



ELECTION EDITION

IT'S TIME TO VOTE

The SERS Retirement Act requires four active members and two retirees to serve on the Board of Trustees of the State Employees' Retirement System. This election is to fill ONE of the two retired member trustees.

SERS retirees who wanted to become a trustee, had to file a Statement of Candidacy with our office and have a Nominating Petition signed by at least 100 retired members. The candidates also provided short biographies which are included in this Informer. 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 May 31. Ballots received after this date 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 at 217-785-6975.

SHIRLEY BYRD

Shirley Byrd is a candidate for the retired trustee of the State Employees' Retirement System. She is a strong advocate for retirees and has a long record of service in her community. Shirley retired in 1991 after working at Manteno State Hospital for 21 years, and at the Tinley Park Mental Health Center for seven years.

During her employment, she consistently worked to improve the lives of her coworkers as well as patients. Immediately after retirement, she joined AFSCME Illinois Retiree Chapter 31, where she was

elected to the office of Trustee, and presently to her second term as Executive Vice-President.

Shirley has also served two terms as trustee and one term as mayor of the village of Sun River Terrace, providing her with a sound grounding in fiscal matters.

She had also been involved in a wide variety of other community activities, including serving on the Kankakee Federation of Labor Community Service Board and on state representative Lisa Dugan's Senior Advisory Committee.

Shirley Byrd has proven herself a dedicated advocate for retirees.

GARRETT JOHNSON

I was born in Pana Illinois in 1940. I graduated from Pana High School and Southern Illinois University. Prior to college graduation, I served in the Illinois Army National Guard where I was active duty for one year during the Berlin Crisis. I also worked as a mail carrier and as a machinist at McDonnell-Douglas. I earned a Master of Arts degree from Sangamon State University.

I worked as an engineer with Public Health and Illinois EPA. I worked several years for the Dana Corporation in Havana. Finally, I worked for over 25 years at Capital Development Board, retiring as senior project manager.

I am a member of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers. I've also served as the chapter president for the Society of Heating & Air Conditioning Engineers. As community director for my local K of C, I organized a medical equipment and blood drive.

My wife and I are members of the Springfield Ski Club where we served as trip leaders. Since retiring, we have had the good fortune of traveling to my grandmother's homeland in Slovakia and my grandfather's homeland in Poland.

I retired with the understanding that certain benefits would be available to us during retirement. As a trustee, I would be an advocate for the continuation of these benefits. I believe my training and experiences will make me a good trustee.

2011 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 2011 MRR Workshop You Would Like to Attend
Please disregard the numbers in parentheses. They are for internal office use.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jun. 7 Springfield (01) FULL | Aug. 30 Gurnee (48) |
| Jun. 14 Marion (07) | Sep. 7 Rockford (90) |
| Jun. 21 Champaign (37) | Sep. 14 Springfield (01) |
| Jun. 29 Rockford (90) | Sep. 20 Kankakee (12) FULL |
| Jul. 6 Schaumburg (77) FULL | Sep. 27 Moline (46) |
| Jul. 19 Rock Falls (66) | Oct. 4 Fairview Heights (18) |
| Jul. 27 Chicago (02) FULL | Oct. 18 Effingham (67) |
| Aug. 2 Springfield (01) | Oct. 25 Matteson (17) |
| Aug. 9 Bloomington (04) | Nov. 8 Springfield (01) |
| Aug. 16 Carbondale (50) | Nov. 29 Joliet (47) |
| Aug. 23 Utica (30) | Dec. 13 Chicago (02) |

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: 217-557-5154

