



ELECTION EDITION

IT'S TIME TO VOTE

The Illinois General Assembly passed legislation increasing the SERS Board of Trustees from seven to thirteen people. The new Board will include four active members and two retirees who are elected by SERS members.

* ***This special election is to fill one additional retired member trustee to the Board.*** Retirees who wanted to become a SERS trustee, had to file a Statement of Candidacy and have a Nominating Petition signed by at least 100 SERS retirees.

The candidates also provide short biographies included below. They are listed in the order they appear on the ballot.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a ballot and a return postage-paid envelope. Read the instructions on the ballot carefully and make your selection. In order for your ballot to count, it must be clearly marked and returned in the envelope provided by June 26. Ballots received after June 26 will be disqualified. We encourage your participation.

After the election results are tabulated and certified, they will be published in the September edition of the *Informer*. If you have questions about the election, contact us in Springfield (217-785-6975) or Chicago (312-814-5853).

Donald R. Grammer

I began my career with the Illinois Division of Highways as a Trainee in 1957. I retired in 1991 as the District Engineer in the IDOT Carbon-dale office.

I loved my job and still think the State of Illinois is one of the greatest places in the world to work. I would go back again in a heartbeat if age wasn't creeping up on me.

I am 69 years old and in good health. For the last five years, I have been pastor of the First Baptist Church in Herrin.

My wife Sandy and I reside in Murphysboro. We have six children, sixteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I enjoy working with people, especially senior citizens. I find that I usually relate well with them.

I believe my long years of state service and my many years working with people as a pastor qualify me to sit on the SERS Board of Trustees.

I would appreciate your vote for this office.

Virginia Yates

I am strongly committed to assuring the fiscal soundness of the State Employees' Retirement System. For too long, the state has failed to make its required contributions, placing the future stability of SERS and the retirement security of its participants, in jeopardy.

The SERS Board must be a forceful advocate for full funding of the pension system. SERS annuitants deserve to live their retirement years with dignity and security. I will be a strong voice for protecting and advancing their interests on the Board of Trustees.

I was employed by the State of Illinois for 27 years, working at the Murray Developmental Center in Centralia. I retired from state service in 1991.

I currently serve as the state president of AFSCME Illinois Retirees Chapter 31, as well as serving on the national council of AFSCME retirees. In that capacity, I have been involved in a wide range of activities, including efforts to preserve and strengthen both Social Security and Medicare.

I am a veteran of the Korean War and a member of the American Legion. I am also a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club and the Railroader's Retirement Association.

2009 MYTHS & REALITIES WORKSHOP

SERS offers the Myths and Realities of Retirement (MRR) workshop to retirees, survivors, disability benefit recipients and their guests.

The MRR is a free, one-day workshop which runs from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. It examines financial scams, the effects of inflation, estate planning, group insurance, and health & leisure. Participants will find this workshop worthwhile and informative.

If you would like to attend an MRR workshop, complete and return the application to us. You can also call our office to register. After you are registered, we will confirm your enrollment by letting you know the exact workshop location.

Circle the 2009 MRR Workshop You Would Like to Attend

Please disregard the numbers in parentheses. They are for internal office use.

Jun. 2	Mt. Vernon (32)	Sep. 8	Utica (43)
Jun. 9	Springfield (01)	Sep. 15	Bourbonnais (25)
Jun. 16	Rockford (90)	Sep. 22	Rockford (90)
Jun. 30	Champaign (37)	Sep. 29	Springfield (01)
Jul. 7	Chicago (02)	Oct. 6	Effingham (67)
Jul. 14	Bloomington (04)	Oct. 14	Springfield (01)
Jul. 21	Moline (46)	Oct. 20	Orland Park (09)
Jul. 28	Springfield (01)	Oct. 28	Chicago (02)
Aug. 4	Carbondale (50)	Nov. 17	Marion (07)
Aug. 11	Chicago (02)	Nov. 24	Joliet (47)
Aug. 19	Utica (43)		

Name _____

Social Security Number _____

Are You Bringing a Guest? _____

Return This Form To:

State Retirement Systems, Field Services Division
2101 S. Veterans Parkway, P. O. Box 19255
Springfield, IL 62794-9255
217-785-6979 Fax: 217-785-7019

