



SRSRA NEWSLETTER

For SRS Retiree Association Members

Frank Campbell, Editor

Volume 22, No. 4, Oct. 2019

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

Contents

SRSRA Contact Information:	1	Retiree Resource Center Report	5
About this newsletter	1	SRSRA Retiree or Spouse Death Notifications	7
Letter from Dave Fauth, SRSRA Chair	2	Benefits Contacts	8
SRS Museum Grand Re-Opening	3	United Way Annual Solicitation Mailed.....	9
Benefits Protection Committee	4	In Memoriam	10
SRSRA Meet and Greet in Georgia.....	4		

SRSRA Contact Information:

Web page – SRSretirees.org

Facebook – SRS Retirees

SRSRA Resource Center – phone (803) 508-7065 or toll free at (866) 845-1550 or email srsra@iscog.org

About this newsletter

The SRSRA Newsletter is published four times a year – January, April, July, and October. The Newsletter is sent to all dues paying SRSRA members. If we have your email address on file, you receive it first since the email version is much quicker to send than the printed version. If you are getting the printed version and would like to get the email version instead, please send us a note through the www.srsretirees.org web page with your current email address and we will update our records. Also, receiving it by email reduces our costs of printing and distributing this newsletter. If you are receiving the printed version, please consider contacting us and switching to an email subscription.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

Letter from Dave Fauth, SRSRA Chair

Fellow retirees, I hope you have survived the record summer heat and will enjoy a cooler fall. Your Board and other retiree volunteers have been busy in Resource Center activities. The Resource Center passed the 5-year mark last month and we continue to help many retirees with their Medicare plan enrollments and WageWorks claim submittals. When contacting the Center, please be patient and recognize that we will respond to you. During Medicare Open Enrollment for 2020, we hope to help hundreds of you with the selection of your 2020 Rx plans/Medicare advantage plans. Expect a number of changes to Medicare in 2020 and be ready to react if they impact you. We will do our best to highlight the changes but recognize that Medicare choices impact us all differently even if we live in the same house. Read all the Medicare information you can and contact us (website, email, or phone).

I am excited to announce that we will have our first “Meet and Greet” event for Georgia retirees on Wednesday, November 6th at St. Theresa of Avila Catholic Church on Columbia Road near the intersection with Belair Road. We hope to give you a more convenient opportunity to see friends/co-workers, meet with your benefit providers and other local agencies providing to aging citizens. We plan to hold similar events in other parts of the CSRA in the future.

I want to thank those who came to the Pit Production environmental impact meeting in North Augusta or submitted formal comments. We as an organization want to support current and future site missions. The Pit Production program planned for the site needs our assistance. We know that this program can be performed effectively and safely at the Savannah River Site.

You all should have received CSRA United Way pledge cards. I encourage you to give generously to the worthy causes that are funded through the various United Way agencies.

Finally, your Board is thrilled to provide assistance to you all through the association programs but we need your help. Please consider volunteering your time, by serving on the Board, helping on one of our committees, or assisting at the Resource Center. The Association has great structure but we need help so we can help you and protect your benefits.

Sincerely,

Dave Fauth SRSRA Chair

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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



SRS Museum Grand Re-Opening

Lauren Miller, SRS Museum Director

In 2005, SRS retiree Walt Joseph spearheaded efforts to ensure the preservation of the history of the Savannah Rite Site. After years of effort from a small but mighty team of volunteers, the SRS Museum is ready to re-open its doors to the public. The Museum will host “Atoms in the Alley” on Saturday, October 19th from 11am – 1pm in the alley in downtown Aiken, and the Museum will be open that day and from then on (Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 2pm).

The Museum has recently installed a Legacy Management grant funded exhibit titled “6,000 Stories,” which gives voice to the folks displaced by the coming of the Site. This exhibit features a cemetery database for researchers as well as oral histories, pictures, and maps of towns like Ellenton and Dunbarton. We are so excited to share the Museum’s continued progress with the public!

In preparation for the grand re-opening, the **SRS Museum is seeking volunteers** to assist in a variety of ways to share the rich history of the Savannah River Site. Whether you’re a people person who would like to greet guests and orient them to the Museum, help with events, give tours, or a history buff who would like to work with the Museum’s artifacts and archives, the SRS Museum has a place for you!

The SRS Museum’s team of volunteers is a place of community: to make new friends and reminisce with old, to share the history of the Site and to learn something new, and to engage with the wonderful people in town. If you’re interested in joining this community of volunteers, please contact the new SRS Museum Director Lauren Miller at lmiller@newsouthassoc.com or 803.648.1437 for additional information.

The SRS Museum is located in downtown Aiken at 224 Laurens St. SW. Check out <https://www.srsheritagemuseum.org/> for more information and consider volunteering to be a part of the preservation of the rich history of SRS!

SRSRA Newsletter Oct. 2019

Page 3

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

Benefits Protection Committee

John Veldman

SRS Retirees Association continues to advocate for a modest pension adjustment in 2020. DOE has still not responded to our request for a pension plan amendment to grant a modest pension adjustment. We continue to work with Rep. Wilson and his staff to encourage DOE to do the right thing.



SRSRA Meet and Greet in Georgia

The Savannah River Retiree Association invites all Georgia* SRS Retirees to a drop-in at:

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church - Parish Life Center

4921 Columbia Rd (near the intersection of Columbia Rd and Belair Rd.)

Grovetown GA 30813

Wed. November 6 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

This drop-in will be an opportunity to meet your fellow retirees and learn about the resources available to you.

ALL SRS RETIREES AND THEIR SPOUSES ARE INVITED.

BRING YOUR SRS RETIREE FRIENDS – THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE AN SRSRA MEMBER TO ATTEND.

Light refreshments will be provided.

*Other areas will be included in future drop-ins.

Gas Card Winner

The first gas card winner for this issue is Glenn Warren Whitlock. This lucky SRSRA member has won 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 Bob.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

Retiree Resource Center Report

Laureen Riley Feinman, Manager

Many of you have expressed concerns about increased prescription drug costs. The biggest tool you have to control your personal prescription drug costs for 2020 is your ability to choose the Rx plan which matches your specific medications and your choice of pharmacy.

Medicare offers you the new online Planfinder to make that determination because it includes all Rx plans for 2020, pricing them out for your specific medications including drug costs, deductibles, premiums, and pharmacy networks.

Medicare Part D drug plans change every year and the plan you chose for 2019 may have worked very well for this year. But most of those plans change each year and will change for 2020 hoping to make a higher profit. Nearly 70% of the 1,453 Rx plan reviews which we have conducted at the Resource Center using Medicare data for the past four years have shown a different plan is cheaper for the next year. Often you can keep your pharmacy and just use a new Rx Plan card. We have seen many reviews that save thousands of dollars – the total out of pocket savings for our retirees from the reviews we have done at the Resource Center using their specific medications is \$1,363,739.

You owe it to yourself to see what your next year projected expenses will be. You are not required to keep your Rx plan with RightOpt to maintain your stipend, although you can contact them to do this comparison and help you enroll in a new plan when appropriate.

You can also contact the Retiree Resource Center for an appointment and we will help you. Finally, you can do this comparison yourself using the Planfinder on the Medicare site: [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov)

Medicare has changed the procedure from prior years. You will need to enroll in [MyMedicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) if you have not done so already. You will need your [MyMedicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) Username and Password, your new Medicare Card Number, your effective date for Part A (which is on your Medicare Card), and your date of birth in order to be enrolled. You do not need to have an email address.

Medicare Advantage Plans should also be reviewed annually because their prescription drugs change and their copays and restrictions may be different. Their provider networks can also change and the doctors and hospitals do not always remain the same. Check with your providers for 2020 to see which insurance networks they are associated with. The same Medicare Planfinder lets you make Medicare Advantage Plan comparisons.

An annual review of either your Medicare Part D or your Medicare Advantage Plans can save you money!

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

Retiree Resource Center Metrics

Services Since Inception

September 2014 to August 2019

3,959	Office Visits at Retiree Center
2,622	Clients Served
68	Home Visits
6,934	Phone Contacts
471	Email Contacts
56	Number of Monthly Aging In to Medicare Meetings
1049	Number of Clients who have attended Aging in Meetings
\$ 2,436,882	WageWorks Claims Reimbursement transmitted from RRC

Prescription Drug and Medicare Advantage Plan Reviews 2015 - 2018

1,453	Number of Plan Reviews conducted at RRC
\$1,363,739	Projected Savings from Reviews and Plan Changes using the Medicare.gov model with Client Specific Meds, Pharmacies, and Plans

Gas Card Winner

The second gas card winner for this issue is William Glenn Fields. This lucky SRSRA member has won 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 Bob.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

SRSRA Retiree or Spouse Death Notifications

(Suggestion: **save this page** and give it to your spouse, family member, and/or executor or personal representative to use when an SRS retiree or the spouse of an SRS retiree dies. You should also keep a copy with the retiree or spouse's will or other important papers.)

SRS Required Notification Information: Service-Center@srs.gov 803-725-7772 or 800-368-7333

The major step SRS participants or their family members should take is to notify the SRS Service Center of the death. SRS Retirement Services will then check the benefits and contact the caller. SRS will explain the benefits, contact applicable entities on your behalf to initiate claims, and assist you with completing the forms for the pension, life insurance, medical insurance, and 401k Savings Plan benefits to which you may be entitled.

WageWorks: WageWorks, PO Box 14053, Lexington KY 401512 – Customer Service 877.924.3967
<https://participant.wageworks.com>

Claims must be submitted within six months after the date of death if the person who died was a Surviving Spouse (widow or widower whose spouse had already died). The estate Representative or Executor can determine if there is a balance available in the Wage Works account for claims incurred before the date of death by mailing a copy of their court appointment and of the death certificate to WageWorks with that question. This will allow the Representative to submit claims which will then be paid "To the Estate of ____" at the address designated by the Representative. The family can also make an in person appointment with the SRSRA Retiree Resource Center in Aiken and that Resource Center will help you with the process of identifying eligible claims and submitting them. Funeral expenses are not considered tax advantaged expenses by the IRS.

Social Security Death Benefit of \$255: Call Social Security at 800-772-1213 or stop by local office.

In some cases the funeral home will apply for this benefit for you which should be much easier. Be sure to confirm with them whether they are going to do it or whether they expect you to do it.

Gas Card Winner

The third gas card winner for this issue is Robert Hiergesell. This lucky SRSRA member has won 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 Bob.

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

Benefits Contacts

- **SRS Benefits Service Center at the site(service for most HR and payroll questions):**
 - **803-725-7772 (local area SC and GA)**
 - **800-368-7333 (toll free)**
 - **service-center@srs.gov**
- **SRSRA Retiree Resource Center:**
 - **(803) 508-7065**
 - **srsra@lscog.org**
- **Westinghouse Corp. Pension** **800-581-4222**
- **RightOpt (MyMedicareAdvocate/GetInsured)** **877-591-8904; www.rightoptretiree.com/srs**
- **WageWorks** **877-924-3967; www.wageworks.com**
- **Medicare Helpline** **800-633-4227; www.medicare.gov**
- **Prudential Life Insurance** **844-494-4778 (Contributory and non-contributory life insurance)**
- **Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SC** **800-325-6596;**
 - **<http://www.southcarolinablues.com>**
 - **Option 1 for Medical**
 - **Option 2 for Dental**
 - **Option 3 for Pre-Cert/Med Authorization**
- **DuPont Retirees life insurance: 800.775.5955**
- **DuPont Retiree Medical with Via: <https://my.viabenefits.com/> 855-535-7140**
- **DuPont Retirees Contact Information for other benefits:**
<http://www.retiree.dupont.com/our-company/retirees/contact-us.html>

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

United Way Annual Solicitation Mailed

SRSRA has again mailed solicitations for gifts to the United Way. You should have received it by now, but if you did not, a copy of the pledge form is in this newsletter. We get good publicity from the local media for our generous contribution

It is your choice, when deciding about giving to the United Way, whether to make that donation individually, through SRS, through the SRS Retiree Association, or through some other arrangement.

If you decide to contribute by check, make the check payable to the United Way of Aiken County; the United Way of Aiken County will forward your contribution to the United Way that you designate on the enclosed form.

We hope you will join with your fellow retirees in giving through the association.



SRS RETIREE ASSOCIATION PLEDGE FORM



Invest in your community...

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I would like to receive United Way newsletters by e-mail. Email address: _____

Please select your method of payment. Please note payroll deduction is not available through the Retiree Association.

Draft my bank account: \$ _____ per month (please include voided check)

(A minimum pledge of \$25 per month is required. Draft will occur on the 15th of every month unless the 15th falls on a weekend in which case the draft would take place the Friday before. The first draft will occur on January 15th and the last will occur on December 15th.)

Signature: _____

Check #: _____ for \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to United Way of Aiken County.)

Charge my credit card. \$ _____

VISA
 MASTERCARD
 DISCOVER
 AMEX

Card #: _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Signature: _____

Please bill me: \$ _____

(\$100.00 minimum pledge for direct billing)

Quarterly
 Semi-Annually
 Annually

Please select where you want your money to go.
(\$20.00 minimum pledge for designations)

United Way of Aiken County
 United Way of Allendale County (Partnered with Barnwell County)
 Barnberg County
 United Way of Bamwell County (Partnered with Allendale County)
 United Way of Colleton County
 United Way of the CSRA (Richmond, Columbia, Burke, and Lincoln Counties)
 United Way of Edgfield County
 Hampton County (Partnered with Colleton County)
 United Way of McDuffie and Warren Counties
 United Way of the Midlands (Richland, Lexington, Calhoun, Edisto, Fairfield, Newberry and Orangeburg Counties)
 United Way of Screven County
 Special Designation: _____

LEADERSHIP GIVING

A gift of \$500 or more qualifies me as a Leadership Giver with special recognition. Please list my/our name(s) as follows:

I would like my name and address forwarded to my designated United Way.

MAIL THIS FORM TO:

United Way of Aiken County, Inc.
235 Barnwell Avenue, NW • Post Office
Box 699 • Aiken, SC 29802-0699 • Phone:
(803) 648-8331 • Fax: (803) 641-2887

SRS Retiree Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

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

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

In Memoriam

July-September 2019

Edward W Aldrich	Williston
Pierce F. (PF) Beck Jr.	Barnwell
John Phillips Church	Aiken
Gearl M Collins Sr.	Aiken
Joseph S Corbett	Augusta
Gail Crowder	Williston (March 2019)
Gary Carl Feenstra	North Augusta
Deryal H. Franklin	Warrenville
Charles Elliott Gullette	Aiken
Richard H. Hawkins	Aiken
Charles L. (Chuck) Hockinson	Aiken
Jerry W (Bo) Kelly	Warrenville
Robert E (Bob) Kosky	Aiken
Robert (Bob) Lawson	Aiken
Tom Watson (TW) Marsh	Aiken
Kyle F Melton	Aiken
Kenneth Merriett	New Ellenton
Leonard E Wilson	Graniteville
Melvin Henderson Young	Jackson