Welcome Current & New PURA News Readers!

The PURA newsletter, published 10 times a year, regularly features articles on retiree benefits, Purdue news, upcoming opportunities to hear interesting speakers with other retirees, health topics, humor, Indiana travel, and PURA business.

We hope you’ll find this publication informative and entertaining, but if you’re not interested you may, of course, opt out.

We welcome your comments and suggestions (send to: pura@purdue.edu), and we invite you to join us at our virtual programs.
Memorial Day, May 30

For many of the current and younger generation, the battle cry for Memorial Day is “Gentlemen, start your engines!” I am from an older generation remembering when I would accompany my grandparents to the cemetery to put flowers at the headstones of veterans and family members. In those days it was known as “Decoration Day” and we would honor relatives and veterans who had passed. My grandmother grew peas just for the occasion.

In 1868, an organization for Civil War veterans called for a nationwide day of remembrance on May 30 by decorating graves of those who perished in battle. Decoration Day originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. For decades Memorial Day was celebrated on May 30, but in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as a federal holiday on the last Monday in May.

Armed Forces Day, May 21

Armed Forces Day is a special holiday for people to come together to thank the men and women of the United States Armed Forces. Conceived by President Truman, the holiday was established in 1949. The creation of a single day celebration for all five branches of the military made sense due to the unification under the Department of Defense: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard. This year, Armed Forces Day is celebrated on the third Saturday of May, May 21st. The first celebration of Armed Forces Day was May 20, 1950 and officially established by President Kennedy as an official holiday in 1962.

PURA Starts a New Year in June—Invites Committee Participation

On June 1 PURA holds its annual “transition” meeting, to begin a new year of activities, and welcome new officers, committee chairs, and committee members. We need volunteers to serve on the committee positions. If you are interested in any of these areas, please contact the committee chairperson.

The Campus and Community Committee provides informative, educational, and entertaining opportunities in the Greater Lafayette area for members of PURA. These events usually do not require bus transportation and do not involve the collection of funds in advance. Typically, we have two to three activities planned in the fall and the spring and welcome suggestions for tours or activities.

Contact: James Lehman lehman@purdue.edu

The Communications Committee is responsible for maintaining an information connection with Purdue retirees on a variety of issues and topics, such as member benefits, programs and events of interest to members. This connection is maintained through a variety of media, including the Purdue Retirees website, 10 issues of the PURA News newsletter annually, and the Retirees Handbook.

Members of the committee work with University Development Office to produce the newsletter and with PURA’s webmaster to maintain the PURA website. Contact: Karen Lembcke, lembckek@purdue.edu

The Kickoff Luncheon Committee plans the annual Kickoff Luncheon, which celebrates the beginning of the program year for PURA. It traditionally provides an opportunity for retirees to hear about the “State of the University” from a University leader and a chance to reconnect with friends and former colleagues. The luncheon generally is held on a Monday in September, preferably the first Monday after Labor Day. Contacts: Karen Ferry, karen.ferry@comcast.net or Viki Taylor, tvkz@iquest.net

The Program Committee plans and coordinates speaker presentations for PURA’s 11 monthly lunch time meetings, held on the first Monday of each month. (Except September, since the first Monday in September is close to the time when the annual “Kickoff Luncheon” is normally held, so a regular monthly meeting is not scheduled.) The committee sets the lunch time 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 Program Committee holds its primary annual planning session as part of PURA’s Annual Transition Meeting in late May or early June. During this meeting, the committee puts together a list of potential speakers for the coming program year. After that committee communication is via email, telephone, and personal contact at the monthly lunchtime meetings. Each committee member is assigned to confirm and coordinate at least one monthly meeting per year. Typically, speakers are Purdue faculty or administrators or community leaders with expertise in a variety of subjects or organizations. Contact: Robert Ritchie, ritchier@purdue.edu

The Purposeful Living In Retirement (PLIR) Committee plans the annual major educational program conducted by PURA. It’s scheduled in the spring (usually the last Wednesday in April, depending on the University calendar). The objective of the seminar / conference is to feature topics and presentations that are of current interest, are understandable and useful to retirees. Input from participants of past conferences provides important guidance to the committee for planning each subsequent conference. Contact: Olivia Wood, o.wood123@comcast.net

Armed Forces Day, May 21
The PURA Student Scholarship Committee was established in response to a matching funds opportunity, made available by a generous grant to Purdue University, to create new scholarships for Indiana residents with significant financial need. In October 2015, PURA pledged to raise $25,000 in five years. Contributions received will be matched dollar for dollar. This committee is responsible for the fundraising effort to raise the initial pledge of $25,000 and for continuing support to fund this true endowment on an annual basis. As you review the responsibilities of this committee, we ask that you also consider making a gift to the scholarship endowment and/or joining this group of dedicated individuals working to help better the lives of Indiana students with financial need. You may contribute online at www.giving.purdue/PURA or send a check payable to Purdue Research Foundation with the PURA scholarship noted in the memo line to Purdue Research Foundation, 403 W Wood St, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007. Contact: Melinda Bain, melindahbain@comcast.net

The primary mission of the Trips and Tours Committee is to provide informative, educational, and entertaining expeditions for PURA members, spouses, and friends. The committee meets a minimum of three times per year to discuss possible destinations and to select tours to be offered during the year. Depending on the response of PURA members, one to three trips are offered both fall and spring seasons each year. Day trips as well as overnight excursions offer a mini-vacation perspective and a feeling of camaraderie with others. Whether a trip is taken on a Purdue bus or outsourced through a travel agency, PURA members have the opportunity to visit new and interesting sites. Committee members should be knowledgeable about available destinations in Indiana and neighboring states and should be capable of obtaining information on the destinations chosen. Contact: Gail Overholser, goverholser@purdue.edu or Jim Wagner, wagner4@purdue.edu

PURA Events Coming Up

Our next PURA meetings will be May 2 and June 6, 2022. In May, Scott Ksander will talk about using technology to preserve family history; in June, Kelly Lippie, Curator of Collections and Membership at the Tippecanoe County Historical Association, will discuss the TCHA Archives and Research Center. Also, mark your calendars now for this year’s kickoff luncheon, scheduled for September 12, 2022 (time and place to be announced).

Thought for the day: Don’t wait for sleep to start dreaming!

William Bennett, President
Purdue University Retirees Association (PURA)

June 9 Tour of Purdue Horticulture Greenhouses

Join PURA on Thursday, June 9, at 3:00 p.m. ET, for a tour of the Purdue Horticulture greenhouses, organized by PURA’s Campus and Community committee.

The tour is limited to 20 people and is handicap accessible for the most part. Located behind the Horticulture Building at 625 Agricultural Mall, this world class plant growth facility houses multiple greenhouses, two air-conditioned growth rooms, 17 growth chambers, 5 walk-in coolers, a tissue culture laboratory, three teaching laboratories and 4,500 sq. ft. of headhouse space for offices, workspace, and storage. Outside the building is the Jules Janick Horticulture Garden, planted with perennials and annuals, and used as an outdoor classroom for students from many campus programs.

We hope that you can join us. Interested members can sign up by sending email to PURA@purdue.edu.
PURAN Toured Provenance Residential Area

On April 14 PURA members toured the Provenance residential area just west of the campus, in West Lafayette.

Andy Lind, Provenance staffer, told the group about the development.

Photos courtesy of PURA member Al Knight.

PURAN Program Committee New Member Callout

The PURA Program Committee would like to add two or three more committee members for the 2022-2023 PURA year. The committee currently includes Bob Ritchie as Chair, with Tom Turpin, Norm Long, Dan Collins, John Schneider, Becky Moyer, and Rosie Lerner as supporting cast.

Planning programs for the year will begin at the PURA transition meeting June 1, at the VFW Hall. (Meeting details will follow.) If you might be interested in helping to plan our programs, and/or eager to facilitate a program, please contact Dan Collins at decollins.retired@yahoo.com.

Special Note: If you are involved with the Tippecanoe County Historical Association and would be willing to introduce Kelly Lippie as our program presenter for June 6, please let Dan Collins know ASAP.
Dear PURA members . . .

I would like to start off by thanking you for your generosity! The scholarship which I received from you is very appreciated and it has helped me fund my college education! My name is Sierra Cox, and I am from the state of Indiana. My major here at Purdue University is Law and Society (Criminology) and I am also minorning in Mandarin Chinese. I am also currently debating on double minorning with global studies. For my career, I hope to work in a field related to foreign policy or sociological research. My expected graduation date is May 2024.

Receiving this from you means the world to me because it allows me to focus more on my studies and not on how I am going to obtain the money to pay for my education. This funding allows me to be involved in intramural sports when it is safe to do so. I have played volleyball all of my life and I would love to be able to continue it for fun at Purdue! This funding also allows me to immerse myself in my studies. Learning new things is fun to me. I believe that knowledge is one of the best qualities a person can have. I cannot express my thankfulness enough. I now have to worry less (or not even at all) about financial concerns.

During my career at Purdue, I have so many things planned! I would love to be involved on campus and join clubs when this pandemic allows for such actions as well as when I feel safe. I am currently a member of Purdue’s Sociology Club. As I have mentioned, I would love to participate in intramural sports. I love the sport of volleyball and staying physical active is important to me. I also want to study abroad during my time here. As of right now, I will be studying abroad in Hong Kong during the Fall 2022 semester. While spending a semester studying abroad, I will focus on improving my Mandarin and social skills which will help me prepare for my future career. Traveling in itself allows a person to be more open-minded about different cultures and how their societies function. As I love learning new things, this is perfect for me!

As for my plans after graduation I am still deciding on a specific career, but I know what field I want to go into! As of right now, I am looking into working as Foreign Service Officer. Working in this field will allow me to use the skills and knowledge that I have acquired at Purdue University and abroad.

Thank you so much for your generosity! I am very grateful as this helps me fund my Purdue University education. Thank you for helping and supporting Boilermakers through their college education. College can be very difficult at times especially when you have to constantly worry about funding. But thanks to you, I do not have to stress over financial problems! Again, thank you so much! I will not forget what you have done. Thank you for supporting me.

Kindest regards,
Sierra Cox
PURAn POA in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke Scholarship 2020/2021, 2021/2022
Sophomore, College of Liberal Arts, from Mitchell, Indiana

Hi there. My name is Hannah Stettler. I am a sophomore studying Veterinary Nursing and I am expected to graduate in May of 2024. I am writing this letter to thank you for supporting me through my college career.

Here at Purdue I am involved in the Veterinary Nursing Student Organization as well as Greek Life. I am in Alpha Gamma Delta. I am so thankful that this scholarship allows me to be involved on campus and meet new people constantly. Through the Veterinary Nursing Student Organization, we have lots of guest speakers come from different clinics around Indiana and neighboring states, which allows us to have practice networking. The funding allows me to continue to go to each one of my courses. Right now, I am taking Anatomy and Physiology for the Veterinary Technician, Introduction to Dentistry, Small and Large Animal Nursing Techniques, and Introduction to Veterinary Nursing. I am so thankful that I can continue learning each day so I can continue to do what I love.

After graduating, I plan to get a job working as a veterinary nurse. I am not sure if I want to pursuit emergency medicine, or general practice. Once I have been in the field for 5 years, I plan to go back and get a veterinary specialty certificate. I love working with animals, and I am so excited for my future.

With thanks,
Hannah
PURAn Student Scholarship Recipient 2020/2021, 2021/2022
Sophomore, College of Veterinary Medicine, from McCordsville, Indiana
PURA Scholarship Recipient Nicholas Hull

My name is Nicholas Hull. I am studying professional flight and am expecting to graduate in December of 2024. I am reaching out to you to express my gratitude for your support and generosity in support of that goal.

Your support has been critical in allowing me to earn my private pilot certificate and instrument rating. During my time here at school, I have become a general member of the Purdue Professional Pilots, an aviation club focusing on professional development for undergraduate pilots. I also have worked to help reestablish Purdue’s chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha, one of the largest social fraternities in the world. I currently serve as the President of our chapter, and was previously the chapter’s philanthropy chairman. Since our return to campus, I have been privileged to help the chapter maintain one of the highest GPA’s in Greek life, as well as raise over $2000 in support of local and national nonprofits.

After I graduate from Purdue, I intend to commission as an officer in the United States Air Force. Currently I am enlisted in the Indiana Air National Guard as a munitions storage specialist, but would like to transition to a role as an F-16 pilot post-graduation.

Thank you again for your support in pursuit of my dreams.

Nicholas Hull
PURA Student Scholarship Recipient 2021/2022
Junior, Purdue Polytechnic Institute, from South Whitley, Indiana

PURA Tours Atlas Family Marketplace at Purdue Memorial Union
By Jim Lehman

On Friday, March 18, about 45 PURA members toured the renovated ground floor of the Purdue Memorial Union, now called the Atlas Family Marketplace. Guided by members of the PMU staff including Lucas Versprille, Zane Reif, and Kyra McIntosh, the assembled retirees were able to view the impressive results of an extensive $47 million renovation.

The entire ground floor of the Union has been revamped, and it now features 12 dining venues, two new outdoor terraces on the south side of the building, expanded and diverse seating options, and stages both inside and outside to support entertainment.

Top left: at the east entrance of the renovated ground floor, looking west, toward the junction of the main north-south and east-west hallways.

Above left: the new food service area, where the pizza place used to be. Starbucks has moved about midway down the north-south hall (to the north of the junction), and incorporates one of the new performance stages (photo at far right).

Above right: barbeque venue, located in the north-east corner, part of the formerly back-of-the-house areas that have been opened up.

Photos courtesy of PURA members Al Knight, Jim Lehman, Connie Bilyeu.
There are a variety of food options to suit many different tastes including Walk-On’s Sports Bistreaux—co-owned by Drew Brees and featuring New Orleans-inspired cuisine and lots of TVs for sports fans; Halal-focused Aatish; Chef Bill Kim’s Asian fusion; Fresh Fare, featuring salads and other gluten and dairy free options; BBQ District, with slow-cooked meats and savory sides, and many more. The area still includes a market offering carry out food, snacks and beverages.

The renovations modernize the facility while paying homage to the history of the building. Visitors will notice that many of the motifs from the Union, including the wood paneling and stain glass windows, have been replicated on the ground floor as part of the renovation. Various pieces of Purdue memorabilia are also scattered throughout the marketplace: a street car rail unearthed as part of the State Street Redevelopment Project now serves as a footrail in the Walk On’s Sport Bistreaux, and a fireplace that was stored away in the basement of the building is now the centerpiece of a new lounge area.

Much of what had been the “back of the house” areas have been opened up to create a spacious, comfortable environment with lots of natural light. It is a truly impressive venue that will be a centerpiece for the campus and community for many years to come. If you did not get a chance to go on the tour, stop by any time to explore the building and the many new food options.
ITaP Encourages Vigilance in Guarding Against Hackers with Ongoing Situation in Ukraine

For this month’s Tech Bytes, it’s worth reminding PURA members of ITaP’s alert email, sent to the campus on March 25, 2022.

“With the ongoing situation in Ukraine, there is heightened concern about the use of cyberwarfare to spread misinformation, attack targets, and potentially fund military efforts through ransomware. These attacks may be conducted by either nation-state hackers or volunteers who support the nation-state objectives. On March 21, President Biden released a statement reiterating the potential increase of cyberattacks. Many governmental agencies such as the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the FBI and National Security Agency have released similar statements. Individuals within the academic community could attract the attention of hackers.

The following steps can reduce the risk of cyber-attacks on data and systems:

“Verify your local computer has security software installed to protect against viruses and malware.
- The University provides Cisco AMP for all university-owned Windows, Mac, and Linux computers. If you are unsure if you have a product installed, please contact your support team.
- We do NOT recommend the use of Kaspersky Lab products. If you have Kaspersky Lab products installed on personally-owned systems, we recommend uninstalling and installing an alternative.
- For personally-owned systems, we recommend Immunet. You can read about Immunet on their website, www.immunet.com.

Regularly back up your materials and data.
- Any materials or data stored on centrally provided solutions (OneDrive, Box, Microsoft 365, Weber) are already backed up on a regular basis. If you store data locally, please work with your support team to obtain methods to back up your data.
- Any data that is of export control concern, please follow the recommended guidance documented in the Technology Control Plan or General Guidance Memorandum that was developed for your project. Guidance clarification or questions can be directed to exportcontrols@purdue.edu.

Be on alert for any unusual emails or texts, especially from new or unknown individuals.
- Suspicious emails or discussions you did not initiate should be treated with caution.
- You can read more about phishing and how we are addressing it at https://www.itap.purdue.edu/newsroom/articles/220224-impersonation-attack.html

Protect your University account and assets.
- Use a strong password or passphrase for all accounts and do not reuse passwords on multiple accounts.
- Purdue University requires multi-factor authentication (MFA) for most systems. Users are encouraged to enable MFA for all personal and work accounts that support it.

Avoid using public Wi-Fi (e.g., Wi-Fi in a hotel or coffee shop) if possible.
- When traveling to other education institutions, connect to the eduroam network whenever available.
- If you must connect to public Wi-Fi, ensure you use VPN to connect to campus resources.
- You can find more information related to Research Information Assurance Travel Guidance https://www.purdue.edu/research/oevprp/regulatory-affairs/export-controls/international-travel.php

Know who to contact for assistance.

If you observe suspicious activity, immediately contact Purdue Systems Security at the following email: security@purdue.edu.”
May 2022 Campus Calendar

Academic/Holiday:
6 May—Spring semester ends.
12-16 May—Commencement ceremonies.
15 May—Summer semester modules begin.
31 May—Memorial Day holiday. No classes. Offices closed.
6 August—Summer Commencement
22 August—Fall semester begins.

Music:  Note that guests are required to follow Protect Purdue guidelines and local COVID-19 mandates at time of event. Dates and times are subject to change. Unless otherwise noted, events are free and open to the public.

1 May, 2022—Jazz on the Hill. Annual event featuring all of Purdue’s jazz bands. 2:30 p.m. ET. Slayter Center of Performing Arts. Bring a lawn chair or blanket.

Art:  Free and open to the public. Protect Purdue protocols apply.

Robert L. Ringel Gallery. STEW. Hours: 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. ET, Monday-Saturday (except holidays).
Through May 7—“The Birthplace of the Blues.” Photographs, writings, and other media documenting the Mississippi Delta.

Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center. Humanities, Social Science and Education Library, Stewart Center 4th floor.
Through 29 April. “Not Given But Earned: Women’s Fight for the Vote.” 1:00-4:30 p.m. ET, Monday-Friday; appointment recommended.
The library also has online exhibitions.

Athletics:  All sports schedules available at: https://purduesports.com. Click through to the Home page, then click on Sports at the top to see specific sports menu. Athletic ticket information at: purduesports.com/tickets/pur-tickets.html

Spring Sports:
Women’s Softball: through May 1.
Men’s Baseball: through May 21.
Men’s Golf: through May 1.

Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming PURA Events

2 May, 2022  PURA monthly meeting.
• Location:  Via Zoom, broadcast from our studio at the Lafayette VFW on Duncan Road.
• Time:  Program begins at 12:30 p.m. ET; speaker at 12:40 p.m. ET.
• Speaker:  Scott Ksander
• Topic:  Preserving Family History

6 June, 2022  PURA monthly meeting.
• Location:  Via Zoom, broadcast from our studio at the Lafayette VFW on Duncan Road.
• Time:  Program begins at 12:30 p.m. ET; speaker at 12:40 p.m. ET.
• Speaker:  Kelly Lippie, Curator of Collections and Membership, Tippecanoe County Historical Association
• Topic:  TCHA’s Archives and Research Center

9 June, 2022  Tour of Purdue Horticulture Greenhouses.
• Location:  At the entrance to the greenhouses.
• Time:  3:00 p.m. ET.
• The tour is limited to 20 people and is handicap accessible for the most part. Located behind the Horticulture Building at 625 Agricultural Mall. Send email to pura@purdue.edu to register for the event.


1 August, 2022  PURA monthly meeting.
• Location:  Via Zoom, broadcast from our studio at the Lafayette VFW on Duncan Road.
• Time:  Program begins at 12:30 p.m. ET; speaker at 12:40 p.m. ET.
• Speaker:  Emily Toner (from the Netherlands via Zoom!). Per her web site, Ms. Toner is a “writer, multimedia producer, soil geographer, facilitator and community builder,” formerly a Purdue Extension Educator for Marion County.
• Topic:  Soil Information; A World View

12 September, 2022  PURA annual Kickoff.
• Location, time, speaker:  TBA.

PURA’s virtual meetings are presented via Zoom. Zoom connection information and other important updates are provided via email, the PURA News newsletter, and our website: www.purdue.edu/retirees
Years ago, I tried online dating. I didn’t meet anyone, probably because instead of responding in an encouraging way to my matches, I sent them back messages correcting their grammar, punctuation, spelling, and run-on sentences.

I mean – use spell check, people! One gentleman described himself as “a kind and gentle sole.” (I think he meant “soul.”) That wouldn’t have been so bad if he hadn’t identified himself as a “college professor.” Another guy wrote that he was “raised old school and was a “gentlemen.” (Multiple personalities?)

The photos of my potential matches weren’t exactly what I was looking for either. Some of the men were wearing oxygen masks. Some posted pictures with their arms around their late wives. (Or at least that’s who they said they were.) The most promising match was a guy wearing bib overalls and holding a huge fish in his arms. At least he had a big smile on his face.

Not everyone was forthcoming about providing information about themselves. On the questionnaire, we were asked to identify our body types. One of my matches wrote: “I’ll tell you later.”

The ones who identified themselves with nicknames like: “PryoJack,” “Evil 3,” “MasterMojo,” and “Mr. Wundurful” I thought were too forthcoming.

The main problem was that my interests, background, and hobbies didn’t seem to line up with theirs. For instance, here were some of the things they wrote when asked to describe the kind of women they were looking for:

“I have a pit bull named Tyson.” (Hm. And you’re telling me this -- why? Is there more that I should know?)

“The woman I’m looking for must be able to discuss issues without arguments.” (So you’d expect me to always agree with you?)

“I like riding my Harley. Am hoping to find that special lady to share my life with and a cold beer. I’m in the middle of remodeling my home so things are pretty much a mess around here and my Harley is still in my family room with a new motor half installed.” (Um. Maybe you should finish your project first?)

“My goal is to enjoy life and all it has to offer. Like going to garage sales.” (O... Kay. . . .)

“I’m looking for a sexually adventurous friend or companion who is well read and educated.” (Is that all?)

“I walk and enjoy the exercise of walking at least 2 miles each day in an effort to hold my weight down. Even though I’m not obese I sure would hate to pop a button off and shoot someone’s eye out.” (Oh, my. Maybe too much information.)

“I am active, alive and interested in moving forward so why not give me a chance as I will do the traveling, stay in a ‘nice’ hotel in your area and meet you as time allows. I can jog and walk the streets of your area when you are busy with your normal life. I am not getting any younger!” (This is disturbing on so many levels.)

I’ll admit – there was a profile I liked and I did send the guy a message. He answered back, saying that he’d already found a match. But he had a cousin he could fix me up with. (I declined.)

Maybe I should go back and take another look at the guy with the pit bull.

It could be a friendly pit bull.
Zoom Connection Information for PURA Meetings

The Zoom connection information for PURA monthly meetings is shown below. The link, Meeting ID, and password will be the same for all normal monthly meetings.

Members who wish to join via phone call audio only will need the separate Passcode shown below. (The password/passcode for that method is different from the normal “computer connection” to Zoom.)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/97285398989?pwd=MlB4U0FudEplMFRoWm1GTkZzNmYrZz09

Meeting ID: 972 8539 8989
Passcode: BoilerUp

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,97285398989#,,,,,0#,,,,0#,,41051096# US (Chicago)
+19292056099,,97285398989#,,,,,0#,,41051096# US (New York)

Dial by your location
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
Meeting ID: 972 8539 8989
Passcode: 41051096
Find your local number: https://zoom.us/u/acvQQVcnF