

SYLLABUS

A Roadmap to the News of the University Club of Rockford, Illinois

President's Letter

by John R. Mecklenburg

As we approach the holiday season, I want to wish each of my friends at the Club the Merriest of Christmases and the Happiest of New Years. It is a time of good cheer and a time to remember the blessings of the past year and to look forward to another year of making a difference in someone's life! God bless us, everyone!



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And, I'd like to thank the many members who have approached me in the past few weeks to express their delight with the food, the service, and the increased social activity at the Club in the past year. The Board and staff work diligently to provide the best experience possible at our Club,

and it's very rewarding to hear your positive thoughts.

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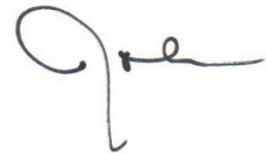
Finally, a number of years ago, one of our (since departed) members opined, "If every member would eat just one more meal at the Club each month, it would take care of our financial difficulties." It seemed like a logical statement, at the time. But, honestly, I have a different take. Having spent nearly four years intimately immersed in the financial realities of our club, I can assure you that we make a very modest profit on our meals. And, being limited to serving just our members (and their guests), we, therefore, cannot do enough volume to cover the overhead costs of our wonderful Club, its buildings and its grounds.

Our consultant from Atlanta correctly pointed out to us a couple of years ago that, financially, we are NOT in the



restaurant business but, RATHER, in the membership business. In other words, the only thing that is, in reality, going to make a meaningful and permanent impact on the financial fortunes of our University Club is an increase in the total number of members paying monthly dues.

So, at this point, I'd like to rephrase our dearly departed friend's wisdom of the past and forward the following thought: "If every member would recruit just one additional member for our Club each year, it would take care of our financial difficulties." It isn't as simple to accomplish as the original thought, but it's much more accurate and has a much greater chance of changing the University Club's future.



Condolences

To the family of **Elizabeth (Libby) Clark**, we extend our sincere condolences.



Congratulations & Thanks

- Say congratulations to Rockford University President **Dr. Eric Fulcomer** for being named to the 2018 People You Should Know list by the Rockford Chamber of Commerce.
- *Barron's* named Savant Capital Management CEO **Brent Brodeski** as one of America's top wealth advisors.
- Please make sure to thank **Elder Granger II**, of the law firm of Granger, Cohen and Donahue for sponsoring the music (Weep & Willow) for our Soup Cook Off on November 1.
- Also, congratulations to **Michael Kuss** for taking 1st place in the Soup Cook Off with his Creme Blue Cheese Soup! Tying for second/third place were **Tyler Smith** with a Roasted Butternut Squash entry and **Sue Polivka** for her Elegant Cream of Mushroom soup.
- Thank you, also, to our celebrity judges **Mike Robinson**, **Shirley Goodman**, **Miles Nielsen** and **Kelly Steward** and members who supported our first-ever Soup Cook Off event! It was SOUPER!



Soup Cook Off Winner Michael Kuss and his 1st Place Trophy

Club Notes

by Lisa Pass, General Manager/COO

December 2 | Join us for Dinner!

Take a break from this bustling Holiday Season and join us for dinner from 5–7:30 p.m. We will feature a limited version of our seasonal dinner menu. Reservations are always appreciated.

December 4 & 18 | Taste of Tuesday

Join us on Tuesdays, 5–7:30 p.m., for a light meal and good camaraderie. We've renamed this popular event as Taste of Tuesday, with each Tuesday featuring a different "taste." Please check the Syllabus calendar and your eblasts. As always, enjoy \$4 glasses of house wines and other drink specials to complement the "taste." On Dec. 18, join us for a Holiday Cookie Exchange at 4 p.m. followed by a sandwich & salad buffet from 5 until 7:30. (See details below.)

December 4 | Game Night

Join us for Taste of Tuesday and stay for a fun game of Five Second Rule at 6:30 p.m. As always, we have plenty of games available in the first floor Card Room for you to enjoy whenever you would like.

December 10 & 11 | Children's Christmas Party with Santa!

Santa Claus is coming to the U Club for our annual Children's Christmas Party! Please join us for holiday carols, as well as an adult- and child-friendly buffet on Mon., Dec. 10, and Tues., Dec. 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Santa will make his appearance at 7 p.m. The cost is \$18.95 for adults and children 4 and older; \$12.95 for children under 4. Children 12 and under will receive a gift straight from Santa. Reservations are required; please specify age and gender of each child in your party to guarantee a gift for every good little boy and girl.

December 10-14 & 17-21 | Holiday Teas

Please join us for our 10th annual Holiday Tea in the beautiful and festively decorated living room of the U Club. The teas will be held Mon.–Fri. the weeks of Dec. 10–14 and 17–21 from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The cost is \$28.95 per person. Champagne mimosas and poinsettia cocktails are also available. Due to the popularity of the teas and the waiting list, there is a 24-hour cancellation policy. Please

make your reservations today for the best tea service in Rockford.

December 11 | U Club Book Club

Join member **Shauna Gustafson** as she leads the group discussion beginning at 7 p.m. of two beloved holiday stories. "The Gift of the Magi," written by O. Henry, is an inspiring tale of love and sacrifice for a young married couple. "The Little Match Girl," a poignant short story by Danish poet and author Hans Christian Andersen, tells of a dying child's hopes and dreams. Due to the Children's Holiday Parties on the main floor, Book Club will be held upstairs. Stay tuned to email blasts for more information.

December 13 | Two for \$29.95 Dinner

A great and affordable way to treat your friends and potential new members to the U Club is our Two for \$29.95 dinner. Enjoy a salad, choice of entrée and a side. Dinner comes with a bottle of our house wine (cabernet, chardonnay, pinot grigio, merlot or white zinfandel) for just \$29.95. Reservations help us serve you better.

December 14 | Live Music!

Please join us on Fri., Dec. 14, as we enjoy dinner and the musical stylings of Lone Canary from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Don't hesitate to make your reservation, as we tend to fill up on entertainment evenings.

December 14 & 21 | Deadlines for Holiday Carryout Orders

Let us cook while you enjoy entertaining family and friends during the holidays. Whether you need the whole meal or just homemade gravy, we have you covered. Order forms are available at the Club and on the website at www.uclubrockford.com. Contact Lisa, Julie or Kelly with questions or to place your order. Christmas orders must be received by Fri., Dec. 14, at noon, with pickup on Dec. 21 between 2–6 p.m. The deadline for New Year's Eve orders is Fri., Dec. 21, at noon, with pickup on Dec. 31 between 3-6 p.m. Items come fully cooked with reheating instructions.

December 15 | Pre-RSO Concert Dinner

Please join us for dinner from 5–7:30 p.m. before going to the historic Coronado Theatre for the Rockford Symphony Orchestra's annual "Holiday

Pops." A limited version of our new seasonal dinner menu will be featured. Reservations are appreciated.

December 18 | Cookie Exchange & Holiday Sweater Night

Please join us at 4 p.m. for our first Cookie Exchange and Holiday Sweater night! Stay for Taste of Tuesday featuring a sandwich & salad buffet. Each member will bring six dozen cookies and leave with five dozen. We will use one dozen of each cookie for socializing that night. And yes, you may eat dessert first!

December 20 | Yulefest

Celebrate Rockford's Scandinavian heritage on Thurs., Dec. 20, from 6–8 p.m. with the Club's traditional Yulefest holiday buffet. Chef O has put his spin on family recipes donated by some of our own members to help create this special holiday feast. Adults \$19.95, children under 12 \$9.95, and children under three are free. Please make your reservations in advance so Chef O can prepare accordingly.

December 31 | New Year's Eve Dinner

Please join us for a celebratory day of food and fun on Mon., Dec. 31, from 5–7 p.m. We will have it all. From carved beef tenderloin to seafood multiple ways, including smoked salmon, a risotto action station plus all of your favorite accoutrements, we will have something for everyone to enjoy. Ring in the New Year a little early, but in style! The bar will open at 4 p.m., and our doors will close at 9 p.m. The cost is \$38.95 per person and includes a complimentary glass of bubbly, as well as a variety of sweets. Add unlimited Champagne and Poinsettias to your buffet for \$5. Reservations will help us serve you better at this sparkling event, so please make them early.

Holiday Hours of Operation for Christmas and New Year's Day

The University Club will be closed from Sat., Dec. 22, and re-open for dinner service on Thurs., Dec. 27. The University Club also will be closed on Jan. 1–2, reopening for lunch service on Thurs., Jan.3.

Cancun February Trip Options

Does Mexico in February with friends sound enticing? Join fellow members on a trip to Riviera Maya/Cancun, Mexico, and stay at the oceanfront, all-

Club Notes, continued

inclusive Now Jade Riviera Cancun Resort. Several options are available.

Sat., Feb. 2 – Sat., Feb. 9, 7 nights

Ocean View, \$1,599 per person

Garden View, \$1,479 per person

Sat., Feb. 2 - Wed., Feb. 6, 4 Nights

Ocean View, \$1,099 per person

Garden View, \$1,019 per person

Stay tuned to eblasts for more information or contact John Sturm at Lindstrom Travel at 815.398.8888 or john@lindstromtravel.com. Don't hesitate to book your winter vacation today, as the opportunity to fly out of Rockford will fill up quickly.

End-of-Year Giving

You will receive a letter soon about the Scholarship program and the wonderful opportunities it puts within reach of deserving students in our community. Your generosity makes their dreams possible. If you would like to contribute to our scholarship trust, please contact Lisa or Kelly.

Thank You to our members who have donated their time, talents, and more to the Club this year!

A special Thank You to all of our members who donate their time and talent for the Club's benefit. There are far too many of you to list, and that is a wonderful thing for your Club! THANK YOU!



Now Available!

- **12 Year Aged Old World Cask Finish** – 86 Proof – Best Of The Best
- **10 Year Aged Straight Rye** – 100 Proof – 96 Points, Wine Enthusiast
- **Farmstock Rye** – 86 Proof – Limited Edition



WHISTLEPIG

Tenshen Red Blend

A wine that combines power with finesse, charm, and grace. Pairs well with Steak & Frites and Grilled Bone-in Pork Chop
\$12 Glass
\$40 Bottle



Freixenet Extra Dry & Rose

PREMIER SPARKLING WINES FROM SPAIN

Pairs well with Butternut Squash Tortellini and Shrimp & Peppers
\$30 Bottle



Holiday Gifts Made Easy!

Push the “EASY” button and consider these fun gift ideas:

- U Club Logo Wear—contact Kelly for options.
- Wine—Kelly can tell you about available wines and suggest varieties that pair well with your holiday events.
- U Club Dinner Gift Certificates for Family and Friends—Julie can fill you in on the options.
- U Club Logo Pilsner Glasses—sets of 2 for \$20 are available at the main bar. Proceeds benefit our Scholarship Program. Please contact the office to reserve a set, or check with your server on your next visit.

Give the Gift of Membership!

Give a gift to your friends or family and enjoy their company at the Club throughout the year. If your friends or family members join the Club in the month of December, their initiation fee will be waived, and you will receive a \$100 gift certificate* to use anytime. It's a WIN-WIN-WIN! Your friends/family join for free, you get \$100, and best of all, you enjoy the Club together! Remember, they MUST join in December.

** Membership incentive for this special pricing is in lieu of the ongoing membership promotion for 2018.*

MEMBERSHIP

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- It is NEVER too early or too late to book your meeting and entertaining events at the U Club. Contact Lisa, Julie or Kelly to make your reservation today!
- Don't forget to fill out the comment card that comes with your bill at mealtime. There's also a place for comment/suggestion cards in the foyer. Your feedback is important!
- If there is a food item you would like to see on the menu from time to time, or a type of beer or wine you'd like us to offer, please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate your request.
- During this busy holiday season, you don't need to worry about cooking lunch or dinner. The U Club has you covered. Just contact the Club to place a lunch or dinner carryout order or make a reservation to dine in. Menus can be found on our website at www.uclubrockford.com, and our daily specials are available on Facebook or by contacting the Club.
- Serving a crowd in your home or at your office? Let the U Club do the work for you. Contact Lisa for menu ideas and more information.

SAVE the DATES

- January 1 & 2 – Club Closed
- January 10 – Forbes University Lecture Series (Details TBA)
- January 15 – Annual Meeting and Dinner
- January 19 – Open for Dinner
- February 14 – Valentine's Day Prix Fixe Dinner

Stay tuned to email blasts or check our website for information about these fun upcoming events.

Happy Holidays! We look forward to celebrating the season with you at the U Club!

Lisa

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Here is Your December Syllabus

WWW.UCLUBROCKFORD.COM



- December 2 | Seasonal Dinner Menu
- December 4 & 18 | Taste of Tuesday
- December 4 | Game Night
- December 10 & 11 | Children's Christmas Party with Santa!
- December 10-14 & 17-21 | Holiday Teas
- December 11 | Book Club
- December 13 | Two for \$29.95 Dinner
- December 14 | Live Music
- December 15 | Pre-RSO Concert Dinner
- December 18 | Cookie Exchange & Holiday Sweater Night
- December 20 | Yulefest
- December 31 | New Year's Eve Dinner

December 2018 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Remember, Kids and Grandkids eat FREE from Kids' Menu with the purchase of a regularly priced entrée on Thursday nights. Reservations allow us to serve you better.						1
2 Dinner, Limited Seasonal Menu 5-7:30 pm	3 Homestyle Favorites 5-8 pm • Baked Whitefish • Sesame Soy-Glazed Ahi Tuna	4 Taste of Tuesday Steak Tacos 5-7:30 pm Game Night – Five Second Rule 6:30 pm	5 Club Closes at 2 pm	6 Early Bird, 5-8:30 pm • Stuffed Roughy • Smothered Pork Chops	7 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Tilapia	8
9	10 Children's Christmas Party with Santa! Kids' Buffet, 5:30 pm Santa, 7 pm	11 Children's Christmas Party with Santa! Kids' Buffet, 5:30 pm Santa, 7 pm Book Club, 7 pm	12 Club Closes at 2 pm	13 Early Bird, 5-8:30 pm • Two for \$29.95	14 Deadline for Christmas Carryout Orders Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Catfish Live Music: Lone Canary 5:30-8:30 pm	15 Pre-RSO Concert Dinner 5-7:30 pm
☞ Holiday Tea—December 10-14, 11:30am-1:00pm ☜						
16	17 Homestyle Favorites 5-8 pm • Thai Curry Chicken • Teriyaki Shrimp Skewers	18 Holiday Cookie Exchange & Holiday Sweater Night, 4 pm Taste of Tuesday Soup & Salad Buffet 5-7:30 pm	19 Club Closes at 2 pm	20 Yule Fest 6-8 pm	21 Deadline for New Year's Carryout Orders Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Pollock	22 Club Closed
☞ Holiday Tea—December 17-21, 11:30am-1:00pm ☜						
23 Club Closed	24 Homestyle Favorites 5-8 pm • Cabbage Rolls • Roasted Pork Loin	25 Club Closed	26 Club Closed	27 Club Reopens for Dinner Early Bird, 5-8:30 pm • Chicken Marsala • Braised Short Ribs	28 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Walleye	29
30	31 New Year's Eve Dinner 5-7 pm	Club closed January 1-2. Reopen for lunch service on Thursday, January 3.			<i>Two for \$29.95 Special entrée choices: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Lasagna, Pan-Fried Whitefish, or Flat Iron Steak</i>	



Lunch & Dinner Hours

Lunch Service
 Monday – Friday
 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Monday Night Homestyle Favorites
 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday Night Taste of Tuesday
 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Night Early Bird
 5:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Fabulous Friday Fish
 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Reservations appreciated as it helps us serve you better!
815.962.1730
uclub@uclubrockford.com