

**The Illinois Club
Board Meeting
May 20, 2015**

The Illinois Club Board met at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20, 2015, at the home of Kathy Marshak. Attending were Sarah Wisseman, Mike Haney, Susan Haney, Ann Campbell, Marguerite Maguire, Carl Altstetter, Kathy Marshak, Sheila Krein, Sandy Camargo, Pat Thiessen, Kathy Valdes, Renée Mullen, Paula Carns, Jenny Kokini, Angie Prendergast, Marcy Joncich and Anne Anderson.

Before the meeting, the new and old Board members enjoyed a delicious potluck supper of dishes prepared by the old Board.

The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Camargo. Those present introduced themselves. Minutes of the last meeting on March 30 were approved with small changes.

REPORTS

President

Sandy Camargo announced that she, Patricia Simpson and Ann Campbell are going to the Big 10 conference in June at Ohio State. She will take information packets about The Illinois Club to distribute to other attendees. The packets will contain our brochure and newsletters in U of I folders. Sandy hopes to learn about long-range planning by other clubs. Sandy would like to meet with some Board members individually during the summer, and will set up meetings.

Susan Haney will be arranging for the printing of new brochures, more Club notecards, and business cards.

Events

Anne Anderson reported that the Spring Luncheon was held on May 14 at Hawthorn Suites. Forty were present, which is a relatively low number considering expenses. The venue, food and speaker were well received. The food was a bit heavy for lunch, so it was suggested that we investigate salad and dessert for future luncheon events, which may also keep down costs.

The Fall Expo and Signup will be on Monday, September 14 at the Hilton Garden Inn from 4-6 PM, with setup at 3 and out by 7.

Future events include the Holiday Party (venue TBA, date Thursday, December 10), Scholarship Brunch on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the Hawthorn Suites, and the Spring Luncheon also at the Hawthorn Suites on Thursday, May 5, 2016.

Treasurer Pat Thiessen distributed her report. Three large events of the past year recorded deficits. The Holiday Party is no longer subsidized by the President's House, and the difference between cost to members and actual cost was considered a gift to the members. The Scholarship Brunch runs at a loss since each scholarship winner and one guest attend without cost. The Spring Luncheon did not have enough attendees to break even.

Pat reported that keeping track of the various Foundation accounts is a problem due to irregular reports from the Foundation. It is difficult to track TIC gifts given directly to the Foundation since TIC is not a campus unit and UIF has privacy concerns. Renée Mullen said she will work with Pat and UIF on this topic. Pat reported a surplus in our University account, money placed in that account to pay University-generated bills which did not materialize.

Memorial donations for Past President Peri Ceperley have totaled \$5,426 to date. Regular scholarship donations to date are \$3,700. A minimum of \$25,000 is required by UIF to establish a scholarship in perpetuity. Dave Ceperley will be asked if he would like to establish such a fund to create a permanent scholarship in Peri's name. Meanwhile, the club can name an annual scholarship for Peri. Peri was interested in international affairs, and possibly a student with an international focus could be the recipient of such an award.

Other important issues discussed by the Treasurer, in which the function of the Treasurer does not conform to the Constitution:

(1) The necessity for the Treasurer to be bonded; Jenny Kokini, who will become Treasurer on July 1, will look into how this is done.

(2) Some clarification on the relationship between the Treasurer and the Scholarship Committee in connection with the handling of funds, as follows: The Treasurer gets the raw \$\$ figure from UIF. When she passes this information on to the Scholarship Committee, the Committee decides how many scholarships can be offered and what their \$ amount will be. Then, when that decision is made, the Scholarship Committee will tell the Treasurer, who will report that figure to the Board. This procedure should satisfy the Constitution.

Membership: Ann Long was not present but sent an email report to Sandy. She has received 11 memberships so far, 5 individual and 3 couples. She sent thank you letters or email for check donations to the Scholarship fund in memory of Peri.

We will begin our push to have members renew their dues by July 1. Ann Long will mail membership renewal forms to the 20 or so members who do not list an email address.

Newcomers: Kathy Marshak reported a successful tour of Prairie Fruits Farms, where old and new members viewed the baby goats and tasted and bought farm products. The tour was self-supporting. New Tours director Sheila Krein will welcome suggestions from members, and will work with Newcomers.

Tours: Kathy Valdes reported that the tour of the Sousa Archives was attended by 13 and was very enjoyable with a knowledgeable guide. It was followed by cocktail hour at Houlihan's.

Interest Groups: Carl Alstetter said that some interest groups may or may not continue in the upcoming year due to changes in leadership or lack of support. He discussed the perennial problem of interest group members who do not want to pay TIC dues. Complaints about The Supper Group's inflexibility, which was seen by newcomers as unwelcoming, were discussed. Carl said he should be notified of any problems.

Corresponding Secretary: Time ran out before Marcy Joncich could make her report to the Board, but here it is:

Between June 2014 and April 2015 twelve cards were sent for a variety of circumstances. These were sent to members, families of members based on notification to me by club members or newspaper articles. Those members were Peg Frampton, Maryly Crutcher, Sarah Gertner, Joanne Conerty, Ann Campbell, Cindy Cracraft, Margaret Martin, Susan and Mike Haney, Nellie Gonzalez, and Allean Hale. We received an expression of gratitude, written in Spanish, from Nelly Gonzalez, concerning the death of her son. I would appreciate members continuing to keep me apprised of those who should hear from us.

Newsletter/Communications: Ann Campbell said the deadline for publishing the next newsletter is July 1. As we shift from printed to electronic publications, it needs to be determined who actually needs a printed copy of the newsletter. She plans to send a printed copy to those members who do not have an email address, and not to those who requested a printed copy but do have email. She will experiment with formats.

Interest Group Chairs should send an email note to their members when the latest newsletter has been posted to our website. The new directory will be printed and mailed to everyone.

Ann is experimenting with software called Mailchimp, which she hopes will make the weekly e-bulletins more personal and inviting, thus encouraging people to read them.

Scholarship: Susan Haney reported that Sonya Dave, who won a scholarship this year, will not be a full-time student in the upcoming year, and so has decided to return her scholarship. It will be given to the next student on the list, Mitchell Lutz, a music student. Susan has contacted him about a press release. The application process for the new year will start in September.

Webmaster: Mike Haney passed out his report. The TIC website now has a photo gallery and a link to the TIC Facebook page. The Scholarship page shows this year's recipients and a link to video clips of their speeches. The memorial webpage for Peri Ceperley has been up since April and has resulted in 25 donations. Mike suggests moving the memorial announcement from the Home page to the Announcements page.

Mike is working on a year-date problem. The Board page has been updated with the new Board. PayPal has been cleaned up to be associated with Board member roles, not with individual names.

NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held in August, date and venue TBD.

Respectfully submitted,
Marguerite Maguire
Recording Secretary

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