How reliable are the polls? Come hear Phil Meyer on the race for the presidency

Many of your friends and colleagues may have signed up, but there’s still time for you register to hear Phil Meyer share his analysis of presidential elections and political polls.

Meyer, Professor Emeritus of Journalism & Mass Communication at UNC-Chapel Hill, will speak to the retired faculty on Thursday, April 14, at the RFA Spring General Meeting in the Friday Center.

Meyer pioneered using social science techniques to add depth to the reporting of important stories. As a reporter, he helped The Detroit Free ferret out the underlying causes of the 1967 riots in that city, coverage which won the paper a Pulitzer Prize.

His 1973 book, *Precision Journalism: A Reporter’s Introduction to Social Science Methods*, is listed by Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly as one of 35 significant books of the 20th century in the field.

In 1981, after a long newspaper career, which started with the Clay Center (Kansas) Dispatch and ending at corporate headquarters of Knight Ridder Newspapers, Meyer became a UNC journalism professor. He wrote extensively on polling, both for scholarly journals and trade journals, and he taught his techniques to students and journalists as well. In 2008, he was inducted into the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame.

Registration is at 11:45 a.m. for the luncheon, which begins at noon.

This year’s nominees are …

The RFA Executive Committee has unanimously nominated James Allen to succeed Dana Quade as RFA Treasurer and Marila Cordeiro-Stone to follow Pat Pukkila as an at-large member of the committee.

The entire slate of officers will be voted on at the April 14 meeting.

Cordeiro-Stone is a Professor Emerita of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in the School of Medicine, where she was Director of Graduate Studies for doctoral programs in pathology and toxicology.

Allen is Professor Emeritus of the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Gillings School of Public Health.

The nominating committee members were Sam Magill, Donna Falvo, Jim Peacock and Don Boulton, the chair. Terms are for two years.

The nominees:

- **President**
  - James Peacock
- **President-elect**
  - Patricia Pukkila
- **Secretary**
  - Marge Miles
- **Treasurer**
  - James Allen
- **At-large**
  - Sam Magill
  - Donna Falvo
  - Catherine Maley
  - Marila Cordeiro-Stone
- **Immediate Past President**
  - Don Stedman

Any member of RFA may nominate candidates for the eight officer spots. Please email nominations to Boulton at Dboulton@mindspring.com.

Treasurer retiring

Dana Quade, longtime RFA leader, has decided to step down as Treasurer of RFA. Dana will continue to participate and support RFA activities and provide the advice and historical perspective that has been his trademark contribution to our association. His work has been essential in developing and maintaining RFA member records, in tracking every penny earned and spent, and in helping steer our Executive Committee through the changes and issues of the past few years.

Happy retirement, Dana, but don’t stray too far away.
From the President

My final thoughts — and a forward look

This month Jim Peacock will take the wheel and RFA will move ahead. He will be a great leader, and we will all get behind him. My term has been challenging, enjoyable and eye-opening. Jim’s may be too.

Ours is such a great University. Faculty, students, staff and alums are unmatched in leadership, durability and energy. It is a challenge to keep up and to stay engaged. It is enjoyable to stay involved, through membership and work in RFA, and to maintain and renew old connections and to generate new ones. Also, it is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to continue to be of service to our University.

But let me tell you about my eye-opener. To some extent, retired faculty are still the Rodney Dangerfields of the family. People don’t quite know what to make of us. We have to work hard to stay in view. RFA provides a way to do that.

I’m ending my time at bat with an upbeat attitude. We have made real progress in many ways, building on the work of the previous RFA President, Don Boulton, and the President-elect, the late Jonathan Howes. We have strengthened the Association, raised our visibility and established a solid base on campus in partnership with the Friday Center. We have engaged with the issues and found ways to be productive and useful. We have had some fun events and are doing some real good.

But we have a lot of work ahead in fulfilling our quest to be taken seriously by the University’s administration, by the majority of retired faculty and by our community. We have a lot to offer by way of advice and competence. We are the walking history of UNC-Chapel Hill. We are ready and able to volunteer and to participate. We should neither be bashful nor petulant. And we should be willing to demonstrate all these things through RFA.

Join the team.

Friday Center Programs

Nonpartisan program looks at U.S. Constitution

UNC-Chapel Hill scholars will share their insights on important legal and cultural aspects of the U.S. Constitution in a program from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every Thursday this month.

“Constitution in Crisis: The Law and Culture of the United States Constitution” will not promote partisan viewpoints, but rather provide a forum for faculty in law, government, journalism and other disciplines to share their ideas and engage the audience in discussions of these topics:

- **April 7:** Immigration and Internment: The Constitution in Wartime
- **April 14:** One Person, One Vote: Universal Suffrage, Voting Rights, and the Constitution
- **April 21:** The Right to Bear Arms: Gun Control and Culture
- **April 28:** How Free is Free Speech? Personal Rights, Public Rights, and Today’s College Campus

Fees: $10 per session or $30 for the entire series. For more information, go to [http://fridaycenter.unc.edu/noncreditprograms/whatsthebigidea/](http://fridaycenter.unc.edu/noncreditprograms/whatsthebigidea/)

Sign up for an anniversary evening of story telling

Tickets to the Red Clay Ramblers Concert April 16 have sold out, but you can still sign up for an evening of story telling and story making in celebration of the William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education’s 25th Anniversary.

For details, go to: [http://fridaycenter.unc.edu/ramblers/](http://fridaycenter.unc.edu/ramblers/)
**RFA Membership Application 2016**

Please sign me up as a member of the Retired Faculty Association of UNC-Chapel Hill or other institution:

- [ ] Regular Membership ($25 annually)
- [ ] Lifetime Membership ($150)
- [ ] Associate Membership ($20 annually)

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

Position at UNC before retirement: ______________________________________

Mailing address: _______________________________________________________

Email: _____________________________________________________________ Phone: __________________

Mail to:

The Retired Faculty Association of UNC-Chapel Hill
The William C. and Ida Friday Center
Campus Box 1020
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-1020

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**UNC Retired Faculty Association Quarterly Meeting**

*Registration at 11:45 a.m.; luncheon at noon; program follows.*

**Thursday, April 14, 2016**

Print out this form, fill it out and mail with your check to:
Treasurer, UNC Retired Faculty Association
2119 Markham Drive
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2122

Your name ______________________________

Number of luncheon reservations @ $16.00 (_____) _______

Total amount enclosed _______

Luncheon reservations must be received by April 12.

*If you think your check might not be delivered by then, please notify us at uncrfa@gmail.com or 919-942-2192.*

**A note on parking:** Permits are now required at the Friday Center. Electronic permits will be sent out to those who sign up for the meeting, and cars with handicapped permits don’t need a Friday Center permit. Other visitors should park at the curb and get a pass from the front desk before parking in the lot.

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Our speaker, Phil Meyer