



Twenty Years of Service for Aiken's Senior Community

# The Spiral

November, 2010

## President's Message: Our Academy and Opportunity

Much like K-12 and college, The Academy for Lifelong Learning provides opportunity for experiences and growth beyond the classroom. The Academy is its members, and an all volunteer group of officers and committees from the membership that help fulfill its mission:

*"The Mission of the Academy for Lifelong Learning is to provide both structured and Informal continuing education opportunities for mature individuals in the CSRA in conjunction with the University of South Carolina-Aiken. These opportunities shall include classroom instruction as well as discussions with the faculty, field trips and social events."*

The volunteer positions are: President, President Elect, Past President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the members and Chairs of the standing committees, Curriculum, Public Relations and Membership. Two other indispensable positions are the editor of The Spiral editor and our catalog editor. Under consideration is the addition of a Finance Committee and an Archivist.

Please take a long moment to assess your interest in availing yourself of all the Academy's opportunities. Dick Baxter, President Elect, ([rgbinaiken@yahoo.com](mailto:rgbinaiken@yahoo.com)) and his nominating committee are preparing a slate for election 3/11/11. Take advantage of the opportunity by letting Dick, or anyone else on the Board, know of your interest. The opportunity to experience more than just "book learnin" is always available.

To paraphrase a recent speech by the current Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, the Academy is not a spectator sport. Members must step up and own it. This is your Academy, its time to believe it! Mr. Cameron received a standing ovation. Just a few new volunteer "opportunists" standing up would strengthen your Academy considerably.

Thank you.

Please accept my wish to you for a wonderful and bountiful Thanksgiving.

Glenn Knowles, Academy President  
([jeanglennknowles@bellsouth.net](mailto:jeanglennknowles@bellsouth.net))

## Academy To Be Treated to Classical Guitar at November General Meeting



Following last month's presentation on the Japanese Bamboo Flute by Dr. Ron Foster, this month the focus switches to a different instrument.

Alan Knight plays and teaches classical guitar. He is also a past president of the Columbia, SC Guitar Society.

Alan last performed for the Academy in the series, "The Man With the Blue Guitar", and returns to play for us at the Academy General Meeting for November.

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, November 12 at 2:00 pm, in Room 106 of the Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus.

## Are YOU a No-Show?

With the first round of fall classes under our belts, a disturbing trend is developing. Too many people are registering for classes but failing to attend *any* of their sessions. Where classes could only accept a limited number of students due to available classroom size, there often is a wait list of people whose registration for the class could not be accepted. When registrants fail to attend such classes, a place that could have gone to another interested person on the wait list goes to waste.

Here's how our first eight courses this fall have measured up in this regard. The No-Show counts are those who attended NONE of the sessions and failed to call to cancel:

Course	Enrolled	No-Shows
Alt. Energy	46	5 (11%)
Next World Power	71	5 (7%)
Hist. of Philosophy	40*	3 (8%)
Arab & Chin. Math	27	5 (19%)
SC Botanical Hist.	78	15 (19%)
Espionage Lit.	53	9 (17%)
Poetry; Li-Young Lee	14	1 (7%)
St. Augustine	40*	3 (8%)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>46 (12%)</b>

\* Enrollment Limited by Classroom Size

A full 12% of those enrolled for our first eight courses failed to attend any sessions.

If you register for a class but find you cannot attend any of your sessions, PLEASE do your fellow members the courtesy of contacting USCA as soon as possible to withdraw from the class and make your spot available for somebody else. Your fellow members are counting on you. Contact Laura Anderson at USCA (641-3563 / [lauraa@usca.edu](mailto:lauraa@usca.edu)).

### Academy Bylaws, Policies and Procedures Available Online

A revision to the Bylaws under which the Academy operates was approved by the Membership last March. Under the provisions of the Bylaws, the Board has revised its Policies and Procedures document, with the update being approved by the Board in September. Both documents are available for member reference on the Academy web page, found at <http://web.usca.edu/conted/academy/>.

### C.O. Perry Sculpture

*Editor's Note: This is a continuation of the USCA historical narrative begun in last month's President's Message.*

"Bob Penland and Owen Perry were close friends. They moved to Aiken around the same time. They lived in the same hotel in the beginning. They both loved Aiken, and were well received by the Aikenites," according to Owen's son, Charles.

Owen Perry was a geologist and business man. He discovered a valuable deposit of heavy minerals in the Horse Creek Valley near Aiken in 1951. He organized the money, equipment and men required to extract the minerals for profitable use. It is probable that Owen Perry had several excursions with Bob to see potential and developing properties, maybe in a jeep.

Charles O. Perry, the son, and quoted above, is a world recognized and appreciated artist. Penland family lore has it that Bob and Charles toured the nascent USCA campus (in a jeep?) while the first (now Penland) building was under construction. When shown the courtyard Charles envisioned the theme of a sculpture for the space. Today the centerpiece of the courtyard is a work of art entitled "Double Knot", dedicated to his parents, Owen H. and Florence F. Perry, signifying the bond of marriage. It also symbolizes the entwining of the Aiken community and the University. The Academy for Lifelong Learning represents one aspect of that knot's bond.

Please view [www.charlesperry.com](http://www.charlesperry.com) for more of his amazing work. We are most fortunate to have one of his sculptures here in our midst in Aiken. And for those scientists among us, much of his work has its foundation in mathematics.

To be continued...

Glenn Knowles, Academy President

### Courses Beginning in November

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)).

- **Asian Philosophy: Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism** – [Dr. Dillard-Wright] 4 Wednesdays at 2:00 pm, beginning Nov. 3. Ruth Patrick Science Center 131. **Class size is limited. Registration for this course is now closed.**
- **The American Revolution in South Carolina and The Swamp Fox** – [Rod Lenahan] 2 Tuesdays at 11:00am (2-hour sessions with brown bag lunch break), beginning Nov. 9. Cedar Creek Community Center. **Registration for this course is now closed.**

## Summary of Board Meeting of October 1

President Glenn Knowles called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Those present were: Vince Coughlin, Dick Baxter, Richard Arkin, Doug Wilson, Larry Peyser, Kathy Schulz, LaVerne Specca, Jerry Mc Donald, Mary Anne Cavanaugh,

The minutes of September 10 were approved with one editorial change.

### Treasurer's Report

The most current financial report is tracking very close to our budget projection. The increased Continuing Education Line Item has reduced our surplus position such that there are insufficient monies to provide scholarship funding at current levels. Inability of Vice Chancellor Dr. Deidre Martin to attend the Oct 1 board meeting to discuss issues pertaining to student fee calculation forced a delay in resolving this issue.

Action: Action on scholarship invoices will be deferred until resolution of the Continuing Education charges and determination of resulting surplus.

Action: As soon as possible after Dr. Martin's return the Board President Appointed Committee (President, President Elect, and Treasurer) will meet with her.

[*Editor's Note: The meeting with Dr. Martin was held Oct 12 and the student fee issue was resolved for this academic year. The support fee the Academy pays USCA was set at \$17.50/student/semester.*]

Treasurer Rick Arkin detailed the Kauffman, Watson and Academy endowments in terms of purpose, principal value, 2010-11 allocations and spendable amounts.

### Committee Reports

Curriculum – Jerry McDonald reported for Chairwoman Susie Sadowski that written descriptions of all seventeen classes and three events have been received by catalog editor Wesley Sloan.

Dick Baxter reports a total of 28 no-shows, meaning persons missed all classes, for the four classes for which he is liaison. Some of these four classes have waiting lists of members who were unable to register. This fostered discussion without action to add a course fee to encourage class attendance.

Public Relations – LaVerne Specca advised that the Senior Extravaganza effort was a success in that over forty persons added their names to our mailing list. The Drawing for Membership enhanced the draw of people to the Academy table, which was recognized by Glenn Knowles as well appointed.

Glenn recommended we continue to subscribe to the Senior Extravaganza.

Action: LaVerne has contacted the Aiken Standard and will continue to follow-up with the person contacted. LaVerne will continue to establish contact with someone representing the Augusta Chronicle.

Action: Carry Over note from 8/13/10: 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 Aiken Library second floor. Neither Erna nor Elizabeth was present.

The Spiral and Web Site - Doug Wilson advises the October issue of *The Spiral* has been issued. The USCA Academy for Lifelong Learning web page now contains the revised Academy By-Laws.

Membership – Kathy Schulz reports two-hundred-twenty-four (224) current members. This compares with two-hundred-forty-three (243) members at this time last year. Kathy also reported there are thirty-six people signed up for the Fall Steeplechase.

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.

### OLD BUSINESS

Kauffman Award Vince Coughlin is seeking nominations for the award. He asks that each member of the Board be prepared to suggest and / or vote on a Kauffman Award day speaker.

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 – NONE

### ADJOURN

The meeting Adjourned at 11:05 a.m. Next Meeting November 12, 12:30 p.m. 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 – NOVEMBER 2010**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <i>Financial Markets</i> 11:00a [ P 106]  <i>Birds of the World</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	2	3 <i>Asian Philosophy</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	4 <i>4 Artists, 4 Arts</i> 10:30a [Field trip]	5 <i>Curric. Committee</i> 10:00a [B conf]	6
7	8 <i>Financial Markets</i> 11:00a [ P 106]  <i>Birds of the World</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	9 <i>Amer Rev in SC</i> 11:00 [CC]	10 <i>Asian Philosophy</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	11 <i>4 Artists, 4 Arts</i> 10:50a [P 110]	12 <i>Board Meeting</i> 12:30p [P110]  <i>General Meeting</i> 2p [P106]	13
14	15 <i>Financial Markets</i> 11:00a [ P 106]	16 <i>Amer Rev in SC</i> 11:00 [CC]	17 <i>Asian Philosophy</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 <i>Asian Philosophy</i> 2:00p [RP 131]	25	26	27
28	29	30				

[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