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*ISUAAA—serving annuitants and survivors since 1971*

### President's message

Thank you to the ISU Credit Union for sponsoring this issue of the newsletter.

It was nice to see such a good turnout for the fall luncheon. If you have not attended an ISUAAA luncheon, consider attending the holiday luncheon on December 2. The reservation form can be found in this newsletter. Realizing that dietary restrictions are becoming more common and impact whether or not some members can participate, the form now provides the opportunity to indicate such restrictions.

The State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA) is exploring the possibility of a dues increase to offset rising expenses. The current SUAA/ISUAAA dues are \$25 with \$21 for SUAA and \$4 for the local chapter. I have mixed feelings about increasing the dues because I know our members are cost sensitive, but I also am aware that the SUAA central office, especially executive director Linda Brookhart, has become increasingly active in advocating on our behalf. Given the value of our retirement benefits, I want SUAA to have the resources to function effectively. Stay tuned.

Speaking of advocating on our behalf, check out Dave Wiant's article on self-responsibility and the information on contacting legislators. These are the result of a discussion at the fall luncheon about the irresponsibility of the governor and legislators in waiting until after the primary elections to explore revenue enhancement, specifically increasing/expanding taxes, as a means to deal with the state's financial crisis. The consensus of those present was that revenue enhancement is needed now and if the governor and legislators put forth a tax increase now rather than waiting until after the primary they would be viewed in a favorable light by our membership for exerting necessary and positive leadership.

If after reviewing Wiant's article and the information about contacting legislators, you want to write to the governor or your legislator, you are encouraged to do so. Please do not use the Illinois State e-mail system, mail system, or stationery for your communication to legislators. Use your own stationery and stamps. Use your own words to express your concerns and avoid form letters.

*Christ Schwelle, ISUAAA President*

### Volunteerism survey

Jan Cook leads ISUAAA's philanthropy program. She started and continues to coordinate Helping Hamper, and is involved in other philanthropy and civic engagement. Cook believes a number of other annuitants are similarly involved and that a survey of ISUAAA members could be a valuable tool in helping measure the value of annuitants to the community. Cook collaborated with Michaelene Cox, of the University's Department of Politics and Government to develop a survey and found a grant to offset ISUAAA's cost to include the survey in this newsletter.

Please consider completing the survey and returning it to Cox. We want to be accurate in our responses and not just provide answers to "make a case."

## Legislative Report

By Dave Wiant

Not everyone was able to attend the Annuitants' Luncheon on September 2, but we believe it is very important to make sure that all annuitants and survivors are kept up to date on "happenings."

The appropriation bill for the State Universities Retirement System, P.A. 96-0043, was signed into law on July 15. The final legislation resulted in the state overseeing the selling of \$3.5 billion in bonds for the five state retirement systems, which will be used to pay a portion of the State's Fiscal Year 2010 required contributions. The bonds will be due and payable in five years. For the time being, retirement system funding appears to be under control.

The change in the dental insurance was a complete surprise, not only to your Legislative Committee, but to Rep. Dan Brady as well. The committee of Dave Strand, Parker Lawlis, and Dave Wiant met with Brady on August 24 concerning dental insurance and other matters. Brady had not been aware of the action taken by CMS and the governor to assess a premium for retirees, dependents, and survivors. He was as concerned as we were, particularly because there had not been publication or discussion.

During subsequent discussions in Springfield after our meeting, Brady learned that the governor and CMS unilaterally decided to change an ongoing health care benefit of retirees. Brady asked us to convey to you that he will advocate for review of how this change was made.

Payments of medical bills under the State Group Health Insurance Program continue to be delayed. There are more and more incidents being reported where providers ask for payment. They are seeking payments for expenses incurred or arrangements for a payment plan when medical obligations have not been paid by the state in a reasonable period of time.

The state of Illinois has a very critical financial situation. It is time to begin a new era, one of self-responsibility. Linda Brookhart, executive director of SUAA, works long hours representing our interests in Springfield. It is time for members of SUAA to assume a more active role and write their senators and representatives. We do need to let them know we are concerned and we expect to be respected, not ignored.

As you may have read in local papers, a vote for increased tax revenue for the state will probably not be addressed until after the primary election. Meanwhile, our health insurance bills continue to be paid at an increasingly slower pace and retirement system funds are not always appropriated in accordance with the law.

They are our representatives. Isn't it time for them to accept responsibility and deal with reality rather than ignore it until after the primary election or some future date?

### Illinois State Annuitants Association Newsletter

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Published quarterly

Illinois State University Annuitants Association  
Campus Box 8000  
Normal, IL 61790-8000

[www.Annuitants.ilstu.edu](http://www.Annuitants.ilstu.edu)

## Upcoming University Advancement events

3-5 p.m. • Thursday, November 12

Alumni Center

Recognition reception for all faculty/staff/retirees  
Fiscal Year 2009 donors

11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. • Thursday, April 1

Alumni Center, Room 116

Lunch and Learn featuring Bill Fanning, *director of foundation business affairs*  
Topic—Gift annuities

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. • Wednesday, May 12

Brown Ballroom

Spring Retiree Luncheon featuring President Bowman and a panel of speakers on the American Democracy Project

Call or e-mail Barbara Todd at (309) 438-2592 or [bttodd@ilstu.edu](mailto:bttodd@ilstu.edu) for reservations.

## President Bowman featured at fall luncheon

Illinois State University President Al Bowman was the featured speaker at the ISUAA fall luncheon on September 2. More than 100 people attended the event. Bowman, while not pleased with the state's financial appropriations, especially the level of funding for IMAP scholarships, is very pleased with enrollment figures, retention rates, and the quality of students attracted to Illinois State. Bowman is also pleased the fine arts facility project is finally about to become a reality. Also addressing the group was Dave Wiant of ISUAA's legislative team. SUAA executive director Linda Brookhart was among those attending.

## Annuitants Association Web site

- Why join ISUAA
- History of ISUAA
- How to join
- Survivor assistance information
- Newsletters
- Parking on campus for retirees
- Meetings and events schedule
- Contacting your legislator

[www.Annuitants.ilstu.edu](http://www.Annuitants.ilstu.edu)

David Doss

Web page coordinator



## How time flies

*Compiled by Jo Ann Rayfield*

### 50 years ago

#### September, October, November 1959

- Students were required to register automobiles for the first time with the University.
- Centennial Building that had been built at a cost of \$1,230,000 was formally dedicated on November 19. The first classes had been held in the east wing in the spring and in the west wing in the summer. The cornerstone dedication ceremony had been held in the Student Union on December 16, 1957. Westhoff Theatre had been dedicated in October.
- Milner Library announced its commitment to establishing a circus collection. Early donations to the collection came from Harold Ramage of Bloomington, Mrs. Clyde Noble, and Arnold Riegger. It is now ranked as one of the best research collections in the United States.
- The David Davis Mansion was donated to Illinois State Normal University to be operated under the custodianship of the Illinois Historical Society.
- The University resumed offering extension courses in 18 off-campus centers. Francis R. Brown was director of University Extension and Field Services.

### 25 years ago

#### September, October, November 1984

- Enrollment exceeded 20,000 for the first time in University history.
- Mary Campbell was named Illinois Social Worker of the Year.
- Illinois State bought a new mainframe computer (AS7000 for more than \$1.7 million). Between 1979 and 1984 the number of terminals connected to the mainframe increased from 47 to 389 due to instructional demand. Dial up service was to be available in fall 1984 and online registration was scheduled for spring 1985. Electronic mail was to be available to campus in the spring of 1985.
- The \$11.8 million multi-purpose arena was approved by the Board of Higher Education
- Throughout October several events celebrated the 100th birthday of Eleanor Roosevelt.

### 15 years ago

#### September, October, November 1994

- Enrollment declined by 4.5 percent to a total of 19,166. The University had been in a five-year plan to reduce enrollment. In previous years, the University had received state funds to offset tuition losses, but the IBHE terminated that plan early. The 1994 decline led to a loss of tuition income of approximately \$2.3 million.
- The University began a process of evaluating 19 programs for possible elimination so that resources could be reallocated.
- Lucia Cordell Getsi was named Illinois Author of the Year by the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.
- Ground was broken for the Science Building on October 17.

### 10 years ago

#### September, October, November 1999

- Enrollment reached 20,281, the highest since 1992 and the third consecutive year of more than 20,000.
- Ground was broken for the Kaufman Football Building on October 2.
- Victor John Boschini, Jr. was formally inaugurated as Illinois State's 16th president on October 23.
- The Board of Trustees approved a budget of \$234,257,000 for operations and grants for Fiscal Year 2000. Approximately 35 percent was to come from state appropriated tax funds; 22 percent from tuition revenue; 20 percent from fees to support residence halls, Redbird Arena, and various student activities; and 22 percent from grants, contracts, and other local funds.
- Veteran's Day observances included the presentation of a specially-made reproduction of the regimental flag of the 33rd Illinois Volunteers (aka the "Teachers Regiment" or the "Normal Regiment"). The presentation was made by Sharon MacDonald (now retired from the History Department), members of the ROTC cadet corps, and representatives from Illinois State. The 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regimental Band provided music.

## Contacting your state legislator

The following advice is based on information provided by the State Universities Annuitants Association.

### Fundamental “Dos”

- Specifically ask for support of your position.
- Address your legislator properly.
- Write legibly (handwritten letters are fine if they are readable).
- Be brief, to the point, and discuss only one issue in each letter.
- If possible, give an example of how the issue affects you personally.
- Use your own words and your own stationery.
- Include your address and sign your name legibly.
- Ask the legislator to explain his/her position in their reply.
- Write your legislator when they do something of which you approve, not just when you are against something.

### Fundamental “Don’ts”

- Do not send a postcard.
- Do not sign and send a form letter.
- Do not begin on a righteous note (“as a citizen and a taxpayer” and/or “as a concerned citizen”).
- Do not apologize for writing and taking their time. If your letter is short and expresses an opinion, they are happy to give it consideration.
- Do not be rude or threatening.
- Do not send a copy of your letter to other legislators; write each one individually.
- If you choose to e-mail a legislator do not use a university e-mail account.

### How to address letters

When writing to a state senator, state representative, or the governor:

The Honorable John Doe (or Jane Doe), State Senator, State Representative, or Governor (address).

### For salutation:

Dear Governor Quinn, Dear Senator, or Representative Doe

### Contact information for elected officials

Contact information for legislators can be found at [www.legis.state.il.us](http://www.legis.state.il.us). Click on “Legislator Lookup” to search by your address or nine-digit zip code. You can also search for an individual name by using a search engine such as Google. Write the Senator/Representative for the district in which you live.

#### State senators/representatives for the Illinois State area

44th, State Senator Bill Brady (R)  
billbrady@senatorbillbrady.com  
2203 Eastland Drive, Suite 3  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
(309) 664-4440

53rd, State Senator Dan Rutherford (R)  
danrutherford@danrutherford.com  
320 N. Plum Street  
Pontiac, IL 61764  
(815) 842-3632

88th, State Representative Dan Brady (R)  
dan@rep-danbrady.com  
202 N. Prospect Road, Suite 203  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
(309) 662-1100

106th, State Representative Keith P. Sommer (R)  
sommer@mtco.com  
121 W. Jefferson St.  
Morton, IL 61550  
(309) 263-9242

Governor Pat Quinn (D)  
[www.illinois.gov](http://www.illinois.gov) and choose “Contact the Governor”  
207 State Capitol  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-0244

## Evacuating Normal

For those heading south, west, etc. for the winter, don't forget to update your forwarding address with the U.S. Postal Service so your newsletters can be forwarded. ISUAA is working to get the newsletters posted on our Web site quickly so you can read the newsletters and obtain luncheon reservation forms electronically. The next two newsletters are scheduled for mailing the first week of February and first week of May. If you know you want to attend the March 3 spring luncheon, will be away for the winter, and don't want to take a chance on forwarded mail, contact Dona Meador now to arrange reservations. If you cannot attend the luncheons, please do not feel that your dues are paying for something you're not getting. The per-plate price collected from those who attend covers the cost of the meals.

## Helping Hamper to benefit Clare House Soup Kitchen

*By Jan Cook*

The Helping Hamper at our December Holiday Luncheon will be for the benefit of the Clare House Soup Kitchen. They serve more than 100 lunches each Tuesday and Thursday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bloomington. They would be happy to receive packaged pasta or rice; canned broth, meat, or vegetables for the soup; coffee or tea for hot drinks in cold weather; and especially, canned or packaged fruit. Fruit is expensive and almost no one else donates it. Last year we sent them a lot of snack-sized boxes of raisins. If you see them on sale after Halloween they'll keep until December.

At our Fall Luncheon we over-filled the hamper with cash, diapers, fruit juice, snacks, and paper party goods for the Children's Crisis Nursery. Thank you very much!

We collected 285 Box Tops for Education for Thomas Metcalf School, a record. Congratulations to us and to Metcalf.

## Baby It's Too Late Now

This song by Carole King describes where we're at relative to changes for the ISUAA directory for 2009–2010. Jude Boyer and Dona Meador are coordinating the chapter directory project. Every effort is being made to be certain the information is as accurate and up-to-date as reasonably possible. With more than 1,300 members, this is a major task.

Member feedback indicates the directory is very important to the membership, so the dedicated volunteers who participate in this project feel their time is well spent. During the process of reviewing membership lists it was noted that some who did not renew their membership in a timely manner may not be included in the directory. This is a good time to thank those on automatic dues deduction and those who pay their dues annually by check who renew promptly upon receiving their renewal notice from the State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA). This is very much appreciated. It is hoped the new directory will be mailed no later than early December.

## Alumni Association update

### Homecoming photos online

Illinois State University celebrated its 89th Homecoming October 12–18. Alumni, students, community members, faculty, and staff participated in a variety of events including a parade in Uptown Normal, football game, tailgating, and much more. Thousands of pictures were captured and are available in online photo albums as well as a recap video. To view the albums, visit [www.IllinoisStateHomecoming.com](http://www.IllinoisStateHomecoming.com). Mark your calendars for next year's celebration—October 11–17, 2010.

### Annuitants invited to alumni events

Annuitants and friends are always welcome at events hosted by the Alumni Association. For the most up-to-date event information or to register online, visit [www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/events](http://www.Alumni.ilstu.edu/events). Detailed information for all university events is available on the University Calendar at [www.Calendar.ilstu.edu](http://www.Calendar.ilstu.edu).

### Honorary degree nominations are now being sought

Candidates are being sought for an Illinois State honorary degree that will be presented at Founders Day 2011. Honorary degrees are awarded in recognition of persons who have achieved a record of major distinction at the national or international level in education, public service, literature, business, or the professions.

Letters of nomination should be supported with vitae and/or related materials. The information should be addressed to the associate vice president for Graduate Studies and sent to Judy Keenan, Illinois State University, Graduate School, Campus Box 404, Normal, IL 61790. Materials are due no later than February 2010.

## Annuitant participation in Founders Day Convocation

Annuitants have been invited to participate in the 2010 Founders Day Convocation 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2010. This will be in Brown Ballroom at the Bone Student Center. Academic regalia, according to the highest earned degree, is required. Those who need to rent regalia should contact Barnes and Noble University Bookstore in the Bone Student Center, (309) 452-0535, by January 15, 2010. Those who do not hold an academic degree can order a robe to participate in the ceremony. If you have questions about the convocation, contact Julie Barnhill, director of presidential and university events, at [jtbarneh@ilstu.edu](mailto:jtbarneh@ilstu.edu) or (309) 438-8790. A complete schedule of Founders Day activities will be available.

### Retiree information hotline

Call (309) 438-4311

Operated by

University Advancement





## Academic Senate learns about Annuitants Association

ISUAA Vice President Larry Alferink was a guest of Illinois State's Academic Senate at their September 9 meeting where he briefed the senate on the advocacy role played by ISUAA/SUAA on behalf of current faculty and staff as well as retirees and survivors. He informed the senate that current faculty and staff who are SURS participants are eligible to join. Alferink pointed out that, given the state's financial crisis, funding for pensions and benefits is under attack and current employees as well as annuitants are vulnerable, especially relative to health benefits. He cited the recent sudden assessment of dental premiums to annuitants. ISUAA's Jan Cook regularly attends Civil Service Council meetings and has expressed a similar message.

## Teaching and Learning Symposium

The Illinois State Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology invites emeriti faculty to the 2010 Teaching and Learning Symposium, January 6, at the Marriott Hotel & Conference Center. The event includes a noon luncheon, offered at no cost to registered participants. The theme for this year's Symposium is "Sustainable Teaching, Sustainable Learning, Sustainable Living." For more information, visit [www.Teachtech.ilstu.edu](http://www.Teachtech.ilstu.edu).

## Annuitants pool

Now that cooler weather is here, it is a good time to consider participating in annuitants pool. On Mondays from 2-4 p.m., a small group gathers at the Bowling and Billiards Center to play pool. This is a very informal group of varying skill levels. Once the group gathers they decide the games (eight ball, nine ball, etc.) to be played that day. For more information, contact Paul Dohrmann at [pfdohrm@ilstu.edu](mailto:pfdohrm@ilstu.edu) or (309) 452-2322.

### In memoriam

Mary Arnold . . . . . June 27, 2009  
Norma Ashbrook . . . . . June 23, 2009  
Linda Bagby . . . . . June 17, 2009  
Mildred Casselman . . . . . August 10, 2009  
Sharon Cornwell . . . . . June 29, 2009  
Charles Cross . . . . . April 10, 2009  
Ardelle Graef . . . . . May 20, 2009  
Helen Jones . . . . . September 9, 2009  
Robert Kerber . . . . . July 6, 2009  
Paul Schobernd . . . . . August 23, 2009  
Edith Wells . . . . . April 7, 2009  
Bettelou Wimp . . . . . July 27, 2009  
Eldon Wright . . . . . June 20, 2009

## Gladly We Give Fiscal Year 2009 summary

Once again the Illinois State University family responded. The fact that Illinois State is where it is today is because of the people, past and current, who have made this their institution of choice. Just the other day I heard another retiree say that he expected to be here three or four years when he first started. More than 30 years later he retired and remains an active participant in the life of both his department and the University.



The first year of the new faculty/staff/retiree annual fund, Gladly We Give, demonstrated that our employees and retirees care about the future of our university. During Fiscal Year 2009, we grew the number of faculty/staff/retiree donors by 25.3 percent over Fiscal Year 2008 donors, taking the overall participation percentage to 27.4 percent.

Of these new donors, 90 of them were retirees (a 20 percent growth in the number of retiree donors over Fiscal Year 2008). These gifts supported scholarship funds, department operating budgets, WGLT, student-athletes, faculty development funds, and the Illinois Shakespeare Society.

As we plan for the Fiscal Year 2010 Gladly We Give fund drive, I ask you to consider your Illinois State passion and how you wish to support it. Although we will again use February and March as our focus months, any gifts you make during Fiscal Year 2010 count toward Gladly We Give.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. You may reach me at the Alumni Center at (309) 438-2592 or via e-mail at [btodd@ilstu.edu](mailto:btodd@ilstu.edu).

Thank you,  
Barbara Todd  
*Executive Director, Internal Campaigns*  
[www.Advancement.ilstu.edu](http://www.Advancement.ilstu.edu)

## Madrigal Singers headline ISUAA Holiday Luncheon

The annual ISUAA Holiday Luncheon, scheduled for 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 2, in the Brown Ballroom, will again feature the Illinois State University Madrigal Singers, directed by Karyl Carlson. A reservation form for the Holiday Luncheon is included in this newsletter.

This is the 54th season for the Madrigal Dinner Concerts, brought to the Illinois State community in 1956 by Bruce Kaiser and Jim Roderick. Tickets are now on sale for the performances that open on December 2. Additional performances are planned for December 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 12. These events take place at 6:30 p.m. at the University Alumni Center. Ticket information may be obtained by contacting the Center for Performing Arts box office at (309) 438-2535.

In addition to Kaiser and Roderick, a number of ISUAA members have played key roles in the success of Madrigals over the years, the most notable being the late John Ferrell, who served as director for many years. As a token of appreciation for the Madrigal Singers' performance at the Holiday Luncheon, ISUAA will make a donation to the John Ferrell scholarship account in the School of Music.

As the calendar year and tax year nears its end, ISUAA members are encouraged to consider a donation to the Illinois State University Foundation, perhaps targeting an account, such as the John Ferrell Scholarship account, that may have special meaning to them. Barb Todd, executive director of internal campaigns, can help you find the right account for your donation. Contact Todd at (309) 438-2592.

## University Club spring 2009 events

*Jude Boyer*

### Gourmet dinners

The dinner held on January 30, 2010, will feature Spanish cuisine and will be held in the Bone Student Center Founders Suite. The dinner held on Saturday, February 27, will feature American Southwest cuisine, also to be held in the Founders Suite. Full information about each menu and reservation details will be available approximately December 15 at [www.uClub.ilstu.edu](http://www.uClub.ilstu.edu).

### Discussion Hours

The first Discussion Hour of the spring semester will be held 3:30–5:30 p.m., Friday, January 15, in the Bone Student Center Faculty/Staff Commons. Join us for refreshments and 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.

University Club is a great way to meet members of the University community. Membership is open to all current and retired faculty and staff of Illinois State University. More information about the University Club may be found at [www.uClub.ilstu.edu](http://www.uClub.ilstu.edu).

## ISUAA calendar

### November 11, 2009 • 2–3:30 p.m.

ISUAA Board with committee chairs  
*Spotlight Room*

### November 12, 2009 • 3–5 p.m.

Recognition Reception for faculty/staff/retiree  
Fiscal Year 2009 donors  
*Alumni Center\**

### December 2, 2009 • 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

ISUAA Holiday Luncheon with Illinois State University  
Madrigal Singers  
*Brown Ballroom\**

### January 13, 2010 • 2–3:30 p.m.

ISUAA Board with committee chairs  
*Spotlight Room*

### February 18, 2010

Founders Day

### March 3, 2010 • 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

ISUAA Spring Luncheon  
*Old Main Room\**

### March 10, 2010 • 2–3:30 p.m.

ISUAA Board with committee chairs  
*Spotlight Room*

### April 1, 2010 • 11:45 a.m.–1 p.m.

Lunch and Learn, Gift Annuities with Bill Fanning,  
director Foundation Business Affairs  
*Alumni Center 116\**

### May 12, 2010 • 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Advancement Spring Retiree Luncheon with President  
Bowman and a panel of speakers on the American  
Democracy Project  
*Brown Ballroom\**

### May 12, 2010 • 2–3:30 p.m.

ISUAA Board with committee chairs  
*Spotlight Room*

### June 2, 2010 • 5:30–7:30 p.m.

ISUAA Annual Meeting/Dinner  
*Old Main Room\**

### Spring dates to be determined:

- Lunch and Learn
- Charitable Bequests
- SUAA Annual Meeting

*\*Reservation required*



# Holiday Luncheon Reservation Form

Featuring ISU Madrigal Singers

11:30 a.m.

December 2, 2009

Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center

Name(s) of those attending \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ meal(s) at \$13 each. A check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to ISUAA is enclosed.

Entrees

\_\_\_\_\_ Roast Turkey \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Portobello Mushroom \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

\_\_\_\_\_ Spinach Risotto Stack \_\_\_\_\_ (name)

*Please send your reservation form by November 23 to: Shirlee Bottomley, 507 E. Taylor St., Bloomington, IL 61701-5334 or Irene Niccum, 301 S. Towanda Ave. Unit C, Normal, IL 61761-2110.*

*Please, no late or telephone reservations. Indicate any dietary restrictions.*

This document is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting the Annuitants Association at (309) 438-4311.

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