

## Important Telephone Numbers

Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield  
RIPEA Group Health Plan 1-866-649-2041

AMBA  
Dental/Vision/Long Term Care/Cancer/Whole Life/Medical Air Service  
Association 1-800-258-7041

G.E.T.O.  
Vacation Condos at Reduced Rates - [www.getravelop.com/AMBA](http://www.getravelop.com/AMBA) 1-877-867-3639

Genworth  
Long Term Care 1-765-827-6607

HearPo  
Hearing Plan 1-888-432-7464

MetLife  
Auto/Home 1-800-438-6388

P.E.R.F.  
Retirement Checks & Benefits 1-888-526-1687

## The RIPEA Board of Directors Working for You

Fred L. Armstrong  
Indianapolis

Cleo R. Duncan  
Greensburg

Marriette (Marty) Montgomery  
Indianapolis

Christie A. Bader  
Georgetown

John Galloway  
Indianapolis

Roger Parent  
South Bend

Larry L. Buell  
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[www.RIPEA.org](http://www.RIPEA.org)

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



# RIPEA

Retired Indiana Public Employees Association

## Working for Your Retirement Today

May 2015



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Retired Indiana Public Employees  
Association, Inc.  
3530 S. Keystone Avenue, Suite #305  
Indianapolis, IN 46227

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## A message from the Executive Director

Welcome to the May issue of the *Communicator*. Late spring is an extraordinary time in our state, the (mostly) joyous weather, the blossoming trees, our students and teachers preparing for the end of the school year.

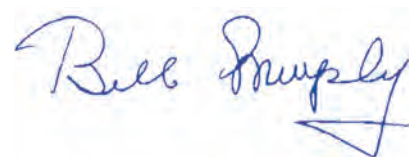
In the midst of everything, there's the state legislature finalizing the spring session. With that comes budget negotiations, lobbying efforts and, finally, votes being cast. Your RIPEA team was a strong presence in the state capitol this session, supporting our shared goal of maximizing members' benefits. In this issue, you'll read the results of those efforts.

Spring is also a busy time for chapter meetings around the state. The RIPEA Board visits as many chapters as possible to share updates on our government and learn about the issues that affect your region. The list of upcoming meetings is listed on our website. Please consider joining us!

As we continue to develop additional ways of communicating important information with you, please consider sharing your email address with us. Email is an ideal way to reach out to you with timely information. Email us at [RIPEA@ripea.org](mailto:RIPEA@ripea.org) to be added to our growing list. Your email is secure; we will never share it with others.

As always, as a RIPEA member we appreciate your support and ask for your suggestions to make RIPEA the most effective association it can be.

Until next time,



Bill Murphy, Executive Director

## RIPEA Foundation Grants

Enclosed is the 2015 RIPEA Foundation Grant Application. If you have encountered a financial hardship you may be entitled to receive assistance in the form of a grant. Grants are made possible due to the generosity of many RIPEA members who contribute to the Foundation.

Please read the information on the back of the application prior to completing. The Foundation Board reviews each application and selects

grant recipients based on need and the amount of money available.

All grant application must be returned by July 1, 2015 and all applicants will be notified by August 1.

**REMINDER: As indicated on the back of the form the application must be completed properly, documentation included and signed to be considered.**



## 2015 Legislative Review

This session, which adjourned near midnight on April 29<sup>th</sup>, was a particularly difficult session for RIPEA to accomplish either one of its primary goals for our members (1) a COLA (2) a 13<sup>th</sup> check. There were three COLA bills and two 13<sup>th</sup> check bills introduced. Only one of these bills, HB1481, a COLA bill, passed the House of Origin. HB 1481 which provided a modest Cost of Living Adjustment died in the Senate Labor & Pensions Committee. At that point any chance for a COLA was gone. The only hope for a 13<sup>th</sup> check was to include it as part of HB1001 State Biennial Budget Bill. Late in the evening of April 28, thanks to the efforts of your RIPEA Board of Directors, Joe Loftus, RIPEA lobbyist, the

Indiana Retired Teachers Association (IRTA) under the leadership of Nancy Tolson and many dedicated Legislators a 13<sup>th</sup> check was included in the Budget Bill. Therefore, if you are a PERF retiree with an effective date of retirement of December 1, 2014 or prior, you will receive with your regular PERF check on September 15, 2015 one of the following additional amounts:

Years of Service	Amount
5—10	\$150.00
10—20	\$275.00
20—30	\$375.00
30+	\$450.00

Although obviously disappointed in not receiving a COLA again this year there were many days near the

end of the session that a 13<sup>th</sup> check was in doubt and our members were in danger of receiving no additional monies this year.

We are grateful to our State Legislators who approved the 13<sup>th</sup> check in the waning days of the session.

## Marty Chitwood 1925—2015

Marty Chitwood, who was featured in our February 2015 *Communicator*, passed away on March 4, 2015 at the age of 90. Marty was a member of the RIPEA Board of Directors for 16 years and served as President of the Board from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009.

Marty was a passionate advocate for RIPEA and a local supporter of all public employees. She will be missed by the RIPEA Board of Directors, staff and members.

R.I.P. Marty

## RIPEA Member Fred Lanahan Honored

Advocate of the Year Award by the Indiana Citizens' Alliance for Transportation. Fred has been active in promoting public transportation and the increased use of public transit for many years.

Fred has also been an advocate for RIPEA and works with numerous state legislators to gain their support of RIPEA's legislative agenda.

Congratulations Fred!

## RIPEA Dental Plans-Contact Information

Thousands of members are currently enjoying the benefits of their RIPEA group dental plans made available through Association Member

Benefits Advisors (AMBA) and underwritten by Ameritas Life Insurance Corp. If you are a participant in the RIPEA dental plan and have questions regarding benefits or billing, contact AMBA at 800-258-7041. If you have questions regarding claims, or need to locate a dentist in your area, please contact Ameritas at 888-239-3336.

## RIPEA is now on Facebook

The next time you're on Facebook, be sure to like us! We recently started a Facebook page where we share important resources and tips for active and future members on member benefits, travel and entertainment. This is just one more way that RIPEA is improving the quality of life for every public employee in the state of Indiana.



# RIPEA FOUNDATION

3530 South Keystone Avenue, Suite 305 Indianapolis, IN 46227  
Telephone Number: 1-800-345-9214

## 2015 Individual Grant Application

***Application must be received in our office by July 1, 2015***

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Soc. Sec. No. (Last 4 only) \_\_\_\_\_

Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Completing This Application Other Than Applicant:  
\_\_\_\_\_

### TOTAL GROSS MONTHLY INCOME:

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Spouse</u>	<u>Total</u>
Social Security	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
PERF	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Employment	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

Amount of Grant Requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: If all lines are not completed and necessary supporting documents are not submitted the application will not be considered. All information on this application is confidential and will not be shared with any person(s) not affiliated with the RIPEA Foundation.**

Purpose for which Grant will be used: (If additional space is needed for a complete explanation, please attach a separate sheet): \_\_\_\_\_

If Grant is to assist with payment of an existing financial obligation, please include a copy of the bill or a list of expenses if submitting a credit card bill.

Will any part of this obligation be paid by insurance: \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, how much? \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Office Use Only** Verification of Membership by: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR GRANT ELGIBILIGTY REQUIREMENTS.**

# RIPEA FOUNDATION

## GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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### ALL APPLICATIONS MUST:

- Have a signature
- Include documentation as proof of financial need
- Provide accurate monthly income totals
- Request an amount no greater than \$1000 (max)

### ACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR REQUEST:

- Medical Bills
- Prescriptions
- Hearing Aids
- Eyeglasses
- Dental
- Utilities
- Handicap Ramps or Equipment (estimate or bill must be included)
- Medical Insurance Premiums
- Credit card bills, when used to pay for acceptable expenses (itemized billing statement must be included as proof)

### UNACCEPTABLE REASONS FOR REQUEST:

- Amounts Over \$1000
- Property Taxes
- Funeral Expenses
- New Roof, New Furnace, Septic Tank Installment, Etc.
- Car Payments, Repairs, or Purchase of a New Car
- Vacations
- College Loans or Tuition
- Mortgage or Home Equity Loans
- Cell Phone Bills
- Cable Bills
- Veterinary Bills
- Legal Fees