



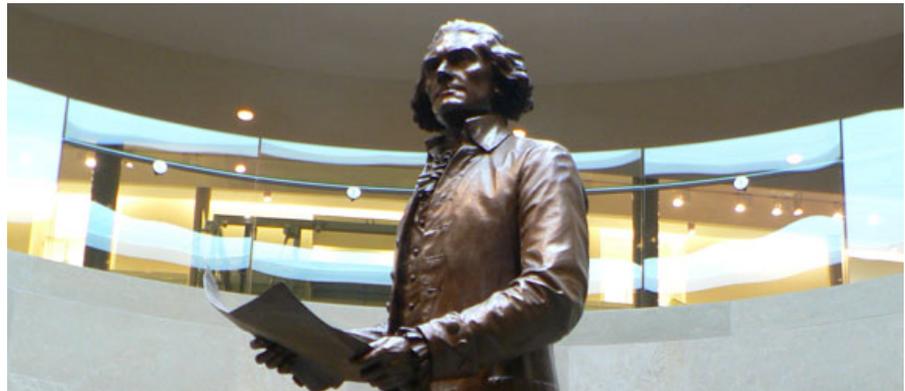
June 3, 2015

News this issue:

Spring Summit Saturday

Member Recruitment Campaign

VGEA Retirees' Results



**VGEA
Regional
Meetings**

You are invited!

RSVP today to
info@vgea.org

SPRING SUMMIT Meeting - Saturday June 6, 8:30 a.m. Hilton Garden Inn, 4500 South Peak Blvd., Roanoke, Va. Speakers: Secretary of Administration Nancy Rodrigues; DHRM, Director, Office of Health Benefits Gene Raney; and VRS Acting Director Patricia Bishop.

Help Us Recruit New Members And You Can Earn Up to \$5,000! VGEA 'Stronger with YOU!' Membership Recruitment Campaign: June 1-Sept. 30

In an **innovative effort to strengthen the association** and further its work on behalf of state employees and retirees, the **VGEA is kicking off a new *Stronger with YOU!* Membership Recruitment Campaign.** The campaign will run from **June 1 through September 30**, with our goal to significantly **increase the number of VGEA members**

because the greater our numbers, the stronger our *Voice!*

There are VGEA members located in every state agency location, facility and office throughout the Commonwealth, so it was a no-brainer to enlist each



July 23 - Southside Regional Meeting -

6 p.m. at O'Kelly's, 1055 Piney Forest Rd., Danville, Va. (434) 836-7970.

August 20 - Shenandoah Regional Meeting -

6 p.m. at the Frontier Culture Museum, 1290 Richmond Rd., Staunton, Va. (540) 332-7850.

September 12 - VGEA ANNUAL MEETING:

The DoubleTree by Hilton, 1021 Koger Center Blvd., Richmond (Midlothian), Va., 804-379-3800.

October 15 - Tidewater Regional Meeting -

6 p.m. Olive Garden - near Greenbrier Mall, 1631 Ring Rd., Chesapeake, Va. (757)424-4758.



Editor
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VGEA Communications
Director/Lobbyist
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member as a VGEA recruiter. By simply talking to your co-workers and new hires about the **true value of your VGEA membership**, you can get them to join. Thus **earn yourself significant cash**.

The campaign is designed to **more than pay for itself**. The best thing is, **the money members can save with VGEA member discounts and benefits more than offsets the cost of member dues**. In the **Stronger with YOU! Campaign**, everyone wins! Once **new members enjoy the benefits and communications that come exclusively with VGEA, they keep their memberships**. That's how the association wins. Take a few minutes and read the details below. **Then get going and earn some cash!**

Who is eligible?

All VGEA MEMBERS are eligible to participate.

Here's how it works:

You can earn incentives, based on the number of new active employee and retiree members that you recruit. Every member counts the same, regardless of whether he or she signs up as an employee, associate or retiree member:

- \$5,000 for 100 or more** new members
- \$2,500 for 50 to 99** new members
- \$1,000 for 25 to 49** new members
- \$750 for 15 to 24** new members
- \$500 for 10 to 14** new members
- \$100 for 5 to 9** new members

What do you have to do?

VGEA will provide membership brochures, campaign posters for your worksite, membership applications and talking points to use when you talk to potential new members. We encourage you to show them the website, which has lots of VGEA information, including the association's 56-year History, Advocacy details, Member Benefits and Discounts, and the VGEA Insurance Program. After they sign up, each new member you recruit will receive a New Member Welcome Package directly from the

Membership Questions?

Contact us:
info@vgea.org

VGEA Office:
804-355-3120
or toll free in Virginia:
877-302-7146

This newsletter was created for Virginia Governmental Employees Association members as a direct benefit of their dues. If you aren't a current dues-paying VGEA member, you aren't entitled to receive it. Please delete all copies if you aren't a member.

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VGEA which contains a:

- Welcome letter
- Membership Card
- VGEA lapel pin
- \$10 gift card
- \$4,000 no cost Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance coverage certificate
- Pack of discount coupons
- Latest issue of the VGEA *ForeSight* newsletter
- Subscription to the VGEA *eNews* and *Legislative Report* email newsletters
- Flyer containing details about VGEA's Member Benefits and Discounts and its Insurance Program

How will we account for all the new members you recruit?

You must send VGEA a list containing the names of all new members you recruited no later than October 15, 2015 (a form for this purpose will be available on the VGEA website at www.vgea.org). VGEA will verify on its database that all the new members listed did indeed join - if you are short of the number needed for the incentive level you claim, VGEA will give you 14 days to make up the difference.

How will we verify your recruits?

Three months after the recruitment campaign ends, VGEA will review your list on its database to ensure that the names are still members. Six months after the end of the campaign, we will verify your list again to ensure that the newly added members retain their memberships.

When can you expect to receive your incentive?

The recruitment incentive will be paid in two payments. Incentives are contingent upon the members that you recruit maintaining membership for at least six months. After three months, we will verify your list, and then 50 percent of the incentive reward will be paid to you at that time. The remaining 50 percent of the incentive reward will be paid six months after the end of the campaign after we verify that your newly recruited members maintain their membership. All incentive payments will be made by check. You should consult your tax advisor regarding any

income tax liability.

What's the fine print?

Each new member you recruit must join between June 1 and September 30, 2015, and must remain a VGEA member for at least six months following the date of their membership application. In the event that the number of newly recruited members retaining their membership after each verification period falls below the number needed to qualify for the level of incentive payment you initially sought, the VGEA will adjust the payment on a proportionate basis.

Contact the VGEA Office at info@vgea.org or 877-302-7146 to obtain recruiting materials or for answers to any questions about this program.

What Has the VGEA Done for State Retirees Recently?

Have you read our newsletter articles about the results of the 2015 General Assembly session and were left wondering what the VGEA has been doing for retirees?

The short answer to that question is *many things*. Of course individuals will be affected in different ways, based on their particular circumstances.

Also, you should remember retirees have been receiving Cost Of Living Adjustments (COLAs) every year except one thanks, in part, to the work of the VGEA. For retirees:

- In the 2015 Virginia General Assembly session, the VGEA was successful in advocating a "floor" - or minimum payout - of \$8,000 on retiree life insurance, indexed going forward based on the VRS COLA for those retiring with 30 years or more of service. This is important for lower paid and/or long- retired employees, and sets the stage for expanding the floor to all retirees in the future.
- For health insurance, the Governor had proposed increasing annual deductibles and transferring

interest earnings on the billion dollar plus health insurance fund to help balance other areas of the state budget.

- The VGEA was successful in defeating those proposals, which should hold down premiums for active employees and retirees in coming years.
- The VGEA also lobbied to increase the VRS health care credit from \$4 per month per year of active service to \$5. We were not successful on that this year, but the VGEA is hopeful and will try again to have this raised during the upcoming session.



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