

THE ANNUITANT

A PUBLICATION OF THE SIUC ANNUITANTS ASSOCIATION

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AUGUST 2012

FALL GENERAL MEETING AT STUDENT CENTER TO FEATURE AREA LEGISLATORS

We know there is a lot of anxiety surrounding recent legislation enacted and proposed in Springfield. Our pensions and health benefits seem to be the targets of much of this legislation. Accordingly, your Board decided to invite our area representatives to our next meeting and we are pleased to report that three of them have agreed to join us.

The three local legislators who will be guest speakers at our next general meeting on September 28th are Senator David S. Luechtefeld (R), Representative Mike Bost (R) and Representative John E. Bradley (D). The great majority of our members live in our guests' districts. Each legislator will start with comments about recent legislative initiatives. After the legislators's comments the meeting will be open for questions/comments from the floor.

The general membership meeting is scheduled for 10:00 am on Friday, September 28th in Ballroom B of the SIUC Student Center. A brief business meeting will start at 10:00 am and the session with the legislators will begin at 10:30 am. I hope you all can attend this important meeting.

Please note that the Fall General Meeting will be held at the Student Center rather than at the Dunn Richmond Center. A registration form is included with this newsletter for the luncheon which will follow the General Meeting. Please join us. John Pohlmann



Luechtefeld



Bost



Bradley

ASSOCIATION NAMES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2012 - 13

The SIUC Annuitants Association is proud to announce the four recipients of its scholarship program for the 2012-13 academic year. Awards of \$1,000 each were awarded in April to Lucas Cherry, Lindsay Dubois, Samuel Martin, and Taylor Wilson. Each of the four is listed in the 2012 Spring Honors Day program with a 3.9 or higher GPA and each received one or more other scholarships. Taylor Wilson will be a junior, while the other three will be seniors.

Lucas Cherry, an accounting major, is a three year member of the SIUC Track and Field/Cross Country team and belongs to the Fellowship of Christians Athletes as well as serving as a camp counselor; is vice president of the Business Leadership council; and has made eight mission trips to five countries. His goal is to attain a Master's degree and CPA and he plans to work in international business with a non-profit.

Lindsay Dubois, is an Early Childhood major with a Pre-school primary emphasis. Her extra curricular activities include: vice-president of the Educ8kdz and Gymnastics Club; is an undergraduate recruiter for SUMMIT; belongs to Minorities in Computer Science, Research Rookies, Saluki Scholars Research Opportunity, and is a student employee at WSIU, where she helps train WSIU volunteers. She is a co-author of the results of a statewide service for pre-school through high school teachers of Illinois. Lindsay plans to teach with a special education certificate and a minor in Spanish.

Samuel Martin is a geology major in the College of Science. He is a member of Geology Club and is a member of the saxophone quartet and has taught saxophone and Spanish. He is also an Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts; has volunteered for an Olive Branch, Illinois area relocation project doing research while hoping for a summer field experience grant. Future plans include graduate work in paleontology.

Taylor Wilson is a music education major in the College of Liberal Arts. She is involved in the Outreach for National Association of Music Education at SIUC and is secretary of Sigma Alpha Iota music service sorority. She is also mission chair at the Wesley Foundation, is a member of the SIUC Leadership Council and the SIUC Wind Ensemble. Her primary instrument is tuba and she performed at the Brass Honors Recital. Plans include teaching high school music before seeking a doctoral degree with a wind conducting specialty and then attaining a university music professor position.

In the event one or two of the above four is unable to attend SIUC in 2012-13; Christine Piha is first alternate and Justin Emery is second alternate.



Three of the recipients of the 2012-13 Scholarship awards are pictured above. They are (l-r) Samuel Martin, Lindsay Dubois, and Lucas Cherry.

INSIDE THE COVERS

FEATURES

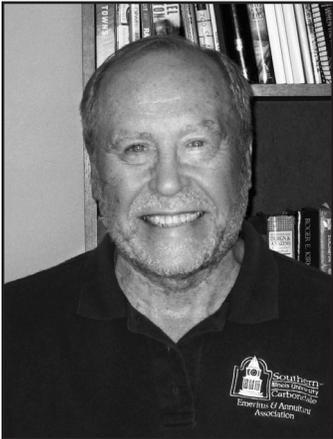
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Visit SIUC-AA on the Web!
<http://www.eaa.siuc.edu/>

A message from the president



John Pohlmann
SIUC-AA President

Greetings!

There's good news and bad news from Springfield. The good news: the State made a full annual contribution to SURS for Fiscal Year 2013. Public Act 97-0685 appropriated \$1.4 billion for the State's required annual contribution to SURS. The bad news: Public Act 97-0695 requires CMS to determine annuitant premiums for State provided health insurance. CMS is mandated to consider 1. pension income, 2. years of service and 3. Medicare participation in setting premiums. We will be watching the news anxiously on this and other matters that affect us. Check out Bruce Appleby's column in this newsletter for more information about recent legislative session.

Retirements at SIUC have more than doubled this year. The primary reason for this increase is the actuarial recalculation of the money purchase pension formula. If you know someone who recently retired from SIUC please invite them to join the Annuitants Association and attend our next meeting.

Our area legislators will join us at our next general meeting to discuss recent and proposed legislation affecting SURS annuitants. Some of the legislators have already accepted our invitation. So, the meeting should be informative and provide you an opportunity to interact with your legislators.

Our general meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 28th at 10:00 am at the Student Center, Ballroom B. There will be a brief business meeting before our guest speakers begin. The Emeritus Faculty Organization will meet at 8:30 am. I hope you will join us.

Thanks and regards,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, which appears to be "John Pohlmann".

AN EVENING WITH LINDA BROOKHART, SUAA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

-Nancy Hartman

On May 7, 2012, the SIUC Annuitant Association Chapter sponsored an open meeting for all SIUC faculty, staff, and administrators with SUAA Executive Director Linda Brookhart. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce Linda to the campus community and to provide a forum to discuss with the SIUC community the implications of state pension and benefit legislation that impacts SURS members -- primarily current employees as well as retirees. The meeting was planned by the Chapter's membership committee with a focus on promoting the organization to current employees and to increase membership.



SIUC Annuitant Association President, John Pohlmann, SUAA Executive Linda Brookhart, and Bruce Appleby, Annuitant Association Vice President.

The evening meeting was held in Ballroom B at the Student Center and was attended by approximately 200 SURS members. Bruce Appleby, chapter Vice President, indicated that, "I was pleased with the turnout, but not as pleased that we didn't meet our goal of getting people to join SUAA. I think the membership for our chapter went up by only 7 or 8 after the meeting with Linda. That aside, it was a good chance for people to hear what SUAA does and to get information on what is happening to our pensions and benefits in Springfield. I can only hope that those who attended are now paying more attention to the issues as they come out of Springfield and will put forth effort to defeat CA 49 when they vote in November."

The Board of Directors of SUAA met in Springfield on June 19 and 20, 2012. A wide range of speakers gave presentations on a wide range of topics of interest to retirees and those who will be retiring.

At the opening day luncheon, Ralph Martire of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability gave a talk on "The State of Illinois Budget and a Look at a Progressive Income Tax for Illinois." Martire is of the opinion that it is only through a progressive income tax that Illinois can solve its money problems. Since changing the income tax to a progressive table rather than a flat rate involves a change in the state constitution and since this is an election year, Martire doubts that this will happen this year.

A most interesting panel was made up of lobbyists, all of whom are former Speakers of the Third House (the third house is the loosely organized group of lobbyists in Springfield). They spoke about how the General Assembly operates and why it is so difficult to get changes made, especially (once again) in an election year.

William Mabe, Executive Director of the State Universities Retirement System, gave a presentation on how the benefit expenses for SURS retirees has grown and how the retirement picture has changed in Illinois. SIUC has seen a huge growth in the number of retirees this year and that is just a part of a state wide trend. In 2002, approximately 2,250 people retired from the state's universities and community colleges. In 2012, over 4,500 have retired. Among the reasons for this increase in the number retiring are the money purchase factor changes, the potential pension legislation in the General Assembly, and people meeting the age and/or service requirements.

Mabe also spoke about the various bills that have been in the legislature that are of direct interest to SUAA members. Senate Bill 2348 appropriated the full fiscal year 2013 certified contribution to SURS, which comes to \$1,402,800,000. Senate Bill 1313, which passed both houses, provides that Central Management Services shall determine the state's contribution to health insurance for retirees, removing the current formula (5% premium reimbursement per year of service up to a maximum of 100%)

Senate Bill 1673, a bill of comprehensive pension reform, was not passed by the General Assembly, and was not taken up in the so-called "Pension Reform Session" that took place on August 17, 2012. This is the bill that would force employees and retirees to choose between receiving the COLA (cost of living adjustment) OR having their health insurance paid for by the state. This bill is also the one that would make the universities and community colleges responsible for paying an increased share of the annual costs of pensions.

Malcolm Weems, Director of Central Management Service (CMS), and Janice Bonneville, Senior Public Service Administrator of CMS, gave a presentation on Senate Bill 1313 and how CMS is progressing on implementing the bill. At the time of the presentation (June 19), CMS has yet to determine exactly what will happen to our health benefits and how we may have to pay for them.

By Bruce C. Appleby, member of the executive committee of SUAA and vice-president of the SIUC Annuitants Association

FALL SEMESTER SEES THE RETURN OF SIUC STUDENTS AND ANNUITANT VOLUNTEERS

When the students returned to the SIUC campus the week of August 20th, so did many SIUC annuitant volunteers. Volunteers handled the book bag check station during the entire week at the Student Center Bookstore. Four to five volunteers manned the daily two hour shifts throughout the week. Volunteers also handled registration for the Red Cross Blood



Drive that was held at the Student Center on Wednesday and Thursday.

To the left, volunteers Mary Mantovani and Bill Doerr are pictured at the Blood Drive registration table. Above Charlotte West checks in a book bag for a student at the bookstore.

CONTACTS FOR LOCAL STATE LEGISLATORS

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Chapter happenings

EMERITUS FACULTY ORGANIZATION ~Bill Wright

FALL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 28

The Emeritus Faculty Organization will hold its regular Fall meeting on Friday, September 28, at 8:30 a.m. at the SIUC Student Center Ballroom B. Our speaker will be Dr. Chris Lant, Professor of Geography and Environmental Resources at SIUC. Dr. Lant's talk is entitled "Fracking: A local issue in national context."

Dr. Lant is co-director of the Environmental Resources and Policy PhD program, Executive Director of the Universities Council on Water Resources, author of about 50 peer-reviewed articles, and recipient of several grants from the National Science Foundation. Please come, listen, and possibly ask a question or make a comment.

EMERITUS FACULTY LECTURE TO BE ON OCTOBER 30

Dr. David Kammler, Mathematics Professor Emeritus, will deliver the 2012 Emeritus Faculty Lecture. The lecture is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30 and will be held at the SIUC Law School Auditorium at 7 p.m. More details will follow on the Chapter's ListServ, Facebook page, and website.

BOOKSTORE GREETERS ~Doug Bedient

BOOKSTORE GREETERS RESPOND TO CALL FOR HELP

Members and friends of the SIUC Annuitants Association heard the call for greeters resulting in a full slate of workers for August 20-24, 2012—the first week of school. As of August 12, the following persons have committed to serve: Bob Radtke, Joyce Webb, Nancy Fligor, Chuck Frank, Doug McEwen, Russ Trimble, Ann Dillard, George Mavigliano, Joe Swindell, Roland Person, John Corker, John Bobell, Bill Doerr, Emil Spees, Kay Brechtelsbauer, Judy Rawls, Beverly Walker, Al Quamen, Bruce Appleby, Jo Ann Flanigan, Bill Wright, Bob and Beth Arthur, Ann Karmos, Nancy Pfaff, Jan Henry, Mike Hanes, Barb Humphrey, Phil Davis, Keith McQuarrie, Nancy Hartman, Fred Moehle, Susan Rehwaldt, Bill McMinn, Roberta Reeves, Mary Mantovani, Charlotte West, Thyra Russell, John and Mary Pohlmann, Bill Tally, Georgia Kelley, Dennis Laake, Dick Bradley, and Carol and Dick Daesch.

AND, we did it! From all accounts our work from August 20-24 went smoothly. Numerous greeters have reported that they were impressed with the students they encountered. A few challenges were handled smoothly and we can count our work as a success. Mark your calendars for the Spring 2013 now: January 14-18, 2013. Thanks to each and everyone. If you have interest in joining this group in January or another time, just let Doug Bedient know at 687-2792 or 521-6590 and you too can assist with contributing to our scholarship program and welcoming students to SIUC!

BLOOD DRIVE ~Mary Mantovani

Volunteers from the Annuitants Association will be working two Blood Drives this summer/fall. The first Drives were held on Wednesday, August 22nd and Thursday, August 23rd, 2012, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day.

OCTOBER BLOOD DRIVE

The second Drive will be held during Homecoming week on Wednesday, October 10th, 2012. Volunteers are needed for three shifts for this Drive which are from 12:00 noon to 2 p.m., 2 to 4 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Annuitant volunteers will be doing the registration only.

To volunteer for one of the three shifts please contact Holly Rick at 453-6689 no later than September 5, 2012. This Drive will be held in the Student Center ballrooms.

DONORS—let's save some lives by giving blood!

GOLF ~KEITH McQUARRIE

SPRING OUTING RESULTS

The annual Spring Golf Outing was held at the Stone Creek Golf course on Monday, May 7, 2012. A total of 12 participants played in the event. The event, played in 'scramble' format, also included longest putt and closest to pin contests. Third place went to the team of Kay Brechtelsbauer, Jim Henry, Elaine Vitello and Larry Staples. Second place went to the team of Joe Cash, Eugene Mantovani, Jerre Pfaff and Neal Foland. The first place team was Arnold Ross, Ron Mahoney, Herman Williams and Keith McQuarrie. Long putt went to Jerre Pfaff and 'closest to the pin' went to Keith McQuarrie. After the round of golf, participants enjoyed a relaxing lunch in the clubhouse.

FALL OUTING DETAILS

The Fall 2012 Golf Scramble has been scheduled for Monday, September 24, 2012, with a rain date of Monday, October 1, 2012. The location will be the Red Hawk Golf Course in Pinckneyville. The price will be \$22 for golf and cart, plus \$6 for lunch of either Hamburger or Brat, chips and drink. As usual \$5 will cover the prizes for the usual team score, plus Longest Putt, and Closest to the Pin contests. A flyer is included in this publication to register for this event.

Please make plans to join us for a fun and relaxing day of golf. Please spread the word and encourage others to field a team – we always have a great time!

Late changes or updates will be posted on the Annuitants Association's web page: <http://eaa.siu.edu/>

SUAA KICKS OFF ITS FIRST ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Every new SUAA member who joins by September 30, 2012, is automatically entered in the \$300 Grand Prize Drawing. The winning member's chapter receives \$150.

SUAA MEMBERS – Please help make the VOICE in Springfield stronger. Every new member raises the VOLUME!

RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER.

Of interest

Why I joined the SIUC Annuitants Association BEFORE I retired.

An open letter to fellow SIUC employees.

Dear SIUC Community:

I would like to invite my fellow university employees, and especially civil service staff, to join the State University Annuitants Association. I joined this organization a couple of years ago when our benefits became in jeopardy. I recently became a board member of the SIUC Annuitants Association, a chapter affiliated with the statewide organization, and after just one meeting I am very impressed with the knowledge and the actions taken by this group to insure our continued retirement benefits and excited to be a part of it.

A lot of legislation is being pushed through that changes the benefits many of us have spent years thinking we would be getting once we reached retirement age. We have planned accordingly through the years using the information given to us from the moment we were hired. Now those benefits are threatened.

SUAA is fighting with all they have to keep our benefits. But it needs your help. You don't have to be retired. As a matter of fact, it is in the best interest of those working to join now to help keep the benefits we have been promised for all these years. SUAA membership is 16,000 statewide and can only get stronger with each new member. Won't you please join now and help in this fight for our future?

Karen Waldron
Civil Service - Administrative Aide
SIUC School of Journalism



THRIFTY IS NIFTY

AARP suggests the following 'frugalistic tips' to save money.

HEALTH. You do not have to be a member of Costco and Sam's Club discount ware-houses to buy pharmaceuticals there because they fill prescriptions for anyone.

CARS. Newer models of vehicles use synthetic oils that last 7,500 miles or more. To check the recommended oil change interval for 2000 models or newer, visit the website, yournumber.org

To maximize gas rewards, have friends and family share gas reward cards offered by grocery chains such as Safeway, Kroger and Winn-Dixie.

To save fuel when running errands, warm up your car for maximum fuel efficiency by driving to the farthest destination first.

RECREATION. For \$10 you can purchase a lifetime American the Beautiful Senior Pass to 2,000 National Parks and Recreation sites. The America the Beautiful Senior Pass is available to US citizens and permanent residents age 62 or older. You can purchase an America the Beautiful Senior Pass in person from:

- Bureau of Land Management <http://www.blm.gov>
- Bureau of Reclamation <http://www.usbr.gov>
- Fish & Wildlife Service <http://www.fws.gov>
- USDA Forest Service <http://www.fs.fed.us>
- National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov>

DISAPPEARING ACTS

You might be surprised to learn, according to AARP, many items you've used for years are predicted to go by the wayside in the coming years. Among those expected to vanish are:

SNAIL MAIL. As U.S. Postal Service revenue continues to dry up the agency will have to scale back mail service sending its trucks and carriers to join the Pony Express.

HOME PHONES. Eventually, we will talk into mini computers the size of cell phones.

CDs, DVDs, BLU-RAYS, THUMB DRIVES, VIDEO GAME DISCS AND THEIR PLAYERS. All these things will be utilized via the Internet.

GASOLINE PUMPS. In the future, cars will drive themselves to the service station for a battery recharge or to fill up with hydrogen.

ANALOG CLOCKS AND WATCHES. Clocks on our cellphones will take their place.

GLOVE BOX ROAD MAPS. GPS and map apps will lead the way.

PASSWORDS. Facial biometric software will remember you and unlock your cellphone or tablet.

CURSIVE. Several states (including Illinois) have dropped handwriting as an educational requirement. Who will read historical documents in the future?

Special Feature - Constitutional Amendment CA 49

Upcoming legislation pending in Springfield can have dire consequences on our current pension system (SURS) and on state university employee/retiree benefits. Three different pieces of legislation, that have either passed, or are on the docket, pose changes to our current pension and benefits that could impact current employees and retirees in not only their pensions, but also the annual cost of living increases and the health insurance benefits that have been guaranteed to this group by fulfilling their contractual obligation with the state of Illinois and university.

These issues are complicated and those of us affected cannot sit back and be complacent and expect it to all work out in our best interest. ***We are under attack***, like never before, by a majority of powerful legislators who control the way things roll in Springfield and by an uninformed and unsympathetic private sector. This should get your attention and your support in helping to defray further erosion of what we have paid for and earned. For these reasons, we are focusing on the importance of your need to understand the issues that the people of Illinois will be voting on in November and how it can affect our pension system and annuities.

Reasons to VOTE on Constitutional Amendment 49

(This article was written by Bruce C. Appleby, a member of the SUAA CA 49 Committee and of the executive committee of SUAA. Both groups helped develop the talking points at the end. Bruce has used the conversations and emails of the two committees to develop the article and is solely responsible for its content.)

The following chart illustrates the impact the proposed Constitution Amendment (CA 49) can have on our current system. Following the chart is a discussion of the other two pieces of legislation that will also have a direct impact on our system and benefits.

<u>CURRENT LAW</u>	<u>Constitutional Amendment (CA) 49</u>	<u>Implications on our current pensions and benefits</u>
Article XIII, Section 5 of the Illinois State Constitution (the constitutional article where our pensions and benefits are guaranteed), states:	Constitutional Amendment (CA) 49 is an addition to Article XIII, Section 5 and becomes Article XIII, Section 5.1. It thus appears to limit Article XIII, Section 5 and to take precedence.	
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.	Clause 1 of CA 49 states: No bill, except a bill for appropriation, that provides a benefit increase under any pension or retirement system of the State, any unit or local government or school district or any agency thereof, shall become law without the concurrence of three-fifths of the members of the General Assembly.	If CA 49 passes, we could, down the road, possibly lose the constitutional protection we have of our current pensions and benefits.
	Clause 2 of CA 49 states: Nothing in this Section shall prevent the passage or adoption of any law, ordinance, resolution, rule, policy, or practice that further restricts the ability to provide a "benefit increase," emolument increase," or "beneficial determination" as those terms are used under this Section.	CA 49 creates a loophole for the General Assembly, leaving the possibility that the General Assembly could take away a benefit from state employees and retirees (under Clause 2) and could possibly take any action at any time and in any way that would restrict our pension and benefits, including our COLA.

Wading through the language that seems to purposely mislead and misdirect, it appears that Clause 1 says that a 60% majority of both houses is needed to increase any pension benefit of any unit of government in the state. Clause 2 appears to say that the General Assembly may take any action that restricts benefit increases, which would include the COLA (cost of living adjustment) or any other aspect of our pensions and benefits—at any time and in any way.

How will all this play with the passage of Senate Bill 1313 (the bill passed by both houses of the General Assembly which says university employees now have to pay for our health benefits) and with the potential passage of Senate Bill 1673 (which would force you to choose between an annual COLA increase or having to pay for your health coverage) is anyone's guess. Thousands of pages of paper and miles of emails have expressed opinions on CA 49 and these two bills. Until they are tested in the courts, we can't be sure exactly what will happen to our pensions and benefits.

For now, we have to concentrate on and put forth herculean effort to defeat CA 49. All members of all retirement systems (State University Retirement System, Teacher Retirement System, State Employee Retirement System, Judicial Retirement System and General Assembly Retirement System) will be affected by this. There are currently a number of suits that have been brought against the General Assembly and the Central Management System trying to stop the above bills and CA 49. There are more than 196,000 retirees in these systems and each of them, plus all their family members and friends, should vote NO on CA 49. More importantly, all current employees working in these systems, especially the tier 2 members and new hires, will be much more directly affected by CA 49 than will those of us already retired.

Talk to your family and all your friends. Let everyone you know that CA 49 must be defeated for your sake and for that of 1,000's of Illinois residents. Use the following points as you convince others to vote with you and DEFEAT CA 49.

Talking Points for: VOTING ON CA 49

Constitutional Amendment 49 is the most dangerous threat ever to face public employees and retirees in Illinois. Here's why:

- CA 49 is ambiguous, confusing, difficult to understand and complex. What does it really mean?
- CA 49 is the latest in a series of attacks on you and other public employees and retirees.
- CA 49 would grant unprecedented power to state and local governments to make changes to pension benefits and existing law.

If CA 49 passes on November 6, 2012, here's what will happen:

- CA 49 will allow the MINORITY vote—not the majority—to determine benefit decisions at every level of government in the state.
- CA 49 will NOT result in saving to taxpayers.
- CA 49 will do NOTHING to address the State's financial crisis.
- CA 49 will scare away public employees, affecting future hiring and retention.
- CA 49 impairs the future viability of all Illinois public education and public services.

THIS AMENDMENT HAS THE POTENTIAL TO IMPAIR YOUR PENSIONS BENEFITS.

YOUR FUTURE IS AT RISK.

VOTE ON CA 49 ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012.

BALLOT FORM

	YES	For the proposed addition of Section 5.1 to Art. XIII of the Illinois Constitution.
X	NO	

The State Universities Annuity Association needs your help to fight this threat.
Send your check (recommended: \$15.00, payable to SUAA Educational Fund) to:
SUAA Educational Fund, 217 E. Monroe, Suite 100, Springfield, IL 62701

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2012 - GOLF OUTING - RED HAWK GOLF COURSE, PINCKNEYVILLE, IL (RAINDATE: OCTOBER 1)
SEPTEMBER 28 - EMERITUS FACULTY ORGANIZATION MEETING - STUDENT CENTER, BALLROOM B, SIUC - 8:30 A.M.
SEPTEMBER 28, 2012 - FALL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - STUDENT CENTER, BALLROOM B, SIUC - 10 A.M.
OCTOBER 10, 2012 - BLOOD DRIVE - SIUC STUDENT CENTER - 12 NOON TO 6 P.M.
OCTOBER 13, 2012 - HOMECOMING
OCTOBER 30, 2012 - EMERITUS FACULTY LECTURE, LAW SCHOOL AUDITORIUM, 7 P.M.

Our need to keep in touch with YOU

The Board of Directors encourages members who use the Internet to become a member of our on-line family, by signing up for our Listserv and joining our Facebook group page so that we can keep you informed of important messages from SUAA and your chapter. To sign up for the Listserv, contact Nancy Hartman at nancyhartman@juno.com.

The Association is also in need of your current e-mail address. To assist us in gathering this information, please send an e-mail message to Nancy.

The Annuity newsletter is published three times a year by the SIUC-Annuity Association and the Department of Human Resources, Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

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202109

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

If you are associated with SIUC...

You should join the State Universities Annuitants Association. SUAA serves all participants and beneficiaries of the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). SUAA is the only advocacy organization focusing solely on preserving pension and healthcare benefits for current employees and retirees of public universities and community colleges. It is important that everyone—retired and current employees, spouses, and survivors—become a member of SUAA. The annual fee is \$31.

Ways to join:

- Go to www.suaa.org and click on “Join Now.”
- Go to the Annuitants Association website: <http://eaa.siu.edu/> and click on “Membership Information.” Payment options include automatic dues deduction, annual payment by check, or automatic payroll deduction (current employees only). Automatic dues deduction is encouraged because it eliminates the need to be contacted annually by SUAA.
- Call the SUAA Office toll-free: 888-547-8473.

To those who are already members of SUAA we thank you. To those who have not yet joined, please consider joining today. We need to protect our pension and benefits.

Thyra Russell
SIUC-AA Membership Chair
457-7554 or trussell@siu.edu

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Illinois State Government www.illinois.gov/
SIUC-AA <http://eaa.siu.edu/>