MAY MEETING

Monday, May 9, 2016
3:30 p.m. Reception; 4:00 p.m. Program
The University Club of Winter Park

Our Annual General Meeting will precede our enjoyment of another program by Dr. Elliot Engel.

How William Became Shakespeare

Please join us for another scintillating program to be presented by Dr. Elliot Engel. He will discuss “How William Became Shakespeare” on this, the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death.

Dr. Engel is a renowned and acclaimed professor and author who has received numerous accolades for his works. On this, his 32nd appearance before our E-SU branch, he will provide us with insight into another piece of history.

Program Leader: Diane Sandquist
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Club Members,

If you missed the Queen’s Birthday Party, you missed a wonderful program by Ann Hellmuth with a Power Point presentation by Michele Levy. Ann is always informative, amusing, and sometimes a bit salty. She demonstrated all of these characteristics in her program on the life of our E-SU patron, the Queen of England. Judy Beck provided refreshments with an English touch including scones, tea, cucumber sandwiches, and the Queen’s favorite—a double chocolate birthday cake. We urge you to attend our delightful programs and support your Club.

Our next program features one of our most popular of all our programs—the Annual Meeting, which is our final meeting before our summer break. Part of the popularity is our regular featured speaker, Elliot Engel, who will entertain us with a program titled “How William Became Shakespeare.” The meeting will begin with the election of a new Board of Directors. We have included an amended listing of the slate of directors in this newsletter. Your Board of Directors has eliminated the position of the Communications Vice President. We did this to comply with the proposed change of legal status by National of each branch which limits the number of board members to twenty. The Communications Committee will elect a Chair who will function in somewhat the same manner. By doing this, we will keep our rotating number of nine Directors at Large who have staggered terms of office. Unless we have any nominations from the floor, we will have a voice vote. Please be sure to attend and take part in this meeting when every member has a vote!

Our change to a Limited Liability Corporation, required by National by a vote of the National Board of Directors, continues on our local level. We have to resolve one issue with National—security of our Endowment funds. We are using a local attorney to assist in this endeavor. We will have to comply with the National requirement in order to maintain our Branch as part of E-SU.

Planning for hosting the National Annual Conference continues with our committee chaired by John Snow. We have four locations set with the Sheraton North, Maitland, for our National Board Meeting, Lunch and Presidents Conclave on October 14, 2016, followed by a Gala Dinner for meeting attendees and local Branch members. This dinner will replace our October dinner meeting. On October 15, 2016, the Annual Conference will take place all day with a luncheon featuring our local speaker, Socky O’Sullivan.

In the evening, a Patrons Reception will be held at the Cornell Museum at Rollins College. The following day we will have a brunch at the Blu Restaurant on Park Avenue and a visit to the Morse Museum. Branch member Ann Murrah will provide us with a guided tour of the museum. After the tour, attendees can explore our unique Park Avenue and other local attractions.

We urge our fellow members to attend to show our attendees our Florida hospitality. Details will follow with registration and other information on the Gala Dinner and brunch.

As always, should you have any questions or wish to offer any items for our Newsletter, contact us via email or call us at 407-480-0123. You can reach me directly at 407-260-6050 or via email at FPB498@gmail.com. On a personal note, I wish to thank those that expressed their concerns for my health. Hope to see you at our Annual Meeting!

Cordially,

Frank Paul Barber, President
REPORTING ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE QUEEN’S 90TH BIRTHDAY

On Monday, April 18, at the University Club of Winter Park, we were delighted and enlightened about all things concerning the Queen and her first ninety years. We were invited to indulge ourselves with finger sandwiches, scones, chocolate birthday cake, and an array of various delicious desserts all accompanied with traditional tea.

All of the above was lovely, indeed, however after a wonderful introduction by Michele Levy, the main fare was served by Ann Hellmuth, who entertained us with many stories about the Queen: from her young childhood, to the early years of her marriage, to the birth of her children, and to the present day.

The audience was captivated and left with a better understanding of the Queen’s life and obligations.

Bravo and thanks to Michele and Ann!

Ovid Vitas  
Vice President, Programs

FIRST SCHOLARS’ REUNION SUCCESSFUL

Former British University Summer Program Scholars received invitations through the mail to attend our first Scholars’ reunion, held at the An Tobar, Irish Pub in the Maitland Sheraton North on March 30 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The theme of the evening was “Mingle” and enjoy a wine and cheese tasting social hour. Jan McClure, who designed the invitations, received twenty-six responses, and she designed name tags that gave the year and university that each scholar attended. The Manager at the An Tobar donated beautiful cheese/cracker and fruit platters while our Branch bought wine, beer, well drinks for all. Our 2016 Scholars had fun hearing others’ adventures as well as tips on what to pack, great places to eat, and places that must be seen. Everyone had a great time recalling experiences, their favorite instructors and classes, and just catching up on what's going on today. The socializing was non-stop and so successful that many asked if there might be more opportunities for the scholars to come together for sharing. Ideas began to be discussed before the evening ended, and yes, the Scholar Committee wishes to make this an annual event. Thanks again to the Sheraton North’s An Tobar for a memorable evening.

Reta Jackson  
Scholar Chair
DISCOVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL WIZ KIDS
WIN OCPS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Early on the evening of April 6 in the Winter Park 9th Grade Center auditorium, an exciting final round in the OCPS Battle of the Books pitted Discovery Middle School against Legacy Middle School. Having prepared all year by reading the Sunshine State booklist, the students listened to the questions, conferred among their teammates, and then gave their answers. Discovery Middle School took home the trophy this year with happy faces (see pix). The Battle of the Books is one of our Drey Education Committee’s grant projects for 2015-2016.

Donna Miller
V.P., Drey Endowment

E-SU INTRODUCTION CARDS AVAILABLE

Just a reminder that we have E-SU introduction cards available to give out to prospective members. It lists our Branch’s contact information and gives a brief list of what we are all about. It also has a code on the back that can be scanned with any smart phone device that will automatically bring up the E-SU website with more information!

The English-Speaking Union
Central Florida Branch

Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 758
Winter Park, FL 32790
407.480.0123
Email: centralfl@E-SUus.org
Website: E-SUus.org/centralflorida

WHAT WE ARE ALL ABOUT
• International speaker programs
• British Summer School teacher scholarships
• Gala dinner meetings
• Professional development programs for teachers
• High school Shakespeare Competitions
• ESOL student awards
• Elementary school literacy programs
• Award-winning media projects in literature
• Middle school literacy programs
• Summer Shakespeare program
• Social gatherings - and much more
Fifteen years ago I had my first experience with the E-SU during the Drey Shakespeare Summer Institute at Rollins. It must have been there that I first found out about the Oxford opportunity, but like a coach passenger peeking into first class, I could not believe I was eligible for something so prestigious. Nonetheless, I began pursuing many local and national opportunities to enhance my teaching skills and content knowledge. As a result of these great experiences, taking risks in my career and frankly, time, when I once again came upon the E-SU scholarship to Oxford, I was ready. And, it was worth the wait.

Surreal. Cliché, I know. But that’s really the best way to describe the experience. Imagine having only a faint picture of—say—a New England village and then arriving in Oxford, England. Imagine a Medieval city with droves of tourists. Imagine the Gothic chapels and great halls. Imagine the wildly colorful and fragrant English gardens and grand dining halls. Imagine Harry Potter. Imagine Middle Earth. Wonderland. Imagine tutors, striped robes flying behind them. Imagine a library that receives 2000 to 3000 books a day! Imagine 38 colleges, each one with its own unique beauty. Imagine daily synapse-firing lectures and nightly outdoor Shakespeare. Imagine Oxford.

I planned to keep a journal while I was there, but I got too busy enjoying myself. From the moment I arrived, I was in awe. My Anglo-Saxon professor Dr. Janina Ramirez turned out to be a BBC celebrity (if there is such a thing!). She engaged us in a discussion about the art and relics from the time period revealing the skill and craftsmanship of an often erroneously labeled “primitive” culture—after which we couldn’t wait to take a trip to the Ashmolean Museum to see some of these treasures ourselves. A group of us stared into the glass cases containing the Alfred Jewel, various belt buckles, and miscellaneous artifacts—shields, swords, daggers, gauntlets, tools, currency, etc.—from the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval period with the enthusiasm our teacher shared when she held the Sutton Hoo shoulder clasps, fainted from excitement and dropped them. (The British Museum, it turns out, no longer lets anyone touch the treasures since this mishap.) We snapped dozens of photos and then bought postcards of the same images. In class we learned how to interpret Old English using various glossaries but more importantly, learned to admire the beauty of the language—rhythmic and melodious—as our teacher indulged us in various readings. Our growing understanding of the artifacts and language led to deeper understanding of the themes in the literature, especially the warrior code, Comitatus. For the first time, not only do I really understand the longing, grief and isolation of “The Seafarer” and “The Wanderer” but also, I understand the hope these men and women maintained—despite exile—because of their “tribal” loyalties.

Perhaps my deeper understanding of Comitatus explains the bonds I forged with my fellow ESU students. Despite my innate disposition for rapport building, typically friendships evolve slowly for me. Michelle Kee and Tonya Thompson, however, I now count as dear friends as the result of this experience. Tonya and I “geeked out” together in our Anglo-Saxon seminar, while Michelle and I “crushed” in Victorian Literature.

Our Victorian Literature professor, David Grylls, seemed to know everything, absolutely everything about Victorian Literature: all the authors and novels; context, publication and idiosyncratic information; which scholar said what, when, about whom. For example, he shared how Dickens would walk home from London most nights, a 5 to 6 hour journey, rise early and repeat while publishing thousands of words per week. (So much for whining about grading papers!) He revealed George Eliot’s strange and strained relationships and Thomas Hardy’s ongoing revision process. We also discussed themes, characters and style. We stood up for Pip, complained about Tom and grieved for Tess. The books were alive in our discussions and hearts, leaving us wanting “Please, Sir, some more!” and wishing for the time to teach all of these great works to our students.

In addition to our focus seminars, we attended lectures spanning the British Literature time line. This series of lectures, along with the close study within our classes, revealed a more comprehensive picture of the English language as we know it today and a rationale for a chronological approach to British Literature instruction. Most importantly, however, I gained reassurance that my students deserve the rigorous, relevant and riveting works that reveal not only the evolution of the world’s most prominent language but also the universal themes of the human condition.

Thank you, E-SU, so much for this life affirming experience!

- Jill Mollenhauer
The English-Speaking Union  
Central Florida Branch  

Nominating Committee Recommendations  
for Executive Board 2016-2017

Members: We will vote for our 2016-2017 Board at our May 9, 2016, meeting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Frank Paul Barber</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive VP</td>
<td>Barbara Hughes</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice Presidents:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>Donna Miller</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Gisela Davis</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>Ovid Vitas</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>Reta Jackson</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shakespeare Comp.</td>
<td>Ginger Bryant</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deputy Treasurer</td>
<td>Lorre Davis</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Jan McClure</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directors:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2017</td>
<td>Elaine Barnes</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2017</td>
<td>Sandra Powers</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2017</td>
<td>Mary Rosette</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2018</td>
<td>Dot Cline</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2018</td>
<td>Elaine Laegeler</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2018</td>
<td>Socky O’Sullivan</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td>Judy Beck</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td>Julie Rankin</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-2019</td>
<td>John Snow</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Michael Kakos</td>
<td>Continuing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUMMER DREY EVENTS PLANNED FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Our Central Florida Branch is sponsoring a “SHAKESPEARE SUMMER INSTITUTE” for teachers. Led by local experts in Shakespearean drama and performance, Central Florida educators will attend pedagogical sessions, take part in small group discussions, and perform key scenes from Shakespeare’s plays. The two-day event, focusing on teaching Shakespeare as performance, will take place at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater on June 15-16. Jan McClure, with assistance from Julie Rankin, has enlisted the services of former Globe scholar James Brendlinger to organize this year’s event.

“THE YOUNG COMPANY,” a four-week summer program led by the Orlando Shakespeare Theater Education Department, will present Shakespeare’s As You Like It on Friday July 8 and Saturday July 9 at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday July 10 at 2:00 p.m. To purchase tickets, call the box office at 407-447-1700. High school students audition for the popular camp, some appearing on stage or working back stage for the first time. The Drey Grant provides scholarships for those who need financial support. Credit for our E-SU grant is published in the program’s brochure and also announced in the opening remarks at each performance. Come join us for a remarkable theater experience!

“SHAKESPEARE WITH HEART,” another Drey project this summer, grants scholarships to students with special needs. The Orlando Shakespeare Theater Education Department works in tandem with the United Cerebral Palsy organization and the UCF Exceptional Education Department to provide a unique theatrical experience, a rare opportunity for many of the students. The program will culminate with a full stage production of Shakespeare’s Two Gentlemen of Verona on Friday July 22 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the theater’s box office (407-447-1700). Credit for our E-SU grant can be found on OST’s website (orlandoshakes.org) and will be given at the opening of the performance. Come see it; your heart will be touched.

Donna Miller  
VP, Drey Endowment

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

* Cindy Chanatry  
* Frances S. Pignone

In Loving Memory
Angela Jacobson  
Died March 2016

YEARBOOK DEADLINE

We will soon begin working on the E-SU Yearbook for the 2015-2016 fiscal year which begins July 1. We ask that you check your listing in the current Yearbook to see if any changes have occurred. Please email any changes to esu.rebeccavanhorn@yahoo.com no later than July 15 so that we may update the information listed in the new Yearbook that will be available at the September meeting.

Have a great summer!
The English-Speaking Union
Central Florida Branch
Post Office Box 758
Winter Park, FL 32790-0758
Return Service Requested

THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
CENTRAL FLORIDA BRANCH
Membership Application

☐ I wish to become a member of the English-Speaking Union, Central Florida Branch.
☐ I wish to renew my membership of the English-Speaking Union, Central Florida Branch.

Please send a check for $45 (single membership) or $60 (couple membership) to the English-Speaking Union, PO Box 758, Winter Park, FL 32790-0758.

Name and Spouse’s Name _____________________________________________________________
Address _________________________________ City ___________________State ____ Zip _______
Phone, Fax, and Email ________________________________________________________________

Visit the E-SU Central Florida website at www.E-SUus.org/centralflorida for more information.