

Women's Club at UCF, Inc

NEWSLETTER

FALL ISSUE 2016

From Our President

It is a pleasure for me to be a member of this vital and vibrant organization and I am honored to serve as its President. 2016-2017 will be another busy year for the Women's Club at UCF! It will be filled with opportunities to help our scholarship efforts, as well as grow personally through our involvement with interesting and exciting club activities.

This is an organization which prides itself on "Moving Forward by Giving Back". We have made great strides over the years in funding both our undergraduate and graduate scholarships. This year we are continuing these efforts through our upcoming "Non-event Event"... see the related article in this issue for more details! This is our primary fundraising event this year .

There are many opportunities for you to get involved in this organization. We have interest groups that cover a wide variety of activities – something for everyone from the art lover to the technology enthusiast! These provide an excellent way to deepen friendships and foster new ones.

We look forward to another great year!



President Kathy Weise

IMPORTANT DATES

New Member Orientation

October-Date TBD

Holiday Coffee

Burnett House
December 6 10:00 am

Cookie Exchange

Dec. 12
5:00 pm-7:00 pm

Spring Luncheon Meeting

Rio Pinar Country Club
April 24, 2017

Visit our website for more information

[https://womensclub
.cos.ucf.edu/](https://womensclub.cos.ucf.edu/)

Password for Directory and Interest Group Calendar:
pegasus40

FALL LUNCHEON MEETING

Our president, Kathy Weise, welcomed everyone to the fall luncheon. She thanked members for their generous donations to the Knights' Pantry and recognized Martha Richard and her committee for their extra efforts in coordinating the event.

Guest speaker Michael J. Morsberger detailed the launch of the Ignite Campaign, the largest fund-raising activity in UCF history (started in 2011) with the challenge of reaching \$500 million by 2019. The campaign supports three priorities: student success, academic excellence and special growth and opportunity projects. He noted how important all monetary gifts are for UCF -- thanking our club for its continued support of the UCF Foundation and recognized that we have provided more than \$80,000 in scholarships to 50 students since 1988.



Mike Morsberger , Vice President of Alumni Relations and Development and CEO of the UCF Foundation, Inc.

Scholarship recipients this year are Angela Bardwell-Owens, Keisa Young-Weatherford, and Carrie Davis. Ms. Bardwell-Owens received one of the two undergraduate non-traditional scholarship. She is a single mother with two children and is studying psychology at UCF. Her future goals include attending graduate school and earning a PhD. She enjoys learning, teaching, researching, publishing and striving to be a catalyst for change. She expressed how grateful she was for the scholarship.

All interest groups were recognized, and five new ones have been added. Members enjoyed browsing at each group's decorated tables and signing up to continue or join the many activities offered.

The treasurer presented the financial report, and new members were introduced.



FALL LUNCHEON MEETING Continued



Move Forward by Giving Back” in 2016-2017!

I just wanted to take the time to thank the UCF Women’s Club for their generous donation of 270 lbs. of food! Our Knights in need really appreciate the continuous support of the Women’s club as we continue on our mission to support our students to reach their educational goals.

Knights Helping Knights Pantry is grateful for our partnership!

Jessica Roberts

All of you together made this task an easy undertaking!. Martha Ricard, Chairperson

Kudos for a job well done! The menu was refreshing and the decorations inspired. I was really delighted with the quality and healthfulness of the food and the attractive table scape. All of the goings on made me very proud of our group. Thank you for the work you and your committee did. Mary Meeker

Wonderful event ladies!! Well planned and executed!! What a team!! Sarah M.

Lovely and delicious luncheon meeting! Martha and committee. Everyone enjoyed it so much. Ann Simpson



“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”
—Aristotle



Non-Event Event

Have you ever found yourself torn when invited to an event to help a cause you believe in? You want to be supportive because you know the cause is worthy, but your life is so busy and even the thought of fitting in one more place to go is tiring...

The Women's Club at UCF has the answer – we're sponsoring a gala "Non-event Event" you don't actually attend!

No need to buy a new dress, shoes or handbag

or

Book an appointment for nails or hair

or

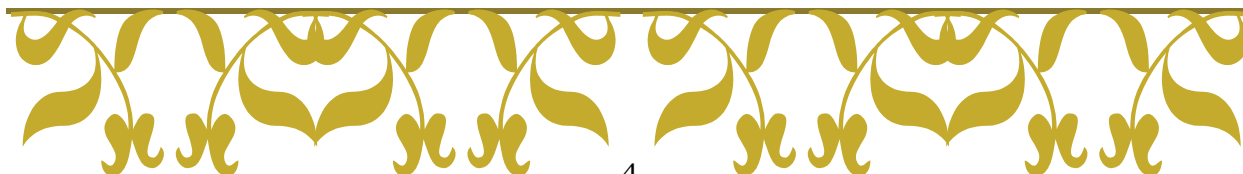
Spend time coming and going!!

INSTEAD...enjoy the evening at home knowing that you have helped the club's scholarship efforts!

At the club's 2016 Spring Luncheon Meeting, we asked members for input about possible events to help with our scholarship development efforts. A significant number of responses indicated a desire to "just write a check."

So, here's your opportunity...

In October, each club member will receive an invitation in the mail with an RSVP card and stamped return envelope requesting a donation for our scholarship funds for the privilege of NOT attending our "Non-event Event." Relax in the comfort of your home and reflect on how you can make a difference in the life of one of our scholarship recipients by just writing a check.



MEET SOME NEW MEMBERS

Keri Janssen is home-schooling the last of her four children this year. She has a background in graphic design and designed the flyer for our luncheon. She is a friend of Roberta Shoopman.

Taru Joshi is a retired teacher of Gifted Education in Seminole County. She is a friend of Teresita Leeson.

Erica LaBerge is a civil engineer. She has studied and worked in several other countries. She has already been a presenter in Armchair Travelers interest group.

Karen Manglardi is co-chair of the UCF Parent and Family Philanthropy. That group is the fund-raising arm for many student and parent services at the university.

Donna Rahman is a retired box office manager at UCF Theater. She loves to travel and has an Avon business.

Anne Taylor is development director of I-Dignity. She likes golf and paddle boarding. She leads the new Standup Paddle boarding interest group.

Pamela Wilson is a registered nurse who works per diem at an ambulatory surgical center. She also volunteers at I-Dignity.

“Encouragement from any source is like a drop of rain upon a parched desert. Thanks to all the many others who rained on me when I needed it, and even when I foolishly thought I didn't” — Claire Gillian

KUDOS FOR DR. M.C. SANTANA!

You might find us in front of the classroom or in the office down the hall and yet never suspect the secret we share. We are artists. Whether we have exhibited in galleries around the world or have never shown our work before, we are artists. We present to you our dreams, our hearts, our passion... We are the Hidden Artists.” Dr. Santana is a Hidden Artist and exhibited her work at a recent show at the John C. Hitt Library Art Wall at UCF.

“Do you know someone in our club who could use a little sunshine? Gail Dressel is the Sunshine Chair for our club and sends cards to members who may be ill, hospitalized, suffering a loss or dealing with some other life issue. However, she needs your help to know who needs to hear from us. Please contact Gail at gaildressell@att.net with the names of any club members who could use some sunshine. She will be happy to send a ray of sunshine their way.”



LAST YEAR'S "NEW" MEMBERS MOVE FORWARD BY GIVING BACK

There are so many reasons why women join the WC@UCF and we never know what talents, interests and areas of engagement each new member will bring to our outstanding group of women. It is often a delight to see what unfurls. To maintain a vibrant and diverse organization, we are always looking for ways to engage more of our community.

Two members were willing to share their experiences and insights to help us identify their attraction to the organization and how they became engaged. Thank you so much Margaret and Heather!.

Like many members, I joined Women's Club at UCF at the invitation of a friend; in my case, my long-time dear friend Jackie Hughes. While I loved being with the lovely, accomplished women in the club, I was quite intimidated at my difficulty in remembering names. The task seemed impossible—and still does!

While I loved reconnecting with former colleagues in Orange County Public Schools (OCPS), I spent much needless energy trying to "place" some of these women in their previous roles. It became very confusing—and then I forgot what I had finally remembered! It would have become easy to truly worry about my current mental capabilities!

I am beginning to "wise up" and just worry about now. For example, regardless of however I knew Marty Murray in our OCPS days, the most important thing to know is that she is one of our masterful facilitators in Daytime Bookworms. That example can be repeated with others as well.

Then, a most surprising event was Ann Simpson's call asking me to serve as vice president this year. Me? Why? Do I have "sucker" written across my forehead? Once my many questions were answered, I willingly accepted the opportunity to be a liaison with new members and offer help as a board member with a fantastic group of women.

As just a one-year-old member, I know I am part of an organization that truly makes a difference to some students which, in turn, benefits the entire university. I get to learn and try some new things, while having a good time with some remarkable women. It's a win/win, even with some mental confusion from time to time!

Margaret Osteen received her EdD from UCF and currently works with interns from the College of Education. She volunteers her time at church and by teaching inmates at the jail. A great passion is having fun with her triplet grandchildren, and of course, helping to get them school-ready. She was a guest of Jackie Hughes at the meeting. Member since 2015

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." —African proverb

LAST YEAR'S "NEW" MEMBERS MOVE FORWARD BY GIVING BACK Continued

I was trying to explain to a student why I've taken a break from exercising. "It's like I'm floating in the water and I'm carrying these heavy bags. One is my family, another my job, and another is school. I can't let go of any of these things, but they take up time and energy and pull me under. So I've looked at my other options: what else is dragging me down? Well, exercise, or rather the guilt of not exercising, has been tugging at me hard. So I've released that bag and it's letting me stay afloat for a little bit longer. I'll resume running when I can release a different bag—like school, when I graduate."

She got it.

Regular exercise was hard to let go of, partly because exercise can also help buoy me up. On the rare occasion I was able to take the time to run, I felt great. In fact, at some point or another, all of the bags give moments of relief. Do I feel great when I ace a test? Yes. Do I love watching our students perform to a full house? You bet! Does the maddening frustration of raising a two-year-old melt away when he gives me a hug and a kiss? Oh, yeah!

There was one more weighted bag that I momentarily considered dropping instead of exercise: the friendship bag. But that bag pays me back in spades for the time I put in, and I dare not let it go. Spending time with other women—hearing their stories, seeing their smiles, watching their growth—lifts me up. And so, even when I think I don't have the time to meet for lunch or pick up the phone, I do it.

That's why I make the time to stay active in the Women's Club at UCF, and why I've started "Campus Break," an interest group open to anyone, but designed for the women who work on campus. Working women may not have time to plan and attend evening activities, but we all need to eat lunch and we can use that time to build relationships that will lift us up.

I hope that with the money raised by the Women's Club, the bag of "financial stress" can be lightened for our scholarship recipients. Perhaps they can use that moment of buoyancy to spend time with a friend, sharing good conversations and remembering that together, we can elevate ourselves and help each other through any deep waters we may encounter.

Heather Gibson is the marketing director for the UCF School of Performing Arts and has been a member of the Women's Club at UCF since 2014. She enjoys sharing a school with her son; while Huck attends the UCF Creative School, she is pursuing her MBA. She plans to graduate in May and looks forward to resuming her running regimen at that time.

"Heroism is endurance for one moment more." -George F. Kennan

NEW INTEREST GROUPS

ART & ANTIQUE LOVERS

Immerse yourself in Fine Art and Antiques, and do so in the company of others who share your interest!

We will meet 4 – 5 times yearly to take advantage of the many special art shows, exhibitions, gallery openings, and yes, partake in antique shopping expeditions to places such as Renninger's Antique Center in Mount Dora.



Other venues will include the renowned Winter Park Art Festival, and the Vintage Antique and Garden Show at the Orlando Museum of Art. Activities will always be followed by a luncheon. Join us for what should be both interesting and enjoyable outings!

"Be where your feet are." -Anonymous



SPECTATOR SPORTS FANS

Are you a sports enthusiast?

The Spectator Sports Fans Interest Group is for you! Join your SSF friends and have fun attending UCF sporting events.

Working with the UCF Athletics Association, we will aspire to attend an event for each of the UCF Women's Sports each year.

Other events will be scheduled as interested. Friends and family are always welcome.

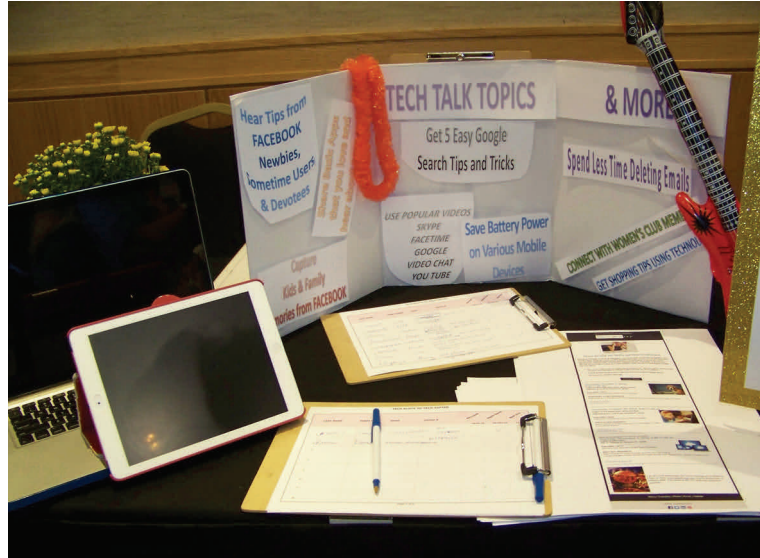
NEW INTEREST GROUPS Continued

TECH KLUTZ TO TECH GIFTED

Technology is the way we walk in the world today. While technology connects us it can also isolate us. So, we want to turn-the-tables by sharing our tech victories, tech questions and tech ideas.

In an interactive how-to format, community tech professionals, UCF tech students, a Women's Club member or volunteer will lead idea sharing.

The goal is for everyone to leave each session with at least one "aha" idea to meet or beat a technology challenge you are experiencing.



"The great thing about new friends is that they bring new energy to your soul."

-Shanna Rodriguez

STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING ADVENTURES (OR SUP ADVENTURES FOR SHORT)

Come find out what Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP) is all about. This is a great way to learn everything you want to know about this unique sport.

We'll go out on one of the many beautiful lakes in Orlando about once a month for a relaxing time on the water. Join us as we experience one of the most peaceful ways to enjoy the great outdoors and get some good exercise too.



NEW INTEREST GROUPS Continued

CAMPUS BREAK

This interest group is open to all members and focuses on topics of interest to working women

You may be busy, but we all have an extra hour to spare for a little networking with our colleagues. Take a quick break once a month on the UCF campus with fellow members of the Women's Club at UCF. Each month we will visit a coffee shop on campus and discuss a topic relevant to working women. Topics could include work/life balance, professional resources on campus, or transitioning through different life stages. To help support the scholarship fund, we ask that everyone donates the same amount that they spend on their coffee or snack to a kitty. On a budget? Don't worry...just bring your coffee or tea with you!



INTEREST GROUPS

Arm Chair Travelers	Bookworms (Night)	Great Decisions	Spectator Sports Fans
Art & Antique Lovers	Campus Break	International Friendship	Stand Up Paddleboard
Beauty Health & Fitness	Chick Flicks	Mah Jongg (Night)	Take a Hike
Bookworms (Day)	Golf	Monday Walkers	Tech Klutz to Tech Gifted
	Gourmet I, II, III	Needlework	Theatre

HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER?!

If you have news or suggestions, please let me know at Ruthie.Rieder@Gmail.com.

Please identify as WC@UCF Newsletter in the "Subject" line.