# Vintage Times

### The semi-annual newsletter of the USI Retirees

Winter/Spring 2020

#### **Events 2020**

## Monday, March 2 7 p.m.

Get Happy: An Evening with Rebecca Fisher in Concert Michael J. Mortiz Jr. on piano USI Performance Center No cost

# Thursday, July 30 4 p.m.

President Rochon's Annual Reception for USI Retirees USI Griffin Center

## Monday, August 24 11:30 a.m.

"Not Back to School" Lunch Turoni's on Main

# Thursday, November 19 Time and Location TBD USI Retirees Annual Meeting

# **USI Retirees Coordinating Council**

Nancy Bizal President nbizal@usi.edu

Marlene Shaw President-Elect mshaw@usi.edu

Nils Johansen Past President johansen@usi.edu

Linda Cleek '82 M'00 Secretary lcleek@usi.edu

> John Deem *Treasurer* ideem@usi.edu

Members at Large

Joanne Artz jartz@usi.edu

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# Remembering Dr. David L. Rice

"Every citizen who desires an education, who is capable of attaining an education and who is willing to achieve an education shall have the opportunity to do so."

-Dr. David L. Rice



Dr. David L. Rice, founding and first president of the University of Southern Indiana, who died on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, retired from USI in 1994. He was an exemplary leader, friend and community member. We will remember Dr. Rice and his legacy.

### Retiree Accomplishments



Katie Waters, professor emerita of art, was honored with the 2019 Mayor's Arts Award by the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana.



Matthew Graham, professor emeritus of English, was named Indiana Poet Laureate by the Indiana Arts Commission; he began his two-year term on January 1, 2020.

Visit the USI McCutchan Art Center/Pace Galleries until February 12 to view *Life & Art: The Similar Sensibilities of Katie Waters and Matthew Graham*, an exhibition of their paintings, drawings and poems.

### Message from the President

Dear Retirees.

Welcome to a new decade. How is it possible we have seen so many?

Attendees at our annual meeting in November heard a wonderful performance by USI's Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Tom Drury, instructor in music.

In addition, we had good attendance and great conversation at our semi-annual "Not Back to School" pizza lunch at Turoni's on Main. Thanks to Linda Cleek and Sharon Burks-Maier for the arrangements.



Our Coordinating Council is investigating outings for spring and summer. Please look for these announcements and join us. We are always looking for good ideas. Please let us know your good ideas to learn about our University and region and to have fun.

NEW: The SECURE Act, passed in December 2019, includes changes regarding retirement accounts, such as TIAA CREF. Two of the new requirements involve when RMDs (required minimum distributions) must begin and how long after a retiree's death beneficiaries have to complete the disbursements. Our Coordinating Council urges you to consult your financial advisor.

Nancy F. Bizal President, USI Retirees Coordinating Council nbizal@usi.edu

### **Coordinating Council 2020 Meeting Dates**

Thursday, March 19 Thursday, May 21 Thursday, September 17 Thursday, November 19 (Annual Meeting)

### Congratulations to USI Retirees Grant Award Recipients

Denise R. Allison Amanda C. Smith Jennifer J. Horn Taylor J. Gwaltney Samantha N. Sawyer

These grant recipients are full-time, benefitseligible employees seeking degrees at USI. The grants of \$100 each are funded through USI Retirees' membership dues.

#### **Message from Past President**

I believe we as a council have set the pace for some good continuing traditions. As we work to continue to benefit USI retirees, we also need to remind ourselves as council members that we work on behalf of all USI retirees. I wish the new and returning members luck in the efforts to continue to be a voice for all USI retirees.

-Nils Johansen, Past President, USI Retirees

### **Welcome New Retirees**

We welcome the following friends and colleagues to retirement:

Cynthia J. Bent Carol E. Bonham DeLana A. Fleenor Matthew R. Graham Paul D. Kinner Elizabeth Lopez Kathryn M. Waters Linda A. Taylor

### **Involved USI Retirees**





Left: USI retirees and friends worked at the USI Varsity Club booth during the 2019 West Side Nut Club Fall Festival. From left: Bruce Baker, Yvonne Floyd, Phil Fisher, Jennie Head and Sherrianne Standley.



Left: USI retirees toured the WNIN Public Media Center and viewed a screening of *Two Elephants* on September 26, 2019. Above left: Don Pitzer. Left: Wilder and Janel Allen, Mary and Brian Branson, Marty Joyce, Ginger Ramsden, Sue Salm, and Nils Johansen with John Gibson.



Above: Charmaine McDowell celebrates with Roberta Schweizer on Roberta's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, August 26, 2019.

Right: Retirees gather at the New Harmony Atheneum 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration on October 12, 2019. From left: Matthew Graham, Katie Waters, Ed Jones, Cindy Brinker, Sherrianne Standley, and Paulette and Bob Reid.



Left: USI retirees attended the summer 2019 performance at New Harmony Theatre, Always, Patsy Cline. Far left: Barbara Blevins, Phil Fisher, Bonnie Alcorn and Helen Fisher. Second from left: Nadine Coudret, Karen Walker, David Bower, Wilder and Janel Allen and Mary Bower.

#### In Memoriam

Barbara K. Blevins Spouse of Retiree

Janice L. Couts Retiree

Barbara Ann Davis Retiree

Pat Deering Spouse of Retiree

> Larry Goss Retiree

Rita J. Murphy Retiree

August Orman Spouse of Retiree

David L. Rice Retiree

Margaret R. Waide Retiree

> Jo-Ann Wilson Retiree

William H. Young Retiree

### Membership in USI Retirees

Membership in USI Retirees is open to retired employees, spouses and partners, and surviving spouses and partners. To become an active member or to renew your membership, send us your name, address, telephone number, email address and a list of your interests with your annual dues of \$20 (per person), checks payable to **USI Retirees.** Dues cover 12 months from one Annual Meeting until the next (usually November to November). Membership dues support five \$100 scholarships annually to faculty and staff enrolling in USI courses. Mail your information to USI Retirees, c/o USI Foundation, 8600 University Boulevard, Evansville, IN 47712. To learn more about USI Retirees, visit USI.edu/retirees.



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# Dr. Frans de Waal to Deliver 9th Annual Shaw Biology Lecture, Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 7 p.m. Mitchell Auditorium

New York Times bestselling author Dr. Frans de Waal will present "Mama's Last Hug: Animal Emotions and What They Tell Us about Ourselves." Dr. de Waal is a renowned Dutch-American biologist and primatologist known for his work on the behavior and social intelligence of primates. His lecture is free and open to the public.



### IRA Charitable Rollover Update

In December 2019, Congress approved a federal budget with a provision increasing the age for mandatory withdrawal from retirement accounts to 72 – effective for persons who turn 70 ½ on January 1, 2020, or after. But anyone who is 70 ½ or older can still withdraw money from retirement accounts tax free if the dollars are issued directly to charity. For more information, call the USI Foundation at 812-464-1918.

Many thanks to Sherry Darrell, editor of Vintage Times.