

The Illinois Club

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Building Community

2007- 2008

The Illinois Club Board

President	Ann Long
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Asst. Membership	Barbara Ahrens
Meeting Manager	Becki Fields
Publicity	Carrol Bunick Kate Keball
Archivist	Vivian Larson
Tours	Jeanne Mitchell
Hospitality	Suzanne Rogers
Scholarship	Jan Merchen
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Past President	Cinda Pettigrew
Webmaster	Birgit McCall

A Letter from the President...

Fall 2007 marks a new era for our Club, now The Illinois Club. Change has been discussed for many years, allowing us time to reflect on our past and embrace the future with a name that embodies our affiliation with the University and the community. One motivation for change was to attract younger members. Already we have seen more young faculty and graduate students at our events, and I ask you to join me in making a special effort to encourage others to sample Interest Groups or events with a view to joining our Club. The Illinois Club also looks forward to continuing to make a difference through our scholarships, as well as growing and building community inside and outside the University. Our great past is going to help build an even greater future.

Our Interest Groups are now in full swing, and we will celebrate the season with a Holiday Tea on December 11 at the President's House. We truly appreciate Mary White opening her home to our Club. It is always a pleasure to visit this magnificent building. Equally, it is a pleasure to meet with Mary White, who has been so supportive. Don't miss this event!

Mystery fan? Just wanting to finish a tough week with an evening of fun and good food? If so, join us for a night to remember on the luxurious Titanic on February 9. Resurrect your 1912 wardrobe (to win a prize), mingle with the rich and famous, and marvel at their shameless behavior... adultery, theft, and eventually murder. All this with not an iceberg in sight!

Fall Sign Ups at the Levis Center was fantastic with excellent displays from our Interest Group Chairs. It is good to visit with old friends, meet new ones, and expand our horizons by joining new groups. The Fall Social provided an opportunity for old and new members to mix socially with music from Chip Stevens Jazz Ensemble, and the Alumni Center provided the perfect background. Thanks to Becki Fields for organizing this event.

Our membership is now at 378 paid members with 60 Newcomers this year. We welcome our Newcomers and invite them to become involved. If you haven't found an Interest Group you would like, consider developing your own. We are always keen to hear new ideas, and to advise and support new activities. The Newcomers' Wine and Cheese Reception attracted 50 people and was a great success. Equally, the Oktoberfest at Bayern Stube was a fabulous evening of German food, beer, and music. For our Chili Contest, bring your favorite chili and drink. There is a prize for the best chili – determined by all who taste. Recipes must be shared!

I would like to thank the many members who have contributed generously to the Scholarship Fund; \$4,475 has been donated this year. Our booth at the Farmer's Market is now closed for the season. My thanks to the volunteers who worked over the summer and fall. Please consider volunteering for our Club's table at the Illini Union Bazaar, where we will sell Motawi tiles on November 28 and 29. Buy one of our beautiful, unique tiles for yourself or as a Holiday gift. All profits go to our Scholarship Fund. It's also not too late to send in a donation and join our Honor Roll.

I look forward to seeing you all at the Holiday Tea.

Ann



Holiday Tea

Hosted by Mrs. Mary White



Tuesday, December 11, 2007
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The President's House
711 West Florida Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Entertainment by the Rip Chords



Reservations required.

Reservations can be made by contacting Suzanne Rogers no later than December third.
504 East Pennsylvania Avenue, MC-594, Champaign, 61820
srogers@law.uiuc.edu, 333-8010



*We are honored to have
Mrs. Mary White
hosting The Illinois Club
to a Holiday Tea.*

*The Rip Chords, a women's
a cappella group, will perform.*

**RSVP by Monday, December 3rd.
Members only please.**

*Parking is in the West Lot.
There will be staff to help Club members
being dropped off in the circle driveway.*



The University of Illinois President's House in Urbana was designed by architects Charles Platt and James White, and built in 1931. The house is the official residence of the President, who leads the three campuses of the University of Illinois (Chicago, Springfield, and Urbana-Champaign). To date it has been occupied by ten Presidents.

Need a Costume?

Do you need a costume for an occasion, such as our next Murder Mystery Dinner "An Evening on the Titanic"? The Krannert Center for Performing Arts has costumes to rent for virtually any occasion. Give them a call at 217-333-6709.

**Quotes from
last year's
Murder Mystery
Dinner:**



**"I can't remember when I last had
so much fun."**

**"Great food and the actors were
terrific – I was completely fooled by
the murderer."**

**"Make sure you let me know when
next year's will be."**

Fall Tour a Success!

Thanks to Jeanne Mitchell for a fabulous bus tour to Indianapolis. All who went enjoyed the great food, great friends, great art, and great shopping! We had several first-timers for a Club tour, and they all asked when the next tour was; they simply can't wait!



We are excited about next spring's bus trip, mostly likely to Chicago in late March or early April, for more shopping, and maybe some Wicked theater...

Women's Club Now The Illinois Club

Ann Long

These are the results of the proposed amendment to our Constitution to change the name of the Club from **Women's Club at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign** to **The Illinois Club**. As announced previously the secret ballot took place between 6:30 – 7:30 PM on Wednesday 10 October at the Alice Campbell Alumni Center. Of 333 paid members of the Club, 85 cast their vote; there were no spoiled ballots.

Votes in Favor of The Illinois Club: **71**

Votes in Favor of Women's Club at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: **14**

Under our Constitution a quorum was required (17 members) and for the amendment to be carried 2/3 of the votes had to be in favor. With 84% of the votes cast in favor of the change, the amendment to change our name to **The Illinois Club** was carried.



As many of you will know from Susan Haney's wonderful account of the history of our Club in the June newsletter, the Club was first formed to serve the wives of an all male faculty. The name Women's Club served us well, but times have changed. Many of the University staff and faculty are women, many partners are working, and as our Club moves into the second century of its existence, we should expect gender differences to diminish further. And so, a name change became appropriate. The need for change was underlined to me personally when one of our members arrived to vote with his two small children in tow because his wife had to work late.

Change has been discussed in our Club for some 15 years, a key barrier being an appropriate name. I thank Kathy Marshak for the brilliant idea of The Illinois Club; it signifies our affiliation with the leading public institution of learning in our state, and the broadening of our Club into the community. But I also remind members of Gay Robert's reference in our June newsletter to Romeo and Juliet "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet". The name change does not mean we will lose any of our qualities, but rather gain additional ones. The same Interest Groups and activities will remain, but we may now add more and appeal to a broader constituency. As a means to remind ourselves of the origin of The Illinois Club, I will be proposing to the Board that we consider introducing an annual event on Women's Issues. I would welcome your ideas on this.

Fall Sign Ups



Straw Poll Results from Fall Sign Ups	
Votes Cast	84
University & Community Association at Illinois	8
University & Community Club at Illinois	14.5
The Illinois Club	42.5
None	11
No change	8



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Ann Long checking on the progress of the ballot counting.
L to R: Vivian Larson, Barbara Ahrens, and Mona Higginbotham are counting the ballots.



Ann Long and Susan Haney, tired but happy.

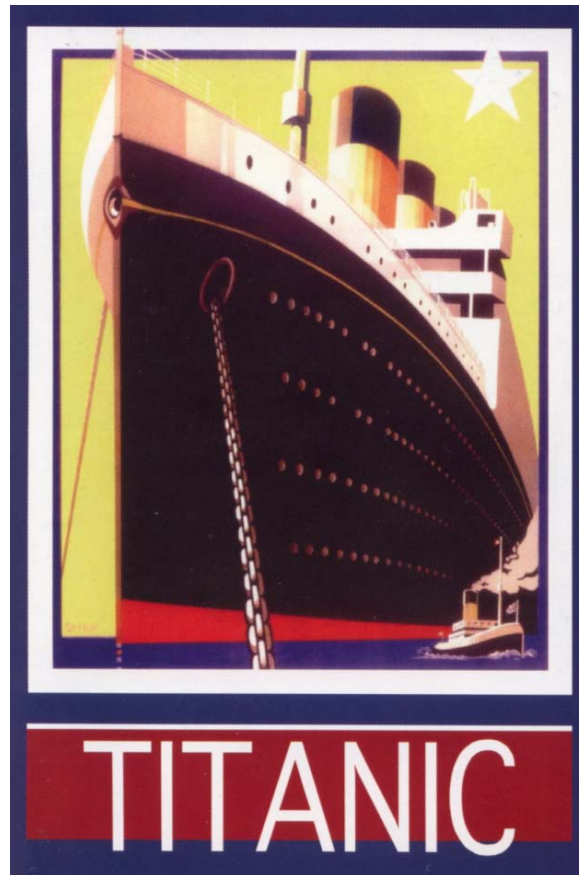
Fall Social after the historic vote.



An Evening on the Titanic

The Illinois Club's Second Annual Murder Mystery

Join the First Class passengers for dinner on the Titanic, the largest, most luxurious, and safest passenger steamer in the world. The ship has just set sail on its maiden voyage and has well-earned its nickname "The Millionaires' Special" – the 300+ passengers in First Class are worth a combined \$500 million. This particular slice of the upper crust is a tightly interconnected set. They all see each other at the most fashionable events and resorts, from the America's Cup to the Great Pyramids. Nobody can know everyone, though, and it's not impossible for a few ringers to slip in.



Captain Edward J. Smith, well loved by the ocean-traveling set, is personally presiding over dinner this evening, ably assisted by one of the stewards, Nicholas Coleman. The best-known guests here tonight are real estate tycoon James Jefferson Pastorius and his scandalously young wife Leonora, Pastorius' business partner S. Talbot Ives, and Mrs. Silas Black (who seems to travel without her mining-magnate husband a great deal). The other two guests are unknown to most, but if they're here they surely must be all right.

Of course, it's not all right. Adultery, theft, financial misdeeds, and general mayhem are on the menu. And of course, someone is going to end up dead. Well, probably more than one before morning, but don't worry. The iceberg won't even be sighted until long after dinner is over. There's no need to worry about that. Not when there's so much else to worry about...

Murder Mystery Dinner

*Welcome aboard the RMS Titanic.
Captain Edward J. Smith requests the honor of your presence at dinner on*

*Saturday February 9, 7.00 PM
Champaign Country Club
1211 South Prospect Avenue
Champaign*

Program

*7.00 Join the Captain and his guests for Cocktails
7.30 Dinner is served*

Menu

*Mixed Baby Green Salad
Choice of
Grilled Atlantic Salmon, Orange Glazed Chicken, or Pasta Primavera
With Chef's Accompaniment of Vegetables
Cheesecake with Mango, Raspberry, Chocolate, or Strawberry Sauce
Coffee, Hot Tea and Iced Tea
Cash Bar
\$40 for Members & \$45 for Guests*

What happens at these Murder Mystery events?

The murder mystery will be performed by the Champaign Urbana Theater Company (Seven Corpse Dinner Murder Mystery). The dinner will be totally interactive with the actors mixing with the guests before and during dinner, answering questions, having arguments, making and breaking business deals and love affairs, and whatever else is the essence of the evening. After dinner, one of the guests "dies" and it appears to be murder! A private investigator will take over and ask for your help in identifying suspects. You will have to account for your movements and you will be able to ask questions of the suspects. A secret ballot is taken to identify the murderer and one ballot pulled from the correct guesses gets a pair of tickets to a CUTC show at the Virginia Theatre! There will also be a prize for the two best dressed for the period (1912).

Reservation Form for Mystery Dinner

Saturday February 9, 7.00 PM

Members' Names _____ Phone _____

Member Entrées: Fish _____ Chicken _____ Pasta _____

Names of Guests _____

Guest Entrées: Fish _____ Chicken _____ Pasta _____

Total Enclosed: _____ Cost: \$40 Member, \$45 Guest

Make checks payable to: The Illinois Club
Reservation and Refund Deadline: February 2nd

Mail to: Ann Long, 4406 Brittany Trail Drive, Champaign, IL 61822

E-mail: annlong@uiuc.edu

Phone: 217- 398-6639

Newcomers' Group

Come meet new people, make new friends, and have some fun! This is our ultimate goal!! New to the Club, but not to the area, fantastic! We want your friendship and your knowledge about what is great and available, so please partake in this section of the Club. *We welcome your e-mails or phone calls... We are always looking for someone to go to lunch, or shop with.*

Mona Higginbotham, 2nd Vice President, Newcomers' 217-344-0532, monaspool@hotmail.com
Nancy Uchtmann, Asst. 2nd Vice President, Newcomers' 217-384-7875, nuchtmann@insightbb.com

What About Lunch??

To enable us to meet more people, we are joining our group with the "Let's Do Lunch" group for the next three lunches. Please RSVP to Mona, as usual, by the Wednesday before the lunch at 344-0532 or monaspool@hotmail.com. We will meet the 2nd Friday of every month at 11:30 AM. The schedule is as follows:

- December 14, 2007 Kennedy's at Stone Creek 2560 S. Stone Creek, Urbana
Cost for the lunch is a set price of \$15.50 for Kennedy's.
- January 11, 2008 Shanghai 1938 Village at the Crossing
Windsor & Duncan, Champaign
- February 8, 2008 The Great Impasta 114 W. Church, Champaign

Remember Reservations and Cancellations are a must!!

Upcoming Evening Events:

- January 25, 6:30 PM Chili Contest Location TBA
Please join us for a Chili Contest. Bring a beverage of your choice and your favorite chili or an appetizer to share. We will vote among the contestants for the best chili. RSVP by Tuesday, January 22 to monaspool@hotmail.com or 344-0532.
- February 15, 6:45 PM Jim Gould Restaurant 1 E. Main St., Champaign
Extend Valentine's Day by celebrating the day after as well! RSVP by Tuesday, February 12 to monaspool@hotmail.com or 344-0532.

Remember Reservations and Cancellations are a must!!



Oktoberfest at the Bayern Stube



Costume Party

Scholarship Deadline

The deadline for Scholarship applications is January 31, 2008. The application will be updated and available later in November on the website.

Calling All History!

Vivian Larson is looking for old newsletters, pictures, etc. to put into our archives and bind into a book. She is compiling a list of what we are lacking, and will soon be looking for items to fill in the gaps. If you have some historic information about our Club, give Vivian a call, and she'll be happy to make arrangements to pick it up. Contact her at 217-367-0800 or v.larson1@insightbb.com. Thanks for all your help!

Database Quirk Causes Glitch

Due to an unknown glitch, several names were inadvertently left out of the Directory. We discovered this after they were printed. Why it happened is unknown, but how is now known. Next year, we will do more thorough checks to make sure that everyone is included. We have printed a special page to insert into your Directory and we apologize for any inconvenience. Thanks for understanding, and thanks to Sandy and Birgit for getting to the bottom of it!

Volunteer for WILL!

The Illinois Club has traditionally sponsored an evening of volunteering for WILL's Fund Raising Campaign. We answer phones and take pledges for this fabulous TV station and community resource. Our evening this year is **Monday, December 3, from 6:45 PM – 10:00 PM** at the WILL Studios. Please contact Carrol Bunick at abunick@uiuc.edu to help.

Holiday Tile Sales

Wednesday & Thursday, November 28 & 29
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Illini Union Rooms A, B, C & South Lounge

Contact Jan Merchen to volunteer for a few hours at merchenjan@aol.com or 356-2310. Proceeds benefit our Scholarship Fund. Thank you very much!

Upcoming Board Meetings

Monday, January 14th
7:00 PM at Paula Watson's
715 W. Delaware Ave., U.

Monday, March 10th
7:00 PM, Location TBA

New Board, Old Board
Wednesday, May 7th
6:30 PM, Location TBA

Can you help Birgit for an hour or two?

We are looking for individuals who are interested in working with our webmaster Birgit to help maintain our website. We would like some help in posting things to the website as well as updating information on it. If you're interested in helping out a little or a lot, please contact Birgit McCall at 356-6654 or bdmccall@uiuc.edu.

The Illinois Club List Serve

Do you want to receive timely reminders and announcements of The Illinois Club events, like the Interest Group meetings and Tours? If you are not on our e-mail list serve, follow the List Serve link from our webpage: <http://www.TheIllinoisClub.org>.

It's easy and convenient for quick club communications. Questions? Ask Ann Campbell at 352-1487 or annc@prairienet.org.

Motawi Tileworks

Here are a few facts about our beautiful Motawi tiles:

- Made in the USA in a ceramic studio in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- Each tile is handmade and unique.
- Motawi tiles are made by a sibling duo - Karim and Nawal Motawi.
- Nawal Motawi is the Artistic director of the Tileworks.
- Both siblings attended the University of Michigan.
- Most recent influences include Grueby Faience, Louis Sullivan and artists of the Ceramic Studio.
- Motawi is an Arabic name from their father's homeland in Egypt.
- Each tile sale contributes to our Make a Difference Scholarship Fund.
- After our current inventory is sold, we will no longer restock due to higher cost of tiles. See the back page for beautiful color photos of our Motawi tiles!

For more info visit the website at: <http://www.motawi.com>.

Holiday Tile Sales

The Illinois Club will be selling Motawi tiles at the Illini Union Bazaar on Wednesday and Thursday, November 28 and 29, from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM. The Bazaar is held in Illini Union Rooms A, B, C and the South Lounge. Please help volunteer for a few hours to help out our worthy Scholarship cause! Contact Jan Merchen at merchenjan@aol.com or at 356-2310 to help. Thanks!

Scholarship Fund Donation

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

I wish to Make a Difference by contributing to The Illinois Club Scholarship Fund.

Here's my check for: Honor Roll (\$50) _____

Dean's List (\$100) _____

Bronze Tablet (\$200) _____

Other _____

Please make checks payable to: UIF – The Illinois Club

Send to: Kathleen Witek, 410 W. Hill St., Champaign, IL 61820

Make a Difference Scholarship Fund Donations

Thanks to all members who have donated to our Scholarship Endowment. We have deposited \$4,475 in our account this year. All contributions large or small help us to reach our goal of \$100,000 for our endowment account.

Bronze Tablet \$200 & Over

Anastasia Economy
Mary Gaddy

Joan Hood
Susan and Mike Haney

Ann and Steve Long

Dean's List \$100 – \$199

Ann and Roy Campbell
Peri Ceperley
Nancy and Harold Diamond
Vivian and Carl Larson
Elizabeth Miley

Wilma O'Brien
Cinda and Jim Pettigrew
Gay Roberts
Deborah and Stephen Rugg
Joy Thornton-Walter

Marie Griffith Tompkins
Joyce and Howard
Wakeland
Shirley Walker

Honor Roll \$50 – \$99

Anne R. Axford
Rita Campion
Mehri Cohen
Valleria Cook
Maggie Dougherty-Roberts
Matilda Frankel
Jean Hadfield
Mona and Randy
Higginbotham

Ingrid and Bruce Hutchings
Cynthia Jackson
Rosetta Kumar
Marguerite Maguire
Faye Puckett
Gloria Rainer
Geraldine Reiss
Judith and Derek Robinson
Lucia and Bob Scully

Melvyn Skvarla
Becky and Earl Swanson
Bonnie Switzer
Jean S. Thompson
Mary Jo Thomsen
Berta Wendel
Sarah and Charles
Wisseman

2007 – 2008 The Illinois Club Events

The Illinois Club Happy Hour	Thursday, Dec. 6, 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Krannert Uncorked, Krannert Lobby
Holiday Tea	Tuesday, Dec. 11, 4:00 – 6:00 PM	President's House, Page 2
Newsletter Deadline	Tuesday, January 1, 8:00 AM	
Board Meeting	Monday, January 14, 7:00 PM	Paula Watson's
The Illinois Club Happy Hour	Thursday, January 17, 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Krannert Uncorked, Krannert Lobby
An Evening on the Titanic	Saturday, February 9, 7:00 PM	Champaign Country Club, Pages 5 & 6
The Illinois Club Happy Hour	Thursday, February 21, 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Krannert Uncorked, Krannert Lobby
Board Meeting	Monday, March 10, 7:00 PM	Location TBA
The Illinois Club Happy Hour	Thursday, March 6, 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Krannert Uncorked, Krannert Lobby
Newsletter Deadline	Monday, March 24, 8:00 AM	
Scholarship Brunch	Saturday, March 29, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Heritage Room, ACES Library
The Illinois Club Happy Hour	Thursday, April 3, 5:00 – 7:00 PM	Krannert Uncorked, Krannert Lobby
Spring Luncheon	Thursday, May 1, 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM	Champaign Country Club
New Board, Old Board Meeting	Wednesday, May 7, 6:30 PM	Location TBA
Fall Expo	Friday, September 19, 4:00 – 7:00 PM	I Hotel & Conference Center



Presorted Standard
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Champaign, IL
Permit #75



The UI Morrow Plots
In Matte Finish
Yellow or Green
\$35 Each

The Perfect Gift!

Beautiful Motawi Tiles



The Round Barn
In Matte Finish
Brown, Blue, or Oak
\$35 Each

Proceeds to Benefit
The Illinois Club Scholarship Fund

Contact:
Jan Merchen - merchenjan@aol.com