



SRSRA NEWSLETTER

For SRS Retiree Association Members

Gene Dixon, Editor

Volume 28, No. 2 April 2025

Contents

SRSRA Contact Information:	1	SRSRA Retiree Resource Center	2
2025 Annual Meeting	1	In Memoriam: Jan – Mar 2025	4
SRS Retiree Association (SRSRA) Membership	2		

SRSRA Contact Information:

SRS Retiree Association, Inc. P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804 Phone Message Line: 803-226-0070
e-mail: SRSRA@srsretirees.org or use the “Contact Us” button on the website.



Web Page: <http://srsretirees.org>



Like us on Facebook: SRS Retirees

2025 Annual Meeting

The SRS Retiree Association Annual Meeting will be held April 29, 2025 at the USCA-Etherredge Center, in Aiken SC. Registration begins at 11:00 AM. The meeting will start at 1:00 PM. No questions will be accepted during the meeting. Minutes from the 2024 Annual Meeting are available on the webpage. Mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

2025 SRSRA Annual Meeting Agenda

USCA Etherredge Center, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, S.C.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks, 1:00 pm

SRSRA Resource Center Update

DOE-SR Update

Questions and Answers-Panel

Note: Questions will not be taking questions from the floor at the meeting. A call for questions was held in March and has now closed.

Election

Door Prize Drawings You MUST register and be present to win.

Adjourn

Additional considerations for your welfare and safety:

- You are responsible for your health protection. Mask wearing is optional at the USCA-Etherredge Center.
- Possession of firearms and weapons is unlawful on the USCA campus. Please review the campus requirements found here: <https://www.usca.edu/departments/campus-safety/laws-concerning-weapons-on-campus/>.
- USCA campus policy prohibits all pets from campus due to health and safety liabilities. You can review the policies here: <https://usca.edu/about/university-policies/afcmn-facilities-management/>.

SRS Retiree Association (SRSRA) Membership

Please continue to support the SRS Retiree Association and what the Resource Center does in assisting retirees transitioning into Medicare, Medicare issues, Open Enrollment, stipend reimbursements, etc. The Resource Center is sponsored and managed by the Association's Board. The primary funding sources for the SRSRA are members' dues and donations. Most of the Resource Center staffing is provided by retirees who volunteer their time.

Membership is available to anyone retired under the previous WSRC – BSRI retirement plan or in the successor plan, currently called the SRNS, LLC Multiple Employer Pension Plan. This includes retirees from WSRC, BSRI, WSMS, BNFL, URS, SRNS, SRR, SRMC and BSRA. Annual dues ensure membership for the calendar year, January 1 through December 31, and can be paid anytime. Dues can be paid for up to three years—current year plus the next two. Retiree membership is \$25 and surviving spouse is \$5. All member spouses (SRS retiree or not) can join for \$0.

An easy way to pay dues is through the webpage. Go to the website, srsretirees.org. Click the “Join or Renew Membership” button towards the bottom of the page. The link lets you complete an electronic form and connects to payment methods, e.g., PayPal or credit card. You can also print the form from the webpage, complete the form and mail it to: SRS Retiree Association, Inc. P. O. Box 5686, Aiken, SC 29804

As a member, please volunteer to serve on the Board or perform services at the Resource Center to help continue operations through SRSRA's 27th year.

And please encourage all retirees to join the Association, especially those that use the Resource Center services.

Gas Card Winner

The first gas card winner for this issue is Camille Miles. This SRSRA member has won a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Please text or call Bob Hottel (803 221 4248) or email (abhottel@bellsouth.net) within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact Bob.



SRSRA Retiree Resource Center

Laureen Riley Feinman, Manager & SHIP Counselor

Thank you to our retiree volunteers who have made our Retiree Resource Center (RRC) so successful. In the past 15 months, we have served over 1,000 clients. We've conducted 283 office visits and fielded 1,145 telephone calls. Between our work filing HE/WW claims (\$725,611) and our Medicare Rx Review program savings (\$299,411), our retirees' savings total \$1,025,022.

Estate Planning. We see many more retirees paying attention to planning. If you need help, we can work with you to update your primary and secondary beneficiaries for Prudential Life Insurance policies and Transamerica 401k plans. We can also help retirees add designated family members to these plans, their Medicare account, and to HealthEquity. Designees can speak to those agencies on your behalf. We can do this online and provide paper copies to keep for your records.

Retiree Health Reimbursement Accounts (HRA) with HealthEquity and VIA – Be aware!

These accounts are *notional* accounts which the webpage The Open Knowledge Repository (<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/546aaa2d-7461-5bd3-82b4-548cbabf5199>, March 31, 2025) describes as “Notional accounts are designed to mimic a defined contribution plan, where ...the return that contributions earn is a notional one, set by the government, not the product of investment returns in the markets.” These accounts are intended to qualify as a medical expense reimbursement plan and must meet IRS requirements so that the reimbursement benefits paid to eligible retirees and spouses are not taxable. Unlike a Health Savings Account (HSA), or your bank account, the amount shown as your HRA account balance does not belong to you and is not a “savings account”.

Following your death there is a six-month window for HRA claims to be filed on your behalf. After that, any remaining balance is forfeited and reverts to the company of issue. If you are married and your surviving spouse is under 65 at the time of your death, a new HRA account will not be established until the surviving spouse reaches age 65, provided he/she meets the eligibility requirements.

If you are married and your spouse has been eligible for, and receiving allocations into the HRA, all remaining HRA funds remain in the HRA account and the annual stipend allocation continues for the surviving spouse until his/her death. Upon the surviving spouse's death, the same six-month window is open for filing claims on their behalf. After that any remaining balance reverts back to the company of issue.

The HRA is a retiree benefit. It is your responsibility to manage it wisely. The RRC has filed over \$5 million in retirees' HRA claims with HealthEquity/WageWorks, and VIA since 2014. We can assist you in getting reimbursements.

Pay attention to your Rx drug expenses. If you purchase your drugs outside of the Medical Part D Plan in which you are enrolled (e.g., from Good Rx, Publix, etc.) you may find cheaper costs for that medication. You should know that that cost will not be considered when Medicare calculates catastrophic drug limit for 2025 and that will extend the time required to meet the \$2000 threshold Medicare defines for free medications.

Would you like to help us at the Retiree Resource Center?

Data management challenges affect us all! If you are proficient with Microsoft Office 365 including Outlook, have organization skills, and enjoy working with a positive team, you may find volunteering at the RRC to be rewarding. Training is available for all SRSRA volunteers. Call the SRSRA message line at 803-226-0070, or contact Lfeinman@srsretirees.org

Gas Card Winner

The second gas card winner for this issue is Terry Key. This SRSRA member has won a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Please text or call Bob Hottel (803 221-4248) or email (abhottel@bellsouth.net) within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact Bob.



In Memoriam: Jan – Mar 2025

SRSRA Board members obtain these names from local newspapers. If you would like your deceased loved one included, please send us their name via our website, email at SRSRA@srsretirees.org or leave a message at (803)508-7065.



Kenny Atkins	Graniteville	James Mortimer "Jim" Morrison	Aiken
Sandra Harper Bishop	North Augusta	Gerald H Parker	Aiken
Richard W Bryden	North Augusta	Bhogilal C "BC" Patel	Martinez
Theron Stanley Collins	Barnwell	Lois Beasley Powell	North Augusta
Kevin Timothy Counts	Aiken	Teresa Hutto Proveaux	Lexington
Rufus Cowart	Augusta	William Archie Quinn	Aiken
Jake Elbert Creech	Barnwell	Mary Frances Rhoden Ricks-Fallow	Aiken
Jackie "Jack" Croft	Barnwell	Daniel Joseph Roon	Evans
Donald George Currier	Aiken	Farrell Edward "Eddie" Rodgers	Aiken
J "Roy" Davenport	Aiken	Charles Robert "Chuck" Russell	Jacksonville Beach, FL
Dr. Michael Dennis "Mike" Dukes	Aiken	Dianne Stewart Scott	Waynesboro
Gary Roudell "Rudy" Elwell	Modoc	Pliny Hughes Shropshier	Holly Hill
Wilbur Ray "Butch" Gay Jr	North Augusta	John Henry Simmons	Aiken
Mary Elizabeth Gibson	Williston	Ronald Bruce "Ron" Smith	North Augusta
Stanley Franklin "Stan" Goodman	Aiken	Christian Walter Solum	Augusta
Wade T "Sonny" Gordy	North Augusta	Paul Clifton Solomon	Sylvania
Judith Sims "Judy" Guyton	North Augusta	Duylee Still	Williston
Mary Toole Harris	Aiken	Stanley David Stroud	North Augusta
Charles Robert "Bobby" Hayes	Aiken	Major C Thompson	Aiken
Reginald Holston	North Augusta	Linda Gail Still Towne	Barnwell
George Ivan Knowles	Beech Island	Walter Van Cala Jr	Graniteville
Dolores Berberich Krenta	Aiken	Tony Leroy Vann	
Calvin Lark Jr	North Augusta	Michael Craig "Mike" Wheat	Warrenville
Faye Roberson Lawson	Aiken	Virginia Bliss Wolfe	Aiken
Bruce Edward Long	Augusta		

Gas Card Winner

The third gas card winner for this issue is Michael L Hudspeth. This SRSRA member has won a \$50 gas card courtesy of the SRSEA and SRSRA. Please text or call Bob Hottel (803 221 4248) or email (abhottel@bellsouth.net) within 30 days to claim your gas card! Please verify your home address when you contact Bob.

