



NEWSWATCH

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September 2021

**Next meeting: Wednesday, October 13, at 2 p.m.
via Zoom**

Olympic diving coach to talk in October

Three must be **Drew Johansen's** lucky number. He was named IU's third diving coach in 2013. This summer, in the rescheduled Olympic Games in Tokyo, he was head diving coach for Team USA for the third straight Olympics. In Tokyo Team USA earned medals – two silvers and a bronze – in three events. Three IU divers won the silvers. Earlier in the year, three IU divers combined to earn eight All-American honors at the 2021 NCAA championships.

Johansen will be the featured speaker when retirees gather on Zoom at 2 p.m. on Oct. 13. We'll also hear from **Efrat Feferman**, executive director of United Way of Monroe County.



Andrew Capobianco, left, and Mike Hixon earned silver medals at this summer's Olympics.

synchronized 3-meter springboard at the 2016 summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Johansen is himself a former member of the USA national diving team. Before coming to IU, he served six years as head coach at Duke. Before that he was at Florida Atlantic, where he earned conference Coach of the Year honors four times. He attended Arizona State University, where he was a member of the diving team. His wife, Jenny, is a two-time Olympic diver and former head diving coach at the University of North Carolina. They have a daughter, Lina Mei.

Feferman has been executive director at United Way since 2017. The Retirees Association has long been a major supporter of United Way's campaign.

A Zoom link will be sent before the event to those for whom we have email addresses.



IU diving coach Drew Johansen, above right, coached Team USA at the Tokyo Olympics. Jessica Parratto, above left, won a silver medal.

Johansen will talk about diving, the Olympics, and his experiences in Tokyo, where three IU divers won medals: Andrew Capobianco and Mike Hixon in 3-meter synchronized springboard and Jessica Parratto in 10-meter synchronized platform. Capobianco and Parratto have both been named Big Ten Divers of the Year. Hixon won a silver medal in

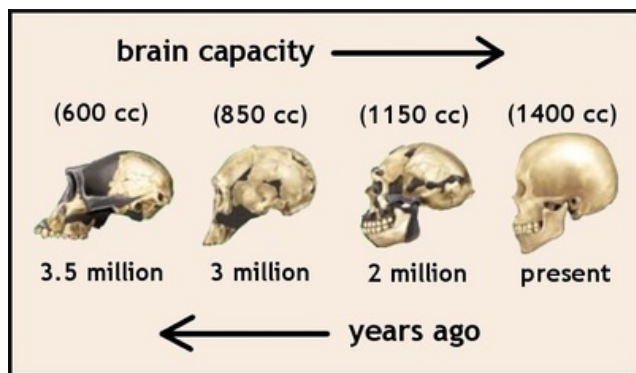
Stone tools affected brain development, Schick and Toth tell retirees

Who knew? Our brains have the same capacity as four cans of Coke. That's one interesting piece of information nearly 40 retirees learned from the presentation by **Kathy Schick** and **Nick Toth** about the Stone Age at the Sept. 15 meeting of the IU Retirees Association.



Schick and Toth, cofounders of the Stone Age Institute, talked about the Paleolithic period, when our ancestors used stone tools. Metallurgy has been around for only about seven or eight millennia, but members of the genus *homo* began using stone tools roughly two and a half million years ago.

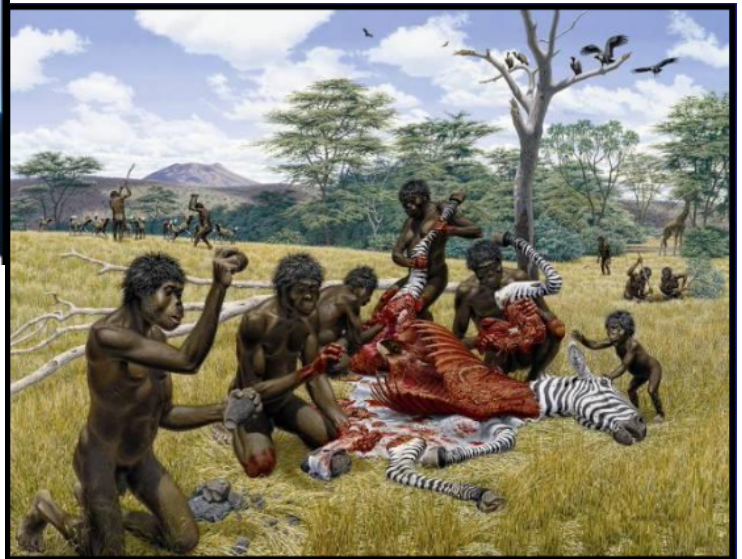
Sites in the East African Rift Valley have yielded bones of several hominid ancestors. Stone tools played a crucial role in the evolution of the human brain. They resulted in a richer diet, which, in turn, resulted in bigger brains. *Homo habilis* had a brain the size of two cans of Coke. *Homo erectus* had a brain equivalent to three cans. With the emergence of *homo sapiens*, brain size expanded to four cans.



The sophistication of stone tools increased as the human brain evolved. A comparison of the Oldowan brain (2.6 million to 1.7 million years ago) and the Acheulean brain (1.5 million to 200,000 years ago)

shows greatly increased cognitive activation, Toth said. The number of cognitive decisions in creating stone tools increased from 11 in the Oldowan period to 45 in the later Acheulean period.

For the cover of their 2009 book *The Cutting Edge*, Schick and Toth chose a work by Jay Matternes showing stone technology. Hominids accessed meat resources by using stone tools for butchering megafauna, Toth said. Tools augmented biological abilities to develop from a small-brain biped to a large-brain modern human.



Paleoartist Matternes' depiction illustrates the demands on human cognition as hunting replaced opportunistic scavenging: planning, problem-solving, long-term learning, group cooperation. Butchers at Fender 4 Star Meat Processing in Spencer, Ind., successfully used stone tools to butcher a cow. "Those tools were sharp," Toth said, adding he has the scars to prove it.

Most of Schick and Toth's fieldwork has been done in three areas: the Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania; Dmanisi, Georgia; and the Nihewan Basin, China. "We were the first foreigners to do excavations in China since the founding of the People's Republic," Toth said. Although it was a joint U.S.-China project, he acknowledged that making arrangements was time-consuming.

Schick and Toth have been doing fieldwork in Africa since they were married 44 years ago. In fact, Schick said, "We more or less honeymooned in our tent in Kenya." "For the first several years of our marriage we spent half our time in a tent. We joke that you

can't slam a tent door after an argument," Toth added. They have been working in Tanzania since 2012 and have a good relationship with the government. Most of the crew are Tanzanian, including Masaai people.

As to the future of the Stone Age Institute after they retire, Toth said he has been working with the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to create a department of human evolutionary studies. It would include faculty members from various departments and programs – among them earth and atmospheric sciences, brain sciences, cognitive science, and anthropology.

IURA member **Peter Burkholder** cited the work of ethnomusicologist John Blacking, who showed how music and dance were associated with toolmaking.

In introducing Toth and Schick, IURA board member **Jim Grandorf** described the Stone Age Institute as a "tremendous library and research facility right out in the middle of nowhere." The Stone Age Institute is located two miles northwest of Oliver Winery.

To view the program online, go to <https://bit.ly/schicktoth>. Other IURA Zoom meetings can be accessed from <https://bit.ly/iuraevents>.

What is the IURA? How is it different?

At least three organizations at IU are of special interest to retirees. What distinguishes the IURA from our partner organizations?

Emeriti House. The Emeriti House describes itself as a "free association of Indiana University emeriti faculty and colleagues." The Office of the Vice President for Faculty and Academic Affairs provides a facility at 1015 E. Atwater Ave. and a part-time coordinator. During each semester it sponsors presentations, usually on Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 5 p.m., that "showcase the talents" of retired faculty and "highlight the expertise of scholars and artists on campus." Every other week, on Mondays at 3:30 p.m., Emeriti House sponsors nonpartisan, moderated discussions of great issues and news of the day. It also sponsors a life-writing workshop, poetry

IU Retirees Association 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

For couple membership, spouse's/partner's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ **9-digit** ZIP code _____

Telephone 1* _____ Email 1* _____

Telephone 2* _____ Email 2* _____

____ When possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

*It is important that you include an email address so that we can send you meeting notices. Telephone number/s and email address/es will be included in the membership directory only if this is *not* checked: I do not want telephone number/s ____ or email address/es ____ included in membership directory.

Membership Type: Single (\$20) ____ Couple (\$30)

Please mail this form with your check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, to
IURA
P.O. Box 8393
Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

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readings, an oral history project, and, together with the IURA, an art show. Current co-directors are **Geoff Conrad** and **Tim Londergan**. The website is emeritihouse.indiana.edu.

University Club. The University Club has its own unique space, a two-story location in the Indiana Memorial Union. Membership is open to IU faculty, staff, community members, and alumni. Its main goals are congeniality and presenting programs of interest to members. The university underwrites the costs of the facility, including a club manager. It also pays retirees' membership fees. The University Club hosts a variety of luncheons, special events, and parties. It sponsors an array of interest groups, including bridge, yoga, international friendship, book discussion, active walking, and arts and antiques. A monthly online newsletter describes events. For more information, see uclub.indiana.edu.

IURA. The IURA was founded in 1975 as the IU Annuity Association to serve as an advocate for retirees in their ongoing relationship to the university. The only benefit the university provides is use of the IU mailing permit; the IURA is responsible for its own printing and mailing costs. It has no space of its own and no paid staff. It is supported entirely by membership dues and volunteer efforts. It holds monthly meetings and publishes a monthly newsletter. For more information, see iura.indiana.edu.

Big Ten retiree organizations. Retiree organizations within the Big Ten vary widely. At some universities – Purdue, for example – Human Resources provides staff and funding and all retirees

automatically are members. At other universities – Northwestern, for example – the organization represents only retired faculty. Others – Maryland, for example – have no retirees organization at all.

Why 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. You are encouraged to join the nearly 200 members who already have paid the dues that finance the printing and mailing of the newsletter. You can see your membership status on your mailing label.

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.

A peek at coming attractions in 2021

On Wednesday, Nov. 10, at 2 p.m. on Zoom, Shawna Girgis, program director for the IU Health South Central Region, will give us a video tour of the new IU Health hospital facility that will open in December. Following her presentation, an HR representative will update us on retiree benefits.

On Wednesday, Dec. 1, we plan to meet in person for a celebratory holiday luncheon at the Bloomington Country Club. Students from the Jacobs School of Music will provide entertainment. Next month's newsletter will contain more information.