



# NEWSWATCH

Vol. 2018-2019 No. 2

September 2018

**Next meeting: 2 p.m., Wednesday, October 10  
Holiday Inn, 1770 N. Kinser Pike (new venue)**

## **Morris to talk about staying strong**

“If you had asked me 10 years ago who was the strongest person I know, I would have named **Tom Morris**,” says IURA President **Doug Porter**. “If you ask me today who is the strongest person I know, I’d say Tom Morris. He has an interesting story to tell.”

Morris will be the featured speaker when retirees gather on Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. in the Kinser Room at the Holiday Inn on Kinser Pike. **Christan Royer**, director of benefits for Human Resources, will give a brief update on retiree benefits. No refreshments will be served, but Doug promises easy parking. This new venue was selected because both the IU Foundation and DeVault Alumni Center are unavailable.



Morris will share with retirees his unique story. An athletics performance coach at IU since 2005, he is paralyzed from the chest down. In May 2012 he fractured his C6 and C7 vertebrae in a mountain biking accident in the Wapehani Mountain Bike Park in southwest Bloomington. He spent the next year in grueling rehabilitation at the Frazier Rehabilitation Center in

Louisville. He had to relearn everything, including such basic skills as holding a fork.

His goal was to get his life back. And he succeeded. Now the head strength and conditioning coach for men’s soccer and women’s basketball, he covers 20 to 50 miles a day on his hand-cycle and takes part in Ironman competitions. A graduate of Penn State University, Morris lives in Bloomington with his wife, Christa Sist-Morris, who directs retention and learning services for IU football.

## **Advocates for students sought**

The IU Student Advocates Office (SAO) will be offering a volunteer training session on Friday, Oct. 5, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the IMU Sassafras Room, part of the Tree Suites. Lunch will be included, and parking passes will be provided. An interview prior to training is required.

**Darrell Stone**, SAO director, will explain the mission and philosophy of the office and the roles and expectations of advocates. Also on the agenda will be an overview of current advocates; protocols for Title IX, FERPA, and emergencies; an operations manual; and sign-ups for observation shifts and computer training. The SAO is part of the Division of Student Affairs.

Volunteer advocates are comprised entirely of retired IU staff and faculty. The mission of the

Student Advocates Office is to assist students in resolving personal and academic problems so that they can maintain progress toward earning a degree. To learn more about the mission of the office and role of advocates, see <https://studentaffairs.indiana.edu/student-advocates/>.

If you have questions or are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact SAO Director Darrell Stone at [dastone@indiana.edu](mailto:dastone@indiana.edu). Or talk to an IURA member who volunteers as an advocate: **Susan Klein, Vince Mabert, Gerald Marker, Wil McCall, Lou Moir, and Bill Shipton.**

### September session ends in song



On Sept. 12 more than 120 retirees met at the Commons of the Bell Trace Senior Living Center for the first meeting of the academic year. After lunch the group sang along with eight members of the Bloomington Peace Choir. The group had prepared a sing-along song sheet so that retirees didn't have to remember all the words to "Down by the Old Mill Stream," "You Are My Sunshine," or "Sunrise Sunset."

When she wasn't playing the piano, Phyllis Wickliff, front left above, directed the group. When Phyllis was performing as the stellar accompanist, Laura Lane Powell, second from left in the row of singers, was the energetic director. Phyllis invited retirees to join the choir, which meets at 6 p.m. Tuesdays for a sing-along at Bell Trace, followed at 7 p.m. by a rehearsal. The non-audition choir has about 25 members.

Bell Trace offered the chicken luncheon gratis. Kelsey Haislip, Bell Trace's director of community engagement, invited retirees to Bell

Trace events open to the public. These include 24-hour fitness, Ivy Tech classes, free Bloomington Humanities classes, and chair ballet. For more information, call Kelsey at (812) 332-2355 or email her at [khaislip@cardon.us](mailto:khaislip@cardon.us).

IURA Doug Porter thanked members of the hospitality committee for arranging the event.

### Big Ten retirees share best practices

When IURA President **Doug Porter** attended the annual meeting of the Big Ten Retirees Associations in August, every Big Ten school was represented except for Maryland and Rutgers. The group met at Penn State University August 3-5.

"Although the target audience is similar at every school, there is a great variety in the operations of the various organizations," Doug reports. "Some retiree groups receive university funding; others charge dues or solicit sponsors. Some have space on campus; others convene at off-campus facilities. Some meetings are strictly social; others are highly programmed."

Doug says the various retirees associations share common concerns: "identifying and soliciting new members and figuring out how to cover expenses and provide value to their constituents."

### Emeriti House, University Club

For information about the programs of the Emeriti House and the University Club, our partner organizations, see <http://www.indiana.edu/~emeriti> and <http://www.indiana.edu/~uclub>.

### Membership has its privileges

Of the eight IURA newsletters that are published each academic year, three or four are mailed to a special subset of nonmembers as well as members. Which are you? Examine your mailing label to find out. If you are a member in good standing, the top line will tell you that your dues

are paid. If you have been a member in previous years but have not yet paid your dues for 2018-19, that line requests that you renew. If you have not been a member, that line encourages you to join.

The IURA is entirely self-supporting. Its major expenses are renting space for programs when the IUF is not available, giving modest gifts to presenters, sending a representative to the Big Ten Retirees conference, supporting the reception for the Emeriti House art exhibit, renting a post office box, reimbursing snack coordinators, furnishing meat and wine for the May potluck, and – by far the largest expense – printing and mailing the newsletter and membership directory.

If you already are a member, IURA Past President **Joanie Curts** has come up with a novel idea for using the membership blank below. She suggests bestowing the gift of membership on a fellow retiree. Yes, it's true you may have to call them to learn their 9-number ZIP code, but Joanie says she first became a member because someone gave her a gift membership. Who knows? You may be recruiting a future president.

Founded in 1975 as the IU Annuitants Association, the IURA welcomes all retired faculty and staff and their spouses or partners. It provides a voice for retirees in their continuing relationship with Indiana University. Its meetings offer an opportunity to exchange ideas, information, and friendship.

### Snacks, anyone?

Because of a change in the IU Foundation's food service policy, IURA events held there cannot serve homemade items. Hospitality committee members **Sally Dunn**, **Tine Lindemann**, and **Gail Londergan** have proposed that a snack coordinator choose and purchase food for the meetings that do not involve a meal.

**Bonnie Brownlee** has volunteered to be the coordinator in November and **Lou Moir** in April. Coordinators are still needed for January and February. If you can help, contact any committee member.

The IURA will reimburse each month's coordinator up to \$30 for purchases.

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## IU Retirees Association 2018-2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

For couple membership, spouse's/partner's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ 9-digit ZIP code \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_ When possible, I wish to receive the newsletter by email rather than in paper form.

Check if you do not want your telephone number \_\_\_ or email address \_\_\_ included in membership directory.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Single membership (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Couple membership (\$30)

Please mail this form with your check to IU Retirees Association

P.O. Box 8393

Bloomington, IN 47407-8393

**IU Retirees Association**  
**P.O. Box 8393**  
**Bloomington, IN 47407-8393**

**Nonprofit Org.**  
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### **Parking woes pursue Porter**

At the Sept. 12 meeting, IURA President **Doug Porter** reported that finding meeting places with easy parking continues to be a challenge. For decades the IU Foundation has graciously allowed the IURA to use its meeting rooms without charge. But with the IU Bicentennial Campaign moving into high gear, officials at the IUF are concerned that parking spaces may be in short supply. Doug encouraged car pools and assured members that the board is monitoring the situation closely.

### **Retirees make ideal poll workers**

What are you doing Nov. 6? Yes, you're going to vote, but have you considered working at the polls? It's a long day, but for many retirees it is also an immensely satisfying one.

Karen Wheeler is Monroe County election supervisor. If you call her at 812-335-7219, she will forward your name. Because poll workers represent both parties, she will ask you to state a party. Or you can call directly. Republicans can volunteer by contacting Tracy Young, 812-340-2688, [tracyyoung@monroecogop.com](mailto:tracyyoung@monroecogop.com). Democrats should contact Rod Yandt, 812-340-2261, [ryandt@commercialservice.com](mailto:ryandt@commercialservice.com).

### **A peek at coming IURA attractions**

Here are some dates for your calendar. Meetings at the IU Foundation are in the Peterson Room.

- Nov. 14 at 2 p.m., IUF, **Beth Cate**, The Supreme Court today
- Dec. 12 at 11:30 a.m., IUF, holiday luncheon with **David Tallent**, who is the speaker
- Jan. 16 at 2 p.m., IUF, **Phil Stafford**, The Meaning of Home and "Stuff"
- Feb. 13 at 2 p.m., IUF, **Bill Brown**, IU's Center for Rural Engagement
- April 17 at 2 p.m., IUF, **Kristin Leaman**, The People's History of IU
- May 8 at 5 p.m., potluck dinner at Bell Trace, **Jeff Wuslich**, Cardinal Spirits, about business innovation in Bloomington

### **About this newsletter**

**Judy Schroeder** writes and edits *Newswatch* eight times a year, August through April, except for February. Please send corrections and comments to her at [jschroed@indiana.edu](mailto:jschroed@indiana.edu). To correct your address or be removed from the list, please contact database manager **Doris Wittenburg**, [dwittenb@indiana.edu](mailto:dwittenb@indiana.edu).