



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

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

The  
*Spiral*

MAY, 2014

### **President's Message**

Well, another "school" year is reaching an end, and what a year it has been!

In the fall semester, we had 200 participants in the Academy programs. Then in November, the classroom reservation system was changed at USCA, delaying the publication of our catalog for this spring semester. With the delay, we ran into the holiday seasons, when many are traveling, so our spring semester saw 155 participants.

This past February, Mary Anne Cavanaugh, and Laura Anderson announced their simultaneous retirement scheduled for April 30, 2014. They offered to continue in a limited part-time basis with 32 hours each week between them. That offer is still "on the table". At this time, the temporary arrangement will be: Mary Anne will retire on April 30, and Laura will continue with Continuing Ed. until July 30. At this point we've received no information from USCA about plans for filling these two key positions for the future. This also affects the Senior Net programs.

We had a great turnout at the Kauffman Award Luncheon, with Dick Baxter getting well-deserved recognition for his past work with the Academy for Lifelong Learning for many years, and many positions held.

We will be sponsoring a concert at Hopeland Gardens on August 18, 2014 with "Southern Knights" to help publicize our programs, and our fall catalog should be available in print by that time, as well.

Our fall class lineup is complete, with over 21 classes and tours available, and a great diversity among them. Some academic, some fun, but no homework or exams!

Enjoy the summer ahead, and I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall semester!

**Doug Cook, Academy President**

### **Dick Baxter Honored as 2014 Earl Kauffman Award Recipient**

Every year since 1992, the Academy for Lifelong Learning has given an award in remembrance of Dr. Earl F. Kauffman, one of the key founders of the Academy in 1989. The award is given to a group or individual that has provided outstanding service to the Academy. This year's recipient, announced at the annual Earl Kauffman Remembrance Day Luncheon on April 17, is Dick Baxter.

Dick was born in Brooklyn and graduated from Columbia University in New York City. He went on to receive advanced degrees from Louisville and USC.

He and Charlotte have four daughters and one son. They've been Aiken residents for 62 years, moving here in 1952 with DuPont, which was then the prime contractor for the Savannah River Site.

Dick has been a member of the Academy for "seven or eight years" and has been on the Academy's Curriculum Committee for most of them. He initiated



*Past Academy President Jerry McDonald presents the 2014 Kauffman Award to Dick Baxter.*

many classes during his tenure and is very familiar to most Academy members thanks to introducing the class sessions of the numerous courses for which he

has served was liaison. Dick was Chairman of the Curriculum Committee for the 2009/2010 academic year and then went on to serve as Academy President the following year.

Dick has a wide range of interests including painting, sailing, music, engineering, gardening, astronomy, and art. He plays clarinet with a senior group called New Horizon, and has given talks and conducted tours at the DuPont Planetarium on the USCA campus. Dick is a true *renaissance man* that epitomizes what the Academy for Lifelong Learning is all about: learning that never stops.

It is with great pride and a heartfelt measure of appreciation that the Academy honors Dick Baxter with the 23rd annual Earl Kauffman Award.

### A Personal Note

As a recent recipient of the Kauffman Award, I would like to express my gratitude to four groups associated with the Academy:

1. *The Curriculum Committee* for their hard work, enthusiasm, dedication and knowledge in selecting courses for Academy members.
2. *Mary Anne Cavanaugh* and *Laura Anderson* at USCA for steering us through the many logistics problems that come up in scheduling courses. They have solved many of our organizational issues with grace and good humor.
3. *Dr. Deidre Martin* for her continuing encouragement and support from the University.
4. *The staff of the University*, now under Dr. Sandra Jordan's leadership, for their excellent class sessions over the past years. The staff have been knowledgeable, and interesting, and made learning for our members an enjoyable experience.

Being a member of the Academy has been a privilege for me in being able to participate, in a small way, to the success of the Academy.

Dick Baxter

### Kauffman Recognition Day Luncheon



Over 50 Academy members and guests attended this year's Kauffman Recognition Day Luncheon on April

17. All Academy members were invited to this function.

Academy President Doug Cook provided opening remarks and relayed regrets from Dr. Kauffman's son, Dr. James Kauffman, that he would not be able to attend this year due to health reasons. President Cook expressed hope that all would go well with him and that we would see him again at future Earl Kauffman Remembrance Days.

Past President Jerry McDonald then announced the recipient of this year's Kauffman award, Dick Baxter, and presented him with the award (see the lead article in this issue of *The Spiral*).

Following the Kauffman Award presentation, President Cook turned the podium over to long time Academy member Doris Hammond and USCA Vice Chancellor Dr. Deidre Martin who shared reminiscences of Dr. Earl Kauffman and the founding and early days of the Academy for Lifelong Learning.



Doris Hammond



Dr. Deidre Martin

The keynote speaker at the luncheon was USCA Chancellor Dr. Sandra Jordan, who reiterated the



theme from last year's presentation that USCA is a regional university dedicated to the needs and success of its students and the surrounding community. Of particular interest are an upcoming Medical Technology degree program in conjunction with the Aiken Medical Center and a

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) MBA program, one of only three in the nation, specifically tailored to the needs of local employers.

### Mary Anne Cavanaugh and Laura Anderson Recognized at Kauffman Luncheon

Following her address at the Kauffman Recognition Luncheon, Dr. Jordan also gave special recognition to the two USCA Department of Continuing Education employees who have been instrumental in working with the Academy for Lifelong Learning and keeping things running from year to year and day to day. As mentioned in the minutes of the March Board meeting, both Director Mary Anne Cavanaugh and Laura Anderson have announced their intentions to retire as

full time University employees this summer. Dr. Jordan presented each of them with mementos in recognition of their years of dedicated service. In addition, Academy President Doug Cook presented each with a bouquet of flowers from the Academy.



*Academy President Doug Cook presents Laura Anderson (left) with a flower bouquet as Chancellor Dr. Sandra Jordan looks on*



*Retiring Director Mary Anne Cavanaugh with her flowers and gift.*

### Spring Semester Wraps to a Close

There are no new classes beginning this month, and only the final two weeks of the *Great Decisions* discussion group yet to be held in May.

For next semester, the Curriculum Committee is putting the finishing touches on more than 20 short courses and two events covering a wide range of interests. Watch for the new catalog to be published in August, with a sneak peek arriving soon on the Academy website. We hope to see you all back for the Fall 2014 term.

### Academy Board Meeting April 12.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by president Doug Cook.

Present: President Doug Cook, Treasurer Mary Anne Cavanaugh,, Curriculum Chair-elect Jan VanSlyke, Publicity Chair Linda Soyars

Absent: Past President Jerry McDonald, Secretary Doug Wilson, Curriculum Chair Carl Fields, Membership Chair Sherry Wilson

#### TREASURER'S REPORT – Mary Anne Cavanaugh

Treasurer's Report was distributed. In summary, finances continue in good shape. There are still seven unpaid instructors pending disbursement, awaiting directions from the instructors. The Odell Weeks fee for next year's pickle ball session of the *Get A Move On* class, approved in March, has been paid.

#### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT

The catalog for the Fall 2014 semester is being assembled. The Committee will not meet May 2.

#### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Academy is sponsoring an Aiken City Summer Concert in Hopeland Gardens as a means of spreading awareness of the Academy to the Aiken community. Our sponsorship will be of the Southern Knights concert on August 18. This will serve as a good lead-in to our sign-up campaign when the catalogs are issued in August. Linda is working with the Screenprint Factory on the design of the complementary fans with the Academy logo, phone number, and web address to be given out at the event.

#### KAUFFMAN RECOGNITION PLANNING

At the present time 58 people have signed up for the event. Jerry has obtained biographical information about our honoree. Doris Hammond will share reminiscences about Dr. Kauffman and the early days of the Academy. Following the luncheon we will have a short member meeting to vote on ratifying the proposed amendments to our bylaws and to elect next year's slate of officers.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Things are still in flux regarding the retirement of Mary Ann Cavanaugh and Laura Anderson as full time University employees. The University assures us they will have a plan in place by August for coverage of their duties and responsibilities.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The room has been reserved at the Pickens-Salley house for next year's Holiday Reception, which is to be held December 5, 4:30-6:30 pm.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am. The date and time for the next board meeting has not been determined.

## Academy Business Meeting, April 17

A short Member Business meeting was held following the Kauffman Recognition Day Luncheon. All active Academy member were invited to this meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Cook at 1:45 pm.

There were only two items on the agenda.

### *Revision to the Academy's Bylaws*

The Board proposed revisions to the Bylaws under which we operate, primarily to provide extra flexibility in where and when to hold membership meetings for the conducting of Academy Business, including the election of officers. The revisions were published on the Academy website and announced in last month's issue of *The Spiral*. The revised bylaws were ratified unanimously and have now been placed in the Documents section of the Academy website.

### *Election of Officers for the 2014/2015 Academic Year*

The following slate of officers was elected unanimously, with their terms to begin July 1, 2014:

- President – Carl Fields (automatic progression from President-elect this year)
- President-elect – (vacant\*)
- Secretary – Doug Wilson (incumbent)
- Treasurer – Mary Ann Cavanaugh (incumbent)
- Curriculum Chair – Jan VanSlyke (automatic pro-gression from Chair-elect this year)
- Curriculum Chair-elect – (vacant\*)
- Publicity Chair – Nancy Meinhart
- Membership Chair – Sherry Wilson
- \* Jan VanSlyke, while serving as Curriculum Chair next year, is willing to concurrently fill either the President-elect or Curriculum Chair-elect position as needed, leaving us with one position to fill.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

## USC Aiken Announces Pacer Travel Club

Aimed at alumni and friends of USCA, the Pacer Travel Club will offer several trips and tours to its members each year. And who likes to travel, and has the time to do it, more than our Academy members?



Initial tours planned are:

- **New York to Montreal Fall Foliage Cruise** on Oceana Cruise Lines. October 11-21, 2014
- **New York City Holiday** (a repeat of last year's popular trip which was "trial balloon" for the concept). December 12-15, 2014
- **Winter Getaway to Cancun.** Golf, wellness, and activities at the Secrets Capri Riviera all-inclusive resort. January 15-19, 2015.

- **French Culture, Quisine, and Art** on a Paris-to-Normandy Avalon River Cruise. July 28 – August 4, 2015

The nature and destination of future trips will be determined with input from the Club's members.

Membership is \$55/year (couples \$95/year). The cost of the trips themselves is, of course, extra. Those joining now will receive membership through 2015. You can find the membership application at: <http://web.usca.edu/advancement/pacer-travel-club/application.dot>

For full details, see the Pacer Travel Club web page: <http://web.usca.edu/pacer-travel/>

## The Spiral Going On Vacation

This is the last issue of *The Spiral* for the 2013/2014 academic year. We will resume publication with the September issue next fall.

*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:** President: Doug Cook; Past President: Gerald McDonald; President Elect: Carl Fields; Secretary: Doug Wilson; Treasurer: Mary Anne Cavanaugh.

**Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:** **Board of Directors:** Curriculum Chair; Carl Fields; Curriculum Chair-Elect: Jan VanSlyke; Publicity Chair: Linda Soyars; Membership Chair: Sherry Wilson

**Ex-officio 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 – MONTH 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00-3:30p [P 110]	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00-3:30p [P 110]	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
[Location Codes]    B = Bus & Educ Bldg @ USCA    H = Hum & Soc Sci Bldg @ USCA    RP = Ruth Patrick Sci Ctr @ USCA N = Nursing Bldg @ USCA                    P = Penland Bldg @ USCA                    CC = Cedar Creek Community Building						