

Events 2021

Thursday, July 29

4:00 p.m.

President Rochon/USI Foundation
Annual
Reception for USI Retirees
USI Griffin Center

Tuesday, August 17

11:30 a.m.

“Not-Back-to-School” Gathering
Turoni’s on North Main

Thursday, November 18

3:00 p.m. Location TBD

USI Retirees’ Annual Meeting

USI Retirees’ Coordinating Council

Marlene Shaw

President

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Cindy Brinker

President-Elect

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Nancy Bizal

Past President

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Joanne Artz

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Members at Large

Craig Ehlen

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Tim Mahoney

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Phyllis Oeth '81

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Coordinating Council 2021 Meeting Dates

Thursday, September 16

Thursday, November 18

(Annual Meeting)

Remarkable Wanda Hibbitts Much has changed in the past 100 years; the accounting field has changed from pencils and paper ledgers to adding machines, to calculators, to computers and Excel sheets and from simple to complex taxation and compliance regulations. And as accounting education changed, Wanda Hibbitts evolved, too.



With a BS, she first taught bookkeeping in high school and then for 27 years taught accounting in business colleges. With a desire to teach at a college, Wanda applied to Indiana State University’s new MBA program and became the first woman admitted to and graduate from that program. Thus, in 1970, she applied to ISUE and began teaching several business courses, including accounting. Quickly, Wanda became known as a caring and no-nonsense professor, advisor, and mentor. Many former students report they would not have attempted, let alone passed, the CPA exam without

Wanda’s instruction, advice, and belief in them. Wanda set high expectations for her students and for herself. At age 60 she earned a PhD from Southern Illinois University, all the while teaching full time and commuting back and forth 100 miles each way.

Wanda received the Distinguished Professor Award in 1986, the highest faculty award at USI, in recognition of her excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service. In 1987, Wanda retired as Professor Emerita of Business. Although much has changed in 100 years, Wanda’s fierce interest in USI and in her former students has not. Indeed, more than 100 of them sent her birthday cards and letters to celebrate her 100th birthday in April. --Nancy Bizal

Jerry Bulger’s Flag After 30 years of service to USI in Facilities and Operations, Jerry Bulger retired in 2016. Earlier, he had served four years in the U.S. Navy and 25 years on Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department, many of those years as chief. In 2019, Jerry was recognized for 50 years of dedicated volunteer service by the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association.

Like most of us, Jerry remembers precisely where he was when he heard about the attack on New York City’s Twin Towers: he was on University Boulevard and heard the news from USI Public Safety officer Larry Rogers, stationed in the booth then in front of the Administration Building. Along with others, Jerry went to the Physical Plant control room to watch developments on TV and try to understand these events.

After learning what some other organizations chose to do, Jerry decided we should fly a flag from the USI overpass. The original flag, smaller than the one used today, was purchased by Vanderburgh County Chiefs Association specifically for this purpose. The first year the flag flew with one Perry Township Fire Department truck present; over the years, the number of trucks and size of flag have grown. Jerry says people honk, wave, and stop to talk and thank them for flying the flag: “It’s great to see there is still some pride in the country.”

Every September 11, volunteers raise the flag by 7:00 a.m. and bring it down between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. On this year’s 20th anniversary of the attack, Jerry hopes for help from other fire departments so they can fly the flag for 24 hours, from midnight to midnight.

When asked how long he plans to continue this tradition, Bulger said, “As long as this old man is able to do it!” --Phyllis Oeth '81



Message from the President

Dear Retirees,

What a pleasure to see the Tri-state opening--family gatherings, ballgames, camping trips, concerts, backyard BBQs, and potlucks with friends. And for 29 USI retirees and guests, our Igleheart Gardens talk and tour in April proved a great success.

When you find a half hour around your summer activities, please visit the Retirees' website at USI.edu/retirees to explore choices listed in the left and right margins. At *Newsletter* you will find the *Vintage Times* Summer-Fall 2021 Addendum with further responses from our members about their activities during the pandemic. For their work on the website, many thanks to Joanne Artz, secretary; Cindy Brinker, president-elect; and Taylor Gogel, assistant director of Development in the Foundation.

As you read in the previous issue, during the pandemic many USI retirees found new opportunities to learn and grow. We feature two of them in this issue: lifetime artist Carolyn Roth, who learned to code and create a website to display her work, and Mary Branson, who began to paint.

Best wishes to all of you for the rest of summer; I hope to see you at President Rochon's reception on Thursday, July 29, at 4:00 p.m. in the Griffin Center on the USI campus.

Marlene Shaw, President
mshaw@usi.edu



Welcome, New Retirees

We welcome the following friends and colleagues to retirement:

Michael Adcock '01
Larry Back '99
Patricia Beagle M'05
Leisa Belleau '94
Teresa Branson
Mary Drury
David Enzler
Dianne Grayson '77

Joyce Gulley
Heidi Gregori-Gahan
Margaret Gruenwald M'95
Casey Harison
Terry Martin '14
Nancy Myers '77
James Neighbors

Keietsu Nishimura
Iris Phillips
Paul Raymond
Jong Rhim
Susan Ruholl
Lisa Wilson M'08
Kathy Weinzapfel '91

2021 Retirees' Directory

We distributed copies of the *2021 Retirees' Directory* at the Retiree Reception on July 29, and we emailed digital copies to all retirees. If you would like a hard copy mailed to you, please notify Sharri Herriott at the USI Foundation: slherriott@usi.edu or 812-464-1918.

Igleheart Gardens Tour - Monday, April 26, 2021

Retirees and guests joined Dr. Mark Browning and Mr. Rick Tremont for a tour of the grounds.



Walter and Shirley Everett, Phyllis Oeth '81, Charles Barber, Cindy Brinker, Marlene Shaw, Carolyn Roth, and Bonabeth and Keietsu Nishimura.



Walter and Shirley Everett



Igleheart guide, Ruth Kemman, Ruth Hahn, Ginny Bryant Norton, Rick Norton, Peg Ehlen, Tim Mahoney, Craig Ehlen, and Mark Browning.



Waves by Mary Branson

Mary Branson: Retiree and Painter “This past spring, I completed a *plein air* (painting outdoors) workshop in New Harmony with Wyatt LeGrand; right after that, I took an online *plein air* workshop in which about 30 artists demonstrated their work over four days, and I loved it. Their tips, their talent, their presentations (accessible online for a few months after) are priceless. In addition, because I watched an online presentation by a phenomenal artist who paints breaking waves, I want to master that technique...Of course, now I realize what I imagined as an enjoyable hobby has become an obsession. Although painting outdoors is wonderful, I still struggle with it: I work better from a picture than from life. Nevertheless, I love painting; the more I learn, the more I want to learn.”

In Memoriam

Mamie Dulin
Retiree

Donald Drury
Spouse of Retiree Mary Drury

Liao Fu
Spouse of Retiree Yen-Tzu Fu

Yen-Tzu Fu
Retiree

Joseph Hatfield
Spouse of Retiree
Sandy Hatfield

Ronald Maasberg
Spouse of Retiree
Carolyn Maasberg '72

Martha Kuenzli Smith
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 enrolled 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.

Many thanks to Sherry Darrell,
editor of *Vintage Times*.



Riverside by
Carolyn Roth

Carolyn Roth: An Artist's Website "In June 2020, when USI's Lifelong Learning offered free classes to help people work and learn remotely, I enrolled in a self-paced tutorial with ed2go called "Creating Web Pages." By learning basic HTML, I could create and post my own artist's website--something I have wanted for a long time--a place where people can see the art I have created. My website address is CarolynRoth.epizy.com. My website now includes hundreds of images of paintings, prints, and drawings; and often I add works. For me, it signifies my legacy, a place to document the art I have created. Although I have not posted prices, many items are available if buyers call or email me at 812-985-3325 or croth@usi.edu.

Later this year, November 2 through December 8, I have an exhibition at Saint Meinrad College Library Gallery; and some of my paintings are available through New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art.

The painting pictured here, *Riverside*, is an imaginative landscape that includes brightly-colored cat shapes. I intend my images to be positive and optimistic."