



# THE TROPICAL BULLDOG

VOL I NO. III

*The Voice of The Yale Club of Southwest Florida*

Fall 1999

## A Letter From Our President

Dear Members:

The Trustees of the Yale Club of Southwest Florida join me in welcoming our "snowbird" members as they return to southwest Florida. The Y2K Yale Club season promises to be an active and interesting one as you can see from the schedule printed elsewhere. Our "Welcome Back to Paradise" cocktail party held on October 29<sup>th</sup> was a great success and an excellent opportunity to renew old acquaintances. Our next event is the Yale/Harvard game to be held at Ditka's new restaurant. Ken Abernathy '58JD has done a great job organizing this annual outing, and I know that this year's joint function with Harvard will be the best ever. Please plan to join us on November 20<sup>th</sup>. **Reserve now!**

We are delighted that Yale President Richard Levin '74 PhD will be visiting Naples on February 7<sup>th</sup>. The Yale Club will host a reception for Dr. Levin with the AYA on that date at The Collier Athletic Club. Past club Presidents Ken Bruce and Dick Bennett are organizing this event, and shortly they will be sending details to the membership.

As in past years, a "Drop In" luncheon will be held on the second Thursday of each month at the Vineyards Country Club at noon. No reservations are necessary except in cases when we plan to invite speakers to these luncheons whenever possible. A special notice will be mailed in advance.

As I am sure you are aware, 2001 marks the tercentennial of Yale's founding, and the University will be sponsoring a number of events commencing in October of 2000. The Yale Club has formed a Tricentennial Committee chaired by Fred Johnson '56 MDIV. Among other events, we are planning for a speakers series in Naples during the 2000-2001 season featuring distinguished Yale alumni. We will keep you posted on our progress and ask that you channel your volunteer efforts and suggestions through Fred.

The Annual Meeting of the Yale Club will be held at the Vineyard Country Club at noon on December 9<sup>th</sup>. At that time we will elect Trustees and Officers for the coming year. Should you wish to volunteer or suggest a nominee, please contact me or Bob Wenzel '53E.

Again, welcome and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.  
Terry Upson '60

## A Lou Hernandez '77 Film Shown at Luncheon; Creates Controversy

*Yale Club member wins awards for real estate commercials and promotional videos. New art film on the cutting edge.*



There is no doubt that Lou Hernandez' '77 recent award winning short film *Tacklebox* will shock some people. And that it did at a showing at a Yale Club luncheon this past summer. As one viewer put it, "You have never seen a fishing story like this."

Born in Puerto Rico and a graduate of Yale, Lou spent 21 years as an advertising executive creating, producing and directing television commercials for Fortune 500 companies. Lured away by Michael Eisner of Disney fame, he became a director trainee and subsequently began freelancing as a director for music videos and films in Los Angeles.

Now in Naples, where he chooses to raise a family, Henandez creates ads that win awards and win over clients. His company, Fiddler Productions, produces independent feature films as well as shorts. Lou says that an independent short film, like *Tacklebox*, is anywhere from 1 to 59 minutes in length, low budget, and is made specifically for showing at film festivals. It is a "calling card" to studios, producers, and other directors to sell the talent of the producer. *Tacklebox* won the Best Florida Film in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual West Palm Beach Independent Film Festival as well as the 16mm Eastman Kodak Motion Picture Film Award.



The **Tropical Bulldog** is published 3 times a year if the editors can find enough material, true or imagined, to bring to its readers attention. Articles are gratefully accepted (no fees).

**First Managing Editor:** Torrey Foster '56

**Contributing Editors:** Tom Mackelfresh '51

**Editorial Advisor:** Bob Wenzel '53E

### Letters to the Editors

Editor:

I want to thank and congratulate Torrey on doing an outstanding and very dedicated job in representing our Club at the AYA assemblies. His report of the Spring 1999 event was very well written, thought provoking and can go a long way to begin developing a better understanding by all of us of what is going on at Yale and why. I would heartily recommend that the readers of The Yale Bulldog get a copy of the full report.

AYA exists primarily to represent all of us and our thoughts to the "powers that be" in New Haven. They do this in many ways, one of which is through their Assemblies. Every Class and every Yale Club has a representative, as well as the graduate schools. Active participation is critical. Torrey is doing just that.

A topic that is worth considering. Yale has gone too long without placing enough importance on all athletics. Future Assemblies might include an agenda and dialog on "the balance between academics and athletics".

S. Kenneth Bruce '53E  
Naples

## St. Matthew's House Fund Raising Headed by New Club Member

*Chris Bent '62 is Development Coordinator*

One of our newest members, Chris Bent '62, is a former Navy SEAL and retail executive (J. Crew, B. Altman, Brooks Bros. and the WWF). Having recently moved to Naples, he is currently working full time as Development Coordinator for St. Matthew's House, a nondenominational nonprofit that serves the less fortunate in our community. SMH has accommodations for 77 men and 38 women and has just finished an 18 bed addition that will now allow women with children to be assisted separately. Its built-in recovery program has a 25% recidivism rate, one of the best in the country.

### **REMINDER**

### **YALE vs. HARVARD FOOTBALL BROADCAST**

**November 20<sup>th</sup> - 12:00 noon  
DITKA'S NEW RESTAURANT  
3126 Tamiami Trail North**

## Our Club Takes Lead in Initiating Tercentennial Celebration Program for 2001

*Ambitious program of events featuring distinguished  
Yale graduates.*

In celebration of Yale's Tercentennial, the Yale Club of Southwest Florida has undertaken an ambitious program of events featuring outstanding Yale graduates. Beginning in November of 2000, the Club is planning to have five or six distinguished alumni address, on separate occasions, the southwest Florida community. The Tercentennial Committee is chaired by Fred Johnson '56Mdiv.

According to President-Elect Bob Wenzel '53E "the program we envision will be not unlike a 'town hall' series." It would continue throughout the winter, spring and fall of 2001. Committee planners feel that the entire series will benefit Yale immeasurably through the exposure to the Naples community.

The Northern Trust Company has agreed to be a major sponsor by providing the location, food and cocktails; and the Edgewater Beach Hotel will provide our guests with complimentary accommodations. The speakers would donate their normal honorariums by speaking without charge.

### *Ideas for Prospective Speakers Needed*

While committee planners are soliciting ideas from the University, help is definitely needed from Club members. Anyone with suggestions and especially contacts for speakers should call Bob Wenzel (591-1690) or Fred Johnson (434-7309). National or world renowned alumni are the focus. Review your lists of classmates.

### **TIMOTHY DWIGHT**

*(1752-1817)*

St. John's Episcopal Church of Avon-by-the-Sea, NJ had a brief biography of Timothy Dwight in its August 22<sup>nd</sup> program of which we have a copy courtesy of Dick Bennett '52. Dwight was the grandson of the American preacher, Jonathan Edwards, and was a graduate of Yale at the age of 17. He was a chaplain in the Revolution, a congregational minister, prosperous farmer, member of the Connecticut legislature, faculty member and President of Yale. He was an author of scholarly books and 33 hymn texts, including *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* which was sung at the church. While president of Yale he brought to the campus in 1795 a startling spiritual revival that soon spread to other universities.  
Lesson - Go to church and learn about Yale.



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## SUPPLEMENT

### REPORT ON THE FALL AYA ASSEMBLY

By Torrey Foster '56

*Yale and Leadership* was the subject of the AYA Assembly LV held the last weekend in October this year. And as the article in **The Tropical Bulldog** suggested I am not sure that when I was at Yale that I necessarily thought of myself as a "leader-to-be", however that might be defined. I did certainly feel that a Yale certificate of graduation might open many doors for a future career. So I now bring you a brief summary of a busy Assembly discussion of some of Yale's brightest and most capable thinking on the topic of *leadership*.

The Assembly "kicked off" with some thoughts in a plenary session about what constitutes leadership from a number of different angles. **Chris McCusker** from the faculty of the School of Management felt that there are four virtues or duties connected with leadership. *Wisdom* is the virtue that achieves a positive result for more than one segment of society. It ends with a win/win result in all aspects of life. *Prudence* takes a long term view of results, and just does not attempt quick solutions. *Benevolence* is a virtue which seeks a cooperative exchange of information. Collaboration and a sense of teamwork are part of the formula. And finally, McCusker adds *veracity*. He sees the importance of telling the truth, admitting mistakes. In the broadest sense, veracity means openness.

**Paul Kennedy**, Professor of History and Director of International Studies, reviewed Yale's contribution to world leaders. Although this was thought to be positive, he laments the country's conflicting international policies, its emasculating policy towards the UN and the country's poor international development performance. He sees that there has been a failure of leadership to develop bi-partisan decisions. He poses the question of whether you can teach leadership. A class for 20 students has been organized for just that purpose.

**Stephen Carter** '79 JD of the Law School felt there is a need to separate celebrity status from the concerns of ordinary people. It is also important to not separate leadership from the goals that are pursued. He sees that leaders must be selfless and subjugate personal interests to the larger common good. A person should not assume the job permits a different morality in order to achieve a successful end.

The Q & A following the presentations brought out two interesting thoughts. Moral reasoning is essentially intuitive. Changing behavior brings changed attitudes. (Do you agree?)

After the plenary session we were broken out into small groups to review case studies of leadership styles. We were to choose individually and then as a group consensus from five different styles possibly used in each of five different cases. The style choices were: 1. **Decide** (the leader makes the decision alone and announces to his group); 2. **Consult Individually** (the leader seeks suggestions from his members individually and then makes the decision); 3. **Consult the Group** (the leader presents the problem to the group, gets their suggestions and then makes a decision); 4. **Facilitate** (the leader presents the problem in group meeting and seeks a group decision within defined boundaries); and 5. **Delegate** (the leader permits the group to decide without his input as in 4). We then reconvened in a plenary session and the answers were given by Professor **McCusker**, both as to style used in the real case study and what a management model suggests to be the appropriate style. He points out that it is difficult, if not impossible to predict leadership effectiveness from a set of traits. Circumstances will determine leadership effectiveness. The degree of leader participation is dictated by the situation for decision making. There are 4 criteria for effective decision making: decision quality, that is, was the decision consistent with available information about the likelihood of achieving goals; what will be the ease or difficult of implementation; what is the cost; and finally does the decision develop the group in any meaningful way. Situational factors in management leadership models include:

Decision Significance	Importance of Group Commitment	Leaders Expertise
Likelihood of Group Commitment	Group Support for Objectives	Group Expertise
Team Competence		

After cocktails and an informal dinner Thursday night we were addressed in a keynote talk by John Pepper '60, retired Chairman and CEO of Proctor & Gamble.

Friday morning the subject was *Leadership and Yale: Requirements for a New Millennium*. Four alumni recognized as leaders in their fields presented their thoughts on the challenges that Yale faces in preparing leaders for business, society and the government in the new century. This included the role Yale played in each of them becoming a leader. **Linda Mason '80 MBA** is the Chairman and Founder of Bright Horizons Family Solutions, an innovative childcare venture. She felt that you cannot teach leadership, but that you can create an environment for developing the skills. At Yale there are three. There is an extraordinary extracurricular life providing opportunities for leadership. Secondly, Yale has a tradition of service to the community. And finally, self-selection brings out leadership. She further noted that the SOM creates innovative thinking and action.

**Fred Krupp '75** is the Executive Director of the Environmental Defense Fund. Dwight Hall was pivotal in his Yale experience. Yale teaches good writing skills, but his debate team experience taught him to speak persuasively. He recommends that Yale further develop volunteer service learning as well as internships opportunities.

Vermont Governor since 1991, **Howard Dean, MD '71**, found Yale to be a larger environment than his small prep school meritocracy. The ethnic diversity brought about by Kingman Brewster and Insley Clark created an environment for leadership skills. He also thought that the intellectual stimulation was extraordinary.

**Dick Swett '79**, U.S. Ambassador to Denmark, said that Yale gives "expectation" to its students that they will become leaders. Discipline and commitment are important at Yale, and there is empowerment to go out and achieve.

Later that morning under the title of *Taking Leadership to the Everyday World*, I went to another breakout session. I chose "Nonprofit". **Dan Estey '86**, Director of the Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy, feels that leadership is a quality of personality, that there is a capacity and knowledge component. Leadership requires perspective and imagination. **Beth Kelsch '01 LAW**, who is striving for a career in nonprofits, sees that Yale teaches you to think "outside the box", but that it is difficult to get a job in nonprofits because of financial considerations (loan payback is difficult). **Anika Singh '01**, Student Coordinator for Dwight Hall, feels that Yale needs to do more to support nonprofit service. For instance there should be more courses in the discipline of urban policies and politics (none at Yale this year). There are no basic courses in urban studies. The last panelist was **Shelley Gabelle '76 JD, '95 MPH**, Founder and Executive Director of Voices for Children, a New Haven based nonprofit. Her tenant was that Yale presumes excellence and there is a need to focus on leadership beyond that. More importantly, there needs to be interdisciplinary and multi-cultural leadership. Yale must develop mentoring capability for these.

At lunch we heard President **Richard Levin '74 PhD** who gave us a general update on University affairs. He reviewed Yale's improved relations with New Haven, the development of the Omni Hotel at Yale with the university's assistance, the acquisition of more downtown properties, and the Service Tax zones in which Yale participates. Berkeley College has been restored; Branford is now under repair and Saybrook College is scheduled for next year. All the restorations are on budget, which average \$35 million, and on schedule. In order to increase Yale's visibility and importance around the world, the university has established the Yale World Fellows Program. This brings in young people in their late '20's or early '30's from other countries who are identified as potential new leaders to study for one academic year and mentored by Yale professors. They develop their own curriculum.

My final session was another breakout session on Alumni Leadership. Again there were many choices, but naturally I went to the one on "Yale Clubs". The basic discussion revolved around the challenges facing clubs - how to keep alumni interested and maintaining leadership. There was a consensus that these ebb and flow. Here are some things that other clubs are doing. The Westchester County Yale Club has developed programs for the community. They helped sponsor a new orchestra and provided instruments for the musicians. This stimulated donations to the Club and membership has increased dramatically. The Hartford Yale Club has involved its membership in Habitat for Humanity. The New Haven Yale Club, with an endowment of \$3 million has a "named" scholarship endeavor. For \$50,000 one can have a scholarship named for the donor. There seemed to be a difference of opinion how this is handled and whether the Yale financial office has to be involved. The New Haven Club handles it privately and directly to the student, but it does reduce the university's contribution to scholarship funds for that student. This is contrary to Yale policy, but it can be done, so we were told. We learned that the Yale Club of Israel has 200 members. And finally many clubs have Web sites and that the clubs in Atlanta and Colorado are very helpful in how to set up sites.

On Saturday, after a delicious buffet lunch in Cox Cage, we saw Yale beat Pennsylvania (23-19) in a close game, and continue its march to an Ivy League championship.



## TRUSTEE PROFILE



### **Bernard S. Peck, '36, '39 LLB**

By Bob Wenzel '53E

When Bernie Peck graduated from high school in Bridgeport, Conn, he didn't have far to travel to college. Since he was one of the top five students, he didn't have a problem getting accepted at Yale, and, in fact, he had no difficulty receiving a scholarship, quite an accomplishment in those depression years. Talk about the perfect son! As a student he had all kinds of outside jobs in addition to his Yale jobs, so that he didn't need much financial assistance from home. On top of this, he graduated as a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

After Yale College, he went on to and graduated from Yale Law School. He then joined a small law firm in Bridgeport headed by his uncle, but Pearl Harbor intervened and Bernie enlisted in the Army and was assigned to an anti-aircraft training base. With his background he was soon selected for officer candidate school and later sent to Camp Stewart, Georgia where he met his future wife, Marjorie. They have been married for 56 years, and are blessed with a son, a daughter, and five grandchildren.

Upon his discharge as a Captain, he returned to Connecticut. He enjoyed an unparalleled career as a trial lawyer, trying several hundred court and jury cases over the years. He also became an avid golfer, shooting regularly in the 70's! He still maintains a low handicap at Royal Poinciana, where he served two terms as President after he moved to Naples permanently in 1984.

He still practices law, albeit on a more limited basis, having established the Naples firm of Peck & Peck with his son, Dan, also an attorney. Bernie has been a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, as well as the American College of Trial Lawyers, and has served as Chairman of the Naples YMCA Endowment Board. We are very pleased to have Bernie as a Trustee of and Of Counsel to the Yale club of Southwest Florida.

## **The Club Supports College Night at Gulf Coast High School**

*100 Colleges and Universities await inquiries from interested students*

By Tom Mackelfresh '51

On the evening of September 13<sup>th</sup> Yale University was represented at the Collier County College Night at the Gulf Coast High School. Representing Yale were Terry Upson '60, Torrey Foster '56 and yours truly. There was a constant stream of students from the local secondary schools. Thirty-four students signed our attendance sheet and dozens of others had conversations with us.

Over 100 colleges, universities and armed forces academies were represented at this event. While we realize that there are very few students who would qualify for admission to Yale, it is important to keep our name before the community and the school administration of Collier County.

College Night for Lee County has been cancelled and rescheduled from September 14<sup>th</sup> to November 4<sup>th</sup> due to Hurricane Floyd.

## **Yale and Leadership is Topic of AYA Fall Assembly**

By Torrey Foster '56 AYA Representative

When I was at Yale, I am not sure that I necessarily thought of myself as a "leader-to-be". Perhaps I felt more like a person well prepared with a "good ticket" to launch a career, whatever that might be. There is no doubt, however, that Yale did and continues to prepare her graduates for leaderships roles in whatever dimension that may be defined. And that is what was discussed at Assembly LV of the AYA held on October 28-29. The goals for the Assembly were to explore what Yale's role has been and might be in the development of leadership qualities.

The Assembly began on Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon with a plenary session entitled "What is Leadership". This was led by a distinguished panel of Yale professors from the School of Management, Law School, and History Department. Thereafter, we went into breakout groups which reviewed case studies on leadership styles followed by a plenary debriefing. The dinner that night was in Commons with John Pepper '60, retired CEO of Proctor & Gamble as the keynote speaker.

Continued on P. 4



## AYA Fall Assembly continued from P. 3

The next day, Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, we met again in the Law School Auditorium to hear a panel discussion by four Alumni who are widely recognized as leaders in their fields. They spoke on what role Yale played in becoming a leader and any thoughts they have for Yale in this regard.

Again late morning we selected one of three breakout sessions, each roughly correlating to the general areas of government, business and nonprofits, the latter being the one I chose. The discussion topic was "Taking Leadership of the Everyday World".

At lunch in The Omni Hotel at Yale, President Levin '74 PhD provided us with a general update on University affairs. The tables in the ballroom were designated for various areas of the University's administration and I chose "Facilities", headed by Associate Vice President Dawkins.

The final sessions were small group breakouts led by alumni who are active in various Yale alumni activities. I choose the "Club" section.

A more detailed report on my trip is enclosed as a supplement to this edition of the "Bulldog".

## 1999 – 2000 SEASON ACTIVITIES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Chair</u>
Nov. 20, 1999	"The Game" - Ditka's	Abernathy
Dec. 9, 1999	Annual Meeting	Upson & Wenzel
Dec. 15 1999	U. S. Trust Christmas Party	Herstin
Jan 16, 1999	Christie's Speaker/Cocktail	B. Bennett F. Johnson
Feb. 7, 2000	Yale President Levin Visit	D.Bennett K. Bruce
Feb. 2000	Porter Goss Luncheon	T. Upson B. Bennett
Mar 9, 2000	Yale Speaker Luncheon	Sartorio & Sleeper
Mar. 2000	Coach Siedlecki Luncheon	Broadbent
Apr. 2000	Ivy League Picnic	Carthaus & Sartorio
Apr. 13, 2000	Trustees Meeting	Wenzel

Arnold Garfinkel '62 MA, V. P. Activities (649-5308)

**The Yale Club of Southwest Florida**  
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Stamp