

# PURA News

Purdue University Retirees Association

June/July 2017

## PURA Annual Leadership Transition Meeting Held in May

Comments from incoming PURA President, John Trott:



“As I take the reins of PURA for the 2017-2018 year, I wanted to give you an update on our 40th year and give you an idea of what PURA volunteers will be involved in for our 41st year.

First of all, a tremendous thanks to Melinda Bain, our 2016-2017 President, for the inspiring leadership she gave the organization. Melinda

will continue to provide great support to all of us this coming year.

The Benefits committee continues to work extremely hard to provide Medicare Supplement and Medicare Advantage PPO for Purdue Retirees. They have been very successful in keeping premiums in check and will do their best in the years ahead as Congress attempts to make changes in the Affordable Care Act. The committee has also worked with the Henriott Group in Lafayette to provide pre-65 retirees an opportunity buy health insurance on the open market. A new preventative dental plan was

also developed by the committee with the University and Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Another major project for the committee was the development of End of Life Planning Documents which are extremely valuable documents for all retirees and can be found on our website at [www.purdue.edu/retirees](http://www.purdue.edu/retirees).

PURA will host the Big-10 Retirees Association Conference August 25-27. Astronaut Jerry Ross and author John Norberg will present a keynote address and all Purdue retirees will be invited to the presentation. Additional information will be in future PURA Newsletters.

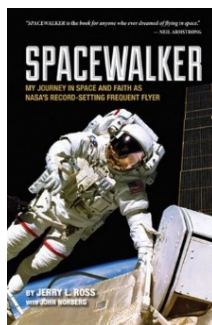
The Campus and Community committee and Trips and Tours Committee have some very interesting and enjoyable activities planned for the year. The Endowment Committee continues to work with Jischke scholars and provides support to a worthwhile Purdue student. The new Scholarships Committee has raised almost \$35,000 to date. The University has agreed to match dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. Thanks to the tremendous generosity of our retirees, our goals will hopefully be met within the next year or two.

I would encourage everyone to bookmark our website ([www.purdue.edu/retirees](http://www.purdue.edu/retirees)) on your computers to stay current on PURA activities and important information. PURA is without question the leading university retirees’ association in the Big Ten, if not the entire country. The many dedicated volunteers who run your organization vow to do their best for all of you.”

## Firsthand Accounts of Outer Space

PURA members are invited to experience a once in a lifetime opportunity to hear from an extraordinary Purdue alumnus who made seven flights into outer space during a distinguished career as a NASA astronaut.

On August 25, Jerry Ross, keynote speaker for the Big Ten Retirees Association Annual Meeting and PURA Common Read co-author, will share his life story beginning as a 10 year old Crown Point, Indiana star gazer who knew he wanted to journey into space. He shares stories of spaceflight that few humans have experienced, accounts of the US Space Shuttle program from before its first launch to the final landing, and of the hard work, determination, and faith necessary to travel



beyond this world. John Norberg, PURA member and co-author of *Spacewalker, My Journey in Space and Faith as NASA's Record Setting Frequent Flyer*, also will speak. Both will be available to autograph your books, and books will be available for purchase.

**Friday, August 25**

**Book Signing 3:30 p.m., Stewart Center, Room 302-306**

**Presentation 4:30 p.m., Stewart Center, Room 302-306**

To ensure seating availability, please RSVP to Michele Salla, [masalla@purdue.edu](mailto:masalla@purdue.edu), if you plan to attend.

## PURA Annual Leadership Transition Meeting

The official PURA leadership key was passed from President Melinda Bain to John Trott, incoming PURA President, on May 31 at the Annual Transition Meeting and Luncheon. Outgoing, continuing, and new PURA officers and committee members spent the morning reporting on the past year's accomplishments and planning for the 2017-18 PURA year. The committees brainstormed speaker ideas and plans for the monthly business/lunch meetings, trips to near and far places, specifics for the fall annual luncheon, program topics for Purposeful Living in Retirement, and a host of other activities to enhance PURA outreach to its members. After the morning work sessions, officers and committee members met for lunch in the West Faculty Lounge in the Purdue Memorial Union.

In keeping with the tradition of inviting a university representative to provide an update on campus activities, Michael B. Cline, a Purdue civil engineering alumnus and Vice President for Physical Facilities, was the featured speaker. He provided highlights of new facility construction on campus and the State Street project. There is currently over \$450 million invested in active projects ranging from major academic buildings supporting the Purdue Moves or Pillars of Excellence in Life Sciences initiatives to



### 2017-2018 PURA Elected Officers:

(l-r) – Robert Bain, Treasurer; John Trott, President; Carolyn Jones, Historian; Don Gentry, Vice President; Melinda Bain, Past President; Deborah Dimmitt, Secretary

### PURA SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

PURA members contributed over \$42,000 to scholarships and University initiatives on Purdue Day of Giving, April 26. Over \$5,400 was designated for the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment, raising the total received to almost \$35,000. A request was approved to transfer the first \$25,000 matching funds into the endowment account, which will result in earnings sufficient to begin helping Indiana students, perhaps as early as the spring semester 2018. Thanks to all who paid it forward.

Your tax-deductible contribution can be made by check or credit card. Mail a check payable to the Purdue Foundation, with the PURA Student Scholarship noted in the memo line, to: Purdue Foundation, Dauch Alumni Center, 403 W. Wood Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007. You also may contribute online at:  
<http://Giving.Purdue.edu/PURA>



**Volunteers Needed:** PURA committees are always looking for new members. If you can lend a hand, contact Michele Salla, [masalla@purdue.edu](mailto:masalla@purdue.edu)

university residences bathroom renovations. You may view current information and updates on the Physical Facilities Featured Projects website and the State Street Redevelopment Project website.

Outgoing PURA officers and committee members were thanked and recognized for their service. The most recent PURA statistics reflect over 4800 retirees, of which 3800 reside in Indiana, with 3600 of those in Tippecanoe and the seven surrounding counties, and 1000 in West Lafayette.

Incoming President John Trott emphasized that PURA's strength lies in its committee volunteers and members. He urged members to contact officers and committee chairs at any time with ideas and suggestions. PURA officers and committee chairs can be found on the Purdue website at [www.purdue.edu/retirees](http://www.purdue.edu/retirees).

Goals for the 2017-18 PURA year include hosting the Big Ten Retirees Association conference in August 2017; fully funding the Purdue Student Scholarship Endowment; continuing to update PURA's bylaws, policies, and procedures, making them accessible to all members; continuing excellence in PURA's supplemental healthcare plans; and planning for PURA's future based on Task Force 2020 recommendations.



### 2017-2018 PURA Committee Chairs:

Front Row (l-r) – Sarah Johnson, Co-Chair Kick-off Luncheon; Joma Roe, Trips and Tours; Olivia Wood, Purposeful Living in Retirement; Sue Hiser, Endowment; Melinda Bain, PURA Student Scholarship Endowment

Back Row (l-r) – John Schneider, Co-Chair Program; Richard Nelson, Campus/Community Activities; Don Gentry, Vice President, Karen Lembcke, Co-Chair Communications; Roy Johnson, Co-Chair Program; Bill Bennett, Hospitality

Not pictured – Suzanne Collins, Co-Chair Communications; Larry Pherson, Co-Chair Benefits; Ann Pickett, Co-Chair Kick-off Luncheon

### Indianapolis Fast Park & Relax – Now Available to PURA Members

The Fast Park & Relax parking facility near the Indianapolis Airport has invited Purdue retirees to take advantage of the same perks they offer Purdue employees.

To enroll, visit the following web site:

<http://enrollnow.thefastpark.com/6b1b6f60-dc51-41ac-a9d5-b8dbff9e8af5>

The general information web site for Fast Park & Relax is <http://www.thefastpark.com>

## PURA Summer Trips Announced

The Trips and Tours Committee invites you to join Imperial Travel on three upcoming trips. To reserve a spot on a trip, call Imperial Travel 447-9321 or 800-642-6645.

**June 30 - SECRETS OF INDIANA** \$99/person (includes tours and lunch).

First, visit the Exotic Feline Rescue Center, featuring nearly 200 big cats from 8 different species. The next stop is the Clabber Girl Bake Shop and Factory. Tour the factory, watch a cooking demonstration and sampling, and enjoy the included lunch buffet. Step back in time with the next stop, the historic Indiana Theatre. The final stop is the Fire and Police Museum.

**July 25 - FRENCH LICK RESORT & CASINO** \$40/person (Transportation only)

You decide how you want to spend the day. Options include the Casino, Spa and Salon\*, bowling at the 6-lane alley\*, round of golf\*, horseback riding\*, visit the Indiana Railway Museum where you can take a 2-hour historic train ride\* or take a guided

walking tour of French Lick Springs Hotel or West Baden Hotel\*.

*\*Additional fees apply, visit <https://www.frenchlick.com/> for details.*

**August 16 – GANGSTER GETAWAY** \$129/person (includes tour, lunch and show)

Experience Chicago as it was during the 1920s and 30s. Costumed gangster guides will take us back to a time when Al Capone ruled the South Side of Chicago. We will visit the hot spots of gangster legends. We will have lunch at Tommy Guns Garage, an interactive “Speakeasy” where we will enjoy musical selections from Cole Porter, Duke Ellington and more.

### Like travel? Interested in helping to plan PURA trips and tours?

We are still looking for a couple of new committee members. We are working on planning more trips for fall. If you are interested in joining this committee, please email Joma Roe, [joma@purdue.edu](mailto:joma@purdue.edu).

## Save the Date for the PURA Kickoff Luncheon

Mark your calendars now for the annual PURA Kickoff Luncheon! **Monday, September 11, 2017**  
at the Four Points by Sheraton in West Lafayette.

The menu will include Fresh Garden Salad, Teriyaki Chicken Breast, Caribbean Rice, and Carrot Broccoli Medley. Vegetarian and gluten-free entrees will be available.

Watch for registration information in the next issue of the PURA Newsletter.

## Purdue Athletic Director Speaks at May’s Monthly PURA Meeting



Mike Bobinski spoke at the PURA monthly meeting held at MCL on May 1, 2017, exactly 8 months after starting as Purdue’s Athletic Director on September 1, 2016.

A scholarship athlete in baseball and business administration magna cum laude graduate from Notre Dame, he first worked as a CPA followed by a position at Walt Disney. His career in athletics started in 1989 at the U.S. Naval Academy, then Notre Dame, Akron, Xavier, and Georgia Tech before coming to Purdue.

Each former position brought new and different challenges providing a wealth of preparation for the Purdue position.

His observations after 8 months into the Purdue job include the great foundation Purdue has in “substance and grounding”, as well as the “sense of family” (including the long generational chain of commitment from great grandparents to grandparents to parents of today’s students) all leading to how much “Purdue people care about Purdue.” With respect to athletics, he praised the stability in administration, while taxing his staff to approach their jobs as if they are new to them and to discard being comfortable with routines which can foster “getting used to the way it’s always been”.

He would like to see Purdue’s athletic “brand” be revitalized by “thinking bigger”. He feels the football coaching transition was a step in the right direction. He was asked about the Friday night football games in relation to high school football. This was due to a NCAA mandate to have 4 Friday night games across all sports and he is committed to working with the local high schools to have it work out as best it can within the rules. After the fall of 2017, there will be no Friday Purdue football games in 2018, and then only one in 2019. (O. Wood)

## Tips from Emergency Responder Panel Presentation at the PLIR Conference

Tippecanoe County emergency responders provided emergency medical tips during their presentation at the April Purposeful Living in Retirement conference. The “911 panel” suggested that you have medical information with you in your wallet rather than on your phone, including your medications and name of the medical facility to which you wish to be transported, in case no companion is with you who could provide that information. The

responders said they look first for information in your wallet because it takes longer to access such information on a phone, particularly if you have it locked with a password.

A simulation heart attack awareness video was also shared, with explanation of typical symptoms. The panel advised that bystanders should always call 911 so that medical treatment may begin as soon as responders arrive. Prompt attention is critical to survival. The video is available on YouTube, and may be accessed at: <http://youtu.be/x0BqyA-tRpU>

## What Time Is It?

In the late 1800's, transportation and commerce were heavily dependent on the railroads. Originally, people set their clocks by the sun. When the sun was at its highest point in the sky it was "high noon." When the railroads were traveling between cities and trying to establish their timetable, major scheduling problems occurred. The railroad timetables in major cities would list dozens of different arrival and departure times for the same train, each linked to a different local time zone.

They realized that a more efficient railroad transportation system demanded an improved, uniform, timekeeping system, so the railroad companies created a new time code system. In 1883, they agreed to divide the North American continent into 4 time zones. The dividing lines they adopted are very close to the ones used today. In 1918, Congress officially adopted the railroad time



zones and placed them under the supervision of the federal Interstate Commerce Commission.

Officially, there are 24 time zones in the world. (There are 16 others but they are not usually taken into account in official international matters.) Official time zones are divided into units of one hour each; but, due to political issues, some countries determine their own.

For instance, China and India do not have any time zones as the politicians did not want to divide their country into time zones. If they followed the international pattern, China should have five time zones and India, two. There are eleven time zones in France, which includes French Guiana and numerous islands, some inhabited and some not inhabited.

In the U.S., the Navajo Nation observes Daylight Saving Time. However, the Hopi Nation, within the Navajo Reservation, does not observe the time changes.

## Summer Skin Care

As we age, our skin changes. Years of sun exposure leads to age spots, wrinkles, dryness and even skin cancer. We notice that scratches take longer to heal. We may also notice that our skin tears with mild injury. Skin tears are due to the skin thinning. Skin care such as using milder soaps when bathing, bathing with warm water instead of hot water and applying moisturizers daily can be beneficial.

If in the sun, remember to use sunscreen of 30 SPF (Sun Protection Factor) or greater. Look for the words "broad spectrum" on the label and apply 15 minutes before going in the sun. Try to avoid direct sun exposure between the hours of 10am to 4pm. Wearing hats, long loose sleeves, sunglasses and long pants also adds protection from the sun. Basal and squamous cell skin cancers are the two most common types of skin cancer and are easily treatable when found early. Melanoma can be deadly and it is important to find early. Notice mole changes. Any areas of concern should be addressed with your healthcare provider.

Please feel free to pick up a free "SPOT Skin Cancer" card at the Nursing Center for Family Health, in Lyles-Porter Hall. This card addresses the A,B,C,D and E's of Melanoma along with pictures of changing moles. You may also view this card at the website below.

For more information visit American Academy of Dermatology, [www.aad.org](http://www.aad.org) (C. Rearick)

## Retired!! Don't know what to do with your time?

An opportunity may exist in HR. Brenda Coulson, from Purdue's Human Resources Department, reported that 10 positions for part time employment for retirees were posted last year. Seven were for administration/clerical support, one was for warehouse/inventory support, one for Administrative/Professional research,

## Mark Your Calendars!

**30 June Trip—Secrets of Indiana** (see page 3 for details)

**3 July PURA Monthly Meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11 am  
**Topic:** Self-driving Cars  
**Speaker:** Dr. Srin Peeta, Hockema Professor of Civil Engineering

**25 July Trip—French Lick Resort** (see page 3 for details)

**7 August PURA Monthly Meeting**, MCL Cafeteria, 11 am  
**Topic:** Honey Bee Research  
**Speaker:** Tom Turpin

**16 August Trip—The Gangster Getaway** (see page 3 for details)

**25 August Big Ten Retirees Associations** conference, featuring Jerry Ross  
**Book Signing:** 3:30 Stewart Center, Room 302-306  
**Presentation:** 4:30 Stewart Center, Room 302-306

**RSVP:** Michele Salla, [msalla@purdue.edu](mailto:msalla@purdue.edu)

**11 September PURA Kick-off Luncheon**, Four Points by Sheraton, West Lafayette

**15 September Center for Aging and the Life Course annual symposium** (Registration information in August *PURA News* issue)

and one for a proctor. In two instances temporary staff members were hired into a regular benefit-eligible positions.

Coulson has received very positive feedback from managers on the program. Retirees interested in part-time employment with the university can find additional information on the Purdue University web site.