# Greetings from the Chair

As Fall Semester gets into full swing, we at UGARA are also back in motion with various activities planned from our hard-working committee members. Trips are being planned for our members, and a fall reception for new retirees will be held in early December (see notes in this Newsletter). We hope that you will participate in one or more of these events.

As I reflect on what has been accomplished, I am happy to try to fill the shoes of Helen Mills who was UGARA chair for the last two years. I understand this is a big challenge to meet the high standards that Helen set as a model for outstanding leadership in a volunteer organization. Fortunately there is an outstanding group of UGARA volunteers who do lots of work to support our retired UGA colleagues. Please know this group will do its best to continue the good work of the past years. All of us at UGARA wish for you a pleasant and productive autumn season. We hope to see you at the Fall Reception.

*Clifton Pannell*
*UGARA Council Chair*

## Upcoming Events

**Fall Retirement and UGARA Social** on December 4 from 3:30 - 5:00 pm at the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education. You will be receiving your invitation to this reception in the mail. If you want to see some pictures of previous retirement receptions, visit the UGARA web site at [http://www.uga.edu/ugara/album.html](http://www.uga.edu/ugara/album.html).

**SoloSENIORS First Thursday Dinners:** Join your friends at 6:00 pm on November 1 at Gnat’s Landing on Baxter Street and on December 6 at Harry Bissett’s on Mitchell Bridge Road. If you plan to attend, contact Nancy Canolty at ncanolty@gmail.com. To participate in SoloSENIORS you must be single, at least 50 years old, and a member of the UGA Alumni Association.

**Other UGA Alumni Association Activities:** 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](http://www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni) to find out about other activities that may be of interest to you.

## In Memoriam

We have lost several UGARA members since last spring. They are:

- Dr. Susette M. Talarico - May 2007
- Mr. Thomas S. Colvin - July 2007
- Mrs. Blair C. LaRocca - July 2007

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**UGARA Council 2007-2008**

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<th>Chair: Clifton Pannell</th>
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<td>Secretary: Vicky Smith</td>
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<td>Membership Chair: Nancy Canolty</td>
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<td>Travel Chairs: Gene Michaels, Marsha Gruner</td>
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<td>Communications Chairs: Margaret Anderson, Jean Bowen</td>
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<td>Social Chair: Sara Potts</td>
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<td>Members: Archie Carroll, John Jeffreys, Romeo Toledo, Debra Watson</td>
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**Ex-Officio Representatives**

- Dot Cofer
- Cooperative Extension Service
- Lydia Lanier
- Human Resources
- Susan Landrum
- Office of the Provost
- Claude McBride
- Alumni Relations
- Carol Carey
- Special Events
- Scott Weinberg
- University Council
- Shea Landers
- Alumni Relations
- Patti Orr
- Staff Council
- Marcus Jennings
- Alumni Relations
- Elizabeth Pape
- Listserv and Web Page Editor

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*http://www.uga.edu/ugara*
SoloSENIORS Celebrates First Birthday

SoloSENIORS met for dinner for the first time in October 2006 with four persons attending. Last month, we had 35 persons attend our monthly dinner, and we’re going strong.

SoloSENIORS was founded at UGA on January 24, 2006, by Drs. Bonnie Howard and Nancy Canolty to foster interaction and networking among single professional individuals 50 years or older. There were several organizational meetings the first year with the Alumni Association and individuals interested in this organization.

The purpose of SoloSENIORS is to create a social environment that enables mature single persons to meet other singles interested in similar activities such as, but not limited to, movies, dancing, dinners, traveling, shows, and sporting events.

SoloSENIORS is an “evolving” organization. Activities in which individuals can participate with others are frequently suggested. We encourage interactions among group members by collecting information on the interests of each individual and sharing this information with other members. New friendships are formed and the horizons of members expanded.

We meet monthly (First Thursday Dinner) at a local restaurant for dinner. Information is handed out at these meetings on the interest groups and activities on campus and in Athens. We are in constant contact with members using e-mail as our primary method of distribution. If a member does not have e-mail, we have a calling committee to stay in touch.

SoloSENIORS is sponsored by the UGA Alumni Association so membership in the Alumni Association is a requirement for membership in SoloSENIORS. (You do not have to be a graduate of UGA in order to be a member of the Alumni Association.)

For more information about SoloSENIORS, please visit our website at http://www.alumni.uga.edu/alumni/soloseniors.html or call the Alumni Association at 705-542-0080 or 800-606-8786.

New Offering from UGA Human Resources

Human Resources has created a UGA Financial Management Education Center (FMEC), which provides a comprehensive approach to retirement and financial planning along with educational services for UGA faculty, staff, and retirees. FMEC encompasses the counseling expertise of UGA benefits counselors, TRS (Teachers Retirement System), and representatives from the Board of Regents Optional Retirement Plan vendors (also UGA’s tax deferred savings plan vendors): Fidelity Investments, TIAA-CREF, and AIG-VALIC, which will have regular counseling hours in the Human Resources Building and will conduct educational programs around campus. To make personal counseling appointments go to http://www.hr.uga.edu/benefits/fmec_main.html. Your questions may also be directed to Human Resources at 706-542-2222.
Overnight Trip to Callaway Gardens’ “Festival of Lights”  
December 11 - 12

The UGARA Travel Committee has arranged an overnight trip to Callaway Gardens to take in their fabulous Christmas “Festival of Lights.” This trip includes overnight accommodations at the Mountain Creek Inn, luggage handling, holiday dinner buffet, breakfast buffet, gratuities on the meals, “Fantasy of Lights” admission, a guided day tour of the Gardens and all their attractions and tax.

On the way to Callaway we will stop in Warm Springs for lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants there. There will be an opportunity for those interested to visit the FDR Little White House. Please indicate on the reservation form whether you want to do this. Admission to the Little White House is not included in the trip fee, but will not be more than $7.00. Those not interested in touring the Little White House may shop in Warm Springs.

The date of this trip is Dec. 11-12, 2007. The cost is $170.00 per person double occupancy; $230.00 per person single occupancy. Instructions for meeting the bus will be mailed to trip participants.

Reservations need to be in by November 27, 2007. Please fill in the form below and send the form along with a check for the full amount made payable to the UGA Alumni Association c/o Marcus Jennings, Wray-Nicholson House, 298 Hull Street, Athens, GA 30602-6372.

Travel Committee
Marsha Gruner and Gene Michaels, Co-Chairs

Reservation form for Callaway Gardens on December 11 - 12

Names:
(1) ____________________________________________________
(2) ____________________________________________________

Address(es) to which instructions should be sent:
(1) ____________________________________________________
(2) ____________________________________________________

____  Check here if you want to tour the Little White House (so reservations can be made)

Contact Phone __________________________ Date __________

Signature ____________________________________________

Send form and check for the full amount ($170.00 double occupancy, per person; $230.00 single occupancy, per person) made payable to the UGA Alumni Association c/o Marcus Jennings, Wray-Nicholson House, 298 Hull Street, Athens, GA 30602-6372 by November 27. Please note Callaway Gardens on your check.
Email us with your comments and suggestions, or subscribe to the UGARA-L listserv to stay informed. Just send an email to

ugara@uga.edu

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

Fall meetings of the UGARA Council are scheduled for the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 12 at 10:00 a.m. in the Alumni House Conference Room, Wray-Nicholson House.