

Report of the UIRA Membership Committee
Annual Meeting 4/24/2014

As of this date, our organization is made up of 579 dues-paying members, representing 403 households. The number of members is down about 5% compared with a year ago (611 in 2013 and 579 in 2014).

We attracted 101 new individuals this year (2013-14), representing a decrease of 16% from last year. We need to continue to search ways in which to attract and keep more members.

We discontinued 82 members from membership for non-payment of dues, which is 61 fewer members than last year for a 43% decrease.

As some of you may remember, an ad-hoc membership committee recommended that a new post be created—that of an Assistant to the Treasurer. That person would receive the dues and membership applications, and deposit the dues.. He or she would then report to the Membership Chair. The Chair would file the applications, adjust the master membership spreadsheet, add and subtract names, update the two listservs for mailings and compile statistics. This arrangement has worked well this year.

Information is being compiled to see if an outside firm could maintain the master membership data for UIRA. Information about firms and the costs of using such a firm to maintain the membership data base will be presented to the board for review and discussion.

About 194 households get their *Gray Hawks* by postal mail (34% of the total). The number is important because a change in mailing rules by the UI Foundation and/or the U.S. Post Office is that if the number falls below 200, we then get charged the regular 1st-class mail rate.

The board has voted to deliver *Gray Hawks* by email (electronic delivery) beginning in September 2014. This would allow for UIRA funds to be used for additional programming and support of special speakers.

Richard Johns,
Membership Chairman