Crawford trip to Africa will be Noon Forum topic

By Chris Allen
Education Committee

Boxing champion and Omaha native Bud Crawford isn’t all hard abs and steel fists. Bud Crawford has a soft side to him as well.

On Thursday, July 21, Omaha writer Leo Adam Biga will talk about Crawford’s trip to Africa with his fourth-grade teacher to do humanity work.

Biga will be the speaker at the Noon Education Forum. Unfortunately, Crawford will not be along for the talk.

Crawford made his first trip to Africa in August 2014, shortly after he defeated Yuriorkis Gamboa in a fight in Omaha to retain his light welter-weight title. He accompanied Jamie Nollette, his fourth-grade teacher at Skinner Magnet School.

Nollette is the founder and executive director of Pipeline Worldwide, a nonprofit organization working on sustainability and self-sufficiency in Uganda and Rwanda.

When she returned to Africa in June 2015, Crawford went along again, before he had to begin training to defend his title that October, which he successfully did. Biga went on that trip through an Andy Award from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Biga’s talk, including many photos from the trip, will show their experiences over the 12-day journey.

“We met African, American and European program directors, educators, aid workers and humanitarians,” Biga said. “Crawford was feted as a visiting prince by sports officials, who organized a press conference he handled with aplomb.”

Cost for the Noon Education Forum luncheon is $17. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. The forum starts at noon.

Hall of Fame 2016 Honorees

The Omaha Press Club Hall of Fame 2016 honorees (or their representatives) gathered June 4 at the club for the induction ceremony. From left, Dr. Eileen Wirth, John Prescott, Robyn Freeman (representing her father, the late Jim Roberts), Barbara Samuels (representing her aunt, the late Dr. Marguerita Washington), Jim Flowers and Frank Partsch.

More information on Page 2.
Hall of Fame inductees are part of Omaha history

By Judy Horan
Hall of Fame Committee

On June 4 at the annual OPC Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame dinner, emcee Rob McCartney introduced six 2016 inductees after reflecting on how the history of journalism in Omaha is the history of Omaha:

“Nine years ago, I stood in front of friends and relatives of the journalists who were the first to be inducted into the Omaha Press Club Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame. I was proud to be invited to begin the journey to remember pioneer journalists like Lyell Bremser, an early voice of the Huskers; Earle ‘Buddy’ Bunker, who was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 1944 for a photo he took for the World-Herald, and Omaha TV’s first news anchorman, Ray Clark. ‘Father Williams of Creighton University. Mildred Brown of the Omaha Star. And Warren Buffett, who was part of a team that broke a story for the newspaper he owned at that time, the Omaha Sun. The Sun won the first Pulitzer awarded a weekly newspaper.

“Slowly the memories of many of these journalists are dwindling. Their stories would be lost in history if not for reminders such as this Hall of Fame. Some are educators passionate about preparing the next generation to report on the history being made today.

“The history of journalism in Omaha is the history of Omaha, whether it’s Jim Roberts covering the Charles Starkweather trial. Or Jim Flowers reporting live while chasing the second largest tornado on record.

“So let’s make some history tonight while we induct six outstanding journalists into the Omaha Press Club Journalists of Excellence Hall of Fame.”

Names of the inductees will be added to the plaque on permanent display at the Omaha Press Club Hall of History.

The video recorded that night by KMTV is available on the Omaha Press Club website and on YouTube at youtu.be/ETZgkq0G7q0

Inductees receive their awards from emcee Rob McCartney.

JIM FLOWERS
Jim Flowers has been a name in Omaha news for 37 years at KETV, WOWT and KMTV. Most recently the award-winning meteorologist for KMTV News, he left a big mark on weather reporting.

FRANK PARTSCH
Frank Partsch was editorial page editor of the Omaha World-Herald for more than 20 years before retiring. Earlier the respected journalist was editor of the Sidney Telegraph and a staff reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

JOHN PRESCOTT
A strong supporter of OPC scholarships, John Prescott’s 48-year career has taken him from television (KMTV, KHASTV, WOWT) to a great big rollin’ railroad (Union Pacific) to STRATCOM.

JIM ROBERTS
Robyn Freeman accepted the award for her late father (1928-1967), broadcast pioneer Jim Roberts. He was only the second news director in KMTV history. Among other historical moments, Roberts covered the Starkweather murder rampage from Wyoming.

DR. MARGUERITA WASHINGTON
Barbara Samuels of Kansas City accepted the award for her late aunt, Dr. Marguerita Washington (1936-2016), who became publisher of the Omaha Star newspaper when her aunt, founder Mildred Brown, died.

EILEEN WIRTH PH.D.
Professor Emerita of Journalism at Creighton University, Dr. Wirth began her career in 1969 as an Omaha World-Herald reporter. She has written seven books, including “From Society Page to Front Page: Nebraska Women in Journalism.”
Bill, Ruth Scott will share OPC’s 150th Face

The names of Bill and Ruth Scott may not show up on buildings around Nebraska. But the imprint of the Omaha philanthropists is seen throughout the state. Their personal and foundation’s financial support has touched more than 150 local and statewide organizations.

The Scotts will be the Omaha Press Club’s next “Face on the Barroom Floor” on Thursday, Sept. 22. They will be the 150th “Face” since 1971 to be honored. A reception begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and unveiling of the “Face,” a caricature-illustration by artist Jim Horan.

Scheduled to roast the couple are:
• Bruce Rasmussen, Creighton University athletic director, who will be the emcee;
• Dr. Mike Sorrell, UNMC Distinguished Chair in Internal Medicine (the Scotts named a UNMC building in his honor);
• Judy Duffy, longtime family friend and former neighbor;
• Nick Stergiou, Ph.D., Distinguished Community Research Chair in Bio-mechanics, University of Nebraska at Omaha;
• Terry Pettit, retired volleyball coach for the Nebraska Cornhuskers;
• Dr. Randy Ferlic, a retired cardio-thoracic surgeon and former member of the NU Board of Regents, who is one of Bill Scott’s longtime golf partners.

The four University of Nebraska campuses -- UNMC, UNO, UNL and UNK -- have been major recipients of their financial support. Locally, Creighton University, Metropolitan Community College, Bellevue University, College of Saint Mary, Omaha Public Schools, and Children’s Scholarship Fund have benefited as well.

Other benefactors of the Scotts’ generosity include Educare, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation, Visiting Nurse Association, Health Center Association of Nebraska, Project Harmony, The Salvation Army, Collective for Youth and all the major after-school local providers.

Daub: Hold your nose and vote in November

By Chris Allen
Education Committee

Former Nebraska Republican Congressman and Mayor Hal Daub told an Omaha Press Club crowd that he thinks many Americans, both Democratic and Republican, including himself, will hold their noses as they cast their presidential votes this November.

Daub, currently a University of Nebraska regent, said he believes strongly in the two-party process and the importance of voting in the general election Nov. 8. He spoke on June 16 at a nearly full Omaha Press Club Education Forum.

“To tell a kid in high school that I’m not going to vote or mark my ballot for president is a cop-out,” he said about people who say they are going to avoid the ballot box this fall.

Daub says he will vote for Donald Trump if he is the Republican nominee. He sees no reason Trump won’t be.

“I would have had a lot more trouble voting for Ted Cruz than I have for Donald Trump,” he said, calling Trump “a blue-collar millionaire.”

“I know where he’s coming from,” he said. Still, he said, Trump is not a perfect candidate. Nor is Hillary Clinton, the presumptive Democratic nominee for president, he said.

“I suspect many people will walk into the voting booth like this,” he said, pinching his nose closed.

In answer to a question about the possibility the Republican National Committee might find a way to get around Trump as the party’s candidate, Daub said it’s possible, but very unlikely.

Daub, who will be a delegate at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland July 18-24, thinks Trump will win the 2d Congressional District electoral vote in Nebraska, the district that includes Omaha, but not because of the candidate himself.

He said ballot issues on the death penalty and gambling will draw more conservatives than liberals, and that will help Trump.

Nationwide, Daub predicted a huge number of voters.

“I expect this to break voter turnout records,” he said, “because of the nature of the race. But also because I think people are just more interested in world events.”

Daub said each presidential campaign will probably spend $1 billion on the election, but in all not much is going to change between now and then.

“If you close your ears, close your eyes, close your mouth and go to sleep tonight,” he said, “and don’t wake up until the day before the election, I suspect you won’t miss much.”

Photo by Gary Willis
A message to OPC’s retired members

By Bridget (Weide) Brooks
Marketing/Membership Committee Chair

The Omaha Press Club’s new membership structure went into effect on May 1. We reduced categories from 37 to only four in order to simplify the application and signup process for new members and reduce administrative time required to manage so many different categories.

Changes to the previous Individual: Retired category received the most feedback. With the reorganization, there is no longer a separate category for retired members.

The good news is that retired members are now eligible for membership in one of two of the new categories. Those members retired from any of the “OPC Communicator” professions -- related to online or offline journalism, media, communications, public relations, photojournalism, marketing, advertising, graphic arts, blogging, website design or other digital pursuits, or journalism education -- are eligible for membership in the OPC Communicator category with $15 monthly dues. Although this category change will result in an increase in monthly dues of $5, it eliminates the quarterly food-drink minimum requirement.

Members who are not retired from a communication-related profession are eligible for the OPC Group membership, which has $15 monthly dues and a $40 quarterly food-drink minimum. The move is expected to be revenue-neutral in terms of impact to overall dues income, but was important to enhance our ability to attract new members as well as continue to serve our existing members while ensuring the financial stability of the club in the short- and long-term.

Our membership dues and quarterly minimums have not been increased in more than five years. With the rising costs of food, operating costs and staffing expenses, a $5 monthly increase is necessary. Your new dues will be activated on the annual renewal date of your membership.

If you have questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me via email at bw@buildimage.com.

Broadcasting exhibit focuses on early years

By Howard K. Marcus
Communications Committee


Among the features of the exhibit are interviews with a variety of longtime Omaha broadcasting personalities, including Elaine Jabenis and Jack Payne.

Former Omaha Press Club President Dave Hamer, who had a long career in Omaha television as a photographer and videographer, related this anecdote from his days at KMTV: “In the days before videotape and satellites, NBC often called on KMTV for film of breaking stories in the Midwest,” Hamer said. “They would be ‘fed’ to New York on a special AT&T line and inserted live into ‘The Huntley-Brinkley Report.’

“Cue the raging winter blizzard, and the New York on-air director calls for the film to roll. It was magnificent as the storm’s intensity increased shot by shot. And then the final splice broke and TV screens went white from coast to coast. On the phone line the Huntley-Brinkley director said, ‘Good job, Omaha. That last shot was terrific. I couldn’t see a thing.’ And we never told him.”

The museum is at 5730 N. 30th St., No. 11b, on the Fort Omaha Campus of Metropolitan Community College. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission: $6 for adults, $5 for students, and $4 for ages 6-11. Exhibit entrance is included with museum admission.

For more information, go to douglascohistory.org

Here are guidelines for using reciprocal clubs

By Howard K. Marcus
Communications Committee

Maintaining and increasing reciprocal club relationships requires that OPC members use other clubs responsibly.

Before visiting a reciprocal club, call that club to make a reservation.

Indicate that you are a Press Club member.

When you arrive, show your OPC membership card. If you have lost your card, call the OPC office in advance for a replacement. Unlike at the OPC, where you can just sign your ticket after a meal, the reciprocal club will require that you pay immediately with cash or a credit card.

Keep in mind that reciprocal use is only for social/dining use. OPC members may not play golf, tennis or swim at reciprocal clubs.

Go to omahapressclub.com/membership for a link to reciprocal clubs.

And if you have questions about reciprocal club use, call Jeanie Campbell in the OPC office, 402-345-8587.
**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

On omahapressclub.com under the membership tab is a link to private clubs we can access through our reciprocity program. For those feeling adventurous, check out the list and see if anything aligns with your travel plans. There are several within driving distance, such as Des Moines, St. Paul and Denver.

One Omaha Press Club goal this year is to grow membership and increase utilization. This fall is going to be fantastic. With the events already scheduled, it would be a good idea to get your reservations early as several are going to sell out.

In addition to recruiting more talented people into the club, my goals for the second half of the year include:

- More membership interaction and networking opportunities.
- Facebook invitations for all events to raise awareness among members and the community.
- Exploring online billing to make it easier for members and to attract a younger membership.
- Scaling up the corporate membership campaign.

Any suggestions YOU send me. Have a safe and wonderful rest of the summer. I look forward to seeing you on the 22nd floor.

- **Sean McGuire**, OPC President

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**Salute to John and Tom Davis from the OPC Foundation**

By Dave Ogden

OPC Foundation

The Omaha Press Club Foundation expresses its gratitude to the late Tom Davis for his years of support for the John Davis Scholarships. Tom Davis, son of John, funded the scholarships in honor of his father, who died in 1972. Tom died in March, but his legacy will live on in the contributions of the 160 recipients of the scholarships that began in 1974. That year the OPC Foundation awarded its first John Davis Scholarships to Toni Cornelius of Creighton University and Sharan Wilson of UNO.

Three years later, the foundation began offering OPC scholarships to UNL as well as Creighton and UNO. While the foundation began awarding scholarships in 1957 (one each to Creighton and UNO) in honor of Walter Panko of the Omaha World-Herald and Jim Roberts of KMTV (who was inducted into the OPC Hall of Fame on June 4), the family of John Davis allowed the foundation to expand its scholarship program to help college students aspiring to work in journalism, public relations or advertising.

For the next 30 years the Davis family funded the three John Davis Scholarships annually. In 2005 Tom Davis and his family doubled their contribution, and John Davis Scholarships were awarded to two students from each campus until 2016. In all, the foundation awarded 160 John Davis Scholarships during the 42 years the Davis family funded the program.

In 1971, banker John Davis had helped establish the Omaha Press Club atop his First National building at 16th and Dodge Streets. The Davis family also was among the founders of Omaha.

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**MANAGER’S COLUMN**

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during the summer months we encourage you to consider some of the additional benefits that come with your membership. Personally, this is my favorite time of year to use the club, because I can get a lot done and it is always nice to have a bird’s-eye view of what is going on in downtown Omaha.

Recently at a committee meeting, we got into a discussion about some advantages of being an OPC member. As we get into the summer traveling season, you should consider checking out some of our “sister” clubs across the country.

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We will have a great buffet, and you will be able to view the fireworks from around the city from the best vantage point in town.

**MEMBER BENEFITS**

OPC members receive preferential treatment when holding a special event, with no charge for room usage. Wedding. Birthday. Retirement. Maybe just celebrating your team’s win. We offer great food, a beautiful setting, an unequaled view, free room rental and an experienced event coordinator.

**Call our favorite party person, Christine Villamonte, at 402-345-8008, for information.**

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- **J.J. Bartlett**
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- **Marcia Cady**
  - Secretary
  - Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska

- **Todd Murphy**
  - Immediate Past President
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### Board of Directors

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- Claudia Bohn • Eric Stoakes • Henry Cordes
- Susan Eustice, Co-Chair • Judy Horan, Co-Chair
- Daisy Hutzell-Rodman • Howard K. Marcus
- Don Summerside • Gary Willis
- Chris Allen • Jennifer Bull
- Kerry Olson • Tom O’Connor

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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Excellence in Media Awards</td>
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<td>Sean McGuire, Todd Murphy, J.J. Bartlett, Tom Becka, Marcia Cady</td>
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<td>“Face on the Barroom Floor”</td>
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### OPC Press Club Staff

- **Executive Director**
  - Steve Villamonte
  - smpdirector@gmail.com

- **Restaurant and Events Manager**
  - Christine Villamonte
  - opcchristine@gmail.com

- **Administrative Manager**
  - Jeanie Campbell
  - jeanie@opc.omhabocmail.com

- **OFFICE**
  - 402-345-8587

- **Website**
  - 402-345-8008

- **NEWSLETTER**
  - 402-345-8587

### 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

### CANCELLATION POLICY:

All reservations must be cancelled 48 HOURS in advance.

**Submissions for September issue are due on or before August 20.**