



*Retirees and their friends visited the Jasper-Pulaski Wildlife Refuge (above) in October, arriving close to dusk, when the sandhill cranes gather from all directions. Cameras and binoculars were out for the amazing sight. The same trip featured dinner at the Whistle Stop Restaurant (below) and a visit to the Whistle Stop Railroad Museum. For information and registration forms for Spring 2008 trips, see page 5 of this issue of the PURA Newsletter. -- Photos contributed by Jack Karl*



## Retirees, friends go crane watching

## University begins work on next strategic plan

Purdue retirees are actively involved in helping the University craft its next strategic plan.

Betty Suddarth, president of the Purdue University Retirees Association, is a member of one of the eight strategic plan working groups, and several retirees have taken part in open forums in which the working groups gain input from the University community.

Victor Lechtenberg, interim provost, and George Bodner, chair of the University Senate, serve as co-chairs of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee. Each of the eight working groups is focusing on a key area: student success and the student experience; large-scale research and its infrastructure; economic development; quality of life in the workplace; globalization; campus design; synergies between science/engineering and liberal arts/social sciences; and attracting students to careers in the STEM disciplines -- science, technology, engineering and math.

Suddarth, who serves on the campus design group, says the experience has been rewarding.

"The University has been very generous in allowing and inviting retirees

See STRATEGIC, page 2

## Retirees invited to Spring Fling on May 21

The registration form inside this issue is all you need to take part in Spring Fling 2008, scheduled for May 21 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, and yard games will be offered, including corn hole, hillbilly golf, washers and

See SPRING, page 4

### Inside this issue

- Monthly PURA luncheons continue, page 2
- Spring Fling 2008 is May 21, page 4
- Sign up now for Spring 2008 Trips and Tours to Bloomington, Ind., and Grand Rapids, Mich., page 5
- Campus/community trips offered this spring, page 7

## 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.

Here are upcoming dates, speakers and topics.

March 3. Speaker: Mary Anderson. Topic: Faces of Poverty. Officer slate presented.

April 7. Speaker: Sarah Johnson, director of dining services, Purdue University Residences. Topic: A New Generation in Collegiate Dining. Officers elected for 2008-09.

May 5. Speaker: Dr. Richard Arnold. Topic: The Earth Does Not Understand Your Good Intentions Nor Your Stupid Excuses.

June 2. Speaker: Claudine Kaufman, Columbian Park Zoo director. Topic: At the Zoo.

July 7 and Aug. 4. Speaker: TBA.

PURA online:  
www.purdue.edu/retirees



Purdue University Retirees Association

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The *Purdue University Retirees Association Newsletter* is published semiannually for official retirees of Purdue University by the Office of University Relations. Four additional issues are published annually for local retirees.

For change of address, please include the address label from the back page and send it to PURA Newsletter, Room 417, Engineering Administration Building, 400 Centennial Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2016.

Any suggestions or ideas for PURA should be referred to Brent Bowditch, Office of Retiree Affairs, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024. Telephone (765) 494-1779.

Editor: Julie Rosa

Writer/editor: Dan Howell

PURA communications committee chair: Oscar Hopkins

## From your Benefits Committee

Here is news and some updates from the PURA Benefits Committee and chair Martha Chiscon.

1. Those of you who have accessed your PURcare medical or prescription benefits should find no changes for 2008 other than the maximum out-of-pocket before catastrophic coverage under the prescription plan.

2. The one major plan change is to the vision plan. VSP was no longer an option for 2008. Therefore, a set amount of benefit dollars was chosen — \$150. These dollars may be used to offset the cost of any component of your vision exam, prescription lenses, frames, reading glasses, etc. Your vision provider should be able to send a claim to PacifiCare for reimbursement. You will pay amounts above the \$150 benefit. There is no time frame to wait to use this benefit. Even if you used the VSP benefit toward the end of 2007, this new vision benefit is available any time during 2008 that it is needed.

3. You will shortly be receiving a packet of information regarding your prescription drug coverage under PURcare. This information should be accurate this year and provide you useful information about the PURcare prescription benefit. You will also receive your certificate, which describes your medical coverage in detail. Keep this for reference during the year.

4. Should you find that you are unable to satisfactorily resolve a medical, prescription or vision benefit issue by calling the Customer Service 800 number on your plan card, call the Purdue Customer Service staff headed by Kate LaMar at (765) 494-4222. They will be able to resolve complex issues for you.

5. Representatives from PacifiCare will present a program and answer general questions at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, in Room 322, Stewart Center. Those with specific individual questions should call Michele Salla at (765) 494-1779 to schedule an appointment for that afternoon.

## STRATEGIC (continued from page 1)

to be a part of this process," she says. "We are getting an opportunity to be a part of a very important process for Purdue University."

Information about the strategic planning process is available online at [www.purdue.edu/strategic\\_plan/2007-13](http://www.purdue.edu/strategic_plan/2007-13).

At that site, there are links to blogs from each of the working groups. Visitors to the site can answer questions posted by the groups and can offer general comments regarding the strategic plan.

"Our goal has been to engage a broad audience through the forums we have had and through the online blog," Lechtenberg

says. "It is critical that we incorporate the voices of people on campus, in the community and across Indiana into our next strategic plan."

Each working group is beginning to draft a white paper on its topic to describe objectives, strategies and actions, funding requirements, and potential sources of funding. The white papers are expected to be completed in February.

Those who would like to comment and do not have access to the Internet can mail comments to Rab Mukerjea, Hovde Hall, 610 Purdue Mall, Room 200, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2040.

### 2007-08 PURA officers

- President: Betty Suddarth.
- Vice president and president elect: Scott Rumble.
- Secretary-treasurer: Pat Lawson.
- Historian: Mary Alice Nebold.
- Benefits Committee chair: Martha Chiscon.
- Communications Committee

chair: Oscar Hopkins.

■ Hospitality Committee chairs: Lois Gotwals, Lois Wark.

■ Program Committee chair: Dale McHenry.

■ Trips and Tours Committee chair: Truman Martin.

■ Campus and Community Activities Committee chair: Dick Nelson. Mike Drayer serves as past president.

## Officer slate to be presented in March

The slate of officers has been proposed for the Purdue University Retirees Association for 2008-09.

Nominations from the floor for open officer positions will be taken during the March 3 luncheon at MCL Cafeteria. The slate will be voted on at the April 7 luncheon at MCL.

The slate as submitted by the nominating committee:

President, who was vice president and president-elect during 2007-08: Scott Rumble.

Vice president, who will be president-elect during 2008-09: Lois Wark.

Officers continuing in their current

positions for the coming year are:

Secretary-treasurer: Pat Lawson.

Historian: Mary Alice Nebold.

Committee chairs had not been finalized as of late January.

Betty Suddarth will serve as past president.

## PURA symposium to address retirement living

The PURA symposium, previously called "Living to 100," has been changed to "Purposeful Living in Retirement."

The program this year will be presented on Wednesday, April 23, at the University Plaza (formally University Inn) Conference Center in West Lafayette.

Speakers will center their presentations on subjects suggesting activities in which retirees can become involved during their retirement years. Some examples: recording your life memories for future family generations; crafts; developing a hobby into a business; and how personalities affect longevity.

There also will be exhibitor booths from various businesses and events.

The cost for the program, including the luncheon, will be \$10 per person.

Brochures and applications will be mailed soon 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.



*UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN A SUCCESS — Robert Wild, assistant head of the Department of Chemistry and campaign chair, and Roger Blalock, senior associate athletics director and campaign vice chair, reveal the final tally in the Purdue United Way Campaign during a celebration in November. The University passed its goal of \$720,000 on Nov. 8 as it headed toward its total of \$729, 511. The Purdue contribution helped the campaign of United Way of Greater Lafayette reach \$4,857,108, topping its goal of \$4.85 million. Purdue makes up about 15 percent of the community's United Way giving. Retirees were a big part of the Purdue United Way campaign. Betty Suddarth and Scott Rumble were the retiree representatives to Purdue's campaign. In all, retirees contributed \$83,949 to the campaign as of its November celebration.*

## Nominations open for Book of Great Teachers

Anyone can nominate a current or past Purdue faculty member for the Book of Great Teachers through March 3.

"It's important that we give public and permanent recognition to those who devote themselves to excellence in teaching," says Christine Ladisch, vice provost for academic affairs.

"The teaching-learning relationship of

faculty and students is the foundation of a great university."

Names of those selected are placed on a display in the west foyer in Purdue Memorial Union.

The Book of Great Teachers was dedicated with 225 names in 1999, and 42 more were added in 2003. New entries are to be made every five years. The 2008 class

is to be celebrated early in fall semester.

Eligibility is based on 15 years of continuous service to Purdue.

The nomination form is at [www.purdue.edu/provost/GreatTeachers/index.htm/](http://www.purdue.edu/provost/GreatTeachers/index.htm/).

Succinct answers in list form are preferable. The selection committee can follow up as warranted.

## SPRING (continued from page 1)

horseshoes. Registration will be on-site on the day of Spring Fling for volleyball, and for all the yard games. Volleyball will be held behind the Aquatic Center. The yard games will be held on the Intramural Gold Field or, in the event of rain, in the Main Gym.

Golf also is on the activity list. Tee times will be available at the Ackerman Hills course only. Those who want to play golf should call (765) 494-3194, ext. 1, to reserve a tee time. Call soon to make reservations because tee times will fill up quickly.

Also on the activity list 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.

Also, the Lafayette Fun Squares will offer square dancing — you can watch or dance along.

A trivia contest also will be held. Sign up on the form at right if you'd like to take part in that fun event.

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 27.

## Volunteers needed

Retirees are encouraged to volunteer for an hour or so during Spring Fling 2008. Opportunities for volunteering include helping in the food line, helping serve popcorn, assisting with setup and/or cleanup.

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

### Spring Fling 2008

May 21

#### 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 2008. 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 want to participate in the Spring Fling Fitness Walk.

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to participate in the Spring Fling Face Off trivia event.

I have a team \_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to participate as an individual \_\_\_\_\_

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. Fees are \$17 for Ackerman Hills. These special rates include 18 holes walking with the option of riding at a discounted cart rate of \$8.

**\*\* Return this form by April 25 to Carrie Hanson, Human Resource Services, Freehafer Hall, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907**

### Spring Fling 2008

#### 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.

# Sign up for trips to IU-Bloomington and Grand Rapids, Mich.

Retirees are encouraged to sign up soon to take part in the two remaining tours on the spring Trips and Tours schedule. Deadlines are in March for both trips.

\* A visit to Bloomington, Ind., on **March 26** will include the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, the Meadowood Retirement Village, and a short stop at Oliver Winery on the way back to West Lafayette.

The deadline is **March 12** to register for the Bloomington trip. The cost is \$60 per person.

\* On **April 16-17**, retirees can visit Grand Rapids, Mich., where they will see the Gerald R. Ford Museum and Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park.

The Gerald R. Ford Museum includes displays that portray both the private and public career of President Ford. Visitors can take a holographic tour of the White House and observe foreign policy procedures in the Situation Room.

The Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park include 125 acres of wetlands,

woodlands, meadows and gardens with a variety of annuals, trees and arid plants.

No meals are included in the price for the tour. Restaurants and cafes are readily accessible.

The deadline is **March 14** for the trip to Grand Rapids. The cost is \$145 each for those occupying a couple room and \$195 for a single room.

To register for either trip, fill out and return the forms below to the address indicated.

<p><b>Purdue University Retirees</b>  <b>School of Music and Meadowood, Bloomington</b></p>	
<p>Trip: 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 26, 2008                  Reservation deadline: March 12</p>	
<p>Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____</p>	
<p>Address: _____</p>	
<p>City and State: _____ Telephone _____</p>	
<p>E-mail _____</p>	
<p>Disability? Yes or No _____ If Yes, Describe _____</p>	
<p>Number of persons _____ X \$60 = Total enclosed _____</p>	
<p>Make checks payable to Purdue University. Return checks and this form to Michele Salla, Purdue University Retirees Association, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907. Telephone (765) 494-1779</p>	
<p>-----</p>	
<p><b>Purdue University Retirees</b>  <b>Grand Rapids, Michigan</b></p>	
<p>Trip: 8 a.m. Wednesday, April 16 - 5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 17, 2008                  Reservation deadline: March 14</p>	
<p><b>Note: Each person is required to complete a registration form in order to facilitate room assignment.</b></p>	
<p>Name: _____ Male _____ Female _____</p>	
<p>Address: _____</p>	
<p>City and State: _____ Telephone _____</p>	
<p>E-mail _____</p>	
<p>Disability? Yes or No _____ If Yes, Describe _____</p>	
<p>Fee submitted: Single Room _____ Share double room with _____                  Single Room @ \$195 _____                  Double Room @ \$145 _____</p>	
<p>Make checks payable to Purdue University. Return checks and this form to Michele Salla, Purdue University Retirees Association, 401 S. Grant St., West Lafayette, IN 47907. Telephone (765) 494-1779</p>	

## Retirees in action: A short take

Nancy Friedersdorf, a Purdue retiree from the Dean of Students Office at Purdue who now lives in Tucson, Ariz., was recognized through a bequest to the Lake Park (Illinois) Educational Foundation from the estate of Lucille V. Mueller, for Friedersdorf's contribution in the early 1960s as a faculty member in the Lake Park schools. She was thanked as a teacher who contributed "to students' learning and success," and for her "incredible emotional support" when Mueller's father was in a serious car accident during her senior year.

The Mueller family bequest was recognized at the Lake Park Educational Foundation's Distinguished Alumni Recognition banquet in March of 2006.

\*\*\*\*\*

Do you have a suggestion of someone who might be profiled in PURDUE RETIREES IN ACTION, or might you tell in first person of some of your own experiences for this column?

Have you or a Purdue retiree you know received an honor or an award that might be mentioned?

Make your suggestion by emailing Julie Rosa at: [jrosa@purdue.edu](mailto:jrosa@purdue.edu), by calling her at (765) 494-2036, or by writing her at the following address:

Julie Rosa, Director, University Periodicals, 400 Centennial Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907



*Nancy Friedersdorf is a Purdue retiree from the Dean of Students Office. She now lives in Tucson, Ariz.*

## News Reports

### Purdue's 2007 highlights captured on video

The 53rd edition of the Purdue Newsreel, a video collection of University highlights from 2007, is now available.

The 17-minute program, produced by the Broadcast Services unit of the Office of University Relations, can be viewed online or is available at the John W. Hicks Undergraduate Library. The video also can be purchased from the Purdue Alumni Association.

The video, "A Year of Celebrations," is sponsored by the Alumni Association and Office of the President.

The 2007 newsreel is narrated by 1989 Purdue graduate Kathy Bruni, a production assistant in Purdue Convocations. The program was produced and directed by Ray Cubberley, director of broadcast services in university relations.

The program can be viewed on the Purdue News Service Web site at <http://news.uns.purdue.edu/> or on YouTube at <http://youtube.com/purdue>.

A DVD or VHS tape of the newsreel can be purchased for \$19.95, plus \$3 for shipping and handling, from the Purdue Alumni Association, Dick and Sandy Dauch Alumni Center, Attn: Nicki Reas, 403 Wood St., West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007; telephone (765) 494-5175.



### Jane Goodall to speak as part of Science Centennial

Tickets were to go on sale Feb. 19 for a presentation by Jane Goodall, a world-renowned humanitarian and primatologist, who will speak at Purdue on March 29.

Goodall's talk, "Reason for Hope," is the College of Science Centennial Finale Event. It will be at 1 p.m. March 29 in Elliott Hall of Music.

Tickets are \$15 for students with a valid student ID and \$21 for the general public. They will be available at Purdue box offices and at Ticketmaster.

Goodall, acclaimed for her work with chimpanzees in the wild, will describe the special relationship she has developed with these animals and share her passion for saving them and their habitat.

Founded in 1977, the Jane Goodall Institute continues Goodall's pioneering research of chimpanzee behavior — research that transformed scientific perceptions of the relationship between humans and animals.

Today, the Institute is a global leader in the effort to protect chimpanzees and their habitats. It also is widely recognized for establishing innovative community-centered conservation and development

programs in Africa, and the Roots & Shoots education program, which has groups in more than 95 countries.

More information about Goodall and the institute is available at [www.janegoodall.org](http://www.janegoodall.org).

More information about the College of Science centennial celebration is at [www.science.purdue.edu/centennial/](http://www.science.purdue.edu/centennial/).



### E-mail news available from Purdue in monthly, daily form

Retirees can sign up to receive e-mail news from Purdue in a monthly or daily mailing.

Purdue Now is a monthly e-newsletter that goes out to alumni and friends of the University. It includes general and research news as well as some alumni news. Those who would like to subscribe should send their name, Purdue affiliation (graduate, retiree, friend), and e-mail address to [Purduenow@purdue.edu](mailto:Purduenow@purdue.edu).

Purdue Today is a daily e-newsletter that goes out each weekday morning to faculty and staff. It includes news specifically for faculty and staff as well as research and special reports, news about Purdue people and events listings. To subscribe to Purdue Today, go to <https://lists.purdue.edu/mailman/listinfo/ptnews> and follow the instructions there.

# Spring brings campus/area activities

Retirees and guests are invited to join PURA for the following Campus/Community Activities for Spring 2008.

To sign up for any or all of the tours, please fill out the form at right.

## ■ MARCH 12, LAFAYETTE SYMPHONY TOUR

On Wednesday, March 12, PURA members and their guests are invited at 6:15 p.m. to the St. John Pavilion at Long Center for the Performing Arts for an information session on LSO — its infrastructure and support, selection of players and concert programs, as well as rehearsal activities and schedules.

Ken Bootsma, executive director, will meet with the group and introduce Nicholas Palmer, conductor, for this presentation.

Then the opportunity opens up to attend a portion of the 7:30 p.m. rehearsal in the Long Center.

Acknowledgment of our visit will be made at a concert — “The Glory of Mahler” — on March 15.

\* Parking. Street parking is available near the 111 North Sixth St. location.

## ■ MARCH 25, ANIMAL DISEASE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

On March 25, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. PURA members may visit the Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, hear a presentation by Leon Thacker, ADDL director, and visit such sites as the toxicology lab, and serology, and possibly the post-mortem floor.

In addition, Thacker will discuss the planned bio-security lab and what it means to Indiana and the nation. Reservations are needed, since light refreshments are planned.

\* Parking. ADDL can be reached by turning south from State Street on University, 2 blocks to Harrison. Turn west (right) 20 yards to the granite ADDL sign, then turn south (left), to the bottom of the slope, which ends in the parking area. Some car-pooling will help.

PLEASE PRINT, FILL OUT, AND SEND THE RESERVATION FORM TO: \_\_\_\_\_

Michele Salla, Human Resource Service, 401 S. Grant Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2024

Print Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Lafayette Symphony Tour. I/We wish to be included in the Symphony tour on March 12

\_\_\_\_ Animal Disease Diagnostic Lab Tour. I/We wish to attend the ADDL tour on March 25

\_\_\_\_ EPICS/Neil Armstrong Hall Tour. I/We wish to attend the Epics/Armstrong tour on April 23

Alternatively, you may e-mail Dick Nelson (rcnelson@purdue.edu), or call him at (463-3144). Please provide name(s) and an e-mail address and/or a telephone number if you e-mail or call. Be sure to indicate which tour(s) you are booking.

*Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering features a bronze sculpture of the building's namesake in the plaza on the northwest side of the building. Inside hangs a full-scale replica of the Apollo 1 command module. Retirees can visit the building for a tour on April 23.*



## APRIL 23, EPICS AND TOUR OF NEIL ARMSTRONG HALL OF ENGINEERING

On April 23, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., PURA members will have the opportunity to hear a discussion of EPICS, Engineering Projects in Community Service, by Bill Oakes, EPICS director. This part of the program will take place first, in Room 1101, following which a student guide will take the group on a tour of Neil Armstrong Hall, one of the newest buildings on campus. Reservations are needed, since light refreshments are planned.

Parking. Neil Armstrong Hall is at the corner of Northwestern and Stadium, a very busy location on campus. Those participating are encouraged to park in the Northwestern garage and use the tunnel to the Materials and Electrical Engineering Building, then proceed north on Northwestern Avenue. There is a combined bus stop and drop-off space at Neil Armstrong Hall, on the south side of Stadium Avenue, which may be used for anyone who would find that necessary.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to:

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