HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU

The SIU Women’s Club Board of Directors extends best wishes to you for a bright and refreshing season and for a New Year of health and happiness.

Women’s Club Winter Luncheon at Hunan’s on January 25, 2018

The Winter Luncheon will be held on Thursday, January 25, 2018, 11:30 a.m. at Hunan Restaurant. Our typical Hunan menu includes appetizers, family style dishes with rice, dessert, and hot tea. We are honored to have Pam Montemagno, wife of Chancellor Carlo Montemagno, as our guest speaker.

The Luncheon cost is $16 per person. By January 18, 2018, please send your check, payable to the SIU Women’s Club, to Dr. Anne Marie Hamilton-Brehm, 297 Lake Drive, Murphysboro, IL 62966.

SIU Women’s Basketball Pre-game Pizza Party

Women’s Club members will be attending the SIU Women’s basketball game on Sunday, January 7, 2018. Come join the group for a Pre-game Pizza Party from Noon until 1:30 p.m. at Quatro’s. The Salukis v. Drake University game begins at 2 p.m. at the SIU Arena. Let’s help cheer those women Salukis on for a winning season!!!

Denim Shirts for Women’s Club Members

The deadline for ordering a denim shirt with the SIU Women’s Club logo embroidered on it has been extended to January 10, 2018. To help with ordering the correct size, sample Ladies Fit shirts are available to try on. Please contact Julie Bohnsack at jabohnsack@gmail.com or at 618.534.4618.

Have you checked out all those new photos from our recent events on our website? Always refer to the website for all current information: http://womensclub.siu.edu.

Members are encouraged to continue their support for the SIU Women’s Club Scholarships. Our goal is to fully fund the two $2,000 scholarships annually awarded through member contributions to the Scholarship Fund. The submission form is at the end of this newsletter.

Check the Interest Groups listing for new groups or times--join any of the Interest Groups at any time--contact the chair to indicate your interest.
Everyone loves a party, especially during the holidays. For three decades, from the 1960s through the 1980s, the SIU Women’s Club annually threw spectacular holiday galas for hundreds of guests...and on shoestring budgets! The themes and format evolved through the years, but always there were dancing, music, food, beautiful decorations, and, of course, the warm company of friends.

A Christmas Dinner Dance was held for the first time in 1961. The early affairs were Dinner Dances, with a band playing dance music, entertainment during the band breaks, and buffet dinners. The 1966 “Town ’N Gown Holiday Ball” was attended by 403 guests, including 150 townspeople. For the 1971 Holiday Ball, almost 20 women worked to create transformative decorations that included a walk-through wreath at the ballroom entrance, tables covered in red and white linens with centerpieces of hurricane lamps surrounded by fresh greenery, and a ceiling high (20’) Christmas tree decorated with lights and large paper pouf balls in vibrant colors.

From the mid-1970s through early 1980s, most of the parties were Madrigal Dinners and Holiday Balls, produced in cooperation with the Carbondale Community High School Madrigal Troupe. The programs transported guests back to the 16th Century and began with a procession into the medieval banquet hall led by a jester. The madrigal singers provided entertainment during the dinner banquet that started with wassail and ended with “figgy pudding”. After dinner, the guests danced the rest of the night away. The 1976 event was featured in a full-page spread in the Southern Illinoisan titled “Madrigals: Entertainment Fit for Royalty.”

An exception to the Madrigal Dinners was the 1975 event called “Christmas in Colonial America” honoring the Nation’s 200th Birthday complete with a Minuet Performance and Footmen. The buffet included “Plantation Roast Turkey, Williamsburg Baked Ham, Assorted Side Dishes, Biscuits, Ambrosia and Pyes.” The event in 1977 was another exception; its theme was “In the Spirit of the Twenties” and featured a Vaudeville show. By the late 1980s, the event had come full circle to a Holiday Dinner Dance, featuring music by the SIU Jazz Band.

Even though these wonderful holiday galas came to an end, warm memories endure in the hearts and minds of the members and guests who attended. Members of the SIU Women’s Club have enjoyed their social gatherings both large and small throughout its history. Might our members be interested in organizing a holiday gala in 2018 to begin the next decade of the Club’s history?
SIU Women’s Club Interest Groups

Chair, Liz Schill, (457-5162); Co-chair Toni’ Intravaia, (457-8603)
The Faculty House, 810 South Elizabeth Street, Carbondale

Adventure Gals
Group is planning future adventure activities.

Antiques and Collectibles
Meets 1st Tuesday, 1:30 p.m., Faculty House
No meeting in January

Arts and Crafts Experience
Meets 1st Friday, 10 a.m. – Noon, Faculty House
January 5

Book Discussion - Afternoon
Meets 2nd Thursday, Faculty House
January 11
A Gentleman in Moscow by Armor Towles
Leader: Laura Helsel  Hostess: Nancy Jackson

Breakfast Group
Meets 3rd Friday, 7:30 a.m., at Denny's Restaurant
January 10

Bridge - Afternoon
Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 - 3 p.m., in members’ homes
January 3 and 17

Bridge - Couples Evening
Meets 3rd Saturday, 7 p.m., at Faculty House
January 20

Cooking Lunch with Friends (First Group)
Meets 4 times a year, 4th Wednesday, in members’ homes

Cooking Lunch with Friends (Second Group)
Meets 4 times a year in members’ homes

Evening at the Cinema
Meets 1st Thursday at local theaters
January 4

Gentle Toning, Stretching, and Yoga (GTSY)
Meets every Thursday, 5:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church
January 4, 11, 18, 25

Knitting and Stitching
Meets 4th Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m., in members' homes
January 25
Meet ‘n Eat  
Meet 2nd Wednesday, Noon, at various local restaurants  
January 10

Tedda Becker  
457-8903  
beckertedda02@gmail.com

Monthly Dinner Group (First Group)  
Meets in members' homes

Sue Whitlock  
534-3932  
kirkman061056@gmail.com

Newcomers Dinner Group  
Meets 4th Monday, 6 p.m., in homes and restaurants  
January 22

Tami Boaz  
203-7321  
tamib@foundation.siu.edu

Quilting  
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 1 - 3 p.m., in members' homes  
January 10

Pat Tindall  
549-2427  
dp.tindall@outlook.com

Scrabble  
Meets 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m., at the Faculty House  
January 18

Mary Pohlmann  
549-5077  
maryp@siu.edu

Secrets of Ethnic Cuisine  
Meets 4 times a year to prepare unique dishes

Olga Weidner  
549-7527  
oweidner@siu.edu

Shirley Estavillo  
529-5690  
jsestavillo@hughes.net

Deborah Corker  
907-248-1236  
phdcorker@aim.com

Storytelling  
Meets 4th Tuesday, 6 p.m. at Faculty House  
January 23

SIU WOMEN’S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

Scholarship donations are always encouraged to meet our annual $4,000 goal to fund two scholarships. Scholarship donations may also be made as memorials.

Name ___________________________________________ Phone __________________

Street Address ______________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip ___________________________________________________________________

Email Address ___________________________________________ Check Amount $___________

Return form with check (SIU Women’s Club) to:

SIU Women’s Club, P.O. Box 1226, Carbondale, Illinois 62903-1226