

Women's Club at UCF, Inc

NEWSLETTER

WINTER ISSUE 2017

From Our President

SEASON'S GREETINGS!

As we move into 2017, the Board and Executive Committee would like to thank each of you for making 2016 such a wonderful year for the Women's Club at UCF. We enjoyed camaraderie at luncheons, interest group meetings and cookie exchanges. Most importantly, we successfully raised a significant amount of money for our scholarship efforts – check out the article inside to get all the details on the success of our Non-event Event!

We encourage you to continue to get involved with our organization and included in this issue is some feedback from members on what helps keep them connected to our club. Perhaps there is a new interest group that appeals to you for the coming year? We cover a wide range of activities that may challenge us either intellectually (Bookworms) or physically (Paddle boarding) – there's something for everyone! Check out our club website to learn more. Perhaps you have an idea for another new interest group?



President Kathy Weise

We are always open to new ideas – and new members! This past year we added 18 new members to our roster!

Your support and friendship is so appreciated.

Best wishes to each of you for a happy and healthy New Year!

Kathy Weise

IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Luncheon Meeting
Rio Pinar Country Club
April 24, 2017

Visit our website for more information about interest groups, caledars, member directory and the latest news!

<https://women.sclub.cos.ucf.edu/>

Password for Directory and Interest Group Calendar: pegasus40



The Non-Event Event Was a Great Success!!

The theme for the Women's Club at UCF is "Moving Forward by Giving Back" .

Your support for this year's Non-Event Event proves beyond a doubt that this theme resonates with our members!

While we were expressing our thanks last month at Thanksgiving for your wonderful generosity, additional contributions were received.

We are so pleased to report that the total amount of donations to this effort has now exceeded \$13,000!!

The Board and Executive Committee are extremely grateful for your support.

You have truly made a difference in the lives of our scholarship recipients.

Thank you!!



"My membership is going on 30 years. Joining as a faculty wife, I was initially conflicted as my orientation had been in the business world. With this said, the ladies I met in those early years are still so dear to me. Opening the membership has added a positive dimension. I continue to be connected thru interest groups.

Serving on the board has also connected me with the organization." Lynn Moharam

Important Sunshine Correction

Our Sunshine Chair, Gail Dressel's email address in the Fall Newsletter was an error.

Her correct email address is Gaildressel@att.net

Please inform Gail of members who may be ill, hospitalized, suffering a loss or dealing with other life issues so that she can send cards and encouragement from the Club.

A SPARKLING HOLIDAY COFFEE

Our Honorary President, Mrs. Martha Hitt , hosted the UCF Holiday Coffee on December 6th at the Burnett House.

Town and Gown members joined with the Women's Club to celebrate the holidays and to support the Coalition For The Homeless.

Members donated over \$4,450 along with pantry items.



THE ANNUAL COOKIE EXCHANGE

ONLY THE FELLOWSHIP OUTSHINED THE COOKIES!



The Women's Club at UCF held it's Annual Cookie Exchange for members at the home of Jen Rupert on Monday, December 12th.

Over 2 dozen ladies attended. Jen's home was lovely and festive and we all left with sugar "highs".

The event brought many new members who mingled with long-time members for a fun evening at Jen's home.



INTEREST GROUPS

Interested in joining a group? Need calendar or group contact information?
Check out our website at <https://womensclub.cos.ucf.edu/>



ARM CHAIR TRAVELERS

Three
Continents in
Three
Months!

Table Mountain, S. Africa

The Armchair Travelers were given a glimpse of South Africa, thanks to Erica LaBerge, a new member of the group who has packed a world of travel adventure into her young life. While spending a month in and around Capetown with her friends and their South African families, Erica's experiences were most enlightening.

With Judy Simonet, the travelers journeyed to France where they toured the Normandy Coast, visited many WWII memorial sites, and then spent the night within the city walls of Mont Saint-Michel.

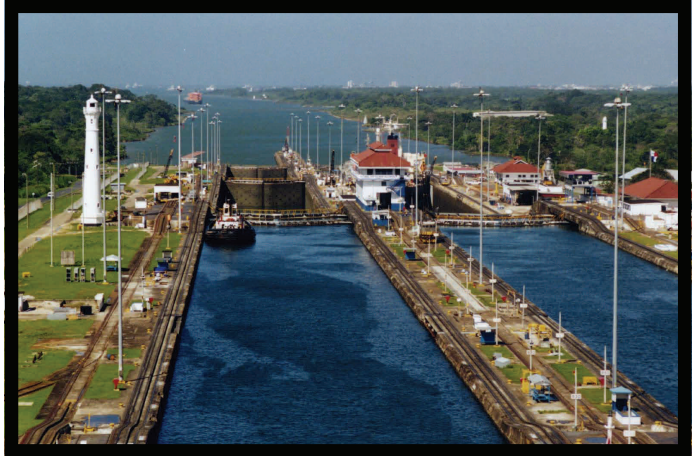


Le Mont Saint Michel

INTEREST GROUPS Continued

ARM CHAIR TRAVELERS Cont'd

Ann Simpson and Carol Pickler took the group from Panama to the Nicoya Peninsula of Costa Rica after having arrived in the country from two different directions. Cruising the Panama Canal, viewing Arenal Volcano, being serenaded by howler monkeys and zip-lining through the cloud forest were highlights of their trips.



Panama Canal Gatun Locks



The Armchair Travelers are well on the way to another season of travel adventures while avoiding the inconvenience of 5 AM flights, security checks and jet lag.

“Departure of a year welcomes so many new memories” Munia Khan

ART & ANTIQUE LOVERS

The newly formed Art and Antiques Interest Group has gotten off to a good start. In September, the group went on an antique buying trip in Winter Park. In November at the UCF Art Gallery, we were given an unforgettable tour of the Faculty of the School of Visual Arts and Design Exhibit by Molly Reilly. Ms. Reilly, a member of the SVAD Faculty, is herself an accomplished photographer and artist whose work was included in the exhibit.

We are looking forward to our next venue on January 14th - Renninger's Antique Center in Mount Dora!



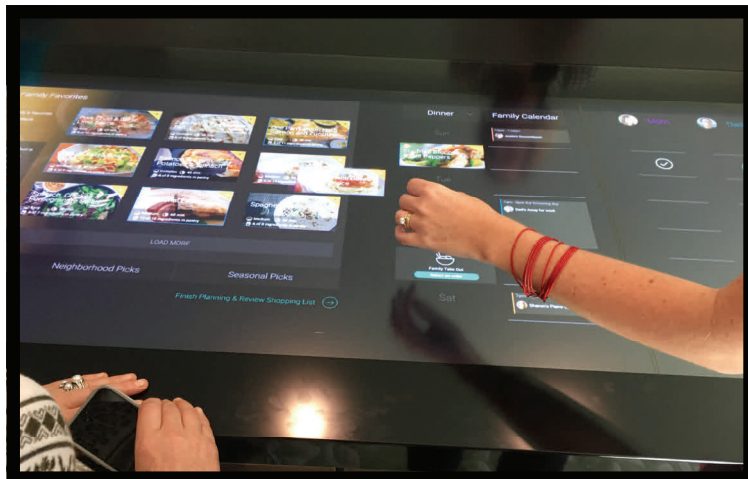
Visit to UCF Art Gallery

INTEREST GROUPS Continued

BEAUTY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

In October, the BHW Interest Group toured a "connected wellness" home, developed by the Lake Nona Institute.

The home, located in Laureate Park, was built with technology that has the newest products available to support and provide a healthier living space



for the purpose of promoting an active lifestyle. Care Predict (affiliated with Nemours), Violet Defense, Smart RX and GE kitchen products are among those innovations we saw in the home.

After the tour, we enjoyed lunch at Canvas Marketplace, which is walking distance from the WHIT house.



Maggie LeClair at her finest!

EVENING BOOKWORMS



Evening bookworms annual sock exchange

INTEREST GROUPS Continued

“The major way I stay connected with WCUCF is through our interest groups, as I am a member of several. Interest group chairs are fantastic communicators, keeping members informed about interest group activities as well as providing general information about events for the entire membership. The website also offers a wonderful way to stay connected especially through the use of the online directory of members. In addition, receipt of emails from our president keeps us informed of upcoming club events and events at the University.” Sarah Magann

DAYTIME BOOKWORMS

Daytime Bookworms has been experiencing change this year. Under the direction of our monthly discussion leaders, we are breaking into smaller groups to discuss the questions for each selection and then come together in the large group for overall impressions. It has been very successful. Thus far, our book selections have covered historical fact, historical fiction, and fiction, each creating lively discussions based on the experiences of our members.

We have continued to support the Coalition for the Homeless through donations of books for preK through adults. This year we donated 75+ books. We will continue to collect books for United Way for their spring book drive. Some of the books that will be donated are displayed on the table.



“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

INTEREST GROUPS Continued

GOLF

The UCF Women's Golf Interest Group has been swinging up a storm since October.

We have been playing every week now on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. at various area courses. We have had great weather, nice sunny days, no rain outs which is good and

now that winter is upon us we should have some good days ahead with lots of playing time. Anyone is welcome to join us and play 9 holes.



If interested please call Darlene Bouley, Golf Chair, at [407-620-2765](tel:407-620-2765) or email her at dbouley5@gmail.com for the next scheduled location.

"I think it's the interest groups that keep me connected. Also, the fact that I have to be prepared for the group (read the book for Bookworms!). The reading keeps me as connected as the actual meetings." Margaret Osteen

GOURMET II

Our first meeting of this year took place Oct. 29th at Pat and Dick Peppler's beautiful new home. Who can beat a gorgeous sunset while sipping wine, tasting the delicious Tequila shots and enjoying great appetizers?

The menu: Pumpkin soup, beet salad, filet of beef (Dick did an excellent job grilling it), green bean salad, twice baked potato, chocolate cake with cream and berries and Irish coffee.

We made tentative plans for the rest of the year: the husbands will cook one time, the ladies will enjoy a dinner at 'Victoria and Albert' and we will cook our breakfast at the Springs. The hosts can decide whether we eat in or out.

This group has six couples and is at capacity.



INTEREST GROUPS Continued

INTERNATIONAL FREINDSHIP

On Oct. 20 the focus was India and Thailand. Our group enjoyed a visitation and tour of the Hindu Temple in Casselberry.

Afterwards we had lunch at Thai Basil.



On Nov. 14th we attended the International Breakfast. As is our tradition, we attended the UCF International Breakfast at the UCF Pegasus Ballroom. This event is the beginning of the International Week where activities on Campus show the richness of the cultures in the world.

STAND UP PADDLEBOARD

The paddleboard interest group braved the 57 degree temps on Saturday, Dec. 10th at Wekiva Springs State Park. The festive holiday paddle was a great way to get into the Christmas spirit.

If you haven't had a chance to try paddle boarding, give it a try! We'll have another opportunity on Sat Jan. 21st.

Contact Anne Taylor at awesumanne@hotmail.com if you would like to be added to the invite.



MEET SOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome New Members

Mary Allen is a retired professor of speech from Valencia Community College. She spent her last three years at Valencia serving as Director of the Student Success Program. She and her husband keep the roads hot travelling in their RV between here and San Diego, as they have four grandchildren spread between the two places! She was invited by her neighbor, Carol Pickler.

Joshula Flowers is a returning member, having being invited by her cousin, Janice Brodie. She has been here from Chicago for about sixteen years. Janice taught English and tutored at a career college. She is now enjoying the new Tech Interest Group with Janice and others.

Pati Giambarberee is retired from Orange County Government, where she was manager of Employee and Labor Relations. Both she and her husband graduated from UCF, as did one daughter, with another currently in college. Janice Napolitano is her neighbor.

Karen Gisel is a neighbor of Teresa Weidel, along with fellow new members, Becky Lee and Mary Ward-Singleton. All four ladies are longtime friends, having each reared two boys around the same time! Karen is a native Floridian and retired from Orange Memorial Hospital, where she worked on the “corporate side.” She loves to travel and even helps others travel thriftily—some say she should be a travel agent! She is impressed with the “kindness” of Women’s Club members!

Donna Gropper is a native of New York City and retired from a career in air traffic control! Her last two assignments were assistant manager for the control tower and radar room at Washington National Airport and then manager of the tower and radar room at Orlando International Airport, with oversight over all the other federal and contract control towers in the northern half of Florida. Donna is single and loves being with her 20-year-old niece and nephew, who are twins! She also enjoys many interesting hobbies.

Patricia Johnson enjoyed two careers, first as a school psychologist and then as a systems engineer. She now stays busy keeping up with her daughter and son-in-law who are musicians. Her daughter is coming to the end of her first Broadway production, “Fiddler on the Roof,” in which she is the concert master and solo violinist in the orchestra. Patricia was drawn to the club by her friend, Janice Brodie.

Becky Lee is a returning member and neighbor of Teresa Weidel, as mentioned above. Her husband is on the UCF faculty in the area of computer science, with research in computer vision. Both of their sons are UCF graduates. Becky serves as an adjunct professor of music at Rollins.

MEET SOME NEW MEMBERS

Karetta Lee is actually a returning member. Her husband is on the UCF staff as COO of the National Consortium for Academics and Sports. Karetta owns Karetta Lee Interiors and is also a destination services consultant for people who are re-locating. She has three children and three grandchildren.

Mindy Moore has been in Orlando since 1994, when her husband, Jeff, accepted a position at UCF. He currently is Dean of CAH. Mindy and Jeff are from California, but came here after a stint in Wisconsin. Mindy loves all things art and has held various positions in that field, currently working at home. Mindy loves to travel and also enjoys writing, music, yoga, wine, cooking, antiques and vintage jewelry. Jen Rupert and Heather Gibson introduced her to Women's Club!

Mary Ward-Singleton, also a neighbor of Teresa Weidel, has been a stay-at-home mother for her two sons. One of those sons graduated from UCF, and the other one is still in college, studying engineering. Mary likes to spend time at the gym and travelling. She will soon be snow-skiing at Lake Tahoe! She is enjoying several interest groups.

Introductions to several of our new members were included in our Fall newsletter. There will be others introduced in a later edition. Welcome to all!

"I believe the best way to stay connected to any organization is to get involved and actively participate. In WCUCF, joining an interest group and meeting others with similar interests naturally results in some wonderful friendships. Facilitating an interest group or volunteering to serve on the board or a committee are all excellent ways to get engaged with others and help our great organization "Move Forward by Giving Back!" Kathy Weise

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.