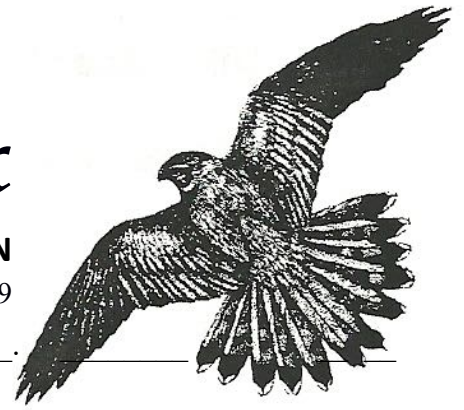


The Gray Hawk

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION

May 2022 • Vol. XXVI, Issue 9



May Programming

First 100 Days

Meghann Foster, Coralville mayor

Wednesday, May 11, 3:00 p.m., via Zoom

Expect the Zoom link on May 9. If you lose the link, contact Lesanne Fliehler, lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu.

When **Meghann Foster** took office as mayor on January 1, 2022, she became the first female mayor in Coralville's 148-year history. Meghann has been a Coralville resident since 2001. In addition to serving as Coralville mayor, she is a member of the Coralville Community Food Pantry Board of Directors, advisor to the Johnson County Affordable Housing Coalition, and serves on the Johnson County Juvenile Justice and Youth Development Policy Board. Her family includes her husband and five children.



Meghann Foster

Outings

Cangleska Wakan Ephemeral Forest Hike

Monday, May 16, 10:00 a.m.-noon, 4045 245th St. NE, Solon, IA 52333 (off Sugar Bottom Rd.)

Join your UIRA friends and Johnson County Conservationist/Education Specialist Marci Trana for a spring hike in Cangleska Wakan, the Johnson County Conservation's newest park. We plan to enjoy a curated hike around the property guided by Marci. There are picnic locations in the park, so plan to bring a sack lunch and share some outdoor time following the hike.



Directions via Mehaffey Bridge Rd.: take Sugar Bottom Rd. NE off Mehaffey Bridge. Follow Sugar Bottom Rd. NE for about 3.5 miles, then take a sharp right onto 245th St. NE. Cangleska Wakan will be on the left.

Directions via Highway 1: take Highway 1 toward Solon and turn left onto Newport Rd., follow Newport Rd. about 1 mile to Sugar Bottom Rd. NE and turn right onto Sugar Bottom Rd. NE. Follow Sugar Bottom Rd. NE for about 2 miles, then turn left onto 245th St. NE. Cangleska Wakan will be on the left.



Kayaking at Kent Park Lake

Tuesday, June 2, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Hwy. 6 NW, Oxford, IA 52322

Join Johnson County Conservation naturalists for a paddle around Kent Park Lake. This is the perfect program for those who have never been kayaking before. Don't worry about getting in and out of the kayak, because the team is there to help. Enjoy the peace and quiet of the lake and see the park like never before...from the water! Come to the fishing dock, and be sure to wear shoes that can get wet. Bring water and a sack lunch to enjoy with your UIRA friends afterward.

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Outings Registration

Registration is required for both the Cangleska Wakan spring hike and the Kent Park Lake kayak outing.

Use the form at the URL below to register for one or both events.

<https://tinyurl.com/kv6p34dc>

One Day for Iowa Huge Success for UIRA

On March 30, 22 UIRA members contributed \$2,066 to the UIRA Scholarship Fund through the Center for Advancement during the One Day for Iowa online giving day. This amount enables the UIRA to continue to fund two scholarships for deserving UI undergraduate students. Our fall, 2021 recipient this year was **Sydney Metteer**, a mathematics major from Sioux City (see letter at right). Our spring 2022 recipient was **Joshua Doucette**, a mathematics, physics, and astronomy major from Charles City. Congratulations to our scholarship winners and thank you to all the UIRA members who supported this important effort.

Thank You!

Dear UI Retirees Association,

Thank you for helping provide scholarships to students at the University of Iowa, including myself! I am extremely honored to be chosen as a recipient of this scholarship, and I am very appreciative of your support. I am from Sioux City, Iowa. I am the first in my family to attend the University of Iowa, and I am extremely proud to be a Hawkeye! As a pre-med student, I am planning to attend medical school after graduation in 2022. I am keeping my options open, however. I do take a special interest in obstetrics, oncology, and family medicine.

Thank you again for your support and generosity. I am very grateful.

Best,

Sydney Metteer

UIRA President's Column

May Spring Arrive

In April, I talked about spring being just around the corner. Now I'm hoping for May. Fickle spring tempts us with a nice day, then retreats to hat and glove weather. Brave early flowers bloom but trees are holding back on opening their buds. Pelicans on the Iowa River were a lovely gift in this unusual season. On a walk from Crandic Park to the Coralville dam, my neighbor and I saw hundreds floating on the water, squabbling with each other, and catching fish. Their long stay made local news and NPR.

Spring will have its way with us, but UIRA remains predictable in its programming. On May 11, we will meet **Meghann Foster** and hear her perceptions about being Coralville mayor. On May 16, we meet for a hike at the Cangleska Wakan Ephemeral Forest. The **Program Committee's** enthusiasm always develops new and creative ways to keep us engaged. I hope you can join us for these May programs.

Please read this issue of *The Gray Hawk* carefully. More award-winning pictures from the photo contest are here for you to enjoy. A heartfelt thanks to **Jan Lawler** for coordinating the contest and to **Hills Bank** for their generous financial support.

The **One Day for Iowa** campaign was a huge success this year. On March 31, 22 UIRA members contributed \$2,066 to our scholarship fund. This issue includes a story about the scholarship recipients. Thank you, contributors, for your generosity in supporting our students.

On April 26, UIRA members were treated to livestreaming of the Bill Nye lecture at Hancher. **Senior College** co-sponsored the sold-out event and invited UIRA members to log on. Thank you, **Emil Rinderspacher and Senior College Committee members**, for this opportunity.

Board elections are just around the corner. Please read the articles about President-Elect **Deb Cobb** and Board members **Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, Maureen McCormick, and Mike Hovland**. An electronic ballot will arrive in your inbox early in May. Thanks to **Sue Otto** for creating the ballot. Please vote.

If your membership expires on June 30, you will receive a reminder in the mail so that you may stay engaged with this active, curious group. If you know someone who is retired and has not joined, invite them to join and be a part of the fun. Happy spring!

—Carolyn Wanat

UIRA Board Member Candidates

UIRA elects 3-4 new board members each year. The candidates this year are President-Elect Deborah Cobb and Board members **Mike Hovland** (three-year term), **Maureen McCormick** (two-year term), and **Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash** (three-year term). Ballots will be sent out in early May.

Deborah Cobb received her DDS in 1982 and her MS in 1995 from the University of Iowa. She was in private practice in Palo Alto, Calif., before returning to Iowa to join the Operative Department in 1993. She served as the director of the pre-doctoral third-year Operative Clinic and didactic course. Her clinical research was focused on adhesive dental materials. In 2003 she became director of the Operative Dentistry Graduate Program and retired in 2015. She is serving her second term on Emeritus Faculty Council. Deb enjoys biking, fishing, hiking, and spending time with her children and grandchildren, who live in Colorado.



Deb Cobb

Mike Hovland was hired by the University of Iowa in September 2014 to create an office of data enrollment management data analytics, which he led until his retirement on June 30, 2021. During his seven years as director, he helped to develop a comprehensive suite of analytic and predictive data tools and resources, which led to more cost-effective recruiting with better results and provided a variety of benefits to offices and departments across campus. In 2020 he received one of the Board of Regents Staff Excellence Awards. He received his PhD in English from the University of Iowa in 1987. He continues as an active musician and singer, and he and his wife are self-described musical tourists, seeking frequent opportunities to hear concerts in the US and abroad, including a recent performance of Brahms Requiem in Reykjavik in March 2022. He is also an avid biker with many RAGBRAIs dating back to 1975. Finally, he is writing a family history of his immigrant ancestors and their descendants.



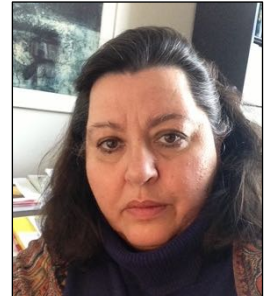
Mike Hovland

Maureen McCormick received her BFA from the University of Northern Iowa and her MA from the University of Iowa. After a year of teaching elementary art, she took a position at UI News Services working almost 40 years at the university. Her most recent positions included being director of Staff Development and Training, where she brought online learning opportunities to UI staff, faculty, and students, and as communications director for Distance and Online Education. McCormick retired in January 2020, taking a position briefly with Kirkwood Regional Center before the pandemic hit. Since then, she's been downsizing, organizing, and repurposing stuff in her home, and finally getting time to make art.



Maureen McCormick

Born and bred in Iowa City, **Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash** worked in a variety of positions throughout her life at the university starting as a runner in the Neurology Department as a teenager, to volunteer silver polisher at the Art Museum as an art history student, secretary in the Office of International Students and Scholars. After spending 15 years abroad in Egypt and England, she returned to work as a secretary in the Office of Affirmative Action (now EOD), moved through the years to the Office of the Provost (OP), working as an administrative assistant with three different International Programs deans and six different provosts. She sidestepped to Faculty Senate for one year during this period. Evalyn supported many collegiate dean search committees, Honorary Degree Committee, the university's Strategic Planning Committee, and the Emeritus Faculty Council, among many other projects. Service responsibilities included member of the Hancher Advisory Board, OP liaison to Art in Buildings Committee, Associated University Women, and the Recruitment Ambassador Program. Evalyn retired as the executive assistant to the executive vice president and provost in 2020. She loves travel, cinema, and cooking.



**Evalyn
Van Allen-Shalash**

More Award-Winning Photos from Our Contest

This month we share the second- and third-place winners in this year's photo contest. Again, thank you to **Jan Lawler**, who coordinated the contest, and to our judges, **Larry Mendenhall** and **Tim Schoon**.

International Photos



Second Place: John Moyers, *Street Artist in Helsinki.*



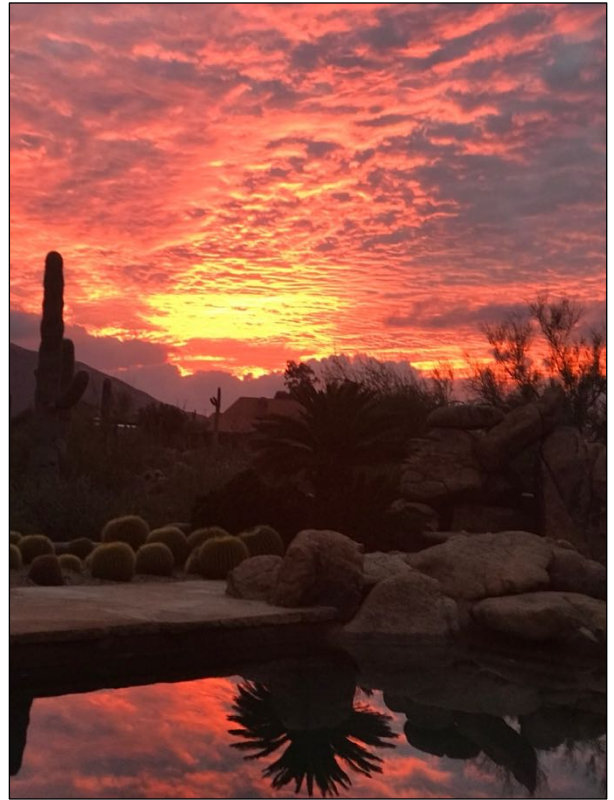
Third Place: Rose Meyer, *Mt. Kilimanjaro.*



USA Photos

Second Place (above): KE Renquist, *Monument of the Prairie*.

Third Place: (right) Catherine Blando, *Christmas Day 2021 Sunset in Carefree, Arizona*.



Iowa Photos

Second Place (above): Lucille Heitman, *Iowa City Sunrise*.

Third Place (right): Bobbi Kruse, *Signs of Loved Ones Past*.



Help Our Most Vulnerable

Editor's Note: As a follow-up to our presentation last month by Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) representatives, we asked DVIP how UIRA members could help students.

Some Iowa students live in fear and isolation thinking there is no one to help them. They are victims of dating violence, domestic violence, and human trafficking. DVIP of Johnson County is available to offer support and resources. Victims who reach out to DVIP will receive emergency shelter and counseling.

How can you help? DVIP welcomes items to help these students. Always in need are gently used smartphones, women's underwear, and gift cards in \$10 to \$30 amounts. An extensive list of needed items and drop-off locations are available at www.dvipiowa.org/donate/.

Membership Dues Notification To Be Emailed

UIRA dues notices will be emailed in May if your membership expired this year. If you receive a notice, please renew. If you did not receive a notice, no action is needed. Questions? Contact Lois Lembke, membership chair, lois-lembke@uiowa.edu.

New UIRA Members

Janelle S. Ahrens, Food and Nutrition
William V. Aldershof, Pediatrics
Mathew Bahl, Pathology
Debra K. Bennerhahn, Department of
Nursing and Radiology
Robert (Bill) Field, College of Public
Health, OEH, EPI
Mark Hammonds, UIHC
Ann Rhodes, College of Nursing

Encourage Friends to Join UIRA

Do you have a friend that is a UI retiree or a recent retiree from another business? Encourage them to join UIRA! University of Iowa retirees join as regular members, but we do have affiliate memberships (nonvoting) for those who retired from another company. Visit the UIRA website for more details: <https://uira.org.uiowa.edu/>.

The Gray Hawk Writers Special Interest Group

This month, we share one of the pieces written by a member of the **Gray Hawk Writers** special interest group Are you considering joining the group? Visit as a guest—you may decide to join! Contact Doug Paul at drpaul507@yahoo.com.

Small Windows

By Joe Alan Artz

My first memory is of mountains. Standing on my mother's lap, I see them out the small window of the airliner. They are crinkled like an old person's skin, in colors of gray and black, with white snow on top. My aunt is sick. She holds a paper bag over her mouth and throws up quietly, hardly making a sound. She is a big woman with big hair.

The second memory is of my mother telling me the reason I'm so sleepy is that time is different here in California, and I don't know what that means, but I get to put on my jammies in the middle of the day and sleep in a room bright with sun, in a bunkbed tall as the ceiling.

Then I am in grass over my head, seeing nothing but stems and sky and the heads and shoulders of my cousins up ahead, chasing a balsawood glider, mashing down the trail I follow, trying to keep up.

Then I am at Disneyland, walking between my mother and aunt down a long broad street toward a tall silver rocket with a red nose and red fins. A door at the bottom opens to pitch darkness. My mom and I sit in soft seats in a circle with other people, looking up at stars and the moon drifting across the ceiling.

Years later, I told my mother I still remembered these four moments from our trip to Disneyland. I can't have been more than four, I said. You were only two, she said. I don't know how it's possible to hold memories that long, but I can understand why those four things impressed me so. I can hear my mother saying, "Look, Joe. Mountains," in a way that made them sound fantastic and important. I can hear her saying, "Floy is feeling sick," in a way that made me feel concerned. Bedtime at midday and my first sight of bunk beds. Cousins like giants in the grass, and a tall rocket with nighttime and the moon inside.

There comes a time with early memories when you no longer recall the moment, so much as recollect remembering it. Sometimes, I could check with Mom, but then she came down with Alzheimer's and her memory began to fail. Then her voice could no longer tell me whether she remembered or not. Then she forgot it all. But this small part of it is now yours.

Author's note: This piece previously appeared in "Cowbird"

http://cowbird.com/story/58647/Small_Windows.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-2022
(year term on board expires)

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Carolyn Wanat | President (2023) carolyn-wanat@uiowa.edu |
| Ed Dove | President-elect (2024) edwin-dove@uiowa.edu |
| Sam Cochran | Past President (2022) |
| Pat Mason-Browne | Secretary (2023) |
| David Fitzgerald | Treasurer (2023) |
| Lesanne Fliehler | Editor, <i>The Gray Hawk</i> (2024) |
| Phil Klein | Webmaster (ex-officio) |
| Charles Dayton | Director (2022) |
| Lois Lembke | Director (2022) |
| Benny Hawkins | Director (2023) |
| Billie Townsend | Director (2023) |
| Vicki Siefers | Director (2024) |
| Deb Cobb | Director (2024) |
| Frank Mitros | EFC representative (ex-officio) |

Monthly meetings of the UIRA Board of Directors are held online via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.