



Twenty Years of Service for Aiken's Senior Community

The Spiral

October, 2010

President's Message

All of us, long time members and new, will often enter the breezeways and courtyard of the Penland Building. It is the Robert E. Penland Administration Building, and it has its foundation deep in South Carolina history.

In the 1600 and 1700's generations of two pioneering families, most likely unrelated, were among many who followed the Mayflower, found their way into Pennsylvania, then Virginia, North Carolina and beyond. They followed the eastern side of the Allegheny & Blue Ridge Mountains. Some Sumters stopped at Preddy's Creek, just North of Charlottesville, Virginia.

The Penlands settled only 350 miles further southwest in and around Asheville, North Carolina.

Preddys Creek gave us Thomas Sumter, Indian friend and fighter, rabble rouser, politician, plantation owner and Revolutionary War General.....the original "Gamecock".

From that same Irish, Scottish, pioneer heritage John Benjamin Penland (J.B.) found his way from Asheville to Columbia, S.C. He and his wife Isabelle owned and operated a store, mostly groceries. It was located near the corner of Main and College Streets, one block from The Horseshoe, the original campus of the University of South Carolina. The family endeavor was a great place for their children, including Robert Earle, born in 1916, to learn about work and business. The enterprise prospered, growing to a chain of over twenty five stores. Sadly, J.B. died in 1927. Isabelle, strong, and very strong minded, with the help of the children carried on, although she wore only black for the remaining 40 years of her life. When the Depression came, the Penland chain of stores disappeared.

Regardless of the losses, Isabelle was insistent her children would be educated. Robert Earle earned a track scholarship to UNC, but it did not cover room and board. So, he stayed home and attended USC through law school.

At the time, a law degree was the only ticket to a job with the FBI, and Robert Earle was intrigued. He spent eleven years learning, traveling and taking part in many interesting investigations. Then a headline in the Washington Post struck. The United States government announced that the largest peace time plant ever to be built was coming to Aiken, S.C. (SRS). With the expectation of a new career, and maybe some homesickness, Robert immediately wrote his resignation from the FBI and hand delivered it to J. Edgar Hoover.

While investigating business opportunities, Bob easily made friends and acquaintances in and around Aiken. His first real estate venture was a small tract at the end of Berrie Road. Next, the neighborhood of Dunbarton Oaks, named for a town swallowed by the new government plant, was developed.

In 1961, thanks to his friend Dorcey Lybrand, Attorney, Bob learned of a desirable 1600 acre stretch of land and they bought it. Westcliff and Foxchase were developed. Many were involved, but by the early 1970's it was only Bob and a visitor to the Masters Golf Tournament who became enamored with the area, Robert Elwood Jones. They are responsible for the Houndslake Country Club and the community surrounding its 27 hole golf course.

Bob was well known for the string of Jeeps he used over the years to show and sell the properties. Buyers, friends, potential investors, community leaders and family were often passengers in a Jeep.

Meanwhile, Bob was also involved with civic affairs. Among them was the Aiken Chamber of Commerce. He was instrumental in bringing the Kimberly Clark and Owens Corning plants to the area. But probably most important in his mind, as it was in his mother's, was higher education. He was among the founders, probably the catalyst, for the Aiken County Commission on Higher Education (ACCHE). That commission's work led to state legislation authorizing a USC campus in Aiken in 1961. In 1966 Bob served as President of the ACCHE. Outgrowing Banksia (Howe family home, 1935, now the Aiken County Historical Museum), a multipurpose building rose in 1972 on what is now University Parkway. The build-

ing, thought then to be all USCA would ever need, now houses offices for financial aid, career services, USCA Human Resources and Finance, and some academic activities.

In 1999 that first building was dedicated in memory of Robert E. Penland.

To be continued....with more Jeep rides ahead!!!

Glenn Knowles, Academy President

Flautist To Play at October General Meeting



Rob Foster at Augusta State University, where he is the leader of the jazz group. He will play and discuss the Japanese bamboo flute at the Academy October Member Meeting.

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, October 8 at 2:00 pm, in Room 106 of the Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus.

Fall Class Waiting Lists

This fall semester we have several classes with waiting lists. We thank those of you who have called Laura Anderson to say you will be unable to take a class for which you had previously enrolled. We ask that you continue to do this. If you are on a waiting list and Laura Anderson calls to tell you space is now available, please note that you have until 5 p.m. on the next business day to return her telephone call (803-641-3563) and tell her 'yes' or 'no'. If Laura does not hear from you by that time, she will call the next person on the wait list. Please call her and **do not e-mail her**.

Additionally, a few members, upon hearing that a class is closed, have offered to stand for a class or bring in their own chairs. We regret that this is not permitted, due to Fire Codes, DHEC regulations, and University policies.

We apologize for the wait list for some of our classes. The University's increased use of the large Penland 106 lecture hall has resulted in this difficulty. We hope you sign up only for classes that you are certain

you can attend and that there are classes that you are able to enjoy this semester. I offer my personal apologies for this unfortunate set of circumstances.

Susie Sadowski, Curriculum Committee Chair

Courses Beginning in October

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).

- **Moses/Egypt/Exodus/10 Commandments** – [Judith Evans] 4 Mondays at 10:50 am, beginning Oct. 4. Cedar Creek. **Class size is limited.**
- **Aiken City Government** – 4 Wednesdays at 11:00 am, beginning Oct. 6. Penland 106.
- **Canasta** – [Carol Smelser] 2 Wednesdays, beginning Oct. 6 at 2:00 pm. Cedar Creek Community Center. **Class is limited to 40 students.**
- **Circling the Savannah** – [Dr. Tom Mack] 2 Thursdays. Oct. 7 classroom session at 10:50 am, Penland 110, **limited to 35 students.** Oct. 14 car-pool trip at 9:00 am, **limited to 15 students, who must have attended the Oct. 7 session. CLASS IS FILLED.**
- **French Cooking** – This course has been canceled.
- **A Random Walk through the Financial Markets** – [Brian Cronin] 4 Mondays at 11:00 am, beginning Oct. 18. Penland 106. Note: no class Oct. 25.
- **Birds of the World** – [Chuck Braun] 4 Mondays at 2:00 pm, beginning Oct. 18. Ruth Patrick Science Center 131. **Class size is limited. CLASS IS FILLED**
- **Indians of Old Edgefield County** – [Bettis Rainsford] Wednesday, Oct. 20 at 3:00 pm. Penland 106.
- **4 Artists and 4 Arts: A Potter, A Poet, A Painter, A Player/Musician** – [Mike Lythgoe] 4 Thursdays at 10:50 am, beginning Oct. 21. Penland 110. Nov. 4 is a field trip at 10:30 am. **Class size is limited. CLASS IS FILLED**
- **Integrative/Alternative Medicine** – [Laurie de Graaf & Tom Holley] 2 Thursdays at 3:05 pm, beginning Oct. 21. Business & Education 140.

September 10 Board Meeting

President Glenn Knowles called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. Those present were: Vince Coughlin, Dick Baxter, Doug Wilson, Larry Peyser, Kathy Schulz, Wesley Sloan, LaVerne Specca,

Motion to approve the minutes of August 13 carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer is traveling, so there was no treasurer's report. There was, however, a treasury – budget discussion, which led to some issues to be resolved.

Kathy Schulz reported there are 224 current Academy Members:

Annual Members	81
Fall Semester Members	141
Newly Identified unclassified	2

With a projected Spring 2011 addition of 75 new members and carryover of all 141 and 2 unclassified Fall 2010 members we calculated a surplus of \$1,650 against our \$24,500 membership dues budget line item. The unknown is the Fall Semester Carryover, which we assumed would be 100% of 143. Our margin is $\$1650/50 = 33$ spring members less than the projections of 75 new plus 143 carryover members. This back-of-the-envelope analysis led to discussions regarding per class fees, changing annual and semester membership fees, eliminating semester membership.

Additional discussions centered about class registration and less than full attendance, waiting lists, and attendance incentives.

There were no motions or resolution regarding these issues.

The Board received invoice for two annual continuing scholarships totaling \$3500.

Action: The Board will act on the invoices for two annual scholarships identified above. Action on these invoices will be deferred until confirmation of the projected surplus identified above and the Carryover Action items listed below.

Carryover Actions

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.

COMMITTEES

Curriculum Committee: Wesley Sloan reported for Susie Sadowski. Curriculum Chair – elect, the Mc Donald's are collecting attendance data for analysis.

Sixteen (16) classes and three (3) events are identified, subject to schedule, for the Spring 2011 Semester.

Course descriptions and schedules are required to Wesley Sloan, cwsasc@gforcecable.com, by the September 24 printer's deadline.

Public Relations: LaVerne Specca reported on preparations and needs for the Academy Booth at the Senior Extravaganza scheduled for September 15 at Odell Week's Center from 8AM to 2PM. Knowles and Kathy Schulz will set up the booth and man the early shift.

LaVerne questioned whether the Academy has members from Augusta, and do we wish to advertize and / or submit article for publication in the Augusta Chronicle.

Action: LaVerne Specca will submit an Academy for Lifelong Learning descriptive article to the Augusta Chronicle and the Aiken Standard for publication.

Carry Over note from August 13: Erna Arkin and Elizabeth Majors will follow up and come back to the Board with a plan and request regarding the glass display cases on the USCA Library second floor. Neither Erna nor Elizabeth was present.

Friday Meeting attendance was discussed. We have a fall schedule complete. In addition to the request Glenn made of the Board to provide feedback for discussion at future Board meetings, he has been asking Class Liaison's to promote the Friday General Meetings in each class

The Spiral and Web Site - Doug Wilson advises The Spiral is ready to go, pending receipt of minutes and President's message. He has received an article from Susie Sadowski in which she discusses Class Sign-up and Wait Lists. Doug advised that committees are invited to submit articles for publication at spiral@g-forcecable.com. Typical deadline is the 15th.

- Membership Kathy Schulz amplified the membership issues identified under the Treasurer's Report above,
- Do we need to attract more members? We note Osher Academies limit classes and class sizes and membership.
- Class Room availability is at a premium.
- Are we scheduling too many classes?
- Can we utilize public for fee or for free spaces for classes?

OLD BUSINESS

Policies and Procedures Motion to accept the Policies and Procedures as revised and amended at this meeting carried.

Cedar Creek Kathy Schulz advised the Board of articles, e.g., microphone, card table, suitable to provide as token appreciation for the use of their facilities on an ongoing basis. She wishes to defer action until a later date.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarships Kyle Baker of Jackson, SC addressed to Past President Vince Coughlin a hand made card containing his expression of sincere appreciation for an Academy for Lifelong Learning Scholarship.

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

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for October 1, 9:00 AM B&E 102.

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 – OCTOBER 2010						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>Board Meeting</i> 9:00a [B 102] <i>Curric. Committee</i> 10:00a [B conf]	2
3	4 <i>Lit. of Espionage</i> 1:00p [P 106] <i>Moses/Egypt</i> 10:50a [CC] <i>Li-Young Lee</i> 2:00p [B 124] <i>St. Augustine</i> 3:00p [RP 131]	5	6 <i>Aiken City Gov.</i> 11:00a [P 106] <i>Canasta</i> 2:00p [CC]	7 <i>Circling Savannah</i> 10:50a [P 110]	8 <i>General Meeting</i> 2p [P106]	9
10	11 <i>Moses/Egypt</i> 10:50a [CC]	12	13 <i>Aiken City Gov.</i> 11:00a [P 106] <i>Canasta</i> 2:00p [CC]	14 <i>Circling Savannah</i> 9:00a [Field trip]	15	16
17	18 <i>Moses/Egypt</i> 10:50a [CC] <i>Financial Markets</i> 11:00a [P106] <i>Birds of the World</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	19	20 <i>Aiken City Gov.</i> 11:00a [P 106] <i>Indians of Edgefield</i> 3:00p [P 106]	21 <i>4 Artists, 4 Arts</i> 10:50a [P 110] <i>Int./Alt. Medicine</i> 3:05p [B 140]	22	23
24	25 <i>Moses/Egypt</i> 10:50a [CC] <i>Financial Markets</i> DOES NOT MEET <i>Birds of the World</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	26	27 <i>Aiken City Gov.</i> 11:00a [P 106]	28 <i>4 Artists, 4 Arts</i> 10:50a [P 110] <i>Int./Alt. Medicine</i> 3:05p [B 140]	29	30 <i>Steeplechase</i> 1:00 p [Ford Conger Field]
31						

[Location Codes]

B = Business & Education Bldg @ USCA

N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA

P = Penland Bldg @ USCA

RP = Ruth Patrick Science Center @ USCA

CC = Cedar Creek Community Building