



# BRANCH NEWS

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**October 2017**

Issue #2– 2017-2018

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## OCTOBER MEETINGS

**Monday, October 9, 2017**

**6:00 p.m. Social Hour; 7:00 p.m. Dinner**

***The Winter Park Racquet Club***



## *Fall Dinner*

Baritone Chevalier Lovett, Soprano Janette Zioli, and Pianist Robin Jensen will perform Broadway and Opera tunes.

*Program Leader: Sandra Powers*

**Monday, October 30, 2017**

**3:30 p.m. Reception; 4:00 p.m. Program**

***The University Club of Winter Park***

***Does It Matter That the U.S. Was Founded by English-Speaking Protestants Rather Than by People from France, Spain, or Brazil?***

***And How Should the Answer to That Question Inform Americans' Response to the Contemporary Immigrant Debate?***



Please join us on Monday, October 30 as we welcome our first guest speaker of the 2017-2018 season, **Dr. Richard Foglesong**. Dr. Foglesong is an expert on Florida and U.S. politics. He holds the George and Harriet Cornell Chair in Politics at Rollins College, where he teaches in the college's undergraduate program in Political Science and its masters program in Planning in Civic Urbanism.

This is a program not to be missed!

*Program Leader: Dot Cline*

## ***Welcome, E-SU Members***

Dear Members,

**W**e hope all of you were safe and sound during Hurricane Irma. We are looking forward to a great year with outstanding meetings planned. A list of programs has been included on page 7 of this newsletter as a quick glance at the E-SU year. You may want to post it in a convenient place for reference throughout the year.



We look forward to seeing many of you at the dinner on October 9 at the Winter Park Racquet Club and on October 30 for our first guest speaker at the University Club of Winter Park.

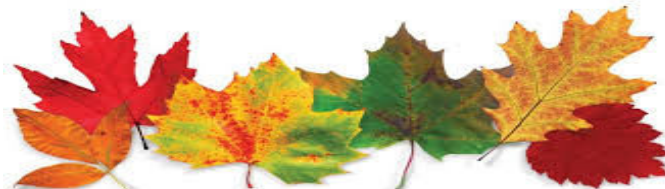
### **EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

**T**he Education Committee has awarded four scholarships to local teachers to attend the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention in St. Louis in late November. Three teachers from Orange and one from Seminole schools will be able to attend this most prestigious professional conference, most of them for the first time in their careers. Teachers attending this year are Elizabeth Almeida, Boone High; Katie Hyser, East River High; Jessica Kendrick, Evans High; and Marie Norton, Lake Howell High. The convention is a costly endeavor, not easily afforded on most teacher salaries, but a valuable opportunity to network, learn and share teaching strategies, and see and hear famous authors and educators. We are proud we are able to give these teachers this opportunity. This is the fourth year we have awarded these scholarships.

*Jan McClure, Deputy Chair  
Education Committee*

### **E-SU PERMANENT NAME TAGS AVAILABLE**

**M**ore of our members are opting for a permanent name tag! It shows the E-SU emblem and saves your clothes from the sticky adhesive name tags. The cost is only \$10 paid at the time of the order. Interested? Please contact Gilda Gomez at [gilda.gomez@yahoo.com](mailto:gilda.gomez@yahoo.com).





**Dr. Richard Foglesong**  
will speak on



The English  
Speaking Union  
Central Florida Branch

*Does it matter that the  
U.S. was founded by  
English-speaking  
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**Monday  
October**

**30**

**2017**

**3:30 p.m.**

**at  
The University Club  
of Winter Park**

Dr Foglesong is an expert in Florida and US politics. He holds the George and Harriet Cornell Chair in Politics at Rollins College, where he teaches in the college's undergraduate program in Political Science.

# SUMMER 2017 SCHOLAR REPORT

by Sheri Hjelm

Amazing. Magical. Spectacular. Life-changing. When asked about my summer in England, these words found use more times than I want to acknowledge. They are, after all, the pleasantries we ascribe to positive experiences; they are what even the most interested people expect to hear. Yet while they all express some measure of accuracy, these descriptions underscore the insufficiency of language to convey significance. I have never been more acutely aware of how hollow and overused these adjectives are, of how liberally and carelessly I toss them about, of how language inflation robs the most deserving moments of their luster. After studying at Oxford and visiting some of the most seminal places in literary history, I find myself—an AP Language Arts teacher with advanced degrees in English Literature—at a loss for precision.

All I can say is once I stepped through Exeter College's medieval gate, through the darkened porter's corridor and into spectacular light, I felt a quickening in my being, as if time was somehow moving both forward and backward. The grandeur of academia surrounded me. Immediately, I was drawn into Oxford's storied past just as it was becoming an integral part of my future. I was awed as the sunlight bathed the green of the quad, chased ivy up the walls, and illuminated the paths seven centuries of students have trod. I didn't know it then, but my Jane Austen class would be meeting through the doorway directly across the courtyard in the room whose windows, from my seat, looked upon the Fellows' Garden; there, I'd sit alongside some of the most intelligent women I've met, as we'd find the public and private Jane Austen throughout her canon and fall in love with Mr. Darcy all over again. Just behind me, up one staircase in a wooden-paneled study, twelve of us would sit in circled desks to discuss the nuances of Contemporary Literature as we investigated its many forms; the paper I'd write for that course would go on to change my life.

In addition to three glorious weeks steeped in the rich heritage of Oxford, the ESU scholarship enabled me to spend nearly two weeks exploring London and its nearby splendor. I experienced Beatrix Potter's Lake District, Virginia Woolf's neighborhood, Shakespeare's hometown, Jane Austen's literary Bath, Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury, and the Cliffs of Dover at the place Matthew Arnold set one of my favorite poems. Then, to add an exclamation point to the fulfillment of this journey, I whirled through Paris: marveling at the beautiful bridges over the Seine, dining in the Eiffel Tower, and beholding celebrated art at the Louvre.

And now, teeming with fresh insights from my academic pilgrimage, I return to my classroom. Though transitioning from student back to teacher aches, my friends from Oxford have become my co-teachers across the globe. All the literary history I've experienced newly contextualizes my lessons. And most importantly, new convictions on how degrees of language affect meaning dominate my teaching so when my students experience their own amazing, magical, spectacular, life-changing Oxfords, they will be able to describe them with distinction.



## ***THE YOUNG COMPANY AND SHAKESPEARE WITH HEART ACTORS GIVE STAR PERFORMANCES ONCE AGAIN***

**T**wo projects supported by ESU Education Scholarships offered summer camp experiences at Orlando Shakespeare Theater. **The Young Company** (TYC – high school group) presented three impressive performances of *The Winter's Tale*. In some of the students' own words:

*TYC means so much to me. It has been the most amazing experience. Thank you for the funding!*  
**Katie**

*TYC has provided the best theatrical experiences of my high school career. Thank you so much for supporting this program that has been so fulfilling and life-changing for me and for so many other students of theater.* **Clark**

*Each year's tight-knit ensemble, bound together by a passion for Shakespeare, has shaped me into a better actor and a better person.* **Rose**

*TYC has taught me many lessons on acting that I will continue to use in my career and more so in my life.* **James**

From some **Shakespeare with Heart** students (special needs group) about their *Romeo and Juliet* summer camp:

*Shakespeare with Heart means high fives, smiles, friendship, and most of all coming together as a family. Thank you for the opportunity.* **Megan**

*To me, Shakespeare with Heart means being both scared and comfortable in one morning and saying more sentences to people than I usually do. I never knew I could act before, maybe because I never took the chance. Thank you.* **Hermione**



Donna M. Miller  
V.P., Drey Endowment



### ***Thank You to the Following Members for Their Contributions:***

- *Ms. Glendora Larson*
- *Mr. and Mrs. William Purcell*

## **Second and Third Place Winners of the Spring 2017 Short Story Contest**

**A**s she watched the alligator float slowly towards Winter Park's Dinky Dock, Zora remembered the Dinky Railroad Line, when Dinky Dock was a train station.

"Look at that alligator," she said to her brother, Peter, a train aficionado.

"I hate alligators," Peter said, making a face. Zora's brother preferred researching railroads to studying reptiles.

"Nothing will stop gators. They pre-date railroads. And the Dinky trains chugged into palmetto thickets just like alligators; they're both known as wigglers."

Tourists snapped photographs of the moving reptile, not thinking about the consequences of an angry one.

"Dad, I got a good shot," a girl said as the alligator swished his tail and turned away from land, splashing his own wake. People on the Scenic Boat Tour sailed by, photographing from smartphones.

Zora sighed. "I wish people would leave alligators alone."

Peter said, "I'd rather see trains float slowly towards Dinky Dock again."

*- Elaine Person, Second Place*

**A**s she watched the alligator float slowly towards Winter Park's Dinky Dock, Zora remembered when another Alligator visited. Zora, an egret, patrolled this territory. She remembered that Alligator slowly sliding under the overturned canoe. Young mothers and children were arriving, spreading blankets.

Little girls made sand patties studded with small pinecones on the canoe's hull. Small boys swept off the sand patties and jumped into the shallow water. The Alligator dozed on as Mothers sat, lazily looking out at their children.

That day older boys came to the lake and struggled to lift the canoe. The alarmed Alligator was no longer sleeping and a shout of "Alligator" rang out! Disbelief from the young enraged mothers, children and blankets quickly gathered up. Cell phones whipped out, husbands called. Later, the troublesome canoe was removed.

The Alligator? He swam across the lake to new real estate. A deserted boathouse. A quieter neighborhood.

*- Kay Howe, Third Place*

## ***2017-2018 ESU Central Florida Branch Upcoming Programs***

- **Monday, October 9, 2017, at 6:00 pm**  
The Winter Park Racquet Club    FALL DINNER  
Artist/Program: ***Baritone Chevalier Lovett, Janette Zioli, Soprano, Robin Jensen, Pianist***  
***Broadway, Opera Tunes***  
Program Leader: Sandra Powers
- **Monday, October 30, 2017, at 3:30 pm (Rescheduled from September 11)**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
Speaker: **Dr. Richard Foglesong** Topic: ***Does It Matter That the U.S. Was Founded by English-Speaking Protestants Rather Than by People from France, Spain, or Brazil? And How Should the Answer to That Question Inform Americans' Response to the Contemporary Immigrant Debate?***  
Program Leader: Dot Cline
- **Monday, November 13, 2017, at 3:30 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
***E SU Scholars' Report*** - Our scholars who studied in the U.K. during the summer of 2017 will entertain us with stories of their study experiences
- **Monday, December 4, 2017, at 3:30 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
Speaker: **Dr. Grant Cornwell**, President Rollins College  
Topic: ***Critical Issues in Higher Education: Principles, Problems, and Values***  
Program Leader: Michael Kakos
- **Monday, January 22, 2018, at 6:00 pm:**  
The Winter Park Racquet Club    WINTER DINNER  
Artist/Program: ***Jan Jennings, Harpist***  
Program Leader: Barbara Hughes
- **Sunday, February 25, 2018, at 3:30 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
***E SU Scholars' Reception*** - E-SU members have the opportunity to meet the scholarship recipients chosen to study in the summer of 2018.
- **Monday, February 26, 2018, at 4:00 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
***Shakespeare Competition***
- **Monday, March 12, 2018, at 3:30 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
Speaker: **Fred Plotkin**, Topic: ***The Englishness of George Frideric Handel***  
Program Leader: Ovid Vitas
- **Monday, April 2, 2018, at 3:30 pm.**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
Speaker: **Anne Hering of the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre** and two actor interns  
Topic: ***Shakespeare and the Magic of Language***  
Program Leader: Sandra Powers
- **Monday, May 14, 2018, at 3:30 pm**  
The University Club of Winter Park  
***Annual E SU Meeting***  
Speaker: **Professor Elliot Engel**  
Topic: ***The Cold Genius of Robert Frost***  
Program Leader: Diane Sandquist



*The English-Speaking Union*

Central Florida Branch  
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**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](http://www.E-SUus.org/centralflorida) for more information.**