



Letter from President Oliver Janney

Our officers and I hope that you have had a wonderful summer. We are looking forward to a splendid season, which will kick off with the Welcome Back Cocktail Party at New College at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 1st.

I am happy to announce that we will continue holding our speaker luncheons at Marina Jack and that we have been able to hold the price at \$20 per person. The luncheons will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except November and February (2nd Friday). Last spring a group of our members toured Mote Marine's **Aquaculture** Project with John Pether, its director. John will address our first speaker luncheon on Wednesday, November 17th. He will explain among other things the efforts to grow world class sturgeon and use production of caviar that rivals that of the Caspian Region to cover the institution's costs.

Elsewhere in the issue you can see our schedule of luncheon speakers, which will include

two Yale Professors, Paul Kennedy in January and Peter Salovey in March.

On January 4th we will have a special program at the Ringling Museum in connection with its Canaletto exhibition. The program will include lunch at the museum's delightful Treviso Ristorante. We are also working with the Yale Glee Club to try to arrange a concert in Sarasota in late May.

If you are a year-round resident of Sarasota or arrive before mid-October, I hope that you will join us for one more drop-in luncheon at Marina Jack at noon on Tuesday, October 13th.

All best wishes to you and yours,
Oliver Janney



Oliver Janney



If you don't recognize these 2009 Board members, you need to attend more meetings.

YALE CLUB OF THE SUNCOAST

2009-2010 EVENTS

Here is our starting lineup for what promises to be a splendid year. We hope that you will join us for as many of the events as possible. It is your attendance that makes our program a success.

Sunday, November 1

Season Kick-Off Party at College Hall, New College of Florida 5- 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 17

Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack – Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon served at noon. John Pether, Director of Mote Aquaculture Project, will discuss the project.

Saturday, November 21

Join fellow members and Harvard Club for lunch and the Yale-Harvard Game at The Sarasota Ale House (northwest corner of Cattlemen and Bee Ridge. Kickoff should occur between 12:15 and 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 8

Nancy Detert, Senator in Florida Legislature who represents Sarasota and has been a strong supporter of education in Florida, will discuss the upcoming legislative session.

Monday, January 4, 2010

We will have a special program at the John and Mable Ringling Museum in conjunction with its exhibit on Venice in the Age of Canaletto. For those who would like to stay for lunch, the Treviso Ristorante will be available to us.

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack – Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon served at noon. Paul Kennedy, the J. Richardson Dilworth Professor of History and Brady-Johnson Distinguished Professor of General Strategy at Yale, will discuss *The American Grand Strategy*.

Friday, February 12, 2010

Annual Yale-Harvard Princeton luncheon at Michael's on East. Speaker to be announced.

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack – Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon served at noon. Dean Peter Salovey, formerly Dean of Yale College and currently Provost of Yale University, will discuss the state of Yale.

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack – Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon served at noon. Larry Thompson, President of Ringling College of Design, will discuss Ringling College Plus.

Tuesday, May 11, 2010

Monthly Luncheon at Marina Jack – Socializing begins at 11:30, luncheon served at noon. John McCarthy, Director of Sarasota County Parks & Recreation Department (tentative), will discuss the county's outstanding parks and recreation system.

Peter French from University of Ghana



Balme Library on the campus of the University of Ghana

The Opening of a New Academic Year at the University of Ghana

Grace and I have been back on the University campus for two weeks after six weeks at home. It was great to be in Sarasota, play some golf, have lunch with Brian at Columbia, and take a trip up to Bucks County in Pennsylvania to see my best friend from college. The trip back had a brief visit to Ireland to visit Sr. Declan Stewart, our son's godmother. We

have not met since the summer of '62 but have a correspondence of 47 years. Sr. Declan retired home to Ireland after sixty years in the missions in Africa.

Arriving at Kotoka Airport in Accra was also like coming home. It is nearly a year since the first documents on the University began the planning for this great adventure. Now we have agreement on restructuring undergraduate education to create a four-year degree program beginning next fall. Pilot projects are running in the faculties of agriculture, business and science to create improved processes for continuous assessment of student performance and overall academic quality assurance. A second round of pilot projects will be implemented in the faculties of arts and social science in the second semester. There has been work on scholar exchange under a Memorandum of Understanding negotiated with the University of South Florida in May.

From late May to mid-June I directed a series of workshops involving 125 faculty and focused on teaching techniques to encourage more active learning. There is the continued inspiration of being engaged with the hardest working faculty I have encountered in my career and having more fun than a 71 year-old is entitled to have. A new academic season has begun and I am energized by the challenges.

Good thoughts to all and wishes that your days are productive and satisfying!

Cordially,
Peter

Editor's Note:

Two days after receiving the above letter to members and friends, we received a post script containing the pictures and a brief note we share on the next page.

Liz,

Since this has happened three times, I'm fairly confident a gecko is living in my printer. When I go to print, this three-inch blur comes out of the machine and hides in the study until nightfall

Attached is a picture of the Balme Library. The entire central campus is done in this style of



architecture. This place is really an architectural jewel. then there is the picture of the hearse **with a** coffin on top. In Ghana you can get a coffin of your choice: a car, a fish, a Nike sneaker, a lobster, any barn yard animal and I guess old pilots want airplanes. Of course the graves have to be bigger!

Cheers!
Peter

Aircraft coffin atop the truck awaits occupant in Ghana

SPEAKER LUNCHEON SEASON TO OPEN WITH JOHN PETHER OF MOTE AQUACULTURE

Did you know that Sarasota is competing with the Caspian Sea Region in sales of caviar and that Paris-based Petrossian buys caviar from Mote Marine's Aquaculture Project and sells it online for \$2,750 per pound?

Don't miss our season opener at Marina Jack on Wednesday, November 17th. Please note that this is not the 2nd, but the 3rd Tuesday of the month. John Pether, the Volunteer Business Manager of the Mote Marine Aquaculture Project will amaze you with what Mote is doing to the east of Interstate 75 to foster research and cover its institutional costs. Those who attended the tour of the project last February can attest that the project is fascinating. Indeed, you can pull up the article about the tour in last March's edition of BlueELines on our Club's website.

A native New Zealander who is now a U.S. citizen, John Pether was for many years an executive and co-manager of Smith Barney's office in One Sarasota Tower. He has also served as Commodore of the Sarasota Sailing Squadron and Board Member and Treasurer of the Sarasota Opera. He is currently a director of Mote Marine Laboratory.

After his retirement in 2002, Pether and his wife, Laura, spent a couple of years sailing through the Bahamas and along the East Coast. Then they moved onto land for a term in Colorado. But once you have it in your blood, Sarasota is hard to shake off. In October 2006 the Pethers returned to Sarasota, and John Pether joined Mote's Board. Three months earlier a fire had destroyed a 25,000-square-foot building in the Aquaculture project, as well as one-third of the park's sturgeon stock. The loss was valued at \$3 million. Pether became Volunteer Business Manager for the project, to build the necessary public support and further develop the project. You can hear about what has happened since then at our luncheon.

Dr. Magenheim Speaks on Politics of Health Care

Our Club's new Secretary, Mark J. Magenheim, who earned Yale's Master of Public Health degree in 1971, addressed a large audience at our April 14 luncheon meeting at Marina Jack. His topic was "Our Current Health Care Crisis and the Politics of Reform".

Mark's education and health care experience are wide-ranging. His undergraduate major, Washington University '69, was in sociology and political science. After Yale, an M.D.

degree from Ontario's McMaster University in 1974. At Oregon Health Sciences University, a residency in Preventative Medicine and Public Health in 1978.

Then, global health work in Africa for the World Health Organization ("WHO") for four years. In Sarasota since 1983, he served as Director of the Sarasota County Health Department for 20 years; Medical Director of Tidewell Hospice for 5 years; and currently CEO and Medical Director of our local Suncoast Communities Blood Bank for the past 6 years. He is still involved in global public health in Ghana, Brazil, the Dominican Republic and Honduras. In 1989 the redoubtable Dr. C. Everett Koop (he of the quaint beard), personally visited Sarasota to present to Mark the U.S. Public Health

Service Commendation and the Surgeon General's Medallion of Excellence for "his service as a model for the Nation's Public Health Officers".

"Why," began Dr. Mark, "are we the only major nation without a system of health care?" He then reviewed milestones in public health in the United States. Social Security, from 1935, provided tangential benefits to health care, but the first organized approach came in about 1945.

Health benefits were tied to employment and were

negotiated with trade unions. They also provided a means to skirt wartime wage and price controls. These benefits were pay-as-you-go, thus initiating today's huge unfunded health care liability. Medicare and



Mark Magenheim speaks on a topic of serious interest to all.

Medicaid came with the Great Society in 1965. (Harry Truman got the first Medicare card; at the time only a small fraction of the population qualified). Various "alphabet soup" programs were added during the next seven years. The Clintons failed to enact their "Hillarycare" package in 1994. Thereafter, up to 1997, uninsured United States residents became more numerous. Today, 15% have no health insurance for at least four months in any rolling 12-month period, and coverage for those under 65 is essentially limited to those with jobs. Why is this so?

Historically, we are free to make choices and suffer the consequences. We treasure privacy. The Government is not our friend. The Government's job is to protect the health of the whole community, responding to epidemics and threats to pollution of everybody's air and groundwater. For individuals, a safety net is supposed to be only a last resort. But these "principles" do not describe what is really going on. Who pays for health benefits? Who gets the benefits? How effective is our medical care compared to that of other countries? What does it cost? Does the system have the right incentives to control costs?

What changes will the Obama administration seek and be able to carry out? Mark addressed these questions in turn.

Federal payments are already one-half of all U.S. hospital revenue. At Sarasota Memorial, the federal share is 89%.

We overpay for the most complicated and least promising cases. The most expensive 1% of cases absorbs 25% of our health care dollars; the top 5% absorbs 50%. Spending for the last 6 months of life absorbs 85%. Average annual expenditures on the young are only \$1,200, but on the elderly amount to \$7,000.

By several measures, our results are not good. Among about 200 countries, the U.S. spends the most on health care, about 15% of GDP (projected at 17.6% for 2009). We rank 37th in

infant mortality (death before age 1); Cuba ranks 30th. We rank 45th in life expectancy (78 years for newborn boys, 81 for girls); (however, Mark admitted in answer to a Club member's question, for those who attain age 65, our men and women average 18 years—other countries are similar). We rank 72nd out of 195 in a measurement of access to medical care. Avoidable deaths run about 100,000 per year, resulting from such faults as too rapid discharge from hospitals; the size and experience of a hospital is also critical.

Costs are huge and becoming unsustainable. Hospital costs are already 5% of GDP. Regarding Medicare, revenues fell short of

Social Security pension premium deductions, for the first time ever, in 2008; by 2031, the unfunded liability is projected at \$31 trillion. At that time there will be 80 million enrollees (20% of our total population), up from 40 million currently, and Medicare will be bankrupt.

Treatment

incentives are perverse. We pay for parts and procedures, not results. For example, to repair a fracture in the U.S., it is the surgeon's choice of hardware, and this decision is often driven by the effectiveness of the vendor's sales rep rather than the needs of the patient. For a fractured ankle, a surgeon might choose a steel screw (\$600) or a titanium screw (\$1,400). Dr. Lisa Liccini, Mark's guest who is a general practice physician in Berlin, claimed that doctors in the German system are paid to talk and consult with patients more than to intervene with tests and procedures.



Dr. Mark Magenheim and his guest, Dr. Lisa Liccini

MAGENHEIM contd.

How will our increasing medical costs be funded? Mark anticipates extra taxes on Social Security benefits, increased payroll taxes, and cost savings measures (more rationing, reviews, competitive bidding, etc., though controls themselves are expensive). The national mood is ready for reform, but hundreds of thousands work in insurance companies, represented by capable lobbyists, and they would be displaced by a single payer system. Given the historical and cultural evolution of health care access and the role of government in the U.S., Mark suggests that it is likely that we will transition to a national “universal” coverage system where government would pay for and monitor quality and results of care but would not typically operate care programs. These would be determined by individual user choice among a variety of providers and services in the marketplace, building on existing resources plus new ones to be organized for those currently without access. Mark favors such a system, though he noted that those in other countries come in many varieties. 28% of health care is already nationalized through Medicare and health insurance for federal employees. Eventually, Mark believes, Medicare will cover everyone down to age 55.

One of our Club mates reported on a recently observed bumper sticker, “If you think that health care costs a lot now, wait until it’s free.” Following this and other audience participation, outgoing President Kelly thanked Mark for his thorough elucidation and presented him with a Yale coffee mug.

Dyer S. Wadsworth

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Well-deserved recognition of the dedication shown by Frank Samponaro. Presentation by Brian Kelly

Frank N. Samponaro Awarded Yale Recognition Award

Past President Brian Thomas Kelly awarded the Yale Alumni Association’s Yale Recognition Award to Frank N. Samponaro. Kelly cited Samponaro’s superb service to YCS during his terms as President from 2000 to 2002 and again when called back from 2004 to 2005. The award also recognized Frank’s service as YCS’s AYA Representative for 3 years as well as his creative, dedicated and ongoing membership on the YCS Board of Directors. Kelly also noted that his own service on the YCS Board and subsequent YCS presidency was deeply motivated by Frank and Marsha Samponaro. It is Kelly’s opinion that the name Samponaro is synonymous with Yale Club of the Suncoast spirit and service!

Dr. Meg Lowman Speaks of Organization and Funding Problems in The Field of Science

This impressive academic, obviously a star in the senior faculty at New College, succeeded in explaining the current highly constrained role of discovery in science as the means for solving highly important social problems in Florida. Her contributions include numerous technical papers in academic journals, which help in the formation of plans and programs that have a sound scientific foundation. But her own method, expressed in two Yale Press books and elsewhere, has been to show how science “works” (and promote the scientist’s message) in case studies and specific current problems in this state. Florida, she said, should be the dominant center for solar research (the endless sunlight) and so should it be the leader in research on species that flourish in a tropical environment. This is not the case, due to the lack of organization and resources from grant giving foundations and government agencies.

To bring home this theme, Dr Lowman provided a list of 38 policy related issues of importance to Sarasota, ranging from carbon emissions to infectious diseases. Given limited time, she strategically chose three issue areas to discuss (1) invasive species (2) sea level rise (3) fresh water conservation. The first was made exciting by her description of 44 invasive species, the python the most deadly and widespread (more than 30,000 in the state) with no organized state system of

containment. Sea level rise can and will incur, up to one meter, from global and also Gulf warming in this century; while this is quite likely and we know the impact street by street from satellite photography, again there is no organized response system. Water conservation has to go far beyond reducing family use rates to scientifically mapping plant and tree conservation to favor those that retain ground water the best (she specified the Brazilian Pepper plant as the best water retainer, which caused

groans among the Old Blues).

Her summary stressed that all three example areas had in common that scientific work was limited, and spread thin, due in part to lack of funding and organization. The question and answer session focused on these issues (after we had recovered from a distracting but clever question from former club president Kelly) and the speaker went further to emphasize the relative inability of scientists to focus as a group on state funding sources, although she expressed some optimism of better responses at the federal level to the needs of science. But the club was left with the question whether the lack of funding limited the effective development of problem solving science organizations, or the lack of organization caused the low level of funding.

Paul MacAvoy



Dr. Lowman shares a laugh with President Oliver Janney

YALE REPRESENTED AT SARASOTA COLLEGE FAIR

Recently the Suncoast Alumni Schools Committee hosted a series of recruiting events for high school students interested in Yale.

Each year members of the Yale Club present Yale Book Awards at twenty-five high schools in our region. Our annual reception for these Yale Book Award members and their parents attracted fourteen students from three counties. The Stoneybrook Country Club in Sarasota provided the venue for informal chatting with members of the Yale Club and a short presentation highlighting the academic and residential life at Yale. Yale's generous new policies on financial aid were described in some detail. All of the award recipients had been recognized by their high schools as demonstrating "outstanding personal character and intellectual promise."

For three nights in September, Alumni Schools Committee members also represented Yale at

area College Night Fairs. Wes Finer and Patrick Whelan answered questions about Yale in Manatee County; Oliver Janney, Ed Williams, and Patrick Whelan in Sarasota County; and Wes Finer in Desoto County. Area students and parents picked up about 600 pamphlets promoting Yale University and its financial aid policies. Of special



Yale Book Award Recipient Rachel Barry and her brother talk at College Night with Alumni Schools Committee Director Patrick Whelan about their interest in Yale

note, several of the Yale Book Award winners came to the table to talk about how the award sparked their interest in applying to Yale.

The interviewing season for the Alumni Schools Committee starts soon. Single-choice early action applications are due by November 1 and regular decision applications are due by December 31. Last year 53 students from our area applied and were interviewed by Suncoast Club alumni, an all-time record. Of those thirteen applied early. If you are interested in serving as an interviewer or a Yale Award presenter, contact Alumni School Committee director Patrick Whelan at notableoak@msn.com.with the increased interest in Yale, the Alumni Schools Committee needs your help now more than ever.



Yale Club President Oliver Janney and Alumni Schools Committee Chairman Patrick Whelan answer parent and student questions at the Yale table during College Night, September 10..

Patrick Whelan



Jack Kahn, second longest-time YCS citizen of Sarasota and his guest, Phillip Bucknell, businessman and native of the U.K.. Is Jack imparting pearls of Sarasota wisdom?

Ron Levin, Marcie Doyle and Bill Doyle find their Eli table banter to be of their liking. These folk are also among the dedicated organizers of the summer Eli luncheons.



Art Englehard, Ed Williams, Oliver Janney, Vicky Jones and Suzanne Janney, framed by the gorgeous view of City Island's frolicking dolphins fountain.

Brian Kelly and Betty Griggs lift their glasses in a joyful toast to the largest summer gathering of Elis this year. There is only one remaining drop-in luncheon this year!



You snooze--you lose!

The Mystique of Yale Club's Summer "Drop-In" Luncheons

What exactly is the allure or mystique of your Yale Club's summer-time Drop-In luncheons? The many attendees of these events would each probably have a slightly different interpretation of why they come to the second Tuesday of the month (June through October) Eli gatherings. For sure, a common denominator would be the captivating view of Sarasota Bay from the upper level dining room with the YCS table reservations and most choice view. Events include occasional dolphin

sightings, the lazy, spellbinding movements of all sorts of vessels from small fishing boats to graceful sailing boats to the luncheon cruise departure of the *Marina Jack II*.

Others would claim that Marina Jack's

superbly prepared luncheons at reasonable cost coupled with an fine wait staff are strong attractions. All of this is true but may miss the underlying chief raison d'etre for the fine turnouts. In this writer's opinion it is the opportunity to enjoy the collegiality that only Eli alumni and their loved ones offer to one another. One could close one's eyes and imagine for a brief moment being back on the Old Campus or in a particular College (Saybrook in the case of this writer). The eight-person round tables provide a truly "seminar" environment. It is perfect for lively conversation.



Returning to the fold after a summer of zipping back and forth across the country, Editor and Photog Liz Troutman enjoys the opportunity to catch up with friends Ron Levin, Oliver Janney, and Blake Flint

While the conversations have infinite breadth and range of spirit from humorous to quite serious, from personal to political, from local to global, there is one common denominator: finely honed Eli intellect. Over the summers this writer has encountered a broad selection of thought provoking subjects such as: the latest in good books, present and forthcoming theatre and art events, travel highlights of distant and not so distant locations with ratings and suggestions, the

latest in news of members of our Yale Club of the Suncoast families, Yale New Haven developments, health recommendations, the latest gastronomical news in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

Perhaps the best test of the vitality of a club such as our YCS is the fact that the summer Drop-In luncheon program is successful in spite of having absolutely no program, no guest speaker, no announcements, no

fixed fare and yet is beloved by its participants. So much so that one Drop-In devotee was widely quoted as suggesting that the events occur weekly during the summer rather than monthly!

This reporter will never be able to record a perfect glimpse of the panoply of conversations from a YCS Drop-In luncheon but here are a few photos and observations of these unstructured yet tremendously fulfilling events. Perhaps after reading this you will be motivated to attend and participate. Here we go.....

Brian T. Kelley

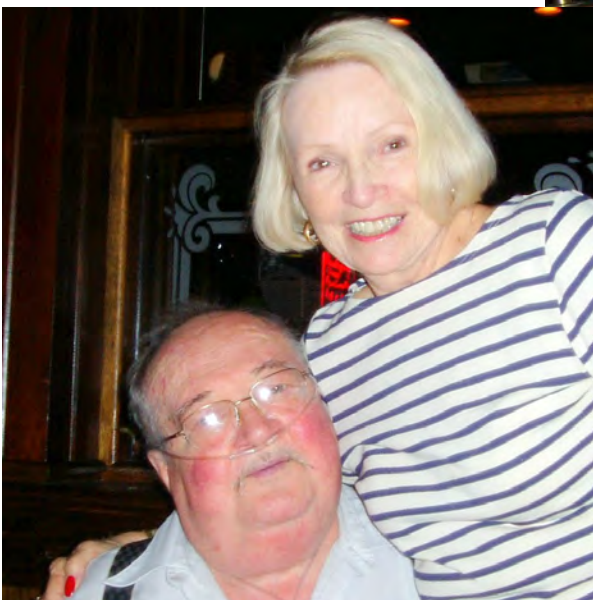
WE ARE INVITED --

to join with members of the Harvard Club for the 17th annual telecast of the Yale-Harvard football game



at the Sarasota Ale House on Saturday, November 21st. The doors open at 11:00 AM. Kick-off should be between 12:15 and 12:30PM.

Sarasota Ale House is



located at 3800 Kenny Drive, on the northeast corner of the intersection of Bee Ridge and Catlemen Road

Questions? Call Oliver Janney, 922-8766