



THE TROPICAL BULLDOG

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The Voice of The Yale Club of Southwest Florida

Spring 1999

Yale Whiffenpoofs Delight Audience at Gala Dinner

Dinner Concert brings back memories of "To the tables down at Mory's"

The Yale Whiffenpoofs, the oldest collegiate *a cappella* group in America, entertained over 340 Yale alumni and their guests at The Vineyards Country Club on March 8th. Blending a professional commitment to quality music with a touch of humorous stories, The *Whiffs* brought to the concert the history and class that belong to gentlemen songsters so well known in the hallowed Ivy halls.

This concert was one of the first stops of many for the group as they embarked on a tour of Latin America. The repertoire included many old favorites, such as *Aj Lucka, Lucka Siroka; Bye, Bye Blackbird; I'll Be Seeing You;* and *The Girl from Ipanema*.

This year represents ninety years of tradition for the *Whiffs*, having been formed in 1909. Fourteen Yale seniors make up the group.

It is traditional to close every concert with a rendition of the legendary *Whiffenpoof Song*. *Whiff* alumni in the audience were invited to join in the singing and four were in attendance:

Bob Williams '47
Bill Rhangos '53
Edwin Smith '53
Bob Sullivan '53



THE YALE WHIFFENPOOFS OF 1999

Trustees Hold Meeting to Discuss Plans for Next Year; Plan to Meet More Frequently

Following the monthly drop-in luncheon in April, the Trustees met to discuss plans for the coming activity year (October '99 – April '00). First of all, it was felt that more frequent meetings of Trustees would help coordinate the Club's activities. Therefore, it was decided that the Trustees would have regular meetings following the luncheons on October 14, December 9 (following the Annual Meeting) and April 13, 2000.

There next ensued a discussion of what is the appropriate involvement of other Ivy League clubs in activities sponsored by The Yale Club. It was pointed out that some clubs would like to be co-sponsors with Yale in some of our activities. Others have declined to send out invitations printed by us and offered to be sent out to the other clubs' members. It was decided that events

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Contributing Editor: Bob Bennett '44

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Letters to the Editors

Editor: The Tropical Bulldog

As a Yale Club member in Naples since the early 1980's, let me say how pleased I am to read *The Tropical Bulldog* newsletter. Your publication will keep Yalies in our area apprised of the Club's many useful (and expanding) activities. The nicely arranged and edited publication will do wonders to keep us all in touch with our colleagues and classmates.

In the sometimes impersonal atmosphere of an ever-growing population in Southwest Florida, it's pleasant indeed to read what our gang is doing, and planning to do, to enrich our lives and the lives of friends and neighbors.

My heartiest congratulations on the appearance of this excellent bulletin board.

Denny Kountze '52
Naples

Trustees' Meeting

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organized by The Yale Club are to be sponsored only by us. However, in connection with some special speaker events, other Ivy League and Seven Sister clubs will be offered the opportunity to send to their members their own invitations or ones printed by us as we may decide.

Tom Mackelfresh '51 reported that we had 16 applicants to Yale from this area. Three (3) were accepted, including two football players from Ft. Myers High School, Andrew and Christopher Kagan. The other student is Elisabeth Andrea Hon, a senior at the Canterbury School. Susan Varnum, a senior at The Canterbury School in Ft. Myers and daughter of Bob Varnum '64, is on the waiting list.

The Club has established a committee chaired by Fred Johnson '56Mdiv. to plan for the Club's activities in celebration of Yale's forthcoming tercentennial in 2001.

Finally The Trustees approved a tentative list of activities for the coming season – Oct thru April. When finalized, it will be published in the next issue.



PORTER GOSS '60 FEATURED SPEAKER AT CLUB LUNCHEON

*Noted Congressman from area updates attendees;
Not yet a candidate for vacant Senate seat*

U. S. Congressman Porter Goss '60, six term legislator from southwest Florida, delighted an audience of over 160 with his comments on activities and goings-on in Washington. His appearance to an Ivy League group was another of his annual presentations sponsored by the Yale Club.

He opened his remarks with a strong statement about the lack of United States leadership and vision in the world today. Moving on to topics of specific interest to his constituents, Goss was firm in his view that Social Security will be saved and that the national defense will be strengthened. Further he felt that the youth of today are not being properly educated.

Taxes are always on everyone's mind, and Goss spoke of the need for tax relief and revision. For instance, he pointed out that in the area of estate taxes, it costs more to administer the law than the revenue received.

He was complimentary of Speaker of the House Denny Hastert, and was critical of the Democrats in the House whose strategy is to ensure that no legislation gets passed until the next election. Thus there is gridlock. Goss did not ignore the subject of the threats that exist around the world, including terrorism and the threats of biological warfare. He felt that there is a definite need for a strong intelligence base overseas (spies).

Finally, Goss paid tribute to Senator Connie Mack who is retiring, but said that he likes being a congressman in this district. A strong applause followed.

TRUSTEE PROFILE

Charles Bush '34 – Fencing Master

By Bob Bennett '44

Charlie Bush '34 is a Trustee Emeritus of The Yale Club of Southwest Florida. He has served the Club for many years as a member and trustee.

Charlie was raised in New Haven, Connecticut and was graduated from Hillhouse High School. He then was an elevator operator for two years in order to earn money to enter Yale. In his freshman year, he worked in a restaurant from 6:00 PM to midnight continuing to pay his way. He went out for fencing to avoid compulsory gym class. The coach's famous last words were "we don't need you." From that humble beginning Charlie became the National Junior Collegiate Saber Champion. Charlie took his fencing success to Hillhouse, Hopkins and Taft School where he coached students. He continued to teach for many years here in Naples at Cambier Park. He was the founder of the Naples Fencing Club. He stopped teaching at age 82.

His business career took him to Remington Rand. Thereafter, he owned an office supply and printing business for fifty years.

The love of Charlie's life was and is his wife, Josephine, whom he married on June 24, 1935. She passed away May 16, 1996, but still lives daily in Charlie's life. They have two sons and two grandchildren.

Charlie is a Bible scholar and has been very active in the Vanderbilt Presbyterian Church. He has carried this into his writings and is the author of his published book, *The Three Faces of Paul*.

Charlie lives in a condominium at Sapphire Lakes in Naples. Bocci Ball is a big sport in his community with 96 players in active team competition. Charlie is the official Bocci Scorer for the competitions.

Charlie is a man for all seasons, and we are privileged to have him as one of our Yale Club members.



Charlie Bush '34

Professor John Gaddis Is Guest Speaker at Yale Club Luncheon

Expert on Cold War fascinated Club members with details of new research

John Gaddis, a popular teacher at Yale with an engaging sense of humor, gave an outstanding talk on his specialty of military history – the Cold War. His remarks highlighted the fact that new research suggests that decision making during the Cold War was not of the traditional geopolitical method as it was thought to be. Instead, Russian leaders, especially Stalin, had an ideological approach to world dominance. His decision making lacked realism and was almost romantic and full of emotion.

Gaddis cited numerous examples of communist expansion throughout the world where decision making lacked a geopolitical strategy. Control of East Germany, the Chinese revolution success and the North Korean invasion of South Korea after repeated rejections by Stalin were carried out with a romantic fervor – not a realistic appraisal of success. He felt that the Russians never really had a realistic view of the world. Democracies and capitalism fared much better during the Cold War.

Answering a question about what we can expect in the next twenty years, Gaddis thought there would be global integration of economies, disintegration of political entities and fragmentation of state authority.

Over fifty members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the presentation. The Yale Club Speaker Series will continue again next year.

REMINDER

Our Monthly Drop-In Luncheons are held at The Vineyards Country Club – 400 Vineyards Blvd.

Great food and camaraderie. For more info call:

Arnold Garfinkel – 649-5308

AYA Holds Assembly LIV in New Haven; Faculty Highlighted

Who makes up the Yale faculty today was the subject

By Torrey Foster '56

As the Club's AYA representative, I attended the recent Assembly in New Haven. "The Faculty" was chosen for this Assembly to give us a sense of who the professoriate is at Yale, what is unique about teaching at Yale, is there tension between research and teaching and many other issues. I came away with a strong feeling of how committed Yale is to having the best and most capable teachers in their fields. Clearly Yale has the best undergraduate faculty in the country.

Faculty must be able to make an impact on research and have a sense of teaching and citizenship, according to Dean of Yale College, Richard Brodhead '68m'72 PhD. He cited Mary Miller and John Gaddis, both of who have visited the Yale Club, as leaders in their fields who make so many contributions.

The Assembly was a combination of large lecture hall presentations with question and answer opportunities as well as smaller classroom discussions. I had the privilege of participating in classroom sessions with two extraordinary professors. Neither one felt that there is tension between research and teaching; in fact they enhance each other.

Tenure is an issue that continues to be discussed. Fifty-five percent (55%) of Yale's faculty is tenured. Provost Alison Richard pointed out that Yale hired 12 new tenured faculty during the year and 8 more are in serious negotiations. These hirings either renew current strengths, for example history or psychology, or build strengths, as in engineering or sociology.

Yale strives, and succeeds, to attract the most recognized leaders in their fields. The tradition continues. Copies of my entire report may be obtained at the Drop-In Luncheons, or call me (514-0799) and I will send you a copy.

Ivy League Picnic a Great Success

On a gorgeous spring evening on the veranda of the Naples Beach Hotel almost 300 Ivy League alumni and guests enjoyed the island music of the **Mason Lane Trio** and barbecued ribs with all the trimmings. A free keg of beer was provided courtesy of the Dartmouth Club past presidents. The Yale Club contingent of over 75 was only slightly bettered in numbers by our Harvard friends. Charlie Bush '34 was seen greeting members as they arrived, and our Treasurer, Jim Carthaus '62, ensured that there were no "free loaders". A great time was had by all.

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Stamp