



**2022-23 Year in Review**  
**Jane Dymond, President**

Article 2 of the UWRA’s bylaws it states: “The purpose of this Association is to promote the interests and welfare of Association members, to facilitate their support of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the surrounding community and maintain liaison with relevant University and community organizations.”

Created in 1997-98, the Association serves the members, not the public. If you would like to know more about UWRA’s history, go to our website at [uwramadison.org](http://uwramadison.org) / About / Organizational Documents / UWRA Beginnings / History. You will also find our 2020-2025 Strategic UWRA Framework in the Organization Documents Section. UWRA Board member Mary Czyszczak-Lyne has kept this Framework moving forward and fresh. In these times of change it has been essential that our purpose, activities, and future be firmly rooted in the Framework. Also available to all UWRA members in the Organizational Documents section are:

- Board of Director minutes which have been carefully recorded by Secretary Marian Fisher
- UWRA Financial reports as reported by Treasurer Beth Zemp and reviewed by the Board
- Bylaws, lists of yearly activities, Annual Meeting documents and minutes.

The main focus of UWRA’s service to members is programs, facilitated by UWRA’s 2022-23 committees who have once again offered a rich selection of programs and activities. Day trips this year included visits to the American Players Theatre, the Capital Brewery Tour, and an Indian Mound Guided Walk. Virtual presentations included a Genealogy series and an Estate Planning series, as well as sessions on Human-Robot Interaction Teams, US Economy Update, Assistive Technology, The War in Ukraine, What’s Happened to the Republican Party, Nuclear Power & Climate Change, Electronic Vehicles, Gerrymandering, An American Living In Gascony, Solar/Sustainable Energy, Inflation Reduction Act, 2023-25 State & University Budgets, Local Resources for Retirement, Income Tax Preparation, and UW-Madison on Social Media. Did you see a program in this list that you wish you had seen? Check the UWRA website to view a recording of the session at [uwramadison.org](http://uwramadison.org) / Resources / Presentations.

Here is a comparison of the number of programs, events, and activities offered during the last six years:

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Seminars, Day Trips, Events (including luncheons/receptions)</b>
2022-23	26 virtual seminars + 3 in-person day trips + 11 in-person informal breakfast gatherings (Eastside)
2021-22	22 virtual seminars + 3 virtual travelogues + 1 in-person day trip + 12 virtual breakfast gatherings
2020-21	23 virtual seminars + 5 virtual travelogues + 8 virtual breakfast gatherings
2019-20	21 in-person seminars/events + 3 in-person tours + 16 in -person informal breakfast gatherings (Eastside & Westside) Note: Face-to-face activities cancelled March 2020 in compliance with health guidelines
2018-19	34 in person seminar/events + 4 in-person tours + 24 informal breakfast gatherings (Eastside & Westside)
2017-18	38 in person seminars/events + 4 in-person tours + 24 informal breakfast gatherings (Eastside & Westside)

If you have an idea for a program, please contact Executive Director Sandi Haase who can direct you to the appropriate Committee Chair. Most of our committees meet monthly and would appreciate new members. Is this the year for to you jump in to work with fellow retirees to continue the tradition of excellent programming?

Committees and their members are listed on the UWRA website—click on “About” and then “Committees” and “Annual Committee Reports.” Thank you to all Committee Chairs

During 2022-23, the Board discussed the best way to continue to present programs in a fiscally responsible manner. We discovered that members had grown comfortable with virtual presentations because of ease of “attending.” At the same time, many members were looking for ways to connect in-person. The Board decided that for the 2023-2024 year, UWRA Committees would continue to present virtual programs. At the same time, the Board encourages people wanting an in-person experience to invite other UWRA members and friends to view the virtual program together and then discuss it. Board member Scott Hildebrand and his wife Lisa put a list of public and non-profit venues for members who wish to reserve space for such a gathering. Please contact Executive Director Sandi Haase for a copy.

UWRA is extremely fortunate to have an excellent newsletter, put together by Sheila Leary and edited by Executive Director Sandi Haase. Larry Winkler and Barbara Rust work with Sandi to add events to the UWRA website for registration and payment.

Open Seat Food Pantry has been designated as the sole donation recipient of UWRA. As of this writing, \$2,405 has been collected this fiscal year. A special thank you to those who have made a donation.

Many thanks to Executive Director Sandi Haase for proposing an Annual Meeting Reception, instead of a luncheon, for this year. Luncheon and Reception Committee member Barbara Wiley facilitated our reservation at the beautiful UW Arboretum. Committee Chair Mary Czyszczak-Lyne coordinated the arrangements.

We look forward to this next year of UWRA’S growth and events in its 27<sup>th</sup> year, while also celebrating the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s 175<sup>th</sup> birthday!