

# The Illinois Club

Volume 19, Number 1  
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www.TheIllinoisClub.org

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## Celebrating Over 100 Years at Illinois

### A letter from the President . . .

Ahh! The end of this amazingly pleasant August is almost here. And that means the Fall Expo is around the corner! This year it's in the brand spanking new I Hotel, at the corner of First St. and St. Mary's Road, south of the Assembly Hall. I'm so excited about our Interest Group sign ups – it's going to be a wonderful experience, and I can hardly wait to see you there! To make the Expo even more exciting, we are giving away a \$50 gift certificate to the new restaurant at the I, Houlihan's. How can you get in this drawing? By sending in your dues renewal on or before Saturday, September 13. You need not be present to win!

We have a great new team of eager beaver officers this year. Our latest lineup is noted to the left, as we've had a few resignations. Accordingly, we welcome Victoria Wittig aboard as our new Membership Chair. Not only is she new to the Board, but she is also a Newcomer, as are several others on the Board. I hope you get to know them and enjoy their company and enthusiasm as much as I do. And beaucoup thanks to Jody Endres, Newsletter Chair for making all this cool color on the newsletter possible. She's making some great choices! And we are going green this year, as in using FSC-certified, 100% recycled paper for the newsletter. Awesome!

And speaking of awesome, you have the opportunity to do something incredible, like being a part of the University's Brilliant Futures campaign, because one of the things we do best is specialize in brilliant futures here with our Make-A-Difference Scholarships. This year we have the amazing gift of being able to say we passed the \$100,000 mark in our endowment fund. We only need \$6000 to reach our goal, so please consider giving generously to the fund. Or buy some of our fabulous Motawi tiles (see the back cover). They are going fast, so make sure you get the color you want, before it's gone! You won't regret it when you meet our winners at the Scholarship Awards Brunch on March 7. And inside you can read about last year's winners – scholars and inspirational people all!

Also on tap is our Fall Tour to Chicago on Wednesday, October 22 (see inside). Our other events include the Holiday Tea, Murder Mystery, Spring Tour, and Spring Luncheon. We'll have those dates finalized by the Expo and I apologize for not having them now – it was difficult to get organized this spring and summer with my newly herniated disk. Along the way many Club friends offered generously to help. Thank you! We truly are a community of fabulous caring people. I'm honored to know you and be of assistance to you in return. It's an incredible year already!

Sincerely, Susan



# Newcomers Group News

Are you new to the University or the C-U Community? Or, are you a first-time member of TIC? Meet new friends, make important professional connections, and learn valuable inside information about the C-U area at our various events planned throughout the semester! If there is an event you would like to see us host, email us!

In addition to our page on the [www.theillinoisclub.org](http://www.theillinoisclub.org) website, we've started a Google Groups site where you can find maps and directions to events and information about the C-U community. You can find our Group at:

<http://groups.google.com/group/IllinoisClubNewcomers>

Need a good plumber? Post your questions to our Newcomers Google discussion group. Not a Newcomer? Join our Google Group and help answer our Newcomers' questions!

We welcome your ideas, and look forward to meeting you!

*Bryan & Jody Endres  
Andrew Leakey & Lisa Ainsworth  
Co-Chairs*

## Upcoming Events

*Saturday, September 6, 9 a.m.  
Football Tailgate*

Join us for tailgating at Memorial Stadium's Orange/Blue Lot before the Illinois v. Eastern Illinois football game. You don't have to love sports to enjoy tailgating! We provide the breakfast and games, you provide the U of I spirit! Look for our giant banner along Florida Avenue. Details, including directions, are on the TIC website and Google Groups page.

*Friday, September 12, 7-9 p.m.  
Wine and Cheese Party*

Steve & Ann Long have graciously opened their home to the Newcomers Group for stimulating conversation, great wine and food, and most importantly--meeting new friends! RSVPs encouraged. . .please visit the TIC website and our Google Groups page for details, including directions to the Longs' home.

More events can be found on the TIC and Google Groups websites!

Questions? Email us anytime at:  
[illinoisclubnewcomers@googlegroups.com](mailto:illinoisclubnewcomers@googlegroups.com)

# Interest Group News

Interested in improving your foreign language skills? Do you enjoy a good glass of wine or book?

In addition to hosting club-wide events, TIC sponsors many exciting interest groups for the benefit of its members.

This year, TIC is hosting its Fall Expo at the new University of Illinois I Hotel. The Chairs of all our interest groups will be available at the Expo to answer all your questions. You can join our interest groups at the Expo.

If you can't attend the Expo, you can join an interest group by contacting the chair of the group listed on the next page. The TIC website maintains an interest group page containing up-to-date information on dates and times of events, and points of contact.

General questions regarding interest groups? Please contact:

*Cathy Williams*, 3rd VP  
(217) 687-4079  
[nitzwilli@aol.com](mailto:nitzwilli@aol.com)

*Jenny Kokini*, Asst. 3rd VP  
(609) 462-1673  
[jkokini@igb.uiuc.edu](mailto:jkokini@igb.uiuc.edu)



## 2008 Fall Expo

*Come & Join Our Interest Groups!*

*Friday, September 19, 4-7 p.m.*  
*I Hotel at the University of Illinois*  
*1900 S. First St., Champaign, IL*  
*Corner of St. Mary's Rd. & 1st St., just*  
*south of Assembly Hall*  
*Chancellor Room*  
*[www.stayattheI.com](http://www.stayattheI.com)*

Appetizers and beverages provided, with a cash bar available. Plenty of free parking is available by the North-east door. No RSVP is required.

### Note!

Dues forms postmarked on or before September 13 will be entered into a Fall Expo drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to Houlihan's restaurant at the I Hotel. Couples receive two entries.

# Interest Group Dates/Times/Contacts

Antiques & Collectibles	2nd Wed. @ 1:15 p.m.	Antje Kolodziej, (217) 356-1734, antje@illinois.edu
Book Exchange	Dates/Time TBA	Roxanne Frey, 333-5685, frey@illinois.edu
Bridge	2nd Mon. @ 12:30 p.m.	Shirley Walker, (217) 352-7428
Campus Lunch	Every other Wed., 12 noon	Sarah Wisseman, (217) 352-7547 wisarc@illinois.edu
Cinema	2nd Mon., 7:00 p.m.	Sandy Camargo, (217) 344-0023, scamargo@illinois.edu
Cordially Yours	Dates/Times TBA	Susan Haney, (217) 356-2464 SusanHaney1@gmail.com
Cosmopolitan	2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.	Judith Robinson, (217) 367-8884 robinso22@gmail.com, and Sarah Gertner, (217) 398-1285
Dog Days	Dates/Times TBA	Barbara Garlick, (217) 762-9088 K9SoundSolutions@hughes.net
French	2nd & 4th Thurs., 1:30 p.m.	Andree Aboussouan, (217) 367-8522 Sandy Dayton, (217) 586-2066, teach1latin@yahoo.com
German	2nd Mon., 1:30 p.m.	Anna Merritt, (217) 344-4573, amerritt@illinois.edu
Golf	Dates/Times TBA	Joanita Dirikolu, joanita.dirikolu@carle.com
Hiking	3rd Sunday	Anne Campbell, (217) 352-1487, anncampbell51@gmail.com Peri Ceperley, (217) 359-9333, peri@ceperley.com
Knit n' Things	1st & 3rd Mon., 1:15 p.m.	Lori Choquette, (217) 367-3144, choquette5@comcast.net
Let's Do Lunch	2nd Fri., 11:30 a.m.	Looking for a Chair(s)!
Literature	Afternoon Group: 4th Wed., 1 p.m. Evening Group: 3rd Mon., 7:30 p.m.	Jean Creswell, (217) 359-1877, jcreswel@illinois.edu Jenifer Cartwright, (217) 352-2803, jencart7@yahoo.com Roxanne Frey, (217) 333-5685, frey@illinois.edu
Parent-Child Playgroup	2nd & 4th Thurs., 9:30-11:30 a.m.	Looking for a Chair(s)!
Portuguese	3rd Tues., 7:00 p.m.	Jody Endres, (217) 344-7255, illinoisclubnewcomers@googlegroups.com
Spanish	2nd & 4th Mondays, 7:30 p.m.	Johnetta Wilde, (217) 352-4490, jkwilde@illinois.edu Mary Kruse, (217) 337-6942, m.kruse@comcast.net
Supper Club	3rd Saturday, Time TBA	Shirley Splittstoesser, (217) 367-3330, splitts@life.uiuc.edu Mary Ruth Getz, (217) 356-5767, m-getz@illinois.edu
Wine Lovers	Dates/Times on TIC website	Margaret Martin, (217) 344-1759, margaretha.martin@comcast.net
Writers Not Anonymous	4th Monday, 2:30 p.m.	Susan Haney, (217) 356-2464, SusanHaney1@gmail.com

# Interest Group News

## *Antiques & Collectibles*

Members and invited speakers present programs on personal collections, house tours, special tours, etc. This very large group holds an auction every year to benefit The Illinois Club Scholarship Fund.

## *Book Exchange*

This group is starting its 33rd year this fall. Each member buys a new fiction book that is rotated among members in groups of seven to nine people. At the end of seven months each person will have read a variety of new books.

## *Bridge*

The bridge groups are always popular. They meet in members' homes or a designated facility. Pre-arranged partnering is not done.

## *Campus Lunch*

Are you on campus during the day working or studying? Come and join us for lunch. Meet us in the Illini Union Ballroom every other week.

## *Cinema*

Let's talk about movies! Depending on the interests of the group, we can view or discuss current popular films, classic films, and/or foreign films.

## *Golf*

We golf after work, and some weekends. We'd like to sponsor a fundraising tournament.

## *Cordially Yours*

We get together once a month for drinks of all kinds – alcoholic or non-alcoholic, store-bought or homemade, with snacks thrown in. Come, relax, have fine conversation and fun times!

## *Cosmopolitan*

We help members from other countries feel welcome by providing programs of interest to both foreign and American members who enjoy learning about other cultures. Includes refreshments.

## *Dog Days*

Spend time with your dog and people who enjoy dogs. Train your dog to be a great pet or therapy dog – have fun, do tricks, walk properly, go to dog parks. Learn why dogs do what they do and how to communicate with them. No dog? Foster a homeless dog or train or walk shelter dogs. Meetings include dining/drinking.

## *French*

Members of this group read, converse, and once a year wine and dine, in French. Come to the first meeting prepared to greet old friends and meet new ones.

## *German*

This group welcomes anyone who would enjoy an afternoon of conversation in German, with updates from those recently returned from Germany and from current periodicals. Fluency is welcome, but not required.

# Interest Group News

## *Hiking*

Come and enjoy the various parks around our area. You can meet wonderful people, see beautiful scenery and get some great exercise, all at the same time. Some of the adventures will be walks; others will be hikes.

## *Knit n' Things*

Beginners as well as experts who enjoy any type of handwork are welcome. We exchange patterns, information about supplies, shops, instructions, and shortcuts.

## *Let's Do Lunch*

Members meet monthly for lunch at different local area restaurants. Spouses and guests are welcome. Looking for a chair to coordinate!

## *Literature*

Selections from a variety of literary forms reflect the diverse interests of the group. Members are encouraged to read the literature and participate in the discussion that follows the presentation.

## *Parent-Child Playgroup*

Bimonthly playgroups are a wonderful opportunity for parents to socialize while the children enjoy playing together. New members with infants through preschool children are invited. Looking for a chair to coordinate meetings!

## *Portuguese (Brazilian)*

Join us for conversation, food and drink, and mini-presentations on Brazilian language & culture. Proficiency welcome, but not required.

## *Spanish*

Members with at least a basic knowledge of Spanish meet for conversation and to discuss literature, travel, history and current events related to the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

## *Supper Club*

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

## *Wine Lovers*

Whether you are a wine connoisseur or someone who would like to learn more about wines, this is the special interest group for you! This group will explore the world of wine through tastings, talks by local experts, and some wine dinners.

## *Writers Not Anonymous*

A fun group that gets together once a month to share what we've written and offer each other support in our creative endeavors.

# 2008 Scholarship Awards



*Karen, Sonia, Rachel, Amy, Jessica, & Alyssa. Not pictured: Michael Kelly.*

Each year The Illinois Club provides generous scholarship awards to University of Illinois juniors on the basis of scholastic achievement, community service, and life experience. The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Jan Merchen, reviewed approximately 70 applications, and personally interviewed 11 students. The Club presented seven awards at the March Scholarship Brunch held at the University of Illinois Agriculture Library. In addition to the delicious brunch, scholarship recipients greatly inspired members with their accounts of obstacles overcome, dedication to the underserved, and future aspirations.

The Club extends its heartfelt thanks to the Scholarship Committee for its time and commitment to furthering scholarship at the University of Illinois, and to event coordinators Susan Haney, Stephanie Price, Dana Lamb, and Kathleen Nagle.

Mark your calendars for next year's scholarship brunch scheduled for March 7, 2009. Also, remember to give generously to the Scholarship Fund--it makes a tremendous difference in the lives of our recipients!

## Judith Life Ikenberry Fine and Applied Arts Awards

Karen Cast, Fine and Applied Arts  
Art Education Crafts

*After years of teaching glass artistry to at-risk children, Karen returned to college when her husband became disabled. Karen's courage to re-enter college life as a non-traditional student at a time of family crisis is an inspiration to all who meet her.*

Amy Lipman, Fine and Applied Arts  
Theater

*Amy is pursuing dramaturgy, which emphasizes social and historical influences on the content and production of plays. Her plays have emphasized pressing social issues such as literacy, homelessness, and racial and sexual discrimination. Amy has extended her commitment to social justice through Alternative Spring Break—one addressing hunger and homelessness, the other on the Lakota Indian Reservation.*

# 2008 Scholarship Awards

## The Illinois Club Make-A-Difference Awards

Alyssa Fuggiti, Applied Health Sciences  
Speech & Hearing Science

*Alyssa aspires to help patients internationally through Operation Smile, a group that provides free surgery to patients with cleft lip and palate. She has taught American Sign Language to small children, tutored deaf and hearing-impaired students, and helped promote preschool literacy. Alyssa also studies Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese.*

Rachel Jones, Education  
Early Childhood Education

*Upon graduation, Rachel hopes to combine her love of teaching, children, and social justice working in Chicago's low-income Hispanic neighborhoods. In addition to tutoring young students there during Spring Break, Rachel is studying Spanish so that she can more effectively relate to her future students.*

Michael Kelly, Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering

*Michael is passionate about designing artificial limbs and tissue, especially for returning veterans. He hopes to someday be part of a team that can help people re-grow bones. He also volunteers for many organizations, and is dedicated to social issues, particularly those that emphasize inclusiveness.*



Sonia Rodriguez, Liberal Arts & Sciences  
English

*Sonia immigrated to the United States and is the first in her family to graduate from high school. Her goal is to teach Latina literature at the university level. She is a founder and director of 4-H Proyecto Children for Higher Education, a program that mentors middle school at-risk children in C-U.*

Jessica Shaw, Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Psychology

*Jessica is a volunteer extraordinaire – a tutor at Thomas Paine, and a volunteer at Don Moyer's Boys and Girls Club, Rape Crisis Center, Child Assault Prevention Education, and many more, all while maintaining a high GPA. Her goal is to get her doctorate in Neuroscience or Biopsychology to help improve the quality of life for those who have diseases or disorders of the brain. She wants to teach and conduct research at the University level.*



# Food Shopping Tour to Chicago

*in conjunction with  
the C-U Symphony Guild*

Wednesday, October 22, 2008

Contact: Vivian Larson  
v.larson1@comcast.net  
(217) 367-0800

Join TIC and the C-U Symphony Guild as Bob Rowe of Classic Events guides us through the neighborhoods of Chicago in search of the ultimate in gourmet food. Price includes transport, breakfast, lunch, snacks, drinks and your choice of an afternoon culinary tour of Kendall College or a drop-off for shopping. Meet at County Market on N. Mattis at 7 a.m., with a return home early evening.

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## Reservation Form

Cost: \$65 per person

Please mail form to Jef Cornell, 2105 Emerald Dr., Champaign, IL 61822

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

No. Members/Guests Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Guests' names \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to ***Guild of Champaign-Urbana Symphony.***

Important Notes: The reservation and refund deadline is October 1, 2008. You're welcome to bring a small cooler for bringing chilled items home.

# Calendar/Miscellaneous

## 2008-2009 Calendar of Events

- 9.6.08 Newcomers Tailgate, Orange/ Blue Lot, Memorial Stadium, 8:30 a.m.
- 9.12.08 Newcomers Wine & Cheese, Ann Long's home, 7-9 p.m.
- 9.19.08 Fall Expo, I Hotel, 4-7 p.m.
- 10.4.08 Wine Lover's Event, Bryan & Jody Endres' home, 1:30 p.m.
- 10.15.08 Newsletter info. due to Jody or Rachel
- 10.22.08 Fall Tour, Chicago Food Neighborhoods, 7 a.m. from County Market Parking Lot
- 12.11.08 Holiday Tea (tent.)
- 2.7.08 Murder Mystery (tent.)
- 3.7.08 Scholarship Brunch, ACES Library, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- 4.4.08 or 4.25.08 Tentative Spring Tour dates
- 5.7.08 Spring Luncheon (tent.)

## Get the Newsletter By Email

The newsletter is available by email. Choosing this option reduces printing and postage costs, and reduces environmental impacts of paper use. The email version also contains useful hyperlinks to additional information and email addresses. Contact Victoria Wittig (wittig@illinois.edu) or 621-0814 to change from mailing to email.

## PayPal Update

At this summer's board meeting, Susan Haney appointed a PayPal committee to study the feasibility of using PayPal on the Club's website for payment of dues, and tour and event registrations. Work is ongoing, but the committee hopes to have a system in place by the Holiday Tea for members to use. Thanks to Birgit McCall and Mike Haney for their time on this important project!

## Meet One of Our Members

Sandy Camargo serves as the Club's Hospitality Chair, keeping track of all matters related to events. Sandy lectures in the U of I English Department and is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of cinema studies. Sandy teaches courses in American Film, which has made her an expert in American popular culture. Sandy and her husband Martin--an English professor and Club member--have travelled extensively throughout Europe. Sandy speaks German and French (and is working on Spanish!). Sandy joined the Club as a way to make new friends in the community after moving to Urbana 5 years ago.

New to the Community? Meet people like Sandy by joining The Illinois Club today!



# Membership for September 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 through August 31<sup>st</sup> 2009

The purpose of our Club is to promote friendship and education through interest groups, tours, Illinois scholarship awards, and special events. Membership is open to everyone. The annual fee entitles members to attend meetings, participate in interest groups, join tours and receive the Club newsletter.

You may have noticed that dues increased this year for the first time in six years. After much deliberation, the Board voted to increase member dues in response to the rising cost of events, operational expenses, and publicity necessary to recruit and retain members. The Board appreciates your understanding.

NOTE: Memberships postmarked on or before September 13, 2008 will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to Houlihan's at the I Hotel. Winners will be chosen at the Fall Expo. Entrants need not be present to win.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership	Partner's Membership
<b>What is your affiliation with the University?</b> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Partner <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>What is your affiliation with the University?</b> Self <input type="checkbox"/> Partner <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Department</b> _____	<b>Department</b> _____
<b>Your Age:</b> Under 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-70 <input type="checkbox"/> 71+ <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Your Age:</b> Under 30 <input type="checkbox"/> 31-50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-70 <input type="checkbox"/> 71+ <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Type of membership:</b> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> Golden <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Type of membership:</b> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renew <input type="checkbox"/> Golden <input type="checkbox"/>
If other than new, what year did you join? _____	If other than new, what year did you join? _____
<b>Your email address:</b> _____	<b>Your email address:</b> _____

Please indicate how you would prefer to receive your Illinois Club newsletter: email  postal service

Please indicate your membership dues: Individual\* \$25  Couple \$35  Associate \$15

\* In order to participate in interest groups such as Supper Club, Wine Lovers, or Hiking as a couple you must belong to The Illinois Club as a couple. Thank you!

Please make membership checks payable to: "The Illinois Club"  
Mail to: The Illinois Club c/o Victoria Wittig; 405 W. Hill #7, Champaign, IL 61820

### Please consider contributing to The Illinois Club Scholarship Fund

Since 1917, the Club has provided financial support to worthy University of Illinois students. For the 2008-2009 academic year, the Club awarded five Make-A-Difference and two Judith Life Ikenberry Fine & Applied Arts Awards.

I have included a contribution, **made payable to UIF – The Illinois Club**, in addition to my membership dues:

Honor Roll (\$50)  Dean's List (\$100)  Bronze Tablet (\$200)  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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[buyillinoisclubtiles@yahoo.com](mailto:buyillinoisclubtiles@yahoo.com)

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