



## A History of the Georgia Gerontology Society

**1955 to 2015**



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## Preface

The task of assembling the 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary editions of the Georgia Gerontology Society history proved to be both fascinating and challenging. The Georgia Gerontology Society, founded in 1955 and officially incorporated in 1958 in the Clarke County Superior County, was one of the first associations of its kind in the nation and has a rich history. The names of its Founders are the names of the very people who started many of the university gerontology programs, the community service organizations, and the state aging offices. They were a focused, committed, and hard-working group of people who foresaw the need for growth and organization in a young field.

A review of the original Incorporation Charter, dated September 18, 1958, informs the readers that the corporation was “formed for such educational and cultural purposes as in the judgment of said corporation will promote the scientific study of the aging process; foster the development and dissemination of knowledge relating to aging; foster activities and programs relating to aging; and afford a common meeting ground for representation of the various scientific fields interested in aging and those responsible for the care and treatment of the aged.”

The earliest efforts to meet this mission focused on an annual meeting and conference, awards for professionals and non-professionals, and advocacy for state and federal legislation which improved the lives of Georgia’s older citizens. The annual meeting and conference and awards program have been the most visible continuous Society activities.

The intent to “afford a common meeting ground” has given rise at various times to special interest sections, forums, and committees and to coalitions of service providers, organization directors, planning directors, and advocates. Through its advocacy efforts, the Society was instrumental in establishing the Governor’s Coordinating Committee on Aging and elevating its stature to become the Office of Aging (now the Department of Aging and Adult Services), in implementation of aging services throughout Georgia, and gaining legislative status for the Georgia Council on Aging.

Throughout its various incarnations and reorganizations, the Society has remained remarkably true to its original purpose. The changes in its focus, activities and structure have usually mirrored changes in the needs of its membership in the academic and services fields. Constant through the 50 years is the struggle to remain relevant to its membership and to provide the cross-pollination for which it was founded. As fields have become more specialized, this network has become both more important and more difficult to achieve.

The Georgia Gerontology Society has benefited from some remarkable leaders through the years who have given unselfishly of their time and talent, but there are also countless Board and committee members, most not named or pictured in these pages, who have ensured that this network of Georgians has continued to exist as a unique multi-disciplinary organization in our state.

*Respectfully submitted:*  
*Kathryn D. Fowler, Editor*  
*April, 2015*



*Since 1955, a tradition for professionals in aging*

### **Mission Statement**

Georgia Gerontology Society promotes quality leadership in aging for the benefit of older Georgians and their families. GGS provides opportunities for members to participate in networking, professional development and training, advocacy and sponsorship of student scholarships.

- Adopted, 1996

### **Purposes**

- Promotes efforts to meet the needs of older people
- Provides a forum for communication and a common meeting ground for people interested in aging
- Works cooperatively with other groups in expanding services, programs, education and research in aging
- Encourages awareness of the needs, rights and continuing contributions of older people

### **Governance**

GGS is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors elected by membership and comprised of:

- the officers and past president
- sections and chapter representatives (if applicable)
- and members at large

Members of the Society may form regional chapters and/or special interest sections as needed.

## **The Georgia Gerontology Society**

### **A Brief History**

The Georgia Gerontology Society was established in 1955 as a result of gerontology forums held in the state. The Society was one of the first state voluntary gerontology organizations in the country, comprised of people who shared a common interest in aging. The first decade of the Society resulted in the establishment of the Annual Meetings which served as the primary activity of the organization and remains the focus even today. The original goals and objectives of the Society included: promoting the scientific study of the aging process; fostering the development and dissemination of information related the aging; and affording a common meeting ground for representation of the various scientific fields interested in aging and those responsible for the care and treatment of the aged. Two of the major accomplishments of the first decade were the publication of Georgia: Fact Book on Aging and the formation of a state Coordinating Committee on Aging, the forerunner for the Georgia Commission on Aging.

During the second and third decades of the Society, considerable thought was given to defining the role of the organization. Legislative activity began via the establishment of a legislative committee. This was also during the time period of the enactment of the Older Americans Act and Medicare, important legislation which added credibility and scope for the Society. The awards program, recognizing outstanding service or achievement in the field of aging, was developed during this time and remains in existence today. At the 1969 Annual Meeting, there were 42 cooperating agencies and organizations listed on the program, demonstrating the beginnings of the Society's membership diversity. In defining its role, the Society's primary purpose was to serve the professional needs of people who work to improve the quality of life for older persons in Georgia. In keeping with this purpose for future professionals, a scholarship fund was established during this time. The first history of the Society was compiled by Louis Newmark, the organization's first president, who remarked, "May the years ahead grant the Society the same kind of leadership it has had in the past, and that the organization may continue to grow and prosper..."

Throughout the fourth, fifth and sixth decades, the Georgia Gerontology Society focused on promoting and coordinating its work with other state and national organizations and programs serving the aging, thus creating renewal, growth and advancement throughout the Society. As a result of this involvement, the Society continues as one of the leading state organizations for aging adults in the nation. Among the major achievements were the establishment of a permanent statewide office and staff; collaboration with national organizations like the National Council on Aging and the American Society on Aging; co-sponsorship of statewide events like the Georgia Older Worker Luncheon, Senior Week at the Capitol, the Georgia Conference on Aging, and training events; and operation of the Senior Advocacy Project to monitor the Georgia General Assembly and co-publish the *Senior Issues Newsletter* with the Georgia Council on Aging and Georgia Association of Area Agencies on Aging. The Society has sponsored and conducted forums and training workshops throughout the state, illustrating that the Georgia Gerontology Society has indeed continued to grow and prosper. GGS established special interest Sections to enhance networking and training opportunities which often found permanent homes in other organizations or served a short-term purpose.

As the Georgia Gerontology Society embarks on a new decade, the achievements and accomplishments of the past can be looked on with pride, but they will also serve as a guideline in efforts to meet the challenges facing the Society in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in promoting quality leadership in the field of aging.



## Chapter I: 1955-1985

# A History of the Georgia Gerontology Society

*“To Promote the Welfare of Aging”*

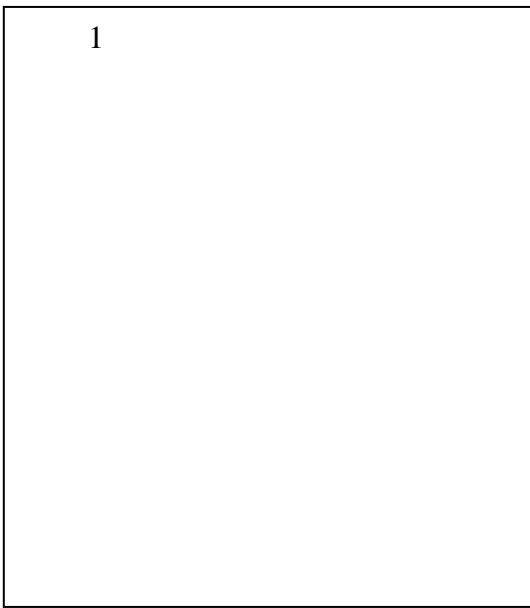
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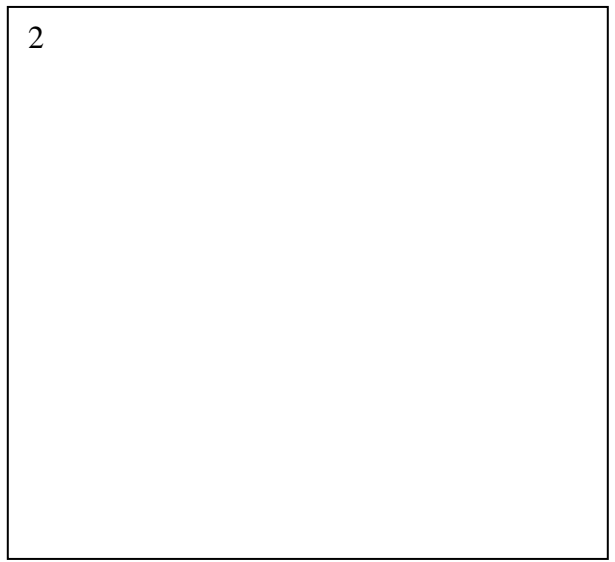
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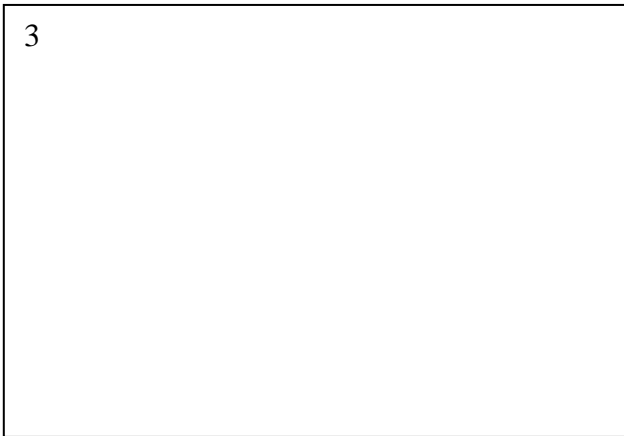




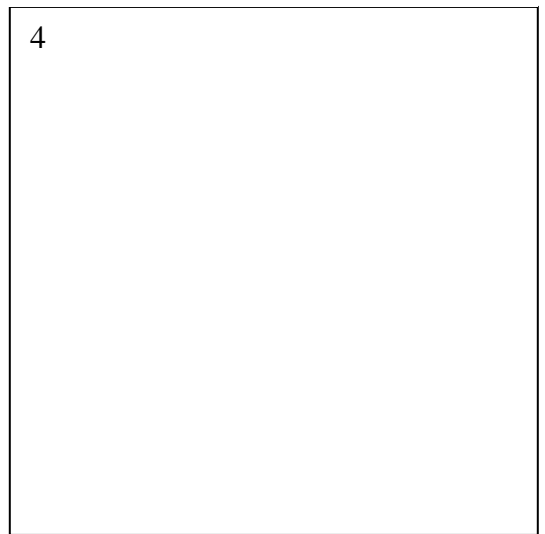
Elsie C. Alvis, President  
1968-1969, 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Director  
of the Georgia Commission on Aging



Louis Newmark, 1<sup>st</sup> President, 1955-1956  
(photo taken in 1995)



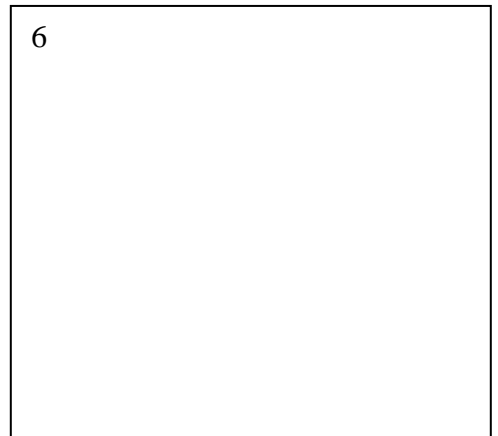
Albert E. Horvath, President, 1967-1968 (l) and  
Elsie Alvis (r) at the 1968 Conference with Dr.  
Searcy S. Garrison and Administration on Aging  
Commissioiner William Bechill



John Tyler Mauldin, Original recipient of  
the Outstanding Service Award,  
subsequently named in his honor



Judy Hagebak, President, 1981-1983



Jeanne Bartle, President, 1977-1978

## A Foreword to Chapter I

The Georgia Gerontology Society, founded in 1955, is a membership organization of people who share a common interest in the field of aging. Members represent a broad constituency of practitioners, researchers, educators, students, advocates, volunteers, and senior adults dedicated to serving the needs of older people.

Over the past 30 years, many professionals and volunteers have exerted a high level of energy to make the Georgia Gerontology Society a successful liaison organization for senior adults. It was through this Society that the state Coordinating Committee on the Aging was established... the forerunner of the Georgia Commission on Aging.

The Georgia Gerontology Society is a vehicle for professionals in the field of aging to directly and indirectly provide services and support for the increasing older population. This historical compilation is an insight to some of these services and the accomplishments of the Society.

While the efforts of the Society are certainly becoming more visible with each achievement, the Society will continue its commitment to master the increasing problems affecting senior adults.

The Society is indebted to Louis Newmark, the Society's first president, for writing this valuable history. As reflected herein, the Society has an interesting history.

*Jeanette Cummings*  
*President, 1986*

## **Introduction by Louis Newmark**

An organization, just like an individual, needs to take a look at its life from time to time. A good occasion is when the organization reaches a milestone in its existence, such as the age of thirty. What has the Society accomplished in those thirty years? What were some of the problems and difficulties that brought ups and downs to the life of the Society? Who have been its leaders? To what extent has the organization carried out the purposes for which it was founded? The present leaders of the Society generally know little of its early beginnings. It is important to have a written history of an organization which has tried to promote the welfare of the aging population of Georgia for thirty years. This history will give the highlights of this effort to serve the needs of the elderly citizens of this state

### **Background: the Genesis of the Georgia Gerontology Society**

In 1950, a National Conference on Aging occurred. Attending was Elizabeth Powell, who represented the University of Georgia. She decided to do something about what she had learned in Washington and she organized the Forums on Gerontology. The first forum held in November 1950, was not only the first conference on the subject of aging in Georgia, but also possibly the first state conference in the nation. The Forums on Gerontology continued for several years until 1954 when a group decided not to meet again until they were organized. A bylaws committee was appointed, officers were elected, and the Georgia Gerontology Society began.

## **First Decade (1955-1964)**

### **Annual Meetings**

The primary activity of the Georgia Gerontology Society was and still is the Annual Meeting. Although the records are not complete in terms of the themes and places in which the Annual Meetings were held, it seems that one has been held every year since establishment of the organization. The chronology of the Annual Meetings with all the known themes and places will be found in the Appendix to this history [Ed.].

At the first Annual Meeting in 1956 at Emory University, the president gave an annual report. The main activity of the year was the setting up of seven fact-finding committees which covered: income maintenance and employment, housing and living arrangements, health and medical care, recreation and creative activities, institutional care, social services and education. Dr. B.O. Williams of the University of Georgia was the chairman.

Much of the information about the Annual Meetings in the first decade was taken from "Gerontology in Georgia" by Elizabeth (Betsy) Powell and Robert Wray, of the University of Georgia Institute of Gerontology. The chronology shows no themes for the first five years or for 1963. Proceedings were published for the seventh Annual Meeting in 1962. That conference included programs to meet the recognized needs of older persons. A nationally known speaker, Dr. Clark Tibbits, deputy director, Special Staff on Aging, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, told about regional and national development in the field of aging. Another presentation was made by Dr. John Mauldin, secretary, Medical Association of Georgia, and recently appointed chairman of the Georgia Commission on Aging. His topic was "Medical Assistance to the Aged Program in Georgia". The president of the Society gave an annual report highlighted by the organization and activities of the Atlanta chapter. The membership of the Society, she reported, had increased from 108 to 139.

## **Important Activities of the Period (1955-1964)**

As a result of the work of the seven fact-finding committees, a publication entitled Facts About Aging in Georgia was put out in 1957 with significant help from the University of Georgia. Dr. B.O. Williams, Emeliza Swain and Elizabeth Powell, all from the University of Georgia, were largely responsible for the project's completion.

On September 19, 1958, the Society was incorporated. Four members of the organization were applicants: Louis Newmark, Atlanta, A. Tapley Hanson, West Point, J. Fred Gunter, Marietta, Elizabeth Powell, Athens, and Jay D. Gardner, Athens. The charter stating the purpose, objectives, and powers of the Society was issued in Clarke County, Georgia.

In the fourth year of the Society, the president, Ed McDaniel persuaded Governor Ernest Vandiver to set up a state Coordinating Committee on the Aging. It brought together all the state officials involved in programs related to the aging. It was also the forerunner of the Georgia Commission on the Aging.

In 1961, the Society prepared and published Aging: A Challenge and an Opportunity. Virginia Smyth and Elizabeth Powell were instrumental in the publication of this document. The data were taken from background papers of the 1961 White House Conference on Aging, policy statements of the conference, the Fact Book and the report of recommendations of the Georgia's Commission on Aging. It covered all the major subjects in the field of aging.

The president's 1962 annual report listed the following outstanding activities:

- Organization of an Atlanta chapter.
- Formation of a speaker's bureau (with an attractive brochure).
- Participation with the Georgia Commission on Aging and the University of Georgia in a project to clarify the role of the retiree and his status as related to community life.
- Support for the creation of the governor's commission on Aging with Society's secretary-treasurer, Elsie Elvis, as the first executive director.
- Publication of several newsletters.
- Participation in a project for the Professional Examination Service of the American Public Health Association regarding questions on aging.

Organized by Scott Houston, the Atlanta chapter was active in 1962. It worked with the Atlanta Housing Authority, the Community Council of the Atlanta area, specific agencies, and key citizens to interpret the need for a senior activity center to be included in the plans of the West End Housing for the Elderly project. Atlanta's chapter also began developing a directory of services to older people in metropolitan Atlanta. With the help of the Commission on Aging, the Community Council of the Atlanta area, and several of the Kiwanis Clubs, a directory of services was completed in 1963.

## **Finances and Membership (1955-1964)**

The financial reports for 1957 to 1959 showed bank balances ranging from \$270 to \$465. Almost all of the income was from membership and registration fees for the Annual Meetings. The expenditures were largely for the Annual Meetings. In 1957, the amount spent for the conference in Athens was \$247.59. Another expense for that year was \$119.25 for Facts About Aging in Georgia. The treasurer's report for 1963-1964 gave a total of \$1,530.45 for income with the two biggest items being \$710 for memberships and \$533 for conference registrations. On the disbursement side the total came to \$1296.98, with \$690.37 for conference expenses, \$300 for a directory of services, \$199.48 for office management and \$107.13 for miscellaneous. The total assets of 9/25/64 were given as \$939.76.

While the records have membership lists for 1956-1958, it is difficult to know the exact number of members for those years. The best estimate is between 65 to 75.

## **Leadership (1955-1964)**

In any new organization, the leadership in the early years has to establish a foundation on which the future leaders can build. With very limited resources and a relatively small membership, the presidents of the Society in its first decade did remarkably well.

President, Virginia Smyth, (1961-62) together with her Board of Trustees, appointed committee chairmen, and others, had a most successful year. Their accomplishments have already been referred to under "Important Activities of the Period." There were other presidents who made significant contributions to the Society. To all those who served in leadership roles in the first decade, the Society owes its thanks and appreciation for their pioneering efforts.

## **Revision of the Bylaws (1955-1964)**

The original bylaws of the Society which were written in 1955 are not in the files. They covered the usual articles, and the purposes they set forth were made as part of the articles of incorporation of the Society. They were as follows:

- to promote the scientific study of the aging process;
- to foster the development and dissemination of information related to aging;
- to afford a common meeting ground for representation of the various scientific fields interesting in aging and those responsible for the care and treatment of the aged.

The first revision of the bylaws was made in 1961, followed by another revision a year later. Neither of these revised bylaws is available. Since the Atlanta chapter was organized in 1962, it is reasonable to assume that one of the revisions in the 1961 bylaws was an article pertaining to the formation of local chapters. On October 16, 1964, the bylaws were revised for the third time. The aims of the Society are the same as in the original bylaws. The only change mentioned in the 1965 president's message to the membership deals with the provision for a rebate of \$1 of dues per member to each local chapter.



## Second Decade (1965-1974)

### Annual Meetings

Considerable planning was done to ensure a good attendance for the 1965 Annual Meeting. Several programs regarding the Milledgeville geriatric situation, the University of Georgia program in gerontology, the new housing act, and the interpretations of the Social Security amendments were in the tentative program for the conference, but no final program exists in the files. At the business session, a motion was made to the membership by the Board for an award of recognition to be given to a Georgia person for outstanding endeavor in the field of aging. Another feature of the 1965 meeting was the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

The keynote speaker in 1966 was Dr. Raymond Payne, Department of Sociology, University of Georgia, who spoke on "Facts and Figures on Gerontology in Georgia." Other programs included were a panel on Medicare in Georgia, programs under the Older Americans' Act, amendments to the Social Security Act, Economic Opportunity and the Older Adult, Poverty, Multi-Service Centers, Daycare, and the Foster Grandparents project. The 1966 meeting was the first at which awards were presented for outstanding service or achievement in the field of aging. One was given to Mrs. Elsie Alvis for her outstanding contributions and one to the University of Georgia's Council on Gerontology. The list of award winners from 1966 to the present can be found in the history's Appendix [Ed.].

In 1967 the keynote speaker talked about the accomplishments under the Older Americans' Act. He referred to three grant programs under the Act, Title III Community Planning Services and Training, Title IV Research and Development, and Title V Specialized Training of Persons for Programs in Aging. The awards program reached a new level when 14 awards were given in 1967. One was the first John T. Mauldin Award for outstanding achievement in the field of aging, which went to Dr. Mauldin. A distinguished service award was presented to Mrs. Virginia Smyth. Twelve other awards went to individuals who were recognized for services in different areas of work with the aging.

In 1968, the Society held its first of four conferences in conjunction with the State Commission on Aging. The main address was given by William D. Bechill, Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. His topic was "Future Programs for the Aging." He enumerated the great gains made in the field during the previous ten years. The awards ceremony honored a number of outstanding men and women of Georgia. An excellent proceeding with numerous photographs was issued on the 1968 meeting. The president of the 1968 Annual Meeting was Al Horvath.

There were 42 cooperating agencies and organizations listed on the program on the 1969 Annual Meeting. The first general session featured a program dealing with continued involvement in community life, which included representatives from volunteer service, employment opportunities, and activities in clubs and senior centers. A guest speaker was Mrs. Lillian G. Carter, retired Peace Corps worker. A keynote speaker, William E. Oriol, staff director, U.S. Senate Committee on Aging, discussed "Toward a Full Share of Abundance." Dr. Herbert Shore, executive director, Dallas Home and Hospital for Jewish Aged, made a presentation on "What Does the Future Hold?" Six special clinics dealt with a wide range of subjects related to aging.

Approximately 400 persons attended the 1970 Annual Meeting, which again was held jointly with the State Commission on Aging. The conference devoted considerable time to the nine areas of need which related to the upcoming 1971 White House Conference on Aging. A report on the 1970 State Conference on Aging gave the results of the forums on these nine issues.

The Society's 1971 Annual Meeting was held at the same time as the Georgia White House Conference on Aging. The Society donated \$500 to cover a reception for the participants and the expenses of older Georgians who otherwise could not attend. An enjoyable drama project, "Yesterday's Children" was presented at the conference.

In 1972 the Society had a new partner, the State Office on Aging. The keynote speaker, Dr. Eric Pfeiffer, associate professor of psychology and project director of the Older American Resources and Services Program, Duke University, had as his subject "Knowledge and Practice in the Field of Aging: Alternatives for Action." A session on implementation of the recommendations of the 1971 White House Conference on Aging asked the questions: What should be done? Who should do it? How can it be done? Proceedings of the 1972 conference were distributed at the dinner meeting at which the theme was "Organizing for Action in Georgia." The consensus of the meeting was that, pending the development of substantial support for a paid staff, the resources which exist within the membership should be utilized. The Society should become task oriented, ad hoc committees should be formed for special functions, and persons with interest and/or activities in gerontology should be encouraged to join the Society.

The 1973 Annual Meeting had a second partner, the University of Georgia. The keynote speaker was again Dr. Pfeiffer, who talked about "Identifying and Removing Barriers." He focused on three specific barriers: 1. attitudinal barriers, 2. knowledge barriers, and 3. organizational barriers. He spoke of methods for removing these barriers. The program was designed to carry forward the consensus development at the 1972 conference. As a result, the work of the four ad hoc committees was featured. The committees were: Needed Services for Older People, Training for Services, Research, and Instructional Programs.

A new format made the 1974 Annual Meeting different. A call went out for professional papers dealing with the following three areas: 1. service delivery, 2. psychological and social science, and 3. physiology and health care. This idea is modeled in part after the format of the National Gerontological Society. At the business meeting it was reported that a part-time executive secretary had been hired. It was also announced that the Society now had an office. Reports were given by the chairpersons of the ad hoc committees.

## **Important Activities of the Period (1965-1974)**

- The beginning of the awards program. The first committee was known as the Recognition Committee. (1965 & 1966)
- Presentation of certificates to the presidents of the Atlanta and Athens chapters. (1966)
- Role and Scope Committee appointed by the president. (1966)
- Society contributed \$50 to the Georgia Conference on Social Welfare for annual workshop on aging (1966).
- Georgia: Fact Book on Aging was published with the help of Title III funds and the assistance of the Council on Gerontology of the University of Georgia. (1967)
- Role and Scope Committee submitted a report with six specific recommendations, one being a change in name of the organization. (1967)
- Another recommendation of the Role and Scope Committee was to hold a special workshop meeting to give the Society a new sense of “mission.” (1967)
- A paper on Reevaluation and Setting of Goals prepared by President, Marian Glustrom. (1968)
- At the workshop the aims of the Society were spelled out more specifically than as given in the original bylaws. (1968)
- Participants in the workshop also recommended a change in name to “Georgia Association on Aging.” (1968)
- Society decided to affiliate with the Southern Conference on Gerontology as a cooperating organization in their conference. (1969)
- An ad hoc “Causes” Committee believed the purposes of the Society could be carried out only by two organizations: 1. a professional organization and 2. a grass roots organization. (1969)
- The Ad Hoc Committee described the make-up of the professional organization and listed six objectives. It did the same for the grass roots one listing five objectives. (1969)
- A representative from the Society was appointed to the Legislative Committee of the Atlanta Area Association of Senior Citizens Clubs. (1969)
- The Society moved to support the six-point program of Senator Batemen. These dealt with various ways of helping the elderly. The resolution was sent to government officials and the membership which was urged to contact legislators. (1970)
- An Ad Hoc Committee recommended that the Society sponsor a project to develop a technique of creative expression which reveals the feelings of older adults toward the problems and needs associated with advanced age. (1970)
- Following a talk by a person familiar with legislating in Georgia, the president appointed a Legislative Committee. (1970)
- The Board of Directors approved the creative drama project, a program for older adults to express their feelings through drama. Cooperating in the project were the Georgia Arts Commission and the Georgia Commission on Aging. (1970)
- An agreement was entered into between the Society and Miss Barbara Lebow for the creative drama project. Twenty-one hundred dollars was to be paid to Miss Lebow for conducting and teaching as the director of the project. Title III funds were also made available. (1970)
- The drama called “Yesterday’s Children” was presented three times, once at the Georgia White House Conference on Aging when the audience was favorably impressed. (1971)

- Miss Frankie Adams, chairperson of the Project Committee, submitted a lengthy evaluation of the entire activity. (1971)
- After considerable questioning about the value of and need for the Society, the Board voted in the affirmative. (1972)
- Among Board comments was one saying that the Society should “zero in” on the charter, become a professional organization, and not try to be all things to all people. (1972)
- The Society agreed that it should seek methods of financing full- or part-time paid personnel in order to aid the Society in achieving the objectives in the charter. (1972)
- A resolution was passed at the Annual Meeting that Georgia’s state, county and city governments allocate a portion of revenue-sharing funds in support of service, training, and research so that older persons may live as independently as possible in health and comfort. (1972)
- At the banquet, it was brought out that the Society needs to use the expertise of the organization. It must become task-oriented and all members need to get involved and do something. The group should be professional and proceed as it is. (1972)
- The president, in 1973, sent a memorandum to all members asking them to indicate their willingness to serve on one of the following ad hoc committees: 1. research in the field of aging in basic sciences, 2. needed services for older people, 3. training for service to older adults, and 4. instructional programs.
- There were 56 members who responded to the president’s memorandum. Thirteen checked two committees and one person checked three. (1973)
- The Board outlined the steps to be taken to activate the four ad hoc committees. It was hoped that reports would be ready for the next Annual Meeting. (1973)
- Progress reports from the ad hoc committees were submitted. (1973)
- One of the subcommittees dealing with the development of an information system wrote a report on its activities and the future direction of the subcommittee. (1973)
- The chairperson of the committee on “Needed Services for Older People” gave an annual report on its activities. (1974)
- The subcommittee on development of an information system submitted a report with three recommendations for action. (1974)
- The Planning and Review Committee made recommendations regarding a permanent office and a part-time executive secretary. (1974)
- The subcommittee on practicum education gave a report at a Board meeting on its work which included establishing standards, evaluating experience and certifying persons to practice in a specific area of gerontology. (1974)
- The chairperson of the Legislative Committee reported on a wide range of contacts with legislative leaders. He stated that progress in the General Assembly on matters relating to aging was encouraging.
- A resolution of commendation to the Georgia General Assembly for their concern and attention to legislation pertaining to the aging was presented to the Board. The nineteen members of the Board who were present at the meeting affixed their names to the resolution. (1974)
- A legislative report and look at prospective legislation was sent to the membership. The chairperson of the committee made a complete review of pending legislation on aging and what happened to the priorities of the Society. (1974)

## **Finances and Membership (1965-1974)**

The balance in the checking account as of September 7, 1965, was \$655.74. Receipts for the year came to \$2828.50, with income from membership dues (190) of \$950.00 and a grant from the Georgia Commission on Aging of \$1800.00 making up the bulk of the receipts. The expenditures for the same period totaled \$2404.17 with the two largest items being \$1717.00 as the grant from the Commission on Aging and the 1965 Annual Meeting which amounted to \$248.97. The balance in the checking account as of 10/4/66 was \$1080.07. Together with the savings account the total assets came to \$1534.25.

In regard to the Georgia Fact Book on Aging, the Georgia Commission on Aging grant was \$3375.00. The Society's share came to \$1125.00. The University of Georgia Council on Gerontology ordered 500 copies for which they paid \$1100.00. The \$3375.00 came out of Title III funds.

As of September 27, 1967 the receipts for the year amounted to \$3818.00 with income from membership dues (199) coming to \$995.00 and the grant from the Commission on Aging being \$1575.00. The sale of the Fact books brought in \$1100.00. Expenditures for the same period were \$4259.11 with the two biggest items being the Fact Book (\$3146.25) and the 1966 Annual Meeting (\$404.99). The balance in the checking account as of 9/27/67 was \$638.96. With the saving account the total assets as of 9/27/67 were \$1124.49.

At the March 8, 1968 Board meeting, the treasurer reported a checking account balance of \$401.96 and a balance in savings of \$507.16. He also stated that the 1967 Annual Meeting expenses came to \$720.80. The treasurer explained this amount by saying that the Center for Continuing Education in Athens charged in excess of what had been expected. The number of registrations for the conference was only 65. The cost of publishing the proceedings was \$267.54. The income from the 1968 Annual Meeting was \$2515.00 while the expenses came to \$2199.33.

In 1969, the Annual Meeting expenses were \$2760.06 compared to an income of \$2464.75. The balance in the treasury as of 11/19/69 was \$1003.97. The expenses for the 1970 Annual Meeting, held together with the Georgia Commission on Aging, were again higher than the income, which was \$2477.00 compared to \$2988.63 for expenditures. The balance in the bank as of 10/1/70 was \$1514.36. For the year ending 12/31/70, the total income was \$3730.89 while the total expenditures came to \$3367.95 leaving an excess of revenue over expenditures of \$362.94. The bank balance as of the end of the year was \$1311.71.

The treasurer's report as of 12/31/71 shows the balance from the first of the year, plus income mostly from membership dues, coming to \$2377.98. The expenditures with the big items - Creative Drama Project (\$792.00) and State Conference contribution (\$500.00) - were \$1433.05. The balance in both checking and savings accounts was \$15,345.69. In connection with the Creative Drama Project, the grant from the Georgia Commission on Aging was \$2374.00, while the Society's share came to \$792.00, for a total of \$3166.00. The director's salary accounted for \$2600.00 of the expenses of the Project with \$566.00 for miscellaneous expenditures.

The 1972 file on financial data has only two reports by the treasurer. One is dated June 15, 1972 showing the balance on January 1, 1972 as \$944.93. Receipts of a donation of \$90.00 and the 1972 dues of \$586.00 brought total available funds to \$1620.93. Expenditures of \$69.92 left a balance as of 6/15/72 of \$1551.01. With the savings account, the total assets were \$2159.38. The other report is dated December 31, 1972 and shows a balance in November, 1972 of \$1570.01. Receipts of \$214.00 brought the total to \$1784.01. No expenditures were given in

the report. In the 1973 Annual Meeting file the treasurer's report as of 12/31/72 showed a total on hand of \$2415.63. The income for the 1972 Annual Meeting is given as \$1300.00 and the expenditures came to the same amount.

A report on June 1, 1973 gave the balance on November 30, 1972 as \$1570.01. Deposits for dues of \$1072.00 brought the total to \$2640.01. Expenditures of \$624.85 left a balance on 6/1/73 of \$2015.16. Added to savings the total assets came to \$2646.78. The treasurer's report to the Board on November 30, 1973 told the following story:

Checking account (C&S Bank)	
Received from previous treasurer	\$905.89
Deposits from 1974 memberships	<u>+275.00</u>
Total	1180.89
Savings account (First Federal Bank)	<u>+1656.15</u>
Total funds on hand	\$2837.04

At the Annual Business Meeting the treasurer gave the following report (October 9, 1974):

Received from previous treasurer	\$905.89
Membership dues received	<u>+1147.00</u>
Total	2052.89
Expenditures	<u>-564.80</u>
Balance on hand in checking account	1488.09
Savings account	<u>+1656.15</u>
Total funds on hand	\$3144.24

The average figure for memberships in the Society for this ten-year period is a little over 190. That was the number in 1965. One year later the membership grew to 200 with 49 new members. In 1967 the figure was 204 with 23 new members. In 1968 the files showed 178 by July 8. This was well over two months before the Annual Meeting when traditionally some members renew their memberships. A fair number for 1968 would be 200. The 1968 Membership Committee made recommendations as to the following categories of membership:

1. Individual
  - a. Basic: \$5.00
  - b. Retired: \$2.00
  - c. Student: \$1.00
2. Contributing \$25.00 or more
3. Honorary: no dues (to be used in recognition for a person who made a special contribution to the Society)
4. Organizational: \$10.00 (open to agencies, service clubs, civic groups, churches, etc.).

The recommendations were approved by the Board of Directors. In 1969 the Society membership numbered 241 with 154 regular, 45 retired, two students, two contributing and 37 regular organizations. The membership then went down for several years with 190 in 1970, 173 in 1971 and 131 in 1972. The following year brought an increase to 201 and in 1974 the figure was 214. For the five years for which we have the information about organizations, the average was about 30.

## Leadership (1965-1974)

In the second decade, significant signs of leadership began to emerge from the presidents, the Boards of Directors, and the committees. One important development was the number of new committees appointed during this period. A list of these committees and the presidents who appointed them is as follows:

- Recognition Committee (later the Awards Committee)- President Marian Glustrom
- Role and Scope Committee- President Marian Glustrom
- Fact Book Committee- President Marian Glustrom
- Newsletter Committee- President Kenneth Jasnau
- Ad Hoc “Causes” Committee- President Elsie Alvis
- Committee on Planning Programs and Activities- President Collus Johnson
- Creative Drama Project Committee- President Collus Johnson
- Committee on Planning and Review- President Kenneth Jasnau
- Research Committee- President Roger Carstensen
- Committee on Needed Services for Older People- President Roger Carstensten
- Committee on Training for Service to Older Adults- President Roger Carstensten
- Committee on Instructional Programs- President Roger Carstensten

It should be mentioned that a number of the last four committees had active subcommittees that submitted reports. Much of the work of the twelve committees has been covered in the previous section on “Important Activities of the Period.” One committee, Role and Scope, was reactivated at a Board meeting in 1967. The committee later made a report with the following recommendations: 1. the Society should publish a professionally printed newsletter, 2. the idea of the awards should be expanded with a special awards banquet at the end of each Annual Meeting and 3. the Society should establish a charitable foundation to which tax-deductible contributions could be made. It was felt that through this vehicle special projects could be financed.

In preparation for the workshop recommended by the Role and Scope Committee, the leadership of the president at that time needs to be emphasized although it has already been mentioned. In October 1969, there took place a meeting of the old and new officers which offered opportunities for leadership. Two projects previously referred to require additional notice in terms of leadership. One was the publication of the Fact Book on Aging and the other dealt with the creative drama activity. The latter especially was quite innovative and gave evidence of the growing maturity of the Society. The president of the Society during the year of the creative drama project was Marianna K. Gallops. Another area in which there were beginning stirrings was the legislative scene. The Legislative Committee, with Frank Hughes as the chairperson, gave the Society some insight into what legislative activity requires from those who become involved in its work.

Another aspect of leadership in this period relates to the conflict which erupted concerning the role and place of the Society in Georgia. This conflict was not limited to the second decade but arose a number of times in the Society’s history. Despite pessimism of some of the leaders, the Board of Directors refused to accept the concept that there was no further use for the Society and voted to continue their efforts to make it a meaningful organization.

It has been brought out already that the presidents during the first decade had to function with very limited resources. The same, of course, was true of the Boards of Directors and the committees. The situation improved very little during the second decade. This means that the

responsibilities of the leadership were considerably greater than would be found in an organization able to provide adequate services with which to carry on the organization's work.

In the early years, the Board was known as the Board of Trustees, and it was composed for from 9 to 18 members. In 1968, the name was changed to Board of Directors, and the number on the Board was 20 to 30 members. The Board meetings were to be held quarterly according to the bylaws. In the second decade the attendance at Board meetings is given on 30 occasions with an average for the ten years of 12.2 members per meeting. For a number of years the presidents lauded the dedicated services of the members of the Boards of Directors. In 1974 the co-chairpersons of the Annual Meeting changed the format of the conference by introducing professional papers. The co-chairpersons were John Daniel and Jim Thorson. This departure from previous Annual Meeting programs continued for a number of years.



## **Revision of the Bylaws (1965-1974)**

There were only two revisions of the bylaws during the second decade. These were in 1968 and 1973. There was also a suggestion in the same year that the tenure of Board terms be limited to two. In addition, on September 30, 1970 a reference is made to a constitutional revision committee appointment.

One of the major changes in 1968 was in the name of the organization. This was recommended by the participants in the workshop which took place in February in 1968. They wanted the name to be "Georgia Association on Aging." For whatever reason, this change did not last very long. The minutes of the Board of Directors meeting on January 17, 1969, showed the name to be the Georgia Gerontology Society. Another important change was in Article II on the aims of the Society. The new purposes were given as follows:

1. To initiate, stimulate and encourage action in promoting or developing facilities and/or programs to meet the needs of older people.
2. To act as a medium of communication and to afford a common meeting ground for everyone concerned with the field of aging.
3. To work cooperatively with any group, organization or individual in expanding services, programs, education and research in the field of aging.
4. To encourage interest of the general public in the field of aging and promote awareness of the needs, rights and continuing contributions of older people.

These aims spell out the purposes of the Society in a much more specific manner than did the general ones in the original bylaws.

Article III on Membership was also altered with four categories of members listed: individual, contributing, honorary, and organizational. Sections 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this Article were omitted. These sections had to do with the approval of the Membership Committee, honorary life members, loss of membership, resignation of a member, and reasons for expelling a member.

Article IV, Officers and Their Duties, remained essentially the same. In Article V, Board of Trustees was changed to Board of Directors. The composition of the Board was increased to between 20 and 30 members. The term in office and quorum remained the same, while the duties of the Board were limited to the general management and control of the affairs and funds of the Society. In Article VI, the size of the executive committee was enlarged to include the immediate past-president and four additional members instead of two.

Article VII was a new article about committees. Standing committees appointed by the president were given as: Annual Meeting Committee, Membership Committee, Awards Committee, Publications Committee and Bylaws Committee. Sec 2. Other committees: Other committees, as needed, shall also be appointed by the president. Article VIII (formerly VII): Nominations and Elections Sec 1. Nominating Committee: Instead of the president appointing two of the members, all five shall be elected at the time of the Annual Meeting.

- Article IX (formerly VIII): Meetings of Society (no changes)
- Article X (formerly IX): Dues
  - Sec 1. Annual dues- the annual dues for membership shall be established by the Board of Directors. The membership by majority vote at the Annual Meeting may change the dues. The \$5.00 figure in the 1964 bylaws is omitted.

- Sec 2. The membership year of the Society shall be the same as the calendar year. In the 1964 bylaws the fiscal year is given as from October to October.
- Article XI (formerly X): Establishment of Local Chapters (no changes)
- Article XII: Foundation (new article). The Society shall establish a charitable foundation for the purpose of securing financial contributions for the maintenance and expansion of the Society.
- Article XIII: Amendment or Repeal (no change).

In the 1973 bylaws the name was given as the Georgia Gerontology Society and the aims or purposes were the same as those in 1968. In Article III Membership, there was a change in Section 2 with the categories omitted and the statement that the categories shall be established by the Board of Directors. It was voted that the categories as presently established by the Board are: Regular, Retired, Student, Contributing, and Organizational. Under Article IV, Officers and Their Duties, Section 2 dealing with Term of Office had an addition, making officers eligible for reelection if properly nominated and elected. Another addition under Section 4, Duties of Officers, gave the secretary the responsibility of maintaining the official files pertinent to the operation of the Society. This section also spelled out in more detail the duties of the treasurer. It made the president or vice president responsible for authorizing the treasurer to disburse the funds. The treasurer, and if he is not available the secretary, shall sign checks upon proper authorization as specified herein.

Article V, Board of Directors, had a new Section 5 as follows: Vacancies: Vacancies on the Board due to resignation or failure to remain a member of the Society in good standing may be filled by the Board to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Society. Article VII, Committees, had a new Section 2, Review and Planning Committee which reads as follows: The vice president shall serve as chairman of a Review and Planning Committee, with other members to be appointed by the president in consultation with the vice president. The Review and Planning Committee shall be responsible for reviewing all actions and records as of the beginning of the term of office of a new administration, and making recommendations to the president or Board of directors of the Society within 60 days after the beginning of his term of office. The outgoing and current officers shall make all records pertaining to their offices available to the committee.

In Article VIII, Nominations and Elections, a sentence was added to Section 2 permitting additional nominations to be made from the floor. The third paragraph under Section 2 in the 1968 bylaws was omitted. There was no change in Article IX, Meetings of the Society. Under Article X, Dues, Section 1, the provision that the membership may, by majority vote at the Annual Meeting, change the dues was left out. A sentence was added to Article XI Establishment of Local Chapters, Section 1, to the effect that the chapter program shall be in accord with the purposes of the Society as covered in Article II. Article XII, Foundation, was reworded to indicate the need for action in this type of project. It now reads that the Society may take necessary steps to establish a foundation to further the purposes and aims of the organization. The only changes in Article XIII, Amendment or Repeal, were to leave out the word “repealed” and to insert “without previous notice.”

## **Third Decade (1975-1985)**

### **Annual Meetings**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society was held on September 29-30, 1975, at the Urban Life Center of Georgia State University. The theme of the conference was "The Future of Aging." The keynote speaker was Dr. Erdman Palmore, Professor of Sociology, Duke University Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development, Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Palmore spoke on the theme of the meeting. In the afternoon there was a symposium on the same subject with four participants, two from universities and two from the field of practice.

Carrying out the same format of the previous year, the Society called for professional papers and divided accepted submissions into the following three sections: 1. Section on Program Planning, 2. Section on Service Delivery, and 3. Section on Social and Psychological Services. The papers in the first section dealt with different programs, including home care, homemaker service, homemaker-home-health aide, and a daycare program for the elderly. The second section covered such topics as social contact and the nutrition process, supplemental services at congregate meal sites for the elderly, a senior council program planning, a widowed persons service, learning through art in a senior center, and a fix-it center. Three of the papers under the third section had to do with various attitudes toward the aging and one attitude on mandatory retirement.

Among the symposia on the conference program were one on the pros and cons regarding preparation for retirement, tapping untapped resources for the aging: fact or fiction; fantasy or feasibility; and developing a community council on aging. A session on hearings on the legislative needs of older Georgians was conducted by the urban Affairs Subcommittee of the University System of Georgia Committee of the Georgia House of Representatives. As a highlight of the Annual Meeting certificates of appreciation were given to the past presidents of the Society. Proceedings of the Annual Meeting were published.

The 1976 Annual Meeting took place on November 8-9 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens. "Working Together- Researcher, Planner, Service Provider, Older Person" was the theme of the conference. Dr. James Peterson, Andrus Gerontology Center, UCLA, was the keynote speaker. There were four symposia: "The Role of Research in Aging," "The Role of Planning in Aging," "The Role of Direct Service in Aging," and "A New Direction in Housing: Group Homes for the Elderly." Each symposium had a number of reactors or participants. Professional papers were presented in the broad areas of program planning, service delivery and behavioral and social sciences. At the business meeting the president gave an address on "The State of the Society." Proceedings of this conference were also published.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting had as its theme "Legislation and the Elderly," held in Macon on October 20-21, 1977. In a letter, president Cheryl Schramm stated that the focus of the 1977 conference was on solutions, specifically though the legislative process. She emphasized that senior citizens needed to use their voting powers to achieve successful action in favor of older adults. The keynote address was give by Lieutenant Governor Zell Miller, whose topic was "The Importance of Older Adults Becoming Involved in State Politics." Following the opening address was a presentation and training session on "How the Individual Can Best Impact Legislation." Eight workshops in the afternoon covered such subjects as: homemaker/chore and healthcare issues, transportation issues, funding proposal writing, planning for senior citizens, education and the older adult, how to organize effectively for legislative impact, consumer views

of the system and the role of Georgia's legal services in elderly legislation. A message from Governor George Busbee and an address by Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr., featured the banquet session. A panel discussion took place on the second day of the conference with House and Senate members of the Joint Study Committee on Service to the Aged. Nine Georgia legislators, four from the Senate and five from the House, participated in the session.

In 1978, the Annual Meeting was held in Macon on October 9-10. "Rights of the Elderly: Ethical-Legal Issues Involved in Securing More Services" was the conference theme. In her letter of welcome to the meeting, President Jeanne Bartle pointed out that the conference covered issues related to the right to health, the right to economic security, and the right to social participation for the aging individual. The keynote speaker was Dr. George Maddox, director, Duke Center for the Study of Aging and the president of the Gerontological Society. A session on planning for the future involved a discussion of the role of the Society. There were three symposia on the three rights of the elderly mentioned above. The revised bylaws presented at the business meeting were approved. The bylaws called for a major reorganization of the Society with the formation of five sections, namely, Advocacy, Research, Planning, Services and Education, and Training. In addition there was an Aging Coalition as an advisory component of the Society. There was some discussion at the meeting regarding the exact role of the Aging Coalition.

The 1979 Annual Meeting went back to the Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens. Its theme was "Planning for the Aging in Georgia." President Ray Avant (in his welcome to the conference) referred to the excitement running high because of the reorganization. He felt that a very promising program had been planned with opportunity for dialogue around significant issues that related to the future of the Society. Dr. Robert H. Binstock, Professor of Law and Politics, Brandeis University, was the keynote speaker. He directed the program in the economics and politics of aging and was also a past president of the Gerontological Society. He spoke on "The Politics of Planning for an Aging Society in the 1980s." A roundtable luncheon on "Reorganization: One Year Later" followed the opening talk. All five sections had special programs, as well as business meetings. At the banquet, T.M. "Jim" Parham, formerly assistant to President Carter and at present Professor of Social Work, University of Georgia, spoke on "The Best is Yet to Be."

On the second day were interesting roundtable breakfast meetings discussing "North and South- Too Big for Our Britches!" This session weighed the positives and negatives of the reorganization plan and the problems of having membership living predominantly in the Atlanta area. Something different was introduced at this Annual Meeting by having a book display made possible by about forty publishers cooperating with the Society by sending books for the exhibit.

Moving to South Georgia, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, on October 8-10, 1980. The theme of the meeting was "Aging Services: Who Benefits? Who Loses?" The keynote address was given by Dr. Carroll Estes, Associate Professor, University of California, San Francisco, and author of the controversial book The Aging Enterprise. Dr. Estes also spoke at the pre-conference session on "The Older Americans Act: A Critical Analysis." Following the keynote address, there were discussions by the Society's sections. There was a report on the section discussions and a response from Dr. Estes.

A special program was a preview of the 1981 White House Conference on Aging. The sections had their annual programs and their business meetings. A highlight of the social life of the conference was the shrimp fest. An unusual feature of this Annual Meeting was a write up in the Brunswick News. It included a statement on Dr. Estes's address and a good description of the composition and aims of the Georgia Gerontological Society.

A new adventure in joint program planning occurred in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of 1981 in Augusta. The Society held a joint meeting with the South Carolina Gerontological Society which was recently organized. "Economic Impact: New Partnerships for the Aging" was the theme of the conference. A joint planning committee with three chairpersons and ten members from each Society worked out an excellent program. As in earlier meetings, there was a pre-conference session which was addressed by Dr. Harold I. Sheppard, Associate Director, National Council on Aging. Dr. Sheppard was also the keynote speaker. There were two sessions of concurrent workshops which covered a great variety of current problems such as: elderly abuse and neglect, block grants, social security trends and future impact, senility, loneliness among the black elderly, and the economics of healthcare.

There were also two concurrent roundtable discussions on subjects too numerous to mention (26). Certainly anyone interested in aging would have no trouble finding a meaningful topic for discussion among the 26 presentations. A film festival was an added feature of the conference. It was obvious from the material in the Annual Meeting file that the joint committee did an outstanding job. This committee along with George M. Dick, president of the South Carolina Gerontological Society, and Brad Courtney, president of the Georgia Gerontology Society, deserve our congratulations.

"Community Partnerships for Aging" was the theme of the 1982 Annual Meeting, which was held at Stone Mountain Inn, Stone Mountain, Georgia. Jude Hagebak, president, anticipated a stimulating meeting in her words of welcome to the participants of the conference. The theme reflects the shift of responsibility to the local level and the effort to resolve the funding gaps. Dr. Robert Hudson, Associate Professor of Social Policy, Fordham University, was the speaker for the pre-conference session. His topic was "The Graying of the Federal Budget and Political Backlash." The keynote address on the topic "Human Services Options for the Future" was given by Jule Sugarman, President and Managing Director, Human Services Information Center. Concurrent workshops covered the following topics: Organizing Community Self-Help Groups, Rehabilitation Services for Older Persons, Painful Partnerships, Aging Connection, A Coordinated Information and Referral System, Older Women in the 1980s, Getting Local Agencies to Cooperate with Your Aging Program, and Private Funding. A special program about retirement was presented by four retirees of the Society. A very timely program was one on "Healthcare Cost Containment." The Honorable Pierre Howard, Chairman, Senate Human Resources Committee of the Georgia General Assembly, spoke on "Georgia Responds to the Shift of Responsibility." Exhibits and book displays added to the interest of the Annual Meeting.

Another trip to the South was required for those who attended the 1983 Annual Meeting in Savannah. That year's theme was "New Perspectives on Healthcare for the Elderly." Both the pre-conference session and the opening session were addressed by James M. Hacking, Assistant Legislature Council, American Association of Retired Persons. The keynote address was on the subject "Medicare: The Coming Crisis." Concurrent workshops on the first day dealt with these topics: Alzheimer's disease, community councils on aging and continuing education: working together, pitfalls and problems in geriatric drug therapy: implementation of the community care act: current status, nutrition needs related to the biology of aging, social security and healthcare: financial stability and future outlook.

There were eight workshops on the second day. In addition there were eleven other presentations in the form of professional papers, a number of which had to do with health matters, while others were on various aspects of leisure time activities. Dr. Herbert Karp, Director, Medical Services, Wesley Woods and Professor of Neurology, Emory University, spoke at the luncheon meeting on the "Future of Geriatric Medicine and Research." The

evaluations of the conference were extremely favorable. Again, the planning committee and the president are to be commended for an excellent Annual Meeting.

For the 1984 Annual Meeting, the Society returned to the Center for Continuing Education, University of Georgia, Athens. The program indicates that this conference was in session with the Georgia Association of Homes for the Aging. Its theme was "Aging: Shaping Our Future." The evening before the conference the Educational Playmakers presented a play entitled How Much Do You Love Me. Discussion followed with the actors and the director of the play. Ambassador John W. McDonald, Jr., Coordinator for Multilateral Affairs, Center for the Study of Foreign Affairs, Washington, D.C. was the keynote speaker. His subject was "Aging: Shaping the Future- Perspectives from the 1982 World Assembly on Aging." Concurrent sessions in the morning included two lectures/discussions, one workshop on Alzheimer's disease, one symposium and two panel discussions, one of which was sponsored by the Georgia Association of Homes for the Aging. Afternoon sessions dealt with support groups for spouses of nursing home residents, pet therapy, and the Wesley Woods Center Geriatric Hospital: A Response to an Unmet Need. A panel discussion was entitled "Dialogue Among Providers, Planners, and Bureaucrats." Other sessions covered "Protecting Yourself in the Marketplace," "Marital Relationships of Older Couples," "Elder Abuse and Neglect," and "Aging: Shaping the Future- The State Response." Another panel discussion was on "examining the 1985 Legislative Issues on Aging." At the banquet Vita Ostrander, president, American Association of Retired Persons, spoke on "The 1984 Elections: A Dramatic Demarcation Point for the Elderly- Will It Be a New Beginning?" A silver-haired legislative forum wound up the conference. The Annual Meeting Planning committee with M. Jean Keller as chairperson and 21 other member certainly prepared a broad program of varied subject matter.

In her welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Macon on October 9-11, 1985, President Julie Cohn stated that the theme of the conference, "Health and Wellness- Prevention- Education- Promotion" has been designed to reflect both the history of the Society and the new directions of this past year. The exciting mix of academicians, older persons, service providers, planners, administrators, healthcare professionals, and even legislators who form our membership guarantee a stimulating exchange of ideas and promise even more growth for the future. The pre-conference session featured Dr. Kenneth B. Mathey, Regents Professor, Department of Counseling and Psychological Services, Georgia State University, who spoke on "Health and Wellness for Professionals."

The keynote speaker, Donald F. Reilly, Deputy Executive Director, National Council on Aging, had as his topic "Health and Wellness of Older Americans." A new feature of the Annual Meeting was an orientation meeting for new members. Among the workshops were: Respite Care for the Elderly and Disabled, Continued Education in Gerontology for LPNs and Exploration of a Demonstration Project. Another workshop was on the "Promotion of Health and Wellness in a Retirement Community." Among other highlights of the conference were a reception honoring sponsors and exhibitors, the awards banquet and a 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. More workshops, professional paper presentations and panel discussions took place on the second day. A luncheon with Georgia legislators, the business meeting, and a review of the Society's legislative issues by the president concluded the 1985 conference. An extra added attraction for the 1985 conference was the annual report by six committees and the two sections of the Society. It was an exceptional and very successful effort to acquaint the membership with the accomplishments of the Society during the year. Three other committees gave their reports at the Annual Meeting. One of the six committees was the new Ad Hoc Communications Committee which was an outgrowth of the retreat held in December 1984.

## **Important Activities of the Period (1975-1985)**

- Legislative Committee reported on five legislative successes. (1975)
- Executive secretary hired; duties and responsibilities outlined. (1975)
- The Role and Scope Committee reported on its concern that the academic areas of the Society were overshadowing the service areas. The groups should get together and support each other. (1975)
- A proposal for expansion of the Society was submitted to the Eckerd Foundation but was rejected. (1976)
- The foundation proposal was sent to six foundations with no favorable response. (1976)
- Legislative Committee compiled data concerning free tuition for the elderly in the University Systems of the United States. (1977)
- Three major groups concerned with older adults formed a coalition. They are the Georgia Gerontology Society, the Georgia Association of Aging Planners and the Georgia Association of Service Directors in Aging. (1977)
- The chairperson of the Legislative Committee presented the Society's recommendations concerning the elderly attending universities tuition-free to the Board of Regents. (1977)
- A position paper on the 1977-1978 Title XX proposed Plan of Services was sent to the Commissioner, Georgia Department of Human Resources, by the above-mentioned coalition. It asked for additional funding for the elderly and made other recommendations, including the idea that the elderly be identified as a separate group. (1977)
- A lengthy statement of recommendations regarding the implementation of Amendment 23 was sent to the Chancellor, Board of Regents, University System of Georgia. The statement included the research done in contacting 21 states that have implemented tuition-free programs for the elderly. (1977)
- Prior to the February Board meeting, copies of a position paper were sent to all members of the Board. The chief recommendation in the position paper was to set up sections corresponding to the five major interest groups, namely researchers, planners, service providers, educators and advocates. (1978)
- The Board approved this concept and a committee was appointed to study the recommendations. (1978)
- One of the recommendations was to establish an aging coalition composed of two members from each section. The coalition would identify issues that need to be considered. (1978)
- At the July Board meeting, the proposed organization was again discussed. The organization chart was presented. It showed the five sections and the aging coalition. Regular membership dues would be \$16.00. Each regular member could join two sections. Students and retired adults would pay \$5.00. The organization of the sections was described. The section chairman would automatically become a member of the Board of directors. (1978)
- The reorganization plan was incorporated in the revised bylaws which were approved at the Annual Meeting. (1978)
- The aging coalition of the three organizations commended the study committee on services for the aged for its initiatives in the past year on behalf of the elderly of this state. The letter from Jeanne Bartle, coordinator of the aging coalition, also refers to the

value of the joint study committee report, which not only heightened public awareness of the problems and needs of the elderly, but also had legislative impact. (1978)

- Reports from the section chairpersons showed that the Education and Training Section met four times, the Research and Services Sections three times each, and the Planning Section met once. (1979)
- President Ray Avant made a statement on behalf of the Society at the United Way hearing, pointing out the need for an increase in funding for the aging. (1979)
- Consensus at the December Board meeting was strongly in favor of the Society's involvement in advocacy. In emergency situations, it was pointed out, the executive committee can approve action in the name of the Society.
- The executive committee recommended that there be no more than four regular chapters representing the various areas of the state. The chapters would have to develop bylaws consistent with the bylaws of the Society. This met with Board approval. (1980)
- In the president's column in the December newsletter, Brad Courtney described the effects of the Reagan funding cuts on elderly programs such as transportation, nutrition, services, training, and others. (1980)
- The chairperson of the Education and Training Section informed the Board that it had prepared and published the Georgia Directory of Educational Programs in Gerontology. (1981)
- The Board approved the recommendation of the legislative committee that the Society register as a lobbying organization. (1981)
- The chairperson of the legislative committee developed a telephone network to provide information when action is needed. (1981)
- A letter from the president was sent to each section chairperson to tell them of their significant role, especially in recruiting members and helping with the newsletters. (1981)
- The Georgia County Welfare Association expressed interest in working cooperatively with the Society on joint projects. (1982)
- The legislative committee shared information and legislative priorities with the Georgia County Welfare Association. (1983)
- The Georgia Gerontology Resource Inventory was prepared and published by the Education Training and Research Section in cooperation with the Georgia Department of Human Services State Office of Aging and the University of Georgia Institute of Community and Area Development Recreation Technical Assistance Office. (1983)
- A letter from Pierre Howard to the president regarding the Community Care Act included this statement: "Passage would not have been possible without the support of concerned citizens like yourself. It was your effort that made the members of the General Assembly aware of the need for alternatives to nursing home care." (1982)
- The Education and Training and Research Sections conducted a survey of the membership to establish a membership inventory, identify resources and expertise among the members and to aid in planning future workshops and activities. (1984)
- The results of the survey show the diversity of the membership and the broad range of training and experience possessed by the members. Many who responded had thoughtful suggestions for future training. (1984)
- The Society sponsored a luncheon at which Janet Bittner, director of the Office of Aging, spoke on the Community Care Act. It was attended by 106 persons. (1984)
- A letter from Governor Joe Frank Harris to the president of the Society expressed his deepest appreciation for her assistance. He said that the success in stopping a reduction



in Medicaid was due to her efforts and those of many other Georgians who communicated their views on this issue to key members of Congress. (1984)

- A retreat was held on December 9-10, 1984 at Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simons Island, for all current and newly elected Board members. The purposes of the retreat were to orient both old and new Board members; identify and discuss current issues, problems and concerns; review and define goals and objectives; and develop a specific plan of action. (1984)
- Under the leadership of two facilitators, Jan Feiler and Maurice Walker of Savannah, the retreat achieved the following results:
  - a. studied the purpose of the Society and developed a statement of purpose,
  - b. analyzed membership by categories,
  - c. agreed the Society is serving professionals,
  - d. recognized the importance of planning,
  - e. received definitions of planning, need, purpose, goals, objectives, action plan and evaluation,
  - f. reviewed strengths and weaknesses of the organization,
  - g. covered the role of the Board and its composition as well as why people served on Boards. (1984)
- A special all-day Board meeting was held January 2, 1985 to implement the proposed action developed at the retreat. Five work groups were appointed for this purpose. (1985)
- At the March Board meeting, the work groups made reports. The Education, Training, and Development (professional development) Sections made four recommendations, one of which was to conduct a survey of the membership. The group on Purpose and Goals distributed a handout outlining the purpose, goals, and objective. It defined the purpose of the society to serve professional needs of people who work to improve the quality of life for older persons in Georgia. It listed three goals and eight objectives. The membership chairperson reported that she had increased her committee to 23 members with representation from various parts of the state. New members are to receive a questionnaire regarding their interests. Regarding communications, the report included mailouts to members asking their preferences and enclosing a list of officers, Board, and committee members, as well as a copy of the bylaws. (1985)
- John Curtis recommended the establishment of a scholarship committee which would have major responsibility for administering a scholarship fund. The Board allocated \$6000.00 to this fund. (1985)
- The chairperson of the Planning and Services Section reported that over 100 persons attended the section's seminar on housing alternatives. (1985)
- The Legislative Committee listed the following issues for the Society for 1985:
  - a. establishing the State Hospital Rate Review Board,
  - b. awarding incentives to families that keep members at home,
  - c. Community Care Act funding,
  - d. training and certifying people providing care in nursing homes and personal care homes, and
  - e. Eliminating mandatory retirement. (1985)

## Finances and Membership (1975-1985)

The treasurer's report of 2/25/75 showed a balance in the checking account on 9/30/74 of \$1488.09. Deposits of \$268.00 made the total \$1756.09 and disbursements brought it down to \$792.23. With \$1746.60 savings in First Federal Savings, the total assets came to \$2538.83. The disbursements came to \$963.86. As of 9/17/76, the balance in checking was only \$265.99. The Finance Committee reported on 9/17/76 that if the Society continued at its present operating level, there would be a \$700 deficit for 1977. The committee recommended a dues increase as follows: regular from \$5.00 to \$10.00 a year and retired and students from \$2.00 to \$3.00 a year. Organization dues would go from \$10.00 to \$25.00 a year. This recommendation was passed by the Board. The balance in the checking account as of 10/7/77 was \$332.57. The suggestion was made that the newly elected treasurer watch the money more closely and that a budget be imposed on the Board prior to expenditures being made.

In 1978, the checking account balance rose from \$1576.92 on 7/14/78 to \$1949.83 as of 9/15/78. The following year the beginning balance on 10/14/79 was \$1877.97, while at the end of the year it had increased to \$2465.94. The Annual Meeting costs in 1979 were \$3794.28, while the income came to \$3110.00. For 1980, the picture was much better, with income at the Annual Meeting of \$2168.50 compared to expenditures of \$1216.60, leaving a net excess of income over expenditures of \$951.90. From 6/13/80 to 12/12/80 the income was \$2896.50 while expenditures came to only \$1790.46, a different of \$1106.04.

Expenditures for the 1981 Annual Meeting totaled \$5760.13, against income of \$3214.00, leaving a deficit of \$2546.13. The beginning balance as of 12/2/80 was given in the records as \$4985.57, with the ending balance as of 10/2/81 amounting to \$8549.93. Considering the amount lost at the Annual Meeting, this amount is most surprising and hard to explain.

The previous year the president had agreed to appoint a finance committee with the treasurer as the chairperson. He outlined three responsibilities for the finance committee as follows: 1. look at audit possibilities, 2. consider long term use of funds and 3. recommend a dues structure for next year.

*(Editor's Note: It should also be noted that, during this time, the Society failed to pay the annual corporate registration fee to the Secretary of State. The Corporate registration was "involuntarily revoked" in 1981 and was not restored until 1986 when the problem was discovered and rectified by payment of all overdue fees.)*

In 1982, the treasurer's report showed a beginning balance as of 12/11/81 of \$1016.96. This went up to \$3157.10 by 2/28/82 but was reduced to \$1735.28 as of 8/3/82. An operating statement from 1/1/82 to 11/30/82 gave the income as \$11,639.53 and the expenditures as \$10,343.33. The ending balance in checking as of 11/30/82 was \$2313.16. The operating budget for the year 1983 showed income and expenditures both at \$4500. Included in the expenditures were \$1350 for personnel, \$1100 for printing and publications, and \$600 for sections. All the income was from memberships. The actual operating income for the year came to \$4956.59 while the expenditures amounted to \$3810.48. The balance in the checking account at the end of the year was \$4343.37. Together with the savings account, the total assets were \$7787.28. There was an excess of \$880.97 in income over expenditures for the Annual Meeting. At an executive committee meeting on 10/4/82, the treasurer and chairperson of the finance committee presented a plan for increasing dues for individual members to \$20.00. Retirees and students would pay dues of \$10.00. Organizational dues were increased to \$50.00. This was approved by the Board.

The income from the 1984 Annual Meeting amounted to \$7442 with expenditures coming to \$5366, leaving a balance of \$2076. The total assets as of 10/16/84 were \$8424.64. A

third quarter report from the treasurer for 1985 indicated assets of \$13,221.10 in the treasury. At the August Board meeting the Board approved a motion to set aside a contingency fund of \$4000 that would not be spent, but would be available for any unforeseen problem such as poor revenue from an Annual Meeting. As of 12/5/85 it was reported that the total assets of the Society amounted to \$17,605.96. The Annual Meeting of 1985 cleared \$2992.77.

Regarding memberships, the files do not give the number for the year 1975. Early in 1976 the executive secretary sent out 975 letters in a membership recruiting effort. As of 9/17/76 the total number of members in the Society was 209 with 29 organizational members. The following year the total again is not in the files, but as of 6/27/77 there were 169 enrolled. The same situation was true for 1978 with the figure of 164 members found in the records. In 1979 the total individual membership came to 211 with 15 organizational members. The file shows a large number of student members that year: 46.

As of 6/13/80, the total membership numbered 157 with 10 organizational members. The following year, the total was 199 with 24 organizational members. As for the sections, the figures were as follows: Educational and Training- 99, Services- 90, Research- 59, Planning-53. In 1982 the membership totals as of 9/29/82 were 174 individuals and 14 organizations. One year later the figures again were 174 individuals while the organizations were 13.

## **Leadership (1975-1985)**

As the large number of important activities for the third decade shows, the leadership during this period was outstanding. The writer wishes to point out that the original list of important activities for the third decade was more than twice as long as the number finally used. Another example of the type of leadership in this period is reflected in the fact that the two most significant activities of the history of the Society occurred in 1978 and 1984, the reorganization plan and the retreat. Another illustration of the leadership role in the 1975-1985 years was the excellent Annual Meetings that were planned. Mention has already been made of the fine work done by several of the Annual Meeting planning committees. One has only to glance through the programs of the conferences in this decade to see that a successful effort was made to provide the participants with a wide range of subjects covered in the sessions of the Annual Meetings. References have been made to the welcoming letters written by a number of presidents to the participants in the conferences. Some of the presidents gave real meaning to the themes selected for the conferences. One such instance was the leadership of Frank Whittington, president, 1975-1976 who helped carry out the theme of "Working Together" in terms of dialogue with older persons. Another example was the leadership of Cheryl Schramm, president, 1976-1977, in connection with the theme "Legislation and the Elderly."

It is not surprising that twelve of the important activities listed for this period have to do with legislative issues. Quite a few of those cut out of the original also dealt with this subject. Much praise is due to Lynne McIntyre for her pioneering work in this field. She chaired the Legislative Committee for a number of years and did much to make the Society aware of its need to get involved in legislative activities. Several of the Society presidents contributed materially to the progress made by the organization in having its voice heard in the halls of the legislative chambers.

Another chairperson who did yeoman's service, this time in regard to membership, was Jeanette Cummings, elected president of the Society for 1985. As Vice President, she gave new meaning to recruiting and servicing new members and has set a standard that will be most difficult to follow.

To those who participated in the retreat and to the leadership carrying forward the important message and inspiration that came out of it, the Society owes a vote of thanks. For years the Society floundered in an effort to determine its role and purpose and the answer came through the leadership which planned and carried out the retreat.

It is impossible in a brief history to give the proper recognition to all who, through their volunteer efforts over the years, have given invaluable service to the Society. This is especially true of the Board of Directors and the many committees without whose services the Society could not have functioned. The research showed 37 Board of Directors meetings with an average attendance of 18 in the third decade.

Until 1974 the Society had no paid staff. In that year the Review and Planning Committee recommended the Society establish an office and hire a part-time executive secretary. The salary agreed upon was \$100.00 a month. Nine duties were listed, but only the first four appear practical. They are: 1. recruitment of members, 2. coordination of publication of a quarterly newsletter, 3. coordination of planning for the Annual Meeting and other meetings and 4. provision of staff assistance to committee chairpersons and coordination of work between committees. An executive secretary was hired in November 1974 at \$100.00 a month. A record of this person's monthly payments ends with June 1975. A new executive secretary was employed as of November 1975. The minutes of the February 1976 Board meeting have a report from the executive secretary, who had mailed out 975 letters in a membership recruitment drive

and was also putting out a regular newsletter. This executive secretary resigned in November 1976. A new one replaced her in January 1977. While it is difficult to be certain about the next two years, the financial reports indicate that an executive secretary salary was paid during 1977, 1978, and for the first month of 1979. There is nothing in the records to show any disbursement to paid staff in 1980. The same is true for 1981, except for December when an agreement was made with an individual referred to as "consultant," who was to serve the Society until October 5, 1982. This person was hired to assist officers and committees of the Society in regard to membership, the newsletter and the workings of the legislative and Annual Meeting committees. The payment was \$5.00/hour plus work-related expenses. The financial report for 1982 gave an expenditure of \$1650.00 for personnel clerical assistance. Another agreement was entered into in December 1983 for "consultant" services. This one ended October 31, 1984. The scope of services was the same as given for the other consultant. No payments for clerical service were made in 1985. The executive secretaries were Mrs. Louisa Botkin, Sue Nort, and Joan Attaway. The consultants were Blair Forlaw and Suzan Moore Zoukis.

## Revision of Bylaws (1975-1985)

**1978** The bylaws revision in 1978 was perhaps the most significant of any of the changes made during the life of the Society. The reason for this importance was the reorganization plan setting up five Sections along with an Aging Coalition. The first two articles of the 1978 bylaws were the same as in 1973. Article III was called Organization and replaced the former Article III on membership. Section 1 deals with the Board of Directors and states that the Board “shall have general management and control of the affairs and funds of the Society.” Section 2 is called Society Sections and is the key to the reorganization plan. It sets up five sections as follows: Advocacy, Research, Planning, Services and Education, and Training. These sections shall have the purpose of fostering common interests and pursuing common goals which further the aims of the Society as delineated in Article II. Each section shall be composed of those members of the Society with special interest in that particular area. Each section shall elect its own chairperson and its own representation to the Aging Coalition. Section 3 is on the Aging Coalition. “Under the authority and in consultation with the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, the Aging Coalition shall be the advisory component of the Society and shall interact with other organizations, agencies and groups.” Article III is entirely new.

Article IV on Membership has two new sections. Section 1 is unchanged. In Section 2 the categories of members are spelled out. They are: organization membership, regular membership, student membership, and retiree membership. Section 3 deals with section memberships. “Each Society member shall automatically be entitled to membership in two sections of his or her choice. Membership in more than two sections shall require an additional section membership fee for each section”. Section 4 on Aging Coalition Membership is as follows: “The Aging Coalition shall be composed of two members from each section. Each section shall elect its representation on the coalition. The Society president shall serve as chairperson of the coalition.” In Section 5 on Voting, in addition to each individual member, each organizational membership shall be entitled to one vote at meetings of the Society.

Article VI covers the Board of Directors. Section 1 on the composition of the Board was changed from 20 and 30 to thirty additional members. The next paragraph is as follows: “Each section of the Society shall be entitled to one designated seat on the Board annually. This seat shall be filled by the section chairperson. In the event the chairperson is a Board member at large, the section shall elect its representative to the Board. Four seats on the Board shall be reserved for candidates nominated but not elected to office in the Society. These shall be one year terms.” These last two paragraphs are new. “The remaining 21 seats shall be filled by Society members elected at large for three year terms with seven to be elected each year.” This paragraph is also new. There were no changes in Sections 2, 3 and 4.

Article VII, Committees, includes the executive committee, the standing committee, and other committees. There is no change in Section 1, the Executive Committee. Under Section 2, Standing Committees, the Finance Committee was added, while the Publications and Bylaws Committees were deleted.

Article VIII is Nominations and Elections. In Section 1, Nominating Committee, the words “one from each section of the Society” were added after “shall consist of five members.” A second paragraph was added to Section 2, Nominations, which now reads: “Two persons shall be nominated for each office of the Society, at least one person for each seat on the Board of Directors and at least one person for each place on the Nominating Committee.” In the third paragraph, the word “published” was added to precede in the call of the Annual Meeting. Section 3 on Society Elections now reads as follows: “Election of officers, Board members, and members of the Nominating Committee shall be by majority vote of the members present and

voting at the Annual Meeting of the Society. Election shall be by written secret ballot and shall allow for write-in candidates.” Section 5 on Aging Coalition Election states that “two members of the Aging Coalition shall be elected by each Section majority vote of the Section members present and voting at the Section meeting held at the Annual Meetings of the Society.”

There were no changes in Article IX on Meetings of the Society. Article X dealing with Dues has an addition relating to Section membership. This was an error which was corrected at the next revision. The rest of the bylaws remained unchanged.

**Date not specified** The next revision of the bylaws did not have any major changes. In Section 2 of Article III, the number of Sections was changed from five to four. The one deleted was the Advocacy Section. Also deleted was the Section on the Aging Coalition. A new Section 3 was on Society chapters reads as follows: “The Society may include the establishment of no more than four regional chapters to be designated as southern, eastern, central, and northern. In order to be recognized by the Society, each group shall organize and develop bylaws consistent with the bylaws of the Society. These bylaws shall be submitted with an application (letter) to the Board of the Society requesting recognition as a chapter.” Under Article IV, Membership, Sections 1 and 2 are the same, except that the order of the categories was changed with organizational membership coming fourth. In Section 3, Chapter Membership was added to that of Section Membership. Section 4 on the Aging Coalition was deleted.

In Article V, Officers and Their Duties, Section 4 deletes the Aging Coalition. Another change occurs in the last two sentences regarding the duties of the president with the term “executive secretary” replaced by the words “clerical assistance.” The revision also gives the responsibility of maintaining the official files and transferring them to his or her successor to the president instead of the secretary.

Article VI, Board of Directors, is the same except for an additional paragraph under Section 3 which reads as follows: “Where official action in the name of the Society is desired, such proposed action must be approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall fulfill the advocacy role working for the Society in the politics of aging, to the extent that this is permissible under IRS rulings regarding tax-exempt organizations.”

A change in Section I of Article VII, Committees, deletes the four additional members of the Board of Directors as members of the Executive Committee. Section 2 on Standing Committees was also left out in this revision. Article VIII, Nominations and Elections, has a change in Section 1 which states that the Nominating Committee shall consist of five members elected at the time of the Annual Meeting. The previous bylaws had one from each Section of the Society making up the Nominating Committee. Sections 3 and 4 call for mailed ballots for all officers, Board members, members of the Nominating Committee, as well as the Section chairpersons. In Article X, Dues, the reference to Section membership is properly deleted.

**1983** The most important changes made in the 1983 revision of the bylaws were the reduction in the number of Sections and the increase in the size of the Board of Directors. Article III, Organization, reduces the number of Sections to two, as follows: 1. Research, Education, and Training and 2. Planning and Services. In Article VI, Board of Directors, Section 1 calls for 35 additional members instead of 30. Another change deals with the four seats on the Board reserved for candidates nominated but not elected to office. These shall be one year terms, unless the nominee is already serving an unexpired term on the Board in which case that term shall take precedence. In the last sentence, Figure 21 is omitted. Standing Committees are again spelled out in Section 2 of Article VII, Committees. Five committees are listed: Annual Meeting, Awards, Nominating, Finance/Budget and Legislative. It seems strange that the

Membership Committee is not given as a Standing Committee. The second paragraph of Section 2, Article VIII, Nominations and Elections, states that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be mailed out to the members of the Society at least one month before the Annual Meeting. In the 1978 revision, this Section required the Nominating Committee to publish its recommendations in the call of the Annual Meeting.

**1985** The 1985 revision of the bylaws was for the purpose of putting the ideas and recommendations that came out of the 1984 retreat into action through a change in bylaws. Article II on Purpose, clearly illustrates this effort. It lists twelve purposes of the Society. The first one was probably one of the key concepts that emerged from the presentations and discussions at the retreat. The title of Article III has been changed from "Organization" to "Board of Directors." Sections 1, 2, and 3 are the same as in the 1983 bylaws. Section 4 on Vacancies is worded differently and gives three reasons why vacancies occur. A new category, life membership, has been added to the four which made up the Society membership. Section 3 on Annual Dues is new under Membership and puts the former Article X, Dues, where it belongs. Article, V, Society Sections and Chapters, has been moved from Article III, Organization. The sections are better defined in this Article. Section 2 also requires the section officers to contact members with appropriate information about section activities. Article VI, Officers and Their Duties, is very similar to the previous bylaws except for two important additions: the vice president shall be the chairperson of the Membership Committee and the treasurer shall be the chairperson of the Finance/Budget Committee. There is a major change in Article VII, Committees: Section 2 has added two Standing Committees to ones given in the previous bylaws and has also given the responsibilities and charge of each committee. The two additions are Membership and Communications. Section 3, Elected Committees, describes the composition and function of the Nominating Committee. An additional duty is given to this committee which will be expected to mail out biographical sketches of each nominee along with their names.



## **An Overview and a Look Ahead by Louis Newmark**

*April, 1986*

The Georgia Gerontology Society was started because the participants in the forums on gerontology became impatient with just talking and wanted action. The Society was one of the first state voluntary organizations in the country. States like Michigan, Florida, and Texas with excellent programs on aging organized their state voluntary bodies on aging after Georgia. That a small organization with no office, very little paid staff, and a relatively small membership most of the years could continue to exist and accomplish what it did over a 30-year period is a remarkable achievement.

In reviewing the first ten years of the Society, it is obvious that more could have been written about the first decade if the records had been adequate. Because there were no files for the years 1955-64, the material for the Annual Meetings had to be taken from another source. The important activities are mostly from the 1962 president's report and deal mainly with the organization and work of the Atlanta chapter. The finances too were not well recorded or filed. Both the bank balances and the number of members were low in those first ten years.

In the second decade the records made it possible to describe more fully the Annual Meetings and to list important activities of the period. Outstanding was the publication of the Georgia Fact Book on Aging. Another unusual activity was the creative drama project. During this decade, considerable thought was given to the role and purpose of the Society, as well as its composition. A workshop was held for the membership to discuss this matter. A later conflict around the same problem led to the formation of ad hoc committees for the same purpose of doing something that would involve the membership and make the activities of the Society more meaningful. The second ten-year period saw the beginnings of legislative activity. As the Society grew in years, it also made progress financially and in memberships.

Regarding revisions of the bylaws, the only major change in the first decade was the introduction of chapters. In 1968 new aims were written into the bylaws.

There is no doubt that the past eleven years have been, by far, the most constructive and fruitful. The Annual Meetings were all of a very high quality. The programs offered excellent opportunities for learning and participation. The most important activities of the period, the reorganization and the retreat, have already been well covered. The addition of sections, even though the five have been reduced to two, has been a valuable step in the administration of the Society. The last report of the financial status of the organization is astounding. The leadership of the Society during the third decade should be commended for breathing new life into the organization along with materially adding to its resources.

A competent authority from another state, Dr. George L. Maddox, director, Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development, Duke University, North Carolina, wrote in a letter in 1975 to Frank Whittington, then president of the Society: "I was favorably impressed with the Georgia Gerontology Society. North Carolina would be fortunate to have such an organization and leadership.

In reading the 1985 Board of Directors file, I was struck by the early planning for 1986. At a joint meeting of the 1985 and 1986 executive committees held on November 19, 1985, the new president listed ten projects and goals for 1986. It is obvious the Society is looking ahead.

Before concluding this history, I wish to make a number of suggestions that may be added to the list. They are as follows:

- With the Society's present financial resources, it is time to establish a permanent office. Again, as funds seem to be available, this would be a good time to hire an executive secretary on a part-time basis (two days a week) at a reasonable salary. *[Editor's Note: GGS office was opened in July, 1989, and part-time Administrative Assistant Linnie Martin was hired. The physical office was closed in 1994, but staff support has been maintained continuously and the position upgraded to that of Administrative Director. Staff has teleworked since 1994.]*
- In view of the great interest and concern regarding legislative activities, a Legislative Award should be given annually to an outstanding legislator working on legislation regarding aging issues. *[Editor's Note: Legislative Award established in 1989]*
- The Society should put out a manual which would serve to provide orientation to incoming officers, Board members and committee chairpersons. The manual would spell out, in greater detail than the bylaws, the duties and responsibilities of the above mentioned persons and tell how the various parts of the organization carry out their functions. *[Editor's Note: Board notebooks with job descriptions and operational information were developed in 1994 for annual distribution and orientation of new Board members. A Policy and Procedures Manual was published in 1996]*
- In connection with bylaws revision, the next committee might consider the idea of a president-elect who could also serve as coordinator of the Annual Meeting. Another suggestion along this line would be to add two more vice presidents to the officers. The second vice president could be in charge of the mid-year forum being planned, while the third vice president could be the chairperson of the Communications Committee.
- The history brings out the extent to which the Society was involved in legislative activities. However, most of this action was carried out by the leadership, including the president. The membership doesn't seem to have done much. More could be done to correct this, if only by getting members to write or call their legislators. *[Editor's Note: Through the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project and affiliation with the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly, GGS involved full membership in legislative advocacy activities beginning in 1996].*
- Mention has been made of the inadequacy of the files. It is true that in the late 1970s and 1980s there was considerable improvement. Again, more can be done to make the records more uniform and to eliminate numerous duplications of minutes, newsletters, etc. Perhaps the manual could be used for this purpose. *[Editor's Note: Providing staff support and a virtual office has ensured more adequate records].*
- Section activities are largely limited to a few meetings. It is now about six months since the Annual Meeting and the writer has not received one bit of material regarding anything his section is doing.

Finally, the writer hopes that the information contained in this history will be of service to the Society and its membership. May the years ahead grant the Society the same kind of leadership it has had in the past, and that the organization may continue to grow and prosper while it dedicates itself to the promotion of the welfare of the aging and aged citizens in Georgia.

~ Louis Newmark



## **Chapter II**

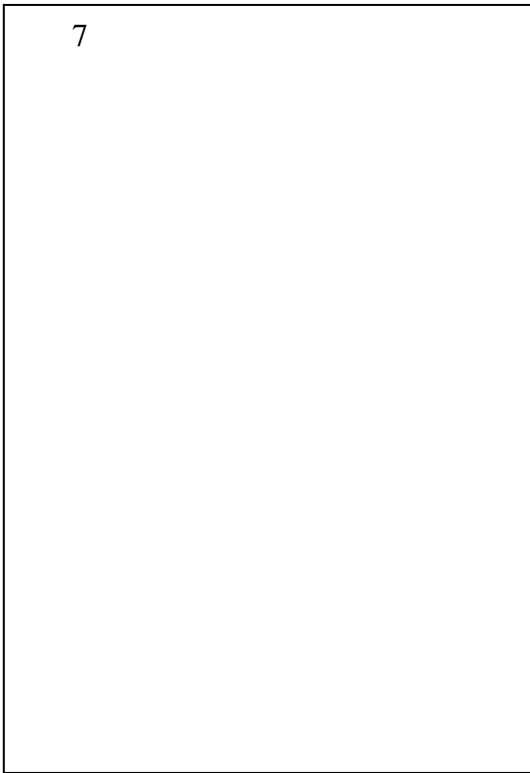
# A History of the Georgia Gerontology Society

The Fourth Decade: 1986-1994

Published by Board Communications Committee  
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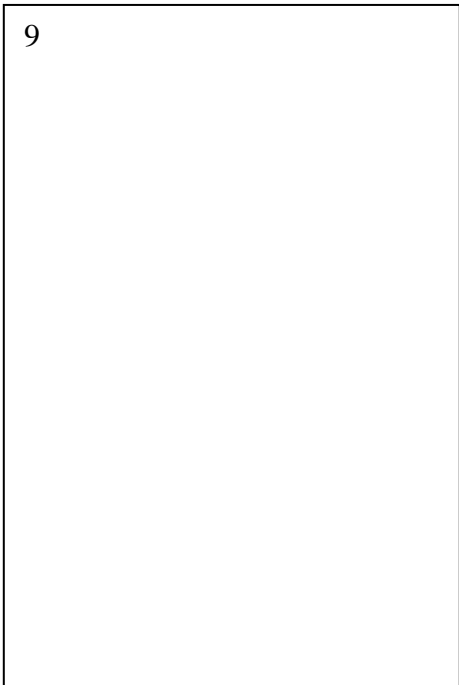




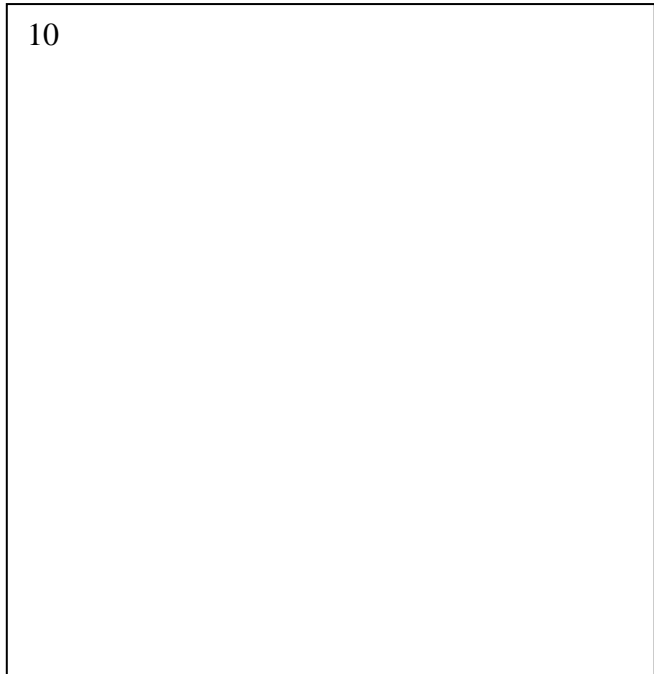
Jeannette Cummings, President,  
1985-1986  
with Chuck Pyles and Betsy Styles



Ronald W. Schoeffler, President, 1989 and 1990,  
receiving the Louis Newmark Award in 1994



Cheryll Schramm, President,  
1976-1977



Founding Directors recognized at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Celebration in 1995, (l-r) Virginia Smyth, President, 1961-  
1962; Scott Houston, Jr., President, 1962-1963; and Sophia  
Deutschberger, Athens Chapter Officer, 1964-1968

## **Important Activities (1986-1994)**

Throughout the decade the Georgia Gerontology Society took pride in promoting and coordinating its work with other local, state and national organizations and programs serving the aging, which has created renewal, growth and advancement throughout the Society. As a result of this involvement, the Georgia Gerontology Society became one of the leading state organizations for Aging Adults in the nation

### **1986**

It was discovered in 1986 that the Georgia Gerontology Society has been involuntarily dissolved as a Corporation in 1981 due to nonpayment of annual Corporate Registration fees. This oversight was, in large part, due to the voluntary nature of Board leadership and the lack of paid staff to ensure continuity of such practices. The reinstatement Incorporation Charter is dated May 1, 1981, and signed by : Julie Cohn, Barbara Payne, Cheryl Schramm, Marietta Suhart, Bradley C. Courtenay, John Curtis, Bert Skellie, Sue Whittington, and Betsy Styles.

In 1986 the Georgia Gerontology Society continued to grow and expand. In addition to its traditional activities, the Society accomplished the following:

- Established a scholarship fund;
- Increased membership by 70%;
- Compiled and printed a history of the Society, written by Louis Newmark, and a chronological listing of awards and recipients 1966-1985;
- Began developing policies and procedures to guide committee and section chairpersons and provide continuity from year to year;
- Held a mid-year forum at Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Georgia on June 4, 1986. The topic was “Housing Initiatives for the Elderly: Past, Present and Future Directions.” Dr. Leon Pastalan, University of Michigan Department of Agriculture, presented an overview of housing for the elderly plus a concept of housing for the elderly, egongenic housing, that he was currently marketing. Fifty-five persons attended the forum with 53% of those attending coming from outside Atlanta. Helen Conner served as the Mid-Year Forum Chairperson.
- Provided a pre-conference workshop at the Georgia Council on Aging on “Strategic Planning” with John Carroll and Charlie Goetz of the Atlanta consultant firm, Strategic Solutions Group.
- Created a lifetime membership category;
- Advocated on behalf of older persons. As a result of advocacy efforts of GGS and other advocacy groups, the following occurred in the 1986 Georgia General Assembly: 1. Funding for Alzheimer’s day care programs; and 2. Increased funding of the Community Care Services Program.
- Started a long range planning process for the Society;
- Provided pre-conference intensives to hone the skills of its membership;
- Published a quarterly newsletter;
- Revised and updated articles of incorporation and applied for 501(c)3 status;
- Planned and conducted a successful GGS Luncheon during the 1986 Georgia Conference on Aging.

## **1987**

In 1987, the Georgia Gerontology Society Board of Directors carried forward the work of the previous year's Board as far as working towards establishing a permanent office with a permanent staff member. According to Pick Conner, GGS's 1987 Board president, "This will be the most radical change in the Society since its beginning over 32 years ago. It will affect how we, as members, deal with our Board of Directors, and how the Board responds to our needs. I believe and I trust that this change will make our Board better informed and more effective in their decision-making."

Among the other activities of the 1987 period were the following:

- Published an updated and more comprehensive membership directory;
- Revised and improved the newsletter and put it on a more predictable schedule;
- Planned a Board retreat to provide continuity between old and new officers and Board members;
- Continued work on Policies and Procedures Manual;
- Prepared new and renewal membership packages;
- Developed a computerized membership listing;
- Hosted a management intensive titled "Gerontology: Past Present and Future" in conjunction with the Georgia Conference on Aging, conducted by Dr. Carleton Guptill.
- Planned and conducted a successful GGS luncheon during the 1987 Georgia Conference on Aging. The luncheon was well attended with 263 participants. Dr. Tom Puglisi was the speaker.
- Printed new GGS letterhead and envelopes;
- Updated GGS display for presentation at Georgia Conference on Aging and GGS Annual Meeting.

## **1988**

Assessment of GGS members, section members and Board members was the focus of 1988. The Planning and Services Section worked in cooperation with the Research, Education and Training Section to develop a survey to identify the needs and/or concerns of both sections within the Society. The findings were to be used to assist in planning future activities for each of the two sections. As a result of a GGS Board retreat facilitated by Dr. Walt Denero of UGA, the Education, Training and Research Section was mandated to survey the membership of GGS. Respondents were asked for personal history and their needs as far as training. Board members were continually assessing the financial situation of the organization during their discussions regarding "opening an office." Also, in 1988, a special commitment was made to involve a wider spectrum of advocates or older persons in the Annual Meeting.

Other important activities which occurred in 1988 including the following:

- Recruited members from diverse agencies and organizations and conducted New Member orientation at the Annual Conference;
- Promoted GGS through various agencies' newsletters;
- Contacted other state professional organizations and invited their members, who were interested in aging, to become GGS members;

- Planned and conducted a successful GGS luncheon during the 1988 Georgia Conference on Aging. The luncheon was well attended and the attendees enjoyed the presentation of Dr. Alan Hartley entitled, “Exercising Your Mind and Minding Your Exercise.”

## 1989

During 1989, many significant changes were made in GGS. A permanent office was established in Atlanta on July 16, 1989, which included employing part-time Administrative Assistant Linnie Martin. For the first time in GGS’s 34-year history, the Annual Meeting was held in Southwest Georgia. Other important activities included the following:

- Increased memberships by 61% over the previous year;
- Changed membership year from the calendar year to one year from the date of joining/renewing membership in the Society;
- Continued to develop a membership base with broad representation from the different disciplines in gerontology;
- Conducted “New Members Orientation” during the Annual Meeting and Conference;
- Presented the first GGS Scholarship Endowment Fund Award to a Graduate Student in Gerontology;
- Published the Membership Directory;
- Hosted a Hospitality Suite for GGS Members and Friends during the 1989 Georgia Conference on Aging;
- Planned and conducted a successful GGS Luncheon during the 1989 Georgia Conference on Aging. The Luncheon was well attended with 240 persons. Dr. S. Boyd Eaton served as Luncheon Speaker.
- Co-sponsored the American Society on Aging “Mental Health and Aging” Seminar;
- Established the Robert P. Wray Legislative Award to be presented annually to a legislator who has made an outstanding contribution to aging;
- Maintained organizational membership in COAGE (Coalition of Advocates for Georgia’s Elderly);
- Held regular Journal Club Meetings in the Atlanta area;
- Initiated plans to re-establish a Speakers Bureau;
- Agreed to present three one-day workshops in the spring of 1990 sponsored by the Education, Training and Research Section and the Planning and Services Section. Workshops would be designed to focus on issues relative to providers of services for the elderly;
- Adopted a three-year Annual Meeting and Conference Site Plan;
- Completed Directory of Gerontological Training Programs in Georgia;
- Developed a professional table-top display;
- Provided financial support for Senior Week at the Capitol, February 6-9, 1989;
- Co-sponsored the Georgia Older Worker Week Luncheon, March 15, 1989;
- Co-sponsored the Georgia Nutrition Council and the South Carolina Nutrition Council Annual Meeting, “Nutrition and Aging,” February 16-17, 1989 in Hilton Head, S.C.;
- Co-sponsored the American Society on Aging Annual Meeting and Conference March 18-21, 1989 in Washington, D.C.;
- Announced a cooperative arrangement with the American Society on Aging through which GGS members can subscribe to ASA publications at substantially reduced rates;

- Co-sponsored the 1989 Georgia Conference on Aging May 4-5, 1989 in Atlanta;
- Renamed the Scholarship Endowment Committee as the Student Affairs Committee. The primary purpose of the Student Affairs Committee is to oversee and integrate GGS activities for both graduate and undergraduate students in the state.

## 1990

In 1990 the following coordinated efforts were carried out:

- Provided financial support for Senior Week at the Capitol, the Georgia Older Worker Week Luncheon held in Macon, and the Georgia Conference on Aging held at Evergreen Conference Center, Stone Mountain.
- Maintained organizational membership in COAGE (Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elders) and agreed to participate in the statewide Advocacy Telephone Network.
- Conducted a successful Pre-Conference Intensive on Leadership/Management Skills during the 1990 Georgia Conference on Aging. Also, sponsored the Annual GGS Luncheon with Dr. Robert H. Binstock. Henry R. Luce, Professor of Aging, Health, and Society at Case Western Reserve University, delivering the keynote address on "The Politics and Policies Affecting Aging."
- Hosted a Hospitality Suite for GGS Members and Friends during the 1990 Georgia Conference on Aging.
- Presented two one-day workshops on "Caring from a Personal and Professional Perspective." Over 100 persons attended the workshop in Rome and over 50 persons attended the workshop in Tifton.
- Co-sponsored Senior Speakouts in Albany, Atlanta, Augusta, Gainesville, Macon, and Savannah.
- Continued a cooperative relationship with the American Society on Aging and co-sponsored the September 25, 1990 Regional Seminar on "Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment." Also, continued the cooperative arrangement whereby GGS Members can subscribe to ASA publications at substantially reduced rates.
- Joined the National Council on Aging, Inc. and assisted with promoting and hosting the October 26, 1990 New Directions Seminar in Atlanta on "Senior Center Programming/Administration."
- Presented views concerning issues related to the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act at the Region IV Forum held in Atlanta.
- Submitted testimony on funding priorities for aging services to the Georgia Board of Human Resources.
- Submitted a 1990 Discretionary Funds Program Proposal to the Administration on Aging, "Planning Services for the Aged in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."
- Continued to develop our statewide office in Atlanta with the help of Linnie Martin, Administrative Assistant. Purchased computer, printer, and related software; obtained bulk-mail permit and office insurance; prepared Form 990 Tax Return; and conducted Annual Audit of the organization's finances. Increased Administrative Assistant's hours of employment to 20 hours per week and upgraded position to Administrative Director.
- Held regular Journal Club Meetings in the Atlanta area.



## 1991

The demands of staff duties were recognized with a change in job title from Administrative Assistant to Administrative Director.

- Acquired a volunteer accountant to assist with taxes and reorganization of financial records.
- Published and distributed a quarterly newsletter, focusing on growth in variety, quality and scope of articles. The expanded newsletter improved the services of the society by offering current news from members across the state, statewide news, and GGS activities.
- The Communication Committee, chaired by Linda Garcia, secured sponsors and advertisers for the newsletter, funding the expansion and improvement efforts.
- Co-sponsored the President's Reception during the Southern Gerontological Society's 1991 Annual Meeting and Conference in Atlanta and began to prepare for a joint conference to be held in 1994 in Atlanta.
- Sponsored one-day workshops: "Today's Options for Successful Caregiving" in Augusta and "Aging-Positively!" in Columbus. These workshops were planned and designed by the local community, using local resources when possible and reached 220 persons.
- During 1991 a proposal to the Georgia Legislature was approved to recognize Gerontology Month in Georgia which was later approved to establish October as Gerontology Month.

## 1992

- With the resignation of GGS' first Administrative Director Linnie Martin, the Board hired Walter Coffey.
- The Society experimented with new methods of raising funds with a Silent Auction, which not only raised funds but established greater camaraderie among the members.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, established special interest forums for Case Management, Health and International Aging in order to include a more statewide membership in job-specific ongoing activity.
- The International Aging Section met throughout the year to share information and coordinated a presentation on "Elderly Health Care in China" with Dr. Annette Bairan.
- The Membership Committee supported the formation of new chapters in Brunswick and Savannah to promote local networking.
- The Education, Training and Research Section, chaired by Catherine Healey, was revitalized and developed a new mission to provide a network for educators, trainers, researchers, and students to present research projects, to provide educational strategies and resources for staff development, and to promote lifelong learning.
- An Annual Board Retreat was held to develop goals and objectives for the coming year, and special orientation was held for new Board members.
- GGS continued to support regular Journal Club Meetings in the Atlanta area.

## 1993

- The Annual Board Retreat was held in Atlanta, with each committee and section establishing goals for service and growth during the year.

- GGS maintained membership and advocacy participation in CO-AGE.
- Speakers Bureau was developed and guidelines prepared for those who wished to volunteer.
- The Case Management Special Interest Forum, chaired by Nancy Morrison, conducted regional meetings in many parts of the state, planned a pre-conference intensive for the Annual Conference and conducted training on “Mental Health Functioning of Persons over 60.”
- The new Health Special Interest Forum, chaired by Ellen Smith, drew participation from around the state in developing their Health Partnerships Project with results published through their Extend Your Hand: Don’t Duplicate – Cooperate guidebook and concurrent session.
- The Society co-sponsored a one-day workshop “Relating with Difficult People” with the Savannah Chapter.
- The Awards Committee, Chaired by Lucy Whelchel, developed the Marietta Suhart Award to be presented to the individual who demonstrated ability to educate para-professionals, professionals, and others in the field of aging, as well as provide leadership and vision in gerontology by the development and/or expansion of educational programs.
- The Awards Committee instituted remembrance of deceased members during the Awards Banquet.
- The GGS Legislative Committee was very active and coordinated strong advocacy efforts on behalf of National Long Term Care, as well as local aging legislation.
- GGS supported the regular meetings, network, and training events of the Journal Club in Atlanta, chapters in Brunswick and Savannah, and the Health, International Aging, Non-Profit Management, and Case Management Special Interest Forums. Board officers participated in the chapters and Forums and provided interim leadership when necessary.
- Membership Committee, chaired by Deborah Wilkinson, nearly doubled membership as a result of strong efforts to maintain a statewide presence through training events, the advocacy network efforts, sections meetings, chapter involvement, and targeted training within the annual conference for each of these special audiences.
- GGS continued networking with the American Society on Aging resulted in an ASA-sponsored intensive prior to the GGS Annual Conference: “Angry Older Clients and Families.”

## 1994

- President Kathryn Fowler coordinated a Transition Meeting for the outgoing and incoming Executive Committees to involve the Committee Section and Chapter leadership for the next year in planning their work for continued progress.
- The annual Board retreat resulted in development of a focused Annual Plan to increase service throughout the State to involve a diverse membership in GGS training, activities, committees, chapters, and interest forums.
- Job descriptions for staff and officers were developed, and each Committee developed a Work Plan and Budget to accomplish its annual goal.
- Special Interest Forums and Chapters were given full voting status on the Board as Sections and Chapters with appointed representatives.

- Attention was focused on the organization and function of the Board as its membership expanded and diversified. To assist with continuity, the Executive Committee created Board notebooks to be distributed annually to all new members. It included the GGS History, By-Laws, membership rosters, and job description for each officer and committee.
- Communication systems were established with the Board committees, chapters, and forums to meet their financial and reporting needs and to guide new groups on GGS affiliation.
- The partnership with the American Society on Aging continued as we co-sponsored the ASA Summer Series on Aging in Atlanta, which was repeated again in 1995.
- The Society hosted a membership luncheon at the Georgia Division of Aging Conference.
- GGS supported the regular meetings, network, and training events of the Journal Club in Atlanta, chapters in Brunswick and Savannah, and the Health, International Aging, Non-Profit Management, and Case Management Sections.
- The decision was made to give up the rented office space in order to save on this unnecessary expenditure. Board and committee meetings had outgrown the space, and the Society was successful in partnering with other organizations for space for those meetings. Administrative Director Walter Coffey was given permission to work from his home.
- GGS purchased new computer/fax/modem equipment and software to maintain our membership rolls and financial records, develop publications and allow our membership to network more easily with our staff.
- Membership rates were simplified to include more conference attendance, chapter, and section membership.

## **Membership (1986-1994)**

### **1986**

During 1986, the membership of GGS increased by 70% (266 paid members). New members were recruited from diverse agencies and organizations. Renewal membership and new member packages were developed, and a “New Members Orientation” was planned to be conducted at the Annual Meeting. A computerized membership directory was also developed.

### **1987**

The Membership Committee for 1987 was composed of 11 members representing all regions of the state. A new membership brochure was developed. GGS membership was promoted in various agencies’ newsletters. Membership increased by 15% to 287 paid members, including 39 organizational and 231 individual. During 1987 other state professional organizations were contacted and invited to join GGS.

### **1988**

Membership remained relatively stable in 1988. However, during this year the GGS Board made a special commitment to involve a wider spectrum of advocates of older persons in the Annual Meeting. This resulted in additional workshops of interest to persons not previously involved in the Society. The result of this initial commitment was evident the following year.

### **1989**

Memberships increased by 61% in 1989, to 323 paid members (with 51 organizational and 272 individual), and many factors contributed to this influx. Among the reasons was the greater visibility of GGS throughout the state and the increase in activity this year. For the first time in GGS’ 34-year history, the Annual Meeting was held in the southwest part of the state. Activities ranged from sponsoring numerous events to presenting the first GGS Scholarship Endowment Fund Award. This year a permanent statewide office in Atlanta was established.

### **1990**

During 1990 membership was increased to 391 for the first time in the history of the Society. 54 Organizational members and 337 individual members included a broad representation from different disciplines in gerontology throughout the state. The Membership roster was computerized.

### **1991**

Enrolment dropped to 206 members, with 42 organizational members and 164 individual members. The new members recruited when the Conference traveled to Southwest Georgia did not translate into renewals. A database for membership was established in the GGS office and a Membership Directory was prepared and distributed. Board members renewed efforts to recruit members in their home communities.

## **1992**

The Society continued to maintain a membership base of over 196 members: 36 organizational and 260 individual. A strategy was developed to establish interest-specific Special Interest Forums and local Chapters to boost membership and membership services, and Board officers devoted significant time and energy to supporting the strategy.

## **1993**

In 1993 membership increased to 335, with 53 organizations and 282 individuals enrolled. The expansion of services through chapters and special interest forums accounted for most of the growth. A new membership brochure was prepared and Membership Directory distributed. One organization and two individuals enrolled in the new Lifetime Membership category.

## **1994**

Membership grew to 372, with 62 organizational and 310 individual members. A new membership brochure was developed as well as a new GGS display. Georgia Power became a corporate partner to sponsor publication of the Directory. The Membership Committee developed a simplified system of enrollment which allows unlimited conference attendance and membership rates for organizational members and membership in at least one section or chapter for each member and a designate of each organization.

## **Finances (1986-1994)**

### **1986**

Due to the extraordinary growth and increased activities of the Society, the 1986 Finance Committee proposed an amended budget of \$9,400.00. An important task during the year was the review of GGS' tax exemption status. As a result, the Society revised and updated articles of incorporation and applied for 501(c)3 status. Other financial activities during the year included securing a safe deposit box for the Society's articles of incorporation and certificates of deposit and transferring a matured certificate of deposit to C&S Banks so that all GGS savings and checking accounts are handled by the same bank chain. Assets for the year totaled \$24,627.59.

### **1987**

Income totaled \$10,231.30 with the three primary areas of income: membership; Annual Meeting profits; and scholarship contributions. In 1987, membership yielded \$5,765.00 while the 1986 Annual Meeting brought \$3,065.00. Hence, the total assets for that year, including CDs, were \$22,344.46. Expenditures totaled \$8,148.93, excluding the annual meeting.

### **1988**

The year 1988 proved to be a very good year with a total income of \$16,744.75: memberships increased to \$8,035.00 and Annual Meeting profits doubled from the previous year to \$7,059.68. Expenses were also lower (\$5,115.26) giving the Society a boost in year-end assets to \$35,949.66.

### **1989**

Despite the added expense of paid staff (as of July 1, 1989), the Society's upward trend continued with assets totaling \$38,634.12. Total cash income was \$12,421.04, with memberships at \$5,620.00 and Annual Meeting profits, at \$5,370.22. With total expenses of \$12,697.32 (excluding conference expenses), the increase in the value of 4 CDs accounted for the increase in assets.

### **1990**

Beginning with this year, the Society became more fiscally sound as the finances of the Society steadily increased with growth in membership and generation of more income by the annual conference. Beginning cash balance was \$3,394.05, and cash income for the year totaled \$23,643.70, with \$4,910 from membership, \$11,056.63 from proceeds of the annual conference and 3 mid-year conferences. Expenses totaled slightly more than revenue at \$26,732.41. By 1990, the Society had over \$29,000 invested in three CDs.

### **1991**

In 1991 total income was \$36,152, including beginning cash balance of \$305.34, memberships of \$7,161, and \$22,123.08 income from 2 annual and 2 mid-year conferences. Expenditures totaled \$27,437, leaving an ending cash balance of \$2,322, plus four CDs equal to \$25,638.36.

### **1992**

Total income was \$52,415.69, including: a beginning cash balance of \$2,322.44; memberships of \$7509.00; annual and mid-year conference proceeds of \$31,600.86; and miscellaneous other sources. Expenses were \$39,750.06 leaving a rebuilt checking account year end balance of \$10,404 and two CDs valued at \$16,391.19. The disposition of the other 2 CDs is not explained in the financial report.

### **1993**

The year 1993 proved to be a growth year with membership fees rising to \$12,873 and conference and workshop generating \$39,137. With a beginning cash balance of \$10,404.04, total income for the year was \$66,154.29. Expenses ran only \$50,648 leaving a balance of \$15,505. The value of the 2 CDs was \$17,216.96.

### **1994**

In 1994 income totaled \$59,503.90 including a beginning cash balance of \$15,505.89; memberships of \$9,456, training proceeds of \$32,605.50, and other miscellaneous income. Expenses totaled \$48,487 leaving a balance of \$11,016 plus 2 CDs with combined value of \$17,995.

## **Annual Meetings (1986-1994)**

During the fourth decade the Annual Meetings continued to be the highlight in the life of the Society, offering opportunities to coordinate with other organizations, to broaden the impact of the Society by being more inclusive and to enable members with diverse interests and areas of expertise to interact and network

### **1986**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 1-3, 1986 at Unicoi State Park in Helen, Georgia. The conference theme, “The New Elderly: A Challenge for Change,” was reflected in all aspects of the conference from the two pre-conference intensives- “Marketing Aging Programs” and “Destroying Old Stereotypes: Gaining New Perspectives”- to innovative concurrent sessions like, “A Unique Approach: Churches and Communities Working Together,” or “Housing Alternatives for a Changing Society.” The keynote address- “From Generation to Generation: Generating New Ways of Living”- was presented by Mildred Seltzer, Ph.D., Director of Education and Training, Scripps Foundation Gerontology Center and Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. One of the highlights of the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting was Oktoberfest.

### **1987**

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 7-9, 1987 at the Chamblee/Dunwoody Holiday Inn in Atlanta, chaired by Cathie Berger. The conference theme was, “Multiple Choices: An Examination of the Options.” Keynote symposia, introducing the three tracks of the program, represented a new feature. The keynote symposia were followed by 24 concurrent sessions arranged within the tracks. Ms. Elaine Brody was the keynote speaker for the Plenary Session and Dr. Paul Kershner was the guest speaker at the Closing Luncheon. Ten organizations placed ads in the Annual Meeting program and there were 23 exhibitors.

### **1988**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 5-7 1988 at the Holiday Inn West, Augusta, Georgia, with Ronald Schoeffler serving as chair. The conference theme, “Synergy: Power for the Future,” was reflected in both the Opening Plenary Session- “Introduction to Synergy” and in the keynote address- “The Elderly: Our Link with the Past”- which were both presented by Irene Burnside, internationally known teacher, writer and speaker. Three pre-conference intensives included: Church, Synagogue, and Community: A Statewide Model for Continuing Education Training in Religion and Aging; Georgia Silver Hair Legislature Forum: Legislative Advocacy; and Grant Writing Workshop. Highlights of this conference were the President’s Reception and “Princess Augusta” Riverboat Cruise/Dance on the Great Savannah River and the Awards Banquet at the Sacred Heart Cultural Center.



## **1989**

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 4-6, 1989 at the Heritage House Hotel, Albany, Georgia, chaired by Virginia Griffin. The conference theme, "Aging: Make It A Good Life," combined the positive aspects of aging with the site of the Annual Meeting- "Albany, the Good Life City," since this was the first time GGS held the annual conference in Albany. The keynote session, "Samantha Rastles the Woman Question," was a one-woman performance featuring Jane Curry. Three pre-conference intensives featured: Clergy and Aging Collaboration; Alzheimer's Disease; and National Health Insurance- A Panel Discussion, which was presented by the Georgia Silver Haired Legislature. The Closing Brunch featured guest speaker Fred McGinnis, Director of the DHR Office of Aging. The President's Reception, held at the Albany Museum of Art, was one of the highlights of the conference.

## **1990**

In 1990 the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education in Athens with over 250 members in attendance. The conference, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, had as its theme "Aging- Visions for the '90s." Dr. Paul Kerchner, Senior Vice President of the National Council on Aging, Inc. gave the keynote address- "Visions for the Nineties." Pre-conference intensives focused on legal and ethical considerations in decisions on medical treatment, creative interventions, and positive solutions to working with older clients. The Silver Haired Legislature also held a pre-conference session.

Marietta Suhart chaired the program committee and developed concurrent workshops which covered a wide variety of topics including long term care, evaluation of in-home services, legal and financial issues of the '90s, managing stress, adult day care and Alzheimer's disease. Orientation of new members was held in addition to the Annual Meeting, and the President's Reception was held in the Conservatory of the State Botanical Garden.

## **1991**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held October 9-11, 1991 at the Sheraton Savannah Resort Hotel, Savannah, Georgia, chaired by Sherrie Abbot and Marian Conway. The theme- "Sailing Into Successful Aging- Who Said It's a Breeze," set the stage for the conference to focus on policies, programs, trends, and resources as they impact on the broad range of issues and concerns of older Georgians. The keynote address and closing address were given by Dr. JoAnn Cannon, President of Inward Bound Ventures, a professional trainer in the wellness movement. In addition to a wide variety of intensives and workshops, the conference focused on individual and community resources for meeting the needs of older persons. New member orientation, the Annual Business Meeting and the annual Award Banquet were also held during the conference.

## **1992**

On October 18-20, 1992 the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of GGS was held at the Hilton Hotel, Columbus, co-chaired by Gary Arthur, Cindy Ford, and Meg Bradley. The theme, "Being the Best You Can Be," focused the conference on meeting the needs of older Georgians physically, mentally and spiritually. The keynote address was given by Dr. Mary S. Harper, Coordinator for Long Term Care, National Institute of Mental Health who spoke on "Helping Yourself to Good Health." Two other outstanding speakers were Max Cleland, Georgia's Secretary of State, and

Hope Mihalap, a nationally-acclaimed humorist. In addition to extensive exhibits, a very successful silent auction was held as a fundraiser, and the Awards Banquet highlighted professionals and non-professionals.

### **1993**

The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at Epworth-by-the-Sea on September 29-30 and October 1, 1993 with the theme “Generation to Generation: Bridging the Spectrum” was attended by approximately 260 persons. The Program Committee, chaired by Mary McKinnon, developed a program utilizing tracks around the program theme. The Logistics Committee, chaired by Deborah Wilkinson, coordinated local arrangements, registration, special events, and exhibitors/advertisers and budget with the Program Committee. The conference was a success due to the efforts of the committee members both in Atlanta and the coastal area. The work done by the members of the two chapters located in Savannah and Glynn County was invaluable. On the day preceding the conference a full day intensive on “Angry Older Clients” and a half day intensive on “Creative Techniques for Successful Program Management” were held. The keynote address, “Generation to Generation” was given by Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, J.D., Founder and Executive Director of the Maryland Student Service Alliance which helps young people serve their community. Dr. Sally Newman, Executive Director of Generation Together, University of Pittsburg, gave the closing address on “Intergenerational Programs.” This year was the first year that all registrations and bill paying were handled out of the central office.

The Annual Meeting and Conference Committee developed a notebook with samples of information helpful in the development of a GGS Annual Meeting to be shared with the committee for 1994.

### **1994**

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held September 11-13, 1994 at Unicoi State Park, Helen, Georgia, was chaired by Linda Garcia and Pat Viles Freeman. The keynote address was delivered by Judy Baskins, Director of Palmetto Senior Center, Columbia, South Carolina who described “The Pace Initiative” a Long Term Care Capitation Model. The closing address was given by Terence Kay, author of the best selling novel, *To Dance With the White Dog*. Two well attended half-day intensives preceded the conference entitled “Innovative Approaches to Case Management” and “Why Health Care Reform- Why Now.” A wide variety of subjects in health care, elder abuse, incontinence, spirituality, injuries and safety, gay and lesbian elderly, wellness, elder rights, and successful aging were covered by the very successful concurrent sessions. The Health Section promoted daily morning health walks and also a Health Section Breakfast to promote increased interest in education and research, as well as service planning and delivery in aging. One of the highlights of the conference was a most enjoyable evening with the incomparable actress Carol Mitchell Leon.

## **Revisions of the Bylaws (1986 – 1994)**

After a decade without revision, the ByLaws were completely reviewed and extensively revised to simplify the format, to allow for growth of membership activities throughout the state, and to define the work of the Board committees.

### **1989**

The “Georgia Gerontology Society Student Scholarship” was renamed the “Dr. Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship” and the “Dr. Robert P. Wray Legislative Award” as the “Georgia Gerontology Society Legislative Award.”

### **1991**

Bylaws were extensively revised to allow for Special Interest Forums and to expand the role of the Communication Committee to update GGS History.

### **1994**

Special Interest Forums were given full status as Sections with Board representation, Chapters were given full status with Board representation, the system of terms and rotations was simplified and the work of various committees was defined.



## **Chapter III**

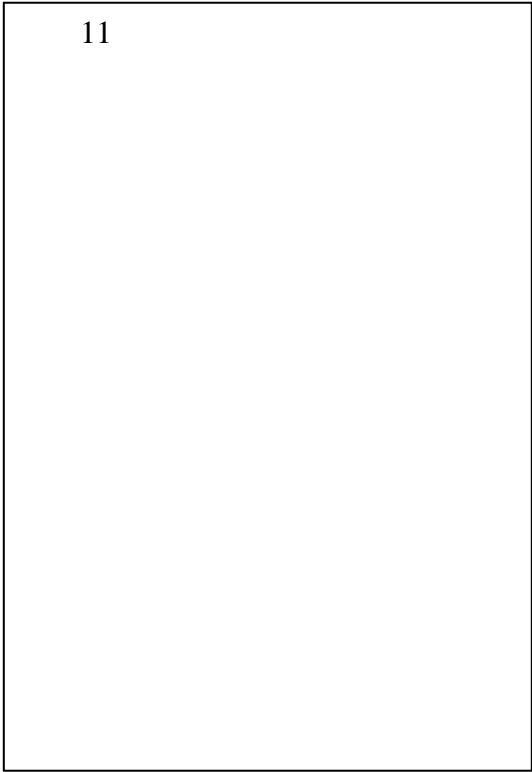
# A History of the Georgia Gerontology Society

The Fifth Decade: 1995-2004

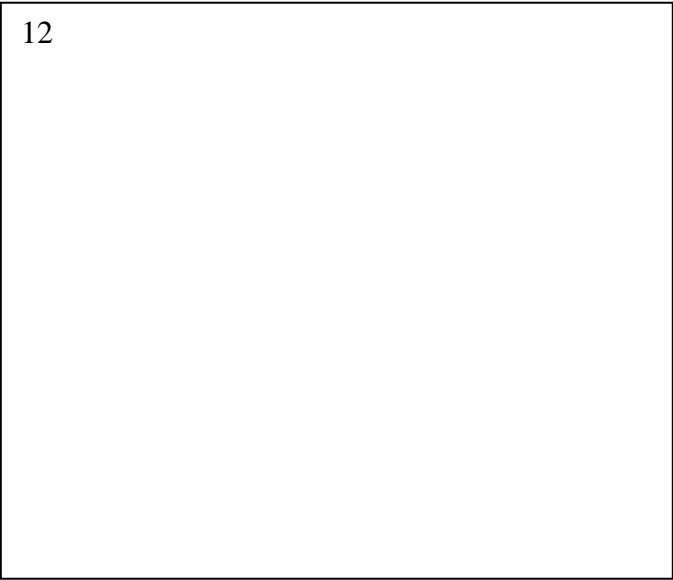
Published July, 2005

By: Kathryn D. Fowler  
With the support of the  
Athens Community Council on Aging  
Athens, Georgia

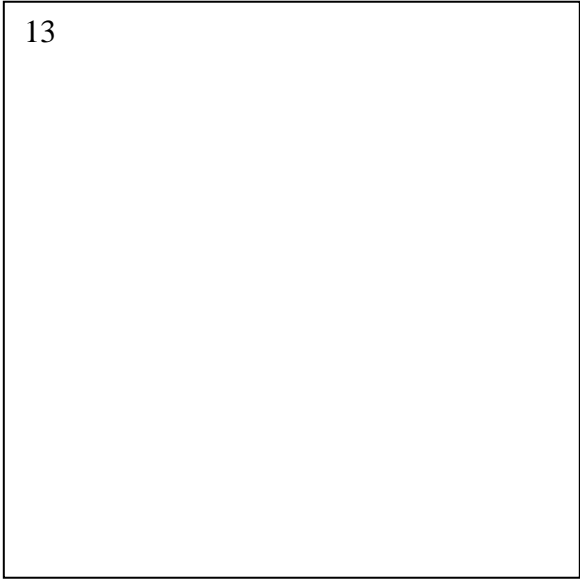




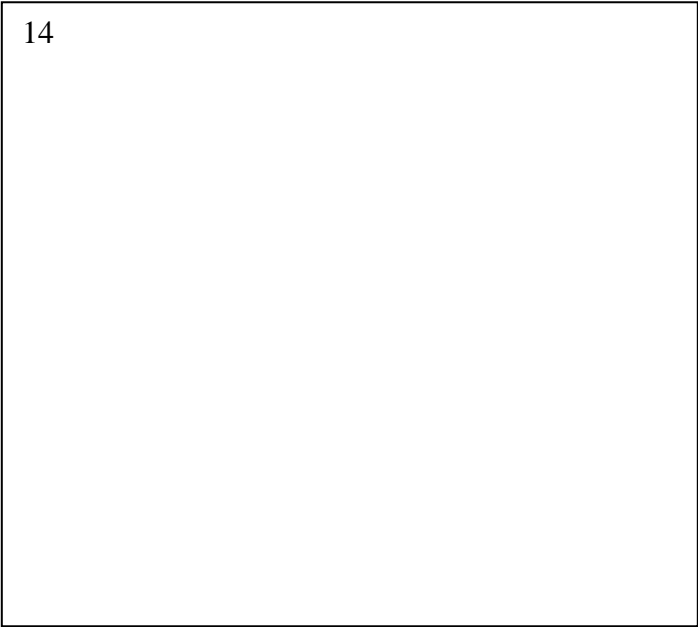
Pictured winning the 2003 Elsie Alvis Award is Kay Hind



(l-r) Kathryn Fowler, President, 1993 and 1994; Deborah Wilkinson, President, 1995 and 1996; and Walter Coffey, GGS Administrative Director



Receiving the 2001 Elsie Alvis and Lewis Newmark Awards are Cathie Berger, President, 1997-1998 (l) and Maureen Kelly, President, 2005



Pictured at the 1995 Conference are Dr. David Levine and Maria Greene of the Georgia Council on Aging

## **Important Activities (1995-2004)**

### **1995**

GGG celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> year with a variety of educational activities and networks which operated throughout the state. Highlights of the year:

- A Strategic Planning Retreat, facilitated by Lucy Whelchel, examined the Society's future directions and developed priorities.
- Four active sections met in local communities and at the statewide conference: Case Management; Education, Training & Research; Health; and International Aging.
- Two active chapters met in Savannah/Chatham County and in Brunswick/Glynn County.
- Continued membership growth reached our goal of exceeding 400 members.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, created a complete history of GGG Awards and all Award winners for which written records could be located.
- The Awards Committee recognized GGG Founders with special plaques and published biographical information and pictures of those for whom the awards were named in the Awards Program for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.
- The Student Affairs Committee, chaired by Dr. Nancy Kropf, hosted a student luncheon with the financial support of Jewish Social Services in Atlanta and coordinated free attendance at the annual conference for the students winning scholarship and paper presentation awards.
- The Savannah Chapter, chaired by Louis Heyward, sponsored a workshop "Linking Generations" and held a Christmas luncheon to raise funds for a local family.
- The Glynn Chapter, chaired by Patricia Whitmore, held quarterly meetings featuring different agencies in the community to share information and network effectively.
- The Legislative Committee, co-chaired by Ellie Crosby and Allan Goldman, updated its mission and function, resulting in a name change to Legislation and Public Policy Committee.
- The Legislation and Public Policy Committee co-sponsored the "Buck Stops Here Campaign" to reach state legislators, and co-sponsored the GGG Day at the Capitol.
- The Legislation and Public Policy Committee presented an advocacy workshop at the GGG Annual Conference and at the Athens Community Council on Aging.
- GGG maintained an organizational membership in CO-AGE and coordinated advocacy efforts with CO-AGE priorities.
- GGG worked with the Georgia Council on Aging, the Georgia Division of Aging Services, and the Atlanta Regional Commission to develop and administer an advocacy contract to monitor the work of the Georgia General Assembly and publish the Senior Issues Newsletter.
- GGG produced and distributed quarterly GGG newsletters to the membership under the guidance of the Communications Committee, co-chaired by Catherine Ivy and Barbara McBrayer-Brice.
- The Communications Committee published a special GGG newsletter which was used in conjunction with the American Society on Aging annual conference in Atlanta.
- The Communications Committee published an updated Society history, adding the 1985 – 1995 period to Louis Newmark's history of the first three decades.

- The Health Section, co-chaired by Diane Manheim and Marsha Jaroch, partnered with the Georgia Geriatrics Society for a pre-conference intensive.

## **1996**

The Board plan of work resulted in numerous accomplishments:

- Board strategic planning resulted in the approval of a new mission statement and the adoption of a new slogan: Promoting Quality Leadership in Aging.
- The Executive Committee produced a Policies and Procedures Manual which established financial, personnel, Board, committee, chapter, and section policies and procedures necessary for smooth and legal operation as the Society grows and diversifies.
- Employed David Pollan as the part-time attorney for the Senior Advocacy Project, a joint legislative advocacy project instituted with the Georgia Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the Georgia Council on Aging.
- New sections were encouraged with Board outreach and development of a Fact Sheet on how to start a Section. Individual officers worked to support members' efforts to start a Long Term Care Section and a Private, Non-Profit Administrator's Section.
- New Chapters were encouraged, and a Fact Sheet on how to start a Chapter was made available.
- The Advocacy & Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Ellie Crosby and Allan Goldman, conducted an advocacy workshop for the Central Savannah River AAA and assisted with the planning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summit Meeting of the Georgia Coalition on Aging & Disabilities.
- GGS continued to work with CO-AGE to identify and support legislative and funding priorities with the Georgia General Assembly.
- The Silent Auction at the Annual Conference raised money for the Senior Advocacy Project.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Communications Committee, co-chaired by Catherine Ivy and Sandra Lieberman, added new columns and columnists to the newsletter, re-named "The Society Pages."
- The Communications Committee developed a marketing packet for newsletter sponsorship and advertisement.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Cathie Berger, hosted the GGS luncheon at the Georgia Conference on Aging with speaker Gerald Durley, Ph.D., the director of the Health Promotion Resource Center of the Morehouse School of Medicine and Co-Director of the Atlanta Interfaith Health Project at the Carter Center.
- The Membership Committee developed packets for Board members to utilize in recruitment in their hometowns.
- The Case Management Section, co-chaired by Lucia Comer and Catherine Ivy, continued to hold area meetings throughout the state and conducted a lunch and learn workshop on guardianship, Probate Court, and Adult Protective Services.
- The Health Section, co-chaired by Doris Kittle and Julia Johnson, published The Geriatric Assessment Tool Book.
- The International Aging Section, chaired by Ann Dandridge, celebrated Chinese New Year and participated in international events in Atlanta.

- The Education, Training, and Research Section, co-chaired by Nancy Gabrielsen and Margaret Caufield, surveyed its membership concerning backgrounds and interests. Among other things learned was the diversity of the Section, with 46% working in private nonprofit organizations and 32% in colleges or universities.

## 1997

With Board committees, chapter, and sections active, the following were highlights of the year:

- The Communications Committee brought a new look to the Society's quarterly newsletter, returning to the name "In Focus," expanding its scope, content, and format.
- The Awards Committee, co-chaired by Cliff Burt and Vicki Pilgrim, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Legislation and Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Ellie Crosby and Allan Goldman, provided direction for 2 part-time attorneys in the Senior Advocacy Project to monitor the Georgia Legislative Session and prepare weekly publications of the *Senior Issues Newsletter*.
- The Legislation and Public Policy Committee worked closely with CO-AGE to include GGS members in adopting and advocating for state legislative priorities and monitored and reported on federal issues related to Medicare solvency, the Balanced Budget Amendment, health insurance portability and the Older Americans Act.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Sandra Lieberman, surveyed the membership which provided input to the Society on priorities: more opportunities for networking, with special interest in the areas of management, business issues, advocacy, and state-of-the-art programs.
- The Student Affairs Committee, co-chaired by Jill Hayes and Pick Connor, sponsored the Student Luncheon during the annual meeting, and conducted the application and selection process for the Wray Scholarship and the Graduate and Undergraduate Paper Awards.
- The Case Management Section, co-chaired by Glenda Gandy and Mary Lou Vergara, convened regional meetings and sponsored four educational meetings at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta to focus on service models of Case Management.
- The Case Management Section's network meetings resulted in a plan to evaluate Case Management Certification options, organize study groups, and arrange for testing.
- The Health Section, co-chaired by Fran Perrault and Ellen Smith, partnered with ProHealth Seniors Task Force to sponsor a breakfast meeting with Dr. John Banja, a medical ethicist, to address ethical issues in managed care.
- The Education, Training and Research Section, co-chaired by Nancy Gabrielson and Margaret Caufield, sponsored a lunch and learn on "Program Marketing Techniques" at the conference.
- The Long Term Care Coalition became a GGS Section in 1997 and continued its traditional lunch and learn series with Dr. Jim Cooney discussing the Georgia Coalition for Health in March and the Georgia Medical Care Foundation providing an overview of managed care programs in July.
- The Non-Profit Management Section, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, became an official GGS Section in 1997 after meeting at the GGS Conference since 1995. Representatives from 16 organizations joined for quarterly opportunities for networking, consulting with one another on issues relevant to their agencies, developing collaborative partnerships for



reducing operating costs, and providing technical assistance with implementation of federal and state initiatives.

- The Savannah/Chatham Chapter, chaired by Louis Heyward, collaborated with AARP to organize the Georgia Senior Expo and held quarterly meetings to provide members with legislative updates, discuss topics of interest, and involve new members.

## 1998

The board officers lead committees, sections, and chapters in a very active year:

- The Georgia Gerontology Society Scholarship Fund was formally launched at the 1998 Annual Meeting to provide scholarships for graduate study in gerontology, leadership development in the field of aging and advanced training to enhance services to older adults. The Fund was begun by the Scholarship Fund Committee, chaired by Cathie Berger, with initial contributions from GGS Founder Virginia Smyth and Board members, and is administered by The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Inc. A goal of \$50,000 was set.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Becky Kurtz and Allan Goldman, continued to provide direction for the Senior Advocacy Project
- GGS participated strongly in statewide advocacy efforts on GGS-identified issues and on those legislative priorities adopted through participation in CO-AGE.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Cliff Burt, established a new Case Management Award, named in honor of Dan Hickman, to be given for the first time in 1999.
- The newly-formed Development committee, chaired by Maureen Kelly, expanded opportunities for sponsorships, exhibits, and advertising during the Annual Meeting and established new relationships among the public, non-profit, and private sectors serving older adults.
- With the support of the Development Committee, a new Section for Business and Aging was established during 1998.
- The Student Affairs Committee, co-chaired by Jill Hayes and Mary MacKinnon, sponsored the student luncheon during the annual meeting and held a “Career Information Exchange” prior to the conference opening session. The Exchange, sponsored by AARP and Jewish Family and Career Services, included 10 roundtable discussion centers with representatives of various aging fields at each table.
- The Case Management Section held networking meetings three times during the year and sponsored a workshop at the Annual Meetings.
- The Case Management Section also held area meetings in Atlanta, Athens, and Macon. In Atlanta, the Section examined the case management models in hospice and managed care settings and held a training session on the use of assessment tools. In Athens and Macon, the Section reviewed the use of assessment tools, discussed CCSP and legislative issues.
- *In Focus* newsletter was published quarterly by the Communications Committee, co-chaired by Vicki Pilgrim and Bard Lindeman.
- Georgia Power again published the Membership Directory.
- The Health Section, chaired by Fran Perrault and Ellen Smith, sponsored two networking and education breakfasts in collaboration with the ProHealth for Seniors Task Force which reached 60 to 80 individuals. Dr. Rao, a Grady Hospital physical, made a presentation on the emergence of multi-culture aging as an important issues in Georgia, and Margo Geller presented “Growing older and wiser: Addressing depression by building self-esteem.”

- The Multi-Cultural Aging Section (re-named from International Aging) coordinated a well-attended Annual Conference seminar with 11 speakers speaking about aging in their countries and sponsored students from 20 countries who attended the President's Reception.
- The Long-Term Care Section continued its lunch and learn programs and presented an Annual Conference workshop, "Planning for your Long Term Care, NOW!"
- The Non-Profit Management Section, chaired by Kathryn Fowler, held quarterly meetings with 14 participating agencies, focusing on issues including personnel policies and regulations, the establishment of food buying cooperatives, fund-raising, and financial accounting software packages. Members shared information concerning current issues such as transportation unification, the new state reporting requirements, changes due to consolidation of areas, health insurance plans, home care licensure, and legislative issues affecting non-profits.

## 1999

Board officers lead the membership in the following activities:

- The Awards Committee, chaired by Cliff Burt, gave the first Dan Hickman Case Management Award at the Annual Conference.
- The Awards Committee solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Becky Kurtz and Allan Goldman, remained active in CO-AGE, sending advocacy alerts to the membership, and providing direction for the Senior Advocacy Project.
- The Development committee's attention to sponsorships, exhibits, and advertising during the Annual Meeting increased participation with new partners in the public, non-profit, and fast growing private sector serving older adults.
- The Scholarship Fund continued to grow, ending the year with a \$25,000 balance. It was administered by The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta.
- The Student Affairs committee conducted paper and scholarship competitions, awarding two graduate paper awards and the Robert P. Wray Scholarship at the annual meeting.
- The Communications Committee published the quarterly newsletter, *In Focus*.
- The Case management Section held network meetings and coordinated a special program with case managers of Visiting Nurse Health System on "Person-Centered" Case Management.
- The Health Section, chaired by Nancy White and Bonnie Smith, published an updated Geriatric Assessment Tool Book and Senior Community Success Stories booklet.
- The Business & Aging Section met 3 times and considered plans to share resource lists with business partners and develop relationships with the Society of Human Resources Managers.
- The Multi-Cultural Section held a program on "Multi-Cultural Competence in Health Care" with Dr. Ruth Garrett at Armstrong Atlantic State University.
- Georgia Power continued to sponsor printing of the Membership Directory.
- The Non-Profit Management Section, chaired by Norman Graves, held quarterly meetings with 14 participating agencies, focusing on issues including financial accounting software, audit firms, Board recruitment and function, and coordinated transportation.

## 2000

- The Student Affairs Committee, co-chaired by Jill Hayes and Mary MacKinnon, raised an all-time high of \$3,000 for the Scholarship Fund with a Silent Auction at the Annual Conference.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Becky Kurtz and Allan Goldman, administered the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project, supervising attorneys Joleen Neel and Janice Barrocas in monitoring the General Assembly and publishing *Senior Issues Newsletter*.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee identified and proposed advocacy adopted by the GGS Board, including osteoporosis education and assistive technology funding, and provided testimony to the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Home and Community-Based Services.
- A full audit was completed with no deficiencies.
- The Student Affairs/Scholarship Fund Committee grew the Fund with Board and member solicitation, a Summer Brunch fundraising event, and the Silent Auction. By year-end, the Fund reached a balance of \$33,500.
- The Student Affairs Committee conducted the call for papers for undergraduate and graduate students and issued a call for Robert P. Wray Scholarship applications, with announcements of all awards held at the Annual Conference.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Kathleen Ernce, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Communications Committee, chaired by Ken Mitchell, continued to publish *In Focus* with Sandra Lieberman as editor and began to investigate setting up a GGS website.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Kay Hind, published the Membership Directory, again printed by Georgia Power Company.
- The Business & Aging Section, chaired by Maureen Kelly, developed sponsorships for the Annual Conference and recruited business representatives to the Board.
- The Case Management Section, chaired by Gail Bechtel, continued to hold local area network meetings in Macon and Atlanta.
- The Non-Profit Management Section, chaired by Norman Graves, held quarterly meetings with 10 participating agencies, focusing on joint educational, financial, personnel, and management concerns.
- The following Sections continued to be active during the year: Education, Training and Research, chaired by Judith Stillion; Health, chaired by Nancy White; Multi-Cultural Aging, chaired by Yolanda Hallas; and Long-Term Care, chaired by Ken Workman.

## 2001

- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, co-chaired by Ellie Crosby and Judith Stillion, administered the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project, with attorney Janice Barrocas continuing as coordinator.

- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee participated in CO-AGE and engaged GGS members in advocacy efforts throughout the year.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Kathleen Ernce, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Development Committee, co-chaired by Carol Wisdom and Barbara McBrayer-Brice, expanded its membership to include persons from future conference cities, increased GGS Board contributions, increased advertisers, and planned fundraising jointly with the Scholarship Committee.
- The Development Committee raised more than \$26,000 for GGS, including support from major sponsors: Georgia Power company, Coca-Cola Company, Southern Home Care, Piedmont Hospital Sixty-Plus Program, Pfizer, AARP, and Home Nurse, Inc.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Ed Lucas, targeted recruitment and increased membership this year. Georgia Power once more sponsored the printed Membership Directory.
- GGS increased its support for students, with award winners presenting their research at a special Annual Conference luncheon
- The Scholarship Fund Committee raised more than \$7,000 for the Scholarship Fund with the annual Silent Auction.
- A revitalized Long-Term Care Section, chaired by Cheryl Schramm, organized four educational workshops on issues such as the Olmstead Decision and End of Life Planning.
- The Education, Training, & Research Section, chaired by Barbara Karcher, completed an inventory of gerontological research in Georgia's colleges and universities. The CAREing Center of Kennesaw State University compiled the results and AARP printed the report.
- The Multi-Cultural Aging Section, chaired by Yolanda Hallas, organized a session on diversity at the Annual Conference and produced a summary report for our membership.
- The Non-Profit Management Section, chaired by Norman Graves, began to meet with the leadership of the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, which was considering creation of a Home and Community Based membership which might provide Section members with more management-specific training, resources, and advocacy support than GGS could provide under its current structure.
- In cooperation with Georgia State University Gerontology Alumni group, the Membership Committee held a workshop on alternative medicine, sponsored by Piedmont Hospital Sixty-Plus.
- The Business & Aging, Case Management, and Health Sections were inactive due to the absence of leadership. Case Management groups continued to meet in Macon and Atlanta.

## **2002**

- Strategic planning was guided by a member survey administered by the Membership Committee and studied by the Board in a planning retreat designed to develop a roadmap to guide GGS to its 50<sup>th</sup> year in 2005.

- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Ellie Crosby and Kathy Floyd, continued to direct the Senior Advocacy Project, staffed by Janice Barracos and Kim Raymond.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee held a training session on state budget issues to prepare for the 2002 Legislative Session.
- The Awards Committee, working with the Conference Committee, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Communications Committee, chaired by Robyn Bartlett, established a Website Subcommittee to set up the GGS website [www.georgiagerontologysociety.org](http://www.georgiagerontologysociety.org), and to fully develop parameters for content and use of the site.
- The Communications Committee updated *In Focus*, the GGS newsletter, with a new masthead and new features such as member highlighting. Georgia Power continued to print the newsletter, and it was included in the website as well.
- Georgia Power Company continued to fund printing of the Membership Directory.
- The Student Affairs Committee, co-chaired by Kathleen McNulty and Nancy Kriseman, worked to engage students in GGS, sponsoring student attendance at the Southeast Regional Student Convention in Gerontology and Geriatrics and the GGS Annual Meeting.
- The Student Affairs Committee devised a plan to develop campus chapters for students.
- The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Barbara Rosenberg and Linnie Martin, reached the \$46,000 mark in assets with half of the Annual Silent Auction proceeds going to the Fund.
- The Education and Training Section, chaired by Barbara Karcher, began e-mail blasts to the membership announcing upcoming training opportunities and education events.
- The Education and Training Section and the Long Term Care Section co-sponsored the “Staffing Solutions Conference,” the second in a series of conferences to address the staffing shortage in long term care.
- The Education and Training Section co-sponsored, with the Georgia AARP office, eight in-service training sessions begun in 2002 and continuing into 2003 across the state for long term care staff.
- The Education and Training Section published a GGG Directory of Research in Aging, with the financial support of AARP, and distributed it to academic institutions and the Georgia legislature to serve as a resource for special knowledge in the many aspects of aging.
- The Multi-Cultural Aging Section, chaired by Yolanda Hallas, changed its name to Diversity Section and presented a session at the annual conference on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren in Diverse Communities.
- The Non-Profit Management Section was discontinued as it became a Home and Community Based Services membership group of the Georgia Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.
- The Business & Aging, Case Management, and Health Sections were inactive for lack of leadership. Local Case Management groups continued to meet and network in Atlanta and Macon.

## 2003

- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Kathy Floyd, spearheaded Senior Week at the Capital and involved members in staffing the GGS display.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee continued oversight of the Senior Advocacy Project, staffed by Kim Raymond, participated in CO-AGE, and involved members in advocacy alerts.
- The Awards Committee, chaired by Lois Ricci and Yolanda Hallas, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Communications Committee, chaired by Frank Boyd, continued to develop the GGS Website to include conference news and registration, member spotlights, and picture from GGS events.
- The Communications Committee ceased publication of the printed *In Focus* newsletter, largely to save on costs, and placed it on-line.
- The Membership Committee, chaired by Melanie McNeil, published the Membership Directory, printed by Georgia Power Company.
- The Education, Research, and Training Section, chaired by Lois Ricci, continued email blasts which enabled members to learn immediately about training events, grants, employment opportunities, and noteworthy events in gerontology.
- The Scholarship Fund Committee, chaired by Nancy Morrison, reached its \$50,000 goal with a successful Silent Auction and will present the first Virginia Smyth Scholarship Award in 2004.
- The Diversity Section, chaired by Yolanda Hallas, and the Long-Term Care Section, chaired by Penny Medhurst, reported no activity during the year.
- The Business & Aging, Case Management, and Health Sections were inactive due to absence of leadership. Local Case Management groups continued to meet and network in Atlanta and Macon.

## 2004

The GGS website became the vehicle for communication and no official written 2004 Annual Report was published;

- The Awards Committee, chaired by Jan Kauffman, solicited nominations and coordinated the Awards program at the Annual Conference to recognize professional, older adults, GGS service, education, legislative, and meritorious service.
- The Scholarship Committee presented the first Virginia Smyth Scholarship Award to Megan Janke of the University of Georgia. The GGS Scholarship fund ended the year with \$76,324.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee continued oversight of the Senior Advocacy Project, staffed by Kim Raymond, participated in CO-AGE, and involved members in advocacy alerts.
- The Communications Committee, with the assistance of webmaster Penny Medhurst, continued to develop the GGS Website to include conference news and registration, member spotlights, pictures from GGS events, members only features, membership application, membership directory, and links to other aging-related sites. A special printed newsletter on Caregiving Issues was published in the summer.

- The Education, Research, and Training Section continued email blasts which informed members of state, regional, and national educational opportunities, grants, employment openings, and other relevant events. Discussion among the Board defined that the e-mail blasts would not be used for advocacy issues.
- Guest facilitator Cheryll Schramm, used the three focus areas determined in 2003 (increase membership, increase visibility and strengthen the community of professionals) and guided the board in developing a plan for the year. Results included each board member recruiting a new member, the development of a packet of materials to recruit members (brochures, benefits of membership, etc.) and members were encouraged to host “coffees” around the state.
- A new membership brochure was developed with new colors of royal blue/white and a new logo. Membership dues were increased from \$40 to \$50 (general) and \$100 to \$150 (organizational).

## **Membership (1995 - 2004)**

With strong Board involvement in recruitment and the nurturing of active local chapters and statewide sections, the Society built on the work of the early 1990s to continue substantial growth in individual and organizational memberships through 1996. Organizational benefits put in place during 1994 allowed participation by an unlimited number of staff of the organizations, bringing more interested people to seminars and the conferences. However, membership declined 1997 to 2000 before renewed Board attention and involvement of Society members began to bring new members and improve retention.

### **1995**

Total membership reached a high of 454, with 82 organizational memberships and 372 individual memberships. The Sections and Chapters proved to be excellent vehicles for membership recruitment and local participation by GGS in the professional lives of the membership.

### **1996**

Total membership was 429, with 75 organizational memberships and 354 individual memberships.

### **1997**

Total membership declined substantially with 212, with 47 organizational memberships and 165 individual memberships. While sections and chapters remained active, membership renewal was not occurring.

### **1998**

Total membership was 257, with 56 organization memberships and 201 individual memberships.

### **1999**

Membership continued to remain low with 204 total members, including 47 organizational members and 157 individual members.

### **2000**

Total membership was 268 with 78 organization memberships and 290 individual memberships.

### **2001**

Total membership increased to 364 with 89 organization memberships and 275 individual memberships.



## **2002**

Total membership was 362 with 74 organizational memberships and 288 individual memberships. The trend continued that organizational memberships remained relatively steady, but individual membership declined. The state of the economy may well have played a role, but failure to engage the new professionals entering the field might be a factor as well. Without a strong sense of identification with the Society, newer staff tend to take advantage of the organization's membership rather than paying for an individual membership.

## **2003**

Total membership declined to 304 members with 80 organizational memberships and 224 individual memberships. The decline is entirely in the individual membership category.

## **2004**

The year ended with 249 members with 189 individual and 60 organizational memberships.

## **Finances** **(1995 - 2004)**

### **1995**

Beginning the year with a cash balance of \$11,016.11 gave the Society real stability. Membership brought in \$14,190 during the year, and the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference had income of \$59,299.65. With income for the Scholarship Fund, Sections and Chapters, printing by Georgia Power, miscellaneous income, and \$1651.76 in interest on CDs for Student Affairs, the total income for the years was \$79,226.40. Total expenses for the year were \$81,080.98 leaving an end-of-year balance of \$9,161.53. Assets included the cash balance and two CDs of \$10,694.35 and \$6,595.13.

### **1996**

The Society began the year with a cash balance of \$9,161.53 and ended the year with a cash balance of \$16,349.79. Income of \$74,134.67 included \$12,654 in memberships, \$45,164.04 in conference proceeds, and \$12,500 income from the new Senior Advocacy Project. Additional income included the Scholarship Funds, Sections and Chapters, Georgia Power sponsorship of the newsletter, and CD interest. Expenses were less than income at \$66,946.50. Two CDs were valued at \$11,374.24 and \$6,259.62.

### **1997**

The beginning cash balance was \$16,349.79 and the year-end cash balance was \$11,492.05. Income of \$84,507.67 included \$9,325 in memberships, \$55,577.06 from the conference, and \$16,011.59 for the Senior Advocacy Project. Other income included Student Affairs, Sections, Chapters, and CD interest of \$314.53. Total expenses of \$89,365.32 exceeded income, and the CDs were valued at \$12,054.87 and \$6,293.79.

### **1998**

The Annual Report shows a beginning balance of \$11,608.36, a slight adjustment from the year-end balance report in 1998, but with no explanation of the reason for the adjustment. Income for the year totaled \$103,456.99 including \$12,624 in membership, \$61,792.08 from the annual conference, and \$22,419.25 for the Senior Advocacy Project (income for 1998 and 1999 combined). Additional income included Student Affairs, Sections and Chapters, and CD Interest of \$293.79. Expenses of \$87,865.27 were substantially less than income and left a healthy cash balance of \$27,199.98. Two CDs lost value, ending the year at \$11,070.64 and \$6,299.51.

### **1999**

The previous cash balance was \$27,199.98 and the ending balance was \$29,695.42 showing that income exceeded expenses for the year. Income included \$10,073 from Memberships; \$48,580 from Conference and Training events; \$38,090.90 from the Senior Advocacy Project; and assorted other miscellaneous categories. The CDs were valued at \$11,354.52 and \$6,561.31.

### **2000**

The beginning cash balance was \$29,695.42, and the ending balance was \$9,561.00. Income of \$71,007.00 included \$10,635 in memberships, \$50,577 in conference proceeds, \$8,603 for the Senior Advocacy Project, small amounts for Student Affairs and miscellaneous, and \$942 in interest income. Expenses of \$91,141 dramatically exceeded income. CDs increased slightly in value to \$11,545 and \$6,822.

## **2001**

The Annual Report indicates a beginning cash balance of \$9,411.00, a slight adjustment from the year-end balance report in 2000, but with no explanation of the reason for the adjustment. Income for the year totaled \$114,077.00 including \$12,413 from memberships, \$67,817.50 from the conference, \$30,711.30 for the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project, \$891.70 from interest income, and miscellaneous other income. Expenses slightly exceeded income at \$116,968.12. At the end of the year, assets included CDs worth \$12,810.68 and \$7,160.24 and a cash balance of \$6,519.88.

## **2002**

The year began with a cash balance of \$6,519.88 and ended with a cash balance of \$28,825.14. This improvement was the result of significant Board attention to streamlining function and lowering costs wherever possible and strong development activities on the part of the Augusta conference committee. Income of \$176,011.40 included \$10,915 in membership, \$106,975.31 from the conference, \$52,305.45 for the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project, \$4,081.10 for the Scholarship Fund, and miscellaneous student affairs and interest income. Expenses totaled \$153,706.14, and CDs were valued at a total of \$19,571.61.

## **2003**

The beginning cash balance was not reflected in the Annual Report but should have been \$28,825.14 based on the 2002 Annual Report. Total income was reported at \$108,063.60. Income included \$8,820 from memberships, \$58,164.80 from the conference, and \$40,801.30 from the Senior Citizen Advocacy Project. Expenses were slightly less than income at \$107,399.49 and left a cash balance at the end of the year of \$28,704.78. This year-end cash balance is about \$800 less than one would expect if the beginning cash balance, income and expenses are all accurate. CD values reached \$21,538.24.

## **2004**

The total income for the year was \$109,337 that included \$64,629 from the Annual Conference, \$11,870 for membership dues and \$32,242 for the Senior Citizen Advocacy Project. Expenses were \$130,200. The year-end cash balance was \$29,459.98. The two CD were closed and \$14,084.73 (student CD) was transferred to the Community Foundation for the Scholarship Fund and the \$7453.51 (general) was transferred to the checking account.

## **Annual Meetings (1995 – 2004)**

For many members of the Society, the Annual Conference and Meeting is the major benefit of membership. During GGS' 5<sup>th</sup> decade, the Conference continued to offer high-quality educational activities, networking opportunities for professionals and advocates from a variety of backgrounds, and statewide visibility for the Society.

### **1995**

The Society held the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, "Continuity-Change-Challenge: Aging in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in August on October 18-20. Co-Chairs Kathleen Ernce, Jeannette Cummings and Pamela Johnson worked tirelessly to secure significant sponsorships and contributions to make the celebration a very successful event. The opening session featured Willie D. Larkin, Ph.D., discussing "The Power of Self-Mastery," and a special highlight was a keynote presentation by Monsignor Charles J. Fahey, of the Third Age Center, Fordham University, on "Continuity-Change-Challenge: Aging in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." Judy Hagebak, Director of the Georgia Division of Aging Services provided the closing keynote speech on "White House Conference on Aging: Its Impact and Implications." Four intensives on adult day care, comprehensive health care, assistive technology, and dealing with difficult personalities were followed by 34 educational sessions.

During the Awards Banquet, a special Anniversary celebration was coordinated by the Awards Committee. Founding GGS Members Scott Houston, Sophia Deutschberger, Virginia Smyth, John Tyler Mauldin (in absentia), and Louis Newmark (in absentia) were recognized with Founders' Awards, and the Banquet program included a Brief History of GGS and pictures of the Founders.

### **1996**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, "The Changing Faces of Aging," was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Macon, October 16-18. Co-chairs Linda Hampton, Jill Hayes and Sandra Lieberman put together one of the most financially successful conferences held to date through their development efforts. The Opening Session "Aging Outrageously and Courageously" was presented by sociologist, poet, author, and professor Ruth Harriet Jacobs. Author and Musician Bob Mitchell gave the general morning session on "Laughter is the Best Medicine." Charlee Lambert and cast of Educational Playmakers present a play, "The Ring" about a family coping with Alzheimer's Disease. The final morning General session, "The Changing Faces of Aging Services," was led by Sandra Lieberman, Executive Director of American Aging Concern. A special contest was held in the Macon area to develop the cover design for the program, won by Barbara Batchelor, a Baldwin County artist. An essay contest on "My Favorite Older Person" was won by Andrea Health from Alexander II Magnet School in Macon.

### **1997**

The Society's 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting, co-chaired by Catherine Ivy and P.K. Beville, was held November 12-14 at the Cobb Galleria Center with the theme "...Today's Challenges, Building Tomorrow's Opportunities." William F. Benson, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging,

US Department of Health and Human Services, opened the two-day meeting with provoking thoughts on “Aging in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” This set the stage for the exciting two days of workshops and forums featuring national and local presenters with five defined tracks: Redefining Retirement, Creative Management strategies, Health Care Options, Case Management, and Student Activities and Education. A plenary session addressed the critical issues of Welfare Reform and a public forum held on the last morning asked “Where is the care in Health Care?” State Representative Tom Sherrill, honored for his consistent support of issues affecting older Georgians, spoke at the closing session.

## **1998**

At the Society’s 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual meeting, held September 27-29 at the Historic DeSoto Hilton in Savannah, the Society “Set Sail for Global Aging” and kicked off the celebrations of 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons. The conference, chaired by Patricia Whitmore, focused on the cultural diversity of Georgia’s older population, changes in the health care system, new directions in care management, spirituality, caregiving, and other emergent issues in our field. Keynote speakers included Dr. Douglas Bachtel, UGA Consumer Economics professor and editor of *The Georgia County Guide*, speaking on “Georgia’s Changing Demographic Environment: A Gerontological Perspective” and Dr. Jep Hostetler, Ohio State University College of Medicine faculty and author of books concerning alcohol and drug abuse, speaking on “Humor, Health and Healing.” Special tracks were developed to serve Section members in their professional interest areas, and time was set aside for Section meetings. The GGS Scholarship Fund was publicly inaugurated with a reception during the conference, and the Annual GGS Business Meeting and new member orientation were held.

## **1999**

The Society’s 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held at the state’s new Brasstown Bald Resort in Young Harris. Chair Jill Hayes and the Conference Committee provided an excellent series of plenary session and educational seminars in the two-day meeting “Passage to the Top.” Six plenary sessions included: “Highlights from the International Year of the Older Person,” by Brigid Donelan, United Nations staff person assigned to the project; “The Future of Long Term Care: Boom or Bust for the Boomers,” by Steve Moses, President of the Center for Long-Term Care Financing in Seattle, WA; “A Foxy Old Woman’s Guide to Living with Friends,” by Cynthia Cary, a clinical social worker in private practice in Hawaii; “Sustainable Communities: Impact on an Aging Population,” by Mark Fitzgerald, Executive Vice President of the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association, and Ellen Gray Keys, of Jordan, Jones & Goulding engineering firm; “Life Course Planning: Retirement, Social Security Reform and the Economics of Aging,” by Myrtle Habersham, Social Security Administration Atlanta Regional Commissioner; and Teaching Gerontology through Literature,” by Mary Ann Fulton Kirkpatrick, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy of Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition, section meetings, student paper presentations, and the Annual Business meeting were held, and 16 concurrent sessions focused on health, assessment, management, legislative, technology, and long term care issues.

## **2000**

The 45<sup>h</sup> Annual Meeting and conference, “Millennium Madness: Creating New Visions,” was held at Sea Palms Resort on St. Simons Island and was chaired by Betty Klein, Barbara Rosenberg, and Patt Whitmore. The opening session, “Planning for the Mature Boomers: A

Report from the Future,” gave an overview of aging issues in a 2025 setting looking back to the turn of the century. Another keynote focused on “Developing the Leader Within,” and the closing session was a report “Caregiving in Georgia: whose Responsibility is it anyway?” Workshops were centered around tracks focusing on Leadership, Housing, Staffing, Caregiving, Mental Health, and Successful Aging. In addition, the Silent Auction, section meetings, student paper presentations, and the Annual Business meeting were held.

## **2001**

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, “Put on Your Playing Shoes...It’s a Brand New Game,” was held at the Columbus Hilton and Columbus Convention and Trade Center. Co-chairs Ken Mitchell, Mickey Holloway, and Pat Mitchell organized a program which included Barbara Jones, State quality Director, discussing “Creating a Culture of Performance Excellence in Your Organization; Genevieve Gipson, Career Nurse Assistants Program, and Judith Riggs, National Alzheimer’s Association, presenting “Exploring Pathways to Long Term Care Staffing Solutions”; and Sandra Bertman, University of Massachusetts, presenting “Aging and the Ageless Spirit” Workshop tracks included Leadership Development, Long Term Care Staffing, CAN and Direct Caregiving, Lifestyle Choices, Best Practices, Reaching Diverse Populations and Preventing Financial Exploitation. A special highlight was the learning track for Certified Nursing Assistants, attended by 100 CNAs through scholarships provided by Georgia’s Area Agencies on Aging.

## **2002**

The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, co-chaired by Kathleen Ernce and Jeanette Cummings, was held at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in Augusta and based on a national conference model. For the first time, the conference lasted a full day longer, and the committee invited a majority of the speakers. “The Aging Revolution: Challenge & Opportunity” featured keynote speakers: “Spiritual Development in Later Life: Implications for Practitioners: by Robert Atchley, Naropa University; “The Transformative Tale: Using Storytelling to Enhance the Elder Journey” by Richard Stone, StoryWork Institute; “Marketing Evolution within the Aging Revolution” by Vicki Thomas, Thomas & Partners; and “United We Stand: Growing, Dying and Friendship” by Rosie Messer, Augusta Resource Center on Aging. Workshop tracks included Aging and spirituality, Leadership and Management, Elder Rights and Advocacy, Senior Centers, Health and Wellness, Education and Training, and several special sessions. Two pre-conference intensives were held as well as three post-conference bonus sessions. The President’s Reception at the Morris Museum, the film festival, the Gullah Storyteller and chocolate treat throughout were highlights for attendees.

## **2003**

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, “Making Georgia a Good Place to Age,” was chaired by Kathryn Fowler and held at The Classic Center in Athens. In deference to the economy and budget constraints on travel among member agencies, the committee was asked to return to the 3-day conference model of prior years in order to encourage attendance. The opening keynote session “Illumination of Elderhood” was presented by Dr. William Thomas, President and founder of the Eden Alternative and was sponsored by the Barbara Fraser Legacy of Learning Fund. “Connecting the Dots – The Management of and Coping with Change Issues in Aging,”

the story of “Who Moved My Cheese,” was presented by Nick Hannon. “Making Georgia a Good Place to Age,” closing remarks aimed at bringing together the ideas and considerations woven through the conference, was presented by Mary Arthur, President of Mission Works Consulting. Conference tracks included Building Healthy Communities, Caregiving, Changing the Culture of Aging in Georgia, Developing Quality Organizations, Protecting Elder Rights, and Serving the Whole Person.

A pre-conference intensive, “Strengthening the Circle of Care” was presented by Kathy Scott and Raye Rawls and attended by 45 Certified Nursing Assistants. The event was sponsored by AARP. The Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association sponsored a Docs & Desserts Reception, featuring Dr Larry Tune of Emory. The President’s Reception at the historic Georgian Hotel was a special treat for attendees.

## **2004**

The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, “Adaptation for an Aging Society,” was held at the Renaissance Atlanta Hotel - Downtown, and was chaired by Barbara McBrayer-Brice. Featured speakers at keynote sessions included Terry Tafoya, PhD, executive director of Tamanawit Unlimited, presenting “Walking Life’s Circle: The Integration of Generations”; Paul Nussbaum, PhD, presenting “Building a Brain to Last a Lifetime” sponsored by the Barbara Fraser Legacy of Learning Fund; and John Banja, PhD, clinical ethicist at the Center for Ethics and associate professor in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at Emory University in Atlanta, presenting “The Difficult Client.” The Barbara Pittard Payne Lectureship in Gerontology, sponsored by the Gerontology Institute at Georgia State University, was presented by Jon Pynoss, PhD, UPS Foundation Professor of Gerontology, Policy, Planning and Development at the Andrus Gerontology Center of the University of Southern California and Director of the national Resource Center on Supportive Housing and Home Modifications, on the topic “Aging in Place:: Obstacles, Options, and Opportunities.”

Conference tracks included the Aging Mind, Family Perspectives, Livable Communities, Adaptation in Health Care, Culture and Ethics, and Collaboratives and Joint Ventures. For the first time, GGS included intensives as part of the Annual Conference regular programming. They included “Putting the Power in Presentation” by Maureen Kelly and Art Kalinski of Atlanta Regional Commission; “Key Issues in Hiring In-Home Workers” by Susan Flanagan; “Your Fiscal Check-UP: Practical Financial Planning Strategies for Women” by Kris Dwyer; and “Aware Home Tours” by Dr. Wendy Rogers of Georgia Institute of Technology.

## **Revisions of the Bylaws (1995 – 2004)**

### **2000**

The Annual Report indicates a revision to the By-Laws to improve Board function. No detailed report could be located in the files concerning this change.

### **2004**

Article IV – Membership, Section 2 – Categories of Membership was amended to delete the words “lifetime membership” in order to maintain a regular stream in membership dues income to protect the financial viability of the Society. Current lifetime members were to keep their lifetime memberships.

Article VI – Officers and their duties, Section 4 – Duties of the Officers was amended in the paragraph that describes the Vice President, deleting “and shall be the chairperson of the Membership Committee.” The explanation was that the Board had found there were times when the Vice-President might not be the strongest candidate for leading the membership committee. This change gave the President the opportunity to choose the most appropriate candidate to chair the membership committee.

Article VII – Committees, Section 2 – Standing Committees was amended to delete the phrase “with the exception of the Membership Committee” at the end of the charge that “Standing Committee Chairpersons shall be appointed by the President from the members of the Board.” This change aligned this Section with the change explained above.

Article VII – Committees, Section 2 – Standing Committees was further amended to add, at the end of the paragraph, the following statement: “Standing Committees may include but are not limited to the following:” followed by a list of the Standing Committees. This change gave flexibility for adding a committee or allowing a committee to be inactive for a year, depending on the needs of the Society.





## **Chapter IV**

# A History of the Georgia Gerontology Society

The Sixth Decade: 2005-2014

Compiled by Kathryn D. Fowler  
Published April, 2015



Insert page of Photographs

## **Important Activities (2005-2014)**

### **2005**

- Three goals for the year were to strengthen the community of professionals, increase membership and increase the visibility of GGS.
- Board members hosted GGS teas throughout the state and utilized membership packets for exhibits at other events.
- Communications Committee Chair Andrew Parker worked closely with Penny Medhurst, who volunteered to maintain and develop the web-site.
  - A “members’ only” section was added
  - Corporate sponsors were added to the web page with a link to their site.
  - Membership forms were added and used by 20% of those renewing this year.
- Barbara Karcher with the Education, Training and Research Section utilized e-mail blasts to inform members of current research and events.
- Members participated in state level White House Conference on Aging events where GGS was a co-sponsor. .
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Matthew Malok, oversaw the work of SCAP Coordinator Kim Raymond and coordinated GGS exhibit and participation in Senior Week at the Capitol.
  - The Committee coordinated GGS response and comments on the Medicaid reform process concerning the 1115 Medicaid Waiver for Georgia.
  - GGS efforts assisted in achieving passage of the Adult Protective Services public guardianship bill (HB 394).
- Student Scholarship Committee co-chairs Lois Ricci and Barbara Karcher coordinated a program of education and outreach to solicit applications for the scholarships, selection of recipients, and participation by students in the Annual Conference.
- Development Committee Chair Jeanette Cummings made a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary appeal to Board members, general membership, sponsors, and partners to raise funding to stabilize finances for GGS. She developed a professional packet for the conference including level of sponsorship guide, a sponsor application, a sponsor form, an advertising form and prices and an exhibit information form. These efforts resulted in record Conference proceeds of over \$42,500.
- President Maureen Kelly led efforts to have a statewide presence by alternating Board meetings locations between Macon and Atlanta.
- Administrative Director Walter Coffey developed a 5-year review of Annual Conference Finances. Utilizing good materials developed over the last several years by Conference Committees, he developed standardized templates for conference finances.
- Membership Committee co-chairs Tiffany Ingram and Kay Hind initiated efforts to build membership, investigating feasibility of renewed Sections or local Chapters as well as more networking opportunities.
- Nominating Committee chair Kathryn Fowler coordinated her committee’s work to solicit nominations, utilized the website to publish nomination forms, and conducted elections for Board members and officers.

- Annual Conference Co-chairs Walter Coffey and Ginny Helms implemented a workplan which included many Board members in developing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary Conference in Augusta, GA.
- With the financial sponsorship of Georgia Power, the Education, Training and Research Section printed a new “Academic Programs in Gerontology” directory for distribution to GGS members.
- Kathryn Fowler researched and compiled “A History of GGS: 1955-2005” based on Louis Newmark’s 1955-1985 history, with additional materials from the Communications Committee report on 1986-1995, and a new chapter on the last decade. In addition, full data was collected for the History on all Presidents, the Annual Meetings and Conferences, and GGS Awards and Award winners.
- A video was filmed for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which told the story of the Society’s founding, leadership, and activities.

## **2006**

- Georgia Power sponsored printing of an updated Membership brochure.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy committee, co-chaired by Dave Blanchard and Matthew Malok, oversaw the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project collaboration and the work of Coordinator Kim Raymond.
- GGS participated in CO-AGE advocacy activities, and priorities for personal needs allowance \$20/ month increase for Nursing Home residents and additional CCSP funding were passed.
- The Membership committee, co-chaired by Jennie Deese and Barbara McBrayer-Brice, reached out to corporate entities and aging organizations to build membership.
- The Communication committee, co-chaired by Michael Fornaro and Frank Boyd, continued to improve the website with the volunteer assistance of Penny Medhurst, adding member spotlights and articles submitted by members and partner organizations.
- A mid-year educational/networking event was held in Macon on March 22, 2006 with speakers Dr. William McDonald (“Challenge in Meeting Mental Health Care Needs of Older Adults”) and Kathryn Lawler (“Age Friendly Communities”).
- Annual Meeting and Conference committee was led by co-chairs Bill Brown and Michael Fornaro and conducted a successful meeting in Young Harris.
- Scholarship Committee co-chairs Patrice Earnest and Denise Lewis coordinated a program of education and outreach to solicit applications for the scholarships, selection of recipients, and participation by students in the Annual Conference.
- An agreement was negotiated with the Southeast Association of AAAs to host a combined conference in 2007 in Georgia.
- The GGS Exhibit at the Conference gave participants an opportunity to indicate their level of support for a Department of Aging.
- The Education, Training and Research Section, chaired by Lois Ricci, published a new “Academics and Research in Georgia” directory in partnership with Kennesaw State University.

## 2007

- A Board planning retreat was held, and committees developed annual workplans and budgets.
- An Ad Hoc By-Laws Committee comprised of Ginny Helms, Kathryn Fowler, Kay Hind, Michael Fornaro, Walter Coffey and Maureen Kelly was appointed to conduct a thorough review of the By-Laws. Changes were recommended and approved as noted in the following section on Revisions to the By-Laws.
- The Membership committee, chaired by Charlotte Pickens, surveyed non-renewing members to determine how GGS might better suit their professional needs.
- The Communications committee, chaired by Cori Sackin, continued to issue e-mail Blasts to members on current events and research and to improve use of the website. Conference materials were posted to the website.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy committee, co-chaired by Dave Blanchard and Matthew Malok, oversaw the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project collaboration and work of Coordinator Kim Raymond.
- Scholarship Committee co-chairs Patrice Earnest and Denise Lewis conducted the Scholarship awards program and coordinated a Student Showcase and poster session at the conference as well as the Silent Auction which raised \$1,250 for scholarships.
- With resignation of the website's first web manager, the Communication committee sought proposals and hired Geoff Walker as webmaster.

## 2008

- Consulting group LW Consulting, Inc., with Sharon Allred lead a strategic planning process in January to set priorities and goals for 2008.
- At the retreat, the Board established three Workgroups:
  - Professional Development/Education workgroup to expand GGS' role in education and training
  - Local Chapters workgroup to explore establishing chapters throughout the state
  - Communications workgroup and standing committee to continue enhancing electronic communication with members
- The Communications committee launched the new website and included the "GGS History" video made in 2005, online membership application, online membership dues payment, a spotlight on persons in the field of aging, and online conference registration and payment.
- Administrative Director Walter Coffey resigned after 16 years of service. Matthew Malok was hired in August to cross-train with Walter for a month.
- The Conference committee partnered with the Georgia Older Worker Network to host the OWN annual awards banquet and have an Older Workers track at the Conference.
- The Advocacy and Policy Committee, chaired by Abby Griffis Cox, worked closely with the Senior Citizens' Advocacy Project and CO-AGE to advocate against deep funding reductions to aging services implemented in mid-2008 in response to the beginning of the housing bust and recession.
- A Board historian was appointed after Kathryn Fowler rotated from Board membership, but the work to ensure annual updates was not accomplished.
- GGS co-sponsored a "Caregiver Conference" in November in Heart of Georgia.
- GGS participated as a sponsor and exhibitor in the Coastal Aging Symposium.

- GGS endorsed participation in the Be There 4 Seniors campaign developed by the AAAs to spotlight funding needs for aging services.
- With another successful Silent Auction and contributions, the Student Scholarship Endowment fund surpassed \$100,000 this year.

## **2009**

- A strategic planning retreat was held in January to set priorities and goals for 2009.
- Communications Committee, chaired by Cori Sackin, updated the membership brochure and continued to establish a readable and attractive website look.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Abby Cox, collaborated closely with CO-AGE and the AAAs to have a strong GGS presence at the Be There 4 Seniors rally and Senior Week at the Capitol and to publish alerts calling on GGS members to speak with their legislators about crucial issues during the Legislative Session.
- The Conference Committee coordinated a successful and cost-effective conference despite the failing economy. Kathy Keith did a valuable service in recruiting sponsors and exhibitors to increase revenue.
- For the first time in GGS history, the President was elected to a third one-year term. Jennie Deese was asked to serve the additional term to assist with transition in staff during a crucial year when GGS would co-sponsor a national conference.
- GGS negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Association of State Units for Aging and Disabilities to co-sponsor the National Home and Community Based Services conference in 2010 in lieu of the GGS Annual Meeting and Conference.
- GGS entered an agreement to contribute \$400 to sponsor four CO-AGE meetings each year and to exhibit at each as membership outreach. The agreement was finalized as a trade-off without contribution so that the Georgia Council on Aging could exhibit at the GGS conference free-of-charge.
- The Georgia Division of Aging Services Healthy Living Conference was co-sponsored.
- The year was an unsuccessful one at the General Assembly as no CO-AGE and GGS legislative or budget priorities passed. All efforts were aimed at trying to eliminate deep budget cuts, but aging services lost millions of dollars due to decreased state revenues as the Great Recession took hold.
- A GGS informational exhibit was set up for the Gerontology Society of America conference in Atlanta.
- The website included advocacy information and legislative updates throughout the General Assembly legislative session.
- Training options, co-sponsorship, and use of WebEx were all explored in response to a survey of members that indicated a strong need for ongoing educational opportunities outside the Atlanta metro area.

## **2010**

- Kerry Defoe chaired the Communications Committee, which developed an attractive and portable new display with financial support from Coventry Health.
- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Abby Cox, once more worked closely with CO-AGE and other aging partners to support the Be There 4 Seniors rally

and Senior Week at the Capitol and to publish alerts concerning budget and legislative issues requiring member actions.

- Efforts to protect aging services from further deep cuts were successful with restoration of funding which had been cut in the Governor's budget: \$1.3 million for non-Medicaid Home & Community Based Services, \$1 million for LTCO, and \$611,000 for Adult Protective Services
- The Scholarship Committee received Board approval to increase the graduate scholarship to \$2500 and the undergraduate scholarship to \$1500.
- GGS participated with partners GA Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the Georgia Council on Aging in hiring new Senior Citizens' Advocacy Project Coordinator Dianne O'Donnell upon the resignation of Kim Raymond.
- Kathy Keith exceeded all expectations in securing a record number of sponsors for the NASUAD/GGS Conference.
- The Education, Training and Research Section became the Education, Training and Research Committee with an appropriate workplan and budget.
- Staff member Matthew Malok took over most website updates and added Job Position announcements and information on federal legislative and budget issues.
- An annual audit review, prepared in December by Pendergrass and Ramsey, stated "no modifications needed."

## 2011

- The Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, chaired by Abby Cox, oversaw the work of the SCAP Coordinator. They produced GGS Advocacy packets with instructions and advocacy handouts using the GGS logo which were given to Board members to use on the days when they volunteered to come to the Capitol.
- GGS had a strong presence at the Be There 4 Seniors rally and Senior Week at the Capitol.
- The Scholarship Endowment Fund received a gracious contribution of \$80,000 from the Estate of Virginia Smyth, longtime GGS member, supporter of scholarship efforts, and GGS President from 1961 to 1962.
- The newly-formed Meals on Wheels Association of Georgia worked with GGS to schedule its inaugural conference to begin on the day after the GGS Conference in Athens, encouraging joint registration.
- GGS co-sponsored the Georgia Division of Aging Services Healthy Community Summit.
- GGS, GA Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the Georgia Council on Aging hired new Senior Citizens' Advocacy Project Coordinator Nancy Pitra in June upon the resignation of Dianne O'Donnell.
- The Legislative Award was designated the David L. Levine Legislative Award and presented to Representative Terry England at the Athens GGS Conference in honor of a pioneer in aging in Georgia who supported GGS for decades and was a long-time appointee to the Georgia Council on Aging.
- GGS participated with CO-AGE and numerous transportation and service partners in a Transportation workgroup throughout the fall to recommend legislation to improve transportation infrastructure and services for everyone, with special attention to the needs of those who lack transportation.

## 2012

- GGS conducted a mid-year training event on March 16, 2012, in Macon on the topic of Palliative Care with Dr. Anne Glass of UGA as a keynote speaker. 74 people attended the well-received seminar, 4 new members were recruited, and a profit of \$2272.55 was made despite a modest \$25 registration fee.
- An Ad Hoc By-Laws Committee with Kay Hind as chair and members including Pat Baker, Lois Ricci, Beverly Littlefield, Nancy Pitra and Kathy Keith reviewed the By-Laws and recommended revisions to allow electronic communication and voting.
- Successful advocacy efforts with partner organizations resulted in restoration of the proposed 2% funding cuts to aging services.
- Regional Transportation governance legislation, on which aging advocates had labored for many months, did not pass in this Session.
- GGS supported the passage of Senate Resolution 979 to establish a Senate Aging Study Committee and the SCAP Coordinator assisted Senator Renee Unterman and the Georgia Council on Aging in coordinating its meetings during the fall.
- Development committee chair Brandi Hackett conducted a survey of for-profit senior care providers in Atlanta to determine why they might sponsor the GGS conference and also what might motivate them to join GGS. An interesting opinion was that few provider staff could attend a multi-day conference.
- Following the resignation of Matthew Malok, new Administrative Director Abby Cox was hired effective November 1, 2012. Matthew and Abby cross-trained during the month of October.
- After the Estate of Virginia Smyth made a second bequest of \$70,000 to the Scholarship Endowment Fund, the Scholarship Committee, chaired by Shean Atkins, increased the graduate scholarship named for Virginia to \$3000 each year.
- Communications Committee chair Scott Courson developed a GGS Facebook page and coordinated frequent postings.

## 2013

- GGS again hosted a mid-year educational event, presenting “Aging with Pride: Exploring Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Issues in Aging” on March 22, 2013, at the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon. Doug Carl of the Georgia Division of Aging Services was the keynote speaker, and there were breakout sessions on Health and Wellness, Legal Issues, and Spirituality.
- GGS entered into a partnership with LeadingAge Georgia (formerly Aging Services of Georgia) to allow GGS members to attend any LeadingAge training at member rates and to show GGS as a partner on their correspondence.
- With the assistance of webmaster Geoff Walker, the GGS website was updated and greatly improved both in content and visual appeal. After update, GGS staff will maintain the site.
- GGS sponsored a booth at the Livable Communities Conference in Macon at the Marriot City Center on June 4-6, 2013.
- The Scholarship Committee, chaired by Shean Atkins, received approval to provide a graduate scholarship of \$3,000 and an undergraduate scholarship of \$2,000.



- UGA intern Lindsay Hebrank conducted a series of interviews with current and former GGS members which resulted in a report stating that GGS needs to be sponsoring or hosting more educational events.
- The Advocacy Committee, led by chair Jamie Cramer, met on a weekly basis with the SCAP Coordinator during the General Assembly legislative session and maintained an active and visible presence at the Capitol to advocate on aging issues.
- SCAP Coordinator Nancy Pitra represented GGS throughout the winter and spring in Task Force meetings coordinated by the Department of Community Health to consider redesign of Medicaid.
- A grant proposal was submitted to the Eli Lilly Foundation for \$12,000.00 to coordinate Mental Health First Aid training for Area Agencies on Aging by the Fuqua Center for Late Life Depression.
- GGS collaborated with LeadingAge Georgia on a conference “Academics and Practitioners- Making the Connection” on November 7, 2013 at the Melia Hotel in Midtown, Atlanta.
- Following the resignation of Nancy Pitra as Senior Citizens Advocacy Project Coordinator, the contractual agreement between GGS, the Georgia Council on Aging, and the Georgia Association of Area Agencies on Aging was revised. The new collaboration included GGS and G4A, and the organizations hired attorney Cindy Nelson.
- Aging advocates saw some success in budgetary issues during the General Assembly. The Legislature restored \$484,559 for Elder Community Living Services that was cut in the governor’s budget which restores funding for hours of Alzheimer’s and Respite Care services directly supporting elderly Georgians. The Department of Human Services had proposed cutting 17 family service workers from Adult Protective Services to eliminate spending \$528,871 in the FY 2014 budget. The final budget restored half of the funding - \$264,436.
- Aging advocates also saw some success in legislative issues.
  - SB 14: State Alzheimer’s and Related Dementia Plan creates a Georgia Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias State Plan Task Force charged with collecting data to assess the current and future impact of the disease, identifying resources available to those with the disease, reviewing the national Alzheimer’s plan, and developing a comprehensive state plan due to the Governor and General Assembly on March 31, 2014.
  - HB 78: Elder Abuse Modernization Act moved the crime of abuse, neglect or exploitation into the criminal code and added sexual abuse to an older or disabled adult to the list of crimes that constitute abuse.

## **2014**

- The Advocacy Committee, chaired by Jamie Cramer, invited Costas Miskis, AoA Regional Administrator, and Ron Taylor, AoA Regional Aging Disaster Officer, to speak at the January Board meeting on federal sequestration and its impact on aging services as well as future restoration of funding.
- Representatives of the Heart of Georgia, Southwest Georgia, and Northeast Georgia Area Agencies on Aging also spoke at the January Board meeting about the devastating impact of the sequestration cuts: elimination of services, significant cuts to services delivery,

significant reduction in staff, shifting of health insurance cost to employees and complete elimination of health insurance for all employees in one planning and service area.

- CO-AGE budget priorities were reflected in the approved budget: \$693,333 for additional Adult Protective Services workers (less than the \$2 million requested), \$226,800 for emergency placement (half of the amount requested), and an additional 100 slots for the Community Care Services Program. \$321,000 in funding to implement Adult Day Care Licensure was also allocated, restoring support which was lost in 2008 in the first year of implementation, and \$750,000 was secured for Home and Community Based Services meals.
- SB 292 established the Georgia State Alzheimer's Registry within the Department of Public Health, implementing a key recommendation of the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias State Plan.
- The April Board meetings included as guest speaker new Commissioner of the Department of Human Services Keith Horton along with his two chief staff, Deputy Commission Renorta Heard, and Deputy Commissioner Lyn Valinger. He expressed a high level of interest and commitment to older adults and aging services.
- The Lilly Foundation grant allowed GGS to coordinate four regional Mental Health First Aid trainings with Emory University's Fuqua Center for Late-Life.
- GGS sponsored an exhibit at the Healthy Communities Summit in Albany in June.
- John Tyler Mauldin, Jr. attended the Awards Brunch at the Annual conference and presented a portrait of his father, the early GGS supporter for whom the Mauldin Award is named.
- Communications Committee chair Scott Courson established a GGS presence on Twitter and LinkedIn.
- When SCAP Coordinator Cindy Nelson resigned in August, the Georgia Association of Area Agencies on Aging made the decision to sever the partnership with GGS and hold the contract with her successor directly, just as they had ceased to partner with the Georgia Council on Aging in 2013. GGS returned all remaining SCAP funding to G4A.
- After the change in the Senior Citizens Advocacy Project occurred, the Board discussed future advocacy priorities, agreeing to support the CO-AGE priorities in 2015 while determining whether to develop a prioritization process in the future.
- GGS participated with the Division of Aging Services and the Alzheimers' Association in a series of Community Conversations through which states with Alzheimers' state plans are working together to establish long- and short-range plans.
- GGS and LeadingAge Georgia partnered to present "Technology in Aging Conference" on November 6<sup>th</sup> at Hilton Garden Inn in Midtown Atlanta. The goal was to bring research and technology into hands of practitioners.
- The Communications Committee filmed a presentation by Kay Hind on GGS and what membership means and posted it to the website to promote membership.

## **Membership (2005-2014)**

### **2005**

A 5-year review of membership categories and dues income was developed due to declining membership. It was learned that approximately 20% of the membership does not renew in successive years. An increase in dues costs in 2004 helped with income from membership.

At year-end, there were 64 organization memberships, and 221 individual memberships, totaling 285 members.

### **2006**

At year-end, there were 250 individual memberships and 58 organizations for a total of 308. This was a 10% increase over the course of the year.

### **2007**

In April, there were 156 individuals and 50 organizations for a total of 206 members. No further data is reported in Board minutes nor any explanation of the steep decrease from the previous year.

### **2008**

There were 166 individuals and 59 organizations for a total of 225 members.

### **2009**

Membership remained steady with 166 individual and 54 organizational memberships for a total of 220 members.

### **2010**

GGs began the year with 133 individuals and 45 organizations for a total of 178 members after the new Director reviewed the membership database. With a small increase, GGS ended the year with a member of 152 individuals and 50 organizations for a total of 202 members.

### **2011**

In April, GGS had 154 members and ended the year with 156 individuals, 43 organizations and 31 students for a total of 238 members.

## **2012**

Membership rolls dropped during the year from an April membership of 205 to a year-end total of 173, comprised of 144 individuals and 29 organizations.

## **2013**

At year-end, GGS had 136 individual and 22 organizational members for a total of 158 members.

## **2014**

April membership totaled 177 members. The year ended with 186 individual members and 27 organizational members for a total of 213.

## **Finances (2005-2014)**

### **2005**

The 2005 year was special due to the 50<sup>th</sup> GGS anniversary fund raising of the Development Committee: income posted from annual Conference revenues was \$42,500! The GGS balance sheet (as of 10/28/05) showed total assets of \$139,636.24. The Board approved moving \$1,804 in Silent Auction proceeds into the Scholarship Fund.

The correct procedures with The Community Foundation were confirmed and the Scholarship Awards process was streamlined so that winners would have their awards sent by The Community Foundation directly to the student's university account. Money coming in to the GGS Scholarship Fund will be forwarded to The Community Foundation.

### **2006**

The GGS checking/savings fund balance was \$64,564.37 and the Foundation account balance was \$82,584.78 with total assets: \$147,149.15. Profit from GGS Conference totaled \$22,795. Just over \$2000 from sale of gift baskets was added to the scholarship fund.

### **2007**

In April, the Community Foundation fund had a balance of \$82,584.78 and the Checking/Savings account had a balance of \$49,430.06. Total Assets were \$132,014.84. No further financial data is reported in the Board minutes.

### **2008**

At year-end, the Checking/Savings account had a balance of \$85,072.44 following an overwhelmingly successful Conference which made a \$23,473.45 profit after expenses. Membership dues were short of goal at \$9,612.00. The Student Scholarship Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation surpassed the \$100,000 mark in assets.

### **2009**

The only financial information included in Board minutes is the Conference profit of \$33,000+ after expenses.

### **2010**

Checking/Savings account information was not provided in Board minutes. The Conference profit was \$20,310 which consisted of NASUAD's \$20,000 payment to GGS for joint sponsorship of the Conference and \$310 in raffle proceeds. The Scholarship Endowment Fund at The Community Foundation ended the year with a reduced balance of \$88,720 as the Recession lowered returns on investment income.

## **2011**

The Scholarship Endowment Fund received a bequest of \$80,000 from the Estate of Virginia Smyth. Gross receipts for the Annual conference were \$50,569.00 and expenses were \$23,486.94. Net profit for the Annual conference was \$27,082.06. Membership dues received totaled \$7,213.87. The year-end Balance sheet showed \$298,636.24 in Assets & Liabilities, an increase due to the Smyth estate bequest.

## **2012**

A mid-year conference raised \$2272.55 in profits after expenses. Mid-year Assets & Liabilities totaled \$355,724.05 after a second bequest of \$70,000 from the Estate of Virginia Smyth.

## **2013**

The midyear conference on LGBT Issues in Aging made a profit of \$855.76 after expenses, and the fall symposium with LeadingAge Georgia netted \$1,062.63 for GGS. Annual Conference revenues totaled \$46,627.65 with expenses of \$27,289.49 for a net profit of \$19,338.16. Board minutes do not include a statement of Assets & Liabilities.

## **2014**

GGS began the year with \$95,980.23 in the checking/savings account. The Annual Conference cleared \$19,362 with revenues of \$62,301 and expenses of \$42,939. Silent Auction proceeds were directed to the Robert Wray Scholarship Fund. Board minutes do not include year-end statement of Assets & Liabilities.

## **Annual Meetings (2005 - 2014)**

For most members of the Society, the Annual Conference and Meeting is a major benefit of membership. During this decade, the Conference continued to offer high-quality educational activities which were reasonably priced for individuals and organizations struggling with the impact of the Great Recession. The Conference gave access to national expertise, local innovation and best practices, and opportunities to network with fellow professionals and advocates from a variety of backgrounds.

### **2005**

The Society held the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, “Going for the Gold: Celebrating 50 Years of Leadership in Aging” in Savannah on September 25-27. Co-Chairs Ginny Helms and Walter Coffey lead a very active group of volunteers. Jeanette Cummings and the staff of the CSRA Area Agency on Aging recruited significant sponsorship and the financial support of 30 exhibitors to make the celebration successful. Kathryn Fowler, with the support of the Athens Community Council on Aging, completed research which culminated in a GGS video, a printed “History of the Georgia Gerontology Society: 1955-2005,” and historical materials used in displays and in the Conference program. Cheryl Schramm, Lucy Whelchel, and Kathleen McNulty planned celebrations which included a special Awards Luncheon and a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.

After an Open Forum on Medicaid Modernization in Georgia hosted by the Board Advocacy Committee, the Opening Session “A Golden Past: Our Promise for the Future” featured the debut of a video history of the Georgia Gerontology Society and keynote speaker Robert Blancato, President of Matz, Blancato & Associates, setting the stage with a look back at the legislative history and highlights that created and led to the development of the aging network as we know it today. Four day-long workshops occurred on Monday and included Dr. David Mills of the UGA J.W. Fanning Institute for Leadership in a presentation entitled “Leading Organizational Change in a Changing Environment.” The final day featured four short sessions on guardianship in Georgia, design of successful and sustainable programs, the Georgia Centenarian Study, and new Medicare benefits and federal health initiatives. The closing plenary session “Out-Swimming Mediocrity” was presented by Gaye Martin of Resources Unlimited.

### **2006**

The 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, “The New Image of Aging in Georgia,” was held at Brasstown Valley Resort in Young Harris on September 17 – 29, 2006. Chairs Bill Brown and Michael Fornaro coordinated an invigorating array of presentations in the very relaxing setting of the North Georgia mountains.

### **2007**

GGS held its 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference jointly with the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging on September 16-18, 2007, in Savannah. “Aging Takes Center Stage” was the theme, and conference co-chairs Maureen Kelly and Pat Freeman carried out extensive

planning with AAA directors to showcase Georgia and provide excellent training. Tracks included communities preparing for the future, elder rights and justice, education and professional development, senior centers, consumer/client choice, information and referral, and caregiver support.

## **2008**

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference and the Georgia Gerontology Society was held on September 14-16, 2008, in Columbus at the Marriott and the Convention and Trade Center. “The Art of Caring” was planned in conjunction with the Georgia Older Worker Network, which had a track for its members and held its annual luncheon as a part of the Conference closing session. A Conference Committee comprised of Pam Rogers, Lisa Federico, Maureen Kelly, Matthew Malok, and Walter Coffey coordinated two pre-conference intensives: “Extra, Extra, Read All About It! Employer Profit Linked To Older Workers” presented by Billy Wooten of Experience Works and “The Green House Model” presented by Angela Pollock of The Green House at Calvary and Lisa Dodgen of The Gardens at Calvary. The opening session “The Art of Learning for Life” featured keynote speaker Dr. George E. Stanton, Professor of Biology/ Environmental Science and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Columbus State University addressing the need to prepare the aging population for a life style rich in physical and intellectual activity to ensure quality of life. Thirtyconcurrent short sessions were organized by the tracks Administration, Caregiving, Employment, Housing, and Wellness. Networking opportunities were abundant with tours to the CSU Schwab School of Music, Heard Theater and School of art and an evening reception with bluegrass music at the Coca-Cola Space Center.

## **2009**

For its 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, the Society once more partnered with Georgia’s Older Worker Network. “Aging Goes Green” was held on September 14-16, 2009, at Callaway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn Conference Center in Pine Mountain and was chaired by Jennie Deese and Matthew Malok. After opening day tours of Callaway Gardens and the Cecil B. Day Butterfly House and before the President’s Reception on the patio, the Conference opened with three keynote addresses. Melanie McNeil, Manager of Medicaid and Special Populations for Kaiser Permanente in Georgia, discussed “What It Means to Go Green.” Adriane Berg, CEO of Generation Bold, spoke to attendees on the topic “Strong Brain, Smart Brain, Fit Brain: Integrating Good Nutrition & Cognitive Health Into the Livable Community Model.” Kris Cavanaugh, CEO of Shift , Inc. addressed the session on “Getting Thru the Recession Effectively by Becoming CEO of Your Life.” Forty short concurrent sessions were organized into five tracks: Aging and Disabilities Resource Centers, Caregiving, Livable Communities, Senior Employment, and Wellness. The Awards Luncheon featured speaker Sandy Markwood, CEO of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, and the closing luncheon open again was planned in conjunction with the Older Worker Network annual awards luncheon.

## **2010**

The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference was a joint conference with the National Association of State Units for Aging and Disabilities, allowing GGS to host national presenters and showcase Georgia best practices to a national audience. The National Home and Community Based Services Conference took place on September 26-29, 2010, at the Hilton Atlanta Hotel in



downtown Atlanta. A National Planning Committee included Dr. James Bulot, Director of the Georgia Division of Aging Services, and Jennie Deese, President of GGS. Maria Greene, consultant to NASUAD, and Matthew Malok, GGS staff, did much of the liaison work and logistical planning. In compensation for the partnership, NASUAD gave GGS \$20,000 of the conference proceeds.

The opening day included the Opening Session entitled “The HCBS Experience in Georgia” with speaker Kyle Maynard, followed by fourteen short concurrent sessions. On the second day, an opening plenary featured Kathy Greenlee, Assistant Secretary for Aging, Administration on Aging, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and a Panel Presentation “Weathering the Storm: The Impact of the Great Recession on Long-Term Services and Supports.” Barbara Edwards, Director of the Disabled & Elderly Health Programs Group, CMS, made a plenary presentation after lunch, and throughout the course of the day, twenty-eight short concurrent sessions were offered.

Day three included twenty-eight concurrent sessions and two Plenary Sessions midday with speakers Henry Claypool, Director of Disability Services for HHS, and Melanie Bella, Director of the Federal Coordinated Health Care Office of CMS. The final day began with the GGS Board Annual Meeting and continued with a Closing Plenary Breakfast and keynote speaker Constance Garner, Policy Director, Government Strategies Practice Group, and Executive Director for Advance CLASS, Inc. Following a final array of seven concurrent sessions, GGS closed the conference with its Annual Awards Luncheon.

## **2011**

GGS returned to its roots for the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference, convening at the UGA Conference Center in Athens. “It Takes a Village” was held on September 19-21, 2011, with 139 persons in attendance. Co-chairs Jennie Deese and Wallace White and committee members coordinated more than forty educational and networking opportunities. Both the Conference Program and the Award Banquet afforded the Society an opportunity to honor Dr. David Levine, an early member, perennial supporter, Georgia aging champion, non-stop advocate, mentor to half of the professionals in the aging field, and long-time appointee to the Georgia Council on Aging. Following his death in June, 2011, the Society renamed its Legislative Award to be known as the David L. Levine Legislative Award and made its first presentation at the Conference with David’s family in attendance.

The Opening Session featured two speakers, former NFL New Orleans Saints player Dave Hubbard and Dr. Takanori Shibata, creator of PARO, the caregiver robot. A general session and luncheon on Tuesday included keynote speaker Loran Smith, UGA’s original football sideline announcer and current newspaper columnist and syndicated radio program host. Throughout the conference, a total of thirty-seven short concurrent sessions addressed a broad range of topics from livable housing to technology. The Closing Awards Luncheon also included installation of new Board officers and Board members.

## **2012**

The Society held its 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference “Enjoying the High Tides of Life: Sailing the Waves to Dynamic Aging” August 13-15, 2012, at Sea Palms Resort and Conference

Center, St. Simon's Island. Co-chairs Monica Couch and Wallace White coordinated a committee and staff which worked diligently to develop the best possible conference experience including 35 educational workshops, an opening session with dynamic speakers and a panel discussion with nationally recognized experts in the field of aging. Attendees also enjoyed the evening networking event at poolside and visited the exhibit hall to learn about advancements in products and services in the field of aging. Short concurrent workshops were organized by tracks: Aging and Disability Resources, Business and Economics, Healthy Lifestyle and Active Engagement, Families Grandparents & Caregiving, and Safe communities. The Opening Session featured two speakers: Dr. Sybil Ingram spoke on "Providing Empowerment with Integrity," and Vernon Keenan, Director of the Georgia Bureau of Investigations, updated attendees on efforts to crack down on elder abuse in Georgia through changes in legislation, police and aging network training, and heightened enforcement. Another Plenary Session followed with a panel presentation "Sustainability of the Aging Network – Challenges, Opportunities, and Outlook." Panel members included Diana Scully, Senior Director of State Services for the National Association of State Units for Aging and Disabilities, Kevin Monroe, President of Xfactor Consulting, and Sandy Markwood, CEO of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging. When the luncheon keynote speaker failed to arrive on Tuesday, Georgia Council on Aging Director Kathryn Fowler was asked to give an update on legislative and budget priorities chosen by the members of the Coalition of Advocates for Georgia's Elderly. The Final day of the conference began with the Awards Breakfast and installation of GGS officers and new Board members.

## **2013**

58<sup>th</sup> "Senior PGA Tour: Professionals, Gerontologist, and Aging Advocates" was the theme of the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference held August 12-14, 2013, at the Marriott Riverfront Hotel, in Augusta. Co-Chairs Kathy Keith and Gwenyth Johnson coordinated a program which brought 183 attendees, two major sponsors, seven exhibitors, and advertisers together. A Pre-conference intensive was made available to twenty-five attendees. Doug Carl of the Georgia Division of Aging Services presented "Improving the Quality of Services and Supports Offered to LGBT Older Adults by Aging Providers (Level I Workshop)." Kathy Fike, PhD, a consultant who combines the field of system engineering and gerontology, was the keynote speaker for the Opening Session "AgeStorming: Fresh Ideas about Innovation and Aging." Tuesday Luncheon speaker Tobias Tillmon, Associate State Director AARP Georgia, will discuss AARP's Life Reimagined, a powerful and innovative step-by-step approach to helping people discover real possibilities and prepare for change. Thirty-five short concurrent sessions were organized into tracks: Business and Economics, Caregiving, Healthy Lifestyles, Livable Communities, and Safe Communities. The Conference closed with the Annual Awards Brunch.

## **2014**

The Society held its 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference "Aged to Perfection" on July 28-30, 2014 at Chateau Elan in Braselton. Co-chairs Kerry Defoe and Gwenyth Johnson worked closely with other committee members and staff to plan a program which included a pre-conference intensive, plenary sessions, short educational sessions, and opportunities to learn from exhibitors and network with other professionals at the President's Reception and the Wine Tasting Tour. Again this year, a Pre-conference intensive was made available to twenty-five attendees. Doug Carl of the Georgia Division of Aging Services presented "Improving the

Quality of Services and Supports Offered to LGBT Older Adults by Aging Providers (Level I Workshop).” The Opening Session followed with screening of “The Age of Champions,” an inspiring film about athletes competing in Senior Olympics, hosted by Tad Ochwat, Producer for The Documentary Foundation and Founder of Ochwat Tech and Marketing. Thirty-five short concurrent sessions were organized into tracks: Business and Economics, Caregiving, Healthy Lifestyles, Livable Communities, and Mental Health and Aging. The President’s Reception featured a Poster Session showcasing best practices in service organizations as well as research outcomes. The Tuesday luncheon speaker was Dr. William McDonald, Director of the Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression in the Emory University School of Medicine, who addressed “Older Adults and Mental Health.” With an attendance of 225 registrants, the conference returned to pre-Recession levels of participation, and \$20,500 in financial support was secured from sponsors, exhibitors, and advertisers. The GGS Awards Brunch and installation of GGS Board officers and new Board members was the final event of the conference.

## **Revisions of the Bylaws (2005 - 2014)**

**2005** Article VI, Section 3, The Nominating Committee was amended to reduce the required minimum number of nominees for each office of the Society and each seat on the Board of Directors to one (1) seat.

Article VI, Section 3, The Nominating Committee was further amended to require that “The Nominating Committee shall strive to present candidates who bring professional geographic, and ethnic diversity to the Board of Directors.”

**2007** A thorough review was accomplished in order to address concerns such as officer responsibilities, improvement of the Nominating Committee function, simplification and support of chapters and sections, and making the Immediate past President position an official one.

Article III, Section 1 and Section 1.b, Student Affairs Committee was renamed Student Scholarship Committee.

Article V, Section 3.c, Chapter and Section Officers designation was amended to simplify organization by listing chair or other leadership necessary rather than officers.

Article VI, Section 1, The Officers listing was amended to add Immediate Past President.

Article VI, Section 4, The Duties of Officers were amended to assign to the Vice-President the responsibility to co-chair the annual conference committee and to allow the President to appoint another member should the Vice-President serve a second term.

Article VI, Section 4, The Duties of Officers were amended to assign to the Immediate Past President the responsibility to chair the nominating committee, preside if the President and Vice-President are not available, and continue to serve until the President leaves office regardless of the term of office.

Article VII, Section 3, The Nominating Co was further defined to designate two of the five positions as the Immediate Past President, who shall serve as Committee Chair, and the Administrative Director of the Society. The Chair was further instructed to convene the Nominating Committee no later than January of each year. The Committee was also given latitude to present “member in good standing or interested parties who complete application for membership and pay dues..”

**2013** Article VIII, Section 1b, Society Elections was revised to allow for both written and electronic voting and to accept write-in candidates. The previous By-Laws had required publication three months prior to the Annual Meeting and Conference, with return of written ballots required six weeks prior to the meeting. The Revision allowed for publication of ballots at any time prior to the Meeting and return of ballots no later than two days prior to the Meeting.



## Appendices



## Appendix A

### The Presidents of the Georgia Gerontology Society

Term of Service	President	City of Residence
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*Editor's Note: In completing the 50<sup>th</sup> & 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Editions of the GGS History, the Editor noted that, with the passage of time, many readers would not know the Society's presidents; so every effort has been made to include identifying information. When it could not accurately be presented, it was omitted in hopes that future editions will be more complete. K.F.*

1955 - 56	Louis Newmark Executive Director, Jewish Home for the Aged	Atlanta
1956 - 57	J. Fred Gunter	Atlanta
1957 - 58	Elizabeth Powell Assistant Director, UGA Council on Gerontology	Athens
1958 - 59	Ed McDaniel	Thomasville
1959 - 60	Grady Bradshaw	West Point
1960 - 61	George Beckman	Warm Springs
1961 - 62	Virginia M. Smyth Regional Rep. on Aging, U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, & Welfare	Atlanta
1962 - 63	Scott Houston, Jr. Executive Director, Wesley Homes, Inc.	Atlanta
1963 - 64	L.C. Butcher Financial Officer, Georgia Department of Labor	Atlanta
1964 - 65	William H. Rauchenberg, Jr.	Atlanta
1965 - 66	Marian Glustrom Georgia State University	Atlanta
1966 - 67	Kenneth Jasnau Director of Social Service, Central State Hospital	Milledgeville
1967 - 68	Albert E. Horvath Executive Director, Senior Citizen Services of Metropolitan Atlanta	Atlanta
1968 - 69	Elsie C. Alvis Director, Georgia Office of Aging	Atlanta
1969 - 70	Collus Johnson	Carrolton
1970 - 71	Collus Johnson Director, Adult Education, West Georgia College	Carrolton
1971 - 72	Mariann K. Gallops Director, Columbus-Muscogee Metro Council on Aging	Columbus
1972 - 73	Roger N. Carstensen President, Christian College of Georgia	Athens
1973 - 74	Kenneth Jasnau Director of Social Service, Central State Hospital	Milledgeville
1974 - 75	James A. Thorson Gerontological Specialist, UGA Center for Continuing Education	Athens
1975 - 76	Frank Whittington Professor, Georgia State University Sociology Department	Atlanta
1976 - 77	Cheryll Schramm Director, Marietta-Cobb Community Service Center	Atlanta
1977 - 78	Jeanne Bartle Chief, Aging Division, Atlanta Regional Commission	Atlanta
1978 - 79	Ray Avant	Atlanta
1979 - 80	Ray Avant Executive Director, DeKalb Community Council on Aging	Atlanta
1980 - 81	Brad Courtenay Professor, University of Georgia Adult Education Department	Athens

1981 - 82	Judy Hagebak	Atlanta
1982 - 83	Judy Hagebak Executive Director, DeKalb Community Council on Aging	Atlanta
1983 - 84	Julie Cohn	Atlanta
1984 - 85	Julie Cohn Deputy Director, Georgia Office of Aging	Atlanta
1985 - 86	Jeanette Cummings Director, CSRA Area Agency on Aging	Augusta
1986 - 87	Pick Conner Professor of Sociology/Anthropology, West Georgia College	Carrollton
1987 - 88	Pat Viles Director, Georgia Mountains Area Agency on Aging	Gainesville
1989	Ronald W. Schoeffler	Augusta
1990	Ronald W. Schoeffler Executive Director, Senior Citizens Council of Greater Augusta & the CSRA	Augusta
1991	Barbara Rosenberg	Atlanta
1992	Barbara Rosenberg Director of Clinical Services for Aging, Jewish Family Services	Atlanta
1993	Kathryn D. Fowler	Athens
1994	Kathryn D. Fowler Executive Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	Athens
1995	Deborah Wilkinson	Brunswick
1996	Deborah Wilkinson Program Manager, Georgia Division of Aging Services	Brunswick
1997	Cathie Berger	Atlanta
1998	Cathie Berger Coordinator of Planning, Aging Services, Atlanta Regional Commission	Atlanta
1999	Linda Hampton Executive Director, Older Americans Council	Macon
2000	Barbara McBrayer-Brice	Atlanta
2001	Barbara McBrayer-Brice Georgia Division of Aging Services	Atlanta
2002	Lucy Welchel President, Eldercare Options	Covington
2003	Barbara Rosenberg	Atlanta
2004	Barbara Rosenberg Supervisor, Elder Connections, Jewish Family & Career Services	Atlanta
2005	Maureen Kelly	Atlanta
2006	Maureen Kelly Community Liaison, Aging Services, Atlanta Regional Commission	Atlanta
2007	Yolanda Hallas Associate State Director, AARP Georgia	Atlanta
2008	Jennie Deese Director of Community Outreach (SC, GA, FL), Care Improvement Plus	Atlanta
2009	Jennie Deese	Athens
2010	Jennie Deese President and CEO, Athens Community Council on Aging	Athens
2011	Pamela Rogers	Brunswick
2012	Pamela Rogers Aging Services Contracts Administrator, Coastal Georgia Area Agency on Aging	Brunswick
2013	Wallace White	Augusta
2014	Wallace White Aging Services Manager, CSRA Area Agency on Aging	Augusta
2015	Eve Anthony VP/Chief Operating Officer, Athens Community Council on Aging	Athens

## Appendix B

### Georgia Gerontology Society Annual Meetings

Year	Theme	Location
1956	No theme chosen for the meeting	Atlanta
1957	No theme chosen for the meeting	Atlanta
1958	No theme chosen for the meeting	Athens
1959	No theme chosen for the meeting	Atlanta
1960	No theme chosen for the meeting	Athens
1961	Aging: A Challenge and an Opportunity	Atlanta
1962	Georgia's Current Programs for Its Elderly	Atlanta
1963	No theme chosen for the meeting	Athens
1964	Opportunities for Older Georgians	Atlanta
1965	New Developments in Aging in Georgia and the Nation	Athens
1966	A New Day for Older Georgians	Atlanta
1967	Advances in Gerontology: Progress, Plans and Priorities	Athens
1968	Current Plans and Action at Federal, State, and Local Levels Held in conjunction with the State Commission on Aging	Atlanta
1969	A Time for Reexamination and a Forward Look Held in conjunction with the State Commission on Aging	Atlanta
1970	Let Older Georgians Speak Held in conjunction with the State Commission on Aging	Atlanta
1971	Georgia White House Conference on Aging	Atlanta
1972	Knowledge and Practice in the Field of Aging Held in conjunction with the State Office of Aging	Athens
1973	Removing Barriers Affecting Older Georgians Held in conjunction with the State Office of Aging and the University of Georgia	Athens
1974	Legislation and Contributions to the Quality of Older Persons lives	Athens
1975	The Future of Aging	Atlanta
1976	Working Together: Researchers, Planners, Service Providers, Older Persons Chairs: Jim Thorson and John Daniel	Athens
1977	Legislation and the Elderly	Macon
1978	Rights of the Elderly: Economic Rights, Right to Health, Right to Social Participation	Macon
1979	Planning for Aging in Georgia	Athens
1980	Aging Services: Who Benefits? Who Loses? Chair: Annette McNaron	St. Simons
1981	Economic Impact: New Partnerships for Aging Held in conjunction with the South Carolina Gerontological Society Chairs: Brad Courtney (GGS) and George Dick (SGS)	Augusta
1982	Community Partnerships for Aging	Stone Mountain
1983	New Perspectives in Health Care for the Elderly Chairs: Jeanette Cummings, Hunter Hurst, and Nancy White	Savannah
1984	Aging: Shaping Our Future Held in conjunction with the Georgia Association of Homes for the Aging Chairs: Jean Kellar and Marietta Suhart	Athens
1985	Health and Wellness: Prevention, Education and Promotion Chair: Julie Cohn	Macon
1986	The New Elderly: A Challenge for Change. Are We Ready? Chair: Betsy Styles	Helen
1987	Multiple Choices: An Examination of the Options Chairs: Cathie Berger and Jeanne Bartle	Atlanta



1988	Synergy: Power for the Future Chair: Ron Schoeffler	Augusta
1989	Aging: Make it a Good Life Chairs: Virginia Griffin and Kay Hind	Albany
1990	Aging: Visions for the 90's Chairs: Kathryn Fowler and Marietta Suhart	Athens
1991	Sailing into Successful...Who Said It's a Breeze? Chairs: Sherrie Abbott and Marian Conway	Savannah
1992	Being the Best You Can Be Chairs: Gary Arthur, Meg Bradley, and Cindy Ford	Columbus
1993	Generation to Generation: Bridging the Spectrum Chairs: Mary McKinnon and Deborah Wilkinson	St. Simons
1994	A Healthier Age: Our Challenge Chairs: Linda Garcia and Pat Viles Freeman	Helen
1995	Continuity – Change – Challenge: Aging in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Chairs: Jeanette Cummings, Kathleen Ernce, and Pamela Johnson	Augusta
1996	The Changing Faces of Aging Chairs: Linda Hampton, Jill Hayes, and Sandra Lieberman	Macon
1997	Today's Challenges, Building Tomorrow's Opportunities Chairs: Catherine Ivy and P.K. Beville	Atlanta
1998	Set Sail for Global Aging Chair: Pat Whitmore	Savannah
1999	Passage to the Top Chair: Jill Hayes	Young Harris
2000	Millennium Madness: Creating New Visions Chairs: Betty Klein, Barbara Rosenberg, and Patt Whitmore	St. Simons
2001	Put on Your Playing Shoes...It's a Brand New Game Chairs: Ken Mitchell, Mickey Holloway, and Pat Harrell	Columbus
2002	The Aging Revolution: Challenge and Opportunity Chairs: Kathleen Ernce and Jeanette Cummings	Augusta
2003	Making Georgia a Good Place to Age Chair: Kathryn Fowler	Athens
2004	Adaptations for an Aging Society Chair: Barbara McBrayer-Brice	Atlanta
2005	Going for the Gold: Celebrating 50 Years of Leadership in Aging Chairs: Ginny Helms and Walter Coffey	Savannah
2006	The New Image of Aging in Georgia Chairs: Bill Brown and Michael Fornaro	Young Harris
2007	Aging Take Center Stage Held in conjunction with the Southeastern Area Agencies on Aging Association Chairs: Maureen Kelly and Pat Freeman	Savannah
2008	The Art of Caring In partnership with the Georgia Older Worker Network Committee: Pam Rogers, Lisa Federico, Maureen Kelly, Matthew Malok, Walter Coffey	Columbus
2009	Aging Goes Green Chairs: Jennie Deese and Matthew Malok	Pine Mountain
2010	Home and Community Based Services National Conference Held in conjunction with the national Association of State Units for Aging and Disabilities and the Georgia Division of Aging Services Georgia representatives to National Planning Committee: Dr. James Bulot and Jennie Deese	Atlanta
2011	It Takes a Village Chairs: Jennie Deese and Wallace White	Athens
2012	Enjoying the High Tides of Life: Sailing the Waves to Dynamic Aging Chair: Monica Couch and Wallace White	St. Simon's Island
2013	Senior PGA Tour: Professionals, Gerontologists, and Aging Advocates Chair: Kathy Keith	Augusta
2014	Aged to Perfection Chair: Kerry Defoe	Braselton

## Appendix C

### History of the Georgia Gerontology Society Awards

The Georgia Gerontology Society established an early tradition of recognizing significant achievement and contributions to the field of aging. Since 1966, the Annual Meeting and Conference has included an Awards Ceremony as a particular highlight.

During the first years, awards were given in a variety of categories - Individual, Professional, Distinguished Service, and area of service. With the passage of time, the number and type of awards has become more established. Several awards have been named for individuals who have been significant to the Georgia Gerontology Society and to gerontology in the state of Georgia - John Tyler Mauldin, Elsie Alvis, Louis Newmark, Robert P. Wray, Marietta Suhart, and Dan Hickman. As the Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary, the following Awards are our standard.

The **Elsie Alvis Award** is given to the outstanding professional in gerontology with a minimum of 15 years of service. The Award was first given in 1970 as a Professional Award and was named in honor of Elsie Alvis in 1980. This designation honors an early GGS member who received the Individual Award in 1966, the first year Awards were made. She served as the Director of the Governor's Commission on Aging, later the State Commission on Aging, beginning in 1960. She served well past the age of 70 and directed statewide study to develop Georgia's Story of Her Aging, published as the official Georgia report to the 1961 White House Conference on Aging.

The **John Tyler Mauldin Award** is given to an older individual in Georgia who exemplifies a positive role model of outstanding Achievement in the field of Aging. First given to Dr. Mauldin in 1967 as the First Annual Outstanding Achievement Award, it was named for the first recipient the next year. Dr. Mauldin, a prominent Atlanta surgeon and also an early GGS activist, was appointed in 1959 to Chair the newly established Governor's Commission on Aging, later the State Commission. He directed the planning of Georgia's participation in the 1961 White House Conference on Aging.

The **Louis Newmark Award** is presented to an individual providing at least 10 years of service to aging, with particular attention to the Georgia Gerontology Society. The Award was first given in 1982 to Louis Newmark, the Society's first President, in recognition for his nearly three decades of service to gerontology in Georgia and to the Society. Louis Newmark also won several GGS Awards for his social service and service to the Society and was the Society's historian for the first three decades of its existence. He was also a founder of the Georgia Conference on Social Welfare.

The **Marietta Suhart Award**, established in 1993 shortly after Marietta's death, is given to the individual with demonstrated ability to educate para-professionals, professionals and other persons working with older adults; proven leadership and vision in gerontology by development/expansion of educational programs and services; and recognized ability to touch as well as to teach learners. A long-time GGS Board member, hard-working committee member, and enthusiastic educator who fit the description of the Award established in her name, Marietta

Suhart was the Gerontology Specialist with the University of Georgia Continuing Education program.

The **Dan Hickman Award** is presented to the person who has shown excellence in the profession of Care/Case Management and who exhibits leadership in the profession by providing exceptional direct services, training fellow Care Managers, and/or advocating for improvements in care management. The Award was established in 1998 and first presented in 1999 in memory of Dan, who was the Community Care Services Program Manager with the Georgia Division of Aging Services. He helped to define case management as a profession in Georgia, and he exhibited great spirit, zest, and integrity in support of the profession.

The **Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award** is presented by the Student Affairs Committee to support undergraduate study in gerontology. Robert P. Wray was an active GGS member, a founder of numerous service programs in Pennsylvania and Georgia, and was the first Director of the University of Georgia Gerontology Center. He was first posthumously honored in 1989 by designation of the Wray Legislative Award. However, Society members quickly realized that this educator's memory would be best honored through naming of the annual gerontology scholarship award.

The **Virginia Smyth Scholarship Award** is presented annually to offer financial support to persons seeking to advance their careers in aging. The fund, established in 1998, provides scholarships for graduate study in gerontology and promotes leadership development in the field of aging to include a broad knowledge base, strong organizational skills and a vision for the future. The Scholarship was first awarded in 2004 and named for Virginia Smyth, a founding member of GGS and the spirit behind the establishment and endowment of the GGS Scholarship Fund.

The **David L. Levine Legislative Award**, established in 1993, is given to the legislator who has sponsored or co-sponsored legislation that would improve the quality of life for older adults; has consistently supported aging issues; and has been willing to listen to the concerns of Georgia's elderly. In 2011, this award was designated to honor Dr. David L. Levine, who devoted his adult life to advocating for those who could not advocate for themselves.

Special citations or certificates to individuals who deserve recognition because of achievement, service, exemplary living and/or commitment to aging may also be presented at the Awards Banquet. These awards are chosen by the Awards Committee.

## A Chronological Listing of the Georgia Gerontology Society Awards 1966 to the present

*Editor's Note: In completing the 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Editions of the GGS History, it was noted that, with the passage of time, many readers would not know the Award winners; so every effort has been made to include identifying information for the year of the Award when it could be found in GGS files. It was omitted when it could not accurately be presented.*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Award Winner</u>	<u>Category or Comment</u>
1966	Council on Gerontology Director, Gerontology Center, University of Georgia Elsie Alvis Director, Georgia Commission on Aging	Presented to Dr. Robert Wray, Chairman Individual Award
1967	Virginia Smyth Dr. John T. Mauldin Secretary, Medical Association of Georgia, and Chairman, Georgia Commission on Aging Julius F. Bishop Mayor of Athens Louis Newmark President, Jewish Home, Atlanta Dr. Carl C. Aven Mrs. C.H. Cox Judge Braswell Dean, Jr. Mrs. Dora Byron H.C. Morrison  Rev. James Weldon E.J. Shepherd Mrs. Niels Jacobson Mrs. Agnes Durden Mrs. Edna West	Distinguished Service in the Field of Aging First Annual Outstanding Achievement Award Public Service Award Social Service Award Health and Medical Award Outstanding Senior Citizen Award Housing and Living Arrangements Award Education Award Planning & Development of Programs & Service Award Religion Award Community Service Award Employment Award Leisure Time Award Community Service Award
1968	L.C. Butcher Retired, Georgia Department of Labor Dr. Benjamin Mays President Emeritus, Morehouse College Dr. Belle Boone Beard Professor, UGA Social Science Research Institute Mrs. Ruth (David ) F. Byck Volunteer, Senior Citizens Savannah-Chatham County Satchel Paige & Atlanta Braves	John T. Mauldin Award (formerly Annual Outstanding Achievement Award re-named for 1967 recipient) Older Adult Award Citation of Merit to Professional in Gerontology Citation of Merit to a Non-Professional in Gerontology Special Tribute
1969	File indicates awards were given but there is no record of award recipients.	
1970	Hugh Gaston Mrs. Carolyn French Frank Adams Smith Elizabeth Powell Assistant Director, UGA Council on Gerontology, Center for Continuing Education Atlanta Section, National Council of Jewish Women Louis Erickson	John T. Mauldin Award Professional Award Older Adult Award Distinguished Service Award Citation of Merit to a Voluntary Organization Special Citation artistic contributions to aging

1971	There is no record of the Awards Committee report.	
1972	Dr. Robert Wray Chairman, Council on Gerontology, University of Georgia	Outstanding person in field of Gerontology
1973	The Awards Committee had no recommendations for Awards.	
1974	Fred P. Manget Gwen O'Neal Lillian Bischoff Frank Hughes Dr. Robert Wray Chairman, Council on Gerontology, University of Georgia Florrie Wade	John T. Mauldin Award Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Older Adult Award
1975	James Thorson Gerontological Specialist, UGA Council on Aging, Center for Continuing Education Mrs. Marianna Gallops Director, Columbus-Muscogee Metro Council on Aging Mrs. Elsie Alvis Retired Director, Georgia Commission on Aging Mrs. Mary Stolz Mrs. Barbara Payne	Citation of Merit for Outstanding Service in Gerontology Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Outstanding Services in the Field of Aging Outstanding Services in the Field of Aging Citation of Merit for Outstanding Service in Gerontology
1976	Cheryll Schramm Director, Marietta-Cobb Community Service Center Frances Richter Odessa Williamson Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging Peter Depp Fleeta Echols Mitchell Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging	John T. Mauldin Award Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Non-Professional Award Non-Professional Award Volunteer Work in Field of Aging
1977	James Thorson Gerontological Specialist, UGA Council on Aging, Center for Continuing Education Olga Spindell Mae Alexander	John T. Mauldin Award Professional Award Citation of Merit
1978	Jeanne Bartle Chief, Aging Services, Atlanta Regional Commission Kay Hind Director, Albany-Dougherty County Council on Aging Thomas F. Pitts Dr. Robert C. Wilson Vita Ostrander Chair, Georgia AARP Legislative Committee	John T. Mauldin Award Citation of Merit to a Professional in Gerontology Citation of Merit to Older Adults Citation of Merit to Older Adults Citation of Merit to a Non-Professional in Gerontology
1979	Ray Avant Executive Director, DeKalb Community Council on Aging Dr. Eugene Sherman Chairman, Department of Sociology, Albany State College Lillie Barnes Chairperson, Atlanta Regional Commission Task Force on Aging	John T. Mauldin Award Professional Award Non-Professional Award



1984	Vita Ostrander	John T. Mauldin Award
	National President, American Association of Retired Persons	
	Judy Hagebak	Elsie Alvis Professional Award
	Executive Director, DeKalb Community Council on Aging	
	Carolyn French	Louis Newmark Award
	Executive Director, Atlanta Area Alzheimer's Disease & Related Disorders Association	
	Charlee Lambert	Citation of Merit
	Director, Educational Playmakers	
	Alton Ray	Citation of Merit
	Editor, <i>Senior News Bulletin</i> , Lower Chattahoochee Area Agency on Aging	
	Harry Buress	Citation of Merit
	Convalescent center volunteer, St. Martin in the Field Episcopal Church, Atlanta	
	Susie LaBord	Citation of Merit
	Resident, Grady Homes Atlanta, organizer of senior volunteers	
	Stephanie Hudy, UGA	Best Graduate Student Paper
1985	Eleanor Richardson	John T. Mauldin Award
	Helen Conner	Elsie Alvis Professional Award
	Sophia Deutschberger	Louis Newmark Award
	GGG Founder, Retired Social Work Consultant, Athens	
	Janis Kleinberger	Citation of Merit
	Joyce Horsley	Citation of Merit
	Col F.J. Smircina	Citation of Merit
	Teresa Coleman	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
	Craig Williams	Graduate Student Paper Award
1986	Clara West	John T. Mauldin Award
	President, CSRA Area Agency on Aging Council	
	Marietta Suhart	Elsie Alvis Award
	Gerontology Program Director, UGA Center for Continuing Education	
	Jeanette Cummings	Louis Newmark Award
	Director, CSRA Area Agency on Aging	
	Louis Newmark	Recognition for first published history of GGS
	1 <sup>st</sup> GGS President	
	Floyd Adams	Citation of Merit
	Founding Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	
	Ruth Taylor	Citation of Merit
	Senior Center Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	
1987	Kay Hind	John T. Mauldin Award
	Director, SOWEGA Council on Aging	
	Dr. Jim Marshall	Elsie Alvis Award
	Betsy Styles	Louis Newmark Award
	Director, Northside Shepherd Center	
	Mary Louise Cameron	Citation of Merit
	Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging	
	Jay Guyton Thompson	Citation of Merit
	Dr. Andy Smith	Citation of Merit
	Director, School of Psychology, Georgia Tech University	
	Katie Cherry, UGA	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Janice Tittle	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
1988	Dr. Wilbur Watson	John T. Mauldin Award
	Chair, Department of Sociology; Director, Center on Health and Aging Atlanta University	

	Eve B. Levine	Elsie Alvis Award Administrator, The Jewish Home, Atlanta
	Myron Dice	Louis Newmark Award Director, Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission
	Ann Griffin	Citation of Merit Volunteer with Alzheimer's Association, Albany
	Tyrone Butler	Citation of Merit Founder, Augusta Mini-Theatre
	Clara Brown	Citation of Merit Administrator, Pine Manor and Oak Manor Nursing Homes, Columbus
	Hank Midura	Citation of Merit Volunteer and Board member, Atlanta Alzheimer's Association
	Diane Hodson, UGA	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Liesl Clark, Georgia State	Graduate Student Paper Award
1989	Eleanor Richardson	Robert P. Wray Legislative Award (new Award)
	Julie Cohn	John T. Mauldin Award Past President; Director, AARP Area 3 Office
	Diane Brin, RN	Elsie Alvis Award Director of Program Development, Professional Health Resource Center, Rome
	Virginia Griffin	Louis Newmark Award Former Assistant Director, SOWEGA Council on Aging; United Way, Albany
	Jane Carrier	Citation of Merit Former member, Georgia Council on Aging, Mayor's Task Force on Aging, Atlanta
	Sandra Clemens	Citation of Merit Retirement home consultant in nursing assessment, Atlanta
	Katie Cherry, UGA	Student Scholarship
	Mary Ellen Sherrill, UGA	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Karen Finkelman, Augusta College	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
1990	State Senator Paul Broun	Robert P. Wray Legislative Award
	State Senator Pierre Howard	Robert P. Wray Legislative Award
	Pam Buckmaster	Elsie Alvis Award Assistant Director, Catholic Social Services, Atlanta
	Annette McNaron	Louis Newmark Award Employment Services Manager, State Office of Aging
	Elsie Bothwell	Citation of Merit Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging
	Anne Clemmer	Citation of Merit Assistant Director, Coosa Valley Area Agency on Aging
	Jill Daniels	Citation of Merit President, Unadilla Personal Care Home
	William E. Hudson	Citation of Merit Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging and Wesley Homes
	Jeannine Kingry	Citation of Merit Executive Director, Life Enrichment Services, DeKalb County
	Pat Malone	Citation of Merit Adult Services Specialist, Department of Family and Children Services, Atlanta
	Dorothy Newland	Citation of Merit Volunteer, Athens Community Council on Aging
	William Dudley, UGA	Student Scholarship
1991	Gregory A. Foster, M.D.	Elsie Alvis Award
	Pat A. Malone	Louis Newmark Award Adult Services Specialist, Department of Family and Children Services, Atlanta
	State Senator Cathey Steinberg	Legislative Award (re-named)



	Dr. Leonard W. Poon Director, UGA Gerontology Center	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Roger Wayne Morrell, UGA	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award (re-named)
	Lorrina Eastman, UGA	Outstanding Undergraduate Paper Award
	Catherine Berger Atlanta Regional Commission	Citation of Merit
	Kathryn D. Fowler Executive Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	Citation of Merit
	Edgar G. Lucas Marketing Consultant, Atlanta	Citation of Merit
	Linnie Martin Administrative Director, Georgia Gerontology Society	Citation of Merit
	Vita R. Ostrander Georgia Council on Aging, Atlanta	Citation of Merit
1992	Ernestine Thompson Professor of Sociology, Augusta College	Elsie Alvis Award
	Rep. Jim Martin	Legislative Award
	Kathryn D. Fowler Executive Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	Louis Newmark Award
	Cheryll Schramm Aging Services Chief, Atlanta Regional Commission	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Marion Glustrom Former GGS President	Certificate of Merit
	Jeanne Scher President, Older Women's League	Certificate of Merit
	Chloe D. Little	Student Paper
	Mary Ellen Dasgupta, MCG	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award
1993	Harriet L. Cohen Director, Atlanta Area Chapter, Alzheimer's Association	Elsie Alvis Award
	State Senator David Scott	Legislative Award
	Charlee Lambert Director, Educational Playmakers	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Elizabeth A. McNeely, Ph.D. Emory University	Marietta Suhart Award (new award)
	Martha Eaves Georgia Council on Aging, Atlanta	Certificate of Merit
	Evelyn Dacalos-Gay Elder Law Project Manager, Brunswick	Certificate of Merit
	Virginia Zachert, Ph.D.	Certificate of Merit
	David Boyle	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award
	Angela McNeal, Agnes Scot	Undergrate Student Paper Award
	Sharon Jacobson, UGA	Graduate Student Paper Award
	No Award given	Louis Newmark Award
1994	Barbara Payne Stancil, Ph.D.	Elsie Alvis Award
	State Rep. Tom Sherrill	Legislative Award
	Marion Fears	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Ronald W. Schoeffler, Ph.D. Executive Director, Senior Citizens Council of Greater Augusta and the CSRA	Louis Newmark Award
	Nancy P. Kropf, Ph.D. Professor of Social Work, University of Georgia	Marietta Suhart Award
	Martha Eaves Georgia Council on Aging	Certificate of Merit

Richard Janas	Certificate of Merit
Sharon Jacobson	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award
Jordana Glantz, Emory	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
Lona Choi, Georgia State	Graduate Student Paper Award

1995	Ellen Smith	Elsie Alvis Award
	Physical Therapist, Older Adult Program, DHR Division of Public Health	
	David L. Levine, Ph.D.	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Retired Professor of Social Work, University of Georgia	
	Barbara McBrayer-Brice	Louis Newmark Award
	Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	State Sen. Charles W. Walker	Legislative Award
	Nelson McGhee, Ph.D.	Marietta Suhart Award
	Rosa White Messer	Citation of Merit
	President, Brandon Wilde Life Care Community, Augusta	
	Martin Miller	Citation of Merit
	President, Southern Home Care, Valdosta	
	Lorrina Eastmann, UGA	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship
	Hui Han, West Georgia	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Taknaya Watson, Spelman	Undergraduate Student Paper Award

Special Founders Awards Given to GGS Founders on the Occasion of the 40th Anniversary in October, 1995

Sophia Deutschberger (present for the Award), Athens Chapter officer, 1960s  
 Scott Houston, Jr. (present for the Award), President, 1962-1963  
 Dr. John Tyler Mauldin, 1<sup>st</sup> Professional Award winner  
 Louis Newmark, 1<sup>st</sup> President, 1955-1956  
 Virginia Smyth (present for the Award), President, 1961-1962

1996	Linda M. Hampton	Elsie Alvis Award
	Executive Director, Older Americans Council, Macon	
	Virginia Zachert, Ph.D.	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Deborah Wilkinson	Louis Newmark Award
	Program Manager, Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	Fulton County Board of Commissioners	Legislative Award
	Ellyn Jeager	Marietta Suhart Award
	Dolores Ellison, R.N.	Citation of Merit
	Christy McGuire, Georgia Tech	Robert P. Wray Student Scholarship Award
	Bent Jones, UGA	Graduate Student Paper Award

1997	Joyce Horsley	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, Center for Positive Aging, Atlanta	
	Martha Eaves	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Georgia Council on Aging, Legislative chair	
	Kathleen Ernce	Louis Newmark Award
	Advocacy Programs Director, Senior Citizens Council of Greater Augusta & CSRA	
	Senator Clay Land	Legislative Award
	Ruth Garrett, Ph.D.	Marietta Suhart Award
	Professor, Armstrong Atlantic State University	
	Sherry Cummings, UGA	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award

1998	Deborah Sullivan	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director of Community Relations, Sunrise Assisted Living, Decatur	

	Margie Weaver	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Director, Dawsonville County Senior Center	
	Allan Goldman	Louis Newmark Award
	Assistant to Director, Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	Barbara Fraser	Marietta Suhart Award
	Long Term Care Ombudsman Specialist, Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	Representative Mike Polak	Legislative Award
	Kay Stanford	Citation of Merit
	Coordinator, City of Savannah Leisure Services	
	Pattie Peace	Citation of Merit
	Director, Northwest Georgia Area Agency on Aging	
	Kimberly Porter	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
	Susan Higgins	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Alfred Clowser	Graduate Student Paper Award
1999	Margie Searcy	Elsie Alvis Award
	Center Director, Walton County Senior Citizens Council, Monroe	
	Meg Bradley	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Linda Garcia	Louis Newmark Award
	Division Manager, Cobb Senior Services, Marietta	
	Mary MacKinnon	Marietta Suhart Award
	Director of Student Affairs, Gerontology Center, Georgia State University	
	Nancy Morrison	Dan Hickman Award (new award in 1999)
	Program Manager, Piedmont Hospital Sixty Plus, Atlanta	
	Representative Terry Coleman	Legislative Award
	Tena Eddy Pulley	Citation of Merit
2000	Richard Meeks	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, Cobb Senior Services, Marietta	
	Jack Brice	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	AARP, Atlanta	
	Barbara Rosenberg	Louis Newmark Award
	Jewish Family Services	
	Mary A Erlanger, Ph.D.	Marietta Suhart Award
	Athens Associates for Family Counseling and Psychotherapy, Athens	
	Catherine Ivey	Dan Hickman Award
	Director, CCSP Care Management Unit, Visiting Nurse Health System, Atlanta	
	Representative Ralph Twiggs	Legislative Award
	Not Awarded	Citation of Merit
	Molly Perkins, Georgia State	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
	Dotty Gabrels, RN,	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
	North Georgia College & State University	
	Evelyn Hubbard	Graduate Student Paper Award
	State University of West Georgia	
2001	Cathie Berger	Elsie Alvis Award
	Coordinator of Planning, Aging Services Atlanta Regional Commission	
	Dr. Barbara Pittard Payne Stancil	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Presented Posthumously	
	Maureen Kelly	Louis Newmark Award
	Community Liaison, Aging Services, Atlanta Regional Commission	
	Eleanor Crosby, Esq.	Marietta Suhart Award
	Managing Attorney, Georgia Senior Legal Hotline	
	Not Awarded	Dan Hickman Award
	Rep. Georgeanna Sinkfield	Legislative Award
	Val Archer	Citation of Merit

	Georgia Council on Aging, Secretary	
	Lithangia Robinson	Citation of Merit
	Dorothy C. Benson	Citation of Merit
	No Award Given	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
2002	Jeanette Cummings	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, CSRA Area Agency on Aging, Augusta	
	Not Awarded	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Not Awarded	Louis Newmark Award
	Judith Stillion	Marietta Suhart
	Professor, CAREing Center, Kennesaw State University	
	Cathie Berger	Dan Hickman Award
	Coordinator of Planning, Aging Services, Atlanta Regional Commission	
	Representative Jack Connell	Legislative Award
	Ginny Helms	Citation of Merit
	Vice President, Chapter Services, Georgia Chapter, Alzheimer's Association	
	Charlotte Petty	Citation of Merit
	Inez Robinson	Citation of Merit
	Addie Sims	Citation of Merit
	Tracy Wise	Citation of Merit
	Mary Shotwell, Brenau	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
	Charissa Castarphen	Graduate Student Paper Award
	Georgia State University	
	Meghan Brennan, Kennesaw	Undergraduate Student Paper Award
2003	Kay Hind	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, SOWEGA Council on Aging, Albany	
	Dorothy Benson	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Cheryll Schramm	Louis Newmark Award
	Aging Services Chief, Atlanta Regional Commission	
	Dr. Mary Ellen Quinn	Marietta Suhart Award
	Professor of Nursing, Medical College of Georgia, Athens	
	Gail Bechtel	Dan Hickman Award
	Geriatric Care Manager, Piedmont Hospital Sixty Plus Program	
	Senator Vincent Fort	Legislative Award
	Cliff Burt	Citation of Merit for Caregiver Planning
	Alzheimer's Program Director, Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	Kathryn Fowler	Citation of Merit for Conference Chair Leadership
	Executive Director, Athens Community Council on Aging	
	Penny Medhurst	Citation of Merit for Website Design
	Long Term Care Resident Advocate, McIntosh Trail Management Services	
	LeighAnna Allen	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
2004	Maria Greene	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, Georgia Division of Aging Services	
	Ruth D. Crawford	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Penny Medhurst	Louis Newmark Award
	Long Term Care Resident Advocate, McIntosh Trail Management Services	
	Barbara Karcher, Ph.D.	Marietta Suhart Award
	Director, CAREingCenter, Kennesaw State University	
	Nancy Harper	Dan Hickman Award
	Senator Mary Margaret Oliver	Legislative Award
	Cynthia Haley	Citation of Merit
	No Award Given	Robert P. Wray Scholarship Award
	Megan Yerke, UGA	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship

2005	Hunter Hurst	Elsie Alvis Award
	Director, Georgia Infirmary, Inc.	Savannah
	Lithangia Robinson	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Senior Advocate, Atlanta	
	Pat Freeman	Louis Newmark Award
	Director, Legacy Link, Inc.,	Gainesville
	Ginny Helms	Marietta Suhart Award
	Director, Alzheimer's Association,	Atlanta
	Juanita Benjamin	Dan Hickman Award
	Director, Care Management Consultants, Inc.,	Augusta
	Representative Jeff Brown	Legislative Award
	House District 69, LaGrange	
	Estelle Taberoff (deceased)	Citation of Merit
	Senior Advocate, Roswell	
Nancy Kriseman	Citation of Merit	
Geriatric Consulting Services,	Atlanta	
Michele Weber, KSU	Robert P. Wray Scholarship	
Michael Lipore, GSU	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship	
2006	Cliff Burt	Elsie Alvis Award
	Caregiver Specialist, Georgia Division of Aging Services,	Atlanta
	Melba Paulk-Veazy	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Georgia Council on Aging,	Ocilla
	Ken Mitchell	Louis Newmark Award
	State Director, AARP Georgia,	Atlanta
	Allan Goldman	Marietta Suhart Award
	Assistant to Director, Georgia Division of Aging Services,	Atlanta
	Karen Bacheller	Dan Hickman Award
	Retired, Georgia Division of Aging Services,	Atlanta
	Senator Renee Unterman	Legislative Award
	Gwinnett County	
	Frank Boyd	Citation of Merit
	Corporate Relations Program Director, Georgia Power Company,	Atlanta
Frances Beard	Citation of Merit	
Administrative Assistant, Coosa Valley/NW Georgia AAA		
Benjamin Michael Anderson, UGA	Robert P. Wray Scholarship	
Teresa Velzy Bowers, Emory	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship	
2007	Melanie McNeil	Elsie Alvis Award
	Executive Director, Georgia Council on Aging,	Atlanta
	Shelby Lacy	John Tyler Mauldin Award
	Director of Community Education, Athens Regional Medical Center,	Athens
	Patrice Earnest	Louis Newmark Award
	Aging Resources Coordinator, Atlanta Regional Commission,	Atlanta
	Dr. Stacey Kolomer	Marietta Suhart Award
	Professor, School of Social Work, University of Georgia,	Athens
	Not Awarded	Dan Hickman Award
	Senator Jack Hill	Legislative Award
	Senator Eric Johnson	Legislative Award
	Senator Tommie Williams	Legislative Award
	Sudha Reddy	Citation of Merit
	Chief Nutritionist, Georgia Division of Aging Services,	Atlanta
Edna Garst	Citation of Merit	
Athens Community Council on Aging Volunteer,	Athens	

	Barbara Karcher	Citation of Merit
	Retired Faculty, Kennesaw University, Marietta	
	Pam Matheson	Citation of Merit
	Care Coordinator, Visiting Nurse Health System, Decatur	
	Pam Breeden	Citation of Merit
	Executive Director, Cobb Senior Services, Marietta	
	Chris Williams	Citation of Merit
	Director, Bacon County Senior Activity Center, Alma	
	Marianne Tomashefski, KSU	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Jessica Alanna Kennedy, UGA	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2008	Eve H. Byrd	Elsie Alvis Award
	Executive Director, Fuqua Center for Late-Life Depression/Emory University, Decatur	
	Linda Smith-Lowe	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Health Policy Specialist, Georgia Legal Services Program, Atlanta	
	Cori Sackin	Louis Newmark Award
	Older Adult Services, Jewish Family & Career Services of Atlanta	
	Kim Raymond	Marietta Suhart Award
	Senior Citizens' Advocate, Senior Citizens Advocacy Project, Atlanta	
	Shirley Miller	Dan Hickman Award
	Manager, Community Care Services Program, Division of Aging Services, Atlanta	
	Representative Ed Rynders	Legislative Award
	Arvine Brown	Certificate of Merit
	Program Manager, Division of Aging Services, Atlanta	
	Angela Jones	Citation of Merit
	Christine Lewis	Citation of Merit
	Connie Lott	Citation of Merit
	Billy Wooten	Citation of Merit
	State Director, Experience Works	
	Andrea Bessey, UGA	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Desiree Seponski, UGA	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2009	Gail Thompson	Elsie Alvis Award
	Ophelia Gaines	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Walter Coffey	Louis Newmark Award
	President, Aging Services of Georgia, Atlanta	
	Lois Ricci	Marietta Suhart Award
	Geriatric Education Consultant, Atlanta	
	Adail Treharn	Dan Hickman Award
	Representative Len Walker	Legislative Award
	Linda Bailey	Citation of Merit
	Monica Couch	Citation of Merit
	Jennifer Crosby	Citation of Merit
	Ruthie Lewis	Citation of Merit
	LaTonya McNair	Citation of Merit
	Joyce Tutt Cherry	Citation of Merit
	Rachel Newsome, GA Tech	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Melissa Denno, Mercer	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2010	Kathy Keith	Elsie Alvis Award
	Special Programs Director, Heart of Georgia Area Agency on Aging, Jesup	
	Ann Williams	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Legislative Chair, Georgia Council on Aging, Atlanta	
	Kay Hind	Louis Newmark Award
	Executive Director, SOWEGA Council on Aging, Albany	
	Not Awarded	Marietta Suhart Award

	Doris Clanton Legal Counsel, Georgia Division of Aging Services, Atlanta	Dan Hickman Award
	Representative Jimmy Pruet	Legislative Award
	Patricia Steed King Forensics Investigator, Georgia Division of Aging, Services, Atlanta	Citation of Merit
	Lori Bowers, GSU	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Andrew Kelly, GA Tech	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2011	Jennie Deese President & CEO, Athens Community Council on Aging, Athens	Elsie Alvis Award
	Gwen Knight Secretary, Georgia Council on Aging, Albany	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Wallace White Aging Services Manager, CSRA Area Agency on Aging, Augusta	Louis Newmark Award
	Kim McRae Founder & President, Have a Good Life, Atlanta	Marietta Suhart Award
	Cara Pellino	Dan Hickman Award
	Representative Terry England	David L. Levine Legislative Award
	Bridget Delaney	Citation of Merit
	No Award Given	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Katie Porter, UGA	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2012	Pat Baker Health & Human Services Division Director, Gwinnett County	Elsie Alvis Award
	Emma I. Darnell County Commissioner, Clayton County	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Matthew Malok Retired, GGS Administrative Director, Atlanta	Louis Newmark Award
	Evelyn Gay	Marietta Suhart Award
	Carleton Coleman Adult Protective Services Program, Division of Aging Services, Atlanta	Dan Hickman Award
	Representative Sharon Cooper	David L. Levine Legislative Award
	Eleanor Pye	Citation of Merit
	V. Lynn Joyner	Citation of Merit
	Linda Hunter	Citation of Merit
	Scott Courson South Georgia Area Agency on Aging	Citation of Merit
	Meagan Jain, GSU	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Erin Fisher, GSU	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship
2013	Joy Shirley Director, Three Rivers Area Agency on Aging, Franklin	Elsie Alvis Award
	Ann Williams Legislative Chair, Georgia Council on Aging, Atlanta	John Tyler Maudlin Award
	Lois Ricci Geriatric Education Consultant, Atlanta	Louis Newmark Award
	Erika Lawrence Manager, GeorgiaCares Program, Division of Aging Services, Atlanta	Marietta Suhart Award
	Susan Beck	Dan Hickman Award
	Representative Katie Dempsey	David L. Levine Legislative Award
	Lauren Spivey CSRA Area Agency on Aging, Augusta	Citation of Merit
	Myrtle Habersham	Citation of Merit
	Hannah Watson, KSU	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
	Megan Moulding, GSU	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship

2014

Janet Roorbach	Elsie Alvis Award
Jeanette Cummings	John Tyler Maudlin Award
Aging Director, CSRA Area Agency on Aging, Augusta	
Sue Burgess	Louis Newmark Award
Atlanta Regional Commission Area/Agency on Aging, Atlanta	
Patrice Earnest	Marietta Suhart Award
Aging Resources Coordinator, Atlanta Regional Commission, Atlanta	
Evelyn Edmond	Dan Hickman Award
Senator Renee Unterman	David L. Levine Legislative Award
Rosalind Bennett	Citation of Merit
Laura Sapp	Citation of Merit
Kristan Giunta, GA Gwinnett Coll.	Robert P. Wray Scholarship
Ashley Stroud, UGA	Virginia M. Smyth Scholarship