in Wheeling, West Virginia, is giving ownership of *The Oskosh Northwestern* (circ. 23,000) to Thomson's Winnebago Strategic Marketing Group, which publishes papers in four other Wisconsin towns between Milwaukee and Green Bay.

In addition to the 34,500-circulation *Altoona* (Pa.) *Mirror*, Ogden will acquire three papers in Ohio: *The Warren Tribune Chronicle*, *The East Liverpool Review*, and *The Salem News*.

Ogden Newspapers is a fourth generation family owned newspaper group founded by H.C. Ogden in 1890 in Wheeling and owned by his descendants, the Nutting family. After the transaction, the company will have 35 daily and more than 50 weekly newspapers in 10 states.

## Dispatch Exhibits Two Views

"Two Views", an exhibit of photographs by the staff of *The Columbus Dispatch* opened at the Ohio Art League on June 6th during a Gallery Hop event in Columbus.

The show, curated by *Dispatch* photographer Mary Circelli, featured published and unpublished work from the staff of the paper.

News dictates what photographers at a daily metropolitan paper point their cameras at, but Circelli wanted to include more. Pictures made by the staff on their own, outside the bounds of photo assignments to show their creativity and reflect their own personal

vision.

Hence the name of the exhibit, "Two Views". Diversity. Contrast. Published. Unpublished. All sum up the varying styles and characteristics of the 38 photos, which represented the work of 19 award-winning staff photographers at *The Columbus Dispatch*.

"The show was on exhibit during the month of June with a great response from the community", according to Circelli. Several other galleries have shown interest in the exhibit. Circelli plans to pursue that possibility.

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**ONPA Online** <http://www.ohio.net/~onpa/>

## Odds 'n ends

Former ONPA member, **Sharon Cekeda**, now working at *The Post-Crescent* in Appleton, WI, scored her first national clip win in the NPPA monthly contest.

Her winning clip from a Green Bay Packers football game was featured in the June edition of *News Photographer Magazine*.

When the staff of the Pittsburgh *Post-Gazette* gathered to celebrate staffer **Martha Rial's** Pulitzer it turned out to be a bad day for the P-G's **Matt Freed**.

After teaching two P-G interns how to drink beer, he took on **Mandi Wright**, of *The Medina County Gazette* in an arm wrestling match. He lost, three times.

If that wasn't enough to get a guy down when he left the party he found that someone had broken into his car and stolen all of his camera equipment and cell phone.

*The Beacon Journal's* **Mike Cardew** was sporting new fashions at the state track meet at Ohio State University.

It seems Mike left for Columbus with an empty suitcase. A trip to Target solved the problem.

Seems that **Doug Oster** had similar problems when starting his new job in Pittsburgh at *The Post Gazette*.

When he opened his suitcase he found his wife forgot to pack him any pants for the week.

That was just the start. His second night on the picture desk a tornado touched down in Pittsburgh.

Kent State University student **Lindsay Semple** has won the Joseph Ehrenreich Scholarship Award sponsored by the National Press Photographers Foundation. The \$1,000 award is for tuition and other educational expenses.

## Board Plans for 1999 Convention

BY DAVID I. ANDERSEN

ONPA SECRETARY

The summer Board Meeting of the Ohio News Photographers Association was held in the upstairs of Ed Suba's Theatre. Members attending were Bob DeMay, Suba, Doug Oster, Kimberly Barth and Dave Andersen.

The main topic of discussion was the 1999 Annual Convention. A conference call was conducted with Convention Co-Chairman Marshall Gorby. The fun will take place at Fairborn/Dayton Holiday Inn on April 9th & 10th. The weekend will lift-off like a rocket with an opening reception at the Air Force Museum.

Gorby's biggest news was that Cox Newspapers will contribute \$2,000 for the weekend and also provide free postage for mailing concerning the convention. Cox also wants to give a tour of their new printing plant in Dayton on Saturday morning.

Because it would take well over two hours from the morning education seminar, the board felt that was not good use of our time. The board is very thankful to Cox, but wants instead to invite them to present their plant with a program at the education seminar.

Skip Peterson will be handling finding an interesting slate of speakers. The convention staff was interested in bring a techno type speaker in. The board felt that there would be more interest in good talented photographers and picture editors. The board also would like one of the four still speakers to be some from Ohio. Not only would this showcase our own talent, but it would save a bit of money. We hope this becomes an annual part of the meeting. The board put a deadline of October 1st for the speakers to be in place, including TV.

Ron Strah, the TV Vice President had expressed to the board that he didn't think having TV speakers would be enough of a draw in 1999. There are a couple other TV seminars in the final months of this year and he wasn't sure how a third seminar would be received.

The board decided that there would be two TV speakers at the convention. We cannot ask them to be members and not offer them anything, but the contest. We value their membership.

Other items discussed with Gorby was the need for the TV seminar and the vendors to have better locations than they did last year. Each would be better in an area with more foot traffic.

The raffle tickets sold each year have been a major source of income to cover the cost of a convention.

Gorby was told that one should take place with enticing prizes put on display to increase sales, as in Cincinnati last year. The board insisted that the annual business meeting take place during the lunch break with lunch provided. Members need to attend to help this be a great organization. The board also felt that a continuous showing tape of the TV winners would be a great way to highlight their talents for everyone.

Kimberly Barth reported that eight new members so far qualify for a free registration to the 1999 Convention. Only new members or those who have not been a member for 5 years are eligible.

This year's still contest judging will be held in Columbus at least a month before the convention in Dayton. Greg Peters of *The Columbus Dispatch* has volunteered to lend a hand if needed and will assist from that end with Contest Chairman, Matt Detrich. Retired Ohio State University professor Tom Hubbard has also offered to be of assistance in acquiring space and he and Peters are currently working together exploring options.

Discussion took place on the possibility of having an open portfolio judging on either Friday or Saturday of the judging. The matter was tabled until the next board meeting.

The hope of the board is to make the contest and judging to sustain itself financially. Andersen will check into making the cost of plaques less expensive, while remaining attractive. Also, it's the boards hope of finding a major sponsor for the contest whose name or logo would appear on the plaque. The board will ask for \$2,000 for this great exposure.

In new business, DeMay talked about the George Smallsreed Estate. He has been in contact with the lawyer handling it. Although George's family can contest the will for four months after his unfortunate death, once the estate is settled, all proceeds are to go the ONPA. During the first 21 years, the ONPA will receive the interest on the principle. After that, the principle belongs to the ONPA. George will be missed by many.

The board voted unanimously to give the NPPA Television Airborne Stop in Columbus an equal amount as was previously pledged to the Flying Short Course coming to Ohio in October.

The last topic on the agenda was to unfortunately accept the resignation of Still Vice President, Doug Oster, who is now working in Pittsburgh. We wish him well. Lisa Dutton was nominated to replace him for the rest of his term which runs until 2000. The vote was unanimous. Welcome aboard Lisa!

## Ex-police photo chief Montag dies

Lt. John W. "Jack" Montag, a charter member of ONPA and retired Columbus Police photo chief died from complications of a stroke in April at age 79.

Montag was named Police Photographer of the Year in 1956 by Eastman Kodak Co.

He was the first person to use color pictures in an Ohio courtroom. In 1966 he predicted that mug shots would be taken in color, a practice which became standard 20 years ago.

Montag produced and directed training films used by over 20 agencies including the U.S. Treasury Department.

He retired in 1971 ending a 25 year career with the Columbus Division of Police. Montag had been a Navy photographer in World War II.

During the 1930's and 40's he was a professional saxophone player in several big bands. He founded the Columbus Police Dance Orchestra, organized as a

community outreach in 1957.

Montag taught police-press courses at police seminars throughout the state and encouraged officers to cooperate with the press.

But he also had a favorite trick.

Seems he would befriend cub reporters at a crime scene and ask for their help to carry equipment.

The wide eyed reporters were always willing to accompany Montag to the threshold of the crime, where uniformed officers were stationed.

Montag would proceed.

When the reporter tried to follow the officers would ask just who do you think you are.

At that point the reporters would usually say they were with Jack.

Montag would then turn and say, "never saw em before in my life, not with me".



By TOM HUBBARD

## News Ideas for Photojournalism Today

### Part 1 of 2

Tom Hubbard began his career as a television director in Norfolk, Virginia and worked as a director and tv news cameraman in Atlanta, Georgia before switching to newspaper photography in Atlanta. He moved to the Cincinnati Enquirer in 1966. In 1978, he left the Enquirer and returned to college for a master's degree. He has been teaching photojournalism at the Ohio State University since 1983. He retired in June 1998 and now plans another career as a newspaper photojournalism consultant. Hubbard is a guest columnist for *The Digital Journalist*™, a photojournalism web site by Dirck Halstead, where this story first appeared. The site address is: <http://dirck-halstead.org/>

A small incident a long time ago had a profound effect on me. I was working as a local television director. I came upon the weather man outside, looking up at clouds. I said I thought it was funny that, with all the data available, he was looking at the clouds. He said, "If I predicted snow every time the data indicated snow, I would be a laughing stock. I check the sky to be sure."

As a journalist, consider the moral. How often do you make up your mind without actually seeing what you are reporting? If a theater critic wrote a review based solely on an interview with the director, not bothering to see the play, you'd fire that critic, because the director's opinion is not the whole story. You gotta see it to write about it, yada yada.

Well, it's accepted procedure with reporters. Reporters don't go to places, they call people who will talk about it. In this shorthand journalism, photojournalism is a labor intensive anachronism, even in a world more attuned to visual information. It's a crazy aberration that, as photojournalism gets better and the public is becoming more attuned to visual communication, photojournalism's prominence in the newsroom is diminishing. Staffers lose status jobs, freelancers are squeezed.

### The Internet is Visual

There were only a few people on the Internet until it became visual. Now it's taking over the communication world, all because pictures and graphics were added. Shouldn't this tell us something? Journalism is in a precarious time. The public demands more sensation after more sensation. Well, the big secret is there is just not enough sensation to go around. What does any industry do when there is not enough product? They manufacture more. In respectable news circles, it's called "speculation." Speculation is a false attempt to bring order out of the chaos of the deluge of information.

Human organizations handle chaos by imposing order? Ancient military organizations invented discipline. Governments and the Industrial Revolution extended this formula. Early industrialists had to transform the individual discipline of farmers to the orderly process of manufacturing. That transformation was necessary with new industrial workers, but the information age demands a return to the individual discipline of agriculture, because the knowledge worker has the whole process within grasp.

### Find a Humanistic Approach

That's the idea, individual journalists finding their own, humanistic approach. Changing approach will be easier for reporters than photojournalist. The photojournalist is stuck outside a door, waiting for Mr., Mrs., or Ms. sensation to come out. If the digital camera could record speculation visually, it would be greater success. Isn't that a disgusting thought?

Well, if you are a practicing photojournalist, you are living this nightmare. You are not documenting the life and times of your community, you are chasing greater and greater sensations. What is the contribution to a better informed electorate if 50 photojournalists stand outside a door waiting for a young woman to come out?

When news was documentary, photojournalists were in a strong position. Now that news must satisfy rising expectations for sensation, photojournalism hangs around outside, literally and figuratively.

The life and times of your community is a continuing process. It's false journalism to pick certain points in this process and sensationalize them. It's like

ending every sentence with an exclamation point!

How do we get out of this type of photojournalism? We've got to find time to change in spite of the next deadline. Today's edition of a paper represents a successful yesterday, not a successful future. Adjust your time warp to consider the future, beyond the next edition.

### Graphic Design is Running Photojournalism

The last great, new ideas in American photojournalism grew from the adoption of the 35mm camera in the 1960s. Photojournalists could explore a situation with 36 exposures rather than arrange something for the two sides of a film holder. A graphic design revolution is the only major idea since the 1960's. We are averaging one major (non-technological) idea every 20 years. (Color has hypnotized us with its brilliance, but not its content or contribution to visual narrative.) People in other industries laugh at our progress rate.

Let's invent content design. While graphic design arranges word and picture reporting already done, content design arranges content BEFORE it's done. "Arrange" in the sense of assessing the full news report over time. Celebrity coverage is exhausted, so look for content in the 99+ percent of the world's people who are not celebrities. It shouldn't be that hard. I'd like to have this bumper sticker printed, "IAMITT." Ideas are more important than things." Although photographs might seem to depict only things, the ideas in a photo make the great photographs.

### TILT

Another bumper sticker would be "TILT," for Truth, Intimacy, Light, Timing. It's a better criteria than "news." "Truth" is more than accuracy, it's genuine portrayal. "Intimacy" means the viewer sees enough to empathize with the people and situation. "Light" can be more than descriptive, it can engage us in universal ways. "Timing" ranges from the right expression to being there when they are doing it, not when they are talking about it. If you think timing, photojournalists should go to the happenings, not waste all those hours at news conferences, where people are just talk about it.

It's difficult to get TILT in quick-hit photo assignments. In practice, editors, photographers and subjects agree on a convenient distortion of TILT. This mutual agreement is a safety net that homogenizes photographs. Try removing the safety net occasionally. Explain that you will be taking some risks occasionally. If failure is OK occasionally, everyone can risk trying something new.

Newspapers and the news media are knowledge industries. We had this corner long before Bill Gates or the Internet. We can advance by recognizing that the knowledge we are talking about is in the heads of working journalists. In a news operation, the most important ingredient comes in through the employee entrance.

The great dilemma of modern times is how the individual relates to the group. This is echoed in the newsroom. We've got to examine exactly what can best be done by the individual, and what can best be accomplished by the group. For instance, reporters get edited after the fact. They have the satisfaction of the first draft. The copy desk respects this draft and checks before making substantive changes. In contrast, photographers are edited DURING the process. They shoot under more specific instructions and are often not consulted on negative selection. This difference speaks volumes.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



# Remembering George Smallsreed Jr.



Horseshoes hang in a window of a barn by Vernon in upstate New York. Smallsreed's wish was that someone would have walked by with a horse while he was there.

GEORGE SMALLSREED JR.



GEORGE SMALLSREED, JR.

**ABOVE:** Two boys hide snowballs behind their backs as a suspecting policeman casts a glance. The photo as one of two Pulitzer Prize nominations Smallsreed received while a photogrpaher at *The Columbus Dispatch*. **RIGHT:** A dew soaked spider web hangs from a flower at Ben White Raceway. This color photograph was a favorite of Smallsreed.



**BY BOB DeMAY**  
THE VINDICATOR

George Smallsreed, Jr. was a man who was just as colorful as his pictures. The stories are countless and the memories are fond of a man who dedicated his life to photojournalism, and the ONPA. George was NPPA Photographer of the Year in 1957 and twice nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. He had a well-justified reputation as a ladies man, but there was more to him than the legendary "wild" stories told over the years.

He was a man who loved his work, and cared very deeply for his profession. "I should have paid them for that job," George was quoted as saying when he spoke about being a photojournalist to the U.S. Trotting Association just weeks prior to his death.

His love for his work carried on right through retirement. "A good photographer gets better every day, George said. "A lot of days, considering the new equipment they have now, I wish I were 50 and not 73 and was still out there shooting every day. I'd knock 'em dead," he added.

Retired Ohio State University professor Tom Hubbard has fond memories of George. "I do know I will miss George at the Ohio State football games. He always sat on his camera case just out of the endzone. I think George was a photojournalism giant in a time when it was pretty hard to be a giant."

George's photographs spoke as loud as he did and he could have gone on and just keep making pictures, but George wanted more. He wanted to give something back to the profession he loved.

On November 25, 1951 George and nine other Ohio news photographers along with NPPA president Bob Boyd, met in New Philadelphia, to form the third NPPA chapter known as the Ohio Press Photographers Association.

The organization truly became one of the loves of George's life. He served three terms as president and remained very active as a member even when not holding office. It was a pattern that held even in retirement.

George had a vision for ONPA and he wasn't shy about

passing it along to the officers of the organization over the years. He was well known for his "State of the ONPA" speeches at the annual convention.

I had spoke with George at the convention in Cincinnati and asked him for his help in planning a special celebration for ONPA's upcoming 50th anniversary. He didn't look like a man of 75 when talking about it, his eyes sparkled and his voice was boyish. He said then that he prayed he would be able to make it, but acknowledged that with his health over the years he was lucky to be standing there talking to me here and now.

George always told it like it was, and even though doctors had just given him a clean bill of health he new the odds were not on his side. Missing the 50th anniversary is probably the only thing in life that George didn't get to do, that he really wanted to do.

In Cincinnati the board voted to name the still photographer of the year award in his honor. He left the convention early and was not present when the announcement was made. I called George to tell him the news, and he was speechless. He was very humbled and thankful by the recognition.

In a letter several days later he said, "I'm in shock from your phone call, it is damn hard to be immortal. I hope it works for ONPA. As I said on the phone I had a ball in Cincinnati, wish I had been able to join the fun at the beer tap but the old body just is not allowed to have fun anymore!!! God bless all of you people working so hard to help keep us strong.""

Just days before his death he wrote to me passing along some newsletter items. In the letter he once again spoke about the recent convention. He wrote, "Thanks to all for the great meeting in Cincy I had a ball and was not going to run my mouth I was having too much fun!!! My problem is that I'm a dinosaur and when I die they will wire up my old bones and set me next to old Trins Rex."

This organization will truly miss George Smallsreed and its great to know that he will not be forgotten. A man who did so much for ONPA in his life will continue to do so. For in the end he gave us literally everything he had.

**If It's Not Right, You Got It That Way**

Here are some ways photojournalists perpetuate their status.

All education and training effort is devoted to improving what we are already doing. Photojournalism gets better every year but it's the same old thing. Think of it this way. We replace the spark plugs, clean the windshield, etc., but we don't consider where we are going. We work to improve the next assignment, but seldom ask questions about the grand mission of photojournalism. Is, "Illustrate written stories," the grand mission?

Photojournalists go off by themselves to invent new ways. They had to do this in the beginning, because no one else was interested. All the education of the last 50 years has improved photojournalists, but it's put them in a different camp. They even go to separate conventions to emphasize that difference. This is the opposite of modern organizational thinking.

Journalists accept an atmosphere where most creative energy is devoted to the next edition. I call this one "catch the deadline tiger by the tail." Any idea that might interfere with the next edition is considered taboo. The digital camera is the biggest innovation since the acceptance of the 35mm camera. Have its possibilities been exploited in any way, beyond the deadline tiger?

So much of this education is a control thing. "This is how it's done, this is how I do it, this is how you should do it." It teaches control journalism. Photojournalists don't say, "Stand here and point," anymore, but they must control subjects in a half-hour assignment. The American education system

turned your creativity off the day they took away your crayons in the first grade. Since then the system has been, "Shut up and listen." New people should be contributing new ideas, but recently trained photojournalists are the most rigid of all journalists. This is terrible preparation for the future of journalism.

**"That Won't Work Here."**

These ideas restrict possibilities rather than expand them. They are holding us in the wrong era. New ideas suffer the fate of, "That won't work here." "Won't work" doesn't address an idea. It's a non-sequitur. Force yourself to separate an idea's merits from its practicality. If the merits are good, then address the possibilities. Be positive, dream, "It would be nice if we could do that," instead of, "That won't work here." If the problem is the deadline tiger, figure out a way to beat the tiger. Take turns. "You feed the tiger today while I try something new."

Photojournalism has used new technology to improve its efficiency, but not to improve its ideas. There are no idea farm clubs in photojournalism. Compare the digital camera to the computer. Computers began as calculators and then became typewriters. It wasn't until they became visual communication devices that they change the world of communication.

The digital camera started life as a communication device. Will it advance, as the computer did, to a convergent, multi-media instrument or will it regress to become a pocket calculator? Silly question but I raise it because the digital camera has been a static innovation. It just hasn't done anything. Maybe the Platypus, digital still/motion camera is the technological step that will prompt innovate the use of digital pictures.

**Platypus May Be Your Last Chance**

Photojournalists, especially newspaper photographers, have one last chance to control their medium with Platypus. This oppor-

tunity comes from a particular convergence of technology, experience and economy. Here's how. Newspaper and television photojournalists' images follow the words, to a greater or lesser degree. Photographers often go with reporters; their pictures "illustrate" written stories. If a newspaper photographer must shoot still and motion video, the reporter won't have time to hang around. The newspaper reporter knows nothing about writing to accompany video, and doesn't even try.

In this bare bones experiment, the newspaper story is read voice over the independently shot video. In practice, the photojournalist is free to compose a moving visual story unfettered by compliance with words or a producer or director.

Folks, you have just landed on a new planet. If you miss this opportunity to develop a new form of visual narrative, photography may be forever a directed art. That is, someone else always directing the person holding the camera.

**Techniques Weren't Invented Yesterday**

Study film history. Disaster movies and television news are not the only forms of visual narrative. Watch the twenty second opening of the "Tonight Show" closely. It's not a news technique, but they have invented an opening visual narrative that properly introduces the show. You should be inventing a new one for news. I'm sensitive to this because I was a local television director in the 1950s. We were very aware that we were inventing a new camera technique. Live television introduced the idea of multiple cameras capturing a single setting. I watch a television news show and see a dozen techniques I helped invent. What are you inventing, or, are you just waiting outside that door for the next celebrity of the week to come out?

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**WARNING: IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 1998 DUES THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE OF OHIO NEWSPHOTOGRAPHER YOU WILL RECEIVE. RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY.**

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ONPA TREASURER  
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AKRON, OHIO 44328**

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**Ohio Associated Press Newspaper Award Winners**

Winners in the annual Associated Press Society of Ohio contest were presented plaques at the APSO annual meeting in Columbus, June 14.

Twenty-one newspapers submitted entries in Division I, which was judged by editors of *The Daily Mountain Eagle* in Jasper, Ala.

Seventeen newspapers submitted entries in Division II, judged by *The Daily Times* in Maryville, Tenn.

In Division III, 19 papers submitted entries that were judged by editors of the *Times Daily* in Florence, Ala.

Eight papers submitted entries in Div IV, judged by editors of *The Augusta* (Ga.) *Chronicle*.

Editors of *The Dallas MorningNews* judged entries of eight newspapers in Division V.

**DIVISION I**

**Spot News Photos:** 1, Brad Avery, Wapakoneta News, "No time." 2, Chad Williamson, Marysville Journal-Tribune, "Battling the blaze." 3, Jason Molyet, Bucyrus Telegraph-Forum, "Baby escapes serious injury." Honorable Mention, Tom Powell, Marysville Journal-Tribune, "Gruesome discovery."

**General News Photos:** 1, Chris Harubin, Delaware Gazette, "Mother Nature leaves a mess." 2, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "Cattle drive." 3, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "Disaster drill." Honorable Mention, Nancy Radcliff, Bucyrus Telegraph-Forum, "I've found a friend." **Sports Photos:** 1, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "Bike racers." 2, Matthew Emmons, Delaware Gazette, "All-out effort." 3, John Howley, Circleville Herald, "Slippery handoff." Honorable Mention, Chris Harubin, Delaware Gazette, "Winners and losers," and Matthew Emmons, Delaware Gazette, "Topsy-turvy tail-back."

**Features Photos:** 1, Nickolas Williams, Coshocton Tribune, "That's a long way up." 2, Matthew Emmons, Delaware Gazette, "The tall and short of it." 3, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "A kid at heart."

**Photo Essay:** 1, Tim Swick, Ironton Tribune, "Appalachian Sawdust." 2, Daryn Slover, Port Clinton News Herald, "Pepper picker." 3, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "Sisters." Honorable Mention, Bob Lauriha, Coshocton Tribune, "Splash."

**DIVISION II**

**Spot News Photos:** 1, Paul Vernon, Bellefontaine Examiner, "Triple-trailer crash." 2, William Bretzger, Marietta Times, "Car rams into home." 3, Tom E.

Puskar, Ashland Times-Gazette, "Terrified." Honorable Mention, Paul Vernon, Bellefontaine Examiner, "Fighting the flames."

**General News Photos:** 1, Stephen Shaner, Troy Daily News, "Right to life rally." 2, Peter Fellman, Norwalk Reflector, "Hit-and-run sentence." 3, John Halley, Athens Messenger, "Veterans Day."

**Sports Photos:** 1, Wayne Maris, Salem News, "A season ends in tears." 2, Paul Vernon, Bellefontaine Examiner, "Flattened." 3, Wayne Hardman, Piqua Daily Call, "Triple play."

**Feature Photos:** 1, Paul Vernon, Bellefontaine Examiner, "Runaway calf." 2, Peter Fellman, Norwalk Reflector, "Summertime fun." 3, Mitch Casey, Marietta Times, "Fun with fall's leaves." Honorable Mention, Mitch Casey, Marietta Times, "Children on trampoline."

**Photo Essay:** 1, J. D. Pooley, Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune, "Wood Lane Formal." 2, Mitch Casey, Marietta Times, "Building bridges." 3, Paul Vernon, Bellefontaine Examiner, "Waiting his turn."

**DIVISION III**

**Spot News Photos:** 1, David Allan Sturman, Marion Star, "Tender moment." 2, Andrew Morrison, Fremont News-Messenger, "River of misfortune." 3, Mark A. Stahl, Middletown Journal, "Snow plow." Honorable Mention, Bill Sinden, Marion Star, "Seeking comfort."

**General News Photos:** 1, E.L. Hubbard, Hamilton Journal-News, "Long silent hug." 2, Andrew Morrison, Fremont News-Messenger, "Brianna's story." 3, Bill Lackey, Middletown Journal, "Saying goodbye." Honorable Mention, Bill Lackey, Middletown Journal, "Fallen officer."

**Sports Photos:** 1, Terry Reimer, Sandusky Register, "Barebacked." 2, Kenton Trubee, Wooster Record, "Baseball mob." 3, Bob Christy, Dover-New Philadelphia Times-Reporter, "Up and over." Honorable Mention, Mandi Wright, Medina Gazette, "State final loss."

**Feature Photos:** 1, Bill Lackey, Middletown Journal, "Oil painting." 2, Bill Lackey, Middletown Journal, "Eavesdropping goats." 3, Bob Christy, Dover-New Philadelphia Times-Reporter, "Yard sale kids." Honorable Mention, David Allan Sturman, Marion Star, "Gimmie shelter."

**Photo Essay:** 1, Shirley Ware, Medina Gazette, "Mission of mercy." 2, Jonathan Quilter, Newark Advocate, "Cory's story." 3, Tim Fleck, Sandusky Register, "The Cedar Point line."

Honorable Mention, David Allan Sturman, Marion Star, "Crossing the threshold of pain."

**DIVISION IV**

**Spot News Photos:** 1, Steven Rosenberg, Warren Tribune Chronicle, "Exhausted firefighter." 2, Cara Owsley, Canton Repository, "Not a good day." 3, R. Michael Semple, Warren Tribune Chronicle, "Busted bank bandit."

**General News Photos:** 1, Chris DeVitto, Lima News, "Parking it on High Street." 2, Scott Heckel, Canton Repository, "Courtroom elation." 3, Paul Walsh, Lorain Journal, "Signs in mayor's yard."

**Sports Photos:** 1, Steven Rosenberg, Warren Tribune Chronicle, "Indians celebration." 2, Dave Polcyn, Mansfield News Journal, "Heals over helmet." 3, Bob Rossiter, Canton Repository, "Can't watch."

**Feature Photos:** 1, Craig Orosz, Lima News, "All hands ondeck." 2, Jeff Forman, Willoughby News-Herald, "Get a leg up." 3, Michael Balash, Canton Repository, "The kiss."

**Photo Essay:** 1, Steve Rosenberg, Warren Tribune Chronicle, "To Russia with love." 2, Staff, Lima News, "Ottawa flooding." 3, Michael Blair, Lorain Journal, "K9 cop."

**DIVISION V**

**Spot News Photos:** 1, Bruce Crippen, Cincinnati Post, "Flood rescue." 2, Melvin Grier, Cincinnati Post, "Hamilton residents confront police." 3, Glenn Hartong, Cincinnati Enquirer, "Flood rescue."

**General News Photos:** 1, Glenn Hartong, Cincinnati Enquirer, "Grieving for a fallen officer." 2, Dave Zapotosky, The Blade, "Courtroom emotion." 3, Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer, "Vigil."

**Sports Photos:** 1, David I. Andersen, The Plain Dealer, "Home plate." 2, Bob DeMay, Youngstown Vindicator, "Bowing out." 3, Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, "Yankees go home." Honorable Mention, Matt Detrich, Akron Beacon Journal, "State basketball losers," and Ernest Coleman, Cincinnati Enquirer, "Not falling down on the job."

**Feature Photos:** 1, Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer, "Tearful goodbyes." 2, Steven M. Herppich, Cincinnati Enquirer, "The final touch." 3, Saed Hindash, Cincinnati Enquirer, "Fly away hair."

**Photo Essay:** 1, Staff, Cincinnati Enquirer, "Rivers unleashed." 2, Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer, "Camp Quality." 3, Jim Witmer, Dayton Daily News, "The gift."

# Clip Rules

Photos must be entered in the month published. A photo can be entered only after its initial publication and can be entered only once.

Sort clips by category - News, Sports, Feature, Feature Picture Story. Clip each category together. Note that there is no category for general news or illustrations. Entries in these categories should be entered as News or Feature.

Remove your name and affiliation from the front of the clip.

Affix a label with your name, publication, address, category and date of publication on the back.

Include a separate sheet of paper with your name, address and total number of clips entered.

Layouts are judged as a single entry but single pictures from a layout can be entered also. You must submit another clip of the single image from the layout in this case.

Wire service photographers and stringers may enter prints but they must be signed on the back by a supervisor noting they had been transmitted.

Each entrant is limited to a total of nine clips per month.

The clip contest is open to all ONPA members in good standing who live or work in Ohio during the month entered. The ONPA clip contest is not affiliated with the NPPA Region 4 clip contest.

Mail clips by the 7th of the month following publication to:

**Scott Shaw**  
The Plain Dealer  
1801 Superior Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114



Above: **Scott Heckel** of *The Repository* in Canton won first place for his news photo in April from a courtroom verdict. Right: **Eric Albrecht** of *The Columbus Dispatch* won first in the feature multiple category in April for a story titled "Israel at 50".



Above: Kids playing on a trampoline by **Matt Detrich** of *The Beacon Journal* won 1st place in April in the feature single category.



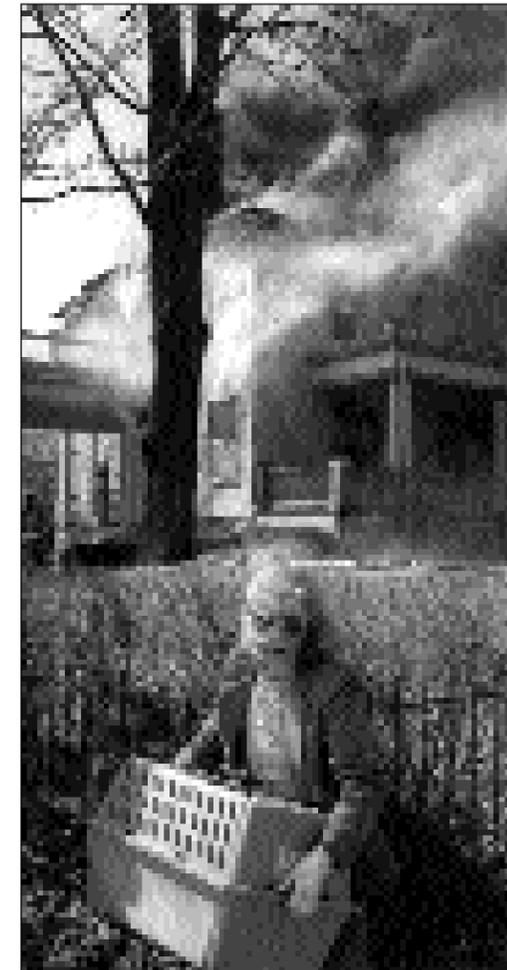
Left: **Ron Schwane** of *The Gazette* in Medina won first place in April for his photo from the start of a bench clearing brawl involving the Indians **Kenny Lofton**.

## CLIP CONTEST POINT STANDINGS THROUGH APRIL

1. <b>Ken Love</b> , <i>The Beacon Journal</i> . . . . . 238	14. <b>R. Michael Semple</b> , <i>Tribune Chronicle</i> . . . . . 64
2. <b>Scott Heckel</b> , <i>The Repository</i> . . . . . 148	15. <b>E.L. Hubbard</b> , <i>Hamilton Journal-News</i> . . . . . 58
3. <b>Douglass Oster</b> , <i>Medina Gazette</i> . . . . . 116	<b>David Allan Sturman</b> , <i>The Marion Star</i> . . . . . 58
4. <b>Matt Detrich</b> , <i>The Beacon Journal</i> . . . . . 108	17. <b>David Polcyn</b> , <i>The News Journal</i> . . . . . 54
5. <b>Mike Munden</b> , <i>Columbus Dispatch</i> . . . . . 104	18. <b>Matthew Hovis</b> , <i>Medina Gazette</i> . . . . . 52
6. <b>Steven Herppich</b> , <i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> . . . . . 98	<b>Ron Schwane</b> , <i>Medina Gazette</i> . . . . . 52
7. <b>David Richard</b> , <i>The Morning Journal</i> . . . . . 94	20. <b>Ken Blaze</b> , <i>The News Herald</i> . . . . . 48
8. <b>Chris Russell</b> , <i>Columbus Dispatch</i> . . . . . 88	<b>James Mahan</b> , <i>Springfield News-Sun</i> . . . . . 48
9. <b>Eric Albrecht</b> , <i>Columbus Dispatch</i> . . . . . 86	22. <b>Bill Sinden</b> , <i>The Marion Star</i> . . . . . 44
10. <b>Steven Rosenberg</b> , <i>Tribune Chronicle</i> . . . . . 84	<b>Steven Manheim</b> , <i>Chronicle-Telegram</i> . . . . . 44
11. <b>Eustacio Humphrey</b> , <i>Dayton Daily News</i> . . . . . 82	<b>Jim Witmer</b> , <i>Dayton Daily News</i> . . . . . 44
12. <b>Joy Parker</b> , <i>CNS This Week</i> . . . . . 78	25. <b>Karen Schiely</b> , <i>The Beacon Journal</i> . . . . . 42
13. <b>Marshall Gorby</b> , <i>Springfield News-Sun</i> . . . . . 74	<b>Ross Weitzner</b> , <i>The Morning Journal</i> . . . . . 42



Left: **Steve Herppich** of *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, won 1st place feature multiple in March. The story was the second of a periodic series examining how religion celebrate their individual holidays. This segment chronicled the Baha'i New Year. Below: **Ken Love** of *The Beacon Journal* wins first place feature in March for his photo of a couple playing the No So Newlywed Game.



Above: **Eustacio Humphrey** of *The Dayton Daily News*, was the first place news winner in March. The resident of a 108 year-old home carries one of her cats to safety, another died in the blaze. Right: A baseball player in obvious pain for obvious reasons won first place sports in March for **David Richard** of *The Morning Journal* in Lorain.



### MARCH WINNERS

**NEWS**  
Eustacio Humphrey, *Dayton Daily News*; Marshall Gorby, *Springfield News-Sun*; R. Michael Semple, *The Tribune Chronicle*. HM's; Ken Blaze, *The News Herald*; Rachel Rice, *The News Journal*; Tim Revell, *The Columbus Dispatch*.

**SPORTS**  
David Richard, *The Morning Journal*; Douglass Oster, *Medina County Gazette*; Ken Blaze, *The News Herald*. HM's; 2 Douglass Oster, *Medina County Gazette*; Ken Love, *The Beacon Journal*.

**FEATURE SINGLE**  
Ken Love, *The Beacon Journal*; Mike Munden, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Marshall Gorby, *Springfield News Sun*. HM's; Chris Russell, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Scott Heckel, *The Repository*.

**FEATURE STORY**  
Steve Herppich, *Cincinnati Enquirer*; David Richard, *The Morning Journal*; Eustacio Humphrey, *Dayton Daily News*. HM; Aimee Obidzinski, *The Vindicator*

**JUDGES**  
Woody Marshall, Robert Seay, Nick Oza, Bean Cabell of *The Macon (GA) Telegraph*.

### APRIL WINNERS

**NEWS**  
Scott Heckel, *The Repository*; David Allan Sturman, *The Marion Star*; Morris Weintraub, *The Tribune Chronicle*.

**SPORTS**  
Ron Schwane, *Medina County Gazette*; Ross Weitzner, *The Morning Journal*; Joy Parker, *CNS This Week*.

**FEATURE SINGLE**  
Matthew Hovis, *Medina County Gazette*; Scott Heckel, *The Repository*; Ken Love, *The Beacon Journal*.

**FEATURE STORY**  
Eric Albrecht, *The Columbus Dispatch*; Steve Herppich, *Cincinnati Enquirer*; Skip Peterson, *Dayton Daily News*.

**JUDGES**  
John Burgess, Kent Porter and Mary Gardella of *The Santa Rosa (CA) Press-Democrat*.