



# Newsletter – Extra!

Vol. 6, Number 10

[www.MyGSRA.com](http://www.MyGSRA.com)

September 15, 2012

## **GSRA Invites You**

### **GSRA 2012 Annual Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2012**

**1:00 – 4:30 PM**

**Georgia Public Safety Training Center**

**Forsyth, Georgia**

**Registration/Meet & Greet/Vendors open at 11:00 AM**

**Please RSVP to [rsvp@mygsra.com](mailto:rsvp@mygsra.com) (not required to attend)  
(Include name, city, county, number of guests and accessibility needs)**

## **WSB Money Matters Host Wes Moss Featured with ERS and SHBP Leaders at GSRA 2012 Annual Meeting**

**As GSRA prepares to hold its sixth Annual Meeting, the stakes for you have never been higher!** Building on last year's annual meeting theme of facing challenges, and pulling from real life issues which occurred during the past year, the GSRA 2012 Annual Meeting is all about helping GSRA members prepare for your retirement realities. Focused on presenting you with factual information designed to help you understand the impacts of the current and future economic and political environments, this year's Annual Meeting hopes to provide you with information to prepare for your financial future.

GSRA has pulled together state leaders and policy makers from two areas critical to members' financial concerns. From Employees Retirement System, Executive

Director Jim Potvin and his investment staff will provide further explanation to you about the alternative investment opportunities made possible by the passage, during the 2012 Legislative Session, of the controversial Senate Bill 402 and how ERS is planning to approach them. The ERS presentation will touch on the hoped for better returns ultimately expected of alternative investments and what that means for the pension systems affected. In addition, the ERS presentation will discuss the move away from the Peach State Reserves Stable Value Fund, as well as the continuing pension unfunded liability.

On the State Health Benefit Plan side, Commissioner David Cook and his staff will address yet another year of Open Enrollment looming with unprecedented premium

increases and continuing cuts to benefits already identified, the financial health of the plan currently and what's projected over the next couple of years, and prepare you for what the next several years might bring, from both a plan member and state government policy perspective.

Certified Financial Planner and *WSB Money Matters* host, Wes Moss, will round out the Annual Meeting presentations by helping members understand how, in spite of an economy and state policies and funding issues over which you have no control, you can leverage the assets you do possess to prepare for your financial future and enjoy a more secure retirement. Wes will focus on the financial areas over which members do have control and provide ideas for how you can plan, take action and prosper.

As with past Annual Meetings, the GSRA 2012 Annual Meeting is an excellent opportunity to show up in numbers and demonstrate to state leaders that Georgia state active employees/educators and retirees are concerned citizens who pay state taxes and who also just happen to have given years of their life to the benefit and betterment of all Georgians in the service of state government. The GSRA 2012 Annual Meeting is a great place for obtaining knowledge critical to your financial outlook, but it's also an excellent venue for catching up with old friends and current and former co-workers. Come early and take advantage of this opportunity for fellowship with other active and retired state employees who share the same concerns.

## 2012 Annual Meeting Speaker Bios

### David Cook



Governor Nathan Deal appointed David A. Cook to serve as Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) in January 2011. He currently leads the multi-billion dollar agency responsible for health care purchasing, planning and regulation for Georgia, and for

improving the health outcomes of its citizens.

From 2001 to 2010 Cook served as the Chief Executive Officer with the Medical Association of Georgia (MAG). During that time he restructured the organization, successfully streamlined its operations and applied increased resources to member services. Prior to this role, Cook was MAG's General Counsel and Director of Advocacy.

Cook's career spans the legal and legislative arena, both at the state and federal levels. His affiliation with the Georgia General Assembly began in 1976, when he served as the Reading Clerk for the Georgia State Senate. In 1984, after completing law school, Cook served as a top aide to State Senator Nathan Deal, who chaired the Senate Judiciary Committee and served as president pro tempore of the Georgia Senate. When Deal was elected to Congress in 1992, Cook served him in Washington, D.C., from 1992-1995 as his Chief of Staff. Cook was the managing partner in the law firm of McGuire, Cook, & Martin P.C. from

1984 to 1992, specializing in corporate law and contract litigation.

He is a 1982 graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law and a 1976 graduate of Georgia Southern University.

### Wes Moss



Wes Moss is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional and the host of MONEY MATTERS - a call-in, investment and personal finance radio show - on AM 750 and 95.5 FM News Talk WSB. Wes is also the Chief Investment Strategist at Capital Investment Advisors,

one of Georgia's top fee-only investment firms, which manages more than \$900 million for clients and families

In addition, Wes is a weekly guest financial columnist for AJC.com. Wes has written two books, *Starting from Scratch* (Kaplan) and *Make More, Worry Less* (FT Press) and has served as a financial expert for both local and national media, including CNBC and Fox Business Network. Wes holds a degree in economics from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Wes lives in Atlanta with his wife and three sons and loves spending time with his family playing tennis, and is proud to have completed his first triathlon in 2012.

**Jim Potvin**



Jim Potvin is the Executive Director of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia (ERSGA). He joined ERSGA in February, 2009, after working 15 years in private industry in retirement plan administration and consulting. He began as a pension administrator for Georgia-

Pacific Corporation, before moving into a consulting role with Arthur Andersen LLP. He later joined Hewitt Associates, a global HR consulting firm, as the Location

Manager for the RFM Pension Administration outsourcing group.

A native of Connecticut, Jim holds a B.A. in Mathematical Economics and Managerial Studies from Rice University, and an M.S. from Georgia State University. He is a member of the National Association of State Retirement Administrators, the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators, Inc., the National Conference of State Social Security Administrators, and the Government Finance Officers Association.

**GSRA and You: Preparing for the Future  
Agenda**

<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Registration/Meet and Greet/Vendor Area Open</b>	
<b>1:00 PM</b>	<b>President's Welcome</b>	<b>Bill Tomlinson GSRA President</b>
<b>1:05 PM</b>	<b>ERS Investments</b>	<b>Executive Director Jim Potvin Employees Retirement System</b>
<b>1:55 PM</b>	<b>Wes Moss</b>	<b>Wes Moss Certified Financial Planner and WSB Money Matters Host</b>
<b>2:40 PM</b>	<b>Break</b>	
<b>3:00 PM</b>	<b>Local Chapter Recognition</b>	<b>Deborah Moore GSRA Secretary</b>
<b>3:10 PM</b>	<b>State Health Benefit Plan</b>	<b>Commissioner David Cook Department of Community Health</b>
<b>4:00 PM</b>	<b>GSRA Plenary Session</b>	<b>GSRA Leadership</b>
<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	

## First Ever Training for Local Chapter Officers

Reflecting GSRA's continuing emphasis on growing and supporting local chapters across the state, this year's Annual Meeting will feature first ever training for local chapter officers. The Local Chapter Officers Session (LCOS) will convene for two hours the morning of the Annual Meeting and include topics across a range of areas and issues that local chapters face.

The session, designed by a committee of local chapter presidents and based on their cumulative experiences, is designed to address the areas of membership recruitment,

legislative advocacy, chapter budget/finance and chapter operations. GSRA officers and committee chairs will address the session and provide the subject matter expertise. In addition, a panel of local chapter presidents will also take attendee specific questions to discuss, address and share ideas and approaches.

All local chapter officers throughout the state are eligible and urged to attend this important session. Please RSVP with name, local chapter, city, county and note you will attend the LCOS.

### Need to Know Information!

<b>Address:</b>	GPSTC 1000 Indian Springs Dr. Forsyth, GA 31029
<b>Directions:</b>	See below
<b>Registration:</b>	<b>FREE!</b> At the door
<b>Refreshments:</b>	Bottled water provided during the <i>Meet &amp; Greet</i> and break sessions
<b>Lunch:</b>	<b>On you.</b> GPSTC cafeteria or see below
<b>GSRA Phone #</b>	<b>770-312-2799</b> Will be manned before, during and after the meeting should you need help or information.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Indicate when you RSVP if you need help getting to and from the building, restrooms, etc.

### Come Early, Stay Late!

By all means, get to the Annual Meeting early in order to take advantage of the opportunities for visiting with old friends and current and former co-workers. The GPSTC cafeteria is right next door to the auditorium and breakout area and is open for both breakfast and lunch – a great place to meet and visit with other GSRA members.

In addition, GSRA and Vendor tables will be open no later than 11:00, staffed with knowledgeable folks to take your specific questions and provide you with information regarding ERS and SHBP areas, credit union and financial planning and GSRA membership and local chapters.

This year, for the first time, GSRA is giving away a variety of **great door prizes** at the end of the Plenary Session. Each registrant will receive two tickets at registration which he or she can distribute any way they like across several buckets representing groups of universal door prizes and more locality specific door prizes. **Members must be present to win, so stay through the drawing for two chances at some really nice prizes!**\*

\*prizes will be displayed on the Local Chapters table during the day

## Directions to Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC)

The city of Forsyth, GA is located off I-75 just north of Macon. Take Interstate 75 to Exit #188. Ga. Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) - directional signs are posted prior to the exit.

**If northbound on I-75**, take exit #188; turn right, go under the I-75 overpass to the stop sign and turn right; Go 0.5 mile and turn left across the railroad tracks onto the Training Center access road (Indian Springs Drive). Turn right and proceed to the GPSTC entrance. Bear left and turn left inside the Center Guard tower –south side of the building. **Park in the South lot (left of the Center)**. The entrance to the auditorium is on the left side of the building.

**If southbound on I-75**, take exit #188; turn right at the stop sign. Go .5 mile and turn left across the railroad tracks onto the Training Center access road (Indian Springs Drive). Turn right and proceed to the GPSTC entrance. Bear left and turn left inside the Center Guard tower –south side of the building. **Park in the South lot (left of the Center)**. The entrance to the auditorium is on the left side of the building.

## Area Restaurants

### Fine Dining

### Southern Cookin'

The Club at River Forest	1 Clubhouse Dr., Forsyth
Forsyth County Cookin	15 E. Johnston St., Forsyth
Grannie's Country Buffet	1024 Indian Springs Drive, Forsyth
Prime Palate	22 W Main Street, Forsyth
This Little Piggy Bar-B-Q	866 Indian Springs Dr, Forsyth

### Bistros

### Chinese

### Deli

### Diner

### Fast Food

### Japanese

### Mexican

### Pizza

Jonah's on Johnston	E. Johnston St, Forsyth
Hong Kong Palace	465 Tift College Dr., Forsyth
Ann's Deli	33 W. Johnson St., Forsyth
Waffle House	Lee Street, Forsyth
<i>All Kinds</i>	N. Lee Street & Patrol Rd, Forsyth
Lucky Café	306 Harold G Clarke Pkwy., Forsyth
El Tejado	310 Cabaniss Rd., Forsyth
Pizza Hut	279 N. Lee St., Forsyth

## Your RSVP is IMPORTANT!

**GSRA asks you to RSVP** to let us know if you and guest(s) will attend.

**Your RSVP is not a requirement to attend the meeting**—it is to let us know the number of persons so that proper arrangements can be implemented, and we can make your conference experience a satisfying one.

**Please let us know when you RSVP if you have accessibility issues** getting to and from the building, restrooms, etc. We will make every effort to accommodate you!

**RSVP here: [rsvp@mygsra.com](mailto:rsvp@mygsra.com)**

**(include name, city, county, number of guests and accessibility needs)**