



The Nashville Speaker

The English-Speaking Union
NASHVILLE BRANCH

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Education. Scholarship. Understanding.

Spring, 2010

Our Mission

The English-Speaking Union of the United States is committed to promoting scholarship and the advancement of knowledge through the effective use of English in an expanding global community.

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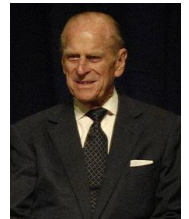
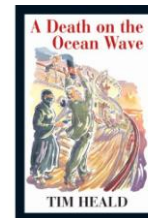
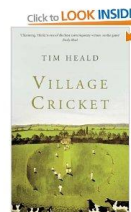
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Look for your invitation to the Spring Banquet

"Royalties from the Royalty"

SATURDAY, MAY 22 AT HILLWOOD COUNTRY CLUB



Tim Heald, author, journalist, public speaker

Author of Prince Philip's official biography, Tim Heald has written novels and whodunnits which have been compared with those of Graham Green, Evelyn Waugh and P.G. Wodehouse. He has lived and worked extensively in the USA.

A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, Guest Speaker on the QE2, Visiting Fellow at the Universities of Tasmania and South Australia, he has raced across the Atlantic on behalf of the *Daily Express* and played Elephant Polo in Nepal for the *Sunday Times*. During the summer of 2003 he was busy filming his first TV series for Carlton. The subject of the filming, village cricket, also gives its name to the book which Tim has written to accompany the series. [Village Cricket](#) was published on May 1st, 2004. Also published in May was Tim's latest crime novel, [Death and the Visiting Fellow](#).

Tim Heald learned the rudiments of public speaking at Sherborne School in the early sixties when he was Hon. Sec. of the Debating Society. He continued his studies at Oxford University, where he reported on Union debates for *Cherwell*, the university newspaper.

Last but not least, his daughter's wedding to a Mexican banker in Wiltshire was a most memorable occasion where he only kept control by blowing a referee's whistle and showing his new in-laws red and yellow cards by way of warning.

The *U.K. Press Gazette* recently said that: "Heald can keep a bar amused for hours with countless tales of the nonsenses and nightmares of Fleet Street".

Autographed copies of "Princess Margaret – A Life Unravelled" will be on sale at the dinner.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



by Theodore Elliott Wiltsie, Ed.D

The Spring Banquet on May 22nd will feature Tim Heald, British author, journalist and official biographer of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and HRH Princess Margaret. He is also known for his mystery novels featuring Simon Bognor, special investigator, serialized by Thames TV.

In his talk "Royalties from the Royalty", Mr. Heald will discuss his long career of writing about the Royal Family and will share some of the many personal experiences he has had in getting to know them. We look forward to welcoming him and his wife, Penelope Byrne.

Many thanks to those who have made donations to our local education programs. Your generous assistance in this key ESU initiative is critical as we strive to enrich the educational milieu in middle Tennessee.

Your executive committee is busy formulating proposed programs for the 2010-2011 season for Board discussion and approval. There may be some surprises in store. Watch this space.

Welcome new members:

Sarah Stamps & Joan Vollmer

Honorary member:

Bradley Brown – Hillsboro High School

Those of you who were unable to attend the High Tea at Shadowbrook on April 18th missed a rejuvenating experience. ESU Members Clara and Nelson Davenport, owners of the exquisite Shadowbrook estate, and their daughter Phyla, put together an extraordinary array of nutritious and delectable High Tea delights too numerous to list. Typical comments overheard included "wonderful", "incredible", and "fabulous". Marilyn and I second those sentiments.

Very few members missed the landmark event of the first ESU Twelfth Night celebration at Travellers Rest on Jan 5. The abundant decorations fit the evening's theme perfectly. Several people started decorating early in the day, including Melinda Coles, Lynne Siesser and Joan Campbell. Many others arrived from time to time to help.

The evening's program, the refreshments and, yes, even the clean-up afterward showed what can be accomplished when a large number of people work together. When the doors were finally closed, the hall looked as though no one had been there. After all that had occurred that memorable evening, that was a remarkable feat.

Have you visited our website and seen the picture gallery of Nashville Branch events?

http://www.esuus.org/branch_page.asp?ch=nashville

**DONNA BREWER, winner of the 2010
British University Summer School Fellowship**



A native of small-town Middle Tennessee, **Donna Brewer** grew up in Cowan and currently resides in Winchester with her husband Steve. After graduating from The University of the South in 1999, Donna began her teaching career at Tullahoma High School where she has instructed seniors and sophomores in both college preparatory and honors English courses. Along with their traditional classroom activities, students perform theatrical works by Shakespeare and Sophocles in Mrs. Brewer's classes, breathing life into classical texts. As a graduate student in the Sewanee School of Letters, Donna thrives on continued education and eagerly anticipates researching for her thesis and expanding her instructional practices in the "Teaching Shakespeare Through Performance" class at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London this July. She thanks the English-Speaking Union for its generosity in facilitating this opportunity.

Donna's BUSS fellowship is funded through the generosity of the members of the Nashville Branch of the ESU with support coming from the English-Speaking Union of the United States.

Thank you

to those who have been so generous to the Education Fund since January 1, 2010:

Gold Benefactors (\$500 +):

Silver Benefactors (\$250 - \$499):

Phyllis Heard (*In memory of E. Anthony Heard, Jr.*) * Marilyn Shields & Ted Wiltsie

Benefactors (\$100 - \$249):

Ann & Gerry Calhoun * Missie & Wallace Edwards * Martha Reid & Bill Henderson * Elaina & Ronnie Scott
Susan Sinclair & Ray Burns * Ann Marie & Martin McNamara * Susan & Otey Walker * Jane & Tom Yount

Patrons (\$50 - \$99):

Donah & Roger Burgess * Melinda & Ron Coles * Anne & Bob Guerra * Jean & Dick Hart
Marty & Ronald Ligon * Jean Litterer * Carol & John Rochford * Charlotte Summers
Charles Hampton White * Mac Whiteman

Donors (\$25 - \$49):

Carolyn & David Amiot * Louise Howell * Lynne & Bill Siesser (*In memory of Sue Sinclair-Riggan*)
Jane Tarkington * Joan Vollmer

Upcoming Events – confirmed to date

Spring Banquet:

Tim Heald: "Royalties from the Royalty", Saturday, May 22, 2010 at *Hillwood Country Club* at 5:30 p.m.



Photographs from Twelfth Night, 2010

Winter Informal:

Twelfth Night Celebration, Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at *Travellers Rest* at 6:00 p.m.

Shakespeare Workshop:

January, 2011 at *Harpeth Hall*



Winner of the 2010 Regional Shakespeare Final: **Miranda Fisher** (*Cedarcreek Schoolhouse Academy*),
Second: **Bailey Borders** (*Nashville School of the Arts*), Third: **Rachel Woods** (*Centennial High School*)

Regional Shakespeare Finals:

March, 2011 at *Troutt Theater, Belmont University*

The English-Speaking Union, Nashville - Volunteer Needs

Tap the wealth of experience among the membership: opportunities to participate actively in ESU goals and events.

Membership/Outreach

**Chair: William T. Schwartz
Linda Walter**

Become an ambassador for the ESU. Contact and involve civic organizations through the promotion of ESU events, programs and membership recruitment. (Treasurer maintains membership contact and financial database.)

Events

Chair: TBD

Bradley Brown, Donah & Roger Burgess, Jane Stone, Linda Walter

Initiate an interesting program or event and coordinate with other appropriate committee chairs.

Education Committee

Chair: Dr. Ann Cook Calhoun

Donah & Roger Burgess, Marion Couch, Lina Wellborn

*Assist Ann on the promotion and arrangements for the Shakespeare Workshop and Competition and the Page Scholar.
(A visiting international educator)*

Fund Raising

Chair: TBD

Brainstorm and implement creative ways to raise funds for the ESU educational programs of the Nashville Branch.

Hospitality

Chair: TBD

**Donah & Roger Burgess, Ann & Gerry Calhoun, Bitsy & Roupen Gulbenk, Joan Vollmer
Linda Walter, Lina Wellborn, Mac Whiteman**

Coordinate with event chair and host/hostess to assist in arranging for refreshments at informal events.

Arrangements

Chair: TBD

Susan Creagh, Lina Wellborn

Coordinate with event chair and host/hostess in scheduling individuals to meet and greet at events; give parking directions; assist the elderly or those needing physical help; acquire, pick up and set up a PA system when necessary.

Public Relations

Chair: TBD

*Periodically send information to local and regional media outlets announcing upcoming events,
represent the ESU and solicit attendance and membership.*

Communications

Chair: TBD

Bradley Brown

*Assist as necessary by writing thank you notes, letters of condolence, and other necessary correspondence;
write newsletters; mail reminder cards; make telephone calls.*

Historian

Jane Stone

Maintain a chronological date/time log of programs, events and activities; reconstruct past history as able.

If you are interested in joining one of these teams, please let Lynne or Ted know.

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