

2025-2026 Events

Fall Opening Party

Lodgic Coworking
Thursday, September 18
4:00-6:00 PM

Holiday Party

Oskee's Sports Bar
Tuesday, December 9
4:00-6:00 PM

Scholarship Awards

Saturday, March 7

Spring Fling

Wednesday, May 6

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**KEEP THIS FOR
REFERENCE**

Celebrating Over 100 Years at Illinois

Don't Miss The Opening Party!

Lodgic Coworking Event Room

1807 S. Neil
Champaign, IL 61820
Thursday, September 18
4:00 – 6:00 PM



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.

Planning to attend?

Please let us know by September 13 by emailing:
reservations@theillinoisclub.org

The Illinois Club Message from the President

Hello, Illinois Club members, past, present, and future. I would like to express gratitude to all Club members who have been active during the last couple of months, making possible the activities of our volunteer-run organization in 2025-26. Every Board member makes critical contributions! Here are just a few of these wonderful people: Ann Campbell for Communications, Lori Choquette for Membership, Debbi Hicks and Bev Luetkemeyer for Newcomers, Donna Offenbecher for Treasurer, Chris Lyke for two years of leadership as President and helping to keep the Club going, Kathy Valdés for thoroughly updating the Scholarship program, Gale Bickel for organizing general meetings, Nancy Uchtmann for coordinating Interest Groups, Patricia Ricketts and Marguerite Maguire as recording and corresponding secretaries. Thanks to Mike Haney, Webmaster extraordinaire, to long-serving Treasurer Bob Davis, and to all the outgoing board members. Many others continue to work on the Club's behalf, including assistants for Board positions, members of the ad-hoc committee for Scholarships, and the former presidents helping to guide the future of the Club. Interest Group chairs are preparing for the Fall Gathering on September 18. We look forward to starting the Club year strong at this event, refreshing friendships with an emphasis on Interest Groups.

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/e_news.php

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 2025–2026

Nancy Uchtmann and Jan Sherbert
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, please join the club via the Couples membership. 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 Nancy.

CHILL OUT WITH WINE

Dates & Times vary

Donna Giertz

chilloutwithwine@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 every 2 months at weekends. Everybody brings a wine of a specified type or region or to celebrate a special event.

CHINESE MAH JONGG 1st Wednesday – 9:30 AM, 2nd Saturday – 1 PM, 3rd Tuesday – 1 PM, 4th Saturday – 1 PM

Judith Robinson

mahjongg@theillinoisclub.org

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

CINEMA

1st Monday – 7:30 PM

Sandy Camargo

cinema@theillinoisclub.org

Each meeting we will watch a film and then discuss it. Films will be chosen from a "menu" selected by the group coordinator, a retired member of UI's film-studies faculty. Films will include a range of genres, periods, and origins.

COSMOPOLITAN

1st Thursday – 7:30 PM

Janice Sherbert, Gail McWilliams

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

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

Linda Lopez

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

2nd Monday – 6:30 PM (may vary)

open

games@theillinoisclub.org

The games group meets monthly at various homes for a bit of socializing, light snacks and drinks, and always, a good dose of friendly competition! Games range from boards to cards, groups to individuals, depending on the night. Skill level is not required. Join us for a fun evening!

HIKING

3rd Sunday – 1:00 PM

Ann Campbell, Bob Davis

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.

ITALIAN**1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY – 1:30 PM***Pat Cardenas, Nenad Marjanovic*italian@theillinoisclub.org

Join us for some great Italian conversation and reading on many topics, as well as fun while we celebrate all things Italian.

KNIT 'N' THINGS**1st & 3rd Monday – 1:15 PM***Lori Choquette*knitnthings@theillinoisclub.org

Beginners as well as experts who enjoy any type of handwork are welcome. We exchange patterns, information about supplies, shops, instructions, and shortcuts. Please join us for a pleasant and relaxing afternoon.

LET'S DO LUNCH**Dates & Times vary***Judith Robinson*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 Luetkemeyer*newcomers@theillinoisclub.org

Once a month, we gather at Riggs Beer Company at 1901 S High 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**Tuesday and Thursday – 9:00 AM***Ann Campbell, Carrol Finnigan-Bunick*pickleball@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.

SPANISH**2nd or 3rd Thursday – 7:00 PM***Agradezco a Lucía Tascón, Juliana Arazi*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 Splittstoesser*supper@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.

WALK & TALK**Mondays – 4:00 pm & Fridays – 9:30 AM***Ann Campbell, Judith Robinson*walktalk@theillinoisclub.org

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

The Illinois Club Interest Group Monthly Calendar 2025-2026

| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|----------|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st Week | | Knit'n'Things 1:15 PM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Chinese Mah Jongg 9:30 AM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Walk & Talk 9:30 AM | |
| | | Walk & Talk 4:00 PM | | Italian 1:30 PM | | | |
| | | Cinema 7:30 PM | | Cosmopolitan 7:30 PM | | | |
| 2nd Week | | Walk & Talk 4:00 PM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Walk & Talk 9:30 AM | Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM |
| | | Games 6:30 PM | | | Spanish 7:00 PM | | |
| 3rd Week | Hiking 1:00 PM | Knit'n'Things 1:15 PM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Italian 1:30 PM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Walk & Talk 9:30 AM | |
| | | Walk & Talk 4:00 PM 3:00 PM in CST | Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM | | CU4Dinner 6:00 PM | | |
| 4th Week | | Walk & Talk 4:00 PM | Pickleball 9:00 AM | | Pickleball 9:00 AM | Walk & Talk 9:30 AM | Chinese Mah Jongg 1:00 PM |
| | | | | | Newcomers 5:30 PM | | |
| Varies | Chill out with Wine (COWW); Supper Club, Let’s do Lunch. | | | | | | |
| | Groups not meeting currently: Antiques, Reads. Contact the Interest Group Coordinator to be updated on the group’s meeting status. | | | | | | |

The Illinois Club 2025 – 2026 Board Members

Board Members

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| President | Kathy Marshak | president@theillinoisclub.org |
| Vice President | | vicepresident@theillinoisclub.org |
| Newcomers Co-Chairs | Debbi Hicks and Bev Leutkemeyer | newcomers@theillinoisclub.org |
| Interest Groups Chair | Nancy Uchtmann | interestgroups@theillinoisclub.org |
| Assistant Interest Groups Chair | Jan Sherbert | asstinterestgroups@theillinoisclub.org |
| Recording Secretary | Patricia Ricketts | recordingsecretary@theillinoisclub.org |
| Corresponding Secretary | Marguerite Maguire | correspondsecretary@theillinoisclub.org |
| Treasurer | Donna Offenbecher | treasurer@theillinoisclub.org |
| Assistant Treasurer | | assttreasurer@theillinoisclub.org |
| Budget Chair | Bob Davis | budget@theillinoisclub.org |
| Meeting Manager | Gale Bickel | meetingmanager@theillinoisclub.org |
| Membership/Directory Chair | Lori Choquette | membership@theillinoisclub.org |
| Assistant Membership Chair | Lisa Stewart | asstmembership@theillinoisclub.org |
| Communications Chairs | Ann Campbell and Jan Kane | communications@theillinoisclub.org |
| Scholarship Chair | Kathy Valdés | scholarship@theillinoisclub.org |

Sustaining Member

| | | |
|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Past President | Chris Lyke | pastpresident@theillinoisclub.org |
|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|

Appointed Positions

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Historian | Mary Hodson | historian@theillinoisclub.org |
| Reservations Manager | Gail Bickel | reservations@theillinoisclub.org |
| Tour Directors | | tours@theillinoisclub.org |
| Webmaster | Mike Haney | webmaster@theillinoisclub.org |
| Asst. Webmaster | Ann Campbell | |

The Illinois Club Membership Form

Member 1 _____ Member 2 _____

Street _____ Phone _____

City/St/Zip _____ Phone _____

Today's Date _____

Please provide an email address to receive weekly and quarterly club communications.

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Membership 1</p> <p>Are you affiliated with the University? Self <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Member 2 <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Department _____</p> <p>Age: Under 40 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+ <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Membership: New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Year Joined? _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> | <p>Membership 2</p> <p>Are you affiliated with the University? Self <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Member 1 <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Department _____</p> <p>Age: Under 40 <input type="checkbox"/> 40-69 <input type="checkbox"/> 70+ <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Membership: New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewing <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Year Joined? _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> |
|--|--|

- Dues*:** ☐ Individual – \$25
☐ Couple – \$50
☐ **Golden** (Member for 50+ years) or **Associate** (Grad Students) – \$15
☐ **Golden Couple** – \$40

*Those who participate as a couple in interest groups must belong to the Club as a couple. Thank you.

Please make checks payable to: "The Illinois Club"

Mail to: Membership, The Illinois Club, P.O. Box 2782, Champaign, IL 61825

To renew (only) via PayPal: http://www.theillinoisclub.org/pay_pal/

Please consider contributing to The Illinois Club Scholarship Fund

The Illinois Club provides financial support to worthy University of Illinois students. You can donate securely online at <http://theillinoisclub.org/donations.php> OR include a contribution with a **separate check** from your dues, made payable to **University of Illinois Foundation**. Please write The Illinois Club on the memo line.

Your Choice: ☐ \$ 50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____

(Optional) My gift is (please check one) ☐ in honor ☐ in memory of _____

All donations must be made by separate check to the University of Illinois Foundation. **Combined** dues and donation checks are no longer acceptable and **will be returned** to you.

I am interested in the following Interest Groups. Please add my name to the group email list(s):

- ☐ Chill Out with Wine
- ☐ Cinema
- ☐ Chinese Mah Jongg
- ☐ Cosmopolitan
- ☐ CU4Dinner
- ☐ Games
- ☐ Hiking
- ☐ Italian
- ☐ Knit 'N' Things
- ☐ Let's Do Lunch
- ☐ Pickleball
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Supper Club
- ☐ Walk & Talk

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 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 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 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 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 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 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>

Address Services Requested

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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
- Enter Name, address
- Click Pay

If you have questions, please email president@theillinoisclub.org or scholarships@theillinoisclub.org.

