

UIRA 2023 Annual Meeting

The 2023 UIRA annual meeting was held June 15, 2023, in 2520-D UCC and with Zoom format. Because no meeting minutes were taken, this PPT slide presentation serves as the official record of the meeting and is posted on the UIRA website.

These PPT slides and the video recording of the annual meeting can constitute the final reports of the charter committees (Membership, Nominating, Awards, Program), and *The Gray Hawk*.

IOWA

**University of Iowa
Retirees Association
2023 Annual Meeting
June 15, 2023**

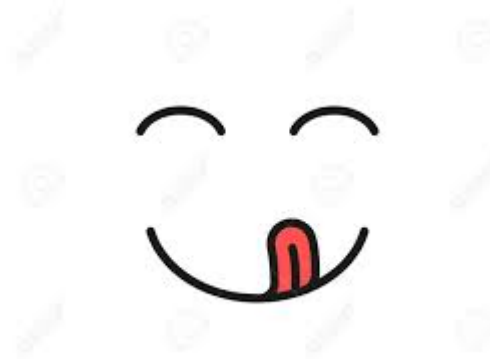
Social time 2:00 pm (2520-D UCC)

**Business Meeting at 2:15 PM
Broadcast via Zoom**

Welcome

Thanks to the Hospitality Committee for ice cream & cookie treats

- Alice Atkinson
- Ellie Herman
- Nancy Langguth
- Billie Townsend
- Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash
- Carolyn Wanat



Requests for the Zoom Meeting

- Please keep your video and your mics off (improved bandwidth)
- Set Zoom for Side-by-Side Speaker View (upper right hand corner icon)
- Use CHAT for questions or to report technical issues

Announcements

- **This UIRA Annual Meeting PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the UIRA website and serves as the official minutes of the meeting.**
- **The following programs may be of interest (sponsored by the Stanley MoA):**
 - **ARTZPhilly, Dementia Unplugged: ARTful Insights with the Stanley Museum of Art Monday, June 26, 2023 at Noon on Zoom**
Amanda Lensing, Senior Living Communities Program Coordinator at the Stanley Museum of Art. Register at:
<https://www.artzphilly.org/event-calendar/dementia-unplugged-artful-insights-12/>
 - **Stanley Sage with Alicia Velasquez, Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 10:30AM in Stanley Museum of Art Lobby**
Stanley Sage is a program with older adults in mind. Alicia Velasquez is a local artist and the first Indigenous woman to open a boutique in Iowa City. [The House of DOTŁ'IZHI](#) features art and jewelry inspired by Velasquez's Apache culture.
- **DeGowin Blood Center is seeking donors from UIRA members**
Mandy McClenahan, MA
Phone: 319-356-8327 | Fax: 319-356-2987
Cell: 408-410-1022

Agenda

- **Welcome to all from the Board of Directors**
- **Purpose of UIRA**
- **Introduction of new board members and officers**
- **Awards and recognition**
- **Year in Review - Accomplishments**
- **Looking Ahead - Goals**
- **Questions, Comments**

Reminder of the Purpose of UIRA

The purpose of the UIRA:

- Support the interests and welfare of retired faculty and staff of the University of Iowa;
- Maintain a continued connection to the University of Iowa.

Desired goal: Help members stay connected with each other and with the social and intellectual life of the university.

2022-2023 Board of Directors

Ed Dove, President

Carolyn Wanat, Past President

Deb Cobb, President-elect

David Fitzgerald, Treasurer

Pat Mason-Browne, Secretary

Lesanne Fliehler, *The Gray Hawk* editor

Phil Klein, Webmaster (*ex officio*)

Michael Barron, Director

Michael Hovland, Director

Vicki Siefers, Director

Billie Townsend, Director

Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash, Director

Outgoing Board Members

Pat Mason-Browne

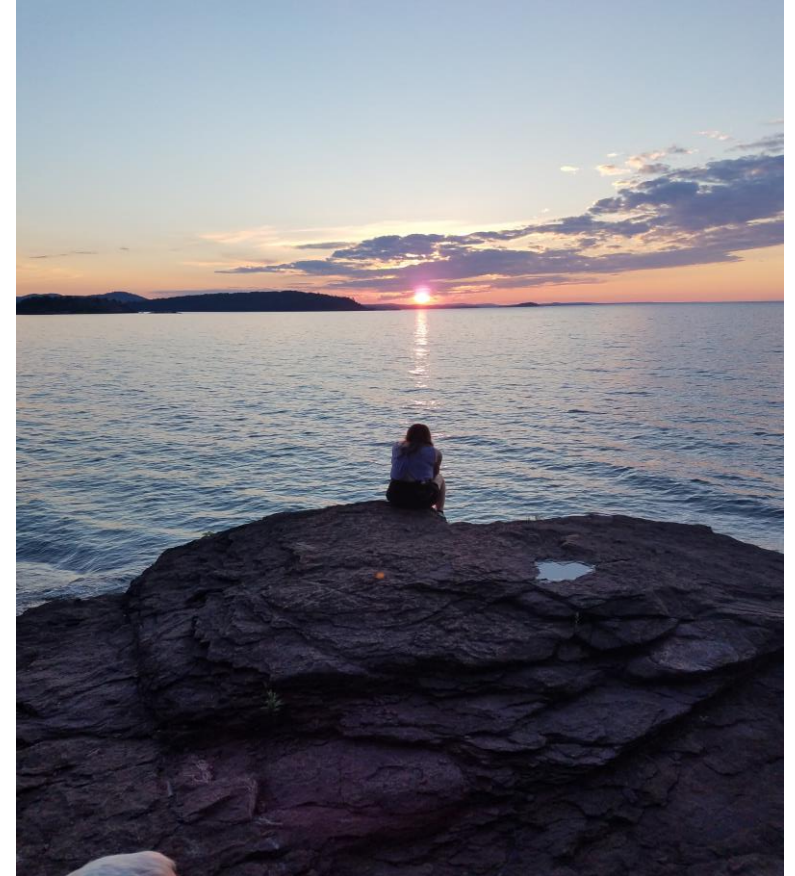
- Secretary for many years
- Accurate and comprehensive
- Great ideas on “How to ...”

Billie Townsend

- Awards Committee chair
- Her motto: “... or whatever is needed”
- Problem solver, knowledgeable

Carolyn Wanat

- Past President and Program Committee Chair
- Sage, Councilor
- UIRA Knowledge/history/traditions expert



Annual Election of Board Members

The Nominating Committee

- Michael Hovland, Chair
- Michael Barron
- Vicki Siefers
- Carolyn Wanat



Thanks to Kellie Digmann for setting up the electronic elections.

2023-2024 Board of Directors

Deb Cobb, President

Ed Dove, Past President

Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash*, President-elect

David Fitzgerald, Treasurer

Chris Brus*, Secretary

Lesanne Fliehler, *The Gray Hawk* editor

Phil Klein, Webmaster (*ex officio*)

Michael Barron*, Director

Lois Cox*, Director

Michael Hovland, Director

Diana Lundell*, Director

Vicki Siefers, Director

Cathy Wilcox**, Director

* recently elected by membership

** two-year term

Awards and Recognition

Annual UIRA Photo Contest

Judges:

- **Larry Mendenhall**
Professional photographer
Altoona, Iowa
- **Timothy Schoon**
Professional photographer
Iowa City, Iowa

Sponsor:

- Hills Bank and Trust
Dave Kriz
Vice President, Retail Development Officer

Coordinators:

- Lesanne Fliehler
- Ed Dove



International



USA



Iowa



International First Place – LuAnn Robinson
Simply Stunning
Moraine Lake, Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada.



International Second Place - Christopher Goerd
Dalmatian Islands at Dusk
Dalmatia Region, Croatia



**International Third Place – Jan Lawler
Miller's View from Home Inside Windmill
Kinderdijk, Netherlands**

Volunteer Service Awards

Awards Selection Committee

- Billie Townsend, Chair
- Michael Barron
- Carolyn Wanat



Honorarium given to charity/needs chosen by awardee



2023 Community Service Award

Larry Wilson



2023 University Service Award

Frank Mitros

UIRA Undergrad Scholarship

Divya Vashisht: UI senior from Bettendorf, Iowa, majoring in health studies

Amelia Watson: UI senior from Coralville, Iowa, majoring in psychology

Happy to report UIRA raised (One Day for Iowa). This is critical for supporting students who are finding it difficult to pay for tuition.

- **\$1000 for the 2021 Scholarship Fund**
- **\$2022 for the 2022 Scholarship Fund**
- **\$1545 for the 2023 Scholarship Fund**

From Amelia Watson

Dear University of Iowa Retirees Association,

Thank you for providing the UIRA scholarship for students like me at the University of Iowa! I am honored to be a recipient and am very grateful for your support of my academic career.

I have spent most of my life residing in Iowa City, but even with in-state tuition the education I am receiving at the University of Iowa is difficult to afford for my family. I will be graduating this year with a B.S. in Psychology and a B.A. in Criminology. I am currently in the process of applying to graduate schools to continue my education! I hope to one day conduct meaningful research in the field of social psychology.

Your support greatly reduces my stress associated with paying for my tuition and allows me to devote more time to my studies. My family and I are grateful for your support as I chase my aspirations. I look forward to being able to pay it forward and help promising students just as you have helped me.

Best,

Amelia Watson



USA First Place – John Donelson
Lake McDonald
Montana



USA Second Place – Linda Muston
Statuesque Saguaro
Arizona



USA Third Place – Deb Brandt
Sunrise in Princeville
Hawaii



Annual President's Award

Diana Harris



Women



At Iowa

Diana at University

- Director of IT, College of Engineering
- Long-time editor of *The Gray Hawk*
- Past Chair, Council on Status of Women; Iowa chapter
- Founded Herstory Committee; University of Iowa
- Co-founder of Women at Iowa, on Iowa TV and on YouTube

Diana at Miracles in Motion

- Afternoon feeding crew, horse lead, side walker, team leader; website manager; member, Board of Directors
- CTRI PATH-certified therapeutic riding instructor.





Year in Review Accomplishments

THE YEAR IN REVIEW - Programs

By the numbers

- 13 Zoom, 2 in-person,
- 2 hikes, 1 hybrid

By the topics

- University and Community
- Arts
- Research
- Nature
- Health Care

By the presenters

- Leaders, experts
- Entertainers, nature lovers



UI Stanley Museum of Art – Iowa City

THE YEAR IN REVIEW - Programs

Program Committee Members

- Carolyn Wanat (Chair)
- Alice Atkinson
- Sam Cochran
- Lesanne Fliehler
- Ellie Herman
- Nancy Langguth
- Billie Townsend
- Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash



Two Horse Farm - Johnson County

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – *The Gray Hawk*

The Gray Hawk
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA RETIREES ASSOCIATION
May 2023 • Vol. XXIX, Issue 9



May Programming

Tour of Hancher Auditorium
Wednesday, May 3, 11:00 a.m.
Reservations required. RSVPs were due April 19 to Ellie Herman, ellen-berman@uiowa.edu.
See some parts of Hancher that the general public rarely sees! Parking is available at the meters outside the Levitt Center, and handicapped parking or ticket office spaces, located outside of the Hancher main entrance.



Phebe Timber Spring Hike
Monday, May 15, 10:00 a.m. (*Reservations are NOT required.*)
Join your UIRA friends to hike the newest Johnson County Conservation property, Phebe Timber. Waterproof or water-resistant shoes are recommended. The property is located at 4492 Kansas Ave. SW off Highway 1. Information and a map are available at https://johnsoncountyiowa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/Phebe%20Timber_0.pdf. Parking is limited; if lot is full, park on the scant shoulder of Kansas Ave.

Ice Cream & Cookie Social (plus Annual Meeting)
The annual meeting of the UI Retirees Association will be **Thursday, June 15, 2023, 2:00-4:00 p.m.** in 2520-D University Capitol Center (located within the UCC Conference Room Suite toward the south end of the building's second floor). The event will also be available via Zoom (link to come). Refreshments and social time will begin the meeting, followed by the annual business meeting.

City parking (for a fee) is available in the parking ramp attached to the south of the building. Entrances accessed on Clinton and Capitol streets. The first hour is free.

Please register to attend by June 1. Include first and last names of those attending and send to Evalyn Van Allen-Shalash (van-allen-shalash@uiowa.edu).

- Published monthly (except July and August)
- Edited by Lesanne Fliehler, contributed to by many
- Emailed to all members with email addresses
- USPS distributed to 10 members with no or unknown email addresses
- Electronically distributed to all Big10 retiree associations

THE YEAR IN REVIEW - Members

Board Mtg 2023 Membership Numbers	
New Members this year	27
Faculty	163
Staff	387
Spouse	96
Total Members	646



THE YEAR IN REVIEW - Finances

July 2022-May 2023

- **\$1802** Expenses
 - *The Gray Hawk*
 - Annual Big10 Meeting (June)
 - Neon (ended February)
- **\$1726** Income
 - Membership
 - Interest
 - Refunds
- Total Reserves
 - **\$18,400** Checking
 - **\$12,323** Vanguard (+2.2%)



Big10 Retirees Associations

- 2022 Big10 Retirees Associations annual meeting at Northwestern University
 - Next Big10 meeting hosted by UIRA: ~2034
- Annual Dues
 - Range from \$0 (MSU, Northwestern, Purdue) to \$10/yr (**Iowa**) to \$41/yr (Illinois)
- Pre-COVID Budget:
 - \$5K (Illinois St.), \$7K (**Iowa**), to \$81K (Michigan: sponsorships, grants, dues, fees)

Major Issues for UIRA Before This Year

- From 1995-2022, UIRA was the only institution in the Big10 Retirees Associations that did not have a formal affiliation with its university.
- It has been clear for many years that UIRA needed technical assistance to modernize dues collection, provide up-to-date and reliable communications technology, and adopt a modern website and email system.
- This year the UIRA leadership and board members continued the work begun by past presidents and boards to establish a formal relationship with the University of Iowa.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – MOU Signed



The University of Iowa will:

- Provide and fund 25% FTE effort of an Administrative Service Coordinator (ASC) to maintain UIRA membership, enhance communication capabilities, etc.
- Redesign the UIRA website to include ability to electronically collect dues

The UIRA will:

- Provide content of messages, newsletters
- Raise funds for UIRA Scholarships
- Contribute to student funds as needed, e.g., Student Food Bank, Student Life Emergency Fund
- Provide the Central Administration at least two UIRA program opportunities each year

THE YEAR IN REVIEW - “It Takes a Village”

With Support

- President Barbara Wilson
- VP Laura McLeran
- VP Cheryl Reardon

Laying the Groundwork

- Carolyn Wanat (2021-2022)
- Sam Cochran (2020-2021)
- Emil Rinderspacher (2019-2020)
- Sue Otto (2018-2019)
- Michael Barron (2017-2018)



THE YEAR IN REVIEW - ASC

Kellie Digmann, Administrative Service Coordinator (ASC)

- BA Business Administration and Marketing
- UIHC for eight years
- ASC shared with Staff Council
- Two children (Kahne, Kadence)
- One husband (15 yrs)



THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Technology Update

Before this year: Same technology we have used since 1995

- Listserv technology to distribute messages and newsletters to membership
- Often have 30-50 “returned” or “bounced” emails each mailing
- **Lois Lembke** would correct each error, if possible, often requiring phone calls to UIRA members’ homes
- With growth of UIRA, workload unsustainable for retired volunteers

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Technology Update

Now: Modern, reliable, renewable technology

- ‘Dispatch’ program with Iowa brand to disseminate information
- Updated UIRA website: modern, easily maintained by ITS, encrypted (<https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>)
- Relieved traditional workload of UIRA officers and UIRA webmaster through ASC and technology modernization

Thanks: Lin Larson (HR), Nate Robinson (President’s office), Kellie Digmann (HR), plus many additional individuals, but especially

Lesanne Fliehler and Phil Klein



Contrasting Formats

[RETIREEES] UIRA: September-October Gray Hawk Newsletter

1 message

Fliehler, Lesanne B <lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu>

Tue, Aug 30, 2022 at 3:30 PM

Reply-To: "Fliehler, Lesanne B" <lesanne-fliehler@uiowa.edu>

To: RETIREES@list.uiowa.edu

Hi, everyone! I hope you've had a fabulous summer. *The Gray Hawk* newsletter took a publishing break in July and August (as did I), but the fall semester is underway, and here's the first issue of the semester. Enjoy!

IOWA

University of Iowa Retirees Association



UIRA members, below is a link to the May issue of *The Gray Hawk*.

Our final two UIRA programming events for the year are coming up in May, plus we'll hold our annual meeting on June 15. We are planning an in-person event (complimentary ice cream and cookies), but we will also provide Zoom log-in

IOWA

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Dues Renewal Update

Before this year: Mail in the dues checks via USPS

- Download and fill out renewal form, then mail form and check to a PO Box via Iowa City USPS
- Form and check collected from USPS by UIRA volunteer **Chuck Dayton**
- Transaction recorded by UIRA volunteer **Lois Lembke**, send checks/info to **David Fitzgerald** (UIRA Treasurer), and eventually transport checks to Hills Bank for deposit

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Dues Renewal Update

Beginning this year: submit electronic renewals

- On-line electronic dues collection (charge card with 3% fee, or debit card); Secure, encrypted (scrambled)
- Same procedure that the university uses to accept any payment
- Electronically recorded and deposited in Hills Bank (no human intermediary)
- Personal checks will be reluctantly accepted, but this will not be the UIRA standard-of-payment method

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Submit Renewals

To renew membership

- Receive reminder in August to submit renewal
- Go to the UIRA website (<https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>)
- Choose one year (\$10) or three years (\$25)
 - Double for couple (\$20 or \$50)
- Renew during September for fiscal year beginning October
- UIRA will send receipt for dues to member
- Fiscal year runs from October 1 to following September 30

Example of Store Front

[Shop](#) > One-year membership dues (individual)

One-year membership dues (individual)

\$10.00

One-year dues for a single member.

*** Member First Name**

Maximum 50 characters

*** Member Last Name**

Maximum 50 characters

*** Member Email**

[Back](#) [Add to cart](#)

THE YEAR IN REVIEW – Bylaws Update

2022-2023 Board of Directors updated UIRA Bylaws

- Describe new procedures for conducting the business of UIRA
- Describe new responsibilities of officers and board members
- Changes approved by unanimous vote of the members of the Board of Directors
- Available on UIRA website (<https://uira.org.uiowa.edu>)



Looking Ahead Goals

Looking Ahead: Goals

Provide improved opportunity to join UIRA

- Letter in retirement package (see UIRA website)
 - Future brochure – how to advertise?
- Provisional membership after retirement until following September 30
 - *The Gray Hawk*
 - All announcements of programs, events, meetings
- After August notification, can choose to continue membership during following September

Looking Ahead: Goals

Enhance volunteer activities to aid students

- Food Pantry, Clothing Closet, Meal Share, etc.
- Be available for conversation with students
- Contribute to student emergency funds
- Big Visit Days
- Week of Finals pancakes, etc.
- Other student outreach activities

Looking Ahead: Goals

How to increase program attendance and participation?

- Outside speakers: variety, multidisciplinary, multi-career, etc.
- More diverse programs
- Hybrid programs (in-person and Zoom)
- Enhance engagement with special interest groups
- Join Program Committee to choose program topics
- Suggestions and recommendations, or wish to volunteer or be a member of Program Committee, send to Edwin-Dove@uiowa.edu

Looking Ahead: Potential Programs

- Arts - History, tours, Opera
- Athletics - Women's BB, new AD
- IC Mayor plans for community
- Student extra-curricular achievements
- Tours, hikes
- Aging – Senior housing, wellness, finances, health care options
- Political landscape from Ben Kieffer
- Advances in medicine: Cancer treatments, neurological disorders, pain management
- AI, Driving simulator, Water management, age-related research
- Money management for seniors
- Csomay Center for Gerontological Excellence, University of Iowa, College of Nursing
- Dementia Prevention Lecture (January)
- Dance—Armando Duarte

Looking Ahead: Goal

Join University Operations Manual; §2.8 Advisory Bodies

- Acknowledged as “Official” organization giving advice to president on issues touching UI staff and faculty retirees
- Similar to EFC, Faculty Senate, Staff Council, etc., providing advice, as needed, to the president
- Ensured support for UIRA as personnel, administrators change



Iowa First Place – Doug Brenner
Leaf Pattern on Winter Sidewalk
Iowa City



Iowa Second Place – Diana Harris
Iowa Rainbow
Iowa City

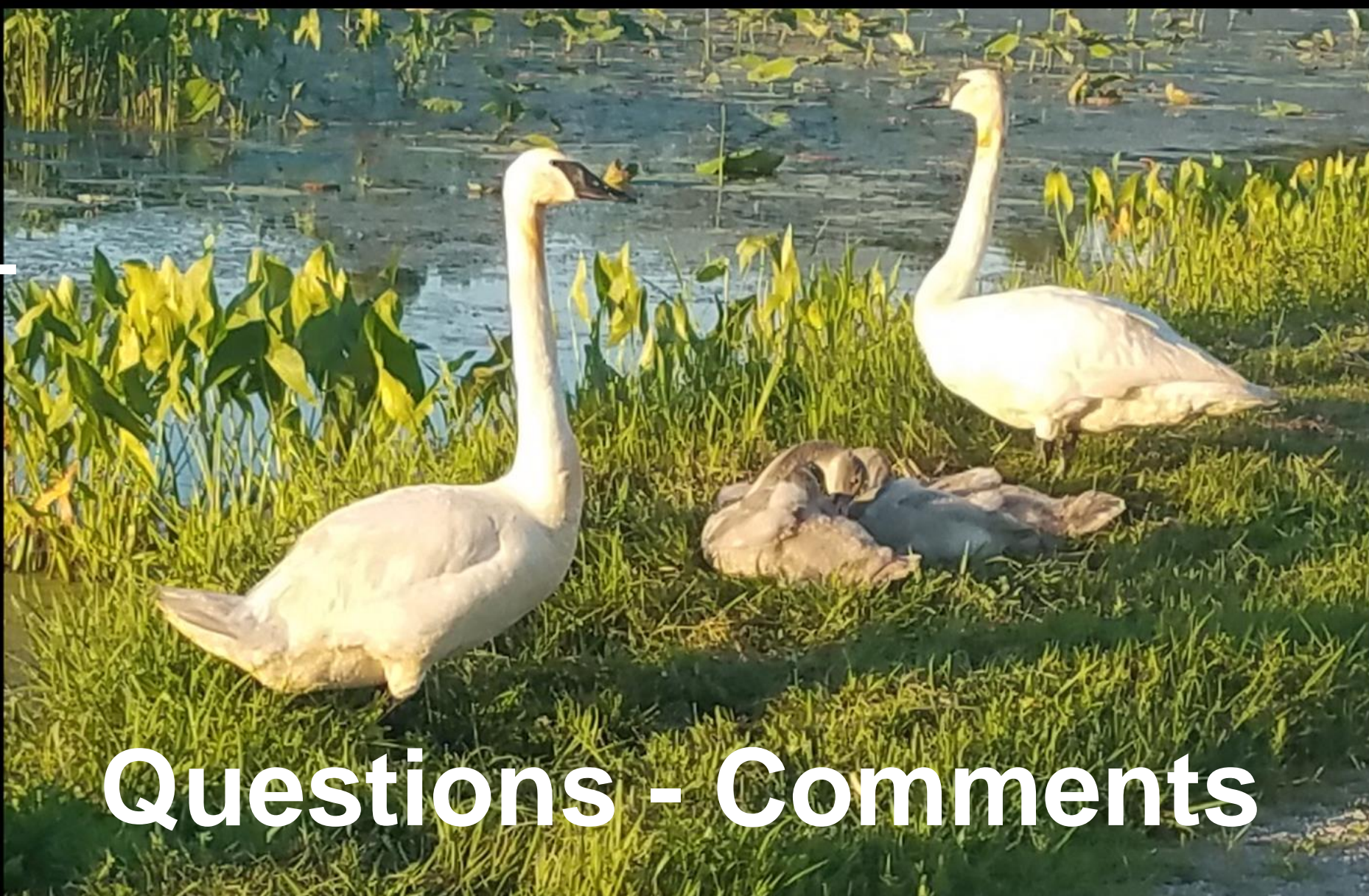


Iowa Third Place – Roseanne Shea Meyer
Levitt Center
Iowa City

Finally, a Personal Note to All UIRA

It has been my honor and privilege to have served as president of the UIRA during the past year. It has been a joy to interact and engage with the officers (Carolyn and Deb) and the other members of the Board of Directors. I thank all the members for their dedication to and hard work for UIRA. We are better now than before due to everyone working together towards a common goal.

I look forward to working with Deb, our next president, Evalyn, our president-elect, and the members of next year's Board of Directors. I am sure that it will be an even-more exciting and productive year.



Questions - Comments

IOWA

**The Board Wishes
Everyone Health and
Happiness**