

# SYLLABUS

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

## President's Letter

by Pete Rundquist

Wow! The University Club looked so festive and elegant for the holiday season! My heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed financially and time-wise to our exciting redecorating project. It was great to showcase our good-looking club last month with so many special events and holiday parties.

I want to say a HUGE "thank you" to General Manager Kurt Schiffer and the staff for making this a "turn-around"



year. They did an excellent job, even with staff transitions, redecorating, and the absence of our head chef for an extended period. Thank you for making 2019 successful.

The building and grounds committee will present a four-year plan to maintain our beautiful, yet aging building at the annual meeting on Tues., Jan. 21, 6 p.m. Prior to the meeting, the board of directors invites you to a complimentary cocktail hour at 5 p.m. Please enjoy beer, wine and appetizers as a "thank you" for supporting our redecoration project. The annual meeting will follow at 6 p.m., and please stay for a delicious buffet dinner at 7 p.m. following the meeting.

2019 was a good year for the University Club. We, as members, must remember two factors that drive our success, member usage and membership numbers. So please dine at your club often, and bring potential members with you. I think they will be impressed with our beautiful club and great food.

On January 1, 2020 a new Illinois law goes into effect governing the use of recreational marijuana. The U Club board of directors issues this policy — there will be no use of marijuana on the grounds of the University Club by anyone. Please take note of this policy.

See you at the Club!

## Condolences

The University Club of Rockford extends its deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Sue Groff**.

## GM Notes

I hope everyone had a great holiday season this year and were able to join us for some of our December events at the club, decked with all its holiday touches.

There was a lot of activity in 2019 in how the club looks. We started with the removal of our beloved tree on the deck. Then we designed and built a new tiki bar. That was followed by the redecorating fund-raising campaign where our members donated from the goodness of their heart and their love for the club. Members' financial gifts allowed us to replace the carpeting and tile on the first floor. We also did some much-needed painting as well as updates to our window treatments and light fixtures. Additionally, we

## Welcome to Our World

Congratulations to new parents **Dr. Jon and Carly Szleszinski** on the birth of their first child, Dax Charles, on Nov. 2, and to first-time grandparents **Dr. Vince and Diane Zammuto**.



completed an energy audit so we will benefit from lower utility bills.

We made some repairs to the club out of the general operating fund. These did not have the same "wow" factor as the redecorating, but for us to operate, they were required. It started with replacing a section of the roof by the third-floor restroom, then repaving the alleyway between the front and back parking lots. As we completed the alley work we noticed a sewer drain in our front lot that needed rebuilding. Then our grand old building showed its age when the lead piping under our front parking that connected to the water main failed us. Although these were not budgeted items for the year, they had to be

repaired. When the board completes the 2020 budget, we will earmark funds for specific capital improvements. The main item for 2020 will be the painting of the club exterior. We don't know if we can paint the whole building in year one, but we will complete a few areas at the very least.

As we work on the 2020 budget, one of the assumptions we make is to have our membership number remain steady for 2020. Although we would love to see a 15 percent growth, we must be realistic and look at our historic numbers. So, I challenge the membership to prove me and the board wrong by growing membership in 2020!

(Continued on page 2)

## GM Notes, cont.

In addition to the improvements to the look of the club in 2019, we have also improved the quality of food. That's what members have told me in conversations and the green comment cards that you complete. We will announce a new membership incentive program in

January. Until then, please think of friends, colleagues, business associates or family whom you would like to invite to be members of our new and improved University Club of Rockford.

Finally, I want to remind our members that although we have relaxed our dress code in the last few years, please remember that we want to project a

professional image at the club. So, please make sure your guests are aware of our dress code at the club; never acceptable at our club are T-shirts, hoody sweatshirts, ball caps and ripped jeans.

Wishing you a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous New Year!  
Kurt

## Club Notes

# 2020

HAPPY NEW YEAR

**January 1, 2020  
Club Closed**

**January 2, 2020  
Open for Dinner Only**

### January 7 | Game Night

Play bingo at 6:30 p.m. in the card room. Bring your friends for a fun night!

## FORBES UNIVERSITY

### January 9 | Forbes University Resumes

"Queen Victoria's Life and Legacy" and what today's leaders could learn from her, how she still affects our world, will be the opening topic of the Forbes University Discussion/Lecture series on Thursday, January 9, 6 p.m., second floor. Gene Van Galder, retired history teacher, returns to lead the lecture and discussion. Stay for dinner and continue your discussion with Gene. Reservations appreciated.

**LIVE MUSIC**

### January 13 | Forbes Winter Music Series

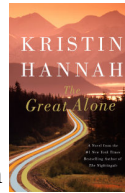
Kelly Steward kicks off our Forbes Winter Music Series with her neo-traditional country talents, in the dining room from 6 to 8 p.m.

*Annual Meeting  
Tuesday, January 21*

### January 14 | Book Club

Join us at 7 p.m. for our monthly book club.

- January – *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah
- February – *Dreamland Burning* by Jennifer Latham
- March – *The Night Circus* by Erin Morgenstern
- April – *I'll Push You* by Patrick Gray and Justin Skeesuck



### Thursday, January 16 | 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.

### January 18 | Pre-RSO Dinner

Please join us for dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. on the second floor before going to the historic Coronado Theatre for the Rockford Symphony Orchestra's "Frankenstein & Mozart." A limited version of our new seasonal dinner menu will be available. Reservations appreciated. The club will close at 7:30 p.m.

### January 21 | Complimentary Cocktail Hour Before Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for this Tuesday evening and celebrate at a complimentary cocktail hour at 5 p.m. Enjoy beer, wine and appetizers as the board of directors thanks you for your re-decoration support. After the annual meeting at 6 p.m., enjoy a prime rib and baked chicken buffet dinner for \$19.95 per person. When making

reservations, please specify if it's for the meeting, dinner or both. The meeting is open to members and their spouses/ partners. Although we need reservations, there will be no reserved tables, as the tables are first-come, first-serve for the meeting. Let your voice be heard at our annual meeting. We welcome your opinions.

**LIVE MUSIC**

### January 23 | Forbes Winter Music Series

Join us for our Forbes Winter Music Series Featuring Steve McClanahan. Steve will perform his acoustic pop and rock music from 6 to 8 p.m.

### January 27 | Forbes Winter Music Series

Enjoy your Monday night dinner with the debut appearance at the U Club of Paper Airplane, the acoustic guitar and vocal duo of Amy and Noel Nickel, 6 to 8 p.m. They'll perform songs from the sixties to today. Amy has won the Rockford Area Industry Award for "favorite female vocalist" four times.



### Thursday, January 30 | Winter Wine Dinner

Another specially created dinner, paired with just the right wine, is in store for you. Please watch for eblasts.

## Club Notes, continued

# SAVE *the* DATES



### February 5 | *The Lion King* in Milwaukee

The club has reserved 50 tickets on the main floor for the 7:30 p.m. performance of *The Lion King* at Uihlein Hall in downtown Milwaukee, Wednesday,

Feb. 5. Please contact Kelly at [kadrian@uclubrockford.com](mailto:kadrian@uclubrockford.com) to reserve your spot. Enjoy a pre-ordered dinner at the City Club in Milwaukee before the performance. The event includes coach bus transportation, dinner, dessert and your ticket. Cash bar for drinks during dinner, \$175 per person. The bus will leave the University Club of Rockford at 3 p.m. and will return immediately following the performance.



### Cancun Trip in February

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-inclusive Now Jade Riviera Cancun Resort. Several options are available. Pricing subject to availability.

### Saturday, February 8 – Saturday, February 15, 7 nights

Ocean View, \$1,901.68 per person or Garden View, \$1,743.00 per person

### Saturday, February 8 – Wednesday, February 13, 5 Nights

Ocean View, \$1,424.10 per person or Garden View, \$1,304.73 per person

Stay tuned to eblasts for more information or contact Laura at Lindstrom Travel at 815.398.8888 or [laura@lindstromtravel.com](mailto:laura@lindstromtravel.com). Book your winter vacation today, as the opportunity to fly out of Rockford will fill up quickly.

## Forbes Music Series

*thank you*

### 2019 Thanksgiving Eve Music Sponsors

Kim and Carol Bailey  
Allan and Elizabeth Carlson  
Mark, Laura and Maria Cirone  
Norm Dasenbrook and  
Heidi Buchholz

Joe and Jeanette Geraghty  
Jeff and Vickie Krueger  
Brian and Barbara Livingston  
Pat and Debbie O’Gorman  
Tom and Enid Michalowski

### Sponsors Sought for Forbes Winter Music Series

We welcome sponsors for our new Forbes Winter Music Series.

Please contact Kelly if you would like to be a sponsor.



**BECOME A SPONSOR**

Skip McDonald  
Mike and Karin Schablaske  
Mary Ann Smith

### 2020 Forbes Winter Music Series Dates

Mon., January 13 – Kelly Steward  
Thurs., January 23 – Steve McClanahan  
Mon., January 27 – Paper Airplane

Thurs., February 6 – Lone Canary  
Mon., February 10 – Dan Maguire

Mon., February 24 – Cole Brandt  
Mon., March 2 – Weep & Willow

### Sponsorship Benefits

#### Platinum (1) \$750

\$150 University Club gift certificate, name recognition on foyer monitor, eblast and the Syllabus newsletter, premier reserved seating for eight people on all seven nights and a special appetizer for the table created by Chef O & Chef Hillery.

#### Gold (2) \$500

\$100 University Club gift certificate, name recognition on foyer monitor, eblast and the Syllabus newsletter, plus premier reserved seating for six people on all seven nights.

#### Silver (2) \$250

\$50 University Club gift certificate, name recognition on the foyer monitor, eblast and the Syllabus newsletter and premier reserved seating for four people on all 7 nights.

#### Bronze (2) \$100

Name recognition on the foyer monitor, eblast and the Syllabus newsletter and premier reserved seating for two people on all seven nights.

University Club of Rockford  
 945 N. Main Street  
 Rockford, IL 61103

Phone: 815.962.1730 (dedicated reservation line)  
 editor@uclubrockford.com  
 president@uclubrockford.com  
 buildingandgrounds@uclubrockford.com  
 foodandbeverage@uclubrockford.com



WWW.UCLUBROCKFORD.COM



- January 7 | Game Night
- January 9 | Forbes University, "Queen Victoria's Life and Legacy"
- January 13, 23, 27 | Forbes Winter Music Series
- January 14 | Book Club
- January 18 | Pre-RSO Concert Dinner
- January 21 | Annual Meeting
- January 30 | Special Winter Wine Dinner

## January 2020 Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>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.</b>			1 Club Closed	2 Club Open for Dinner Only	3 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Tilapia	4
5	6 Homestyle Menu 5-8 pm • Chicken Piccata • Spaghetti Bolognese	7 Taste of Tuesday Chicken Taco 5-7:30 pm Game Night: Bingo 6:30 pm	8 Club Closes at 2 pm	9 Forbes University Lecture, "Queen Victoria's Life and Legacy" 6 pm	10 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Catfish	11
12	13 Homestyle Menu 5-8 pm • Stuffed Peppers • Turkey & Dumplings Winter Music Series: Kelly Steward 6-8 pm	14 Taste of Tuesday Beef Enchilada 5-7:30 pm Book Club 7 pm	15 Club Closes at 2 pm	16 Early Bird 5-8:30 pm • Two for \$29.95 Dinner*	17 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Walleye	18 Pre-RSO Concert Dinner 2nd Floor 5-7 pm
19	20 Homestyle Menu 5-8 pm • Beef Stew • Smothered Pork Chops	21 Complementary Cocktail Hour, 5 pm Annual Meeting, 6 pm Prime Rib Dinner & Chicken following meeting	22 Club Closes at 2 pm	23 Early Bird 5-8:30 pm • Sesame Crusted Mahi • NY Strip Winter Music Series: Steve McClanahan 6-8 pm	24 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Pike Perch	25
26	27 Homestyle Menu 5-8 pm • Turkey Tetrazinni • Cornbread & Beef Skillet Pie Winter Music Series: Paper Airplane 6-8 pm	28 Taste of Tuesday Shrimp Basket 5-7:30 pm	29 Club Closes at 2 pm	30 Winter Wine Dinner 6 pm	31 Fabulous Friday Fish, 5-9 pm • Haddock	

\*Two for \$29.95 Entrée Choices: Carved London Broil, Pork Chop, Shrimp Aglio Olio, or General Tso Tofu



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

**Monday Night Homestyle Menu**  
 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