



*Twenty Years of Service for Aiken's Senior Community*

# The Spiral

September, 2010

## **President's Message**

This edition of *The Spiral* marks the Academy's 20th year of academic activity (Please note our Editor's addition to the masthead). I hope, actually imagine, Ida Crawford Stewart and Earl Kauffman would be pleased. We anticipate a membership of near or above 300. Our course offerings will touch on art, science, games, history, math, religion, money and more - 21 courses in all.

While we don't usually meet formally over the summer, the Academy has been active.

In May many of us enjoyed a wine and cheese open house to thank and bid farewell to our two time president and his wife, Vince and Connie Coughlin, who have moved to Macon, Ga. We wished them well with the gathering, and, an engraved wine bottle coaster. Thankfully, Vince will commute back to Aiken to fulfill his elected position as Past President.

The committee updating our by-laws and policies and procedures has completed its work. The membership approved the amended by-laws this past March. The revised and updated policies and procedures have been disseminated to board members for consideration at the September board meeting.

In late July we were invited to speak about the Academy at the monthly meeting of the Aiken Women's Christian Connection, and generated new names for our catalog mailing list.

Several board members manned the Academy's booth at the annual USCA Open House in Mid-August, again answering questions from potential new members.

The Curriculum Committee, chaired by Susie Sadowski, also started the year off with an extra meeting in August (the spring catalog must be ready for printing in October). Regular meetings of this committee are now the 1st Friday of the month at 10 AM in B&E 102.

Our Public Relations committee chair, LaVerne Speca has already registered for our booth at the Senior Extravaganza to be held at Odell Weeks, September 15, 8 AM to 2 PM. Other efforts to promote the Academy and its activities are in the works.

Kathy Schulz, our Membership committee chair is now in possession of our own Academy canopy for protection from the sun while we enjoy the annual outing to the October 30th Fall Steeplechase. And she has done the major groundwork for our Holiday Luncheon, December 3rd.

As we begin our 20th academic year, we look forward to September 10th at 2 PM when Dr. Tom Hallman, Chancellor of USC-Aiken, addresses our membership and guests. Given the close relationship between the University and the Academy, hearing the Chancellor speak on the challenges and opportunities facing the University is of great interest to all of us.

Also while in our 20th year we will be presenting something new at two other membership meetings - musical entertainment! Please mark your calendars for 2:00 PM, 10/8 and 11/12.

So, hats off to our founders, and previous members, as we continue our 20th year of learning and friendship.

*Glenn Knowles, Academy President*

## **Update on Class Registration and Attendance**

I hope you are as excited as I am that fall semester is about to start. This semester we have approximately 21 classes and two Special Events. We also have approximately 250 Lifelong Learning members. Classes fill up fast, and with USCA's increasing use of Penland 106 (the large auditorium that we like to use), we have had to schedule a significant number of classes in much smaller rooms. We don't like to have waiting lists for classes, but this seems unavoidable. Therefore, please be kind to others who may be on the waiting list in the following way: **IF YOU SIGN UP FOR A CLASS AND FIND THAT**

**YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE CLASS AT ALL, PLEASE CONTACT LAURA ANDERSON** (641-3563 / [lauraa@usca.edu](mailto:lauraa@usca.edu)). Laura keeps a waiting list that is prioritized by the date that person signed up for that class. So, sign up for any class that you want to participate in, but please, please, PLEASE notify Laura Anderson if your plans change and you cannot attend that class. Thank you for this kindness.

*Susie Sadowski, Curriculum Committee Chair*

## Catalog Changes

The following classes will meet in Business & Education 124, not in Penland 110 as stated in the printed catalog:

***Alternative Energy Sources -- Choices and Strategies***

***Reading Poetry: Discovering Li-Young Lee***

The online version of the catalog has been updated with this change.

## Call for Volunteers – Senior Extravaganza

The Academy will participate in the City of Aiken's Senior Extravaganza Sept 15 from 8am to 2pm at the Odell Weeks Center. Volunteers are needed to help man our booth and answer questions about the Academy. If you'd like to help, please contact Academy President Glenn Knowles ( 642-9883, [jeanglenknowles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jeanglenknowles@bellsouth.net)) . City of Aiken's web page about the Extravaganza can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/2cfb882>.

## A Look Back at the Academy's Founding as We Celebrate Our Twentieth Anniversary

The 2010/2011 academic year marks the twentieth anniversary of the Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning's first full year of operation. As this milestone is reached, our members might be interested in the events that led to the founding of the Academy.

In the summer of 1989 the dreams of three individuals merged and began to take shape. Ida Crawford Stewart, then Vice President of Estee Lauder, Inc., is a native of South Carolina and a former resident of Aiken. She expressed the strong belief that people of all ages should continue to maximize their individual potential. To further this belief, she established an irrevocable trust at the University of South Carolina-Aiken (USCA) to create a Chair in the Department of Sociology in Gerontology.

Dr. Robert Alexander, Chancellor of USCA at that time, agreed with Mrs. Stewart and asked Dr. Mary Leslie Hudson, then Dean of Continuing Education at USCA, and Dr. Trudy Henson, then Chair of the Sociology Department at USCA, to present a plan by which USCA could serve the rapidly growing population of older persons within the university's service area.

Into this scene came Dr. Earl F. Kauffman who, at the age of 82 years, was seeking a new challenge. Dr. Kauffman had served for 25 years on the faculty of the University of Kentucky (U.K.), during which he organized the Council on Aging at U.K. Following his retirement from U.K., he continued to work on behalf of the elderly and organized the Community Activity Program at Hawthorne-at-Leesburg, an adult community in central Florida. Upon his arrival in Aiken, he held a series of conferences with leaders serving older persons in the Aiken area. From these meetings he recruited members for a planning committee to develop and implement a program for the community's mature residents. Working under the direction of Dr. Kauffman, this committee, composed of mature learners from the Aiken community, formulated a mission statement for what was to become the Academy for Lifelong Learning: "To provide opportunities for men and women to get the most out of their lives." By late January of 1990 the Academy was ready to offer opportunities for people sixty years of age and older to come back to school "to learn without having to take tests".

January 22,1990 was the inaugural meeting of the Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning. Dr. Warner Montgomery, editor of the *Star Reporter* in Columbia, SC., spoke before more than 300 persons at the Etheredge Center on the USCA campus. Dr. Montgomery's topic was "Preparing for the Next Century --The Maturity Spiral", a discussion of the pace of change in our society.

In the ensuing months interested members formed focus groups to identify projects of major interest to Academy members. A monthly newsletter was established to provide news about programs, members, and special USCA resources and events. *The Maturity Spiral*, taken from the title of Dr. Montgomery's January address, was chosen as the name for the newsletter, as it seemed to capture the rhythm and meaning of the Academy program. In 1997 the name of the newsletter was shortened to *The Spiral*.

In 1990/1991, the first full academic year of operation, the Aiken Academy for Lifelong Learning attracted 125 members who attended more than 25 forums, field visits, and special events.

Dr. Kauffman served as Director of the Academy until his death, shortly after the beginning of the Academy's initial Fall term, on October 19, 1990, having successfully established the Academy that was to continue his dream. Every April, the Academy presents the Earl F. Kauffman Award in his honor, to recognize a group or individual that has provided outstanding contributions to the Academy.

By 1993 interest in the Academy had grown rapidly and there were requests to lower the age at which people might join. Responding to this interest, the Board of Regents acted to formalize 55 years as the minimum age for membership. In 1997, the Board of Regents removed the numerical limit and formalized "mature adult" as the age requirement for membership.

In the ensuing years, Academy membership has grown to over 300 seniors from Aiken and nearby communities. The current catalog lists 20 short courses covering a variety of themes such as politics, science, religion, law, health, literature, and leisure pursuits, plus two special events for Academy members, and this is in the Fall semester alone.

Academy members can be proud of this heritage, and with the help of our dedicated volunteers, can be sure that it will continue to extend into the future.

### USCA Chancellor to Speak at September 10 Academy General Meeting



Dr. Thomas L. Hallman, Chancellor of the University of South Carolina Aiken, will address the Academy at its General meeting for September. His topic will be *Champagne Educational Experiences on a Diet Coke Budget: The USC Aiken Way!*, which will address the difficulties of managing a quality education program in light of current economic realities.

The general public is welcome to attend Academy General Meetings, so bring a friend along to learn about the Academy and all it offers. The meeting will be followed by a social reception with refreshments.

The meeting will be held Friday, September 10 at 2:00 pm, in Room 106 of the Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus.

### Courses Beginning in September

Please see the published course catalog for course descriptions and additional information. (The Fall 2010 catalog is available on the web at <http://web.usca.edu/dotAsset/56971.pdf>). To enroll, return the form in the catalog along with any required payment. For questions, contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / [lauraa@usca.edu](mailto:lauraa@usca.edu)).

- **Alternative Energy Sources -- Choices and Strategies** – [Karin Willoughby] 4 Tuesdays at 10:50 am, beginning Sept. 7. Business & Education 124. **Class size is limited.**
- **Next World Power** - [Tom Wood] 4 Tuesdays at 3:05 pm, beginning Sept. 7. Penland 106
- **History of Philosophy** – [Dr. Blanche Primo-Hopkins] 4 Wednesdays at 2:00 pm, beginning Sept. 8. Ruth Patrick Science Center 131
- **Arab and Chinese Mathematics** – [Dr. Mohammad Hailat & Dr. Zhenheng Li] 4 Thursdays at 12:15 pm, beginning Sept. 9. Penland 106
- **South Carolina's Rich Botanical History** - [Dr. Harry Shealy] 3 Thursdays at 1:40 pm, beginning Sept. 9. Penland 106
- **Literature of Espionage** – [Mike Lythgoe] 4 Mondays at 1:00 pm, beginning Sept. 13. Penland 106
- **Reading Poetry: Discovering Li-Young Lee** – [Don Blount] 4 Mondays at 2:00 pm, beginning Sept. 13. Business & Education 124. **Limited Class Size**
- **The Political Ideas of St. Augustine** – [Dr. Steve Millies] 4 Mondays at 3:00 pm, beginning Sept. 13. Ruth Patrick Science Center 131

### Summary of May 14 Board Meeting

This is the first issue of *The Spiral* since the May 14 Board meeting.

President Vince Coughlin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Those present were: Vince Coughlin, Dick Baxter, Doug Wilson, Glenn Knowles, Wesley Sloan, LaVerne Specia, Kathy Schulz, and Erna Arkin.

The minutes for the March 12, 2010, meeting were approved.

There was no treasurer's report.

OLD BUSINESS

- USCA seems to have a greater need for class space during fall semester than spring semester. For this reason, in the future, we might want to consider offering fewer classes in the fall than in the spring. Discussion centered on other possible meeting places, such as the Ruth Patrick Science Center and the Etherredge Center. Kathy will report on the availability of Cedar Creek, should we need to use their facilities.
- If our assigned class spaces are small, Doug will include an article in *The Spiral* concerning limited class sizes. He will urge members to sign up early and make all possible attempts to attend classes for which they are registered. If they are unable to attend, they need to notify Laura.
- Vince has made arrangements to have all of his liaison responsibilities covered for the fall.
- Kathy was reimbursed approximately \$100 for the 12x12 green canopy she purchased for Steeplechase.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- After much discussion, it was decided that our Policies and Procedures, as well as our By-Laws, will be available on the Academy's portion of the University's webpage. Hard copies can be requested from Laura.
- Fall Programs – Glenn reported that in an effort to combine entertainment as well as education in our Friday meetings, Mike Lythgoe has suggested two performers. Rob Foster, from Augusta State University, will play the Japanese bamboo flute at the October meeting, at a cost of \$150. Alan Knight, from Columbia, will play the classical guitar for \$200, in November. Vince moved and Kathy seconded that these expenses be covered by taking \$150 from the University account for the flutist, and taking \$200 from the interest on the Julia Turlow Watson Endowment Fund for the guitarist. This motion was passed.
- Continuation of Friday meetings will be re-evaluated next year.
- Vince offered the possibility of contributing some sort of donation to Cedar Creek for the use of their facilities. Kathy will investigate some ideas.
- Elaine Lacy will be asked for a schedule of speakers and topics for the University's lunch programs in the H&S building. LaVerne will follow up. We might also publicize them in *The Spiral*.
- The next Board meeting will be August 13, 2010, at 9:30.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

#### August 13 Board Meeting

President Glenn Knowles called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Those present were: Vince Coughlin, Dick Baxter, Doug Wilson, Larry Peyser, Kathy Schulz, Rick Arkin, and Susie Sadowski

The minutes for the May 14, 2010, meeting were read and approved.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Rick Akin submitted a detailed budget reflecting the increased USCA Administrative Fee per Academy Student.

- Motion to amend the budget to add \$240 Line item for USCA Student classroom computer and Audio Visual assistance carried.
- Motion to approve the budget as amended carried.
- Vince Coughlin provided an analysis of how the USCA fee per Academy student is calculated. Discussion ensued noting the Board is scheduled to meet with USCA Administrative staff regarding this matter.
- Action: The Academy Board will meet in regular session October 1, 2010 with Vice Chancellor Dr. Deidre Martin to discuss and resolve issues pertaining to student fee calculation.
- Action: Treasurer Rick Arkin was asked to provide a review and capitulation of the Academy's endowments to the University.
- Action: Treasurer Rick Arkin was asked to analyze the effect of the increased USCA Academy student fees on the Academy's ability to maintain or increase scholarship funding.
- The Board discussed allocating 100% of elected Board Member tuition to the Academy Checking Account, which is controlled by the Academy Treasurer.
- Motion to change the Academy Policy and Procedures manual to provide for allocation of 100% of Elected Board Member tuition payments to the Academy Checking Account carried.

#### COMMITTEES

Curriculum Committee: Susie Sadowski reports some spring 2011 cancellations.

Public Relations: The Academy Booth at the Senior Extravaganza scheduled for September 15 at Odell weeks requires volunteers. Hours are 8AM to 2PM.

- Action: Doug Wilson was asked to provide notice of need for volunteers and Glenn's phone number in the September issue of *The Spiral*.

USCA Open House is scheduled for Wednesday August 18 from 9:00 AM until Noon. Lunch will be provided to volunteers. Susie Sadowski suggested a Free one semester Membership Drawing as a way to generate interest and secure mailing addresses. No Board Action was taken.

Elizabeth Majors has discovered glass display cases on the second floor of the campus library suitable for display. Erna Arkin and Elizabeth Majors will follow up and come back to the Board with a plan and request. No action taken.

Friday Meeting attendance was discussed. We have a fall schedule complete. Glen asked the Board to take a look at attendance at these meetings and provide feedback for discussion at future Board meetings. What can

we do to increase attendance at these monthly general meetings?

The Spiral and Academy Web Site: Doug Wilson advises the September issue of *The Spiral* is ready to go. He will attempt to get it out before the end of the month. Typical deadline for submissions for *The Spiral* is the 15th. The Web Site has corrected class changes.

Membership: No news this early.

OLD BUSINESS

Policies and Procedures Doug will e-mail the document to the Board for review, comment and hopefully approval at the next Board Meeting.

Cedar Creek: Kathy Schulz will advise the Board at the next meeting of an amount or item to authorize as a token appreciation for the use of their facilities on an ongoing basis.

NEW BUSINESS

Glenn mentioned the City's 175th, University's 50th and the Academy's 20th Anniversaries for us all to think about in terms of a commemorative or celebratory action.

Kauffman Award: Vince requested nominees from the Board for the April 2011 Kauffman Award.

- Action: Larry Peyser bring the Kauffman Award folder to the next Board Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM. Next meeting September 10, 12:30 Penland 110

*The Spiral* is published monthly during the academic year 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:** Glenn Knowles, President; Vince Coughlin, Immediate Past President; Richard Baxter, President Elect; Larry Peyser, Secretary, and Rick Arkin, Treasurer.

**Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:**  
**Board of Directors:** Susan Sadowski, Curriculum Chair; Gerald and Marsha McDonald, Curriculum Co-Chairs-Elect; LaVerne Speca, Publicity Chair; Kathy Schulz, 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 – SEPTEMBER 2010 |  |   |   |  |   |          |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|----------|
| SUNDAY                            | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY                                   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY |
|                                   |  |   | 1   | 2  | 3<br>Curric. Committee<br>10:00a [B conf]                                   | 4        |
| 5                                 | 6  | 7<br>Alternate Energy<br>10:50a [B 124]<br><br>Next World Power<br>3:05p [P 110]  | 8<br>Hist. of Philosophy<br>2:00p [RP 131]  | 9<br>Arab & Chin. Math<br>12:15p [ P 106]<br><br>SC Botanical Hist.<br>1:40p [P 106] | 10<br>Board Meeting<br>12:30p [P110]<br><br>General Meeting<br>2:00p [P106] | 11       |
| 12                                | 13<br>Lit. of Espionage<br>1:00p [P 106]<br><br>Li-Young Lee<br>2:00p [B 124]<br><br>St. Augustine<br>3:00p [RP 131] | 14<br>Alternate Energy<br>10:50a [B 124]<br><br>Next World Power<br>3:05p [P 110] | 15<br>Hist. of Philosophy<br>2:00p [RP 131] | 16<br>Arab & Chin. Math<br>12:15p [P 106]<br><br>SC Botanical Hist.<br>1:40p [P 106] | 17  | 18       |
| 19                                | 20<br>Lit. of Espionage<br>1:00p [P 106]<br><br>Li-Young Lee<br>2:00p [B 124]<br><br>St. Augustine<br>3:00p [RP 131] | 21<br>Alternate Energy<br>10:50a [B 124]<br><br>Next World Power<br>3:05p [P 110] | 22<br>Hist. of Philosophy<br>2:00p [RP 131] | 23<br>Arab & Chin. Math<br>12:15p [P 106]<br><br>SC Botanical Hist.<br>1:40p [P 106] | 24  | 25       |
| 26                                | 27<br>Lit. of Espionage<br>1:00p [P 106]<br><br>Li-Young Lee<br>2:00p [B 124]<br><br>St. Augustine<br>3:00p [RP 131] | 28<br>Alternate Energy<br>10:50a [B 124]<br><br>Next World Power<br>3:05p [P 110] | 29<br>Hist. of Philosophy<br>2:00p [RP 131] | 30<br>Arab & Chin. Math<br>12:15p [P 106]  |   |          |

[Location Codes] B = Business & Education Bldg @ USCA      RP = Ruth Patrick Science Center @ USCA  
 N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA      P = Penland Bldg @ USCA      CC = Cedar Creek Community Building