The Tokyo Olympics

... that weren’t

Before the 1964 Games, Tokyo won the 1940 bid

In press-freedom news... Australia’s ABC offices raided by police

Full coverage Lens-man Richard Atrero de Guzman profiled

In memoriam Associated Press’s Eric Talmadge
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DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS,

We have just concluded the election of the Board of directors for the coming year. Congratulations to the new Board members and many thanks to everyone who voted, and to those who attended the General Meeting on June 27.

I’m unable to name the new officers of the Board in this mail because those appointments will be made at a later Board orientation meeting. What I can do, however, is give an update from the final meeting of the departing Board on June 10.

The General Manager gave a briefing on Food and Beverage, with Main Bar revenues for May dipping 6 percent on year, while banquet sales rose 20 percent. The Club in June was facing a little under ¥1 million in delinquent accounts. About one-third of that is now written off with the remainder being pursued. That is a substantial improvement on the situation several months ago, thanks to the GM and the Treasurer. The Treasurer also reported that operational revenues for 2018-19 were slightly over budget, but membership-related revenues were below the target. The latter is of concern as attracting new members is key to the Club’s future and something that I would argue, will be the main task of the new Board. Two other priorities are the hiring of a deputy for the General Manager and a staff member to assist Hiroko Moriwaki in the Library. Moriwaki-san is one of the FCCJ’s heroes and I extend a sincere thanks to her for all the assistance she provides above and beyond her job description.

There has been an increase in hacking attacks on the Club website, which is to be expected considering our hosting of individuals and groups that are unwelcome in certain quarters. Security will be a key focus of the design of a new website, along with a more attractive format. The board has reviewed a number of bids and given authority for a contract to be signed with a service provider. However, approval of the design of the new site remains with the Board.

PAC has recently introduced a new lanyard badge procedure for press events, so the MC can better identify journalists during question time. Attendees meeting criteria as journalists will be given a green lanyard at the front desk for their journalist ID. Please wear it at the press conference to help the Q&A proceed properly.

I’m running out of space, but to finish on a high note, the changes around the bar have been fitted with adjustors to the legs to raise them to a level that makes eating food at the bar a less elbow-challenging experience. For recently tried the fish and chips without the chips, opting instead for the Greek salad. It set me up for the day. See you in the Club.

– Peter Langan

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The disappearance of a sorely needed medium

WE ARE LIVING IN AN age when the president of the US—commonly if dubiously, called “the leader of the free world”—says he would like people to admire him as the North Korean people do Kim Jong Un, the Supreme Leader of a dictatorship. When in Britain, the lead candidate to head the governing party and become prime minister has been previously caught conspiring to have a journalist beaten up and has been expelled from government, sacked from a newspaper and even faced a court summons for his lies. When populist leaders from India to Brazil bathe in praise of their own making, our covers have been used to inform and provoke, not to flatter. That is what they’re there for, as a kind of dark, sympathetic magic cartoons have “the power to shock and offend. That, largely, is what they’re there for, as a kind of dark, sympathetic magic cartoons have “the power to shock and offend. 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By Rebecca Ananian-Welsh

The government was not blind to the potential impact of this scheme on source confidentiality. For example, obtaining metadata relating to a journalist’s mobile phone could reveal, among other things, who they consulted and to whom they ultimately pointed the sources. This led to the introduction of the “Journalist Information Warrant”, or JIW. This warrant is required if an agency wishes to access retained metadata for the direct purposes of identifying a source of information. The purpose and the agency can show it is in the public interest and therefore obtain a JIW.

The June raids suggest several possibilities: that either JIWs could not be obtained in relation to Smethurst, Fordham, or the ABC journalists; the journalists’ metadata did not reveal their sources; or federal police did not attempt to access their metadata. If metadata had identified the journalists’ sources, it is unclear why this week’s dramatic developments took place.

After 2015, journalists were advised to avoid using their mobile devices in source communications. They were also encouraged, wherever possible, to encrypt communications. But in 2018, the government went some way to closing down this option when it introduced the complex and highly controversial Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Data Retention) Act 2018.

As well as expanding computer access and network access warrants, the Act provided a means for government agencies to co-opt those in the telecommunications industry to assist agencies with their investigations. This could include covertly installing weaknesses and vulnerabilities in specific devices, circumventing passwords, or allowing encrypted communications to be decrypted. A warrant would then be required to access the device and communication data.

It is impossible to know whether Australian journalists have been targeted under the Act or have had weaknesses or spyware installed on their personal devices. The recent raids suggest the Australian Federal Police are prepared to target journalists under this framework in order to identify journalists’ confidential sources. However, this could only be done for certain purposes, including in the investigation of a secrecy offense.

Source confidentiality

Upon finding out he was the subject of an investigation aimed at uncovering his sources of government information, Fordham declared, “The chance of me revealing my sources is zero. Not today, not tomorrow, next week or next month. There is not a hope in hell of that happening.” Source confidentiality is one of journalism’s central ethical principles. It is recognized by the UN and is vital to a functioning democracy and free, independent, robust, and effective media.

One of the greatest threats to source confidentiality is Australia’s uniquely broad data surveillance framework. The 2015 metadata retention scheme requires that all metadata—that is, information about a device or communication but not the communication itself—be retained for two years, and it may be covertly accessed by a wide array of government agencies without a warrant. Some reports suggest that by late 2018, some 350,000 requests for access to metadata were being received by telecommunications service providers each year.

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Richard Atrero de Guzman
Visual journalist

By Kathryn Wortley

After four years of building his portfolio on his website, Richard Atrero de Guzman got his first video commission in Japan in 2013. It was to cover the International Olympic Committee’s announcement of the city chosen to host the 2020 Games: a great win for the then-38-year-old Filipino who says he arrived in Tokyo with “no language skills, no contacts and no idea how to break into journalism.”

As his style was mastered from years spent as a video documentarian who expressed life through his lens, however, the piece didn’t suit Ruptly, the Berlin-based international news agency that had commissioned him. Undeterred, he asked the editor for another chance and, after some research, produced a piece that secured him regular work.

Ten years ago he was only shooting photo and video, and he “didn’t know how to use a computer.” Now, with YouTube as his teacher, he is editing, producing, directing, flying drones, operating live and even making 360° video. “I’m not scared of doing anything. There is no reason to be stupid right now of doing anything. There is no reason to be stupid right now because the internet is there,” he says.

The variety of his beat, from local and international news to culture and travel, has made him a generalist rather than a specialist, but he is happy to cover topics unfamiliar to him, “I’m very honest with my editors. If I don’t know something, I just ask. They know I’m not a lawyer or an engineer,” he says, reflecting on his coverage of Carlos Ghosn’s case and the Tokyo Motor Show.

**WITH THIS APPROACH, HE HAS PICKED UP FREELANCE ASSIGNMENTS WITH MEDIA AROUND THE WORLD. IN 2014, HE BECAME A STRINGER FOR RUPOTLY, PRODUCING VIDEO MOSTLY ON “POLITICS AND LIGHT NEWS.” THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY PHOTO COMMISIONS FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, TIME AND GREAT BIG STORY. IN 2016, HE BEGAN UPLOADING HIS PHOTOS TO JAPANESE PHOTO AGENCY AFO AND ITALIAN PHOTO AGENCY NURPHOTO, WHERE HIS PHOTOS WERE SHARED WITH SISTER AGENCIES Afp AND Getty. DE GUZMAN ATTRIBUTES THIS EXPOSURE TO GAINING GREATER RECOGNITION, BOTH GLOBALLY AND MORE REQUESTS FOR JOBS. IN THE PAST TWO YEARS HE HAS ADDED TV TOKYO, BERLIN-BASED MEDIA OUTLET REDFISH, GLOBAL NEWS NETWORK RT (FORMERLY RUSSIA TODAY), AFP, SIPA PRESS AND AL JAZEERA TO HIS CLIENT LIST. THROUGH MOST OUTLETS REQUIRE BOTH PHOTO AND VIDEO JOURNALISM, DE GUZMAN SAYS HE “LOVES” DOING PHOTOS DESPITE IT BEING “REALLY CHALLENGING.” A SCHOLARSHIP FROM WORLD PRESS PHOTO IN 2007, FOLLOWED BY A MASTER-CLASS IN PHOTOJOURNALISM AT WORKSHOP-ASIA DEEPENED HIS APPRECIATION FOR AND UNDERSTANDING OF CAPTURING NEWS IN A PHOTO. “I CAN’T EXPLAIN THE HAPPINESS I FEEL WHEN I SEE MY PHOTO IN PRINT,” HE SAYS, ADDING THAT IT IS EXTRA SPECIAL WHEN IT IS DOING ITS JOB EFFECTIVELY.

NOW, HE SAYS, HE USES HIS EXPERIENCE TO ENSURE THAT HE CAN BE PAID FOR WHAT HE SHOOTS. WHERE A FEW YEARS AGO HE WOULD JUMP ON A FLIGHT TO IMMEDIATELY COVER EVENTS AFTER THEY HAPPENED—SUCH AS WHEN HE TRAVELED TO KUMAMOTO IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EARTHQUAKES IN 2016—HE NOW ASSESSES THE BEST TIME TO GO AND WHETHER THE STORY WARRANTS A TRIP. THE INTERNET, HE SAYS, HAS HELPED MAKE THAT PROCESS EASIER, THANKS TO THE WEALTH OF NEWS TO FOLLOW AND CONNECTIVITY WITH FELLOW JOURNALISTS AND EDITORS. NEWS OF THE SRI LANKA BOMBINGS BROKE JUST AS HE WAS TYING UP A SHOOT IN BANGKOK, SO HE-posted on his Facebook status that he was going to cover it. BY THE TIME HIS PLANE LANDED IN COLOMBO, HIS INBOX WAS FULL OF REQUESTS FOR FOOTAGE.

STILL, DE GUZMAN RETAINS A DESIRE TO TELL PEOPLE’S STORIES WHETHER OR NOT HE GETS PAID. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE OF THE PHILIPPINES, WHICH IS THE REASON FOR HIS NICKNAME BAHAGSI, MEANING “LOIN CLOTH” IN TAGA-LOG AND THE AFFECTATION SLANG USED AFTER A PERSON’S NAME. SITTING IN THE BAR OF THE FCCJ, WHICH HE JOINED IN 2014, HE POINTS OUT A TRADITIONAL TATTOO ON HIS FOREARM, INKED BY THE LAST REMAINING ARTIST IN A FILIPINO TRIBE FOLLOWING FILMING FOR A DOCUMENTARY.

**HE POINTS OUT A TRADITIONAL TATTOO ON HIS FOREARM, INKED BY THE LAST REMAINING ARTIST IN A FILIPINO TRIBE FOLLOWING FILMING FOR A DOCUMENTARY.**

AS HE BEGAN HIS CAREER IN JAPAN BY SHOOTING THE UNVEILING OF TOKYO AS 2020 HOST, DE GUZMAN IS EXCITED TO COVER THE OLYMPICS, DESPITE BEING UNFAMILIAR WITH SPORT. BUT LEARNING ADDS MORE STRINGS TO YOUR BOW AS A JOURNALIST, HE SAYS, AND HE PROMISES NOT TO HESITATE TO ASK QUESTIONS.

Kathryn Wortley is a freelance journalist for online and print media in the UK and Asia-Pacific.
Attracting attention, and new members

The Membership Marketing Committee is tasked with raising the profile of the Club and attracting new members, Regular and Associate alike

By Julian Ryall

Over the course of an hour-long conversation, Willem Kortekaas does not come across as a man prone to hyperbole. So when he says the Club needs to attract new members in order to generate the revenue that we need to survive and thrive, then the rest of us would be wise to heed that suggestion.

FOCJ President Peter Langan approached Abby Leonard and Kortekaas earlier this year to resurrect the Membership Marketing Committee (after a considerable amount of time effectively in hibernation) and lift member numbers to levels that would enable the Club to cover the higher rent and costs associated with the new premises. Equally, the task was to attract new members to raise the Club’s profile and ensure that it remains the place “where news is made.”

Kortekaas, an Associate Member since 1983 and president of Euroopa, EK, a freestyle journalist, Leonard, with Keiko Packard and David Satterwhite rounding out the four-strong committee and Koeri Furuta seconded from the Club.

There are around 1,600 associate members of the Club at present, and around 275 regular members. Ideally, Kortekaas said, the FOCJ would have a total membership of around 2,200 and a waiting list.

“There was always an assumption in the past that we would have a gradual increase in members, but that is not happening,” said Kortekaas. “We are getting some new members in both the journalists and associates categories, but they are only replacing the numbers that are dropping out, meaning that the total remains at about the same level.”

ATTRITION CAN BE ATTRIBUTED to the Club’s “old hands” retiring or leaving Japan, while technology means that many journalists no longer need a bricks-and-mortar office to be able to do their job. And without a steady flow of significant press-related events, the Club begins to lose its appeal to some of the associates.

“The money that the Club needs is in the associate membership and we have to make ourselves attractive to that group of people,” said Kortekaas. “We need to be delivering well-organized and high-quality activities and programs that distinguish the FOCJ from all the other institutions around Tokyo.”

Equally, the Club is important to Japan’s media landscape for a number of reasons, he added. “The Club champions freedom of the press. This is the only organization here that still provides a place for people with opinions that deviate from the official viewpoint to deliver their message,” he said, pointing to press conferences with the Dalai Lama and representatives of the Uighur community in exile.

The Club has also shown that it can play an important role when major news events happen in Japan and the eyes of the world are on this country, such as the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 2011. Looking into the immediate future, the world’s press is going to be seeking a home-away-from-home when the Rugby World Cup kicks off this autumn and when the Tokyo Olympic Games and the Paralympics are staged next year. The committee is presently discussing a temporary facility and hear about the other events we hold and services the Club offers camaraderie that technology can’t replace.

The only way to bring in new members, Leonard and Kortekaas agree, is to be very proactive in reaching out to everyone who might be interested. The committee is in the process of contacting ambassadors in Tokyo to remind them that they qualify for honorary membership, an offer that a number have taken up, while a similar arrangement exists for the heads of foreign chambers of commerce in Japan. Again, members are being jogged.

The committee plans to contact the heads of prefectures and offices in Tokyo to offer them honorary membership and to suggest that they might want to use the Club to promote their regions. Similarly, plans are in motion to invite the managing directors of regional newspapers across the country to become associate members, with the Marunouchi district’s extensive business community also seen as a potential pool of new members. The priority, however, has to be strengthening the attractiveness of the Club to regular and associate members, he emphasized.

The committee also has high hopes for the Journalism Learning Labs, which were an initiative spearheaded by Leonard and have already attracted a firm following. “The program is designed to provide FOCJ members with professional development opportunities and also bring in—often younger—journalists who are not yet members,” she said. “Several of the seminars have focused on technical skills, others have offered career guidance and all of them were good networking opportunities. We want to give people a reason to come to the Club—and then hit them with the membership applications.”

There have been four lab events to date, including AP Bureau Chief Ken Mortaza’s explaining his own career and offering advice to up-and-coming journalists, an exploration of the media industry in the digital age and an examination of legal reporting in Japan.

And there has already been some success, said Leonard, with a number of people who attended the seminars applying for membership. “I think they come to the Club and see the new facility and hear about the other events we hold and services we provide, and decide they’d like to be part of it,” she said.

There is also a degree of cross-over with the Club’s Scholar-ship Committee, of which Leonard is also a member, and she is hopeful that some students will become regular members after they graduate.

And she remains confident that the membership commit-tee’s work will pay off over the long run. “Of course we would have liked to see many more members joining—especially with the new facility—but we are building slowly and steady,” she said. ●

Julian Ryall is Japan correspondent for the Daily Telegraph.
**The Tokyo Olympics that never was**

By Mark Schreiber

It was 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21, 1940, under sunny skies. The temperature was a balmy 23.2 degrees, with a brisk breeze. A multitude of 120,000 excited spectators who filled the just-completed Komazawa Stadium to capacity turned their hushed gazes toward the formation of five nearly built Imperial Japanese Navy Zero fighter planes soaring overhead, as they inscribed the five Olympic rings in blue, orange, black, green and red smoke on the sky.

As military bands struck up “Kimigayo,” the crowd rose as one to its feet, and, 39-year-old Emperor Hirohito, clad in full military regalia and flanked by his color guard, entered the track atop his white steed, Shigatani.

Ascenting to the rostrum, his majesty, in a reedy voice never before heard by his subjects, proclaimed to the 7,000 athletes and officials assembled from 56 nations—six more than the 1936 event in Berlin—“I hereby declare the opening of the 12th Olympiad!” The stadium reverberated with a chorus of “Banzai!” cheers.

**THE ABOVE SCENARIO OBVIOUSLY** never happened. It presupposes that prior to mid-1938, Japan’s military had substantially, if not completely, withdrawn from China. And, of course, that Germany had not invaded Poland in September 1939.

As it turned out, the Japanese government decided against hosting the games on July 14, 1938, and the 12th Olympiad of 1940 became what is now commonly referred to as Maboroshi— the Olympics that never were.

Tentative moves toward the selection of Tokyo as host began as early as 1929, when Swedish industrialist Sigfrid Edström, an admirer of the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm, visited Japan and discussed Tokyo’s prospects with Tadaoki Yamamoto, chairman of the Inter-University Athletic Union of Japan. A year later Yamamoto, who traveled to Germany as head of Japan’s contingent to the International Student Games, was urged by Tokyo’s mayor-to-be Hidejiro Nagata to begin promotion efforts.

Nagata sought to host the games as a way of celebrating Tokyo’s recovery from the earthquake and fire that devastated the city in September 1923. In his view, the Olympics also would add window dressing to plans afoot the same year to commemorate the 2,600th anniversary of the ascension of Emperor Jimmu, the legendary first emperor of the Yamato Dynasty, to commemorate the birth of the new crown prince on Dec. 23, 1933.

Such concerns aside, planners moved forward with a schedule of events. The opening ceremony would be held at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 21, and the closing ceremony at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6. A total of 20 events were planned: track and field, shooting, swimming, field hockey, water polo, fencing, gymnastics, soccer, weightlifting, basketball, wrestling, boxing, modern pentathlon, equestrian, art competitions, boating, martial arts, yacht racing, and baseball. Soccer, rugby, tennis, polo, water polo, field hockey, handball, basketball and various sports (a relative of jai-alai) were to be introduced on a trial basis.

**THE MARATHON, SCHEDULED FOR Sept. 29—the final day of the track and field events—would probably have followed a 42.195km route from the north exit of Komazawa stadium to the south exit of the stadium.**

Aside from the loss of face, the drain on the Tokyo and national finances was considerable. An article titled “How much was wasted by cancellation of the Olympics?” that appeared in the Sept. 1, 1938 issue of Hanashu magazine, produced a rough calculation. These were the costs:

- ¥400,000 for advertising and public relations activities. All together, the total outlay must have reached a staggering amount.
- ¥1 million for setting up of the preliminary delegations to Los Angeles and Berlin, ¥1.5 million; planning objectives . . . and thus the games are to be halted. “The IOC’s first reaction was to transfer the games to Helsinki; but with the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939, the 1940 Olympics were cancelled for good.

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- ¥400,000 for advertising and public relations activities. All together, the total outlay must have reached a staggering amount.
- ¥1 million for setting up of the preliminary delegations to Los Angeles and Berlin, ¥1.5 million; planning objectives . . . and thus the games are to be halted. “The IOC’s first reaction was to transfer the games to Helsinki; but with the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939, the 1940 Olympics were cancelled for good.

Meanwhile, unfortunately, the international situation was going from bad to worse. The sequence of events that led to the end of the 1940 games began on July 7, 1947, when Japanese and Chinese troops clashed at the Mar- co Polo Bridge southwest of Beijing. These months later the Japanese government established the “National Spiritual Mobilization Movement” as a part of controls on civilian organizations, including organized sports. As the flames of war rose and spread in China, the US and other countries began threatening a boycott.

Faced with a possible forfeiture, Japan backed out. A day after the July 14 announcement to the media, a vice minister of health and welfare hurriedly notified Tokyo Mayor Ichita Koboishi in writing that “While it had been desirable for the 12th Olympiad to be held . . . current circumstances require full physical and mental effort be devoted to potassium . . . and the games are to be halted.”

**THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE** at the closing ceremonies of the 11th Olympiad in Berlin—memorialized in Leni Riefenstahl’s film Olympia. When IOC President Lord Arthur pronounced the crowd: “It has been decided that the next Olympiad, to be held . . . current circumstances require full physical and mental effort be devoted to potassium . . . and the games are to be halted.”

**THE ABOVE SCENARIO OBVIOUSLY** never happened. It presupposes that prior to mid-1938, Japan’s military had substantially, if not completely, withdrawn from China. And, of course, that Germany had not invaded Poland in September 1939.

As it turned out, the Japanese government decided against hosting the games on July 14, 1938, and the 12th Olympiad of 1940 became what is now commonly referred to as Maboroshi— the Olympics that never were.
The Tokyo Olympics cont’d

IN MEMORIAM
Eric Talmadge remembered

The Tokyo bureau, he was named AP’s bureau chief in North Korea in 2018. John Daniszewski was vice president for international news when AP established the first Western news and photo bureau in North Korea in 2012. In comments published in an online newsletter mainly for AP retirees, he recalled that while sketching out the parameter for operating, it was still a gamble whether the bureau would endure in the face of the country’s deep suspicions and hostility toward the West. He wrote:

“Eric was a pioneer. It was Eric who eventually fulfilled AP’s vision of a normally functioning news bureau in Pyongyang. (He) helped open the doors for greater access for other news organizations in North Korea, and even perhaps prepared the ground for the political and diplomatic openings that have followed. His characteristics included tact, patience, courtesy, deep intellect, and an attitude of respectful curiosity and empathy for others that served him well in his profession.

As a result of these, he slowly broke down the considerable walls that exist for outsiders there. He won trust among his hosts even as he pressed them for information. Eric’s willingness to engage was rewarded by rare interviews and managed to travel outside the capital to give AP’s audience a clearer view of lesser cities and the countryside.”

Even after retiring from AP, I closely followed his reporting from North Korea and even used some of his news reports as good examples in journalism classes I taught at universities. He kindly came to one of my classes at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies as a guest speaker and talked about international reporting.

Denis Gray, former Bangkok bureau chief for 30 years and a legendary AP foreign correspondent who also served as president of the Foreign Correspondents’ Club of Thailand on three occasions, sent a note for the memorial occasion.

“Much has rightly been written about Eric’s pioneering achievement on the North Korean story. But this should not overshadow his ability to wonderfully execute an extremely wide range of assignments—from armed conflict to natural disasters to sports. 

ET, as he was often called, graphically chronicled the aftermath of the great Asian tsunami as we flew out each day from a US aircraft carrier to the utterly devastated coast of Indonesia’s Aceh province. He was always an enthusiastic and tireless member of the AP team that covered regional sports events across Asia. 

In those days, following the Spielberg movie, he was invariably greeted each morning with, “ET, have you called home yet?”

Joe Coleman, former AP bureau chief in Tokyo who now is a journalism professor at Indiana University, also sent a touching personal note for the memorial event.

“I worked closely with Eric for more than 10 years. He always had an enthusiasm and willingness to go beyond what appeared to be a tough exterior—what enabled him to earn people’s trust and tell their stories with great insight.”

Members of Eric’s family were to attend the event, but unfortunately Eric’s widow, Hisako, did not feel well enough to attend the event, but unfortunately Due to conflicting schedules, I was asked to moderate the event. As a former colleague of Eric’s at AP and a former FCJJ president, I felt obliged and honored to do so.

In front of the FCJJ banner, three framed photos of Eric were set on the table along with bouquets of white flowers, including ones sent by Kyodo News President Toru Muratani and YOGAC President Sadao Hashiguchi. On both sides of the table, about a dozen photos of Eric were displayed on large clear panels.

A slide show played on a large screen during the event.

Copies of the February 1995 issue of Number 1 Shimbun were also placed on the table for attendees to read and take home. The issue featured Eric’s first-person report of the Kobe earthquake which killed about 6,400 people the previous month. Its headline, by then editor Pat Kilien, read “Quake: Eric’s Walk to Hell.”

Eric joined AP in Tokyo in 1988 after working for the weekly Daily News. Having studied at Sophia University, he was fluent in Japanese—with no accent. Since then, he covered a wide range of stories and events, including natural disasters in Japan and Indonesia, war in Afghanistan and five Olympics. After serving as news editor at the AP Tokyo bureau, he was named AP’s bureau chief in North Korea in 2013.

Eric Talmadge lived in the Zushi area on Japan’s Chita Peninsula, southwest of Tokyo. A nearby convenience store was robbed, and the suspect armed with a knife was at large in the neighborhood. He was supposed to leave home for work, but he did not want to leave his wife and their small baby alone at home until the suspect was caught by police. So Prideaux called Talmadge in the AP office, explained the situation and said he would be late. Talmadge’s response was: “That’s the best excuse I’ve ever heard.”

Eric was a nonsense man with a dry sense of humor, which I liked very much. Eric Prideaux, a former AP newsman who joined the international news agency after working for the Japan Times, shared the following episode some time ago while I was with AP:

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“I worked closely with Eric for more than 10 years. He always had an enthusiasm and willingness to go beyond what appeared to be a tough exterior—what enabled him to earn people’s trust and tell their stories with great insight.”

Members of Eric’s family were to attend the event, but unfortunately his widow, Hisako, did not feel well enough to attend the event, so that they decided to stay home—quite understandably under such circumstances. We conveyed our messages and sent photos of the event to Eric. We will miss him.

— Keruo Akihiko
Club News

"WE TEND TO ONLY SEE REPORTING ON THE LEGAL ISSUES OF HUGE SCANDALS, AND NOT THE MORE COMMON LEGAL ISSUES THAT ACTUALLY HAVE A WIDER IMPACT ON PEOPLE. THERE'S A LACK OF DEDICATED REPORTING ON EVERYDAY LEGAL ISSUES AND THAT MEANS THERE'S A LACK OF PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THEM."

Tina Saunders, director of Temple University Law School, Japan Campus, "Journalism and Justice: Legal Reporting in Japan," May 15

"I WOULDN'T SAY I'M RICH. REMEMBER I WENT INTO BANKRUPTCY AT THE SAME TIME AS MT. GOX. I'VE LOST EVERYTHING FROM THAT TIME, AND BEEN HELD IN DETENTION FOR A YEAR. WHEN I CAME OUT I HAD NOTHING, AND I HAD TO REBUILD EVERYTHING FROM ZERO."

Mark Karpelès, former CEO of Mt. Gox, June 5


Wang Dan, former student leader of the Tiananmen democracy movement/Dialogue China Director, May 29

The FCCJ is proud to welcome the extraordinary pianist Azumi Nishizawa in a program of classical music with a dominantly Spanish theme.

Based in Granada, Spain, Azumi maintains an active international schedule of performances and is renowned for her interpretations of Spanish music.

Tickets including sit-down dinner and one drink are: ¥9,000 (plus tax)

Reservations via the front desk: 03-3211-3161

FCCJ Classical Concert
Spain and piano: a trip with Don Quixote
Azumi Nishizawa

The art of love making
Japan's rubber goods-maker Okamoto announces a ukiyo-e-themed "Design Condom" in Tokyo, June 3.
by Yoshikazu Tsuno

Hi, flyer
A stage performer on her break waves at a passenger jet just before it lands at Haneda Airport.
by Albert Siegel

Taking a fall
An indoor-skydiving training session in FlyStation's vertical wind tunnel, Koshigaya, June 13.
by Tomohiro Ohtani

Lens craft

Photographer members
Oyako (Parents and Children)
A Group Photography Exhibition

Oyako Day is held on the 4th Sunday of July, in celebration of the special bond between parents and children. This month’s exhibition is a group show featuring photographs of families from all over the world. China, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Mongolia, Syria, Ethiopia, Uruguay, the United States—even below the surface of the ocean—are among the locations included in this show. The photographs were taken by such renowned cameramen as Kazuyoshi Nomachi, Eiichiro Sakata, Shusei Kowabara, Natsuki Yasuda, Ikuo Nakamura, Taishi Hirokawa and Herbie Yamaguchi.

Domestic violence between parents and children is a major topic in the news recently, highlighting the problems of communicating and understanding that are becoming more prevalent in society. For newborn babies, parents are the first people they bond with, forming the base for all future relations. Building stronger foundations with our children and the family is the first step to increasing respect, as well as to deepen the understanding between people from different backgrounds and cultures.

The Exhibition Committee would like to express our gratitude to all the photographers participating in this exhibition, and our appreciation to The Photographic Society of Japan for introducing photographers from other countries.

– Bruce Osborn, FCCJ Exhibition-Committee Chair

NEW MEMBERS

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Shigeru Matsudo, Sun Alba
Hideo Tomita, Refinitiv Japan K.K.
Natsuko Toda, Freelance
Tomoo Tajima, Tokai University Tokyo Hospital
Shinichi Yasuda, Tama University

REINSTATEMENT (ASSOCIATE)
Yoshiyuki Meedo

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

Japanese Women in Science and Engineering: History and Policy Change
Naonori Kodate
and Kashiko Kodate
Routledge
Gift from Publisher

The Ghost of Namamugi:
Charles Lenox Richardson and the Anglo-Satsuma War
Robert S.G. Fletcher
Renaissance Books
Gift from Publisher

A Discipline on Foot: Inventing Japanese Native Ethnography, 1910-1945
Alan Christy
Rowman & Littlefield

Tenno: Japan’s Kejserdømme i Nutiden
Asger Røjle Christensen
Turbine
Gift from Asger Røjle Christensen

The spirit of huci: four seasons of an Ainu woman
Keira Tomoko
Yay Yukar no Mori

Performing the Great Peace: Political Space and Open Secrets in Tokugawa Japan
Luke S. Roberts
University of Hawaii Press
Where news is made