



## ED HUNZEKER BRINGS HOME THE REALITY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN A RECESSION ECONOMY

Our members who attended the last luncheon meeting of the season were treated to a frank discussion of the impact of a troubled economy and a state government that insists on pushing tax increases onto local governments.

Ed Hunzeker, the County Executive of Manatee County gave a no-holds-barred presentation to the Club at our May luncheon meeting. An accountant by training and a veteran of 40 years of service to county governments, Hunzeker has served the St. Louis County Government and the county governments of Hillsborough and Osceola Counties in Florida, where he emphasized the importance of budgeting.

Hunzeker gave perspective to the issues facing county governments by describing the state's forcing Manatee County to build and finance a new state courthouse for \$80 million and then pay for the court's computer network. This is at the expense of quality-of-life services, such as schools, parks and environmental preservation – the services that set a county apart from others. He bewailed the fact that the state loads its budget increases on the counties and now has capped their ability to raise taxes to cover the increases.

He described the conversion of a budget process that involved presentation of the budget two weeks before it needed to be adopted to a process in which the proposed budget will be presented at the beginning of June and the county government will discuss it intensively for the entire month. He noted that the budget covers 74 programs. He walked us through

the \$1 billion budget to show that less than \$150 million is at all discretionary. He explained his approach in reviewing every budget request to determine what it would provide for the taxpayers.

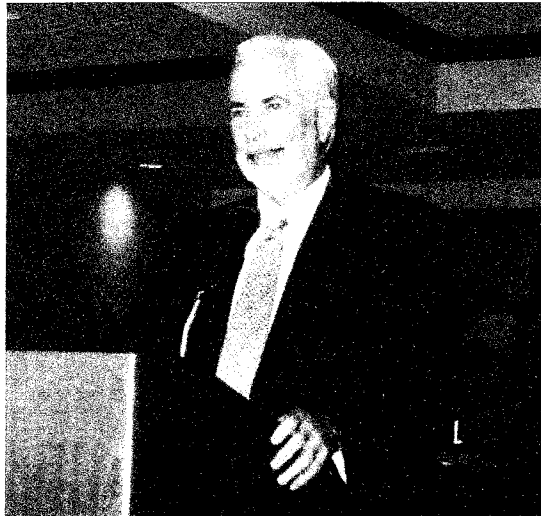
Hunzeker noted that Manatee County will try to expand its public transportation system at a time when there is increasing demand for its services. He noted, however, that support for nonprofit

organizations that provide social services to the community will have to be cut, even though this is not the right time to make such cuts. He suggested that government funding should be counter-cyclical; in other words, during economic downturns the government should step in to reduce the impact on its citizens.

He then described as senseless and counterproductive the situation in which real estate property taxes fall disproportionately on

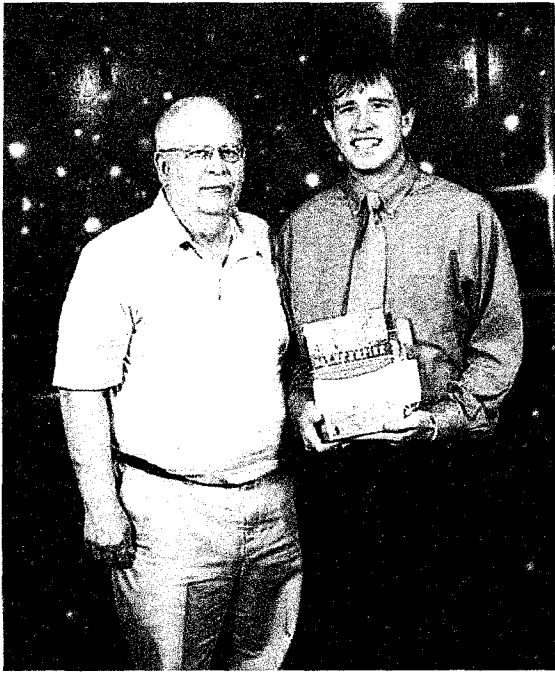
businesses and "investors," the snowbirds who own second homes in Florida.

As an example of his approach to the partnership between the county government and the private sector to reduce costs and provide greater employment opportunities, Hunzeker described his county's efforts to fund necessary roads by persuading private contractors to undertake the construction at lower rates than during boom times. This gives employment to the construction sector and enables the county to obtain needed infrastructure at less than a premium. Eventually, the county will purchase the improvements.



Ed Hunzeker, County Executive of Manatee County

Oliver Janney



*Tim Conway Presents the Yale book Award to Tyler Litvin at Northport High School*

Our Club presented Yale Book Awards to outstanding members of the Junior Classes at 27 high schools in our five-county area this past spring. The book we used was "Day of Empire". a study of empires over the centuries, their rise and fall, and how the lessons learned apply to the United States today. It was written by Amy Chua, a professor in the Yale Law School. This book was one of a number of volumes suggested by the AYA as an appropriate gift for high school juniors. We agreed and selected it as our contribution this year. Several of the recipients expressed considerable interest in reading it.

Various members of our Alumni Schools Committee presented the book, usually at formal awards

## **YALE BOOK AWARD PROGRAM**

*We take this opportunity to showcase the outstanding program undertaken by Club members year after year in our communities*

ceremonies held at the schools. In the rare case where the school did not have a formal ceremony, our ASC member went to the school and made the presentation either at a private ceremony with the parents present, or at a taped ceremony which was shown to the entire school later. This has been a very effective way to get the Yale name before the schools and keep it there each year.

Wes Finer



*Zachary Glasser, Cardinal Mooney High School, introduces his grandmother at the Yale Book Award recipients' reception*



So many bright young people gathered on Saturday afternoon, June 14th, 2008 at the reception held for recipients of the Yale Book Award, an award made possible by the generosity of the members of our Yale Club.

So many proud parents ...



Friends and families ...



So many high hopes ...



A most successful event, rewarding the scholarship of deserving students

# ASC Book Awards

The Alumni Schools Committee hosted its annual reception for high school juniors at area high schools who were recipients of the annual Yale University Book Award. This year's book selection given to each recipient is Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance – and Why They

author is Amy John Duff Jr. of Law in the School. Chua is a noted the fields of international ethnic conflict globalization.



Wes Finer talks with local scholar

Fail. The Chua, The Professor Yale Law Professor expert in business, and

reception the

This year's was held at

Stoneybrook Country Club and drew the largest gathering of students and parents of any of the annual events as more than twenty of the thirty three awardees were present. It provided a perfect setting to not only talk about Yale but to provide information on the significantly expanded scholarship opportunities at Yale. It was fairly stated that if a student could afford to be a Florida "bright futures scholar" attending the University of Florida, he or she could also be a student at Yale.

The gathering was hosted by Club President Brian Kelly. Retiring Alumni Schools Committee Chair Wes Finer reviewed the general characteristics of being a Yale student and incoming ASC Chair Peter French encouraged both students and parents to seriously consider Yale as an opportunity that must be given serious attention. The social hour was characterized by a lot of discussion between the Yale Club members and our guests. We will look forward to learning that some of these fine young people have been granted admission to the Class of '12 next spring when the fat envelopes come out.

Dr. Peter French

# “Assist in the recruitment of qualified applicants to Yale College”

The above is section “d” of “Article 1 Purposes” of the By-Laws of the Yale Club of the Suncoast, which is found in the last four pages of your annual Yale Membership Directory. As we look forward to a new Yale Club season in the spirit of Section (a) of that same Article 1, “foster and advance a spirit of fraternity among graduates, former students, parents and grandparents of present and past students” we should reflect upon the need to remind ourselves of the truly significant opportunity each of us has to promote Yale to those qualified student applicants.

I have been interviewing candidates for the past five years under the direction of Wes Finer, who has been our superb Chair of the Alumni Student Committee. He has passed the baton to the able hands of Dr. Peter French. I have treasured each of my interviews, as they have been an hour spent with some of the most talented area students. However, I am not certain that many qualified students are even aware of Yale or its recently revised financial grant programs. Basically Yale has made available significant monies from its endowment fund for future students. We now have a dynamic message which Peter and his team will deliver on October 28 at the inaugural breakfast meeting with representatives from the 28 area secondary schools.

This is a major first step in reaching out to the key school administrators of gifted student programs. Coupled with our annual presentation of Yale Book Awards at the 28 area secondary schools, and a luncheon reception of awardees and their parents this equates to our 2008-2009 ASC program.

How can you help?

- First, we need your fine donation to the ASC/ Yale Book Award Fund. These are rugged financial times but these Yale search and reward programs need an appropriate Eli donation from each of you. Many, many thanks on behalf of all of us working on behalf of the Yale Club of the Suncoast student recruitment program.

- Second, we ask that you volunteer to interview area students seeking admission to Yale College. We all know what Yale is and why we believe so strongly in a Yale education – that is all that is required to be an interviewer. Yale’s admission office provides extremely helpful guidelines as to how to conduct the interview and write the recommendation.
- Third, while some of us have never been educators, the absolute excitement one feels while spending time with these most gifted students is a great reward in itself. At our last reception for the Yale Book Awardees each student stood and identified themselves and their school and then spent a few moments describing their future aspirations. They were bright and intelligent but also articulate, courteous and respectful. They were accompanied by parents and loved ones who were proud, hopeful, and eager to hear all that was offered at this Yale reception. These young people were a clear representation of the hope of America. Then each Eli stood and related our fondest memory of Yale and how Yale had shaped our future lives.

Your YCS Team has worked hard to see that you are assured of Article 1’s goal to “foster and advance a spirit of fraternity among graduates,…” In turn we ask that you open up your hearts, minds and wallets to support the ASC Committee and Fund in the spirit of Article 1’s other section to “assist in the recruitment of qualified applicants to Yale College.”

When you wish to assist the ASC Program, please call either Dr. Peter French or myself, Brian T. Kelly. We thank you.

# YALE CLUB OF THE SUNCOAST

## 2008-2009 PROGRAM OF EVENTS

In a year highlighted by the Olympics and a Presidential Campaign it is almost mandated that your Yale Club of the Suncoast (YCS) offer its members with a highly impactful program for the 2008-2009 season. Our overarching goal is to provide you with memorable events. Memorable in terms of enhancing your pride in being a Yale Club member, furthering your camaraderie with your fellow members, and offering many opportunities to stimulate your intellect. Here is the latest view of our program:

### October 28 (Tuesday) Members Season Kick-Off Party

● **5-7pm at the College Hall, New College of Florida**

We commence with a first our inaugural “Members Season Kick-Off Party” on Tuesday, October 28 at College Hall on the New College campus with a free of charge festivity with wine, beer and soft drinks and an array of catered hors d’oeuvres awaiting you. We encourage you to bring any potential new members.

We will also have on display details of our total year program including sign-up sheets for scheduled “Special Events.” This party should provide us an exceptional opportunity to renew the bonds of our Eli Yale heritage – and all on the beneficence of your Yale Club!

### ● November 11 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

***Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon at 12 noon – as for all luncheons***

The featured speaker for our November luncheon will be Dr. Moshen Milani, Chair of the Department of Government and International Affairs, USF whose presentation is entitled “US and Iranian Relations in the Post Bush Era”

### ● December 9 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

The speaker for the December luncheon is the highly acclaimed, award winning Opinion Editor of the Sarasota Herald Tribune, Tom Tryon. While Tom’s topic will be determined in the near future, we can be assured it will reflect his many years as a superb observer and commentator on the politics and players of the greater Sarasota area.

### ● December 15 (Monday) Special Event: Ringling Museum

Your YCS has organized a guided tour of the Ringling Museum of Art’s Exhibition “To Live Forever, Egyptian Treasures” from the Brooklyn Museum. The tour will commence at 11 am followed by a luncheon in Ringling’s superlative Treviso Restaurant, which features a blend of Classic Italian and American delights.

### ● January 13 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

The feature speaker will be the Yale Club’s own Gordon E. “Mike” Michalson, Y’70, President of New College of Florida. Mike has accepted our invitation to speak on a subject within his field of expertise, namely, philosophy of religion/modern Christian thought. Mike affirms that he has a “great store of religious jokes” which will more than tickle every sensibility.

● February 13 (Friday) Yale/Harvard/Princeton Luncheon

**Michael's On East Restaurant – 11:30am**

Harvard will be hosting this year's event featuring as speaker, Doug Powell, Harvard Distinguished Teacher, award winner and psychologist for Harvard's health services. His topic will be "Strategies for Maintaining the Aging Intellect."

● March 10 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

The highlight of our speaker program will be a noted Yale Professor. Since at this writing the Yale AYA is striving to obtain a high impact professor for our event, we are not yet able to identify the speaker. Without question, this will be a most notable event! We will advise you as soon as possible

● March 15 (Sunday) Special Event – Gala Dinner & Singing by the New Blue – 5 to 7 pm at Marina Jack

Founded in 1969 when Yale first admitted undergraduate women, New Blue is the university's oldest female a cappella singing group, as well as the oldest women's organization of any kind on campus. The 16 members of New Blue offer top-notch four to eight-part harmony and have consistently captivated audiences in the U.S. and abroad with professional poise and inspiring presence. A gala of socializing and dinner will be wrapped around two 20/30 minute periods of singing by the New Blue.

● April 14 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

John Stoltzfus, Director and Senior Market Strategist for the Investment Strategies Group of Bank of America, is brought back by great YCS member demand to present his picture of investment opportunities in these complicated times. If ever there was a need of this 20-year veteran analyst's expertise, it is certainly in these times.

● May 12 (Tuesday) Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack

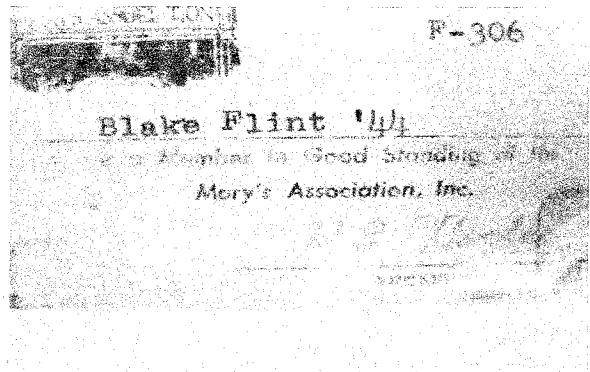
The final season regular monthly luncheon speaker will be a Yale Professor provided by the AYA. At this time that selection is linked to the finalization of our March Yale Professor, so we will have an announcement in the near future. Suffice it to say that we will have a most rewarding season finale!

*Well folks, that is the agenda as it stands before our blueLines Editor/Publisher Liz Troutman's forthright deadline. It is an ambitious panoply of hopefully stimulating and fun people and events all aimed at creating a bit of fulfillment for each and every one of you Eli members. The true success of the program continues to depend on your level of commitment to participate in these events. Promise yourself that you will make every effort to participate in our 2008-2009 events. From time to time your YCS leadership may provide a bit of stimulus or reminder to you, but it is only done because we fully believe in the value of being together. After all, we have a common heritage of Yale, which provided us not only one of the world's finest educations but also a*



Frank and Marsha Samponaro and Liz Troutman, inexplicably seated with backs to the Sarasota Bay scene, mug for the camera at the June Drop-in Luncheon.

Blake Flint, '44, proudly showed his *original* Mory's ID card. It may be a tad worn by now, but it still gains him entrance to those fabled halls.



President Brian Kelly presents his own, personally selected, award to Peter French to express his gratitude for Peter's service to the Club in obtaining excellent speakers for us.

Bill and Marcy Doyle enjoy the camaraderie of the gathering at our Drop-in Lunch. If the two failed to show up, we might have to send out a St. Bernard to find those faithful attendees.





**Animated conversations are underway even as members begin to gather for a Drop-in Lunch at Marina Jack in August.**

**Summer is meant to be shared with Yale Club friends who are still in the area**



**Jack Kahn and President Brian Kelly confer**

## **Drop-ins**

Our summer “drop in” lunch program at Marina Jack’s is drawing crowds and raves. On Tuesday, August 12, we filled three tables. Enthusiastic head counters could not agree whether there were 21 or 23 of us, but the success of the model was obvious.

The day was lovely, the food was good, and the conversations very lively. We always designate someone to take reservations, but that is only so we can give Marina Jack’s an idea of how many tables to set aside for us. If you forget to reserve or decide at the last minute, come ahead! There will always be

room for more. After all, it is “drop in” and the whole idea is maximum flexibility and minimum formality.

As a reminder, you can order as much or as little as you wish, since each participant gets a separate check and the restaurant adds a gratuity amount so you don’t even have to calculate it. If you haven’t yet tried this format, come and join us and bring a guest. You will get to know your fellow members better as you miz and chatand will certainly find out how interesting they are!

**Ron Levin**



**Oliver Janney arrives**

**Even the worker bees like Oliver Janney actually make the time to join with the Elis, doff the jacket, and settle down with the “lunch bunch” for food and friendship.**

*broad, rich trove of people exposures that helped mold most formative years. When I salute my fellow Yalies, I mean every word of – All the Best to the Best,*

Brian T. Kelly, Y'61



President Brian Kelly addresses guests at the Yale Book Award Reception

**bluELines** is the official newsletter of the Yale Club of the Suncoast.

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