



# SILVER KNIGHTS HERALD

2004  
FALL  
EDITION

A PUBLICATION OF THE RUTGERS STAFF RETIREES ASSOCIATION

## Marc Mappen Returns to Profile the History of New Jersey for Silver Knights at Fall Luncheon

Dr. Marc Mappen, Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission, will again combine his expertise on New Jersey's life and times with a sense of humor that will capture the imagination of his audience at the Silver Knights Fall Luncheon to be held at the Neilson Dining Hall on the Douglass-Cook Campus, Thursday, October 21, 2004.

This time around his focus will be on the *Encyclopedia of New Jersey*, an A to Z reference work, newly published by the Rutgers University Press. It is the most comprehensive reference work ever written on the Garden State. The co-editors in chief, Maxine Lurie and Marc Mappen, took nine years to produce and complete the Encyclopedia. It was overseen by an editorial board of experts in a variety of fields and approximately 800 authors wrote entries.

This one-volume, 968-page reference book contains nearly 3,000 entries, 585 illustrations and 130 maps. The topics covered include architecture, arts and entertainment, biographies of famous New Jerseyans, business and industry, ethnic groups, geography, history, legal decisions, native plants and animals, municipalities and counties, science and technology, sports and recreation, and much more.

Every New Jersey county and municipality has its own entry. Native Americans and ethnic groups are explored as are religious, political, historical, and cultural organizations.

Comprehensive lists range from historic sites to missile sites.

Readers can find profiles of poets and painters, athletes and astronauts, governors and generals. Historic triumphs like the Revolutionary War Battle of Trenton and tragedies like the Hindenberg explosion are chronicled.

Dr. Mappen who is the Executive Director of the New Jersey Historical Commission, a state agency whose mission is to preserve, disseminate and promote the history of the Garden State, is also an author of note.

He is the author of *Jerseyana: The Underside of New Jersey History* (Rutgers University Press, 1992), described as a "thoroughly readable and highly recommended" [Princeton Packet], "delightful popular history" [Trenton Times], and "extremely entertaining" [Library Journal]. He has also written *Murder and Spies, Lovers and Lies: Settling the Great Controversies of American History* (Avon Books, 1996) and edited *Witches and Historians: Interpretations of Salem* (Krieger Publishing Company, 1980).

Dr. Mappen who holds a Ph.D. in American History was an associate dean at Rutgers University prior to becoming executive director of the New Jersey Historical Commission. He has written articles for the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Rutgers Magazine* and other publications. He has appeared on the History channel, and been interviewed on the National

Public Radio program "*All Things Considered*." He has received awards from the Advocates for New Jersey History, the South Jersey Cultural Alliance, and the New Jersey chapter of the Society of the Cincinnati. ■

### FALL LUNCHEON TO INCLUDE BUSINESS SESSION FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The luncheon agenda will also include the election of officers in accordance with the bylaws of the organization which requires that all officers shall be elected for terms of two years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Joan DeBoer, Chair of the Nominating Committee, has noted that the bylaws also provide for the officers succeeding themselves in office if re-elected.

The membership shall be asked to vote on the slate submitted by the nominating committee. To date the committee has not received any suggestions for nomination to office from the membership. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Anyone planning to nominate a member of the association for office is required to obtain the approval of the individual prior to submitting the person for nomination to office at the October 21st luncheon.

Should there be no additional nominees put forth the Secretary shall cast the affirmative vote confirming the unanimous acceptance of the slate of officers for a new two-year term. ■



## **Rutgers Faculty, Teaching Staff OK New Pay Contract**

### **96% of Union Also Ratifies Four Year Deal**

Rutgers University's faculty and teaching staff have overwhelmingly approved a contract that provides 4,500 members more money during each of the next three years

The June agreement broke a year-long impasse that threatened to turn into a strike this fall..

Terms of the four-year contract guarantees faculty members a 9 percent pay raise. The university's 2,600 full-time faculty members are also eligible to earn an additional 9 percent in merit raises during the period.

Teaching staff will see their pay grow at an even greater rate. The university's 1,900 graduate and teaching assistants will receive 26 percent pay raises over the next three years.

The contract dates to the 2003-04 academic year, but neither faculty nor teaching staff members received raises for that period. However, graduate and teaching assistants can expect a full refund of their student fees for that year, totalling \$1,100.

Under the package deal reached in June, the average salary, with merit pay, for an assistant professor in the final year of the contract would be \$71,207. An associate professor would earn \$100,622. A full professor would earn \$118,378.

More than 96 percent of the 1,110 union members who voted endorsed the deal. The vote was 1,070 in favor, 37 opposed, with 3 abstentions.

The contract covers the academic years of 2003-2007 and took effect July 1. AAUP leaders said the contract provides salary increases comparable to those at other public colleges and universities in New Jersey.

"The agreement we have reached is a good one, for both sides," related Rutgers history professor Rudolph Bell and AAUP president, upon the finalization of the agreement. ■

## **State Health Benefits Program Discourages Covered Retirees from Enrolling in Medicare Prescription Drug Discount Card Program**

The new Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 is of great importance to many seniors, especially the sections of this law pertaining to prescription drug coverage.

The coverage consists of two parts, the first of which is referred to as the **Medicare Prescription Drug Discount Card and Transitional Assistance Program** [Discount Card Program]. The second, is the **Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit** [Drug Benefit]. The Discount Card Program took effect on or about the first of June 2004, while the Drug Benefit is scheduled to take effect on the first of January 2006.

Enrollment in the Discount Card Program and the Drug Benefit is voluntary.

As expected there was a rash of activity from the federal government's Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and approved Discount Card Program sponsors encouraging seniors to enroll in a program. **The State Health Benefits Program [SHBP] is discouraging its covered retirees from enrolling in any of these programs. The SHBP believes that State retirees will not benefit financially from enrolling in a Discount Card Program.**

As reported in the Spring/Summer 2004 edition of the SHBP *Health Reporter* here are several reasons for stating this.

First, almost all senior citizens who elect to enroll in a Discount Card Program will have to pay an annual enrollment fee of approximately \$30 to the program sponsor.

Second, the discounts available under that program will usually be significantly less than those that the SHBP receives from its prescription drug benefit contractors and offers to its retirees.

Third, any retiree who is enrolled in the SHBP who attempts to achieve a savings on his or her prescription drugs by using the discount card will find that he or she will not be able to use their SHBP plan's prescription drug card, but will have to pay the price established by the Discount Card Program sponsor out-of-pocket.

**Retirees are urged to carefully read all the promotional material distributed by Discount Drug Program sponsors to make sure they fully understand each program's rules. The SHBP will not reimburse retirees for the cost of enrolling in a Discount Card Program.** ■

## **Student Economists Bank Win for Rutgers**

Undergraduate economics students led by Professor Jeffrey L. Rubin (RC'70) won second prize last fall in the New York Federal Reserve Bank's College Fed Challenge.

The team of students, including contestants Michael McDonough, Mark Klee, Yoni Yahalom, Puneet Sondhi, Priya Tandon, Kevin Bielanski and Tina Tahaliani, from the New Brunswick campus, argued that the Fed should hold interest rates steady. Their presentation earned a \$30,000 prize donated by the Moody's Foundation and presented to Holly M. Smith, executive dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. ■

## **Student-Athletes Continue to Advance Academic Excellence**

The athletic department's emphasis on academics and the commitment of its coaches and student-athletes continues to pay dividends. This is illustrated by the accomplishment of the student-athletes' over-all 2.852 GPA recorded for all sports as of the end of the Spring '04 semester.. In addition the number of student-athletes who earned their degree continues to exceed the national standard for graduation of student-athletes. ■



## Sports Shorts

### **Scarlet R Adds New Faces to Its Lineup**

The Scarlet R has recruited two key players to its roster, and their presence has already strengthened the fund-raising efforts of the athletic department. With the addition of Tom Murray and Josh Hodes executive director Brian Crockett has brought a pair of unique and fresh perspectives to the organization.

Murray, who earned his BS degree in marketing, at Providence College, is a former standout baseball player and comes to Rutgers after almost 11 years in the New York City Financial Scene. Originally from Andover, MA, Tom has embraced his return to college athletics for the first time since his playing days with the Friars.

"I feel that athletic fund-raising puts me on the front lines of the department," said Murray. "I know first-hand what it can do for an athletic program. I consider myself lucky to be a part of a program that is on its way up. I've wanted to return to college athletics for a long time and it was worth the wait."

Josh Hodes, a 2002 graduate of Rutgers with a degree in Exercise Science and Sport Studies is a familiar face around the athletic facilities. He worked with the men's basketball team as an undergraduate and also worked with athletic director Bob Mulcahy at football games.

A tireless and devoted worker, Hodes' return to the athletic department in a professional capacity is an exciting opportunity. Prior to joining the Rutgers Foundation, Josh worked at Nelligan Sports Marketing. He worked closely with the athletic department staffs at St. John's and Providence, implementing their marketing objectives.

He is focused on increasing the amount of donors giving back to Rutgers athletics while concentrating on young alumni like himself and tapping into their gift giving potential.

Hodes has made a smooth transition into his role, reacquainting himself with old friends and revisiting fond memories from his undergraduate days. It is, in many ways, a homecoming for Josh. ■

### **State-of-the-Art Training and Rehab Center Latest Addition to Football Complex**

Dr. Bill Bauer and his wife, Barbara, answered the call for the need of a new commitment to the football complex renovation project. After reaching out to athletic director Bob Mulcahy to see where their contributions were most needed, the Bauers decided to donate \$500,000 to the construction of a state-of-the-art training and rehabilitation center which will benefit student-athletes from all 30 varsity programs.

The Bill and Barbara Training and Rehabilitation Center, the latest shining example of their love of Rutgers, is the only one of its kind on campus and is a testament to their support of all Rutgers programs.

With a dozen treatment tables, 10 ultrasound machines, 8 taping tables, a host of cardiovascular and strength and conditioning equipment, the new training room gives Rutgers every advantage in both the prevention and rehabilitation of injuries.

Two new advancements in technology--the Biodex machine and the Hydroworks pool--are featured in the training room as well. The Biodex System 3 offers pioneering breakthroughs in neuromuscular testing and rehabilitation technology, providing student-athletes a fast effective, documented return to action.

The Hydroworks pool is part of the new "wet room" that also features a hot tub and cold tub. It contains a treadmill on the floor of the pool, providing water resistance while running and putting less strain on joints dur-

ing rehab.

"In addition to the renovation of the facilities that we need to make first-class, we also feel it is important to make annual contributions to the teams," added Barbara.

Numbered among the generosity of their many contributions over the years is the new track and field complex which has hosted a pair of Big East Outdoor Track and Field Championships and will host the 2004 and 2005 championships.

The rehabilitation center, as well as the track and field complex, is used primarily by student-athletes, but also by the entire campus community.

The Bauers' love of Rutgers athletics stems, first and foremost from the fact that both graduated from the University. Bill, who worked as a professor in the Rutgers ceramic engineering department, graduated in 1942, Barbara in 1946. Both have been staunch Rutgers fans since their arrival on campus. They have been around sports their entire lives and have come to appreciate the effort and work done at Rutgers.

The Bauers proudly boast that they have attended roughly 90% of all Rutgers football games, home and away, since World War II.

"We are very happy with the rehabilitation center because it will benefit all sports," said Bill. "We do our best to support every sport at Rutgers."

"It is very satisfying to see people using the things that we have donated," added Barbara. "Knowing that people are benefitting from your donations is the best part of it all. ■

### **Big East Conference In Transition**

The Conference will display a different configuration this year with the loss of talent-rich members, Miami and Virginia Tech, plus Boston College which is in a state of transition.

Connecticut joins the Big East in this season's patchwork realignment along with mainstays, Rutgers, Pittsburgh, Syracuse, and West Virginia.

"This is an unusual year to say the

See *Sport Shorts*, page 5

## **Silver Knights to Host Hospitality Tent in Celebration of Homecoming 2004**

### **Rutgers Athletics Salutes Silver Knights with Special Invitation to Rutgers-Temple Football Game**

The Silver Knights will be honored again at Homecoming on Saturday, October 16, 2004. This is the second annual day of recognition for all Silver Knights.

The theme for this Homecoming is "All Roads Lead to Rutgers." And who better to celebrate this theme than the thousands of Silver Knights from all over the tri--state area and elsewhere coming to Rutgers.

All Silver Knights and their guests are provided the opportunity to attend the Rutgers-Temple game at a special discounted ticket price. You should have already received a special mailing from Rutgers Athletics inviting you to the festivities. If you have not made your reservation yet, you will find a reservation form on page 7 of this newsletter.

In addition, you and yours can attend the Homecoming Village, located a short walking distance from the stadium and visit the Silver Knights hospitality tent. Come and meet and renew acquaintances with co-workers and other retirees, catch up on the University and your unit's news, listen to the Silver Knights sponsored Deans of Harmony Barbershop Quartet, or just sit and relax in the fresh air.

The Homecoming Village also provides a place where you can bring your significant other, your children and their children to enjoy the colorful collegiate atmosphere. Your grandchildren will enjoy the play area, games, amusements, treats, etc. and the adults will enjoy the numerous Rutgers student and alumni organization tent exhibits, displays, food, refreshments, music, dancing, singing, entertainment, etc..

If you have attended any of the Silver Knights luncheons over the past few years you have witnessed the growth of the organization. This growth comes from the active involve-

ment of the members working for the benefit of its membership and for the good of the University. Your attendance at the Homecoming Village and the football game will be a major contribution to the Silver Knights, the University and to the student-athletes.

Your commitment and work at the University helped bring Rutgers to the forefront of great universities. Keep and renew your ties with the University, show your family a collegiate tradition, and introduce your grandchildren to Rutgers by bringing them to Homecoming..

The Homecoming Village will open at 9:00 a.m.-three hours before the Rutgers-Temple football game which kickoffs at 12:00 noon.

Support the Silver Knights. Make the commitment now to attend the Homecoming festivities. Call your family, relatives, friends and former co-workers now and make arrangements to come together to enjoy a wonderful day. *Wear red to the game in support of the team!* ■

## **Historic Cape May Trip Sunny Summer Success**

On a beautiful morning in early June 34 Silver Knights and friends met at the Cook Campus and boarded a bus off to the historic landmark city of Cape May.

After the bus driver discovered that we should not be on the New Jersey Turnpike but rather the Garden State Parkway, we turned back and headed in the right direction, arriving only 20 minutes late at our first stop.

Our lunch at the Washington Inn was superb. The food was excellent and the service smooth and extremely efficient. Choice of entrees included sauteed chicken topped with spinach, onion and bleu cheese or baked Atlantic salmon drizzled in a lobster cream sauce preceded by a delicious house salad with light mustard vinaigrette dressing. Dessert was a scrumptious frozen mousse of pecans and cream.

Reboarding our bus we moved on to the Physick House, a well-pre-

served, turn-of-the-century, landmark home. Half of the group then toured the house while the other half boarded the trolley and toured the historic and colorful town of Cape May.

Both tours had excellent guides who were able to bring life at the turn-of-the-century in Cape May to reality.

We had hoped to visit a shopping mall, always a highlight on such a trip, but the "thief of time" beat us and so we again boarded our bus for the return trip to the Cook Campus at about 7:30 p.m. ■

## **Rutgers Factoids ...**

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### **Early Life at Livingston College**

The 800 nontraditional students who in 1969 formed the inaugural class of Livingston College--a small, liberal arts school with an experimental philosophy that encouraged individualism and disavowed hierarchical structures--more than likely saw the irony that their dining hall was a mess hall, the academic offices were converted army warehouses and classes were held in an officers' club and a civil-defense building.

Before the federal government turned the 540 acres that became the Livingston campus over to Rutgers, the military-surplus property had been Camp Kilmer, the chief embarkation base that processed millions of World War II GIs being shipped overseas.

### **Married Quarters**

Veterans returning from World War II were quick to marry their sweethearts and enter college on the GI bill, giving Rutgers many newlyweds with no place to nest.

The solution was a 101-unit trailer park called Hillside, on property that now makes up the Busch campus, where married veterans and their wives could rent an 8' x 18' trailer for \$26 a month. Utilities were included, but they were stuck without plumbing or refrigerators and cursed with kerosene heat. Things weren't all bad, remembers one resident: Within

See **Rutgers Factoids**, page 5

# CHECKLIST:



## **Things That Must Be Done Upon the Death of a Retiree or Spouse**

*The following information was prepared by Retired Faculty Association Director Todd Hunt and has been reviewed by University Human Resources and by the State of New Jersey Division of Pensions and Benefits.*

Many actions and procedures, including the probate of the will, can wait until after the spouse's initial period of bereavement. But, for the retiree covered by the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program, some required steps should be taken as soon as possible.

✓ **Switch Spouse's Health Care Plan.** While the retiree was alive, his or her medical care also covered the spouse. When the retiree dies, the spouse must move to a new group policy and must pay premiums. To report the death, contact the New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits by calling Client Services in Trenton at 609-292-7524. They will start the process by sending a form to the spouse which requires his or her signature. The group policy for spouses of deceased state employees is much less costly than the health insurance you would have to purchase on your own. For information about health insurance, contact the Retiree Benefits Office in Trenton at 609-633-7572.

✓ **Stop Medicare Reimbursement.** If the retiree has been receiving monthly reimbursement from the State of New Jersey for the Medicare Part B payment that is automatically deducted from his or her monthly Social Security check, the death notification call mentioned above is sufficient to stop further payment. However, if the retiree's spouse also receives reimbursement from the state, the retiree should notify Client

Services at the number above, or call 609-292-3735.

✓ **Collect Insurance Benefit.** Upon the death of the retiree, the state pays ABP retirees an insurance benefit equal to one half of the salary received during the terminal year (3/16 for PERS retirees) if the retiree was 60 or older with 10 or more years of service at retirement. If you have filed a beneficiary form with the state, the check will be mailed to the person(s) designated. If you have not filed a beneficiary form, the insurance becomes part of the estate and will be subject to probate. The beneficiary form can be downloaded from the website: [www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions](http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions). Or, to receive the form by fax, call 609-777-1931 and request item 8114; enter your area code and fax number. You can also e-mail a request for the form to [pensions.nj@treas.state.nj.us](mailto:pensions.nj@treas.state.nj.us).

✓ **Notify University Human Resources.** Call 732-445-3020, Ext. 604 and speak with Teresa Ellmyer. If she is unavailable, call Ext. 683 and speak with Larry Halisky or Valerie Hunter. Have the Social Security number of the deceased, date of death and retirement date. They will fill a "Death of University Retiree/Spouse" form with information including the name of the department with which he or she was affiliated, the funeral home and information about viewing and services, and next of kin. They can notify the NJ Division of Pensions as well as TIAA-CREF, if applicable. Also, they will notify the office of the Executive Vice President for Administrative Affairs so that a condolence letter is sent, the flag in front of Old Queens administration building is lowered for three days, and flowers or fruit may be sent to the funeral home. They will update the university's database so that when former colleagues and former students attempt to contact the deceased, they will be notified of the passing. They also will find the answers to any questions you may have. ■

## **Rutgers Factoids**

continued from page 4

the year, the village was experiencing the first reverberation of the "Baby Boom."

### **Oscar Winning Knights**

Who are the two Oscar-winning alumni? No, not Calista Flockhart [MSGA'88] nor James Gandolfini [RC'83], but Mr. Magoo and Ray Stark.

The myopic Quincy Magoo, a graduate of the Class of 1949, received Oscars for best short subject (cartoon) in 1954 and again in 1956. Ray Stark who left Rutgers a year before his 1935 graduation to marry the daughter of comedienne Fannie Brice, won the Academy's Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award in 1979 in recognition of his work as head of Columbia Pictures and producer of films like *The Way We Were*, *The Sunshine Boys* and *Funny Girl* which was based on the life of his mother-in-law. ■

## **Sport Shorts**

continued from page 3

least," Big East Commissioner Michael Tranghese said. "We have 7 programs here that all think they can win this league. The beauty of it is that the winner will represent the conference in a BCS bowl game."

Meanwhile, Cincinnati, Louisville and South Florida will bolster the Big East lineup in 2005

Despite the scarcity of big-time names, 5 Big East teams may earn a bowl bid. The conference will play in a BCS game, while 3 additional teams will vie for invitations from the Toyota Gator Bowl, Insight Bowl and Continental Tire Bowl.

Tranghese also announced that the Big East has entered into a new arrangement with the Motor City Bowl, which has ties to the Mid-American Conference and Big Ten. But if either cannot send a representative for any reason a Big East Member will be considered. ■

# SILVER KNIGHTS PHOTO GALLERY



Seated: Muriel Wilson, Idella Cooks, Earline McLaughlin, Elinor Peckham.  
Standing: Dorothy Smith, Elinor Berrey, Laszlo Aes



Seated: Walter Rojek, Raquel Sarmiento, Sally Kitzki, Phil Cassino. Standing:  
Dorothy Abramson, Barbara L. Johnson, Mary Ellen Giddes, Barbara Sesce.



Seated: Olive Van Voorhis, Eileen Wade, Betty Major, Rachel McDuffy. Standing:  
Joseph Van Voorhis, Maria Machos, Rae Frank, Howie Stockman.



Seated: Jean Naterli, Kathryn Donelon, Al Kaszubski, Margaret Cochran.  
Standing: Larry DeCarr, Nancy DeCarr, Rose Cipriani, Irma Lakatos.



Seated: Esther Kacso, Joan Shumsky, June Masewskt, Joann DeBoer. Standing:  
Norma Reiss, Mary Alice A. Unun, Lois Kramer, Kenneth Kramer.



Seated: Mary Wilk, Claire Kancewitch, C. Jean Catanese, Bill Berth. Standing:  
Janet Rupp, George Morlatt, Reg Thomas, Joe Revolinsky, Jr.

## SILVER KNIGHTS DAY

### AT RUTGERS FOOTBALL HOMECOMING GAME versus TEMPLE

*Saturday, October 16, 2004* marks *Rutgers Football Homecoming* date for the **Rutgers-Temple** battle with a **12:00 noon kickoff time** and Rutgers Athletics extends a special invitation to the SILVER KNIGHTS to attend the Homecoming festivities. A limited number of tickets will be reserved in Section 121 for Silver Knights members through 9/24/04. After this date seating is based on availability. **PARKING** is available in the Louis Brown Athletic Center lots in advance with ticket purchase or day of the game for \$8.00 per car. For your convenience, **FREE shuttle buses** will take you to the Rutgers Stadium area before the game and post-game back to the Athletic Center. **For special disabled seating/parking** please call the Rutgers Ticket office at **1-866-445-GORU [4678]** before placing your order for tickets to this special event.

**SPECIAL PRICE: \$12.00 per TICKET [limit 8]**

-----CLIP HERE AND RETURN-----

#### 2004 RUTGERS FOOTBALL SILVER KNIGHTS DAY

10/16 RU vs TEMPLE	Quantity	Price	Total
Tickets [ limit 8 ]		\$12.	
Additional Tickets		\$15.	
Parking @ \$8. each		\$8.	
Office Use Only	Handling		\$5.00
	Total Enclosed		

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Day Time Phone:		
Evening Phone:		
E-Mail Address:		

- Check payable to: Rutgers University
- Visa/Mastercard/Discover Card # \_\_\_\_\_
- Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail coupon and payment to:**  
**Rutgers Ticket Office**  
**Louis Brown Athletic Center**  
**83 Rockefeller Road**  
**Piscataway, NJ 08854**

Coupon must be redeemed in advance [by October 8, 2004] through the Rutgers Ticket Office to receive the special offer. Coupon must accompany order. If you do not receive tickets 2 days before the game, call the **Ticket Office at 866-445-GORU [4678]**. No refunds or exchanges. Tickets subject to availability. Upper Tier or End zone Seating only if ordered after September 24th. Discount not available day of game. Charge is subject to credit approval. Not to be combined with any other offer. Schedule/times subject to change.

----- CLIP AND RETURN -----

### REGISTRATION FORM SILVER KNIGHTS FALL LUNCHEON — OCTOBER 21, 2004

You are invited to attend the Silver Knights Fall Luncheon which will be held *Thursday, OCTOBER 21, 2004* at **12:00 noon** in Neilson Dining Hall on the Douglass-Cook Campus, New Brunswick.

**ACT NOW !**

Fill out this form and return it by **OCTOBER 15, 2004** so that we may plan for the number attending and for updating the retiree membership list and data bank.

PLEASE PRINT:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have enclosed my check or money order for **\$16.00** to cover the cost of attending the luncheon.
- Sorry, I am unable to attend the luncheon.

**Make checks payable to *Silver Knights* and mail to:**  
**SILVER KNIGHTS**  
**Rutgers Staff Retirees Association**  
**RUTGERS - The State University of New Jersey**  
**56 Bevier Road**  
**Piscataway, NJ 08854-8010**

## **Dental Insurance Decision Time for Retirees on the Horizon**

*The following information was prepared by Retired Faculty Association Director Todd Hunt, reviewed and approved by the New Jersey Division of Pension and Benefits*

Rutgers retirees have been asking for years: when will we be able to participate in a voluntary dental insurance program? The term "voluntary" means that the entire cost of premiums is borne by the retiree, who benefits from the group rates secured on behalf of the cohort.

The day may be near. The Division of Pensions and Benefits in Trenton informs us that bids on the dental insurance program for retirees have been received, and the State Health Benefits Commission will decide by September whether to award the con-

tract and offer the retiree dental program. If it decides to do so, the program would start in January of 2005.

If you received and read the recent issue of *Health Reporter* published by the Division of Pensions and Benefits, you may be aware that the New Jersey Retired Educators Association (NJREA) will be offering an open enrollment period from September 15 to November 30 for its dental insurance program offered by MetLife. Membership in the NJREA is open to retirees from New Jersey Public school districts and public colleges.

Membership in the NJREA is \$54 a year, and joining the organization to take advantage of their dental insurance program is optional - new members are eligible for the program.

Information is available at [www.njea.org/RetiredEducators/retiredental/asp](http://www.njea.org/RetiredEducators/retiredental/asp). Or call the NJREA at 1-609-599-4561 to receive information about

membership and about the dental insurance program. It is also possible to call MetLife at 1-800-ASK-4-MET for information about the program.

We will continue to gather information on behalf of RFA members and other retiree groups at Rutgers, and we anticipate that we will have more information some time in September to help you make your decision on where you might purchase dental insurance. ■

### **SCILS HOSTS SILVER KNIGHTS HOME PAGE**

Check into the Silver Knight  
home page developed in  
cooperation with SCILS

**SEE**  
<http://silverknights.rutgers.edu>



**SILVER KNIGHTS**  
RUTGERS STAFF RETIREES ASSOCIATION  
RUTGERS – The State University of New Jersey  
56 Bevier Road  
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8010