



HEADLINES

Fall 2018

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Grayson Howry helps his little sister Mattie get up on Santa's lap.



Henry Burnett mails a letter to Santa.



Santa photo by Chris Caselli



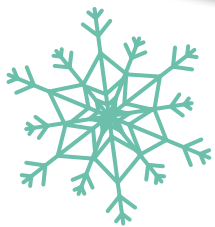
Santa and Birdie Levy have a good chat.



Davis and Blake Baroch visit with Santa.



The Rudy Garza Family



◆ EVENTS ◆

Breakfast with Santa

November 24, 2018

photo by Chris Caselli



Almost everyone in the Jones' family was happy to be with Santa.



Young Master Liam Walker was pleased his grandparents Lynn and Bill brought him to the party.



Jillian Becker made sure her letter to Santa made it to the mail box on time.



Stephanie Jastrow and her daughter Claire
(pretty in plaid)



Almost everyone in the Heath family was happy to be with Santa.

◆ EVENTS ◆

Breakfast with Santa

November 24, 2018



Hector De Leon always enjoys an outing with his grandkids Anna, Henry and Winnie.



Harry Osborne and his friend, Maddie Moncure, spent some good quality time writing to Santa.



The Valdez family gets into the Christmas spirit at the club.



The McDaniel family all dressed up for Santa.



Will Jones brought his grandchildren to see Santa-Mae and Wally McNew.

◆ INSIDE TRACK ◆

James Scott

September 26, 2018

Have you ever wondered how self-driving cars work or how computers translate languages or approximate the human voice? These are just a few of the applications of artificial intelligence (AI) having nothing to do with “killer robots.”

In a fascinating and completely understandable discussion of AI, Associate Professor James Scott of UT’s McCombs School of Business demonstrated why he is the recipient of the Regent’s Outstanding Teaching Award. After a brief introduction by Club President Mary Scott Nabors, Dr. Scott began to describe some of the current uses of AI—smart phones, fraud detection, even medical diagnosis of retina myopathy---and some of the problems related to it.

Steven Levitt, author of *Freakonomics*, calls Scott’s book *AIQ: How Humans and Machines Are Smarter Together*, which he co-authored with University of Chicago’s professor of Econometrics and Statistics Nick Polson, THE book on the subject. In it, Scott and Polson answer what AI is, how it works, and where it comes from. Ideas related to AI go back to the 17th century, but only recently took off because information technology enables lightning-fast analysis of large data



Dr. James Scott, statistician and data scientist explains AI (artificial Intelligence) to an Inside Track gathering.



It was a good family luncheon for Don Cook, Gary Pickle and Bergan Casey.



Paul Holubec (right) enjoyed the luncheon with Rod Edens.



Ernest Auerbach and Andrew Heller had a nice discussion about the of the future of AI.

bases. AI works on probability, not certainty, comparing large data approximations to get nearer and nearer to the answer.

Today AI is limited by its domain. Robotics, according to Scott, is in its infancy. He cites the video from DARTHA entitled “Robot vs. Door”, wherein a robot is confronted by a closed door and cannot get through. If you are afraid of the robots, according to Scott, just close the door! Privacy is a concern, of course, but AI can also be useful - in fraud detection for example.

When some of us hear the word “algorithm”, we throw up our hands and think “oh, no---MATH.” For those I would highly recommend Scott’s book because, at least this English major found it easy-going and now has hopes of being able to converse with her grandchildren about this some day.

—Donna Shipley

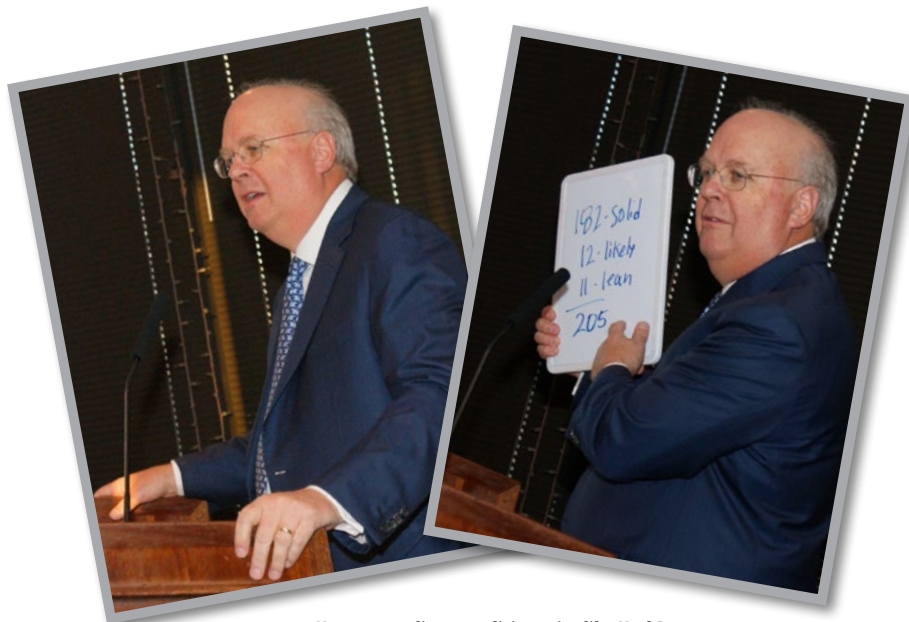


Two brilliant minds, Nobel Laureate Steven Weinberg and Dr. James Scott.

◆ FAMOUS AUSTINITES ◆

Karl Rove

October 2, 2018



No one can dissect politics quite like Karl Rove.

Karl Rove is known as a numbers guy. His mind is filled with calculations – largely political—and his prognostications more often than not hit the target.

...continued on page 6

Although it was one month before the midterms when Rove was the featured speaker at the Famous Austinites Dinner in October, billed as “A Look At the 2018 Midterms And Beyond,” now that we’re beyond, we can look back.

“This is one of the most interesting periods because nothing goes normal. Nothing goes by the standard rules. Everything is topsy-turvy. Everything is chaotic,” Rove said. “Everything is nonlinear and at some point, it may wear us all out. But right now, it’s just highly entertaining.”

He told the Headliners Club audience that the “most likely” outcome of the midterms is that the Democrats would end up with a small majority in the U.S. House and the Republicans increase their majority in the U.S. Senate.

Of the now-we-know how the U.S. Senate race between Ted Cruz and Beto O’Rourke actually played out, Rove predicted a Cruz win. But he added an explainer, just in case.

“There are a lot of people who don’t like Ted Cruz and a lot of them have an R behind their name and have contributed to him in the past,” Rove said.

Of O’Rourke’s approach challenging Cruz, Rove said, “O’Rourke is a charismatic figure who is about the most reckless candidate I’ve ever seen.”

Despite O’Rourke’s success in capturing the nation’s attention, Rove mimicked the candidate’s television ad: “I don’t have a consultant. I don’t have polls. So my first television ad is going to be a minute long and it’s going to talk about how I went to 254 counties,’ which is a waste,” Rove said.

Rove, who is known as “The Architect” of President George W. Bush’s 2000 and 2004 campaigns, was, prior to his government stint, president of Karl Rove + Company, an Austin-based public affairs firm. Over the years, his firm worked for more than 75 Republican candidates for senator, governor and congressman, as well as for nonpartisan causes and nonprofit groups.

During the Bush administrations, Rove served as Senior Advisor from 2000–2007 and Deputy Chief of Staff from 2004–2007. Now he writes a weekly op-ed for *The Wall Street Journal* and he’s a Fox News contributor. An author of two books—*The Triumph of William McKinley: Why the Election of 1896 Still Matters*, published in 2015, and his 2010 book, *Courage and Consequence*. He’s working on a third book on presidential decision-making.

“We’re screwed for now,” Rove said, as he wrapped up his presentation, which offered the audience a barrage of candidates, states and stats about their odds for success and displayed Rove’s encyclopedic knowledge of the national political landscape.

“Things are really messed up,” he said. “They’re not going to get better until we change the cast of characters.”

—Sharon Jayson



Roy Granger and Jo Anne Midwikis have a lot in common—mainly Tom Granger.



Myra Crownover and her husband Terral Smith with Becky and Dale Klein.



Nothing like a good political discussion to bring the Herndon family together: Dealey, David, Erika and Bryan.

Suzanne and Matthew Mackowiak with Ken Herman, Sharon Jayson, Bruce Todd and the evening's speaker, Karl Rove



Breakfast buddies Karl Rove and Lawrence Wright.



The Judge (left) the mayor (right) and Matt Mathias (center)



How did Kerry Cammack get so lucky to be with this group of gorgeous ladies: Karen Rove, Kathy Taylor, Cindy Greenwood, Mindy Ellmer and Amy Barbee?

Bob and Anne Shepard enjoyed meeting Colonel Gregory (right) and talking to their friend, Karl.



Spencer Cronk, City Manager for Austin

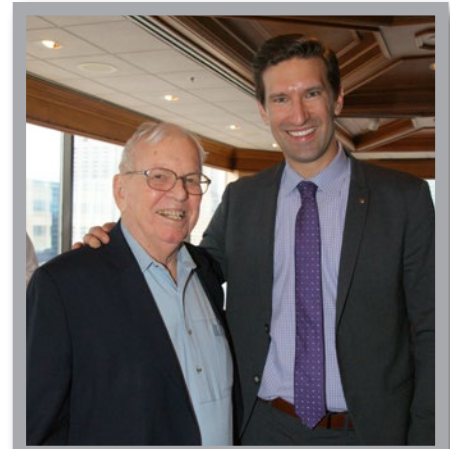
October 23, 2018



Headliners Chairman, Brian Greig, listened as Spencer Cronk described the water shutdown after the floods.



Headliners President, Mary Scott Nabers, did her usual good job in introducing Austin City Manager, Spencer Cronk.



Assistant City Manager of Austin (1955-1960) Terrell Blodgett met the new Austin City Manager, Spencer Cronk.

Although planned well in advance, the Inside Track luncheon with Austin City Manager Spencer Cronk sparked heightened interest when it happened to fall shortly after the start of Austin's first ever "boil water" alert. Everyone in the audience understood when Cronk missed lunch and arrived just in time for his speech. After acknowledging the group's desire for an update on Austin's water supply, Cronk lightened the mood by telling us something about himself: at 6 feet 6 inches, he is the shortest person in his family.

In Austin's council-management form of government, the City Council sets policy objectives and appoints the City Manager, who is responsible for carrying out policies and running the day-to-day operations, supervising more than 14,000 employees and managing a budget of \$4 billion. Cronk explained that he believes a successful municipal government 1) maintains focus on its core responsibilities of public safety, water and electricity, and transportation, 2) encourages two-way communication between city leaders and the community, and 3) is responsive and adaptive.

Rather than bringing a management team with him to Austin, Cronk arrived alone in 2018. The immediate issues were how to address the period of instability following the costly CodeNEXT failure, the Austin bombings, and the negotiations on the new police contract. He has since restructured key positions to increase accountability for outcomes and is now recruiting to fill these jobs.

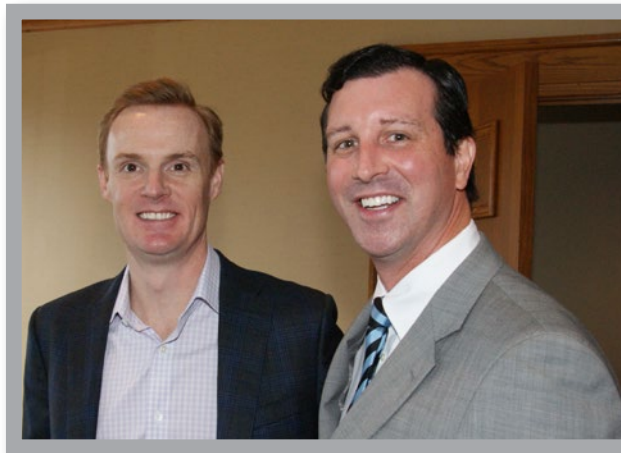
On the "boil water" issue of the day, Cronk explained that the massive flooding in Central Texas radically increased the silt and solids in the Colorado River water. As a result, the city's water filtration plants



Karen Cannatti thought the lunch with her son, Mike, was a perfect way to spend her time.



Kent Caperton and Craig Enoch enjoyed their lunch time at the club.



Louis Granger (right) and Trent Townsend (left) had a few moments to catch up before the speech.



It was great to see the LCRA was so nicely represented: (left to right) Tom Martine, Tim Timmerman and Phil Wilson.



Eva Gayle and George Gibbs loved the lunch at the club.

were unable to produce the normal volumes of high-quality water. While no actual contamination had been discovered, given the magnitude of the filtering challenge, there was a reasonable probability that some contamination could be expected, and that risk was what prompted the protective “boil water” alert, as well as the mandate for our citizens to conserve water. Cronk praised the LCRA crisis management team for its response during this unprecedented crisis, as well as citizens’ conservation efforts.

Cronk fielded several questions from an engaged audience, from what the city can do to manage aggressive panhandlers to how soon potholes would be fixed to how traffic gridlock could be relieved. Cronk was also asked his position on the proposition on the ballot providing for an efficiency audit of the city, given that the city council members were against it, even though the city spent over \$8 million on CodeNEXT and routinely had over-budget projects. Cronk tactfully explained that in his position he could not express a view but would work with whatever the voters decided. Cronk noted that one of the things he likes best about Austin is our actively engaged community, and at this Inside Track lunch, the Headliners Club did not disappoint!

—Pam McIlhenny



Diane and Donnie Williams were looking forward to hearing about the direction the new City Manager was going to lead Austin in over the next several months.

Judge Sam Sparks Horatio Aldredge, Public Defender

October 30, 2018

CRIME IN AUSTIN FROM A FEDERAL PERSPECTIVE

Anyone thinking that a presentation on crime in Austin was interesting would not be wrong. What might surprise them, however, is that it could also be entertaining. Well, not the crime part...

On October 30, members and guests were treated to an evening of discourse on crime in Austin from the federal perspective. The distinguished gentlemen involved were the Honorable Sam Sparks, Senior U.S. District Judge, Western District of Texas, Austin Division, and Horatio Aldredge, Supervisory Assistant Federal Public Defender, Western District of Texas, Austin Division. Although on opposite sides of the bench they clearly respected and enjoyed each other.

Judge Sparks, a long-time Headliners member and former President, led the evening off with some rather alarming statistics about the presence of gangs in our area. Judge Sparks related that when he transitioned from handling civil cases as a lawyer to trying criminal cases as a judge, "All I knew was *West Side Story*."

He quickly learned that it was *Dove Springs Carjackers*, starring criminals who liked shotguns and cars. While only 10 percent of his cases are criminal, they involve an alarming number of gangs. Reading from a six-page list, the Judge revealed that there are 11 Bloods gangs, a dozen Crips gangs, almost 500 members of



Judge Sparks gave a sobering report on what most Headliners do not see on a daily basis- drugs and gangs.



Judge Sam Sparks and Horatio Aldredge gave a terrific program mainly outlining the gang problems in Austin.



It was friends and family time for this special evening: Lonnie Cooper, Nellie White, Polly Cooper, Sadi Sparks and Sarah Darneille.



Jeffrey Dochen and his wife Yasmiris have enjoyed many famous Austinites evenings.

◆ FAMOUS AUSTINITES ◆

the Tango Blasters, and 98 members of the Texas Syndicate, which is operated by people serving life sentences in the penitentiary. Ominously, Judge Sparks told the audience, “And they operate daily in your city.” Luckily, the conviction rate in federal court nationally is 99 percent.

Judge Sparks then introduced Horatio Aldredge, “one of the nicest guys, but very good at his job.” He told the audience that he has a high regard for public defenders versus paid lawyers, as they are “in the courthouse every day.”

Aldredge expressed gratitude at being able to speak to the group, and stated that Texas has the largest urban areas without a state public defender system. This means that his Federal office has 54 defenders who handle 10,000 cases in a single year. Personally, he has handled several high profile cases, such as an associate of the person who attempted to assassinate Judge Kocurek, as well representing former Attorney General Dan Morales. He then looked at Judge Sparks a bit slyly and said, “Then you let him out – that was very kind of you.” Judge Sparks’ reply? “After two years.” There was a lively and humorous give-and-take throughout the evening. When talking about the Speedy Trial Act, Judge Sparks stated that, if a trial is not set within a specified time, usually two months, “the person walks.” Aldredge hastily replied, “The case is dismissed,” resulting in chuckles from the audience.

The evening ended with an insightful Q&A session. When asked if there was any evidence of the immigration caravan recruiting gang members, both resoundingly answered “None.” Judge Sparks added that, out of the last 30 deportation cases he has tried, none had a criminal record in the US. Aldredge added that Mexican gangs hold families of their mules hostage while the latter enter the US illegally with contraband.

Another interesting question for the speakers? “If you could change on thing in your system, what would it be?” Judge Sparks decisively answered, “Get the politics out of it.” Aldredge responded, “Abolition of drug laws,” a controversial but heartfelt response.

Ultimately, the perspectives of the speakers made the evening both fascinating and entertaining.

—Kay Allensworth



Austin has two great Federal District Judges: Lee Yeakel with his wife Anne and Sam Sparks with his wife Melinda.



Jered and Ashley Matthisse with Shelia Scott and Lou Pirkey were very interested in the evening's presentation.



Past Headliners Presidents all: Tom Granger (1987), Brian Greig (2006) and Sam Sparks (2013).

Terrance McNally

November 12, 2018



Special events Chairman, Mindy Ellmer (left) and Dave Steakley (right) made the luncheon with American playwright Terrence McNally (center) extra special.



Terrence McNally enthralled the audience with his stories about *Ragtime* and *Master Class*.

Lunch with a Tony-award winning playwright?

Where else but the Headliners Club as part of the Inside Track Luncheon series. Even a partial litany of Terrence McNally plays is astounding: *The Ritz* (1975), *Frankie and Johnnie at the Claire de Lune* (1987), *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (1993), *Ragtime* (1996), *Master Class* (1996), *Mothers and Sons* (2014). Catch his latest opus *Fire and Ice* at ZACH this spring.

Interviewer Dave Steakley, producing artistic director at ZACH Theatre, began the conversation by noting McNally, a Corpus Christi native, writes for a voice. Exactly, McNally responded, saying often he writes imagining Laurence Olivier or Ethel Merman saying a line.

McNally conceded that writing is solitary while theater is collaborative. And collaboration is what McNally loves even though he noted some playwrights demand not a word be changed, but “I love to collaborate” with actors, directors. For example musicals, a uniquely American genre, have five authors McNally said: music composer, lyricist, book, choreographer and director.

How does a musical come about, inquired Steakley? “I write them as plays” knowing my script may be cannibalized for lyrics and song ideas, responded the playwright. “It is my job to inspire the composer and the lyricist.” For example this is the reason his original *Ragtime* play was overwritten. However, converting a tome like *Ragtime* to a play often involves deciding what to omit. As he explained to author E. L. Doctorow when writing the *Ragtime* play, “I am the writer and you are the source.”

Taking a book from page to stage is tricky. In a book, the reader interprets and pictures a character in his head but in a play “the character is interpreted for you by an actor,” McNally said. “I just write the words. That is not fake modesty. It’s true. I write the words and they [actors] inhabit the characters.”

Lest the audience believe he has written nothing but hits, McNally admitted he can quote his bad reviews but not

the good ones. “Sometimes theater can go horribly wrong and no one quite knows why,” he mused.

Most playwrights make a living in regional theater and not on Broadway, he noted. If you desire to be a successful playwright, McNally advised, write what you know. As Oscar Wilde said “Be yourself. Everyone else is taken.”

Playwright Terrence McNally is himself - and then some.

—Jane Greig



Enjoying the luncheon discussion were Brian McCall and Kathy and Randy Taylor.



Dan Jackson and Milton Guiberteau are always interested in anything having to do with the arts.



Dwaine Kelley (right) brought his friend Bill Prothro (left) to this special event.



Terrence McNally was pleased to also spend the luncheon with Marc Seriff and his husband Tom Kirdahy who is a Broadway producer.

Tom Johnson

November 12, 2018

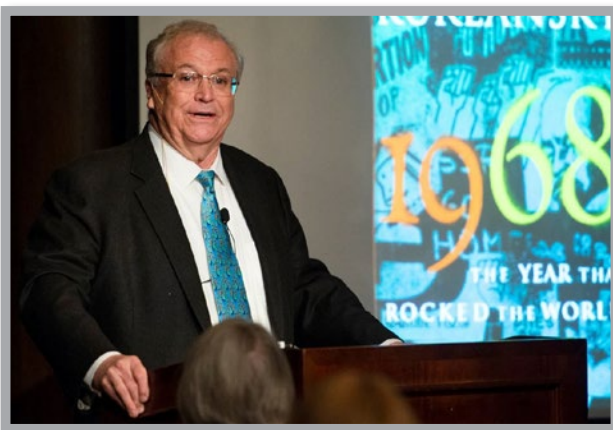
Witness to an Historic Year - 1968

It is more than a bit extraordinary to be having a lesson in history while sitting among some of the people who were part of that history. And so it was on Monday evening, November 12th.

Introduced by Larry Temple, a history-maker himself, Tom Johnson was one of the first class of White House Fellows in 1965 when he worked for Bill Moyers. He became deputy press secretary to LBJ, taking notes at the “Tuesday meetings” (after a mandated Evelyn Woods speed-writing course!) and staying on as executive assistant to LBJ in the post-presidency.

The focus of his presentation, which included wonderful photos, was the year 1968. Most of us remember the year as in the middle of the Vietnam War, divisive and bitter, even though on January 1 Pope Paul declared a “Day of Peace,” which apparently lasted all of minutes. In that month, Westmoreland asked for tactical nuclear weapons to be used; blessedly, LBJ nixed that plan. Also that month Max Cleland sustained his horrible injuries, a plane with live hydrogen bombs was lost over Greenland, the USS Pueblo was captured off North Korea, and the Tet Offensive began. It became clear to some that the war could not be won as it was being fought.

Also at this time LBJ was ruminating about not running again. He would not announce that for a while as his focus was on how to bring about peace. In addition was the personal stake that both sons-in-law were serving in combat. In April there were some signals that North Vietnam also wanted to end the fighting.



Tom Johnson's presentation on 1968 was extraordinary because he was in the Oval Office taking notes for President Lyndon Johnson.

photo by Jay Godwin



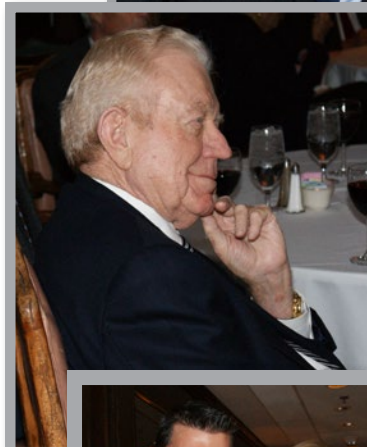
Larry Temple's introduction of his good friend, Tom Johnson, was both humorous and insightful.

photo by Jay Godwin

Mark and Amy Updegrave are big fans of the speaker.



Tom Johnson's good friend Ben Barnes was very appreciative of his presentation.



Larry Temple (right) with the Beckworths-John and Laura.



At home, Martin Luther King was killed, and there was widespread rioting.

Troops protected the White House and government buildings. LBJ held a meeting with black leaders pledging unity, but that did not quell the protests. In June, Robert Kennedy was assassinated.

In August the Soviets invaded Czechoslovakia. With a half million US troops in Southeast Asia, the US could not move militarily there. August also brought the Democratic Convention, at which Hubert Humphrey was nominated and more rioting ensued. Some declared the convention a “disaster.”

That fall the Paris Peace Talks were attempted. Evidence shows that Nixon’s campaign tried to undermine the effort, wanting to delay them until his election. To this end, they employed Anna Chennault, a Republican activist and widow of WWII Major General Claire Chennault, to convince the South Vietnamese to refuse to begin talks, promising a “better deal” with Richard Nixon. LBJ knew of this and believed it was treason but saw the exposure of the interference as Hubert Humphrey’s call. Humphrey declared the US had already been through too much. Tom Johnson believes exposing it would have brought about Humphrey’s election.

On leaving office, LBJ instructed all his staff to assist Nixon in every way. And Nixon sent Air Force One to take LBJ to witness the moon shot. And so Apollo 8 ended 1968 with hope - it circled the moon and filmed an “earth rise.”

In Larry Temple’s eloquent introduction of Tom Johnson, he recounted the highlights of a magnificent career. After the stint in the White House followed by service as executive assistant to the President in retirement, Tom Johnson became vice president of the broadcasting company owned by the Johnson family. Next Johnson was publisher and CEO of the *Dallas Times Herald* and then held that position at the *LA Times* (during which time the paper garnered six Pulitzers!). Tapped by Ted Turner to lead CNN, Johnson took the position one day before Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait. CNN had reporters on the ground—indeed, their positions at that moment were better than the military’s, prompting Colin Powell to ask them for the latest information.

Tom Johnson has been the recipient of numerous broadcasting awards but considers his greatest accomplishment successfully battling depression for decades. And in that capacity he is widely considered a hero and symbol because of his openness and his declaration that depression is just another disease.

Listening to this extraordinary human being on Monday evening at the Headliners was indeed time well spent. We are all the richer for it.

—Kathleen Davis Niendorff



UT President, Greg Fennes, and his wife, Carmel, had an interesting conversation with Lynda Robb about life in the White House in 1968.



Nancy Inman and Ambassador Lyndon Olson caught up at dinner.



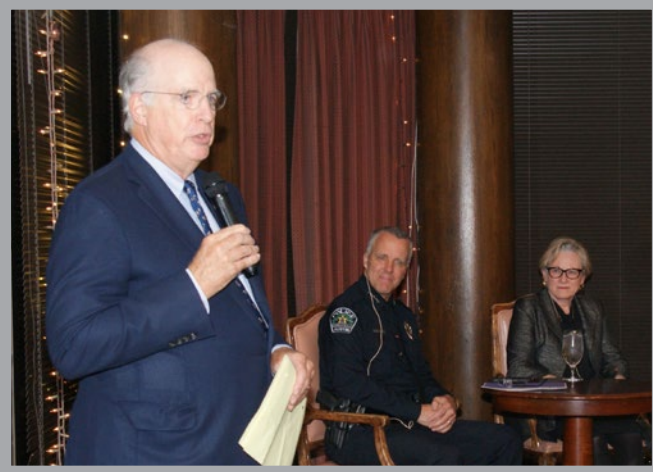
Tom Johnson was delighted that Sandy Gottesman and Greg Fennes came to listen to his presentation.



Luci Johnson with a jovial Neal Spelce.

Margaret Moore and Brian Manley

November 15, 2018



Headliners Chairman, Brian Greig, introduces Famous Austinite Police Chief Brian Manley and DA Margaret Moore.



Eddie Butler and former Mayor Bruce Todd were very interested in Chief Manley's talk about Austin crime.



Liz Watson and Elizabeth Christian enjoyed the evening and catching up with each other.

A Discussion on Crime in Austin

The good news about crime in Austin? A fifth generation Texan and a native Austinite are on the case.

Armed with a law enforcement pedigree (father Tom Moore was District Attorney for McLennan County), a BBA in accounting and a law degree from the University of Texas, Margaret Moore began her legal career as counsel to Texas House of Representative committees in 1974, was later County Attorney and was elected Travis County District Attorney in 2016.

Brian Manley joined the Austin Police Department in 1990 and served as Interim Police Chief before being sworn in as Austin's Police Chief in 2018. In his 28 years as an officer he has served in and led a variety of divisions including Patrol, Narcotics, Child Abuse, Homicide, Highway Enforcement, Internal Affairs, Special Operations & Homeland Security and Recruitment & Training.

As District Attorney Moore oversees an office of 222 people (94 lawyers), three grand juries in session at all times and processes 13,000 felony complaints each year. Moore grew to trust a collaborative approach in law enforcement, as it is "easy to get crosswise in an intense field." To that end she and other law enforcement personnel, the County Attorney and others breakfast regularly.

An example of that collaboration? Use of force cases. In addition to issuing a formal letter outlining the facts and points of justification for use of force online to educate the public and convening a special grand jury (one educated in use of force law) if necessary, Moore



Margaret Moore was pleased to have her husband, Robert Oliver, at the event too.



It was clear the Chief and the DA enjoyed collaborating about the event and about Austin crime.

meets with involved families to make sure they are apprised of facts, see videos and understand all aspects of the investigation. Another collaborative effort is in the field of sexual assault where a team including APD, UT, Pflugerville and Lakeway law enforcement as well as the Sheriff's office work together.

Regarding Chief Manley? "I can't say enough good about this man .. this is a straight up guy that is very into to his work and dedicated to every principle I think this community is looking for in law enforcement," Moore said.

Fresh from a busy day of police contract approval at City Council, Police Chief Manley gave the audience a sense of "where we are as a community. Austin is a safe city." Looking at cities 500,000 population and above Austin is the safest city in the country regarding violent crime, Manley shared. (This year violent crime in Austin is down almost three percent.) The contract approved that day resolves some of the issues Chief Manley faced this year. Officer attrition will abate as personnel feel more secure with a signed contract.

A safe city is an attractive city to employers. But Austin is not without problem pocket areas and challenges. Violence in the entertainment district, a shooting steps from police headquarters as well as a rise in auto and moped theft are of concern. Homelessness? Panhandling? "We are not going to arrest ourselves out of it."

Manley views his imperative to use limited resources where we can do good. Austin is growing at the rate of 120 to 140 people per day. If the standard of two officers for every 1000 residents is followed that means adding an officer every eight days. Unfortunately, six officers left the department in November. Even when we are at authorized strength "we fall below what industry experts recommend for a city this size." The current cadet class is 81, but not all will graduate. Manley has shepherded a new and

improved recruitment web site.

In order to work successfully with the district attorney's office to collect evidence, Manley noted APD needs officers as well as support staff, dispatchers and detectives. Call volume this year to date is 502,000 calls in contrast with 477,000 calls in the same period last year.

How can citizens support APD? Manley noted often at public forums naysayer voices are more vocal than positive ones. "We need positive voices" regarding these issues.

Police Chief Manley and District Attorney Margaret Moore – by all accounts a stellar team in Austin's corner.

—Jane Greig



Good friends having a good time: Margaret Moore and Trey Salinas.

Evan Smith, Victoria DeFrancesco Soto and Matthew Dowd

November 16, 2018



Three very knowledgeable political analysts return to the club to discuss 2018 elections— Evan Smith, Victoria DeFrancesco Soto and Matthew Dowd.



Panelists with the Headliners Foundation Chairman Mark Morrison.

TEXAS: A MUCH LIGHTER SHADE OF RED AFTER THE 2018 ELECTIONS

That's the conclusion of three uniquely-informed speakers who addressed a full house of Headliners Foundation supporters and Club members on the evening of November 16, just 10 days after the pivotal mid-term elections. Reprising their panelist roles following the 2016 Presidential election were CEO Evan Smith of *The Texas Tribune*; Dr. Victoria DeFrancesco Soto, a contributor to MSNBC and NBCNews.com; and Matthew Dowd, chief political analyst for ABC News.

Speaker remarks covered a wide range of topics, including the emotional influence on voter attitudes in the off-year voting, the “Beto” effect in Texas, and the election of more women and more diverse candidates in Texas and elsewhere in the nation. Noticeable in the U.S. senatorial race was the closeness of the vote – the narrowest in Texas in 40 years. Contributing to that was the huge voter turnout: 8.3



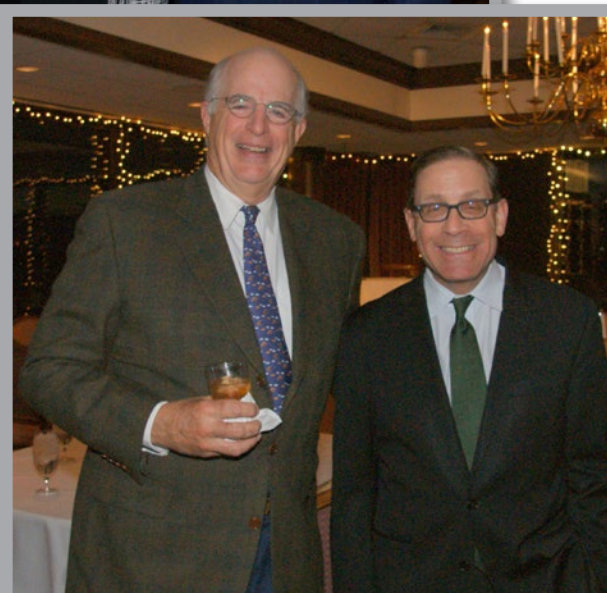
Steve and Ellen
LeBlanc with
Steve and Joan
Clark.



Bob McBee, Laura
Herring, and Mary
Scott Nabers meet
at this interesting
event.



Ingrid and James Taylor ready for a night of politics and friends.



Headliners Chairman, Brian Greig, with *Texas Tribune's* Evan Smith.



Darlene and Daniel Byrne were very interested in the panelists' analysis of the 2018 election.

million, up from 4.7 million in the last mid-term election.

Soto commented, "We're seeing an expansion of the voting public. This really is the route forward for Democrats."

But perhaps not immediately. "While our government now looks more like the country," said Smith, the Electoral College favors people running from rural areas. To which Dowd added, "Ours is a red country with Democrats on the two coasts."

Women are a way forward to win and they do a better job of governing, noted both Soto and Dowd. Added Soto, "But the next [presidential] candidate, I fear, must be white, even if it's a woman."

Said Dowd, "The predictor of 2020? What happens to the economy in the second and third quarters of 2020, and whom do the Democrats nominate. I'd talk to Beto O'Rourke about running in 2020. He has a head start to run for president if he wants to do so. He's young



Greg Talley was pleased to be attending the event with his mom Martha Charlotte Talley.

and energetic and can raise the money.” Dowd also cited Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota as another attractive candidate.

But Soto noted this problem: “I still haven’t seen in this election what Democrats were running for. I’m not sure they stood for anything.”

The lesson from 2018 is “hold the President accountable but don’t go crazy. People didn’t want to impeach him,” concluded Dowd.

Attending the event were new *Austin American-Statesman* publisher Patrick Dorsey and his wife, Kecia, as well as five of this year’s Foundation scholars, including two from Texas A&M and three from UT Austin.

—Howard Falkenberg



This trio was certainly interested in politics- Adam Blum, Peter Cesaro and Harvey Kronberg.



Dan Bullock (center) with his wife Annette Carlozzi are big fans of Matthew Dowd (left)



Louise and Peter Pincoffs always enjoy a good political discussion.



Two sets of new members: (Left: Deb and Tom Feo — Right: Kecia and Patrick Dorsey)

Fred Burton

November 27, 2018

Counterterrorism expert Fred Burton is watching out for you, as he explores threats from around the world.

As Chief Security Officer at Stratfor, a geopolitical intelligence firm, Burton knows the back story of terrorist organizations and is ready with predictions on the state of terror groups moving forward.

“Hezbollah has kept me employed since 1980. And it’s not going away,” he said recently at a Headliners Inside Track Luncheon. “If we’re correct with our forecast--and we believe that we are--we’re going to see a resurgence of covert action on their part.”

Burton’s global look at terror was billed as “Threats Abroad and at Home.” And he didn’t disappoint but quickly acknowledges the picture he paints is sometimes hard to take.

“This is why I don’t get invited to too many Christmas parties,” he said, responding to a remark from an audience member who prefaced the question with, “while we’re talking about terrifying things.”

Burton has the bravura to back up his predictions. Before joining Stratfor, he served as a counterterrorism agent with the U.S. State Department from 1985 to 1999 and was involved in many high-profile investigations. Burton also served as deputy chief of counterterrorism at the Diplomatic Security Service, which is where as a young officer he participated in efforts to find William Buckley, CIA station chief in Beirut, who was kidnapped in March 1984.

Burton and his co-author Samuel Katz recount the story in their book *Beirut Rules: The Murder of a CIA Station Chief and Hezbollah’s War Against America*, published in October.

“We did try to find Bill and we tried every day to find him,” Burton said, choking up more than 30 years after Buckley’s 1985 death from torture in captivity. “We just did not have the intelligence to locate him.”

Burton’s emotional ties to the story were clear.

“I typically don’t do that,” he said. “But this is the first time I’ve really talked about this in a public format, so memories kind of flood back.”



Fred Burton mesmerized the crowd in telling William Buckley’s harrowing story.



Former Headliners Chairman Tom Granger did a great job of introducing the Speaker.



Matt Sjoberg and Winston Krause enjoyed being table mates.



Three gentlemen who are very interested in public safety: Pete Winstead, Fred Burton and Cary Roberts.

Burton's book talk served as a prelude for audience questions about safety and security today.

- Afghanistan: "There is no solution. This is going to be kind of like Korea. I was first in Afghanistan in 1985 and we're still there. This is a country that can't be fixed."
- Cybersecurity: "The scope of espionage-directed activity by two nation-state actors predominantly—China and Russia—at corporate entities like law firms, multinational corporations—is over the top and it's growing. That's going to increase and what that means is there's an enhanced cyber-risk for your business, for business travelers, for your company."

— Sharon Jayson



Tim Taylor always enjoys having lunch with Fred Burton.



New member, Ken Womack learned about the Headliners Inside Track Luncheon series from Carolyn Biebas.

Charles Granger, Scott Whitworth, and Daphne and Don Kuykendall anticipated a good speech and they were not disappointed.



◆ HEADLINERS FOUNDATION ◆

Foundation and Verne Lundquist Plan Sports Journalism Initiative



The Headliners Foundation and legendary sportscaster Verne Lundquist are teaming up to establish an institute in Lundquist's name to promote excellence in Texas sports journalism.

The Verne Lundquist Institute for Sports Media will be launched with a fundraising dinner February 26th at the Headliners Club that will feature many of Verne's friends, including celebrity sports stars and broadcast greats.

"I'm thrilled to be working on this effort with the Headliners Foundation to make a lasting impact on journalism education," said Lundquist.

Lundquist, a longtime Headliners Club member, has been at the center of covering major sporting events for more than 50 years. He began his career at KTBC-TV in Austin, then

...continued on page 24

SAVE THE DATE!

**An Evening with
Verne Lundquist & Friends
Including Celebrity Sports Stars
and Broadcast Greats**

**Presented by the Headliners Foundation
Tuesday, February 26, 2019**

Join the Headliners Foundation as we honor Verne Lundquist, one of America's most beloved sportscasters. Verne and celebrity friends will share stories from the sidelines in what promises to be a memorable evening.

Tickets for this event will go on sale in early 2019. Stay Tuned!

Verne Lundquist Institute for Sports Media

Proceeds from this inaugural event will fund creation of the Verne Lundquist Center for Sports Media, designed to provide training, online learning, grants, and scholarships to high school and college sports journalism students based on demonstrated interest and potential as well as financial need.

Please visit www.headlinersfoundation.org to review sponsorship opportunities and contact Teresa Spears at (512) 925-5712 or events@headlinersfoundation.org with any questions.



owned by Lady Bird and President Lyndon Baines Johnson. He was also the long-time voice of the Dallas Cowboys.

Lundquist joined CBS Sports in 1982 and broadcast more than 20 different sports for the network, including national and international coverage of football, basketball, Olympic figure skating, and golf. He retired from covering SEC football in 2016 and continues to cover the Master's and other golf tournaments for the network.

Lundquist's book, *Play by Play*, was published in October by HarperCollins. In an endorsement, Alabama Head Coach Nick Saban said that Lundquist "is a timeless storyteller with a unique ability to make fans feel like they are sitting right next to him watching history" and

the "soundtrack for so many moments in sports history."

"Partnering with Verne is an amazing opportunity for the Foundation to expand its role in supporting journalism education and to put a spotlight on the work of outstanding professionals," said Mark Morrison, chair of the Foundation.



Plans for the Institute include support of scholarships and sports journalism camps for high school and college students, as well as online

instruction and how-to seminars. "We want to expose Texas students to the high standards of journalism that Verne epitomizes and help them to experience the excitement of reporting and storytelling," said Morrison.

Beyond the inaugural fundraising dinner on February 26, the Foundation envisions an annual Lundquist event that will honor outstanding sports media professionals and star athletes who have made significant contributions to their communities. Learn more about the upcoming event by visiting www.headlinersfoundation.org.





Awards Luncheon Honors the Best and Brightest in Texas Journalism

Hurricane Harvey hit the Texas coast with a vengeance in 2017, killing more than 100 people, displacing tens of thousands and wreaking billions of dollars in damage. For journalists it was a big story – but one with enormous obstacles for those who sought to tell the story.

Four journalists who covered the devastation gave an inside account how they reported on the storm at the Mike Quinn Awards Luncheon in September, which honored the 15 Headliners Foundation's 2018-19 scholarship recipients. For the winners, families and faculty representatives, it was an opportunity to hear first hand how reporters and editors tackled one of the toughest stories in Texas history.

"Looking back at that event, it was a pretty surreal thing," said Dan Parker, news editor of the *Port Aransas Jetty*, who saw his hometown wracked by destructive winds and rain.

Dianna Hunt, who oversees the *Houston Chronicle's* newsroom as metro editor, had been through hurricanes before. But Harvey was a different kind of beast, the worst she'd ever seen.

"We had all these crazy rains, unbelievable rains and then came the tornado, then dams and the levees were going to break. When the chemical plants started exploding, that was the moment I looked around and thought, 'Are we going to live through this or not?'" she told a rapt audience of students, journalism contest winners and Headliners Club members. "We had people everywhere and they just did their job from where they were."

For the panelists, their job was both to inform the general public in real time and to serve as a point of contact for panicked victims who scrambled onto rooftops and fled swirling flood waters as the hurricane battered Houston and the Gulf Coast.

Sally Ramirez, news director at KHOU in Houston, found herself in a makeshift newsroom with water rising and the storm beating down. The 911 phone system was overloaded and people were calling the TV station. Between deploying her news team, she was getting pleas for help.

"I had the cell phone number of our police chief," she said. "I said you've got to help these people. We gave them pregnant women who were trying to get to the hospital. He'd say, give me the address, give me the name, and he'd send out crews to help. We were their only life line."

David Phillip, a senior photojournalist with the Associated Press, was one of the photographers who provided the rest of Texas and the nation remarkable pictures of Houston under water.

At the luncheon, the Foundation presented scholarships totaling \$72,000 to students from colleges and universities across the state. The scholarships range from \$750 to \$6000 for undergraduates who have demonstrated outstanding potential in the field of journalism. In addition to honoring the future journalists, foundation board members John Lumpkin and Fred Zipp presented the Showcase Awards for Enterprise and Innovation in Journalism, as well as the Charles E. Green awards honoring Texas professionals who produced the year's very best news reporting, photography and commentary.

At a time when the public increasingly wants accurate, balanced and in-depth reporting, foundation board chair Mark Morrison said the mission of the Headliners Foundation is to promote excellence through awards and academic scholarships. Morrison explained, "We view these as direct investments to encourage high-quality journalism."

—Wayne Slater

◆ SIDELINES ◆

Honors



Andrew Heller was crowned King Brio LIII at this year's Austin Symphony Jewel Ball. He presided over this year's symphony ball which brought dazzling jewels (young women) from all over the state. The ball is the Women's Symphony League's major fund-raising event of the year.

Tim Crowley was honored with the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Capitol Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. This award is presented annually to individuals who share Scouting's belief in leadership, determination and values, and have contributed significantly to the growth and vitality of Central Texas. Seen here at the celebration: (l to r) Tim Taylor, Marietta Scott, and Tim Crowley.



Earl Maxwell was honored as one of the E3 Alliance's Catalyst for Education Change Awardees. These Austin leaders are recognized for their creative contributions and lifetime achievements in the field of education. They have demonstrated tireless leadership, and undying commitment toward advancing the success of our students, parents, teachers, schools, and educational systems. They represent pillars in our community from the private, public and nonprofit worlds in Central Texas. E3 Alliance President & Executive Director Susan Dawson presented him the award.



The Distinguished Alumnus Award is the Texas Exes' highest honor for outstanding University of Texas graduates. Since the award was created in 1958, recipients have ranged from former first lady Laura Bush and Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell to surgeon Denton Cooley and astronaut Karen Nyberg. This year **Steve Hicks** was presented with this prestigious award. Shown with UT President Greg Fenves (l) and past Texas Exes President Del Williams (r). *photo Courtesy of Texas Exes*

Admiral William McRaven was honored by the Greater Austin Crime Commission with this year's Kilgore award. The Joe M. Kilgore Award was established by the Greater Austin Crime Commission to honor individuals for outstanding public service. Shown here with fellow member Admiral Bob Inman. *photo by Bill Albrecht*



The Round Rock Historic Preservation Commission honored **Nyle Maxwell** as one of this year's Local Legend Award honorees. He was recognized for his contributions to the culture, development, and history of the community. Nyle accepted the award with his wife and partner in philanthropy Nancy.

Seen Around the Club

As always there were several interesting people seen around the club:



David Weeks hosted a delegation from Hungary to learn more about political campaigns in Texas and the US. Matt Mackowiak spoke to the group and gave them an overview of the political environment prior to the Nov elections. (L to R) Andras Gyurk, Csaba Domotor, David Weeks, Matt Mackowiak, Gabor Kubatov, Eugene Megyesy, Mark Biro, Magor Dukasz, Balazs Hidveghi, Gabor Maroti.

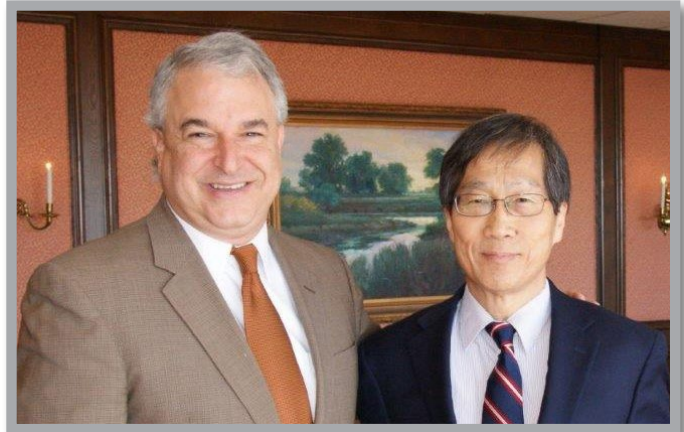
Congressman Michael McCaul joined House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy for a reception at the Headliners Club.



Ambassador Tony Garza (left) enjoyed seeing old friends James Taylor (right) and Consul General of Mexico to the US in Austin, Carlos González Gutiérrez (center).



Admiral Eric T. Olson, Admiral Joseph Maguire, General Raymond Thomas, and Admiral William McRaven gather at a dining out event for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.



David Firestein (left) enjoyed hearing Arthur Ding, professor and defense expert from Taipei (right) discuss Taiwan's precarious relations with China and the US.

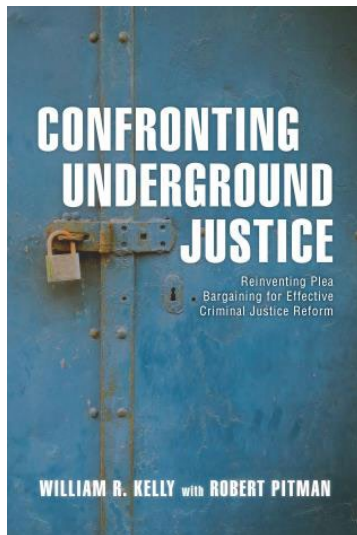
Celebrations



Congratulations to Don Martin and Susan Anthony who were married in October in Cozumel, in an informal beach wedding in front of their children as guests.

◆ BOOKSHELF ◆

Books by Headliners members that were recently added to the Club's library.



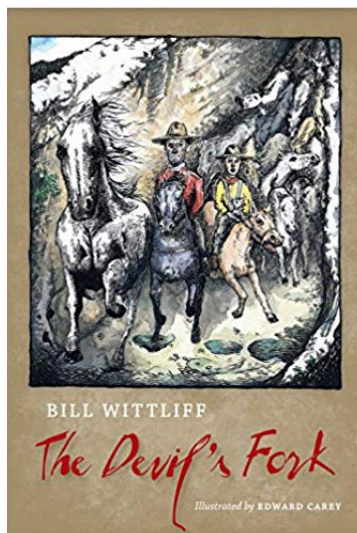
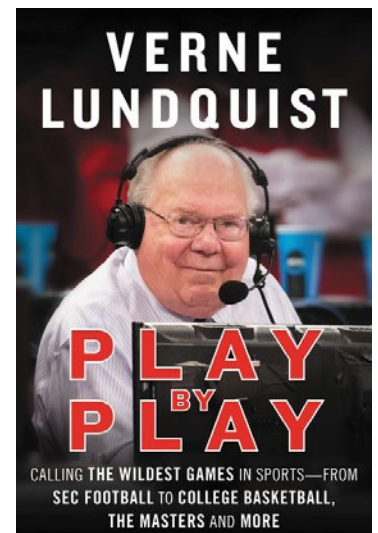
***Confronting Underground Justice: Reinventing Plea Bargaining for Effective Criminal Justice Reform* by Judge Robert Pitman**

Confronting Underground Justice takes a close look at plea negotiation, criminal prosecution, public defense, and pretrial justice systems and identifies a wide variety of problems and concerns with each. William R. Kelly and Robert Pitman provide key decision makers with the tools to make better, more informed decisions regarding pre-trial detention, prosecution and plea deals, criminal defense, and diversion to treatment. Critical to this effort is redefining roles, responsibilities and the culture of criminal justice by prosecutors, judges and defense counsel accepting responsibility for reducing recidivism and embracing problem solving as a primary decision-making strategy.

***Play by Play* by Verne Lundquist**

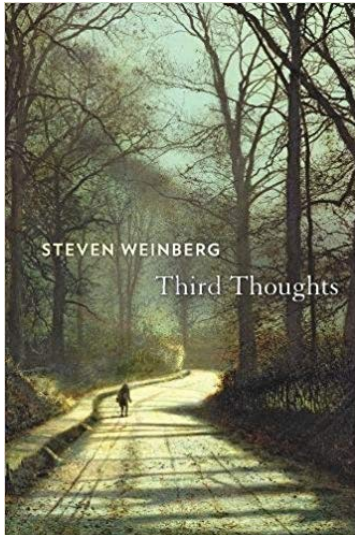
One of America's most beloved sportscasters turns the spotlight on his own life, chronicling his incredible life covering Southeastern Conference football and some of the most iconic moments in sports history over the last five decades.

Verne Lundquist's remarkable broadcasting career has placed him at the center of major sporting events in America for more than fifty years, from Jack Nicklaus's final victory at the 1986 Masters to Tonya Harding's attack on Nancy Kerrigan at the 1994 Olympics to the Auburn-Alabama shocker of 2013. In his first memoir, he replays highlights from his career, taking sports fans behind the scenes of some of the most dramatic moments in modern sports history.



***The Devil's Fork* by Bill Wittliff**

In this engrossing conclusion to *The Devil's Backbone* and *The Devil's Sinkhole*, the young man Papa and his cowboy amigo Calley Pearsall encounter relentless enemies and supernatural helpers as their escapades drive them toward the Devil's Fork.



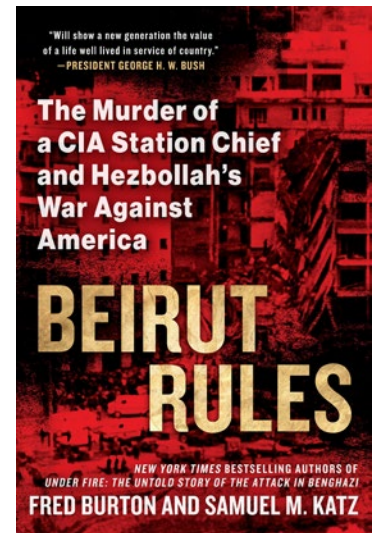
Third Thoughts by Steve Weinberg

One of the world's most captivating scientists challenges us to think about nature's foundations and the entanglement of science and society. Steven Weinberg, author of *The First Three Minutes*, offers his views on fascinating aspects of physics and the universe, but does not seclude science behind disciplinary walls, or shy away from politics.

Beirut Rules by Fred Burton

After a deadly terrorist bombing at the American embassy in Lebanon in 1983, only one man inside the CIA possessed the courage and skills to rebuild the networks destroyed in the blast: William Buckley. But the new Beirut station chief quickly became the target of a young terrorist named Imad Mughniyeh.

Beirut Rules is the pulse-by-pulse account of Buckley's abduction, torture, and murder at the hands of Hezbollah terrorists. Drawing on never-before-seen government documents as well as interviews with Buckley's co-workers, friends and family, Burton and Katz reveal how the relentless search for Buckley in the wake of his kidnapping ignited a war against terror that continues to shape the Middle East to this day.



◆ A MOMENT IN HISTORY ◆

For this newsletter we thought we would tell you about a couple of Headliners' iconic food items.
Enjoy!



Helen Corbitt (left) with the Club's first Manager, Belva Hogue (right).

Texas Pecan Ball

Back in the 1950's the Club was located in the Driskill Hotel and it provided the food for the Club. This was quite fortuitous as Helen Corbitt was the chef. (She became the first woman to receive the food service industry's highest honor The Golden Plate Award. She would also write several cook books and receive notoriety at Neiman Marcus' Zodiac Room). Most importantly, she introduced the Texas Pecan Ball to the Headliners' members. (The recipe as it appears in her first cook book "vanilla ice cream, rolled in toasted coarsely chopped pecans, topped with Hot Fudge Sauce".) It remains to this day the Club's most popular dessert.

Governor Shivers Chicken Fried Steak

Governor Allan Shivers would come to the Club regularly with his friend Walter Caven (President 1968). They ordered the same thing every time they came: 3 martinis followed by chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with cream gravy and for dessert one scoop of vanilla ice cream and one scoop of coffee ice cream topped with coffee. Because he ate at the Club often, he wanted a "really good" chicken fried steak. As he said "I don't want any of that dehydrated reconstituted beef product." Thus, the Governor Allan Shivers Chicken Fried Steak was developed using only the best prime beef tenderloin.



Governor Shivers on stage at the 1973 Journalism Awards Gala.

◆ COMING EVENTS ◆

Friday, December 21, 2018
Members' Christmas Open House
11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Thursday, December 27, 2018
ACL Live – Mannheim Steamroller
6:30 pm Cocktails
7:00 pm Dinner
7:45 pm Depart for Theater

Thursday, December 27, 2018
Kids' Movie Night
5:00 pm Buffet Dinner
5:45 pm Movie Starts

Thursday, December 31, 2018
ACL Live – Willie Nelson and Family
7:15 pm Cocktails
7:45 pm Dinner
8:45 pm Depart for ACL Moody Theater
9:00 pm Show Starts
Willie goes on at Midnight!

Monday, December 31, 2018
Headliners New Year's Eve dinner
6:00 pm Cocktails & Hors d'Oeuvres in
the Main Lounge
7:00-9:00 pm Dinner Buffet

Friday, January 4, 2019
Old Fitz First Friday
11:30 am - 1:00 pm in the Press Box

Monday, January 28, 2019
Inside Track: Andrew Roberts
11:30 am Buffet Lunch, 12:00 nn

Thursday, January 31, 2019
Famous Austinites: Clay Johnston
Program 5:45 pm Cocktails
6:15 pm Seating for Program
Dinner Buffet to follow

Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Inside Track: Ken Roberts
11:30 am Buffet Lunch
12:00 nn Program

◆ NEW MEMBERS ◆

Travis Brown

President / Guaranty Bank

Carrie Brown

Homemaker

Patrick Dorsey

Publisher / Austin American Statesman

Kecia Dorsey

Homemaker

Taylor Ellison

Lifestyle Host / Producer / CBS Austin

Laura Felts

Re-Instated Member

Deb Dalebout- Feo

Chairman / Healthcare Control Systems

Tom Feo

CEO / Healthcare Control Systems

Nicholas C. Hetherington

Feature Producer / ESPN

Kelly Kocurek

Attorney / Partner / DuBois, Bryant & Campbell, LLP

Julie Kocurek

District Judge / The State of Texas

Barry McBee

Chief of Staff / University of Texas System

Susanna McBee

Homemaker

Dustin Lee McComas

Director of Basketball Coverage Beat Writer / Orangebloods.Com

Elizabeth Worley McComas

Senior Media Planner / Integrous Marketing LLP

James B. Milliken, Jr.

Chancellor / University of Texas System

Nana Smith

Homemaker

Scott Whitworth

Partner / WM Capital Partners

Carlisle "Lisle" Whitworth

Homemaker

Ken S. Womack

Senior Vice President / U.S. Trust

Renee Womack

Homemaker

Michael C. Wong

Colonel / Staff Judge Advocate / The United States Army

Miki Wong

Homemaker



◆ REQUIESCANT IN PACE ◆

Laura Robinson (Mrs. Walter) Caven

William F. “Bill” Munday

Steve Davis

Rex Leonard Reitz

Raymond Gerald Henderson

Dolores (Mrs. Arthur) Sands

Nina (Mrs. Mike) Hopkins

James Terrence “Terry” Young
(Headliners President, 1981)

Burrell Dean Johnston, Jr.

Betty Pickett (Mrs. James W.) Wilson

Franklin William Maresh

Herbert Woodson

IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. GEORGE H. W. BUSH



President and Mrs. Bush graciously accepted the Governor Allan Shivers Award

In 2006 President and Mrs. Bush were awarded the Headliners Foundation's Governor Allan Shivers Public Service Award. This is an honor created to reward men and women who have distinguished themselves in public service at any level of government.

HEADLINES

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