CHEERS AND BLESSINGS!

Wishing you everything merry this Holiday Season!
And may the peace and beauty of the season last throughout the year.

From your Executive Board and Staff

Mark Collette  Dick Gail
Phil Hall  Hank You
Sue Gilde  Barbara Steen

The University Club of Winter Park
841 North Park Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789 • Phone: 407-644-6149 • www.uclubwp.org
LATEST BOOK PURCHASES

By the time you read this, all the books for the Club’s Fiction Group will be available in the Library. Four of them are already placed in their special rack. Here are the latest books purchased for you:

NONFICTION
153.6/ALD If I Understood You, Would I Have This Look on My Face? Alan Alda
327.12/MAC The Spy and the Traitor. Ben Macintyre
818.5/KAM Nobody Calls at This Hour Just to Say Hello. Irene Kampen, writer for I Love Lucy (suggested by Fran Wyatt)
975.9/RED New Smyrna Beach. Robert Redd

AUTOBIOGRAPHY/BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR
92/BAL Notes of a Native Son. James Baldwin (essays)
92/EPH The Last Interview. Nora Ephron
92/LI Dear Friend, From My Life I Write to You in Your Life. Liyun Li
92/POL Harvey Girls: Women Who Opened the West. Lesley Poling-Kempers

FICTION
F/LAR Passing. Nella Larsen (Harlem Renaissance classic)
F/TOI The South. Colm Toibin (Booker Prize winning author)

MYSTERY
F/MYS/MIN The Red Room. Denise Mina
F/MYS/REN No Man’s Nightingale. Ruth Rendell (Grand Master Award winning author)

May you give and receive wonderful books and media as holiday gifts. May you enjoy relaxing time in which to enjoy them directly or by observation.

Martha H. Williamson
Library Committee Chair

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Sponsor Recognition

A new program honoring the sponsors of new members was reintroduced November 1. A gold star is placed on the name badge of the sponsoring person and will remain there through the next quarter. These advocates who contribute to increasing our membership will also be recognized at social events in the month following the acceptance of the new member.

Pilot Program

Announcing a new program for attracting new and younger members! The program will begin January 1 and if successful, will be made permanent. Watch your emails and check the January issue of the Club Times for details on how you can help.
Mon. Dec. 2
10:00 a.m. <<HISTORY>> Jazz and the American Spirit. Professor Jeff Rupert, Trustee Chair and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Central Florida, will discuss the correlation between jazz music and the social reaction and fabric of America, from the early twentieth century to today. He will be accompanied by three student performers on piano, drums, and bass. Rupert also enjoys a career as a freelance tenor saxophonist and he founded the UCF Orlando Jazz Festival. He directs numerous allstate jazz bands as well as the Jazz Band of America (2017). Co-Chairs: Sherry Levy and Ovid Vitas

12:15 p.m. DUPLICATE BRIDGE - Come with or without a partner. Leader: Frank Schwartz
1:00 p.m. MAHJONG - Leader: Collette Davis
1:30 p.m. FRENCH - Anyone with a basic knowledge of the French language is welcome to attend. Class is using French Four Years by Françoise Shein as the main textbook. Chair: Maria Delose. Leader: Nancy Cervone

Tue. Dec. 3
10:00 a.m. <<PHILOSOPHICAL DISCUSSION>> It is probably illegal for nongovernmental organizations to advertise a lottery. Should it be illegal for governments to seduce the credulous out of their money? The odds against winning are clearly printed on the tickets—in very fine print. What if the lottery is your only chance? Would it help if basic finance and family budgeting were taught in schools? If the character traits of thrift and productivity were taught? If integrity and giving an honest day’s work for an honest day’s pay were inculcated into the students? Why is disruptive behavior tolerated in the classrooms? Bring topics and friends! Chair: Don Cain

1:00 p.m. CONTRACT BRIDGE - Meets weekly. This is a casual, friendly group. If you are interested or have questions, contact Max at MaxReedFL@gmail.com or 407-625-1664 for more information or to get your name on the email list. Chair: Max Reed
1:00 p.m. THE CRAFTY LADIES - Want to learn a new craft or show us something creative you can do? Either way, join the happy crafters for a gathering of ideas, fun, and creativity. Leader: Pat Curenton
1:00 p.m. BEGINNERS ITALIAN - Instructor: Maria Versch Chair: Charles Kulmann

Wed. Dec. 4
ADVANCED BEGINNERS ITALIAN - Recommended book is Italian Made Simple by Cristina Mazzano.

9:00 a.m. CURRENT EVENTS - (Lunch - Mexican) Chair: Judy Beck  Moderator: Jay Caballero
10:00 a.m. SOCIAL/CONTRACT BRIDGE - Join us on first and fourth Wednesdays. If you can attend, please email Alice the Friday before the first and fourth Wednesdays at a.dexter@embarqmail.com or 407-252-5439.
1:00 p.m. CANASTA - This is a casual, coed game, with both men and women enjoying the play and the company. Feel free to come and observe or to participate. However, it is essential that participants inform me in advance, via email, that they will be playing: gayleaus@centurylink.net. Chair: Gayle Austin
2:30 p.m. CHORUS REHEARSAL - Preparations continue for our December concert! Join us! No previous experience required. Men and women welcome! Director: Holly Small  Chair: Malcolm Frazier
6:30 p.m. FLORIDA WRITERS ASSOCIATION - The group is composed of new, novice, and experienced writers, and even some bestselling authors. In addition, publishers, editors, book marketers, and writing coaches attend our meetings. The focus of the group is mainly on speakers with presentations on writing, publishing, and marketing topics. Chair: Rik Feeney
7:00 p.m. TRIVIA4U - We’ll provide the challenging trivia questions. Feel free to come by yourself or bring friends and form your own team. Wine and snacks are always appreciated. Chair: Charles Kulmann

Thu. Dec. 5
10:00 a.m. <<BOOK REVIEW>> - John Perry will review Jo Cox: More in Common, by Brendon Cox. This is a biography, by her husband, of a British Member of Parliament who was assassinated shortly before the Brexit vote in 2016. It's the inspiring but heartbreaking story of a working-class girl from the north of England who earned a spot at Cambridge University, worked for one of the world's most honored NGOs, and was elected to Parliament at the age of 40, only to be murdered by a white nationalist, leaving a husband and two small children. The title is taken from her maiden speech, in which she said the British people have “more in common than that which divides us.” Co-Chairs: Linda and Fred Macdonald

11:00 a.m. PLAY READING - Scripts are provided at the meetings. No experience necessary. First and fourth Thursdays. All are welcome. Co-Chairs: Delia Fuentes and Mark Cooper
1:30 p.m. <<FOREIGN AFFAIRS>> - The topic will be announced by email. Co-Chairs: Judy Beck and Steve Bertha
2:00 p.m. EXERCISE GROUP - Focuses on strength, balance, and flexibility. Wear comfortable clothes and rubber-soled shoes. If you have them, bring light weights, exercise balls, and/or bands.
Thu. Dec. 5  
7:00 p.m.  <<OPERA APPRECIATION>>  Closing out the year is the definitive film version of Bizet’s immortal *Carmen*. Placido Domingo and Julia Migenes lead a cast on location in Andalusia, Spain. This opera almost defines the very idea of opera as art form: spectacle and passion, love and seduction, jealousy and betrayal—all set to unforgettable music. Not to be missed! Bring your own beverages and refreshments to share. We will provide some snacks. Co-Chairs: Joe Bostwick and Gisela Davis

Fri. Dec. 6  
9:30 a.m.  SPANISH—ADVANCED CONVERSATION - To maintain your Spanish-language skills, sit in with an eclectic group that has had the experience of living, working, and traveling abroad in Spanish-speaking countries. Topics include civic events, historical episodes, and general interest. Chair: Ovid Vitas

10:00 a.m.  CLUB LIBRARY - Join our enthusiastic band of professional and amateur librarians who work together to maintain this important Club facility. Chair: Martha Williamson

11:00 a.m.  SPANISH—ADVANCED BEGINNERS - Ideal for those with some prior study of Spanish, even if years ago. Especially targeted for those wanting to improve their grammatical skills in a relaxed academic setting. No tests or grades! Taught by Jay Caballero.

12:30 p.m.  CHESS MATES - First and third Fridays in the Board Room. Beginners of all ages are welcome! This is chess for fun, and for all levels of play. We want to help everyone improve, sharing tips on strategy, tactics, and openings. Chess sets available or bring your own. Contact the Chair to get on our email list. Chair: John Snow

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**The University Club Chorus**

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**FREE HOLIDAY CONCERT**  FREE

Come one, come all!

Friday, December 6 at 2:30 p.m.

The University Club Chorus invites our fellow members and guests to attend our FREE winter performance. Along with group singing, there will be solos and duets of many familiar songs.

*After the performance, we provide refreshments: finger foods, soft drinks, and wine.*

Program Leader: Malcolm Frazier  
Pianist/Director: Holly Small
Mon. Dec. 9  <<HISTORY'S MYSTERIES>> This December we will be viewing “Aliens and the Civil War.” Did aliens influence the outcome of the Civil War? Joseph Smith said slaves would rise up against their masters. This happened thirty years before the war started. During the Civil War, UFOs were present in America. Strange lights were in the sky although there was no aviation in the 1860s. How was it known that the war would start in South Carolina? Were ETs just casual observers or did they take an active part in the war? Leader: Ed Levine

10:00 a.m. DUPLICATE BRIDGE - Come with or without a partner. Leader: Frank Schwartz
1:00 p.m. MAHJONG - Leader: Collette Davis
1:30 p.m. FRENCH - Anyone with a basic knowledge of the French language is welcome to attend. Class is using French Four Years by Françoise Shein as the main textbook. Chair: Maria Delose. Leader: Nancy Cervone
5:45 p.m. EVENING CURRENT EVENTS - Discussion of important issues of the day. All are encouraged to contribute to selecting topics and taking part in the discussion. Chair: Joan Liberman

Tue. Dec. 10 <<ECONOMICS FOR THE LAYPERSON>> State of the U.S. Consumer—Happy Holidays or Ho Hum?
10:00 a.m. Ten years into the economic recovery, how is the U.S. consumer faring? Will record low unemployment, low inflation, positive wage growth, and cheap gas translate to higher spending? What are consumers saying they will do? What trends will impact holiday spending? Join us in the Library for a nuts-and-bolts look at the state of the U.S. consumer! Chair: Matt Giles
1:00 p.m. CONTRACT BRIDGE - Meets weekly. This is a casual, friendly group. If you are interested or have questions, contact Max at MaxReedFL@gmail.com or 407-625-1664 for more information or to get your name on the email list. Chair: Max Reed
1:00 p.m. THE CRAFTY LADIES - Want to learn a new craft or show us something creative you can do? Either way, join the happy crafters for a gathering of ideas, fun, and creativity. Leader: Pat Curenton
1:00 p.m. BEGINNERS ITALIAN - Instructor: Maria Versch Chair: Charles Kulmann
7:00 p.m. <<FILM NIGHT>> It's a Wonderful Life. Perhaps one of the most beloved American films, Frank Capra’s It’s a Wonderful Life has been elevated into a holiday tradition. This fascinating film is a multilayered work of Dickensian density. George Bailey (played superbly by James Stewart) grows up in a small town. Haunted by an impending scandal, George prepares to commit suicide on Christmas Eve. A heavenly messenger arrives to show him a vision: what the world would have been like if George had never been born. The sequence is a vivid depiction of the American Dream gone bad, while affirming his cherished values of friendship and individuality. It’s one of those ageless movies, like Casablanca or The Third Man, that improves with age. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movie starts at 7:00 p.m. Chair: Ovid Vitas

Wed. Dec. 11 9:00 a.m. ADVANCED BEGINNERS ITALIAN - Recommended book is Italian Made Simple by Cristina Mazzano.
10:00 a.m. CURRENT EVENTS - (Lunch - Thai) Chair: Judy Beck Moderator: Pat Curenton
1:00 p.m. GERMAN CONVERSATION - A congenial way to brush up on the German language by discussing current and comparative issues related to Europe and the United States. All opinions and views are welcome! Chairs: Gisela Davis and Dietmar Georg
1:00 p.m. CANASTA - This is a casual, coed game, with both men and women enjoying the play and the company. Feel free to come and observe or to participate. However, it is essential that participants inform me in advance, via email, that they will be playing: gayleaus@centurylink.net. Chair: Gayle Austin

Thu. Dec. 12 <<BOOK DISCUSSION—FICTION>> Washington Black by Esi Edugyan (Canadian), 2018. In 1830’s Barbados, young George Washington Black is saved from hard labor on a sugar plantation when an abolitionist chooses him to help build a hot air balloon. The unlikely duo travels the east coast of America to the Arctic, connecting with a varied cast of characters. A New York Times “Book Review” named it one of the ten best of 2018. The author has won two major Canadian literary awards. The novel is available in the Club Library and public libraries. 334 pp. Chairs: Laura Pruyn and Linda Carpenter
10:00 a.m. EXERCISE GROUP - Focuses on strength, balance, and flexibility. Wear comfortable clothes and rubber-soled shoes. If you have them, bring light weights, exercise balls, and/or bands.

Fri. Dec. 13 9:30 a.m. SPANISH—ADVANCED CONVERSATION - To maintain your Spanish-language skills, sit in with an eclectic group that has had the experience of living, working, and traveling abroad in Spanish-speaking countries. Topics include civic events, historical episodes, and general interest. Chair: Ovid Vitas
CLUB CALENDAR: Week of December 9, 2019, continued

Fri. Dec. 13  CLUB LIBRARY - Join our enthusiastic band of professional and amateur librarians who work together to maintain this important Club facility. Chair: Martha Williamson

11:00 a.m.  SPANISH—ADVANCED BEGINNERS - Ideal for those with some prior study of Spanish, even if years ago. Especially targeted for those wanting to improve their grammatical skills in a relaxed academic setting. No tests or grades! Taught by Jay Caballero.

DINNER MEETING  and After Hours  Friday, December 13

Belle Chanson

Belle Chanson is the premier treble ensemble at Winter Park High School. The choir consists of thirty-three voices and is open to grades 10-12 by audition only. The group’s repertoire includes a variety of genres, both a cappella and accompanied. The group has remarkable musical skills and ensemble awareness, and the evening promises to be a delight for all music lovers.

Program Leader: Mark Cooper

Extend your evening out and stay longer for After Hours!

Reservations open at 9 a.m. December 2 and close at noon on December 11. Payment must be made for cancellation after the December 11 deadline.

RESERVE AND PREPAY ONLINE: Go to www.members.uclubwp.org.
You will get an immediate receipt of your reservation and payment.
RESERVE AND PREPAY AT THE CLUB: Use the blue reservation forms on the bulletin board.
Or pay by check at the door.
Members $30; Guests $35

Reservations can also be made via email at reservations@uclubwp.org or telephone 407-644-5128.

Stay for After Hours! Gentlemen: Coat (tie not required)

Mon. Dec. 16  The Club will be closed for
Tue. Dec. 31  the holidays.

Community Assistance Nominations

If you wish to nominate a local group to receive a donation from the University Club, you can pick up a Community Assistance Grant Form at the UCWP office. Please fill it out and return to the Community Assistance mailbox in the office by Wednesday, January 15, 2020.

Early in 2020, the Community Assistance and Scholarship committees will be informed of the funds they will be able to grant. Once the amounts have been determined, both committees will meet to determine what organizations will receive these donations.
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The University Club
841 N. Park Avenue
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Fellowship in Knowledge and Understanding.

January Club Times deadline: December 2

Upcoming Events:

January 2020
- January 1—New Years Day Reception
- January 17 Lunch - Photography
- January 24 Lunch - Mental Health

February 2020
- February 7 Dinner - Standards and Broadway
- February 14 New-Member Orientation

Development Committee

Ordering from Amazon for the Holidays?
Join the Amazon Smile program and name the University Club as the beneficiary of Amazon's contributions!

Please consider a donation to the Club as part of your year-end charitable giving.
Make your plans now to celebrate 2020 with our annual New Year’s Day Reception. Invite your friends and family, renew old acquaintances, dance and chat, and enjoy the champagne and other traditional snacks and nibbles! Reservations open Monday, December 16 (earlier than usual). Full details in the January issue. Don’t let the rush and fuss of the holidays delay reserving!

Program Leaders: Max Reed and Pat Curenton

Reservations open Monday, December 16 at 9 a.m. and close at noon on Friday, December 27.

RESERVE AND PREPAY ONLINE: Go to www.members.uclubwp.org You will get an immediate receipt of your reservation and payment.

RESERVE AND PREPAY AT THE CLUB: Use the blue reservation forms on the bulletin board. Or pay by check at the door.

Reservations can also be made via email at reservations@uclubwp.org or phone 407-644-5128.

Members $20; Guests $23

Dress Code: Befitting the festive season