



New Horizons

EIU ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Spring 2015

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President's View

Vicki Hampton

Welcome to the Eastern Illinois University Annuity Association (EIUAA) spring 2015 newsletter. This year will again most likely be a very busy one for your EIUAA board.

You have all recently received a letter from SURS, addressing lawyer compensation in the Kanerva class action suit for your health insurance premium refund. When we know anything further on the reimbursement schedule, we will broadcast a message out to the listserv (if we don't have your email address, please send it to annuitants@eiu.edu).

We also expect to see movement on the current pension legislation, as readings are scheduled for March, 2015. Again, we will keep you updated via the listserv.

Our annual luncheon will be held April 24th at the LifeSpan center, located between Charleston and Mattoon. Please return the RSVP, which is found in this newsletter. Richard Rossi and his delightful group of musicians will perform for us. We also plan to showcase our summer chapter meeting, which will be held at the EIU Rec Center on campus.

Please consider volunteering time as an

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Governor Rauner's Proposed Budget Causes Distress!

By Linda Brookhart, Executive Director, SUAA

With just a little over a month in office, Governor Rauner's budget address caused many retirees and SUAA members to sit up straight, wide-eyed, and just plain gasp. We were able to identify areas of the proposed budget that just did not make sense. It became quite apparent that the Governor's advisors and staff have not been paying attention to the Kanerva lawsuit or even the pension lawsuit. To everyone's dismay, these advisors do not seem to be knowledgeable about state health insurance, the Community College Insurance Plan, any of the pension systems, or even what the protection clause of the Illinois Constitution means. But then again, how could they, with so little time in their positions? The governor was on time with his proposed budget and his address, but the key word is "proposed." Nothing is directly legislated from this

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EIUAA Officers

Vicki Hampton, vhampton2323@gmail.com	President, Communications Chair
Jill Nilsen, jfnilsen52@gmail.com	Past President, Legislative Chair
Mary Anne Hanner, mahanner@eiu.edu	President-Elect, Membership Chair
Dianna Ensign, dlensign@eiu.edu	Secretary
Henry Davis, hhdavis@eiu.edu	Treasurer

Board Members

Barb Funk, Julie Sterling, Mac Corley, Vicki Hampton, Doug Sloat, Jill Nilsen, Scott Crawford, Mary Anne Hanner, Dianna Ensign, Henry Davis, John Flynn

Contact Information: <http://castle.eiu.edu/~annuitants/executive.php>

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
Th March 5, 2015, 9:00 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Welcome Center
F April 24, 2015, 1130	Chapter Meeting & Luncheon	Life Span Center
Th June 4, 2015, 9:00 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Welcome Center
Th July 9, 2015, 8:30 a.m.	Chapter Meeting	Neal Welcome Center
Th September 10, 2015, 9:00 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Welcome Center
Th October 8, 2015, 8:30 a.m.	Chapter Meeting	Neal Welcome Center
Th December 10, 9:00 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Welcome Center



Assistance With Daily Living Some Low-Cost Programs

By Audrey Edwards

At EIUAA's February 26 meeting, speakers presented options for people who need some type of assistance with daily living, either at home or in a residential setting. Community Care Systems of Illinois (CCSI) helps caregivers and families in the home. Supportive Living offers apartments with services, a low-cost alternative to nursing home care.

For people who need assistance while living at home, CCSI's Community Care Program offers assistance with daily living: meal preparation, money management, transportation, help with personal care, and other services. Community Care can also arrange for emergency home response services and adult day care. These services are currently offered at no cost to people who are at least 60 and have an income below \$17,000, with less than \$35,000 in assets (not including home and car).

Through another CCSI program, Case Managers assess a person's needs, set goals for care, make referrals for services (medical, legal, transportation, etc.), and monitor the person's well-being. CCSI also offers screening services to prove eligibility for nursing home or assistive living placement. Recipients need not meet income standards.

A third program, the CCSI Caregiver Advisor Program, offers support to all caregivers, including grandparents raising grandchildren. This program provides information, a newsletter, home visits, support groups, and referrals for services such as counseling, rides, money management, and assistance with insurance claims. For caregivers who become ill or just need a break, the program also offers respite care. Participants need not meet income standards.

CCSI is a part of Illinois' Family Caregiver Program, funded through the Illinois Department on Aging (IDOA). For further information, call 217-774-7885.

For seniors (age 65 and up) who find living at home "difficult, isolating, or dangerous," Supportive Living Illinois combines apartment-style housing with services (meals, transportation,

etc.) like those of traditional assisted living. However, the program has lower costs due to Medicaid funding. Applicants must meet health requirements, including the ability to participate in their own care, and income requirements. Charleston-area residents who would like further information or a tour are welcome to call Heritage Woods at 345-4900. Those living outside the area can find information, including a list of other facilities, by visiting www.aalconline.org or calling the Affordable Assisted Living Coalition (AALC) at 217-525-0700, ext. 124.

Thanks to CCSI representatives Kyra Hampton and Margaret Hunter, and to Samantha Landrus of Heritage Woods, for explaining these low-cost options for assistance with daily living.



Are you on our Listserv mailing list? If not, email annuitants@eiu.edu to receive important announcements.

News From Our Members

Heribert Breidenbach (Foreign Languages). Author House has just published my second novel, *The Honey Bee: Deborah's Fate*. My book tells the story of Deborah, a talented college student who suffers discrimination because of having been born with facial distortions. Deborah's father raises honey bees, and she herself is always compared to a busy honey bee. A real honey bee, Mélissa, functions as a narrator.

Bruce Guernsey (English). One of my poems, "Louis B. Russell," was recently featured on the national radio station of Ireland ("The Poetry Programme," RTE Radio One). It's a poem about a heart transplant, and they wanted something different about hearts for Valentine's Day! Another poem, "Yam," will appear in a new cookbook, *Cooking with the Muse*, to be published soon by Tupelo Press.

Mary Anne Hanner (College of Sciences). At Eastern's recent Homecoming celebration, I was very pleased to be honored as a 2015 Distinguished Alumna, in recognition of my work in Speech Pathology, Communication Disorders and Sciences, the Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic, and the College of Sciences. EIU has been a part of my life for most of the last 45 years. My degrees launched me toward a rewarding career as a speech-language pathologist, an EIU faculty member, and now a consultant. I never miss a chance to promote and praise EIU. Go Big Blue!

Elizabeth Schaeffer (Art). My thesis, "Image and Meaning in the Floral Borders of the Hours of Catherine of Cleves," was the first to win the Best Master's Thesis in the Humanities at Eastern in 1987. Since then it has had the honor to be accepted in the Medieval Arts Collection of the Morgan Library in New York City. This is especially an honor since this is the collection also housing the original manuscript of c. 1440.

I am now working on further revisions, taking advantage of recent technology. The end notes are now footnotes and the full-color pdf illustrations have been improved by The Keep at Eastern's Booth Library. This pdf version is now available through The Keep. The updated text edition will be available online in the near future. It is a pleasure to see the title page include "M.A. in Art, Eastern Illinois University."

Andrew M. White (Mathematics). I am enjoying retirement more than I thought I could. I am a volunteer teacher of gifted 4th-6th grade students at Jefferson School in Charleston on Mondays and Wednesdays. On those days I teach a total of eleven classes in the area of mathematics and junior great books. As a change of pace, I have begun the process of becoming a Master Gardener through the University of Illinois Extension Program. I continue to teach a Bible class for adults at the University Baptist Church and sing in the choir. God has been good to me.

Dale Wolf (Admissions). Debby and I experienced a memorable trip to the Baltic area and into Russia this past October and look ahead to Australia in March of 2015. We also welcomed our 10th and 11th grandchildren when youngest daughter Amanda had identical twin girls (Alexandra and Scarlett) during the month of December at their home in Springfield, Missouri.



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President, continued from p. 1

Ambassador at the Neal Welcome Center. The Foundation donates to our group, allowing us to send you this newsletter and to use the facility for our meetings. Contact Nancy Zytka at nrytka@eiu.edu or 217-581-7388.

I look forward to serving you this year as the EIUA president. Please use our website, <http://castle.eiu.edu/annuitants>, to keep updated on your association.



Remembering Family and Friends

Keeping Connected

EIU Homepage
<http://www.eiu.edu>

EIUAA Homepage
<http://castle.eiu.edu/~annuitants>

SURS Homepage
<http://www.surs.org>

EIU Newsletter
 >EIU Homepage >>Faculty and Staff >>>University Newsletter

CMS Homepage
<http://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Pages/default.aspx>

State Rep. Reggie Phillips
 811 W. Lincoln Ave.
 Charleston, IL 61920
 217-348-1110

State Sen. Dale Righter
 88 Broadway Ave. Suite 1
 Mattoon, IL 61938
 217-235-6033

US Sen. Dick Durbin
 711 Hart Senate Building
 Washington, DC 20510
 202-224-2152

US Sen. Mark Kirk
 524 Hart Senate Building
 Washington, DC 20510
 202-224-2854

US Rep. Rodney Davis
 1740 Longworth HOB
 Washington, DC 20515
 202-224-2371

[*FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF NOTICES ONLY. TO READ FULL OBITUARY OR LEAVE CONDOLENCES, VISIT WWW.JG-TC.COM AND CLICK ON "OBITUARIES."*]

George Hackler (Continuing Education; Property Control), age 85, passed away on August 4 and was laid to rest at Mound-Linder Cemetery in Charleston.

Harold Jay Harris (Campus Police), 47, passed away September 22 and was cremated at Brintlinger and Earl Funeral Home in Decatur.

Mary M. Coutant (secretary to the Vice President), 94, passed away September 28 and was inurned at Mound Cemetery in Charleston.

Rosanne Bryce Sanders (Business Education, Student Teaching), 92, passed away October 8 and was laid to rest following services at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Charleston.

Carolyn Sue (Kenneaster) Woolever, (School of Family and Consumer Sciences), 68, passed away October 30 and was laid to rest following services at Wesley United Methodist Church in Charleston.

Helen M. Hanner (mother of Mary Anne Hanner, College of Sciences), 93, passed away November 22 and was laid to rest in Oakland Cemetery following services at the Krabel Funeral Home.

Margaret Campbell "Maggie" Hollowell (Speech Pathology), 81, passed away November 30 and was laid to rest at Roselawn Cemetery in Charleston following services at Wesley United Methodist Church.

Darrell Allen Garvin (Buildings and Grounds), 57, passed away December 13 at

Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center and was laid to rest in Ashmore Cemetery following services at the Harper-Swickard Funeral Home.

Emily Catherine Griffin, age 86, passed away on Wednesday, October 8. She was laid to rest at the Edgar Cemetery in Paris, Illinois, following visitation at Adams Funeral Chapel in Charleston.

Sara Jane Preston (spouse of Fred Preston, English) passed away on February 5 and was laid to rest February 9, following services at Adams Funeral Home in Charleston.

Wayne Bennett (Buildings and Grounds) passed away on February 5 and was interred in Fairview Cemetery following services at the Templeton Funeral Home in Kansas.

Larry Douglas Janes (College of Education and Professional Studies) passed away on February 6 and was cremated following a celebration of his life at his home in Mattoon.

Janice Lorene Hawkins (Academic Affairs) passed away on February 8 and was laid to rest in the Washington Street Cemetery, Casey, IL, following services at the Westfield United Methodist Church.

King Joseph Arthur (Building Services), 56, passed away on February 12 and was laid to rest February 14, with military rites, at Roselawn Cemetery in Charleston, following services at Adams Funeral Chapel.

James H. Sloat (Building Services), 87, passed away February 24 at his residence in Kansas, Illinois, and was laid to rest February 24 in Fairview Cemetery, following services at Templeton Funeral Home.

Distress, continued from p. 1

budget. Tough negotiations lie ahead for us, but we must concentrate on what is do-able. Education for both the Governor and his staff will be a key factor for us going forward. Several legislators will also need a refresher course.

The Supreme Court will hear the oral argument regarding pension reform litigation on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. SUAA attorney Aaron Maduff of Maduff & Maduff, LLC, will argue orally on this date. There will be a live internet stream. Please mark this date, as it will be considered a historic lawsuit and it affects both participants and beneficiaries of the state funded pension systems. We look for the Governor to be present, as it seems it would be most beneficial for him to hear the oral arguments. The Supreme Court's decision will most likely be known in April.

It is imperative for the SUAA audience to participate in this political game change. Each and every one of us can make a difference. State supported universities could be hit with a 31.5% funding loss. SURS could be hit with a funding loss. This is not the time to be complacent, as these hard hits could even be detrimental to your community. Stay informed as we gear up for another round. It is the new 99th General Assembly, with a whole new dimension.



Annuitant Ambassador Volunteers Needed

The EIU Foundation is looking for volunteers to serve as Annuitant Ambassadors at the Neal Welcome Center. As an Annuitant Ambassador your primary responsibilities will be to provide a friendly, helpful face to "meet and greet" those who come into the Neal Welcome Center. In addition, we ask that you be willing to answer questions about EIU and assist students who come in to complete paperwork for their scholarships. You may volunteer as little as two hours a month, more if you choose. We typically ask volunteers to cover the following times: Monday-Friday 10- 12, 12 – 2, and 2-4. We can certainly work around your schedule. Please **contact Nancy Zytka at the Foundation at 217-581-7388 or via e-mail at nrzytka@eiu.edu** if you would like to consider volunteering!



Multiple pieces of legislation have been introduced in both the Illinois House and Senate that have implications for retirees. EIUAA's Legislative Committee and SUAA are monitoring these bills as they move through the legislative process. We are also maintaining regular contact with our state senator and representative. Please watch your emails for periodic updates regarding the progress of legislation during the Spring session. We may ask you to contact Senator Righter and Representative Phillips and express your support for or opposition to certain bills. Our collective voice can make a difference in Springfield.



Please join us for the 44th Annual EIU Annuitants Association Luncheon

Friday, April 24, 2015

Lifespan Center

11021 E. Co. Rd. 800N, Charleston, IL 61920-8632



Doors open at 11:00 a.m.

Serving begins at 11:30 a.m.

Entertainment will be provided by

EIU Choir, Dr. Richard Rossi Directing



Menu

(Catered by Martin's IGA of Effingham)

Boneless Chicken Breast and Roast Beef

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Green Beans

Corn

Coleslaw

Noodles

Coffee, Tea, and Lemonade

Pies (sugar and sugar free), Rolls

Cost: \$9.50 per person (incl. gratuity)

Please RSVP by April 10, 2015

Reserve _____ luncheon tickets at \$9.50 per person)

Annuitant (name) _____

Annuitant (name) _____

Guest (name) _____

Enclosed is a check (payable to "EIU Annuitants Association") for _____

Mail to

EIU Annuitants Association Luncheon

Brainard House

600 Lincoln Avenue

Charleston, IL 61920





Annuitants Association 555003
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