It’s not like running for president of the United States, of course. There’s no two- or even four-year struggle to win the attention of enough voters to gain the office.

“I received a call from Tom Granger, who told me the committee charged with selecting officers wanted me to serve the year after Judge Sparks,” says new Headliners president Wallace Smith.

And now, that year has come and Wallace has taken on the mantle of leadership of a place he loves most because of the friendliness and genuineness of the people who staff the operation.

“There is so little turnover that they know you and you get to know them by name. I’ve been a member of other clubs and it wasn’t that way. It’s just very nice that everyone at Headliners is so familiar,” Smith added.

This Baylor Law School graduate serves on the Community Advisory Board of Helping Hand Home for Children and is member of the Executive Committee of the Chancellor’s Council of the UT System. In addition Smith finds time to attend a weekly Bible study with 18 other businessmen. Smith is passionate about cooking and travels with friends and family. In December the Smiths visited Argentina with the Richard Hill family and in June is “looking forward to attending the 70th anniversary of the D-Day invasion in Normandy with Lanette.”

Smith has three children. Madison works for Congressman Roger Williams as his aide in DC. Martha Lauren is a junior at UT and her twin brother, Noble, a junior at TCU. With so many commitments vying for his time, why add the responsibilities of Club President? “I was honored to be asked and am humbled by the opportunity to serve the Club,” Smith said. “Hopefully my service can give a little back to a place that has been and is very special to me.”

“Since we office in the building (practicing law with his partners in Smith, Robertson, Elliott & Douglas, L.L.P) we eat lunch in the club a lot and sometimes go up to the bar in the late afternoon with clients.”

The Press Box is also the location of dinners that Wallace and Lanette, his wife of 29 years, share every couple of weeks or so, watching a program on the TV or visiting with another couple. Lanette is a frequent club patron for her own purposes, hosting bridal showers or other celebrations.

There’s also another family tradition these days: Wallace’s dad, retired Hyde Park Baptist Church senior pastor and former Headliners member himself, Dr. Ralph M. Smith, joins his son for occasional Friday lunches in the club, sometimes doubling up with Dick Rathgeber and his son, Ross.

In fact, parties in the club for the 80th birthday of Lanette’s mother and, on another occasion, a party that Wallace and his sister, Diane Love, gave to celebrate the 80th birthday of their dad, are special Headliners memories for the new president.

And what about the important practical questions: What does he think of the newly renovated bar area at the east end of the club?

“It looks fabulous,” Wallace exclaims. “It’s so much more functional and really so attractive.”

And his favorite beverage from that bar?

“Scotch – Dewar’s, or a single malt – served on the rocks with a splash of water.”

As we say at Headliners, “Let the party continue!”

— by Howard Falkenberg
The family legacy at the Headliners Club plays a part in the growing and active membership that the club enjoys. This is evident with the addition of Rob Bridges, grandson of founding member Bob Bridges, to the Board of Trustees. This TCU graduate began his career in Atlanta as an underwriter for Chubb Insurance Co. While there he met his wife and fellow Texan, Elise. As with so many who leave the state, the Texas draw was strong and they returned to settle in Austin where Rob began his career with Wortham Insurance and Risk Management. He currently serves as the managing partner and was recently recognized as one of the top brokers in the United States under 40. His community activities include membership in the Young Presidents Organization and he is a founding board member and director of R Bank.

His other interests? As the busy father of three, 8, 6 and 5 years old, Rob makes time to coach lacrosse and football at WAYA and spends time at the family ranch in Wimberley. It is at this ranch that Rob, as a 12 year old, began his love of bow hunting which he is passing down to his boys. Each fall this avid hunter enjoys a trip to northern Colorado to his uncle's ranch for some elk and mule deer hunting.

Rob is fortunate to office in the same building as the club, so it’s just a quick elevator ride to enjoy lunch and his favorite, the sliders. On the day we spoke, Rob and his grandfather Bob, now 92, had just had lunch together at the club. He also enjoys attending The Austin Breakfast Club, of which he was one of three founding members. The group, now 50 strong, meets once a month at the Headliners where they enjoy great company and an interesting speaker.

So Rob Bridges brings the Bridges family full circle – Headliners Club founding member to member of the Board of Trustees. Welcome!

— Laurie Hall

The roster of Terry Tottenham’s community involvement is almost as lengthy as his professional activities as a longtime partner at Norton Rose Fulbright. Now this former State Bar President and avid Austin arts supporter is turning his attention to the Headliners Club as a member of the board.

Tottenham’s creativity is already known and recognized. He initiated Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans, a state-wide coalition of Texas lawyers who provide pro bono legal services to needy veterans and their families. “It’s catching on around the country,” he says of the program that’s been replicated in 14 states and, in Texas alone, has helped more than 10,000 veterans and their families.

A native of Brenham, Tottenham came to Austin to attend the University of Texas, where he earned his undergraduate (pharmacy) and law degrees. “I worked as a pharmacist while I was in law school and while studying for the bar exam,” Tottenham said. In addition his wife Sue is a registered pharmacist and worked for a number of years before becoming a full time mom. After a stint in the Marine Corps, Tottenham’s law practice took him to Houston before returning to Austin in the mid-1980s, where he and Sue and their three daughters planted their roots.

Their youngest focused on ballet and as a teen played Clara in The Nutcracker at Ballet Austin for a few years, which means he and Sue saw “every one of her performances – 8 or 9 a year,” Tottenham says.

Tottenham’s wide-ranging interests include movies, the Texas Book Festival, travel and keeping fit –regular workouts, including completing 13 marathons and three triathlons.

Although he entertains clients at the Club often, Tottenham says it’s a great spot for any type of socializing and he’s pleased to be joining the board.

“We really enjoy the ambiance and the people we meet there,” he says. “It’s really a great club.”

— Sharon Jayson
Dwight Yoakam’s *Turn It On, Turn It Up, Turn Me Loose* was the anthem for this concert night at the Club.
Headliners Members were *On The Road Again* to another fun show at the ACL Theater – the Willie Nelson and Friends Family New Year Concert was a hit!
Concert Series
(continued from page 4)

The Jack Balagia Family.

Ginger and Pete Brendle with Barbara Guthery.

Karen Vanausdal, Gordon Wright, Larry Wright and Caroline Wright.

New Member Sarah Flieller and Andrew Stauch.

Ben Ravel, Miriam Rice, Justin Hosa Showell, Rachel Ravel, Suzanne and Steve Ravel.
Anne and John Carlson, happy to be at the Club’s Annual Christmas Celebration!

Amanda and Morris Foster enjoyed meeting up with good friends.

Could this be next year’s family Christmas card for Frank and Melissa Jackson and son Wroe?

A nice holiday lunch for Debby and John Burns.

Caught getting on the elevator were the Faulkners.
Frank Lake was especially happy to spend the afternoon with his son and daughter.

New member Jenny Boone was pleased to meet up with John Fainter.

Joining the annual holiday tradition were friends: Andrew Maebius, Jeff McDowell, Rob Bridges and Tom Daniel.

Sheri and Bill Hudspeth’s holidays got off to a good start at the Headliners.

Becky and Robert Heiser took a break from their business to join lots of friends.

It was delightful to see Delores and Jose Montemayor enjoying the good buffet.
Christmas Party (continued from page 7)

It was great to see a new generation of Headliners at the annual party: Davis and Donna Baldwin with Brad and Chrissy Compere.

It was a family affair for the Davenports and Howards.

The Rathgeber were all smiles.

New members Suzanne and Stephen Erickson.

Be sure and wish S.A. Garza a happy 90th birthday the next time you see him. Seen here with his wife Viola.
Lady and the Tramp
December 27, 2013

Posey and Liam were thrilled to share the evening with their grandmother Mary Wilson.

Dawnelle Doughtie (seated center) was thrilled to host friends and family for this fun night.

Elisabeth McKetta (l) and Snowden McKetta Stead (R) visiting Mike McKetta and Sallie Sharp from Boise, Idaho, were very involved in the story.

Jennifer Johnson (right) and her family were ready for the movie.

Judith DeBerry (right) extended her family’s Christmas with Lady and the Tramp. Quink DeBerry (left), Christi Leinart (center) – a new Legacy member – and kiddos Henry, Blain and Harris Leinart all enjoyed the movie.

Dillon and Cissie Ferguson with daughter Lizzie Heineken and son-in-law Mark Heineken, were extra happy to be with grandchildren Josh and Lily.
New York New York or Austin Austin?

2014 in the river city was ushered in with big apple style!

Members and guests toasted the end of 2013 with favorite cocktails and champagne and took a spin on the dance floor to the tunes of the Vintage 15. The club rooms twinkled with lights and revelers donned “Happy New Year!” tiaras and top hats. A city fireworks display elicited “Oohs!” and “Ahhs!” and capped the evening perfectly.

New York night clubs could not have done it better!

— by Jane Greig

Friends gathered to ring in the New Year: (l to r) Tom Granger, Matt Kreisle, Robert Baldwin and Shannon Ratliff.

This group is always ready for fun: Ed Butler, Al Stowell, Rene Butler, Kay Stowell, Amelia Bullock and Bill Krumpack.

Alma, Gordon and Pier King certainly look happy to welcome in 2014.

Penny and Dan Burck had fun on the dance floor.
Eve 2013

Jane and Brian Greig put those dance lessons to good use.

Ingrid Taylor was thrilled to be on the dance floor with her son Benjamin.

Elizabeth and Travis Lucas had the most fun being with each other.

It was a family evening for the Patmans, Veselys and Johnsons.
It’s not often one gets to be inside a spy/action novel by, perhaps, John Le Carré or David Baldacci, but Headliners became a hotbed of intrigue for members during Fred Burton’s luncheon talk on January 9.

Mr. Burton, Vice-President of Stratfor, Austin’s very own geopolitical intelligence firm, and the co-author of “Under Fire: The Untold Story of the Attack in Benghazi”, presented a riveting account of what actually happened on that terrible day, September 11, 2012. In explaining the intelligence community, Burton opened with a quote from John Le Carré (who, not surprisingly, is his favorite author): “My job is to lie for the good of my country; but the problem is I don’t know what the truth is.” He told members that this reminded him of his own career as a State Department agent in Pakistan in 1988, the last time a US Ambassador was killed, this time in a plane crash. He related being at the crash scene 24 hours after the event “looking at a smoking hole in the ground without any idea of what to do.” At this point, he received a call from Washington, DC, informing him of a “troubling development.” (“This is how diplomats talk,” he smiled.) The “troubling development” was the distinct possibility that there would be a nuclear war between Pakistan and India – and he, a 20-something agent, was at ground zero.

To further set the scene, he flashed back to 1979 and the Tehran Embassy hostage-taking. The 21 year-old diplomatic agent in charge had, 2 weeks before the major attack, negotiated the release of several US diplomats taken hostage. The agent then contacted Foggy Bottom (State Dept. Headquarters) and said, “I can’t hold this embassy. Send more Marines, or we’ll have to close this place down.” Foggy Bottom’s answer: “Dr. Kissinger says you have a higher purpose.” (This had become the mantra of the State Department.) The agent’s reply:
“Dr. Kissinger’s rear end is not here.” The result, of course, is in the history books, and highlights the extreme conditions under which State Department security officers and foreign diplomats have to function in high-risk countries.

Burton was also very clear about responsibility in the Benghazi affair. He stated the US Ambassador to Libya was ultimately responsible for the safety of himself and everyone under him. He was understandably sympathetic about the five State Department agents and stressed that their job was to get the Ambassador away from harm, hunker down, and wait for rescue. They are not operatives in the CIA sense, and in that sense, did their job. However, much went wrong, and there is always room for improvements and lessons learned.

Mr. Burton beautifully fielded the many intelligent questions thrown at him, and was firm in his belief that mistakes were made, but that the President and Secretary of State are not responsible for operational decisions, and the budget for at-risk embassies is woefully inadequate. There is much room for 20-20 hindsight, but, as he concluded, “Disaster causes change.” After this fine presentation, it would not be surprising if many members immediately ordered “Under Fire” for a continuation of the insights provided by Burton.

— by Kay Allensworth
Ed Whitacre
February 4, 2014

Ed Whitacre is considered a corporate genius for his pivotal role in rescuing both AT&T and General Motors, two iconic American companies. To a packed house, Board President Sam Sparks introduced Whitacre as having declared himself a Red Raider in a *Texas Monthly* interview. “Think how successful you might have been had you gone to UT,” stated Sparks, tongue-in-cheek.

Headliners Foundation Chairman Mark Morrison, former managing editor of *Business Week*, adroitly guided the 6’4” Texan in his remarkable story of how he did it. As the son of a railroad man from Ennis and a schoolteacher from Hearne, he always thought he would work for the railroad too. His mother, however, had other ideas: he was going to college. At Arlington State he majored in engineering and after a year transferred to Texas Tech. He had no car and was responsible for his own tuition. He took part-time jobs at a funeral home, then a dry cleaners and a full-time job with Red Arrow Freight Lines in Ennis during the summers. His junior year Whitacre saw an ad for paid summer internships at Southwestern Bell in Dallas and applied. He was granted an interview, drove 40 miles to Dallas and they turned him down. All the internships had been taken. He didn't give up. He begged for the job. The next day they called him and he was hired as a student engineer.

Bill Munday appreciated Ed Whitacre’s work on behalf of the car dealers.
After that summer he decided that he wanted to work more with people, so after graduation from Tech he took a job on the management track with Southwestern Bell. His first job was as a foreman managing installation crews in Mesquite, Texas. One night he had a crew working late repairing a cable. Whitacre was monitoring their progress by phone from the office, when his supervisor, Charles Isom, stopped by for a progress report. “Let’s go take a look,” Isom said. They drove way out in the country - 15 or 20 miles. They walked around the site, and when Whitacre looked around Isom had left him there with his crew. He got the message: he might be the boss, but he was still part of the team.

Mr. Isom and some other great mentors at Bell schooled him in the values that led to his management style, which was always geared toward the worker. To Whitacre business is about people, and if you cannot pick the right people for a job, motivate them and compensate them properly, you will not be successful as a manager. Other things he has learned over the years: in an acquisition, the numbers never add up; if the status quo isn’t working, shake it up; as CEO you are 100% responsible for your company family so you had better look at least 10 years ahead.
Captains of Industry Ed Whitacre (continued from page 15)

When AT&T was broken up, Whitacre was made CEO of Southwestern Bell, at that time the smallest of the Baby Bells. No one but the former CEO and a few of his backers expected that to happen - not even Whitacre himself. That did not keep him from moving the offices from St. Louis to San Antonio to be close to their Mexican affiliate and obtain a better regulatory environment - a decision that ruffled some feathers. Then he looked down the road and saw that wireless was the future so he acquired Pacific Telesis in 1996 for $23 billion. People said he paid too much. By the time Whitacre retired in 2007, AT&T (the former Southwestern Bell) had reconstituted itself to become the largest wireless company in the world with revenue of around $120 billion. As soon as he retired he was asked by the White House to work a similar miracle at GM. His motivation in all of this seems to have been to save jobs, and with the GM turnaround he reckons about 10 million jobs were saved, including manufacturing, sales and management jobs at GM as well as the jobs at the suppliers.

Whitacre's book American Turnaround: Reinventing AT&T and GM and The Way We Do Business In The USA is full of wonderful stories, including how he and his management team sealed a very big deal with Steve Jobs. It is a remarkable achievement by someone who really believes in America!

— Donna Shipley
A silver bowl of iced shrimp and a sculpted ice shooter luge, cocktails and conversation, transitions and camaraderie, a renovated bar and rooms of twinkling lights combined for an evening of fellowship and high spirits at the Club on February 12. An exciting dinner of celebration and appreciation was hosted by Chairman and Mrs. Brian Greig and President and Mrs. Sam Sparks. As the group gathered for the seated dinner, Chairman Greig welcomed the group and noted changes to the board.
The reelection to the board of Sam Sparks, Charlie Betts, Ramona Jones, David Minton and Carl Stuart was announced as was the election of Rob Bridges and Terry Tottenham as new board members. Elizabeth Christian, Cindy Matula and Jesus Garza are retiring from the board. Sets of engraved Headliners glasses along with favorite beverages of each board member were presented in appreciation of their service to the Club. Chairman Greig announced the new slate of officers: Secretary – JoLynn Free, Treasurer – Franklin Hall, President-Elect – Dillon Ferguson, President – Wallace Smith.
Headliners Foundation Chairman Mark Morrison shared updates on the Foundation’s progress thanked board members - new and old – for their service.

Noting the cancellation of the Headliners Presidential Protective Detail surrounding retiring president Sam Sparks and in appreciation of his service as club president, Mr. Greig presented him with a Walther PPKS to take its place. Judge Sparks recalled one of his first visits to the Club was lunch with his father and Frank Erwin . . . the meal was chili. At the time the Judge’s brother advised him you “gotta live in Tarrytown and be a member of the Club or . . . you are a communist.”

Touting the club as a place to expect and receive the best Judge Sparks called incoming president Wallace Smith to the podium for the traditional toast. Wallace Smith proclaimed “Let the Party Continue!”

And it did.

— Jane Greig
Native Austinite Kevin Robinson (“never lived anywhere but!”) is a familiar face at the Headliners Club. Could it be his infectious smile? His personable demeanor? His 25 years on the job? That’s right, 25 years at the Club! Thank Ron Ford (“his daughter was my sister’s best friend”) for snagging Robinson’s talents in a staff position. After his debut evening waiting tables, Ford saw to it his employment application was submitted and accepted . . . the next day. “I started March 1 and I worked for free one night,” mused Robinson. This day of gratis employment is a running joke between Robinson and Ford. Clearly 25 years later, the Club and Robinson are a fit. “I love working here. It’s just like a family,” Robinson said. “Sometimes people are my friend before they know they know they are my friend.” That positive attitude is infectious. And the club is not the only beneficiary of Robinson’s generous nature and sense of family.

In the spring of 2005 Robinson and longtime friend Ray Jackson formalized what Robinson had been doing for years. They created a non-profit basketball organization called the Rising Stars. The program “helps kids in tough situations,” Robinson says. Basketball and teamwork raises their expectations and harnesses youthful energy in a good way. Teamwork involves holding members responsible and mentoring them. Robinson’s personal involvement with the players is legendary. One youngster moved in with him and more than one has been schooled by Robinson on the importance of grades and education. At times there have been as many as eight teams in the program although Robinson says fewer are more manageable.

There have been many successes – large and small. One of the former Rising Stars is at Harvard and others are participating in basketball programs at the college level. In one recent class of Rising Star high school graduates six of ten athletes received four-year college scholarships.

Some club members caught whiff of Robinson’s basketball organization and support it. From holiday parties to unexpected gifts of team shirts or backpacks to encouragement, club members help sustain the Rising Stars players and Robinson. Frustrated basketball players as well as folks who just want to help disadvantaged children are behind this program. “He’s making a difference in kids’ lives!” Dick Rathgeber said. “Everybody wants to help and Kevin is doing it.”

At the Club and on the court, Robinson is a rising star.

— Jane Greig
The Headliners Library has two new books from former Lt. Governor Bill Hobby.

*How Things Really Work: Lessons From a Lifetime in Politics* is composed of his candid recollections about his days in office as well as his take on what state government should and should not do. Bill Hobby spent most of his life in and around Texas government, including a record eighteen years as the state’s lieutenant governor. “Nostalgia is not my purpose”, Hobby writes in the book’s preface. “But I do hope to convey something of my admiration for the people that I had the honor to work with, the spirit of the times, and a sense of how things actually worked – at least in the legislative process.” His no-holds-barred opinions about everything from partisan politics to efforts to rewrite the Texas Constitution to government wiretaps and the war on drugs are included, as are his memories of working with other Texas politicians.

*The Hobby Family In Texas History* traces the Hobby family through Texas politics. Over the last 132 years and five generations, thirty-five members of the extended Hobby family have been associated with the Texas Legislature for thirty regular and countless special sessions as Governors, Lieutenant Governors, members, staffers, and mascots. The line extends from Alfred Marmaduke Hobby in 1861 to his great-great grand nephew Paul Hobby and his great-great-great grand niece Grace Oveta Hobby in 1993.
In the northwest corner on the ground floor of the Driskill Hotel, The Headliners Club served its first drink on Valentine’s Day, 1955. With Charles Green, editor of the Austin American Statesman, as first President and Chairman of the Board, the nascent club membership roster of nearly 300 members read like a Who’s Who of Austin. The proposed initiation fee was $50 which shortly became $100. The Club footprint was expanded in 1956 to include the drug store space next door to the Driskill, which was home for 11 years. Some members recall details of the location such as a window wives created with glass bottle bottoms and the slot machines by the bar. Families like the McCormicks have a variety of fond memories of the Club’s first home.

In the 1950s Dr. Hal McCuistion approached my dad (Dr. Charles McCormick) about joining a new club to be opened in Austin. Dad agreed and became a founding member of the Headliners Club. My mom, Jerry, remembers well the original little space (some 2300 square feet). It was decorated by Jack Revel in an English pub style. She said it was more crowded and much noisier than later locations (the Westgate Building and now the current location). But she loved that it was cozy and warm. Conversations could be heard at the next table and the evenings “in town” (Dad was a country doctor in Buda) took dad and her to another world! Often Dr. Walter Prescott Webb (UT professor and author of Handbook of Texas) would join them at their table; Dr. Webb knew my dad shared a love of Texas history and mom said they talked incessantly while she enjoyed Helen Corbitt’s phenomenal dishes. Yes, the original chef for the club was the Driskill’s renowned Helen Corbitt. Her fabulous Canadian Cheese soup recipe is still served today at the Club. (Helen later would become the director of Neiman-Marcus restaurants and published many outstanding cookbooks.)

Another fond memory for mom was the display of art by local artists near the Headliners door (each member had a key to that door). One evening as mom and dad entered the Seventh Street entrance and the lobby of the hotel on their way to the Club, they found the perfect painting by Austin artist Robert Gage. That beautiful piece has remained a favorite for all the McCormicks throughout the years and we associate it with the Headliners!

So many milestones were celebrated at the Club for our family - 50th wedding anniversary parties for my grandparents and parents, my wedding engagement party, our daughter’s 16th birthday party. And now we love taking our grandchildren to Club events.

— Debbie Vacek
Transitions

Long-time Headliners Foundation governors Dan Herd and Clarke Heidrick stepped down in January as their terms expired.

Herd served a total of 18 years and made numerous contributions to the Foundation, recently heading the Finance Committee along with Treasurer JoAnne Midwikis. His tenure saw the endowment grow from several hundred thousand dollars to about $3 million.

Heidrick, in nine years as a governor, provided the foundation with expert legal advice and much more. Recently he devoted much of his time to working with the estate of a former club member who left a sizable bequest to the foundation.

Two new governors have been elected to the board - Patti Ohlendor and Fred Zipp. Patti Ohlendor is Vice President for Legal Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin and a past president of the Headliners Club. She and her husband, Curtis, have two sons.

Before retiring in 2013, Fred Zipp worked in daily newspaper journalism as editor of the Austin American-Statesman and a reporter at the Beaumont Enterprise and Palm Beach Post. He is a past officer of the Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas (FOI). Zipp is an editor in residence at the University of Texas. He and his wife, Jodi, have three children.

And we have a new vice chair, KVUE president Patti Smith, who will be heading up the academic excellence committee. She takes the place of Greg Curtis, who is studying in France this semester—tough duty. Greg has made many improvements to our scholarship program and will continue as a member of the committee.

— Mark Morrison

SIXTEEN ENTRIES FOR NEW AWARD
— By Kelley Shannon, Chair, Headliners Foundation Professional Excellence Committee

Last year, the Headliners Foundation established a new award for Texas journalists – the Showcase Award for Enterprise and Innovation in Journalism. The first-place winner will receive the $2,000 award. As many as two runners-up may be named to each receive a $1,000 award.

Entry criteria encompass online journalism as well as more traditional print and broadcast news coverage. The Enterprise and Innovation Award spotlights outstanding journalism that makes a significant impact on government, public policy or the conduct of a business, nonprofit or other organization.

The Foundation has received 16 submissions to date. All professional Texas-based news providers – print, broadcast and digital – are eligible for this award. The inaugural winners will be announced in the spring of 2014 and recognized at the fall Mike Quinn Awards event.

Instructions and additional details about the submission process can be found on the Headliners Foundation website at http://headlinersfoundation.org/showcase-award-for-enterprise-innovation.

HEADLINERS FOUNDATION LAUNCHES GRANT PROGRAM
— By Quen Garza, Chair, Headliners Foundation Strategic Development Committee

The Foundation is now accepting grant applications for grants under its new Grants Program for Special Projects. This program, made possible by the bequest of Headliners Club member, Wilmot Horton, will allow the Foundation to award a limited number of grants annually for journalism-related projects and events that support the Foundation's mission to promote excellence in journalism through training and education.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit 501(c)(3) entities, trade associations, newsrooms and schools. Although projects or programs must have journalism as the focus, the audience may include the general public as well as entity staff, members of the media, industry associations and students.

The grant criteria for funding consideration by the Headliners Foundation and application form are posted online at www.headlinersfoundation.org/grants. Please contact our Executive Director Janice Cartwright at janice@headlinersfoundation.org should you have questions about the criteria or application process.
In 40 years covering the White House, Ann Compton has experienced the revolution triggered by technical change and the Internet, and she’s not sure she likes it.

“I want to go back to those days of reporters hanging out in the hallway outside the Oval Office” and working their beats, when an administration could not bypass reporters and “harness their own version of the news,” Compton said on February 27 at the Headliners Club.

During the Obama administration, reporters have endured “the worst access of any president I’ve covered,” Compton said.
Compton and *Austin American-Statesman* columnist Ken Herman pulled back the curtain on the White House news operation at the Michele Kay Distinguished Speaker Series. The rapt audience found the peek backstage riveting.

Compton gave a white-knuckle account of her flight across the country on Air Force One on September 11, 2001. Compton was part of the coverage pool that day and accompanied President George W. Bush during the uncertain hours after the World Trade Center attack, and she credited chief of staff Andrew Card and spokesman Ari Fleischer for making sure that reporters made the trip from Florida to a Nebraska air force base and back to Washington, D.C.

At one point during the flight, Compton said, Bush joined journalists and vowed: “We are going to get these thugs.”

— *By Fred Zipp*
Nashville’s Inspirational Country Music Association Awards (ICM) presented the music organization’s first-ever “Ambassador of Goodwill Award” to Andrew and Mary Ann Heller for their efforts as humanitarians whose good works have been both national and international in scope.

The Austin Symphony Orchestra conferred the Sibley Leadership Award to Ernest and Sarah Butler, who recently gave the group $1 million to fund a youth composition series. Also receiving the award – named after longtime symphony backer Jane Dunn Sibley – was Melba Whatley for her breakthrough work with the Contemporary Austin.

PR News celebrated the winners and honorable mentions of its 2013 PR People Awards at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. on Dec. 10, 2013. Jack Martin was inducted into their Hall of Fame in recognition of his many, ongoing contributions over the course of his 30-plus year career.
Congratulations to these Headliners for their recent celebrations:

**Craig Hester** and **Felicia Teel** were married in November.

**Whit Hanks** and **Kim Gerlovich** were married in January.

**Mary Lou** and **Charles Morrison** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in February.
Have you checked out the new vista in the renovated bar adjacent to the Granger Dining room? You may not be there at sunrise but the east windows, obscured for years by the old bar set-up, are ready for prime time viewing when you are.

The former bar configuration was originally part of American Bank’s executive dining room. When the Club expanded into the space in the 1970s the bar obscuring the east windows was left in place. As a result, ice and supplies were routinely hauled across the room, sometimes during events.

Moving the bar’s location away from those windows and adjacent to back-of-the-house space was investigated by the Board under Chairman Tom Granger and President Meade Bauer. In addition to liberating that view, renovating the back-of-the-house area adjacent to the bar and expanding the dining area entrance made sense. To absorb some of the expense, the Building Committee negotiated a substantial contribution to the construction costs from the landlord. The bar renovation project was set in motion in 2011. Details were honed; the city’s permit process was navigated. Construction began December 26, 2013. Greig Percy Collaborative’s design was skillfully executed by Structura, Inc. and our own Gilbert Gallegos kept on top of the project for the Club. On February 7, 2014 the first drink at the new bar was poured.

The new bar would not be possible without the hard work from these guys: (l to r) Eric Cuellar, Project Superintendent from Structura; Brian Erzel, Headliners Bar Manager; Rob Pedersen, Headliners Assistant General Manager; Gilbert Gallegos, Headliners Head of Maintenance and Project Manager for the Club; David Meiske, Building Engineer.
Changes to the back of the house make a world of difference for the staff. Additional work space in the pantry behind the bar, easy access to supplies and an expanded working area mean bartenders are able to serve even large parties with aplomb. The barrels of ice that were once toted though a sea of members and guests to the previous bar location are now contained handily in three ice wells at the new bar, says Brian Etzel, bar manager and “bartenders are no longer bumping into each other.”

Construction always calls for a measure of forbearance but “events continued without a glitch. Amazing!” says Chairman Brian Greig. “The understanding and patience of members and staff has all paid off in spades.” What a success!

And what a view it is!

— Jane Greig
NEW MEMBERS

Fred Burton, Vice President/Stratfor/Author
Bergan Norris Casey, Owner/Casey Communications LLC
Devon Dikeou, CEO/Editor/Publisher/ZingMagazine
Kelly Ausley-Flores, Partner/Ausley, Algert, Robertson & Flores LLP
Katherine Nash Goehring, Founder/Nash Communications
Everardo Goyanes, Founder and Member/Ex Cathedra LLC
Raymond Greenberg, Executive Vice Chancellor/The University of Texas System
Michelle Haddad, Office Manager/Law Office of Sam Haddad
Wallace B. Jefferson, Partner/Alexander, Dubose, Jefferson and Townsend Law Office
Susan Gillean Kelly, Third Grade Teacher/Saint Andrews Episcopal School
Anna Morrison Lee, Real Estate Agent/Tate Properties
Christina DeBerry Leinart, Chief Financial Officer/Leinart Law Firm
Elizabeth (Liz) Gillean Lockwood, Private Wealth Advisor/UBS Financial
Matt Mackowiak, President/Potomac Strategy Group LLC
Charles W. Matthews, Jr., Retired VP & General Counselor/EXXON Mobil Corporation
Shannon Lind McNamara, Partner/Ernest & Young LLP
Ashley Cotten Putman
Catherine Schneider, Senior Manager/Samsung
Irene (Rene) Gillean Teeler, Program Coordinator/Dell Children’s Hospital
Sharon E. Wilson, Immediate Past-President/Women’s Symphony League
Andrew F. York, Associate/Armbrust & Brown LLP

REQUIESCANT IN PACE

William Henry Abington
J. Chrys Dougherty, III
Mrs. Michael (Lois Marguerite Finch Mathewson “Peggy”) Frary, Jr.
Richard A. Haberman
Joseph T. Jerkins
Mrs. Aaron (Edythe Schmidt) Kruger
Mr. Kelly R. McAdams
Wallace John “Wally” Pryor
Leon Schmidt
Larry Farish York
Chairman Greig and President Smith are pleased to announce the members of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees for 2014-2015. They are chairs of the standing committees, and all are available to members who have any questions or suggestions about the Club.

Brian Greig .......... Chairman
Wallace Smith .......... President
Dillon Ferguson ...... President-Elect
JoLynn Free.......... Secretary
Franklin Hall......... Treasurer
Leslie McConnico .... Food & Beverage Committee
John Schweitzer...... Building & Facilities Committee
Doug Dodds .......... House Rules
Scott Dunaway....... Employee Benefits
Tim Taylor .......... Membership Committee
Carl Stuart .......... Investments Committee
Patti Ohlendorf ...... Special Events Committee Co-Chair
Suzy Balagia .......... Special Events Committee Co-Chair
Meade Bauer .......... Legal Committee
Susan Dawson........ Finance and Budget Committee
Mark Morrison ...... Headliners Foundation Chairman
Sam Sparks.......... Past President

A Headliners tradition – the Old Fitz Community lunch table in the Nash Room – is being revived. Come by and take a chair. Catch up on the latest River City happenings. You never know who will be there or what the topic being discussed will be but you do know a lunch buddy is guaranteed, the food from the buffet, superb, and the possible combinations, endless.

The community table is the large round table to the right as you come in – see you there.
(No, I’m not buying – separate checks!)

— Brian Greig
Headliners Club
Board of Trustees

Brian Greig, Chairman
Wallace Smith, President
JoLynn Free, Secretary
Franklin Hall, Treasurer
Dillon Ferguson, President-Elect
Sam Sparks, Past President
Tom Granger, Chairman Emeritus

Headliners Foundation
Board of Governors

Executive Committee:
Mark Morrison, Chair
Kelley Shannon, Vice-Chair
Patti Smith, Vice-Chair
Jane Greig, Secretary
JoAnne Midwikis, Treasurer
Quen Garza
Patti Ohlendorf

Suzy Balagia
Meade Bauer
Charlie Betts
Rob Bridges
Dan Bullock
Susan Dawson
Frank Denius
Doug Dodds
Scott Dunaway
Amanda Foster
Gay Gaddis
Franklin Hall
Randy Howry
Ramona Jones

Susan Lilly
Leslie McConnico
Demetrius McDaniel
David Minton
Mark Morrison
Mary Scott Nabers
Patti Ohlendorf
Randa Safady
John Schweitzer
Carl Stuart
James Taylor
Tim Taylor
Terry Tottenham

Elizabeth Christian
Greg Curtis
Tracy Dahlby
David Dunham
Howard Falkenberg
Glenn Frankel ♦
Brian Greig ♦
Rod Hart ♦
Harvey Kronberg

Gary Pickle *
Ross Ramsey
Randa Safady
Allan Shivers *
Wayne Slater
Wallace Smith ♦
Neal Spelce *
Steven Weinberg
Fred Zipp

* denotes Emeritus
♦ denotes Ex-Officio