Women's Club at UCF, Inc

NEWSLETTER

WINTER ISSUE 2019

From Our President Teresa Riedel

Wow! What a great bunch of women we are!!!! Through your generous contributions to our "Non-event Event" fundraiser, we raised over \$12,000.00 for our scholarship funds. We are changing lives and making a difference. You continue to live our motto, "Moving Forward by Giving Back."

Thanks to our wonderful hosts, Mary Whittaker, Jenifer Rupert and Ranetta Guinn, for providing holiday cheer at the Holiday Coffee and Cookie Exchange, respectively. We had a wonderful time.

I hope you are participating and enjoying our exciting interest groups. Highlighted in this newsletter are photos and news from some of our interest groups and information about a new aquatic swimming group. There are a variety of activities to keep us engaged and active.

As we continue to move forward in the New Year, your donations to the Knights Pantry are appreciated.

Have a great new year. Charge On!



Important Dates

New Member's Coffee February 20 (10:00-2:00)

Spring Luncheon and Business Meeting April 29 (11:30-1:30) Guest Speaker: Dr. Stella Sung

Visit our website for more information https:womensclub.cos.
ucf.edu/

FIRST PARTNER'S COFFEE

At the annual Holiday Coffee Event, UCF's first partner, Mary Whittaker, hosted members of the Town & Gown at UCF Group and The Women's Club at UCF at the Burnett House. Two university charities were spotlighted: UCF Inclusive Education Services (IES), and STEP @ UCF.

Dr. Adam Meyer, Executive Director of IES, introduced this initiative that offers students with challenges the opportunity for the full college experience, and the only label defining them is the one they wear on their T-shirts: Knights!



STEP@UCF is a Canine Companion Service Dog and Training Education Program. UCF, in partnership with Canine Companions for Independence, became the first public university in Florida to allow students to train assistance dogs on campus.

After 16 months of professional training, dogs are returned to the Southeast Region of Canine Companions for Independence. Students help each puppy master 30 commands and basic obedience instructions.

e e

Fun event with a purpose!
Thank you ladies for making a difference through your generous contributions.

FIRST PARTNER'S COFFEE (Cont.)





Smile and the world smiles with you.



Friends make the world go around.

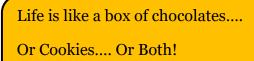
Cookie Exchange – Um Um Good!

Thanks again to Ranetta Guinn and Jen Rupert for hosting our wonderful Annual Cookie Exchange event on Dec 13, 2018. Music, laughter, and companionship filled the air. Our many thanks to the great UCF Jazz Professor and Entertainer, Jeff Rupert and fellow faculty jazz member Richard Drexler. Make a point of attending and listening to them at their next jazz concert with the Flying Horse Big Band.













DAYTIME BOOKWORMS

At Daytime Bookworms we always learn in our discussions how diverse the members of our group are in both experience and profession. In November we had a very enlightening discussion of The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore. Melissa Storey led and enhanced the discussion with her own background in social and legal issues noted in the book. Many of our other members supplemented the discussion with their own experiences.

December brought a bit of levity with a visit to "The Home" as Dell Shadgett so fondly refers to her new residence in Lutheran Towers downtown. Dell and Marty Murray, who is also a resident, hosted us to a wonderful luncheon, book discussion

of Out To Pasture (But not over the Hill) and a tour of several beautifully decorated residences in Lutheran Towers.

The photo shows us on the freight elevator going from floor to floor to visit the apartments and common areas shared by the residents. A fun time was had by all.



SHUFFLERS BRIDGE INTEREST GROUP

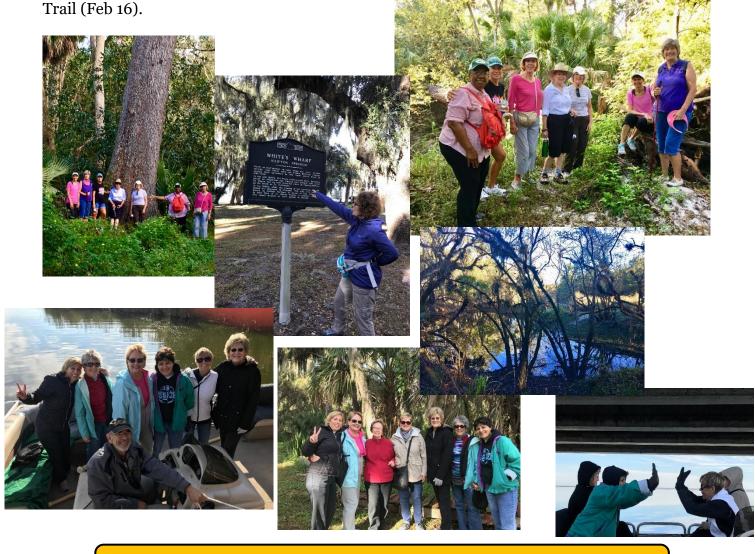
The "Shufflers" Bridge group has enjoyed getting together and playing this fun and engaging game. We meet the first Wednesday and third Friday of the month from 9:30-12:30. Please contact Melanie Lee at mgm-lee@hotmail.com if you are interested in joining or need more information.

TAKE A HIKE!

Our group has been very active with a variety of Hike, Learn & Lunch events. November was fun-filled with two exceptional hikes. The hike at the Spring Hammock Preserve provided the group picturesque images of a spring streaming through the dense forest and a large variety of plant and animal life including tall Live Oak Trees and Huge Cypress Trees. The second hike in November included: a delightful boat ride on Lake Jesup compliments of UCF's Dr. M.J. Soileau and his lovely wife Cheryl, a lesson on many Florida first events due to the early Spanish settlers and their voyages along the St John's River, and history of Oviedo that can be viewed at the Lawton House.



Several hikes are coming up including Bird Watching at Orlando Wetlands Park (Feb 7), and a hike & lunch at the Black Bear Wilderness



Enjoying Mother Nature and all its glory! Let the images tell the story!

CHICK FLICKS

The Chick Flicks Chix met for dinner at Brio's in Winter Park Village and went on to the Winter Park Regal Theatre to see *Colette*, a film about the French writer's struggle with her husband to publish her novels under her own name.

The Interest Group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Oviedo Mall Regal theaters, where



The Chick Flicks Chix relaxing in those wonderful recliners before the film started.

tickets are half-price on Tuesdays, and, of course, will meet any other time there's a film of interest to us.

If you want to be one of the Chix, contact Beth Barnes.



GOLF

The Golf Interest Group is still swinging those clubs every Thursday at 10:00 am somewhere. We enjoy 9 holes of golf each week at various local golf courses. The winter weather is our favorite time of year to be playing. If interested contact or email Darlene Bouley dbouley5 @ gmail.com

If life is a bowl of cherries, what am I doing in the pits? – Erma Bombeck

GREAT DECISIONS

Texts arrived in late December and members of The Great Decisions Interest Group will meet in late January to discuss the first selection. Those of us who participated this last year, or for the past few years, agree that we are now more aware and have greater interest in foreign policy than we had before.

2019 GREAT DECISIONS TOPICS

- Topic 1: "Refugees and Global Migration" by Karen Jacobsen
- Topic 2: "The Middle East: Regional Disorder" by Lawrence Potter
- Topic 3: "Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future?" by Ronald Bee
- Topic 4: "The Rise of Populism" by James Kirchick
- Topic 5: "Decoding U.S. China Trade" by Jeremy Haft
- Topic 6: "India and Its Neighbors" by Cynthia Watson
- Topic 7: "Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics" by Richard Andres
- Topic 8: "State of the State Department and Diplomacy" by Nicholas Burns

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP



Members of International Friendship group enjoyed learning about spices and tea at the exchange in Winter Park (right) and breakfast at the kick-off of annual UCF International Week Breakfast (above). Members of the International Friendship Interest Group reserved a table at the UCF International Breakfast program. This yearly event kicks-off UCF's International Week of presentations, speakers, culture, and food from various international clubs on-campus. We learned about student and professor initiatives in several international countries and enjoyed a very good breakfast at the same time. The group will expand their horizons at the upcoming "Tables Extraordinaire" event.



WINE TASTING

The Winetasting Interest Group is going strong. We have already had 4 events since we started in September. We kicked our season off with a private wine tasting event at The Wine Bar at Tim's Wine Market. We followed this up with the Harvest Wine Pairing Dinner at Carabba's in Winter Springs. A great time was had by all, so we also attended the December and January wine dinners.

Our next event is on February 26th for the Carabba's Forbidden Love Story dinner which will be an evening of indulgent food and wine featuring Princapessa Gavia Gavi and Rosa Regale Sparkling Red Wine and their legends of forbidden love. The cost is \$50 per person and spouses and partners are invited. To join us, please email Sue Chapman at ChapmanSue@yahoo.com.

RUMMIKUB

Rummikub is a tile-based game for two to 4 players, combining elements of the card game rummy and mahjong. This interest group meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at the Panera Bread in Oviedo from 10 am -12 pm. If you

would like to join or just stop in to see how the game is played, just contact Sue Chapman at ChapmanSue@yahoo.com.



TECH CURIOUS

The Tech Curious Interest Group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 1:30-3:30 and has been in full swing for a year. During that time we have covered all types of topics dealing with making the technology in our lives less stressful, more productive and more fun. In our January meeting, we discussed tips and tricks for managing photos on our cell phones. The topic for February will be inside secrets of online shopping or "ready to buy, but can't find what you're looking for". The March session will be dedicated to learning skills necessary for taking better pictures with your cell phone. If you would like to join us, please email Sue Chapman at ChapmanSue@yahoo.com.

If you want to get something done, give it to a busy person! (right Sue?)

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

What a fun fall it was to visit two different parts of the world, both of which were south of the equator! Carole and Les Goldsmith shared their trip to the Amazon, Machu Picchu, and the Galapagos in November. Co-hostesses, Judy Simonet and Pam Wilson, along with the Goldsmiths, offered a delightful array of Latin food from Casselberry's La Terraza Bakery. No one seemed to mind that the food offerings did not include cuy (guinea pig). While Machu Picchu and the Galapagos were certainly memorable sites, the trip down the Amazon was an eye-opening experience that left an indelible impression on the Goldsmiths.

Mary and Ken Meeker graciously greeted the December guests with a warm "Kia Ora," a familiar greeting in New Zealand. Thanks to co-hostesses, Ann Simpson and Mary Kaesberg, the attendees sampled Kumara (sweet potato) salad, lamb sliders, and meringue cookies... wonderful tastes of New Zealand! The Meekers presented an overview of their Overseas Adventure Travel tour of the north and south islands that

comprise NZ while highlighting some spectacular scenery from down under. They also shared many facts about the country, the origin of its people and its on-going efforts to protect the environment. BTW, Ken is now available should anyone have need for an experienced sheep-shearer.



Cynthia Chamberlain steps in for Judy Simonet who attended her grandson's acting debut that evening. Thanks, Cynthia for helping Pam and the Goldsmiths!

To be able to find joy in another's joy, that is the secret to happiness - George Bernanos

PAGE TURNERS

We continue to make changes as we streamline the process and grow in size, the most significant was to vote on upcoming reads. We added quite a few titles to our ongoing reading list. The majority of members preferred to plan three months in advance (adhering to the plan already in place).

December: "The Pecan Man" by Jessie Dandridge Selleck January: "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale Hurston February: "Five Presidents" by Clint Hill & Lisa McCubbin

Ongoing Reads

The Groveland Four
Tortilla Curtain
The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane
To Kill a Mockingbird **
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn**
Before We Were Yours
Jane Eyre**
Bonfire of the Vanities**
The Goldfinch
Anne of Green Gables*

The Secret Garden**
Kitchen House
All the Light We Cannot See
Girls of the Atomic City
Forty Autumns
The Hotel on the Corner of
Bittersweet
The Lilac Girl
Little Fires Everywhere
The Baker's Secret
Pachinko
Canto

Natchez Burning,
The Name of the Rose,
The Rent Collectors
The Kiterunner
A year of Mystical Thinking,
The Girl with Seven Names,
Stones from the River
Educated
The Glass Castle
Five Presidents
My Absolute Darling
The Great Believers



Love makes your soul crawl out from its hiding place – Zora Neale Hurston

SWIMMERS

New Interest Group - Fun, Casual, Swimming Group all levels are invited! If you enjoy swimming and/or water aerobics please come out. Our first swim get together will be

in February at the Oviedo Aquatics Center during a week day. The pool is heated to 82 degrees. Cost for swimming is: \$2.00 (Seniors rate 55+), cost for water aerobics class is \$4.00, an Oviedo

resident of any age is \$5.00. I swim every morning and through the winter I do cold water swimming (with a wet suit) and looking to form a group of swimmers at all skill levels.

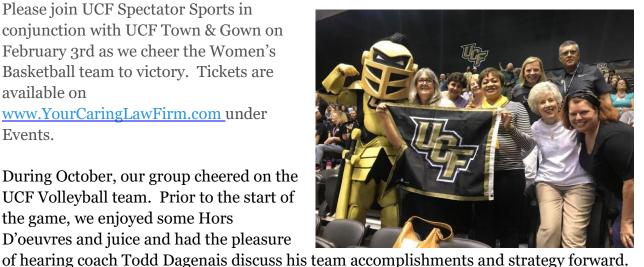
If you would like to participate in this exciting new interest group, please contact Brenda Kolbrich via email at Brenda@TopOrlandoHomes.com or text/call 407-963-6876.

Spectator Sports Fans

Please join UCF Spectator Sports in conjunction with UCF Town & Gown on February 3rd as we cheer the Women's Basketball team to victory. Tickets are available on

www.YourCaringLawFirm.com under Events.

During October, our group cheered on the UCF Volleyball team. Prior to the start of the game, we enjoyed some Hors D'oeuvres and juice and had the pleasure





The first UCF Women in Sports breakfast was held at the Orlando Country Club.

WCUCF members were on hand to celebrate and recognize student athletes and

coaches from all UCF women sports teams. It is hopefully the start of a new annual tradition.

We are always looking for more fans to join us! Contact Merrell Bailey if you would like to receive invitations to our events!

THEATER

The UCF Women's Club Theater Interest Group has attended three theatrical productions since summer, two at UCF ("Hot Mikado" and "Of Mice and Men") and one at the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre ("In the Heights"). In addition, the group has discovered a new sensation....live theatre productions in London streamed into local movie theaters! We saw "An American in Paris" in September and "The King and I" during November at the Oviedo Mall theater (photo included). Members are thrilled at

the quality and the convenience of these productions!

Upcoming theatre outings will include a variety of venues. Our group is planning an outing to the Athens Theater in Deland on Sunday, February 24 at 2:30 p.m. to see "Always...Patsy Cline." Contact Anna Hobowski if you wish to join the group.



WCUCF INTEREST GROUPS

This is the current list of all Interest Groups. If you are interested in joining an interest group, please visit our website for information on interest group leaders and how to contact them.

Arm Chair	Bookworms	Bookworms	Pageturners	Bridge (NEW!
Travelers	(Day)	(Evening)		Aka Shufflers)
Campus Break	Chick Flicks	Cultural Arts &	Golf	Gourmet
		Wellness		
Great Decisions	International	International	Mah Jong I	Mah Jong II
	Friendship	Dining (NEW)		-
Monday Walkers	Needlework	Rummikub	Spectator Sports	Stand Up Paddle
		(NEW)	Fans	Boarding
Swimming	Take a Hike	Tech Curious	Theatre	Winetasting
(NEW)				



BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY, SPREAD SUNSHINE

Gail Dressel
Is our Sunshine Coordinator.
If you know of a member
who needs some
encouragement, sympathy,
or just some sunshine from
our club
Please email Gail at
gaildressel@att.net



- ❖ Thank you to our energetic and committed interest group leaders.
- ❖ Welcome to all our new members.
- ❖ If you have any changes in address or phone numbers, please "contact us" on the website and let us know such that we can update our member database and are able to reach you correctly, when needed.
- SMILE! It makes people wonder what you're up to.
- ❖ SMILE! It's contagious.

Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others – Booker T. Washington

HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER?

If you have news or suggestions, please contact Ruthie Rieder via email at Ruthie.Rieder@Gmail.com