

Silver Jackets Meeting

April 12, 2016

Georgia Tech Student Center, Room 343

Minutes

Members Attending (21) Robert Green, Len Parsons, Ian Gatland, Jerry Thuesen, Sandra Thornton, Janis Goddard, Walter Allen, Earl Cagle, Albert Sheffer, Kathy Tomajko, Ed Rondeau, C.A. Johnson Folds, Susan Keenan, Annette Satterfield, William Green, Ron Bohlander, Chris Mitchell, Pat Davis, Wayne Book, Marge Boehme, Andy Smith.

Visiting (2) Julie Parsons, Harriett Thuesen

Business Meeting

President Len Parsons welcomed the Members and Visitors.

Ron Bohlander who represented the Silver Jackets at the Spring Meeting of GA-HERO (Georgia Higher Education Retirees Organization) reported that the focus of that meeting was on:

Sharing best practices

Review of USG Retiree Council

Helping future retirees—mentoring.

Program

Bill Green introduced **Mr. Sam Dixon, Executive & Artistic Director of Spivey Hall at Clayton State University**, who spoke to the group about “**Spivey at 25,**” the history, special features, and programs offered at Spivey Hall. Topics covered by Mr. Dixon included the following:

Dr. and Mrs. Spivey agreed to raise the money (\$4.5 Million), and the Board of Regents agreed to accept it. An endowment was also provided.

The facility opened in 1991. This is its 25th Anniversary year.

Great acoustics-- has been subject of a documentary—“Architects of Sound”

Concerts—30 to 36 per year

Albert Schweitzer’s daughter granted permission to name the organ for her Father. It has 4, 413 pipes.

All performances are recorded, and it is the most often heard venue on radio.

The search for a new piano require two years; the final cost was \$189,000.

During the Q&A, Mr. Dixon commented on Spivey Hall's educational offerings. President Parsons noted that Spivey's family friendly Summer World Music Festival is a good way for someone who has not been to Spivey Hall to scope it out. This year the Festival will be June 21, 22, 23 from 10:30-1:30 daily [two concerts per day]. Advance tickets only cost \$2.00 per concert. Parking is free.

Numerous materials about Spivey Hall were made available to members. For more information, visit www.spiveyhall.org online. Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Dixon announced special ticket pricing for Silver Jacket Members for the upcoming 2016-2017 season. This generous offer has been emailed to Silver Jacket Members.

The next meeting of the Silver Jackets will be Tuesday May 10, 2016 at 11:00 AM in Student Center 343. The speaker will be Associate Professor of Physics **Flavio Fenton** speaking about "**The Heart: from Chaos to Cures.**"

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Earl Green, Secretary