

Subject: VGEA eNews - Spring Summit is Coming!

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To: Johnna Cossaboon

VGEA eNEWS

VIRGINIA GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

May 13, 2014

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Mark Your Calendar!

*The VGEA is
Coming to YOU!*

*Join Us
Next Tuesday:
Far Southwest
Virginia Regional
Meeting*

**May 20, 6 p.m.
Magnolia Kitchen,
Norton**

**Spring Summit Meeting
June 7, 8:30 a.m.**

Roanoke Spring Summit to Feature Rodrigues, Schultze and Nixon

Governor McAuliffe's Secretary of Administration Nancy Rodrigues heads an all-star line up of speakers for the **VGEA Spring Summit in Roanoke on Saturday morning, June 7**. Also presenting to the participants will be Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) Chief Sam Nixon and Virginia Retirement Systems (VRS) Director Bob Schultze.

Rodrigues will discuss Governor McAuliffe's vision for the future of State employee salaries and benefits, and Nixon will provide an update on the State of Virginia's information technology and its future direction as the Northrup Grumman contract winds down. Schultze will address the many challenges facing public employee retirement systems and how the VRS is responding. Each

Sheraton Roanoke Hotel and
Conference Center

**Southside Regional
Meeting**

July 24, 6 p.m.

O'Kelly's Restaurant, Danville

**Shenandoah Regional
Meeting**

August 21, 6 p.m.

Frontier Culture Museum
Staunton

**Tidewater Regional
Meeting**

October 16, 6 p.m.

Kelly's Tavern,
Greenbrier Mall, Chesapeake

Please RSVP for these
meetings by email:
info@vgea.org
or phone: 877-302-7146.

Complimentary meal provided to
member, guest and prospective
members. Call for menu details.

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Membership questions?

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speaker will also take audience questions.

This is your opportunity to hear first hand from the state decision-makers who sit atop these critical areas of state government.

RSVP now! This half-day session begins with registration at 8:30 a.m. at the Roanoke Sheraton with a welcome at 9 a.m. from VGEA President Wendy Brown and coffee, then includes the presentations by State leaders, an update on the never-ending General Assembly session from your VGEA Lobbying Team and ends with a luncheon where VGEA Executive Director Ron Jordan will provide an update about the goings-on within the VGEA. Throughout the session there will be door prizes and giveaways galore.

Spread the word! Forward or share this email with others in your agency or office. Tell them that the VGEA delivers for its members and this is their opportunity to hear about the VGEA's work and to get a free lunch in the process!

RSVP for the Spring Summit or any of the other Regional Meetings by email at info@vgea.org or by calling 877-302-7146 toll-free.

Correctional Officers Honored

The following letter was recently published in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*. The VGEA is proud of its thousands of correctional officer members and joins in this recognition.

Editor, Times-Dispatch:

The first full week of May is recognized as **Correctional Officers' Week** so that we may pay tribute to the dedication, bravery and integrity of our correctional officers.

Nearly **5,800 Virginia Department of Corrections (VADOC) correctional officers quietly manage more than 30,000 offenders** by ensuring the security of nearly 50 correctional facilities around the state. As director of the VADOC, I commend our correctional officers for meeting the significant demands placed upon them.

Virginia is safer because our correctional officers are well-trained and motivated. Our officers receive high quality, continuing education to maintain the highest industry standards at either of two academies, one near Richmond and one in Southwest Virginia. Training includes safety and security, evidence-based practices, offender re-entry case planning and offender programming.

Today's correctional officer in no way simply "guards" an offender. Every officer works with a population that has many needs, successfully building on a foundation of safety and security to provide guidance, education and rehabilitation. This is not an easy

task. Nonetheless, correctional officers make the commitment every day to help offenders re-enter society with the potential to be successful and productive citizens.

Correctional Officers' Week is a time for us to make an extra effort to raise public awareness of the fact that **correctional officers perform vital tasks, often in the face of significant risk, while maintaining the highest standards of conduct.**

Please join me in thanking correctional officers - the front line of Virginia's prison system. Virginia is a national leader in combating recidivism in no small part because of the dedication of our correctional officers.

Harold Clarke, *Director*
Virginia Department of Corrections. Richmond

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