

RIPEA COMMUNICATOR is published quarterly by the Retired Indiana Public Employees Association.

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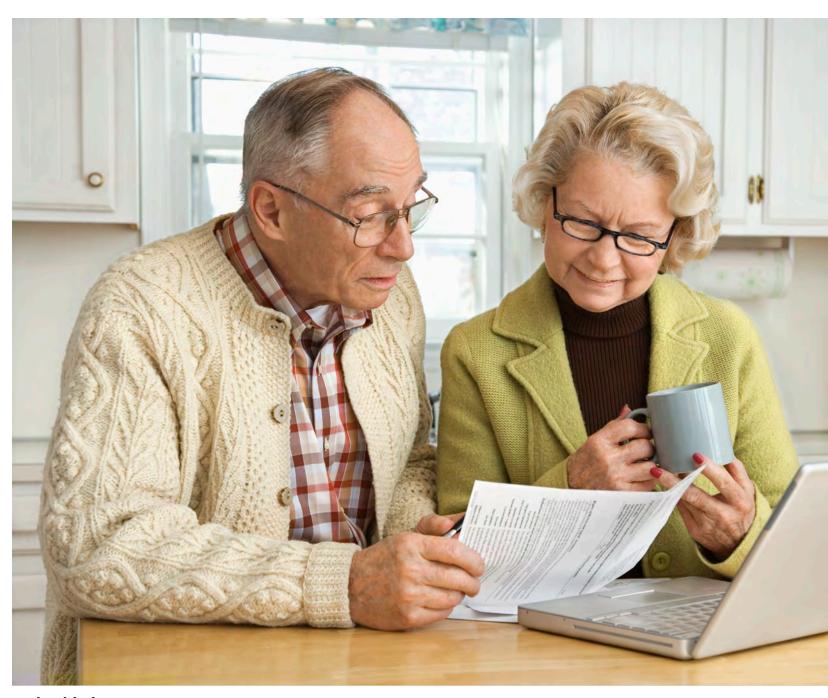
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Retired Indiana Public Employees Association

Working for Your Retirement Today

February 2013



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We Want You!

What makes RIPEA so special is the diversity of its over 40,000 members. From street sweepers to street designers, all working and retired Indiana public employees have a place with RIPEA. Why then is the third largest sector of members of the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF) consisting of state university clerical, service, and certain administrative staff such a small percentage of RIPEA members? It's hard to become a member of an association they don't know anything about. That is where you come in.

As the voice of our members, RIPEA is only as strong as your voices. If you know someone currently working or retired from a state university, encourage them to become a member of RIPEA to not only receive benefits, but help strengthen the legislative power of our retired public servants.

Since 1991, RIPEA has helped increase the monthly benefit of PERF retirees 31% and every year (with the exception of 2004) the yearly one-time payment, the 13th check, has been paid. Along with getting more money for its members, RIPEA provides its members with the opportunity to receive benefits of group insurance plans including a supplemental health plan to members age 65 and older that have Medicare A & B.

RIPEA has local chapters located throughout the state. We encourage members to become involved in the chapters and learn more about RIPEA And tell a friend! The \$12.00 annual RIPEA dues are the best investment PERF members can make. One more member could mean one more vote.

Welcome Aboard Jack!

The RIPEA Board of Directors and staff are pleased to welcome Jack Dillon as our newest board member. Jack Dillon was elected unanimously at the December 5, 2012 board meeting.

Jack is a graduate of the University of Delaware with a Doctorate in Biochemistry. He has served as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at several academic institutions including Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame. Beginning his public service career in 1985 as Chief Chemist with the South Bend Wastewater Plant, he has been continuously employed in several departments of the City of South Bend since then.

Jack will serve as the Active Employee Representative and work to enhance the standard of living for all PERF retirees through Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAS) and 13th checks.



Sincerely,

A Message from the Executive **Director**

The new year has brought with it many changes to our organization.

With the passing of 2012, we said goodbye to a man who dedicated his life to public service. Judge Merton Stanley was a true gentleman who constantly put others before himself. I want to extend my most sincere condolences to his family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

With the arrival of 2013, we trade one distinguished public servant for another. Best wishes to former board President Dr. Craig Hartzer as he moves on to his position as Chief of Staff for Indiana schools and a warm welcome to John "Jack" T. Dillon as our newest board member.

Though the personnel may have changed, RIPEA remains the same, fighting for a Cost of Living Adjustment and a 13th check for all of our members. We have submitted the legislation and are hopeful that our efforts on those two fronts continue to be successful.

We value you as a member. Encourage others you know to become one as well; the greater our numbers, the greater our influence in the state legislature. Let's make 2013 a year of growth and success.

Bill Murphy

Bills, Bills, Bills

The RIPEA Board of Director's continues to represent our members at the State level with the submission of 2 legislative proposals. We submitted for a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and 13th check for all of our members. As of the date this article is being written, the COLA bill has not been assigned a number. The 13th check bill is HB 1080. HB 1080 calls for a 13th check as follows:

Years of Service	Amount
5 years but less than 10 (Disability Retirees Only)	\$150.00
10 years but less than 20	\$275.00
20 years but less than 30	\$375.00
30 years or more	\$450.00

These are the same amounts as the last 2 years. This bill is at the very beginning stages of the legislative process and, although hopeful, we have a long way to go.

We will keep you informed of the progress of both bills on our website at www. ripea.org. If you do not have access to the website, please feel free to call our office at 1-800-345-9214 for an update.



From RIPEA to the Ritz

We want to thank Dr. Craig Hartzer for his leadership and wise counsel to our Board of Directors over the last few years. Dr. Hartzer was named Chief of Staff by Glenda Ritz, new Indiana Superintendent of Schools, and assumed his new duties on January 15, 2013.

Dr. Hartzer was elected to the RIPEA board in 2006 and then to the position of Board President on July 1, 2011, serving in that position until his resignation.

A Life of Service: **Judge Merton Stanley** Remembered May 2, 1917 **December 18, 2012**

Judge Merton Stanley passed away on December 18, 2012 at the age of 95, just over a month after the passing of his wife of 75 years, Thelma. Judge Stanley had a long and distinguished career in both the private and public sector. He served on the Howard County Circuit Court from January 1949 to May 1961 and was a State Senator in the Indiana Legislature from 1970 to 1979.

RIPEA was honored to have Judge Stanley serve as a member of the RIPEA Board of Directors from December 1999 to December 2008. The Board of Directors and staff appreciated his wise counsel and gentlemanly manner. Our thoughts are with his family.





