



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

The Spiral

March, 2009

President's Message

The Hubbard glacier advances to Yakutat Bay from its origin seventy-six (76) miles to the north on Mount Logan in the Yukon Territory. It is the longest tide-water glacier, meaning it flows to the sea, in Alaska. As its six mile wide face reaches the bay, tidal surges work to scallop its base and cause the upper mass to crack and fall or 'calve' away. Gravity works relentlessly to bring this massive monolith to ever lower energy states as it flows from mountain to sea.

The MS Veendam is 720 feet long and rises 50 feet above the waterline. The MS Millenium, a cruise ship of approximately the same dimensions appears as a toy boat in a bathtub as it draws near the distant blue and white wall of ice rising above Yakutat Bay. As the Millenium leaves the area, the MS Veendam slowly draws to within 1000 yards of the glacier, which now reveals its ice wall to be the height of a ten story building. The ship will maintain this distance away as it plies a course port side to the mammoth monolith. Where the glacier meets the shore, most of the ice is hundreds of feet below the waterline, and newly formed icebergs calved from below the surface can shoot up out of the water or into the hull of a ship too close.

Standing on deck in brilliant sunlight feeling a wintry like breeze in early September one looks out over a sea of small icebergs. They are shrouded by a low level layer of wispy vapor against a backdrop of dark shaded and snow covered mountains. Suddenly one's attention is drawn by a thunder clap and plumes of frothing water as the glacier calves a multi hundred ton tower of ice into the sea. As the ice wall breaks, tumbles, rumbles, ablates and slides into the sea one is witnessing four hundred years of history escaping from its frozen time capsule. Mineral, plant, and animal deposits suddenly meet the water environment of the Yakutat Bay. Here these deposits are freed from the mighty glacier to be contained in small ice flow fragments. They will move on tidal flow to sea from the Yakutat and Disenchantment Bays through the Ocean Cape into the Gulf of Alaska. From ice wall to ice flow to slurry to sloughed particulate the glacial contents have been released to recycle through sedimentation, molecule-

by-molecule, particle-by-particle into the ocean environment and thence to return via the many routes from the sea to recycle in the air current or on land.

Calving and ice melt are not the only means by which glaciers replenish the earth's vital needs. Glaciers comprise the largest reservoir of fresh water on earth. They slowly grind and reform the mountainous regions of this globe. Continually they exchange their surface of ice to water vapor, which is carried in the air currents to cloud and deposit life supporting rain upon this island in space. Witnessing the enormity of nature's force and breadth from the vantage of being in close proximity to the calving Hubbard tidewater glacier, one senses that we as humans are mere passengers on a toy boat in a bathtub.

Larry Peyser, Academy President

Middleton Place Trip CANCELED. Room Still Available For Clemson/Pendleton Trip

The March 27 bus trip to Middleton Place near Charleston has been canceled due to lack of interest. USCA Aiken will issue refund checks to those who have paid for this trip.

There is one remaining bus trip scheduled for the Spring '09 term. On April 24, a trip to the Clemson Botanical Gardens and the town of Pendleton, SC is being offered. This trip is still undersubscribed and is in danger of being canceled as well. There are no bus trips scheduled for the Fall '09 term, so for those of you who enjoy the Academy bus trips, this is your last chance this year.

In order to facilitate filling out this trip, the Academy has waived the usual \$10 additional fee charged to non-members. This would be a good way to introduce your friends and neighbors to the Academy and its activities. To enroll, please contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / lauraa@usca.edu).

Academy Name Tags

Academy members are encouraged to wear their name tags when attending Academy activities, to assist fellowship (and help the OTHER guy bolster his/her senior memory). To request a name tag, please contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / lauraa@usca.edu). You may then then pick up your name tag either at the monthly General Meeting, or at Laura's office (USC-A Business & Education Bldg., Room 113).

March General Meeting Includes Election of Officers

In addition to our usual monthly speaker, the March meeting will also include the election of officers to serve for the 2009/2010 academic year. In addition to the slate of officers presented by the Nominating Committee, additional nominations may be made from the floor. The meeting will be at 2 pm in room 106 of the Penland Administration Building on the USC-Aiken campus. A reception with refreshments will follow the meeting.

Fred Humes to Address the Academy at the March General Meeting.

Our speaker on March 13 will be Mr. Fred E. Humes, Director of the Economic Development Partnership in Aiken. His presentation will describe the Partnership's view of present and future economic development for Aiken and Edgefield Counties.

Since joining the Partnership in 1990 over \$5.0 Billion and 11,000 jobs have been announced in the two counties. Mr. Humes has been recognized twice as the "Economic Development Practitioner of the Year" by *Southern Business and Development Magazine*. He was selected in 2003 as one of the Top Ten Economic Developers of the Decade by the same magazine. Mr. Humes chaired the Cluster Activation Task Force for the South Carolina Council on Competitiveness. Fred is a past member of the Board of Directors and Past President of the South Carolina Economic Developers Association (SCEDA) and Past Director of the Southern Economic Development Council (SEDC). He is a member of several civic organizations and is Past President of the North Augusta Rotary Club. Mr. Humes is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative, the Savannah River Site Redevelopment Authority, the Aiken County School to Work Consortium and various other

organizations. Most recently Mr. Humes has been recognized "Man of the Year 2008" by the Aiken Chamber of Commerce

Please join the Academy members and friends at our March 13 Monthly Meeting at Penland 106, 2:00 PM. You will have an opportunity to meet Mr. Humes and get first hand response to your Aiken economic development concerns. A reception with refreshments will follow the meeting.

Courses Beginning in March

Please see the published course catalog for more complete descriptions (available on the web at <http://web.usca.edu/dotAsset/5157.pdf>). To enroll, return the form in the published catalog or contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / lauraa@usca.edu).

- **Learning and Memory** – David Andrews, retired professor of psychology who specialized in the relationship between the brain and cognition, will review what we know about how people learn and remember. What can be done to help people learn and remember better? Changes in learning and memory during advancing years will get special attention. If you attend this course, expect to be provoked, but don't expect final answers.
Dates: 4 Tuesdays, starting Mar 3
Time: 10 am
- **See the Pyramids Along The Nile** – A photographic journey from the Mediterranean south to Nubia. Dr. Rose O. Hays will focus on ancient Egypt, against the backdrop of modern life along the Nile. Dr. Hayes is a graduate of SUNY at Buffalo, and recently returned from serving as a delegate to the 18th President Eisenhower People to People World Peace Conference, held in Egypt.
Dates: 4 Wednesdays, starting Mar 4
Time: 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
- **Great Decisions/Discussions** – This Spring term favorite which always generates lively discussions returns again this year. Participants are expected to purchase the *Great Decisions 2009 Briefing Book*, which will be available through USCA Continuing Education. Class members are asked to read the first chapter prior to the first class in order to facilitate discussion. **This class has been fully subscribed and is closed to additional registrations.**
Dates: 8 Thursdays, starting Mar 5
Time: 2 pm – 3:30 pm

- **Modern War – The Soldier and Society** - This four-week survey of the key wars of recent history will focus on the often contentious relationships between soldiers and the societies they serve.
Dates: 4 Wednesdays, starting Mar 18
Time: 12 noon
- **Special Event: Middleton Place Plantation and Garden Bus Trip - CANCELLED**

February Board Meeting Summary

February 13, 2009, 12:30 PM

President Peyser called the meeting to order with Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Judy Perkins, Doug Wilson, Wesley Sloan, Glenn Knowles, Kathy Schulz, Vince Coughlin and Roy Wright present.

The minutes of our January 9th meeting, as distributed, were accepted.

Treasurer: Larry introduced Roy Wright, a long serving past treasurer of the Academy, who has agreed to keep an accounting of our revenues and expenditures through the remainder of this fiscal year due to Edie Mayer's resignation. Roy presented, and explained, a budget for fiscal '08-'09. The budget was adopted.

Curriculum: Erna asked when professors would have their fall schedule. Obviously this information is needed to help schedule our courses.

She also asked about Chuck Braun's health as he is scheduled to lead the Great Decisions course coming up. Erna will follow, and if Chuck is not available, Wesley agreed to step in.

Our new microphone has presented several problems. Mary Anne was given several suggestions, and will follow up.

As a fall event, Kathy pointed out the Fall Steeplechase will be October 24th.

Publicity: Judy thought the second page article in *The Aiken Standard* was good. She thinks aiming articles for early in the week affords a better chance of being run. She did try for an article about Laurie Ott, but it didn't happen.

She will also continue to pursue the Augusta paper, but believes that item should be focused on some aspect of the Academy such as scholarships or the Kauffman Award.

Judy also noted the exceptional "Night in Havana" event. Perhaps we should look for similar outings.

Judy graciously will remain our publicity Chair next year, but will want some help.

Membership: Kathy was able to announce the Academy now has 318 members, presumably a record.

The Christmas party for '09 will be at Houndslake on December 4th, assuming a down payment arrives soon. Laura Anderson has been on top of this issue.

Communications: Doug will continue as editor of *The Spiral* next year.

There was a discussion about a non-working link to the Academy Spring catalog on the Lifelong Learning page of the University's web site. Mary Anne will follow up.

Wesley sees no problem with the upcoming catalog except an impossible deadline.

Old Business: Larry pointed out the nominating committee is working and making headway on obtaining a slate of officers for next year.

A nominee for the Kauffman Award was unanimously approved.

New Business: A motion was made and carried to waive the non-member fee for field trips the remainder of this term. This will make it easier for non-members to help fill the under-subscribed trips to Middleton Place Plantation and Clemson. (The Middleton Place trip was subsequently canceled for lack of interest.)

The Spiral is published monthly, except June, July, August, and December 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: Larry Peyser, President; Vince Coughlin, Immediate Past President; (Vacancy), President Elect; Glenn Knowles, Secretary, and (Vacancy), Treasurer.

Chairpersons and Other Members of the

Academy:
Board of Directors: Erna Arkin, Curriculum Chair; (Vacancy), Curriculum Chair-Elect; Judy Perkins and Elizabeth Majors, Publicity Co-Chairs; Kathy Shulz, Membership Chair.

Non-Members: Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Director of Conferences & Continuing Education; Dr. Elaine Lacey, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

Academy on the Web:
<http://web.usca.edu/conted/academy/>

ACADEMY CALENDAR – March 2009						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>India</i> 10am [P106]	3 <i>Learning and Memory</i> 10 am [P106] <i>Lost Sites of Aiken (tour)</i> 12 noon – 1:50 pm	4 <i>Curriculum Committee</i> 9am [B Conf] <i>Indian Cooking</i> 2 pm [1st Pres] <i>Pyramids</i> 3:30 p – 5 p	5 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2 p – 3:30 p [P110]	6	7
8	9 <i>India</i> 10am [P106]	10 <i>Learning and Memory</i> 10 am [P106]	11 <i>Indian Cooking</i> 2 pm [1st Pres] <i>Pyramids</i> 3:30 p – 5 p [P106]	12 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2 p – 3:30 p [P110]	13 <i>Board Meeting</i> 12:30pm [P110] <i>General Meeting</i> 2pm [P106]	14
15	16	17 <i>Learning and Memory</i> 10 am [P106]	18 <i>Soldier & Society</i> 12 noon [P106] <i>Indian Cooking</i> 2 pm [1st Pres] <i>Pyramids</i> 3:30 p – 5 p [P106]	19 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2 p – 3:30 p [P110]	20	21
22	23	24 <i>Learning and Memory</i> 10 am [P106]	25 <i>Soldier & Society</i> 12 noon [P106] <i>Pyramids</i> 3:30 p – 5 p [P106]	26 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2 p – 3:30 p [P110]	27 <i>Bus Trip = Middleton Place</i> CANCELED	28
29	30	31				

[Location Codes] B = Business & Education Bldg @ USCA H = Humanities & Social Sciences Bldg @ USCA
 N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA P = Penland Bldg @ USCA CC = Cedar Creek Community Building
 1st Pres = First Presbyterian Church