



YALE CLUB of THE SUNCOAST

bluELines



April/May 2017

Volume 13 Number 2

President's Message

As the 2016-17 season winds down and I assume the leadership role of our Yale Club of the Suncoast, I want to express my gratitude to our membership and to the Board for their vote of confidence in me. I especially want to thank my predecessor, Ken Schneier, for his outstanding leadership of the Club over the past two years. I have "big shoes to fill." That being said, I also have the support of my experienced and supportive Board and, with them, I look forward to guiding the Club during my tenure.

Next year promises to be interesting, educational and, most of all, fun for all. Our program committee has been working hard to put together a varied and exciting program for the 2017-18 season. We will have two highly sought after and outstanding Yale speakers this year. In December, we welcome Akil Reed Amar, a professor of Constitutional Law; and Professor Meg Urry, an astrophysicist, will be with us in March. Other highlights will include cultural events including musical performances, a Ringling visit and a visit to a local planetarium. In addition, there will be updates on politics both local and national, and some entertaining and fun social happenings. I hope you will mark your calendars well in advance to attend the next season's events.

Along with the Board of our Yale Club of the Suncoast, I want to wish you all a safe, restful and pleasant summer, full of family, friends and fun. We look forward to seeing you at our Welcome Back Party at the Sarasota Yacht Club from 5-7 on October 29, 2017.

I hope that many of our members who remain in the Sarasota area during the summer will take advantage of the monthly meetings at Marina Jacks to share a meal and some companionship. Please contact the member in charge for the month if you plan to attend. (See list below).

Elaine Gustafson, President

Mark your calendars!
YCS Summer Drop-In Luncheons Begin June 13
Marina Jack 2nd Floor Restaurant

On the **second Tuesday** of the summer months (June through October) we welcome all YCS members and their guests to the Yale Club table in Marina Jack's second floor dining room for lunch and camaraderie. Each member orders off the menu and pays separately. There is no formal agenda; rather, the luncheons are simply a chance for good conversation.

Please notify the luncheon monthly coordinator (listed below) if you plan to attend. However, if you decide at the last moment to attend, just "Drop-In!"

Remember:

- **Dates:** Second Tuesday of each summer month (June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10)
- **Time & Location:** 11:30 Socializing/ Lunch at noon - Marina Jack 2nd Floor
- **Parking:** Recommend you Valet Park your car
- **Book:** Please email the event coordinator if you plan to attend:
 - June 13 - Brian Kelly btk1000@aol.com
 - July 11 - Viktor Bode boed_viktor@hotmail.com
 - Aug 8 - Ken Schneier kschneier@live.com
 - Sept 12 - Oliver Janney oliverjanney@aol.com
 - Oct 10 - Brian Kelly btk1000@aol.com

Beverley Wadsworth – Service to Yale Award

At our annual meeting in April, Beverley Wadsworth was recognized for her 15 years of dedicated service as Yale Club of the Suncoast Membership Chair. Every member who joined YCS during that time fondly remembers Beverley’s warm welcome, tremendous spirit, kind heart and boundless enthusiasm. While remaining an active member of our Club and continuing to share her experience and insights, she has handed the reins of membership to Danielle Gladding, our newly elected membership director. Ken Schneier awarded a plaque to Beverley thanking her for her dedicated service and for helping to grow our Club to over 140 members.



Jon Thaxton

April 11, 2017



On the day of the Yale Club of the Suncoast's Annual Meeting, Jon Thaxton, the former long-time Sarasota County Commissioner who is currently serving as the Senior Vice President for Community Investment of the Gulf Coast Community Foundation, made an enthralling up-to-date presentation entitled the "The Homeless in Sarasota - The Latest News."

Jon began his presentation with a slight digression on growth and natural property loss in Sarasota County. He stated that "growth is not inevitable" and posed the question: why do some people want to take public ownership of property private? He views the argument that this creates tax revenue as absurd or "horsepucky" because parklands generate tax benefits. Currently, one-third of Sarasota County's real estate is under public ownership. With a population of 400,000, there is land for easily another 450-500,000 people. However, he postulated: "if you think traffic is bad now, what will it be like if we allow development of the remaining public lands? Just wait!"

Moving to the Homeless in Sarasota topic, Jon started with the issue of homeless children. There are approximately 40,000 students in Sarasota County's public schools. Roughly 20,000 students qualify for food stamps and 80% of those get free food. Under the federal mandate to support transport for homeless children, approximately 1,000 qualify. There are approximately 1,500 homeless children and another 313 go through homeless shelters like the Salvation Army. If you are a homeless child, you will have lower test scores and likely zero chances of being a college graduate, which just perpetuates homelessness. Also, parents tend to hide

their kids, and there could be another 1,300 uncounted homeless adults in Sarasota and who knows how many additional homeless kids?

The Gulf Coast Community Foundation has worked with great success to end homelessness, according to Mr. Thaxton. Although we have seen a reduction in the numbers of homeless in Florida generally, he said the City and County of Sarasota have been at odds over the appropriate way to deal with the homeless issue. He characterized this as “too much noise.” Unfortunately, we have seen an increase in homelessness in Sarasota. Over the last seven months, however, and working “under the radar,” Jon has been convening a select group to formulate a workable homeless program. This has included the Sarasota City and County Administrators, as well as key experts in the area.

Last Thursday [6 April], he was finally able to get everyone to agree. Instead of “Come As You Are Shelters” and “Rapid Response Housing,” the municipalities would use a triage system based on need. There would be comprehensive ground services with a single portal. The neediest would be on one track and the less needy would be on a separate track. He said one consequence was that more case managers will be needed. There would be “Rapid Housing” and Emergency Shelters in both North and South County. The plan would be taken to the City and County Commissions with a goal of getting 80% of the homeless off the streets within two years.

Jon characterized the homeless plan implementation as a “soft launch,” and he said it would be a data-driven plan but it was one which he was more optimistic than anything put forward in the last five years. He stressed that the funding would ultimately need to be a combination of foundation support, state and local funding, assistance from the business community, and private philanthropy.

- *Nick Gladding*

Lobster Bake - A Delicious Success!!!

April 23, 2017

Thank you to all 58 Elis who contributed to make the 2017 Yale Club of the Suncoast’s Special Event/Lobster Bake such a success. A special thank you goes to our Pat Kuelper, who, as the Bath Club member, helped plan and supervise this great event. The threat of rain in the forecast never materialized. Instead, we were drenched in unseasonal sunshine and resultant heat.



YCS President Elaine Gustafson and Captain Brian survey the Maine Rock Seaweed Cook Equipment

“Uncle Jim,” the owner/supervisor of Authentic Maine Lobster began his cooking in his “proprietary equipment” at about 2:30. The socializing began on cue at 3:30 with ample BYO beverages and camaraderie. At 5 pm the ringing of the Bath Club ship’s bell announced the beginning of the Feast, starting with clam chowder. The meal was then served by Uncle Jim and his six helpers (which included his grandson).



This picture shows the unveiling of his artistry: Maine lobsters, Maine steamer clams and wild mussels, corn on the cob and hard boiled eggs on a bed of New England seaweed.

The superb meal was completed by a hearty serving of homemade strawberry shortcake and fresh brewed coffee. The day brought back great memories of the northeast and its seafood delights.



What a way to top off a fabulous Yale Club of the Suncoast!

- *Captain Brian*

Sarah Cartwright

May 9, 2017



Sarah Cartwright addressed our last formal lunch of the Season on May 9th at the Sarasota Yacht Club. With a long background as art historian and curator, Sarah is now the grants administrator for the Ringling Museum of Art and has been actively involved in the planning and execution of the Museum's reinstallation of the original 21 galleries. Before addressing that subject, though, she presented a brief history of the Museum, from its conception in 1925 through its construction, art assembly and ultimate opening in 1932, just four years before John Ringling's death. At that time,

the Museum and its collection became the property of the State of Florida; it is administered by Florida State University.

Able successors to John Ringling added to the property, including construction of the Circus Museum, the opening of Ca' d'Zan and last year's opening of the Asian Art Gallery. Most recently, Jeff Daley, a 25-year veteran of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and former head curator Virginia Brilliant initiated the "reinstallation" project, a multi-year, multi-million dollar program to re-design, re-decorate and re-populate all 21 galleries that comprised the original Museum space. The plan is to re-focus the Museum on its core strengths, update materials, colors and lighting, and re-arrange each gallery to present a "focus show" that engages and educates the visitor.

Sarah's presentation included schematics used to effect the re-designs, artists' conceptions of the finished galleries, and before-and-after photos of the three galleries that have been completed. The final product will underscore the Ringling's excellence in Italian Renaissance altar pieces, French and Italian Baroque paintings and furnishings, Cypriot antiquities and Rubens' works.

Sarah also pointed out the ongoing effort to digitize the collections and make them all available on-line, one part of the increased use of technology in the art world. Finally, Sarah highlighted the special programs coming to the Ringling in June -- a collection of Chinese dissident artist Ai Weiwei's work, and a collection of Chinese ritual bronzes -- while looking ahead to the opening of the Kotler-Colville Art Glass Pavilion next January.

- Ken Schneier

Yale Day of Service 2017

April 22, 2017

Early Saturday morning, April 22nd, saw a bright and bustling group of Yalies of the Suncoast gathered to join in the fifth annual Yale Day of Service in downtown Sarasota. Twenty-three volunteers wearing the finest of Yale blue and white "gear" signed-in at the Sarasota County Health Department to join many other agencies and organizations in the annual *Stand-Down for Homeless Veterans* in our community. Sponsored by OMAP (Operation Military Assistance Program), under lead organization Jewish Family and Children's Services (JFCS), over twenty-five cooperating

organizations joined together. Offered were: social, medical, spiritual, legal, governmental, and other related services; as well as personal hygiene services such as haircuts and manicures; plus clothing, food, duffel bags, blankets, bicycles, and other amenities to ease life in the streets and camps of the greater Sarasota area.

State and federal Veterans Affairs Offices and Department of Defense representatives were present to link services, and a special Veterans Court was held to close out misdemeanor cases of many veterans who appeared. Highlights of contributions provided were sixty pair of footwear donated with funds raised by the Yale Club of the Suncoast. Each year your Club's contributions have increased for our local Yale Day of Service (DoS), and the goal next year is likely to be higher still.

Our thanks to the many YCS financial donors and service volunteers who contributed money, time and talent to this important event. Special appreciation is extended to Mark Magenheim, YCS Past President, and Ed Williams, YCS Secretary, for their leadership efforts "above and beyond." Stay tuned for more news as plans get underway for the Yale DoS in 2018.





Schools Committee Report

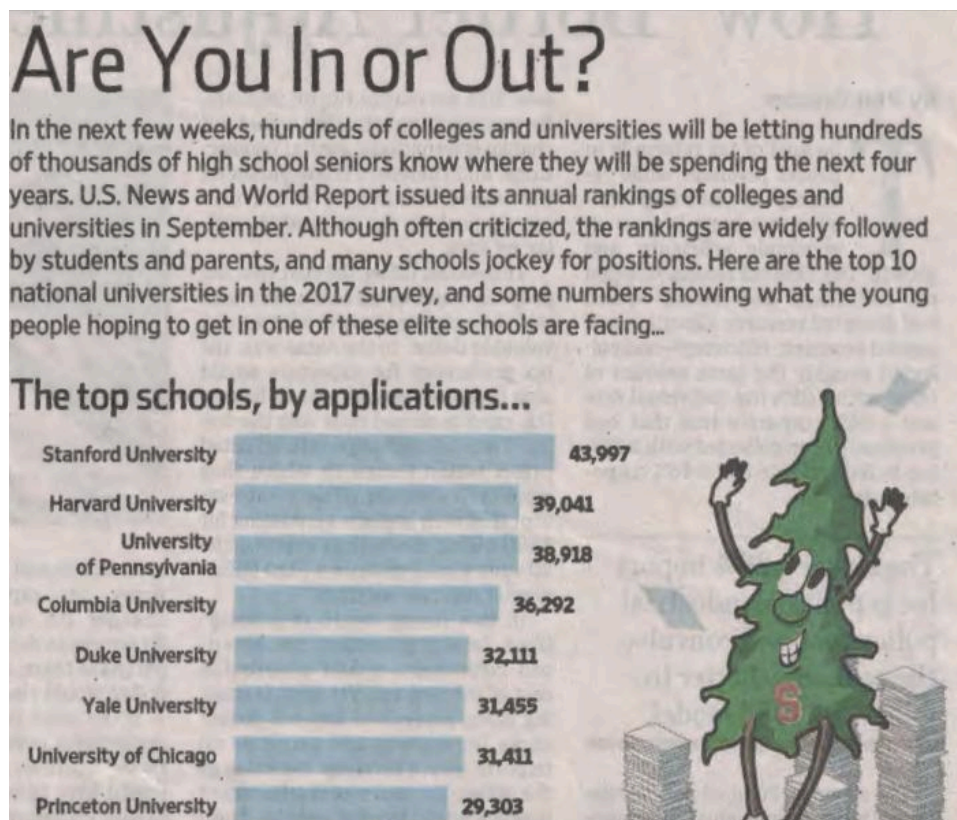
Yale received 32,900 applications for undergraduate admission, accepting 2,272. The target size of the incoming freshman class is 1,550 up from 1,350 due to the planned opening of two new residential colleges later this year. Our Alumni Schools Committee, headed by Patrick Whelan, did an outstanding job interviewing 57 high school students from the local area. Indeed, the Yale Admissions Office has advised that an application is not complete until the interview report is on file.

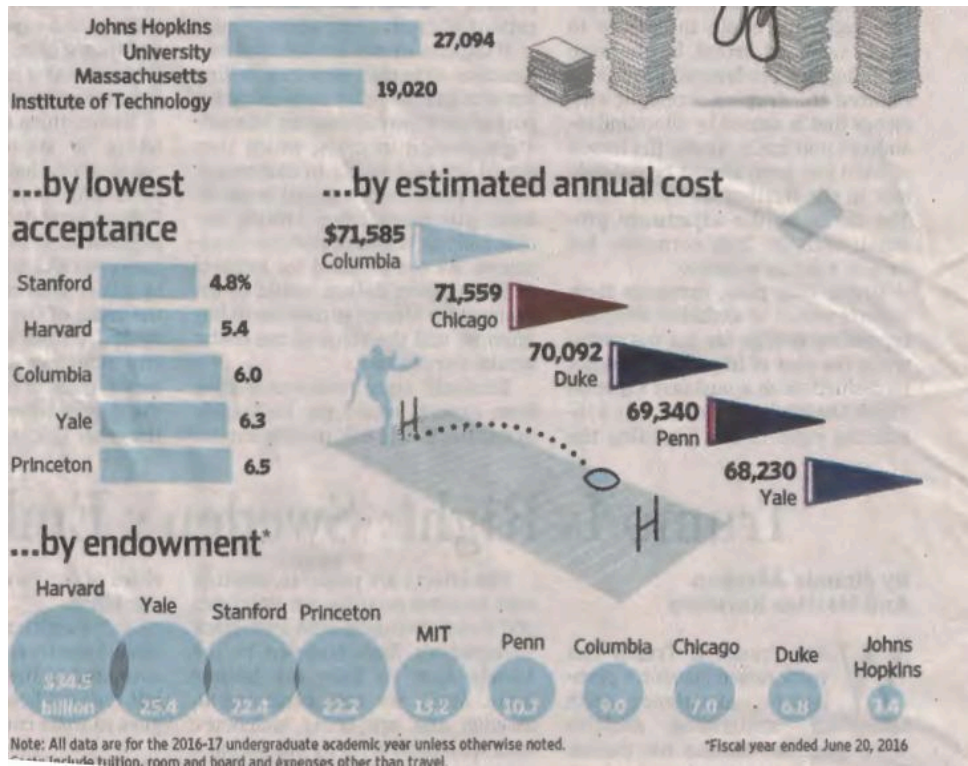
It is a tradition of the Club to invite newly accepted students and to welcome them to membership in the Yale Club of the Suncoast for their entire Yale career. The four local students recently accepted to the Class of 2021 (and parents who could be available on short notice) attended our 11 April luncheon. The Club members attending heartily welcomed these prospective Yalies and wished them all success in their careers in New Haven.

The four students accepted to Yale during this cycle is a bit above average for any class year. The students accepted are: Amy Yan (St. Stephens Episcopal School), Madelyn Kumar (Southeast High School), Josh Wolff (Pineview School) and William Wang (Pineview School). Josh was accompanied by his mom and Madelyn's mom attended in lieu of Madelyn who was playing in a tennis tournament. All four attended Bulldog Days in New Haven, an orientation session held at the end of April.



After the May 1st deadline for making a choice as to where each student will attend college in the fall, three of the accepted students confirmed and are excited about going to Yale. One of the four has decided to attend Stanford University.





From Wall Street Journal