



Annual Meeting

The Hills Are Alive at...



**Join Us Monday, October 7th & Tuesday, October 8th
for the 2019 GSRA Annual Meeting.
Enjoy a mountain getaway at Unicoi and the scenic
Alpine Village of Helen!**

Make your plans now to attend the GSRA Annual Meeting in Helen, Georgia. Invited speakers include Commissioner Frank Berry, Department of Community Health; Mr. Jeff Rickman, Executive Director-State Health Benefit Plan; and Mr. Jim Potvin, Executive Director-Georgia Employees Retirement System. Read more about our Opening Session Guest Speaker, Mr. Dick Yarbrough, on page 6. Additional Legislators and Officials have also been invited.

You'll have the opportunity to attend concurrent informational sessions planned with your interests in mind on Monday afternoon and again on Tuesday morning. And, as always, there will be plenty of time for fun and fellowship at the Monday evening Welcome Reception at the Lodge, including Light Fare, Cash Bar and Live Entertainment.

On Tuesday, a Buffet Lunch is provided. During the two-day meeting, you'll have the opportunity to visit with our exhibitors and partners before and after sessions and during breaks, as well as cast your tickets for a chance to win one or more of the great Door Prizes by meeting's end.

While you're at the meeting, be sure to check out Octoberfest in the Village! Unicoi Lodge provides a free shuttle van for round-trip transportation from the Lodge to Helen, GA (Betty's General Store) from noon to 8 pm on the hour - so you can visit Helen for Oktoberfest!

Registration Fee

Early Registration (prior to October 1, 2019): \$30

After October 1 and On-Site Registration: \$35

Program & Activities Snapshot

Monday	October 7, 2019	Location	
10:00 AM	Registration Opens		
11:30 AM	Exhibits Open		
12:30 PM	Welcome/Opening Session	Welcome to Helen, GA Cinnamon Spurlock, Mayor – Helen, GA Jim Sommerville, GSRA President Allan Hill/Kip Mann <i>GSRA Annual Meeting Committee Chairs</i>	Auditorium
1:00 PM	Guest Speaker	Dick Yarbrough <i>Syndicated Columnist</i>	Auditorium
2:00 PM	Health Insurance Update	Frank Berry, Commissioner <i>Department of Community Health</i> Jeff Rickman, Executive Director <i>State Health Benefit Plan</i>	Auditorium
2:40 PM	ERS Update	Jim Potvin, Executive Director <i>Georgia Employees Retirement System</i>	Auditorium
3:00 PM	Break		
3:30 PM	Concurrent Workshops		
	Local Chapter Officers Training	Bob Pollock, President <i>Southwest Georgia/Albany GSRA Chapter</i> <i>With: Brad Jones of AMBA</i>	TBD
	Get The Most From Your GSRA Membership!	Ryan Greenfield <i>Association Member Benefits Advisors</i>	TBD
	Diabetes Prevention: Stopping Disease Before It Starts	Dr. Diane Sanders – Cepeda <i>UnitedHealthcare</i>	TBD

Announcement

Annual Meeting

	Financial Risks Retirees Face and How to Deal With Them	Troy Perry <i>Members Wealth Management, APCU</i>	TBD
5:00 PM	Welcome Reception Cash Bar	Josh Carson, <i>Entertainment</i>	Fireside Lounge
Tuesday	October 8, 2019		Location
9:15 AM	General Session	Allan Hill <i>GSRA Annual Meeting Committee Chair</i>	Auditorium
9:30 AM	Concurrent Workshops		
	<i>iPhone Tips & Tricks</i>	Malcolm Wills <i>BH Tech Group</i>	TBD
	<i>Preparing for the Cost of Long Term Care: Medicare, Medicaid & VA Benefits</i>	Kimberly Harris <i>Elder Law/Special Needs Planning Attorney</i>	TBD
	<i>Square Dancing for Fun and Exercise</i>	Sam Shepherd <i>President, Hotlanta Squares</i> Keith Lester, Caller	TBD
	<i>Celebrating Helen 50 Years of Alpine</i>	Hue Rainey & Paula Ash <i>Helen Arts & Heritage Center</i>	TBD
12:00 PM	Lunch		Auditorium
1:15 PM	Address from Governor	The Honorable Brian Kemp <i>Or Representative</i>	Auditorium
2:00 PM	GSRA Legislative Review	Chuck Clay <i>GSRA Legislative Liaison</i> Chuck Freedman, Chair <i>GSRA Legislative Committee</i>	Auditorium
2:30 PM	GSRA – <i>Our Accomplishments!</i>	Jim Sommerville <i>GSRA President</i>	Auditorium
2:45 PM	Break		
3:00 PM	Business Meeting & President’s Report	Jim Sommerville <i>GSRA President</i>	Auditorium
3:30 PM	Door Prize Drawings		Auditorium
4:00 PM	Adjournment		Auditorium

Location—Unicoi State Park Lodge

1788 Highway 356

Helen, GA 30545

800-573-9659

Reserve A Room or Cabin at the Unicoi State Park Lodge

1. Go to website: www.unicoilodge.com
2. Upper right hand corner Click on Blue box: Lowest Rate Guaranteed BOOK HERE!
3. Select Arrival/Departure Dates and number of guests per room
4. Click CHECK AVAILABILITY – then Click on RATE OPTIONS (Icon only on iPads)
5. Click in box “Promotional/Group Code” and Enter Promotional Code: **07902**
6. Click CHECK AVAILABILITY again, then Select Room Type
7. Select BOOK IT and Complete required information to make reservation

INDIVIDUAL CALL IN: Reservations for the Event will be made by individual attendees directly with Lodge reservations prior to the Deadline Date of September 9th. All guests should identify themselves as a member of GSRA – Promo Code 07902 in order to obtain the group rate. Lodge will accept reservations from attendees after **September 9, 2019 only on a space and rate available basis.** The Reservations Department phone number is 1-800-573-9659.

Additional Lodging options are listed below - Helen, Georgia is just a few miles away.

Registration instructions

Register by Credit Card: Sign into the GSRA Website, www.mygsra.com, and click the link on the home page. Only members can register by Credit Card on the GSRA website. Online Registration is available to GSRA members through October 1, 2019.

If registering a spouse who is not a GSRA member, please complete the form on the next page and mail the completed form with a check.

Register by Check: **Print** a form for each registrant and mail with check to:
GSRA, P.O. Box 108, Bethlehem, GA 30620.

**GSRA 2019 ANNUAL MEETING-OCTOBER 7-8
UNICOI STATE PARK LODGE, 1788 HWY 356, HELEN, GA**

REGISTRATION – COMPLETE ONE PER PERSON – GSRA MEMBERS CAN LOG IN AND REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.MYGSRA.COM WITH CREDIT CARD UNTIL 10/1/2019 – NON MEMBERS PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THIS FORM

Early Registration (Received by 10/1/2019): \$30 After 10/1/2019 & On-site Registration: \$35

Name:

Phone:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email Address:

GSRA Chapter:

OCTOBER 7 – 3:30 PM – PLEASE INDICATE YOUR OPTION BELOW BY CIRCLING #1, #2, #3, #4

#1 - GSRA Local Chapter Officer Training

#3 – Diabetes Prevention: Stopping Disease Before It Starts-UHC

#2 – Get the Most from your GSRA Membership - AMBA

#4 – Financial Risks Retirees Face and How to Deal With Them - APCU

**OCTOBER 7 – 5:00 PM – PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL PARTICIPATE BY CIRCLING THE WORD “YES” OR “NO”.
NOTE: An accurate count for the Reception is needed.**

Reception

YES

NO

OCTOBER 8 – SELECT ONE WORKSHOP FOR 9:30 AM BY CIRCLING YOUR CHOICE.

9:30 AM

#1 – iPhone Tips & Tricks – Malcolm Wills, BH Tech Group

#2 – Preparing for the Cost of Long Term Care: Medicare, Medicaid and VA Benefits-Kimberly Harris, Elder Law Attorney

#3 – Square Dancing for Fun and Exercise – Sam Shepherd and Keith Lester, Caller

#4 – Celebrating Helen – 50 Years of Alpine – Hue Rainey & Paula Ash, Helen Arts & Heritage Center

**ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, A BUFFET LUNCH IS INCLUDED FOR ALL REGISTERED FOR
THE GSRA ANNUAL MEETING AND FOR EXHIBITORS AND SPEAKERS
BEVERAGE AND DESSERT IS INCLUDED - TICKET REQUIRED – INCLUDED IN REGISTRATION PACKET**

Lodging is available at the Unicoi State Park Lodge: Lodge Rooms - \$99.00 + Tax/Fees
Go to website: www.unicoilodge.com - Upper right hand corner Click on Blue box: Lowest Rate Guaranteed BOOK HERE!
Select Arrival/Departure Dates and number of guests per room, Click CHECK AVAILABILITY
Click on RATE OPTIONS – Click in box PROMOTIONAL/GROUP CODE and Enter Promotional Code: 07902
Click CHECK AVAILABILITY again, then Select Room Type
Select BOOK IT - Complete required information to make reservation

INDIVIDUAL CALL IN: Reservations for the Event will be made by individual attendees directly with Lodge reservations prior to the Cut-off Date of September 9th. All guests should identify themselves as a member of GSRA-Promo Code 07902 in order to obtain the group rate. Lodge will accept reservations from attendees after September 9, 2019 only on a space and rate available basis. The Reservations Department phone number is 1-800-573-9659.

**Complete One Form per person - mail with check payable to: GSRA, P.O. Box 108, Bethlehem, GA 30620
Deadline is Oct. 1, 2019 - Questions? help@mygsra.com or 770-312-2799 or website: www.mygsra.com**

Reservations for Annual Meeting

Rooms reserved for the Annual Meeting at the Lodge at Unicoi for October 7th are now sold out! If you have not already made your lodging reservations and plan to attend the Annual Meeting here are a list of hotels and phone numbers and current room rates as of today for October 6 and 7, 2019. We have no block of extra rooms reserved because we are now less than 30 days before the event. If you are planning to attend make reservations today!

The area hotels located on/off main street in Helen are:

SureStay by Best Western	rate of \$82 to \$86/night for 2*	Tel# 706 878-2191
Baymont By Wyndham	rate of \$110/night for 2*	Tel# 706 725-8764
Jameson Inn	rate of \$70 to \$80/night for 2*	Tel# 706 878-1451
Redroof Inn	rate of \$94 to \$99/night for 2*	Tel# 706 878-8888
HI Express	rate of \$161/night for 2*	Tel# 706 878-1084

- All rates are as of today 9/7/2019 for October 6 & 7, 2019 and not guaranteed. So make reservations ASAP.



GSRA ANNUAL MEETING OPENING SESSION GUEST SPEAKER

C. RICHARD YARBROUGH - Syndicated Columnist

Dick Yarbrough is in his 21st year as a syndicated newspaper columnist. His strong opinions are read throughout the state of Georgia in more than a half-million homes weekly, making him the most widely-syndicated columnist in the state.

The Georgia Press Association has recognized him with its first-place award for Best Humor column four times in the past eight years. Dick says that indicates he is only funny every other year. Politicians don't find him funny anytime.

After retiring as vice president of BellSouth Corporation in 1993, Dick Yarbrough joined the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games, reporting to Billy Payne, the organization's CEO. In recognition of his career, PR WEEK magazine named him one of the One Hundred Most Influential Public Relations Practitioners of the 20th Century.

When not pricking the egos of the self-important in his column, Yarbrough has developed a growing reputation as an artist, with one of his works hanging in the State Capitol and others in private collections.

Dick Yarbrough is a graduate of the University of Georgia, past president of the National Alumni Association and has been named the university's Outstanding Alumnus. He is a Fellow of Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications at UGA and has a room named in his honor at the college. He recently endowed the Yarbrough Professorship in Crisis Communications Leadership at UGA.

Dick and his wife, Jane, better known to his readers as the Woman Who Shares My Name, alternate their time between Atlanta and St. Simons, where he avoids eating broccoli at both locations.