The first meeting of the officially formed and recognized GSW Retiree Association was called to order by Jay Cliett, chair.

The minutes of the 11 Feb 2008 meeting were approved as received.

Barbara DeStefano, as chair of the Service Committee, introduced Gaye Hayes, Dean of Students and Admissions at GSW. Gaye had been invited to tell the Association in what ways retirees could help with the recruitment effort. She made several suggestions:

1) Write congratulatory letters to new students (by US mail and email)
2) Call students who have applied to GSW.
3) Help out in on-campus events such as the Literary Meet, the Math Tournament, the Science Visitation, Georgia History Day, basketball tournaments, etc.
4) Help out at Preview Days (for students and parents interested in GSW) such as assistance with the alumni office coffee in the morning or campus tours later in the morning. The last Preview Day for this academic year is this coming Saturday, 15 Mar 2008. The Preview dates for next year are: Sat 15 Nov 2008, Sat 7 Feb 2009, and Sat 21 Mar 2009.
5) Host a reception for parents on a STORM Day (accepted students day). The dates are as follows:
   Fri 6 June 2008 (new freshmen only)
   Mon 9 June 2008 (transfers only)
   Fri 27 June 2008 (both)
   Fri 18 July 2008 (both)

Anyone interested in helping should email Gaye at ghayes@gsu.edu.

We will invite Gail Barksdale, First-Year Advocate, to a future meeting to find out how the Association can help with retention efforts.

Bill Kipp, as chair of the Benefits Committee, shared Dr. Kendall Blanchard’s email responding to inquiries made earlier:
1) Although there is no larger room currently available, three study-carrel rooms in the library will be reserved for Association use.
2) Retirees can get copies of GSW-owned software for use on their home computers at the same rate that is now being charged current employees—about $5 to check out the software, install it at home, and return the CD the next day.
3) Retirees can use the workout facility in the Student Success Center at no cost to the retiree.

In response to Barbara DeStefano’s question about having a website for the Association, Bill Kipp said he would be willing to work on it after he has completed setting up a website for the STEM Project (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics).

David Ewing, reporting for June Ewing, chair of the Social Committee, indicated some options for the Thu 24 April picnic. He had prices from Thomas Harrell and Sheppard House.

Chief Oris Bryant has not gotten back in touch with Jay Cliett regarding his grilling hamburgers for the picnic.

Those present at the meeting voted for the Association to prepare the picnic ourselves:

- Bill Kipp, Jay Cliett, and David Ewing will grill hamburgers.
- Liz Kelley will provide the tomatoes, lettuce and onions.
- Martha Maddox will inquire about the cost of potato chips, plates, cups, napkins and flatware.
- Tom Wheeler will make 5 gallons each of sweetened and unsweetened iced tea.
- Jo Ann Davis will inquire about the cost of lemons, limes and condiments.
- David Ewing will find out about the cost of prepared potato salad and pork and beans.
- Bill Kipp will find out about the cost of hamburgers and a few chickens to be grilled.

All are to email their findings about the cost to Jay Cliett, who will then inform Dr. Blanchard, who said he would provide funding for the event.

The picnic will be held inside at the GSW Golf and Conference Center.
Tom Wheeler will print the letter to be mailed out and an invitation to the picnic (on a differently colored paper), stuff and address the envelopes. The President’s Office will provide postage.

Our next meeting will be Mon 14 April 2008 at 2:00 pm in the President’s Conference Room. At that time we will divide the list of retirees among those present to call as a follow-up to the invitation.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Tom Wheeler
Vice Chair/Secretary