



YALE CLUB of THE SUNCOAST

bluELines



April 2011

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A GREETING FROM PRESIDENT NICK GLADDING



Dear fellow sons and daughters of Yale,

As we have recently marked the end of the extremely successful two year term of our beloved Yale Club of the Suncoast President, Oliver Janney, I wanted to reflect on some of what has been accomplished under Oliver's leadership and also give you a "peek" at the future.

First, Oliver has led our Club to new heights by getting a succession of very high caliber administrators and professors from New Haven to come south to speak to us. It is quite remarkable what we have heard about Yale from them over the past two years. Second, we have been treated to an extraordinary number of intellectually stimulating and remarkable special events. Third, Oliver has encouraged a whole new group of Yale people to actively participate on a regular basis in our YCSC activities and has led our efforts to recruit a record number of applicants to Yale.

We will continue to build on these significant accomplishments as we move forward into the next year. As your incoming President, I am blessed with an extraordinary group of Board volunteers, as well as the unmatched assistance of our experienced past Presidents. We will be looking for ways to broaden Yale's reach into the Community while steadfastly preserving the Club luncheon and special event heritage with high caliber speakers and enjoyable special events. We will look for ways to use our resources in a way that benefits the goals of the Club the most, and we will be asking you to give us helpful feedback and some of your time to help improve our Club's overall performance. I am very excited to have been asked to lead the Yale Club of the Suncoast this next year, and I pledge to you that I will listen to you and do my best to positively respond to your suggestions. Thank you for the privilege to serve you, and GO YALE!

Kind regards.

Nick Gladding

PLUNGE INTO ORGANIC FARMING AT OUR MAY LUNCHEON

The environmental focus of our May luncheons will continue when our Club member Eva Worden, Ph.D. 2001, addresses our May 10th luncheon on organic farming. You can read about her farm in the April issue of *Sarasota Magazine*. The article describes the fresh food that we can buy at such sites as downtown Sarasota's Saturday morning Farmers Market. Don't miss the picture at the very last page of the magazine.

Eva grew up in Coral Gables as the daughter of a university administrator and a physician. Her parents operated a small farm in Homestead; however, her interest in farming developed after she left home. Her husband grew up in Maryland. Like Eva's, his parents also operated a farm as a recreational activity. The two met at the University of Maryland, where they were both in the master's program. Eva later earned her Yale Ph.D. in ecosystem management.



Eva and Chris Worden at Worden Farm

Eva returned to Florida as state specialist in urban landscape horticulture at the University of Florida's Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. She has also served as visiting professor at New College of Florida and The Renaissance Academy of Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Myers.

In 2003 Eva and her husband, Chris, who has a Ph.D. from the University of Connecticut, converted an abandoned orange grove into what is now an 85-acre farm in Punta Gorda, "with greenhouses the length of airport terminals and a small fleet of trucks, tractors and farming equipment." Their products include more than 50 varieties of vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers. The Wordens market their produce through local farmers' markets, such as Sarasota's, and also through memberships under which neighbors can pay a fixed price for their annual needs for vegetables. During the season you can buy produce from the Wordens' stand at the Sarasota Farmers Market on Lemon Avenue or savor it cooked at local restaurants, including the restaurant in the Ritz Carlton.

Last year the Wordens won a Florida Innovative Farmer Award for operating a model for organic farming and community support. The Wordens have taught thousands of people about local organic agriculture in workshops, farm tours, university courses, conferences and an intensive farm apprenticeship program. Even their children (ages eight and four) participate actively in the operation of the family farm.

Oliver Janney '67

ANNUAL MEETING ADOPTS NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Our Club's members and directors at the annual meetings of members and the Board of Directors, which were held during and after the luncheon meeting on April 12th supported the Nominating Committee's recommendations that members move up to new leadership positions. New leaders include Nick Gladding as President, Mark Magenheimer as Vice President and Secretary, Ken Schneier as Administrative Officer and Elaine Gustafson as Newsletter Publisher. Dan Conway will continue as Treasurer.

The full slate of officers and directors for next season is as follows:

Directors for a Term Ending in 2014:

Arthur W. Engelhard '52G

Dr. Peter L French '61M.A. '61 M.A./'69 Ph.D.

Brian Thomas Kelly '61

Elaine M. Gustafson '86 M.S.N.

Nicholas C. Gladding '67

Continuing Directors for a Term Ending in 2013:

Daniel C. Conway '60G
Mark H. Hamilton '53E
Roland A. Kopp '59E
Dr. Mark J. Magenheim '71 M.P.H.
Dyer S. Wadsworth '59



Oliver Janney congratulated new President Nick Gladding.

Continuing Directors for a Term Ending in 2012:

Betty Griggs '50 M.F.A.
Stephen Van C. Wilberding '63
Oliver J. Janney '67
Frank N. Samponaro '62
D. Richard Smith '54

Officers

President	Nicholas C. Gladding '67
Vice President and Secretary	Dr. Mark J. Magenheim
Treasurer	Daniel C. Conway '60 G
Administrative Officer	Kenneth Schneier '74
Assistant Secretary and <i>ex officio</i> director	Dr. Edward V. Williams '66 M.A./68 Ph.D.
Assistant Treasurer and <i>ex officio</i> director	Ronald Levin '58
AYA Representative	Brian Thomas Kelly '61
Chair, Membership	Beverley Wadsworth (Honorary Member)
Assistant Chair, Membership	Betty F. Griggs '50 M.F.A.
Chair, Alumnni Schools Committee and <i>ex</i> <i>officio</i> director	Patrick B. Whelan '88
Newsletter Publisher/ Manager	Elaine M. Gustafson '86 M.S.N.
Luncheon Coordinator	D. Richard Smith '54
Webmaster	Zaid James Smith '74

JEFF LAHURD, SARASOTA COUNTY HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR SHARES A BRIEF HISTORY OF SARASOTA, A.K.A “PARKING – NO PARKING” – AT APRIL LUNCHEON



Jay Rixse and Oliver Janney chat with speaker

In his unique style that combined facts and interpretations with humor and wit, author and historian Jeff LaHurd educated and entertained our membership at the monthly meeting on April 12, 2011. His brief history of our fair city of Sarasota included a number of interesting photos of “then and now”, interspersed with articles and news stories of the past century. Beginning with a plat in 1885 through the Florida Land and Mortgage Company, Sarasota was settled by Scottish immigrants in what our speaker described as the first of many real estate swindles throughout Sarasota’s history. Over the ensuing forty years, the city grew and prospered under the influence of notables such as John Ringling, Owen Burns,

and other luminaries who saw a paradise in contrast to foul weather and “big city” problems of northern locales. This lasted until the Great Depression which essentially halted growth from 1925 for the next 25 years.

And what was also not promoted, for obvious reasons, were the ubiquitous mosquitos and the stifling humidity during the summer months that impeded progress. Eventually these matters were overcome (through advent of mosquito control spraying, air-conditioning, and the interstate highway system) and once again, Sarasota prospered after World War II. In the early twenties, its national (and international) reputation was largely due to Bertha Palmer and her strong influence on Chicago society and the links she forged with her adopted city in the south. As well, the abundance of fish, golf, beaches, and other amenities brought tourists and new residents in droves – which continues into the early 21st century.

Focusing on Five Points and surrounding “fruit” streets and the bayfront, Sarasota evolved into a mecca for successive generations of “sun and fun” worshippers and sports aficionados. Over the past fifty years, the condominium and general real estate boom and bust has been repeated over several cycles. And our local downturn and slow rebound at present are only the most recent versions of this pattern. Sometimes we have learned from the past, and other times not, such as “the parking problem”. But the take-away message is that Sarasota continues overall to thrive as a special combination of natural beauty, cultural attractions, and a storied history.

For more information, we are invited to visit the Department of Historical Resources, Sarasota County Government, at its offices downtown on at its websites: www.scgov.net/history center or www.sarasotahistoryalive.com.



Jeff LaHurd showed us lots of historical pictures of



GOOD TIMES AT THE LOBSTER BAKE ON CASEY KEY

The sun was shining brightly as 60 Yalies and their guests gathered for the lobster bake at the scenic Bath Club on Casey Key. It was a beautiful afternoon for a walk on the beach and for relaxing at the large picnic tables at the Bath Club. The caterers, Diane and Jim Brownrigg of Maine, prepared a lavish feast for all of us and, before serving us dinner, invited us to view the lobster “pit” that they had set up to cook the lobsters, clams and mussels. It was piled high with this wonderful seafood from Maine.

The event started at 5 p.m. when attendees started to arrive, bringing their coolers and their “booze” with them. Everyone was in high spirits, enjoying the company and anticipating a sumptuous authentic Maine lobster bake. We were served creamy clam chowder, lobsters (or steaks if preferred), lots of clams and mussels, boiled potatoes, corn on the cob, cole slaw. The dessert was delicious strawberry short-cake.





As the sun slipped behind the tall trees surrounding the Bath Club, everyone felt they had been served a wonderful seafood dinner. And hoped that they might be able to enjoy another Maine lobster bake at the beautiful Bath Club next year! We would like to thank Steve Wilberding for making this lovely evening at the Bath Club possible for all of us.

Beverley Wadsworth



YALE TEAM RETURNS FULL OF IDEAS FROM AYA LEADERSHIP FORUM IN ORLANDO

Last month Nick Gladding, Oliver Janney and Mark Magenheim attended a two-day leadership forum sponsored by the AYA in Orlando. Officers from nearly all of Florida's Yale Clubs and representatives of several shared interest groups and class officers conferred with Mark Dollhopf, the AYA's Executive Director, Nory Babbitt, the AYA's Director of Club and Association Relations, and Bob Bonds, our AYA representative, to consider a broad range of ideas for Yale alumni organizations for the present and the future.



Mark Magenheim and Nick Gladding listen attentively.

When Mark Dollhopf addressed our Club and later our Board of Directors in January 2010, he mentioned the explosion of shared-interest groups of Yale alumni and Yale service activities. He explained that younger alumni are more interested in affinity groups and service opportunities on behalf of Yale than they are in traditional activities. Mark Magenheim then participated in one of the most exciting programs for alumni leaders, the YaleGALE (Global Alumni Leadership Exchange) program in Turkey last summer. Brian Kelly heard more about the new focus when he attended the AYA Assembly last December. You have probably read about all of these in the *BluELines* newsletters over the past ten months.

The genesis of the new efforts to attract younger alumni and spread Yale's fame throughout the world is the realization that groups of alumni doing things together can change people's lives through joint efforts. There are now about 100 shared-interest groups of Yale alumni. These range from groups based on identity (e.g., various minority groups) to groups based on profession or occupation (for example, Yale doctors and Yale lawyers) to groups based on industry (e.g., Yale alumni in entertainment) to groups based on projects (e.g., a talent bank of alumni who assist local governments in the tri-state area of New York, Connecticut and New Jersey). They include projects of particular clubs. One large-city club coaches students on why they should apply to college. This program is designed not for students who are likely to apply to Yale, but rather those who could go to college but are on the cusp of not going to college at all. The focus of these groups is to give volunteers a sense of ownership over their time and talent. These projects generate tremendous positive renown for Yale and its alumni in communities across America and, indeed, the globe.

The AYA is now encouraging groups to develop joint programs. These programs could take the form of joint programs by several Florida clubs or programs between one or more clubs and one or more

shared-interest groups. We began discussions with other Florida clubs at the forum on possible joint programs.

The excitement engendered among alumni for these efforts has caught the attention of other Ivy League universities. Mark Dollhopf reports numerous calls from his counterparts at many other institutions trying to learn the secret of Yale's success with alumni. Yale is indeed at the forefront of helping its alumni to develop exciting activities. Perhaps this flows from the fact that, unlike many educational institutions, Yale is run by Yale alumni through the Yale Corporation.

Our Club's leaders in the next seasons will explore combining our traditional programs of luncheons, special events and Alumni Schools Committee efforts with new programs that could excite younger alumni and those of us who aren't so young. One suggestion is a Yale Club-community joint focus for a Fall Yale Day of Service.

President Nick Gladding and Vice President Mark Magenheimer welcome your suggestions.



The group watched an inspirational film by Dewitt Jones of National Geographic.

WES FINER REVIEWS NEW BOOK

ABOUT BOSTON POST ROAD—*THE KING'S BEST HIGHWAY*

Among the myriad of books published last year was one that might appeal to some of our members, especially the Nutmeggers amongst us. *The King's Best Highway* by Eric Jaffe is subtitled "The Lost History of the Boston Post Road, The Route that Made America."

It is a fascinating account of this road over the years since it was first used. It was divided into two parts when it reached New Haven from New York – the northern or inland route, which went to Boston by way of Hartford and Springfield, and the southern or coastal route, which went along the coast by way of Saybrook and Providence. Our house in Clinton was right along this latter route, and I had the added advantage of being able to look across the road through a grove of trees and see the New York/New Haven/ and Hartford railroad tracks. The author takes us through the history of this road, from its beginnings as

SUMMER DROP-IN LUNCHEONS

Our tradition of drop-in luncheons will continue for members who remain in Sarasota for the summer or who leave late or return early. You are welcome to join other members of the Yale Club of the Suncoast at the upstairs dining room of Marina Jack on the second Tuesday of every month from June through October. You should receive reminders with the name of the reservations coordinator each month.