

# The Illinois Club Interest Groups 2023 – 2024

**Carrol Finnigan-Bunick**  
Interest Groups Chair

**Nancy Uchtmann**  
Assistant Interest Groups Chair

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*Participation in The Illinois Club (TIC) Interest Groups is open only to TIC members. As a paid-up member you may join or visit any Interest Group at any time. For activities involving couples, please join the Club via the Couples membership. Non-members may try an Interest Group two times before joining and continuing in that Interest Group. The wearing of masks will be guided by any state, local rules in effect at the time of the meetings.*

*Please contact the Interest Group Coordinators for information about their group meetings. If you would like to help coordinate a group without a leader or start a new group, contact Carrol or Nancy*

## **CHILL OUT WITH WINE**

Dates & Times TBA

[Ann & Steve Long](#)

[chilloutwithwine@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:chilloutwithwine@theillinoisclub.org)

Enjoy socializing over wine. Singles or couples are welcome. Each couple or individual to bring a bottle of wine and a sweet or savory hors d'oeuvre. Meetings will be held in members' homes once every 2 months at weekends. Everybody brings a wine of a specified type or region or to celebrate a special event.

**CHINESE MAHJONG** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday – 9:30 AM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday – 1:00 PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – 1:00 PM, last Saturday – 1:00 PM

[Kathy Valdés](#)

[mahjongg@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:mahjongg@theillinoisclub.org)

Have you ever played MahJong? If you want to learn, now is your opportunity. Come join us for the fun!

## **CINEMA**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday – 7:30 PM

[Sandy Camargo](#)

[cinema@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:cinema@theillinoisclub.org)

Each meeting we will watch a film and then discuss it. Films will be chosen from a “menu” selected by the group coordinator, a retired member of UI’s film-studies faculty. Films will include a range of genres, periods, and origins.

## **COSMOPOLITAN**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – 7:30 PM

[Sheila Krein & Kathy Marshak](#)

[cosmopolitan@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:cosmopolitan@theillinoisclub.org)

Our dual aim is to help members from other countries feel welcome during their stay here and to provide programs of interest to both foreign and American members who enjoy learning about other cultures. Join us for informal programs, conversation, and refreshments.

## **CU4DINNER**

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 6:00 PM (dates & times may vary)

[Linda Lopez](#)

[CU4dinner@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:CU4dinner@theillinoisclub.org)

A chance to sample Champaign-Urbana restaurants ranging from casual to fine dining and to get to know good friends as well as good food.

## **GAMES**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday – 7:00 PM

[Kristine Chalifoux](#)

[games@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:games@theillinoisclub.org)

The games group meets monthly at various homes for a bit of socializing, light snacks and drinks, and always, a good dose of friendly competition! Games range from boards to cards, groups to individuals, depending on the night. Skill level is not required. Join us for a fun evening!

## **HIKING**

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 1:00 PM

[Ann Campbell & Bob Davis](#)

[hiking@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:hiking@theillinoisclub.org)

Come and enjoy the various beautiful parks around our area. You can meet wonderful people, see beautiful scenery and get some exercise, all at the same time. Hike the woods of Central Illinois.

## **ITALIAN**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays – 1:30 PM

[Pat Cardenas & Nenad Marjanovic](#)

[italian@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:italian@theillinoisclub.org)

Join us for some great Italian conversation and reading on many topics, as well as fun while we celebrate all things Italian.

## The Illinois Club Interest Groups 2023 – 2024 Continued

### KNITS ‘N’ THINGS

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays – 1:15 PM

[Lori Choquette & Cathy Jackson](#)

[knitnthings@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:knitnthings@theillinoisclub.org)

Beginners as well as experts who enjoy any type of handwork are welcome. We exchange patterns, information about supplies, shops, instructions, and shortcuts. Please join us for a pleasant and relaxing afternoon.

### NEWCOMERS

4<sup>th</sup> or last Thursday – 5:30PM

[Donna Offenbecher](#)

[newcomers@theillinois.club.org](mailto:newcomers@theillinois.club.org)

New to town? Or new to The Illinois Club? Join us and meet other people just like you. Events are planned to explore campus, Champaign, and the surrounding area as well as to socialize.

### PICKLEBALL

Burwash Park in Savoy, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 to 10:30 AM

[Ann Campbell or Carrol Finnigan-Bunick](#)

[pickleball@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:pickleball@theillinoisclub.org)

All levels welcome - we're a welcoming, non-competitive bunch! Bring a pickleball paddle if you have one. We'll have balls available. We use the smartphone App "Team Reach" to organize this group. Come and enjoy the fun.

### READS

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 3:00 PM

[Kathy Valdés](#)

[reads@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:reads@theillinoisclub.org)

If your ears perk up when you hear this conversation starting question, "What have you read lately?" then this group will be of interest to you. Come meet with other book lovers at The Illinois Club to discuss what you and others have been reading. The group offers a great place to discover new authors and titles and to revisit old favorites. There is no required reading but be warned, your want-to-read list may grow.

### SPANISH

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7:00 PM

[Patty Gropp & Claudia Reich](#)

[spanish@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:spanish@theillinoisclub.org)

Meetings of this group are normally held in the homes of members. They begin with a presentation in Spanish, usually about the history, literature, or culture of Spanish-speaking countries. This is followed by informal conversation in Spanish and enjoyment of refreshments. The group is also considering having some meetings which feature an excursion or a restaurant meal together.

### SUPPER CLUB

Dates & Times TBA

[Shirley Splittstoesser](#)

[supper@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:supper@theillinoisclub.org)

Couples and singles gather once a month for a potluck dinner. In September, December, and May, the whole group meets together. The other months the group is divided among several homes.

### WALK & TALK

Mondays 4:00 PM & Fridays 9:30 AM

[Ann Campbell & Judith Robinson](#)

[walktalk@theillinoisclub.org](mailto:walktalk@theillinoisclub.org)

Casual walking group: locations around town, often ending with a trip to a coffee shop.