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ISUAA—serving annuitants and survivors since 1971

From the President

by Chuck McGuire

Well, we are in the waiting game. The Illinois Supreme Court has heard oral arguments, and the Court has promised to render its decision on an expedited basis. For those of you who have not seen or read the SUAA mini-briefings, here are some brief excerpts:

“SUAA and other plaintiffs won a big victory last November when the Circuit Court of Sangamon County held that the Pension Clause was not subject to the police power and that Public Act 98-599 was unconstitutional in its entirety. The state took direct appeal to the Supreme Court of Illinois asserting that no provision of the Constitution can be absolute. SUAA’s attorney, Aaron Maduff, argued to the Supreme Court that the Constitution is not a guideline. It is a limit on state power and the Pension Clause forbids the state from diminishing pensions plain and simple. Maduff also noted that this was a problem of the state’s making by its failure to fund the pensions in the first instance. That, Maduff said, is the Lizzie Borden defense. “I know I killed my parents, but have mercy on me I am an orphan.”

“Justice Thomas appeared to understand that problem repeatedly challenging the state on whether it can always renege on its obligations simply by not putting aside money for them and then later complaining that it cannot meet them. The state did not have a good answer.

“The state also complained that if it cannot exercise its police power to alleviate its financial distress, it could hurt the state’s credit rating and its ability to borrow money. Maduff pointed out that if the state can renege on its financial obligations, no one would lend money to the state anyway and the bond market would crash.

“The justices had very little in the way of questions for the plaintiffs’ attorneys, asking Gino DiVito only whether the police power could ever apply to the Pension Clause. Most of the questioning from the court was directed at the state. Under the circumstances SUAA is optimistic that the court will affirm the Sangamon County Court ruling holding the law unconstitutional.” [SUAA Mini-Briefing, 3/11/15]

As we have discussed before, if (when!) we win, it will not be the end of the matter. There are dozens of pension bills pending in the state legislature. Many are “shell” bills, which means that they have no meaningful content but were filed in order to meet deadlines, and can be amended later. SUAA is tracking those bills, and our lobbyists and attorneys are well aware of their potential. We can be assured that we have not heard the end of pensions from Springfield.

This means that we still need to continue to donate to the SUAA Legal Fund. ISU annuitants have been extremely helpful in funding that in the past. We need to continue our good work and continue to donate to the fund. And, the sooner the better—our legal fund continues to fund extremely good work, and we want it to continue. Donation information may be found on the SUAA website, www.SUAA.org.

You may wish to donate a portion of your refund of health insurance premiums. Because of our efforts, you will be receiving a refund from the state for the premiums you were charged for health insurance. The refunds will become available within a few weeks, minus attorneys’ fees of 2.37 percent. It should be noted that SUAA attorneys will not participate in the fees assessed, since they were technically not “plaintiff’s counsel” in the *Kanerva* case, and in fact have objected to the initial amount of fees requested. Their work was instrumental in the later stages of the litigation, however. Our thanks to Aaron Maduff and SUAA for their hard work.

Senior Professionals

Academy of Seniors class

Eastern Europe: A Century of Unfinished Business

East Central Europe has always been an ethnically diverse crossroads between great expansionist empires. Beginning with the treaties that ended the Great War, this course will discuss a century of history, focusing on unfinished business that resulted in the Yugoslav wars and the current situation in Ukraine.

Kathleen Montgomery, associate professor of political science, Illinois Wesleyan University

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 13, 20, 27, June 3

*Illinois State University Alumni Center,
1101 N. Main St., Normal*

\$35 (all sessions) for Senior Professional members; \$45 for non-members

Classroom journey bus trip

Cahokia Mounds: A Trip Back in Time

About 900 years ago, thousands of Native Americans resided in the Mississippi River Valley near present-day St. Louis. Archaeologists call the settlement Cahokia. Within a century, circa AD 1200, Cahokia was the largest community in North America, the population of which would not be exceeded by an Illinois city until 1850. Archaeologists have long studied Cahokia and nearby settlements to determine what factors led to its development and its demise, for it survived less than three centuries. On this journey, we will explore Cahokia's rich history, the on-site museum, and the mounds that remain as testimony to this extraordinary city.

Michael Wiant, director, Dickson Mounds Museum

8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 21

(Bus trip #1 on May 14 is full. Now accepting reservations for bus #2 on the 21st)

\$60 for Senior Professional members; \$75 for non-members.

To register, go to

SeniorProfessionals.IllinoisState.edu or call (309) 438-2160.

And now for something completely different—the annual dinner (an indoor picnic supper)!

The Annual ISUAA Dinner and Business Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 10 in the Old Main Room of the Bone Student Center. This year, instead of the usual formal meal, we will celebrate the summer with an informal indoor picnic supper, served family style. The menu is:

- Sliced roast beef, smoked turkey, baked ham and salami
- Swiss, cheddar and provolone cheeses

- Coleslaw
- Assortment of fresh breads (including gluten-free upon request)
- Chips
- Brownies
- Iced tea, water, regular and decaf coffee
- Fruit cup for dessert for diabetics

Cost is \$10.50 per person. A drawing for door prizes is included!

Following dinner, we will have our annual business meeting, including election of officers for the coming year, along with an update on various activities of ISUAA and the SUAA. The terms of Vice President Gail Lamb, Treasurer Neil Gridley, and Directors Jan Cook and Marie Dawson are expiring. Nominating Committee Chair and Director Christ Schwelle will present the committee's slate of candidates. The chapter's Distinguished Service Award will be presented as well.

Join us for the last event of the year! And come informal—it's a picnic!

Helping Hamper

by Jan Cook

The Helping Hamper for our June dinner will support the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry in downtown Bloomington. The pantry can use any canned or packaged food, especially fruit, coffee, tea and salad dressing. We also donate soap and deodorants to help folks stay comfortable during Illinois' sultry summer.

Our March collection for the Salvation Army's Safe Harbor Shelter included cash, coffee, tea, toothpaste and brushes. Angie Fulton of Safe Harbor was present to thank us and tell us about new programming ideas for residents.

We also had 166 Box Tops for Education and 45 Campbell's Soup Labels for Metcalf School PTO projects. The box tops are stamp-sized rectangles on many products, including Betty Crocker, Scott tissues, and Progresso soups. Hang onto them. They help our children. Thanks for your help!

How Time Flies

*by April Karlene Anderson, University Archivist, Dr. Jo Ann Rayfield
Archives at Illinois State University*

150 years ago - 1865

- Second president, Richard Edwards, began the campaign to have a gymnasium constructed for the campus. The original building he proposed would have housed 150 students and included a gymnasium, the latter of which he later lobbied for as a separate structure a year later. The gymnasium request was placed on hold until 1895 when then fourth president John Cook succeeded in securing the funding for the gym and what is now called Cook Hall. John Freed, *Educating Illinois: Illinois State University, 1857-2007*. (Virginia Beach, VA: Donning Co. Publishers, 2009), pg. 106.

100 years ago - March/April 1915

- Summer enrollment numbers continued to rise which prompted the university to hire thirty three additional teachers. There were 2,065 students the previous summer terms. *The Vidette*, April 13, 1915 (Vol. 27, No. 25, page 1).
- Because of financial difficulties, the staff of *The Vidette* put on a night of circus performances. Dubbed 'The Vidette Circus', the February 19th show included students who danced, juggled, played music, performed in side shows, and dressed as clowns. *The Index*, (Normal, IL, 1915), pg. 114-115.
- The I.S.N.U. Basketball team made it to the IIAA championship in Peoria, played March 4-6. Though I.S.N.U. lost, *The Vidette* declared the team had a successful season. *The Vidette*, March 10, 1915 (Vol. 27, No. 22, pg. 1).

80 years ago - March/April 1935

- I.S.N.U. places second in the state wrestling championship. *The Vidette*, March 5, 1935 (Vol. 47, No. 42, pg. 3).
- The Hopkins Agriculture Club votes to disband in order to allow a "professional agricultural fraternity" (Alpha Tau Alpha - Nu chapter) to start on campus. The club lasted thirteen years and was one of the first clubs to sponsor activities in the early years of Homecoming. *The Vidette*, March 15, 1935 (Vol. 47, No. 45, pg. 1).
- An April Fool's edition of *The Vidette* was produced. It was printed in all green ink and had headlines such as, "Students Are Urged to Cut More Classes," "Dean Linkins Weds Former Fan Dancer in Simple Ceremony," and "General Assemblies Will Be Discontinued, President Announces." Not all stories were fabrications as general club announcements were made as were sports scores and recaps. *The Vidette*, April 1, 1935 (Vol. 47, No. 50, pg. 1-4).

50 years ago - March/April 1965

- The International Students Club was formed. Their first meeting was held March 1st at the Red Door cafeteria and members elected Ingelore Kleist as the club's first president. *The Vidette*, March 1, 1965 (Vol. 77, No. 41, pg. 1).
- A group of students and their professor were stranded in a diner while attempting to travel back to campus after seeing at show at the University of Illinois. An owner of a mortuary in Farmer City overheard the group talking about their predicament and offered to let them sleep at his mortuary overnight. The travelers took him up on the offer and made use of the mortuary's couches and ambulance cots for the night. *The Vidette*, March 9, 1965 (Vol. 77, No. 43, pg. 2).
- Coach Joe Cogdal announces his retirement from I.S.N.U. after 38 years of service. Hired by President David Felmley in 1927, Cogdal brought home 50 championships including 25 Illinois Athletic Conference championships and 45 second place rankings during his tenure at I.S.N.U. *The Vidette*, March 25, 1965 (Vol. 77, No. 48, pg. 4).
- WGLT purchased a new transmitter that would give the station the capability of broadcasting on FM channels up to an 11 mile radius from campus. Students in off campus housing and the Bloomington/Normal community would soon have

the ability to hear WGLT programming on their FM radios. *The Vidette*, April 29, 1965 (Vol. 77, No. 53, pg.).

30 years ago - March/April 1985

- The Lady Redbirds beat Eastern Illinois 89-74 on March 6th to seed in the NCAA Division I basketball tournament (they were defeated in the first round by Louisiana Tech). *The Vidette*, March 7, 1985 (Vol. 97, No. 119, pg. 16).
- The Men's ISU Basketball team also made it to the NCAA Division I basketball tournament in 1985, only to lose to the Oklahoma Sooners in the second round, 75-69. *The Vidette*, March 20, 1985 (Vol. 77, No. 121, special section 'Finale,' pg. 2).
- Tim Cavenagh, comedian and frequent guest on the hit radio program "The Dr. Demento Show" performed at ISU on March 28th in the Bone Student Center Prairie Room. *The Vidette*, March 28, 1985 (Vol. 97, No. 127, pg. 1).
- A new computerized registration system was implemented at ISU in March, 1985. Not only was this system an upgrade from a paper-based system, the new computers were installed to help eliminate long waiting lines and give timely information on open and closed courses. *The Vidette*, April 4, 1985 (Vol. 77, No. 132, pg. 1) and April 9, 1985 (Vol. 97, No. 134, pg. 4).

Retiring? Time to submit new SUAA Payroll Deduction form

For those employees retiring in the near future who pay their ISUAA/SUAA dues through payroll deduction, it is important to remember to complete a new membership form arranging for your dues to be deducted by SURS rather than through Illinois State University's payroll. If you submit your new membership form before you retire, your first dues payment will likely be deducted from your second pension check. The membership form is available at Annuitants.IllinoisState.edu/Downloads/MembershipFormAnnuitants. Thank you for your continued support!

Surviving spouse? Need an ISU parking permit?

Are you a surviving spouse or partner? Do you need to park occasionally on ISU's campus? Are you aware that you are eligible to obtain a free retiree hang tag that allows you to park in the lot at Bone Student Center or in other lots on campus at no cost?

If you do not have such a hang tag and would like to obtain one, there are three steps. Call Human Resources at 438-8311 and tell them you are a surviving spouse and you would like to obtain a Redbird Card and need a ULID. Once you have the ULID, you will need to go in person to the Redbird Card Office on the second floor of Bone Student Center and obtain the card. Once you have the card, you will need to go to Parking Services located at 709 North Main St., Normal.

In addition to allowing you to obtain a parking tag, the Redbird card can also be used to check out books from Milner Library, obtain discounts at College of Fine Arts productions and for other campus benefits.

Teebirds to begin May 7

Special welcome to new retirees! Teebirds are retired faculty/staff members (or spouses/significant others of retirees) who meet on Thursday mornings for nine holes of golf. The group's home course is Illinois State University's Weibring Golf Club, but we sprinkle in other area courses for variety.

Weekly play alternates between individual scoring and scrambles. Do you like to play 18? Usually a number of players opt to go the second nine! The first date will be May 7 with coffee and treats at 8 a.m. at the Weibring Golf Club and the first tee time at 9 a.m. Play will continue weekly until mid-October. The second date is May 14, also at Weibring, so if you want to play, just contact any of the people below.

Illinois State annuitants and spouses get a special perk at the Weibring course—cards good for 10 9-hole rounds are available for \$100, good only in 2015. Annual membership dues of \$10 go toward weekly prizes and support of social activities. The group has monthly lunches or coffees. Occasionally we will play other courses as well. For more information, visit isuteebirds.net, or contact Gerry Chrisman at teebirds@yahoo.com, Dave Williams at davedbw@fastmail.us, Pete Whitmer at petewhit8@aol.com, or Pat Grogg at pgrogg@IllinoisState.edu.

The University Club

by Kay Wilson and Bob Preston

The University Club is open to all Illinois State University faculty, staff, administrative professionals, and annuitants. We provide an informal and friendly environment where we gather on a weekly basis to socialize with friends and make new ones. During our Discussion Hours short talks are presented where we learn about the University and the local community and have an opportunity to get to know our very diverse and interesting colleagues from across the University. You do not have to be a member to attend and we strongly encourage all who are interested in any of our programs to drop in.

Discussion Hours: We meet every Friday with the exception of academic holidays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Faculty/Staff Commons of Bone Student Center. The first meeting for the fall semester will be Friday, August 21. Additional information about all events and activities can be found on our website: Uclub.IllinoisState.edu. These talks are also listed on the main ISU Events Calendar. Continuing program support for the University Club is provided by the Offices of the Provost and President.

Gourmet Dinners: Throughout the academic year, U-Club offers two gourmet dinners each semester. These dinners are an opportunity to enjoy fine food with a central theme or food from a particular country. The main dishes are served family style and the dinner includes wine for each table with coffee, tea and dessert, all for a reasonable price. Attendees are encouraged to bring guests. The dinners are prepared by the ISU Catering Service chefs and are served in the Founders Suite in the Bone Student Center. Dates for the 2015-2016 academic year are being planned. Please check our website for more up-to-date information and menus: Uclub.IllinoisState.edu/dinners.

Scholarships Awards: On December 4, we will have our annual University Club Scholarship Award ceremony. Up to 10 \$500 scholarships to ISU undergraduate and graduate students will be awarded. Funding is provided by donations from our members. We encourage all who are interested in supporting our academically talented and socially engaged students to consider supporting this program.

In memoriam

Paul Baumgartner.....	10/8/14
Shirlee Bottomley	12/24/14
Alma Bremer	11/16/14
Valerie Bridson.....	11/24/14
Faye Brown.....	12/23/14
Marian Carroll	10/1/14
Genevieve Cummer.....	3/2/15
Margaret Eckhardt.....	2/11/15
Marilyn Engle	9/29/14
Harry Fletcher	11/21/14
Margaret Gilmore	10/22/14
Russell Gorman	1/21/15
Eleanor Hall.....	12/10/14
Olga Martinez.....	5/28/14
Carolyn McKenna.....	10/20/14
Walter Miller	2/6/15
Vivian Nothdurft	1/4/15
Calvin Pritner.....	12/1/14
John Rich	8/4/14
Eugene Salch	10/22/14
Myra Secoy	2/18/15
Kyle Sessions.....	12/27/14
Rodger Smith	2/2/15
Ellen Spycher	2/9/15
C. Louis Steinberg	7/25/14
Harry Thiel.....	12/19/14
Nancy Thomley	11/3/14
Constance Tucker	11/12/14
Avonell Van de Merkt	10/3/14
Hazel White.....	2/7/15

ISUAA annual meeting and indoor picnic reservation form

5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 10
Bone Student Center, Old Main Room

NAME(S) OF THOSE ATTENDING

EMAIL

Please reserve _____ meal(s) at \$10.50 each. A check for \$ _____ payable to ISUAA is enclosed.

PLEASE INDICATE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS (NAMES)

MENU

- sliced roast beef, smoked turkey, baked ham and salami
- swiss, cheddar and provolone cheeses
- coleslaw
- assortment of fresh breads
- chips
- brownies or fruit cup for dessert
- ice tea, water, regular and decaf coffees

Reservations must be received by **May 29**. Mail your reservation no later than **May 27** to Illinois State University, ISUAA, Campus Box 8000, Normal, IL, 61790-8000.



Retiree information hotline

Have a question? Need an answer? Don't know whom to contact? Call (309) 438 4311, the phone line answered by Human Resources just for retirees and surviving spouses. Staff will either direct you to the needed resource or take your name and number and have someone follow up with you.

ISUAA 2015 calendar

May 13, 2-3:30 p.m.
ISUAA board with committee chairs
119 Alumni Center

July 8, 2-3:30 p.m.
ISUAA board with committee chairs
119 Alumni Center

June 10
5:30-7:30 p.m.
ISUAA annual meeting and dinner*
*Old Main Room,
Bone Student Center*

September 2
8:30-10:30 a.m.
*Fall breakfast meeting
Old Main Room

* Reservation required



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Normal, IL 61790-8000

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Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu

For more information, visit

