



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

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

The  
*Spiral*

OCTOBER, 2014

### **President's Message**

Fall Semester classes began on September 8th. As of early September the Academy had 163 registered members. A few more members will probably join during the remainder of the semester.

The Academy's classes most often run one session per week for four weeks. Classes begin and end at various times throughout the semester. Members can join the Academy at any time during the semester. Registration in the Academy is not limited to the few weeks prior to the beginning of the first set of classes in early September. The last set of classes in the current semester begins around late October.

Members who attended Vicki Collins' Appalachian Culture class last Spring Semester may remember being entertained (and educated) by the Erin Eubanks musical group. Vicki has invited all Academy members to Erin's next performance on campus on October 16th at 1:40 PM in 106 Penland (this is the room in the Penland Building that seats about 140). This performance is not directly associated with the Academy, but Vicki indicated plenty of seats should be available. No RSVP is required. There is no charge (the group will probably have CDs for sale, but it's not a "hard sell").

USCA's SeniorNet organization (which operates from the McGrath Computer Learning Center on the USCA campus) has invited Academy members to fill out an internet survey. The survey concerns potential future computer-related SeniorNet courses of possible interest to "mature" adults. In the past, SeniorNet courses have dealt with topics such as computers, e-mail, the internet, digital photography, and web page design. The survey suggests they may be considering future courses on tablets and smart phones. The survey can be accessed on the internet via: <http://mcgrathclc.com/survey>

The Academy has an extensive web site at [www.aikenlearning.org](http://www.aikenlearning.org) (maintained by webmas-

ter and Editor of *The Spiral*, Doug Wilson – thanks Doug!). One of the menu items on the web site is called the Logo Shop. This menu item links to a marketing organization that sells several types of items for us bearing the Academy logo (e.g., shirts, tote bags, ball caps, and golf balls). This shop exists purely as a resource for our members. The Academy does not receive any funds from these sales. Some other organizations using the marketing organization authorize an additional markup as a fundraising opportunity. We do not.

The curriculum committee continues to work on developing classes for Spring Semester 2015 and future semesters. Any volunteers wishing to join this committee can contact Jan Van Slyke (509-430-0824 or [curric@aikenlearning.org](mailto:curric@aikenlearning.org)).

The Academy currently has two vacant officer positions and, in a couple months, will be looking for members for the nominating committee for the election of 2015-2016 officers (and that nominating committee will begin looking for candidates for 2015-2016 officers). If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please contact Carl Fields (803-641-0637 or [pres@aikenlearning.org](mailto:pres@aikenlearning.org)).

**Carl Fields, Academy President**

### **'Vikings' Instructor Dresses The Part**



Students at the initial session of *The Vikings and Their World* course were greeted by USCA Senior Instructor of History Alexia Helsley in full Viking garb. This is not atypical for Ms. Helsley as she has become an Academy favorite over the last few terms for her interesting classes, wry view of history and the world, and always-entertaining presentation. She was quick to point out that the costume wasn't all that accurate

historically (Viking helmets didn't really have horns and this helmet had no nose protection) but that didn't take away from a great beginning to the class.

### Courses Beginning in October

Please see the published catalog for full descriptions and additional information. (You can find the Fall 2014 catalog on the Academy website at <http://www.aikenlearning.org/catalog/>).



To enroll, return the form in the catalog along with any required payment. For questions, contact USCA Department of Continuing Education (803-641-3563 / [info@aikenlearning.org](mailto:info@aikenlearning.org)).

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Do NOT attend these classes unless you have BOTH pre-registered AND received written confirmation of your registration from USCA.

THREE WOMEN OF SCIENCE: MARIE CURIE, IRENE JOLIOT-CURIE, AND LISE MEITNER

Date: 3 Mondays, Oct. 6, 13, & 20

Time: 9:00-9:50 A.M.

Location: : Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45 - **FILLED**

IMMIGRATION, RACE, AND ETHNICITY

Date: 4 Mondays, Oct. 6, 13, 20, & 27

Time: 10:00 -10:50 A.M.

Location: Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45 - **FILLED**

DANTE'S DIVINE COMEDY

Date: 5 Tuesdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, & Nov. 11

Time: 10:50 A.M.-12:05 P.M.

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45 - **FILLED**

HISTORY OF IMMUNIZATION

Date: 4 Tuesdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21, & 28

Time: 12:15 -1:10 P.M.

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

THE NEW COLD WAR: RUSSIA AND ITS BORDERLANDS

Date: 4 Wednesdays, Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29

Time: 1:00 -1:50 P.M.

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg. Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 49 - **FILLED**

HOW DID WE BECOME SO POLARIZED & WHAT (IF ANYTHING) CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?

Date: 4 Mondays, Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3 & 10

Time: 11:00 -12 Noon

Location: Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45 - **FILLED**

NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL: USA AND THE SOVIET UNION IN THE 1980'S

Date: 2 Wednesdays, Oct. 22, 29

Time: 11:00 -11:50 A.M.

Location: Nursing Bldg., Rm. 113

Enrollment Limit: 49

ETHNIC CLEANSING IN CONTEMPORARY EUROPE

Date: 4 Thursdays, Oct. 23, 30, & Nov. 6, 13

Time: 3:20 -4:20 P.M.

Location: Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 106

Enrollment Limit: 150

ICELANDIC SAGA

Date: 4 Tuesdays, Oct. 28, & Nov. 4, 11, 18

Time: 9:00 -10:15 A.M.

Location: Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

LAND AND CONSERVATION IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Date: 2 Thursdays, Oct. 30 & Nov. 6

Time: 10:50 A.M. -12:05 P.M.

Location: Humanities & Social Sciences Bldg., Rm. 116

Enrollment Limit: 96

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

Date: 4 Thursdays, Oct. 30, & Nov. 6, 13, 20

Time: 12:15 -1:30 P.M.

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

FIELD TRIP TO SAVANNAH RIVER SITE RED COCKADED WOODPECKER HABITAT

Date: Two identical sessions Thur Oct 16 OR Tue Oct 21

Time: 8:00 -11:30a

[Registration for this event has closed]

FALL STEEPLECHASE

Date: Saturday October 25

Time: Gates open 9:30 A.M. , First race 1:00 P.M.

Location: Ford Conger Field, Aiken

[Registration for this event has closed]

## Events at USCA That May Interest Academy Members

Here is a sampling of October events at the Etherredge Center on the USCA campus that may be of interest to Academy members. For a full week-by-week calendar of events at Etherredge, visit <http://etherredge.usca.edu/> (click on the week of interest).



### **Rama Mani, October 6**

As part of the USCA Inter-Curricular Enhancement program Dr. Rama Mani will present a one woman theatrical performance *Refugees from Humanitarian Crises: The Art of Hospitality*. This will be held October 6 at 7:30 on the Etherredge Center stage. There will be a reception following. Admission is free but donations will be accepted.



### **Phillip Gardner to Speak at Etherredge October 7**

As part of the James and Mary Oswald Distinguished Writers Series, Phillip J. Gardner will speak at the main stage at the USCA Etherredge Center at 8pm on October 7. Gardner is an author, songwriter, screen-

writer, and musician who teaches at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. You can learn more about him at his website, [phillipjgardner.com](http://phillipjgardner.com)

There is no admission charge for this event.

### **Watergate Figure John Dean to Speak on Campus October 16**

Forty years ago, on August 9, 1974, Richard M. Nixon became the only President in our nation's history to resign the presidency of the United States, following what was to become known as the Watergate scandal.

On Thursday, October 16, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., President Nixon's White House Counsel John Dean, with lawyer and author John Robinalt, will speak at the Etherredge Center on *The Legacy of Watergate: How the Scandal Changed Legal Ethics*.

As White House Counsel for President Nixon, Mr. Dean was deeply involved in events associated with the Watergate cover-up. At the time, the FBI referred to Mr. Dean as the "master manipulator of the cover-



up." During the Watergate hearings, Dean played a central role; after pleading guilty to a single felony count, he became the prosecution's key witness.

This should be an interesting opportunity to hear one of the controversial players in a major event in our country's history.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or pre-purchased at the Etherredge box office. **Please note that an early email indicating there was no admission charge for the John Dean talk was in error. There is a \$10 admission charge for this event.**



## SEPTEMBER 19, 2014 BOARD MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by President Carl Fields.

Present: President Carl Fields, Past President Doug Cook, Treasurer Laura Anderson, Secretary Doug Wilson, Curriculum Chair Jan VanSlyke, Publicity Chair Nancy Meinhardt, Membership Chair Sherry Wilson

### MINUTES OF PREVIOUS BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the July Board, as published in the September issue of *The Spiral*, were approved.

### TREASURERS REPORT – Laura Anderson

The balance of the Academy account with USCA will easily handle the outstanding expenses anticipated for the balance of the Fall 2014 semester.

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT – Jan VanSlyke

Plans for the Spring 2015 semester are coming together nicely. Pending finalization, we may have 25 classes or more. The deadline for submission of course descriptions, instructor biographies, and classroom requests is October 1st.

Two classes for the Spring were tentatively being scheduled at Cedar Creek. Indecision at Cedar Creek over whether to initiate a charge for the use of their clubhouse has caused at least one of these courses to be tentatively assigned to a classroom at USCA.

A private Academy showing at the DuPont planetarium at USCA was proposed for the Spring 2015 semester. This would be held as a single-session class. The University charges \$100 for this with a \$50 deposit. The Board approved the expenditure.

## PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT – Nancy Meinhardt

*Hopelands Concert*

There is no real way to tell if our sponsorship of the Hopelands Concert this August netted us any new members; the best we can do is anecdotal evidence if somebody happens to mention that is how they found us. The Board feels this was a worthwhile promotion and that we should sponsor again in August 2015.

It was suggested that it would be more cost effective to print a promotional handout card for distribution in the community rather than placing copies of the full catalog in public places. The card could have general Academy information on the front, and a current list of courses on the back.

## OLD BUSINESS

*USCA Continuing Education Reorganization*

The University has not announced its reorganization plans yet. We are pleased to learn that USCA has agreed to allow Laura Anderson to continue as a part time employee dealing with the Academy and SeniorNet at least through the second semester.

*Academy Scholarships at USCA*

The 2015 Scholarships were approved by last year's Board. Due to our change in Treasurers, we aren't sure if they have been charged to our account yet. Laura will look into this. Approvals for the 2016 scholarships will be dealt with during the Spring 2015 semester, when overall finances for the 2014-2015 year will be better defined.

## NEW BUSINESS

*Email List*

The request by SeniorNet to have their questionnaire sent to our membership prompted a discussion of handling of such requests. It was universally agreed that any personal information entrusted to us by Academy members must not be shared with outside agencies, but that it is permissible for us to send email broadcasts to our members as this does not reveal email addresses back to the requesting agencies. Information regarding USCA events and activities may be sent without Laura needing to obtain prior approval. Any requests from other agencies must first be approved by the current Publicity Chair.

*Policies and Procedures Document*

The Academy Bylaws permit operational policies and procedures to be self-determined by the Board.

Secretary Doug Wilson proposed an update to the *Policies and Procedures* document to reflect current practice. The Board approved the revision with several changes. The revised document will be made available to the membership via the Academy website Documents section.

*Functions Involving Catering*

Aramark, the food service provider for USCA, is now requesting more lead notice for catering events. Events impacted are our Holiday Drop-In Function and the Annual Kauffman Recognition Luncheon. This may result in our having to close registration for future catered events further before the event than we currently do.

*Dedicated Classroom*

Obtaining our classroom space continues to be a problem at USCA. Laura suggested we might consider renting room 124 in the Business and Education Building one day a week, and scheduling as many of our classes there as possible. This is a tiered room which remains in classroom configuration and thus does not require daily setup. Room 124 has audio-video capabilities and seats 52. The Board gave Laura its permission to explore this possibility.

*Future Board Meetings*

Future Board meetings will continue to be held the 3rd Friday of the month. Start time for the balance of the year will be 12:30 pm. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 17.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

**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. 803-641-3563. Doug Wilson, Editor

**Academy Officers:** President: Carl Fields; Past President: Doug Cook; President Elect: (vacant); Secretary: Doug Wilson; Treasurer: Laura Anderson.

**Chairpersons and Other Members of the Academy:**  
**Board of Directors:** Curriculum Chair; Jan VanSlyke; Curriculum Chair-Elect: (vacant); Publicity Chair: Nancy Meinhardt; Membership Chair: Sherry Wilson

**Ex-officio Members:** Dr. Tim Lintner, Faculty Liaison; Dr. Deidre Martin, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.

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

ACADEMY CALENDAR – OCTOBER 2014						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>VIKINGS</i> 11:00-11:50a [N 113]  <i>WRITING THE MEMOIR</i> 12:00-1:00p [P 110]	2 <i>GET A MOVE ON</i> 3:00-4:30p [H.O. Weeks Center, Whiskey Rd]	3 <i>Curriculum Meeting</i> 10:00a [B 102]	4
5	6 <i>WOMEN OF SCIENCE</i> 9:00-9:50a [P 110]  <i>IMMIGRATION</i> 10:00-10:50a [P 110]  <i>HOW TO MASTER GARDENING</i> 11:00-11:50a [P 110]	7 <i>FINANCIAL TOOLS</i> 9:25-10:40a [P110]  <i>DIVINE COMEDY</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]  <i>IMMUNIZATION</i> 12:15-1:10p [P 110]	8 <i>NEW COLD WAR</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	9 <i>GET A MOVE ON</i> 3:00-4:30p [B Wellness Center, Aerobics Room]	10	11
12	13 <i>WOMEN OF SCIENCE</i> 9:00-9:50a [P 110]  <i>IMMIGRATION</i> 10:00-10:50a [P 110]	14 <i>DIVINE COMEDY</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]  <i>IMMUNIZATION</i> 12:15-1:10p [P 110]	15 <i>NEW COLD WAR</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	16 <i>SRS FIELD TRIP</i> 8:00-11:30a [SRS]  <i>GET A MOVE ON</i> 3:00-4:30p [Strikehouse Bowl, Whiskey Rd.]	17 <i>Board Meeting</i> 12:30p [B 102]	18
19	20 <i>WOMEN OF SCIENCE</i> 9:00-9:50a [P 110]  <i>IMMIGRATION</i> 10:00-10:50a [P 110]  <i>POLARIZED</i> 11:00-12:00n [P 110]	21 <i>SRS FIELD TRIP</i> 8:00-11:30a [SRS]  <i>DIVINE COMEDY</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]  <i>IMMUNIZATION</i> 12:15-1:10p [P 110]	22 <i>NUCLEAR ARMS</i> 11:00-11:50a [N 113]  <i>NEW COLD WAR</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	23 <i>ETH. CLEANSING</i> 3:20-4:20p [P 110]	24	25
26	27 <i>IMMIGRATION</i> 10:00-10:50a [P 110]  <i>POLARIZED</i> 11:00-12:00n [P 110]	28 <i>ICELANDIC SAGA</i> 9:00-10:15a [P 110]  <i>DIVINE COMEDY</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]  <i>IMMUNIZATION</i> 12:15-1:10p [P 110]	29 <i>NUCLEAR ARMS</i> 11:00-11:50a [N 113]  <i>NEW COLD WAR</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	30 <i>SC LAND &amp; CONSERVATION</i> 10:50a-12:05p [H 116]  <i>TENNESSEE WILLIAMS</i> 12:15-1:30p [P 110]  <i>ETH. CLEANSING</i> 3:20-4:20p [P 110]	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  
 SRS = Savannah River Site