



inside

Founders Day	2
Annuitants pool	2
Helping Hamper	2
Alumni Association welcomes annuitants	2
Gladly We	2
ISUAA calendar	3
University Club Spring 2008 events	3
Gifting options	3
Legislative issues	4
Survivor Advocacy Team honored by ISUAA Board	4
In memoriam	4
Phishing: Don't be the bait	4
Your money is insured	4
Retiree Hotline	4
Health benefits	5
Chapter directory	5
How time flies	5
ISUAA holiday luncheon reservation form	6

ISUAA—serving annuitants and survivors since 1971

President's comments

First of all, thank you to the Illinois State University Credit Union for sponsoring this issue and for their informative item on phishing and deposit insurance. If you have any concerns, questions, etc., contact the Credit Union.

This issue of the newsletter has contained an order form for ISUAA Night at Madrigals. That is not the case this year as the College of Fine Arts is currently reviewing various alternatives for the Madrigal concerts. Perhaps by the time you receive this we will know more about the Madrigal concerts for 2008. We do know the Madrigal Singers will be performing at the December 3 ISUAA Holiday Luncheon in Brown Ballroom. I hope to see you there.

Christ Schwelle

SUAA annual meeting summary

Delegates from ISUAA Jan Cook, Richard Dammers, Paul Schertz, and Chuck Taylor attended the State University Annuitants Association (SUAA) annual meeting in Springfield June 17 and 18. Chapters from throughout the state were represented. Among the speakers were State Comptroller Dan Hynes, SURS Executive Director Dan Slack, and Bernard Schoenburg, political columnist for the *State Journal Register*. In a nutshell, the state is in a financial and political mess. Fortunately the state is legally obligated to pay state pensions. SUAA contract lobbyist Dick Lockhart moderated a panel discussion on the issue of a constitutional convention that featured two proponents and two opponents. (In the summer newsletter it was mentioned that SUAA is among those on record as opposing "con con" because of its potential negative impact on SURS members and the fact that constitutional issues can be dealt with via the normal legislative process.)

SUAA's annual business meeting was conducted. Richard Johnson (UIC) was elected president, Pat Smith (Kishwaukee College) was elected treasurer, and SUAA's budget for 2008–2009 was approved.

ISUAA was recognized for the continuing growth in membership and having a membership count of some 61 percent of those eligible. ISUAA's 1,378 members were fourth behind UIUC (2,083), NIU (1,772), and UIC (1,641). Total SUAA membership was reported as some 14,800.

Founders Day

February 19, 2009

Illinois State University is again inviting annuitants to participate in Founders Day activities February 19. Various activities will take place throughout the day. Check the University calendar and watch the *Report* for up-to-date details. Annuitants planning to march in the Founders Day Convocation should contact Julie Barnhill at jtbarhn@ilstu.edu or (309) 438-8790. Those who own their own regalia are asked to let Julie know you will be marching. Those who need to rent regalia should let Julie know so that it can be ordered.

Helping Hamper

Jan Cook

At our September luncheon we filled the Helping Hamper twice over with fruit snacks, soft toys, diapers, and paper party goods. The receptionist at the Crisis Nursery was thrilled, "Pull-ups! We use so many of these and those cute plates. The kids do love to party."

Between the June and September events we collected over three hundred box tops for education to donate to Metcalf School. This is turning out to be a very worthwhile effort. Let's keep it up.

The Helping Hamper at our December Holiday Luncheon will benefit Clare House Soup Kitchen at St. Mary's Catholic Church. The kitchen serves around 100 people each Tuesday and Thursday. The kitchen would be happy to receive packaged pasta, canned broth, meat, or vegetables for the soup, coffee, tea, and especially canned fruit.

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www.Annuitants.ilstu.edu

Alumni Association welcomes annuitants

*Barbara Todd, executive director,
Internal Campaigns*

The Illinois State University Alumni Association is proud to host a variety of events for alumni and students. Annuitants are encouraged and welcome to attend. For more detailed event information or to register online, please visit www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/events or call the Alumni Relations office at (309) 438-3204.

Please see the listing of upcoming events below:

- 12/6 Chicago West Food Bank Volunteer Day
- 12/13 Madrigal Dinner and Performance—Chicago, IL
- 2/19 Founders Day and Alumni Association Awards Ceremony

Photo highlights from the 2008 Homecoming Celebration and the Grand Unveiling of the Alumni Center are available online by visiting www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/photo.

Gladly We

*Barbara Todd, executive director,
Internal Campaigns*

For the first time in many years, there will be a special program to ask current University employees, retirees, and survivors to make the University a part of their annual philanthropy plans.

Many current employees, retirees, and survivors are already regular and generous donors. The goal is to increase the number of such donors. The percentage of current employee, retiree, and survivor donors can be a key factor in convincing others to donate.

The "Gladly We. . . Faculty/Staff/Retiree/Survivor Annual Fund" will be formally launched on February 2. With an ultimate goal of 50 percent of current and retired employees as annual donors to the University, February and March will be focused on acquiring new donors. All faculty/staff/retiree/survivor donors who contribute a minimum of \$10 during the 2009 fiscal year will be counted. Donors will be asked to contribute to the campus areas of their interest including academic departments, WGLT, Athletics, laboratory schools, and scholarship funds.

Watch your mail in early February for more information, or contact Barbara Todd, executive director of Internal Campaigns at (309) 438-2592 or bttodd@ilstu.edu for additional information.

ISUAA calendar

November 12, 2008 • 2–3:30 p.m.
ISUAA Board w/Committee Chairs
Spotlight Room

December 3, 2008 • 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
ISUAA Holiday Luncheon
Brown Ballroom

January 14, 2009 • 2–3:30 p.m.
ISUAA Board w/Committee Chairs
Spotlight Room

February 19, 2009
Founders Day

March 4, 2009 • 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
ISUAA Spring Luncheon
Old Main Room

March 11, 2009 • 2–3:30 p.m.
ISUAA Board w/Committee Chairs
Spotlight Room

May 13, 2009 • 2–3:30 p.m.
ISUAA Board w/Committee Chairs
Spotlight Room

June 3, 2009 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.
ISUAA Annual Meeting and Dinner
Old Main Room

Spring dates to be determined:
Spring University Retiree Event
SUAA Annual Meeting



University Club spring 2008 events

Jude Boyer

Gourmet dinners: Polish cuisine will be featured at the January 30 dinner, to be held in the Bone Student Center Founders Suite. The February 28 dinner will feature Middle Eastern cuisine, and is also to be held in the Founders Suite. Full information about each menu and reservation details will be available approximately December 15 on the University Club Web site www.lilt.ilstu.edu/uclub/gourmet_dinners.htm.

Discussion hours: The first discussion hour of the spring semester will be held on January 16 from 3:30–5:30 p.m. in the Bone Student Center Faculty/Staff Commons. Please join us for refreshments and lively conversation. Discussion hours are held on most Friday afternoons of the academic semester. Special discussion/information topics are noted on the University Club Calendar Web site.

The University Club is a great way to meet members of the University community. Membership is open to all current and retired faculty and staff members of Illinois State University. Further details about the University Club may be found at the following Web site address: www.lilt.ilstu.edu/uclub.

Gifting options

Barbara Todd, executive director, Internal Campaigns

As we approach the end of 2008 it is a good time to consider ways that you may wish to continue making a difference to Illinois State University and the students it serves.

Gifting options can be immediate or deferred. Immediate gifts include cash, marketable securities, or other tangible personal property that can be readily turned into cash or used by the University. Such gifts made by December 31 entitle the donor to a charitable gift deduction on their 2008 tax return. Gifts made with a credit card by December 31 can be deductible in 2008 even though payment to the credit card company may not be made until later.

Deferred gift commitments may take many forms including life insurance policies, charitable gift annuities, retirement account balances, and a number of other options.

If you wish to discuss your gift giving options, please contact Barb Todd at (309) 438-2592 or bttodd@ilstu.edu at your convenience.

Legislative issues

Some changes have been made in how ISUAA works on behalf of members relative to legislative issues. Parker Lawlis has replaced Christ Schwelle on the board of directors of SUAAction, SUAA's political action committee. Schwelle will focus on continuing positive working relationships with local legislators and on other local chapter needs. Dave Wiant has taken (resumed) a more active role in monitoring legislation and issues at the state level. Bob Hunt will continue keeping tabs on Social Security issues. Schwelle will coordinate their efforts.

Survivor Advocacy Team honored by ISUAA board

At their July 9, 2008 meeting the ISUAA Board of Directors voted to formally express their appreciation for the work done by the Survivor Advocacy Team. The team, led by Mary Liverman and Edna Johnston, conducted five small group sessions on survivor planning during 2007–2008 and continued to assist survivors on an individual basis upon the death of an annuitant.

The team has plans to do three additional small group sessions in spring 2009.

In memoriam

Laura Addison	August 19, 2008
Howard Blount	October 27, 2007
Marcia Brimm	July 19, 2008
James Clark	August 2, 2008
Dorothea Danby	June 10, 2008
Donald "Fred" Eckhardt	August 1, 2008
Dale Hampton	June 5, 2008
Magnus Mehl	August 3, 2008
Marilyn Newby	August 22, 2008
Steen Spove	June 21, 2008
Kermit Towns	June 16, 2008
Billie Watkins	August 4, 2008
Mary Watkins	August 6, 2008
Helga Whitcomb	August 19, 2008

Phishing: Don't be the bait

Phishing is the criminally fraudulent process of attempting to acquire sensitive information such as user names, passwords, and credit card information by masquerading as a trustworthy entity via e-mail, phone, or text message.



How do I tell if an e-mail is fraudulent?

Here are a few phrases to look for if you think an e-mail message is fraudulent.

- *Verify your account*
- *If you do not respond within (specified time) your account will be closed*
- *Dear Valued Customer*
- *Click on the link below to gain access to your account*
- *Fill out our survey for \$\$\$\$*

Phishers tend to use emotional language as scare tactics or urgent requests such as those listed above to entice recipients to respond. However, no legitimate institution will ever ask you to verify information unless at your request or initiation. If you feel that your personal account information has been compromised, you should contact your financial institution immediately.

Your money is insured

Illinois State University Credit Union is a state-chartered financial institution, insured by the federal government agency, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA). Recently there has been discussion on the safety of deposits; rest assured that your deposits are safe up to \$100,000 per account, with additional coverage up to \$250,000 for retirement accounts. If you have any questions and/or comments please feel free to contact us at (309) 451-8400 or visit www.ncua.gov for more information.

Retiree Hotline

Retiree Hotline at **(309) 438-4311** is a service of University Advancement just for retirees and surviving spouses.

Health benefits

In the previous issue of the newsletter it was mentioned that the negotiations of health benefits between the state and AFSCME had been described as contentious as the state was under pressure to cut back on these expenses. It was acknowledged that AFSCME was advocating on behalf of their members and the rest of us.

About the time articles were being prepared for this issue of the newsletter, the state and AFSCME reached agreement on a contract and it was ratified by union membership. AFSCME reported to their members that they negotiated an agreement that, “fully preserves the current framework for retiree health benefits.” Available details were shared with your ISUAA Board of Directors, but the official word will come from Central Management Services (CMS). This comes in the form of a booklet describing the changes and detailing new premiums, deductibles, co-pays, etc. It is not known when it will be mailed, but you are urged to review it carefully.

If you believe your health benefits were fully or essentially preserved, great! However, let’s not gloat about it as many are losing ground relative to health benefits. Do not feel guilty either. You are getting, “what you signed up for,” and what you earned as part of your compensation package during your years of service to the State of Illinois.

Chapter directory

Work is currently underway to put together the ISUAA directory for 2008–2009. Jude Boyer and Dona Meador are coordinating this project. Every effort is being made to be certain the information is accurate and up-to-date. With 1,400 members in the chapter, this is a major task. Member feedback indicates the directory is very important to membership, so the dedicated volunteers who participate in this project feel their time is well spent. It is hoped the new directory will be mailed sometime in December, though much depends on the schedule of Illinois State University Printing Services.

Annuitants pool

On Mondays from 2–4 p.m., a small group of annuitants gathers at the Bowling and Billiard Center to play pool. This is an informal group of varying skill levels. Once the group gathers they decide the game that will be played—eight ball, nine ball, etc. The cost per session is \$2. For information please contact Paul Dohrmann at pfdohrm@ilstu.edu or (309) 452-2322.

How time flies

Compiled by Jo Ann Rayfield

10 years ago • September–November 1998

September 25, 1998

The bell from the tower of the Old Main building is rededicated on the university quad and rung for the first time in 30 years at Homecoming. The original bell cracked and had to be removed in spring 1880. An Ohio company made a new bell for a net cost of \$139.93 including installation in January 1883. The second bell was removed from Old Main in the spring of 1946 when the third floor and tower were designated as structurally unsafe.

1998 fall enrollment was 20,105

15 years ago • September–November 1993

The legislature appropriated \$104.16 million (up 3.7 percent) for Illinois State University.

Grants and contracts totaled \$8.9 million
13,411 donors gave \$5.3 million.

The University acquired three vehicles that had been modified to run on up to 85 percent ethanol.

25 years ago • September–November 1983

Enrollment (on- and off-campus) reached 20,662

Grants exceeded two million dollars in support of 94 proposals.

In fall 1983 the University was gradually climbing out of the fiscal crisis in the state that had begun in 1981. The University had suffered rescission, the loss of a summer session, unfilled positions, shortages of classes, and declining morale.

50 years ago

As the centennial was moving toward completion 15,000 red tulips and 8,000 white tulips were being planted in the ground where Old Main stood.

Enrollment reached 3,570 resident students representing 94 counties, 28 other states, and 11 countries and territories.

Grants of \$2,740 were received by nine faculty members.

ISUAA holiday luncheon reservation form

December 3, 2008

11:30 a.m.

Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center

Names of those attending: _____

Please reserve _____ meals at \$13 each. A check for \$_____ payable to ISUAA is enclosed.

Entrees

_____ Oven roasted turkey _____ (name)

_____ Vegetable lasagna _____ (name)

Please send your reservation form by November 21 to: Shirlee Bottomley, 507 E. Taylor St., Bloomington, IL 61701-5334 or Irene Niccum, 301 S. Towanda Ave. #C, Normal, IL 61761-2110.

Please, no late or telephone reservations.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Annuitants Association
Campus Box 8000
Normal, IL 61790-8000

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Illinois' first public university

