



**NEW HORIZONS SEPTEMBER 2012 ISSUE**

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**EIUAA OFFICERS**

<b>Jayne Ozier, President</b>	<b>Julie Sterling, Vice- President</b>
<b>Ellen Keiter, Membership Chair</b>	<b>Barb Funk, Treasurer</b>
<b>Frank McCormick, Secretary</b>	<b>Alan Baharlou, Newsletter Editor/ Legislative Chair</b>



**LOOKING AHEAD: MEETING DATES**

EIUAA CHAPTER MEETINGS: (8:30 am)		EIUAA EXEC. COMMITTEE MEETINGS: (9 am)	
<b>October, 18, 2012*</b>	Neal Welcome Center	September, 13, 2012	Neal welcome Center
January, 10, 2013	Neal Welcome Center	December, 6, 2012	Neal welcome Center
April Luncheon TBA	Location TBA	March, 7, 2013	Neal welcome Center
July 11, 2013	Neal Welcome Center	June, 20, 2013	Neal welcome Center
October, 24, 2013	Neal Welcome Center	September, 12, 2013	Neal welcome Center
		December, 5, 2013	Neal welcome Center

*\*On Thursday October 18, 2012, at the Chapter Meeting in the Neal Welcome Center, SURS Legislative Liaison Jeff Houch will provide a comprehensive overview of relevant Annuitants’ legislative activities. Refreshments will be served from 8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. Program will begin at 9 a.m.*



## PRESIDENT'S VIEW

Greetings to you,

As I write this last brief as the EIUAA Chapter president, I wish I had a crystal ball to gaze into and see the future, then; I would let you know what I saw. However, that is just an unrealistic, whimsical thought so instead I'll recap what is known about recent benefits and pensions decisions. Then I'll share a few ideas I picked up at the State Universities Annuitants Association annual meeting.

Firstly, as retirees, we are now required by law (**SB 1313**) to pay premiums for our health insurance; Central Management Services is charged with establishing premiums based on age at retirement, years of service, and pension. However, we do not know the cost of the premium or when we will actually begin paying.

Secondly, on November 6, Illinois voters will be asked to vote yes or no on the House-Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment 49 (HJRCA 49 or CA49). It is the opinion of SUAA lobbyists that the ambiguity of the amendment (proposed addition of Section 5.1 to Art. XIII of the Illinois Constitution) threatens our constitutionally protected pensions.

Thirdly, it is quiet in Springfield, the national political conventions are over, and campaigns are revved up. It is a critical time for all of us to keep ourselves informed, and share that information with others.

Now for ideas I picked up at the SUAA Annual Conference. I will just refer to them as the "**Power of C-words**":

- be **charged** up and seek knowledge
- be **committed** and share that knowledge with others
- remember **circumstances** affect our behaviors
- be **calm**
- be **civil**

For some reason, these **C-words** have stuck with me, and I am trying to integrate them into my daily actions. Who knows, maybe you will like the c-words, too.

In conclusion, diligently seek information related to benefits and pensions, talk with others, and vote on November 6.

*Take care of yourselves,*

*S. Jayne Ozier, EIUAA Chapter President*



## MESSAGE FROM EIUAA MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

During this year's Illinois legislative session, one of the threats that have been looming over our retirement benefits became a stark reality when the General Assembly passed legislation that will require retirees to pay health insurance premiums. Other proposals that will additionally erode our benefits came closer than ever before to being adopted and are sure to come up again in the coming months.

At times like these, we need a strong advocate working on our behalf in Springfield. That is exactly what the State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA) provides. Its personnel carefully track and analyze legislation affecting SURS participants and use that information to lobby legislators. They also keep us informed of the status of pending legislation so we can contact our legislators when votes are imminent.

All of this crucial work on our behalf is made possible through membership in SUAA and our local EIU chapter (EIUAA). ***The formula is simple: a larger membership equals a stronger voice.*** We are very grateful to the over 700 of you who already are members of EIUAA/SUAA and encourage you to keep your memberships current.

To those of you who are not members, we urge you to help strengthen our collective voice in Springfield by joining the EIU Annuitants Association, which includes membership in SUAA. If you are receiving a hard copy of this newsletter and it includes a membership form, it means you have not yet joined or your membership has lapsed. Please take a moment to complete the form and send it with your check (or select the convenient dues deduction option) to the EIUAA address shown at the top of the form. A copy of the membership form can be downloaded from the EIUAA website (<http://castle.eiu.edu/annuitants/membershipform.pdf>).

***Ellen Keiter, EIUAA Membership Chair***

***217-345-3462***

[\*eakeiter@eiu.edu\*](mailto:eakeiter@eiu.edu)



## ***EDITOR'S MESSAGE***

Those of you who live in the state have witnessed the legislators, governor & some news Medias' politically, election focused statements regarding the status of pension underfunding at nearly 85 billion and increasing. The statement such as, "This year's pension payments will be 15-20% of state's revenue", however, they never mention that this is the case only if the state pays its obligations. Similar statements have been made since 1960 but the state never fully met those obligations, and some year's pension payments have been zero, when the state took a "Pension Holiday". Many people who did not have the data believed those statements. Seldom have the legislators or governor mentioned the cause of this underfunding & the impact of it on SURS's financial assets (not having funds to invest with a minimum of about 6% annual return). Rarely have any of the legislators or governor said that they are counting on the contributions of employees to pay pension obligations of retirees and the state pension obligations are used for other state non-pension related expenses. They never say that Illinois is among only seven states with a flat income tax (the same income tax rate whether you make \$ 50,000 or \$50,000,000), instead of a progressive one (very high-income people pay a higher percentage rate than lower income people). The seven states with a flat tax are Massachusetts (5.3%), Utah (5%), Colorado (4.6%), Michigan (3.5%), Indiana (3.4%), Pennsylvania (3.07%) and last, Illinois (3%) which places an undue burden on low income taxpayers & hinders the state from meeting its financial obligations . In the midst of these public relation statements, they passed a healthcare bill (SB 1313) eliminating the premium free health care which the state had agreed and contracted on at the time of hire. Central Management Services will decide on the

premium and, if past practices in Illinois are any indication, it will increase until a level where it is more beneficial to forego the state sponsored health care and purchase one on the free market, especially by 2014 when the Healthcare Exchange becomes law. Four unions representing the State of Illinois and State University employees have filed a lawsuit challenging that Senate Bill 1313 violates the Illinois Constitution. There have been several attempts by the state for publicity purposes, to reduce the pension knowing that it is against the state constitution (article 13 sections 5).

Finally, this past spring, legislators came up with a bill to handle Illinois's pension funding and the cause of its present status. During the House deliberation of SB 1673, the provision of transferring the state's share of employees' pension contributions to local units, many legislators expressed the concern that if this bill becomes the law, local communities may emulate the state practices of not meeting its pension obligations and end up, as one said, "in a budget mess that we have created". They agreed to have a Funding Enforcement Provision; as follows, that is part of the bill now:

### **Funding Enforcement**

If an employer fails to contribute required contributions within 90 days of SURS submitting a voucher for payment, SURS may certify to the State Comptroller or County Treasurer (if applicable) the amounts of the delinquent payments and the Comptroller or County Treasurer shall deduct the amounts from any payments to the employer and provide payment to SURS. If there are no funds available, SURS may proceed against the employer to recover the amounts of the delinquent payments in the appropriate court.

I hope the Business Club of Chicago, the Chicago Tribune, and all others, who blame extravagant pensions for Illinois' pension crisis, would take note of this agreement by lawmakers as the single cause for Illinois' pension underfunding crisis s state not meeting its obligation.

We will probably have to wait until after the November 6 General Election to see if there is a majority agreement to reduce the State's pension obligation, (an irrevocable agreement with employees) by using the threat of salary reduction as they have recently done with the threat of a significant COLA reduction or state supported healthcare benefits. We all must try to be knowledgeable and vigilant and let the legislators and governor know that we are aware of their attempts and what the consequences of such attempts will be. Fortunately, we have several watchful organizations who are advocates of the State meeting its contractual obligations for current employees and retirees and they all count on our support.

***Alan Baharlou, Newsletter Editor & legislative Chair***

**217-348-0002**

[abaharlou@eiu.edu](mailto:abaharlou@eiu.edu)



**CHAPTER NEWS**

On May 2, 2012 Dr. Jayne Ozier, President of EIU Annuitants Association attended the 2012 EIU Retirees' Reception to thank them for their years of service and congratulate them as they enter the new phase of their lives. Jayne briefly explained the history of State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA) & EIUAA & their primary mission to advocate of our annuitants in protecting our

benefits. She explained the activities and services of the organization. Jayne concluded her presentation by encouraging annuitants to continue their services to EIU through volunteer work.

### **Brief Minutes of EIU Annuitants Association July 12/2012 Chapter Meeting**

1. **Welcome:** After calling the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., President Jayne Ozier welcomed annuitants, current EIU Employees, and guests and invited Mike Watts to the podium to make a brief announcement.
2. **Announcement by Mike Watts, Director, Tarble Art Center:** Director Watts encouraged audience members interested in serving as volunteer gallery attendants or as docents at the Tarble Art Center to contact TAC staff at 217-581-2787 or [tarble@eui.edu](mailto:tarble@eui.edu).
3. **Presentation by David Smith, EIU Faculty Laureate and Professor of History:** Dr. Smith began by explaining that in the classroom he endeavors to help students understand that history “is not facts but interpretation of facts” – a point he went on to develop by explaining the means whereby Europe’s natural scientists, during the period 1500-1800, “refashioned the cultural synthesis of the western world.” He presented an outstanding historical development of Scientific Evolution and its impacts.
4. **Presentation by Linda Brookhart, Executive Director, SUAA:** Executive Director Brookhart focused on the following three issues:
  - ✓ **State-Provided Health Care: SB1313**, signed into law by Governor Quinn on June 21, will set up a new state-provided health care system in which annuitants’ health insurance rates will be based on the annuitant’s age, years of service, and pension income. From now and on CMS will determine the premium & they are currently negotiating health insurance rates with ASCME. While negotiations are in progress, Ms. Brookhart suggests that annuitants consult with a health insurance broker and “shop, shop, shop” for health insurance. She urged Medicare-eligible annuitants to learn what Medicare benefits they are eligible for, adding that “all of us **could** be forced into a national health insurance plan.”
  - ✓ **SB1673 - the bill if enacted would force annuitants to choose between state-provided health insurance (which will no longer be premium free & premium may increase each year) OR preservation of our current COLA** : Ms. Brookhart hopes we will not be obliged to “give up” our COLA in exchange for state-provided health insurance “that may not be there.” Up-to-date information concerning health care developments will be posted at [WWW.benefitchoice.il.gov](http://WWW.benefitchoice.il.gov). The SUAA website provides information concerning the status of legislation pertinent to annuitants’ concerns.
  - ✓ **Proposed Constitutional Amendment HRJCA 49:** Proposed Constitutional Amendment **HRJCA 49** will appear on Illinois’ **November 6, 2012 ballot**. Ms. Brookhart distributed a June 5 informational memorandum prepared by SUAA lobbyist Dick Lockhart entitled “*The pension impairment provision is impaired by HCA #49.*” In the memorandum, Mr. Lockhart opines as follows:
    - The Proposed Amendment appears to conflict with the [Illinois Constitution’s] existing impairment Pension clause provision . . . [namely Article XIII, Section 5, which stipulates “**Membership in any pension or Retirement system of the State, any unit of local government or school district, or any agency or instrumentality thereof shall be an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired**”. The accepted practice relating to statutory laws, which conflict, is that the last

one acted upon by the Legislature controls. That being said, would not this Constitutional Amendment, if approved on November 6, have the effect of cancelling the protections set forth in Art. XIII, Sec. 5? In my opinion, that is the intent.

- SUAA is developing an “**educational campaign**” to encourage citizens to say “**No**” to Proposed Constitutional Amendment #49. Annuitants will be urged to help SUAA educate the public concerning the proposed amendment.

Following a brief question and answer session, President Ozier thanked Ms. Brookhart and the other presenters for their remarks and made the following announcements:

5. **Sue Reynolds, Coles County Clerk, encourages annuitants** who may be interested in serving as election judges to contact her at the county clerk’s office: **348-0523**
6. **Our next Chapter meeting will be on OCTOBER 18**. Jeff Houch, SURS legislative liaison, will be the guest speaker.



- ★ **Move In Day** ~ One of the annual exciting times in Charleston is the return of students, particularly “Move In Day”. Families accompany their children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to move in and begin a new and exciting year at EIU! The welcoming ceremonies include Golf Cart services, which provide “rides and guides” to all campus locations driven by administrators, faculty, staff, students and local celebrities. Panther Pals unload vehicles and carry the students’ belongings to their rooms, now who wouldn’t want that. Welcoming ceremonies are impressive with live music, refreshments throughout the day, and lunches. EIU along with Charleston’s businesses eagerly welcome the students return with an uplifting, enthusiastic atmosphere.
- ★ **EIU is featured in the Princeton review’s guide to 322 green colleges.** The well-known education services company selected EIU for inclusion in the just-released second annual edition of its free downloadable book, “*The Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges: 2012 Edition.*”
- ★ **EIU is the second-highest ranked public Illinois University in its class,** according to U.S. News & World Report.
- ★ **EIU is Number 12** among public master's institutions in our 12-state region.
- ★ **EIU was honored as one of 115 colleges & universities in the nation as a Tree Campus** through partnership between The Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota.
- ★ **The National Science Foundation awarded a three-year, \$198,695 grant** to Eastern’s Center for Clean Energy Research & Education (CENCERE).
- ★ **EIU Honored For Its’ Community Service**
  - ✓ **The Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Department of Education** has recognized Eastern Illinois University for its commitment to bettering its community through service and service learning.

- ✓ EIU was named to **The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll**, which recognizes higher education institutions that reflect the values of exemplary community service who achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities.
- ✓ **The EIU Physical Plant** has extended its Sustainability Program by providing students with bicycles for \$50 per semester to reduce the use of automobiles.

Eastern Illinois University continues to receive National and State recognitions for excellence in spite of one of the most strained budgets and reduced higher education appropriations by the State.



## STATE & COMMUNITY NEWS

*In Illinois' last few legislative sessions we have seen three major bills meant to significantly affect state employees & retirees pensions and healthcare.*

*Following is a brief description of these bills, and their current status.*

### SB 1313 State Employees Health Care Reform

**Status as of September 13, 2012 = SB 1313 Signed into law by Governor Quinn on June 21, 2012.**

- The bill ends the premium-free health insurance benefit available to state and university retirees, lawmakers, judges and some retired teachers.
- Instead, the Department of Central Management Services (CMS) will determine what premiums retirees should pay for state health insurance coverage.
- A bipartisan panel of 10 lawmakers will review those premiums before they take effect. Based on some news release, CMS will be using criteria such as, pension amount, age, years of services and whether or not retiree has Medicare.

Sen. Larry Bomke, R-Springfield, said he thinks the bill is unconstitutional because it applies to people who retired years ago from the state with the expectation of receiving health insurance at no premium cost if they worked 20 or more years for the state. The benefit was put into state law in 1997. Bomke said the change should only apply to future retirees. "To vote yes on this bill will simply mean that we'll have a court challenge, we'll spend millions of dollars we don't have trying to defend it, only to realize it's not constitutional."

Four unions representing state of Illinois and state university employees are backing a class action lawsuit challenging this law that threatens to saddle state retirees with unaffordable new health insurance premiums.

### SB 1673 Pension Reform

**Status as of September 13, 2012 = SB 1673 is an incomplete bill and was stalled after getting out of committee by an overwhelming opposition to cost shifting.** What will be considered later, and most likely in the fall veto session after the elections, will be the shifting of the "normal costs" that the state pays into the pension systems to local school districts and universities, an integral part of the original bill that was sponsored by Speaker of the House Michael Madigan.

Outlined below are the components of **SB 1673** including the Employer Funding provision, which is

cost shifting and the main opposition to the bill.

- **Tier I Employees and Tier I Retirees elect one of 2 options** that will impact benefit calculations and eligibility for retiree health insurance.
  - A Tier 1 employee is defined as an employee who began participation prior to January 1, 2011.
  - A Tier 1 retiree is a former employee who first began participating prior to January 1, 2011 and is now receiving a retirement annuity.
- **Tier I Employee and Tier I Retiree Election**
  - Tier I employees and Tier I retirees are required to make an irrevocable election between one of 2 options. The election period begins January 1, 2013 and concludes on May 31, 2013. The election choice is effective July 1, 2013.
- **Option 1 Under Tier 1** – Under Option 1, employees and retirees elect a reduced, non-compounded COLA on their future annuity. The COLA is equal to the lesser of 3% or one-half the urban Consumer Prices Index (UCPI) on the amount of their original annuity (the pension received first month of retirement). Urban Consumer price index means consumer price increases minus price of food and energy. This year one-half of urban price index is 1%.
  - Employees and retirees electing Option 1 will receive a delayed COLA that will begin the January 1st following the earliest of age 67 or the 5th anniversary of the annuity start date.
  - Retirees who elect Option 1 receive the same COLA reduction and delay; however, previous increases received remain unchanged. A Tier 1 employee or Tier 1 retiree who elects Option 1 are eligible to participate in their applicable retiree healthcare plan.
  - Increases in pay to Tier 1 employees and Tier 1 retirees who return to active service will increase the member's pensionable earnings.
- **Option 2 Under Tier 1**– Under Option #2, employees and retirees elect to not reduce their 3% compounded COLA and to avoid a delay in receiving their COLA. Current law allows a retiree to receive their COLA on the January 1st following the first anniversary of the annuity start date.
  - Tier 1 Retirees and Tier 1 Employees who elect Option 2 are NOT eligible to participate in applicable retiree healthcare plans.
  - For option2, Increases in pay to Tier 1 employees and Tier 1 retirees who return to active service will NOT increase the member's pensionable earnings.

***SB 1673 is also requiring the local School Systems, Universities, and City Administrators to gradually take over employers' share of pension obligations as follows:***

- **Employer Funding**
  - SURS currently has 65 employers that include community colleges, universities, and state agencies. The State currently makes employer contributions for all SURS employers.
  - Employers under the Article are responsible for liabilities arising on or after July 1, 2013. Beginning in fiscal year 2014, employers will be required to contribute:
  - An amount to be phased in overtime that will eventually result in the employer contributing the full normal cost of benefits earned by employee who began participating prior to July 1, 2013.
  - The Bill 1673 also has a provision to enforce the local communities' to take over employees' pension obligations.
- **Funding Enforcement**



- If an employer fails to contribute required contributions within 90 days of SURS submitting a voucher for payment, SURS may certify to the State Comptroller or County Treasurer (if applicable) the amounts of the delinquent payments and the Comptroller or County Treasurer shall deduct the amounts from any payments to the employer and provide payment to SURS.
- If there are no funds available, SURS may proceed against the employer to recover the amounts of the delinquent payments in the appropriate court.

**Important Note: *The entire SB 1673 passed in the House of Representatives. The Senate passed all of it except the Employer Funding provision. Some Senators felt that provision of the Bill would force local systems to increase taxes. Governor Quinn called a one-day special session on August 17, 2012 that did not result in any solution. Governor Quinn has expressed the possibility of calling another special session in September to reach a compromise.***

- **Elimination of the 6% rule**

- The 6% rule provides a mechanism by which the liability associated with salary increases in excess of 6% during the years used to determine a member's final rate of earnings might be shifted to the employer. Employers must contribute to SURS an amount equal to the present value of the increase in benefits resulting from salary increases above 6%. SB 1673 eliminates this rule.

### **HJRCA 49 House-Joint Resolution Constitutional Amendment**

**Status as of September 13, 2012 = On November 6, 2012 HJRCA 49 will be a separate ballot initiative in the State of Illinois during the General Election.**

This legislation would add Section 5.1 to Article XIII of the Illinois Constitution, which covers all public employee retirement systems (state and local) in Illinois. HJRCA 49 would create a constitutional requirement that any pension benefit increases would require three-fifths (3/5) approval by both houses of the General Assembly. It passed the House by the required majority on April 18, 2012, and the Senate on May 3, 2012. That means **HJRCA 49** will go to the public on **November 6, 2012** as a separate ballot initiative.

- **WHAT WOULD HJRCA 49 DO?**

- HJRCA 49 restricts lawmakers' ability to increase pension benefits, which currently can be done by a simple majority vote.
- Under HJRCA 49, anything that enhances pension benefits (with the exception of salary increases and appropriation bills) would require legislative approval by a 3/5 vote in both houses of the General Assembly. This proposed Constitutional change would apply to all levels of state and local governments & any changes that enhances pension.
- The legislation specifies, however, that on their own, salary increases do not constitute a benefit increase. However, any change to the definition of "salary" in all likelihood would trigger the aforementioned 3/5 rule.

Despite the definitions contained in **HJRCA 49**, a great deal of ambiguity surrounds its implementation. For example, it is unclear whether stipends or incentives that would ultimately lead to a salary increase amount to benefit increases, thus necessitating 3/5 approval.

The uncertainty surrounding language used in **HJRCA 49** is of extra concern because once passed, changing any aspect of it would require yet another Constitutional amendment.

Given that there are nearly 7,000 local governments in Illinois, the impact of the supermajority-voting requirement could be costly in both the amount of time legislators will have to spend on pension benefit analysis, and whether those supermajority-voting requisites applied to various changes made to the retirement plans for all units of government.

Another related question that remains unanswered is which government entity will be charged with regulation of the amendment—an enormous task given the thousands of public employers and retirement systems affected by **HJRCA 49**.

- Subsection (d) of **HJRCA 49** specifies that any governing body—such as school districts, universities, or police stations—may freely impose restrictions on pension benefit increases that exceeds the extent of those contained in HJRCA 49. The State Universities Annuitants Association, summed up why this part of HJRCA 49 is especially worrisome, “[it] would grant unprecedented powers to government that will undermine protections contained in the Pension Protection Clause and eliminate the uniform laws that now exist for State employee benefits and obligations in the Illinois Pension.

During the deliberation, Representative Poe suggested that this Proposed Constitutional Amendment looks like a way to curtail “runaway liability” of the pension systems. To which Speaker Madigan agreed. Then Poe asked why shouldn’t we have a 3/5ths vote for a pension holiday; make it harder to have pension holidays (years that state does not meet any amount of its pension obligations). Speaker Madigan responded that this was a good idea; he had not thought of this.



## *CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS*

- ❖ **Jayne Ozier**. The Graduate School and the Graduate Alumni Advisory Board at Eastern Illinois University honored Jayne Ozier with a 2012 Outstanding Graduate Alumni Award in April. The awards were established in 2005 to recognize exceptional professional and personal achievement by an Eastern alumna of a graduate program. Ozier was nominated by the graduate program in family and consumer sciences. She earned a master of science in education in 1971. She and her husband, Bill, reside in Charleston.
- ❖ **Helen Krehbiel-Reed** of Charleston has been named the EIU Foundation’s Outstanding Philanthropists of the Year for 2011. Helen Krehbiel-Reed retired in 1998 as an associate professor of music education at Eastern; she was also the coordinator for music student teachers, coordinator for the music education area of the Department of Music, and adviser for the EIU chapter of Illinois Collegiate Music Educators.
- ❖ **Wanda Ruyle** Celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday in May 2012. She retired from teaching at EIU. She taught Piano & Introductory Photography.
- ❖ **Cary Knoop** of Charleston celebrated his 90th birthday on May 5. He is the son of Samuel B. and Irma (Bowen) Knoop. He married Marjorie Funk on June 3, 1944, in Decatur. Knoop is a retired art professor at Eastern Illinois University. His hobbies and involvements include the Coles County Arts Council, the Democratic Party, computers and reading.
- ❖ **H. Gene Gill** of Mattoon celebrated his 90th birthday Thursday August 23. Gill was born Aug. 23, 1922, in Shelby County, the son of Harley Gill and Helen (Driscoll) Niemeyer. He married Charlotte LeGrand on Sept. 21, 1947, she died in Oct. 2011. He has two daughters, three grandchildren and

two great-grandchildren. Gill was employed with Niemeyer Coal & Feed and Eastern Illinois University.

- ❖ **Barbara & Russ Waltrip** celebrated their 63rd Wedding Anniversary on March 26, 2012. They have three children & several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Barbara, operated Waltrip Beauty shop in Charleston for 29 years. Both retired from EIU, she in 1985 and he in 1990.
- ❖ **Mr. and Mrs. Robert Strong** of Mattoon will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on July 4. They are the parents of two sons, seven grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. Strong retired from Yellow Transit and Eastern Illinois University. Mrs. Strong retired from Community Unit School District No. 2.
- ❖ **Lois and Rollie Spaniol** of Charleston celebrated their 60th wedding Anniversary on June 12. They are the parents of 5 children, 15 grandchildren & 10 great grandchildren. Rollie is a retired EIU Professor. The couples manage an e-cycling program in Charleston.
- ❖ **Jean and Robert Weidner** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August. 14. Weidner and Jean Rockwell were married Aug. 14, 1962; Their parents are Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Rockwell, and Mr. and Mrs. Oswald F. Weidner. They have one daughter and one son, & two grandchildren. Weidner is retired from the music department at Eastern Illinois University. Mrs. Weidner is retired from health services at the University of Illinois



## REMEMBERING FRIENDS

- ☞ **Charles L. Joley, II**, age 80, died Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at his home PAWLEYS ISLAND; He earned three degrees, including his doctoral degree, at the University of Illinois. He served as the Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions at Eastern Illinois University for 25 years. He provided statewide leadership in education as well.
- ☞ **Ralph Douglas Lawhead** of Ashmore, IL, 59 died unexpectedly at 12:20 pm Thursday, August 23, 2012, after collapsing while in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. He was a LAN support specialist II and photojournalism instructor in the journalism department at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, IL. He was promoted to IT Manager/Administrative Coordinator as of August 1st. He graduated from Eastern Illinois University with a BS & MS. Doug married Marcia Kay Riker on January 12, 1980, and she survives. Also surviving are their two sons, Aaron Joseph Lawhead, and Brady Douglas Lawhead. He was preceded in death by twin sons, Alex James and Mitchell Keith in 1987.
- ☞ **Edward (Ed) Brazil** 80 died on July 3, 2012, in Columbia, South Carolina. He was the son of Fitzhugh Spencer and Lila Sykes Brazil. He was commissioned as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy. He served aboard the U.S.S. Essex stationed at Quonset Point, RI, until 1966. He earned his Master's degree from Ole Miss in 1971 and his PhD from the University of Georgia in 1980. He taught Political Science at Eastern Illinois University for 24 years.
- ☞ **Garret W. DeRuiter**, age 72 of Charleston, passed away following a lengthy illness on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at his home. Garret was son of the late Garret and Laverna (Lanning) DeRuiter. He married Marilyn Hayes on September 7, 1963. In addition to Marilyn, Garret is survived by three daughters, Lauri DeRuiter-Willems and husband John of Charleston, Leslie Kaye DeRuiter of Phoenix, Arizona, Margaret Combs of Oak Park, Illinois; six grandchildren, & nieces, nephews He enjoyed a thirty-five year relationship with Eastern Illinois University as a Professor in the Art

Department .He also carried membership in the Society of North American Goldsmiths and the EIU Annuitants Association. He volunteered with Coles County Habitat for Humanity since its establishment

- ☞ **Maurice C. Libbey**, 83, of Neoga, Illinois, passed away at 6:34 A.M., Monday, July 23, 2012, in Gowin Parc of Mattoon, Illinois. Maurice was the son of Daniel G. and Isabel Amanda (Morrison) Libbey. Maurice was a member of the Eastern Illinois University Annuitants Association of Charleston, Illinois. He married Martha Soto and she passed away in 1992, he later married Donna Lou Rowe, December 3, 1994 in Charleston, Ill. Mr. Libbey was a retired Librarian, he worked at the Booth Library in Charleston, IL for Twenty-eight years. He received his Master's Degree in Science from Columbia University a certificate of Advanced study from the University of Illinois.
- ☞ **Russell Douglas Fischer**, age 64 of Charleston, passed away on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at his home. Russ was son of the late Elmer and Elizabeth (Neidhardt) Fischer. He married Janette Robicheau on July 29, 1972. In addition to his wife Janette (Jan) of Charleston, he is survived by their children numerous nieces and nephews. He was awarded his Ph.D. from North Texas University in 1976. That same year he accepted a position with Eastern Illinois. Russ as a Professor in the Kinesiology and Sports Studies Department for thirty-two years before retiring in 2008. He looked forward every year to assisting with the IHSA Boys and Girls Track Meets.
- ☞ **Elbert Wayne Chandler Jr.** died on May 3, 2012. E. Wayne married Mary Jean Collins on October 14, 1967. They have two Children, and two grandchildren. He has one sister.
- ☞ **George Kile Cooper**, Ph.D., age 91 of Charleston, passed away on Sunday, March 11, 2012 at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center in Mattoon. He married June Cardell on June 12, 1948. In addition to his wife June, he is survived by five children, nineteen grandchildren; eleven great-grandchildren. He received his BS from Western Illinois University in 1942. His further education was interrupted during World War II while he honorably served his country with the United States Army. He attained a Master of Business Administration from Indiana University and his Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Michigan. He served as Head of the Department of Business Education at Western Michigan University, and during his twenty-year tenure as a Professor at Eastern Illinois University served as Department Head of Business Education and Administrative Office Management for eleven years. Dr. Cooper in 1991 was honored with the designation of Cooper Hall, on the EIU campus, which bears his name.
- ☞ **Dr. Gary Lee Zwicky**, 77, of Oak Park died at 1:30 a.m. Sunday (April 8, 2012) at his residence. He is the son of George and Bessie Widmer Zwicky. He married Elaine Holmes in 1960; she survives. Other survivors include one son, one daughter, and five grandchildren. Dr. Zwicky was formerly a professor of music with Eastern Illinois University in Charleston
- ☞ **Gretchen Hieronymus Beall** died on May 15, 2012 at Longmont United Hospital. Her husband, Charles "Mike" Beall in September of 2008, preceded her in death. She is survived by three children. Mike's six grandchildren, 18 nieces and nephews. Gretchen attended public schools in McLean and Atlanta, Illinois. She earned the B.A. in Music at the University of Iowa, graduating with high honors. Her master's degree and doctorate were awarded at the University of Illinois. She taught music in the public schools of Keokuk, Iowa. She then taught at Eastern Illinois University, where she was President of the University Senate.
- ☞ **Harold Otto Paul "HOP" Pinther Jr.**, died on May 7, 2012, at the age of 87, at his daughter's home in Winter Haven, Fl. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, two sons & a daughter, and seven grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. He was the head wrestling coach at Eastern Illinois

University for 25 years. He was called into the Athletic Hall of Fame for Eastern Illinois University in 1979, and state of Illinois. Hop also served in the US Armed Forces in WWII, in Europe.

- ☞ **Harrison (Harry) Read, Jr.**, age 89 of Charleston, died on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at Charleston Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Read was son of W.H. and Maude Ellen (Jennings) Read. He and Mildred M. Schramm were married in Charleston on August 5, 1950 and she survives. Also surviving is one daughter, a niece and four nephews. Read was a World War II Army Veteran (1943-1946) with service in both the European and Pacific Theaters of Operations. After graduating from Eastern Illinois University he taught at Marshall High School, was sports editor and city editor of the Charleston Daily Courier and Director of Information and Publications at Eastern Illinois University.
- ☞ **Marilyn Jean Hills**, age 75, of Charleston, IL passed away at 7:36 AM – Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at Sarah Bush Lincoln Heath Center in Mattoon, IL. She is daughter of Walter Fred and Mary Maxine (Ozier) Brown. Marilyn worked for 20 years at the Eastern Illinois University Police Department. Marilyn is survived by 2 sons, 6 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren.
- ☞ **Mary Ann Teter**, age 84, of Charleston, Illinois was died on Sunday, June 24, 2012 at 5:05 a.m. at the Charleston Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Mary Ann Was daughter of Wayne and Mary Adell (Payne) Henderson. She married Richard A. "Dick" Teter in May. He preceded her in death, March 2, 2001. She is survived by her three children eleven grandchildren, and; two great-grandchildren. Mary Ann graduated from the Lakeview School of Nursing, Danville, IL in 1949. She began her career as a Registered Nurse at Jarman Hospital in Tuscola, IL. Then family moved to Charleston in 1967 where she continued her career as a nurse with Eastern Illinois University Health Service.
- ☞ **E. Pauline Wright**, age 93 of Charleston, passed away on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center. She was daughter of the late Jesse and Flora (Courtney) Woodyard. She married James A. Wright on January 26, 1946. He died in December of 1991. She was employed with the Brown Shoe Company in Charleston, and later was employed with Building Services at Eastern Illinois University.
- ☞ **Margie Jean Walker**, age 82 of rural Charleston, passed away on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 in the comfort of her rural Charleston home. Margie was a daughter of the late Hensel and Flossie (Shryock) Kackley. She married Charles W. "Bill" Walker on December 24, 1949 in Mattoon. Bill preceded her in death on April 13, 1995. Margie is survived by two daughters, two grandchildren & two great grandsons. She was employed in the insurance department at Eastern Illinois University for five years before accepting a position as a Disbursing Officer for the State University Retirement System in Champaign.
- ☞ **Roy E. Neff, Jr.**, World War II United States Army Veteran, age 88, of Mattoon, died at 5:39 p.m. Monday, May 14, 2012, in Mattoon Healthcare, Mattoon, IL. Roy was the son of Roy E. Sr. and Minnie (Hopper) Neff, in Mattoon, IL. He married Lois Tucker on April 27, 1946. Roy retired from the Building Services Department at Eastern Illinois University in 1985 after 23 years.
- ☞ **Linda Bushart**, 66, of Lakeland, Fla. passed away May 14, 2012 surrounded by her family. Linda is daughter of Leonard and Mary Rogers. Linda was a retiree of Eastern Illinois University. She leaves behind a son, & three grandchildren.
- ☞ **Jane Ingram**, 88, of Oakland, IL passed away at 5:25 A.M. on Thursday, August 23, 2012 at the Arthur Home. Jane was born on April 28, 1924 in Coles County, IL. She was a daughter of Thomas Enoch and Helen (Clapp) Porter. She is survived by one son, two daughters, four grandchildren, &

two great-grandchildren, and one step-great-grandchild. She retired from Eastern Illinois University with over twenty-five years of service. She worked as a cook having served in all of the halls at EIU.

- ☞ **Ethel Jeanne (Richey) Woodyard**, age 83 of Ashmore, died Friday, June 1, 2012 at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center in Mattoon. Ethel is daughter of Allen and Beatrice (Shoot) Richey. She married Ray Woodyard on September 29, 1947; he survives. She is also survived by two sons, a brother; four grandchildren, She worked at EIU as a janitor
- ☞ **Burnham E. Neal**, age 89, of Mattoon, Illinois died at 8:18 a.m. Thursday, April 12, 2012, in his home. Burnham was, the son of Edgar Allen and Lora Ann (Burnham) Neal, in Toledo, Illinois. He married Nancy J. Lunsford on June 20, 1966, in Las Vegas, Nevada. She preceded him in death on December 10, 2006. He is survived by his daughter, and two grandsons. Beginning with a small gas station, Burnham built his business, Neal Tire, into a chain of tire stores located in three states, as well as BEN Tire, a wholesale tire and auto parts distribution company. As his business and income grew, he dedicated himself to philanthropic activities. He helped found Lake Land College in Mattoon in 1966, Eastern Illinois University named the Philanthropy Awards after Burnham and his wife in recognition of their service to the university. Burnham, his wife, and his sister Rosemary Neal also endowed the Neal Welcome Center for Eastern Illinois University in 2002. Burnham received an honorary Doctor of Public Service from EIU in 2003. His generosity is well known in central Illinois, including playing a major role in building the new YMCA in Mattoon, Illinois, and establishing the Neal Nursing Institute at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center.
- ☞ **The Reverend George W. Loveland**, 67, of Port Byron, Illinois, an Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church and former Eastern Illinois University Campus Minister, died Sunday, June 10, 2012. He is the son of Clarence Howard and Bonnie Bell Loveland. He received his Masters of Divinity Degree from The Iliff School of Theology, Denver Colorado.
- ☞ **Jerry Raymond "Jake" Wilson**, 72, of Casey died at 10:30 a.m. Saturday (Sept. 1, 2012) at Casey Health Care Center, Casey. Mr. Wilson was the son of Raymond Frederick "Bob" Wilson and Rosalee (Slater) Wilson. Survivors include three sisters & brothers; Mr. Wilson was a Navy veteran. He retired in 2005 from Eastern Illinois University Food Services Department.
- ☞ **James "Jim" Richardson**, age 84 of Charleston, passed away on Tuesday, September .4, 2012 at his home. He married Jean St. Clair on December 23, 1944. She survives. He is also survived by three children; seven grandchildren, & ten great-grandchildren. Jim was employed by the Charleston Brown Shoe Factory for many years before accepting a position in the Building Services Department at Eastern Illinois University.
- ☞ **Robert J. 'Bob' Smith**, 96, of Sullivan, formerly of Charleston, died 10:12 a.m. Tuesday (September 4, 2012) in Mason Point, Sullivan. He is the son of Harley L. and Ruth Sherer Smith. He received his bachelor's degree from Southeast Missouri State, his Master & PhD from University of Iowa. He was a professor of chemistry at Southeast Missouri State for five years and at Eastern Illinois University for 29 years. He married Reva F. McCann on May 30, 1948, and she survives at Sullivan. Also surviving are his three children; four grandchildren, & one grandson.
- ☞ **Lynn Edward Kimbrough**, 63, of Casey, IL passed away at 8:47 a.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2012; He is the son of Harvey Joe Kimbrough, Sr. and Icel Mae Stewart Kimbrough. On March 27, 1974, he married Susan Annette Clough .Survivors include his wife; one daughter & two sons, Lynn was a US Navy veteran. He was retired from environmental control at Eastern Illinois University.



## OUR SYMPATHIES

### *Our sympathies on the passing of our Annuitants loved ones.*

- ☞ **Euline Dallas Eilbracht**, age 89, passed away on Aug. 29, 2012 in Champaign, IL. She was the oldest of three children born to the late Everett and Flo Dallas. She is survived by her brother Bob Dallas of Harrisburg, IL, and Sister Gloria Hall, of Omaha, NE. Euline graduated from Southern Illinois University, and then obtained her Master's Degree from the University of Illinois. Her daughter, Deborah Wolf lives in Charleston, IL, with husband Dale. Euline's son, Douglas Wilson resides in Naperville, IL, with wife Pam. Euline will also be missed by her grandchildren Sarah Daugherty, Charleston, IL; Adam Flack, Mattoon, IL; Stephanie Valainis, Naperville, IL; Derek Wilson, Boston, MA; and Kara Wilson, Naperville, IL. Euline is also survived by one great grandson, Noah Daugherty, of Charleston, IL, and several stepchildren and grandchildren. Euline taught speech and English from 1953 – 1974 at the University of Illinois, where she met Lee Eilbracht. Lee currently lives in Savoy, IL.
- ☞ **Virginia A. Fanuko**, 85 of Charleston, formerly of Elmhurst, passed away Monday, April 16, 2012, at her home. Virginia is the daughter of Royal A. and Ethel E. (Cook) Jensen. She married Arthur J. Fanuko, September 3, 1949; he passed away March 20, 1982. She is survived by two daughters: Denise (Rick) Menoni of Mokena, IL, and Patrice (James F.) Stratton of Charleston. One grandson: James A. Stratton of Lafayette, IN; two sisters: as well as numerous nieces and nephews also survive. She was preceded in death by one son: Jay Fanuko.
- ☞ **Ann Cloud**, age 86 of Charleston, passed away on Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana. Ann is the daughter of Delano Ray and Nettie Mildred (Thompson) Bell. She met Bill Cloud, EIU Faculty while in college and they were married on August 31, 1947 in Isabel. In addition to her husband, Ann is survived by their three children; six grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. When living in Madison, Wisconsin, Ann was employed as a clerk at a drugstore owned by the governor of Wisconsin and one of her frequent customers was Frank Lloyd Wright. After moving to Charleston she worked part-time at Eastern Illinois University

*Dear Annuitants,  
If you receive the Newsletter in hardcopy, we request that you help us save our limited funds and resources by receiving it via e-mail, if it is possible. If you are willing to do that, please send me an e-mail  
([abaharlou@eiu.edu](mailto:abaharlou@eiu.edu))*





## ***EIUAA CONTACT INFORMATION***

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[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/)

EIU Annuitant Association Mailing Address

600 Lincoln Ave Charleston IL 61920

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