



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

The *Spiral*

February, 2008

President's Message

Happy New Year,

We are fortunate to have Doug Wilson as the new Editor of *The Spiral*. The exact format is being worked out so there is no guarantee that this represents the final version.

As of this writing, the enrollment of the Academy stands at 214 members, an increase of 39 members over the first semester. It's my opinion that at least a portion of the increase is due to the timely distribution of this semester's Learning for Life catalog.

In addition to having Doug assume the position as Editor, we are pleased to announce that Judy Perkins and Elizabeth Majors have accepted the Chairmanship of the Public Relations Committee and have been confirmed by a vote of the Board members. Jack Romeo formerly held this position. Judy and Elizabeth have already been active in distributing the current catalog to various businesses in the area and have talked to the Editor of the Aiken Standard in an attempt to obtain better coverage of Academy events. In addition to securing greater exposure of Academy events, it is an additional goal of the Public Relations Committee to increase enrollment by bringing the Academy to the attention of newcomers to the area and to long time residents who are unaware of our mission.

Larry Peyser has formed a Nominating Committee that will provide a slate of candidates for the offices of President-Elect, Curriculum Chair-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Nominating Committee also is seeking someone to assume the position of Membership Chairperson, currently held by Elayne Kantor. Elayne has done a marvelous job but now wishes to allow someone else to enjoy the job. The Nominating Committee's results will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Board's February meeting and announced in the March *Spiral*. The election will be held at the March General Meeting following a request for nominations from the floor. If there is more than

one nominee for a position, a paper ballot will be utilized. Otherwise, a motion to accept by acclamation will be in order. New officers will be announced in the April *Spiral* and introduced at the April Program meeting. The new officers will assume their duties on July 1st.

Vince Coughlin, Academy President

Monthly Meeting, February 8, 2:00 PM:

Our speaker is Taylor Ruggles, a State Department Foreign Service Officer and Deputy Director of the State Department's Executive Secretariat Staff, who will address the members of the Academy on "Transformational Diplomacy." Secretary of State Rice has made "transformational diplomacy" a priority of her tenure. What does "transformational diplomacy" really mean and how has it changed the way the State Department does business around the world? Is it a concept that is likely to endure into the next Administration? Taylor Ruggles will address these and other questions as he looks at how the world of diplomacy is shaping up in the 21st century. A reception follows the talk in Penland 110.

Additional Courses:

Mike Lythgoe has arranged with Kevin Grogan, the Director of the Morris Museum in Augusta to provide two additional films in a continuation of "**Genre & Myth: Southern Films**", a course originally presented in the Spring Semester of 2007. The first session is on Wednesday, March 19 at 11 am and lasts until 3 pm in Penland 106. The film is "The Southerner," a 1945 film starring Zachary Scott and directed by Jean Renoir. Since this film spans the lunch period, bring a lunch or a snack. The second session is on April 23 and the film is "Jezebel" starring Bette Davis, who won an Academy Award for her role, and Henry Fonda. Call Laura Anderson at 641-3580 to enroll.

Due to unexpected demand, the Academy will be offering a second section of the **Labyrinth** class. If you are already registered for the class, this doesn't pertain to you. People

on the waiting list will be called first, and then there will be three remaining slots for the second section. The first section, which is full, is being presented on April 21, 28, and May 5 (Rain date May 12), from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. The second section, which has the three available spots, is being offered on the same dates and in the same location (Penland 110) from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Suzanne Broderick will be teaching both sections. So, if you're interested in this class, this is your last opportunity. Don't be shut out again. Call Laura Anderson at the Lifelong Learning office at 641-3563. Once the second section is full, no more sections will be offered.

Interested in Leading a Class? A number of members expressed an interest in leading a course via last semester's interests questionnaire. Unfortunately, this anonymous form did not provide a place to enter your name. If you were one of these members, or even if you weren't but have an idea for a class you'd like to lead, please contact Erna Arkin at 641-4594.

Non-Academy Items which may be of Interest:

A benefit concert for the Columbia Guitar Society with a poetry reading for Valentines Day, will be held on **February 15** at the Columbia Art Museum at Main & Hampton Streets in Columbia, SC. Phone (903) 799 – 2819 for additional information. Mike Lythgoe, Past President of the Academy for Lifelong Learning will read love poems with guitarist, Alan Knight, accompanying him.

The **South Carolina Book Festival** will take place in Columbia, **Feb. 22 – 24**. For more information go to SCbookfestival.org. for details and time. Admission is free.

Board Meeting, Friday, Jan. 11, 2008

Secretary's Report by Kathleen Reiter, Secretary: The November minutes were read and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: The report reflected the payout for past commitments to the endowment fund and to the scholarship fund. The report was accepted. The Board members reviewed the budget for 2008-2009. A motion was passed to

approve the increase of instructor/lecturer fees from \$50 to \$75. The budget was unanimously approved.

Other Business: It was reported that the Academy has 39 new members this semester.

It was announced that Academy classes would be held on MLK day (Jan. 21).

Elayne Kantor reported that plans are finalized for the 2008 holiday luncheon, which will be held on December 12th at the Woodside Plantation Country Club.

Mike Lythgoe reported that all is ready for the Kauffman lecture and award.

Members discussed the importance of ongoing publicity and outreach to the community regarding the Academy and its activities. The board, pending approval by the membership, has selected Judy Perkins and Elizabeth Majors to handle the position of Publicity Co-Chairpersons following the resignation of Jack Romeo.

Vince Coughlin introduced Doug Wilson as the new editor for the *Spiral* newsletter.

Larry Peyser reported that the nominating committee has been chosen. Doug Wilson is the chairperson with members Pat Vestal, Joan Sundt and Jerry Sundt. The Board approved this selection.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30p.m.

The Spiral is published monthly, except June, July, and August by the Academy for Lifelong Learning at the University of South Carolina – Aiken, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801. 803-641-3587. Doug Wilson, Editor

Academy Officers: Vince Coughlin, President; Mike Lythgoe, Immediate Past President; Larry Peyser, President Elect; Kathy Reiter, Secretary, and Roy Wright, Treasurer.

Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:

Board of Directors: Jack Perkins, Curriculum Chair; Erna Arkin, Curriculum Chair-Elect; Judy Perkins and Elizabeth Majors, Publicity Co-Chairs; Elayne Kantor, Membership Chair. **Non-Members:** Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Director of Conferences & Continuing Education; Dr. Bill Brockington, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.