Your UIRA Membership expires June 30th – 3-year renewal now available!

Renewal form on last page or you may pay at the June Picnic

Reviewing the past year

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President this past academic year. I have learned even more about the University of Iowa and its faculty and staff that have been such an important support for our association. Now in our 20th year, the UIRA’s purpose is to facilitate support of the University of Iowa by retired faculty and staff members and their spouses and domestic partners.

We depend on volunteers for time and energy, and we have generous volunteer members. Our newly-elected board members will take over for 2014-2015 at the June board meeting: Ken Starck as President, Roy Justis as President-Elect, Alice Atkinson as Secretary and two continuing Directors-at-Large Pam Willard and Rick Borchard.

We had exceptional UIRA programs this past year. Ken Starck and Nancy Lynch and their committee managed the programs. Of particular note was the reception initiated by us, but sponsored by President Mason for the UIRA.

Our ongoing projects for retirees include negotiating discounts on software through ITS, appealing for free parking privileges for retired staff in UI parking lots, all-electronic distribution of the Gray Hawk Newsletter, a possible merger of the UIRA and the Emeritus Faculty Council, the possibility of electronic online membership management, formation of interest groups within UIRA, a survey of members, and a new travel photo contest for 2015. President Elect Ken Starck recruited a student intern who will help with various activities.

Nancy Williams and Ken Starck attended the Big Ten Retirees Association Annual meeting in Ann Arbor MI last summer. Ken Starck and our President-Elect, Roy Justis, will attend the Big Ten Retirees Association annual meeting, followed by the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education. Both meetings are in Minneapolis in August. These are great venues for sharing ideas and networking with similar university organizations.

Finally, I thank all of you members for your participation in UIRA.

Rick Walton, President of UIRA 2013-2014
UIRA Board of Directors 2013-14

Plan to Attend the Annual Picnic Wednesday June 4th at 6:00 p.m.

The UIRA Annual Potluck Picnic will be held Wednesday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Park Lodge of the Terry Trueblood Recreation Area, Iowa City’s newest park-recreation complex, south of town off South Gilbert (aka “Sand Road”) at 579 McCollister Blvd. The Terry Trueblood Park Lodge is an indoor facility with a gas fireplace and a patio overlooking the lake, so we’ll be comfortable no matter what the weather! Amenities at the recreation complex include hard surface trails for meandering, bird watching, fishing, concessions, and boat rental if you’d like to come early or stay late.

No reservation is necessary. This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with your UIRA friends. Know someone who wants to join but hasn’t? Bring them along!

We will provide the main course, table service, and beverages. Please bring a salad or dessert to serve 6 people.

UIRA Members Receive Update On Hancher Progress

Sixty-two UIRA members gathered in the Morse Board Room of the Levitt Center May 14th to learn about progress in the “Rebirth of Hancher Auditorium.” Charles Swanson, Hancher’s Executive Director, thanked retirees for their past support of Hancher and encouraged them to continue offering support. He said construction is proceeding as planned and that the building will see public performances beginning in Fall 2016.

Swanson introduced three engineers from Mortenson Construction: Joe Troness, project manager; Lee Gatlin, superintendent; and Zack Peterson, assistant project manager. They led the audience through a fascinating overview of the construction process, including a discussion of the inventive methods for coping last winter when
crews were working 24 hours a day, six days a week, in subzero weather. Mortenson emphasizes safety and communication on the job site and begins each half-day shift with stretching sessions for all.

The three agreed their time in Iowa City has given them a strong sense of how Hancher touches the lives of so many in the community and state.

They also described the special materials and techniques used in bringing the unique design to reality, working weekly with the architects. Currently the performance hall itself is in place, but that represents only half of the finished Hancher. More changes are in store, including a dramatic cantilevered “prow” to the south and green space where the former building stood.

The Morse Board Room conveniently overlooks the Hancher Auditorium construction site so retirees were able to go out on the balcony after the presentation for a birds-eye view of the construction

UIRA welcomed its first student intern, Jennifer Dybicz, a UI senior whose primary career interest is public relations, at its monthly Board meeting May 13th in Levitt Center.

Jennifer, originally from suburban Chicago, is a double major—Journalism/Mass Communication and American Studies—and also is earning a certificate in fundraising and philanthropy. She is a member of the Dean’s List.

At the Board meeting Jennifer spoke briefly about current UIRA communications and possible changes that could be made. She has reviewed the UIRA website and is carrying out research in preparation of a history of the UIRA. She plans to interview founders and officers of the association and consult UIRA archives. The history is a particularly pertinent project since UIRA the coming year will be observing the 20th anniversary of its founding.

The Strategic Communication Internship was established to provide an “experience that will be mutually beneficial” to the intern and the UIRA.

The deadline for submitting items for the September issue is Thursday, August 21st. Please send them to E. Ann Ford by regular mail at 10 Forest Glen, Iowa City, IA 52245, or via e-mail to e-ann-ford@uiowa.edu

There will be no July or August issue, as the Gray Hawk goes on vacation.
Volunteer To Serve UIRA

Want to contribute to the UIRA? Volunteer your time and talent in any of these important tasks: **Gray Hawk Editor**, **Webmaster** or **Archivist**. Contact **Ken Starck** (kenneth-starck@uiowa.edu) or one of the UIRA Board members for more details.

Take photos as you travel: Photo Contest To Continue Into 2nd Year

UIRA’s Travel Photo Contest, inaugurated last year and attracting more than 50 entries, will continue for the second year.

**Ken Starck**, who organized the contest, said rules for the second year would remain “pretty much” the same with a few minor adjustments which will appear at the UIRA website soon. He said arrangements are being made for outside support of the contest.

There will be three categories: photos taken (1) in the state of Iowa; (2) in the USA but outside Iowa and (3) outside the USA. Prizes will be awarded in each category. Entrants may submit no more than three photos in one or more of the three categories.

There is no entry fee. Current UIRA members are eligible to participate. The deadline to submit entries is Dec. 31st. Photos must be submitted in digital format and will be judged on originality, creativity and photo quality. Photos taken over the past two years can be entered.

Complete contest details will be posted soon at the UIRA website.

To see winning photos in the 2013 contest, go to: uira.shutterfly.com/pictures/370.

New UIRA Members

We welcome these new members who joined since our March 2014 issue. If you have friends who are eligible but are not members, encourage them to join UIRA. And remind your fellow newly-retired University of Iowa employees to fill out the membership form for their free membership for the first year.

Ken Blackwell Pathology
Janice Freric Pathology
Mary Elizabeth Greenleaf Nursing
Martha A. Eversoll Holm Pathology
Sheri Smith Center for Disabilities and Development
Jim Smith Spouse
Mary Steele Internal Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION
Membership Form
July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015
(Please PRINT everything)

NAME (print please) _____________________________________________________

ADDRESS (print please) ________________________________________________
(city)____________________(zip)_____

E-Mail Address (print please) ____________________________________________
(For e-mail delivery of UIRA Messages and The Gray Hawk Newsletter)
For renewals: Is this a new e-mail address? Yes ☐ No ☐

Telephone____________________ Membership Type: New ☐ Renewal ☐

If a new membership, please complete the information below:
• Retiree status (check all that apply):
  Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Spouse/Domestic Partner ☐ Associate Member ☐

  Month and year retired_______________________________________________
  UI Department or Division from which you retired ________________________

****For Second Person’s Membership****

NAME (print please) __________________________

E-Mail Address (print please) ____________________________________________
(For e-mail delivery of UIRA Messages and The Gray Hawk Newsletter)
For renewals: Is this a new e-mail address? Yes ☐ No ☐

Telephone____________________ Membership Type: New ☐ Renewal ☐

If a new membership, please complete the information below:
• Retiree status (check all that apply):
  Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Spouse/Domestic Partner ☐ Associate Member ☐

  Month and year retired_______________________________________________
  UI Department or Division from which you retired ________________________

MEMBERSHIP DUES (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)
☐ $10 per person for 1 year or ☐ $25 per person for 3 years*

* This form is for both new memberships and renewals. Dues for each registrant are $10
for 1 year or $25 for 3 years. New members who join after May 1 are paid through June 30
of the following year. First-year membership is free for new retirees and their
spouses/domestic partners.

• Send completed form and checks, payable to the University of Iowa Retirees Association to
Assistant to the Treasurer Katharine Bjorndal, 350 Dublin Ct. #2007, Iowa City, Iowa
**52246. Questions:** phone 319-338-2759 e-mail kgbjorndal@gmail.com, or visit our web site at www.uiowa.edu/~uira.

- * New rate. If you already renewed for 2014-2015, you may send in $15 for 3 years.