



NEWSWATCH

Vol. 2021-2022 No. 1

August 2021

**Next meeting: Wednesday, September 15, at 2 p.m.
via 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, we're sure, always meant to! This issue of *NewsWatch* is also being mailed to 220 newly retired faculty and staff. We invite you to join us. Dues (\$20 for individuals, \$30 for couples) cover the period September 2021 through August 2022.

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 **Charlie Matson**, together with your membership check. First-year retirees who return the form will receive a complimentary membership.

Getting back to basics: Zoom meeting to feature work of Stone Age Institute

The place had been chosen, the menu had been set, but the emergence of the highly contagious Delta variant dashed plans for a celebratory September in-person luncheon. IU retirees will continue meeting by Zoom for the immediate future. But hopes are high that this pandemic will ebb and a celebratory luncheon can occur in the near future.

Please plan to join us Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. to hear **Kathy Schick** and **Nick Toth**, the wife-and-husband team who have headed up the Stone Age Institute since 2003, talk about the archaeological study of

human origins. *A Zoom link will be sent to those who have submitted email addresses.*

“Our core thesis,” Nick said in an interview with *Bloom* magazine, “is that tools have played a crucial role in the evolution of human cognition.” Stone tools didn't result from human brain evolution but actually caused it by enabling an enriched diet.



To study these tools, Kathy and Nick established the Stone Age Institute in 2003 on 30 rural acres on the outskirts of Bloomington. Although allied with IU, it is an autonomous 501(c)(3) organization, built and funded entirely by donors.

The institute is internationally renowned for its research into the origins of technology. The ability to modify our world through tools and technology has been the most important adaptive strategy shaping humankind, Kathy and Nick believe. The website, <https://stoneageinstitute.org/index.html>,

incorporates science education in many and varied ways. For example, the website includes songs Nick and Kathy have written, performed by the SAI band, with Nick on guitar, Kathy on percussion, and vocals by Krista Detor and Carrie Newcomer.



Kathy and Nick grew up in Ohio and received Ph.D. degrees from Cal Berkeley. They joined the IU anthropology faculty in 1986. Both were named Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2004. Their 1993 book, *Making Silent Stones Speak*, was a selection by the Book of the Month Club and the History Book Club.

IURA board elects officers

Meeting by Zoom over the summer, the IURA board elected officers. **Charlie Matson**, **Anita Douglas**, and **Perry Maull** serve second terms as president, treasurer, and secretary, respectively. **Joyce Krothe** was elected vice president and continues as the benefits liaison with Human Resources. **Martha Smiley** chairs hospitality, **Jim Grandorf** United Way, and **Joe Miller** the program committee. **Geoff Conrad** and **Audrey Morgan** are new board members. **Allan Edmonds**, **Doris Wittenburg**, and **Judy Schroeder** continue as webmaster, database manager, and editor, respectively. The board has yet to appoint a historian to replace **Gail Londergan**. If you are interested in the position, please contact Gail at londer@indiana.edu for additional information.

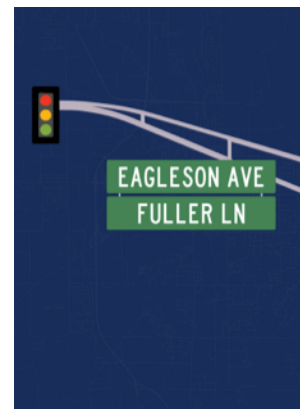
News about members, renaming plans

The May issue of *Newswatch* (available on the IURA website) included a list of 39 members who received the Bicentennial Medal, “in recognition of distinguished and distinctive service in support of the mission of IU.” Because the online list maintained by the Office of the Bicentennial is still being updated, at least two IURA members were not among the

recipients mentioned in *Newswatch*. **Bill McGregor** and **Janice Wiggins** join the group of 39. Apologies to any others who may have been overlooked.

Doug Bauder has recently released his self-published memoir, *The Privilege of Being Queer: A Life of Surprises and Gratitude*. To obtain a copy, email Doug at dbauder@indiana.edu. The cost is \$15, plus tax and shipping.

IU trustees voted last year to change the name of the Jordan River to Campus River, Jordan Hall to Biology Building, and Jordan Parking Garage to East Parking Garage. A leader in the now discredited eugenics movement, David Starr Jordan, IU’s president from 1884 to 1891, opposed racial mixing and advocated sterilization of those deemed unfit. In April Bloomington Mayor John Hamilton appointed seven people, including IURA member and Monroe County Historian **Glenda Murray**, to a renaming committee, to offer suggestions for a new name for Jordan Avenue. In July the group recommended unanimously that the two sections be named for 19th-century Bloomington community leaders with roots in slavery. The section from Davis Street to 17th Street would be named Eagleson Avenue, for a Bloomington family who, over four generations, contributed to the community and the university. (Preston Eagleson was the first Black student to participate in intramural athletics at IU when he joined the football team in 1892.) The university-owned section from 17th Street to Fee Lane would become Fuller Lane or Mattie Fuller Lane, after a successful businesswoman and suffragist who was the lead donor in establishing the Bethel AME Church. After community input, the Bloomington Plan Commission and the university’s board of trustees will make the final decision. Some longtime Jordan Avenue residents, including past IURA webmaster **Suzann Owen**, have voiced opposition to changing the street’s historic name.



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

Twice a year since 2008, in the April and August issues, 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

Jane Pulley Bloom died on June 22 in New Smyrna Beach, Fla. She was 102. Born in Warren, Ind., Jane graduated from IU in 1942. She taught elementary school in Fort Wayne before her marriage in 1947 to George Bloom. Jane was the co-owner of Bridal Fashions in Bloomington, a wedding apparel rental business established for people with limited budgets. A dedicated volunteer, she worked for Meals on Wheels and was a Pink Lady at Bloomington Hospital. She served on the board of the Bloomington Hospital Foundation. She was a member of Tri Kappa, the University Club, and First United Methodist Church. Jane lived in Bloomington for 72 years, moving to Florida in 2017 to be closer to her daughters. Her husband, George, professor of real estate in the School of Business, died in 1983.

Marie-Louise “Weezie” Arnaud Smith died on July 25 in Bloomington. She was 82. Born in New York City, Weezie graduated from Carleton College, where she began her musical career as a folk singer. Before her children were born, she taught high school. A skillful recorder player, she set up a teaching studio in her home that attracted students of all ages. Later, in collaboration with IU’s Early Music Institute, she set up a precollege program in early music and created a summer recorder academy for middle and high school students from all over the country. For her efforts the American Recorder Society presented her with its presidential special honor award in 2009. Weezie helped create the Recorder Orchestra of the Midwest. She also worked to establish a Bloomington chapter of the international Dance for Parkinson’s Disease program. She was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church. Her husband of 60 years, David, professor emeritus of religious studies and former director of the Poynter Center, survives.

Sandra Jo “Sandy” Grubb Strain died in Bloomington on June 28. She was 79. Born in Linton, Ind., Sandy worked at IU for more than 50 years. She was an administrative assistant in the

School of Education’s department of educational leadership and policy studies and in the Graduate Studies Office. Sandy served as treasurer of the Harrodsburg Heritage Days Festival. She was a member of the board of the Clover Hill Cemetery and of the Harrodsburg Church of Christ. Her husband, Deward, who worked as a custodian in what was then the School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, survives.

Become a community ambassador

Bloomington Worldwide Friendship is looking for new community ambassadors to befriend IU international students. Since 1953 BWF has been matching students with members of the community for friendship and cultural exchange.

“It is easy and so worthwhile to be a friend to an international student,” says **Kate Kroll**, former IURA president and longtime BWF participant. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to learn from someone from another culture.”

BWF works with the Office of International Services. At the request of that office, it participates in international orientation. It matches hosts with students based on compatible interests. Hosts are asked to contact students three to four times per semester, and meetings and activities are mutually agreed upon. BWF hosts a couple of group activities each year.

“IU retirees traditionally have been a great source of hosts for our program,” says BWF President Cindy York. “You have spent your lives working with college students. BWF offers an opportunity to reach out in a different way.”

To learn more and fill out an application, go to www.bwfbloomington.org.

Previous Zoom meetings still available

One of the advantages of the IURA’s meeting on Zoom this past year is that Webmaster **Allan Edmonds** has archived many of the programs of the last year and made them available on the Events page of the website. With a simple click, you can hear:

- Gerardo Gonzalez talking about his life, including his Cuban heritage;
- Ted Carmines speaking about the 2020 presidential election;

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- “Brother” William Morris describing his dual professions, as lawyer and host of WFIU’s “Soul Kitchen”;
- Mary Lynn Davis-Ajami outlining the challenges of the nursing profession during the pandemic;
- Michael Koryta talking about becoming a crime novelist;
- Mia Williams describing some past and future changes in IU landscaping;
- Doug Booher outlining the challenges of scheduling IU events, including initiating the testing and vaccination programs; and
- Bill Bennett, giving travel tips.

Check your junk folder regularly

If you use IU email, you would do well to check the junk folder frequently. IURA Webmaster **Allan Edmonds** reports, “I have heard several stories recently about the new IU email system moving important email to the junk folder.”

Parking permits may be a problem

Some retirees who have tried to renew their parking permits online have experienced problems. Apparently not all usernames of retirees are retained in the Parking Operations database. If you experience problems, call the office at (812) 855-

9848 and a helpful person will facilitate your purchase. Or go to the Parking Operations office located at the Henderson garage at 310 S. Fess Ave.

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 2017 or later and are being encouraged to join.

Founded in 1975 as the IU Annuitants Association, the IURA welcomes all retired faculty and staff and their spouses or partners. It is supported entirely by membership dues and receives no university funding. It serves as an advocate for retirees. For example, with urging and encouragement from the IURA, HR developed a list of benefits available to IU Bloomington retirees. “Retiree Status Perks” is available on the IURA website.

Newswatch is published eight times each year, August through April, except for February. (In 2020-21 there were also February and May issues.) 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.