

**Minutes
Silver Jackets
Georgia Tech Retirees Association**

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

11:00 am

Piedmont Room, Georgia Tech Student Center

Members Attending: Charles E. Brown, Candy Carson, Pat Davis, Steve Dickerson, David Flowers, Carol Gardiner, Ian Gatland, Linda Gill, Maureen Glass, Jamie Goode, Celia Grams, Robert Green, Rose Jacobsen, Larry Keating, Dot Matthews, Jo McIver, Jeanne McKown, Frank Roper, Mary Anne Salter, Annette Satterfield, Sybil Small, Sandra Thornton, Gerald Thuesen and Evelyn Webb

Maureen Glass welcomed everyone and asked that the new attendees introduce themselves. The new attendees were Ian Gatland, Rose Jacobsen, Larry Keating and Carol Gardiner (came in later).

Sandra Thornton introduced our guest speakers, Jenay Beer, Sara McBride and Katherine Olson all graduate students from the school of Psychology, Human Factors and Aging Laboratory. They gave a presentation on the Everyday Applications of Human Factors and Aging. Human Factors is the “study of human beings.” There are many frustrations with technology which is sometimes referred to as “human error.” Examples were poor designs of a bathroom stall, mini van seat, and bottles of medicine. Two of the studies being done by the department are automation and robotics. Automation examples given were ATM’s, GPS navigation systems, and auto-pilot airplanes. Automation is a device or system that accomplishes a function that could/would be done by a human. The Georgia Tech Aware Home or “Smart Home” is located on Tenth Street and monitors residents for their safety, health and well being. Two examples of automation in the home were the “Gesture Pendant” – a monitor that uses hand motion sensors to open doors and blinds and reads temperatures among other things and also the “Digital Family Portrait” which detects movements. Robots are computer based systems that directly interact with the environment through the use of sensors and memory. There are many robots used in the government and industry such as those that put together cars and those used in space. Robots are used in the home to assist in daily activities such as vacuuming, carpet cleaning, pool cleaning and mowing the lawn. Advanced home robots are used in home health care to simplify caregiver jobs, provide prompt care, telecommunication, surveillance and reminder systems. Social entity uses were to play musical instruments and games. Some design considerations for new research were social interaction, emotion expression, appearance, trust, autonomy, intelligence and control. A pamphlet was given out expressing ways you can help in researching the study through interviews, survey and interactions with technologies. Sign up age is 65-85 at 404-894-8344 or visit www.hfaging.org.

Maureen took the floor as we nominated new officers. Sandra Thornton was elected as the new President, Steve Dickerson as the Vice President and Evelyn Webb as Secretary. Carole Gaines was voted on in error as she had declined the nomination earlier.

Maureen Glass awarded certificates to the Founding Members of the Silver Jackets. The Founding Members are the original twelve retirees who attended the first organizational meeting of the Silver Jackets on Oct. 17, 2007. They are: Candace C. (Candy) Carson, Patricia W. Davis, Carole W. Gaines, Linda A. Gill, Maureen K. Glass, Sarah E. (Sally) Jackson, PhD, M. Jo McIver, Eugene T. Patronis, PhD, Mary Anne Salter, Annette Satterfield, Sybil P. Small and James R. Stevenson, PhD.

A meeting date change discussion was held and Sandra said we could think on it and vote on it later.

Next meeting will be held on February 10th in Room 343, Student Center.

Meeting adjourned.