Retirees exceed goal for United Way

Purdue retirees surpassed their goal for 2009 by donating more than $89,000 to the Purdue United Way Campaign.

The PURA goal was set at $84,000. Retirees, faculty, staff and students rose to the challenge this year, helping Purdue raise more than $767,000 for United Way.

"Thanks to the amazing generosity of our faculty, staff and retirees, we are able to celebrate another Purdue success," said Dennis Depew, 2009 campaign chair and dean of the College of Technology, during Purdue’s victory celebration on Nov. 17. "We surpassed our highest expectations this year."

President France A. Córdova expressed gratitude for the compassion, hard work, and dedication put into the campaign.

"The Purdue community has a history of service and generosity," she said. "At a time when our neighbors need it most, through United Way and this campaign, we extended a helping hand — and then some!"

“Our generous donations to United Way will not only help our human service agencies continue helping their clients, but will also keep our community safe and strong. Today everyone in the Purdue family can be proud of what we’ve done for our community.”

Retirees invited to Spring Fling on May 20

The registration form inside this issue is all you need to take part in Spring Fling 2010, scheduled for May 20 in and around the Recreational Sports Center.

Retirees are invited to join current faculty, staff and graduate student staff in the activities, which will begin at 11:30 a.m.

The day of food and fun will include many traditional favorites: lunch (with a vegetarian option), fitness walk, classic vehicle show, and free play activities at the RSC.

In addition, sand volleyball will return. Those who want to start forming teams now should note that the volleyball teams must be co-ed. Retirees who are interested in more information about playing in the volleyball tournaments should indicate so on the form on page 3 or contact their home department about participating through that area.

See SPRING, page 3

Trips and Tours offers look at Cincinnati Flower Show, Chicago

The Trips and Tours Committee is offering the following exciting spring trips:

■ Cincinnati Flower Show/Jungle Jim’s International Market — Thursday, April 22, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

Trips and Tours committee is inviting Purdue retirees, their families and guests on an exciting and fun-filled day trip to the Cincinnati Flower Show and Jungle Jim’s International Market.

Those attending will have free time to explore the flowers and gardens at the Cincinnati Flower Show, and Jungle Jim’s includes an optional walking tour.

For additional information on the flower show and market, go to www.cincyflowershow.com and www.junglejims.com.

The cost is $65 per person and includes motor coach transportation, gratuity, snack, tickets for the tour and an escort from Top Notch Travel.

Departure will be at 7:30 a.m. leaving from Meijer, 4901 State Road 26 East, Lafayette. Parking is available, and participants will return at about 8 p.m.

See TRIPS, page 6

Inside this issue

■ Monthly PURA luncheons, page 2
■ Campus/community trips, page 5
■ Volunteer opportunities, page 6

PURU online:
www.purdue.edu/retirees

Children from Tippecanoe County Child Care reveal the total for the 2009 Purdue United Way Campaign at a celebration event on Nov. 17 in Purdue Memorial Union.
Luncheons continue throughout year

Monthly luncheon programs for Purdue retirees are held on the first Monday of each month at the MCL Cafeteria in West Lafayette. Lunch lines open at 11 a.m. The program begins at noon in the Purdue Room.

Upcoming dates, speakers and topics:
- March 1: Speaker: Paul Shepson, Purdue professor of analytical and atmospheric chemistry and director of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center. Topic: Climate change.
- May 3: Speaker: John Sautter, Purdue vice president for housing and food services. Topic: “Past, Present and Future of University Residence Halls.”
- June 7: Speaker: Joe Hornett, senior vice president, treasurer, and chief operating officer for Purdue Research Foundation Inc. Topic: Purdue Research Parks.
- July 5: University holiday -- no meeting.
- Aug. 2: Speaker: James Lowenberg-DeBoer, professor of agricultural economics, associate dean and director of International Programs in Agriculture. Topic: Timbuktu to Kabul: Purdue International Programs in Agriculture.

2010-11 PURA officer slate to be presented in March

The slate of officers has been proposed for the Purdue University Retirees Association for 2010-11.

- Nominations from the floor for open officer positions will be taken during the March 1 luncheon at MCL Cafeteria. The slate will be voted on at the April 5 luncheon at MCL.

The slate as submitted by the nominating committee:

- President, who was vice president and president-elect during 2009-10: Chris Johannsen.
- Vice president, who will be president-elect during 2010-11: Chip Rutledge.
- Officers continuing in their current positions for the coming year are:
  - Secretary-treasurer: Pat Lawson.
  - Historian: Mary Alice Nebold.
  - Lois Wark will serve as past president.

Conference to address retirement living

Mark your calendars now for April 28. That is the date for the next “Purposeful Living in Retirement” conference at the University Plaza Hotel. Speakers will present topics such as:
- Dealing with life-changing events.
- Smart activity to improve health and mobility.
- What do I do with all my stuff?
- Whose hand is in your pocket?
- Tax changes and planning impacts; highlights the legal handbook for seniors.
- There also will be an exercise session along with a buffet lunch and break refreshments.
- An interesting array of exhibitors also is planned.
- The cost for the program, including the luncheon, will be $10 per person.
- Brochures and applications will be mailed in March to retirees and others in the Lafayette-West Lafayette area. Be looking for them and get your registration in early.
- Guests are invited, so be sure to register them, too.

Check out the PURA Web site

PURA’s Web site offers a variety of useful information, including news that affects retirees, event listings, information about the organization, and links to Purdue and community resources. The site can be found at www.purdue.edu/retirees.

PURA members are encouraged to suggest articles and topics of interest for the Web page and the PURA newsletter. Send suggestions to Valerie O’Brien at vobrien@purdue.edu or (765) 494-9573.
Golf also is on the activity list. Tee times will be available at the Ackerman Hills and Kampen courses. Those who want to play golf should call (765) 494-3139, ext. 1, to reserve a tee time. Call soon to make reservations because tee times will fill up quickly.

Also available this year will be a chance to donate blood at the Indiana Bloodmobile, which will be parked outside the RSC, and an opportunity to contribute to the Food Finders Food Bank.

Many Purdue retirees are expected to be on hand as volunteers and to offer assistance to those who are thinking about retirement.

Retirees will receive a reminder card in the mail in early May about Spring Fling.

The registration forms on this page, however, are the only ones that will be mailed to retirees.

Forms should be filled out and returned to the address indicated on the form. Deadline is April 26.

NOTE: Golf participation: Those who would like to play golf must reserve a tee time at the course by calling (765) 494-3139, Ext. 1.

** Return this form by April 26 to Carrie Hanson, Human Resource Services, Freehafer Hall, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907

Purdue employees Karen Hosterman and Lisa Hunt admire the restoration work on a 1929 Ford Roadster at the 2009 Spring Fling Classic Vehicle Show.

Volunteers needed

Retirees are encouraged to volunteer for an hour or so during Spring Fling 2010. Opportunities for volunteering include helping in the food line, helping serve popcorn, or assisting with setup and/or cleanup.

To learn more about volunteer opportunities, indicate your interest on the form at right or call Carrie Hanson at (765) 494-7397.

NOTE: Golf participation: Those who would like to play golf must reserve a tee time at the course by calling (765) 494-3139, Ext. 1.

** Return this form by April 26 to Carrie Hanson, Human Resource Services, Freehafer Hall, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907

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Spring Fling 2010
May 20
Faculty, Staff and Retirees Appreciation Event

Retiree Registration Form

Name ___________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________
City _______________________ State ___________ Zip ___________
Telephone number __________________________________________
E-mail address _____________________________________________

_____ I’d like to volunteer to help with Spring Fling 2010. My area of interest is:
Food/refreshments ___  Fitness Walk ___
Any area ___   Cleanup ___

_____ I’d like to participate in the Spring Fling Classic Vehicle Show.
Vehicle make _________________________________
Model ________________  Year _________________

_____ I’d like to participate in Spring Fling volleyball.

_____ I want to participate in the Spring Fling Fitness Walk.

Spring Fling 2010
Faculty, Staff and Retirees Appreciation Event

Spring Fling Prize Drawing Entry

Name ___________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________
City _______________________ State ___________
Telephone number __________________________________________

Please deposit in prize-drawing barrel at the Recreational Sports Center on the day of Spring Fling.
‘Those Were the Days’ focuses on Great Depression

Editor’s note: Thanks to all those who submitted reminiscences for our new “Those Were the Days” column. This month, we’re sharing a story from Ginny Tyler, widow of the late Varro Tyler, dean emeritus of the School of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences.

I could almost write a book about living in the small town of Central City, Neb., during the Great Depression. Even though I was just from 5 to 15 years old then (1930-1940), there are lots of memories. My husband, Tip, and I always said we were so glad we grew up in the Depression. We didn’t have anything, but we didn’t know it. They were wonderful years for me, though probably not for my parents; but I never heard them complain one bit.

It was fun to play hopscotch, jump rope, play marbles and jacks, roller-skate, make May baskets and deliver them to friends on May Day. (I would ring the boy friend’s doorbell and quickly run away so he couldn’t catch me and kiss me, which is what the one getting the basket was supposed to do.)

My friends and I also had fun swimming at Riverside Park, where a sandpit had been made into a swimming pool. I must add that Riverside Park did have a dancing pavilion, and Lawrence Welk came there once!

In the 1930s, we didn’t have a refrigerator; it was an icebox. Every week or so my dad had to go to the ice factory and buy a 50-pound block of ice, put it on the rear bumper of our old Ford, and drive it to our house and get it in the icebox as quickly as possible before it started to melt. As I recall, they did buy a refrigerator in the mid-’40s.

I also remember what a big trip it was considered to drive the 20 miles west on Highway 30 (the Lincoln Highway) to Grand Island to visit Dad’s sister. Once in a while, we drove to Fremont, 90 miles east, to visit Mom’s parents. It seemed to me such a long way. I was so bored that just to make the miles go faster, I counted the telephone poles along the way.

There were no air conditioners, and I remember sleeping on a sheet on the floor — or on the grass outside some nights — when it was really, really hot, which is what the summers were in Nebraska. And the dust really blew!

In the winter when the streets were covered with snow, Dad would hook up my little sled to the rear bumper of the Ford and drive me around on it through the neighborhood. What fun that was! It was fun, too, to go to the grocery store with Mom when she went to pay her monthly grocery bill and Mr. Ratcliff, the store owner, would give me a candy bar. Ummm, was that good! What a treat!

In those days, Mom could just call the store, tell them what she wanted, and they would deliver her order. Milk was also brought to the front door by the milkman.

In spite of having no TV, no computer, no cell phone (not even a dial phone), etc., I have many wonderful memories of those Great Depression years; they are very precious to me.

Tell us your story

Those Were the Days column will focus again next issue on the Depression.

If you have a contribution to make to that topic, e-mail Lyn Doyle at lyn@purdue.edu by mid-March. If U.S. mail is easier, drop a note to Valerie O’Brien, Publications group, South Campus Courts D, Office of Marketing and Media, 507 Harrison St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2025. Include your name and department with your submission.

‘5 Students Who’ highlights Purdue stories

From green students to student veterans, a new Marketing and Media project is dedicated to sharing the lives and triumphs of the Purdue family, five stories at a time.

Each month, Purdue’s marketing consultants help to generate categorical lists and find Purdue students who fall into them. The categories coincide with a recent happening related to the University, such as a movie release, event or holiday.

Once the five students are found, a photo shoot and interviews are scheduled. The pictures and a short bio are composed, and creations such as “5 Students Who Are Veterans” are born. Other topics also have been “5 Students Who Are Green,” “5 Students Who Are Modern-day Amelias” and “5 Students Who Are Giving Back.”

To read about the Purdue students who have been featured, visit www.purdue.edu/fivestudents.
Campus/area activities set for spring

The Campus and Community Activities Committee offers the following activities for spring 2010. Reservations should be submitted at least one week before the date of the tour.

**Thursday, April 1. 3 p.m. Inspired Fire**

Let your creative side glow! Purdue retirees are invited to visit Inspired Fire, a fully operational studio in glass and flame working and glass blowing that also has a diverse art gallery.

Inspired Fire is owned and operated by Sharon Owens, who offers free tours and flame-working demonstrations. More than 20 local artists showcase their art, which includes glass, paintings, wood working, and handmade furniture.

PURA members will have the opportunity to have a tour and see a demonstration.

Inspired Fire is located at 2124 State Road 25 South. It is about two miles west of the junction of state roads 231 and 25 (on the right, at the top of the hill). Parking is available on site.

**Thursday, April 22. 6:45 p.m. Lafayette Symphony Orchestra.**

Join us for a musical treat! Purdue retirees are invited to attend the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra on April 22. Nicholas Palmer, conductor of the LSO, will meet attendees in the St. John Pavilion Lounge adjacent to the Long Center and talk about the symphony and the musical selections that will be featured at upcoming concerts.

Following the talk, PURA members will attend the dress rehearsal in the Long Center to hear selections performed by the symphony. The Long Center is located at 111 N. Sixth St., Lafayette. Street parking is available.

**Thursday, May 6. 3 p.m. Food Stores.**

Come see Purdue's pantry! A tour of Purdue's Food Stores is scheduled for May 6. Learn how food is purchased for University Residences, Purdue Memorial Union and Stone Hall as well as about the vending machine contracts on campus. Purdue's Food Stores is one of the largest centralized food purchasers for university students in the country.

Those attending will see the storage areas and freezers needed to feed more than 10,000 students daily. Participants will be amazed to learn how much ketchup is used per year and how many gallons of milk are delivered each day to food service operations.

The Food Stores Building is located on Purdue's campus at 270 S. Russell Drive (corner of Russell and Service drives). Entrance is on Service Drive. Parking is available adjacent to the facility.

New Purdue initiative to focus on wellness Feb. 1-5

A new Purdue initiative will promote healthy and balanced lifestyles for members of the campus community as well as showcase the important lines of health-relevant research and other scholarly activity going on at the University.

The initiative, Healthy Planet 2010, will be held Feb. 1-5. Taking advantage of the resources already in place at Purdue, Healthy Planet 2010 will explore topics of the head, heart, body, wallet and soul through events throughout the week.

One such event will be “Walk to the Moon,” which will span the entire week. Purdue will challenge everyone to track their steps as well as other forms of physical activity in order to accumulate the number of steps needed to reach the approximately 238,800 miles from the Earth to the moon.

More information on Healthy Planet 2010 is available at www.purdue.edu/healthyplanet.

Information also will be distributed through the PURA Web site at www.purdue.edu/retirees and through the Purdue Today e-newsletter, which you can subscribe to at https://lists.purdue.edu/mailman/listinfo/ptnews.
Purdue offers programs, camps for kids of all ages

Retirees can look to Purdue for many fun and educational opportunities for their grandchildren.

Programs for young people from elementary through high school age are offered during the fall and spring semesters and during summer. Most of the programs and camps have age and other requirements.

Some of the academic offerings include:

- Super Saturdays are offered in the fall and spring semesters for gifted children and a similar program is offered in the summer. More information is available at (765) 494-2958.
- A Computer Science Summer Camp is offered for students in fifth through eighth grades. Call (765) 494-7802.
- The Department of Foods and Nutrition has two studies: mini-Camp Calcium in the spring semester for girls ages 10-12 and Build Better Bones for middle school boys and girls. More information is available at (765) 494-6559. There will also be another Camp Calcium in the summer.
- The Junior Boiler Vet Camp is planned through the School of Veterinary Medicine. More information available at (765) 494-7220.

Other programs may be offered through the various colleges and schools. Athletic programs include many summer sports camps. There are options for day and for residential camps. More information is available at (765) 494-7949.

TRIPS (continued from page 1)

When making a reservation, please indicate that you are a Purdue retiree. Call Top Notch Travel at (765) 842-8135 or (800) 305-4951. Although there is no deadline, interested individuals are encouraged to make their reservations at the earliest possible date due to high interest in the trip.

- Amtrak to Chicago — Tuesday, June 15, 7:30 a.m.- 8:30 p.m.
  
  Trips and Tours is inviting Purdue retirees, their families and guests on an exciting all-day trip to Chicago on Amtrak.
  
  The cost is $114 per person and includes the train fare from Lafayette to Chicago, admission to the Willis Building (former Sears Tower), motor coach to Navy Pier, architectural cruise on the Chicago River, motor coach trip home and Imperial Pier, architectural cruise on the Chicago River, motor coach trip home and Imperial Pier, architectural cruise on the Chicago River, motor coach trip home and Imperial Pier, architectural cruise on the Chicago River. Additional costs are $15 per person for a panoramic lunch at the Culinary Pier and an architecture cruise. 

Purdue Volunteer Network offers link to service opportunities

Purdue retirees exceeded their fund-raising target for the recent United Way drive, but the area drive did not make its overall goal. As a result of the missed overall target, some community social services may have to be curtailed, and community organizations are appealing for help from volunteers to fill the gaps in services.

The Boiler Volunteer Network offers many suggestions to students, staff, and retirees of opportunities through which individuals might assist with community needs in significant and rewarding ways.

The BVN Web page states: “We connect the Purdue community to service opportunities in the Greater Lafayette area. Our connection with the Volunteer Bureau allows us to provide information regarding volunteer needs at over 120 agencies. We also design our own service projects to get Purdue involved.”

The BVN Web page is at www.purdue.edu/odos/sao/bvn/volunteeropportunities.php. The page lists specific opportunities in a wide range of categories. Alphabetically listed, these include animals, clerical, crisis/counseling, environment, health, homeless, hunger, kids, legal assistance, miscellaneous, seasonal, seniors, shelters, special needs, teaching and transportation.

There may be some way in which you could serve others, while at the same time having a satisfying and rewarding experience.

More information is available at the BVN office in Room G4, Stewart Center; by calling (765) 496-2450; or through e-mail at bvn@purdue.edu.

A link to the BVN page can be found on the PURA home page at www.purdue.edu/retirees.

Travel escort.

Departure will be at 7:30 a.m. from the Imperial garage at the end of 30th Street off Teal Road. Parking is available. The bus will take individuals to the train depot.

Participants should return to Lafayette about 8:30 p.m.

When making a reservation, please indicate that you are a Purdue retiree. Call Imperial at 447-9321 or (800) 642-6645. There is no deadline, but interested individuals are encouraged to make their reservation at the earliest possible date since this trip fills quickly.

The Trips and Tours Committee is reviewing other trips for summer and fall. Look for further announcements on the Web, through e-mail, at PURA’s monthly luncheons and in the PURA newsletter.
Purdue seeks comments as part of accreditation process

Purdue is seeking comments from the public in preparation for a comprehensive evaluation by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The evaluation team will visit Purdue’s West Lafayette campus March 22-24 and will review the University’s ongoing ability to meet the commission’s criteria for accreditation.

Purdue has been accredited continually by the commission since 1913.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding Purdue to: Public Comment on Purdue University; The Higher Learning Commission; 30 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2400; Chicago, IL 60602.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing and signed and must be received by Feb. 19. Comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments. Comments will not be treated as confidential.

Self-study is online

For the past two years, Purdue has been engaged in a self-study, addressing the requirements and criteria for accreditation by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

The final self-study document is now complete and available online. The document and information about the accreditation process can be found at www.purdue.edu/accreditation.

News Reports

Purdue Research Foundation recognizes 32 inventors

Thirty-two Purdue faculty and staff were recognized at the Purdue Research Foundation’s seventh annual Inventors Recognition Dinner on Nov. 5 in the Purdue Memorial Union North Ballroom.

The event highlighted the accomplishments of University faculty and staff whose discoveries already have resulted, or may soon result, in commercial applications taken to the marketplace.

The top honor, the 2009 Faculty Commercialization Award, sponsored by the Central Indiana Corporate Partnership, was given to Karthik Ramani, professor of mechanical engineering.

A complete list of the Purdue faculty and staff researchers who received patents during the 2008-09 fiscal year is available at http://news.uns.purdue.edu/x/2009b/091105InventorsRecognition.html.

Hotseat lets students Facebook, Tweet to improve learning

College students have always talked about their classes, and lately the conversations have moved to Facebook, Twitter and text messages, often during the class lecture itself.

Now, in a clever bit of educational jujitsu, an application developed at Purdue uses those back-channel conversations to improve the students’ learning.

“Hotseat is really sort of subversive in a delightful way, taking technologies more often used for things like dating or spontaneous get-togethers, and applying them to learning,” says Gerry McCartney, vice president for information technology and chief information officer, and Olga Oesterle England Professorship of Information Technology.

Hotseat is a software application that captures student comments about a class and allows everyone in the class, including the professor and teaching assistants, to view those messages. Students can post messages to Hotseat using their Facebook, MySpace or Twitter accounts, or they can send text messages or simply log into the Hotseat Web site.

The Hotseat Web site is www.purdue.edu/hotseat.
Check and approve your address information

The Purdue University Retirees Association is working hard to keep up-to-date with addresses, phone numbers and e-mail 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. 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(s) _________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________ State __________________ Zip code ____________________
Phone(s) _________________________       E-mail address ___________________________________

Return this form to:
  Julie Thedans
  Purdue University Retirees, Human Resource Services
  401 S. Grant St.
  West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024