# The Illinois Club Board Meeting 

Monday, May 23, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Sheila Krein at 7:30 pm at the home of Alma Bellafiore.
The following members were in attendance: Sheila Krein, Susan Haney, Mary Jo Thomsen, Judy Hummel, Kathy Marshak, Sharon Harkness, Sarah Gertner, Joan Friedman, Judith Robinson, Patricia Simpson, Pat Davis, Sandy Camargo, Joan Friedman, Jane Heaton, Sharon Michalove, Vivian Larson, Mary Hosier, Jane Myers, Alma Bellafiore, and Nancy Uchtmann.

Judy Hummel - Secretary's Report was approved as corrected.
President: Sheila Krein requested that reports from the 2010-2011 board members be completed and submitted to the new board member in that position. She requested a copy also be sent to her to keep in one notebook and so she can send a copy on to Vivian Larson for the archives. She described how meeting minutes and future agendas will be on the website. There was a discussion of past events and future plans.

Sheila reported that about forty persons attended the Spring Luncheon on May 5. The Scholarship Brunch was attended by about 80 persons. There was some discussion about creative ways to attract more attendees at events. It was suggested that name tags of newcomers be marked in some way so that others will know they are new and establish a better connection. Alma suggested having the new chancellor speak at an event and thus draw larger numbers.

Mary Jo Thomsen thanked all the Board members who helped make her tenure as President successful.
First VP for Programs - Alma Bellafiore described plans for the Mon. Sept 12 "Fall Expo". This event will be held on the ground floor of the Hilton Garden Inn. She has spoken with Virginia Hogan's secretary about hosting the Holiday Party at the President's house in December. The 2012 Scholarship Brunch will be held at the Hawthorn Suites Hotel on Sat. March 3, 2012 starting at 10 am . Some type of event will be planned in addition to the fall expo, holiday party, scholarship brunch, and spring luncheon. There was some discussion about doing a fall event, so members could meet the board members before the end of the year. It was suggested that registrations for any event with a meal contain a place for allergies and alternative foods.

Second VP for Newcomers - Sharon Harkness reported for Stephanie Price. Four events were held for newcomers during the past year, but attendance was sparse. Sharon believes the world has changed and that many newcomers have other interests. It was agreed that the personal connection of a member with a newcomer is needed to increase attendance. It was suggested that new members be contacted by phone and that "mentors" be assigned.

Third VP for Interest Groups -- Sarah Gertner reported in the absence of Carrol Bunick. Some interest group reports have been collected. Chairs for each group need to be selected and the web site needs to be updated with these changes.

Treasurer - Joan Friedman distributed the Treasurer's Report (see attached). The report was approved as distributed. Total dues collected were $\$ 8,300$. The CD has been renewed and it appears that the savings account is not needed. Mary Jo moved to close the savings account and move the proceeds to the UIF account. The motion was seconded, there was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously. Sales taxes have been paid.

The University Account has a balance of $\$ 1,000$ and has been overdrawn twice this past year. Everyone is to let Joan know via an authorization form when a purchase is to be made. Send a copy of this form to Ranae Buck along with a copy of the receipt.

Mary Jo will appoint an audit committee that must have the audit completed by the August board meeting.

The finance committee needs to meet after the books are closed for the year to set the budget for the coming year. Board members need to send budget needs to Joan so she can develop the new budget.

Corresponding Secretary - Wilma O'Brien was absent. Her report was read by Sheila. 22 cards were sent out this year.

Membership - Kathy Marshak reported that at present we have 380 members, of which 188 couples. The membership year is from July 1 to June 30. There will be a raffle prize for those who renew before July 1. There was some discussion about how to recruit and retain members.

Newsletter - Peri Ceperly was absent. Peri does need an assistant for the coming year.
Publicity, Interest Groups - Pat Thiessen was absent. Jane Heaton will continue with the weekly emails to the members.

Publicity, General - Susan Haney gave a long report and suggested that everyone look at the Club website. She described publicity for the Scholarships. During the past year there were 6 ads in Inside Illinois, two ads on the MTD campus buses, an article in The News-Gazette, an article in the Illinois Alumni magazine, and some notices placed on TV and newspaper website calendars. Susan suggested continuing with such publicity. Susan also suggested having a scholarship publicity chair. General publicity should continue as in 2011, and the interest groups should be put in the News Gazette, without an address, just an email domain name.

Scholarship Committee - Judith Robinson reported for Marcy Joncich. The scholarship committee was very busy processing 165 applications and selecting qualified winners. Susan prepared a detailed written report about the process of choosing recipients and described how the process might be made more efficient, less time consuming and less stressful for all concerned. Susan suggested that we give
only 8 awards total for the Make-A-Difference and Isabelle Purnell Education Awards in 2012, (10 in 2011), streamline the application process by using an online form, and have a dedicated publicity person.

Susan reported that Judy Ikenberry wants all of the proceeds of her endowment given out each year. This makes the amount of this award somewhat unpredictable. The president will send a proposal from the scholarship committee of the recommended award number and amounts to the Executive board for the 2012-2013 awards. Pat Davis suggested the initials "TIC" be used in the subject line of every TIC email.

Market at the Square was discussed. Volunteers are needed on 11 Saturdays and this is a way to attract new members. Judith Robinson questioned why the Market falls under the Scholarship Committee. We are selling prints through International Galleries. It was suggested that we sell only the combination packs of the note cards for which there is more interest and to simplify matters. Judy Ikenberry has approved of the UIF buying note cards in bulk if we can get them interested. Susan Haney spoke about a department on campus that will present a gift of the Hallene Gateway print to a speaker once or twice ever year. Product sales are at least $\$ 2,200$ after taxes this past year. Raffle tile ticket sales amounted to $\$ 510$. With expenses deducted, we raised over $\$ 450$. Judy Ikenberry won the raffle.

Archives - Vivian Larson - The missing/lost archives have been returned to Vivian. The archives will be bound.

Tour - Sandy Beak and Sheila Ott absent, but had sent a report. Julia Schmidt described possible tours for the coming year. They are: 1. the new solar home of Ty and Debbie Newell, 2.The Bradley House in Kankakee in the fall, and 3.The Football Stadium in winter. The cost of tours for small items like beverage will be put in the budget. Julia does not have all the old tour folders and wants them returned. Susan prepared a job description for the tour manager.

Big Ten Committee - Susan Haney- Susan reported that the Big Ten conference will be here on June 79 in 2013. Susan has secured a group rate from the I Hotel for this event. Susan showed us the presentation folder she is assembling for 2013. Vivian, Jane and others (a total of ten) are on her committee. She is going to the Big Ten Conference in June at Purdue with seven others.

## New Business

Mary Jo questioned some standing rules and our constitution. Sheila will appoint a committee to study these issues. The new board will meet on either Aug 15 or Aug 29 at 7 pm at the home of Sheila Krein.

Sheila adjourned the meeting at about 9:30 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Uchtmann, Secretary




