

Celebrating 84 years of Press Photography in Southern California



# Just One More, Jr.

**DOWNLOADABLE EDITION**

**May 2020, Volume 84, Issue 1**

Check our website at [www.ppagla.org](http://www.ppagla.org) for complete monthly contest results and judges comments.

## Pulitzer winner Don Bartletti gives talk



**Ringo Chiu**

Pulitzer winner and PPAGLA member Don Bartletti speaks at Canon Burbank on Feb. 26, 2020. The PPAGLA and Canon co-presented the event which drew a crowd of over 80 professional and student photographers. *See more on Page 4.*

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## Awards Banquet Goes to Web

Set for May 23, the live and interactive event will feature raffle prizes and our members' best work.

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# PPAGLA faces challenging 2020

Dear Friends,

2020 has been one of the most challenging times in our lives. PPAGLA started off the year with a bang. We welcomed new board members, formed new committees, and began working to bring new things to our members.



**Amy Gaskin**  
President

**We are here for you.  
We will get through this. Together.**

the CDC confirmed the first case of COVID-19 transmission via "community spread" in the United States. We had heard about the virus, but I don't think any of us could have imagined how the world would change just a few short weeks later.

We were on track for a wonderful March banquet, and looked forward to honoring your excellent work, our Lifetime Achievement winners, and our Los Angeles Fire Department captain. We added a new student multimedia category, and had strong entries across many schools.

In early February, PPAGLA board members met with a Nikon delegation of approximately eight from Japan, New York, and Los Angeles, and we enjoyed collaborating with new friends.

We were honored to have Pulitzer Prize winner Don Bartletti as our inaugural speaker at Canon Burbank in late February, and were excited about our rejuvenated relationship with Canon.

Don set the perfect tone for our year. His humanity and deep caring for his subjects were palpable. His talk was full of inspiration and hope.

But something ominous also happened that night which offered an early glimpse of what was to come.

As we were eagerly crowding around the demo tables laden with new Canon gear, Canon officials urgently informed us of a new policy. We were suddenly required to use hand sanitizer and sanitizing stations were rolled into the reception area.

We stopped handling the gear and dutifully lined up at the stations to comply, chatting amongst ourselves. I silently hoped we were just being "extra careful."

This was February 26, the day

It became clear in March that the safety and health of our members was more important than physically gathering for our awards banquet. Yet information was changing by the day, making it difficult to discern exactly how to proceed. At the time, canceling or postponing the event seemed a bold move. Not all restrictions were yet in place and the venue wanted business as usual. Our goal was to protect our members, while minimizing any potential financial damage to PPAGLA if we cancelled. Thankfully, we managed to do both.

Personally, I felt blindsided by what was to come next, and I suspect that I am not alone. The pandemic hit Los Angeles full force. Assignments for freelancers evaporated. Clients stopped doing the things that needed photographing, and advertising dollars for news outlets declined at an alarming rate.

For many of us, losing our jobs has been the hardest thing. For others, keeping the staff positions has felt precarious at best. Fear for our safety has been pervasive in ways that are new to us.

At the time of this writing, two of my own family members have passed away in the last several weeks. Not being able to travel to see family and mourn together is harder than I ever imagined it might be. Now, a 30-year-old friend is fighting for his life on a ventilator.

Our board has held meetings via Zoom to find ways we can help our members during this time. We put together a resource list on our website, and update it regularly with financial, COVID-19, and mental health resources. The 8-Ball Welfare Foundation has been a special friend to the PPAGLA for many years, and stands ready to help those of us in need of emergency financial assistance. One of our own PPAGLA members independently raised additional funds to help 8-Ball help us.

We are personally calling as many of you as we can to simply see how you are doing. My hope is that small acts of kindness can be the difference between a good day and a bad day.

We are exploring ways to present the programming we planned. Please check our website for updates. The contests are being revised with an eye toward increased participation across genres. We are open to suggestions and welcome your ideas. Please reach out to us and let us know your thoughts and if you would like to lend a hand.

On a lighter note, we have decided to host our Awards Ceremony live and interactively online on Saturday, May 23.

Our wonderful sponsors have enthusiastically supported the idea. They will personally present awards and raffle prizes live on camera, including Nikon, Canon, Tamron, ThinkTank, Samy's Camera and more. Please see [ppagla.org/banquet](http://ppagla.org/banquet) for information and registration.

We are here for you. We will get through this. Together.

**Amy**  
[AmyPPAGLA@gmail.com](mailto:AmyPPAGLA@gmail.com)

# Banquet moves online 5/23

We will present our Awards Ceremony interactively online to honor your great accomplishments Saturday, May 23. Our phenomenal sponsors will present awards and raffle prizes live online including Nikon, Canon, Tamron, ThinkTank, Samy's Camera and more!

Capt. Erik Scott of the Los Angeles Fire Department will accept the

Honorary Member Award.

During this interactive event, you will be able to accept your awards and win fabulous **raffle prizes!** JetBlue, Southwest, Tamron, Nikon, Canon, ThinkTank, Samy's and more! You must be logged in to win.

Please see [ppagla.org/banquet](http://ppagla.org/banquet) to register for the online link and to purchase raffle tickets.

You will begin "logging in" Saturday, May 23, 11 a.m. to make sure all connections are working. At 11:30 we'll have some social time together. Raffle and awards to start soon after.

Register at [ppagla.org/banquet](http://ppagla.org/banquet) early for special surprise prizes to first registrants!

-PPAGLA

## PPAGLA welcomes new board members, officers



In January, we welcomed the following new board members: Gary Brainard, Jim Caccavo, Nancy Newman and Ronen Tivony.

We are grateful for the service of Gerard Burkhart, Lou Gabriele, Dave Seger, Lou Varela and Marcus Yam.

The 2020 Board elected the following officers:

President - Amy Gaskin  
Vice President - Michael Coons  
Treasurer - Jim Ober  
Secretary - Bonnie Burrow  
Board Members: Calvin Alagot, Gary Brainard, Jim Caccavo, Ringo Chiu, Karen Quincy Loberg, Jose C. Lopez, Nancy Newman, Arturo Quezada, and Ronen Tivony.  
-PPAGLA

**From L. to R. Front row:** Ringo Chiu, Jim Caccavo, President Amy Gaskin, Bonnie Burrow.  
**Back row:** Ronen Tivony, Calvin Alagot, Jose Lopez, Vice President Michael Coons, Nancy Newman, Jim Ober, outgoing Board Member David Seger, and Gary Brainard.  
Not pictured: Arturo Quezada Karen Quincy Loberg

# Pulitzer winner shares memories



Ringo Chiu

By Nancy Newman

Pulitzer Prize winning photojournalist Don Bartletti, a member of the Press Photographers Association of Greater Los Angeles (PPAGLA) shared his inspirational photographs and insightful thoughts about his nearly four decades of photography and his extensive work along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The event, sponsored by the PPAGLA and Canon, took place on the evening of February 26, 2020 at Canon in Burbank.

More than 80 professional photographers, editors, teachers, students, and photo enthusiasts gathered to hear the veteran photographer share the stories that have meant the most to him throughout his storied career that has spanned nearly four decades.

Bartletti's images documenting life on both sides of the border, showed the complexities and the changes that have occurred through the decades.

“One of the greatest assets a photojournalist has is time.”

Don Bartletti

He also shared his experiences in documenting “Enrique’s Journey.” The images share the story of Enrique and of other Central American children riding freight trains throughout Mexico as they risk their lives trying to reunite with their parents north of the U.S.-Mexican border.

For that body of work, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2003 for Feature Photography as well as the 2003 Robert F. Kennedy Award Grand Prize for International Journalism.

When talking about his craft, Bartletti said, “One of the greatest assets a photojournalist has is time.” And time is something that he has given to his stories; spending hours, days,

weeks, years, and decades documenting the stories of families and children desperate for a better life, safety, and the promise of a chance at life in the U.S.A.

As he made his way through migrant camps, documenting the immigrants that were willing to risk their lives, Bartletti said, “I found myself appreciating humanity in way I never could have dreamt of.”

One of the most common phrases he heard, in the poorest of places and in the worst of conditions was, “Are you hungry?” as those who had the least to give were wanting to share what little they had with him.

With examples of slow shutter

speeds, panning, and dramatic use of shadows and light, Bartletti showcased images full of substance and style.

Attendees were also treated to a series of his current astrophotography and enterprise art. He recalled some of his most fun images were when the Space Shuttle made its way over LAX, and then through the streets of Los Angeles to its destination at the California Science Center.

A Vietnam veteran, Bartletti found himself deployed by the LA Times to photograph in war zones throughout the decades.

The veteran photojournalist recognizes the lasting historic value that photography provides, and through war and peace has made a significant contribution to documenting our time in history.

Approaching his fifth year of retirement, he is enjoying it, and spending a lot of time making photographs at Joshua Tree National Monument, as well as photographing his grandkids and his backyard garden. “It’s so fun to run around with a camera with no



Amy Gaskin

Canon Senior Trainer Charles Zablan, second from left, demonstrates new gear to Don Bartletti, Damian Dovarganes and Nick Ut prior to Bartletti’s talk at Canon in Burbank. Event attendees had the opportunity to try out new gear.

deadlines in mind, and just discover stuff.”

His advice to other photographers is, “If nothing is happening, give it time. Life is like a play, and sometimes you need to wait for the next act. The light changes, and people will come in and out.”

He went on to add, “Magic happens if you give it enough time.” As the evening came to a close, Bartletti was asked about when to end an assignment. He reflected and said, “It’s hard to know when to quit. That’s why I’ve been going for 45 years and I don’t think I’ll ever stop.”

# The process of judging videos

By Gary Brainard

How do you judge 185 video entries in 18 categories?

That was the first task I undertook after returning to the PPAGLA Board of directors after many years.

First, I sat down and watched all the entries making notes. Using my studio space, I assembled 2 panels of retired video news photographers. We screened the entries over two days, each to a different panel of judges. It was interesting for myself to observe the judging process and listen to how the judges decided on the entries. Every decision was unanimous after lots of conversation.

I have to say, I was happy not to have to decide anything because of all the great work done by our members. Congratulations to all the photographers who participated. Great video storytelling.



Video news photographers wrap up judging the PPAGLA video annual contest entries. **From L to R.** Steve Field, Glen Loughboro, Video Chairman Gary Brainard, Armando Hernandez. **Not Pictured:** Lou Varela and Gary Reyes.

Amy Gaskin

## VIDEO CONTEST JUDGES SOUGHT

Do you want to help choose winners of the 2020 PPAGLA video annual contest? Email [garybcool@earthlink.net](mailto:garybcool@earthlink.net).

# Community newspapers drop their staff

*Editor's note:* The Los Angeles Times reported April 30 that Charlie Plowman of Outlook Newspapers acquired the Glendale News-Press, Burbank Leader and La Cañada Valley Sun. The 14 staff members who lost their jobs are not included in the move.

By Raul Roa

I have been a photojournalist for almost 26 years and I've had the pleasure to work with some of the most talented journalists in the world. I've spent my entire career covering L.A. and Orange counties with a few stops at the Galapagos Islands, India and other locations.

Photography has always in some way been a part of me, but I was never intent on working at a job that I fell in love with even before I got paid a cent.

Documenting life's accomplishments, tragedies and tribulations drew me in and kept me in. Capturing life as it happens has always intrigued me and has given me a purpose to try and create work that helps others, that brings hope while being respectful and compassionate with my subjects.

I've covered fires, floods, life's tragedies and even coronavirus-related events, and also joyful and triumphant accomplishments.

After spending more than 10 years at my current position as photographer for the Times Community News, the Glendale News-Press, Burbank Leader and La Cañada Valley Sun closed.

The three sister papers that cover cities north of downtown Los Angeles published for more than a century and no less than 70 years.

Times have been tough for newspapers everywhere and we were not immune to the ever-evolving digital era. And then, the novel coronavirus COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2) hit.

I know that the powers that be

**Times have been tough for newspapers everywhere and we were not immune to the ever-evolving digital era. And then, the novel coronavirus COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2) hit.**

tried as hard as they could to keep us afloat but in the end, my colleagues and I were told we'd publish out last newspapers in the following days.

As the sun set on these papers and as I prepared to do whatever I could to survive in these trying times, my administrative manager called and said spots opened up because two journalists were moving on from our Orange County sister newspaper.

I could not believe my lucky stars. I could transfer to the Times Community News in Orange County, the Daily Pilot, being one of the senior union members in the L.A. community news department.

I was elated, happy and tears of joy ran down my face with the best personal news I've had in a long time. I was moved and thankful to be able to continue my employment with a company I love dearly.

I'd already spent some years working out of the O.C. office and I know the areas we cover very well. Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach, Costa Mesa, Newport Beach and Fountain Valley along with parts of Anaheim, Santa Ana and Irvine will now be my beat.

These communities are rich in culture, have a lot to offer and the people are amazing. I am honored that I will serve these communities now.

This roller coaster of emotions is bittersweet because although I was extremely fortunate to not lose my job, I know other coworkers are now without jobs at this time of uncertainty. But I know everyone is extremely talented and I know they will find their place at a great company soon.

I'm thankful to my employer, my manager and for all the friends who took the time to send me words of encouragement, words of hope and even offered help as soon as they heard my newspapers were closing.

It was a humbling experience to know that there are many good people out there who care for the less fortunate.

I will continue to serve my communities in Orange County as I always have, with dedication, with a sense of urgency and with the utmost respect and compassion.

*With much love, respect and admiration,*  
Raul Roa

## HOW TO HELP

If you'd like to help struggling photojournalists, we encourage you to donate to our longtime friend and partner, the 8-Ball Welfare Foundation. ([8ballfoundation.com](http://8ballfoundation.com))

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CAPTURE TOMORROW

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Ronen Tivony

**Dec. 2019 Contest Winner - Feature:** Sandhill cranes taking off at Bosque Del Apache National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico. Tens of thousands of birds including snow geese and sandhill cranes migrate to the wildlife refuge for the winter.

# Photographers cap solid quarter

By Jim Ober

The last quarter of 2019 had a very solid showing in the monthly contests. I will attempt to give a synopsis of the judging results for each of these months.

October's contest was a close one as far as top three winners went. Mindy Schauer and Jennifer Cappuccio Maher each had 6 top three placements for the month, and Ringo Chiu had four. Cappuccio had first place in both the Sports Action and Spot News categories, and Schauer placed first and second in the General News slot for the month. Ringo Chiu won a first place in the highly competitive Photo Es-

say category.

November's contest had a shift in winners. Ringo Chiu won 8 of the top three winners, with Tom Cordova with four, and Mindy Schauer with two. Ringo had three first places — Portrait, Sport Features and Spot News and four second places. Tom Cordova also had three first places-- Entertainment, General News, and Photo Essay.

December contest: Will Lester had most of the top three categories, but only one first place in General News. Keith Birmingham had two first places: Sports Feature and Photo Essay and two other top threes, Photo Essay and Sports Action. Tom Cordova also had a

strong showing this month, with a first in Spot News and three thirds (Entertainment, Portrait, and Spot News). A new name to this quarter's roster was Robert Hanashiro, shooting for USA Today with a first and second in Sports Action and a second in Portrait. Ringo Chiu had a first in the Portrait category.

## Awards Contest Change

To better server our members, we are implementing a quarterly system for clip contests.

A clips prize will be awarded end of year. The Photographer of the Year contest will be an annual submission. Please see website for further details.

**WANT TO HELP US REACH STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS?**

Please contact Board Member Jose Lopez, [joseclopez@hotmail.com](mailto:joseclopez@hotmail.com)



**Nov. 2019 Contest Second Place - Photo Story:** A firefighter battles the Hillside fire at a San Bernardino home.

Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG



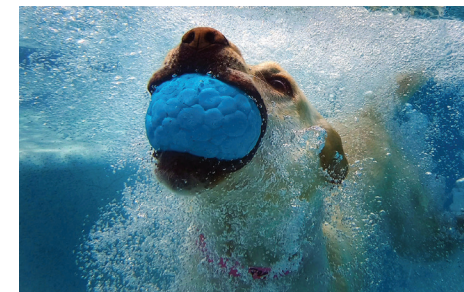
Thomas Cordova, Daily Breeze/SCNG

**Nov. 2019 Contest Winner - Entertainment:** John Cordova performs at his home in Roswell, New Mexico.



Ringo Chiu

**Nov. 2019 Contest Winner - Portrait:** Kobe Bryant listens to the national anthem prior to an NBA game between the Lakers and the Atlanta Hawks.



Mindy Schauer, OC Register/SCNG  
**Oct. 2019 Second Place - Feature:** Penny, a yellow lab, dives for the ball at Bone Adventure in Costa Mesa.



**Dec. 2019 Contest Winner - Sports Action:** De La Salle quarterback Dorian Hale dives into the end zone in the California High School Football Open Division Championship game at Cerritos College.

Robert Hanashiro, USA Today

# Chinese photo groups meet PPAGLA

By Karen Quincy Loberg

It was fascinating to meet members of the China Photographers Association and Hubei Photographers Association from mainland China with Ringo Chiu and Amy Gaskin in mid December in Los Angeles.

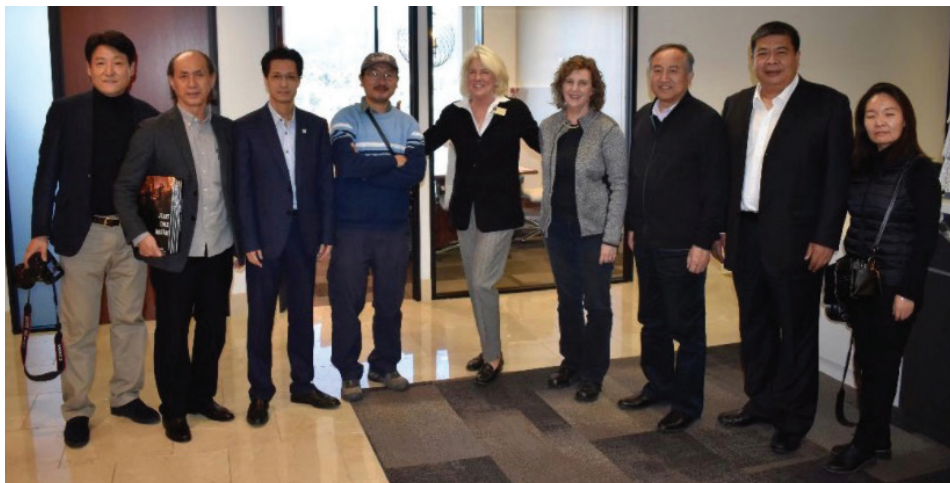
Their culture and photojournalism are a departure from our own, regulated by their government, but still clearly honoring the visual moment and professionalism.

Amy talked about our mission to help students and support seasoned professionals through free training in areas relevant to photojournalism.

I was knocked over to learn that the CPA is 800,000 - 1 million members strong. Founded in 1956, this Chinese government branch creates several publications with a massive staff: 260 staffers in Beijing alone. The host of numerous photography competitions, their most coveted award attracts 250,000 submissions from 109 regions.

They proposed hosting an exhibit locally of the PPAGLA as a token of cultural support.

We were invited to see their work



**From L. to R.** Yulin Zhou, Director of General Office of China Photographers Association, Daming Liang, Freelance Photographer, Chaoyang Pan, Vice President of China Photographers Association, Ringo Chiu, PPAGLA Board, Karen Quincy Loberg, PPAGLA Board, Amy Gaskin, VP PPAGLA, Gengsheng Zheng, Executive Vice President of China Photographers Association and delegation leader, Fawei Yang, President of Hubei Photographers Association, Yongjie Wang, Staff of International Department of China Photographers Association. Wednesday, December 11, 2019 in Los Angeles, Calif.

exhibited that night at the Castelli Art Space gallery in Los Angeles curated by Dale Youngman. All the work was "slice of life" complimentary to humanity and China's way of life.

Ringo commented that some of the older black and white prints were reminiscent of Henri Cartier-Bresson. Color prints dominated the exhibit with beautiful moments,

without any hints of government, law enforcement or politics.

Amy and I were particularly drawn to a color photo by Jin Yunzhong of an elderly street sweeper holding his granddaughter nose to nose while seated in Xuzhou City, Jiangsu Province from May 2011. It now hangs in a predominant spot in my living room.

## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEDIA

# 'Be careful,' Cameraman cautions after kidnapping

By Gary Brainard

A KTTV cameraman was allegedly kidnapped at knifepoint while covering a protest regarding COVID-19 stay-at-home restrictions in Huntington Beach, on Friday, April 17, 2020.

The knife-wielding suspect coerced the cameraman into his news truck and forced him to delete footage showing him protesting the state's lockdown order.

The Los Angeles Times reports

that "Christien Petersen, 36, of Costa Mesa was taken into custody at 7:49 p.m. Friday for exhibiting a "deadly weapon other than [a] firearm" and for kidnapping, the Huntington Beach Police Department's log stated."

The suspect allegedly approached the KTTV photographer and reporter, and demanded that they delete any footage of him.

The suspect then allegedly pulled out a pocketknife and forced the photographer into his live truck to

delete the video.

When Huntington Beach police arrived, the suspect was still holding the photographer at knifepoint inside the van. The photographer and reporter were not injured.

When contacted by PPAGLA board member Gary Brainard, the photographer, who did not wish to be identified, said "Both me and my reporter are fine ... a bit shaken up. The world is a bit unstable right now. ... I'm telling my fellow journalists out there to be careful please."