

**The Illinois Club
Board Meeting
March 14, 2016**

The Illinois Club Board met at 7p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2016, at the home of Sandy Camargo. Attending were Mike Haney, Susan Haney, Marguerite Maguire, Sheila Krein, Sandy Camargo, Marcy Joncich, Ann Long, Ann Campbell, Kathy Valdes, Pat Davis, Carl Altstetter, Paula Carns, Jenny Kokini, and Carrol Bunick.

The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Camargo. Minutes of the last meeting on January 25, 2016, were distributed and approved electronically in February.

REPORTS

President

Sandy Camargo congratulated everyone who worked on the Scholarship Brunch, especially Paula and Susan, for a very enjoyable and successful event. Sandy met with Ann Campbell and Kathy Valdes about revising the newsletter and increasing the functionality of our digital communications. Sandy announced that the new leadership of the Scholarship Committee will meet after Spring Break, with her and Ann Campbell in attendance.

Communications: Following up on Sandy's mentioning the Communications meeting, Ann Campbell gave the following report.

We need to concentrate on making the communications process easier and more streamlined. Here are my suggestions:

Weekly email communication + expanded edition quarterly

- Use of MailChimp has made this easier. Communications team will compile weekly interest group info and other announcements. President will insert a brief message directly into the MailChimp template.
- UI Listserv to be phased out; MailChimp list will be **the** list. Listserv to remain active for the time being.
- Occasional special announcements will be made by the president using that template.

Quarterly Informational Mailings – preparing traditional newsletters has been a bit daunting, and, as a result, their appearance is not always timely, especially since we have such a great weekly communication in place now.

Limit the content of quarterly mailings to announcements and reservations forms, as per Board action in 2015:

- August Quarterly: includes Events Calendar for the Year, Interest Group List, Board Member List, Membership Application Form, Directory (mailed to members only)
- November Quarterly: two-page edition with Holiday Party Announcement and Reservation Form, Directory Supplement inside
- February Quarterly: one-page edition with Scholarship Brunch Announcement and Reservation Form, and the Proposed Slate of Board Members.
- April Quarterly: two-page (one 17x11 page) with Spring Luncheon Announcement and Reservation Form, and next year's Membership Form.

Preparing Event Announcements and Reservation Forms, Membership Form

- Set up templates, so that these are easy to create by VP or Meeting Manager. (Model announcements are in the Club's Dropbox folder under EVENTS.)

Articles and Photos - expand the use of our **Facebook** page to act like our website:

- Grant editing privileges to interest-group chairs, so that photos and articles could be released there in a timely manner.
- Moderate content (administered by President, Communications Chair, and assistant).
- Challenge - getting non-FB users to engage in the FB world. The President will encourage participation in weekly e-news.
- Post articles and photos on Interest Group pages on website

Board Communications

- Create new email address: Tic-board@theillinoisclub.org (DONE)
- Create a MailChimp template and list, moving away from TIC-Board list (UI listserv). It will remain active for the time being. (DONE)

GoDaddy email Forwards and List Maintenance

- I update these on an annual basis and as needed. GoDaddy account is owned by Roy Campbell. There is concern about this, but a solution that might put the account in the Club's name is problematic because a personal credit card is required as part of the account. In addition to the email forwards, the TIC Website and Database are hosted by GoDaddy.

Change Dropbox folder password on new board installation.

It was suggested that TIC consider a new interest group on technology to help members navigate the new digital world successfully.

Vice President

Paula reported that the Scholarship Brunch, held on Saturday, March 5, at Hawthorn Suites in Champaign, was a lovely event, with great students receiving awards. 78 attended.

Everyone agreed that there was too much food, a nice problem to have, but Paula reported that the Hawthorn charges the same amount even if we had chosen fewer items. The seating system could be improved in future, perhaps with more helpers at the door.

The Spring Luncheon will be held on May 5, also at the Hawthorn. A salad/ sandwich buffet with soup and dessert has been chosen. It was suggested that members be charged \$14.95, but the actual price will be circulated for Board approval once the final costs have been determined. Sandy is finalizing arrangements with the speaker, who has been the librarian of the children's section of the Champaign Public Library and is currently an Associate Professor in the UI English Department.

Treasurer

Jenny Kokini passed around copies of her report, which showed \$19,795.09 in the Busey checking account and \$2490.36 in the University account, for a total of \$22,285.45 as of 3/1/16. The Scholarship Brunch incurred a deficit of \$660.40 due to the facts that the hotel charged \$20 per person while members paid \$18, and because the attending Scholarship winners and one of their guests did not pay. Donations of \$5775 were received for Illinois Scholarship Funds at UIF, and an additional \$675 was received in 2016 for the Peri Ceperley Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Scholarships

Susan Haney gave the following report.

There were 163 non-duplicated applicants. 25 applicants were interviewed, including 2 which were Skyped for Study Abroad students in Belgium and Costa Rica. \$32,600 total was awarded.

- 1 – Judith Life Ikenberry Fine Arts Award - \$3,600
 - Kelsey Grotkiewicz - Voice
- 1 – Susan T. Haney Social Work Award - \$3,000
 - Kahlia Halpern - Social Work
- 1 – STEM Education Award - \$3,000
 - Nina Tandle - Mathematics
- 4 – Isabelle Purnell Education Awards - \$2,300 each
 - Leticia Angel - Elementary Education
 - Melanie Demma - Elementary Education
 - Eric Mendoza - Music Education
 - Michelle Seat - Mathematics
- 1 – Peri Davis Ceperley Make-A-Difference Award - \$2,300
 - Brittney Nadler - Global Studies
- 5 – Make-A-Difference Awards - \$2,300 each
 - Arianna Jenkins - Psychology and Political Science.
 - Stephanie Medina - Human Development & Family Studies
 - Priscilla Monsivais - Political Science and Sociology
 - Shivali Patel - Molecular & Cellular Biology and Global Studies
 - Lauren Zelaya - Chemical Engineering

The 2015–2016 committee suggested that one of the Make-A-Difference Awards be designated as the “Global Focus” Award, as a continuing gesture in honor of Peri Ceperley. Sandy recognized the value of this idea, but replied that all recommendations from this year’s Scholarship Committee should be discussed by the new leadership of the 2016–2017 Scholarship Committee.

Scholarship Sales

Per last year’s Board decision, all sales of Judy Ikenberry’s prints and notecards to benefit scholarships will cease immediately. Various methods to handle current inventory were discussed. Subsequent to the meeting, Sandy communicated with Judy Ikenberry by phone, email, and letter, expressing the Club’s gratitude for her generosity but also TIC’s need to remove itself from sales. Susan also spoke to Judy. The inventory has been formally turned over to Susan and Judy to be disposed of as Judy determines. Sandy will arrange for the Club’s sales-tax ID number to expire by December 31, 2016.

Membership

Ann Long reported that we have 274 members. Three members died, one former member was reinstated, and one new University employee joined. Members were encouraged to be on the lookout for new and younger prospective members, and to advertise the Fall Expo where the Club hopes to find new members.

Newcomers

Pat Davis reported that the next event will be a WILL tour and live taping of *Midwest Gardener* on April 7. A visit and tea ceremony at Japan House from 1:30 to 3 pm on Thursday, May 19, will be open to Newcomers and Club members. This last event is a joint effort with Tours. The cost will be \$8 per person; attendance is limited to 20 people.

Tours

Sheila Krein reported that she has tentatively reserved 20 tickets for the dinner theatre in Oakland for September 24. A minimum of 10 and a maximum of 20 attendees is needed. The show will be Lincoln's *Trials and Tribulations*, and tickets will cost \$30. The price will be reduced to \$27 if 20 attend. In addition to the dinner theater, visitors can spend the day touring Oakland, visiting the museum, historic buildings, and pioneer village. The townspeople dress in costume to enhance the experience. Members can find their own transportation, travelling separately or in groups. This event will need to be advertised and booked prior to the Fall Expo. Sheila suggested a tour of the State Farm Center when its renovations have been concluded.

Webmaster

Mike Haney reported that he will release funds held in TIC's PayPal account whenever the Treasurer requests. He is willing to share the PayPal password with another Board member. He is ready to make the PayPal link live when the details about payment for the Spring Luncheon have been set.

Interest Groups

Carrol gathered information from most interest-group chairs about member participation, and the figures ranged from a low of 1-3 for Newcomers to a high of 20-30 for Wine Lovers. Interest Groups will be told to choose their chairs for the upcoming year at their earliest convenience. Carrol, who will be taking over as Interest Group Chair, said that there will be a meeting with IG chairs in August. At that meeting, Communications will give the chairs a tutorial about using Facebook, since the Club would like greater participation by the Interest Groups on that platform. See also the suggestion under Communications for a new Tech Interest Group.

Corresponding Secretary

Marcy Joncich sent cards to the families of deceased members Beth Carbonneau, Betty Hill, Grace Miller, and Betty Jo Oliver. Sympathy cards were sent to Ann Campbell on the death of her brother, and to Sandi Thomas on the death of her mother. Get well cards were sent to Dale Steffensen and Bill Gropp, who both broke legs.

NEXT BOARD MEETING will be the Old Board/New Board potluck on Tuesday, May 10, at 6:30 at Ann Campbell's house.

Respectfully submitted,
Marguerite Maguire
Recording Secretary

TICminutesMar2016