



NEWSWATCH

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February 2025

Next meeting: 2 p.m., Wednesday, March 19 IU Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, 416 N. Indiana

Celebrate spring break with a field trip to the IU Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. We'll gather in the Programs Room at 2 p.m. on March 19. Sarah Junk Hatcher, the museum's learning and community engagement manager, will give us an overview of the facilities and exhibits. Retirees will then embark on their own self-guided tours, with museum staff available for questions.



Originally scheduled for January 8, the field trip was postponed because of severe weather. Fingers crossed for more propitious conditions this time around.

The museum combines the former Glenn Black Laboratory of Archaeology and the former Mathers Museum of World Cultures. The restructuring brings together more than 5 million artifacts, but renovations required the museum be closed for five years.

The fully accessible building has entrances on both Indiana and Fess avenues. Parking is limited, but because it's spring break, IU has given special permission to park free at one of two nearby lots -- at

the former McCalla School and the lot next to the former Yogi's building at 10th and Indiana. On-street parking requires a neighborhood permit.

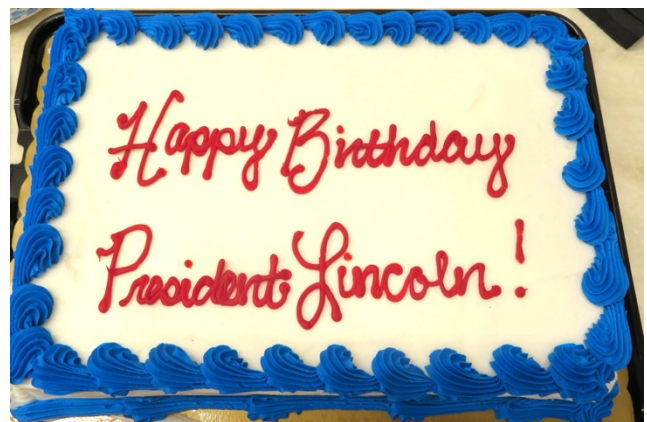
Current exhibits include

- A bilingual video installation about the U.S.-Mexico border,
- Fashion from an Islamic perspective,
- An interactive exhibition about ways indigenous people conserve and restore the environment, and
- A display of various textile techniques and design.

This meeting will not be available on Zoom.

Lincoln's speeches epitomize eloquence

"Lincoln was the greatest writer and rhetorician of all our presidents," **John Schilb** told the approximately 80 people who gathered at the IU Foundation and on Zoom on Feb. 12. John supported this statement by analyzing two very different speeches of the 16th president and asking what Lincoln's legacy should be for us on this 226th anniversary of his birth.



Visit our website at iura.indiana.edu Contact us at iura@iu.edu

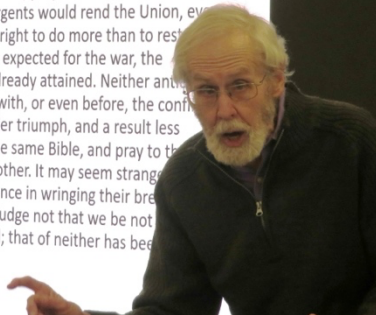
After John's grandfather was born on Feb. 12, 1895, he was baptized Abraham Lincoln Schilb. Named in part for his grandfather, John Lincoln Schilb, Culbertson Chair of Writing and professor emeritus of English, says that he is related to Lincoln not by blood but in spirit.

John pointed out not only the rhetorical devices that made Lincoln's speeches so memorably eloquent but also the evolution in the president's thinking and beliefs. Contrasting the Gettysburg Address of Nov. 19, 1863, with Lincoln's second inaugural address of March 4, 1865, he noted, "The Lincoln who gave the Gettysburg Address was not yet the Lincoln who gave the second inaugural address."

In Gettysburg, after Edward Everett, a former president of Harvard, had given a two-hour oration, Lincoln, who had been asked two weeks before the event to give closing remarks, needed only two minutes to remind the country of the war's aims. In ten sentences, with 272 words, 206 of them one-syllable, Lincoln used such rhetorical devices as repetition, antithesis, and spacing to set forth the proposition that, in John's words, "we haven't yet done what we need to do, and this war is a test" of our devotion to the nation's founding principles.

MARCH 4, 1865: SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS>>

One eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the Southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war; while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war, the magnitude, or the duration, which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the cause of the conflict might cease with, or even before, the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that some men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their brethren from the sweat of other men's faces; but let us judge not that we be not answered fully.



Sixteen months later, at his second inaugural address, Lincoln stated that the sin of slavery was the cause of the war and that the death and destruction it brought were in accord with God's judgment. Unlike the Gettysburg Address, the speech appealed to religious faith. Lincoln quoted the Bible four times. In an address of 703 words, 505 of them one-syllable, he mentioned God 14 times and invoked prayer four times. He did not celebrate victory over an enemy but called for the virtues of respect, healing, and peace.

What message do Lincoln's words have for us today? John listed six:

- Pay attention to language, giving thought to the words we use.
- Be aware of American history, both the positive and the negative.
- Define equality and see its connection to democracy.
- Understand that our country continues to be tested while the whole world watches.
- Avoid self-righteousness.
- Use Lincoln as a model for perfecting ourselves as well as the Union.

Wendy Elliot, John's wife, introduced him. IURA President **Perry Maull** provided the birthday cake and acknowledged the IU Foundation's hospitality. Thanks to webmaster **Allan Edmonds**, a video recording of this meeting, as well as many previous meetings, is available on the IURA website.

Campus seeks age-friendly designation

Part of the IUB 2030 Strategic Plan is to improve the health and well-being of older adults through transformational research. Vice President for Research **Brea Perry** has established a committee to review age-inclusion policies and practices, with the goal of applying for membership in the Age-Friendly University Global Network.

Founded in 2012, the Network now includes more than 100 higher education institutions worldwide. It is committed, in its words, "to promoting positive and healthy aging and enhancing the lives of older members of the global community through innovative educational programs, research agendas, curriculum development, online education, health and wellness activities, arts and culture programs, and civic engagement opportunities." Its website is <https://www.afugn.org>.

Phil Stafford chairs the committee, which includes **Joyce Krothe**, representing IURA, and **Tim Londergan**, representing Emeriti House. The group is examining age-inclusive activities in research, education, and outreach. "Among the areas of interest are programs, policies and practices that affect the growing population of older students, faculty, and staff at all levels of the university," Phil explains.

Joyce and Tim are developing an online survey to assess membership perspectives. Look for details in the March *NewsWatch*. For more information or to volunteer for the committee, contact Phil at staffor@iu.edu.

Conversation + Dessert! coming in May

Put Thursday, May 8, on your calendar for Conversation + Dessert!, a bonus IURA program that will feature a panel, discussion, and member-provided desserts. It will be from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. The topic is one close to home, Bloomington: Place, History, and Culture.

Panelists are IURA member **Jim Madison**, prizewinning author of books about Indiana; IURA member **Glenda Murray**, official Monroe County historian; and **Scott Russell Sanders**, author of essays and fiction about Bloomington and Southern Indiana.

John Schilb, IURA vice president and program chair, assembled an advisory group to come up with ideas for programs beyond the regular monthly meetings. Members included **Nan Brewer**, **Jim Capshew**, **Jeanne Madison**, and **Perry Metz**.

Show your art at Emeriti House

The 2025 annual retirees’ art exhibit is coming! The opening reception is Friday, April 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Emeriti House, 1015 Atwater Ave. Retirees affiliated with IURA and/or Emeriti House are invited to submit up to two artworks, delivered by Monday morning, April 21.

Art may be in any 2-D or 3-D medium (painting, photography, printmaking, collage, fiber/textile arts, sculpture, mixed media, etc.). It may or may not be for sale. Artists set the price, and no commission is taken.

“IURA members have been participating in this annual event for many years, but not in great numbers,” says **Beau Vallance**, chair of the art exhibit committee. “We’d love to see your work – completed recently for this show or made any time in the distant past – on the walls of Emeriti House.”

The Call for Art is on the IURA website, along with the Art Info form, which can be completed and

submitted digitally. Address questions to Beau, evallanc@gmail.com.



Anne Kibbler captured these “visitors in my backyard” in watercolors displayed at Emeriti House.

Looking for good news? You’re it!

In December, *NewsWatch* reported that, thanks to the generosity of retirees, the news from United Way would get even better. It did, because 227 donors helped the IURA surpass its \$300,000 goal. The IURA total at year’s end was \$382,348.25.

Retirees represent only 23 percent of the 2025 IU Campaign donors but gave 57 percent of the dollars.

Retirees have a history of generosity.

Year	Goal	Pledged	Contrib.	Vanguards
2025	\$300,000	\$382,348	227	113
2024	\$330,000	\$280,941	208	100
2023	\$310,000	\$403,759	225	102
2022	\$300,000	\$280,955	171	103
2021	\$275,000	\$196,751	237	109
2020	\$250,000	\$279,463	235	110
2019	\$190,000	\$280,833	233	103
2018	\$210,000	\$255,955	233	104
2017	\$170,000	\$188,210	219	87
2016	\$145,000	\$172,503	201	79
2015	\$135,000	\$153,000	195	69
2014	\$125,000	\$131,773	161	62
2013	\$115,000	\$137,000	224	64
2012	\$100,000	\$115,000	161	62

Charlie Matson serves as the IURA liaison to the United Way. **Jim Grandorf** is leadership chair for United Way of South Central Indiana.

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

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New board members sought

With the IURA's annual meeting coming up in April, a nominating committee, chaired by **John Schilb** is seeking candidates for one two-year and three three-year terms on the IURA board. If you're asked, please consider accepting. If you're not asked and wish you had been, please contact John. Other members of the nominating committee are **Ken Beckley, Sally Dunn, and Diana Lambdin**.

Serving on the board is an educational experience. For example, at February's board meeting, **Perry Metz**, answering a question posed him, said that public broadcasting accounted for .000085 of the federal budget. Who knew?

April offers more than income taxes

On April 9, **Michelle Miller**, retired senior lecturer in the School of Public Health, will outline "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Super-Agers." This session will take place in the Peterson Room of the IU Foundation at 2 p.m. and can be joined by Zoom.

The end-of-the-year luncheon at Meadowood on May 14 will celebrate the end of the academic year.

About this newsletter

Because the January meeting was postponed to March, no newsletter was printed in January. Members will receive the same number of issues as usual, however. A special March issue will report on the March program.

This newsletter is made possible by the dues paid by the IURA's 429 (that's a record!) members. The IURA is entirely self-supporting, although the IU Foundation generously offers meeting space free of charge at the Peterson Room in Showalter House.

Founded in 1975 as the IU Annuitants Association, the IURA welcomes all retired faculty and staff and their spouses or partners.

Please send address changes or corrections to database manager **Doris Wittenburg**, dwittenb@iu.edu. Please send corrections, comments, and opinion letters to editor/writer **Judy Schroeder**, jschroed@iu.edu. Thanks to **Beau Vallance** for photos. The website includes an album with many more.