



SOUTHERN GERONTOLOGIST

A publication of the Southern Gerontological Society

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Ron Aday, Editor

Winter 2001

2001 Annual Meeting Will Be Something Special

By Mary Anne Hilker, Program Chair

The 22nd Annual Meeting of SGS will feature wonderful opportunities to catch up with old friends and colleagues and to develop new professional contacts. You are sure to find interesting and unusual selections among the many workshops, symposia, and paper sessions on the program. We have special sessions that focus on technology applications in gerontology and others that highlight the value of maintaining and honoring our traditions and heritage. Plus we are pleased to have several outstanding plenary speakers on the program agenda.

Artist, writer, and musician Mitchell Tolle, will deliver an inspiring

and entertaining address to kick off the first exciting evening of the conference. When Mitchell was born in remote and rugged Slate Holler in Lewis County, Kentucky, the odds were very much against his ever becoming a successful artist. Today, the Mitchell Tolle Gallery in Berea is a landmark in the community, and he is one of Americas foremost artists. His watercolors beautifully capture the old and the new. He will share with us his inspiring story of those who believed in him, including the older people in his community. Following his talk, we will adjourn to the Exhibit Hall for live musical entertainment and displays by some of the regions fine older craftsmen.

Dr. Jack M." Skip" Everitt is

an organizational consultant, management trainer, and the author of audio and video training programs on restoring productivity and spirit in times of change. He is a dynamic and sought after speaker who will deliver a message of excellence and hope in the conference's keynote address on Thursday morning. He operates his consulting firm from Gainesville, Florida and has delivered over 1500 speeches and seminars throughout in the US, Canada, and Europe. He holds degrees from Emory University, Georgia State University, and the University of Georgia.

The INVESCO Lecturer at the 2001 SGS meeting is Joseph Quinn.

continued on page 4

In this issue....

President's Message.....	2
SGS Membership Drive.....	5
Student Column.....	5
Growing Old.....	6
One Wish.....	7
Video Review.....	7
Calendar.....	Back Cover

SGS Welcomes New Management Team

Margaret Lynn Duggar and Associates, Inc.(MDL&A), who has been the management firm for SGS for the last eight years has determined, after much reflection upon the professional needs of both SGS and MLD, that it is time for SGS to begin work with a new management firm. It was a very difficult decision for MLD, and especially for Margaret Lynn Duggar, a founding member of SGS.

SGS has chosen a new management firm, Walker Management Group, to handle the day-to-day operation of our organization. Dee Ann

Walker is the President of Walker Management Group, Nick Vaccaro is in charge of business development and websites and Loretta Hendricks will be our new Executive Director.

We asked Dee Ann, Loretta and Nick to give us some background on Walker Management Group and tell us a little about them.

Dee Ann Walker is President of Walker Management Group (WMG), a firm founded in 1987 that specializes in the management of tax-

continued on page 3

Southern Gerontologist

Ron Aday, Editor

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Vision

Bridging gerontological education, research and practice to serve our aging society.

Mission

The Southern Gerontological Society is an inclusive membership association of diverse individuals and organizations with interests in gerontology.

Members seek to improve the quality of life for older adults through education, research and practice.

Long Term Goals

The long term goals of SGS include four priority areas which focus on aging issues, especially as these issues relate to older adults in the South.

- ✓ To foster and enhance the bridges among education, research and practice.
- ✓ To facilitate the exchange of information and ideas among professionals, students and older adults.
- ✓ To advance the leadership role of SGS in improving the quality of life of older adults.
 - ✓ To provide expanded and new forums for professional development.
 - ✓ To ensure the continued vitality of SGS.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the last newsletter I outlined our needs to identify a new management firm and the various steps that would be taken. I am happy to report that, effective November 1, we have been successful in contracting with a new firm, Walker Management Group, headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee. I'll let them introduce themselves to you in their column beginning on the front page. They are enthusiastic about their new association with SGS and I'm personally looking forward to working very closely with them and the Board in the coming months.

This search was successful because of the dedicated efforts of Chuck Longino, Pam Teaster, Gary Mayfield and Bill Massey, the support of the Board, and the continued professional and personal assistance of Margaret Lynn Duggar and her staff. Transition activities, primarily over the month of November, but continuing into December, went very smoothly due to the excellent communication between MLD&A and the Walker Group. Margaret Lynn's note to the membership on page 4 captures both the sadness we feel in ending our eight-year relationship with our management firm - and friends - and the promise of working with our new management firm. I am looking forward to a continued and valued, but now different, SGS relationship with our founding SGS member, Margaret Lynn.

Elsewhere in the newsletter you can read about highlights of the forthcoming annual meeting. Mary Anne Hilker has been working very hard on the program, and has received tremendous support from our local planning committee, co-chaired by Linda Kuder and Mattie Umsheid. The Walker Group is excited about working with us to make this a very successful meeting. This meeting promises to couple provocative professional content with some highly entertaining social events, including the President's Gala at the famous Kentucky Horse Park. Make your plans now!!!

Dick Tucker

Please make a note of the new address, phone number and e-mail for SGS. The website remains the same at www.wfu.edu/Academic-departments/Gerontology/sgs

SGS Welcomes - continued from page 1

exempt organizations. Dee Ann began her career in association management as the Executive director of the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association. Today, WMG manages 8 veterinary associations, 2 medical associations, a financial trade association and, of course, SGS.

WMG is comprised of 10 dedicated employees who handle communications, set up meetings, manage finances and member records, and much more for all of their clients.

Dee Ann is Past President of the American Society of Veterinary Medical Association Executives and is Chair Elect of the Association Management Companies Council of the American Society of Association Executives. She earned the Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation in 1985 and was named Tennessee's Outstanding Association Executive in 1987.

Dee Ann is married to Kort Nygard, a clinical psychologist, and she has two children, Meredith (19) and Elliott (15). Rounding out the household is Bosco the dog, felines Cocoa (13) and Chessie (5), a leopard gecko named Zelda, and a tank full of fish. (Not named for reasons that should be obvious.)

Loretta Hendricks is an association executive with 13 years of experience in association management. She was awarded a Certificate in Association Management from the Institute of Organizational Management at Stanford University for a 6-year program of study. Her experience includes association management of trade and professional associations as well as certification programs. She has worked in all phases of association management: meetings, communications, board development, accounting, legislative and membership. Currently, she is the Executive Director for the Tennessee Consumer Finance Association, Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association, American College of Theriogenology and SGS.

Prior to her work in association management, Loretta practiced in the field of psychology. She received a Masters Degree in Psychology and is currently licensed by the TN Board of Psychology as a Licensed Psychological Examiner. She has numerous years of experience both as a clinician and in the area of clinical management. Experience includes Director of the Psychological Evaluation Program and Intake and Assessment Program for the Dede Wallace Center in Nashville. She has also worked in private practice and in clinics with geriatric patients.

Loretta and her husband, Larry, who are newlyweds of one year, share three grown children and three grandchildren. In addition, they have 2 cats, Isis and Romeo, and 3 geriatric fish. With a new home, they both enjoy gardening and entertaining but save time for travel. Loretta says, "I am excited about the SGS and the opportunity to utilize both my association management experience and my background in psychology. Each new association offers an opportunity to learn a new field as well as a view of that groups' unique



Pictured from left to right: Dee Ann Walker, Loretta Hendricks, Nick Vaccaro

culture.

Nick Vaccaro is an association executive with experience in managing not-for-profit organizations. Nick recently joined WMG, located in downtown Nashville, and is the Executive Director for the American Association of Feline Practitioners and the Society for Theriogenology. Additionally, he serves as webmaster for various association websites and as the WMG development director. He will be available to work with SGS on website development when appropriate.

Prior to joining Walker Management Group, Nick was with FSA Group, a management firm in Louisville, KY. At FSA Group, he served as executive director for two associations, as well as assisted with the affairs of the management company.

Nick graduated from the University of Kentucky. He and his wife, Shelley, have two children, Remington (almost 2) and Anna Lee (not quite 1 month). Additional family members include a small dog and some fish.

A complete listing of the Walker Management Staff can be found on the back page of this issue.

Editor Sought For Southern Gerontologist

The SGS Publications Committee is accepting applications for the position of Editor of the Society's newsletter, the *Southern Gerontologist*. The newsletter is published quarterly and provides the news of interest for practitioners and educators in the southern region. The Editor will serve a two year term beginning with the Summer 2001 issue. Submit your inquiries or letters of application to Nancy Schoenberg, Publications Committee Chair, U of KY-College of Medicine, 101 College of Medicine Office Building, Lexington, KY 40536-0086; call or e-mail 606-323-8175/mlscho01@pop.uky.edu.

2001 Meeting - continued from page 1



Dr. Joseph Quinn

Dr. Quinn is currently a professor of economics and dean of the college of Arts and Sciences at Boston College. He received his Ph.D. in economics from MIT in 1975. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Foundation for International Studies on Social Security, Amsterdam, a founding member of the National Academy of Social Insurance, and a member of the editorial board of *The Review of Income and Wealth*. Among his

many scholarly works, he has contributed to the gerontological literature in the *Gerontologist*, the *Journal of Aging and Social Policy*, and in *Age and Age Structure*, edited by Matilda Riley, et al. His written and oral presentations are lucid, engaging, and insightful.

Wendy Rogers, Ph.D. will deliver the closing address at the Awards Brunch. Dr. Rogers is on the faculty at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is widely published in the field of human factors and cognitive aging. The topic of her address will be potential for technology to benefit older adults.

The special events planned by the Local Arrangements Committee, co-chaired by Linda Kuder and Mattie Umscheid could only take place in Lexington, the Heart of the Bluegrass and a place unlike any other. We will have many opportunities to see why Lexington is known as the City of Champions - from the Presidents Gala at the Kentucky Horse Park to the optional breakfast and races at Keeneland Thoroughbred Race Track. The conference hotel, the Marriott Griffin Gate, is a luxurious resort, and a perfect place for the SGS meeting - elegant and classy, but with Kentucky's famous hospitality. Check out this website for more on Lexington: www.visitlex.com.

See you in Lexington!

***Don't forget the
SILENT AUCTION
at the SGS Annual
Meeting in Lexington!***

For more information about donating items, please contact Jan McCulloch at the University of Kentucky at bethany.mcculloch@gte.net

Dear SGS Members,

After much reflection upon the professional needs of both SGS and the management firm of Margaret Lynn Duggar and Associates (MLD&A), MLD&A has decided that it is time for SGS to begin work with a new management firm. This was a very difficult decision for us and especially for myself, a founding member of SGS.

Over the past eight years, MLD&A has not only provided professional services to SGS that included membership, the newsletter, financial accountability, and the annual meeting, but made many friendships that we hope to maintain. It is with sadness that our firm must resign these duties, but it is with pleasure that we introduce to you the new management firm of Walker Management Group. I am certain that they will provide professional management with little or not interruption to services currently being enjoyed by all of our SGS members. We wish everyone the very best of luck and success in all future endeavors, and encourage you to contact us at anytime should you have any questions or if we may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Lynn Duggar President and CEO
Margaret Lynn Duggar & Associates*

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101 Sanders-Brown Building
University of Kentucky

SGS Membership Drive

By Sue Maxwell, SGS Membership
Chair

Now that you have settled into the new year, it's time to polish up on your recruiting skills. Let's all work together with the new management firm as we implement membership renewal and recruitment strategies. Please share with potential members the wonderful opportunities offered by SGS. Don't forget to mention the annual conference and its networking strengths, the Southern Gerontologist newsletter and the Journal of Applied Gerontology. Of course another major benefit of SGS is just the opportunity to make new friends or maintain old friendships.

The state membership coordinators shown below is offering an incentive (\$100 gift certificate) to a SGS member who brings in the most new members over three between now and April 1st. If you identify potential members who want to join SGS be sure they mention on their application that they were recruited by you. Please take time to share with your colleagues the value of your membership and ask them to join us at our annual meeting.

Larry Mullins, AL, 334-244-3378
Shanta Sharma, AR, 870-230-5414
John F. Gillan, FL 941-966-4270
Sue Maxwell, FL, 941-772-6610
Adele Davenport, GA, 912-772-6610
Iris Phillips, KY, 502-852-6402
Jo Ann O'Quin, MS, 601-232-7199
Luci Bearon, NC, 919-515-9146
Dena Shenk, NC, 704-547-4349
Ronald Aday, TN, 615-898-2693
Jean P. Scott, TX, 806-742-3000
James Cotter, VA, 804-272-2159
George Podelco, VA, 757-787-3532
Jodi Teitelman, VA, 804-828-6728

Membership packets can also be obtained by calling 615-254-3687.

Student Column

By Katie Victory Tussey, SGS Student Representative

Although we are in the throws of winter and April seems very far away, plans have already been made to make this year's SGS Annual Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, as student-friendly as possible. Organizers are hoping that these plans encourage more students than ever before to participate in the meeting. Here is a list of suggestions aimed at making your conference experience as worthwhile as possible:

Register Early. It is always a good idea to register as early as possible for the meeting. This helps you to work the conference into your semester schedule well ahead of time.

Volunteer. It is also a good idea to serve as a volunteer during the meeting. This helps to acquaint you with SGS and its members, and in the past, funding has been available to student volunteers. Remember, volunteer positions are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, so if you are so inclined, the earlier you volunteer, the better.

Check on Availability of Funding. Be sure to ask around at your institution about any potential funding that may be available for student travel to professional meetings, especially if you are presenting. Early registration may help you to secure this funding through your university.

Organize a "Road Trip." Try to encourage other students in your program or with an interest in aging issues to attend. In addition to the company, this may help to reduce your travel and lodging costs, so the bigger the group, the better.

Plan Ahead. It is always a good idea to consult your meeting program before you reach the conference. This allows you to plan which sessions and outside events you would like to attend. Upon registering at the meeting, remember that you may need to sign up for certain events that are offered on a first-come first-served basis. If two sessions of interest to you are offered concurrently,

the best way to remedy this situation is to contact the presenter of the session you cannot attend and ask for a copy of any handouts that may be available.

Meet People. One of the best things about SGS is the laid-back nature of our annual meeting. This creates a great environment for meeting students, faculty members, and practitioners from other institutions. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of gerontology, it is to everyone's benefit to interact with one another as much as possible. The Program Committee has developed a number of mixers aimed at encouraging such interaction. Also, remember that the Student Pizza Party has been moved to Thursday night to encourage more student interaction throughout the course of the meeting.

Find a Mentor. Many students use conferences to network with experts in their particular area of interest. If you look through the program and find a potential mentor, do not feel intimidated to contact that person before the meeting and try to schedule a time to meet. This is a great way to discuss your ideas and insights on a one-on-one basis.

Support Your Fellow Students. Due to the changes in the guidelines for the Student Paper Award, we are hoping to have more student presentations than ever before. It is always nice for student presenters to see fellow students in the audience. Attending student presentations also allows you to see what other students are doing in terms of presenting their research, and hopefully, will encourage you to apply for the Student Paper Award next year.

Have Fun. Meetings always offer a nice change of pace from the semester grind. In addition to helping you develop professionally, we hope that this annual meeting will provide you with an opportunity to enjoy yourself. Whenever you do have spare time in your schedule during the meeting, be sure to do some exploring around Lexington.

continued on page 8

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CLINICAL PROGRAMS

The Sanders-Brown Center on Aging is seeking applicants for the position of Associate Director. The position reports directly to the Director of the Center and has broad responsibilities encompassing educational and programmatic activities across all sectors of the University. Programs supervised include a well-established tuition-free program for older adults; director of the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology; continuing education programs such as the annual Summer Series on Aging; and Elder Care Consultation and Referral, an employee benefit of the University and other participating corporations. This individual serves on the Ph.D. in Gerontology Steering Committee and has the opportunity for research and teaching in the Ph.D. program. A person is sought who has an established record of leadership and experience in planning and administration of educational and service programs. A Ph.D. in a related field and knowledge of geriatric clinical programs as well as community-based programs are essential coupled with strong management and grant-writing skills. The potential for a faculty appointment in an appropriate University department is desirable.

Sanders-Brown Center on Aging is a comprehensive center offering outstanding programs in research, education and service for the past three decades. The person being sought will play a major leadership role in the continuing success of the Center. A letter of interest along with a curriculum vitae and list of references should be sent to:

William R. Markesbery, M.D.
 Director, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging
 University of Kentucky
 Lexington, KY 40536-0230
 Phone: (859) 323-6040

open for new opportunities. The loss of close friends and family can open the door to new friendships and relationships. Biological changes that tend to slow us down can be the opportunity to redefine who we are, from the familiar title of what we do to who we can be. Old age opens the door for an internal definition instead of the external one that has often defined us. Instead of fretting about our losses of independence and freedom in some areas, we can consider a new source of freedom, the freedom to speak up and speak out, to be an advocate for causes to positively affect future generations. In the words of Maggie Kuhn, "We who are older have an enormous freedom to speak out and an equally great responsibility to take risks that are needed to heal. We can try new things and take on entirely new roles-dangerous roles."

We might even discover the joys of interdependency and some helpful dependencies from family and friends, from simpler lifestyles, and from improved healthcare and adapted leisure activities. And then, we can appreciate more fully that life is precious. We can "eat our dessert first."

We who are older have accumulated years of life experiences and often "experience is the best teacher. We can be the voice of wisdom from a generation that has seen unprecedented changes from the "horse and buggy" era to exploring outer space. We can be a connecting bridge between the past and the future, looking back to teach and learn and looking forward to project ourselves into the future through family and friends and our deeds, hopefully making a better world for future generations. And we can have fun along the way!

The Retirees Section of SGS is sponsoring a special session at the annual meeting in April entitled "Maintaining the Tradition of Giving." Please join us and listen as seniors from varied backgrounds share new adventures in their later years. They will have "their say" about growing old. Hopefully, some of our questions will be answered.

Growing Old: Is The Best Really Yet To Be?

By Virginia Bell, Retiree Representative

"Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be..." a familiar quote from Robert Browning's poem "Rabbi Ben Ezra," is often questioned by individuals of all ages. Since more and more of us are living longer and longer, it would be gratifying to know whether this is true. Can old age really be the best time of life?

No one can deny the many changes that take place in later years. However, this is true of every stage of life. Who among us past the teenage years would like to return? Changes, that have to be considered losses, do seem to pile up faster in the later years.

There are changes because of the death of grandparents, parents, siblings, friends, even children and grandchildren and also changes in personal relationships of loved ones because of the high mobility of our population. There are changes in physical reserve and changes in one's career. Going from our cherished independence to being more dependent is often traumatic. And what about the loss of youth in a "youth oriented society?" Little wonder that we take Browning's quote with "tongue in cheek."

However, for every change that seems a loss at the time, a door can



Southern Gerontological Society
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Got a calendar item? Fax it to SGS at (615) 254-7047.



CALENDAR

February 1, 2001 Faith in Action Grant Submission Deadline, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Call (877) 324-8411.

July 15-18, 2001 10th National Alzheimer's Disease Education Conference, Hyatt Regency, Chicago, IL. Call (312) 335-5790.

April 4-7, 2001 Aging's Traditions, Transitions, Technologies: The Southern Touch - 22nd Annual Meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society, Marriott Lexington, KY. Call SGS at (850) 222-3524 for more information.

August 13-16, 2001 Florida Aging Network Conference, presented jointly by the Florida Council on Aging and the Florida Association of Aging Services Providers. Wyndham Resort & Spa, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Call (850) 222-8877.

Student Column continued ...

Lists of outside activities will be available upon your arrival.

If you would like to contact me with your suggestions for the annual meeting, please feel free to do so by phone at 859-253-0057 or by e-mail at victory@pop.uky.edu. Also, be sure to keep in mind that we are still on the lookout for people interested in serving on the student committee and in developing the student website. I am looking forward to seeing you at the annual meeting.

Walker Management Staff

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