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September, 2009

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## **President's Message**

Greetings:

I can't be the only one to think that time is passing more quickly each year. It's hard for me to believe that I was writing the President's letter two years ago, and here I am doing it again. I'm pleased to serve the Academy and thankful that others have volunteered to offer their time and talent to make this organization a success. We welcome the assistance of any member who would like to participate on one of our committees. You can contact me or any other Academy officer or member of the Board of Directors, listed elsewhere in the Spiral to volunteer. My e-mail address is [vccoughlin@bellsouth.net](mailto:vccoughlin@bellsouth.net).

In May, my wife and I took a day trip to Greenville, SC in order to visit the Upcountry History Museum, have lunch in town and take a walking tour of the downtown area. While there, we dropped into the Visitors Center, located in City Hall, and picked up a copy of Furman University's spring edition of their Lifelong Learning Institute newsletter. Furman's Lifelong Learning program recently received a grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation and is now one of 122 Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes across the country and now is referred to as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Furman (OLLI Furman). I was surprised to learn that their membership cost is significantly higher than our Academy for Lifelong Learning. The cost at OLLI Furman is \$300 for the academic year which consists of 3 terms. For those wishing to enroll for only a single term, the cost is \$140, which entitles the member to attend up to four courses. Taking more than four courses in a term costs an additional \$25 per course.

A friend who is a member of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Southern Maine recently sent me their fall 2009 catalog. Their annual membership fee is \$25 but the course fee is \$50 for each course and the maximum number of courses that can be taken in a semester is nine. Because OLLI at Univ. Of Southern Maine has more than 1200 members, course assignments are made by lottery.

USC Beaufort, which became an OLLI just a few years ago, has in excess of 1000 members and three branch campuses: in Beaufort, Bluffton and Hilton Head. The annual membership fee is \$35 and the course fee, for an unlimited number of courses, is \$85 a semester. This year, a summer program of four single session lectures, on different topics was held on each of the three campuses. The cost of each lecture is \$10.

Here in Aiken, we're pleased that we've been able to avoid an increase in our fees. Our membership cost, including course fees, is \$50 per semester, or a total of \$100 for the year for an unlimited number of courses. This is significantly less expensive than the Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes described above. All in all, I think you'll agree that membership in the Academy is a bargain.

To aid our members in greeting each other in class, please remember to wear your ALLL nametag. If you do not have a nametag, or misplaced it, please contact Laura Anderson for a replacement. Laura's phone number is 641-3563 and her e-mail address is [LauraA@usca.edu](mailto:LauraA@usca.edu).

I look forward to seeing you around the campus, or in class.

*Vince Coughlin, Academy President*

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## **Dr. Donald Portnoy to Address Academy at September Monthly Meeting**



Dr. Donald Portnoy will speak on how the people of Aiken were instrumental in bringing performances of the Augusta Symphony to Aiken. Dr. Portnoy will be familiar to many in Aiken as he retired this past spring after almost 19 years as Musical Director and Conductor of the Augusta Symphony, and has appeared here at the Etheredge Center on the USCA campus many times.

Donald Portnoy is universally recognized as one of America's most dynamic and inspiring conductors. A native of Philadelphia PA, he is a graduate of The Juilliard School, receiving his MA from Catholic University and his DMA from Peabody Conservatory. For many years he was music director and conductor of the Pittsburgh Opera Theater and the Pittsburgh Civic Symphony, and conducted for the Hollybush Opera, Pittsburgh Chamber Opera, and the Columbia Lyric Opera.

Maestro Portnoy earned fame as a guest conductor with the orchestras of Pittsburgh, Buffalo, and Baltimore, with orchestras in France and Germany, and with the Pomorska Philharmonic in Poland, the Beijing Central Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Seoul National Symphony. For the past eighteen seasons he has been music director and conductor of the Augusta Symphony Orchestra.

An accomplished violinist, Portnoy founded the popular American Arts Trio, which has toured extensively in the United States, Europe and South America. He also appeared recently as violin soloist with the Amabile Chamber Orchestra in Taejon, South Korea.

Dr. Portnoy holds the Ira McKissick Koger Endowed Chair for the Fine Arts at the University of South Carolina. He is the founder and managing director of the Conductors Institute of South Carolina, whose participants come from all parts of the US and abroad to attend his annual summer sessions in Columbia.

Please join the Academy members and guests at our September 11 Monthly Meeting, Room 106, Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus, at 2:00 PM to hear Dr. Portnoy. A reception with refreshments will follow the meeting.

### Academy Course Catalogs

The USCA Continuing Education Fall 2009 catalogs, of which the Academy for Lifelong Learning course catalog is a part, were mailed out in early August. If you have not received your copy, you may request one from Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / [lauraa@usca.edu](mailto:lauraa@usca.edu)).

The Academy catalog can also be found online in PDF form at <http://web.usca.edu/dotAsset/30001.pdf>.

### Classroom Change for *Literature of Espionage* Course

Mike Lythgoe's *Literature of Espionage* course, beginning on September 7, will meet in the Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus, Room 106, NOT in the Nursing Building as listed in the Catalog.

### Courses Beginning in September

Please see the published course catalog for more complete descriptions (available on the web at <http://web.usca.edu/dotAsset/30001.pdf>). To enroll, return the form in the published catalog or contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / [lauraa@usca.edu](mailto:lauraa@usca.edu)).

- ***Eating for Vitality*** – (Cynthia Catts) 4 Tuesdays at 3pm, beginning Sept. 1.
- ***The Literature Of Espionage: Spies, Secret Agents, North Korea, Gaza, and Pakistan*** – (Mike Lythgoe) 4 Mondays at 1pm, beginning Sept. 7. **This class WILL meet on Labor Day, Sept. 7. Classroom change: Penland 106**
- ***Meeting Emily Dickinson in Poetry*** – (Don Blount) 4 Mondays at 3pm, beginning Sept 7. **This class WILL meet on Labor Day, Sept. 7**
- ***Endemic Political Violence of the 20th Century - The Political Ideas of Eric Voegelin*** – (Dr. Steve Millies) 4 Tuesdays at 10am, beginning Sept 8.
- ***Big Time Entertainment in a Small City, Behind the Scenes*** – (Dr. Sandra Field, Marcia Harris, Thurmond Whatley) 3 Tuesdays at 2pm, beginning Sept 8.
- ***Evolution Since Darwin*** – (Dr. Harry Shealy) 3 Thursdays at 1pm, beginning Sept 10.
- ***Square Dancing*** – (Ruth & Lester Paxton) 3 Wednesdays at 2:30pm, beginning Sept 16. Held at Cedar Creek Community Center.
- ***Sri Lanka Rebel*** – (Dr. Mark Whitaker) 2 Wednesdays at 11am, beginning Sept 30.

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**Academy Officers:** Vince Coughlin, President; Larry Peyser, Immediate Past President; Glenn Knowles, President Elect; Erna Arkin, Secretary, and Jane Friis, Treasurer.

**Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:**  
**Board of Directors:** Richard Baxter, Curriculum Chair; Susan Sadowski, Curriculum Chair-Elect; Gladys Olson and LaVerne Speca, Publicity Co-Chairs; Kathy Shulz, Membership Chair.

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

**ACADEMY CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 2009**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>Eating for Vitality</i> 3p [P 106]	2 Curriculum Cmte. 9a [B Conf]	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY  <i>Espionage Literature</i> 1p [Change: P 106]  <i>Emily Dickinson</i> 3p [P 106]	8 <i>Eric Voegelin</i> 10a [P 106]  <i>Entertainment Behind Scenes</i> 2p [P 106]  <i>Eating for Vitality</i> 3p [P 106]	9	10 <i>Evolution Since Darwin</i> 1p [P 106]	11 Board Meeting 12:30p [P 110]  General Meeting 2p [P 106]	12
13	14 <i>Espionage Literature</i> 1p [Change: P 106]  <i>Emily Dickinson</i> 3p [P 106]	15 <i>Eric Voegelin</i> 10a [P 106]  <i>Entertainment Behind Scenes</i> 2p [P 106]  <i>Eating for Vitality</i> 3p [P 106]	16 <i>Square Dancing</i> 2:30p [CC]	17 <i>Evolution Since Darwin</i> 1p [P 106]	18	19
20	21 <i>Espionage Literature</i> 1p [Change: P 106]  <i>Emily Dickinson</i> 3p [P 106]	22 <i>Eric Voegelin</i> 10a [P 106]  <i>Entertainment Behind Scenes</i> 2p [P 106]  <i>Eating for Vitality</i> 3p [P 106]	23 <i>Square Dancing</i> 2:30p [CC]	24 <i>Evolution Since Darwin</i> 1p [P 106]	25	26
27	28 <i>Espionage Literature</i> 1p [Change: P 106]  <i>Emily Dickinson</i> 3p [P 106]	29 <i>Eric Voegelin</i> 10a [P 106]	30 <i>Sri Lanka Rebel</i> 11a [P 106]  <i>Square Dancing</i> 2:30p [CC]			

[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