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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

At the October 8, 09 Chapter Meeting in the Neal Welcome Center, EIU President Bill Perry and Illinois House of Representative Chapin Rose will provide a comprehensive overview of relevant University and legislative activities. This will follow with a presentation by Janna Overstreet regarding the School of Continuing Education Lifetime Learning Program.

### MEETING DATES COMING UP

EIUAA CHAPTER MEETINGS: (8:30 am)		EUIAA EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETINGS: (9 am)	
October 8, 2009	Neal Welcome Center	August 6, 2009	Neal Welcome Center
January 22, 2010	39 <sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon	November 12, 2009	Neal Welcome Center
April 8, 2010	Neal Welcome Center	March 4, 2010	Neal welcome Center
July 8, 2010	Neal Welcome Center	June 3, 2010	Neal Welcome Center
October 7, 2010	Neal Welcome Center	September 9, 2010	Neal Welcome Center
		December 2, 2010	Neal Welcome Center

### ***PRESIDENT'S VIEW***

I write to you while it is still summer but you will read this in September. We all hope to continue with some good news concerning the status of our health and pension benefits. Maybe no news is good news. We shall see.

The beginning of another school year is upon us and we will have an update from President Bill Perry at our next Chapter Meeting in October. In addition, we will also receive the latest news from Springfield as Representative Chapin Rose will join us once again.

The plan is to have updates concerning our legislative action at every chapter meeting. Please try to be with us on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Neal Welcome Center. As always, we begin at 8:30am with refreshments. Bring another annuitant "alum" with you!

As every legislative session is important, our "voice" is also important. We again ask that you do your best to encourage non-members to join the Annuitant Association. Please remind friends they need not be retired to join. The application is available at the EIU website by simply typing in "annuitants" and follow the icons.

The organization continues to work on your behalf.

***~Dale Wolf, EIUAA President***

## ***FROM THE EDITOR***

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**Dear Colleagues,**

This last Illinois Legislature was one of the most active, controversial, and covered Sessions by media; nationally and statewide that I can recall. They impeached a governor, struggled to manage a nearly 12 billion budget deficit in the midst of a nationwide recession. The most active lobbying groups were; State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA), University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) and the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). In an attempt to protect our pension, health care and survivor benefits, SUAA members met as a group and individually with legislators in Springfield and their local offices, organized informational meetings, & wrote relevant articles in local and statewide newspapers. They distributed pamphlets and vigilantly followed relevant bills introduced in the Illinois House and Senate. I, personally, met with Governor Pat Quinn in Springfield during our informational meeting to express our concerns about the proposed bills for Two Tier Pension, Increase in State Employees Healthcare Premium, and another Pension Holiday. He responded that the only solution to solve the state budget deficit is to have a progressive type state income tax. However, in all our discussions we emphasized that we are not asking that the state meet their obligations to our groups at the expense of reducing or eliminating other state services.

Overall, it was a very tumultuous session, which energized SUAA Chapter members, and officers. In almost all of our discussions with legislators, the number of our membership & their composition (ratios of males to females, current employees to retirees, and survivors) came up and was a significant component in expressing our concern to legislators. Their office staffs have detailed membership information for all active organizations in the state. The formal legislative session ended at the end of May without passing any bills that would adversely affect our pension, health care, or survivors' benefits for now. Instead of implementing the state's constitutionally ratified obligations to our pensions, the legislature decided to borrow about 3 billion dollars, on which interest will accrue, to pay for part of the state's pension obligations contribution. However, so far that has not happened. Informal discussions regarding managing the state budget deficit continues and we are closely following its outcome.

I have tried to inform you in a timely manner of any news or action related to our benefits via e-mail for those whom I have e-mail addresses. If you have not received these updates, it means that I do not have your e-mail address or a correct one. Please send me an e-mail using the e-mail address that you want future updates send to. My e-mail address is [abaharlou@eiu.edu](mailto:abaharlou@eiu.edu). I will not share your e-mail addresses with any one.

**I have used all of the available resources and prepared a comprehensive, step-by-step, easily understood Survivors' Assistance Guide including all possible forms to be used to establish survival benefits after death of a SURS member. The document is posted on our EIU Annuitants' Association web page. You may access it by going to our web page [www.eiu.edu/annuitants](http://www.eiu.edu/annuitants) and click on the left side of home page on the Survivors' Assistance guide. I suggest you read the document and complete the relevant forms and keep it to be used when needed.**

Alan Baharlou, Newsletter Editor

### ***A special message to non-members***

As a courtesy and as part of our ongoing efforts to expand our membership, you are receiving this issue of New Horizons. We hope it will prompt you to join us.

Membership in the EIU Annuitants Association (EIUAA) automatically makes you a member of the State University Annuitant Association (SUAA) which works on behalf of all of us to protect and enhance our pension

and health benefits. The organization also provides us with valuable up-to-date information about state funding and pension issues.

The strength of SUAA's voice in Springfield depends directly on the number of members it represents. With the continuing state budgetary challenges, a substantial membership is more important than ever.

Not long ago our economic news frequently included the phrase "too large to fail". Modifying that concept a little, we want to make sure our Annuitants Association is "*too large to ignore*"! Please help us meet that goal by becoming a member.

Joining is easy. Simply fill out and mail the enclosed membership form in the postage-paid envelope provided. Please note that annual dues of \$24 can either be paid by check or by a \$2 per month deduction from your SURS annuity.

Thank you!

Ellen Keiter, Membership Chair

## **CHAPTER NEWS**

A large number of members and guests met at the Neal welcome Center for our June 3, Chapter Meeting. Members for the EIU Annuitants Association met for a chapter meeting on June 3, 2009 at the Neal Welcome Center. Dale Wolf, president, opened the meeting at 9:00 AM. Dale invited anyone who was willing to share in recent events that happened to them since the last time we met.

Dale announced the Board Member for 2009-10. Dale will continue as president, Jayne Ozier as Vice President, Jane Johnson as secretary, Ron Wohlstein as Treasurer, Ellen Keiter as Membership Chair & Alan Baharlou as Newsletter Editor. Hal Nordin will be leaving his board position. Dale expressed his gratitude to Hal for his service to the Board. Replacing Hal will be Mac Corley.

The meeting was then turned over to Cindy Roberts who presented a program on Habitat for Humanity. Cindy explained how the organization works and that it takes a large group of volunteers to make the building of the home come to reality.

Next Sue Kaufman from the Illinois Federation of Teachers (IFT) addressed the group. She stated that the legislative session this year was very scary. With the new governor in place, some interesting proposals have been suggested. They are trying to get rid of that state health insurance plan and are trying to push everyone into an HMO. Sue urged everyone to please vote when they get their ballot for election of the SURS Board of Trustees' Membership

After a short break, Terry Weidner spoke to the group about Geo-caching. It's a worldwide game of hiding and seeking treasure, played with GPS technology.

## **Campus NEWS**

### **Dr. Jill Nilsen, vice president for external relations, has announced her retirement, effective Dec. 31, 2009**

In announcing her plans to retire, Nilsen said she "will forever be grateful to this university for the opportunities it has provided me during my professional career." I leave with great affection for the faculty, students and staff with whom I have had the pleasure of working during my 33-plus years here. "Dr. Nilsen has been of great assistance to me in my first two years at EIU. I am extremely grateful for her initiative, energy, ideas, advice and excellent service." said EIU President Bill Perry. The president also announced his intentions of changing the name of the position from vice president for external relations to vice president for university advancement, effective with the hiring of Nilsen's successor. We want to welcome Jill to the Annuitant rank.

## EIU High Tech Modern Textbook Rental Services Building is Near Completion

The EIU's newly constructed high-tech, spacious Textbook Rental Services building located on the east side of the Carmen Hall will be ready to be occupied by the beginning of Spring Semester 2010.

**University Professional of Illinois (UPI)** EIU chapter invites all EIU annuitants to attend a Social hour which will be held every First Friday of the month (beginning in October 2) at ROC'S from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. A buffet of snacks and one free drink is offered to guests.

### STATE & COMMUNITY NEWS

One of the most active and tumultuous Illinois Legislature formal session ended in May. In order to manage nearly 12 billion state budget deficit, many bills were introduced by the governor, senators and representatives. Some of these bills, if they were approved, as introduced would have significant adverse affect on our pension and health care. Fortunately, due to intense and vigilant activities of affected groups, none of them became law.



## NEWS FROM YOU



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### EIU Annuitant Colleagues express heartfelt congratulations

**Foster Rinefort**, Ph.D., CSP, P.E., SPHR recently received an award recognizing "fifty years of loyal and dedicated service" to the American Society of Safety Engineers. During his academic career he conducted the research which became the basis for OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program which emphasizes managerial programs and controls. He has consulted extensively in the United States and in other countries including China and Russia and has 96 publications most regarding the management of occupational safety.

**David Henard**, hard copy version of his book "Victory Stolen: The Perspectives of a Helicopter Pilot on the Tet Offensive" in Vietnam was released by his publisher, PublishAmerica.

**Marge & Cary Knoop** celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009. She is the daughter of Golda & Clarence Funk. He is the son of Samuel & Irma Knoop. Parents of both are deceased. Cary retired from Art Department at Eastern Illinois University in 1985. Marge retired from Charleston Junior High School in 1984.

**Sharon & Raymond Johns** Celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on August 6<sup>th</sup>. Sharon was employed by Eastern Illinois University for 26 years, retiring from the Human Resources Department in 1991. Raymond farmed until 1979 then worked for Trisler Seed Farms until his retirement. The couple have one daughter, Sherry & one grandson.

**Jo Ann & Jon Laible**, of Miramar Florida, formerly of Charleston, Celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding

Anniversary on June 14. Jon retired as the Dean of College of Sciences at Eastern Illinois University & Jo Ann from the Regional Office of Education. They are the parents of 3 children, Kathy, Michael & Jackie. They have one grandchild.

**Joyce & Dayton,** of Charleston Celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on May 31. The couple have 2 children; Cynthia & Douglass and 2 grandchildren. Chase is a retired professor from Eastern Illinois University School of Business. Joyce is retired instructor from Lakeland College.

**Shirley & Gene Scholes,** of Charleston Celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding Anniversary on May 30<sup>th</sup>. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Sam Scholes & she is the daughter of Mr. Mrs. Wilson Hughes. The parents of both are deceased. They are the parents of 3 children, Steve, John & Emily. They have 8 grandchildren. Gene retired from Eastern Illinois University. Shirley is a homemaker.

**Myrna & Elmer Voudrie** of Mattoon Celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on June 7. Their parents are Russel & Vera Slover & Clarence & Oneta Voudrie, all deceased. They are parents of 3 children; Greg, Gary & Becky. They have 4 grandchildren. Elmer retired from Eastern Illinois University & Myrna is a retired educator from Community Unit 2.

**Lynn & Allan Johnson** Celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on July 26<sup>th</sup>. He is the son of John & Lucille Johnson & She is the daughter of Rex & Janet Cribber. Both of their parents are deceased. The Johnsons have a daughter Laura & 2 sons; Andrew & Michael. Allan was employed at EIU for 26 years. Lynn was a financial analyst for Lender's Bagel Bakers.

**Mary Hood of Mattoon** Celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. She married Alan Hood on Dec. 17, 1950. He is deceased. Mary's children are Laura, Marsha, Cheryl & Jackie, She has 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Mary worked in the EIU Kitchen.

**Robert A. Carey Memorial** A second memorial service for Robert A Carey was held at the Newman Center. Many friends and family attended on April 18<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM.

On April 17<sup>th</sup> Robert and Ruth's Carey oldest son received an award for being an 'outstanding graduate alumni' of the Elementary Education Dept at EIU."

## ***Remembering Friends***



**Steven Allan Becker,** 70 Charleston, died on May 31st, 2009 in St. Louis, Missouri after an extended and valiant battle against cancer. At his passing, he was surrounded by his loving and devoted wife of 48 years, Lelynn Becker and their children Kristin and Steve. He received a doctorate in Botany at the University of Iowa. Following graduation, he began his life-long career in academia, accepting a position of Assistant Professor of Botany at Eastern Illinois University in 1968. Over his thirty years at EIU, he became a tenured professor and university's greenhouse curator. He retired from EIU in 1998.

**Edsel H. "Ed" Higgins,** 83 of Ashmore, died on Thursday (July 9, 2009). He married W. Irene Larrabee on August 7, 1948 in Charleston and they shared a special marriage and friendship until her death on August 4, 2005. Ed is survived by his son, Dave Higgins & a daughter, Sheila Shick; seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, He was employed in EIU in Custodial Services for twenty-five years at Eastern Illinois University until his retirement in 1991.

**Robert L. "Bob" Buikema**, 80, of Lafayette, Ind., formerly of Charleston, died Monday (Aug. 10, 2009) He was born Feb. 22, 1929, in Lafayette, Ind., the son of Roy W. and Irene Hord Buikema. Mr. Buikema was a veteran of the Korean War. He worked in food service administration at Eastern Illinois University.

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

**Bernadette "Bernie" Given Jorstad**, 85, of Bemidji, Minn., died Sunday (June 14, 2009) She married Robert E. Jorstad in 1945; he died in 2008. Survivors include three sons, Bob Jorstad of Charleston, Jon Jorstad of Bemidji, Minn., and James of Roseville, Minn.; five daughters, Anita Sundstrom of Biwabik, Minn., Jennifer Jorstad of Brownsville, Texas, Pamela Jorstad of Bemidji, Minn., Marilyn Hallmark of Buda, Texas, and Kate Smothers of Grand Forks, N.D.

**Deloris Mae Means**, 78, of Albany, Oregon passed away Sunday, May 10, 2009, She is survived by her husband Russell Means , Daughters Patricia Ann Cordova, Shirley Handy and Shana L. Kondo . Sons Ross Starwalt, David Means., and Bill Means; 16 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; Sisters Mary Foltz, Diane Kelly, and Janet Trier, Brothers Charles DeLong of Effingham, IL, Willard DeLong of Mattoon, IL.

**Dorothy Lanphier, 101**, of Mattoon, passed away at 7:10 a.m. on Sunday, June 7, 2009, She is survived by her daughter, Sue Lipka and husband Lyonel of Mattoon; sister-in-law, Dorothy Shafer of Charleston; three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, Mrs. Lanphier retired as a teacher after 26 years.

**H. Winifred Doudna, 107**, of Savoy, formerly of Charleston, died Wednesday (May 20, 2009) at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. She was the wife of Quincy V. Doudna, who served as Eastern's president from 1956 to 1971. Mrs. Doudna actively supported her husband during his tenure by hosting various university functions.

**Jeanne T. Schiller**, 85, of DeKalb, died Monday, May 18, 2009. She was the daughter of R.V. and Ethel (Stark) Taber. She is survived by one son, Steven Sheridan ;two granddaughters, Bethany Sheridan, and Meleah Sheridan ; one great grandson Everett Sheridan; two brothers, Sam Taber of Charleston, IL; Richard Taber of Neenah, WI; and sister, Martha Smith of Springfield, IL.

**Jesse Woodrow Adams**, 81, of Robertsedale, Ala., died Jan. 28, 2009. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth Lewis Adams. He married Patricia Smith in 1948; she survives. Survivors include two sons, Jesse Bruce Adams & Dan Adams; one daughter, Tina Reeves; one brother, Gordon Adams; four sisters, Lois Reeves, Mary Burress, Fannie Mae Abney and Delora Woodfall of Charleston; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**C. NaDean Aten**, 68 of Charleston, died away on Saturday (June 13, 2009) She is daughter of the late Robert and Georgia (Kauffman) Haase. She married Dennis Aten. In addition to Dennis she is survived by her children, Keith Aten ,Kevin Aten and Lori Purcell; five grandchildren.

**Norma Sanden Emmerich**, of Charleston, died on Tuesday morning (July 7, 2009). Norma was born in Abert Lea, Minnesota on September 5, 1931 a daughter of the late Arthur Harrison and Ida (Rosheim) Sandeen. She married Carl E. Emmerich in Moorhead, Minnesota on December 30, 1962. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Carl Emmerich of Charleston (EIU Annuitant); a son, Christian Emmerich and a daughter, Trevy Emmerich,