



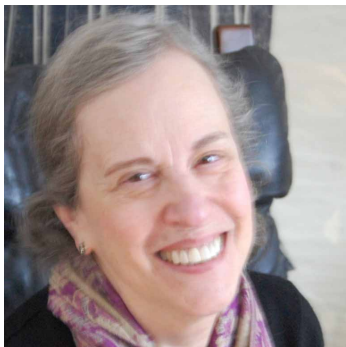
# NEWSWATCH

Vol. 2024-2025 No. 3

October 2024

**Next meeting: 2 p.m., Wednesday, November 13  
in person at the IU Foundation and on Zoom**

## Reprise: Marjorie Hershey to share election results, implications



By popular demand, noted political scientist **Marjorie Hershey** will share her insights into the 2024 elections when retirees meet in November: what happened, why it happened, and why we should care.

After 45 years at IU, Margie retired in May 2019. Her

pithy pre- and post-election commentaries remain much in demand, and she is widely quoted as an expert source by news media at all levels.

She will speak at 2 p.m. on Nov. 13 in the Peterson Room of the IU Foundation. Because University Club and Emeriti House are co-sponsoring this popular program, car-pooling is encouraged.

## Former spy entertains, informs: Coyle details 1941 intelligence failures

More than 2,400 people lost their lives at Pearl Harbor, retired CIA agent Gene Coyle reminded nearly 60 retirees who met at the IU Foundation and on Zoom on Oct. 9. The surprise attack was a colossal failure of military intelligence, he said.

Very little money went to the military after the Great War, which was, after all, “the war to end all wars.” In the Kellogg-Briand Pact of 1928, 15 big-power nations, including the U.S., U.K., Germany, Italy, and Japan, renounced war as a way to solve problems.

Nevertheless, clandestine intelligence operations already were well underway. The first floating spy ship had been launched in 1925, the Navy’s Code and Signals Office was engaged in radio intercepts, and the Army had 17 people doing counterintelligence.

Great strides with cryptographic machines meant the U.S. was able to read Japanese diplomatic (but not military) codes. “We had a lot of confidence we were in the know,” Coyle said. Unfortunately the Army and Navy did not share information. In August 1941, when double agent Dusko Popov informed FBI director J. Edgar Hoover that the Japanese were collecting data about Pearl Harbor, Coyle said the FBI didn’t pass along that information either.

The Germans and Japanese never believed we could read their messages, Coyle said. When the Germans told the Japanese on May 3, 1941, that the Americans could read their codes, the Japanese didn’t bother to change them.



Intelligence failures went both ways, Coyle pointed out. When the Peruvian ambassador in Tokyo told the American embassy in January 1941 that plans to bomb Pearl Harbor were in the making, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Arthur McCollum passed the report to Washington with the notation that “the Division of Naval Intelligence gives no credence to these reports.”

By late 1941 the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo was not allowed to visit Japanese ports. When the fleet of 20 to 25 Japanese ships, including six aircraft carriers, set sail, they didn't head toward Pearl Harbor. Instead, they went north to avoid detection, and they preserved complete radio silence. Convinced that Japan could not win a long war with the U.S., Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto had determined that a knockout blow, one that would wipe out the American fleet, was Japan's only chance.



Among retirees enjoying Coyle's informative presentation are, from left, April Legler, Judy Schroeder (taking notes), Bruce Jaffee, Bonnie Brownlee, and Martha Wailles; second row, a masked man, and Tena Reigeluth. Photo Beau Vallance

"After 20 years of peace and tranquility, military brass in Hawaii were fat, dumb, and happy," Coyle said. The Army, in charge of intelligence, dispatched two privates with portable radar machines to observe air space daily – but only from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. Because the Army had failed to install telephones at the radar facility, the men had to go off base to report sighting a huge array of aircraft coming from the north on Dec. 7. The officer in charge dismissed their warnings, stating that the planes were just six B-17s that were expected to be arriving from California.

At the same time, the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D.C., had been instructed to deliver a 14-part message to the White House by 1 p.m. on Dec. 7. Well before that time, American code breakers had deciphered most of the transmission. After listing Japan's complaints against the U.S., the message stated ominously that further negotiations were futile. The Army sent warnings to the Philippines and Panama Canal, but the high-frequency signal was not working at Pearl Harbor. Instead of alerting the Navy, the Army used Western Union to send the notice of a possible imminent attack. It arrived too late to be of any use.

Numerous commissions were established after Dec. 7, to determine how America had been caught unawares. The committees cited military arrogance, over-confidence, and compartmentalization. Because there was no place where the Army, Navy, and FBI shared their intelligence, the CIA was established in 1947 at least in part to correct this failure.

Following a request for more information about Pearl Harbor, Coyle has provided a list of books that IURA program chair **John Schilb**, [jschilb@iu.edu](mailto:jschilb@iu.edu), will be happy to forward on request.

Coyle has written nine novels, which must receive CIA security clearance before they can be printed. That requirement has delayed publication of his tenth novel, *Seven Roads to Moscow*. He hopes it will be available on Amazon around this Thanksgiving.

"Are your novels based on fact?" one retiree asked. "Depends on who's asking," Coyle replied coyly.

## Holiday buffet: It's coming

The IURA's annual festive holiday luncheon is set for Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Bloomington Country Club, 3000 S. Rogers St.

IURA President **Perry Maull** says the Hoosier Buffet will appeal to everyone. It will feature Angus pot roast, fried chicken, buttermilk whipped potatoes, cornbread, and a bistro salad with assorted dressings. Apple, berry, and peach cobbler will be available at the coffee station, along with ice cream. Members may also pre-order a vegetarian (baked ziti primavera) or vegan (roasted vegetable strudel) option. Perry promises there will be harp music.

Please reserve your place by returning the reservation form on the next page so that it is received by no later than Dec. 3.

## Please support United Way campaign

The theme for this year's United Way campaign is "From Poverty to Possibility." Your donation will help worthy social service agencies in Monroe, Brown, Greene, Lawrence, Owen and Orange counties.

The form you received recently in the mail has a code number that designates you an IU retiree. Please return it with your pledge. You may also give online,

**IURA Holiday Luncheon Reservation  
Wednesday, December 11, 2024**

Doors open at 11:30 a.m.; meal served at noon  
Bloomington Country Club,  
3000 South Rogers Street

PLEASE PRINT Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please initial to order baked ziti primavera \_\_\_\_\_ or roasted vegetable strudel \_\_\_\_\_.  
***All others will have the Hoosier Buffet.***

Enclosed is \$33 per person (indicate number) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Price includes 20% gratuity, 7% state tax, and 1% food and beverage tax.)

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

**RESERVATIONS with PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 3.**

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**IU Retirees Association  
2024-2025 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 it's possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

\*It is important that you include an email address so we can send you meeting notices. Telephone number/s and email address/es will be included in the membership directory unless you check below:

I do not want my telephone number/s \_\_\_\_\_ or email address/es \_\_\_\_\_ included in membership directory.

Enclosed is my check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, for

Membership Type: Single (\$30) \_\_\_\_\_ Couple (\$40) \_\_\_\_\_

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

You may write one check that includes both membership dues and reservation payment.

visit our website at [iura.indiana.edu](http://iura.indiana.edu) contact us at [iura@iu.edu](mailto:iura@iu.edu)

**IU Retirees Association**  
**P.O. Box 8393**  
**Bloomington, IN 47407-8393**

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at [www.unitedwaysci.org/give](http://www.unitedwaysci.org/give), or mail your check directly to United Way of South Central Indiana, 431 S. College Ave., Bloomington 47403. Please include your name, address, IU retiree status, and any specific county or agencies you want your donation to benefit. Otherwise, your pledge will go to the Possibility Fund, which will best serve the needs of our special part of Indiana.

Over the last decade, Indiana University retirees and employees have contributed more than \$7 million to United Way. With this year's goal for all of IU set at \$650,000, help from retirees will be more important than ever.

♦ *Charlie Matson, IURA United Way representative*

## **Open enrollment time is here**

It's your annual opportunity to enroll in, change, or continue IU retiree health insurance. Blue Retiree plan premiums and coverage will remain the same for 2025. Retirees with the under-65 IU health care coverage will see slight premium increases for 2025.

Information has been mailed to participants' home addresses and is posted online at <https://oe.iu.edu/retiree.html>. Please note that retirees may enroll in the Blue Retiree plan only if they have had continuous IU coverage.

## **IURA programs coming in 2025**

Jan. 8 – field trip to the IU Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, which combines the

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former Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology and the former Mathers Museum of World Cultures

Feb. 12 – John Lincoln Schilb, “The Legacy of Abraham Lincoln”

April 9 – Michelle Miller, retired senior lecturer in the School of Public Health, “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Super-Agers”

May 14 – end-of-year luncheon, Meadowood

## **Why am I getting this newsletter?**

You are getting this newsletter for one of two reasons. *Either* you have been a member of the IURA in at least one of the last four years, *or* you retired from the Bloomington campus in 2020 or later. Your mailing label shows your membership status.

Special thanks to the 366 people who, as of Oct. 16, have paid their membership dues. They make this newsletter possible. The IURA is entirely self-supporting. Founded in 1975 as the IU Annuitants Association, the IURA welcomes all retired faculty and staff and their spouses.

If you wish to be removed from the list, send a message to database manager **Doris Wittenburg** at [dwittenb@iu.edu](mailto:dwittenb@iu.edu) with “unsubscribe” in the subject line and your name as it appears on IU records. Send address changes to Doris as well. **Judy Schroeder** writes *Newswatch* eight times a year, August through April, except for February. Please send corrections and comments to her at [jschroed@iu.edu](mailto:jschroed@iu.edu).