

# Retirees' Chapter News

## Virginia Governmental Employees Association



### *A Message from the President...*

**D**ue to dining room management changes at Imperial Plaza, we - the Chapter Executive Committee - shifted our **October 12 and November 9 meetings to Nick's Roman Terrace, 8051 W. Broad Street** (Westland Shopping Center between Parham Road and Glenside Drive), Henrico, VA 23294 @ 804.270.2988. Our Members opted to have our Holiday Luncheon at the Olive Garden, 7113 W. Broad (near Glenside Drive), 804.672.6220.

Kermit Spruill introduced our speaker, Weldon Hazlewood of the Virginia Bureau of Insurance, who discussed Medicare Supplement plans, provided a variety of handouts, and responded to questions. Faye Spruill provided our Treasurer's report. It was approved for the Executive Committee to spend up to \$200 for a portable microphone and related equipment. Vice President Dee Esser advised of upcoming Speakers including Jane Watkins, outgoing VA Credit Union Director, and that the VGEA Bylaws were being reviewed. Members were asked to advise of potential meeting places which offered adequate size, were accessible, and have a varied and affordable menu. See Janet Martino's Minutes on page 2 for details.

The 2015 elections are on November 3. Adequate compensation, fully funded retirement benefits, and containment of healthcare costs are still primary VGEA concerns. Control of the Virginia Senate is at stake. We need to get registered, get

informed, get your friends engaged, and get to the polls. The next state budget will depend on state revenue and Federal budget outcomes. Since there is never enough money, we need to push for our issues to be prioritized.

Members matter. More Members increase the volume of our collective "VOICE." Registration and other information are online at VGEA.org. Brochures and Membership applications are available from VGEA and at Chapter meetings. Let's each one reach one.

Our regular schedule - 11:30 a.m., the second Monday, October through April resumed in October. Our meeting dates are :

**Monday, November 9** - Nick's  
**Monday, December 14** - (Olive Garden Restaurant, 7113 W. Broad St.)  
**Monday, January 11, 2016**  
**Monday, February 8, 2016**  
**Monday, February 15** (Legislative Day)  
**Monday, March 14, 2016**  
**Monday, April 11, 2016**

Please plan to attend and bring a friend.

**"Cheerfulness is a choice, like choosing which color to wear." Garrison Keillor**

**Walt**  
**Walt Pulliam, Jr.,**  
**President**

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Virginia Governmental Employees Association  
Scholarship Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am a VGEA Member     I am the spouse/child/grandchild of a VGEA Member

If you are the spouse/child/grandchild of a VGEA Member please list the name of the VGEA Member, VGEA Number, when joined VGEA and your relationship.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of the College or University with the Address and Phone Number of the Financial Aid Office. (It is your responsibility to contact VGEA of any school changes or if you school is unknown at the time of the application deadline.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and address of your local newspaper for a press release if you are a scholarship winner.

\_\_\_\_\_  
If your school has an awards assembly, a member of VGEA would like to attend to present you a certificate of your scholarship.

Please provide name of school, date and time. \_\_\_\_\_

All forms and attachments must be typed with a size 12 font. Please include the following items in your application packet:

- This completed Application Form.
- Two letters of reference; letters must be no longer than two pages.
- An essay, no longer than two pages double spaced on the topic below:

**What have you done in the past to make your community a better place and how would you transfer these skills to a future career in your local community?**

*Electronic submittal to [info@vgea.org](mailto:info@vgea.org) is preferred. Applications must be received at the VGEA office and postmarked Friday, January 1, 2016. Electronic submissions must be received by midnight Friday, January 1, 2016. All applicants will be notified of the results of the process March 1, 2016.*

# VGEA Richmond Retirees Chapter

## October 2015 Meeting Minutes

**T**he 2015 October Meeting of the VGEA Richmond Retirees Chapter was held on October 12 at Nick's Roman Terrace. The meeting was conducted by Walt Pulliam, President. He asked that everyone check the listing that was being circulated to ensure that all information was correct. Walt welcomed everyone.

Faye Spruill, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report. The balance as of April 13 was \$1,903.40. Wendell Seldon made a **motion that we purchase a portable microphone**. Don Wells seconded. A discussion was held. Motion carried.

Dee Esser, Vice President, announced that **Jane Watkins from the Credit Union would be our January speaker**. Dee is trying to get Delegate O'Bannon for our November meeting, but to date has not received a response from his office. She also stated that there were some issues with the most recent election of Board members. For this election, you could only vote by computer which had some glitches. Many members felt that it was unfair not to have a paper ballot. This issue will be resolved soon. The Board has a new president Gale Grant, who has a new outlook, and Dee feels there will be some changes.

Kermit Spruill introduced our speaker, **Weldon Hazelwood from the State Corporation Commission, Bureau of Insurance**. Mr. Hazelwood explained the difference between Medicare and Medicaid. He also acknowledged that we are all being inundated with information on Medigap insurance policies. Since this is Open Enrollment time, he gave us a brochure with information we should look for and take into consideration. He also gave us information about the costs of those plans. If you have been on Medicare for six months and want to change, you will have to complete a health questionnaire. Your rates could be based on your health, and you could be denied.

Make sure that you have a new plan before cancelling your current plan. Additionally, there are many plans that offer Part D (prescription coverage) and offer copays that are better than the State Plan. However, it's very important to remember that once you leave the State Plan, you cannot return.

He also stated that the Bureau of Insurance has more than a thousand agents who investigate complaints. They handle a lot of complaints and have gotten almost four million dollars in refunds.

He also gave us a complaint form in case we should ever need it.

Winfree Mountcastle mentioned several articles that were in Sunday's *Richmond Times-Dispatch* that were of interest.

Marian Winer made a motion that we hold our **December 14 Christmas Luncheon at the Olive Garden Restaurant**. The motion was seconded by Anne Bordelon. Motion carried.

Walt announced that our **next meeting will be held at 11:30 a.m. on November 9 at Nick's Roman Terrace, 8051 W. Broad Street, (Westland Shopping Center, between Parham Road and Glenside Drive) Henrico, VA, 804.270.2988**.

**Submitted by:**  
**Janet Martino**  
**Secretary**

# Save the Dates for these Upcoming VGEA Events!

**December 14: *Retirees Chapter Holiday Luncheon***  
at the Olive Garden Restaurant

***Don't Miss the Celebration!***



**February 15, 2016: *Presidents' Day is VGEA Legislative Day***  
"On the Hill" – Learn to Lobby

***Come out to Visit Your Legislators and Lunch at the VGEA Office.***

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