

RIPEA COMMUNICATOR

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20th Annual Convention, September 13, 2010 Features: Health Care Reform and Health Insurance Changes

- Are you confused and/or overwhelmed with the 3,000 pages health care reform bill and how it will impact you?
- Are the premiums on your supplemental health insurance plan continuing to increase?
- Did you know there may be substantial savings by transferring to a “Modernized Medicare” plan?
- Are you aware the **same** person now serves as the director of the Public Employees Retirement Fund and the Teachers Retirement Fund?
- Would you like to hear from him and ask questions regarding this new role?
- Would you like to hear presentations from two state legislators regarding future cost-of-living adjustments and 13th checks to your PERF benefit?

If the answer to any or all of these questions is “yes”, you must attend RIPEA’s 20th Annual Convention on September 13, 2010 at PRIMO Banquet Hall, 2815 National Avenue in Indianapolis.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the program starts at 10 a.m. The fee for the 20th consecutive year is \$12.00—the same as the 1st Convention. How many things do you know are the same price today as 20 years ago? Again this year, there will be a \$500.00

Grand Prize and 10 \$50.00 prizes presented to lucky attendees.

Please complete the registration form below and return with a check for \$12.00.

We look forward to seeing you on September 13!



RIPEA’s Southwest Chapter

The newest RIPEA Chapter held their organizational meeting on June 8th in Vincennes. The meeting was well attended and an interesting presentation was given by former Speaker of the House, John Gregg. Congratulations and thank you to the newly elected officers. From left to right, Richard Biggs, Vice President; Linda Fredrick, President; John Gregg, former Speaker of the House; and Sharron Marchino, Secretary-Treasurer.

SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

PRIMO CONFERENCE HALL AND BANQUET CENTER • 2815 NATIONAL AVENUE, INDIANAPOLIS

Name _____

Address _____

Total Years of Public Service _____

Registration Fee Remitted \$ _____ (\$12.00 for each person - \$15.00 if paid at door)

**Make checks payable to “RIPEA Convention” and mail registration and check to:
RIPEA, 3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305, Indianapolis, IN 46227**

Meet Your Board

This is the third in a series of “MEET YOUR BOARD” articles. This series will continue until all Board members have been profiled.



John W. Riemke

Mr. Riemke served as the mayor of Kendallville for 20 years. Prior to his election as mayor of Kendallville, Mr. Riemke was joint Town Manager for the Towns of Avilla and Albion for 4 years. Mr. Riemke has served on numerous

boards including the Indiana Public Employees Plan, Inc., the Noble County Community Foundation and the Parkview Noble Hospital Foundation. Mr. Riemke joined the RIPEA Board in 2004.

In regard to his work on the RIPEA Board, John says: “I feel RIPEA is a great Association for **both** current and retired members of PERF because it works for both and I feel honored to serve.”



Morris H. Mills

Mr. Mills joined the RIPEA Board in 2001. Mr. Mills is a graduate of Earlham College and Harvard Business School. He is a partner in Mills Brothers Farms. He served in the State Legislature for 32 years as

a Representative and as a Senator. In the Senate, Mr. Mills was Budget Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. He serves on several boards and is currently an Earlham College Trustee.

In regard to his work on the RIPEA Board, Morris says: “My concern is to protect the purchasing power of the retirement benefits.”

The Economy is So Bad . . .

- If the bank returns your check marked “Non-Sufficient Funds (NSF)”, call and ask if they meant you or them
- Motel Six won’t leave the light on anymore
- Congress is looking into the Bernie Madoff scandal. That’s great. Madoff made \$50 billion disappear and he is being investigated by Congress who made \$1.5 trillion disappear!

RIPEA COMMUNICATOR is published quarterly by the Retired Indiana Public Employees Association.
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H.B. Shepherd, Founder 1914-1979
317-789-0244 • 800-345-9214
William R. Murphy Executive Director



Sherron and Del Haywood Retire

Two of the best, Sherron and Del Haywood retired July 15, 2010.

Sherron served as the manager of the RIPEA office for 15 years and Del was an administrator for 10 years. Sherron and Del were instrumental in any success RIPEA enjoyed. They were professional, conscientious and **always** with the priority of “what’s best for the member”.

Sherron and Del are spending their retirement years in Texas and they retire with the sincere gratitude of RIPEA members, the Board of Directors and Associates in the RIPEA office. All that they did each and every day is already being missed but most of all we miss their presence.

Sherron and Del “Thanks for the Memories”.

Bill Murphy

Important Telephone Numbers

Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield	1-866-649-2041
RIPEA Group Health Plan	
AMBA	1-800-258-7041
Dental/Vision/Long Term Care/Cancer/ Whole Life/Medical Air Service Association	
G.E.T.O.	1-877-867-3639
Vacation Condos at Reduced Rates - www.getravelop.com	
Genworth	1-866-582-2436
Long Term Care	
HearPo	1-888-432-7464
Hearing Plan	
MetLife	1-800-438-6388
Auto/Home	
P.E.R.F.	1-888-526-1687
Retirement Checks & Benefits	
RIPEA Office	1-800-345-9214

Email us at ripea@ripea.org or
visit our website: www.ripea.org.

The RIPEA office hours,
Monday through Friday, are: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

RIPEA's Medicare Supplement Product

RIPEA has been working with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield to offer a second, lower cost Medicare supplement option to provide members a choice. As a result of these discussions and the cooperation of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, we are pleased to announce the following:

- The plan year of RIPEA's current plan (Plan F look-alike including the major medical) will change to a calendar year on January 1, 2011. This change will align RIPEA's plan year with the majority of other supplemental insurance plans.
- One of the new Medicare Modernization Plans, Plan N, will be added to the RIPEA portfolio as a second plan option.

The new Plan N Medicare Supplemental (Modernization) Plan varies from the current Plan F in the following areas:

1. It is approximately 40% less cost than the current Plan F rates.
2. Plan N benefit variances:
 - a. Copays at the doctor's office of 20% of the total charge with a maximum of \$20.00 per visit.

- b. Copays for emergency room visits of 20% of the total charge with a maximum of \$50.00 per visit; however, the copay is waived if the insured is admitted to the hospital.

3. Does not cover the Medicare Part B annual deductible (\$155) or excess charges from doctors who do not accept Medicare assignment.

With these changes RIPEA members will have a choice between two comprehensive supplemental plans, while having some of the lowest costs. RIPEA's current Plan F with the Major Medical has always had the most comprehensive benefits and now you will have a choice of two plans that best suit your individual needs. The N Plan will be available effective January 1, 2011. We will provide more detailed information in the November *COMMUNICATOR* and enrollment forms for both the F Plan and N Plan will be mailed to all members in November for enrollment on January 1, 2011. If you would like to hear more about these changes at an earlier date to help you in your decision-making, please plan to attend the RIPEA Annual Convention on September 13th.

Sagamore Benefits

Protect Your Pockets: Avoiding Fraud Aimed at Older Americans

When well-known 20th century bank robber Willie Sutton was asked why he robbed banks, he reportedly responded, "Because that's where the money is."

The same thinking results in get-rich-quick scam artists targeting seniors, who in theory have accumulated larger nest eggs than younger investors. In fact, people over 60 account for 30 percent of investment fraud victims, with an average loss between \$12,500 and \$25,000.

Some fraudsters target seniors living on a fixed income by preying on their fear of not having enough to cover medical expenses and monthly bills. With promises of guaranteed returns at no risk, a scam artist's sales pitch can appeal to seniors. The reality is that no investment is guaranteed, and there is always an associated risk.

Other scam artists invite seniors to a "free" lunch seminar marketed as a chance to learn about investment strategies without purchasing anything. Seniors often end up being pressured to make hasty investment decisions on the spot or during follow-up

phone calls. You can learn more about detecting "free" lunch seminar scams at www.aarp.org/money.

Sometimes, seniors are offered investments that may be legal, but may not always be suitable for them. For example, with variable annuities, investors are typically locked in for around seven years and incur very high surrender charges if they try to access their money. With medical expenses and often a fixed income, seniors may need more flexibility with their investments.

To avoid falling victim to fraud, make sure the person selling the investment and the investment itself are licensed and registered with the Indiana Securities Division by calling 1-800-223-8791 or using the searchable databases at www.IndianaInvestmentWatch.com. Also, make sure you get written information. Every investment opportunity should have a prospectus or circular that outlines the details of the investment.

Never invest solely based on reputation or word of mouth. In some cases, victims actually recruit more

See Avoiding Fraud on back page

Avoiding Fraud continued from Page 3

victims, not realizing they are part of a scam. Even an investment tip from your best friend should be researched.

Finally, don't be afraid to ask questions or simply end the conversation when offered an investment opportunity that doesn't appear genuine. If the person is legitimate, they should not hesitate to answer any questions you have. If they hold back details or avoid giving written information, tell them you are not interested and walk away.

For more tips on avoiding investment fraud, visit www.IndianaInvestmentWatch.com.

Indiana Secretary of State Todd Rokita

Did You Know . . .

Your membership with RIPEA gives you access to many valuable benefits!

RIPEA endorses the following member benefits:

- Dental & Vision Plans
- Long Term Care/Home Health Care Policy
- First Diagnosis Cancer Policy
- Final Expense Whole Life Policy
- Medical Air Services Association (MASA)
- Government Employee Travel Opportunities (GETO)
- Supplemental Health Insurance
- Prescription Drug Card
- Hearing Plan
- Auto/Home Insurance

If you would like more information on any of these programs, please call the RIPEA office at 789-0244 or 1-800-345-9214.

Important Survey

Your Board of Directors each year proposes legislation for PERF retirees to receive a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and a 13th check. A COLA, generally 2%, is a permanent increase to your PERF benefit. Example: if you receive a \$300.00 defined benefit check from PERF and a 2% COLA is passed, your benefit would be increased to \$306.06 per month. In a subsequent year, if a 2% COLA is passed, your benefit would be increased to \$312.12. A 13th check is a one-time payment based on your years of service at retirement. In 2010, a 13th check was passed with minimum of \$125.00 and a maximum of \$400.00. This will be paid with your regular benefit on September 15th. The Board of Directors on occasion are told by the legislature that we will not receive both a COLA and 13th check and must choose which one. The Board needs your input as to which you prefer and therefore please respond to the following question.

If in the legislative process RIPEA is required to choose a COLA or 13th check, which do you prefer?

COLA 13th Check

Please check one and return to RIPEA Office at 3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305, Indianapolis, IN 46227.

The Board looks forward to your response so it can work more effectively with the Legislature in serving our retirees.

**RETIREE INDIANA
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**
3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305
Indianapolis, IN 46227

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