

Vintage Times

The semi-annual newsletter of the USI Retirees



Winter/Spring
2025

EVENTS 2025

March 15

Foundation Lunch for USI Retirees
Griffin Center

April 3

Lunch & Learn
Evansville Wartime Museum

April 22

Azalea Path Arboretum
Hazelton, Indiana

August 12

NOT Back to School
Pizza Gathering

October 8

Tram Tour and Lunch
New Harmony, Indiana

November 20

USI Retirees Annual Meeting

COORDINATING COUNCIL 2025 MEETING DATES

March 15

May 15

July 17

September 18

November 20

USI RETIREES COORDINATING COUNCIL

Linda Tribble M'03 '08, *President*

Charmaine McDowell, *President-Elect*

Jeri Burger, *Past President*

Christy Baker, *Secretary*

Craig Ehlen, *Treasurer*

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Terri Branson

Janet Duncan

Sandy Hatfield

VINTAGE TIMES

Linda Cleek '82 M'99
Co-Editor

Sherrienne Standley
Co-Editor

Tenth Annual Shaw Biology Lecture

The 10th Annual Shaw Lecture will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 26, in Carter Hall. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Rhodes will present a public lecture entitled *Robert Oppenheimer: the Man, the Making of the Atomic Bomb, and the Consequences*. A question/answer session and book signing will follow the lecture.

When asked about the origin of the lecture series, Dr. Marlene Shaw stated, "The annual lecture began with the desire to bring students in contact with scholars of current, engaging, and thought-provoking topics. My 1991 Distinguished Professor Award presented opportunity and a path to legacy."

An endowment was established in the USI Foundation using the DPA as a seed for gifts from alumni, faculty, and friends. Biology alumnus Dr. Joey V. Barnett '81 was instrumental in securing generous contributions from peers. A USI Foundation Endowment, the USI Biology Department, and the Pott College of Science, Engineering and Education support the Shaw Biology Lecture.

By supporting visits of scholars whose expertise lies at the interface of biology and fields such as law, medicine, public health, agriculture, political science, ethics, and history, the annual lecture strives to enhance the academic environment for students, faculty, and the community-at-large. The intent is to invite speakers who touch persons both on campus and off.

Speakers are sought for expertise, reputation, and storytelling flair. Some held national or international status as science authors, go-to experts for TV newscasts and documentary films, authority on cutting-edge technology, and recognition as research scientists.

Topics have varied from the 21st century challenge of feeding 10 billion people throughout the world to emerging infectious diseases to breeding endangered species. With these lectures, the University invites the public into its academic space to learn, discuss, and reflect. The lectures are free and open to all.

Richard Rhodes is the author of 26 books including *The Making of the Atomic Bomb* which won a Pulitzer Prize in Nonfiction, and *Dark Sun: the Making of the Hydrogen Bomb*, which was shortlisted for a Pulitzer Prize in History. Rhodes is author of *John James Audubon: The Making of An American* and *Scientist E.O. Wilson: A Life in Nature*.

When selecting this year's speaker, Shaw remarked, "Since 2025 marks 80 years since the end of World War II, it was appropriate to reflect on this historical era that affected so many people in our community who served overseas and on the home front."



Pulitzer Prize-winning author
Richard Rhodes

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Hello to all members and friends of USI Retirees!

I hope each of you is enjoying the winter and looking forward to the spring! The USI Coordinating Council is hard at work planning several events that we hope will appeal to you. The USI Retirees group belongs to all retirees, and we want to provide activities and social opportunities that will allow you to visit with old friends and reconnect with former colleagues that you may not have seen for a while. Even if you are unable to attend, we would love to hear from you. For most people, retirement is a huge and anticipated milestone, but it also takes us away from folks with whom we have spent many hours, days, and years. Our retirees' group is a way to bridge that gap!

Membership in USI Retirees is only \$20 per person per year. We have more retirees than ever, but unfortunately enrollment in our group has declined. Without your support, we may not be able to continue offering scholarship grants to employees seeking their first degrees or continue offering social events for our members. Joining is easy; detailed information is found elsewhere in this newsletter.

We do want to hear from you – even if it is just a note to let us know you are enjoying retirement. You can send us a message at USI.Retirees@usi.edu. If you have ideas for activities you would like us to look into, let us know. We hope you will consider joining the USI Retirees if you have not already done so.

All my best,

Linda Tribble, M'03 '08, President, USI Retirees Coordinating Council

THANK YOU FROM USI RETIREES

USI Retirees want to thank Interim President Steve Bridges for the thoughtful invitation to the Holiday Open House held on campus at the University Home on McDowell Road. Interim President Bridges and his staff greeted guests as they arrived. The home was festively decorated, and guests were allowed to walk through to see the many changes and updates that have recently been made.

Holiday refreshments were available, but the best part of the afternoon was the opportunity to visit with friends from the University. From all the USI Retirees, thank you for a wonderful afternoon.



RETIREEES' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- USI Athletics named retiree **John Deem** a member of the 2025 USI Athletic Hall of Distinction for contributions to the success of the University's varsity programs. He was inducted during homecoming week in February.
- **Rena Goss**, widow of retiree Larry Goss is author of, "*Murder on Perin Run – A Historic Crime in Jefferson County, Ohio.*" It is a 'true crime' book from the 1899-1900 time frame and is available on Amazon.
- **Sherry Bevins Darrell** has a new book of poetry titled, *Passing*. This book weaves together personal reflections and universal themes and can be ordered on Amazon.
- USI Retiree **Nils Johansen** will be the speaker at the Lunch and Learn Program at Evansville Wartime Museum on April 3, at 11 a.m. The topic of his talk will be "Norwegian Resistance during WWII." The Lunch and Learn program is for seniors only at no charge; however, reservations are required. RSVP no later than three days prior by calling 812-424-7461 or through the website at lunchlearn@evansvillewartimemuseum.org.

STAY CONNECTED

If you are not receiving email messages from us, please send a message with your preferred email address to: USI.Retirees@usi.edu

NEW RETIREES

Welcome to the employees
who recently retired from the
University.

David Bower

Gary Burgdorf

Peter Cashel Cordo

Tamara Hunt

Marie Opatrny Pease

Robert Threet

Jeff Flener

Nancy Davis

**MEMBERSHIP IN
USI RETIREES**

Membership in USI Retirees is open to retired employees, spouses and partners and surviving spouses and partners. Employees who separated from the University in good standing with at least 10 years of service but did not meet the eligibility requirements for retirement from USI may join the USI Retirees.

To become an active member or to renew your membership, complete the Retiree Membership Form online at **USI.edu/retirees** and send your information to:

**USI Retirees, c/o USI Foundation
8600 University Blvd.
Evansville, IN 47712**

Dues are \$20 per year per person (July 1 – June 30). Checks are to be made payable to **USI Retirees**.

Visit the USI Retirees website at **USI.edu/retirees** for an online payment option or more information about **USI Retirees**.

FALL 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the USI Retirees was held on Thursday, November 21, 2024, at City View at Sterling Square. President Jeri Burger conducted a short business meeting and presented the year in review. Coordinating Council members and Officers were elected for the 2025 year. Retirees mingled and enjoyed refreshments while Jim Bandoli and Ken Goans provided musical entertainment.

New and returning Coordinating Council members and the officers elected for this year are:

- Linda Tribble M'03 '08, President
- Charmaine McDowell, President-Elect
- Jeri Burger, Past President
- Secretary, Christy Baker
- Treasurer, Craig Ehlen
- Terri Branson
- Janet Duncan
- Sandy Hatfield

**TIM MAHONEY: SUPPORTER, ADVOCATE, FRIEND**

Tim Mahoney was a strong advocate of seniors, of healthy aging and of USI. His wit and insight were well known among his peers, colleagues, and students. After retirement, Tim continued his service to USI and was completing his second term on the USI Retiree Coordinating Council at the time of his death.

It was important to Tim to make sure all retirees and seniors knew the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and he wanted to promote access to available information and opportunities. He was a strong supporter of the Mid-America Institute on Aging and Wellness (MAIA).

Tim will be missed and he leaves his mark on seniors in the community.





USI Foundation
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IN MEMORIAM

*Lois Kenoyer
Retiree*

*Charles Barber
Retiree*

*Martin Reed
Retiree*

*Linda Harmon
Retiree*

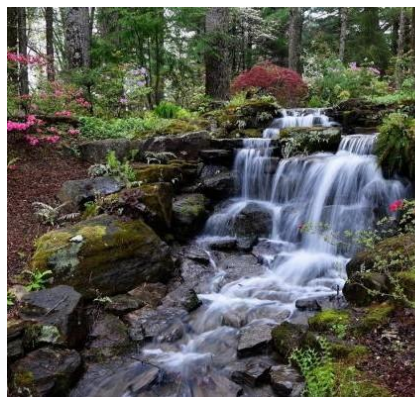
*Steve Baker
Retiree*

*Charles 'Chuck' Reynolds
Spouse of Retiree A. Jane Reynolds*

*John Gibson
Spouse of Retiree Leslie J. Roberts*

*Evelynne Lonnberg
Widow of Retiree Charles Lonnberg*

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US!



You won't want to miss a visit to the **Azalea Path Arboretum and Botanical Gardens, in Hazelton, Indiana, on Tuesday, April 22**. The cost is \$5 per person. We will gather and leave at 9 a.m., visit the Arboretum until Noon, and then have lunch at R'z Café in Fort Branch. More detailed information on reservations and travel will be sent closer to the event. Mark your calendars and save the date!

USI RETIREES GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE

Check out the USI Retirees Group Facebook Page. The page is accessible only to USI Retirees. Information about special events and information important to USI Retirees is posted on the page. If you are on Facebook, search for **USI Retirees** and ask to join the USI Retirees. The USI Retirees Group Facebook Page is growing and we would like to include you!