

Dear Fellow Retiree,

Vol. 2 No.3 / January 29, 2007

When we first saw the need to create a Georgia State Retirees Association, we began by simply asking our fellow retirees to send us their email addresses if they were interested. Our primary concern then (and now) is the continued funding of retiree health insurance benefits under state administered health benefit plans. An overwhelming number of retirees have voiced similar concerns about this and other retirement issues.

Since you sent us your email address requesting more information, I want you to know where we stand. A steering committee was formed, meetings held, officers elected, committee chairs appointed, not-for-profit status applied for, plus all the other tasks required of an organization in its infancy. Additionally we set the criteria for membership as follows: The Association is open to any current or retired employee of the State of Georgia or a subdivision of the State of Georgia who is a member of a health insurance plan administered by a State of Georgia Agency or the Board of Regents.

We have established a website (<u>www.GeorgiaRetirees.org</u>) for you to access and have begun issuing a newsletter which you should already have received. Be sure to check out the website to read the steering committee meeting minutes and the association by-laws. Please understand that considerable website development is still needed and planned as we expand the content to better educate our members.

Many of you have asked how you could help. Costs have been incurred to set up our organization, and there will be continuing costs as we strive to serve our fellow retirees. An association bank account has been established and annual dues set at only \$15.00. You can help now by officially joining your retirees' association. Please send a check or money order for \$15.00, payable to "Georgia State Retirees Association", to the following address:

Bank of Coweta P. O. Box 1218 Newnan, Georgia 30264

Make sure that your full name and mailing address are on the check and please print your *phone number and email address on the check* in order for us to credit your dues properly. Also, please do not send anything other than

checks or money orders to the above address. All other mail correspondence should be sent to the address under the "About Us" tab on our webpage.

A notice of a general membership meeting will be forthcoming soon. Thank you so much for your support.

Sincerely,

Claude L. Vickers, President

Georgia State Retirees Association