

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

Genworth
Long Term Care 1-765-827-6607

AmpliFon
Hearing Plan 1-888-432-7464

MetLife
Auto/Home 1-800-438-6388

P.E.R.F.
Retirement Checks & Benefits 1-888-286-3544

MASA
Emergency Medical Transportation Services 1-800-258-7041

The RIPEA Board of Directors Working for You

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Indianapolis

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Harold Woodruff
Frankfort

Cleo R. Duncan
Greensburg

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

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3530 South Keystone Ave.,
Suite 305
Indianapolis, IN 46227
317-789-0244
800-345-9214

H.B. Shepherd, Founder
William R. Murphy,
Executive Director

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

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

February 2018



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A Message from the Executive Director

Welcome to the February issue of the *Communicator*.

2018 is starting off both cold and snowy. According to Punxsutawney Phil, we still have many colder and snowy days until spring, so stay healthy and keep warm!

Here at RIPEA, we believe it is important for our members to stay informed and get involved. Chapters across the state meet 2 times a year, spring and fall, to renew friendships, hear speakers talk about matters of interest to retirees, and recommend legislation. Check out the handy list on the next page and learn about your regions' RIPEA chapter.

This past year RIPEA lost two outstanding members, **W. Joseph Doran** (1921-2017) and **Ardith West** (1925-2017). Both World War II veterans, Joe played a vital role in establishing and maintaining the St. Joseph County Chapter of RIPEA. He dedicated his life to his faith, his family and the community of South Bend.

Ardith spent much of his career as a member of the State Board of Accounts and was a well-respected public servant. Ardith was part of our Board of Directors from 1993 to 2000.

May they both rest in peace.

Until next time,

Bill Murphy

Bill Murphy, Executive Director

When Seconds Count, Count on MASA

RIPEA has endorsed the Medical Air Services Association (MASA). MASA provides life-saving emergency assistance from home or while traveling around the world. MASA provides coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to protect RIPEA members from catastrophic financial losses due to emergency transportation. Coverage starts at \$24.50 a month. The Platinum membership includes:

- Emergency Air Ambulance / Medical Evacuation
- Non-Injury Transportation
- Commercial Air Transportation

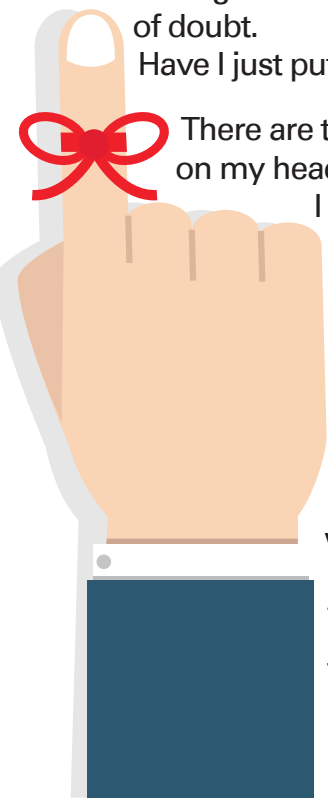
- Repatriation / Recuperation
- Return Transportation
- Escort Transportation
- Vehicle Return
- Mortal Remains Transportation
- Organ Retrieval
- Organ Recipient Transportation
- Ground Ambulance-Unlimited
- Helicopter Transportation
- World Wide Coverage

To learn more or enroll, call (800) 258-7041 or visit www.myAMBAbenefits.info/ripea

It Happens to Us All

Just a line to say I'm living, that I'm not among the dead. Though I'm getting more forgetful, and more mixed up in my head.

For, sometimes I can't remember, when I stand at the foot of the stairs. If I must go up for something, or I've just come down from there.



Standing before the fridge...so often my poor mind is full of doubt.
Have I just put food away...or have I come to take some out?

There are times when it's dark out, with my night cap on my head.
I don't know if I'm retiring, or just getting out of bed.

So, if it's my turn to write to you, there's no need in getting sore.
I may think that I have written and I don't want to be a bore.

So, remember I do love you, and I wish that you were here.
But now it's nearly mail time, so I must say "good bye", my dear.

There I stood beside the mail box, with my face so very red.
Instead of mailing you this letter, I opened it instead.

INPRS Has a New Telephone Number

Need to reach INPRS? Call us at our new number (844) 464-6777

RIPEA Chapters

RIPEA chapters are an important part of our association. Interested in getting involved? Attend one of our upcoming chapter meetings this spring. Our current chapters:

NAME	PRESIDENT	NEXT MEETING DATE	CONTACT
Central Indiana	Phil Conklin	TBD	317-729-0579
Southeast	Mary Craney	April 11	812-283-7406
Northeast	Dick Dodge	TBD	260-636-3257
Howard County	Ann Leal	May 7	765-860-3088
Terre Haute	Judy Anderson	May 1*	812-234-5426
East Central	David Cook	TBD	decook7@juno.com
Lake County	Muriel Hanks	TBD	219-977-0570
Greater Bartholomew Co.	Sue Paris	May 14	812-603-5872

* Speaker-John Passe-Terre Haute Police Chief

Please consider attending a chapter meeting in your area. If the chapter in your area does not have a meeting date set for the spring meeting, call the RIPEA office.

Your Legislative Corner

The following bills concerning PERF have been introduced in the 2018 Legislative session:

- SB 229: Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), Senator David Niezgodski
Provides a COLA for not only PERF retirees, but also retirees of 3 other funds. The increase would be based on the number of service years a retiree worked in a PERF covered position and their date of retirement.
- SB 373: Senator Greg Walker
Establishes supplemental allowance reserve accounts for both PERF and 2 other funds. It will set up several sources of income to fund supplemental allowance reserve accounts. These supplemental allowance reserve accounts will be used to pay any future COLA or 13th check passed by the legislature.
- Your Board of Directors is considering the following 2018 Legislative proposals:
 - A RIPEA member be appointed to the INPRS board and/or as a member of the Pension Management Oversight Committee (PMOC).
 - Exempt a portion of the PERF benefit from state income tax.
 - Increase the 2018 13th check by \$50.

Note: A 13th check was approved by the Indiana General Assembly last year for 2017 and 2018. If passed, the proposal would increase the approved 13th Check by \$50. If this does not pass, the 13th Check paid on September 15, 2018 will be in the same amount as 2017.