



Academy for  
**LIFELONG LEARNING**  
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

[www.aikenlearning.org](http://www.aikenlearning.org)

The  
*Spiral*

March, 2012

### **President's Message**

The Academy spring semester is going very well with high course registrations and very good attendance. In March, we will be finishing up the lectures on "Contemporary Irish Poetry", "History as a Political Weapon", and will start with "Year-Round Color and Beauty in Your South Carolina Landscape", "The Real Cause of the Civil War and Why We Should Be Concerned Today", "To Sleep, Perchance To Dream", "Great Decisions/Discussions", "American Writers in Paris in the Twenties" and "Cruise the Savannah River". It promises to be an interesting, informative, and perhaps even an exciting month with St. Patrick's Day included.

On Friday, March 9 at 2:00 PM in Penland 106, Dr. Tom Hallman will review the current status and projected future of USCA with a presentation entitled: "USCA - 50 years of Setting the Pace". Dr. Hallman is retiring from USCA, so this is our last opportunity to hear from him. I hope all of our Academy members will attend this meeting.

At the conclusion of Dr. Hallman's presentation, there will be a short business meeting to vote on the slate of officers for the coming year beginning July 1, 2012. Refreshments will follow.

Dick Baxter, Academy President.

*Dick Baxter, Academy President*

### **Come Say Goodbye to USCA Chancellor Tom Hallman on March 9**

USCA Chancellor Tom Hallman will be the speaker at the Academy's General Meeting in March. During his tenure as Chancellor he has been a staunch supporter of the Academy for Lifelong Learning. Dr. Hallman will be retiring from his position this spring. As this is our last meeting with him, we hope to have a really good turnout to show him how much we have appreciated his help and support over the last eleven years.

Following Dr. Hallman's remarks, there will be a short business meeting to elect our slate of Academy officers for next year.

At the conclusion of the meeting there will be a reception with refreshments.

Date: March 9, 2012

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Room 106, Penland Administration Building on the USCA campus.

### **Bring a Friend to Class**

For the balance of this semester, you can bring a friend who is not an Academy member with you to a class session held in the Penland 106 auditorium so they can see what the Academy is all about. Due to restricted seating capacity in other classrooms, please limit this to only Penland 106 classes.

### **Courses Starting In March**

Please see the published course catalog for full course descriptions and additional information. (The Spring 2012 catalog is available on the web at <http://www.aikenlearning.org/catalog/Catalog.php>). 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)).

*Year-Round Color And Beauty In Your South Carolina Landscape*  
3 Thursdays, Mar 1, 8, 15  
Instructor: Jacque Rees

*The Real Cause Of The American Civil War And Why We Should Be Concerned Today!*  
3 Wednesdays, Mar 7, 14, 21  
Instructor: Ken Brace

*To Sleep, Perchance To Dream*  
4 Thursdays, Mar 8, 15, 22, 29  
Instructor: Dr. David Andrews

*Great Decisions/Discussions*  
8 Thursdays, March 8, 15, 22, 29, Apr 12, 19, 26, May 3 (skip Apr 5)  
Class participation: no Instructor

*American Writers In Paris In The Twenties*  
4 Fridays, Mar 16, 23, 30, Apr 13 (skip Apr 6)  
Instructor: Andrew Geyer

## Academy Board Meeting, February 10, 2012

President Dick Baxter called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Those present were Glenn Knowles, Gerry McDonald, Kathy Schulz, Doug Wilson, and Wesley Sloan.

Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Marcia McDonald, Faculty Liaison Dr. Kathleen Kalpin-Smith, were not in attendance.

Motion to approve the minutes of January 13, 2012 carried after some discussion.

### Treasurer's Report

Dick Baxter, Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Gerry McDonald, and Doug Wilson have been named as the Finance Committee. Gerry McDonald has developed a tentative format for presentation to the Board. There is nothing wrong with the Management Information Report - Level 1, but it is difficult to interpret vis-à-vis Lifelong Learning.

There is approximately \$1,800 in the checking account. Previous Treasurer Norb Denil did not have to be present at Security Federal in order to turn over checking account signature authority.

### Committee Reports

Curriculum – The next meeting is scheduled for April. Gerry has developed a survey. Most questions are tweaked from previous surveys, often using the same language. The survey asks both general and specific topics for potential classes.

A previous Astronomy class, *Exploring the Heavens*, taught in February 2011, had a limit of 35. It quickly met its limit. Since we have a membership of approximately 200, Dr. Gary Sean has been asked and agreed to teach another class during the coming Fall semester.

In the same vein this semester's class *The Aging Brain* with a limit of 15 filled the first day. The instructor, Dr. Echo Leaver, should be asked if she is willing to teach again. If she wants to keep the class size at 15, perhaps she would be willing to give multiple sessions.

Cedar Creek should be considered every time it is available and Penland 106 is not available. Except in the case of an instructor who is a current faculty member, this is even when it was NOT mentioned in Curriculum Committee meetings.

Publicity/Marketing – Publicity is encouraging. Articles submitted to the *Aiken Standard* have regularly been printed in *Mature Times*.

Board Members, Curriculum Committee Members, and the general membership should be encouraged to bring a guest to a class especially when the class is in Penland 106 or other classroom with plenty of available seating.

A motion was made and passed that Doug Wilson should mention in *The Spiral* "invite a friend to class." Doug will put a map on the Academy Website: <http://www.aikenlearning.org/index.php>.

Membership – As of the Board Meeting membership stands at 198. This compares with 222 for the previous 2011 total. This is a drop of approximately 11%. The number of people who paid for annual membership, as

compared to one semester at a time, is 50% of the previous year.

The *Cruise the Savannah River* trip is full. Kathy Schulz will send a memo to participants giving directions and inviting them to bring water and light refreshments.

Nominating – John and Nancy Meinhardt are serving as the current Curriculum Chair Elect. They will begin the position of Curriculum Chair July 1. The Nominating Committee is still looking for somebody for the position of Curriculum Chair Elect for the next academic year.

Gerry McDonald will be President and Dick Baxter Past President. Nobody has agreed to accept the position of President Elect.

Kathy Schulz and Wesley Sloan agreed to maintain their current positions.

### Old Business

The March 9 General Membership Meeting will have outgoing President Thomas L. Hallman as the featured speaker. For many years President Hallman has given a State of the University presentation to a General Membership Meeting. He has been a great supporter of the Academy. For example one week after a problem with the lack of a computer in Penland 110 was mentioned to Dr. Hallman, a computer was installed.

*The Spiral* should have an article encouraging attendance in order to honor his service to the Academy and USC Aiken. Course liaisons should be encouraged to make an announcement at the beginning of each class.

The Kauffman Award will be at the last General Membership Meeting of the semester on April 20th. Bruce Capers, basketball coach at Aiken Technical College, will be the featured speaker. He is a former member of the Harlem Globetrotters.

### New Business

The use of the new computer in Penland 110 appears to be intuitively obvious to the casual observer. This semester it has been increasingly difficult to get computer help for Penland 106. The computer and microphones, both hand held and wireless, have been a problem.

In the past USC Aiken computer guru Barry Ready has provided a training session to all members of the Curriculum Committee. Since the campus computer system often changes, the Board would like to request that Barry train Board Members and Curriculum Committee Members at the beginning of each semester.

Jim Brown of Senior Net has been contacted to determine if they are interested in supplying personnel for the computer system in Penland 106 for the next Fall semester. The intent is to have a computer person available for each course using the computer in Penland 106.

In order to differentiate semester catalogs, the Board proposes an orange cover for Fall and a green cover for Spring.

The Curriculum Committee does not plan to have a March meeting unless absolutely necessary. If the

Board of Directors has a March meeting it will be on March 9 before the General Membership Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50.

**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:** Richard Baxter, President; Glenn Knowles, Immediate Past President; Gerald McDonald, President Elect; Wesley Sloan, Secretary, and Mary Anne Cavanaugh, Treasurer.

**Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:**  
**Board of Directors:** Marcia McDonald, Curriculum Chair, John and Nancy Meinhardt, Curriculum Chair-Elect; Publicity Chair (Vacant); Kathy Schulz, Membership Chair.

**Non-Members:** Dr. Kathleen Kalpin-Smith, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

**Academy on the Web:** <http://www.aikenlearning.org>

ACADEMY CALENDAR – MARCH 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>SC Landscape</i> 9:25 – 10:40 a [P106]	2	3
4	5 <i>Hist As Polit Weapon</i> 10:00 – 11:00a [P 110]  <i>Contemp. Irish Poet.</i> 1:00 – 1:50p [P 106]	6	7 <i>Civil War</i> 3:00 – 4:00p [CC]	8 <i>SC Landscape</i> 9:25 – 10:40 a [P106]  <i>Sleep / Dream</i> 10:50a - 12:05p [P106]  <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00 – 3:30p [P 110]	9 <i>General Meeting</i> Dr. Tom Hallman 2:30 p [p 106]	10
11	12 <i>Hist As Polit Weapon</i> 10:00 – 11:00a [P 110]	13	14 <i>Civil War</i> 3:00 – 4:00p [CC]	15 <i>SC Landscape</i> 9:25 – 10:40 a [P106]  <i>Sleep / Dream</i> 10:50a - 12:05p [P106]  <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00 – 3:30p [P 110]	16 <i>Am. Writers in Paris</i> 11:00 – 11:50a [P 106]	17
18	19 <i>Hist As Polit Weapon</i> 10:00 – 11:00a [P 110]	20 <i>Savannah River Cruise</i> 2:00 – 3:30p [Augusta Marriott]	21 <i>Civil War</i> 3:00 – 4:00p [CC]	22 <i>Sleep / Dream</i> 10:50a - 12:05p [P106]  <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00 – 3:30p [P 110]	23 <i>Am. Writers in Paris</i> 11:00 – 11:50a [P 106]	24
25	26	27	28	29 <i>Sleep / Dream</i> 10:50a - 12:05p [P106]  <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00 – 3:30p [P 110]	30 <i>Am. Writers in Paris</i> 11:00 – 11:50a [P 106]	31

[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