



THE TROPICAL BULLDOG

VOL II NO. II

The Voice of The Yale Club of Southwest Florida

Spring 2000

Trustees Hold Spring Meeting; Receive Reports and Plan for Coming Year Activities

Your Yale Club Trustees held a spring meeting on April 13th following a monthly luncheon at The Vineyards Country Club. After a call to order by President Wenzel '53 E, Jim Carthaus'62, Treasurer, reported that the Club has \$32,000 in our Endowment Fund and enough money in our operating fund to meet our obligations as they come due.

Arnold Garfinkel '62 MA, Activities Vice President, proposed the planned activities for the coming year and asked for volunteers for the Chair assignments. After a discussion, the 2000-2001 season list of activities was approved and appears on page 4 of this issue.

Torrey Foster '56 reported briefly on plans for this issue of The Tropical Bulldog as well as his forthcoming trip to the AYA Assembly in New Haven. It was agreed that the costs for these endeavors were well worth while. The production and printing of the newsletter is underwritten by *First Union Client Group*, and the AYA trips cost the Club approximately \$500 per trip.

The Trustees also received reports from Ted Gault '54 MDiv on events in Ft. Myers, Tom Mackelfresh '51 on Alumni School Committee successes, and from Scott Herstin '69 on our membership. Details of these reports are highlighted elsewhere in this issue.

The Trustees voted to make a contribution of \$3,000 to Yale University's Scholarship Fund for fiscal 2000/2001.

The Trustees took a secret ballot and voted on the Club's Outstanding Leadership Award to be presented at the Annual Meeting in December.

Finally President Wenzel brought the group up to date on the plans for an H-Y-P Club of Naples at Olde Cypress Country Club which is under construction.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Don't Forget!!!

Now held at the Collier Athletic Club, 710 Goodlette Road North. Sumptuous Buffet served in the main dining room for *only \$14.00*.

Reservations requested. Call Bob Wenzel 591-1690



Porter Goss Presents Annual Report to Assembled Alumni and Friends

Issues of national security highlight presentation

Congressman Porter Goss '60 returned to The Yale Club luncheon for his annual update on the state of national affairs. A former CIA clandestine services officer, he is Chairman of the House Select Committee on Intelligence. He also serves as Vice Chairman of the House Rules Committee and is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process.

In connection with national security, he commented on the President's trip to India and Pakistan as being very dangerous, there are angry factions wanting to fight each other and ethnic battles in Kosovo, and the election in Taiwan is of international importance. Since Putin will be President of Russia, the KGB will reassert itself to establish order in that country which is what most Russians want.

Goss pointed out that there is slow progress in Congress because of the almost equal balance of power, but there have been some accomplishments. The \$350 billion national debt is being reduced, there is a balanced budget, the Social Security Trust Fund is protected and the earnings limit is eliminated.

Continued on P. 2

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

First Managing Editor: Torrey Foster '56

Editorial Advisor: Bob Wenzel '53 E

Contributing Editor: Tom Mackelfresh '51

Goss *continued from page 1.*

Of interest to alumni, Goss noted that there is tax relief for business, and that the House of Representatives has repealed the estate tax, which costs more to collect than the government received.

The Congress is also working on health care matters, specifically patients rights and affordable health care.

In connection with national defense, Goss felt that the military is stretched beyond its capability to respond, and that additional funding is needed.

Goss says that Congress is not at fault for high gas prices – the administration is. He felt that the Department of Energy has not dealt with the strategic issues to work out a deal with members of the international community to work on driving down oil prices. We have supported many countries of OPEC, as well as others, and we need their reciprocity.

Gun control, he pointed out, has two parts: 1) ownership, and 2) proper use. He said that he voted for the Brady bill, but that gun control is not a legislative issue, but an executive failure. The number of prosecutions is less than ten for improper use of guns.

Speaking to the Cuba issue, Goss said that quotas are discriminatory, and that he is against artificial systems that favor one group (e.g. Cuba) over another. "We're a country of one. E pluribus unum"

Following his formal presentation, Goss responded to questions.

Brown Brothers Harriman Hosts Seminar on the Economy for H-Y-P

The noted investment firm of Brown Bros. Harriman hosted a seminar for the benefit of alumni of Harvard, Yale and Princeton at the Inn on 5th Avenue. Over 150 attendees heard various presentations on the economy and ideas on asset allocation and strong sectors for investment. James Neel, Managing Director of the Naples office, commented that his firm was pleased with the turnout and hoped that this might be an annual event. The formal presentations were followed by cocktails and hors d'oeuvres on the lovely second floor terrace of the hotel.



Dr. William Merwin & Rev. Ted Gault '54 MDiv

Dr. Merwin Spoke to a Yale Gathering in Fort Myers

A majority of Florida students have chosen to earn their college degrees at one of ten state universities. The newest of these is Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU), and its second president is Dr. William Merwin who spoke to a Yale gathering of 40 alumni and friends at the Royal Palm Yacht Club on March 29th.

Merwin shared his vision for the university to be a role model for the environment with \$1 million "Green Building" for environmental sciences. It will be built on 786 acres of the university of which only 350 are "buildable".

He next outlined his proposed programs of outreach to the community. The first of these is a Renaissance Academy which will be an in-college "university" for older adults (+50 years). He sees inter-generational development as a civic engagement, whereby each student must work 80 hours in the community. (Foster has personal experience with an intern working at the Lee County Chapter of the Red Cross). His final outreach initiative will be a music program to work with various music organizations in the community.

Although FGCU has 110 courses on the WEB for long distance learning, it is probably only valuable for older students, according to Merwin. He basically believes in "control" learning and the value of classroom participation.

Finally FGCU will be adding a variety of sports programs, but there will be no football because it is too expensive.

TRUSTEE PROFILE



ROBERT C. BENNETT '44

Bob Bennett has been a Trustee of The Yale Club since the 1980's, and was our President from 1990-92. He was graduated from New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL and went to Yale where he was an All American swimmer and captain of Yale's freshman team. He was on the relay which set the world record. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

After Navy duty during WWII as both an enlisted man and commissioned officer, he attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces during his reserve duty. He started his business career as a salesman for National Electric Products Corp., and after successive promotions, became Executive Vice President and a member of the Board of Directors in Pittsburgh. When the company was sold, Bob started his own company and became a member of YPO (The Young Presidents Organization). He sold his own company, moved to New York as Senior Vice President of Bell Intercontinental, later known as Wheelabrator Frye. His second career was in the executive search business when he started Bennett Hill & Associates in Cleveland, and with offices also in Chicago, Dallas, Atlanta, New York, Boston and Naples. The branches were later sold, and Bob now operates as Bennett Search & Consulting Company in Naples.

Bob has two sons, two daughters and 3 grandchildren, as well as Ann's family including three stepchildren and two step grandchildren.

He remains active in the swimming world participating in Masters Swimming events. He is highly ranked in tennis doubles and played on the U.S. Osuna Cup Team against Mexico and the Potter Cup team against 10 foreign teams in Barcelona. Bob was on the Board of Directors of the Florida Tennis Association for 6 years.

Bob has been very active in the Naples community with many board memberships and recognitions. He recently was graduated from Leadership Collier 2000. Currently he is Chairman of the Water and Waste Water Authority of Collier County, Treasurer and Board Member of the Kiwanis Club, a Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow, and a member of the Forum Club, YPO 49, and the President's Club of the Chamber of Commerce.

Schools Committee Gets Three Area Students Accepted to Yale

11 Area Students apply for the Class of 2004

The Club's Alumni Schools Committee was very busy and successful this past school year under the leadership of Tom Mackelfresh '51. Of eleven students who applied, three were admitted for the Class of 2004.

Eric Jay Rubenstein from the Canterbury School in Ft. Myers, son of Dr. James Rubenstein '77 was admitted on early decision and has matriculated.

Marcello Marlando Mullings from Lehigh High School was accepted. This is a first from this school, according to Mackelfresh. Mullings has indicated that he will be accepting the offer of admission.

Julia Frances Kane was accepted from The Community School of Naples. However, Julia has decided to go to MIT.

Southwest Florida has one student on the wait list, but current indications are that an offer of admission is a long shot, and he will go to another college.

The Club has presented 9 book awards to outstanding juniors in the area, four from Ft. Myers, and the remainder from Naples. The Yale Shakespeare is now out of print, so the book selected is the Webster's Collegiate Dictionary.

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2000 – 2001 SEASON ACTIVITIES

Nov. 3, 2000	Welcome Back Party	Jan. ? 2001	Brown Bros. Harriman Seminar
Nov. 9, 2000	Monthly Luncheon	Feb. 8, 2001	Monthly Luncheon
Nov. 10, 2000	Ft. Myers Co-op with Sarasota	Feb. ? 2001	Football Coach Siedlecki Luncheon
Nov. 13, 2000	1st Tercentennial Speaker Bill Donaldson '53, '73 MAH	Feb. 23, 2001	3rd Tercentennial Speaker Vincent Scully '40, 47 MA, '49 PhD
Nov. 25, 2000	Yale / Harvard Game	Mar. 8, 2001	Monthly Luncheon
Dec. 14, 2000	Annual Meeting of Members	Mar. 15, 2001	Porter Goss Annual Luncheon
Dec. 20, 2000	U.S. Trust Holiday Party	Mar. ? 2001	Ft. Myers Event
Jan. 11, 2001	Monthly Luncheon	Apr. 2, 2001	4th Tercentennial Speaker Robert Semple ' 59
Jan. 15, 2001	2nd Tercentennial Speaker Roger Horchow '50, '99 LHDH	Apr. 12, 2001	Monthly Luncheon / Trustees Mtg.
Jan. ? 2001	Ft. Myers Event	Apr. ? 2001	Ivy League Picnic

Call Bob Wenzel (941) 591-1690 for Monthly Luncheon reservations or questions

The Yale Club of Southwest Florida
400 Cocohatchee Drive
Naples, Florida 34110

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