

# SRSRA NEWSLETTER

For SRS Retiree Association Members

Bob & Pat Stokes, Editors

Volume 27 November 2005

## 928 SRSRA Members in 2005!!! (Can you help us reach 1,000 in 2006?)

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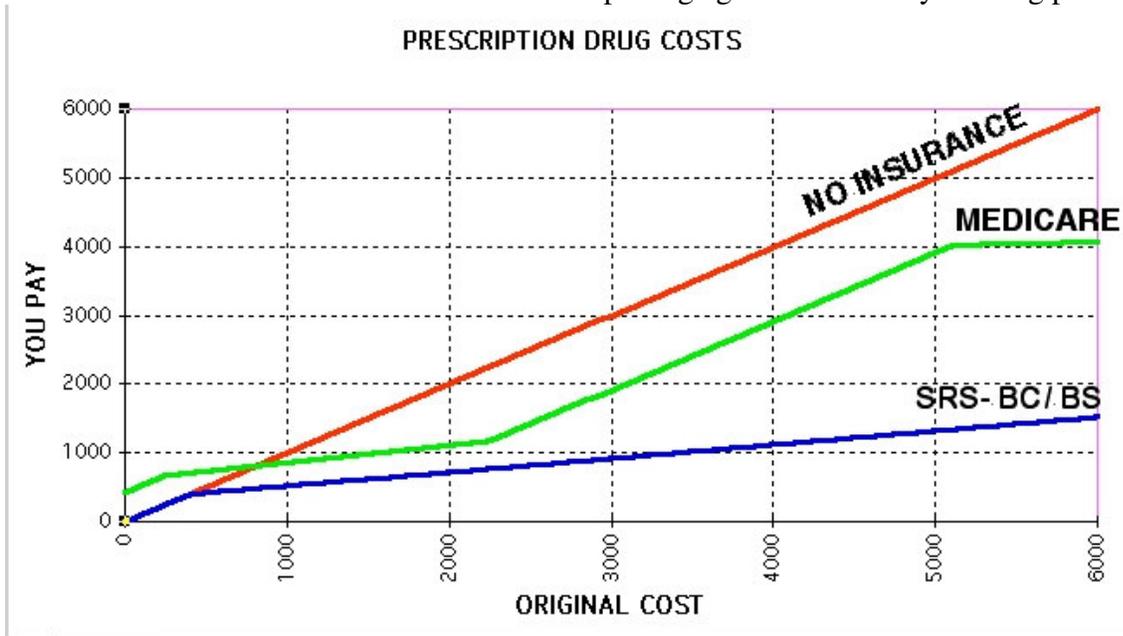
### CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

In an unanimous show of hands, all members of your Board of Directors (BOD) eligible for Medicare, confirmed that they do not intend to sign up for the Medicare Plan D Prescription Drug Plan. Of course the decision regarding whether or not to sign up is yours to make. I can tell you why I am not planning to sign up for the new Medicare Prescription Drug Plan D.

1. Medicare Prescription Drug Plan D is inferior to my current WSRC prescription drug plan. Plan D coverage will pay nothing when my prescription costs exceed \$2,250 and are less than \$5,100 for the year. Plan D coverage does kick back in above \$5,100 and pays 95% of actual costs. My current coverage pays 80 percent once I pay my \$400 deductible. I would reach out-of-pocket costs of \$3,600 in the Medicare Plan D program if my prescription drug costs reached as high as \$5,100 per year. So, my decision is obviously **"NO to Plan D"**. Review your own costs under the Plan D program by referencing page 53 of the "Medicare and You" 2006 booklet.
2. WSRC has notified me and all other Retirees (see page 11 and 12 of the recent WSRC Health Choice 2006 Enrollment Guide you received) that our current prescription drug plan is **"equivalent to or better than"** Medicare Plan D. Because of that notification, I can continue with the current WSRC plan; and I will be able to sign up for Plan D later--without penalty--in the event our current prescription drug benefits change and I need to enroll in the Medicare Plan D prescription drug program. **Be sure to read the note at the bottom of page 12 and save the Health Choice document mentioned above.** The government is

providing an incentive for companies to maintain current prescription drug programs instead of all going to the Medicare program. We hope that will mean that SRS will continue to provide the current Prescription Drug program for many years into the future.

- The cost for me to continue with my current WSRC prescription drug plan vs. Medicare Plan D is shown in the graph. The graph illustrates the added cost SRS retirees would experience under the planned 2006 Medicare Prescription Drug Program. We have been assured by Mr. Bob Pedde, WSRC President, that the BC/BS benefits available to SRS retirees for prescription drug cost will not be changed. This graph does not reflect the current prescription drug CARD being sponsored by Medicare through many companies. But, those card programs do not provide any better cost reduction for prescription drugs than is already available to SRS retirees under the current BC/BS pricing agreements with your drug providers.



Our current 2005 membership is 928. Your 2006 membership renewal is due on January 1, 2006. Please respond to the dues notification when you receive it. We need your response ASAP to assure that we achieve our 1,000 members goal. 2006 will be a big year for the SRS Retiree Association. Do your part and help us by bringing in new members.

We have strength in numbers; and in our quest to maintain our current benefits, we must maintain or increase our current membership count to assure support from our Congressional Delegation.

Your Board is doing its part; see the SRSRA Declaration on the last page of this Newsletter. I sent this to the South Carolina and Georgia Congressional Delegations asking for their support on these critical items.

Dave Cowfer, Chairman  
Savannah River Site Retiree Association

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## **MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE OPTION**

**SRSRA RECOMMENDS KEEPING YOUR CURRENT WSRC/BSRI PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE. DO NOT ELECT THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN D PROGRAM.**

**But before you act, please read this entire article and the Chairman's letter on page 1 of this newsletter.**

SRS retirees are advised to very carefully compare their current WSRC prescription drug benefit with those being offered by vendors under the new Medicare Part D program prior to signing anything. There will be no need to rush a decision within the Medicare signup window. As was stated in your WSRC 2006 Health Choice enrollment booklet, the WSRC drug benefit is at least as good as Medicare Part D. The WSRC Team plan meets the Medicare standard for "credible coverage". This is important for two reasons: (1) As is shown in the graph in the Chairman's letter, for almost every possible prescription cost scenario, it is less expensive to stay with the WSRC prescription drug program; (2) Even if WSRC revises its prescription drug plan in the future and it can no longer claim "**equal to or better than**" Plan D, you can sign up for Medicare Part D with no financial penalty as long as you act within 63 days of that WSRC change.

As part of the Health Choice booklet for 2006 enrollment, WSRC Benefits personnel mailed all retirees information they need concerning prescription drug benefits provided under the current WSRC/BSRI Health Benefit and how those benefits compare to the new Medicare Part D. Pay close attention to pages 11 and 12 of that booklet and particularly the note at the bottom of page 12. **More recently, WSRC has mailed out a letter to its retirees on Medicare that lists specific prescription drug Questions and Answers that may help you decide the proper choice for you. Review that document carefully also!**

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## **FY-06 PENSION SHORTFALL**

Here is a small piece of news concerning the pension fund shortfall that will have to be made up in the 2006 budget. Rumor has it that, at the end of the 2005 fiscal year, at least \$2.5 Million of the "left-over funds" from the 2005 budget were used to fund part of the shortage in the pension fund. Sounds like a good use for the unspent 2005 budget although the shortfall is still much larger than that amount!

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## **SRSRA 2006 ANNUAL MEETING**

The 2006 SRSRA Annual meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 17, at the Playhouse on Newberry Street in Aiken. This date was chosen to give our Senators and Representatives an opportunity to attend. Although the 2006 Congressional Calendar has not yet been published, the day after Easter (April 17 in 2006) is usually a day that Congress is in recess. More details about the meeting will be in our next Newsletter. For now, mark your calendar so that you keep the date available.

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## **SRS RE-BID FOR SITE MANAGEMENT & OPERATION CONTRACTOR(S)**

DOE is currently completing development of its Acquisition Strategy for the competition of the SRS contract. Upon its completion, DOE will release information about the strategy it intends to employ in obtaining future contractor services at SRS. Targets for future milestones may be included; however, a schedule has not yet been finalized. DOE expects to release information within the next few weeks.

The next step in the Re-Bid process will be to issue a draft Request for Proposals, RFP, followed by the final RFP. The receipt of bidder proposals is expected to occur next summer. The current contract, including the two-month extension provision with the WSRC Team, will expire on November 30, 2006.

The SRSRA is monitoring the entire process and has already met with our Congressional Delegation members, top DOESR, and DOEHQ management regarding SRS retiree benefits and pensions. Your SRSRA Board of Directors recently sent a strong policy "Declaration" signed by all Board Members to our Congressional Delegation members. The Declaration is on the last page of this Newsletter.

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## **SRS 2006 Budget Status**

The fiscal year 2006 budget has passed the Senate and House and is awaiting President Bush's signature. This bill funds most of the DOE activities at the Savannah River Site for the fiscal year through September 30, 2006. The bill funds the SRS environmental cleanup operations at \$1,171 million, which is \$58 million below the budget requested. The changes include an \$18.6 million increase for design work for 105-K; a \$9.3 million decrease in the soil and water remediation; a \$9.3 million decrease in the nuclear facility D&D programs; and a \$58.5 million decrease in the line item funding for the Salt Waste Processing Facility. The appropriation for the MOX facility is \$220 million, which is \$118 million below the budget request. The Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility, the Safeguards and Security program, the Tritium Operations, and the Tritium Extraction Facility are funded at the levels in the President's budget request. **The bill provides no funding for the Modern Pit Facility and directs the NNSA to undertake a review of the pit program to focus on improving the manufacturing capability at Los Alamos. This could spell the end for MPF at SRS!**

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## **SRS ACTIVITIES**

October 24 was the final day for employees to rescind applications for the Self-Select Layoff Option offered as part of WSRC's FY 2005/2006 Workforce Restructuring Program. A total of 640 persons will leave the site voluntarily through this program. Unless something significantly changes, WSRC does not foresee the need for additional voluntary or involuntary separations through November 2006, the end of the current DOE contract.

Occupational Hazards Magazine has named the Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) one of the 12 safest companies in America. The Construction Department continues its world-class performance. Through October 1, they have worked over 2,655 days and nearly 16.7 million hours since their last days-away injury case.

Automaker Toyota has joined forces with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) for research and development of an improved hydrogen storage material to bring the nation a step closer to making hydrogen-fueled automobiles practical for widespread use. The Toyota Motor Company and SRNL have defined research and development tasks that they will pursue together. Funding for the tasks, which amounts to over \$2 million over the next three years, is provided by Toyota Motor Company's U.S. Technical Center.

In the western sector of SRS A/M Area, a large underground plume of chemical contamination, consisting mainly of solvents, emanates from the closed M Area Settling Basin. A cleanup technology called Dynamic Underground Stripping (DUS) has been placed into operation to remove this contamination aggressively. DUS is a combination of technologies involving the injection of steam into the subsurface to remove contaminants rapidly. Sophisticated computer imaging techniques permit continuous monitoring of the subsurface during operation. The DUS technology extracts material 15 times faster than soil vapor extraction and 75 times faster than pump-and-treat systems, two more common groundwater cleanup technologies. It is estimated that more than one million pounds of solvents underlying this area will be removed in a cleanup campaign that will last about 40 months. In comparison, using standard cleanup methods, it would take more than 200 years to remove this amount of contamination. Recently, DUS was successfully used to remove solvents in part of M Area.

According to the SRS Environmental Report for 2004 released in September 2005, the radiation impact of the Savannah River Site (SRS) on the off-site public continues to be far below the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) all-pathway dose standard of 100 millirem per year. (A millirem is a standard unit of measure for radiation exposure.) The largest radiation dose that any off-site individual could have received from SRS operations in 2004 is estimated to be 0.15 millirem, which is less than 1 percent of the DOE limit. This estimated dose is also extremely small in comparison to the 300 millirem per year that the average United States person receives from natural, medical, and other (non-DOE) radiation sources.

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

**Our current membership is at 928 for 2005!** But, we are starting a new year and we need all of our 928 current members to rejoin for 2006 if we hope to reach our goal of 1,000 members. At this point, nearly 400 members have signed up for 2006, but there are over 500 of you who still need to rejoin for the coming year. If you are not one of the 400 who have already signed up for 2006, you should have received an e-mail or a hard copy letter asking you to rejoin for the coming year. We hope all of you will see the value in having an organization such as the SRSRA speaking for the preservation of your benefits as the SRS contract is re-bid and awarded in 2006. **We need your support for 2006. When you rejoin for 2006, please consider making your renewal good for 2 years or more.** That will minimize our membership paperwork in future years.

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## **NEWSLETTER MAILING**

With the August Newsletter, Volume 26, we implemented an e-mail program that allowed us to mail a Newsletter web page link directly addressed to each internet-savvy member. That program worked extremely well and allowed us to reach those members more quickly with fewer problems with the Internet Service Providers; quicker distribution of the Newsletter; and less cost of copying and mailing hard copies to over 500 people. Thanks to all of you who are receiving your Newsletter by e-mail. If you by chance did have trouble or did not see that Newsletter, then you should contact [membership@srsretirees.org](mailto:membership@srsretirees.org) .

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## **SRSRA WEB SITE**

### **WHEN IN DOUBT, LOOK TO THE SRSRA WEB SITE!!**

The SRSRA web site is intended to be a useful source of current information of special interest to all its members. Let us know if it is--or is not--meeting your needs!

The home page gives information about how to join the SRSRA; tells where the meetings of the Board of Directors take place; and invites any SRSRA member to attend those meetings. It also enables sending email to the BOD. In addition, the home page usually focuses on a topic of current interest to all members. For example, the current home page gives recent guidance (extracted from a previous SRSRA Newsletter) about the Medicare drug program. It also includes links to some government web sites that provide more information on that subject.

The home page also provides access to the rest of the site. For example, near the bottom of the home page are links to:

- \* "Organization", which leads to pages that tell you the Bylaws, the current Directors and Officers, Committees, and the minutes of some of the early meetings.
- \* "Newsletters", which gives links to past and current Newsletters.
- \* "Links", perhaps the most useful link in the entire web site, takes you to a page of extremely useful links, including:
  - (i) WSRC Benefits Documents (which includes the Medical Benefits and Pension Booklets, as well as Dental, Life Insurance, and SIP booklets)
  - (ii) Web sites and contact information for your elected officials
  - (iii) Government web sites (Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration) that tell you your legal rights
  - (iv) AARP, USCA Dept. of Energy Reading Room, and ORA.
- \* "BC/BS Provider Finder" is a link to the BC/BS page that will help you find a provider doctor not only in the US, but also outside the US (e.g. if you need a doctor while traveling).
- \* "Benefits Contacts" gives telephone numbers and names of the persons to call for info about WSRC benefits.
- \* "WSRC Benefits Documents" is actually a duplicate of the link on the "Links" page discussed above.

We are in the process of revising and restructuring the web site, while at the same time continually updating the existing web site. If you have found useful links pertaining to any aspect of our focus on Retiree Benefits that are not already on our web site, please tell us so that we can add them to the site. Just send an email to: [webmaster@srsretirees.org](mailto:webmaster@srsretirees.org).

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## **BOARD MEETING DATE AND LOCATION**

The SRSRA Board of Directors is meeting in the Conference Room of the Hampton Inn on Whiskey Road/Route 19 South near the Aiken Mall. The only remaining meeting date for 2005 is December 6. Association members may attend and participate but may not vote on Board issues. Be sure to contact a BOD member to confirm the meeting date if you plan to attend.

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## **AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS**

At the direction of the Board of Directors, Art Blanchard and Ed Somers conducted an audit of the Treasurer's records. The review team met with the Treasurer, Stan Smith, on August 9, 2005; and he provided the records of all financial transactions since he took over as Treasurer in February 2002.

The review looked at the process Stan uses to keep records of income and expenses along with a random sampling of these records. The records consist of a chronological listing of all transactions since February 28, 2002; monthly summaries of financial transactions; deposit receipts with any supporting information; and cancelled checks with amounts and basis for each expenditure.

Stan described how he creates the monthly reports for the Board Meetings from his chronological listing. A review was done on two or three of these reports, selecting approximately three deposits and seven disbursements for a more detailed review. The review confirmed their accuracy.

A second review was done on large expenses, non-recurring and recurring expenses. The expenses reviewed included payment for consultant services, payment for Newsletter production, payments (2) for travel expenses, and payment of costs associated with the SRSRA Annual Meeting. All requests for payment of expenses were verified and supported by documentation.

This review concluded that the Treasurer keeps excellent records, that all income is accounted for, and that the expenses are appropriate and properly documented.

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## **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Stan Smith, Treasurer

The following summarizes financial activity fiscal year to date:

Opening balance (July 1, 2005)	\$ 20,402
Income (July 1-October 20, 2005)	\$ 195
Expenses (July 1-October 20, 2005)*	\$ 1,500
Balance (October 20, 2005)	\$ 19,097

\* The major expense items were payment in advance for the 2006 Annual Meeting room, including the security deposit; Vol. 26 Newsletter printing costs; website fees; and monthly Board Meeting room rental.

An audit was made of the financial records for the past 3-1/2 years on August 9, 2005, by Board member Art Blanchard and Association member Ed Somers (see the preceding article for the auditors report).

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## **BC/BS AND MEDICARE COORDINATION ISSUES**

**RETIREES ON MEDICARE ARE URGED TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE NOT OVERLOOKED A REFUND-** Assuming equal distribution, about one in three retiree Medicare households may be eligible for a refund from their medical provider as a result of an audit of BC's recalculation of certain medical procedure claims.

In the last edition of the Newsletter we reported that as a result of questions raised by the SRSRA and numerous discussions with WSRC management, WSRC gave clarification in March to Blue Cross (BC) regarding the calculation of certain claims for Medicare participants.

These cases involved charges for medical procedures performed on an outpatient basis at hospital managed medical facilities. In these cases Medicare made a lump sum reimbursement instead of their normal itemized payments. The Medicare Summary Notice (MSN) normally contains five columns. These column headings are; Amount Charged, Medicare Approved, Medicare Paid Provider, You May Be Billed and See Notes Section. However, when Medicare started to make lump sum/special method payments, Medicare deleted the "Medicare Paid Provider" column and placed an "a" in the See Notes Section. In the Notes Section the "a" is followed by a statement that typically reads, "The amount Medicare paid the provider for this claim is \$XXX.

When BC calculated the carve out, or what WSRC would have reimbursed if the participant was not on Medicare, they included what they projected Medicare would have paid if the lump sum/special payment method (SPM) had not been used. By using this procedure BC assumed that Medicare had paid a higher amount than was actually paid under SPM and increased the amount owed by the participant. The result was that **the participant paid more than owed and BC underpaid the medical provider.**

At the urging of the SRSRA, WSRC requested that Blue Cross (BC) conduct an audit of claims for WSRC Medicare participants retroactive to January 1, 2004. This audit covered certain outpatient medical procedures performed at hospital managed facilities during the period from January 2004 to March 2005. Feedback indicates that over four hundred medical procedures have been recalculated as the result of this audit which was completed in August.

BC has sent a revised EOB to each participant when the audit determined that their medical claim was recalculated. The revised Blue Cross, Explanation of Benefit (EOB), includes the following wording: (This is an ADJUSTMENT to a claim we processed previously) and should show the original date of service in the "Dates of Service" box. Any additional owed amount by BC (WSRC) was paid directly to the medical provider as required by the BC provider network agreements. **If an adjusted EOB is received, showing a revised EOB payment to the provider, it is the responsibility of the retiree to contact their medical provider to secure a refund, provided the adjustment creates a credit balance in their account with that provider. RETIREES SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE REVISED EOB WILL PROVIDE A REVISED DOLLAR AMOUNT IN THE "TOTAL AMOUNT WE PAID" BOX AND THE "WHAT YOU OWE PROVIDER" BOX AND WILL NOT SHOW WHAT WAS PREVIOUSLY PAID THE PROVIDER. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE RETIREE TO DETERMINE THE DIFFERENCE IN AMOUNTS BETWEEN THE ORIGINAL EOB AND THE REVISED EOB.**

As indicated above, these medical procedures were performed in a hospital managed medical facility. In some cases the hospital may manage a facility that is not located in the main hospital building. We have been

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cautioned that some hospitals may not automatically issue refunds to participants. **MEDICARE PARTICIPANTS ARE URGED NOT TO RELY ON THEIR MEDICAL PROVIDER TO VOLUNTARILY ISSUE A REFUND.** BC started to mail adjusted EOB's in June and mailed the final adjusted EOB's from this audit in August. **BLUE CROSS PLANS NO ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATION TO PARTICIPANTS BEYOND MAILING THE REVISED EOB.**

Because of privacy concerns, we have limited information on the type of medical procedures for which adjusted payments were made; however, we have been able to find examples of some of the procedures that were subject to these adjustments. These include echocardiograms, stress tests, heart catheterization, colonoscopies (with diagnosis), Cat scans, MRIs, etc. Adjustments for any medical outpatient procedure must have been performed in a hospital managed facility and not in a doctor's office.

BC has indicated that the Aiken Regional Medical Center (ARMC) received a number of the adjustment payments. We have identified a person in the ARMC Billing Department to contact if a retiree has received an adjusted EOB from ARMC. Participants may contact Alberta Adams at (803) 641-5088 for assistance with their refund request.

Participants who receive an adjusted EOB from other hospitals should contact that provider directly. If they are not able to make arrangements with their medical provider for their adjustment refund they may call Kathy Glazier or Nysha Bostick of BC at (803) 264-4148 for assistance.

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### **SPECIAL NOTE ON E-MAIL**

As usual, when the e-mail version of the Newsletter was sent, numerous rejections of our current list of e-mail addresses were encountered. If you did not receive an e-mail version of this Newsletter and you do have an active e-mail address, you can help your SRSRA reach you more quickly by providing us with corrected information. Just send an email to [robert40@bellsouth.net](mailto:robert40@bellsouth.net) and we will correct your e-mail address in our database. (Some of you probably have changed Internet Service Providers while others may have just changed your address or you may have added a "SPAM" protection that blocks our messages.) If you are one of the latter group, then make the address above "an approved e-mail address" from which you wish to receive messages; and let us know that the change has been made.

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### **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME** – submitted by John Nicholls

Below are some worthwhile programs that retirees might be interested in volunteering some of their time to work on. The time spent will likely be very rewarding.

#### **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Most of us are familiar with the Habitat for Humanity organization: People helping their neighbors to build affordable homes. Homeowners are thoroughly screened for need and other criteria, and are required to help with the physical labor of construction. Volunteers help out by performing skilled or unskilled labor – everyone does what he or she can.

Normally work begins on each job site on Saturday morning, breaks for lunch, and finishes up in the afternoon. They supply the materials (including lunch), you supply the sweat. Interested individuals can call the Habitat

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organization in Augusta (481-8681), Aiken (642-9295), or North Augusta (854-7020) to find the project near you. The Point of Contact can advise location, start time, and what tools if any will be needed.

## **ADULT LITERACY PROGRAMS**

It's difficult for us to imagine living life without the ability to read and write. Routine activities, such as ordering lunch from a menu, are impossible and more advanced tasks, like completing Tax Form 1040, are unthinkable. How better can we spend a few hours each week than helping adults learn to read and write? Literacy programs in Georgia and South Carolina are always looking for volunteers. They'll provide training and guidance; match learners and tutors; and generally expedite the process. All you need to do is step up. In South Carolina, call the Nancy Carson Library at 279-5767 to volunteer; and in Georgia, call the Augusta State University Literacy Center at 733-7043.

## **211 HELP LINE**

Most of us are familiar with the 911 Emergency Help Line, but there is also a non-emergency Help Line available to everyone. The number is 211. This Help Line is staffed by volunteers and provides links to help with problems such as Adoption, Alcoholism, Child Abuse, Child Care, Educational Services, and many more.

In Aiken County the HELP LINE trains its volunteers with approximately 18 hours of workshop time. Areas such as personal growth, community resources, interviewing techniques, and selected social programs are covered. Volunteers then take selected shifts from the safety and comfort of their own homes. Augusta has a similar program.

Interested individuals can call the Aiken organization at (803) 648-9900 or visit their website at [www.aiken211.org](http://www.aiken211.org). Augusta retirees can call 826-1495.

## **OPTIMISTS: Our name is who we are**

Men and women of the Optimist Clubs are committed to improving the world by doing all we can to help our youth succeed. Each club determines how to raise money and how to spend their time and money to best benefit the youth of their community. Typical projects include sponsoring athletic teams, awarding scholarships, helping with special school events, and rewarding excellence. Members participate as much or as little as their schedules permit, and dues are assessed to cover administrative expenses. Club meetings normally include a guest speaker and a meal, and are usually scheduled twice monthly.

There are several clubs in the Augusta area, one in North Augusta, and a potential club in Aiken. Benefits: Community service, fellowship, and interesting speakers. Clubs are always seeking new members and are "equal opportunity" civic organizations. Call John Nicholls in SC (278-6724) or Veronica Harris in GA (706-798-5204) to find a club near you.

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## **ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A SOUTH CAROLINA FLU SHOT?**

Just a note to let you know that the Carolina Medical Review organization supports a web page link called **Flu Clinic Finder** and it is up and running. To locate a flu shot clinic near you, visit [www.MRNC.org](http://www.MRNC.org) and click on Flu Clinic Finder.

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## **BC/BS SERVICE CONCERNS**

We have many letters from retirees trying to get proper Blue Cross/Blue Shield reimbursement for their medical bills. Most of the problems occur when the retiree/patient lives out-of-state (i.e., no longer in SC). If you have records of BC/BS service problems to share with SRSRA members, please **send a letter outlining your case to both:**

**John Church, Medical Benefits Committee**  
SRS Retiree Association  
P.O. Box 5686  
Aiken, SC 29804

and to: **Kaye Bozeman, Major Service Representative**  
I-20 at Alpine Road AV-100  
Columbia, SC 29219

or e-mail your information to: [KAYE.BOZEMAN@bcbsc.com](mailto:KAYE.BOZEMAN@bcbsc.com), or fax: 1-803-264-9353. You can also call toll-free at: 1-800-288-2227 x44452, or as a last resort, call her at 803-264-4452

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## **BENEFITS CONTACTS**

**People Support Service Center (a one-stop service for most HR and payroll activities and questions).**

- ◆ **803-725-7772 (local area SC and GA)**
- ◆ **800-368-7333 (long distance)**
- ◆ [service-center@srs.gov](mailto:service-center@srs.gov) (e-mail contact for this new service)

◇ **Life, Health, Dental**

Becky Proveaux PS Svc. Ctr. #  
Rosalee Bennett PS Svc. Ctr. #  
Greg Murray 803-725-0531  
Cindy McClintock 803-725-7004

◇ **Pension**

John Felkel 803-725-7722  
Viola Best 803-725-1900

◇ **Internal Medicine Partners** 706-792-5075  
(Annual Physical Examinations)

◇ **Metropolitan Life** 800-360-2747  
(WSRC/BSRI SIP Funds Program)

◇ **BAC (Westinghouse Corporate Pension)**  
800-581-4222

◇ **Safety Eyeglass Office**

Tom Cuny 803-725-3379

◇ **Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SC**

1-800-325-6596

[www.southcarolinablues.com](http://www.southcarolinablues.com)

Option 1 for Medical

Option 2 for Dental

Option 3 for Pre-Cert/Med Authorization

◇ **SC Medicare Web Site** (Hospital Insurance Part A; Medical Insurance Part B; Home Medical Equipment Beneficiaries)

1-800-583-2236

[www2.palmettogba.com/ems/login.jsp](http://www2.palmettogba.com/ems/login.jsp)

◇ **Value Options** (mental health & substance abuse assistance) 800-333-6557

Carolina Medical Review (CMR) is the Quality Improvement Organization for South Carolina's Medicare program. They have a variety of useful data available either at their web site <http://www.MRNC.org> or by calling the national 24-hour customer service number **1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**. There is a QIO in every state, and that listing is at: <http://www.medqic.org/content/qio/qio.jsp?pageID=4> Members on the Internet can also visit <http://www.medicare.gov>. If members have a state-specific question, the customer service representative at that number should be able to refer members to the state-specific Medicare number. (**The one for South Carolina is 1-800-583-2236.**) This may be a useful starting contact to resolve Medicare issues if the regular Medicare office of your state is not providing satisfactory service. For further information, contact:

Andrea Fuller, Outreach Specialist

Carolina Medical Review

250 Berryhill Road, Suite 101

Columbia, SC 29210

Telephone: 800-922-3089 (Toll Free); local 803-731-8225; Fax: 803-731-8687

e-mail: [afuller@SCOIO.sdps.org](mailto:afuller@SCOIO.sdps.org)



Savannah River Site Retiree Association – Declaration

*Maintain Existing Pensions and Health Benefits*

*2006 SRS Contract Competition and Transition*

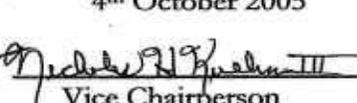
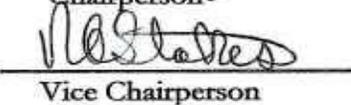
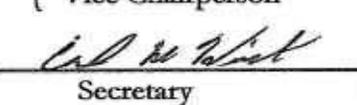
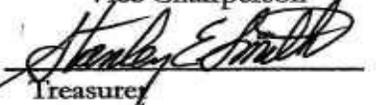
To protect retiree benefits, the SRSRA requests that DOE require the successful bidder to

- (1) honor accrued benefits for all retirees of WSRC at time of transition,
- (2) provide retirees a pension plan and all other retiree benefit programs (qualified and unqualified) which will honor and maintain all benefits and accruals that exist under the current WSRC/BSRI contract, and
- (3) retain and honor accrued legacy benefits that have been provided to WSRC retirees consisting of both "qualified and non-qualified plans", including medical and prescription drug coverage, dental, pension, life insurance, etc.,

The SRSRA asks that the same commitment that was made to LANL retirees by the US Secretary of Energy be obtained from DOE for WSRC retirees. This includes the DOE RFP commitment to require the successful contractor to provide benefits equal to those in effect under the current contract. The SRSRA shall be afforded the opportunity to provide input to the Contracting Officer (CO) prior to the CO's determination of parity between legacy plans and any and all subsequent replacement plans.

The full SRSRA Board of Directors approves this Declaration [Elected from and representing over 900 dues paying members]

4<sup>th</sup> October 2005

 Chairperson	 Vice Chairperson	 Vice Chairperson
 Vice Chairperson	 Secretary	 Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAVANNAH RIVER RETIREE ASSOCIATION

