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UWRA-Madison



THE SIFTER

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL WEBINAR

What's Your Superpower?

BY RICK DALUGE, MEMBER,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL MATTERS IN RETIREMENT

Attorney Mark T. Johnson will describe how to use “power of attorney” to delegate decisions to others about health care and finances. You will learn:

- basics of power of attorney law
- how health care and financial powers of attorney work
- alternative arrangements that can enhance a power of attorney.

In addition, Johnson will answer questions about powers of attorney, trusts, wills, and probate.

Johnson is currently the President of the Wisconsin Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. ■

Food Pantry Contributions

Checks payable to UW Foundation, with “Open Seat” on the memo line. Mail donations to UWRA, 21 North Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218.

Did You Know? The Sifter is translated into Spanish, Hmong, and Traditional Chinese. The translations can be found under Resources/Sifter/ at UWRAmadison.org.



Mark T. Johnson is a partner with Johnson Teigen, LLC, where he practices law in the areas of estate planning, probate and trust administration, elder and special needs law, and real estate. He is a certified elder law attorney (CELA), conferred by the National Elder Law Foundation, and a member of the Special Needs Alliance, a national organization of attorneys committed to helping individuals with disabilities and their families.

national organization of attorneys committed to helping individuals with disabilities and their families.

WHAT'S YOUR SUPERPOWER? Understanding Power of Attorney

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

10:00 A.M.–NOON

Online Webinar

Registration Deadline: September 10

Advance registration is required. Register online at:

UWRAmadison.org/event-3903840

You may call or email the Association Office to register. The webinar link and call information will be included in registration confirmations and meeting reminders emailed to registrants.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

New Faces, New Ways to Stay Connected

BY SANDI HAASE



Welcome to the 2020–21 UWRA year. We are starting this fall in a world different from what any of us imagined on January 1. While we do not know what the new normal will look like, we do know that UWRA is resilient. The committees have been working throughout the summer to

plan the same high-quality presentations in a virtual world this fall. Check out the offerings in this issue, as well as the upcoming programs posted on the website.

UWRA is finding new ways to stay connected and do business. With the cancellation of all activities and events this spring, UWRA went virtual! We started with virtual board of directors' meetings and committee meetings. In June we held our first virtual annual membership meeting, followed by a virtual special membership meeting to address proposed bylaw amendments. I want to thank all the members who took the time to attend these meetings and be a part of the new way we need to do business during these unusual times!

With the start of the new year, I want to welcome Tom Broman, Jane Dymond, Marian Fisher, Laurie Mayberry, and Jack Sorenson to the Board of Directors. In addition, I want to extend a special shout-out to member Sheila Leary who accepted the position as the 2020 *Sifter* editor. Sheila spearheaded the new *Sifter* design and format. We hope that you enjoy it. Watch future *Sifter* issues for highlights on each of these volunteers.

As I look back to March when our world changed, I am proud to a part of an Association that did not let a crisis stop it. You figured out what needed to be done and a different way of doing it. The Wisconsin Idea is alive and well. On Wisconsin! ■

MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Virtual Breakfasts Commence September 22

BY MILLARD SUSMAN AND JEANNE STUBLASKI,
WEST SIDE AND EAST SIDE BREAKFAST COORDINATORS

After a long summer of sheltering from COVID-19, it's time to check in with old friends and report on "how I spent my summer vacation." Let's spend an hour together and talk about the books we've read, the projects we've completed, the great movies we've seen on streaming services, and the uplifting podcasts we can recommend to each other. It looks as if sheltering might continue for a while, and you might have hints for coping with the practical problems—shopping, health care, home maintenance, and such—that we all face. And, of course, we can share political predictions.

This will be a joint meeting of the East Side and West Side breakfast groups. If you have not yet participated in our breakfast sessions, please feel free to join us for this first gathering of the new UWRA year. ■

East and West Virtual Breakfast

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

9:00–10 A.M.

Online via Zoom

Registration Deadline: September 18

Advance registration is required. Register online at:

UWRAmadison.org/event-3929875

You may call or email the Association Office to register. The webinar link and call information will be included in registration confirmations and meeting reminders emailed to registrants.

✓ **Have you completed your membership survey?**

There is still time to share your opinions and enter a random drawing for a \$100 gift card. Complete your survey today!

NEW ACTIVITIES IN RETIREMENT

From Computing to Crafting Wooden Bowls

BY TAD PINKERTON, UWRA MEMBER



Upon retirement from UW-Madison’s Computer Sciences Department and the Division of Information Technology, my plans were to travel more, do more woodworking, and volunteer with outdoor organizations. Doing some of each in the first few years included building an entertainment center for a son.

For projects I could finish more quickly, I tried a one-day course in woodturning. It was fun, leading me to acquire the necessary tools. The class was taught by a member of the local club, Badger Woodturners, and I was urged to join. I highly recommend both the class and the club for those interested in learning new skills.

In less than six months I had made a number of bowls, and they were accumulating at a rate that would clearly clutter up our house. I took some to the summer art fair in our village, where I found that friends were very happy to buy them or receive them as gifts. Early on I was puzzled by how

to make a bowl that had the bark of a tree on the rim, but I figured out how to do that. I’ve found that it is a niche product popular with the public, so that style is now my focus.



I’m now in my thirteenth year of woodturning and have completed 2,500 bowls, going to art fairs each year and contributing to charity auctions. We still travel, but I’m having so much fun in the shop that I get little volunteering done. One can’t knock an activity that keeps me on my toes—regularly solving challenges—and that pays for itself! ■

Food Pantry Selected

BY MARY CZYNSZAK-LYNE,
UWRA IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

The UWRA Board and I thank all the members who submitted pantry nominations. We had a thoughtful discussion about each nomination. Due to the pandemic’s impact on UW students, the Board unanimously selected the Open Seat as the 2020–21 sole food donation recipient. Open Seat (asm.wisc.edu/the-open-seat/) is a student-run food pantry on campus that strives to alleviate food insecurity for students. It is a vital service provided by Associated Students of Madison (ASM).

Consider making a donation to Open Seat with a check payable to **UW Foundation**, with “Open Seat” on the memo line. Mail donations to UWRA, 21 North Park Street, Room 7205, Madison, WI 53715-1218. ■

Through your generous donations last year, UWRA collected \$5,575.00 for food pantries in our community.

New on the website UWRAmadison.org

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
Welcome from President Kleinhenz
About | Organizational Documents

- **Bylaws (Revised 2020.07)**
- **May 2019 Annual Meeting Minutes**
- **FY21 Approved Budget**
- **UWRA Structure**
- **2019–20 Board Motion Summary**
- **April, May, June Board Minutes**

FROM THE UWRA PRESIDENT'S DESK

Beginning a New Year

BY CHRIS KLEINHENZ



I extend my warm greetings to all of you at the beginning of our new year of UWRA activities. Needless to say, we all hope for the end of our extended period of relative inactivity as individuals and as a group. Nevertheless, I am mindful that the road ahead may still be difficult

to navigate among potholes (this is Wisconsin!) and other uncertainties.

What I do know is that we are dealing well with the challenges posed by our new virtual environment and hope that you will embrace the opportunities our Association offers in a wide range of (for now, online) programs, from financial seminars to presentations regarding personal health, and perhaps even some (virtual) travel opportunities. We will do our very best to live up to our reputation of providing interesting and engaging events, even though we may not yet be able to gather and enjoy them together.

The past year has been both rewarding and challenging, and I thank our outgoing President, Mary Czyszczak-Lyne, for her energy and consummate skills in leading our Association in its strategic planning initiative. For the next year or so, Mary has graciously assumed the task of coordinating the various projects begun during the strategic planning exercise.

I thank Executive Director Sandi Haase for her wide-ranging expertise, her patience, and her ever-positive attitude, talents that make the Association run smoothly and efficiently. I encourage you to consult our website, UWRAmadison.org, regularly for announcements of events and other valuable information.

We invite you, as members, to become involved in our various committees and activities. This is your

Association, and our mission is to provide you with a variety of enjoyable and beneficial events and opportunities. The Board of Directors and the various UWRA committees rarely rest; indeed, they have been busy over the summer, planning activities with an eye to the various ways in which they may be realized, either in person or virtually.

A survey was distributed this summer asking for your comments on and suggestions for activities that the Association could sponsor. We thank those who have already responded and look forward to receiving comments and ideas from those of you who have not yet responded.

In ordinary times I would be reporting on the Big Ten Retirement Association meeting that should have taken place at the University of Iowa in August, but for obvious reasons was canceled. We will be hosting this group in August of 2023, and planning is already underway. I look forward to serving our Association over the coming year. On Wisconsin! ■

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & RESOURCE FAIR

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no in-person benefits fair at Union South this year. Resources will be provided online at Annual Benefits Enrollment. Open enrollment is September 28 to October 23, 2020.

Visit tinyurl.com/yyaxkt7d for information.

"Dolley Madison" to Speak Online

Dolley Madison, "The Lady Who Saved Washington," will host a University League online Fall Coffee Wednesday, September 23 at 10 A.M. Jessica Michna, widely known for her riveting portrayals of notable women of history, will perform as Dolley Madison. To register to attend or for more information about the program, email Joan Leffler at university.league2017@gmail.com. For information about the University League, visit univleague.wisc.edu. ■

RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES WEBINAR


The COVID-19 Virus and Pandemic

BY MILLARD SUSMAN, MEMBER,
RETIREMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE

Almost since the beginning of 2020, our lives have been disrupted by a pathogen that seems like something out of an improbable science fiction movie. It lurks everywhere. Seemingly healthy friends can be super-spreaders. A shiny doorknob can be coated with a horde of killer virus particles. The virus is colorless, odorless, and too small to see. Most UWRA members are old enough to be considered vulnerable to this disease. The advice we receive from official sources is at best confusing. A trip to the grocery store feels a lot like a hike in a mine field. Times like this whet our desire for expert education and advice.

The Retirement Opportunities Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. Dennis G. Maki will give a seminar on the novel coronavirus that has disrupted our lives. He is among the front-line defenders against this virus. Dr. Maki is a world-renowned expert on infectious disease, the author of almost 400 peer-reviewed publications, and the recipient of numerous honors for his activities in research, health care, and teaching. ■

Food Pantry Contributions

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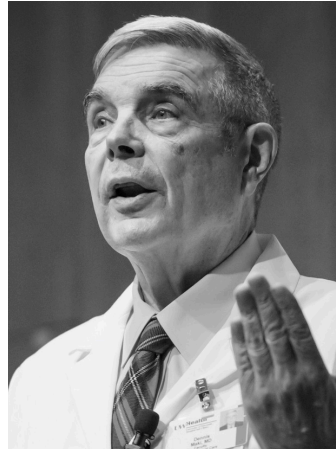


Photo by Clint Thayer

Dr. Dennis G. Maki is the Ovid O. Meyer Professor of Medicine in the Divisions of Infectious Diseases and Pulmonary-Critical Care Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. He is an attending physician in the UWMC Center for Trauma and Life Support and eICU, as well as former head of the Division of Infectious Diseases from 1979 through 2007.

PANDEMIC COVID-19
A Novel Virus, the Disease, How It Spreads, Treatment, and Pandemic Control

Tuesday, October 6, 2020
 10:00 A.M.–NOON
 Online Webinar
Registration Deadline: October 1

Advance registration is required. Register online at:
UWRAMadison.org/event-3895939

You may call or email the Association Office to register. The webinar link and call information will be included in registration confirmations and meeting reminders emailed to registrants.

 **SAVE THE DATE**

The **Diversity Forum 2020** will take place October 27–28 and feature a keynote address by Robin DiAngelo, Ph.D., author of the widely acclaimed bestseller *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. For the full program schedule and registration information, visit diversity.wisc.edu/event/diversity-forum-2020/

MEET A UWRA MEMBER

Volunteering ... and Mah Jongg

BY PRISCILLA THAIN, UWRA MEMBER

I grew up in Malden, Massachusetts, and met and married my spouse, Gerald Thain, in 1965 in Washington, DC. My very first job was in the drafting room of the Boston Naval shipyard after the Navy sent me to school to study ship design. In 1969, when Apollo 11 landed on the moon, I was working in Washington, DC, at the Naval Ship Engineering Center.

Before retirement in 2007, I worked for the PROFS organization at UW–Madison, monitoring the state legislature for issues that affect the UW faculty. My favorite part of work before retirement was interacting with faculty in various departments. The Memorial Union Terrace is my favorite place on the UW–Madison campus.

The first things I did after retiring were join the UW Sports Medicine Center gym, take bridge lessons, and learn to play Mah Jongg. As a member of the Madison Breakfast Rotary Club, which has continued to meet virtually, I write their weekly newsletter and summarize their speakers. I’ve been active in the University League for many years and, before the pandemic, was the coordinator of their dining out group, a member of International Foods, and worked on raising money for scholarships for UW–Madison students. With the League of Women Voters of Dane County, I worked for many years on voter service. Over the years, Jerry and I have traveled to international conventions and meetings in Barcelona, Copenhagen, Tromsø in Norway, Singapore, and Paris, to name a few.

Before the pandemic, for ten years, as a member of the Wisconsin Alumni Association, I took at least one of my seven grandchildren to Grandparents

University each July and enjoyed such programs as astronomy, veterinary science, and biotechnology.

Lately, I’ve been reading *The Splendid and The Vile* and *A Gentleman in Moscow*. Otto’s and Culver’s are my favorite restaurants. The music I most enjoy listening to is symphony and musical show tunes. My next travel plans include visiting Salem, Massachusetts, to visit relatives and take the ferry to Boston. ■

MAY 16 TO AUGUST 1, 2020

NEW MEMBERS

David (Thai) Keith	John Mather
Constance Beam	Sharon McCabe
David Beam	Barbara Mcpherson
Lori Berquam	Kevin Mcpherson
Ranji Bhaheetharan	Richard Merelman
Robert Buchanan	Cynthia Moodie
Linda Davi	Robert Moodie
David Deci	Diane Norback
Susan Fuszard	Karen Patterson
Ramona Gasper	Jim Raatz
Bruce Goth	Ronald Radano
Patty Goth	Michael Rothstein
Jerry Hanson	Suzanne Sager
Bruce Harville	James (Guy) Stalnaker
Sue Hilgemann	Michelle Tidemann
Lynne Krainer	Fred Tidemann
Robert Krainer	James Vannes
David Lecount	Anne Weiss
Patricia Martin	Ron Zerofsky
Gene Masters	

{ The UWRA is your network in retirement! }

TECHNOLOGY

Emergency Information on Your Smartphone

BY KAREN LAMERE, MEMBER,
ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

If you have a smartphone, it is quite easy to set up your emergency medical information in your phone: blood type, allergies, who to call in case of an emergency, and more. First responders or emergency room staff can then access those medical data and contacts.

The article at this link explains how to do this, whether you have an iPhone or an Android phone: <https://tinyurl.com/yyswyefl>

Related articles that may be of interest:

- iPhone tinyurl.com/y34cvhcy
- Android tinyurl.com/y29z9dbz
- Android tinyurl.com/y44vt4pf

Note that current versions of Android provide an easy way to find phone settings. At the top of the settings app is a search bar. Search for “medical,” and settings dealing with medical info will be displayed. Similarly, searching for “emergency” will show settings for emergencies. That is all that is necessary on Android (on versions since 2017).

Also, of some interest is the website smart911.com. Smart911 is a free service that gives emergency dispatchers information they need to help you fast. However, the service is not available in all locations and is currently not available in Dane County. You can check for availability in your area at tinyurl.com/y4ogxely.

If you can use Smart911 where you live, you can add as much or as little to your profile as you want. Your information will be seen only if and when you actually call 911. Smart911 is available in an app form for both iPhone and Android phones, but it is easier to set up using a web browser on a laptop or desktop computer.

■ UW-Madison Retirement Association Calendar Dates ■

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

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| • Tuesday, September 15 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>What’s Your Superpower?</i> with Mark T. Johnson |
| • Tuesday, September 22 | 9:00–10:00 A.M. | East Meets West Virtual Breakfast |
| • Tuesday, October 6 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>Pandemic COVID-19</i> with Dennis Maki |
| • Tuesday, October 13 | All day | Virtual UW Benefits Fair |
| • Wednesday, October 14 | 1:00–3:00 P.M. | It’s Your Choice with ETF staff |
| • Tuesday, October 27–28 | All day | Diversity Forum |
| • Wednesday, November 4 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>Income Tax Update</i> with Ken Wundrow |
| • Wednesday, November 18 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>Well-Being Is a Skill</i> with Richard Davidson |
| • Tuesday, December 1 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>COVID-19 Challenges</i> with Joe Parisi and ADRC |
| • Wednesday, December 16 | 10:00 A.M.–NOON | <i>Status of the U.S. Economy</i> with Steve Rick |

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
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THE SIFTER

EDITOR • Sheila Leary

COLUMN COORDINATORS

Meet a Member • Deb Lauder

New Activities in Retirement • Bob Jokisch

UW RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

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Phone: 608-262-0641

Email: retireassn@mailplus.wisc.edu

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Laurie Mayberry • Jack Sorenson • Wendy Way

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