



UGARA

The University of Georgia Retirees Association

Staying Informed. Keeping Involved.

University of Georgia

<http://www.uga.edu/ugara>

January 2009

UGARA Council 2008-2009

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Romeo Toledo

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Debra Watson

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Listserv and

Web Page Editor

Greetings from the Chair

Happy New Year 2009! The UGARA Council has already held its first meeting of the new year and we are looking forward to another year of activities. In looking back over 2008, it was one of our busiest years ever. We had our usual activities including special trips planned by our Travel Committee, and two excellent Retirement Receptions held at the Georgia Center in the Spring and Fall. The Retirement Reception held on December 9 was very well attended both by new retirees and by UGARA members. The food was delicious, the atmosphere was cheerful, and many new retirees were honored with certificates presented by Provost Arnett Mace.

Membership in UGARA grew markedly in 2008. As of January 2009, our membership has grown to 625 members (556 of whom are *life* members). More and more retirees are coming to understand the benefits of being a UGARA member and having an organization such as ours to sponsor activities and to help coordinate information flows with the university. Information flow was very important this past Fall as retirees learned of Gov. Perdue's plan to eliminate the automatic cost-of-living adjustments that retirees had been receiving for years and had come to expect. Lots of letter writing, emailing, and phone calling took place and, fortunately, the Governor's plan was not supported at the TRS meeting in November. To offset this, however, health insurance rates went up again. For the first time ever, UGARA sponsored four Employee Benefits meetings in collaboration with UGA's Office of Employee Benefits.

Many UGARA members have signed on to the UGARA listserv to help expedite information flows. Instructions for joining the listserv were printed in the November 2008 newsletter. All you need to do is to send an email to ugara@uga.edu and request that you be added to the list. We will try to send out information on the listserv as often as we have it.

Our next major cultural activity will be an all-day excursion to Atlanta on March 11 to see the King Tut Exhibit, have lunch at Mary Mac's, and tour the Terracotta Warriors Exhibit at the High Museum. Read elsewhere in this newsletter for registration details.

If you would like to get involved in UGARA and serve on a committee, please let me know (acarroll@uga.edu) and I will direct you to the appropriate Committee Chair. Currently, the Travel Committee is in need of a new member and this would be a great way to serve your fellow retirees and have fun in the process. Have a wonderful 2009!

Archie Carroll

UGARA Council Chair 08-09



In Memoriam

We are saddened to lose the following UGARA life members

Dr. Frank S. Fabris	10/31/2008
Mrs. Elizabeth Luke Whitehead	11/15/2008
Mrs. Marie Townsend Conner	12/12/2008
Dr. David John Williams III	12/14/2008
Mrs. Geraldine Pharris Maddux	12/25/2008

SoloSENIORS

SoloSENIORS was formed to “foster interaction and networking among mature single professionals. The group is open to unmarried men and women at least 50 years of age who are member of the UGA Alumni Association”.

SoloSENIORS has several upcoming events that might be of interest to you.

“PROTECTING YOURSELF”

SoloSENIORS 2nd Annual Conference on Successful Aging, March 7, 2009

This mini-conference will include presentations about protecting your money, your identity, your home, and your person. While the conference will highlight issues particularly relevant to mature singles, it is open to everyone. Registration information will be online at the SoloSENIORS website

<http://www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni/soloseniorsath.html>

FIRST THURSDAY DINNERS

Gather at 6 pm to mix and mingle, be seated for dinner by 6:30 pm

February 5, 2009 - Jot'Em Down BBQ, 480 Macon Highway

March 5, 2009 - Fatz, 4115 Lexington Highway, Athens

April 2, 2009 - El Azteca, 1280 Oconee St, Athens

May 7, 2009 - Home of Vic Armstrong, Bishop

June 11, 2009 - Golden Sun, 4375 Lexington Rd, Athens

December 3, 2009 - Harry Bissett's, 1155 Mitchell Bridge Rd, Athens

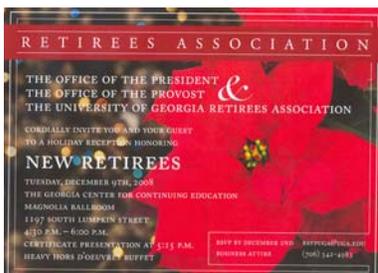
For more information, call 706-542-2251 or visit the website listed above.

Spring Reception for Retirees

New retirees were honored for their service to the University of Georgia at the Retirees Fall Reception at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on December 9. Provost Arnett Mace and UGARA Council Chair, Archie Carroll, presented certificates to the new retirees.



UGARA Council Chair, Archie Carroll and Provost Arnett Mace



Invitation to new retirees and all UGARA members



UGARA Council Members:
Debra Watson, Gene Michaels,
and Vicky Smith

Provost Mace with New Retirees



Larry Dendy



Mildred Bell



Margaret Turner



Mike Ellerson

October Trip with Horses, Willows, and Cars

In October, 42 members of UGARA went on a one-day Champion Coach bus trip. The first stop was the JBarB Cutting Horse ranch where we were guests of the Bill Simpson family and were treated to some wonderful Southern hospitality. We had an introductory talk by Bill and then visited their large training arena for a demonstration by professional riders of cutting horses interacting first with a mechanical cow and then with a herd of real cows. We then went through several large luxury coaches Bill uses to take horses to various competitions. The next stop was the famous Blue Willow Inn with owner Louis Van Dyke, who talked with us about the restaurant and how Lewis Grizzard helped get it started. In the late afternoon we came back to Athens and visited George Bugg, who gave us a guided tour of his extensive antique-completely restored-collection of cars.

Gene Michaels Travel Co-Chair

Two Archeological Discoveries on Display in Atlanta A Cultural Bonanza March 11, 2009



On March 11 join UGARA for a day trip to Atlanta to see the “Tutankhamun and the Great Pharaohs” Exhibit at the Atlanta Civic Center **AND** “The First Emperor: China’s Terra Cotta Army” at the High Museum. In between, we will have lunch at the famous Mary Mac’s Tea Room. These two exhibits in Atlanta at the same time offer an unparalleled opportunity for us.

For **\$90.00** per person you will get entry to both exhibits, lunch at Mary Mac’s, and transportation in a first class motor coach with water and snacks on the bus. Get your reservations in quickly - we have only **50** tickets.

The deadline for sending in reservations is **Friday, February 27.**

Marsha Gruner, Travel Co-Chair

Reservation Form for King Tut & Terra Cotta Army, March 11

Names:

(1) _____

(2) _____

Address(es) to which instructions should be sent:

(1) _____

(2) _____

Contact Phone _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Send form and check for **\$90 per person** made payable to the UGA Alumni Association c/o Marcus Jennings, Wray-Nicholson House, 298 Hull Street, Athens, GA 30602-6372 by **February 27**. Please note **King Tut Trip** on your check.



UGA Retirees Association
Wray-Nicholson House
298 Hull Street
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-6372

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Email us with your comments and suggestions, or **subscribe to the UGARA-L listserv** to stay informed. To subscribe send an email to ugara@uga.edu requesting that you be added to the list.

This list is a distribution list, not a discussion list. This means that you can receive emails, but you cannot respond to them on this list. Therefore, you will not be bombarded with a multitude of emails, but you will receive notices approved by the UGARA Council that are considered relevant and of interest to UGARA members.

Be sure to visit our web site for upcoming events, trip reports, contacts and other useful information. Learn more about UGARA at:

<http://www.uga.edu/ugara>

The UGA Alumni Association sponsors UGARA, which is an official retirees' organization for faculty and staff. Visit the Alumni Association's web site at <http://www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni> to find out about other activities that may be of interest to you.

Meetings of the UGARA Council are scheduled for the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 9 at 10:00 a.m. in the Alumni House Conference Room, Wray-Nicholson House.