



Atlanta Branch
The English-Speaking Union
 Education Scholarship Understanding

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our fiscal year is coming down the home stretch. We have a number of very interesting programs arranged; I call your attention to the listing elsewhere in this newsletter. I especially want to point out the inclusion of the Annual General Meeting that will be held prior to the May 29 member meeting. This is a brief formal meeting that provides an opportunity for the members to hear the annual report by the Branch president and to participate in the election of Branch Officers and Directors for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Branch is grateful for all that have submitted the renewal of the dues for this fiscal year. The Branch membership remains strong and vibrant.

The annual Shakespeare Competition was held on Feb. 23 at the New Shakespeare Tavern. The young people from our local schools performed a monologue and a sonnet, and the performances were terrific. The winner, Dorothy Rau from Lovett School, will compete in early May in New York City's Lincoln Center against winners from other Branches. Our thanks to Pam Sellman and her committee for a job well done. You can view pictures from the event on our website.

Alice Boyne, who has been a vital force in our national organization for many years, retired February 28 as President and Executive Director. Her presence in the ESU will be greatly missed. Chris Broadwell, the former Deputy Executive Director, was elected Executive Director, and one of his first visits as Executive Director was to the Atlanta Branch on March 6.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming meetings.

Kind regards,

Charles Maddrey, President of the Atlanta Branch

OUR 2013 CHRISTMAS PARTY . . . AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

'Tis the Season



Singing songs of the season

As 2013 came to an end, the Atlanta Branch of the English Speaking Union celebrated in style as represented by the apparent happy faces of those who attended the event at the home of Mr. John Hammaker. Mr. Hammaker has opened his home for the last three Christmas parties for which we are very grateful.

With festive attire well represented and the singing of Christmas carols, everyone was definitely in the mood for the celebration of the Season. Diana Butts entertained us with her talent at the piano and doing duets with Rose Maddrey. Fay Selvage, with the help of Rose Maddrey, catered the affair with delicious food (thanks ladies!!).



A toast to the Queen and the President

OUR FIRST MEETING OF 2014

MAX MILLER, PhD
“Colorful British Characters in Exploration of Palestine”



A beautiful sunny Sunday found approximately seventy of our members enjoying a delicious brunch and lecture at the lovely Ansley Golf Club. The venue was courtesy of club members, Fay and John Selvage, who are also members of our ESU, and the event was chaired by our ESU member, Caroline Coles, who graciously brought a dozen of her friends as guests.

Our lecturer was Dr. Max Miller (pictured left), who combines interests in in Ancient History, Archaeology, and Biblical Studies as former professor and archaeologist. He is a now a travel guidebook author, writer and lecturer, and tour director par excellence! Dr.

Miller, whose oeuvre is the study of the Moabite people and their habitat, showed us fascinating slides of unearthed sites of Biblical and historic ruins of the areas of what is now Israel, Somalia, and Jordan, in addition to

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Syria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Of special interest were the character studies of the adventurers, usually British, who ventured forth to explore the aforementioned areas, one being an English member of the peerage, who disguised herself as a man of the Moslem faith!

Our special thanks go to Caroline Coles for securing Dr. Miller and his lovely wife to be with us. Caroline and friends have been on several trips with Dr. and Mrs. Miller to the areas of his studies, as mentioned above.

Our Appreciation, Caroline!



ANNUAL SHAKESPEARE COMPETITION

To be or not to be, that is the question”.

A most resounding "YES" was given by twenty Georgia High School students on Sunday, February 23, when they took part in the Shakespeare Competition held at the New Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern. This annual event is in its 31st year. The students are required to recite both a 20 line monologue, taken from any of the plays written by 'The Bard', and one of his sonnets. The excellent standard achieved by each entrant is a credit to their teachers and their own love and interpretation of the English language. The winner, **DOROTHY RAU** from The Lovett School, received an all-expenses paid trip to New York to participate in the National finals which will be held at the Lincoln Center from May 4th to 6th. The trip also includes exclusive acting workshops, sightseeing activities and spending the weekend with 60 fellow teenage aficionados of the Bard.

The first and second runners up were respectfully FIONA HARE and JAMES THOMAS. Congratulations to their teachers, ERIC BRANNEN and JEFF KELLY.

Should Dorothy be the National winner she will receive a scholarship to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's Young Actors Summer School in London (including tuition, transportation, food and accommodations) and in the 450th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare this cannot be a more wonderful time to be in England.

I would like to thank the New Atlanta Shakespeare Tavern for providing their premises, free of charge, for our use and providing the three judges. Doug Kaye, Ameer Vyas and Jennifer Lamourt (who are members of their senior actors and/or education department). Deepest thanks to the Christine Transue, Abb Gunn and Eric Brannen whose hard work and positive attitude throughout makes it all possible. And a stomach-filling "thank you" for the delightful refreshments provided by Elizabeth Munson and Faye Selvage.

Pam Sellman -Chair Person, Competition Committee



And the winner is
(L to R) Pictured is Pam Sellman (Chairman of the event), Eric Branden (winning student's teacher), Dorothy Rau, winner of the competition, and Charles Maddrey, our president.

VISIONS OF THE SPANISH ARMADA APPROACH...



The beautiful Vinings Club hosted our reception and meeting March 6th and the terrific presentation by ESU Evelyn Wrench speaker, **Mr. Graham Anthony**, a British maritime historian. Mr. Anthony's slide lecture succeeded in our vicariously feeling the approach of Phillip II's fleet of the Spanish Armada, attempting to conquer England off of its eastern coast! Our speaker gave us the background of the attempted attack, and the history of the prime English and Spanish figures involved. He also related the causes and success of the resistance and victory of the English subjects, led by Her Majesty, Elizabeth I, and her cohorts in the battle.



Our especially honored guests that evening were **Mr. Josiah Bunting III**, (pictured left) National Chairman, ESU, and **Mr. Christopher Broadwell**, Executive Director, ESU, who graciously chose to visit our Atlanta Branch for several days. We had approximately seventy members and guests in attendance, who enjoyed the lovely cocktail time and reception prior to the lecture.

← Mr. Bunting speaking with David Robichaud, our Treasurer

Alice Boyne's Retirement

As many of you already know, Alice Boyne announced her retirement, effective the end of February, after 43 years of dedicated service to the ESU United States Headquarters. Her position will be filled by Christopher Broadwell, Alice's superb deputy, upon on Alice's departure, as Executive Director. Mr. Josiah Bunting and Dr. Quinn Peepers are chairing the effort to establish an ESU Intern Scholarship Fund in honor of Ms. Boyne and her many years of service. A Dinner, May 5, 2014, will be given that evening after the Lincoln Center National Shakespeare Competition in NYC. All ESU members are invited to contribute to the Intern Scholarship fund honoring Alice Boyne, and also join in the May 5th dinner evening, if possible. A letter regarding these opportunities will be forthcoming from our New York office of the ESU.

It goes without saying that we all wish her well in this new chapter of her life and want to extend our thanks and congratulations on a job well done!



GETTING THE WORD OUT - AJC Article

The Atlanta Journal gave the ESU – Atlanta Branch a nod in a feature article in the February 15 edition that mentioned our annual Shakespeare Competition. Both our President, **Charles Maddrey**, and the Chairperson for the event, **Pam Sellman**, were interviewed in the Saturday Spotlight article.

It was a wonderful opportunity to publicize our organization and showcase one of the many activities in which our Branch is involved in the community. It also gave the date, time and place for the competition which we hope will encourage some new interest in the ESU.

IN PRINT:

“WORDS FROM ONE OF OUR OWN!”... Many of our members will remember our devoted ESU Vice-President, the late Mr. Burke Nicholson, Jr. of Balvenie, father of our current Board member, H. Burke (“Nicky”) Nicholson III, and his wife, Jo Ann, and their daughter, author Mary Juliet Nicholson. Mary Juliet has recently written and published a charming book on her Grandfather’s life, entitled, “*I AM A PART OF ALL THAT I HAVE MET*”. Burke Nicholson of Balvenie was Chairman of Coca-Cola International, in addition to being a second-generation, along with his father, Patron of our Atlanta Branch ESU. Also, a Patron of our Branch and longtime member was his brother, the late Harmon Nicholson. Mary Juliet’s delightful book is available on Amazon.com, in addition to other sources. Our Congratulations to this ‘Outstanding ESU Family’ and our Appreciation for their years of dedication for three generations to the English Speaking Union!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2014

April 15	Lunch at the Cherokee Town Club with Colin McCorquodale from the London Branch and Dartmouth House will speak on “BRITISH ROYAL NAMES IN AMERICA.”
May 29	British Consul General, Jeremy Pitmore-Bedford. Gould Room, St. Philips Cathedral
June	TBD

MANY WAYS TO KEEP ON TOP OF WHAT'S GOING ON



Yes, we TWEET! Follow us at @ESUAtlanta and click the “Follow” button.



Don't forget to LIKE us on *Facebook*. Please SHARE our postings with your Friends list.

Visit our website: www.esuus.org/atlanta

For those of you signed up on LINKED IN, add us to your network.



A huge thanks to Kim Scholes, our resident IT guru, for setting up all our accounts.

“UNDER THE WEATHER”

The following members have reportedly been ill in recent weeks:

- * Klaus Putter is in Hospice.
- * Rev. Jennifer Ham is recovering from knee surgery.
- * Ray Burnham

Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

IN MEMORIUM

**Long-time member Louise
DeLong passed away in
February.**