

2026-2027 Events

Fall Opening Party

Papa Del's Pizza Factory
Tuesday, September 15
4:30 - 6:30 PM

Holiday Party

The President's House
Thursday, December 3
5:30 - 7:00 PM

Scholarship Awards

CityView Banquet & Meeting
Saturday, March 6
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Spring Fling

Lodgic Events
Thursday, May 6
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

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KEEP THIS FOR
REFERENCE

Celebrating Over 100 Years at Illinois

Don't Miss The Opening Party!

Papa Del's Pizza Factory

1201 S. Neil

Champaign, IL 61820

2nd Floor – elevator available

Tuesday, September 15

4:30 – 6:30 PM

5:30 PM General Meeting on Club Future



Get ready to enjoy delicious light snacks and endless fun at our FREE Opening Party! All members and their guests are invited to join in on the excitement.

Explore vibrant interest groups with their interactive displays and visit with friendly members ready to answer all your burning questions! This is your chance to join the groups that spark your curiosity and connect with like-minded folks.

IMPORTANT: There will be a short business meeting at 5:30 PM to discuss the Club's future.

JOIN US

Planning to attend?

Please let us know by September 8 by emailing:
reservations@theillinoisclub.org

The Illinois Club Message from the President

Hello, Illinois Club members.

Welcome to another year of The Illinois Club. If you have yet to renew your 2026-27 membership, a membership form is included in this newsletter. You might prefer to join or renew online through the new and improved Club website, <https://theillinoisclub.org>. Remember that OLLI and our Club now offer mutual membership discounts for those who belong to both groups.

The homepage of the Club's website provides a very useful calendar. Event details sometimes evolve after they have been announced, so it's always a good idea to check the website.

Four events have been scheduled for the coming Club year. See the separate listing in this newsletter.

The list of interest groups for the coming year is also included in this newsletter. This is a good way to get to know people with shared interests. Look for a new group: "Tea and Talk" coordinated by Sharon Harkness. Thanks to those who coordinate the interest groups. You will meet them all at the Fall Opening Party on September 15 and will have an opportunity to participate in the discussion about the Club's future that evening. Be sure to join us.

And special thanks to all who serve on the Board! THANK YOU!

Kathy

The Illinois Club Communications

The Illinois Club no longer publishes quarterly newsletters. Newsletters have been replaced by E News monthly email that contains announcements, news, and events for the upcoming month. The timelier E News is emailed directly to members. If you are a member and are NOT receiving E News, please contact communications@theillinoisclub.org to be added to the email list. You may want to check your spam folder also and add president@theillinoisclub.org to your trusted contacts. We want everyone to get the news! KEEP THIS PRINTED NEWSLETTER FOR REFERENCE. Archived copies are always available on our website at <https://www.theillinoisclub.org/enews>.

Not sure if you are a member?

Receipt of the physical or email newsletter does not necessarily confirm current membership status.

To confirm your membership status, please contact
membership@theillinoisclub.org

The Illinois Club Interest Groups 2026– 2027

Christine Lyke and Libby Johnston
Interest Groups Chair and Assistant

interestgroups@theillinoisclub.org

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, both should be members. Non-members may try an Interest Group two times before joining and continuing in that Interest Group.

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 Chris or Libby.

Chinese Mah Jongg

Judith Robinson

Every Saturday – 1 PM, other times TBA

mahjongg@theillinoisclub.org

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

Cosmopolitan

Janice Sherbert, Gail McWilliams

1st Thursday – 7:00 PM

cosmopolitan@theillinoisclub.org

Our dual aim is to help members from other countries feel welcome during their stay here and to provide informal programs, conversation, and refreshments from other cultures.

CU4Dinner

Linda Lopez

3rd Wednesday – 6:00 PM (dates & times may vary)

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

Karen Decker

2nd Tuesday – 6:30 PM (may vary)

games@theillinoisclub.org

The monthly games group is for socializing, light snacks and drinks, and a good dose of friendly competition in board games, or cards. Skill level not required. Join us for fun!

Hiking

Ann Campbell, Lynn Kelly

3rd Sunday – 1:00 PM

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.

Let's Do Lunch

Judith Robinson

Dates & Times vary

letsdolunch@theillinoisclub.org

Members meet monthly for lunch at different local area restaurants. Spouses and guests are welcome.

Newcomers

Last Thursday – 5:30 PM

Debbi Hicks, Bev Luetkemeyernewcomers@theillinoisclub.org

Once a month, we gather at Riggs Beer Company at 1901 S High Cross Road in Urbana for conversation and cheer. ALL members and their guests are welcome. It's a relaxed atmosphere where you can meet others, catch up with friends, and learn more about the club. Look for us in the game room behind the bar.

Pickleball

Dates & Times vary

Ann Campbell, Libby Johnstonpickleball@theillinoisclub.org

All levels are welcome. We're a non-competitive welcoming bunch! Bring a pickleball paddle if you have one. We'll have balls available. We use the smartphone app TeamReach to organize the group. Come and enjoy the fun.

Spanish3rd Thursday – 7:00 PM*Patricia Gropp*spanish@theillinoisclub.org

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

Dates & Times vary

Shirley Splittstoessersupper@theillinoisclub.org

Supper Club members take turns hosting the monthly meeting. The host arranges the location, type of meeting, time and date. Our purpose is to meet for relaxed conversation while enjoying a good meal.

Tea & Talk3rd Tuesday – 2:00 PM*Sharon Harkness*teatalk@theillinoisclub.org

Join us for an informal visit with your Illinois Club friends at the coffee shop in the Lodgic Building (BakeLab). No program, nothing to bring except yourself and your readiness to reconnect.

Walk & Talk

Mondays – 4:00 PM & Fridays – 9:30 AM

Ann Campbell, Judith Robinsonwalktalk@theillinoisclub.org

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

Wine Club

Dates & Times vary

Donna Giertzwineclub@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 a month at weekends. Everybody brings a wine of a specified type or region or to celebrate a special event.

The Illinois Club Interest Group Monthly Calendar 2026-2027

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1st Week					Cosmopolitan 7:00 PM	Walk & Talk 9:30 AM	Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM
		Walk & Talk 4:00 PM					
			Games 6:30 PM				
2nd Week		Walk & Talk 4:00 PM			Spanish 7:00 PM	Walk & Talk 9:30 AM	Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM
3rd Week	Hiking 1:00 PM		Tea & Talk 2:00 PM	CU4Dinner 6:00 PM		Walk & Talk 9:30 AM	Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM
		Walk & Talk 4:00 PM					
4 th and last Week		Walk & Talk 4:00 PM			Newcomers 5:30 PM	Walk & Talk 9:30 AM	Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM
Varies	Wine Club, Supper Club, Let’s do Lunch, Pickleball.						

The Illinois Club 2026 – 2027 Board Members

Board Members

President	Kathy Marshak	president@theillinoisclub.org
Vice President		vicepresident@theillinoisclub.org
Interest Groups Chair	Christine Lyke	interestgroups@theillinoisclub.org
Assistant Interest Groups Chair	Libby Johnston	asstinterestgroups@theillinoisclub.org
Recording Secretary	Sheila Krein	recordingsecretary@theillinoisclub.org
Corresponding Secretary	Nancy Uchtmann	correspondsecretary@theillinoisclub.org
Treasurer	Donna Offenbecher	treasurer@theillinoisclub.org
Assistant Treasurer		assttreasurer@theillinoisclub.org
Budget Chair		budget@theillinoisclub.org
Meeting Manager/Reservations	Gale Bickel	reservations@theillinoisclub.org
Membership/Directory Chair	Bev Leutkemeyer	membership@theillinoisclub.org
Assistant Membership Chair	Lori Choquette	asstmembership@theillinoisclub.org
Communications Chairs	Jan Kane and Ann Campbell	communications@theillinoisclub.org
Scholarships	Kathy Valdés and Emily Klose	scholarship@theillinoisclub.org

Sustaining Member

Past President	Chris Lyke	pastpresident@theillinoisclub.org
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Appointed Positions

Historian	Mary Hodson	historian@theillinoisclub.org
Tour Directors	Ann Hettinger and Marian Milling	tours@theillinoisclub.org
Webmaster	Mike Haney	webmaster@theillinoisclub.org
Asst. Webmaster	Ann and Roy Campbell	
Newcomers Co-Chairs	Debbi Hicks and Bev Leutkemeyer	newcomers@theillinoisclub.org

The Illinois Club Scholarships

The Illinois Club provides financial support to worthy University of Illinois students. Last year we were able to award \$45,000 in scholarships throughout the various categories, thanks to our members' generosity. For details on how to support our scholarships, please see the bottom of the membership form on the next page.

Global Focus Scholarship Award

Open to students with any major. This award honors Peri Ceperley, a dear friend who left us too soon. Peri loved traveling, studying foreign languages, and exploring internships and volunteering opportunities abroad. Applicants must share those interests in international experiences and/or have an internationally focused program of study. Applicants must demonstrate how their internationally focused work and/or volunteer plans will make a difference in the world.

Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship Award

Open to students majoring or minoring in the Humanities or Social Sciences. Applicants must demonstrate the benefits that studying the Humanities or the Social Sciences provides to themselves and their community. Majors/minors that may apply for the Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship Award include English; Philosophy; Religion; Comparative Literature; Cinema Studies; History; Classics; Art History; Communication; Psychology; Anthropology; Musicology; Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication; Human Development and Family Studies; Agricultural and Consumer Economics; all foreign languages; all ethnic studies; all Business majors and minors; and undergraduates in the I-School.

Engineering and Science Scholarship Award

Open to students majoring or minoring in the STEM fields, including Animal Sciences, Crop Sciences, and Computer Science + Crop Science. Applicants must demonstrate the benefits that studying Science, Mathematics, Technology, Engineering, or Agricultural Sciences provides to themselves and their community.

Isabelle Purnell Education Scholarship Award

Open to students earning a Secondary Education Certificate or College of Education majors. Applicants must demonstrate how they hope to make a difference in the classroom and in students' lives.

Judith Life Ikenberry Scholarship Award

Open to students majoring in the creative arts. Applicants must demonstrate how their art impacts their lives and the world and what they hope to accomplish with their art. The Ikenberry scholarship is generally given to a student who plans to make a living as a working artist, performer, or writer (e.g., painter, sculptor, musician, composer, dancer, actor, novelist, playwright, poet, screenwriter, essayist, or other creative profession).

The Illinois Club
P. O. Box 2782
Champaign, IL 61825
<http://www.TheIllinoisClub.org>

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Champaign, IL



The Illinois Club Scholarship Funds. Would you like to help support deserving undergraduates at UIUC?

First, decide how you would like your gift to impact UIUC students:

1. The Illinois Club Fund **11344499** is for gifts intended to provide a source of current operating revenue. They are usually used in the year they are received. Gifts to this account are immediately available to award to UIUC students.
2. The Illinois Club Fund **11773881** is an endowment. In an endowment fund, the principal is invested in perpetuity and only a portion of the investment's earnings is spent

Gifts by check:

- Make payable to the University of Illinois Foundation
- In memo line "Fund **11344499**" for current year or "**11773881**" for the endowment.
- Mail to: UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS FOUNDATION, P.O. BOX 734500, CHICAGO, IL 60673-4500.

Gifts by credit card:

- Navigate to <https://uif.uillinois.edu/give/>
- Enter Gift amount
- Scroll to Gift Designation, Make your selection
- Type in The Illinois Club
- Select "**11344499**" for current year or "**11773881**" for the endowment

