On May 22, PURA members met for their annual meeting and luncheon to thank those who have served and make plans for the coming year.

The annual transition meeting began with a welcome by PURA outgoing president Sue Hiser. PURA committees then met to discuss plans and activities for next year and reported later on these plans.

The featured speaker was Dale Whittaker, vice provost for undergraduate academic affairs. He discussed how the academic profile of Purdue students is on the rise. He also gave an overview of a variety of student-focused initiatives aimed at improving students’ experiences while at Purdue, including the Foundations of Excellence project and the future Center for Student Excellence and Leadership.

Following the keynote presentation, Hiser recognized the outgoing committee chairs and members. Hiser then passed the PURA key to Bob Bain, who will serve as PURA president for 2013-14. Dan Collins will be vice president and president-elect of PURA. Hiser will continue her service to PURA as past president on the Executive Committee.

For a full list of PURA officers, committee chairs and committee members, see page 3.
Benefits update: Health insurance data now available

PURAs Benefits Committee has been coordinating with United Healthcare to provide data on our health insurance utilization. Two years of data for 2011 and 2012 is now available.

The committee will use this information for two purposes: to inform the members what benefits we are using and to help the committee during negotiations for new insurance contracts for 2014.

PURA membership participation increased by 2 percent between the two years to 20,998 in the PURCare Senior Supplement Plan. Females outnumbered males by 5.8 percent in 2012. The average age of participants remained fairly constant at 77.4 years. Although we have plan members in all 50 states, 80.8 percent live in Indiana. 4.4 percent in Florida, 1.9 percent in Illinois and 12.8 percent in all other states.

Understanding that two years of data may not establish future trends, we have experienced some changes in medical services. Skilled nursing went down from 4.9 percent of total medical claims in 2011 to 11.9 percent in 2012. Home care represented 13.1 percent of claims in 2011, 12.2 percent in 2012, and outpatient surgery represented 5.3 percent in 2012, while other outpatient services including dialysis represented 7.6 percent. Visits to the emergency room represented only 3.5 percent of claims in 2012.

This is good as these represent some of the highest costs for services. Physician services represented 20.6 percent of claims in 2011 and 19.2 percent in 2012. Admissions to the hospital were down in 2012 compared with 2011 and the average number of days spent in the hospital per admission went down from 7.1 to 6.9 days.

In the vision care benefit, 430 members filed claims in 2012 compared with 355 in 2011. Hopefully, this increase was influenced by increased information on how to file claims, which will continue to serve our members well in 2013.

Our health insurance is most appropriate for retired insurance because it spreads the high costs for some patients across a large pool of individuals. In 2012, 2.6 percent of our members represented 24 percent of all medical costs and 3.7 percent of our members represented 25.4 percent of drug costs.

We are seeing major changes in prescription drug costs to our members primarily because of increased usage of generic drugs and new Medicare regulation. Generic drug usage by our members represented 81.1 percent of total drug costs in 2012. The top five drugs taken by our members are Atorvastatin (Lipitor), Crestor, Tacvira, Nexium and Diovan.

What do you do for Purdue?

Purdue retirees contribute to the University in many ways — through financial donations and through their time volunteering in diverse places and positions. Some retirees continue professional activities after retirement. PURA is conducting a survey to specify those activities that illustrate and document our involvement even after retirement. We welcome your input!

Examples — a few among many — are guest lecturing for courses, advising graduate students, volunteering at the Welcome Center (formerly Visitor Information Center), working in campus research labs, and editing and publishing professional journals and articles. Of course, if you volunteer in more than one way (and we know many of you do!), please include all your activities.

Please complete the information below and send it to Bob Bain, PURA’s president, at robertwbain@comcast.net, or at 3724 Chancellor Way, West Lafayette, IN 47906.

Name:
Email:
Department, School or College:
Position:
Activity:
Approximate hours/year:
Are you compensated for this activity?

PURA website: Just a click away

If you are able to access the Web, the PURA Communications Committee invites you to visit the PURA website often because information is updated weekly for you.

The front page contains the latest news about PURA-sponsored events. You will also find the most recent information from the Benefits Committee concerning the PURA plan’s benefits on both the front page of our website and the button for that committee. With a click to Benefits/Health, you can capture detailed information concerning the PURA benefits/health program.

The Web page also informs PURA members of University events, convocations, Purdue sports, etc.

We encourage PURA members to bookmark www.purdue.edu/retirees or to keep the entry tag available for quick access from the public library or other away-from-home locations.

New PURA officers, committees installed at meeting

New officers for the Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA) were elected and took office during the May 22 annual meeting and luncheon. The officers for 2013-14 are:

• President: Bob Bain
• Vice president and president-elect: Dan Collins
• Secretary-treasurer: Melinda Bain
• Historian: Carolyn Jones
• Immediate past president: Sue Hiser
• Members-at-large: Bill Griggs, Scott Rumble

• Chair: Betty M. Nelson
Assignments for the standing committees are:

Benefits: Don Gentry (chair), George Asteriadis, Marion Bonacorsi, Judy Davis, Fred Ford, Harry Morrison, Linda Murz, Betty Nelson, Joseph Pearson, Larry Pfeiffer, Sandra Singer, Clifford Swensson, Leon Thacker, Lois Wadk, Robert Bain (ex officio), Dan Collins (ex officio).

Communications: Bill May (chair), Sara Comer, Bill Evers, Karen Lembcke, Ted Lucu, James McMackam, Je Ann Thomas.

Hospitality: Jeri Eikenberry (co-chair), John D. Miller (co-chair), Gayle Archer, Jane Brown, Gail Carlton, Doris (Dee) Con Peterson, Deanna Johns, Dorothy Jones, Lyle L. Lloyd, John Moser Jr., Hubert Schmieder.

Program: Dale Margerum (co-chair), Sue Schoter (co-chair), Ken Coleman, Ann Hunt, Don Jones, Lyle L. Lloyd, Eldon Ormatt, Doug Speckle, Suzanne Topping, John Trott, Olivia Wood, Marilyn Zamer.

Trips & Tours: Linda Hawkins (chair), Carolyn Blue, Agnes Haw, Thomas Haworth, Tarren Neth.


Purposeful Living in Retirement:

• Chair: Wes Metzger, Stan Mithoefer, Doug Sprenkle.
• Co-chair: Helen Hall.
• Members-at-large: Bert Dobson, Mitzi Pierson, Stan Riddle.

Annual Kickoff Luncheon

Sept. 9, 2013
Doors open at 11:30 a.m. · Door prize drawings at 11:45 a.m. · Luncheon at noon

Names:
Number of reservations @ $16.00
Amount encosed

This reservation must be postmarked by Aug. 23, 2013. Please make checks payable to Purdue University. Mail to:

Michele Salla
Human Resource Services
401 S. Grant Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024
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- Trips & Tours: Linda Hawkins (chair), Carolyn Blue, Agnes Haw, Thomas Haworth, Tarren Neth.


- Purposeful Living in Retirement: Scott Rumble (interim chair), Mary Hood, Clara Johannson, Lowell Landrum, Bryan Metger, Stan Mintofer, Doug Sprekker.

Purdue University Retirees Association Annual Kickoff Luncheon

Sept. 9, 2013

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. • Door prize drawings at 11:45 a.m. • Luncheon at noon

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________________________

Number of reservations @ $16.00 Amount enclosed ___________________________

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The PURA officers for 2013-14 are (left to right) Sue Hiser, past president; Carolyn Jones, historian; Dan Collins, vice president and president-elect; Bob Bain, president; and Melinda Bain, secretary-treasurer.
Fitness workshop set for Aug. 8

The Campus and Community Activities Committee is planning a Functional Fitness workshop for PURA members, led by staff members of the France A. Córdova Recreational Sports Center. The first workshop will be at 10-11 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 8. Participants do not need Co-Rec membership since the session will be in the Boilermaker Room (2265 on the main floor). Participants can ask for directions at the service desk. Other workshops may be planned in the future if there is interest.

Subjects covered in the workshop include improving seniors’ balance, flexibility, muscular harmony and mobility while warding off issues that may occur as a result of inactivity or insufficiently varied activities. One example of an adaptation of an everyday activity that can aid in improving balance is that participants may be asked to simulate brushing their teeth, standing first on one foot then the other. Participants will not be challenged by overly strenuous activities. This workshop will be limited to 25 or fewer participants so the staff can offer some individual attention. Parking in “A” spaces should be available northwest of the Co-Rec in this time period following the end of summer session classes.

If you plan on attending, please fill out reservation form below.

Retirees stroll through galleries of Ivy Tech

Thirteen retirees gathered at Greater Lafayette’s Ivy Tech Community College campus on May 11 to be treated to cookies, a nice surprise, and a tour of the fine arts galleries. The collection of original Indiana art exemplifies the school’s mission: “To contribute to the cultural enrichment of students and community.” The Fine Arts Committee acquired many pieces before the opening of Ivy Hall and contains works in a variety of media and genre, including oil, pastels, metal, glass, cartoons, ceramics and much more. One piece that caught the PURA members’ eyes was a marble sculpture by the actor Anthony Quinn, who is obviously not a Hoosier!

Self-guided option
PURA members who wish to “self-guide” through the facilities will find Griffin Hall open to anyone from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday; from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; and from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday. No reservations are necessary.

Hansen Award recognizes retiree ties in Biochemistry

Purdue’s Department of Biochemistry in the College of Agriculture has garnered the 2013 Arthur G. Hansen Recognition Award. This award is presented by the Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA) and the Office of the President to recognize the efforts of any University unit that cultivates and maintains meaningful relationships with its retirees. Purdue retirees make the nominations from which the recipient is selected. The award was presented June 27 to Jay Akridge, dean of the College of Agriculture, and Clint Chapple, distinguished professor and department head, at the University’s annual retirement luncheon. The Department of Biochemistry received a trophy and is listed on a plaque in the corridor of the Union. The award also included $2,500 funded by TIAA-CREF to be used to help strengthen the department’s relationship with its retirees.

The award is given in honor of Arthur G. Hansen, who served as Purdue president from 1971 to 1982. During Hansen’s tenure, Purdue founded the President’s Advisory Council on Retirement, which became the Purdue University Retirees Association. The Hansen Award was established 11 years ago.

Campus and Community Activities Reservation Form

I will attend the Oct. 8, 2013, tour of the Co-Rec.

Print information and send form to: Michele Salla, Purdue Human Resources, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024 OR email reservation to Michele Salla at masalla@purdue.edu.

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Print all name(s)

Address

Telephone number

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Kim Jamriska, assistant director of youth, family and special event programming at the Co-Rec, describes features of the fitness center to two of the retirees on the PURA tour there during spring break. Another tour is set for October break.

The high level of interest has prompted the committee to schedule a return visit for 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 8. The tour will last approximately an hour and a half. PURA members and their guests should gather at the adjacent Boilermaker Aquatic Center’s (AQUA) lobby and begin by visiting the AQUA facility. Participants will then use the tunnel to the Co-Rec building for the tour. The best parking will be on the northwest side of Co-Rec using the drive off Stadium Avenue. This date is during October break, so spaces should be available. Co-Rec membership is not required for this tour. Anyone who wishes to exercise afterward may do so. If you plan to attend, please fill out the reservation form above.

Co-Rec tour a popular event; another planned for October

During Purdue’s spring break on March 11, about 100 PURA members and their guests enjoyed a tour of the France A. Córdova Recreational Sports Center, popularly known as Co-Rec. This was doubtless the largest crowd ever to attend a tour organized by the Campus and Community Activities Committee, and those attending were impressed with the attractiveness, the extent and the variety of exercise options the Co-Rec offers.

Attendees visited in six groups, led by Mitch Netteheim, who facilitated the tour, and Howard Taylor, director of recreational sports, and well-informed student guides. Netteheim is senior associate director of facilities, operations, and informal sports at the center. A big thank you is due to all the guides, and the accommodating Co-Rec staff.
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Goble inducted into Nutrition Science Hall of Fame

On May 9, Eva Goble, a former home economics educator and dean, was inducted into the Department of Nutrition Science Hall of Fame.

The Great Depression delayed — but didn’t derail — Goble’s quest for higher education. She worked while taking classes, earning her bachelor’s degree from Indiana State University at age 31. After that, nothing stopped her from becoming one of the most highly regarded educators in Indiana. She later obtained her master’s degree at Purdue and a Ph.D from the University of Chicago.

Starting at Purdue with the Cooperative Extension program as home management specialist, then leader of the Home Demonstration agents, she worked her way up to assistant director. Under her leadership, the Extension Homemakers boasted the largest membership in the nation. From 1947 to 1952 she worked with the Home Demonstration Association to purchase and renovate a house that became the first co-op at Purdue, Twin Pines. Further afield, she became a consultant to the Home Demonstration Association to nations. From 1947 to 1952 she worked with the Home Demonstration Association to purchase and renovate a house that became the first co-op at Purdue, Twin Pines. Further afield, she became a consultant to the Home Demonstration Association to nations.

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Ever the educator, she now is teaching us all how to lead the good life at 103.

Spring Fling traditions of volunteering, offering information go on.

Tour of Purdue Technology Center scheduled for Oct. 31

Retirees will have an opportunity to learn about more than 100 technology-related companies at the Purdue Research Park on Oct. 31. More than half are dedicated to cutting-edge life science research. Our tour will be lead by Jan Mills, director of economic development for the Purdue Research Foundation.

Retirees will meet at 2 p.m. in Kurz Purdue Technology Center, 1281 Win Hentschel Blvd., West Lafayette.

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Print all name(s) ____________________________________________________________

Address ____________________________ Telephone number ____________________________

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Luncheon speaker describes challenges facing Food Finders

Cheryl Precious, Lafayette area’s Food Finders director of development, spoke at the May 6 PURA luncheon.

In our 16-county area, 87,000 people experience food insecurity, never knowing if they will have food, she said. Many are ineligible for government help, such as those who have jobs, but make too little to cover expenses. For these people, food banks are one answer. Last year, 6.2 million pounds were distributed in the area, primarily to women and children.

Schools identify children who qualify for backpacks of food to go home with the students on weekends. There are several programs in place to get food to childrens when school is not in session, but getting food to them during summer break is much harder. In addition, Food Finders support programs that provide meals for the elderly and food distributions to needy families and single people.

How is the food bank funded? There is a bill before the Indiana General Assembly to give millions of dollars to food banks. Until that bill passes, help comes from generous donations of companies, food producers, fundraisers and the people of Greater Lafayette.

Expedition forming to see Tall Ships at Navy Pier on Aug. 10

Come with PURA and Lafayette Limo to Chicago’s Navy Pier and see the beautiful Tall Ships on Aug. 10. Chicago’s Navy Pier is a mecca of entertainment, shopping, restaurants and the marvelous huge ferris wheel. The ships will grace the east end of the pier. Cost for transportation and general admission to the festival grounds is $35 a person.

PURA members will get boarding admission tickets, including entrance to the festival, plus boarding and touring private vessels. VIP Match Cup viewing areas for the races, and meet-and-greets with the professional sailors for a total cost of $55. Payment for this tour is due by July 30. Contact Lafayette Limo at 765-497-3828 to register or for more information.

Purdue retirees and guests visit Pappy’s

Several PURA members and guests were at Pappy’s Sweet Shop in Purdue Memorial Union on May 8, enjoying juicy favorites from among the big-band, fabulous ’50s, and nifty ’60s era, and eating a variety of menu-favorites – including burgers, fries, hot dogs and ice cream treats – at affordable prices. Since there is no cover charge, members had plenty to spend on eats and drinks.

PURA Trips and Tours Committee is appreciative of the sweet shop’s willingness host a special event for our members. Maybe next year well go again?

Purdue names each of its supercomputers after a faculty member, staff member, or alumnus who still in operation at Purdue, ranking seventh among the nation’s previous fastest university-owned leading machine, Carter, which was built in 2011 and is the nation’s highest-ranking campus supercomputer on the June 2013 Top500.org list of international supercomputers.

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Purdue names each of its supercomputers after a faculty member, staff member, or alumns who made a significant contribution to computing at the university. The 2013 supercomputer is named for Samuel Conte, who helped establish the nation’s first university-owned supercomputer.

Purdue News Briefs

Fastest campus supercomputer – again

For the third year in a row, Purdue University has confirmed its lead in the realm of supercomputing by unveiling Conte, the nation’s fastest university-owned supercomputer, developed in collaboration with HP, Intel, and Mellanox.

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More PURA activities

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Check and approve your address information

The Purdue University Retirees Association is working hard to keep up-to-date with addresses, phone numbers and email addresses for retirees.

Retirees are asked to check carefully the accuracy of their name and address as it appears on the mailing label (above) of this issue of the PURA Newsletter.

Please make any changes on the form below and mail to the address indicated or email to julie1@purdue.edu. Thank you.

Purdue University Retirees

Please help us keep your information accurate. Send any changes from the mailing label that appears above on this issue of the PURA Newsletter. Thank you for your help.

Name ________________________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________________

City ____________________________  State _________________  Zip code _____________________

Phone __________________________  Email address ______________________________________

Return this form to:

Julie Thedans
Purdue University Retirees, Human Resources
401 S. Grant St.
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024

☐ I do not want to receive PURA mailings.

☐ I do not want to be included in a future PURA Retiree Directory.