

GSRA Announces Raffle for Enrolling in Pension Deduction

By Allan Hill

Thanks to a very generous donation by an anonymous member, GSRA is excited to announce a raffle with five \$100 cash prizes to any member enrolled in Pension Deduction of GSRA Dues as of April 10, 2023. Everyone who has signed up for pension deduction by April 10, 2023, will be automatically entered into the raffle for the \$100 cash prizes picked at random. This includes members currently using pension deduction; current members who now pay by credit card or check but who sign up to switch over to pension deduction; and of course, new and lapsed members who enroll by pension deduction.

Pension deduction is the best way to ensure the ongoing strength of GSRA and the ongoing support of the membership. One of the major challenges for GSRA is maintaining membership. Every month, we lose about 100 members who simply forget to renew their membership. In addition, having a small monthly membership fee of \$1.67 deducted from your pension is very efficient for “You” the member and for GSRA administration. You do not pay postage or forget to send payment AND GSRA receives the whole amount rather than \$19.00, the net of the current \$20 annual membership fee reduced by 5% for credit card charges. Our Administrator spends less time processing memberships, increasing the efficiency of our operations even more and further reducing our overhead expenses.

When you enroll for or change to pension deduction, ERS will automatically deduct \$1.67 a month from your pension for your dues and send it to GSRA. This way, you’ll help guarantee GSRA’s financial strength from month to month and the security of the Association year after year.

The Pension Deduction authorization form is easily completed, but it is important that you include legible identifying information and your Pension Identification number (PID). Now is the perfect time for all members who are receiving a pension from the Employees Retirement System to enroll for pension deduction. If you do not know your Pension ID number (required by ERS), just look at the 1099-R form that you receive from ERS for income tax purposes to retrieve this number. (see below).

Copy B - Report this income on your Federal tax return. If this form shows Federal income tax withheld in Box 4, attach this copy to your federal tax return.

Form 1099-R 2021 OMB No. 1545-01

Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit Sharing Plans, IRAs, IRAs, etc.

12 FATCA filing requirement

13 Date

Account number (optional) **224884** CORREC (if checked)

PAYER'S name, street address, city, state, and ZIP code

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF GEORGIA
Two Northside 75, Suite 300
Atlanta GA30318-7701

New Members: To enroll, go to the GSRA website - www.mygsra.com. Click on the “Join Us” link at the top of the page; click on the “Pension Deduction Form” link or link to: [Pension Deduction Authorization Form](#) Complete the Join Us page, then print and complete the Pension Deduction Form.

Renewing Members and Active Members who are changing payment process: On Home page, click on “Pension Deduction Form” link at the top of the page or link to: [Pension Deduction Authorization Form](#). Print and complete the Pension Deduction Form.
Members Already Enrolled in Pension Deduction: no action needed.

You can also request the Pension Deduction Form via email from help@mygsra.com, or you can call 770-312-2799 and have the form mailed to you.

Complete the form and mail it to:
GSRA
PO Box 6308
Elberton, Ga. 30635

There are many benefits to GSRA membership. In addition to our representation of our members through legislative advocacy, members also can enjoy the fellowship of other state retirees and may take advantage of programs and services offered through AMBA (Association Member Benefit Advisors). AMBA’s benefits range from a variety of supplemental insurance coverages to discounts on dining, entertainment, travel and other recreational opportunities, among others.

Whenever we talk to legislators about our issues, including the need for a COLA, one of the first questions they always ask is “how many members do you have?” As we all know, there is strength in numbers. It is imperative to keep our membership numbers high and continually growing.

Winners of the raffle will be announced in the April newsletter distributed at the end of April, as well as posted on the [GSRA Facebook page](#) and on www.mygsra.com. Help GSRA and enter yourself for a chance to win cash prizes. It’s a win-win for us all.