

## Upcoming Programs Via Zoom

Apr. 5: **The Power of Hip Hop Diplomacy Around the World**, Mark Katz, UNC Chapel Hill

May 3: **Manipulating the Masses: Woodrow Wilson and the Birth of American Propaganda**, John Maxwell Hamilton, Louisiana State University

### Welcome PDC Members!

In light of the decision to merge PDC with the Public Diplomacy Association of America, PDC members now receive the print and electronic versions of the quarterly **PDAA Today**.

If you did not receive the print version, it may be because your address is not up-to-date. Please check your address in Member-Planet to ensure that your address is correct. If you have forgotten your password or how to change your address, contact us at [admin@publicdiplomacy.org](mailto:admin@publicdiplomacy.org), and we will send you instructions.

**For both PDC and PDAA members:** In order to ensure that your electronic newsletter does not end up in your spam folder, please add [admin@publicdiplomacy.org](mailto:admin@publicdiplomacy.org) to your address list. If you have difficulty doing this, contact us, and we will send instructions.☐

# PDAA Today

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## Public Diplomacy Association of America

### Merger of PDAA and Public Diplomacy Council Approved by Boards of Directors

By Joel Fischman

**The** Boards of PDAA and the Public Diplomacy Council have approved the recommendation of the Public Diplomacy Coalition Working Group (PDCWG) for a transition period leading to merger of PDAA and PDC. We are now officially in the transition period. The PDCWG, now known as the Joint Oversight Group (JOG), will continue in an oversight role with dedicated working groups specified in the recommendation. The name change clarifies the oversight role of the JOG vs. the respective working groups.

You can find the PDCWG report on the joint landing page of [www.publicdiplomacy.org](http://www.publicdiplomacy.org) and on the PDAA website, [pdaa.publicdiplomacy.org](http://pdaa.publicdiplomacy.org).

Below is a list of the transition working groups (WG) and the responsibilities they are charged with analyzing and making recommendations for.

#### Media Presence/

**Branding WG**, Joe Johnson, Chair

- Websites and online media presence and content
- Designing a new visual identity for a combined organization
- To form the basis of a communication committee in the new organization

**Finance WG**, Quentin Lide, Chair

- Annual Budget
- A workable membership dues structure
- Schedule for dues payment
- Fundraising possibilities
- Paid staff

**Membership & Administrative Data Management WG**, Mary Jeffers, Chair

- Software for managing accurate member information, including recording, tracking, and reporting dues
- An easily accessible member directory and possible print version

• Communication with members, by email, USPS mail, text message, etc.

• Roles for membership categories

• How to make the new organization more attractive to would-be members, including active-duty FS and GS

• Recruitment of new members during the transition year

• PDC's E-Book process as a template for record keeping in the new organization

• Privacy concerns

**Governance WG**, Michael D. Schneider, Chair

• Organizational structure, board responsibilities and structure, executive committee, officers, etc.

• Decision-making authorities

• Terms of office

• Committee structures

• Bylaws

(Continued on page 2)

### Past Programs Available On-line

**R**ecent programs sponsored by PDAA, PDC, and USC are available online. See the PDAA website for URL addresses.

- March 1, 2021 – **Public Diplomacy in the New Congress**. Kate Eltrich and Michele Wymer, with Michael McCarry.
- Feb. 1, 2021 – **Global Leadership and the Future of Diplomacy**. Stuart Holli-day, Meridian International Center.

• Jan. 19, 2021 – **How President-Elect Biden Is Viewed from Abroad**. Richard Wilke, Pew Research Center.

• Dec. 15, 2020 – **How the US Election Is Explained to the World**. Ashok Kumar Mirpuri, Ambassador of Singapore.

• Nov. 16, 2020 – **Understanding the 2020 Presidential Election: Implications for U.S. Public Diplomacy**. Michael McCurry and Michael Gerson, with Michael Schneider.☐

#### On the PDAA Website

**Peace Corps: A Public Diplomacy Incubator**, by Bill

Wanlund, with Mike Anderson, Charles Silver, Joe O'Connell, Bob Schmidt, Dave Miller, Tom Hull, Joan McKniff, Michael Boyle, John Dickson, and Steve Telkins.

**Location, Location, Location: Diplomacy Is with People**, by Mike Anderson.

**Supporting VIP Visits: The Drama Behind the Curtain**,

by Judith Baroody, with Martin Quinn, Bruce Byers, Avis Bohlen, Michael Boostein, Thomas Johnson, Lloyd Neighbors, Philip Brown, Angier Peavy, and Michael Korff.☐

## PDAA Today



**PDAA President  
Joel Anthony Fischman**

*“The goal of all this activity is a new merged organization that will be the best of the two current organizations, plus some, and stronger and even more effective.”*

*The March edition of the Foreign Service Journal includes a feature under the by-line of Sherry Mueller and Joel Fischman. You can find it on Page 26. [Click here to read it online.](#)*

### Legal Issues WG

- Consult, as required, on legal issues from all WGs
  - Tax status - 501(c)3 recommended; how to apply; can current PDC 501(c)3 status apply?
  - Legal review of bylaws
- This working group will convene later in the process.

In an earlier letter, I mentioned the **Joint Program Committee**, which represents USC Annenberg as well as PDC and PDAA. This joint committee now fully replaces the PDAA Program Committee, with Joan Mower and Greta Morris as co-chairs and Michael Anderson, Adam Clayton Powell III, Peter Kovach, Alistair Somerville, Michael Korff, and Bill Wanlund as members. Nick Cull will succeed to the USC Annenberg slot later in the spring.

Responsibilities include:

- Recruit speakers, panelists, etc., for First Monday, mid-month, and other joint programs

- The right mix and frequency of programs
- Probe the possibility of partnering with U.S. Embassies and Consulates on programs.

We are also in the process of converting PDC’s advocacy efforts into a **Joint Advocacy Committee**, with Michael McCarry and Mark Rebstock as co-chairs. We will have more information on this new initiative in the near future.

The **PDAA Awards Committee**, with Judith Baroody as its current chair, will continue as a PDAA committee, but will definitely have a home in the new organization.

The goal of all this activity is a new merged organization that will be the best of the two current organizations, plus some, and stronger and even more effective. All of us who are working on this effort represent a balance of PDAA and PDC interests, with many of us members of both. We

are aware of the potential of our substantial resources, our members paramount among them. After a year of living with pandemic restrictions, we are also mindful of new technology and the changed relationships that are emerging from that technology.

We will choose a name for the merged organization later in the process, engaging as many people as we can.

As always, your views and engagement are welcome and wanted. Please feel free to contact me [fischman@comcast.net](mailto:fischman@comcast.net), PDC President Sherry Mueller, or any of the chairs listed above.

One final note: The [March edition of the Foreign Service Journal](#) includes a feature under Sherry’s and my byline. You can find it on Page 26.

Thank you, all. Stay safe and stay well.☺

*Joel*

### Jan. 12 Board Meeting

The impending merger of PDAA with the Public Diplomacy Council (PDC) was the dominant issue of discussion at the January 12 PDAA Board meeting. A review of the interim report prepared by the working group that is composed of members of both organizations highlighted in particular such issues as finance/membership dues, tax and legal concerns, and the transition process.

Joel Fischman noted that the working group could not really come up with a good dues schedule, one that balances healthy finances against healthy membership. The dues structure for members living outside of the Washington, DC, metro area was discussed at some length; both Sherry Mueller and Pat Kushlis stressed the importance of having broad geographic membership, especially for political reasons.

Resolving legal issues and the tax status of the new organization

is important; PDAA has expressed concern about its tax-exempt status, while PDC is worried about its advocacy role. The working group is recommending 501(c)3 status – PDC’s current status – for the merged entity.

The transition process will require dedicated working groups on several issues, including a working group to examine governance issues of the new organization, the composition of a new board, committee structure, and by-laws. Joel added that the issues addressed by the different working groups are all intertwined.

A motion to accept the interim report of the Public Diplomacy Coalition Working Group and approve the recommended PDAA merger with PDC was made and seconded. Nine members voted in favor, one abstained, and two were not present. Joel officially communicated to Sherry, in her capacity as PDC president, that the PDAA board has approved the recommendation of the working group.

In other Board news, awards committee chair Judy Baroody reported that the cable calling for nominations for the annual PDAA awards has been sent out. March 26 is the deadline for receiving nominations, which will be forwarded to members of the awards committee for review and rank ordering. A final vote to select the recipients will be held April 7, and posts notified of the results shortly thereafter.

Communication chair Mike Korff reported that the January 2021 PDAA newsletter was the first issue to be sent in both electronic and print format to all PDC members, bringing the total number of recipient to approximately 475.☺

**Prepared by Domenick DiPasquale, PDAA Secretary**

# Location, Location, Location: Diplomacy Is with People

By Mike Anderson

Everyone knows the old real estate agent's phrase "Location, location, location," which Lord Harold Samuel reportedly coined when he founded a big U.K. property company in 1948.

But the phrase could just as well have come out of the mouth of any public diplomacy officer who has ever worked abroad. We all know and truly appreciate the importance of the location of our official residences while serving in a U.S. embassy or consulate. Where you live does really matter to your ability to do your job and stay healthy and secure.

During my USIA and State Department PD career, I was fortunate to work in seven countries, including two where I enjoyed two, separate four-year postings. Perhaps I was fortunate, but I was generally happy with all of my accommodations and never had to fight with the Mission Housing Board or GSO -- and none of us ever had to worry about rent, furniture, household repairs, taxes, or property resale values.

Whether a stand-alone house or an apartment, each of my South and Southeast Asian residences pretty much met three criteria: each was relatively close to my work place and to venues -- like government offices, universities, media, cultural venues, or major hotels -- that I needed to frequent in my official capacity; each was healthy and safe; and each had at least adequate representational, or entertaining, space.

My sixth assignment brought me back to New Delhi, not only to my old office in the iconic Embassy designed by Edward Durell Stone, but also gave me access to the best diplomatic housing I ever had.

The gem of a "PAO house" in New Delhi is on one of the city's fanciest streets and just across the street from the famous Lodi Gardens, New Delhi's Central Park, and near the historic "Lutyens Bungalow Zone" named for the architect who



Mike Anderson with statue of Barry Obama at the future president's grade school near the PAO residence in Jakarta. The marker on the statue explains in Indonesian and English who "Barry" was and is - former student in the school and POTUS.

designed Delhi during the British Raj. The house was convenient -- just down a few doors from the DCM's residence and from several other Embassy-owned houses, the embassy wasn't far away, and both the stand-alone American Center in central Connaught Place and the Fulbright commission compound were quite close.

The one-floor gated residence was designed in the style of British colonial era-structures with a sizeable garden (visited by the occasional cobra, monkey, and peacock). Best of all, it had super entertaining space, including an enclosed, multi-purpose room where the PA Section regularly organized cultural events, dinners, and large receptions. I recall hosting a large event one evening which included not only maybe 100 guests but also a live elephant and a camel. All fit easily into the big yard and party room.

The large PAO residence in New Delhi required a sizeable staff just to keep things working. Although guests somehow assumed the USG was paying for my driver, cook, bearer, dhobi-

washer, gardener, and sweeper, in fact that came out of the PAO's pocket! But the staff became part of an extended family and made living and working in India relatively much easier.

My final posting was to another sprawling, Asian capital, Jakarta, Indonesia, where my residence was on the top floor of a modern, secure executive apartment building in the historic Menteng section of central Jakarta. Not only was it relatively close to the Embassy, but it also was within walking distance of both the Ambassador and DCM residences.

The neighborhood had some distinctive Indonesian charm and housed a famous basket market at Cikini station and Jakarta's famous antique or flea market. The public primary school that President Barack Obama attended for a couple of years when he and his mother resided in Jakarta was nearby. The PAO apartment was great for entertaining because it had large picture windows and two balconies which overlooked the city's skyline. Off in the distance, on a clear day, one could even catch a glimpse of a volcano.

All of these "locations, locations, locations" bring back warm memories of always interesting and challenging times doing PD work abroad. While always comfortable and appropriate to my needs, they also were distinctive and useful for representational events, when my Embassy position required it. My only regret is that I didn't have a little more free time to just enjoy living in some of those special properties.☐

*Mike Anderson retired as a senior PD FSO officer in 2010.*

*This article is excerpted from an article on the [PDAA Website](http://pdaa.PublicDiplomacy.org).*

## Supporting VIP Visits: The Drama Behind the Curtain

By Judith Barody

Among the highlights of Public Diplomacy Officers' careers are the times they are called on to provide support to a visit abroad by a USG VIP, such as the President, the Secretary of State or Defense, and Congressional representatives and their delegations.

These meteor-fast encounters with powerful officials can range from exhilarating to humiliating, with the entire embassy devoted to this one event from the day the pre-advance team touches down until the celebrations following "Wheels Up." Careers can tank or soar as a result of these encounters with the mighty and famous, and the key to success can be as simple as maintaining a sense of courtesy and humor.

Think about how many Presidents and Secretaries of State you served during your career; in my case, seven presidents and eleven Secretaries. Depending on where you were

posted, you may have worked on few VIP visits or several.

**Martin Quinn**, for example, handled SecState visits from Baker to Pompeo. These visits were filled with surprises, such as the night Secretary Clinton's plane broke down in Jeddah. He invited her to join the consulate staff to dine on huge platters of Middle Eastern cuisine and she happily accepted:

*"The memorable aspect of the meal, aside from her obvious relish for Middle Eastern cuisine, was that – unlike many senior officials – she made absolutely no effort to hold forth during dinner while chatting informally with everyone around the table just making small talk. One soon forgot that our dinner-partner that February evening in Jeddah was the most famous woman in the world."* ([See website for Martin's story](#))

Earlier, when Hillary Clinton was First Lady, she traveled with President Clinton, including on his first overseas trip as President to France in

1994 for the 50th anniversary of the D-Day landings. DCM **Avis Bohlen** was her control officer. She found the FLOTUS to be accommodating and gracious, advance team members less so. ([See website for Avis's story](#); thanks to [ADST.org](#) for this and other excerpts.)

FLOTUS later accompanied the President to the APEC Summit in the Philippines in 1996. Manila IO **Bruce Byers** served as control officer for another VIP, USIA Director Joseph Duffy. ([See website for Bruce's story](#).)

Another First Lady, Nancy Reagan, was blissfully unaware of the behind-the-scenes struggles **Michael Boostein** was going through in providing TDY assistance with the 1985 POTUS visit to the Embassy of the Holy See. She wanted to go to a distant castle. His arrangements to fulfill her wish almost led to career catastrophe when the helicopter, which was to take her back to Rome, took off without her. ([See website for Mike's story](#))

That same year, **Thomas Johnson**, then Branch PAO in Frankfurt, had his own near-disaster with President Reagan. The President's decision to lay a wreath at a cemetery in Bitburg became a Public Relations firestorm when the media learned that among those buried there were SS soldiers. The "Great Communicator" dealt with the challenge like a cool professional: "Reagan walked to the front of the cemetery, turned left toward the journalists with the monument to his right. His head slightly bowed. His hand toward the public was relaxed, while his hand toward the monument was white knuckled." ([See website for Tom's story](#))

**Careers can tank or soar as a result of these encounters with the mighty and famous, and the key to success can be as simple as maintaining a sense of courtesy and humor.**

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During her unscheduled stay in Jeddah, Secretary Clinton enjoyed an impromptu dinner of mansef lamb and rice with consulate staff. Martin Quinn serves the Secretary.

(Continued from page 4)

**Lloyd Neighbors** faced another unexpected challenge as PAO in Shanghai when the White House decided to hold President George W. Bush's news conference in the atrium of the Portman Hotel where he was lodging. The problem was that the hotel "didn't look Chinese." The solution?

"We called the Shanghai Film Studio and asked them to build a movie set at the Portman that would without a doubt say 'China.' So the studio builds this set that looks like a Chinese imperial palace. And they bring it in to the Portman at 4:00 in the morning, driving this huge truck with all the set materials into a highly secure area, through a cordon of guards and fences around the president's hotel.

"Trying to get this shipment at 4:00 in the morning through security was just a filthy task. But we did it, and it looked like an imperial palace in the Land of Oz. It was an imposing structure, vermilion walls with gold trim. It did look like we were in China, a China of the Boxer Rebellion days, perhaps." (See [website for Lloyd's story](#))

These visits often pop up at



President Reagan at the Bitburg military cemetery.

the worst times for the officers who have to drop everything to work on them, as **Philip Brown** attests from a sojourn on his way to Moscow. Later, for the first Secretary of State visit to Africa, in Cameroon in 1970, Brown was assigned as control officer for the wife of Secretary William



Secretary William P. Rogers makes first visit to Cameroon by U.S. official. CAO Philip Brown (far right) was control officer for Mrs. Rogers (far left).

Rogers. It turned out to be a unexpectedly pleasant job. (See [website for Philip's stories](#).)

Also in Africa, **Angier Peavy** had very different challenges supporting the visit of Secretary Rice to an IDP camp in Darfur, Sudan. One was to keep people at a distance from the woman they affectionately called "Condoleeza": "I had particular problems with some old ladies who were deter-

mined to get up close and personal to ululate and thus show their respect and gratitude." (See [website for Angier's story](#).)

**Michael Korff** worked on another harrowing visit, that of Secretary of Defense (and former FSO) Frank Carlucci to Bern. The visit included a pleasant carriage ride through the small village from which

Hotel. The weather was windy, warm, and humid. The President arrived in the late afternoon on Thursday, March 14, and the traveling press arrived after midnight.

The weather turned dark and stormy, with high tides and driving rain, but that didn't stop the President from fishing in the choppy waters and playing golf at the Mid-Ocean Golf Club in the rain, lashed sideways by the wind. My job was to escort the press around the course and onto the bus, all the while thinking, "Why can't he just pop in a video and relax like a normal person?"

The President met with Prime Minister Major at Government House, planted a tree, and had a press conference. After all that downpour and gale-force squalls, his comment was, "It's just as pleasant as I remembered it."▫

*Judith Baroody is a member of the PDAA Board of Directors and serves as chair of the Awards Committee.*

Carlucci's ancestors had emigrated. The Soviet Embassy proved uncooperative. (See [website for Mike's story](#).)

I think back gratefully on the many VIP visits I supported throughout my career. Few were as soggy as the March 1991 trip by President George H.W. Bush to Bermuda for a summit with UK Prime Minister John Major. There were numerous countdown meetings at the Hamilton Princess



Judith Baroody worked the 1991 summit in Bermuda of President George H.W. Bush with John Major.

## In Memoriam

**Merton Louis Bland**, former Foreign Service Officer, died January 14 at his home in Arlington, VA, at age 89. A student of fine arts, Merton joined the Foreign Service in 1963. From the mid-1960s to mid-1970s he served in several newly independent African nations, starting the American school in Madagascar. When assigned to Karachi, Bland expanded and directed the Pakistan-American Cultural Center, which offered English language courses. In 1979, following unrest in neighboring Iran, mobs burned the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad and rioted in Karachi. Bland and his family were evacuated to the United States, where he served as an information conduit for families of the Americans taken hostage in Iran. Bland's final assignment was cultural affairs officer in Australia. After retiring in 1987, he became an English language instructor, working in China, Malaysia, Vietnam, South Korea, Guinea, and Morocco. Bland was a member of Rotary International and volunteered at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He was laid to rest with military honors at Quantico National Cemetery.

**Jerry (Luis Ricardo) Chirichigno**, died February 2 in Katy, TX, from acute leukemia. His overseas posts included Nigeria, India, Liberia, Turkey, and Venezuela. Former Foreign Service Officer Steven Monblatt recalled that when he once visited Chirichigno in Mumbai, they ended up spending New Year's Eve with that city's famous Bollywood film crowd. After his retirement from USIA, Chirichigno frequently worked in the African Public Diplomacy office of the State Department.

**Ron Clifton**, founding resident director of the American Studies Center at Salzburg Global Seminar, passed away on February 13 from natural causes. In 1992, Ron was instrumental in securing a significant grant for Salzburg Global from the United States Information Agency, which created the American Studies Center in Salzburg. The Center, for which Ron served as resident director between 1994 and 1996, became renowned throughout Europe and beyond. Until 2003, Ron helped organize more than 30 highly successful American Studies programs at Schloss Leopoldskron. His 25-year career in the diplomatic service included tours of duty in Calcutta, New Delhi, Tunis, Dublin, Brussels, London, and Washington, DC. In 1996, after leaving the diplomatic service, Ron was appointed Associate Vice-President at Stetson University, Celebration Campus, where he served as the founding director of the new campus center. He was appointed adjunct professor in the American Studies Department of Stetson University, teaching courses relating to American culture,

foreign policy, comparative studies, and America's impact abroad. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania in American civilization. Before his undergraduate university enrollment, Ron spent seven years in the United States Marine Corps, achieving the rank of sergeant. He served in Korea and was a Marine Security Guard in New Zealand.

**John Francis Coppola** died February 14 at age 73 in Washington, DC. His Foreign Service career took him to Mexico, El Salvador, and Tunisia. At the U.S. Information Agency, he directed the U.S. pavilions at World Expo 88 in Brisbane, Australia, and Expo '92 in Seville, Spain. His private consulting work took him to Spain, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, and Canada. Coppola helped museums refine their collections and encouraged them to welcome the communities they served. An artist as well as a museum professional, Coppola was a painter, printmaker, sculptor, and art critic for the MIAMI HERALD. His artwork was displayed most recently as part of the "America Is..." exhibit at the Touchstone Gallery in Washington, DC. An active member of the International Council of Museums, Coppola was appointed by President Obama to serve on the Advisory Board for the Institute of Library and Museum Science.

**Joseph D. Duffey**, last USIA Director, died February 27 at age 88. In 1970 Duffey, running as a Democrat, lost the race for Connecticut's U.S. Senate seat to Republican Lowell Weicker. A former United Church of Christ minister with a Ph.D. in the history of theology, Duffey was Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs from 1977 to 1978, when that bureau was transferred into USIA. He later chaired the National Endowment for the Humanities under President Carter and led the University of Massachusetts at Amherst from 1982 to 1991. After Duffey's brief stint as president of American University (1991-93), President Clinton tapped him in 1993 to run USIA, where he served six years as its last director until the Agency's consolidation with the State Department in 1999.

**Douglas Arthur Elleby** died November 11, 2020, at age 98. Elleby served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, an achievement of which he was particularly proud, before joining the Foreign Service for a career spanning more than 30 years. The majority of his assignments with USIA were in Brazil, starting with Porto Alegre and including Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, and Recife. Fluent in Spanish as well as Portuguese, he later worked in El Salvador, Mexico, and Panama.

**Mary Ann Ignatius**, 80, passed away peacefully August 12, 2020. A graduate of Walnut Hills High School and Miami and Stanford Universities, Ignatius enjoyed a long career

with the Foreign Service, retiring in 2001. PDAA former treasurer Jim Bullock wrote: "Mary Ann was the life of our Foreign Service entering class. I most remember her love of music, her mastery of the French language, and her infectious laugh." After retirement, Ignatius returned to Cincinnati, where she renewed her devotion to the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

**A. Ross Johnson**, former director of RFE/RL, died February 6 at age 81. A study abroad program while at Stanford University changed his passion from engineering to foreign affairs. Johnson was a research fellow at the Rand Corporation before becoming the director of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty from 1988 to 2002. He wrote the book *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: The CIA Years and Beyond*. Johnson was a tireless advocate for democratic institutions and a free press in Eastern Europe. From 2003 to 2016, he was a research fellow at the Hoover Institution, where he helped create the archive of RFE/RL legacy broadcast recordings and documents. In his free time Johnson enjoyed cycling, hiking, cross country skiing, and travel.



Frances and Joseph Kolarek. He was with the Office of War Information and then served as press attaché in Prague from 1945 to 1950, when the Czech government accused him of being a spy and expelled him.

(Continued from page 6)

**Frances Kolarek**, wife of former Foreign Service officer Joseph C. Kolarek, died February 9 at the age of 103 from complications of covid-19. Before accompanying her husband to his various posts abroad, Kolarek had a professional career all her own. A native Washingtonian, she worked in the 1930s at the WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD newspaper as a reporter, a remarkable achievement for a woman in that era. She later worked as a fact checker at the NEW YORK TIMES. When Joseph Kolarek was assigned to Prague in 1945, the TIMES asked Frances Kolarek to report on post-war life in the city. With her husband, she also lived in Berlin, Belgrade, Conakry, and Bonn. In retirement, the Kolareks settled first in Columbia, MD, and then the town of Taylor's Island on Maryland's Eastern Shore. After her husband's death, Kolarek moved to a senior living facility, where she wrote the community newsletter. She also started a blog on a subject she knew well as a centenarian, her perspective on aging.

**John F. Kordek**, a former ambassador, died February 16 in Chicago. He was 83. Kordek worked 26 years with USIA and the State Department, attaining the rank of USIA Career Minister and then U.S. Ambassador. He served in Serbia, Croatia, Italy, Belgium, Poland, Venezuela, Botswana, and Washington. Kordek also worked in numerous other countries as a member of official U.S. foreign policy and public diplomacy delegations. One of his first jobs in the Foreign Service in 1965 was to escort

Louis Armstrong, who was visiting Yugoslavia as part of the U.S. State Department's overseas cultural program. Kordek held many senior positions in the Foreign Service, including Acting Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw during the Solidarity movement's rise to power and the visits of Pope John Paul II to Poland. During the Reagan Administration, Kordek was Director of European Affairs at USIA and later Counselor of the Agency, the highest career position in USIA. President Reagan nominated him as U.S. Ambassador to Botswana in 1988. Following his retirement from the Foreign Service, Kordek joined DePaul University, where he worked 15 years as associate vice president and taught courses on World War II and the Holocaust. He also lectured at many universities and other organizations, continued his travels that took him to all seven continents, and engaged in his love for opera, classical music, jazz, and the reading of world history.

**Joseph R. Morgan**, a USIA art editor and long-time resident of Kill Devil Hills, NC, passed away February 21 from complications of bladder cancer. Born in Hazelton, PA, Morgan attended Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and Richmond Professional Institute (now Virginia Commonwealth University) to study graphic design. A proud member of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, he went on to have a 25-year career in the United States



Joseph D Duffey (Harry Naltchayan/The Washington Post)

Information Agency as a commercial artist and art director for several of its publications. Morgan was an accomplished designer who worked on such Agency magazines as AMERICA ILLUSTRATED and HORIZONS. He was also the art director for USIA's DIALOGUE magazine before retiring to Kill Devil Hills in 1994. The Outer Banks inspired Morgan's many watercolor paintings of the people and places of that area. □

*Claude Porsella is Member News Editor.*

## PDAA membership for 2021: Check your mailing label for renewal status

If your mailing label says [2020], it is time to renew your membership for 2021.

Membership type, please check one:

- DC-MD-VA local membership (\$50 annually): \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal
- Other membership (\$35 annually): \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Please complete the form below and mail your check, payable to PDAA, or pay online at [pdaa.publicdiplomacy.org](http://pdaa.publicdiplomacy.org).

**Contribution to Public Diplomacy Awards Fund (optional) \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Send form to: **Mary Jeffers, PDAA Treasurer**  
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\*Also a member of the Public Diplomacy Council

**PDAA Today**

Editor: Michael Korff

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