

**Minutes for the March 13, 2025, UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association Membership Meeting, submitted by Kim Hachiya on April 3, 2025.
Approved by ERA BOD April 3, 2025**

The UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association Membership met March 13, 2025, at the Nebraska East Union.

Pam Edwards, president, called the meeting to order welcoming participants. Some 86 members preregistered for the meeting.

Order of business:

Memory Moments (since the February meeting)

- Allen Behne - Purchasing
- Jean Ann Fischer - Nebraska Extension
- Greg Sharpe – Nebraska Athletics
- Vern Williams, Jr. – Career Services
- Herman Knoche – Biochemistry

Treasurer's Report –

Debbie Hendricks reported that the association is solvent.

Amendment of the ERA Bylaws

The entire membership received via a March 6 email copies of two proposed amendments to the ERA Bylaws. Both were approved at the luncheon via voice votes.

1. ERA Mission Statement – Article III Approved on Voice vote
2. Amendment to the Article IV – Membership Approved on Voice vote

Pam thanked Nancy Mitchell and the branding/marketing committee for developing the Mission statement, etc. She also thanked Jim Griesen and Julie Johnson for bylaws committee work.

Welcome New Members:

Pam welcomed new members Lily and Max Larsen and Raymond Chollet.

Announcements:

Pat Crews reported that the deadline for Wisherd Research Grants is March 15 and the deadline for Wisherd Service Awards nominations is May 15. Information is on the website.

Kim Hachiya thanked donors to our Glow Big Red effort. We raised a total of \$3,225 with 17 total gifts; this total includes the \$1,575 in matching gifts. We ended up being 29th on the

Leaderboard. Glow Big Red was a phenomenal success this year, raising \$1,022,896 via 7,241 total gifts made.

Vicki Highstreet – Programs No report. Meadowlark coffee time coming up

Nancy Mitchell – announced the upcoming tour of the CB3 lab

Janice Lawrence noted there are fliers on the tables regarding the Faculty Dance Club and she invited all to attend their dances and musical offerings.

Program

Hugh McDermott introduced Michael Forsberg, research assistant professor in the School of Natural Resources, who gave an outstanding program about his five-year project documenting the lives of endangered whooping cranes. This effort included multiple journeys to their wintering sites on the Texas Gulf Coast, flying their migration routes, and photographing them from a blind at their nesting sites in Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada. Mike's effort culminated in a book (Into Whooperland) and a website, whoopingcranechronicles.com. A \$100 honorarium in Mike's name will be donated to our scholarship fund.

April Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be Thursday, April 10, in the Nebraska East Union. Professor Jeff Stevens will present "Canine Research and The Many Dogs Project." Stevens is a Susan J. Rosowski professor in the [Department of Psychology](#) and is a faculty member in the [Center for Brain, Biology & Behavior](#). He directs the Canine Cognition and Human Interaction Lab, where he uses biological and psychological approaches to understand dog behavior to improve how owners and handlers train, work with, and live with dogs.