



NEWSWATCH

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September 2014

**Next meeting: Gladys DeVane at 2 p.m., Wednesday, October 8
Kelley Dining Room, DeVault Alumni Center, 1000 E. 17th St.**

Tell me a story: Gladys DeVane to appear as “Elizabeth: A Woman of Color”

Gladys DeVane, noted actress and master storyteller, will relate the story of Elizabeth, a free woman of color, when retirees gather on Oct. 8. The meeting is at 2 p.m. at the Virgil T. DeVault Alumni Center, 1000 E. 17th St., a different venue for the IURA.



Gladys has quite a story of her own. An accomplished storyteller even as a child, she put this talent on hold while raising a family and establishing a career. She came to Bloomington in 1963 to pursue a master’s degree. She stayed on to earn a Ph.D. and teach in the department of speech and hearing science and at the Kelley School of

Business. She and her husband helped found Options for Better Living, now called LifeDesigns, an organization that creates opportunities for people with disabilities in Monroe and surrounding counties.

Upon retiring after 38 years of teaching and clinical work at IU, Gladys again turned to acting and storytelling. She has performed with the Cardinal Stage Company, Bloomington Playwrights Project (BPP), Bloomington Civic Theater, Brown County Theater, and the Knickerbocker Theater in Holland, Mich. She has been named a Bloomington Living Legend and received the Lifetime Contribution Award during Women’s History Month in 2012.

When Gladys told Elizabeth’s story this June at Mini University, she garnered rave reviews. She says her

story of Elizabeth draws on “historical accounts of life during the early and mid-1800s in and around Southern Indiana’s Harrison County, where the Ohio River forms the boundary between Ohio and Kentucky.”

IURA President **John Hobson** advises retirees to park in the Assembly Hall lot across 17th Street. “No permit is necessary,” John says, “and no tickets will be issued.”

HR releases brochure for new retirees

When the IURA Benefits Committee, ably chaired by **Bruce Jaffee**, looked at information provided to new retirees, they found no comprehensive presentation of benefits. “It was in bits and pieces,” IURA President **John Hobson** said at the Sept. 10 association luncheon. During the last year IURA encouraged HR to develop a brochure, which recently was released. It will be available to members at the next meeting.

IURA takes on new United Way challenge

At the Sept. 10 meeting of the IURA, **Doris Burton** announced the IURA goal for the 2015 United Way campaign: \$135,000. “In recent years retirees have always met or exceeded our goal,” she said.

According to **Harriet Pfister**, she, Doris, and **Wain Martin** seem to have lifetime appointments as the IURA United Way team leaders, but they accept that responsibility because “it’s in a good cause.”

IURA President **John Hobson** promised the triumvirate that retirees will “do what we can to help you in reaching the goal.” Be sure to designate the IURA as your giving unit.

Granbois explains what dues pay for

At the Sept. 10 meeting IURA Treasurer **Don Granbois** announced that, after paying for the August newsletter and the Sept. 10 lunches, the balance is \$8,424.40. That amount, he said, should be sufficient to pay for the association's major expenses: renting a post office box, giving modest gifts to presenters, sending a representative to the Big Ten conference, helping support the Emeriti House art exhibit, furnishing meat and wine for the May potluck, and – by far the largest expense – printing and mailing the newsletter and membership directory. “You get quite a bit for your \$15 or \$20,” Don observed.

Bylaws change to reflect reality

At its May meeting, following discussion of how the purpose and practices of the IU Retirees Association have changed over the years, the membership approved amendments to the articles and bylaws. Many of the revisions updated the document to reflect current practices. The more significant changes provide for greater continuity in board membership and improve the board's ability to provide leadership in advocating for retiree benefits.

The revised bylaws

- Allow two consecutive three-year terms for board members (previously only one term was allowed),
- Remove the president-elect system, where the vice president became president after serving as vice president for a year, and
- Allow officers to serve up to three one-year terms.

Amending the bylaws now requires “action by the board and subsequent ratification in whole by a majority of members voting during an annual or called meeting.” Previously, action by the board was not required, although it had been the practice when changes were considered.

-- *Dick McKaig, IURA Immediate Past President*

Big Ten retirees share best practices

This year the University of Minnesota Retirees Association hosted the annual Big Ten Retirees Association from August 8 to 10. The conference theme was Retiree-University Synergy. Twelve Big Ten institutions sent delegates, and we welcomed

guests from the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education (AROHE).

During her session on university support of retirees, Sue Barnes, from AROHE/UC Davis, reminded us, “Everyone listens to the radio station WII-FM -- What's In It For Me. The more a retiree association can do to support the mission of its institution, the more likely will be the university's support of the retiree association, financial and otherwise.”

I found the most exciting part of the conference to be the sharing of “Best Practices” among the 12 universities. These practices run the gamut from holiday photo contests to university and community retiree service grants. I will share this information with the executive committee, which will then present the best ideas to the IURA board. I hope that at least a few can be implemented in the near future.

Next year's meeting will be held at Michigan State University from August 14 to 16.

--*Jo Daron, IURA Vice President*

Mayor Kruzan looks to future expansion

“You are *my* Bloomington,” Mayor **Mark Kruzan** told about 100 people who gathered at the Liberty Ballroom for the Sept. 10 IURA luncheon. “I came to Bloomington in 1978 from Lake County, and because of the faculty and staff in this room, I have had life opportunities I never dreamed of.”

When he arrived in 1978, the population of Bloomington was 48,000. Now it is 84,000. By 2035, Mark said, a conservative estimate of the population is 125,000. “I-69 will bring more people who commute to Indianapolis,” he said. “As residents increasingly outnumber students, the average age will increase. We are planning now for that future.”

Mark explained how planning priorities have changed over the decades. In the 1980s the east side wanted shopping opportunities. In the 1990s the west side said it had been overlooked. By the 2000s, he said, “you couldn't run for office without talking about sprawl.” Policies for increased density resulted in such buildings as Smallwood, which, Mark observed, “is neither small nor wood.”

The emphasis in what he called the 20-teens is demographic balance in the downtown area. Other cities – Muncie, Anderson, Terre Haute, Evansville –

consider Bloomington's downtown a huge success. Longtime residents, on the other hand, tend to romanticize what it was like in the 1980s. Yet many of those old buildings were firetraps, about to collapse.

As Bloomington's mayor since 2004, "I have taken a very conservative approach to annexation," Mark said. "I have been concerned with moving too fast because of the impact of expanding city services such as fire, police, parks, streets, recycling, and sanitation into new areas."

Adding 5,000 households, 9,000 people, to city services overnight would strain resources enormously. Sanitation is a particular concern. The costs of providing trash pickup and recycling exceed revenue from trash stickers by more than \$1.5 million per year.

Another challenge facing the city is water. "We came perilously close to running out of water a couple of summers ago," Mark said. "It was not a matter of supply – Lake Monroe had plenty of water – but the water treatment plant was maxed out." The \$45 million improvement in the water treatment plant assures an adequate supply for the next several decades.

The new challenge will be the politics of water. "We don't own Lake Monroe," Mark pointed out. "We're

just a customer." The donut counties around Indianapolis have their eyes on Lake Monroe as a way to supply water to them. "The challenge will be how to manage, conserve, and share," he said.

In introducing the mayor, IURA President **John Hobson** pointed out the recognition Bloomington has received. The state Chamber of Commerce named it Indiana's Community of the Year, *Forbes* called it the best city for work-life balance, and *Travel and Leisure* ranked it the ninth quirkiest town in America.

"The quirkiness of Bloomington is a marketable commodity," Mark said. "It sets us apart from peer communities. Our three main challenges are growth, growth, and growth. My approach to each decision is a desire to maintain our uniqueness – to keep it quirky."

"At the height – or depth – of the recent depression," Mark said, "we made the decision to go forward and make investments." The city acquired the Sportsplex, built 30 miles of pedestrian and bicycle trails, upgraded the water treatment plant, and provided a joint fire-police training facility. "We knew eventually the economy would turn around," he said.

In answer to a question about whether IU Health Bloomington Hospital would move, Mark said, "It's not a matter of *if* but *when*. It's no longer a local decision. The city's main concern is how the move

**IU Retirees Association
2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name _____

For couple membership, spouse's/partner's name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ 9-digit ZIP code _____

Telephone* _____ E-mail* _____

*Telephone number and e-mail will be included in membership directory only if you write them here.

Enclosed is my check, made payable to IU Retirees Association, for:

_____ Single membership (\$15) _____ Couple membership (\$20)

Please mail this form with your check to IU Retirees Association
P.O. Box 8393
Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

_____ I wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail rather than in paper form.

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will affect the neighborhood.” He believes that a decision will be reached in the next 12 to 18 months and that there will be a three- to five-year transition.

Another question, about IU’s volleyball program, showed the mayor to be a devoted fan. He offered to pay admission to a retiree’s first game. He married head coach **Sherry Dunbar-Kruzan** on May 11. “She’s 6 feet 2 inches, I’m 5 feet 12 inches, so I look up to her,” he said.

A peek at the future: coming attractions

Put these dates on your calendar now:

- Nov. 12 at 2 p.m., **Chris Lemonis**, IU’s new baseball coach
- Dec. 10, the holiday luncheon with **Steve Zegree**, director of the Singing Hoosiers
- Jan. 14 at 2 p.m., **Dan Smith**, president of the IU Foundation
- Feb. 11 at 2 p.m., **Jennifer Vaughan**, chancellor at Ivy Tech
- April 8 at 2 p.m., a surprise
- May 13 at 5 p.m., the annual pitch-in dinner at the IU Foundation.

Bowen, Ingersoll join IURA board

At its May meeting the IURA board named **Jo Anne Bowen** to a two-year term. She replaces **Bob Fox**, who resigned after a year on the board. To make her feel welcome, the board promptly elected her secretary. Jo Anne started at IU in 1974 in the zoology (now biology) department. For 27 years, she

worked in what is now called University Student Services and Systems. In 2007 she became the registrar at IU Northwest. She retired in 2011.

A new ex officio member of the board is **Gary Ingersoll**. Gary replaces **Gerald Marker** as the IURA database manager, a position Gerald filled for seven years. Gary came to IU with his wife, Helen, after receiving his Ph.D. at Penn State in 1970. A professor emeritus of pediatrics and counseling and educational psychology, Gary retired from IU in 2008 and spent two years as dean of education in the United Arab Emirates before retiring again.

Why am I getting this newsletter?

Database manager **Gary Ingersoll** maintains a list with more than 1,000 names.

1. Some are paying members, who pay the costs of printing and mailing *Newswatch* in hopes that others will join IURA (see form on reverse side).

2. The second group includes 259 people whom Human Resources identifies as having retired during the last year. They will be mailed the newsletter during this academic year.

3. People with paid membership in 2012 or 2013 will receive the newsletter through November and then will be dropped if they do not renew.

Judy Schroeder writes *Newswatch* eight times a year. Please send corrections and comments to her at jschroed@indiana.edu. To remove your name from the list, send a message to ingersoll@indiana.edu with “unsubscribe” in the subject line and your name as it appears on IU records.