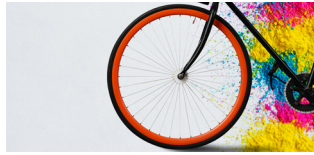


Learn about Chromebooks | **p. 4**



The Wellness Wheel | **p. 5**



Day Trip to Crane Foundation | **p. 4**



We're On Facebook! UWRA-Madison



THE SIFTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

UWRA ELECTION

Candidate Slate for UWRA Board of Directors, 2022-23

An election for five UWRA board positions will be held during the annual membership meeting on Wednesday, May 18. Candidates are as follows.

Three-Year Term as Academic Staff Representative

Scott Hildebrand retired in 2020 after 11 years as senior special assistant to the vice chancellor for finance and administration (first for Darrell Bazzell and later for Laurent Heller). Previously he worked at UW-Green Bay. Before entering higher education administration/communications, Scott was a journalist.



Three-Year Term as University Staff Representative

Ramona Gasper retired in 2020 after 34 years of service in the University of Wisconsin System as an administrative assistant. She is a member of the UWRA luncheon committee, travel committee, and Big Ten 2023 steering committee.



Three-Year Term as Faculty Representative

Michael Bernard-Donals, the Chaim Perelman Professor of Rhetoric and Culture, began working at UW-Madison in 1998 as an associate professor of English. He is the former vice provost for faculty and staff. While not yet retired, he has been a member of the UWRA since 2022.



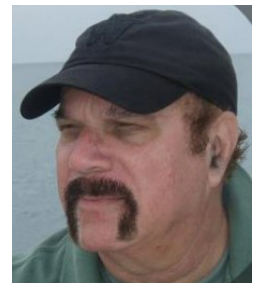
Treasurer

Beth Zemp retired from UW-Madison in January 2018 with emerita status as an IS business automation senior. Beth began working for the UW in 1978. She is currently completing a 3-year term as treasurer.



President-Elect

Rob Seltzer is semi-retired and currently a college admissions consultant in private practice. He worked at UW-Madison for more than 10 years, first as the director of admissions and later as special assistant for enrollment management. He retired from the University in 2011. ■



There is still time to register for **MAY webinars and meetings**. See pp. 4 & 9 for details.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Annual Membership Renewal Kicks Off

BY SANDI HAASE

Are you wondering if your membership expires this year? There are three places where you can find your renewal date. The first is in the email you receive with the link to the online edition of *The Sifter*. The second place is the mailing label of *The Sifter*, if you subscribe to the print edition. The third place is in your member profile on UWRAmadison.org. Additionally, both the email notice and your member profile indicate your current membership level. If your mailing label, email notice, or member profile indicate 2022, it is time to renew!



UWRA has two special membership categories you may want to consider—Bargain or Life. Any member can take advantage of the bargain rate of “six years for the price of five” and save the hassle and postage of renewing each year. Life memberships are also available if either you or your spouse/partner is receiving a Wisconsin Retirement System annuity.

You can renew faster and easier online! There are three renewal options:

- renew online and pay online
- renew online, create an invoice, and pay by check
- renew with a mail-in printed renewal form and a check.

In spite of challenges, UWRA has had a very successful year. You won't want to miss the terrific seminars being planned for 2022–23. Your continued participation is extremely important to us and is very much appreciated.

A membership application/renewal form is included in this issue on p. 3. Please renew your member-

ship today and keep yourself on the mailing list so you do not miss any UWRA communications.

Do You Subscribe to the Printed *Sifter*?

For those who have elected to receive a print edition of *The Sifter*, it is also time to renew your subscription, at \$15 per year. A subscription form is included in this issue on page 3. UWRA must receive your renewal by August 1. ■



Agenda: Annual Membership Meeting

The UWRA membership meeting (with luncheon and tours) will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, 12:30–4:00 P.M. at Tripp Commons in Memorial Union.

- I. Call to order
- II. Welcome to members and guests
- III. Guest speaker, Mark Guthrie
- IV. Annual Business Meeting
 - Special rules of order for annual and special membership meetings
 - 2021–22 year in review
 - Member recognition and thanks
 - 2021 annual meeting minutes
 - 2021–22 Board Record of Action
 - 2021 audit report
 - 2022–23 operating budget
 - Nominating committee report, nominations from floor, election
 - Other business
 - Comments/questions from membership
 - Passing of gavel and remarks of new president
- V. Adjournment

Further details of the meeting, luncheon, and tours can be found at uwramadison.org/event-4545408. ■

UWRA NEWS

Dues Increase Starts September 1

The UW Retirement Association Board of Directors has approved a modest dues increase effective September 1, 2022. The new dues amounts, effective with payments made on or after September 1, 2022, will be:

- Annual **\$30**
- Bargain (6 years for cost of 5) **\$150**

- Life **\$400**
- Out of Area (living outside the 535xx, 537xx, or 539xx zip codes) **\$15**
- Out of Area Bargain (6 years for cost of 5 and living outside the 535xx, 537xx, or 539xx zip codes) **\$75**
- Not yet retired **\$15**

This is the first dues increase since UWRA was formed in 1999 and does not affect dues submitted between now and August 31, 2022. ■

UW-Madison Retirement Association Membership Application and Renewal Form

(Please Print)

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------|
| Name | Spouse/Partner Name | |
| Email | Spouse/Partner Email | |
| Are you retired? ___ Yes ___ No Year you retired? | Are you retired? ___ Yes ___ No Year you retired? | |
| Retired from? (Department) | Retired from? (Department) | |
| Classification ___ Academic Staff ___ Academic Staff (limited) ___ Faculty ___ Faculty (limited) ___ University Staff | Classification ___ Academic Staff ___ Academic Staff (limited) ___ Faculty ___ Faculty (limited) ___ University Staff | |
| Home phone _____ Mobile phone _____ | Mobile phone _____ | |
| Street Address _____ | City/State _____ | Zip Code + 4 _____ |
| MEMBERSHIP LEVEL OPTIONS. All levels include an electronic copy of <i>The Sifter</i> which is published monthly September – June. | | AMOUNT |
| ___ Annual \$20 ___ Bargain (6 yrs.) \$100 ___ Life \$300 ___ Not Yet Retired \$10 Outside of 535xx, 537xx, 539xx: ___ \$10 (1 yr.) or ___ \$50 (6 yrs.) | | |

- You can:
- Join and pay online
 - Join online and pay by check payable to UWRA
 - Join by mailing this form and a check payable to UWRA to UW-Madison Retirement Association, 21 N. Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218

You are encouraged to join online! Visit UWRAmadison.org

Subscription Order Form for Paper Copy of *The Sifter*

- Paper subscription runs concurrently with a membership UWRA Fiscal Year (July 1-June 30)
- Subscription is renewable annually
- Multiple year subscriptions not available at this time
- Printed Sifter is limited to mailing to U.S. addresses only

NOTE: All members receive an electronic copy of *The Sifter* monthly.

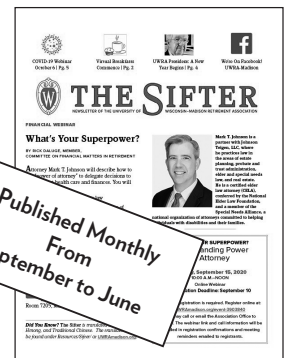
I wish to subscribe to *The Sifter* in paper format at the additional cost of \$15/year.

(Please Print)

| | | |
|-------|--------|----------------|
| Name | Street | |
| City | State | Zip + 4 digits |
| Email | | |

- You can:
- Subscribe to *The Sifter* and pay online through online UWRA Store
 - Subscribe to *The Sifter* online through the online UWRA Store and pay by check payable to UWRA
 - Subscribe to *The Sifter* by mailing this form and a check payable to UW-Madison Retirement Association, 21 N. Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218

You are encouraged to subscribe to *The Sifter* online! Visit UWRAmadison/Store to order



**PAPER SIFTER
SUBSCRIPTION
COST
\$15 ANNUALLY**

TRAVEL COMMITTEE

Crane Foundation Day Trip

Rain or shine, join in the UWRA's June 7 trip to the International Crane Foundation (ICF) near Baraboo, Wisconsin, the world center for the study and preservation of cranes. Founded in 1973 when cranes were in a perilous situation and many were on the brink of extinction, the ICF is the only place on earth where you can see all 15 of the world's crane species!

If you have never visited the ICF or haven't visited in the last five years, you will want to see the expanded habitats and learn about the ICF's exciting global work. The registration fee includes admission, guided tour, and boxed lunch. (ICF members cannot use their membership for admission.) We will meet at the ICF welcome center at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, June 7. The tour begins at 10:15 A.M. This is a self-drive trip, or carpool with friends.

Find driving directions and lunch details on the registration page. ■

If you have questions, please direct them to trip coordinator Ted Collins at tedcollins67@gmail.com.

DAY TRIP: CRANES!

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

10:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. Self-Drive

\$35/person includes admission, lunch, & guided tour
International Crane Foundation, Baraboo

Registration Deadline: May 31

Advance registration is required. Register online at:
UWRAmadison.org/event-4765347



Online registration for webinars is easy, but members may also email the UWRA office at retireassn@mailplus.wisc.edu or call 608-262-0641 to register for events.

Webinar links and call information is included in registration confirmations and reminders emailed to registrants 7 and 2 days prior to events.

ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY WEBINAR

Everything You Want to Know About Chromebooks (And Are Afraid To Ask?)

BY ORV JORDAHL, MEMBER, ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

What is a Chromebook and what does it do? It is a new kind of simpler, lower-cost computer increasingly being adopted as a device



of choice for people who are not necessarily computer gurus. Elementary school children, adults, and senior citizens are using them. We will discuss and demonstrate what Chromebooks can (and cannot) do, and we'll explain why you may want to consider purchasing one. ■

If you have preliminary questions, please direct them to program coordinator Orv Jordahl at ojordahl@gmail.com by Monday, May 23.

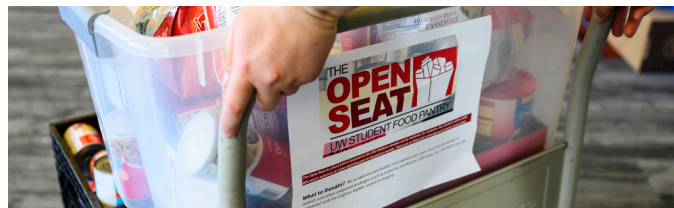
EVERYTHING ABOUT CHROMEBOOKS

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

10:00 A.M.–NOON Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: May 20

Advance registration is required. Register online at:
UWRAmadison.org/event-4776645



FOOD PANTRY CONTRIBUTIONS

Checks payable to UW Foundation, with "Open Seat" on the memo line, may be mailed to UWRA, 21 North Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218. ■

WELLNESS MATTERS

The Wellness Wheel, Part 3

BY STEPHANIE EHLE, MS, CWP, CPT

Hello and happy spring! Spring is such a welcomed time of year ... the sun is shining, the birds are singing, and we can finally put away our shovels. As the outdoor environment begins to dramatically unfold and change, it's the perfect time to explore our environmental and physical well-being.

Environmental Wellness encompasses acknowledging the interdependence among humans, the earth, and other living beings. Maintaining and replenishing the resources we need to support current and future life is the goal. Caring for the animals and places that are entrusted to us in a way that ensures continued viability for all living beings demonstrates environmental maturity. Cultivating an appreciation for the beauty found in nature and surrounding yourself with rejuvenating, comforting, and affirming places and people contributes to your ability to refresh and revitalize yourself.

Home practice Find two days this week to spend 10–15 minutes outside. Fresh air is good for our soul and does wonders for our minds. Think about how you might get involved with outdoor activities this spring. Gardening, anyone?!

As you may notice, many of the dimensions of wellness overlap. One that merges nicely with Environmental Wellness is Physical Wellness.

Physical Wellness includes all aspects of keeping your body functioning at its maximum capacity over the entire lifespan. Exercise (including strength, flexibility, and endurance), nutrition, weight management, self-care habits, stress reduction, sleep, and prevention behaviors all contribute to keeping the body moving adequately to fulfill its daily requirements. Physical wellness also discourages the use of tobacco, drugs, and excessive alcohol consumption.

Instead of checking off each item in the list above, try to focus on what you can do today to make your

life better tomorrow. For example, could I take a walk today? Or choose a salad instead of a burger?

When analyzing any aspect of your well-being, it might be helpful to write in a journal about where you are currently. (Remember to be gentle and non-judgmental with yourself.) Do you currently exercise? What types of food are you consuming? Once you've taken a full assessment, you'll have a better idea of where you'd like to go. Don't forget to ask for guidance if and when you need more information.

Home practice Try a three-day food log. Record everything you eat and see if there is anything you are missing. It's almost local veggie season, the perfect time to add more fiber!

In the next edition we will dive into the last three areas of wellness: vocational, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. I hope you are enjoying your self-care journey. Until next time, be well. ■



Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants (WCOA) Annual Conference (online)

BY SANDY DREW, UWRA MEMBER AND WCOA ANNUAL CONFERENCE CHAIR

This year's conference will be presented in two morning (9:30 A.M.–noon) sessions on Thursday, May 5 and Thursday, May 19. View these free webinars from the comfort of your home. Hear State of Wisconsin Investment Board (SWIB) and Employee Trust Fund (ETF) representatives explain the latest developments and forecasts regarding your pension fund. Also speaking at the webinars will be representatives from the State Department of Health Services and the University of Wisconsin, discussing aging and Medicare issues.

For more detailed descriptions, bios of the speakers, and registration information for this free event, visit wicoa.org/2022conference.html. ■

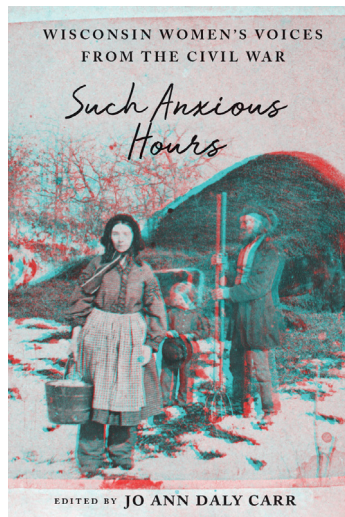
MEET A UWRA MEMBER

From Carnival Waitress to Published Author

BY JO ANN CARR

In June 1974 I arrived in Madison late on a Friday afternoon. Before I even began unpacking, I hustled over to the School of Library and Information Science (SLIS) to check their job board. I spent my weekend applying for those jobs as well as for any other job I could find.

On my first Monday in Madison, I hand-delivered my applications and began working as a janitor at Spud-Nuts on State Street. On my second Monday, I began working as a waitress in a carnival cooktent. On my third Monday, I began working for a debt collection agency. On my fourth Monday, I began my career with the School of Education.



Craving stability after that rush of jobs, for the next thirty-six years I was part of the transformation that computing and the internet brought to information services, to teacher education, and to the world. (No longer do those in search of jobs have to scour notices tacked to the SLIS jobs board.)

In retirement, I am enjoying the little things. I love adapting and creating recipes and enjoy walks around the pond near my home. I love unplanned road trips through the countryside to small towns that reflect the hopes of their founders.

My retirement "career" was inspired when I attended a lecture on Civil War letters from Wisconsin soldiers. At the end of the lecture I asked, "But

what about the women?" For the past eight years I've been attempting to answer my own question. At first, I looked for letters from Wisconsin women and published a book of those letters as *Such Anxious Hours: Wisconsin Women's Voices from the Civil War* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2020). Now I am researching the contributions made by the Union women of Fort Sumter as our nation plunged into war in April 1861.

Soon I will travel to Charleston to meet with Fort Sumter staff, walk the paths of the women of Fort Sumter, and explore local resources. One of my six sisters is traveling with me. I hope visiting the Charleston Diocesan archives is on her bucket list! ■

PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

Volunteer at the UW Arboretum

BY TOM BROMAN, CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON PARTNERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT

The UW Arboretum is an excellent place to volunteer in a beautiful setting! The Arb is well organized to receive volunteers and direct them to work that suits both their time schedules and their physical capabilities. Anyone interested in volunteering at the Arboretum should visit their web site (arboretum.wisc.edu/get-involved/volunteer/), or get in touch with Judy Kingsbury, the Arboretum's volunteer coordinator, at judith.kingsbury@wisc.edu or by telephone at 608-262-5604. ■

MARCH 1-31, 2022

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Michael Bernard-Donals, *English*

Christine Coughlin

Ian Duncan, *Medical Sciences*

Todd Friske, *DoIT*

Richard Linton, *DoIT*

Donna Moberg, *Nursing*

Barbara Strand, *Pediatrics*

{ The UWRA is your network in retirement! }

ACTIVITIES IN RETIREMENT

Connecting Science to Society

BY BASSAM Z. SHAKHASHIRI, UWRA MEMBER

Retirement from living the Wisconsin Idea and connecting science with society? Nah, you must be thinking of someone else. Although I have retired as a professor of chemistry, I am still the William T. Evjue Distinguished Chair for the Wisconsin Idea and I am not done yet. Would you like to join me in important outreach and public engagement activities?



Science and society face grand challenges: global warming, population growth, finite resources, malnutrition, spreading disease, deadly violence, war, and the denial of basic human rights—especially the right to benefit from scientific and technological progress.

The wide gap between those of us who flourish because of advances in science and technology and those who do not is highly alarming and adversely consequential. Facing these challenges requires vigilance, creativity, and the core belief that doing good in the world is a vital part of who we are and what we stand for.

With continual advances in science, the need for connecting science to society requires care, respect, and trust. The Wisconsin Initiative for Science Literacy (WISL), which I lead, offers several opportunities for making this happen (visit scifun.org/wisl/wisl.html).

Please tell your family, friends, and others about how UW-Madison Ph.D. candidates are sharing their scholarly research with a wide, non-science audience (visit scifun.org/Thesis_Awards/thesis_awards.html).

Also, please help spread the word about an online climate science workbook for teachers and faculty

to integrate climate material into their curriculum (scifun.org/ClimateWorkbook/home.html)

We can align personal learning with serving the common good of society. Learning is enriched by sharing with others. It is validated by engaging in respectful conversations. It is affirmed by responsible action for the common good.

I invite you to participate in WISL programs. Your support can help connect science and society (scifun.org/WISL/WISLsupport3.html). Long live the Wisconsin Idea in the 21st century! ■

Lake Wingra Watershed Gathering

Vilas Park: Saturday, May 21, 1–4:00 P.M.

The Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association’s WATER Team invites you to a family-friendly and free event. Bring your family, a friend, or neighbor.

Interact with homeowners and people from 30 organizations committed to clean water needed by all life forms that share this planet. Learn about water stewardship practices. Leave with new ideas as we collectively ensure healthy lakes, streams, and the lands in-between.

- Participate in fun activities with nine activities for children.
- Engage with storyteller Andi Cloud, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
- Renew your sense of connection among people, land, and water.
- Talk with individuals who plant prairies and restore greenspaces on public property.
- Meet homeowners with rain gardens, rain barrels, and prairies instead of lawns as ways to keep water out of their basements while creating habitat for butterflies, insects, and animals.
- Talk with urban vegetable gardeners.
- Learn about climate justice, how climate change impacts Madison Lakes and ways to lessen effects.
- Experience lake monitoring and tracking harmful chloride.
- Enjoy art inspired by water research results.

Schedule details are at fb.me/e/2fBrOYwrY Feel free to contact Taylor water.wingragathering@gmail.com. ■

UWRA NEWS

Recognizing Life Members

The UW–Madison Retirement Association would like to take this opportunity to recognize all its current life members (as of April 1, 2022) and thank them for their support.

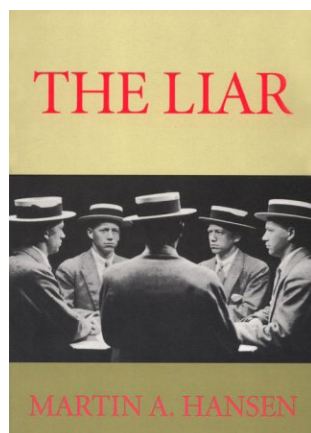
| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Susan Adams | Susan Dentinger | Sue Hilgemann | Allen Liegel | Angela Powell | Audrey Tluczek |
| Hans Adler | John B Dillon | Douglas D Hill | Joan Liegel | Paul H Rabinowitz | Cathleen Trueba |
| Colleen Albrecht | Lynn Docter | Karen A Hill | Sherry Lloyd | Ronald Raines | Jerald Tutsch |
| Kenneth Albrecht | Jane Doughty | Mark Hill | Richard Lottridge | Shiela Reaves | Kendra Tutsch |
| B. Lynn Allen-Hoffmann | Susan Douglas | David W Hoffman | Jean Lottridge | Rolf Reitz | John J Uicker |
| Michael W Apple | Ruth Drage | Michael Hoffmann | Barend Lotz | Joel Robbin | Edward Van Gemert |
| Rima D Apple | Edwin L Dreier | James Holden | Stephen R Lund | Jeanette Roberts | Grace Wahba |
| Jerry Apps | Jack Duschak | Karen Holden | Terry Roe Lund | Stephen M Robinson | Ann Wallace |
| Ruth Apps | Shirley Duschak | Bradley Hughes | Bruce Maas | Chong-Suk H Robinson | Sandra Ward |
| Ana Araujo | Jean Dye | Shitao Huo | Jan Maas | Barbara Rust | David Wilson |
| Sandra Arfa | Robert Dye | Mona Huo | Florencia Mallon | Kewal K Saluja | Ann Wilson |
| Elizabeth Barlow | Gerhard Ellerkamp | Gregory Iaccarino | Susan Manning | Wilton Sanders | Larry Winkler |
| Susan Barthel | Peggy Ellerkamp | Patricia Iaccarino | Bradley Manning, MD | Bonnie Schmidt | David Wood ■ |
| Mark Beatty | Gayle Ellis | Richard Jahnke | Carrie Marlette | Stephen P Schmidt | |
| Sandra Bertics | Richard Ellis | Matthew Jaworski | Duane Marlette | John Schmitz | |
| Brian Bigler | Diane Elson, M.D. | Gail Jobelius | Doug Marshall | Jean Tretow-Schmitz | |
| Rebecca Blank | Rae Erdahl | Lars Jorgensen | Mary Marshall | Anthony J Schreiner | |
| Franklyn Boll | Barbara Erlenborn | Murray Katcher | Katharyn May | Ann M Schreiner | |
| Virginia Terry Boyd | Jim Erlenborn | Susan Katcher | Michael May | Robert C Schubert | |
| Keith Bozarth | Herman Felstehausen | Robert G Kauffman | Laurie Mayberry | Stephen Schuelke | |
| Bruce Braun | Marian Fisher | Phyllis A Kauffman | Linda McDonald | Tom Schwab | |
| Nancy Braun | Raymond Fonck | Coky Klimpel | Patrick McDonnell | Karen Schwarz | |
| Robert Buchanan | David E Foster | Don Klimpel | Julia McGivern | Dan Schwarz | |
| Barbara Buenger | Linda A Foster | Sharon Kluender | Ruth McNichols | Ken Scott | |
| Ronald Burnette | Aaron Friedman | Cheryl Knobeloch | Catherine Middlecamp | Wes Severson | |
| Gerald E Burns | Todd Friske | Frank Kooistra | Rosalie Migas | James Shaft | |
| David Callan | Susanna Fuerstenberg | Gundega Korsts | Sue Milch | Sheryl Shaft | |
| Jim Callen | Susan Fuszard | James Koza | Anne Miner | Debra Shapiro | |
| Judy Callen | Kathleen Mary Gleeson | Julia Koza | John Moses | Elizabeth Sheehan | |
| Gerald Campbell | Karen Goebel | Richard Kunert | Allan Nettleton | Jim Shurts | |
| Christine Cefalu-Moses | Janice Golay | Lawren Kunz | Aileen Nettleton | Kathy Shurts | |
| Robin Chapman | Elise Gold | Hanns Kuttner | Deborah Neuheisel | Paulette Siebers | |
| Mei-Hao Chen | Constance Grogan | Janet LaBrie | Diane Norback | Michael Siebers | |
| Birgit Christensen | E Wayne Grogan | Ann Landry | John Norman | Miriam Simmons | |
| Joyce W Crim | Sandi Haase | Greg Landry | Jane Norman | Hollis Skaife | |
| Colleen Cummins | Brent Haase | Ullrich Langer | Doris Ockert | Michael Smith | |
| Geke de Vries | W Lee Hansen | Kathy Lewinski | Shel Ohare | Thomas Smith | |
| | | | Esther Olson | Brenda Spychalla | |
| | | | James O'Neill | Glen Stanosz | |
| | | | Alberto Palloni | JoAnne Stanosz | |
| | | | Russell Panczenko | Kathy Stella | |
| | | | Mary Beth Plane | David Stella | |
| | | | Peter Plane | Steve J Stern | |

BOOK MARKS

The Liar

REVIEWED BY NETE SCHMIDT, UWRA MEMBER

Undoubtedly, the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us many things. Arguably, we have learned to appreciate the “little things” in life that we were wont to take for granted. We have spent much less time socializing and much more time within confined circles. In this spirit of refocusing, I reread one of my favorite books of all time, *The Liar* (1950) by the Danish author Martin A. Hansen, in an English-language edition translated by John Jeppson Egglisshaw (Sun & Moon Press, 1995).



The Liar is an unpre- suming, small book of 199 pages in the English version. On the cover is a photo, “Multiple-Portrait of a Man,” that effectively invokes the many personalities and ambivalence of the protagonist, a schoolteacher named Johannes Vig. He lives on a small, fictive island, Sandø, whose name im-

mediately emphasizes the doubt and insecurity of his existence. (Sandø means either Sand Island or Truth Island.) This aging teacher is, indeed, trying to find the truth of his own existence in relation to the past, present, and future as well as in the surrounding island community.

Johannes writes a diary to a fictive person named Nathanael, a biblical figure characterized as “a man without guile.” In doing so, he is confronting the events that will define his future path in life and on the island while realizing that “a man, too, can perhaps be such an island.” Humans are also “birds of passage” on this earth, trying to avoid doing evil while using their considerable persuasive and manipulative powers to obtain a good life in spite of the obstacles and circumstances.

The book is a journey through the events of 13 months. The reader is drawn into Johannes’ mind

via beautiful, almost lyrical, words, phrases, and references to other poets and writers. The plot is not complicated, but it raises many ethical questions about the meaning of our own life and our interactions with others. Some thoughts from the philosopher Søren Kierkegaard are recognizable, but primarily, the book’s attraction comes from its deeply felt, empathically shaped, and compassionately drawn portrait of a man trying to find his way to what little happiness he can share and receive. It is a profoundly satisfying book, encompassing many thought-provoking questions. I highly recommend it.

If you are interested in reading other Danish works in translation and discussing them in an open forum once per month, I highly recommend participating in the National Danish Book Club. It is a new initiative, and everybody is welcome. (northwestdanish.org/nationalbookclub/). ■

Please email brief book reviews for Book Marks to column coordinator Laurie Mayberry at laurie.mayberry@wisc.edu.

✓ **STILL TIME TO REGISTER**

**EAST-WEST
VIRTUAL BREAKFAST**

Thursday, May 12, 2022

9:00–10:00 A.M. Online Meeting

Registration Deadline: May 9

Advance registration is required. Register online:
UWRAmadison.org/event-4606244

**A BUCKET STRATEGY FOR
INVESTING IN RETIREMENT**

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

10:00 A.M.–NOON Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: May 6

Advance registration is required. Register online at:
UWRAmadison.org/event-4522654

REFLECTIONS

Cockatoos and Kookaburras

BY MARY BARNARD RAY

I am back from my month in Australia and, as always, I find myself seeing home with different eyes. I watch the finches and sparrows at my bird feeder with heightened interest. The antics of the squirrels fascinate me. Rabbits' twitching noses are charming. This appreciation of ordinary animals is the direct result of spending a month marveling at the ordinary backyard wildlife of Australia.



Due to COVID, this visit was not one filled with travel to the Outback or the heart of Sydney. Instead, we spent much of the time simply looking out the windows of our son's suburban house, where privacy fences limit the wildlife to birds. Or, we walked in parks and natural areas, where the wildlife was limited to small creatures rather than the flashier kangaroos or koalas. But all the birds, butterflies, and lizards were new to me. Sulphur-crested cockatoos sat on the edges of gutters, communicating with each other with bobs, cocked heads, and flared crests. Flocks of rainbow lorikeets feasted on bottle brush blooms and annoyed the neighbors with their noisy conversations. Australian ravens sat on the fences and peered at us with yellow-ringed eyes. Even the Australian crows were surprising, with a call so different from our crows that can only be described as the sound of a disappointed toddler or a disgusted teenager.

In the parks, we saw the pink and gray galahs everywhere, as well as crested pigeons scurrying on the ground, looking like our quail, accompanied by Australian wood ducks and magpie-larks, which fortunately were not in their aggressive, territory-defending mode when they are known to chase pedestrians relentlessly. Meanwhile, the occasional Willie wagtail wagged its tail, and the kookaburra startled us with its call.

In the Blue Mountains, which we were able to visit, a bush turkey strutted by sporting a threatening look and a pair of superb lyrebirds graced us with their presence and their complicated songs.

When we asked folks at an apple orchard about the source of insistent bell ringing, we learned it was a flock of bell birds, whose call sounds just like the ring of those little, round, push button bells used to summon the clerk at a hotel. The rings came from all directions, one at a time, the birds talking to each other while remaining unseen by us.

These experiences reminded me that the small wildlife in our part of the world has its own wonders, and I am appreciating them anew now that I am back in familiar territory. As spring brings its renewed activity to your surroundings, I hope you can appreciate these small wonders, too. ■

UNIVERSITY LEAGUE

Aldo Leopold, Phenology, and Climate Change with Stanley Temple

BY JOANNE CANTOR, PUBLICITY CO-CHAIR,
UNIVERSITY LEAGUE

Stanley Temple, Beers-Bascom Professor Emeritus in Conservation in the Department of Wildlife Ecology at UW-Madison, is the speaker for the University League's 2022 annual meeting and luncheon on Tuesday, May 10, at 11 A.M. Temple will discuss the lasting value of meticulous phenological observations made by Aldo Leopold (considered by many as the father of wildlife ecology), providing a record of when plants bloomed, birds migrated, and other natural events. Comparing his observations to recent records helps us understand the effects of climate change.

The presentation will take place at Maple Bluff Country Club, 500 Kensington Drive, Madison. The event is open to the public, and admission, including the lecture and lunch, is \$30. Registrations by May 3 are required. More details, updates, and information on how to register are available at univleague.wisc.edu/programs. ■

RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ROC Quiz and Invitation

BY SUSAN FISCHER, CO-CHAIR, RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

COVID Pandemic Updates, Madison’s Sister Cities, Vietnam War–Era Music, Heart Health, Putin’s Russia, Master Gardener Program, Tribal Relations, Learning the Skill of Well Being, Bugs, Wildlife Rehabilitation, Civil War Writings of Wisconsin Women.

QUIZ: What do these myriad topics have in common? The answer is nothing! Nothing other than being just a few of the many UWRA programs produced by the Retirement Opportunities Committee (ROC) over the past eight years. Pretty cool, right? The only program topics off limits to ROC are those related to money, travel, and technology; those areas have their own UWRA program committees.

We are inviting new (and perhaps not-so-new) UWRA members to join ROC. We meet via ZOOM on the 4th Monday of the month, 10:00–11:30 A.M. We aspire to produce four to five programs between September and June each year. In addition to offering great programming, a terrific side benefit of joining ROC is getting to know other retirees and making some new friends. If you are curious, you are very welcome to sit in on one of our meetings to get a sense of the group and our purpose.

You can easily find ROC meetings posted on the UWRAMadison.org website under the "Events" tab or the "Committee" heading. If you are interested in joining our band of eclectic dabblers and would like to know more about ROC, please contact Susan Fischer (sfischer@uwalumni.com) or Mary Beth Plane (marybethplane@yahoo.com). We would be happy to share our experiences and answer any questions you might have. It would be our pleasure to welcome you to ROC! ■

UWRA NEWS

UWRA Is on Facebook

BY MARCY DOELP, MEMBER, ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Do you like social media? Interested in following UWRA on Facebook? UWRA-Madison is on Facebook, so you have another source for information on events, trips, and other happenings in addition to *The Sifter*.

To join the page, search for UWRA-Madison and ask to join. UWRA-Madison is a private group. Only members can make posts, see who is in the group, and see others' posts. When searching for the group, be sure to include the hyphen between UWRA and Madison. ■

■ UW–Madison Retirement Association Calendar Dates ■

Continue to monitor the UWRAMadison.org website for further updates.

Virtual events (V), In-Person events (IP)

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---|
| • Tuesday, May 10, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>A Bucket Strategy for Investing in Retirement (V)</i> |
| • Thursday, May 12, 2022 | 9:00–10:00 A.M. | <i>East Meets West Virtual Breakfast (V)</i> |
| • Wednesday, May 18, 2022 | 12:30–4:00 P.M. | <i>Annual Membership Mtg, Luncheon, Speaker, Tours (IP)</i> |
| • Wednesday, May 25, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>Everything You Want to Know about Chromebooks (V)</i> |
| • Tuesday, June 7, 2022 | 10:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. | <i>Tour of International Crane Foundation (IP)</i> |

For information on upcoming PLATO trips, visit platomadison.org/page-18561. For information on Board and Committee meetings and deadlines for **The Sifter**, see the UWRA website at UWRAMadison.org.

THE SIFTER

UWRAmadison.org

UW–Madison Retirement Association

c/o Division of Continuing Studies

21 North Park Street, Room 7205

Madison, WI 53715-1218

Nonprofit
Organization
US Postage

PAID
UMS

Moved or Moving?

The Sifter will not automatically be forwarded by the Postal Service. Please use email, regular mail, or visit our website to give us your new address so that you can continue to receive *The Sifter* on a regular basis.

THE SIFTER

EDITOR • [Sheila Leary](#)

COLUMNIST • [Mary Barnard Ray](#)

COLUMN COORDINATORS

Meet a Member • [Crescent Kringle](#)

Activities in Retirement • [Scott & Lisa Hildebrand](#)

Book Marks • [Laurie Mayberry](#)

UW–MADISON RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

Website: UWRAmadison.org

Phone: **608-262-0641**

Email: retireassn@mailplus.wisc.edu

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • [Sandi Haase](#)

BOARD PRESIDENT • [Esther Olson](#)

PRESIDENT-ELECT • [Jane Dymond](#)

PAST PRESIDENT • [Chris Kleinhenz](#)

SECRETARY • [Marian Fisher](#)

TREASURER • [Beth Zemp](#)

DIRECTORS

[Tom Broman](#) • [Mary Czyszczak-Lyne](#) • [Marcy](#)

[Doelp](#) • [Marc Fink](#) • [Laurie Mayberry](#) • [Jurgen](#)

[Patau](#) • [Jack Sorenson](#) • [Jim Stratton](#) • [Millard](#)

[Susman](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

Candidates for Board of Directors **p. 1**

From the Executive Director **p. 2**

Agenda for UWRA Annual Meeting **p. 2**

Membership Renewal, Dues Increase, Subscription Renewal for *Print* Subscribers **p. 3**

Day Trip to International Crane Foundation **p. 4**

Tech Webinar: Learn about Chromebooks **p. 4**

Wellness Matters: Environmental & Physical **p. 5**

Wisconsin Coalition of Annuitants Conference **p. 5**

Meet a UWRA Member: Jo Ann Carr **p. 6**

Welcome, New Members **p. 6**

Volunteer at the UW Arboretum **p. 6**

Activities in Retirement: Science & Society **p. 7**

Wingra Watershed Gathering **p. 7**

Recognizing UWRA Life Members **p. 8**

Book Marks: *The Liar* **p. 9**

Reflections: Cockatoos & Kookaburras **p. 10**

University League Luncheon: Aldo Leopold **p. 10**

Retirement Opportunities Committee **p. 11**

UWRA Calendar **p. 11**