



The Nashville Speaker

The English-Speaking Union
NASHVILLE BRANCH

Volume 9, Issue 2

Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

Spring, 2011

Our Mission

The English-Speaking Union of the United States is committed to promoting scholarship and the advancement of knowledge through the effective use of English in an expanding global community.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Dr. Theodore E. Wiltsie

Past President

Richard H. Knight, Jr.,

President Elect

Dr. Susan D. Sinclair

Treasurer

Lynne Siesser

Secretary

Anne Guerra

Education Chair

Dr. Ann Cook Calhoun

Membership Chair

William T. Schwartz

Directors

Marilyn Beesley

Dr. Roger L. Burgess

Joan Campbell

Arlyn Cherney

Sandra Frank

Roupen M. Gulbenk

Phyllis Heard

Martin F. MacNamara III

Dr. C. Richard Treadway

Susan Walker

Lina Wellborn

Newsletter Editor

Lynne Siesser

2009 Overhill Drive

Nashville, TN 37215-3414

lsiesser@comcast.net

615-298-5659

Have you received your invitation to the
Spring Banquet on Friday, April 29th?

Call Lynne 615-298-5659 or lsiesser@comcast.net if you did not.

ESU REGION II MEETING

Hosted by the Nashville Branch

(Nashville members are welcome to attend the sessions)

Registration fee: \$75 (Spring Banquet included)

April 29-30, 2011

BUILDING A BETTER BRANCH

All the sessions will address the triumphs, needs, and problems of our local groups. In addition to reports from each city, we will discuss strategies from throughout the country that have resulted in stronger, more vital ESU Branches.

Special Consultants

Patricia Schroeder, National Chair of the ESU
Alice Boyne, National CEO and President of the ESU



Take your suggestions, questions, and problems to the top!

Leaders from All Branches Plan to Attend.

Schedule

Friday: Black tie dinner at Hillwood Country Club, with Patricia Schroeder as speaker. *(Dinner will include all the Nashville Branch members)*

Saturday: Branch reports and planning sessions, 10:00 to 4:00 (lunch included), with a cocktail supper in an elegant private home.

Sunday: Departure or sightseeing in Nashville.

Ann Calhoun is looking for volunteers to

- Host a couple from another branch
- Take visitors sightseeing on Sunday

352-3521 or gercalhoun@aol.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Since the last newsletter

Jill & John Ford * Margaret Roberts * Alice Sisk * Rebecca Wright * Roxanna Rogers

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL
TWELFTH NIGHT

Blair Campbell Webber on the Harp; Chaucer with **Heather Webber** as the *Wife of Bath*, **Hugh**

Inman as the *Pardoner* and **Randy Lancaster** reading the *Prologue*; the magical Irish Step Dancers from **Wendy Ellis Windsor-Hashiguchi's Scott-Ellis School of Irish Dance**; **Frank Hashiguchi** and the talented young men from **Hillsboro High** making music and our own **Ann Calhoun** with her spoof of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* made for another fun

evening. **Melinda Coles** and her merry band – **Joan Campbell, Lynne Siesser, Susan Sinclair** and **Joan Vollmer** decorated the Barn at Travellers Rest with greenery and lights. Food supplied by the members was delicious. *Wassail, Syllabub, Lamb's Wool* were imbibed. **Anne Guerra** led the Executive Committee and their spouses in cleaning up.

Blair Campbell Webber is a 7th grader at University School of Nashville. She has won multiple awards for her piano accomplishments, but she is now concentrating more fully on her harp. She also plays the clarinet in the Middle School band and the

handbells with Westminster Presbyterian's Tintinnabulation group. Since Blair started harp lessons about 3 years ago, she has



been a student of Heidi Jellison. Blair hopes to play her harp through college and beyond, and she is truly delighted to share the music of lovely this instrument.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS TO EDUCATION PROGRAMS

*Since the last newsletter**Silver Benefactors (\$200 or more)*

Phyllis Heard * Marilyn Shields & Ted Wiltsie

Benefactors (\$100-\$199)

Arlyn & Ted Cherney * Missie & Wallace Edwards * Imogene & Bill Maddox * Jack & Lynn May
Ann Marie & Martin McNamara * Mr. & Mrs. William Norrie * Elaina & Ronnie Scott
Charlotte Summers * Martha Winston

Patron (\$50-\$99)

Marilyn Beasley * Melinda & Ron Coles * Clara & Nelson Davenport * Elizabethine Gaultney *
Anne & Bob Guerra * Senator Douglas Henry * Lina & John Wellborn

Donor (\$25-\$49)

Nancy Griswold * Dot Joyner * Jocelyne McCall * Betty & Charlie Robison * Jane Tarkington
Jane & Richard Treadway

PAGE SCHOLAR VISITS NASHVILLE

Alejandro Santiago Solernó from St Andrew's Scots School in Buenos Aires, Argentina visited Nashville in February. Thanks to host **Bill Schwartz** (accommodation), **Joan Campbell** (a sumptuous dinner), **Sandra & Dick Frank** (a terrific cocktail supper), **Ann Calhoun** and **Patti Harris** (drivers) and **Ann Calhoun's** organization of his visits to Hume-

Fogg, University School of Nashville, Peabody, Martin Luther King and Ensworth High, Alejandro had an educational and enjoyable time. He promises to raise his new son (pictured here) as a Vanderbilt fan.

Baby Santiago Solernó

HIGH TEA DEEMED A MUST FOR YOUR CALENDAR



FRIENDS OF
RADNOR LAKE
Established 1973

At our Spring High Tea on April 3, 2011, at Shadowbrook, published poet and actress **Audrey Campbell** read poems from her *Radnor Lake Anthology*, a collection of poems which brought alive the world of Nature. Appearing with Audrey were violinist **Suzanne Potter** and pianist **Peggy Pellet**, who introduced each poem with an appropriate musical selection. Guests in hats added to the festive occasion and as always, thanks go to hosts, **Phila, Clara and Nelson Davenport** - the food was delicious.

In Memoriam

From the
Tennessean



EMILY ANN GRANTHAM MATHEWS, was born in 1925 to Kirk and Lucile Grantham, and peacefully passed away

October 6, 2010. Survived by her husband of 60 years, Robert Mathews, retired dentist; children, Roberta Corbett, Emily Dunn (Gary), John Mathews, Jennifer Smith (Roy); grandchildren, Shelby and Emily Smith, and Sean and Matthew Dunn, and siblings, Martha Lu Jackson, Janie Sargent (Robert) and Kirk Grantham (Cheryl). Emily was a friend to many. She enjoyed historic preservation, conservation, entertaining, cooking, decorating and football. She was a member of the Centennial Club; English Speaking Union; University Club and Dental Auxiliary. As a volunteer at Cheekwood, she lent her floral talents to the Swan Ball and the Trees of Christmas, and was the past chair of the Heart Gala. She was a member and served on the board of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, where she enjoyed spending time with her family at their

cottage, Peace-n-Plenty. She was active with many local, state and national political campaigns, including her own run for Metro Council in 1976. When she was born, her father was the head football coach at UT Martin. Emily grew up in Tupelo, attended Mississippi College for Women and the University of Missouri, where she studied journalism. In high school, she covered sports and news for the city paper with the "by name" Scoop Grantham. After college, she hosted variety radio shows in Jackson and Clarksville. While in Clarksville, she covered the arrival of the 101st Airborne and she represented the city as Miss Clarksville. She is preceded in death by her parents; son, Todd and son-in-law, Tom Corbett.



THOMAS L. YOUNT, JR., died at age 82, on December 2, 2010. He was a man of integrity, devoted to his family and community. He was born March 23, 1928 in

Birmingham, AL, elder son of deceased parents, T. L. Yount, Sr. and Hazel Felts Yount, Greenbrier, TN. Married in 1953 at First Presbyterian Church, Nashville, TN to the former Jane Wilkerson, who survives. Other survivors include three married daughters, Lee Louise Wenckebach (Karl), Seminole, FL, Margaret Fawn Reis (Ed), Phoenix, AZ, Pamela Jane White (Doug), Mt. Juliet, TN. Mr. Yount is also survived by his brother, John F. Yount and his wife, Kay of Fort Worth, TX, as well as grandchildren, Sarah Fawn Salt (Noel), Robert Steven Polen (Jennifer), Elizabeth Hazel Polen, Benjamin Alan White, Hannah Rose White and great-grandchildren, Anders Wilkerson Salt, Audrey Fawn Salt, Aili Elizabeth Salt. Mr. Yount served honorably in WWII, U.S. Navy (1946-48), and went on to Vanderbilt University, graduating with honors with a B.S. of Engineering in 1952. He worked for Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA, before returning to Nashville as General Manager of IEI, an electronics company, then becoming President of ORTEC, a research instrument company in Oak Ridge, TN. In 1968, when ORTEC became a global leader with its acquisition by EG&G of Boston, he continued as Sr. Vice-

President of the worldwide technology firm until retiring in 1983. Throughout his life, Mr. Yount enthusiastically served as a member of Jaycees, Rotary Club (1956-2010), Chamber of Commerce, United Way, and Arts Council, to name a few. He accepted a call by Governor Lamar Alexander for two years as Commissioner of Employment Security (1983-85) and was commended for his superlative service by the Senate Joint Resolution No. 34. By 1985, Mr. Yount devoted his considerable energy to his family and various community service interests, which included First Presbyterian Church, where he was an active elder, as well as serving eight years as a Trustee of Columbia Seminary in Decatur, GA. Mr. Yount greatly valued the fellowship of the men in his weekly Bible Study during his retirement years. He also had special interest in the Bill Wilkerson Hearing and Speech Center, part of Vanderbilt University since 1997. Mr. Yount had keen interest in many conservation causes, serving for several years on the board of the Tennessee Nature Conservancy. Mr. and Mrs. Yount traveled widely throughout the world, both before and after retirement, but their favorite place has been a second home on Old Hickory Lake in Mt. Juliet, TN. There, Mr. Yount immersed himself in his hobbies of gardening and woodturning, which he characterized as "revealing the beauty of God's creation in a log that most would think of as firewood."

SUCCESSFUL WORKSHOP AT HARPETH HALL

Thanks to some very able leaders, **Jacqueline Springfield, Robyn Berg, Nettie Kraft, Denice Hicks and Ann Calhoun's** superb

planning, the students benefited from the workshop to hone their acting skills. *Your education donations go towards events like this as well as the*

Shakespeare Competition and the Teacher Fellowships to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Blackfriars in Staunton, Virginia and /or the British University Summer School.





TEACHER WORKSHOP WITH THE FOLGER LIBRARY PLANNED FOR AUGUST, 2011

The English-Speaking Union National Headquarters has formed a partnership with the world-renowned Folger Shakespeare Library to develop another professional development opportunity for Shakespeare teachers to take place in our Branches across the country: **Shakespeare Set Free Institutes**. These two-day, intensive, low-cost, non-residential institutes use the Folger's smart, easily-adapted methods and materials to teach performance-based approaches to Shakespeare. Performance-based teaching is an interactive approach to the study of Shakespeare's plays and poems, in which students participate in close reading of the text through intellectual, physical and vocal engagement. This type of teaching can create a connection with Shakespeare's works that may not be present with traditional teaching methods.

SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION FINDS A WINNER AT BELMONT

Rachel Woods, a student at Centennial High School and one of last year's runners-up, will represent Nashville at the national finals in New York. Rachel won with Joan la Pucelle's monologue from *Henry VI* and Sonnet 131. First alternate is **Tristan Parks** from the Nashville School of the Arts [Malvolio from *Twelfth Night* and Sonnet 113] and third place went to **Lindsey Myrick** from Harpeth Hall [Phebe from *As you Like it* and Sonnet 29].



Rachel Woods, Denice Hicks, Rodrikus Springfield
Lindsey Myrick, Tristan Parks, Craige Hoover

Our thanks to **Roxie Rogers** for running the competition, The Nashville Shakespeare Festival for the judges – **Denice Hicks, Craige Hoover** and **Rodrikus Springfield** and **Dr. Paul Gatrell** of Belmont University for the use of the Troutt Theatre which is a superb venue for the regional finals. **Lynne Siesser** and **Susan Sinclair** supplied refreshments with **Bill Schwartz** as an ambassador for the ESU, Nashville. **Ann Calhoun's** detailed preparation was so meticulous; she managed to be in Virginia on the actual day of the competition and still produced an outstanding event.

GET TO KNOW YOUR BOARD – SUSAN D. SINCLAIR, Ph. D., PRESIDENT-ELECT

SUSAN D. SINCLAIR, is the only child of Bruce Dennison (Jack) Sinclair, who was one of the first members of the Nashville Branch of the English Speaking Union, so she started going to ESU functions at an early age. Married to Louis Ray Burns, Jr., Susan has lived in Nashville, where she grew up, for the past few years. Susan and Ray are the proud parents of Mary Susan, their daughter, who lives in New York City and is an intern with the Jose Limon Dance Company. Susan has taught at many different colleges and universities, including University of Alabama, University of Mississippi, and the University of Maryland. She received her Master's degree in English from the University of Mississippi, after holding the University Fellowship in Southern Literature there. She received her Ph.D. in English from Duke University and recently received a second Master's degree in Fine Arts from Vanderbilt University. She has been collecting, studying, selling and appraising antiques for many years and has amassed over three hundred hours in appraisal education over the past five years. She gives seminars in antique silver and had great fun helping a small museum in assessing its decorative arts collection. During her three years of living in Europe, she appraised and sold antiques and art. She makes trips to London and New York for antiques shows and seminars. She is a frequent consultant of antique dealers and collectors, as well as several auction houses. Recently, she has been doing work for insurance companies in resolving questions of value of losses, in addition to her appraisal business and her estate sales company, Nashville Estate Solutions. The author of a seminar on collecting and evaluating antique silver, she has also written for The Association of Collectors of Small Silver. She is a member of the Decorative Arts Trust, The Silver Society of London and the International Society of Appraisers.



Susan Sinclair at the Fall Banquet, 2010