

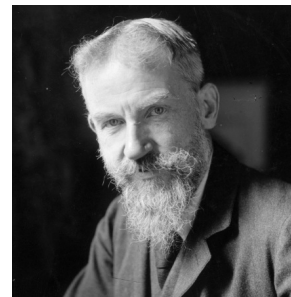
MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

The Joy of Life

Tracy Betts

What inspires you? What motivates you to get up in the morning? What brings you joy? Rather deep questions, right? The other day, I came across the following quote by George Bernard Shaw, Irish playwright, that I thought helps to answer those questions:

This is the true joy in life, being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one. [...] I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it what I can. [...] I rejoice in life for its own sake.



This really resonated with me for a number of reasons. First, I relate to the reference to “purpose”. For me, having a sense of purpose, particularly after retiring, has become increasingly important; at the moment, my purpose may have to do with the “privilege” of being in a position to give back, even in the simplest of ways, to my family, friends and broader community, including my IDB community. And finally, I really liked the phrase “rejoice in life for its own sake”. For me, that means that we should delight and celebrate in life’s every day, mundane activities that bring us joy.

A recent article in The New York Times (April 22, 2023) highlights the importance to our well-being of casual relationships in our lives, what researchers called “weak ties”. These include, for example, the person who delivers your mail, the doorman in your building, the woman at the dog park—the small interactions that you may not even consider part of your social network, but that are there and are more significant to you and to them than either of you may realize.

The interactions we have as retirees with a common bond are essential. In my case, my involvement with the Association has brought joy in reconnecting with friends and former co-workers with whom I used to have “weaker ties” but that are now much stronger and have even evolved into friendship. The Association has also given me a sense of purpose in having the privilege to serve our membership.

How about you? Would you consider giving back to your retiree community or picking up the phone and reaching out to someone with whom you had a weaker tie? You won’t regret it.

WHAT'S NEW

Access to the Bank

Good news! IDB retirees are now allowed access to the Bank's Headquarters at 1300 New York Avenue, NW, without a prior appointment or escort. Make sure to bring your ID. If you don't have one or it has expired, you will need to go to Security to get a new one.

Guidelines for Informing the Association about a Member's Passing

We have updated the [Guidelines](#) for informing the Association about a member's or a spouse's passing. We recommend you read it, collect some of the information that will be needed and share it with your loved ones and caregivers. Should you have any questions, please contact us at retirees@iadb.org.

IN THE WORKS

Survey Results

Again, many thanks to the 667 of you (42% of our membership) who participated in our most recent survey about our Bank-sponsored medical insurance services and gave us constructive feedback. As in our earlier survey, the majority of respondents did not report having problems with their claim. However, nearly one third stated that their claim was not fully accepted. For a presentation on the survey findings, please join us at the June 7 town all (see below). The Association will share the results of these surveys with Bank Management and needs accurate, robust data to help inform our discussions.

EVENTS

UPCOMING

June 7: Town Hall–Medical Insurance Services

This virtual town hall, to begin at 12:30 pm EST, is for those members who live in the United States (including Puerto Rico). We will hold another one for members residing outside the U.S. on a date to be announced. At the June 7 event, we will share the results of our most recent survey, highlight key features of the [Medical Benefits Program Handbook](#), and

offer tips to our members to minimize problems and ensure you are receiving the Plan's full benefits. We will have an open question and answer session, so please read the Handbook and come prepared with your questions. We hope to use this opportunity to confirm the key messages we plan to share with the new IDB Human Resources Department Manager, so please join us.



TAKE NOTE

Board Committees

Congratulations and thanks to the new and returning members of the Association's Committees listed below, who took office May 1, 2023:

Association Committees



Social, Cultural and Volunteer Activities

Coordinator: [Isabel Larson](#), a.i.
Members: Laura Bocalandro
Dora Currea
Patricia Meduña
Claudia D. Perazza
Sandra Scioville



Health Insurance

Coordinator: [Isabel Larson](#)
Members: Tracy Betts
Sandra Darville
Javier Hernández
Ronaldo Rotter
Mireya Rossi
Guillermo Villacorta



Technology Support

Coordinator: [José Vivas](#)
Members: Tracy Betts
Marta Calderón
Julio Estrada
Adrian Mikelionas*
Angela Rivera S.
Mireya Rossi
Ronaldo Rotter



Retirement Plan and Life Insurance

Coordinator: [Javier Hernández](#)
Members: Stephen Abrahams
Sandra Darville
Kurt Focke
Claudia Franco
Ronaldo Rotter



Communications

Coordinator: [Tracy Betts](#)
Members: María A. Cabezas
Marta Calderón
Sandra Darville
Angela Rivera S.
Inder Ruprah
S. Alexandra Russell
José Vivas



Legal Affairs and Governance

Coordinator: [Stephen Abrahams](#)
Members: Dora Currea
Gay D. Miller
Ronaldo Rotter
José Vivas
Michael Woscoboinik



Taxes

Coordinator: [Claudia Franco](#)
Members: Asunción Aguilá
Javier Hernández
Mireya Rossi



Membership and Chapters

Coordinator: [Ronaldo Rotter](#)
Members: Sandra Darville
María Isabel Olaso
Mireya Rossi
Cida Tonello
Guillermo Villacorta *

Updated on May 2023

* Consultant for the Development of the Website.

Reminder: Tax Deadlines

For those of you who pay taxes in the United States, please note that **June 15** is the deadline for payment of second-quarter estimated taxes at both the federal and state levels. For more information about quarterly estimated taxes [click here](#) or download [Form 1040](#). In addition, for tax reimbursement by the Bank, the deadline to submit forms [IDB Tax Form 7R](#) and [IRS Form 4506-C](#) (or an extension request) to the Bank's Tax Unit is **June 30**. Please also note that **September 30, 2023** is the deadline to submit your [Certificate of Eligibility for Pension](#) to SRP.

Facebook Group

If you have not yet joined our Facebook group, please do so by [clicking here](#). Your participation helps us listen to you and the information shared there by the Association and fellow members can serve as a useful resource for you as well. Just take a minute to review the "Social Media: Community Rules" tab under the "Our Policies and Strategies" section, on our website's [About Us](#).

Quill & Ink

Read the most recent contribution to our [Quill & Ink](#) by our green-thumb friend Marta Calderón.

Calling All Writers and Artists!

We would love to publish your articles, including remembrances of former colleagues in our Quill and Ink, as well as high-resolution photographs of original art and photography in our Gallery. Please send your contributions to retirees@iadb.org.

NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome the following new member who joined the Association in May:

- María Evelin Castro, United States

IN MEMORIAM

Our heartfelt condolences to the friends and families of:

Deceased Members

- Nirvani Lam
- Alain de Maynadier
- Julio Cesar Pérez Rodríguez
- Janet Poole Mischler
- José Angel Sánchez D.
- Rolando Yon-Siu

Deceased Spouses

- Julia Vaquerano de Glower (widow of Rafael Glower)

* Please see the above article on how to inform the Association about a Member's passing.

Association of Retirees of the Inter-American Development Bank

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Communications Committee: Tracy Betts (Coordinator), María Amparo Cabezas, Marta Calderón, Sandra Darville, Angela Rivera Saettone, Inder Ruprah, S. Alexandra Russell, José “Cucho” Vivas

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