



UGARA

The University of Georgia Retirees Association

Staying Informed. Keeping Involved.

University of Georgia

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

October 2009

UGARA Council 2009-2010

Chair:

Allan Barber

Vice Chair:

Bob Burton

Secretary:

Vicky Smith

Membership Chair:

Bob Burton

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Gene Michaels

Marsha Gruner

Communications Chairs:

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Larry Dendy

Social Chair:

Mildred Bell

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Listserv and

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Greetings from the Chair

Welcome to the University of Georgia Retirees Association (UGARA)'s new fiscal year 2009-2010, which coincides with UGA's academic year. UGARA is a membership-based organization serving the retiree community of the University of Georgia as the official liaison between UGA and its retirees. Membership in UGARA entitles one to receive newsletters and announcements of planned activities, such as seminars, day and overnight trips with transportation arranged, and other special events. UGARA seeks to keep retirees informed of retirement benefits and each year hosts seminars in which UGA officials outline changes anticipated for the upcoming year. Receptions for new retirees are held each year in coordination with the President's Office and the Office of the Provost. UGARA strives to represent all retirees, including faculty and staff, who are represented and active in all aspects of its activities.

UGARA maintains a website at <http://www.uga.edu/ugara> that contains interesting information about the background, activities, council and other events of interest to retirees. Members are invited to visit the website and to send comments regarding UGARA activities. If you have questions or comments, send them to ugara@uga.edu. The UGARA Council meets monthly to consider the organization's business and to plan future activities for the year. Please become involved in UGARA as activities are announced.

Allan Barber

UGARA Council Chair



UGA's Open Enrollment Dates for Health Insurance October 26, 2009 through November 20, 2009

Human Resources will hold three meetings (all the same) with retirees to answer questions about changes in health insurance for 2010. All of these meetings will be held in **Masters Hall at the Georgia Center**, and they will be on

Wednesday, October 21 from 10 am - 12 pm

Monday, November 9 from 2 pm - 4 pm

Tuesday, November 10 from 10 am - 12 pm

Note: Human Resources will be sending retirees a first class letter, which will include dates for open enrollment, an explanation of the changes, a list of the sessions, a rate sheet, and the web address for the booklet.

Human Resources will also be holding meetings for active employees and retirees in **Griffin** and **Tifton**, if you live closer to these locations.

Monday, November 2 from 10 am - 12 pm in Griffin

Monday, November 2 from 1 pm - 3 pm in Griffin

Tuesday, November 3 from 10 am - 12 pm in Tifton

The Griffin meetings will be held in Stuckey Auditorium on the Griffin campus, and the Tifton meeting will be held in the small auditorium in the Tifton Campus Conference Center.

Members Leaving the Council

We want to thank **Archie Carroll**, **Clif Pannell**, and **Debra Watson** for their service on the UGARA Council. Each of these members served a three-year term. Archie is the immediate Past Council Chair; Clif served as Council Chair the year before Archie; and Debra was the Social Chair and also served on the Travel Committee.

New Council Member Brief Profiles

Mildred Bell, UGARA Social Chair

Mildred retired from UGA on December 1, 2008 after 30 years of service. Her career included positions with the Department of Geography, Campus Planning, Institute of Community and Area Development, Office of the Vice President for External Affairs, Sea Grant, Cooperative Extension and Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. Mildred was born in Homer, GA, the seventh of eight children. She and her husband, Ricky, celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary this year. Mildred and Ricky have two sons, Joshua and Zachary, and a new daughter-in-law, Caty, who married Zachary on September 5.



Bob Burton, UGARA Vice Chair and Membership Chair

Bob Burton retired as Head of the Department of Philosophy in June 2005 having taught philosophy at UGA for 38 years. He received the A.B. from UGA, the M.A. from Emory, and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University. He taught at Hope College for three years before coming to UGA. He continues to serve on doctoral committees, teaches the occasional directed study, and referees for scholarly journals. Bob and Mary stay very busy mentoring, singing in their church choir, serving in local and foreign missions, and enjoying family, university functions, and travel. Bob continues to pursue his passions for cycling and playing classical guitar.



Larry Dendy, UGARA Communications Co-Chair

Larry Dendy graduated from UGA in 1965 with a journalism degree. After serving in the Peace Corps and working at two newspapers, he returned in 1972 to join the office then known as Public Relations. Over the next 36 years he held several positions in the office and retired in July, 2008, as assistant to the Vice President for Public Affairs. He worked part-time in the office the past year and fully retired on July 1. Larry is active in a number of local civic and environmental organizations and sings in the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship choir. He is married to Gail Carter Dendy, a native Athenian who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in history from UGA. Their son, Christopher, and his wife and two children live outside Cincinnati.



UGARA Newsletters on the Web

UGARA newsletters dating from 2004 are in PDF format on the UGARA web site at <http://www.uga.edu/ugara/newsletters/>, and there is a link to the most current newsletter on the UGARA homepage at <http://www.uga.edu/ugara/>. The latest newsletters on the web are in color! **If you would like to stop receiving a paper copy and instead receive a message from UGARA with a link to the newsletter, send an email to ugara@uga.edu and let us know.** We are all trying to save postage. Also, if you would like to be added to the UGARA-L list, see page 4 for information about the list and how to subscribe.

New Members Since May 11, 2009

UGARA welcomes new members: Kathy Purcell Floyd, Jose L. Gomez-Martinez, Steve A. Greer, Robert S. Hawkins, John D. Hoge, Royce L. James, Rick Jaspense, Patricia McAlexander, Mary E. Stakes, Krassimira Angelova, Bobby H. Edwards, Clinton G. McCrory, Caroline Amiss, Thomas J. Frieling, Robert A. Tucker, and Charles T. Smith.

In Memoriam

We are saddened to lose the following UGARA members:

Ms. Mary Bruce Clendening	3/21/2009
Mr. Lowell Albert Muse	6/6/2009
Mr. Harvey Vollrath	6/23/2009

Travel

The **UGA Tour on September 9** with 32 UGARA members was a great success. Travel members participated in a very informative tour of some of UGA's newer facilities, and feedback to the Travel Committee was that the group thoroughly enjoyed the day.

The Travel Committee regrets that the **Savannah trip is being reconsidered**. The cost, \$700.00 - \$800.00 per person, seemed high to guarantee a minimum of 35 members needed. Your comments on this cost are welcome.

Please help the Travel Committee - If you have suggestions for future UGARA trips, please send an email with this information to *ugara@uga.edu*. Marsha and Gene are always looking for ideas about interesting trips that you would enjoy.

**Join UGARA for "CHRISTMAS AT THE BILTMORE"
Wednesday and Thursday, December 2 and 3**



Working with Group Sales for the Biltmore, we have a wonderful package for this visit. We have accommodations for one night at the Springhill Suites (Marriott), a beautiful hotel with many amenities. All rooms are furnished with 2 double beds, refrigerator, microwave, and internet hookup. In addition, the package includes breakfast at the hotel, admission to "Candlelight Christmas Evening," dinner at the Deerpark Restaurant, a return to the Biltmore House and grounds including the Winery and River Bend Farm the next morning, and all luggage handling. We will make the trip in a first class motor coach. The magnificent Biltmore is transformed into a fairyland where candlelight and firelight accent delicate ornaments and holiday decor. Three rooms have been opened to the public that have not been available before.

This entire package will cost **\$220.00 per person, double occupancy (\$265.00 single occupancy)**. We have 25 rooms assigned to us with no possibility of adding rooms, so get your reservations in. Reservations must be received by **October 29**. The reservation date is mandated by the Biltmore. **REMEMBER, ALTHOUGH THE RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN BY THIS DATE, YOUR CHECK WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL AFTER THE EVENT**. There is no way an individual could get these amenities for this price. Instructions for meeting the bus and other information will be mailed to participants.

*Travel Co-Chairs,
Marsha Gruner and Gene Michaels*

Reservation Form for Biltmore Christmas Trip

Names: (1) _____

(2) _____

Address(es) to which instructions should be sent:

(1) _____

(2) _____

Contact Phone _____ Date _____

Email Address _____

Signature _____

Send form and check for **\$220 per person, double occupancy (\$265.00 single occupancy)** made payable to the UGA Alumni Association c/o Marcus Jennings, Wray-Nicholson House, 298 Hull Street, Athens, GA 30602-6372 by **October 29**. Please note **Biltmore Trip** on your check. If you have questions or want to check availability, call Marcus at 706-542-2251.



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

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See inside for important information from Human Resources about open enrollment for health insurance

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. 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.

The Spring Reception for New Retirees on May 6 in the Georgia Center for Continuing Education was a great success. Please remember that although the retiree receptions honor new retirees, all UGARA members are invited to come and visit with friends and colleagues. Pictures of the May and previous receptions are found on the UGARA website at <http://www.uga.edu/ugara/album.html>. You can also find photos of UGARA trips at this site. You will be receiving an invitation to the Fall Reception, and we do hope you will be able to attend.

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 10:00 am on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Conference Room, Wray-Nicholson House.