

**Minutes of the
Georgia Tech Retirees Association
Silver Jackets Meeting**

**February 12, 2008
11:00AM
GT Student Center, Room 343**

Attending: R. M. Ahrens, Candy Carson, David Clifton, Patricia Davis, Stephen Dickerson, Philip Enslow, James Garner, Maureen Glass, Jamie Goode, Jo McIver, Gene Patronis, Mary Ann Salter, Annette Satterfield, Sybil Small, Jim Stevenson

Maureen distributed Agendas and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She then announced that Gail Dalton's husband had recently passed away and GT Retiree Bill Sayle had passed away. She will send sympathy cards to both families from the group. It was discussed and decided that she will continue to send cards as necessary and email members regarding sickness, deaths and other information.

Rich Steele, Director of GT Student Center, discussed services offered to retirees. Services include non-credit leisure courses, craft center classes, restaurants, movies, meeting spaces, travel agency and buzzcard. The website www.studentcenter.gatech.edu has all information. The Silver Jackets were encouraged to volunteer for Stingbreak (Student Appreciation Day) in April to help serve food, rides, etc. Rich will check to see if retirees can receive a discount on tickets that are sold through the Student Center for movies, shows, etc. The STA travel agency offers good rates on European rail passes and specializes in low-cost flexible travel for the travel needs of students, faculty and staff. In closing Rich thanked all who participated in the 2007 Charitable Campaign that raised \$299,000.

Linda Mitchell, the Interim Benefits Director from the Office of Human Resources, was the second speaker. Linda offered the GTRA's a table, at no cost, during the Benefits Fair Fall Open Enrollment in October to promote the Silver Jackets. The University System is soliciting bids from companies to administer the system wide health insurance program. A High Deductible Plan was offered this past year; seventy-seven GT members signed-up for the program. In response to a question Linda said retirees cannot participate in the Flexible Spending Accounts. She explained that retirees, at age 65, are advised to sign-up for Medicare Part A & B and not Part D (if you have questions please discuss this with OHR.) Linda's direct line is 404-894-8627. More information on medical benefits can be found at www.ohr.gatech.edu.

The President's Office has offered funds to mail out 1400 cards to retirees introducing them to the GTRA. Maureen passed around a mock-up card for all to see and review. Annette wanted the small buzz on front larger.

Maureen expressed interest in a webpage for our group. Who could we get to make it? Who could maintain it? Who could help us? Something for us all to be thinking about.

David Clifton reported from the Nominating Committee (David Clifton, Jo McIver and Annette Satterfield). E-mails were sent out requesting nominations by Jan. 31 and the nominees were contacted by email and asked if they were willing to serve. Tenure in office was a concern. It was decided to allow 1 year terms for 2008. Nominees were President, Maureen Glass; Vice President, Sandra Thornton; and Secretary, Mary Anne Salter. A motion to approve the slate of officers was seconded and received a unanimous vote.

The number of meetings was addressed. It was decided to hold monthly meetings through May, no meetings in the summer months, and return in September. Election of new officers will take place in November to begin serving in January. This was seconded and approved. A Holiday Party may be scheduled for December.

For speakers at next meeting we are going to try to get someone from the retiree organizations of other institutions. Jim Stevenson will try and contact the Emory retiree coordinator who is also active in the national organization.

It was decided to invite Sue Ann Bidstrup-Allen from the President's Office to attend our meetings and send her our minutes.

Jo McIver suggested that a mini version of the State of the Institute address might be interesting. Sue Ann might be able to do this.

David suggested having someone talk to us from the Travel Agency in the Student Center and the Alumni Travel (Martin Ludwig).

Next Meeting March 11, 2008, 11:00AM, Room 343, GT Student Center.