

PURA Annual Reports, 2019-2020

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A Year to Remember – President’s Report 2019-2020 (Tom Turpin)

Had I known what was in store for the Purdue University Retirees Association during 2019-2020, I would never have accepted the job as President-elect. The last 12 months have been challenging for PURA to say the least. But it has become clear to me that what Past President Don Gentry told me was that the job is an easy one because of all of the people who pitch in to help. Truer words were never spoken! Indeed, we are the envy of all the Big-10 retiree associations because our people are willing to accept leadership roles with a number of others who help when needed.

Our committee leaders, some new this year and others who have served for a while, have all done an outstanding job. They include Norm Long (Vice President/President-Elect), Lucia Anderson (Treasurer), Judy Ware, (Secretary), Sue Hume Graham (Historian), Don Gentry (Past President), Larry Pherson (Benefits), Karen Lembcke (Communications), Bill Bennett (Hospitality), Jerry Day (Programs), Joma Roe (Trips and Tours), Jim Lehman (Campus and Community Activities), Karen Ferry and Viki Taylor (Kickoff Luncheon), Olivia Wood (Purposeful Living In Retirement Conference), and Melinda Bain (Student Scholarship). Many thanks to these “worker bees” for their wonderful leadership.

I got off to a bad start when I couldn’t attend the Kickoff Luncheon but I wasn’t needed as Karen Ferry and Viki Taylor had it well organized and Vice President/ President Elect Norm Long and Past President Don Gentry ran the show flawlessly.

After years of holding our monthly luncheon and program at the MCL cafeteria, the restaurant closed in January and we had to find a new place to meet. Our February meeting was held at the Daniel’s Turfgrass Center and the membership decided that the monthly meeting should be held on Monday and we should have a speaker and lunch available. President-elect Long visited a number of facilities in the Lafayette area seeking a place for our meetings and recommended the VFW in Lafayette. We held our March meeting at the VFW.

In April, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and all of PURA’s in-person meetings were cancelled through July. The June meeting of the PURA Executive Board was held remotely using ZOOM.

In order to spice up the Purdue Sesquicentennial celebrations, PURA members decided to portray historical characters for events. The characters were available to interact with event attendees. Members and their “characters” included: Olivia Wood (Mary Matthews), David Caldwell (Orville Redenbacher), Scott Rumble (Harvey Wiley), John Norberg (John Purdue), Carolyn Jones (Lillian Gilbreth), Mary Alice Nebold (Amelia Earhart), Joyce Miles (Virginia Meredith), Pete Bill (John T. McCutcheon), and Tom Turpin (J. Clifford Turpin).

Our Purdue support staff member, Michele Salla, decided to retire and become one of us. However, her retirement didn’t last long as she was dragged back to temporarily fill in for her replacement, Hannah Austerman, who took maternity leave.

So, this past year in the life of PURA is surely one to remember! As we move forward we are in good hands with Norm Long as President and Bill Bennett as Vice President/President-elect. As usual, they have a great group of people with which to work. Not surprising because they are all Purdue folks!

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION
Benefits Committee
Annual Report 2019-2020

A. Committee Members:

- * Charles Brown
- * Betty Nelson
- *Fred Ford
- *Don Gentry,
- *Larry Pherson, Chair
- *John Beelke
- *Sue Hiser
- *Harry Morrison
- *Leon Thacker
- *Marta Read
- *Emily Bramson
- * Sandy Oswalt
- *Carolyn Roper
- *Judy Hack
- *Tom Turpin
- *Norm Long
- *Kate LaMar, ex-officio
- *Teresa Schnarr, ex-officio
- *Candace Shaffer, ex-officio
- *Michele Salla, staff/secretary
- * Hannah Austerman, staff/Secretary

All members from 2019-20 have agreed to continue service to the Benefits Committee and PURA through 2020-21.

B. Mission/Purpose:

Purdue University Policy IV.3.1, Status and Privileges of Retired Faculty and Surviving Spouses and Children, originally issued on May 10, 1971 and revised December 12, 2001 outlines the specific benefits extended by the University. It is the purpose of the Benefits Committee to expand upon and add to the specific University policies which contribute to the wellbeing of retirees. The primary responsibilities of the Benefits Committee are to assure the provision of comprehensive, affordable medical plans for retirees, negotiate with insurance providers, evaluate changes, monitor services and investigate alternatives where advantages may be gained. The committee strives to keep retirees aware of additional University benefits and privileges and promotes program improvements where possible. The Benefits Committee is also responsible for assuring representation on the Purdue Faculty Compensation and Benefits Committee, Parking and Traffic Committee and the Retirement Plan Committee.

C. Committee Goals 2019-2020:

- 1) Complete negotiation of the 2020 Insurance plans for both PURcare and Medicare Advantage by August 31, 2019 with the target of keeping premiums as low as possible, while maintaining top of the line coverage.
- 2) Promote via the Newsletter and direct mailings, 2020 premiums and plans by September 30, 2019.
- 3) Consider alternatives PURA might utilize to assist University retirees with a less expensive plan, considering also how such a plan might impact PURA's current plans.
- 4) Continue participation in the activities of the Parking and Traffic Committee, the Retirement Plan Committee and the Faculty Compensation Committee.
- 5) Actively engage in the PLIR and the Road to Retirement Programs.
- 6) Promote the broad range of benefits available to University Retirees via articles in the PURA Newsletter.
- 7) Continue to monitor actions of external organizations (state and federal governments and organizations involved in the delivery of healthcare services and products) to assess the possible impact of these actions for PURA's members.

D) Accomplishments 2019-2020:

- 1) Working with University staff and healthcare consultants, PURcare and the Medicare Advantage Plans were extended for 2020. Both plans remained unchanged. The premium for Medicare Advantage, which is \$198.07 per month, was a reduction of slightly more than \$10.00/month. The monthly premium for PURcare increased from \$265.39/mo. to \$281.80/ mo., an increase of approximately 6%. Utilization of these insurance plans is in excess of 2600 members.
- 2) An evaluation of the negotiation of the 2020 insurance package was conducted during the Fall of 2019. Recommendations resulting from that evaluation will be utilized during the negotiation of the 2021 insurance package.
- 3) A subcommittee was established to review and evaluate health insurance plans with lower premiums. The subcommittee will evaluate several different plans to determine if the plans will meet member's

needs and determining how the plan might impact existing PURA plans. This work is in its initial stages and will continue into the upcoming year.

4) During 2018-2019, Fred Ford was the PURA representative to the Purdue Retirement Plan Committee; Carolyn Roper was the representative to the University Compensation and Benefits Committee and Larry Pherson was the representative to the University Parking and Traffic Committee.

5) A revised enrollment eligibility policy was developed and implemented during the Fall of 2019. The new policy gives Purdue Medicare eligible retirees the flexibility of delaying the decision to enroll in a PURA plan until the second Medicare Open Enrollment Period following their retirement.

6) The following are examples of the Committee's communication and marketing efforts:

a) Assisted HR staff with "Road to Retirement" presentations.

b) The planned presentation at the annual Purposeful Living in Retirement conference was canceled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

c) Prepared articles for the PURA Newsletter:

i) Purdue University Retiree's Benefits List-July 2019

ii) Announcing the 2020 insurance Premiums-September 2019

iii) New Enrollment Eligibility Policy-December 2019

iv) UHC COVID-19 Update-April 2020

d) Assisted United Healthcare with the preparation of a marketing and communications brochure. The brochure was mailed to all PURCare and Medicare Advantage policy holders. The brochure was also distributed to those attending the Road to Retirement sessions.

7) Continued monitoring governmental activity relating to Affordable Healthcare and Tax Code revision.

8) The Committee determined that United Healthcare had overcharged PURA members for local support costs. As a result of Committee negotiations with UHC, PURA received a refund of more than \$50,000. We are pleased that the recovered funds are being used for a program that matches donations to support PURA scholarships.

All in all, the Benefits Committee had a successful 2019-2020 and was quite busy.

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Campus and Community Activities Committee

Annual Report

2019-2020

The goal of the Campus and Community Activities (CCA) Committee is to offer educational, informative, and entertaining activities of interest to members of the Purdue University Retirees Association and their guests. The committee operates on the premise that planned activities will not require chartered transportation or collection of registration fees. Reservations are accepted to assure that adequate space and/or seating is available. Limitations of the number of reservations accepted is determined by the activity and venue. Announcements of events are placed in the PURA newsletter, through e-mail, and in the monthly luncheon programs.

Three events were offered during the 2019-2020 academic year. A fourth planned activity was scheduled but had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The year's activities were as follows.

September 18, 2019

PURA members toured the "village" of tiny houses erected near the Purdue West Shopping Plaza in the morning. The tiny houses are rented on football game weekends and provide private accommodations with a bathroom, kitchen facilities, and sleeping space for 2-4 individuals. Brittany Clute of Tiny Houses LLC, which provides the tiny houses to Purdue, explained how the tiny houses are built and operated. PURA members were able to walk through each of the tiny houses available and ask questions.

PURA members toured the new Aspire student apartment complex located in the Discovery Park district on the west end of campus in the afternoon. Operated through a partnership between Purdue and Balfour Beatty Communities, the four-story, three-building complex has studio, 2-bedroom, and 4-bedroom apartment floor plans. PURA members toured an apartment unit as well as common areas of the complex, which include outdoor areas, a fitness center, common meeting/study areas, and the Crave food court which is open to the public.

While originally planned as a single two-part tour, because of scheduling issues the two tours were decoupled, and members could sign up for either or both. Nearly forty (40) PURA members attended each tour.

October 30, 2019

PURA members took part in a Common Read. This year's Common Read featured John Norberg's book, *Ever True: 150 Years of Giant Leaps at Purdue University*, which was released in conjunction with Purdue's 150th anniversary celebration. PURA members who attended were treated to a number of stories from the book by Norberg, who came in costume as John Purdue, as he had done at the PURA Kickoff Luncheon. However, the group was treated to all new stories and was delighted to learn interesting details from the history of the university.

Seventeen (17) PURA members attended the event.

February 20, 2020

PURA members toured the historic Tippecanoe County Courthouse and learned about the Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program. The group was led through each floor of the 5-floor building and learned a bit about the history of the building, its architectural details, and permanent art collection from Ashley Gregory, the tour guide. The current courthouse was built in 1885 and was erected on the same site as two earlier structures. It underwent extensive remodeling in the 1990s at which time a 4th floor was created out of what had been a tall 3rd floor to provide additional space for courtrooms and offices.

The CASA program is designed to support children who are affected by the criminal justice system in cases such as parental incarceration or drug abuse. CASA volunteers are appointed by the court and trained as special advocates for the child to make recommendations to the court about what is best for the child. PURA members toured CASA offices on the 5th floor of the courthouse and convened in Superior Court 3 where juvenile cases are heard. PURA members learned about the program, and how to volunteer to be a part of it, from members of the CASA staff, Steven Flowers and Colleen Connor, and juvenile court judge, Faith Graham.

Twenty-one (21) PURA members attended the event.

The final planned activity of the year was scheduled for May 6, 2020. This activity was to have been a tour of two electronic microscope facilities on campus. Because of social distancing due to the COVID-19 outbreak, this tour was cancelled for the current year and will be rescheduled when conditions permit.

Committee Members:

Al Knight

Sharon Kraebber

Mary Alice Nebold

Dick Nelson

Debby Sherman

Jim Lehman, chair

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Purdue University Retirees Association
Communications Committee
Annual Report for 2019-2020

Committee Members: Karen Lembcke – Chairman
Connie Bilyeu – Publisher Expert
James R. Daniel - Webmaster
Jo Ann Thomas – Article Contributor

Mission/Purpose:

Our mission has been to produce an interesting and informative newsletter, PURA News, which is now sent to our membership as an electronic document, on a monthly basis for ten months with the months of January/February and June/July issues combined. Our goal is to provide information on all events and activities occurring within the PURA organization and those at Purdue that would be applicable to retirees and the general public within a timely manner.

The PURA website is maintained so our members or anyone interested in PURA can obtain a glimpse of our PURA organization in action thru pictures taken of various events; through our news articles; and through other informative articles from the board members and committee chairmen. Also provided is the Purdue Retiree Directory; the benefits listed for Purdue retirees; information on the health insurance; on all upcoming events; and the latest issues of the PURA News and archival information.

2019/2020 PURA News Recap:

The following is a summary of the PURA News articles that occurred in each issue for the past year. Each edition contains the Campus Calendar and the “Mark Your Calendars!” of all PURA events. This past year we began having regular monthly feature articles from Scott Ksander on technical issues, and pertinent health issues from Chris Rearick, and another light-hearted column by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman, called “A Smile Corner”.

After our March edition was released, the Coronavirus Pandemic had occurred with a complete shutdown of almost all activities, especially those relating to individuals in the “senior” category. All of a sudden, PURA’s scheduled activities were canceled. This included our monthly meetings, any local campus tours planned, and our Purposeful Living in Retirement Day Conference. Our organization depends on many of these social events to keep our retirees happy and sociable, so this period of shut-down became a challenge when some of us found we were spending time only by ourselves.

The following is a listing of the items that appeared in the PURA News for the past year – June 2019-May 2020.

June/July 2019 –

- Don Gentry, PURA President, 2018-2019, turns the gavel over to Tom Turpin.
- PURA Transitions to 2019-20 Officers and Committees with a year-end review of the accomplishments of the PURA committees.
- These 2018-2019 accomplishments included: the Purdue Retiree Directory went live during the past year; Purdue retirees were generous in their contributions to the United Way campaign; and PURA celebrated the 150 Year Celebration of Purdue by portraying historical characters at various Purdue events throughout the year.
- Sarah Johnson and Ann Pickett received the Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award at the Annual Kick-Off Luncheon for their many years of service to PURA.
- President Don Gentry and President-Elect Tom Turpin attended the 2018 Big Ten Retirees Conference hosted by the retirees of Penn State University.
- The PURA Policies and Procedures Manual was completely updated and revised and is now available electronically on the PURA website.
- We thanked Michele Salla for her many years of dedicated service to PURA, and welcomed Hannah Austerman as our support person for the PURA organization.
- The Benefits Committee provided updated information on the benefits available to the PURA membership. We had a brief article on “Who Qualifies as an Official Retiree?”.
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander entitled, “Which Phone Should I Buy?”.
- Article on “Advance Care Planning – What, Why, Who, and When”, provided by Jiayun Xu, PhD., RN; Susan Hickman, PhD.; and Nadine Cline, RN, APRN.
- The Purdue Director of Campus Master Planning and Sustainability, Michael J. Gulich, AIA, LEED AP, LFA provided the May Luncheon monthly presentation on “Campus Master Planning and Discovery Park Plans”.
- The June Luncheon featured a presentation on prescription drug use by Dan Degnan, Chelsea Anderson and Jamie Woodyard.
- Included a recap on the May Tour of the New YMCA.
- Listed an opportunity for volunteers to participate in a study investigating the effectiveness of different in-vehicle warnings during self-driving operations.

August 2019 -

- Registration opens for the September PURA Kickoff Luncheon.
- Information on the fall wellness screenings.
- The Arthur G. Hansen award was presented to the Purdue Fire Department.
- The July PURA Monthly Meeting, Eric Waltenburg, Purdue’s Political Science Professor, spoke on “The Pervasiveness of Partisan Polarization in American Politics.”
- PURA Tech Bytes, by Scott Ksander, entitled “Cyberwarfare”.
- Article on Purdue’s Bruce Rogers, “A Man of Letters” by Jo Thomas.

- A Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman, entitled “Retirement 101: Making New Friends.”

August 2019, Continued --

- Featured Virginia Meredith, being portrayed by Joyce Beery Miles as part of the cast of PURA’s Historical Characters for the 150-year celebration.
- Flyer for the CALC 2019 Symposium to be held in September on the Age and Social Connectedness.

September 2019 -

- Tour of the Tiny Houses and the Aspire Student Apartments sponsored by the Campus and Community Activities Committee.
- Common Read featured John Norberg’s “Ever True – 150 Years of Giant Leaps at Purdue University”.
- Article on the new delivery system implemented by “Purdue Today”.
- “You vs. the Flu: The Fight is On!” which discussed the flu vaccine and the dates available.
- Purdue University Staff & Student Bowling League looking for new members.
- Recap of the Big Ten Retirees Association Conference held in August at the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana.
- August monthly luncheon featured Mayor John R. Dennis speaking on the current and future developments occurring in West Lafayette.
- Several nurses from the School of Nursing provided an article on “How to Talk to Your Healthcare Provider”.
- A retiree from Purdue Northwest, Mindy Dalgarn, provided us with information on “The Mop Shop” that she and her sister had organized in their hometown of Galena, Illinois, by providing cleaning supplies for the less fortunate.
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander featured an article on “Cryptocurrency”.
- Featured Mary Lockwood Matthews, being portrayed by Olivia Wood, as part of the 150-year celebration of Purdue’s historical characters.
- The Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman, entitled “Probably Won’t Take Another Cruise”.
- Reminder on the Exploration Acres celebrating Purdue’s 150th Anniversary Corn Maze.
- Reminder of the CALC 2019 Symposium.
- Wellness Screenings occurring in October.
- Classes available for the “Hands-On Cooking Class” sponsored by the Nutrition Science Department.

October 2019 -

- Sign-up for the Common Read discussion scheduled for October 30, 2019.
- Reminder of availability of flu shots.
- Information on PURA Health Insurance renewal for 2020.
- Reminder of the United Way campaign
- Information on using qualified charitable distribution to support students.
- A call-out for subs for the Boilermakers Women's Bowling League.
- Extended a Thank You to Michele Salla for her many years of dedication and service to Purdue and PURA.
- Olivia Wood received the 2019 Betty M. Nelson Special Recognition Award.
- Article on the Purdue Fire Department receiving the Arthur G. Hansen Award.
- The Kick-Off Luncheon was held on Sept. 9, 2019.
- PURA Tech Bytes, by Scott Ksander, on "Cryptocurrency, Part 2".
- Article on PURA being represented at the Purdue Employees Resource Fair held in mid-September at the South Ballroom.
- Article on the 2019-2020 PURA Scholarship recipients.
- David Caldwell represented the historical character of Orville Redenbacher.
- The Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman featured "Burning Questions for which I am Seeking Answers".
- Article on the Tiny Houses tour and Aspire Apartments.

November 2019 -

- A thank you and salute to all veterans held at the Memorial Union on Nov. 11.
- PURA's Historic Purdue characters attended the Homecoming game.
- Health Focus: "Am I Lonely?" by Chris Rearick.
- Monthly October meeting featured Alicia Benhidjeb-Carayon, a Senior PhD. Candidate in Aeronautics & Astronautics discussed "Destination Mars".
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander entitled "Cryptocurrency, Part 3".
- Featured Amelia Mary Earhart portrayed by Mary Alice Nebold, as another of PURA's historical characters.
- Mindy Dalgarn, a retiree from Purdue Northwest provided an article on "The Power of Personalized Puzzles".
- The Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman entitled, "Where to Go for the Most Fun in Town".

December 2019/January 2020 -

- PURA President Tom Turpin extended holiday greetings to the membership and invited them to join in the many activities that PURA offers throughout the year.
- Another reminder of “Purdue Today” transitioning to a new delivery system.
- Reminder to sign up for the Tippecanoe County Courthouse and CASA Offices tour in February.
- A reminder of supporting students by contributing to the Pura Student Scholarship Endowment Funds.
- Article on the eligibility for enrollment in the PURcare and Medicare Advantage PPO.
- Information article on the PLIR Conference to be held on April 22, 2020.
- Matthew Watson expressed his thanks for being a recipient of a PURA scholarship.
- Health Focus by Chris Rearick featured an article on “Holidays and Change”.
- John Purdue, aka John Norberg provided the Common Read attendees with many interesting stories.
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander entitled “Digital Assets”.
- Dr. Harvey Washington Wiley, Purdue’s historic character was portrayed by Scott Rumble.
- Chris Rearick sent a thank you note to the retirees that brought treats to the nursing staff during the Retiree Flu Shot and Wellness Screening Day.
- A Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman entitled “Annual Family Christmas Holiday”.
- Tom Turpin submitted an article on “The Twelve Insects of Christmas”.
- The November PURA monthly meeting featured Scott Ksander on “Tech Toys for the Holidays”.

February 2020 --

- Dr. Philip Low was announced as the main speaker at the Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference to be held in April.
- We listed the slate of officers nomination for the 2020-2021 year so that the membership could vote on the ballot in April.
- Since the MCL Cafeteria closed its doors, PURA had to locate a new venue for their monthly meetings. The February meeting was held at the Daniel Turfgrass Center.
- A reminder to sign up for the Tippecanoe County Courthouse and the CASA Offices on February 20.
- A memorial was presented on former PURA President, Mike Drayer, who passed away in early 2020.
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander entitled a “Happy New Year”.
- We continued our articles on Purdue’s historic characters of John T. McCutcheon as portrayed by PURA’s Pete Bill. We also included a group picture of Purdue’s historic characters as portrayed by our PURA volunteers.
- Health Focus: “The Difference Between Diverticulosis and Diverticulitis”, by Chris Rearick.

- Review of the January monthly meeting presented by Joe Davenport, Inspector with the Lafayette Water Works on “The Teays Valley”.
- Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman entitled, “Retirement 101: Having More Doctors’ Visits”.

March 2020 –

- PURA’s monthly meeting venue to be held at the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Building in Lafayette for the March through August meetings.
- New email address for PURA – pura@purdue.edu
- Reminder of the Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference in April.
- PURA Tech Bytes, Scott Ksander entitled “The Wonderful World of Windows”.
- Health Focus: “Putting Our Best Foot Forward” by Chris Rearick.
- February monthly meeting featured Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski as he discussed the updates on Lafayette’s current and future developments.
- Review of the Tippecanoe County Courthouse and Offices of CASA Tours.
- Update on the volunteer opportunities available.
- A Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman, entitled “Lessons From My Cats”.
- Spring Wellness Screenings Announced.

April 2020 --

- COVID-19 Information from United Healthcare for the PurCare and PURA Medicare Advantage Plan Members.
- PURA Events Cancelled due to the COVID-19.
- Purposeful Living in Retirement Conference Cancelled
- Health Focus: “Corns, Calluses and Neuromas—Oh My!” by Chris Rearick.
- March monthly meeting presentation by Dr. Greg Knipp, Professor of Pharmacy entitled “Challenges of Delivering Effective Therapies to Mitigate Neurodegenerative Disorders, (Dementia, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s Diseases”.
- Information on Purdue Recreation and Fitness (Recwell) offering free online resources.
- Celebrate National Library Week – April 19-25.
- Health Focus: “We Can Only Laugh!” by Chris Rearick.
- What have you been doing for fun? Asking retirees to share their hobby or favorite activity.
- Check out Coursera’s Web for free online classes.
- PURA Tech Bytes by Scott Ksander entitled “Election Year Technology Will be Challenging”.
- Purdue Alumnus Bob Friend: “A Man For All Seasons” by Jo Thomas.
- Featured the days you can celebrate in April.

- A Smile Corner by Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman entitled, “How I’m Coping with the Coronavirus”.

May 2020 –

- COVID-19 Lockdown – We Are All in This Together – Provided a brief listing of what various departments on campus were doing for the students and community.
- PURA Leadership Transition Postponed.
- Congratulations to Hannah Austerman on the birth of her daughter.
- Purdue President Emeritus Steven Beering Remembered.
- “How Do You Float Your Boat?” by Jo Thomas, an article on Purdue’s concrete canoe.
- Health Focus: “Staying Well Physically and Emotionally During Social Distancing” by Chris Rearick.
- Article on Bubble Wrap by Karen Lembcke
- A few light-hearted sayings.
- Provided some websites on various musical topics.
- Article by Tom Turpin entitled “Poor Tom”.
- PURA Tech Bytes, Scott Ksander, entitled “Technology in the Time of COVID-19”.
- Featured a few pictures of what the PURA members had been doing during the lockdown period.
- Addendum to April’s Bob Friend article.
- A Smile Corner, Sara Jane (Sally) Coffman entitled “How I’m (Not) Coping with the Coronavirus”.
- Listing of some virtual adventures.

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Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA)

Hospitality Committee

2019-2020 Annual Report

Committee Members: William Bennett – Chairperson, Marjorie Boeckman, Donna Cackley, Dee Cox-Peterson, Margaret Cox, Linda Hawkins, Norm Long, Michele Salla, Hubert Schmieder, Terry Wade , Judy Ware, Marilyn Wolber

Mission: The mission of the committee is to encourage retirees from all sectors of the university to participate in PURA’s on-going activities. The committee seeks to improve communication to retirees and pre-retirees about the value and usefulness of PURA’s benefits and programming. The committee also provides detailed discussion of new ideas and concepts that might further improve PURA’s programming and services to the post retirement Purdue community.

Activities for the 2019-20 year:

Served as greeters and assisted PURA participants at these activities:

- Luncheons at MCL Cafeteria on the first Monday of the Month
 - Distributed materials
 - Decorated tables at MCL and VFW
 - Helped to seat and buss tables.
- Annual Kick-off luncheon September 9, 2019, Sheraton Four Points
- Annual Retiree Flu Shots, Turfgrass Research Center, Oct. 11 & 18
Kurz Purdue Technology Center Oct 23 & 25, 2019
- Displayed materials for Spring Fling May 22, 2019 for Purdue staff and employees.
- Assisted Program Chair Jerry Day and Lew Graham with the transition from MCL to VFW
- Chairperson also served on the PURA Board of Directors and the University Spring Fling Committee.

Hospitality Committee members for 2020-2021:

Linda Hawkins – Chairperson, Marjorie Boeckman, Dee Cox-Peterson, Donna Cackley, Norm Long, Michele Salla, Hubert Schmieder, Terry Wade, Judy Ware, and Marilyn Wolber.

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Purdue University Retirees Association
2019 Kickoff Luncheon Committee
Annual Report, 2019-2020

Committee Members

Viki Taylor, Co-Chair

Karen Ferry, Co-Chair

Kay Branson

Deb Dimmitt

Rosalee Hayward

Jeanie Kalhust

Gail Overholser

Carolyn Shultz

Pam Staggs

Tom Turpin, PURA President, ex-officio

Norm Long, PURA Vice President, ex-officio

Purpose

The Kickoff Luncheon celebrates the start of the program year for PURA. It provides an opportunity for retirees to hear about the “State of the University”, past and present, from a University administrator or special guest and a chance to reconnect with friends and former colleagues.

2019 Luncheon

The 2019 Luncheon was held on September 9 at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel. There were 310 reservations; 304 people attended. John Purdue (a.k.a. John Norberg) entertained the crowd with tales

of Boilermakers, who took giant leaps to move the university and the world forward. The Betty M. Nelson Award was presented to Olivia Wood for her service to PURA. The Arthur G. Hansen Award, given to a department or unit that works closely with its retirees, was presented to Purdue Fire Department.

A popular aspect of the luncheon is the array of door prizes given throughout the meal. More than 79 attendees received prizes donated by 36 vendors.

The meal cost of the luncheon plus tax and gratuity was \$20.32. With the approval of the Executive Board, the registration fee remained at \$18; the balance of the expenses will come from the PURA General Fund Operations Account.

Purdue Conferences developed both the paper and web access registration forms. The hard-copy registration forms were mailed by Purdue Printing Services to retirees in Tippecanoe and seven surrounding counties. Conferences also collected registration fees, made nametags, distributed the nametags at the luncheon, and new this year, set up our event survey. Our survey information was formatted to a qualtrics online survey and emailed through Conferences to all who attended the luncheon. The survey requested recipients rate the following areas of the luncheon: Venue, Entrée selection/food quality, Catering Staff and PURA Committee Member assistance, Speaker, Audio quality in venue, and door prizes.

The vast majority of the eighty responses received were very positive. The feedback specifics will be taken into consideration by the committee during the planning of the 2021 luncheon.

The professional assistance received from Conferences was a great asset to the committee.

Total Registration Revenue \$5202.00 less **Conference expenses of \$1847.33**, (Conference fees of \$650.25, name badges \$10.14, and the Hall of Music AV services \$1186.94), **Net Income of \$3354.67** was deposited into the PURA general fund. The **Remaining Expenses totaled \$7,714.65**. Four Points by Sheraton meals and piano \$6388.04; Bennett's Flowers \$330; 150 Years of Giant Leaps placards inserted in Mum flower arrangements \$43.75; Printing Services \$952.86)

Summary: Revenue: \$5202.00; Total Expenditures: \$9561.98. (-4359.98)

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Purdue University Retirees Association
Purposeful Living in Retirement Committee
Annual Report
2019-2020

Committee members: Melinda Bain, David Caldwell, Jeris Eikenberry, Martha Fletcher, Mary Gardner, Mary Hood, Chris Johannsen, Sue Scholer, Chair Olivia Wood, Consultant Scott Rumble, President Tom Turpin and President-elect Norm Long. Purdue Office of Development Event Coordinators: Kelsey Bush, Hollyn Culley.

The purpose and goal of the Purposeful Living in Retirement (PLIR) Committee is to plan and execute an annual conference to cover topics of interest to retirees and guests. The PLIR committee had met six times during 2019-2020 before the conference was cancelled on March 10, 2020 due to COVID 19. The 2020 planned program and speakers had included: Keynote speaker Philip Low (Distinguished Professor Chemistry/Biochemistry) on “Drugs in the Pipeline for Treating Diseases”; “Mental Health Resources in the Community” via a panel with Sheri Moore (National Alliance for Mental Health), Brandi Christiansen (Mental Health America), and Sgt. John Yestrebky (Lafayette Police Department Crisis Team); “Indiana’s Best Day Trips” with Stephanie Nicol (Editor of *Travel Indiana*); Purdue faculty Briony Horgan “Roving Mars: NASA’s Search for Life on the Red Planet”; and Mike Bobinski (Purdue Athletic Director) on “Purdue’s Master Plan for Athletics”. Annual highlights from PURA’s Benefits Committee, an exercise session, an expanded vendor participation, a full breakfast, and box lunch and beverages were to be provided for a registration fee of \$15.

Annually the PLIR conference receives major financial sponsorship from TIAA (\$2500, United Healthcare (\$3000), and Fidelity (\$2500) with \$500 supplemental support from Westminster Village, Wickshire Senior Living (formerly Elmcroft), and University Place retirement communities. Sponsor and vendor fees not yet received were notified and those already received (United Healthcare, University Place, and Westminster) were offered reimbursement. Requests from United Healthcare (\$3000) and University Place (\$500) for their contributions to be applied for the 2021 PLIR event were granted. As of June 1, 2020, a reply from Westminster had not been received. Expenses already incurred for PLIR 2020 totaled \$709.69 for the printing of the registration brochure and vendor packets and the mailing for the vendor packets. There will be a financial report for PLIR 2020 submitted for the PURA Archives. Due to the carry-over of selected sponsorship funding to 2021, the PLIR Chair will request the PURA Financial Committee consider the PLIR Conference become a line item in the PURA budget. Several years of previous PLIR conference financial reports are in the Archives as the way to provide an annual report of expenses and profit from the PLIR conference.

It is anticipated the 2020-2021 PLIR Committee will require few in person meetings to finalize plans for the 2021 PLIR conference. All 2020 speakers, schedules allowing, were interested in being contacted for the 2021 meeting and April 21, 2021 has been reserved at the Beck Agricultural Center.

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**PURA Program Committee
Annual Report 2019-2020**

Program Committee Mission

The program committee provides a program for the PURA monthly luncheon meetings at MCL Cafeteria on the first Monday of the month except for September. The committee sets the luncheon meeting schedule for the coming year beginning with October and running through August of the following year. If the first Monday of the month falls on a national holiday, PURA does not meet that month. The annual "Kickoff" luncheon is normally held in early September.

The program committee chair is responsible for recruiting members to serve on the committee. Ideally the committee would have enough members so that each one would coordinate and host just one luncheon program speaker each year. The role of moderator/convenor for running the luncheon meetings is the responsibility of the PURA president. The program committee hosts are responsible for meeting the speaker upon arrival, helping them set up, providing their lunch, and introducing them to the audience.

All was going according to plan until.....

2020 Headline News:

- MCL Restaurant closes for good right after our January luncheon with little notice to customers and luncheon groups
- PURA February luncheon held without food at Turf Center
- PURA March luncheon held at a new venue, the VFW on Canal Road
- Covid-19 brings PURA in person events to a screeching halt, all PURA events are cancelled until further notice

After learning that MCL was closing in mid-January, the February luncheon was quickly relocated to the Turf Center without food service. A pre-meeting discussion was held to assess the interest in luncheon meetings, learn the importance of food service at our monthly gatherings and review the day and timing of the events. There was consensus that the first Monday of the month at lunch time with food service available is the desire of our retiree audience.

A search for a new luncheon location was begun (thanks to Norm Long for his efforts in touring numerous possible locations), and after much discussion the decision was made to relocate to the VFW on Canal Road in Lafayette through August 2020. The March luncheon was held at the VFW, and it proved to be an acceptable venue. There were a few issues that needed to be addressed with the VFW staff, but nothing that could not be resolved. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 Pandemic hit, and programs have been cancelled since April.

Thank you to the program committee members for their efforts and flexibility in working with our speakers this year. As of this writing it is unknown when our luncheon programs might resume, but our plan is to reschedule the speakers that were scheduled for the cancelled spring luncheons into the next year of programming. Planning for 2020-2021 is delayed until we know when scheduling will return to normal.

PURA Program Committee Members – 2019-2020

Name	Email Address	Start Date
Sue Abney	<u>abney706@comcast.net</u>	2016-17
Jane Brown	<u>thundercricket@comcast.net</u>	2014-15
Dan Collins	<u>decollins.retired@yahoo.com</u>	2019-20
Jerry Day	<u>jljlday@comcast.net</u>	2018-19
Roy Johnson	<u>roy.johnson@comcast.net</u>	2016-17
Sandy Komaskinski	<u>skomasinski@hotmail.com</u>	2014-15
Becky Moyer	<u>miskitty13@hotmail.com</u>	2019-20
Reuben Peterson	<u>reubenmail@yahoo.com</u>	2017-18
Tom Robertson	<u>roberttl@purdue.edu</u>	2017-18
Ken Scheeringa	<u>kens@purdue.edu</u>	2019-20
John Schneider	<u>sjasers@aol.com</u>	2014-15
Becky Theller	<u>incornerlot@comcast.net</u>	2018-19

PURA MCL LUNCHEON PROGRAMS FOR 2019-2020

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC/ SPEAKER</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>
October 7	Destination Mars (Alicia Benhidjeb-Carayon, Senior PhD Candidate, Aeronautics & Astronautics)	Roy Johnson
November 4	Tech Toys & Relevant Technology Topics (Scott Ksander)	Sandy Komasinski
December 2	John Purdue - Holiday Fun Event (John Norberg)	Becky Moyer
January 6	Lafayette's Underground Teays River (Kery Smith, Superintendent, Lafayette Water Works) (Joe Davenport, Inspector, Lafayette Water Works stepped in for Kery because there was a scheduling conflict)	Dan Collins
February 3	Current Developments and Future Plans for Lafayette (Tony Roswarski, Mayor) <u>Held at Turf Center</u>	John Schneider
March 2	Challenges of Delivering Effective Therapies to Mitigate Neurodegenerative Disorders (Dementia, Alzheimer's, and Parkinson's Diseases) (Greg Knipp, Professor, Pharmacy) <u>Held at VFW</u>	Jane Brown
April 6	The Real State of the Economy (Charlene Sullivan, Professor, Krannert School of Management) <u>Postponed</u>	Becky Theller
May 4	Long Range Weather Forecasting (Chad Evans, Chief Meteorologist, Channel 18) <u>Postponed</u>	Ken Scheeringa
June 1	Quick, Easy and Healthy Food in Retirement (TBA) The speaker scheduled for this topic left Purdue, and a substitute was not located. A new topic was selected, Conquer Miscommunication: Create Meaningful Conversations (Barbara Mayfield, Retired, Nutrition Science) <u>Postponed</u>	Sue Abney
July 6	Agriculture in the Space Age (Chris Johannsen, Professor Emeritus, Agronomy) <u>Postponed??</u>	Reuben Peterson
August 3	Role of the Area Plan Commission in Tippecanoe County (Sallie Fahey, Executive Director) <u>Postponed??</u>	Tom Robertson

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Purdue University Retirees Association

**PURA Student Scholarship Committee
Annual Report
2019-2020**

Committee Members:

Melinda Bain, Chair
Dan Collins
Fred Ford
Don Gentry, Past President
Sue Hiser
Betty Nelson
John Norberg
John Trott
Joanne Troutner
Olivia Wood

Primary Goal: The primary goal of this committee is to continue growing the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment to provide funds to assist as many Indiana students with significant financial need as possible. Additionally, this committee will mentor the scholarship recipients of the PURA Purdue Opportunity Award (POA) in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke.

Scholarships Awarded: Awards in excess of \$11,000 was awarded from PURA scholarship endowments for the 2019-2020 academic year.

The PURA Student Scholarship Endowment made awards to nine students:

Jannae Allen, School of Liberal Arts, Saint John, Indiana
Cole Anderson, Purdue Polytechnic Institute, Linton, Indiana
Megan Darr, School of Science, Granger, Indiana
Monica Flores, School of Management, East Chicago, Indiana
Carlos Gonzalez, School of Chemical Engineering, Lafayette, Indiana
Kiersten Haselby, School of Liberal Arts, Monticello, Indiana
Jennie Swanson, School of Health and Human Sciences, Lafayette, Indiana
Laila Verduin, School of Liberal Arts, Cedar Lake, Indiana
Matthew Watson, Purdue Polytechnic Institute, Warsaw, Indiana

The PURA POA Endowment in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke made awards to two students:

Kiana Bowen, Purdue Polytechnic Institute, Columbus, Indiana
Alyssa Hudgins, School of Engineering, LaPorte, Indiana

Scholarship Balance: The Book Value of the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment as of March 31, 2020 was \$150,041.64. The Book Value of the PURA POA in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke was \$50,959.44 as of March 31, 2020.

Donors: The balance in the endowment reported this time last year was \$137,900. Thirteen donors gave approximately \$12,000 this year.

An anonymous donor has gifted \$50,000 for matching money for the two scholarship endowments. The match will be dollar for dollar. There is no time limit for distribution of the matching dollars and the funds have been deposited in the PURA Activities and Opportunities Fund and will be transferred to the scholarship endowments as members make specific donations to either the PURA Student Scholarship Fund or the PURA POA Endowment in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke.

Communication: The PURA Student Scholarship Endowment was kept before the PURA members in a variety of ways:

PURANews articles:

October 2019: Two articles -- Qualified Charitable Contributions for PURA Scholarships and 2019-2020 Scholarship Recipients

December 2019: Thank you from Matthew Watson, PURA Scholarship Recipient including request for year-end contributions for scholarship endowments

Email to PURA members: December 2018, Year End Giving Request

Posters with pledge forms – Available at all MCL luncheons, Spring Fling, Kickoff Luncheon, and Purposefully Living in Retirement Conference

Thank you notes to donors from Scholarship Committee chair.

Ornaments Continue: There were 34 ornaments purchased at the Kickoff Luncheon and the December MCL Luncheon. PURA members, Purdue Women's Club members and friends continue to request special orders for these ornaments.

Committee Membership: All members will continue with the following exceptions:

Retiring Members Sue Hiser, Don Gentry, Past President

New Member: Tom Turpin, Past President

Respectively Submitted

Melinda Bain
Committee Chair

May 22, 2020

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Treasurer's Financial Report, 2019-2020

The Purdue Retiree Association continues to be in a good financial state. Accounts are all positive and expenses are reflective of the frugality of the committee chairs as they plan their activities. Many activities either do not have expenses associated with them, or they bring in income to cover their expenses.

PURA was again allocated \$17,000 from the Purdue University general fund to be used for organizational expenses such as publication of the newsletter, supplies, travel, committee and program activities as well as the kickoff luncheon. These expenses totaled \$19,375.63.

There was a carry forward from the 2018-2019 fiscal year of \$4,586.39 and income of \$3,354.67 from the kick-off luncheon, leaving a projected balance of \$5,145.43, which will be carried over into the new year.

Other accounts holding funds for PURA are the Activities and Opportunities Endowment Account, Retirement – Outside Agency Account and the Purdue Opportunity Award – Martin and Patty Jischke.

1. The Activities and Opportunities Endowment Account supports unique miscellaneous expenses such as the Historical characters costs, the PURA plaque of past presidents slated to be hung in the Union and records PLIR expenses not charged directly by the development office. This account receives endowment income twice a year. The projected balance in this account is \$46,115.66.
2. The Retirement – Outside Agency Activities is used to support grants and the committee retiree gift to the University Scholarship account. This year, United Healthcare returned an overpayment of several years' insurance premiums of \$54,495.48. This money will be used as donor matches for scholarships. In addition, since COVID-19 cancelled PLIR for this year, sponsors who had already donated funds in support of this activity have allowed us to keep these funds to be used towards next year's PLIR conference. (\$8,000) The projected balance in this account is \$97,510.69.
3. The Purdue Opportunity Account - Martin and Patty Jischke account receives endowment income twice a year to support scholarships for Purdue students. The scholarships payments totaled \$2,400. The projected balance in this account is \$794.46

Please see the summary of the PURA Financial Report below. Because reports were due prior to yearend, this is a projected report. An updated financial report will be submitted in July with the actual final figures.

Purdue University Retiree Association Financial Report
July , 2019- Projected June 2020

Account: General Fund Operations, Hansen and PURA Conference Account
 3200002308

Income	\$ 17,000.00	
Carry Forward	\$ 4,586.39	
Other Income	\$ -	
Expenses	\$ 19,375.63	
Transfers	\$ 3,354.67	
Commitments	\$ 420.00	newsletter
Balance	<u>\$ 5,145.43</u>	

Activities and Opportunities Fund:

7600000101 Endowment Account

Carry Forward	\$ 40,931.46	
Income		
Distributions	\$ 6,469.92	May distribution
Expenses	\$ 1,185.72	
Commitments	\$ 100.00	PLIR
Balance:	<u>\$ 46,115.66</u>	

Retirement Activities - Outside Agencies Fund

15010000

Carry Forward	\$ 35,900.21	
Expenses	\$ 885.00	PPD and Committee retirees
Income	\$ 8,000.00	PLIR
	\$ 54,495.48	UHC
Balance	<u>\$ 97,510.69</u>	

Purdue Opportunity Award - Martin and Patty Jischke

360005530

Carry Forward	\$ 746.78	
Income Distribution	\$ 2,447.68	May distribution
Expenses	\$ 2,400.00	
Balance	\$ 794.46	

Note: Distributions from Endowments to support accounts are made in May and November of the fiscal year.

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PURDUE UNIVERSITY RETIREES ASSOCIATION
TRIPS AND TOURS COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Committee Members:

Joma Roe, Chair
Carolyn Blue, Secretary
Tarren Neth
Agnes Hawn
Jim Wagner
Gail Overholser

Advertising trip offerings again included emails to the PURA Retirees, the PURA website and newsletter, and fliers distributed at the monthly PURA meetings.

Events in 2019-2020 were:

June 18, 2019: Inspired Fire Glass Studio and Gallery, located in Shadeland. We toured the studio and spent time doing several fused glass craft projects. After the craft project we were treated to demonstration of flameworking techniques. Two members participated.

July 31, 2019: Beef and Boards “The Buddy Holly Story” This trip included motor coach transportation to Beef and Boards in Indianapolis, lunch and the show.

November 30, 2019: Louisville “Christmas Celebration of Lights” This tour included motor coach transportation to Schimpff’s Confectionery in Louisville, where we enjoyed watching them make their handmade candy canes and browsing amidst thousands of pieces of American candy memorabilia. Next up was a special exhibit at Frazier History Museum – 65 Years of White Christmas. The tour concluded with a visit to “Lights Under Louisville,” a drive-through holiday light display in Louisville Mega Caverns.

The committee has no trips/tours planned for 2020-2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The uncertainty for the reopening of facilities and businesses has made it very difficult to make any plans. Our entire membership is part of the high risk group and many may be reluctant to participate in any group activities until there is a vaccine available. For this reason, we strongly suggest that this committee be suspended for the 2020-2021 year.

The following committee members will not be continuing on for 2020-2021.

Joma Roe
Tarren Neth
Agnes Hawn
Carolyn Blue
Respectfully submitted,
Joma Roe, Chair