

The Annuitant

Newsletter of the Urbana-Champaign Chapter

State Universities Annuitants Association Fall 2013

Post-Retirement Seminar 9 a.m., Wed., Oct. 30, 2013

SURS Headquarters, 1901 Fox Drive, Champaign

The UIUC Chapter is no longer hosting a Survivor's Benefit Workshop because SURS has now begun a series of post-retirement seminars for Traditional and Portable Plan annuitants. These seminars will provide valuable information on survivor assistance, benefit statements, navigating the member website, staying active in your community and more.

The first post-retirement seminar is Wednesday, October 30, 2013, from 9:00 am – 12:15 pm, at the SURS office in Champaign. For further information including a copy of the full agenda, please visit the "Post-Retirement Seminars" section of the SURS web site: www.surs.com.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 30, 2013

TIME: 9 am to 12:15 pm

WHERE: Meeting Room at the SURS Headquarters, 1901 Fox Drive, Champaign.

Parking is free

The seminar is free, but registration is required. To register, please contact Karen Hipskind at khipskind@surs.org or 217-378-8856.

Space is limited, so this seminar may be filled by the time you call. If so, you should continue to visit the SURS web site (www.surs.com) to see when the next seminar is scheduled.

Summary of Agenda:

8:45 am Coffee, Juice 9 am Welcome

9:30 am Survivor Assistance

10:30 am Break/Light Refreshment

10:45 am Who Gets Grandmas Yellow Pie Plate?

11:45 am What Are You Doing for the Second

Half of Your Life?

12:15 pm Adjourn

CMS Official to Address Fall Meeting

The SUAA-UIUC Chapter will hold its **Fall Membership meeting on Sunday, October 20 at the I-Hotel and Conference Center in Champaign.** The meeting will begin at 1:30 PM with light refreshments and conversation with colleagues. The formal session will start at 2:00PM.

The principal speaker at the meeting will be Ms Janice Bonneville, Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS). She will provide up-to-date information on changes in health insurance for SURS annuitants and dependents. As described elsewhere in this newsletter, a new health insurance cost structure is now in place, with further adjustments expected in July 2014. Review processes are under way for new health insurance policy alternatives, both for retirees who are Medicare-eligible and those not eligible for Medicare.

Ms Bonneville has addressed the SUAA Annual meeting in each of the last two years on a variety of health insurance cost and policy issues. Her presentations have reflected her detailed understanding of changes being implemented, and her candor when responding directly to questions. At the SUAA-UIUC Fall meeting, she will provide an overview of current major health insurance issues for retirees, update us on timetables for review and implementation of those changes, and she will respond to questions.

The state SUAA office has been closely monitoring these health insurances review processes and has been active in identifying the impacts of those changes on retirees. The very latest information from the state SUAA office on both pension reform and health insurance changes will also be available at the Fall meeting.

Following the health insurance presentation, the Chapter will conduct a brief business meeting.

Given the potential for substantial changes in both pension legislation and health insurance cost and coverage, this Fall meeting will address some of the most serious issues to affect retirees in many years. Please join us!

Changing Communication Technology

These days most communications, even official ones, are sent electronically. While the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) often communicates by letter, as discussed in both the Benefits and Legislative reports, those articles are full of references to web sites for up-to-date or further information. If you do not have access to online information and communications, you might seek out a friend who is, and who is willing to share late-breaking information with you. Significant events concerning both health insurance and pensions will occur over the next few months, and it will be distinctly helpful if you have access to online updates. Remember, this newsletter is also on our website, www.suaa-ui.org.

SUAA-UIUC CHAPTER 2013-14

Elected Leadership* & Committee Membership

OFFICERS President

Terry W. Ruprecht*

Vice President

Terri Palumbo* Membership

Secretary

Jane Loeb* Communications

Treasurer

Gerald Brighton

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Thomas Conry*; Past President
Gary Engelgau*; Communications
Barbara Hartman*; Membership
Heidi Rockwood*; Communications
Stephen Rugg*; Legislative, Programs
Rick Schoell*; Legislative
Ginny Waaler*; Social&Arrangements
Ron Webbink*; Communications
H.F. (Bill) Williamson*; Benefits

Other Committee Members:

Mary Beastall; Benefits Stephen D'Arcy; Benefits Paul Dollins; Legislative Mark Netter; Membership Helen Satterthwaite; Legislative

Liaisons

Athalia Hunt; Campus Helen Satterthwaite; Clark-Lindsey

SUAA Statewide Leadership

Thomas Conry*; Executive Committee Stephen Rugg*; Finance Committee H.F. (Bill) Williamson*; Foundation

Chapter President's Message *Terry W. Ruprecht*

It is my distinct pleasure to offer greetings from the Executive Committee of your SUAA-UIUC Chapter! It is a sincere honor to be selected to serve you as this year's SUAA Chapter president. It is my good fortune to stand on the shoulders of past-president Tom Conry and predecessors, all of whom served SUAA members in stellar fashion in previous years. Our UIUC Chapter is strong, with a solid group of talented people willing to serve annuitants in many important ways - locally, in Springfield, and regionally.

All of us who earned a pension from the State of Illinois must continue to worry about the annuity and benefits we were promised throughout our careers. And beyond our legitimate concerns about the impacts of changes on individuals, we are doubly worried about long-term negative impacts on the University of Illinois' ability to attract and retain the high-quality faculty and staff who make the UI a valuable resource of the State. Uncertainly about pension reform timing and process compounds our concerns about substantive changes. Regrettably there is no solution yet to the state's essentially bankrupt condition. A number of UIUC retirees have approached me with their concerns - in many cases outrage - about the prospect of a reduction in their long-promised and hard-earned retirement benefits. It is certainly fair to say that all affected by the prospect of these changes share significant frustration and anxiety.

But how about some good news? The emergence of SB 2404 in the Spring was certainly an improvement. Yes, it was still pension reform, but 2404 showed that some state legislators viewed our earned pension/benefits with a modicum of respect, since they represent thousands of service years by loyal employees. Furthermore, SB2404 was an alternative to the version of SB1 adopted by the House, which was more Draconian. To be sure, SB2404 entailed benefit reductions, but they were reductions that reflected concern for state annuitants, especially those with smaller pensions. In a legislative standoff, neither SB1 or SB2404 was called for vote, and the governor subsequently formed a bi-partisan conference committee to review the pension situation and formulate a recommendation. (This activity is thoroughly discussed, as always, in the "Legislative Update" section of this newsletter. Our SUAA folks who cover the Springfield front, both locally and at the state level, continue to do a great job for us. Make sure you read their report.)

Most recently, the conference committee has reviewed a multi-phased reform plan endorsed by the University Presidents, a plan based on the Uofl Institute for Government and Public Affairs' (IGPA) six-step plan to pension affordability, that emphasized shared-sacrifice by all parties including retirees. The SUAA-UIUC Executive Committee endorsed the IGPA Plan early on, followed a few months later by support from the major state universities. Admittedly the IGPA plan includes some level of discomfort for everyone, but it is increasingly clear that the severity of the pension/benefit shortfall requires sacrifice by ALL parties – retirees, the state, the universities, and the taxpayers. Simply put, it is unrealistic to think we retirees can emerge from the state's fiscal crisis unaffected. At SUAA, our challenge is to prevent reductions from grievously compromising the welfare and lifestyles of our members. We are driven by that mandate.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find updated information about the status of our state health insurances. There are more changes afoot, in addition to the 1% or 2% now deducted from our annuity checks for health insurance. In the last few days of August we saw information about CMS plans for future coverage for both Medicare eligible and non-eligible retirees which causes us great concern. Relatedly, we have been pressing hard on numerous fronts for more detailed information. Our UIUC Chapter Benefits Committee works hard to stay on top of the latest developments, and to bring you information on a timely basis. See both the Benefits Update section of this newsletter and the Legislative Update.

Lastly, I call attention to our initiatives to increase ties to, and communications with, UIUC. Few Big Ten retirees have the odd arrangement we do with their (past) university employer and an independent, statewide retirement system. Many UIUC retirees are affiliated with one or the other, with at times no linkage. At the same time, your SUAA chapter leaders have seen advantages realized by other Big Ten retirees through closer ties with their universities, e.g. Purdue, Michigan, Penn State. As a consequence, SUAA-UIUC leadership is working in a number of areas to increase ties and communications with the Uofl. You can see a product of this effort in the Campus Charitable Fund Drive insert in this newsletter - but the first of several means through which we can forge closer ties. Open, rich, and frequent dialogue between retirees and the university will benefit both entities; we look forward to it!

Benefits Report

Mary Beastall and H. F. Williamson

Any report on annuitant benefits has to be a work in progress since so much depends on information not yet available, decisions to be made by the legislature and other state entities, and the choices we as annuitants make based on those decisions. Thus it is important to be aware of the web sites on which the latest information can be found. Some of these sites will be noted below. Discussion of the most important "benefit" we receive – our pensions and Automatic Annual Increases (i.e., the COLA) -- is presented in the Legislative Update this newsletter. A number of these topics will also be discussed by Janice Bonneville, Central Management Services (CMS) Deputy Director, at the October 20 SUAA-UIUC Chapter Meeting at the I Hotel.

Health Insurance

The changes that went into effect due to Public Act 97-0695 are summarized in a report in the July, 2013 issue of the SURS Advocate (p. 4) available at the SURS web site (http://www.surs.org/). A major change was the plan implemented for retirees with 20 or more years of service. As you are aware, those on Medicare started paying one percent of their pension annuity while those who do not qualify for Medicare started paying two percent. These rates are scheduled to double on July 1, 2014. Additional information on these changes including a copy of the May 1, 2013 letter from CMS informing us about them can be found on the CMS web site (http://www2.illinois.gov/cms). "In addition, a new cost structure for those on Quality Care Health plan has gone into effect.

State-Sponsored Medicare Plan and Other Health Insurance Initiatives

At the time of this writing CMS was in the midst of designing and implementing insurance options. One of the first steps was to send letters to retirees. Since not all retirees received all letters, some confusion occurred. The first letter was sent August 1 to those who are Medicare-eligible and whose Medicare information was not on file. This letter asked for proof of Medicare eligibility because such proof must be on file at CMS. The second letter was sent to those who are not Medicare eligible, and the third was sent to those who have dependents on their health insurance. The latter two letters had response due dates by the end of September

SUAA staff members continue to meet with CMS staff on a regular basis to be sure members of SUAA can be informed of the changes taking place as promptly as possible. One issue being discussed is the plan for a state-sponsored Medicare plan for Medicare-eligible annuitants and for which bids were requested on June 21. As indicated on the CMS web site noted above, "Once the contracts are in place, CMS will schedule informational/educational seminars regarding the new health plan options for those retirees who will be affected." The locations and times of the seminars will be posted on the CMS web site once they are scheduled, and you will also be able to find information on these events on the SUAA web sites for the State Office (http://www.suaa.org) and the Chapter (http:// www.suaa-ui.org). SUAA members can receive timely email briefings from the SUAA State Office as well by sending your email address to suaa@suaa.org.

Late Payment to Health Providers

As many annuitants are aware, there continues to be a claim payment delay for the Quality Care Health Plan and the Quality Care Dental Plan due to state revenue problems. This is discussed on the CMS web site. Updated information regarding continued on page 5

Questions about your Benefits?

Many questions continue to be raised over issues related to health care benefits and costs as well the amount of ones annuity. We recommend that you contact CMS concerning health care benefits and SURS regarding specific questions about your annuity. Below is the contact information for those offices. This newsletter is also on our website, www.suaa-ui.org. The links there are active.

Web sites and Email addresses

State University Retirement System (SURS): www.surs.org Contact Information: http://surs.org/contact-us

Phone: 800-ASK-SURS (800-275-7877) or 217.378-8800.

Fax: 217.378-9800 Mailing Address:

SURS

PO Box 2710

Champaign, IL 61825-2710

Street Address:

State Universities Retirement System of Illinois

1901 Fox Drive

Champaign, Illinois 61820

Central Management Services (CMS):

Employees Benefits pages for CIP (College Insurance Program) http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/benefits/College/Pages/default.aspx

Phone: 800.366-8768 or 217.524-4784 TTY: 866.277-56 When phoning about Medicare, 800.442-1300 or call direct: 217.782-7007

Address:

Department of Central Management Services

801 S. 7th Street, 2nd Fl Main

P.O. Box 19208

Springfield, IL. 62794-9208

Note: CMS uses your information on file with SURS. Remember to keep your personal information up to date with SURS.

Fall 2013 Legislative Update

Academic Year 2013-2014 opens with more uncertainty over matters critically important to retirees than at any time in the last half-century. "Pension Reform" – looming for several years – remains at the top of the list of important actions the General Assembly must address, but other important areas are in flux as well. Health insurance cost increases have already been implemented with more to follow, but at the time of this writing there is no clear indication of substantive alterations anticipated in the design of health insurance options, especially for Medicare-eligible retirees. New rules covering re-employment of retirees are now in effect following implementation of legislation passed a year ago. Action in any one of these areas presents the need for close monitoring; action in all three calls for special vigilance.

Pension Reform

The 98th Illinois General Assembly concluded its spring 2013 session without taking action on pension reform. Subsequent special sessions were called on June 19 and July 9, but pension legislation was not considered. Accordingly, the Governor called upon the General Assembly to form a bipartisan Conference Committee to address pension reform. The conference committee is comprised of five members from the House and Senate and is designed to "bridge the differences between the two bodies and develop a comprehensive pension reform plan." To date the committee has conducted three hearings, but no firm proposals have emerged and nothing has yet been drafted into legislation.

Two major comprehensive pension reform bills were considered during the Spring session but neither received sufficient votes for passage. The Illinois House passed Senate Bill 1 (as amended by House Amendment #2), which was sponsored by Speaker Michael Madigan and the Senate passed Senate Bill 2404 (as amended by Senate Amendment #2) which was sponsored by Senate President John Cullerton. Among the key provisions of these bills are:

Senate Bill 1 (as amended)

Changes Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) calculations for all Tier 1 retirees. The revised COLA would be on a reduced annuity base equivalent to 3% multiplied by the retirees' years of service multiplied by \$1,000. (NOTE: technically, SURS annuitants receive an Automatic Annual Increase (AAI) each year set at 3% of their annual annuities. This factor is not related to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Most of the pension reform proposals make changes in this factor because it accounts for a significant portion of the growth in pension payment requirements to retirees.)

- Increases employee contribution levels as well as the retirement age and caps pensionable wages equal to the Social Security wage cap.
- Requires the State to implement a long-term pension funding improvement plan that leads to an adequate and stable base by 2044.

Senate Bill 2404 (as amended)

Requires that retirees and active members make a choice of losing access to their retiree healthcare plan or accept delays in the application of their AAI over a four year period.

Senate Bill 2591

The IGPA-University Presidents Proposal has been recently introduced by Senator Michael Hastings (SB 2591) and received a subject matter hearing on July18. The key features of this bill which SUAA-UIUC supports are:

- Applies Pension reform exclusively to SURS.
- Creates a hybrid plan for new hires that includes both a defined benefit and defined contribution plan while allowing Tier 2 members to transfer into a stacked hybrid plan.
- Requires the State to make annual payments so SURS it is fully funded (100%) by 2044.
- Increases contributions for Tier 1 members by 2% so they will contribute 10% of pay to SURS.
- Reduces the COLA (AAI) for Tier 1 retirees and active members to ½ the increase in the CPI with compounded interest and with no cap that is, with no upper limit on the percentage increase.

Whatever pension reform measures are ultimately placed into legislation, it is clear that there will be negative impacts on institutions and individuals, whether currently employed or retired. Above all, SUAA-UIUC will work as hard as possible to assure that negative impacts are shared equitably across all constituent groups.

Health Insurance

A new cost structure for retiree health insurance is now in place and at the time of this writing the Department of Central Management Services was in the midst of designing new insurance options affecting both Medicare-eligible and non-eligible individuals. Please see the section on Benefits in this Newsletter for more complete information. Please also note that CMS Deputy Director Janice Bonneville will speak at the SUAA-UIUC Fall meeting to provide the very latest updates on this vitally important area.

continued to page 5

continued from page 4

Re-Employment of UI Retirees and Other SURS Annuitants

Public Act 97-0968, which became effective this summer, creates new restrictions on annuitants who return to work for a SURS-covered employer. The new restrictions are summarized in the July, 2013 issue of the SURS Advocate (p. 5.) There is also a list of these employers (p. 8). (NOTE: the Advocate can be read on-line at www.surs.org/pdfs/advocate/July13.pdf)

Put simply, SURS-covered employers will pay a premium to SURS if they hire an "affected annuitant." An annuitant becomes "affected" if he or she (a) has accumulated 18 paid weeks over a lifetime and (b) receives a compensation greater than 40% of the highest annual rate of earnings earned prior to retirement. Some SURS-covered campuses have decided not to hire annuitants due to this policy, but this is not true for the University of Illinois. A University-wide policy to address this legislation was approved by the Board of Trust-ees and can be viewed online (http://www.trustees.uillinois.edu/trustees/agenda/July-24-25-2013-BOT/). Helpful resources may be forthcoming from a University committee, and it is anticipated the SURS will promulgate new rules related to the law through the JCAR process. One other source of information is the University of Illinois Human Resources URL concerning policy on this issue: http://www.hr.uillinois.edu/cms/One.aspx?portalld=964839&pageld=1361187

Finally, University of Illinois officials continue to work with members of the General Assembly to modify this legislation to accommodate the workload requirements, specialized employee skills and experience and the complex work environment inherent in a major research university.

Fall Session Updates

SUAA-UIUC will make every effort to post updated information on pension reform, health insurance changes and other benefit changes as it becomes available this fall and throughout the year. The General Assembly's Fall Veto Session will begin on October 22. It remains to be seen whether any other special legislative sessions will be called to address pension reform issues.

We will continue to monitor the dynamic pension reform process closely, keep you informed and advocate strongly on your behalf. As always we thank all members for all you do to make our chapter so strong and effective.

Benefits Report continued from page 3

payment dates is included, and some annuitants have found it helpful to give a copy of this information to a healthcare or dental provider. The web site information notes that late payment interest is paid to providers on claims that take longer than 30 days from the receipt of a complete claim submission to pay.

Flu Shots

Retirees are eligible for the free flu shots offered at McKinley Health Center each fall. These shots are usually available in October, and the dates and times for the shots will be posted on the McKinley web site (http://www.mckinley.illinois.edu).

SUAA will continue to keep members informed on these issues through email briefings and the posting of information on the Chapter and State web sites. We will also continue our efforts to reach those without internet access. Individuals who have questions can contact staff at the SURS office or CMS. Contact numbers are available elsewhere in this newsletter.

Recent Letters from CMS to Some Retirees

Three letters from CMS are mentioned in the Benefits article above. Between its writing and publication SUAA clarified the following points in a Mini-Briefing:

"The first letter was sent August 1 to those who are Medicare-eligible and whose Medicare information was not on file" If your information with SURS is up to date, you should be OK if you did not receive this letter sense it only went to those whose information was not complete.

"The second letter was sent to those who are not Medicare eligible." This Opt Out letter was sent to those who are under age 65. The Opt Out letter referencing the State sponsored health insurance for retirees have not been sent as of this first week of September update.

"The third was sent to those who have dependents on their health insurance. The latter two letters had response due dates by the end of September". This letter was sent to Community College enrollees. As of early September, letters have not been sent to SURS members so no response date has been set.

SUBSCRIBING TO INSIDE ILLINOIS

Inside Illinois is published semi-monthly and distributed to campus mail boxes and subscribers off campus by the mail. It is a great way to keep up with the highlights of campus. Subscription is free to SUAA-UIUC members who request it. If you do not receive a home subscription and wish one, please use the form below.

Inside Illinois now offers online subscriptions. These subscribers will receive an email with links to the issue index and several featured stories. In addition, when there is news between issues, subscribers will receive an email. To subscribe, go to http://illinois.edu/gm/subscribe/7330.

To unsubscribe to a home subscription received through SUAA-UIUC membership, please send your request, name and address to our email: suaa.ui@gmail.com.

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Printed Student/Staff Directory to be Retired

To conserve campus resources and reduce waste, the printed publication Student/Staff Directory, will no longer be produced. It will be replaced by the Campus Directory, a publication including only essential campus information. Supplemental information for current faculty, staff, students and campus units (such as staff listings and phone numbers) may be accessed via the online Illinois Directory at http://illinois.edu/ds/search. You may also access it from the illinois.edu homepage. Emeriti retirees with a 0% appointment will automatically appear in the online directory. Emeriti retirees that do not have a 0% appointment need to contact their college HR person to request that Academic HR add them as emeritus. Retirees without an appointment will not be included.

The 2013-14 Campus Directory will be available in August 2013. A PDF of the layout will be posted to the web for download/desktop printing. You may also order bound copies by print on demand through campus Document Services (minimum order of ten copies). Visit http://publicaffairs.illinois.edu/resources/directory.html for more information.

Irrevocable Election

The State Universities Annuitants Association is continuing to seek SURS members who are state-insurance eligible and have signed the contractual form for the Irrevocable Election of 1999. The Election allows those with less than twenty years of service to retain the right to fully paid State health insurance-if they give up certain benefit improvements provided by legislation passed in 1997.

Those who have not contacted SUAA are urged to do so either by email - SUAA@suaa.org, or by calling 217.523-4040.





September 1, 2013

Dear Retiree,

During your University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign employment, you may have participated in the Campus Charitable Fund Drive (CCFD). Thank you for your past contributions. As you know, the Urbana-Champaign CCFD is a combined campaign that supports eleven charitable agencies. I hope that you will participate in this program at a level you find comfortable.

This critical campaign benefits the surrounding community in immeasurable ways. The nonprofit leaders the CCFD supports are ambassadors for charitable support. From United Way to Community Health Shares of Illinois to the American Cancer Society to the United Negro Fund, the amazing and hard-working people that compose these organizations make sure that your money helps those who need it most. Please know that 100% of your donation through the CCFD will go directly to the charity or charities you choose. Your contributions make real differences in our community.

You can make a one-time direct gift by completing and returning the form on the reverse side and sending it with your check or money order. You may also make your pledge on the CCFD website. In the future, we hope to offer you the option of a monthly deduction from your SURS annuity. If you would like to be notified when that option is available, please check the appropriate box on the pledge form.

We appreciate any donation you can make to help support this wonderful cause. If you have any questions, please visit the CCFD website at www.ccfd.illinois.edu or call Tracy Parish at 217-265-6398.

Thank you for your generosity and for continuing to be a part of our Illinois family.

Sincerely,

Phyllis M. Wise

Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign





RETIREE PLEDGE FORM - Please Print

Tull Name Unit Phone					
Address		City	State	Zip	
	Gift Informatio	n			
I wish to donate to the charities listed below by writing a check made payable to the agency. (No checks made payable to University of Illinois or Campus Charitable Fund Drive). List the agency at the top then the designations associated with that agency below. Visit www.ccfd.illinois.edu/agencies for agency and designation information.					
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807 South Wright Street					
Champaign, Il 61820 Optional: Release of Information					
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America's Charities

Working to build strong communities. Addressing needs of children, families, communities through member programs, by helping employers and employees support our member charities' programs.

(800) 458-9505 www.charities.org 7.4%

Community Health Charities of Illinois

Together we are working for a healthy Illinois!

(312) 382-0198

www.illinois.healthcharities.org 19.9%

Global Impact

Supports leading U.S.-based international charities to address critical needs throughout the world. We help ensure sustainable solutions by meeting real needs with real results.

(800) 836-4620 www.charity.org 5.71%

United Negro College Fund

America needs more college graduates. President Barack Obama has committed the country to regaining world leadership in the percentage of people with a college education.

(312) 845-2200 www.uncf.org 13%

American Cancer Society

When you support the American Cancer Society, you are joining a worldwide movement to help people stay well, help people get well, find cures, and fight back against cancer. (800) ACS-2345 www.cancer.org 24.5%

Community Shares of Illinois

Representing charities focused on addressing diverse issues such as women's and childrens health, the environment, and poverty.

(217) 352-6533

www.communitysharesillinois.org 11.7%

Independent Charities of America

Feeding the hungry. Sheltering the homeless. Protecting the children. And healing the sick. America's finest independent charities. Working with you to share - the American way.

(800) 477-0733 www.independentcharities. org 1.7%

United Way of Champaign County

Community Impact Fund provides program funding to 37 human care agencies in Champaign County. There are sixty-seven funded programs that address health, education, food, financial stability and shelter.

(217) 352-5151 www.uwayhelps.org 14.3%

Black United Fund of Illinois

The Black United Fund of Illinois, Inc. (BUFI) is a non-profit organization that provides critically needed financial and technical support to programs and projects that assist those in need within Illinois' African-American community.

(773) 324-0494 www.bufi.org 3.6%

EarthShare Illinois

An alliance of leading nonprofit environmental and conservation charities, working across Illinois and the nation to protect human health and the environment.

(312) 795-3740 www.earthshare-illinois.org 3.7%

Special Olympics Illinois

Part of an international program, Special Olympics Illinois provides year-round sports training, competition and a variety of skillbuilding opportunities for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

(309) 888-2551 www.soill.org 5.6%





























Just For Retirees

Frequently Asked Questions about the Campus Charitable Fund Drive University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Q: Where do I find information on agencies and designations to which I may donate? A: www.ccfd.illinois.edu/agencies

Q: May I donate to one of the 11 CCFD agencies without designating it for a specific program under an umbrella agency?

A: Yes, in fact some agengies prefer that you not designate toward a specific program. On the Pledge Form, simply complete the "Agency" line and the annual amount and leave the "designation" lines empty.

Q: Can I have my contribution deducted from my monthly SURS annuity?

A: Not at this time. Payments may be made to designated agencies by personal check.

Q: Although I am retired, can I still have my gift counted in the total for the University unit where I worked?

A: Yes. Be sure to indicate your campus unit in the indicated field on the Pledge Form.

Q: In the past I have given directly to the United Way. Can I continue to do that and still participate in the CCFD?

A: Yes, the CCFD works closely with the United Way of Champaign County to ensure that both campaigns give the donor credit for his or her gift. If you give directly to the United Way, indicate to them that you are a University of Illinois retiree and they will notify CCFD of your gift so it can be counted in our campaign. Alternatively, if you give to the United Way through the CCFD, the United Way will be informed of your gift.

Q: Can I give directly to other agencies covered by the CCFD and have my gift count toward my former unit's goal?

A: Yes. If your donation is made during the campaign and you can provide documentation of the donation (a copy of the canceled check, credit card receipt or a thank you note) we can count it toward your unit's goal. Documentation must include the date of the donation, the amount and agency or designation name.

Q: Are retirees required to make their pledges on paper?

A: You may submit your pledge using the form included in this mailing, but retirees, like current employees, are encouraged to make their pledges online at www.ccfd.illinois.edu.

More questions? Visit ccfd.illinois.edu or contact Tracy Parish at ccfd@illinois.edu or 217-265-6398.

IN MEMORIAM

As a service to readers, *The Annuitant* publishes a listing of deceased employees and annuitants taken from *Inside Illinois* issues as well as other print sources. The following listing gives the name, the age at death (when known), and the date of death for those individuals whose death notices appear between February 8 and August 15, 2013.

Due to increased privacy restrictions and the lack of public information in many obituary notices, this list can be difficult to develop. Thus the list may gradually become less comprehensive.

Allen, Bernita "Bee", 90, 2/17/13 Anderson, June M., 89, 2/9/13 Appel, Kenneth I., 80, 4/19/13

Appl, Dale, 86, 7/10/13 Bailey, Betty, 72, 5/17/13

Bailey, James Louise, 91, 5/16/13 Barenthin, Ruth E., 92, 3/1/13 Barham, Jane A., 61, 7/28/13 Barnhart, Shirley E., 68, 3/22/13

Bateman, Felice Davidson, 90, 2/4/13

Bauling, Frederick G., 86, 9/9/12 Brown, Masyl "Macie", 88, 6/13/13 Burger, Ambrose W. "Tom", 89, 2/15/13

Burkholder, Donald Lyman, 86, 4/14/13 Burtness, Roger William, 87, 3/23/13

Clark, Charles Wesley, 89, 5/25/13 Clark, Katherine "Louise", 88, 3/26/13

Corray, Mac H., 94, 8/1/13

Dawson, Clayton Leroy, 91, 2/19/13

Donze, Patricia, 85, 6/28/13

Eiskamp, Margaret "Mickey", 80, 7/6/13 Essex-Sorlie, Dr. Diane L., 66, 6/3/13

Farmer, Virginia, 91, 6/11/13
Ferber, Marianne A., 90, 5/11/13
Forrest, Clyde W. Jr., 78, 6/18/13
Franklin-Write, Peter, 90, 5/19/13
Funk, John William, 89, 6/29/13
Gallivan, James R., 86, 7/30/13

Gushee, Marion Sibley, 80, 6/29/13 Hanson, Martha R., 93, 5/23/13

Harris, Gregory "Gramps", 53, 3/20/13

Haugaard, Juanita, 95, 3/7/13 Hernecheck, Leonard G., 95, 7/6/13 Hoffman, Robert Dean, 73, 7/3/13 Hull, James Edward, 92, 2/6/13

Jamison, Vernon, 71, 3/5/13 Jamison, Wanda, 84, 4/17/13 Johnson, Donald Lee, 79, 5/10/13 Kanitz, Lillian L., 94, 6/25/13 Katchru, Yamuna, 80, 4/19/13

Kelly, Joseph, 88, 4/24/13 Koehn, Erma C., 101, 6/15/13

Kruse, Karen L., 69, 2/7/13 Leckie, Frederick Alexander, 84, 6/14/13

Leininger, Ann, 38, 3/15/13

Leonard, Deanna M., 56, 8/3/13 Lerch, Harold H. "Fuzzy", 85, 5/24/13

Lloyd, David, 92, 2/8/13

Macdonald, William L., 76, 4/3/13 May, Donald E., 75, 6/13/13 McCulley, Delbert E., 90, 2/27/13 McIntyre, William B., 96, 7/2/13 Moore, A. Doyle, 82, 5/13/13 Morenz, James Edward, 67, 5/4/13 Mulcahey, Mary "Elaine", 63, 7/11/13 Nelson Bertha Mae, 80, 3/29/13

Nelson, Bertha Mae, 80, 3/29/13 Noffke, Susan Eileen, 64, 6/1/13 Northway, D. Ray, 58, 4/9/13

O'Connor, John Alexander, 96, 5/28/13 Ognar, Stephanie Jill, 39, 5/10/13 Paden, Elaine Pagel, 96, 2/19/13 Pembroke, Martin Phillip, 89, 4/9/13 Perry, Kenneth W., 93, 2/11/13 Phipps, Lloyd James, 95, 2/11/13 Pleck, Michael Healy, 72, 6/15/13

Prather, David, 59, 4/4/13 Puckett, Hoyle B. Sr., 87, 5/9/13

Ray, Carl, 93, 2/15/13

Ray, Emily Louise (Belleff), 76, 6/30/13

Ray, B. Roger, 100, 6/2/13

Rogers, Jason Nicholas, 32, 2/8/13 Rudins, Nancy A., 59, 6/17/13

Ryan, Harriet Catherine (Murphy), 99, 2/25/13

Sallee, John B., 88, 7/6/13 Sands, Vera Madonna, 95, 4/3/13 Sarver, Donna L., 75, 8/9/13

Sticklen, Eunice Lorraine Kruger, 88, 6/16/13

Strater, Laurian M., 92, 4/16/13
Suter, Robert H., 90, 5/4/13
Taylor, James Alva, 84, 3/3/13
Taylor, Richard P., 78, 3/9/13
Thomas Gleason D., 97, 2/19/13
Wagner, Betty E., 85, 4/22/13
Warmbier, Thomas A., 95, 4/4/13
Weingartner, Alison Fong, 61, 4/27/13
Whalen, Arthur J. Jr., 89, 7/10/13
Willenbring, Gordon J., 84, 3/19/13
Williams, Eva Harriett, 89, 2/21/13

Wisegarver, Stacy Dean, 59, 5/18/13

Dates of Interest to SUAA-UIUC

October 3, 2013 – Thursday
2013 SUAA Regional Meeting
12:45pm - 4:00pm
Hosted by Lake Land College Annuitants Association
Lake Land College
Webb Hall 081
Mattoon

October 9, 2013 – Wednesday Executive Committee Meeting Clark Lindsey, 1:30

October 20, 2013 – Sunday Membership Meeting I-Hotel, 1:30PM

October 22, 2013 – Tuesday All Employee Expo Illini Union A,B,C, 10-2

October 29, 2013 – Tuesday 2013 SUAA Fall Board Meeting Illinois State University Alumni Center 1101 North Main Street, Normal

November 13, 2013 – Wednesday Executive Committee Meeting Clark-Lindsey, 1:30

December 11, 2013 – Wednesday Executive Committee Meeting Clark-Lindsey, 1:30

Communications Committee

Please let us know if there is information you believe we can furnish the membership that we currently do not. Since this edition of our newsletter is going to all SURS retirees connected with the Urbana-Champaign campus, please consider joining the UIUC chapter of SUAA if you are not currently a member. SUAA was quite effective in the effort to stop the passage of the Constitutional Amendment that would have opened the door to decreasing the Constitutional protection our pensions have now. The larger the membership, the better equipped we are to represent the need for equitable treatment of retirees. Our voice in advocacy for our pension and benefits is only as loud as the size of our membership!



ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The Membership Committee

As of July 31, 2013, our chapter's membership stands at 2019. While the organization's membership is substantial, it still represents only a fraction of the UIUC retirees and employees who are eligible to join. We ask you to join SUAA if you have not done so and to encourage others to join. Our association fights for your benefits. Membership costs little, especially considering what the organization is attempting to protect. We have had success recently helping to block Constitutional Amendment (CA) 49, which, if it had passed, had the potential to nullify the protection afforded by the non-impairment clause. And, with our support of the U of I's Institute of Government and Public Affairs pension reform proposal, the panel charged with solving Illinois' pension crisis has been able to consider some of its points.

Why should you join SUAA?

- **SUAA**, founded in 1971 as a voluntary membership association, continues its vigilance to preserve and protect the pension system, the healthcare plans and all other benefits provided for the well-being of the 208,000 State Universities Retirement System (SURS) participants and beneficiaries.
- **SUAA** provides continuous tracking of pension and healthcare benefit matters, state funding, along with other related concerns.
- **SUAA** works with its membership to assure legislators, executive officers and other policy makers are knowledgeable about member issues.
- **SUAA** is the <u>only</u> advocacy organization that focuses <u>solely</u> on preserving pension and healthcare benefits for the public universities' and community colleges' employees both active and retirees their spouses and survivors and SURS members who live out of state.
- **SUAA** membership affords the opportunity to interact and build relationships with other members of SURS through the local chapters on each public university and community college campus.
- **SUAA** membership provides a communication network through newsletters, legislative bulletins, websites, workshops and meetings that informs and updates you on both local and state issues relative to and focused on pension and healthcare benefits.
- **SUAA** membership assists in building a knowledge base in order to better understand how each element of legislation can affect pension and healthcare benefits for both today and for tomorrow.
- **SUAA** membership allows direct involvement in the legislative process through coordination of a clear **VOICE** and visibility as a solid advocacy organization that protects the pension and healthcare benefits of the participants and beneficiaries enrolled in the SURS.
- **SUAA** membership offers assistance to spouses and survivors of annuitants by providing them with important information to aid them in receiving all rights and benefits to which they are entitled.

SUAA dues can be deducted from both payroll and annuity payments. We strongly encourage all members to opt to have their dues automatically deducted when they join or at their next renewal. This method benefits SUAA by keeping costs down. And it is convenient for members by making renewal automatic.

The Fall Meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2013. We hope you are able to attend as your participation provides an opportunity to exchange information vital to UIUC's pension plan participants.

How to Join SUAA-UIUC Chapter:

On page 10 of this issue, you will find three membership application forms: one for retirees, one for current employees who opt for payroll deduction of dues, and one for current employees who opt for an annual cash payment.

Total annual dues are \$39; this amount includes chapter dues of \$8. Send membership form (and payment if paying by check) to: State Universities Annuitants Association | 217 E. Monroe, Suite 100 | Springfield, IL 62701

NOTE: A form for a dues deduction requires an original signature.



Make all checks payable to: SUAA Return the signed membership form to: SUAA, 217 E. Monroe, Suite 100 Springfield, IL 62701

Contributions to the SUAA Foundation Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for tax purposes, but are deductible as a business expense. are tax deductible.

SUAA Membership Application

Annuitants Association

Urbana-Champaign Chapter University of Illinois

RETIREES ONLY

Select Payment Option:	roito Pool ocud citomotus

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Signature Required for SURS Dues Deduction:

certified by the UIUC Chapter as the current rate of dues. complete and will continue until termination is requested hereby authorize the State Universities Retirement The deduction will start once the SURS process is System (SURS) to deduct monthly the amount as in writing

Signature



Annuitants Association

Please Mail Signed Form To: Springfield, IL 62701

217 East Monroe, Suite 100

217-523-4040

SUAA Membership Application Urbana-Champaign Chapter University of Illinois **EMPLOYEES ONLY**

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3.25	employee's monthly deduction
	(annual deduction total of \$39.00)
1.63	employee's bi-weekly deduction
	(annual deduction total of \$39.00)

2

Signature Required for Payroll Deduction:

current rate of dues. The initial deduction will begin within the University of Illinois. The dues deduction will continue 30 days of receipt of this dues deduction authorization by I hereby authorize the University of Illinois to deduct, each month, the amount as certified by SUAA as the until termination is requested in writing.

Date:
Signature:



Make all checks payable to: SUAA

Mail membership application to:

217 E. Monroe, Suite 100 Springfield, IL 62701

Annuitants Association

SUAA Membership Application

Urbana-Champaign Chapter **University of Illinois**

CURRENT EMPLOYEES ONLY ANNUAL CASH PAYMENT

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Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution for tax Contributions to the SUAA Foundation are tax deductible. purposes, but are deductible as a business expense.

KEEP INFORMED

Both the Chapter and State websites have continual updates about legislative activity of interest to SURS members, alerts, and other information.

Chapter Website www.suaa-ui.org

Chapter Email suaa.ui@gmail.com

State Website www.suaa.org

State Email suaa@suaa.org

If you are a SUAA member and have not been receiving Mini-Briefs from the SUAA office, send a request to add your email address to your membership file. Send your name, Chapter (UIUC) and email address to: suaa@suaa.org.

As noted throughout this newsletter, significant events concerning both health insurance and pensions will occur over the next few months, and it will be distinctly helpful if you have access to online updates. How information is being distributed is expressed by the many links to web pages in this newsletter. This newsletter is also on our website, www. suaa-ui.org,

SURS http://surs.org/

CMS

http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/benefits/Pages/default.aspx



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