NEWSWATCH

 **Vol. 2013-2014 No. 8 April 2014**

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**Next regular meeting: 5 p.m., Wednesday, May 14**

**Peterson Room, Showalter House, IU Foundation, SR46 Bypass**

**A Hoosier Darling for everyone:**

**May meeting to feature meal, merriment**

Celebrate the end of the academic year with the ever-popular IURA annual potluck on Wednesday, May 14, in the Peterson Room at the IU Foundation. The evening begins with a social hour at 5, with the IURA furnishing beverages. Please bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert to serve at least six people for the potluck, which begins at 6 p.m. The IURA will furnish beef brisket and turkey.



After-dinner entertainment will feature Hoosier Darling singing “righteous four-part harmony.” The group began as WFHB’s GoZpel GurlZ but has expanded their repertoire to include Motown, blues, rock, folk, and their own original songs. Members are, from left, Ginger Curry, Suzette Weakley, Sarah Flint, and Cathi Norton. They often lace their performances with humor. Before joining forces in 2009, each woman served as front person for different bands and radio shows.

No reservations are necessary, and you are welcome to bring a guest.

**Board calls special meeting May 7**

**to consider amendments to bylaws**

The IURA board of directors has called a special meeting for the purpose of amending the association’s Articles and Bylaws, which is the governing document of the association. All members are invited to attend the meeting Wednesday, May 7, at 3 p.m. in the Peterson Room at the IU Foundation.

A committee, chaired by **Don Weaver**, has reviewed the current bylaws over the past year and is recommending several changes, primarily to update the bylaws to conform to current practices. Other members of the committee are **Wayne Craig**, **Joan Curts**, and **Bob Ensman**, whom IURA Vice President **John Hobson** dubbed “our own Thomas Jefferson.”

To amend the existing bylaws, a majority of those attending the meeting must approve the changes. To receive a copy of the proposed revisions to the bylaws before the meeting, contact Bob at rensman@indiana.edu, or 339-1357.

**Three new IURA board members elected**

At the April 9 meeting three people were elected to three-year terms on the IURA board. They are **Ed Buffie**, **Carol Stokes**, and **Richard Stryker**.

**Ed Buffie** joined the School of Education in 1960. The author of a math series for elementary and junior high school students, he led the design of the dual major doctoral program and the Indiana Leadership Academy. He retired in 1993.

**Carol Stokes** joined IU in January 1990 as an assistant director at the Office of Admissions. In 1998 she was chosen to open and develop the IU Visitor Information Center, which she directed until her retirement in 2011.

**Dick Stryker** joined the faculty of the political science department in 1970. For 15 years he was executive associate dean of international programs and director of overseas study. Since 2006 he has served as director of the Emeriti House.

**Don Weaver** chaired the nominating committee, which included **Wayne Craig** and **Shirley Pugh**. Board members whose terms are expiring are **Dick McKaig**, **Harriet Pfister**, and **Jim Schellhammer**.

In other business conducted at the annual meeting, IURA treasurer **Don** **Granbois** announced that $4,520 has been collected in dues. Expenses to date are slightly under $3,200, with about $450 more anticipated, so solvency seems assured.

**Bruce Jaffee** reported for the benefits committee, first established in 2012 to examine the provisions of the Anthem Blue Medicare Supplement policy that is offered to IU retirees. The mission expanded to include a review of all benefits provided to retirees. They met with **Dan Rives**, associate vice president for human resources, and HR agreed to develop a booklet describing HR-related benefits for retirees. HR also hopes to add a part-time staff member whose primary responsibility is dealing with retiree benefits.

**Laura Ginger** added a postscript to January’s IURA presentation by Radio/TV’s **Perry Metz**. A self-described news junkie, Laura was surprised in 2012 to learn that, although endowments exist for classical music and jazz, there was no endowment at WFIU/WTIU for news. The annual fees paid to NPR and PBS for national news programs are substantial: about $135,000 for radio (“Morning Edition,” “All Things Considered,” “Marketplace”) and $170,000 for television. Laura has established a news endowment fund to help purchase, expand, and produce news programming. Brochures describing the endowment are available.

In conversation after the meeting, Laura shared another resource of interest to retirees. People can post information about someone’s health journey on CaringBridge, [www.caringbridge.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CGerald%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CTemp%5Cwww.caringbridge.org). This not-for-profit website enables friends to keep up to date on someone’s condition without burdening the family or interrupting care. For example, **Kathy Ruesink** posts regular updates on **Al Ruesink**’s treatment following his leukemia diagnosis.

IURA Vice President **John Hobson** thanked those who provided refreshments for the meeting: **Judy Ensman**, **April Legler**, and **Shirley Pugh**.

**Beckley tells retirees to write memoirs**

**Ken Beckley,** former president of the IU Alumni Association, delivered a challenge to 60 retirees gathered at the April 9 IURA meeting. “Write your memoirs,” he said. “You owe it to unborn generations to tell them who you were and what was your philosophy. First do an outline and then fill it in. Get started, and stay with it until you’re finished.”

On April 1, 2009, Ken started work on a novel. The idea, he said, “had gathered dust in the shelf of my mind” for nearly two decades. For three years he worked on his book every day from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. “All my life I’ve written from fact,” he said. “I wanted to prove I could write fiction.”

*Knuckleball*, his novel, has three themes: baseball, faith, and life’s uncertainties. James Alexander Thom advised him to develop characters by looking at every way people express themselves: their words, their body language, their appearance. Ken created names for his more than 100 characters by combining names of colleagues, neighbors, fraternity brothers, so you’ll find Randy Hobson and Terry Simic.

The book covers a 50-year span in the life of Davie Miller, born in rural Indiana in 1940. In introducing the speaker, **Joan Curts** said that, despite his years as a successful TV broadcaster and public relations professional, “what Ken really wanted to be was a knuckleball pitcher.” Ken concedes that some aspects of his novel are autobiographical.

“I wanted everything to be accurate,” he said: the clothing, the cars. For each of the five health situations in the book, he talked to a physician in that specialty, to make certain he was describing how a doctor would have treated that situation at that time.

He chose to self-publish with AuthorHouse, which offers a variety of services to authors, including sales and promotion. “You’ll probably lose money on the venture,” Ken said, but he found the publisher’s advice helpful, even when he didn’t agree initially. For example, although he first seethed at the idea, in retrospect he thinks it was good to rewrite the book, giving it a first-person perspective rather than a third-person narrative -- even though it took him two months of rewriting to implement the change.

“I wrote this book for Ken,” he said, “but two people have told me they were going to change their lives as a result of reading my book.”

**In memoriam**

*Twice a year since 2008, in the April and August issues,*Newswatch*memorializes members who have died since the last listing. Space limitations decree that only people who are IURA members can be included. Please notify me (jschroed@indiana.edu, 812-332-5057) of any omissions.*

*Judy Schroeder,* Newswatch *Editor*

**Mildred Loberfeld Bern** died March 7, 2014, in Bloomington. She was 95. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., she graduated from Hunter College with a degree in biology. A lieutenant in the Air Force from 1943 to 1946, she moved to Bloomington in the early 1950s when her husband, Henry, joined the School of Education faculty. After earning a master’s degree in education at IU in 1970, Mildred taught first grade at Grandview Elementary in the 1970s and 1980s. She was one of the original members of Congregation Beth Shalom and an active member of Bloomington’s Jewish community throughout her life. A lover of opera and music, she passed along her passion for music to her children. Her son, Alan, has an international reputation as a teacher and performer of klezmer music.

 **Marjorie Roach Clayton** died March 21, 2014, in Bloomington. She was 94. She was born in Delphi, Ind., and was a student at IU when she met her husband. According to a 2010 article in *Culinary Cellar*, “It was love at first sight. Since Bernard was settled in New York with a full-time job at *Life*, he wrote to Marje, proposing marriage.” They were married 70 years before his death in March 2011. They moved frequently, including time in Honolulu and San Francisco, before they dropped out of the corporate world in 1964 and traveled for two years by car, bicycle, canal boat, and horse-drawn wagon in the U.S. and Europe. In 1966 they returned to Bloomington, and Marje finished the degree that marriage had interrupted, earning a bachelor’s in business in 1969. For a three-year period in the early ’90s Bernie and Marje traveled the country in their GMC van in search of the best in American cuisine, with Marje’s notes contributing to Bernie’s *Cooking Across America*. She was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta and PEO and volunteered at Opportunity House.

**James Richard “Jim” Dawson** died Sept. 18, 2013, in Indianapolis. He was 77. He was born in Fond du Lac, Wis., and earned an associate’s degree in fire protection technology from Oklahoma State University in 1959. Jim worked in fire and safety his entire life. He was a crash crew firefighter with the Air National Guide and served as fire safety engineer at IU for 30 years before retiring in 2000. He was a founding member of the Bloomington Township Volunteer Fire Department and served as Bloomington Township Trustee for 20 years. In 1985 the Indiana Township Association named him Trustee of the Year. He was a member of the Federation of Fire Chaplains. Jim served on IU’s Professional Staff Council and in 2007-2008 was a board member of the IU Annuitants Association, the predecessor of the IURA. In 2008 Jim and his wife moved to Westminster Village North in Indianapolis. Martha, his wife of 54 years, survives.

**Esther Packwood Dugger** died Feb. 15, 2014, in Bloomington. She was 89. She was born in Salem, Ind., and earned a bachelor’s degree in business from IU in 1948. She worked at the IU athletics ticket office for 24 years. She was a member of First Christian Church and member of its fellowship group. For more than 35 years she was a Pink Lady at IU Health Bloomington Hospital. She and her husband, Bill, who died in 1999, were married for more than 50 years. Esther was active in the life of the Bell Trace community and a volunteer at its recycling center.

**Margaret “Pegge” Campbell Ewers** died Oct. 6, 2013, in Bloomington. She was 87. Pegge was born in Sidney, Ohio, and attended Ohio Northern University. She moved to Bloomington in 1956. In 1971 she began working for the IU Alumni Association, retiring in 1992. At various times she was Varsity Club secretary, director of tours, director of membership, director of alumni clubs, and Mini University coordinator. Pegge received the Alumni Association’s Gertrude Rich Award in 1992. She was president of the University Women’s Club in 1962-63 and president of the board of the University Club in 1987-88. From 1998 to 2001 she was a member of the board of the IU Annuitants Association, the predecessor of the IURA, and served as *Newswatch* editor from 1999 to 2001. She was a Meals on Wheels volunteer and a diehard IU fan.

**Kenneth Gene Faris** died Nov. 14, 2013, in Bloomington. He was 87. Gene was born in Indiana Springs, Ind., and was named to the Indiana High School all-star basketball team for the 1944 season. He earned three varsity letters in basketball at IU and was the team’s leading scorer in 1944-45. His studies were interrupted when he was called to service in 1945, serving a tour of duty in Germany. He earned his bachelor’s degree in 1949. He began teaching at Montpelier High School but then was called for service during the Korean War. After his discharge he became a teacher and coach at University High School. He earned a master’s degree in physical

**IU Retirees Association Nonprofit Org.**

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education at IU in 1956 and a doctorate in education in 1959. During his 37 years at IU, he served as a professor of instructional systems technology in the School of Education, dean for learning resources, executive assistant to two presidents, University Grand Marshal, and executive director of the Indiana Higher Education Telecommunications System. Upon retirement he was awarded the President’s Medal for Excellence. Gene was on the board of the IU Annuitants Association, the predecessor of the IURA, from 1993 to 1996 and from 1999 to 2002, serving as president in 1999-2000. Betty, his wife of 65 years, survives.

**Patricia Reed Kingsbury** died Oct. 21, 2013, in Bloomington. She was 86. She was born in Auburn, N.Y., and attended Denison University before transferring to the University of Miami (Fla.), from which she graduated in 1950 with a major in geography. She earned a master’s degree in geography from the University of Kansas in 1951 and returned to the University of Miami as an instructor. After sojourns in India, the Florida Keys, and New Jersey, she moved to Bloomington when her husband, Robert, joined the faculty of the geography department. Pat worked for the Independent Study Division from 1965 to 1976 as both a teacher and course writer for geography. She earned her master’s in library science from IU in 1974. She was a volunteer at the Monroe County Public Library and at Monroe County Community Ministries. She was heavily involved with the annual Red Cross book sale from its beginning in 1973 and a lifetime board member of the Monroe County chapter of the American Red Cross, which gives an annual award called the “Patricia Kingsbury Service Above Self” award. Her husband died in 1997.

**Creative retirees to exhibit art**

The annual art exhibit, cosponsored by the Emeriti House and the IU Retirees Association, will open with a reception Friday, May 2, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Emeriti House, 1015 E. Atwater Ave. Parking is available at the Atwater Garage.

The organizing committee welcomes submissions in any art medium. Submissions are particularly encouraged from people working in a medium that has been underrepresented in past exhibits, such as collage, woodwork, sculpture, pottery, and textiles, including weaving, needlepoint, knitting, and embroidery. Works should be submitted at Emeriti House on Monday, April 28, between 9 and 11 a.m. Although no person will have more than two works displayed, every contributor will have at least one work included. Final selections are made at the discretion of the committee.

Members of the organizing committee include **Jerry Chertkoff**, chair; **Dick Dever**, **Bob Ensman**, **Audrey** **Heller, B.J. Irvine, Ed McEndarfer, Ruth Miller,** and **John Woodcock.** Address any questions to Jerry,[chertkof@indiana.edu](https://www.exchange.iu.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=yXY9KW6U0EmWZs-KRLeVIELe6JWjKtEISJS3GwVaxQ3IEvWNdvBX3kg5zEiG09bEccgRM8tAkKQ.&URL=mailto%3achertkof%40indiana.edu), home (812) 339-9519, office (812) 855-7910.

**About this newsletter**

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