

## PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION 2021-2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

### OFFICERS AND ADVISORS:

President	William (Bill) Bennett
Vice President	Jerry Day
Secretary	Judy Ware
Treasurer	Lucia Anderson
Historian	Sue Hume Graham
Past President	Norm Long
Advisor	William Bell

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Benefits	Larry Pherson
Campus and Community Activities	Jim Lehman
Communication	Karen F. Lembcke
Finance	Lucia Anderson
Hospitality	Linda Hawkins
Kickoff Luncheon	Karen D. Ferry and Viki S. Taylor
Media Communications	Scott Ksander
Program	Dan Collins
Purposeful Living in Retirement	Olivia B. Wood
Scholarship	Melinda H. Bain

**ANNUAL TRANSITION/KICKOFF MEETING:** This year, 2022, the annual transition meeting will be held in June. It will be held in person at the VFW. This year the meeting will facilitate us meeting in person and a lunch will be provided. We will recognize outgoing and new officers and committee members. A sharing of what the fall programs may be will be brainstormed and how they will be offered to the PURA retirees will be discussed. A sharing of the officer reports will be made by members of the Executive Board. The passing of the PURA Key from outgoing president Bill Bennett to incoming president Jerry Day will occur.

### AWARD RECIPIENTS:

**Arthur G. Hansen Award:** Epsilon Sigma Phi of the College of Agriculture's Cooperative Extensions Services.

**Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award:** Larry Pherson, Chair of the Benefits Committee was recognized for his outstanding efforts and work with retiree benefits.

**BENEFITS COMMITTEE:** Working with University staff and healthcare consultants, PURcare and the Medicare Advantage Plans were extended for 2022. Both plans remained unchanged. The premium for Medicare Advantage is \$172.91 per month, a reduction of about \$5.36/month. The monthly premium for PURcare decreased slightly from \$281.43 to \$280.77. Utilization of these insurance plans is in excess of 2,600 members.

An evaluation of the negotiations of the 2022 insurance package was conducted during the Fall of 2021. Recommendations resulting from that evaluation will be utilized during the negotiation of the 2023 insurance package.

The PURcare plan and Medicare Advantage Plans were determined that due to the exceptional elements of the plan were extended for 2022 and remain unchanged.

The document "Organizing My Affairs" has been updated and had a rollout in Spring 2022.

**CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:** Five events were offered in the 2021-2022 year. PURA members toured the new Loeb Stadium on September 23 and the new West Lafayette Wellness Center on October 1. In February, PURA members listened to the Common Read Zoom meeting, Divided Paths, Common Ground: The Story of Mary Matthews and Lella Gaddis, Pioneering Purdue Women Who Introduced Science in the Home by Angie Klink. In April, members toured the renovated ground floor of the Purdue Memorial Union in March, and visited Provenance at the Discovery Park District in April. These programs were well attended and enriched our members.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** This past year brought major changes to our committee. The Media Communications Committee was formed to assist in the logistics of PURA's website along with other technical support and use of social media platforms. Our *PURA News* is an excellent communication tool and has a variety of articles and news. The PURA News moved to a new software, Sales Force IT System, which is ADA compliant and *PURA News* is now a web-based publication. In addition to timely articles, Bill Bennett shared President's Notes; Scott Ksander shared monthly articles on technical issues; Chris Rearick shared health issues, Tom Turpin shared entomology memoirs, Karen Lembcke shared Road Trip ideas, and Sara Jane Coffman shared humorous tales of retirement. Campus Calendar and Mark Your Calendar of PURA events were a regular feature in PURA News.

**FINANCE:** The Finance Committee with the Treasurer as Chair implemented the plan to consolidate all finance, endowments and budget responsibilities into one committee. PURA was allocated \$17,000 from the Purdue University general fund to be used for organizational expenses. The final statement of the PURA finances will be available in July at the close of the fiscal year.

**FLU SHOTS and WELLNESS SCREENINGS:** These were conducted in October at the 2550 Northwestern building. Wellness screenings included blood pressure checks, pulse, O2 saturation, glucose, cholesterol, triglycerides, lipoprotein and risk calculation. Fluzone, high dose quadrivalent flu shots were administered by Purdue nursing students. In October 2021, 860 flu shots were administered and 192 wellness screenings were conducted.

**HISTORIAN:** A timely review of the PURA Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manual was conducted by the Executive Committee. Updates and revisions were made and approved at the April Meeting by the PURA members. Online versions of both documents are on the PURA website. A Historical Reference File was also added which summarizes major activities and recipients of awards annually. Each officer has also been asked to keep a notebook of the policies/procedures/events and other pertinent information that can be passed on to the succeeding officer as transitions in office occur.

In an effort to help with Purdue's campaign Ever True, PURA members brought Purdue historical characters to life. The PURA members dressed in character, researched Purdue historical characters and then shared their life stories at various events involving Purdue faculty, staff, and retirees. The following articles in PURA NEWS shared information about our former PURDUE colleagues:

Virginia Meredith: August, 2019

Mary Matthews: September, 2019

Orville Redenbacher: October, 2019

Amelia Earhart: November, 2019

Harvey Wiley: December and January, 2019, 2020

John McCutcheon, February, 2020

John Norberg portrayed John Purdue, Carolyn Jones portrayed Lillian Gilbreth, Tom Turpin portrayed J. Clifford Turpin.

**HOSPITALITY:** The role of the Hospitality Committee changed as the pandemic moved our meetings to Zoom. PURA Executive Board, Hospitality Committee and other members supported Flu Shots for retirees and spouses/partners in partnership with the Custom Plus Pharmacy in the fall of 2021.

**KICKOFF Event:** The annual Kick-Off organized by our Kick-Off Luncheon Committee was held via Zoom due to the pandemic in September. It originated from the Loeb Media Room. Dr. Jay Akridge, Provost and Vice President spoke. It was well attended and provided the continuity of information and purpose of PURA for its members.

**MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS:** Scott Ksander supported the Zoom meetings, conducted electronic surveys and ballots, and the updating of the website. The committee is working with the Purdue Development Office to update the source for PURA email data, which will hopefully make PURA information available to a wider group of retirees. Additional electronic equipment was purchased to support our virtual meetings.

**PROGRAMS:** Covid-19 led to the cancellation of monthly meetings. As a result, new ways to meet and offer programming were explored. Zoom meetings became the platform for sharing monthly programs with excellent speakers. The quality and variety of the programs at PURA's monthly meetings during 2021-2022 have been excellent. Zoom meetings were held at 12:45 p.m. and attendance at the monthly meetings remained strong. Retirees who had moved away from the Purdue community were able to attend as well as folks who were out of town. When we return to in-person programming, the plan is to continue with the virtual Zoom option.

**PRE-RETIREMENT MEETINGS:** Members of PURA's Benefits Committee participated with staff from Purdue Human Resources in presenting "Road to Retirement" seminars for current employees. These continue to be popular, well-attended events.

**PURA WEBSITE:** [www.purdue.edu/retirees](http://www.purdue.edu/retirees) Our website continues to grow in content as well as readership. The scope of the information provided about PURA programs, activities, benefits, health insurance, and short-term employment opportunities continues to expand. Our website also includes a photo gallery and houses archival information regarding PURA history as well as copies of current and past newsletters and annual reports. Links are provided to information about Purdue University cultural

and athletic events as well as announcements regarding Purdue and community events and resources. PURA's Media Committee maintains our website, and it is updated at least monthly.

**PURPOSEFUL LIVING IN RETIREMENT (PLIR) SEMINAR:** The 2022 PLIR was held on April 20, 2022. The virtual program was coordinated by the PURA Media Communications. Dr. Briony Horgan spoke on NASA's Perseverance Rover, Dr. Will Miller spoke on "Returning to Resilience: Emerging from our Mental Health Trial", and Purdue Athletic Director, Mike Bobinski, gave an "Update on Purdue Athletics". The program was well received and Dr. Horgan's presentation is on the PURA website.

**RETIREE DEMOGRAPHICS:** Currently, there are over 5,000 Purdue retirees, and they live around the world. About 4,000, however, reside in Indiana. Approximately half are faculty members or administrators and half are members of the clerical or service staffs.

**RETIREE DIRECTORY:** To facilitate communication among Purdue retirees and with former colleagues in the units where they worked, PURA and the University Development Office continue to explore ways that retiree directory information in the University's database could be made accessible through PURA's website.

**RETIREE GIVING TO PURDUE:** Purdue retirees continue to be generous givers. Once again, they contributed over \$4,000,000 to the University in outright and deferred gifts.

**RETIREE GIVING TO THE UNITED WAY OF GREATER LAFAYETTE:** Purdue Retirees are very supportive of our community. For the ninth consecutive year, they contributed significantly to the annual campaign. This year \$188,500 was pledged to the local United Way annual campaign.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Awards in excess of \$12,000 were made by the PURA scholarship endowments for the 2021-22 academic year to 14 Purdue students. The Book Value of the PURA Student Scholarship Endowments as of March 31, 2022 is \$217,152.87. The Book Value of the PURA POA in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke is \$54,844.44 as of March 2022. We appreciate the generosity of all donors and friends of PURA.

**SPRING FLING:** Spring Fling was cancelled this year due to the pandemic.

**TRIPS AND TOURS:** Trips and Tours has been an inactive committee due to the pandemic.

#### **OVERALL:**

2021-2022 has been a year of excellent offerings and opportunities. Due to the pandemic, programs and offerings were modified and many presented through Zoom. We all want to keep connected and to continue to develop relationships and offerings for our retirees. The annual reports written by our officers and committee chairs share even more about all that occurred. These are available electronically on PURA's website [www.purdue.edu/retirees](http://www.purdue.edu/retirees) by clicking first on "Archives" then on "Recent Annual Reports." Hardcopies of these documents can be found in the PURA collection at the Purdue University Library Archives.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Hume Graham, Historian, Purdue University Retirees Association June 2022