



# SRSRA NEWSLETTER

For SRS Retiree Association Members

Frank Campbell, Editor

Volume 21, No. 2, June 2018

Like us on Facebook to keep up with news and information! Search for SRSRA from your Facebook page.

## Contents

Letter From Dave Fauth, SRSRA Chair .....	2	Volunteer Opportunity .....	13
SRSRA Board of Directors, 2017-2018 .....	3	Representative Joe Wilson Sends SRSRA Pension Concerns to Energy Secretary Rick Perry.....	15
Minutes of the SRS Retiree Association (SRSRA) 2018 Annual Meeting.....	4	Newsletter Information .....	15
How Your Life Insurance Benefit Decreases As You Age .....	11	Benefits Contacts .....	16
Pictures from the 2018 Annual Meeting .....	13	In Memoriam .....	17
Gas Cards.....	Various	SRSRA Membership Form .....	18

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Letter From Dave Fauth, SRSRA Chair

*Fellow retirees,*

*I was pleased to see so many of my DuPont/Westinghouse/SRNS/SRR friends at the SRSRA Annual Meeting on April 17. Sorry, if I didn't meet you. I was able to look at over 200 pictures from the meeting and was shocked at the number of you that I failed to greet. I hope that you were able to take advantage of the benefit providers who were present before the meeting and that you gained a more complete understanding of the initiatives that your board is working on. I would like to thank Mike Budney, DOE-SR SRS Site Manager, Wyatt Clark, SRNS Senior Vice President, Tom Foster, SRR CEO and President, and Laureen Feinman, SRSRA Resource Center Office Manager for their presentations at the meeting.*

*This newsletter contains the minutes and Q&A from the meeting for those not able to attend. I would like to thank Richard Frushour and his team for staging a very successful event.*

*I was pleased to report several significant accomplishments for 2017-2018. Among these are the increase to our Medicare Health Spending Account/stipend (prorated by age) and the Catastrophic Drug Coverage program and the successes of the Resource Center. These accomplishments were possible due to the efforts of your board, the site contractors and DOE-SR. We continue to work with Representative Joe Wilson and his staff regarding pension improvement. Together we are "encouraging" action by the Beltway decision makers. Needless to say but this is a slow but necessary process.*

*Your SRSRA Resource Center is completing its fourth year of operation under the guidance of Office Manager Laureen Feinman and Resource Center Chairman David Zigelman. The center assists our retirees who have insurance, stipend reimbursement and numerous issues that confront us in our aging years. SRNS Benefits recently contacted all (about 80) retirees/spouses who have not used their WageWorks stipend and asked them to contact the SRSRA Resource Center for assistance. We have helped around 15 of these folks and filed claims for over \$50,000. We need more volunteers so we can help more of you. Please consider becoming a volunteer. If you have any questions, contact the center at (803)508-7065.*

*I would also like to encourage volunteers for our committees. The time commitment can be minor but the positive impact can be substantial for your fellow retirees. These committees include Benefits Protection, Communications (newsletter and social media), United Way and Community Outreach, CNTA/CAB, and Membership."*

*Dave Fauth*

SRSRA Chair

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## SRSRA Board of Directors, 2017-2018



1st row (bottom), left to right: John Plodinec, Deb Shedrow, Bernice DeLoach, Dave Fauth, Rhonda Whitley, Bobbie Williams, Joe Ortaldo

2nd row: Phil Croll, Dick Frushour, Ron Malanowski, Bob Malstrom, Bruce Cadotte, Jennifer Garvin, Kathy Grant

3rd row: David Zigelman, Jeff Barnes, Bob Hottel, Allen Blancett, Ranny Saylor, Frank Campbell, Harvey Kinder, John Veldman

**Interested in serving on the SRSRA Board of Directors?**

**Please use the contact form on the SRSRA website or call the Resource Center at (803)508-7065.**

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Minutes of the SRS Retiree Association (SRSRA) 2018 Annual Meeting

April 17, 2018      USCA Etherredge Center; Aiken, SC

### Call to Order and Opening Remarks – Dave Fauth, Chair, SRSRA

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. The delegation staffers were thanked for attending. These staffers included Kelly Long (for Sen. Scott), Jennifer Hayes (for Sen. Perdue), Nancy Bobbitt (for Sen. Isakson), Martha Ruthven (for Rep. Wilson), Jessica Hayes (for Rep. Hice), and Brinsley Thigpin (for Rep. Allen).

### State of the SRSRA – Dave Fauth, Chair, SRSRA

The SRSRA was founded in September 1997. The organization, therefore, is in its twentieth year. The founding members set up the retiree association on a foundation that has served us well. Our thanks go to them and to our major financial supporters, including the SRS Employee Association (SRSEA), the Lower Savannah Council of Governments (LSCOG), SRNS, SRR, and individual donations. Thanks also go to the Cumberland Village management and staff for their continuing support. We also recognize the following outgoing members of the SRSRA Board of Directors (BOD): Allen Blancett, Bruce Cadotte, Tom French, Gail Jernigan, John Plodinec, and Tom Varallo.

The SRSRA Board of Directors (BOD) has worked with DOE-SR, SRNS, SRR, and our delegation to achieve and support improvements in retiree benefits and services. Activities in 2017 included 1) an increase in our Medicare stipend prorated by age; 2) catastrophic drug coverage program assistance; 3) Resource Center (RC) operations and services; 4) our successful United Way campaign which raised \$23,030; 5) increasing communications to and from retirees through a new SRSRA website ([www.srsretirees.org](http://www.srsretirees.org)) and a new Facebook site; and 6) interactions with DOE and our Congressional representatives on our pension adjustment proposal. Our special thanks go to all those who worked with us on these efforts.

The catastrophic drug coverage program provides help for Medicare eligible retirees and spouses with high cost prescription (Rx) drug expenses. The Rx Plan Year-End Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement indicates if an individual has entered catastrophic drug coverage. Remember that non-formulary drugs are not included in your Rx expenses. Individuals must file before March annually and reimbursements are added to one's WageWorks account. There are probably more people that qualify for the program than have applied.

The new SRSRA website is up and operational at [www.SRSRetirees.org](http://www.SRSRetirees.org). A password is not needed to access the site. There are new "Join/Renew" and "Contact Us" buttons for direct interaction with the RC and the BOD. Please let us know what you would like to see on these sites that would be more useful to you. The

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

phone number for the RC is (803) 508-7065. Please leave your name, phone number, and e-mail address and an RC member will return your call.

In response to our pension adjustment proposal in 2016, the U.S. Congress Armed Services Subcommittee has requested that the Congressional Research Services complete two studies and prepare reports on DOE Complex contractor pension plans. Rep. Wilson has recently sent a letter to DOE Secretary Perry requesting support for these studies, data on the pension basis for each DOE site, and a listing of any pension increases that have occurred at each DOE site.

Planned SRSRSA activities for the coming years include continued work on benefits protection (pension, Medicare stipend, life insurance); expanded communications/publicity (newsletters, increased social media use); increased and improved RC operations, including possible expansion to Georgia (Medicare insurance, stipend claims, Rx drug plan reviews, benefits education); and increased community outreach (United Way, Project Vision, volunteer opportunities).

The SRSRA 2018 financial summary was presented along with the proposed 2019 budget. The financial summary included the following:

	<u>FY18 Year-End Projection</u>	<u>FY19 Proposed</u>
Income	\$90,600	\$91,400
Expenses	\$76,080	\$83,950

Funding sources included membership dues (~one-third of total income), grants from the LSCOG, SRNS, SRR, SRSEA, and individual donations. Expenses included the RC (~\$80K), member communications, and the Member Annual Meeting.

Resource Center Update – Laureen Fineman, Office Manager

Laureen Fineman discussed Resource Center (RC) operations and services. The RC relies on volunteers, many who are SC certified to counsel the elderly on Medicare options. The RC has served over 2000 clients since its inception in 2014.

Medicare Age-In Training is the gateway to Medicare benefits. The RC conducts more of these sessions than the Site. Attendees can bring additional people with them to these sessions so that information may be better understood. It is better to attend a session early in order to understand the options and benefits available.

RightOpt and WageWorks on-line and telephone systems with no face-to-face contacts do not meet the needs of all of our retirees. RC volunteers help retirees prepare, review, and transmit claims to WageWorks for

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

reimbursement. The RC has processed \$1.7M in claims since 2014. Annual Rx drug plan reviews are also conducted using the Medicare.gov website. Printouts of comparisons of annual projected costs (deductibles, premiums, copays) for all the client's medications at selected pharmacies are provided and reviewed in order to obtain the most cost-effective Rx plan for the coming year. There are so many changes annually in drugs covered per plan that Rx drug plans must be reviewed annually. Since 2015, the RC has saved our clients over \$1M through changing Rx plans. The average cost savings per plan change is \$1572. In 2017, the SRSRA RC conducted 923 office and home visits. A projected total of \$500,000 worth of claims were processed. In addition, reviews of prescription drug plans resulted in \$308,957 in savings for our clients.

We need you to participate in the SRSRA, reach out to fellow retirees, volunteer at the RC, and pay membership dues to support the RC. You don't need to work with clients to volunteer at the RC; we also need administrative support, especially during the Open Enrollment period. Thank you for your support!

DOE-SR Update – Michael Budney, SRS Site Manager, DOE-SR

Michael Budney was welcomed as the new SRS Site Manager. He has held a variety of roles in the U.S. Navy, DOD, DOE, and the private sector. He is a retired Captain from the U.S. Navy with 29 years of service. His final military assignment was as Deputy Director of the Nuclear Command and Control System Support Staff. Most recently, he was Director of the Office of Business Operations in the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

Mr. Budney provided an update on the SRS budget, current mission priorities, and retiree support. The FY18 budget came in \$23M more than requested and the FY19 request is still higher, primarily due to Liquid Waste (LW) program acceleration. Included in the 2018 appropriations bill is a requirement for DOE to submit a report on pension plan calculations and recommendations on how to flatten out the upcoming bow wave of required financial contributions to the plan to ensure that retiree pension obligations are met.

Current SRS mission priorities include 1) expanding Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) contributions to DOE and regional/national/industrial missions and to the renewal of U.S. manufacturing capability with the lease/construction of the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative on the USCA campus; 2) continuing Salt Waste Processing Facility startup testing and commissioning activities and integration into the SRS LW System; 3) re-starting DWPF after successful melter replacement; 4) operating H-Canyon to process Spent Nuclear Fuel, including High Flux Isotope Reactor cores from ORNL and Target Residue Material from Canada; 5) continuing the down blending of surplus plutonium; 6) maintaining and improving SRS infrastructure; and 7) issuing the Request for Proposals for the SRS M&O contract this spring and beginning the transition to the new SRS LW contract.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

Mr. Budney stated that the DOE recognizes and values the work and contributions of SRS retirees, as well as support from the community, Congressional representatives and staff, and regulators. The DOE is committed to continued engagement and open dialogue with the SRSRA and working together to find solutions to issues. He has already met with the SRSRA Executive Committee and will continue to participate in the SRSRA Annual Meetings and quarterly meetings with the SRSRA Executive Committee and the SRS Contractors Benefits Team. He stated that he sees the RC as very valuable and wants to make sure that the RC continues to operate.

There was a comment from the audience that the DOE should not lose focus on providing a pension increase and that a set of criteria for such increases should be established.

SRNS Update – Wyatt Clark, Senior Vice President, SRNS

Mr. Clark stated that the Site has had several key visitors this past year. These included DOE Secretary Rick Perry, Deputy Secretary Dan Brouillette, NNSA Administrator Lisa Gordon, and Under Secretary for Science Paul Dabbar.

Mr. Clark discussed SRNS's four key mission areas as follows: Environmental Stewardship for soil, water, and facilities, supplying tritium for nuclear weapons deterrent, securing nuclear materials, and transforming nuclear materials. SRNL has expanded operations and continues to be a significant contributor to all key missions.

Three of twenty-four 3013 containers have been completed as part of the mission to down blend surplus non-pit plutonium for storage or disposition at WIPP. For the first time three uranium streams are running simultaneously in H-Canyon.

Workforce sustainment programs include LEAP (new professionals development), AMP (mid-level professionals moving towards management positions), ELDP (engineering leadership development), and mentoring circles.

SRNS has 5195 employees (64% reside in SC, 36% reside in GA). SRNS plans to hire ~450 employees per year. The average age of employees is 48 years. For FY14-17, 1861 new full-time employees were hired, 83% from the local area. There has been a 15% reduction in attrition of non-retirement eligible employees. In 2017, SRNS had an estimated \$1.102B economic impact regionally.

Liquid Waste Overview – Tom Foster, President and Project Manager, SRR

Mr. Foster discussed SRR contract accomplishments. Recently Melter 3 was installed in DWPF after Melter 2 reached its end of life in February 2017. Double-stacking of canisters is ongoing in the Glass Waste Storage

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

Building, which doubles building capacity. Saltstone Disposal Unit (SDU 7) site preparation has begun. SDU 7 is the second of seven mega-volume disposal units planned to hold low-activity Saltstone grout. Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) testing and commissioning is ongoing. Key waste transfer line modifications to connect SWPF to the LW System were completed. These modifications included installing new underground waste transfer lines and changing existing lines near DWPF. Mr. Foster stated that the key to future operations is through continued innovation.

The current SRR workforce is ~2200 employees, including subcontractors. DOE intends to extend the SRR contract to March 31, 2019.

#### Questions and Answers – Dave Fauth, Chair, SRSRA

Following the break, submitted questions were answered. A summary of the questions and answers follows:

- Is there a way the Resource Center can identify retirees with an excessive balance in their stipend accounts (without violating any privacy laws), and then contact them to help use it?

Answer: SRNS recently sent letters to all (80) retirees/spouses who have not submitted any claims to WageWorks. The letter encouraged them to contact the Resource Center for assistance. To date, we have heard from about 15 of these retirees/spouses.

- Let's do a survey as follows:
  - How many retirees received their full stipend by 1/5/2018, by 4/17/2018?
  - How many retirees do not have their full stipend? (They should go to the Resource Center to get help to get their stipend.)

Answer: The Resource Center is aware of about 80 people who did not receive the correct stipend amount in 2018. The SRNS Benefits group has been able to correct all the discrepancies that the Resource Center knows about.

- How does the retiree's non-contributory life insurance benefit decrease each year and at what age does the decrease end? Is this benefit directly payable to one's spouse or beneficiary upon the retiree's death?

Answer: Recently this has been a frequent question asked at the Resource Center. This newsletter includes detailed information on this topic. Please read the article and contact the Resource Center if you need additional information.

- What is the current pension plan funding and what is the percentage of needed funds for the pension?



SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

Answer: The current pension plan funding is \$2,599,744,533; this is 85.04% of the pension plan liabilities.

- When is DOE going to fully fund the retirement (trust) program (pension plan)?

Answer: The current funding complies with Federal law.

- How much new money has been put into the retirement fund in each of the last three years?

Answer: 2015: \$62,076,014; 2016: \$91,661,777; 2017: \$109,962,219.

- Could WageWorks put the current claim coverage for each retiree on their page? I would like to know if I have claims through 2019, 2020, or 2021. This would help with financial planning.

Answer: The SRSRA will make this request to SRNS, the organization that controls the WageWorks contract requirements.

- Will we ever drop WageWorks? It is so inefficient; the Resource Center is most helpful.

Answer: SRNS has established the contract requirements with WageWorks. The Resource Center continues to work with WageWorks to resolve stipend issues.

- Does DOE use WageWorks?

Answer: Federal employees have a different coverage that does not require reimbursement.

- Would it be possible to publish a list of employee's that have retired in the last 7-8 years (just names and retirement year)?

Answer: Getting a list of retirees from SRNS has been one of our contractor requests. We are continuing to work with SRNS on retiree information.

- With the high percentage of hearing loss in retirees, could you explore the possibility of assistance with the cost of hearing aids?

Answer: Our Resource Center will research this issue.

- Why have Cold War veterans been overlooked?

Answer: Your SRSRA will continue to work to protect all your benefits and try to find better solutions for its members.

- Do the politicians really understand what MOX was intended to do? If they had fully funded it up front it might not have cost so much.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

Answer: MOX has been and continues to be a political football game played by Congress and the White House.

- What is the plutonium being down blended with?

Answer: The SRSRA does not have that information.

General Business – Dave Fauth Chair, SRSRA

- The minutes of the 2017 SRSRA Annual Meeting were approved.
- The proposed changes to the Bylaws were approved. They include the following:
  - Deleting the requirement to stagger the election of the Board of Directors (BOD) members and allowing for the appointment of BOD members to fill vacancies that occur during the year to serve until the next annual SRSRA Regular Member Meeting (Annual Meeting).
  - Changing the responsibility for adoption by majority vote of amendments to the Bylaws from members present at the Annual Meeting to the Board of Directors and communicated to the membership as per the Bylaws.
- The proposed Board of Directors slate was approved.

Door Prize Drawings – John Plodinec, Past Chair, SRSRA

The following fifteen names were randomly selected to receive \$100 gas cards:

Artie Emanuel, Victor Wheeler, Barry Tompkins, Dave Cowfer, Martin Perchersky, Jack Corey, Roy Geiselhart, Robert Sharpe, Bob Fallaw, Richard Johnson, Mary Frank, Greg Teese, Elliot Clark, Mickey Whitley, and Dave Amerman.

The following eight names were randomly selected to receive Cabela gift packages:

Eric Nelson, Gary Kindred, Herb Martin, Christopher Maxwell, Richard Frushour, Gale Kan, Eric Wilson, and Glenn Cockrell.

Adjournment – Dave Fauth, Chair, SRSRA

The meeting was adjourned at ~3:30 pm. The door prize winners received their cards.

**Save the date for the next SRSRA Annual Meeting on April 16, 2019!**

## How Your Life Insurance Benefit Decreases As You Age

Consistent with industry practice across the country, SRS retiree life insurance benefits automatically decrease as you age. That's important information for your retirement planning.

There are two types of SRS Retiree Life Insurance and the Reduction Factors differ for each type. Your benefit is based on your Life Insurance Pay as determined by SRS.

### I. **Non-Contributory:** SRS pays the premium

Here's the reduction factors by age and a sample benefit calculation for a person with Life Insurance Pay of \$80,000.

<b>NON-CONTRIBUTORY BENEFIT</b>		
Age	Reduction Factor	Sample Benefit if Life Insurance Pay = \$80,000
Benefit = 1 x Life Insurance Pay		
64	0	80,000
65	0.932	74,560
66	0.864	69,120
67	0.795	63,600
68	0.727	58,160
69	0.659	52,720
70	0.591	47,280
71	0.523	41,840
72	0.455	36,400
73	0.386	30,880
74	0.318	25,440
75	0.250	20,000

### **Contributory:** You pay the premium

Here's the reduction factors by age and a sample benefit calculation for that same person with Life Insurance Pay of \$80,000. Note you will have elected a benefit level of one, two or three times your Life Insurance Pay amount. The sample shows the benefit at each level.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

<b>CONTRIBUTORY BENEFIT</b>						
Age	Reduction Factors Depending Upon Level You Chose			Sample Benefit if Life Insurance Pay = \$80,000		
Benefit x Life Insurance Pay	1X	2 X	3X	If You Elected 1 X your Life	If You Elected 2 X your Life	If You Elected 3 X your Life
64	0	0	0	80,000	160,000	240,000
65	0.955	1.864	2.773	76,400	149,120	221,840
66	0.909	1.727	2.545	72,720	138,160	203,600
67	0.864	1.591	2.318	69,120	127,280	185,440
68	0.818	1.455	2.091	65,440	116,400	167,280
69	0.773	1.318	1.864	61,840	105,440	149,120
70	0.727	1.182	1.636	58,160	94,560	130,880
71	0.682	1.045	1.409	54,560	83,600	112,720
72	0.636	0.909	1.182	50,880	72,720	94,560
73	0.591	0.773	0.954	47,280	61,840	76,320
74	0.545	0.636	0.727	43,600	50,880	58,160
75	0.500	0.500	0.500	40,000	40,000	40,000

You can see the amount of your current benefit by logging into the Prudential website:

<https://ssologin.prudential.com/app/mybenefits/Login.fcc> Control Number is 51945

You can also check your current beneficiaries on that website and update certain information. If you would like us to help you initiate your Prudential on-line account and print out your benefit amount and beneficiaries list for your records, call the Resource Center for an appointment and we'll be glad to help you.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to Kenneth Fogle, winner of a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Call Bob Hottel at 803-648-7721 within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact him.

\*\*\*\*\*

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Pictures from the 2018 Annual Meeting



SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Volunteer Opportunity

### McGrath Computer Learning Center

The McGrath Computer Learning Center is located on the campus of the University of South Carolina Aiken. The Learning Center is an independent, incorporated, 501(c) (3) tax exempt organization, it's affiliated with the Office of External Programs and Continuing Education of USC Aiken. Its mission is to provide adults in Aiken and the surrounding communities the opportunity to improve their skills and knowledge in using personal computers, tablets, and smartphones.

The Learning Center is managed by local volunteers and classes are taught and coached by volunteer instructors. They offer a low-cost, friendly introduction to using computers, tablets, and smartphones. The basic curriculum features courses on a general introduction to using a computer, tablet, or smartphone. Other courses present more specific topics such as word processing, use of the Internet, and email. More advanced courses cover, graphics, digital photography and photograph enhancement, and financial management. Instructor hold open lab time where registered students can use computers to practice or to work on individual projects.

We have found that peer teaching is effective and rewarding for instructors as well as students. Teaching is primarily hands-on, with the student duplicating the actions of the instructor. Coaches, usually 2 or 3 per class, provide one-on-one help for each student at his or her computer.

The Learning Center is located in a single-story, brick building next to the USC Aiken tennis courts. The classroom is equipped with 8 desktop computers running Windows 10 and 5 Mac desktop computers running MacOS (Sierra). We also teach courses in using iPad and Android tablets as well as iPhone and Android smartphones.

Instructors and coaches are needed. Lesson plans and guide books are developed and available. Courses vary from 1-4 sessions 1-2 hours per session. Students are appreciative of the opportunity to obtain computer skills at a reasonable pace. Classes vary in size from 4 – 20 students with tablets and phones being the larger.

If interested contact Jim Tisaranni 803 215-7866, [tisarann@bellsouth.net](mailto:tisarann@bellsouth.net).

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Representative Joe Wilson Sends SRSRA Pension Concerns to Energy Secretary Rick Perry

Representative Joe Wilson has been working with the Savannah River Site Retiree Association to address concerns related to our pensions; for example pension increases and budget requirements to fund present and future pension obligations at SRS and other DOE sites. On April 16, 2018, Representative Wilson sent a letter to Secretary of Energy Rick Perry documenting these concerns and requesting information on a series of related issues. The Savannah River Site Retiree Association thanks Representative Wilson for his assistance and looks forward to working with him in the future.

## Newsletter Information

Questions and comments related to this newsletter may be addressed to Frank Campbell, newsletter editor, at [newsletter@srsretirees.org](mailto:newsletter@srsretirees.org), or Newsletter, SRS Retiree Association, P.O. Box. 5686, Aiken, SC 29804.

If you have a new e-mail address, or have changed your address recently and are not receiving SRSRA communications by e-mail, please contact [newsletter@srsretirees.org](mailto:newsletter@srsretirees.org). Our e-mail program allows us to reach members more quickly with news. Other pluses are quicker distribution of the newsletter and less cost of copying and mailing hard copies. Thanks to all of you who are receiving your newsletter by e-mail.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to Woodrow Talley, winner of a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Call Bob Hottel at 803-648-7721 within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact him.

\*\*\*\*\*

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Benefits Contacts

- **Benefits 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 (toll free)**
  - **service-center@srs.gov (e-mail contact for this service)**
  
- **SRS Retiree Resource Center:**
  - **(803) 508-7065**
  - **(866) 845-1550 (toll free)**
  - **Internet: [srsra@lscog.org](mailto:srsra@lscog.org)**
  
- **Westinghouse Corp. Pension**                      **800-581-4222**
  
- **RightOpt/My Medicare Advocate**            **877-591-8904; [www.rightoptretiree.com/srs](http://www.rightoptretiree.com/srs)**
  
- **WageWorks**    **877-924-3967; [www.wageworks.com](http://www.wageworks.com)**
  
- **Medicare Helpline**                                **800-633-4227; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)**
  
- **Prudential Life Insurance**            **844-494-4778 (Contributory and non-contributory life insurance)**
  
- **Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SC**    **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**

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to Van Lively Jr., winner of a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Call Bob Hottel at 803-648-7721 within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact him.



SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## In Memoriam

Grady Adams

Albert Marcellus Loadholt, Jr

Tempie Adams

Lynden Daniel Martin

David Allen

Charles Gilbert Mullins

John Judson Attaway

William A. Norton

Pamela Morton Baxley

Mary Hall Ogden

Leroy Jack Bates

John C. Parker, Sr.

H. Wayne Brown

Mark Hilton Person

Elaine Saxon Carter

Charles Stephen Rudd

David Andrew Clark

William Raymond Seigler

Thomas R. Coughenour

Dannie F. Walker

Linda Gregory

Cecil Woodward

Trudy L. Ivey

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

**P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804**

Phone: (803)508-7065; e-mail: [srsretirees@srsretirees.org](mailto:srsretirees@srsretirees.org)

WEB PAGE: <http://srsretirees.org>

## Savannah River Site Retiree Association Membership Form

Annual dues for the Association are \$25/year for a retiree (there is no charge for retirees who are spouses of members). For surviving spouses of retirees, annual dues are \$5.

\_\_\_\_\_ As a retiree, I want to **JOIN/RENEW** my membership in the SRSRA (\$25). Retirement date from SRS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am the **SPOUSE** of a member and also an SRS retiree and I want to **JOIN** the SRSRA (no charge). Retirement date from SRS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am the **SURVIVING SPOUSE** of an SRS retiree and want to **JOIN/RENEW** my membership in the SRSRA (\$5).

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to **SERVE** on the SRSRA Board of Directors.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in **VOLUNTEERING** at the SRSRA Retiree Resource Center.

\_\_\_\_\_ In addition to my dues, I want to make **AN ADDITIONAL GIFT** to the SRSRA Resource Center \_\_\_ or the SRS Heritage Foundation \_\_\_ (latter is tax deductible):

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ \$10    \_\_\_ \$15    \_\_\_\_\_ Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Resource Center is staffed by volunteers, but your dues do not cover all of its costs.

Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Providing your e-mail address allows SRSRA to send important communications to you electronically.

Mail this form (and your check) to: **SRS Retiree Association**

P. O. Box 5686 Aiken, SC 29804

Attention: Membership Chair