Next meeting: Wednesday, September 14, at 2 p.m. in person (IU Foundation) and on Zoom

It’s time to renew your membership

Welcome back to returning members of the IU Retirees Association! As another academic year begins, we look forward to your re-upping. And welcome to some prospective members who haven’t yet joined – but always meant to! This issue of Newswatch is also being mailed to 223 newly retired faculty and staff.

The Retirees Association provides a voice for retirees in their continuing relationship with Indiana University. The organization is entirely self-funded and receives no university support. Our meetings offer an opportunity to exchange ideas, information, and friendship.

Please return the form on the back of the letter from IURA President Joyce Krothe, together with your membership check. Dues ($20 for individuals, $30 for couples) cover the period September 2022 through August 2023. First-year retirees can opt in to receive a year’s complimentary membership.

Former AD Fred Glass to kick off new IURA program year on Sept. 14

Fred Glass is having an interesting life. Before he served as IU’s director of athletics from 2009 to 2020, he played major roles in developing Lucas Oil Stadium, expanding the Indiana Convention Center, and bringing major NCAA events and the Super Bowl to Indianapolis. Before that, he was Evan Bayh’s chief of staff when Bayh was Indiana’s governor.

Fred is the author of Making Your Own Luck: From a Skid Row Bar to Rebuilding Indiana University Athletics, published by the IU Press in 2021. As the new president and CEO of Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana, he says, “My dad modeled feeding the hungry for me at his skid row bar when I was a kid. Entering this new chapter feels like I’m coming full circle.”

Fred will talk about his life’s full circle when the IU Retirees Association meets Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. Members can join either in person, in the Peterson Room of the IU Foundation’s Showalter House, SR46 Bypass, or by way of Zoom. Those who wish to join remotely must go to the IURA website, iura.indiana.edu, to register and receive by email a personalized Zoom link.

A question-and-answer period will follow Fred’s presentation. Morgenstern’s bookstore will have copies of his book available for purchase at the event.

May luncheon features heavenly harps

Forty-five contestants between the ages of 18 and 32 representing 20 countries and a composition contest with 107 entries from 31 countries: These were the components that came together as part of the 12th USA International Harp Competition, held from June 29 to July 9 on the Bloomington campus. Speaking at the May 25 IURA luncheon at the
Bloomington Country Club, Moya Wright, executive director of the competition since September 2020, fascinated her listeners with her introduction to the competition and to the instrument itself.

The harp has a range of seven octaves, with 47 strings of various colors. The base contains seven pedals. Moving them creates sharps and flats. There are sound holes in the back. “It is a very complicated mechanism,” Moya said, “and needs to be regulated or tuned once a year.” The soundboard itself is usually made of maple and spruce. Parts can be replaced, but eventually a harp will warp, limiting its life span to just over 100 years.

Harps weigh about 80 pounds and cost anywhere from $15,000 to $150,000. The harp awarded to the winner of the harp competition is valued at $55,000.

Ari Schwartz, the winner of the competition’s composition component, played several pieces at the IURA luncheon. Ari is a composition major at the Jacobs School of Music, with minors in ethnomusicology and mathematics. When he was 8, he recalled, he saw “a giant triangle of cool sound.” His parents bought him a harpsicle, and eventually, the Chicago native said, “I traded up.”

The competition had a six-member jury. Visa problems prevented participation by a Russian jury member and a contestant from Shanghai. “The Jacobs School has great facilities,” Moya said, and the competition appreciated being able to use them.

Born in Zimbabwe, Moya Wright won the Young Musicians’ Concerto Competition in South Africa. After graduating from the University of Cape Town, she performed in Zimbabwe, South Africa, and the United States, including the Marlboro and Tanglewood Festivals. Before becoming director of music publishing at Lyon and Healy, she was the principal harpist of the Hong Kong Philharmonic. She also served as executive director for the 8th USA International Harp Competition in 2004.

**IURA board elects officers**

At its June meeting, the IURA board elected officers. Joyce Krothe, Perry Maull, Ania Douglas, and Beau Vallance serve as president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary, respectively. Martha Smiley chairs hospitality and Joe Miller United Way. Joe and TonyMescher co-chair the program committee. Audrey Morgan is the HR retiree benefits liaison, and Charlie Matson is historian. Allan Edmonds, Doris Wittenburg, and Judy Schroeder continue as webmaster, database manager, and editor, respectively.

**Matson, Maull report Big Ten Retirees associations have much in common**

During the first week of August, the Big Ten Retirees Association held its first in-person conference since 2019. The Northwestern Emeriti Organization hosted the three-day event.

Last year, thanks to the efforts of webmaster Allan Edmonds, the IURA held several online meetings to help Big Ten retiree associations deal with problems in serving their members during the COVID pandemic. Charlie Matson, last year’s IURA president, also helped draft updates to the BTRA bylaws, amendments that were approved at this year’s conference.

All the active Big Ten retiree associations were present except for Ohio State. Maryland and Rutgers do not currently have retiree associations, although Maryland is considering forming one. Charlie and Perry Maull served as the IURA’s voting delegates.

When the pandemic started, retiree associations all faced similar challenges. Programming moved online, but it is gradually coming back to in-person events. Most delegates believe that a combination of online and live events will become the new normal. Online programs make access easier for retirees, including members who are not local.

IURA is one of the retiree associations that receive technical support for online programs from its institution. IURA has access to the IU Zoom programs, and the IU Foundation has graciously provided rooms and technical support personnel for board and general membership meetings to allow in-person and online participation. Many other
organizations have had to go it alone in setting up hybrid meetings.

A theme among our peers is that institutional support is important. Some universities supply support staff to their associations. The University of Wisconsin, for example, provides an office and a full-time executive director. Because of financial support from their universities, some Big Ten organizations don’t even have to charge dues. At Purdue and Michigan State all retirees are automatically members.

IURA is the only member of the Big Ten Retirees Association that serves as part of its campus United Way campaign. In fact, IU retirees contribute about half of the total IU United Way funds raised each year.

With a new IU president, a new Bloomington campus provost, a new Human Resources vice president, and a new IU Foundation president, the IURA board believes that promising opportunities exist to explore with these administrators ways to strengthen the association’s ties with the university.

– Perry Maull, IURA Vice President

Partners: Emeriti House, University Club

The IURA partners with two other university organizations popular with retirees. For information on the programs of the Emeriti House and the University Club, see www.emeritihouse.indiana.edu and uclub.indiana.edu.

Remembering our friends

At least twice a year since 2008, Newswatch memorializes members who have died since the last listing. Because of space limitations, only IURA members can be included. A complete list of obituaries is listed on the IURA website. Please notify me (jschroed@indiana.edu, 812-332-5057) of any omissions.

– Judy Schroeder, Newswatch Editor

Lois Hamm Ahlhauser died in Milwaukee, Wis., on June 16. She was 96. Born in Arkansas City, Kan., she graduated from St. Joseph School of Nursing in Joliet Ill. She earned her nursing degree at Marquette University, where she later received a master’s degree in early childhood education. She was a clinical nurse in Milwaukee. After moving to Bloomington in 1972, Lois taught nursing at Ivy Tech, rising to division chair. A talented artist, she quilted and worked in textiles and silk screening. She was active in organizations committed to faith and social justice. Her husband, John, a journalism professor at IU, was president of the IU Annuitants Association, the precursor of the IURA, in 1997-98. He died in 2016.

Owen V. Johnson died in Bloomington on August 6. He was 76. Born in Madison, Wis., he grew up in Pullman, Wash., and earned a bachelor’s degree at Washington State University. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of Michigan, with a certificate in Russian and East European studies. He joined the IU School of Journalism faculty in 1980, retiring from the Media School in 2014. Owen’s book At Home with Ernie Pyle grew out of his appreciation of the WWII correspondent. A prolific scholar, he also wrote Slovakia 1918-1938: Education and the Making of a Nation. Owen enjoyed collegiate athletics and served as an announcer for IU Swimming and Diving. He loved baseball and travel. He was an elder at First Presbyterian Church and a member of the Bloomington Rotary Club.

Rex Stockton died in Bloomington on July 1. He was 86. He was born in Hobbs, N.M., and earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in psychology at Eastern New Mexico University. After receiving his Ph.D. from Ball State, he became IU’s coordinator of regional and campus research and development in 1968. He moved to the School of Education’s department of counseling and educational psychology in 1975, retiring in 2020. He helped establish certification and licensure of counselors and served on national boards in counseling and educational psychology. Rex was a pioneer in group psychotherapy and directed the Center for Human Growth for 15 years. He conducted a 20-year project on behalf of HIV/AIDS patients and health care providers in Sub-Saharan Africa. Nancy, his wife of 55 years, is a counselor at the IU Student Health Center.

Student advocates sought

The Student Advocates Office is currently recruiting volunteers for the 2022-23 academic year. Student advocates help students resolve personal and academic problems. Part of the Division of Student Affairs, the SAO this year celebrates its 40th anniversary as a unique model for retired IU
 faculty and staff to help students navigate the many complexities of a large academic institution.

SAO director Darrell Ann Stone says, “The first step is simply to meet – via Zoom, by phone, or in person – to answer your questions.” Call her at (812) 855-0761 or email dastone@indiana.edu. To learn more about the role of an advocate and complete an application form, go to https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-support/advocates/become-an-advocate/index.html

Mark your calendar now

Fall meetings have been set, according to IURA program co-chairs Tony Mescher and Joe Miller. All are at 2 p.m. at the IUF except for the December luncheon.

Wed., Sept. 14 – Fred Glass, former IU athletics director, will speak about his life.
Thurs., Oct. 13 – Tom Hustad, professor emeritus from the Kelley School, will talk about jazz pioneers. Christian Royer from HR will also update retirees on benefits.
Wed., Nov. 9 – Marjorie Hershey, professor emerita of political science, will review the midterm elections.
Tues., Dec. 6 – Holiday luncheon, Bloomington Country Club

Special thanks are due the IU Foundation for making space and resources available for hybrid meetings.

To accommodate the Foundation’ space needs, meetings will move to Tuesdays during the spring semester. Tentative dates are Jan. 10, Feb. 14, April 11, and May 3 or 11. The IURA does not meet in March.

Why am I getting this newsletter?

You are getting this newsletter for one of two reasons: either you have been a member of the IU Retirees Association in at least one of the last four years, or you retired from the Bloomington campus in 2018 or later and are being encouraged to join.

Your mailing label shows your membership status.

This newsletter is also being mailed to 223 new retirees, to encourage them to opt in to one year’s complimentary membership. See the enclosed letter and membership application.

Newswatch is published at least eight times each year, August through April (and sometimes May). To correct your address or be removed from the list, please contact database manager Doris Wittenburg, dwittenb@indiana.edu. Please send suggestions, comments, or corrections to Newswatch editor Judy Schroeder, jschroed@indiana.edu.