UIRA Program: Magic Mythical Tour: In Search of the Beatles

January 9, 2015, from 1-2 p.m., Meeting Room A, Coralville Library

Throughout the Beatles’ metamorphosis they kept their pulse synchronized with the psyche of their generation while never turning out their musical peers. That these peers were often nipping at their heels forced the Beatles to look within and stretch the musical envelope farther than it had ever been expanded before.

From where did the Beatles find their humor, inspiration and drive to become the defining band of more than one generation? The foundation for their sensitivity and creativity can be found in their childhood experiences in Liverpool. While much has changed in the 51 years since the Beatles left Liverpool, their footprints are indelibly etched in the landscape.

For the past 11 summers, Donna Parsons, a lecturer in the UI Honors and Music Department, has traced the sites that influenced the Beatles’ songs as well as where the Beatles honed their craft and built their fan base. She has traced the development of the Beatles’ rise from just another Merseyside band to the most influential, innovative pop group in history. In this UIRA program, Parsons will chart the Beatles’ road to stardom from their childhood neighborhoods, schools and small coffee bars, to the church halls, town halls and auditoriums and will bring memorabilia collected while she was in England.

UIRA Program: Archaeological discoveries on the UI Campus

February 17 from 10 a.m.-noon, Meeting Room A, Coralville Library

The University 2008 flood recovery construction projects led to multiple archaeological discoveries at the new School of Music construction site and in Hubbard Park. Presenting a look at these discoveries will be John Doershuk, state archaeologist of the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) and adjunct assistant professor in the UI Department of Anthropology. Doershuk has been the principal investigator or project archaeologist on more than 1,200 archaeological projects throughout the Midwest.

The OSA was established in 1959 with one employee and has grown to 25 full-time employees with the mission to “develop, disseminate and preserve knowledge of Iowa’s human past.” Actual artifacts from the University dig sites will be shown at the presentation. More information at: http://archaeology.uiowa.edu/

Know someone who has made outstanding contributions to the community or university?

Here’s the chance to recognize them in UIRA’s new awards program

Nominations are due January 31, 2015

See page 4 of The Gray Hawk for details
Second Annual Travel Photo Contest Invites Entries

Deadline Extended to January 31, 2015
Judging: Originality, Creativity, Photo Quality
Send photos to: uira.photo.contest@gmail.com
(with support from Hills Bank & Trust Company)

From Basketball to the Digestive Tract: Senior College Offers 10 Spring Courses
The UI Senior College is offering 10 courses spring semester ranging from basketball to psychological science, from hormones to writing and gardening, from political gridlock to Iowa history, from the underground railroad in Iowa to the digestive tract, and more. For a complete listing and registration information, go to: www.iowalum.com/srcollege/ Senior College is arranged in association with the UIRA and the Emeritus Faculty Association with support from the UI Alumni Association. The program is open to all retirees.

Volunteer Opportunities for UIRA Members
The UIRA recently listed on its website (www.uiowa.edu/~uira/) several websites for UI academic units and organizations on and off campus that advertise for volunteers. On the UIRA home page (reached through our address above), click “Resources” in the list on the left, then click “Volunteerism opportunities for UI retirees” in the upper right. These sites and many others (mostly for students) may also be found by going to the UI home web page, entering “Volunteering” in the search box in upper right, and then hitting the Return key. This takes you to: www.uiowa.edu/~uira/resources.htm#volunteerism

What software options do retirees have?
That question has been debated at length by UIRA Board members over several years. The latest response (3-6-14) received by Board member Pam Willard comes from Tracey Schmidt of UI Information Technology Services (ITS): “We simply have no licensing options for retirees. Microsoft does not offer any. Here is a link to some options: http://its.uiowa.edu/news/what-software-options-do-retirees-have .”

Benefits Meeting Video
The entire video (1 hr, 15 min) of the November 6 program with UI Assistant Vice President for Human Resources Richard Saunders can now be accessed at the UIRA website. Go to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJmU3Hzyfa4&feature=youtu.be

Welcome, New UIRA Members

Albert Cram  Surgery – College of Medicine
Donna Farley  College of Pharmacy
Elaine Haddy  Human Resources
Pat Hancock  College of Dentistry
Lenore Manrique  Internal Audit
Gustavo Manrique  Spouse
Diane N. Sondergard  Rehabilitation Therapies

UIRA MEMBERSHIP can be renewed anytime. The membership form can be found at: www.uiowa.edu/~uira/pdf/UIRAMemberShipForm.pdf
UIRA Calendar: 2014-15

January 9 (Friday), 2015—“Magic Mythical Tour: In Search of the Beatles,” Donna Parsons, lecturer in the UI Honors and Music Department, 1-2 p.m., Meeting Room A, Coralville Public Library. Ample parking available.

January 31 (Saturday)—New deadline for submitting entries in the 2014 Travel Photo Contest. Complete contest details are posted at: www.uiowa.edu/~uira/pdf/travel-photo-contest.pdf. Submit photos to: uira.photo.contest@gmail.com

January 31 (Saturday)—Deadline for submitting nominees for new awards program—one for Contributions to Community and another for Contributions to University. Submit nominees to Pam Willard (pamela-willard@uiowa.edu).

February 17 (Tuesday)—“Archaeological discoveries on the UI Campus,” John Doershuk, state archaeologist and director of the Office of the State Archaeologist, 10 a.m.-noon, Meeting Room A, Coralville Library. Ample parking available.

March 30 (Monday)—Health Program: “On Purpose: Lessons in Healthy Aging from the Frog and the Dung Beetle,” Dr. Victor Strecher, professor and director for innovation, University of Michigan School of Public Health. Watch for details.

April 23 (Thursday)—UIRA annual business meeting and luncheon, Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Coralville. Watch for details.

Board of Directors 2014-15

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The UIRA Board of Directors meets at 1 p.m. in the Buffet Room (#427) of the Levitt Center on the second Tuesday of every month except July and August. Visitors are welcome.

All members of the UIRA Board of Directors and its officers are volunteers. The UIRA is grateful for their commitment and invites others to become active in promoting UIRA’s mission. Contact any Board member for more information.
New UIRA

Awards Program

Outstanding Contributions to Community, University
To be Recognized by UIRA in New Awards Program

Nominations for two newly-established awards recognizing UIRA members for outstanding voluntary service are now being accepted. One award will be for contributions to the community. The other award will be for contributions to the University. The process for administering the two awards—eligibility, criteria, nomination and selection—will be similar. The only difference is that one will recognize voluntary service to community; the other will recognize voluntary service to the University. Board member Pam Willard is chair of the ad hoc Awards Committee.

The purpose of the awards: to recognize UIRA members for their service; draw attention to contributions that retirees make; and encourage retirees to continue to offer their talents and skills in ways that benefit the community and University.

Eligibility and Criteria
* A nominee must have been retired for a period of at least two years.
* The awards are based on outstanding service carried out since retirement. Activities prior to retirement will not be considered.
* Volunteer service may include a wide range of activities that make a positive impact.
* Members of the Selection Committee are ineligible for nomination.
* Announcement of the award recipient will be made at the UIRA annual meeting.
* Recipients are expected to be present at the annual meeting to accept the award.

Nomination
* Any UIRA member may nominate a UIRA member, including him/herself.
* The nominating letter should be limited to one page, describing how the nominee has successfully contributed through his or her involvement in one or more activities. In addition, a one-page biography of the nominee must be submitted and include the nominee’s name, address, telephone number and email address.
* A member of the selection committee will contact the nominee to obtain additional information about her/his relevant volunteer activities.
* Submit nominees by January 31 to UIRA Board member Pam Willard at (pamela-willard@uiowa.edu) or send to Pam Willard, 657 Larch Lane, Iowa City, IA 52245.

Selection
The selection committee will be comprised of five UIRA members, two each from faculty and staff, as well as the UIRA president.