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A letter from the President . . .
Winter Greetings! I hope you are staying warm, dry, and cozy. It has certainly been much colder and snowier than usual. I don't know about you, but I find myself hibernating and only going out for food and Club affairs. The vast majority of my work this month has been with the Scholarship Committee. More details about our scholarship endowment will follow in the February newsletter in 2 or 3 weeks. But for now, l'll give you a little hint--we started out the year with just over \$150,000 in combined endowments; we will end the year with over \$400,000. Stay tuned. . . .

Now that you've had the "teaser" for February's Newsletter, what about this month's feature presentation? This mini newsletter gives you another chance to sign up for the Winter Murder Mystery on Friday February 6. We still have space available. Even if it's after the deadline, give Sandy Camargo or me a call, and we will reserve a spot or two for you if at all possible. You'll find our contact information in the enclosed Membership Directory. (Ah! At long last!)

The Murder Mystery this year is a roaring 20's speakeasy theme. Sandy loves the music of this period, and generously has shared her collection with us as background music to enhance the club-like feeling. We also have some fun decorations, prizes for the best costumes, and of course, a prize for someone who correctly identifies the murderer. And if that were not enough, a delicious array of foods caps off the fun. Just make sure you remember the password (Shakespeare), because we can't just let *anybody* in!

The other enclosed form is for our Scholarship Awards Brunch on Saturday, March 7. We will be awarding a record \$18,000 this year. The Committee went through 75 applications and interviewed 16 finalists. We have arrived at our eight fantastic winners - four future teachers, including Golden Apple Scholars (extraordinary GPA's and a commitment to teach in Illinois for five years in schools of academic or economic need); two future MD's (both women); a future architect concerned with handicap-accessible housing; and last, but not least, our own future Picasso. We will have a mini art show and live music starting at 10 a.m., so don't be late! You may even purchase a painting while you can still afford a Varela.

You don't want to miss a thing, for either event! I hope you can make it to both. And, I hope you'll consider serving on the Board of this wonderful Club, as this has been the best year of my life, and it only improves each week. Let me know if you are interested!

# 2009-2010 Scholarship Awards Brunch 

Saturday, March 7 ${ }^{\text {th }}, 2009$
10:15 am - 12:15
Heritage Room, ACES Library
1101 South Goodwin, Urbana

Come be inspired by this year's Scholarship Winners!
Each award recipient will tell us about his or her volunteer and work experiences, and educational goals. We will also elect our new Board at this event.
\$19 for Members, $\$ 24$ for Guests

$$
\left(\begin{array}{c}
\text { Menu } \\
\text { Frittata Florentine } \\
\text { Grilled Ham/Turkey Sausage } \\
\text { Seasonal Fresh Fruit Tray } \\
\text { Assorted Pastries including } \\
\text { Scones and Pecan Rolls } \\
\text { Orange and Apple Juices } \\
\text { Coffee and Hot Tea }
\end{array}\right\}
$$



Limited parking is available on the circle drive in front. Parking is also available at the corner of Peabody Drive and Goodwin Avenue. The Library is accessed off of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Reservation Form for Scholarship Awards Brunch

Members' Names $\qquad$
$\qquad$
Guests' Names $\qquad$
$\qquad$

Total Enclosed $\qquad$ Cost: $\$ 19$ Member, $\$ 24$ Guest

Make Checks Payable to: The Illinois Club
Reservation and Refund Deadline: Friday, February 27th
Mail to: Sandy Camargo, 202 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Urbana, IL 61801

# Murder Mystery Dinner 

Friday, February 6 ${ }^{\text {th }}, 2009$
7 pm
Champaign Country Club 1211 South Prospect, Champaign



Those who correctly identify the killer are eligible to win theatre tickets. Prizes are also awarded to those with the best costumes.

This is a Champaign Urbana Theatre Company Seven Corpse Dinner


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