Future Plans for SIU Women’s Club

The SIU Women’s Club Board of Directors meets regularly to make plans for the coming year. It is hoped that returning to in-person gatherings in the fall will look more like a “regular year” for Club members.

The Board is optimistic that an in-person renowned “Afternoon Tea” will be possible in the fall. No date or location has yet been identified. Since this will be the last newsletter published until September, please read all email messages from the SIU Women’s Club to receive current information about early fall activities.

Recent Activities and Member News

Communications Committee Update. Kathryn Sime, Communications Director, is seeking additional members to join the Club’s communications team. Communications activities include assembling information and photos for the newsletter, submitting news items to social and print media, updating Facebook page and SIU website, and sharing ideas for communications activities. Kathy is waiting for you to contact her at kathsime@yahoo.com to indicate you are willing to join the team.

Recently, the SIUC Chancellor’s Office has agreed to assume ownership of the SIU Women’s Club website with Gena Albert being the primary contact. Ann Marie Hamilton-Brehm is managing the website content. Thanks to Laura Helsel who has managed the website from its beginning.

Interest Groups Continue Involvement. The Newcomers Dinner Interest Group continues their activities. They met recently at Carbondale’s Keepers Quarters for a meal and to catch-up:

Points of Pride for SIU

- SIU is one of the Top 10 Campuses for Students with Physical Disabilities by College Magazine thanks to SIU’s Access Inclusive Recreation program, the Saluki Express for on- and off-campus travel, adapted services and activities as well as available services such as classroom assistants, note-taking and other offerings.

- A team of students in SIU’s School of Civil, Environmental and Infrastructure Engineering is looking at combining the power of the sun with iron-based nano-materials, to destroy the harmful effects of algae blooms afflicting Campus Lake. The team recently received a $25,000 U.S. EPA start-up grant to begin testing their idea bringing hands-on experience from their classroom learning to life. The SI team is eligible to compete for a Phase II grant of up to $100,000 which would be used to implement its design in a real-world setting.
Facebook Fun. Do you know your SIU Women’s Club friends? Who claims her nerdy passion is spreadsheets? Whose list of hobbies exceeds this paragraph’s word count? If you don’t know, then you need to find and follow the “SIU Women’s Club” on Facebook and look for Julie Bohnsack’s series of “get-to-know-you” questions. It’s a “private” group, so you will need to request to join first. Congratulations to Susan Pearlman for winning the drawing for the $25 Keepers Quarters gift certificate! The contest may be over, but you can still answer the questions and join in the fun.

World Traveler. Susan Pearlman leads an exciting life. Here is what she reports from Tel Aviv: “The border to Israel has been closed to all non-citizens since the beginning of the pandemic, but they recently started making an exception for first-degree relatives of Israeli citizens. My son has dual-citizenship, so he got me an entry permit after a lot of paperwork.

I arrived in Israel on May 12, after the beginning of the rocket fire. We had to go down to the bomb shelter six times in my first four days, but it was quiet after that. The good thing was that I got to spend a lot of time with my granddaughters (3-year old twins) and my son (who’s a teacher) because the child care centers and schools were closed. We all stayed together with my daughter-in-law’s sister and her family in their parents’ house because it was the safest, so it was a warm family time. The children called it the pajama party and thought it was great fun to be together. Since the ceasefire, things are back to normal here, and it’s like a regular visit. I hadn’t seen my son and his family for 14 months, so I’m very glad to be here.”

Our Investment in the Future of SIU Women Students: SIU Women’s Club Scholarship Recipients in 2021

Camela Moore, recipient of the Dorothy Morris Traditional Student Scholarship, from Chicago Heights, wrote, “I am a multicultural student here at SIU with majors in Geography and Environmental Resources as well as Economics. At SIU I have found a thriving research community and family. These connections have allowed me to work with prestigious institutions such as Brown University. I would love to share my summer work with anyone interested and can be reached at camela.moore@siu.edu. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to proceed with my education and career interest through the scholarship you have granted me. Due to your generosity, I am able to continue my schooling without an immense financial burden on myself and my family. I cannot express my gratitude enough toward you all! I’m sorry I cannot relay these messages in person.”

The winner of the Joyce Guyon Non-Traditional Student Scholarship, wrote, “My name is Andrea Allen, and I am a junior at SIU studying Outdoor Recreation. I’m from Peoria, and my hobbies include hiking, swimming, and kayaking. My career goals are to be a park ranger and work for a non-profit organization.

I’m so grateful and honored to be receiving the Joyce Guyon Non-Traditional Student Scholarship. There have been many obstacles I have had to overcome in life, and I know that I am very blessed to have the opportunity to pursue my bachelor’s degree. This scholarship will help tremendously with easing the financial burden that comes with obtaining a degree.”
One of the Triumph Scholarship winners writes, “Hello, I am Da'Ziya Faust from Marion. My major is Accounting with a minor in Criminal Justice. I am one of the officers of the Accounting Society here on campus, and I enjoy painting in my free time. In the future, I hope to work with the FBI as a forensic accountant. Years down the line, I would like to start my own forensic accounting office.

I am so grateful to have received this scholarship. Thank you for your generosity, which has allowed me to continue courses without worrying about where the money would come from. I don’t need to worry about loans next semester, which has taken a lot of financial strain off of my shoulders. As I complete my education at SIUC, I am very thankful for receiving your scholarship, I will be able to pursue my dreams of becoming a forensic accountant.”

Allyson Peters, another of the Triumph Scholarship winners, wrote, “I am from Oswego, Illinois. In the fall I will be starting my junior year of the Dental Hygiene program. At SIU I am a part of the Marching Salukis and the Saluki Pep Band where I play the piccolo. I am also involved in Sigma Alpha Iota, the women’s professional music fraternity.

After graduation, I hope to work for a non-profit dental office. I have seen how expensive dental care is for those without dental insurance. I want to be able to provide care for everyone, not just patients who have dental insurance and can afford care.

Receiving this scholarship will allow me to be able to buy textbooks and PPE in the fall. The pandemic has caused PPE prices to rise; even as we start to return to normal life, I will still be in need of PPE during clinicals. The university has been able to provide us a limited amount, but I will have to start buying for myself. This scholarship has taken a weight off my shoulders, and I am very grateful for this opportunity.”

The third recipient of the Triumph Scholarship wrote, “My name is Molly Nance, and I’m going to be a senior in the fall studying Agribusiness Economics with a minor in Management. I’m originally from Athens, Illinois. At SIU, I’ve been very busy with my involvement in RSO’s that include the Agbassadors, Agricultural Student Council, Collegiate Farm Bureau, and Agribusiness Economics Club where I have held various officer positions; as well as my many internships during the summers.

This summer I am interning with Farm Credit Illinois in Mahomet where I am working on different projects and learning more about their impact on the Ag community. Upon graduation, I hope to go into a Human Resources role in an agricultural based company. I would like to extend a huge thank you to the SIU Women’s Club for the scholarship. I have funded my way through college on my own, so it’s scholarships like this that have helped me continue my education with less stress.”

Many years ago, the SIU Women’s Club made a commitment to fund scholarships that would help junior and senior female students to complete their degrees. As you can see from their letters, our scholarships have an impact on the women who receive them, helping them to reach their goals.

Thanks to Susan Pearlman, 2021 Scholarship Director, for providing all information and photos for this article.
Most Interest Group meetings are on hold due to the COVID-19 Virus Outbreak (We care about your health and safety)

Adventure Gals
June 5 (rain date June 12).
Meet in the morning--drive to Millstone Bluff and hike--back to Vienna for lunch--then on to Heron Pond to hike.

Antiques and Collectibles
Meets 1st Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.

Book Discussion
Meets 2nd Thursday, 1 – 3 p.m.
June 10, virtual meeting, The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides
Discussion Leader: Marge Schulhof; Zoom Coordinator: Deborah Corker

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

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

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

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

Cooking Lunch with Friends (Second Group)
Meets 1st Thursday, four times during academic year

Evening at the Cinema
Meets 1st Thursday at local theaters
Current plans are to meet Saturday, June 12.

Gentle Toning, Stretch and Yoga Techniques (GTSY)
Meets every Thursday, 5:45 p.m., First United Methodist Church

Knitting and Stitching
Meets 4th Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m., in members' homes via Zoom

SIU Women’s Club Interest Groups
June 2021

Interest Group Director, Julie Bohnsack (jaweilbrenner@gmail.com)
The Faculty House, 810 South Elizabeth Street, Carbondale

Donna Wilson 559-0830
dmwilson@siu.edu

Carol O'Donnell 549-2287
odonnellcj@yahoo.com

Vivian Ugent 457-5258
vivianugador@gmail.com

Janet Earnest 549-0416
jandaearnest@gmail.com

Janet Banerjee 687-3582
janet.banerjee@gmail.com

Olga Weidner 549-7527
oweidner@siu.edu

Kitty Trescott 203-1807
trescott@midwest.net

Peter Gregory 541-602-6732
peterg@humidtown.com

Sue Whitlock 534-2376
kirkman061056@gmail.com

A.M. Hamilton-Brehm 702-419-2493
amhamib@gmail.com

Lyn Knowles 529-3229
lknowles114@gmail.com

Laura Helsel 559-4541
lahelsel@yahoo.com

Nelda Hinckley 549-5588
neldahinckley@jalc.edu

Sue Burroughs 203-2360
newmyerburroughs47@frontier.com

Lee Swayze 549-1017
lswayze1200@gmail.com
Meet ’n Eat  
Meets 2nd Wednesday, Noon, at various local restaurants  
Tedda Becker  
457-8903  
beckertedda02@gmail.com

Monthly Dinner Group  
Meets in members’ homes—next gathering to be announced  
Sue Whitlock  
534-2376  
kirkman061056@gmail.com

Newcomers Dinner Group  
Meets 4th Thursday in homes and restaurants  
Amelia Ketzle  
924-0145  
aketzle@siu.edu

Opera Group  
Selected Saturdays in Cape Girardeau  
Olga Weidner  
549-7527  
oweidner@siu.edu

Quilting  
Meets 2nd Wednesday, 1 - 3 p.m., in members' homes  
Pat Tindall  
549-2427  
dp.tindall@outlook.com

Scrabble  
Meets 3rd Thursday, 2 p.m., at the Faculty House  
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  
Amelia Ketzle  
924-0145  
aketzle@siu.edu

Travel—The Suitcase Sisters  
Meets 1st Monday, 5:15 p.m., at Pagliai’s Pizza, Carbondale  
Julie Bohnsack  
534-4618  
jaweilbrenner@gmail.com

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SIU Women’s Club Scholarship Fund  
Donations

Scholarship donations are always encouraged to meet our annual minimum $4,000 goal to fund two $2,000 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