

**EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION**

Brainard House, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920-3099

**NEWSLETTER DELIVERY PREFERENCE FORM**

Dear EIU Annuitants and Current Employees,

Our Executive Committee members request your help regarding whether to send you the Newsletter New Horizons as a hard copy or via e-mail. It is imperative that we remain in contact. We have one of the best pension, health care and survivor benefits that we collectively must protect. Additionally, we culminated distinguished careers or are currently serving Eastern and in this process we established friendships and experienced memorable events. The New Horizons and our web page are two significant resources to keep you informed and we will not compromise by limiting that.

Since we are spend about \$2300 annually on postage, printing, and copying we request that you let us know whether it is possible for you to receive New Horizons via e-mail by completing the following Form and returning it to the above address.

Again it is important that you receive New Horizons via e-mail or hard copy. If we use your e-mail it will be placed on the Bcc (Blind copy that will not show on recipient's e-mail). We will also use your e-mail only to communicate with you and will not share it with anyone. Whichever method you choose to receive the Newsletter, the current issue will always be on our web page (<http://www.eiu.edu/annuitants>) Newsletter link and previous copies in the Archives.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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This Form will also be on our web page Newsletter link to complete and return via e-mail to Alan Baharlou  
[abaharlou@eiu.edu](mailto:abaharlou@eiu.edu)



Vol. 33, No. 1

Charleston, IL 61920

September 2008

Dale Wolf, President

Ellen Keiter, Membership Chair

Jane Johnson, Secretary

Jayne Ozier, Vice- President

Ron Wohlstein, Treasurer

Alan Baharlou, Newsletter Editor

Financial support of EIU Foundation is appreciated

### LOOKING AHEAD

**Our next meeting will be held on October 2, 2008 in the Neal Welcome Center.**

- 8:30 - Coffee, tea, & conversation
- 9:00 - Business Meeting followed by a presentation from EIU President William Perry & Terry Weidner, Past President of SUAA

### MEETING DATES COMING UP

<b>EIUAA CHAPTER MEETINGS: (8:30 am)</b>		<b>EUIAA EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETINGS: (9 am)</b>	
Oct 2, 2008	Neal Welcome Center	Aug 7, 2008	Neal Welcome Center
Jan 19, 2009	Annual Luncheon	Nov 6, 2008	Neal Welcome Center
April 10, 2009	Neal Welcome Center	March 5, 2009	Neal Welcome Center
June 4, 2009	Neal Welcome Center	May 7, 2009	Neal Welcome Center
Oct 8, 2009	Neal Welcome Center	August 7, 2009	Neal Welcome Center
Jan 18, 2010	Annual Luncheon	Nov. 12, 2009	Neal Welcome Center

### PRESIDENT'S VIEW

Most every day I go to the EIU Recreation Center to work on trying to stay in shape. Many of those days I am carrying old papers or cans for the recycle bin. I truly believe (as I hope that many of you do also) in the power of one.

As I begin my time as President of your Annuitants Association, I will work toward adding membership in order to bring the added power of many into one strong voice. It is only through the show of many voicing the same message that we gain with Springfield.

I hope that you will join me this year in adding to our membership by telling others of the EIU Annuitants Association. Encourage new annuitants to join, encourage past annuitants to return and visit the website often. Our meetings are fun, informative and a great time to see many old and dear friends. Watch the website for upcoming meetings. All are held at the Neal Welcome Center on the edge of town unless otherwise noted. Our next Chapter meeting will be on October 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9am with President William Perry and former SUAA President Terry Weidner as our guest speakers.

I look forward to a great year and I hope that you will be there to enjoy it as well.

Dale Wolf, President

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Our pension and health care and all relevant issues (i.e. spousal and survivors' benefits) are currently being discussed, debated, at times in an adversarial tones, among Illinois Legislators, Governor, State of Illinois' 5 pension systems, and state employees. What is the problem? The five state systems have a combined debt of about \$44 billion, and they only have 63 percent of the funding they'll eventually need to cover all their obligations to retirees (if you recall, we paid 8% of our salary each month toward our retirement and the state, because not pay social security, by law is obligated to match that with another 8% but they have not). However, SURS has enough cash and assets to cover their yearly obligations to university retirees. Their pensions will all be paid. The problem is the costly debt. The entire state budget is \$59 billion, so \$44 billion in long-term debt to the pension systems is a significant liability. The systems essentially are owed 8.5 percent interest every year their full costs aren't covered. That equates to more than \$3.6 billion a year in interest to begin resolving the pension problem, Gov. Rod Blagojevich's administration and Senate Democrats wanted to issue \$16 billion worth of pension bonds to pay down the debt. The idea is to put that borrowed money into the pension systems to cut their debt and reduce interest costs. The bond debt would have an interest rate of less than 6 percent, compared to 8.5 percent for the pension debt. The Senate approved it with only Democrat votes. Democratic Speaker Michael Madigan never called it for a vote in the House. Consequently, the state's intractable pension challenge is continuing. The State Universities Annuity Associations (SUAA) and state wide chapters are vigilantly and actively following the debates. We will inform you of relevant events.

Our health care insurance for the state employees is up for renewal starting July 1, 2008. ASCME is representing all relevant state employees (i.e. Annuity) at the negotiating table with the Governor's representatives. The state team is asking for a significant increase of co-payments. Our negotiating team has strongly opposed that and the dispute has not been resolved as yet. Both teams have asked for a mediator. We will inform you of the outcome.

Fortunately our pension and its 3 percent annual increase are constitutionally guaranteed exclusively due to the persistent efforts of annuity and sympathetic legislators. However, due to the state's serious budget crisis, both are vulnerable to adverse changes.

Fortunately, Citizens in the democratic system have a powerful voice in expressing their legitimate interests. SUAA and Chapter officers all are working as volunteers to represent you in the advocacy of benefits. By far our most powerful voice is the membership numbers. We request that if you are not a member of EIUAA and SUAA, please help us by sparing a total of \$2 a month to become a member by completing 1) the Membership Form at the end of this document (if you are already a member complete only Newsletter Delivery Form) 2) The Newsletter Delivery Preference Form and 3) return them to EIUAA address – Thanks for your support.

Alan Baharlou, Editor

## CHAPTER NEWS

At the June 12 EIUAA Chapter Meeting in the Neal Welcome Center our well known annuity and emeritus history professor B.F. (Mac) and Dorothy McClerren portrayed Abe and Mary Todd Lincoln in looks, attire and character. As Abe and Mary Todd, both eloquently shared their youthful experiences, political and social events, and issues of their time. With the country in the midst of a critical presidential election with one of the two candidates being black, gave new meaning to Lincoln's famous speeches and debates against slavery and the country's reactions to them. This was one of our largest attended presentations and was followed by many questions and answers. The presentation and follow up discussions were informative, provocative and entertaining. You can view the pictures of the event on our webpage Chapter Meeting link.

## CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY NEWS

### EIU Faculty/Staff Members Retiring Academic Year 2007-2008

More than 60 Eastern Illinois University faculty/staff members who have retired or plan to retire during the 2007-2008 academic year were honored during a celebratory dinner on April 30. You can view pictures of those who were present at the dinner on the Campus Link of our web page (<http://www.eiu.edu/annuitants/events.php>).

Alan Baharlou President of EIUAA welcomed the new annuitants. The retirees are:

<i>Jack Ashmore</i>	<i>Michael Chron</i>	<i>Zelpha King</i>	<i>Barbara Powell</i>
<i>Robert Beasley</i>	<i>Terry Coffey</i>	<i>Marilyn Klingenberg</i>	<i>Sharon Robison</i>
<i>Susan Beasley</i>	<i>Pamela Collins</i>	<i>Barbara Kuykendall</i>	<i>Darrell Schmitt</i>
<i>Pat Beaulieu</i>	<i>Mikael Cook</i>	<i>Leona Lucas</i>	<i>Barbara Seagren</i>
<i>Christian Beurskens</i>	<i>Jeff Cooley</i>	<i>Herb McElwee</i>	<i>Juanetia Shrader</i>
<i>Clarence Blanchette</i>	<i>Joy Craft</i>	<i>Dolly McFarland</i>	<i>Karen Sollers</i>
<i>Duane Broline</i>	<i>Russell Fischer</i>	<i>Vesta McLain</i>	<i>Julie Sterling</i>
<i>Martha Brown</i>	<i>Doris Hamilton</i>	<i>Glenn Miller</i>	<i>Norma Taylor</i>
<i>Louis Butler</i>	<i>Vickie Hencken</i>	<i>Roger Miller</i>	<i>Brenda Tennill</i>
<i>Daniel Carpenter</i>	<i>Jan Hinkle</i>	<i>Carol Mills</i>	<i>William Thompson</i>
<i>William Carreon</i>	<i>David Horsman</i>	<i>Michael Murphy</i>	<i>Thalia Wetzal</i>
<i>Carl Cartwright</i>	<i>William Houston</i>	<i>Leslie Nash</i>	<i>Larry Whitaker</i>
<i>Kathy Cartwright</i>	<i>Allan Johnson</i>	<i>Vickie O'Day</i>	<i>Jeannette Wilson</i>
<i>David Caywood</i>	<i>Max Jones</i>	<i>Ron Osborne</i>	<i>Carol Winkleblack</i>

### Jeff Cooley Announced his Retirement

Jeff Cooley Vice President for Business Affairs will be retiring, effective December 31, after 25 years career at Eastern “Jeff retirement will be a huge loss to Eastern’s administrative team” said Eastern President Bill Perry.



## NEWS FROM YOU



**We need to hear from you! Please send your news bits to EIU Annuitants Association, Brainard House, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston IL 61920 or email them to [annuitants@eiu.edu](mailto:annuitants@eiu.edu)**

**Former student names asteroid after Professor Scott Smith**, Robert Millis '63, director of Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Ariz., credits retired EIU physics professor Scott Smith with guiding him to his career in astronomy. So, when Millis recently discovered an asteroid, he decided to name it after his mentor and friend. "This was an opportunity at long last to honor Dr. Smith in an appropriate and lasting way," Millis said. (Source EIU Alumni Newsletter)

**Eulalee Anderson** dedicated her entire career in promoting and supporting the international student program at Eastern Illinois University. After her retirement she continued her support of the university and international students. The university recognized her dedication on several occasions including EIU's Service award. She was also chosen as the Annuitants Ambassador by EIU Foundation. On August 10, the University honored her with a reception attended by President, vice presidents, faculty, staff, students, community members and many friends as she leaves Charleston to live near her daughter in Branson, Mo. Eulalee will be greatly missed. Her new address is; Culpepper Place Senior Living # 406, 5351 Gretna Road, Branson, MO, 65616

### EIU Annuitant Colleagues Express Heartfelt Congratulations

**George and June Cooper** as they celebrate their **60th Wedding Anniversary**. They are the parents of 6 children. George served in the Army for 4 years as a first lieutenant. He earned his Ph.D at the University of Michigan, and was head of the Business Department at Eastern Illinois University prior to retirement. June earned a MS degree from the University of Illinois. She was employed as a registered nurse, a teacher and served as head of Lincoln Land Hospice for 3 years.

**Cyril and Carol Winkleblack** as they celebrate their **50th Wedding Anniversary**. They are the parents of 3 children. Cyril is retired from Allied-Signal Corp. Carol is retired from Eastern Illinois University's Booth library.

**Steve and Jolene Whitley** as they celebrate their **50th Wedding Anniversary**. Steve and Jolene are parents of 3 children and grand parents of 5 grandchildren. Steve retired from Eastern Illinois University and Jolene from Charleston Community Unit 1 School District. Steve and Jolene are involved with several community organizations and enjoy travel and their grandchildren.

**Richard "Bud" and Mary White** as they celebrate their **50th Wedding Anniversary**. They are parents of 2 children and 4 grandchildren. Mary taught at Mark Twain Elementary School in Charleston and Eastern Illinois University. Bud taught in the Education Department of Eastern Illinois University.

**Bert and Judy Landes** as they celebrate their **50th Wedding anniversary**. They are the parents of 3 children and 4 grandchildren. Both Bert and Judy retired from Eastern Illinois University.

**Leland and Joan Kirkley** as they celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**. They are the parents of 6 children, 28 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Leland retired from Eastern Illinois University. He also served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Joan is employed as a certified nurse assistant and does volunteer work.

**Dennis and NaDean Aten** as they celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**. They are parents of 3 children and 5 grandchildren. Leland retired from Eastern Illinois University in 1993.

**Fairy Lanman as she celebrates her 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday**. Fairy and Oryl are parents of 4 children, 9 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

**Ray Woodvard as he celebrates his 84<sup>th</sup> Birthday**. Ray and Ethel are parents of 2 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Ray retired from Eastern Illinois University.

**Earnest Garner as he celebrates his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday**. Earnest and Iola are parents of 5 children (One daughter is deceased), 19 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

**Seven members of Walt Lowell family** (Walt & Jim M., Tom , & Chuck sons of Walt, Jim P. & John sons of Jim M. and Dorothy daughter of Tom) **are honored for 66 Years of Continuous Military Service**. Walt family members were honored by given an American flag at the funeral of Tom Lowell.

**Martin Ignazito** was Showcased in the Times –Courier June 21, 08 for building and flying his own powered parachute.

## *Remembering Friends*



**Maurice W. Manbeck**, 90, of Winfield, Illinois, formerly of Charleston, passed away Saturday, July 26, 2008 at the home he shared with his daughter Susan and her husband Glenn. Surviving are three daughters & four grandchildren. Maurice was active with Run for Your Life Program beginning in 1966 that attracted hundreds of people in Charleston-Mattoon area. His supportive spirit helped many to seek a quality life style. Maurice retired in 1977 from Eastern Illinois University after 22 years; first as an administrator and later as a Professor. He was a World War II Army veteran, serving in the European Operations. He retired as a Lt. Colonel.

**Verna Dorothy Wittrock**, 93 of Charleston, passed away on Thursday (June 5, 2008) at Mattoon Health Care Center. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Marge Christensen Wittrock ,a nephew, Gregory (Susan) Wittrock, and two nieces, Pamela (Steve) Strack, and Janice (George) Sievers of Mount Horeb, She is also survived by her very dear friends, Claudia (Vernon) Johnson, and Marsha K. "Marty" (Rick) Lang and her family of Charleston. In addition to her parents she was preceded by her brother, Cyril K. Wittrock and a half sister, Sylvia Borg. Her last position was as Professor of English at Eastern Illinois University from 1962 – 1982. Published author and dear friend, Claudia Johnson, dedicated one of her books to Verna best describing her as a dog lover, teacher, scholar and pioneer champion of rights for academic women.

**Gerhard Carl Matzner**, 95 of Savoy, Illinois and formerly of Charleston, Illinois passed on Thursday, July 17, 2008.. Surviving family members include Lois, his loving wife and best friend for sixty-four years; three children,; three grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. From 1942 – 1945 Gerry courageously served his country as an interpreter in French and German and later as a liaison between the U.S. Army and the local German government during post-war reconstruction. In 1955 he accepted a position at Eastern Illinois University as Director of Institutional Studies and as a Professor of Education, where he remained until his retirement in 1983.

**Dan L. Beasley**, 60, of Casey died at 2:54 p.m. Sunday (June 29, 2008) at his home. Beasley. Survivors include one son, one daughter, three brothers,; one sister, & mother of his children, Cathy Downey; and three grandchildren. He was a building service worker at Eastern Illinois University, a U.S. Army Vietnam veteran and a member of the Casey VFW 5762.

**Lloyd R. Overmyer**, 83, of Rotonda West, Florida, formerly of Mattoon, passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2008, Survivors include his loving wife, Ruth J. Overmyer; five sons, & two daughters. He was preceded in death by one son, Marine Lance Corporal Robert J. Overmyer, who was killed in Vietnam on July 4, 1967. Lloyd served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was employed at Eastern Illinois University for thirteen years as a stationary fireman.

**Jesse Phillip Harwood**, 82 and life-long Charleston resident, passed away on Monday (June 9, 2008). Interment with Military Rites conducted by the Honor Guard of the Charleston VFW Paul McVey Post 1592. Surviving family members include Helen, his loving and devoted wife of nearly sixty-two years; three children, 8 grandchildren; & 8 great-grandchildren. Jesse was a U.S. Navy Veteran proudly serving his country during WWII. Jesse held position at Eastern Illinois University as a custodial foreman, retiring after more than thirty years of service.

**Helen Gross**, 70 of rural Charleston, passed away on Wednesday (August 6, 2008). Surviving family members include six children, & sixteen grandchildren. She has served as a cook at the E.I.U. Rathskeller and for Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority; was an activity director for the Charleston Senior Center and for eight years at Cotillion Ridge in Robinson, Illinois, and for many years has been an adult caregiver in the Charleston area.

**Martha Louis (Kuhn) Clottelter**,89, passed away on April 10, 2008. Surviving family members include one daughter, one granddaughter, two great granddaughters, one sister and one brother. Martha Louis retired from Eastern Illinois University after serving as Alpha Phi “girls” House Mother for 19 years.

**Maydean Bailey**, 87 of rural Charleston, passed away May5, 2008. Survivors include her husband Charles Bailey, one daughter, one son, one sister, 6 grandchildren, and 11 great grandchildren. Maydean retired from the Eastern Illinois University housing

**Max Russell Strong**, 62, of Charleston, passed away Friday, August 8, 2008, Interment will be in Janesville Cemetery with military rites conducted by Mattoon VFW Post 4325. Survivors include his wife Myrna L. Romack, his mother, a son, a sister, a half sister, a step-brother, & two grandchildren. Mr. Strong served our country with the Army from 1965-1968. He was employed by Eastern Illinois University.

*~We want to express our sympathy to the following Annuitants~*

**Richard “Dick” Rogers** and his family, on the death of his wife Phyllis Natalie Rogers, on June 16, 2008

**Pearl Fain Beasley** and her family, on the death of her husband Wayne E. Beasley, on Sunday May 11, 2008.

**Dalias Price** and his family on the death of his wife Lillian O. Price, on July 4, 2008.

**Timothy D Gover** and his family on the death of his wife Marilyn Gover on June 12,2008.

**Janet Fraembs** & her family on the death of her brother Norman E. Railsback on June 19, 2008.

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To find more information about the EIU Foundation, check out their web page at: [www.eiu.edu/~found/](http://www.eiu.edu/~found/)

EIU Annuitant Email Address: [annuitants@eiu.edu](mailto:annuitants@eiu.edu)

EIU Annuitant Association Web Page: [www.eiu.edu/~annuitants/](http://www.eiu.edu/~annuitants/)

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**PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**INFORMATION SECTION**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address/P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Above information will appear in the EIU phone directory unless you indicate otherwise.

Please check whether you are:  Former EIU Employee  Current EIU Employee  Surviving Spouse

If former/current employee, give EIU Department \_\_\_\_\_ Employed from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

If presently married, give spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if your spouse is:  Former EIU Employee  Current EIU Employee

If former/current employee, spouse's EIU Department \_\_\_\_\_ Employed from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES SECTION** (Three Options)

- 1  **I am an annuitant and wish to BEGIN paying dues by dues deduction.**  
 **If this line is checked, please double the deduction (\$4 per month) to pay my spouse's dues.**  
*\*To begin having your SUAA and EIUAA dues deducted from your monthly annuity check, please sign the statement at the bottom, provide your Social Security number (requested by SURS), and return to the address above.*

I hereby authorize the State Universities Retirement System to deduct each month the amount certified by the EIU Chapter of the State Universities Annuitants Association at the current rate of dues. Dues of \$24 per year will be deducted at the rate of \$2.00 per month. I understand that dues deduction will continue until I inform SURS by a signed statement that I wish to stop automatic deduction.

- 2  **I am a current EIU employee and wish to BEGIN paying dues by dues deduction.**  
 **If this line is checked, please double the deduction (\$48 per year) that would also pay my spouse's dues.**  
*\*To begin having your SUAA and EIUAA dues deducted from your payroll check, please sign the statement at the bottom, provide your Banner E# and Social Security number, and return to the address above.*

I hereby authorize Eastern Illinois University to deduct the amount certified by the EIU Chapter of the State Universities Annuitants Association at the current rate of dues. Dues of \$24 per year will be deducted from one payroll check per year. I understand that dues deduction will continue until I inform EIU by a signed statement that I wish to stop automatic deduction.

- 3  **I am paying dues by check. CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
 **I want my spouse to be a member; I am enclosing \$48 payment.**

To pay your yearly dues by check, return this form with a check for \$24, payable to **EIU Annuitants Association**, and return to the address listed above. Additional payments are required each year to continue your membership, and you will receive notification.

**\*This section refers to option 1 and 2 only**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
**(SIGN ONLY TO BEGIN DUES DEDUCTION)**

Banner E Number \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Providing your SSN speeds the process for dues deduction since it uniquely identifies you to SURS/ EIU. If you prefer, we can process your request with only the last four digits.

**INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOUR FELLOW ANNUITANTS**

Do you enjoy some activity? Have you taken an interesting vacation? Have you gone on an Elderhostel? Do you volunteer? Want to brag about your kids or grandkids? Use the back of this form to tell us about it!