



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

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

The  
*Spiral*

**MARCH, 2015**

### **President's Message**

For various reasons, there have been an unusual number of classroom changes and class cancellations this semester (as well as one added class section). Please continue to check the Academy calendar in *The Spiral* for the most up-to-date class listings and locations.

Mark your calendar with the date for the Kauffman Award luncheon. It is planned for April 23, 2015 at noon, on the USCA campus (Room 116 of the B&E Building). All members of the Academy will be invited. There is no additional charge (it's included in your Academy membership), but an RSVP will be required. More details will be forthcoming later in the semester.

This semester, several of our classes are in Room 124 of the B&E Building. This room has what might be called stadium seating, where the "back rows" are on elevated tiers. Some of our members would prefer to sit in the front ("ground level") row of seats (or in the second row) because of mobility, vision, or hearing issues. It will be considerate if members who do not have such issues would try to sit behind those first two rows (unless, of course, the rows farther back are full).

The Academy's curriculum committee continues to work on developing classes for Fall 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 is looking for candidates for 2015-2016 officers. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please contact Carl Fields (803-641-0637 or [pres@aikenlearning.org](mailto:pres@aikenlearning.org)).

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

**Carl Fields, Academy President**

### **Dealing with the "Classroom Crunch"**

A number of courses this semester have filled to capacity, creating wait lists for seats in the class, because of our difficulty in obtaining larger classrooms from the University. After the semester began the Academy was able to take a some steps to ameliorate the situation somewhat.

The *Touring Historic Aiken* instructor agreed to put on a second section, allowing us to invite the entire wait list from the first section.

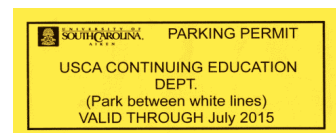
We also were able to move the courses with the largest wait lists, *The Murder of Mystery* and *the Mystery of Murder* and *When the Old South Was No More\**, from smaller rooms to H&S 103. This lecture hall is large enough to accommodate all who requested these courses.

There weren't enough people interested a second section of the *Solar System Adventure Tour* planetarium program for us to schedule it.

\* Corrected, originally reported as Industrial Revolution

### **Parking on USCA Campus**

When you register for the Academy you receive a USCA Parking Pass. As it says on the pass, this enables you to park in the USCA campus parking lots in the spaces delineated by WHITE lines. Spaces marked by yellow lines are reserved for faculty and staff and we are NOT authorized to park in them.



Campus security has asked us to remind you to display your parking pass on the dashboard when parking on campus. Cars parked during school hours without displayed passes, or parked in spaces marked by yellow lines, are at risk of being ticketed.

## Member Meeting April 23

The annual Academy Member Business Meeting will be held April 23 in conjunction with the Kauffman Remembrance Day banquet, to which all members will be invited. The key items at the meeting will be a proposed revision to the Academy Bylaws and the election of officers for the coming year.

### Proposed Bylaw Amendment

#### Rationale:

The way the Academy operates with regard to the Membership Committed has evolved over the years.

- Monthly meetings are no longer being held. It was a Membership responsibility at these meetings to deal with name tags on lanyards and arrange for refreshments, neither of which we do any longer.
- Some Curriculum Committee event management functions have wrongly been attributed to the Membership Committee because they were being carried out by a previous Curriculum Committee member who happened to be the Membership Chair.
- We now rely on publicity carried out by the Public Relations Committee to increase community awareness of the Academy and thus promote membership.

The Membership Committee is therefore no longer relevant and should be eliminated.

This proposed amendment makes the following changes to Article VII on Standing Committees:

#### Currently:

The Standing Committees of the Academy shall be Curriculum, Public Relations, and Membership

#### Proposed:

The Standing Committees of the Academy shall be Curriculum and Public Relations

#### Currently:

VII.4. The Membership committee shall promote and encourage membership in the Academy.

#### Proposed:

Delete section VII.4

### Election of Officers for 2015/2016

The current offered slate of officers is as follows:

President: Doug Cook (former President)

Secretary: Doug Wilson (incumbent)

Treasurer: Laura Anderson (incumbent)

Curriculum Chair: Jan VanSlyke (incumbent)

Pub. Relations Chair: Nancy Meinhardt (incumbent)

Your Academy is in need of nominees for the positions of *President-elect* and *Curriculum Chair-elect*. If you are willing to serve in one of these positions, please contact current President Carl Fields at [pres@aikenlearning.org](mailto:pres@aikenlearning.org), 803-641-0637.

## Academy Tours Historic Horse Creek Valley

As an adjunct to his January *Horse Creek Valley* class, local historian Owen Clary led an auto caravan tour of "The Valley" on February 11. Some of the sites visited were:



Langley Pond



Grave of Cotton Mill Magnate William Gregg, "Father of the Southern Textile Industry"



Graniteville Mill, closed in 2006, following the 2005 Graniteville train crash

## A Warm Welcome for New Members of the Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee is pleased to announce four new members for 2015.

Howard and Kitty Doughty retired to Aiken from New York less than two years ago and almost immediately began enjoying Lifelong Learning classes.



Harriet Haynes is retired from the Savannah River National Laboratory and Aiken Technical College.

Kathy Rachick is a retired college educator who moved to Aiken 18 months ago.



The Committee sincerely appreciates all of them and their willingness to help.

If you'd like to help the Curriculum Committee chart the course for future Academy semesters, please contact Committee Chair Jan VanSlyke ([curric@aikenlearning.org](mailto:curric@aikenlearning.org)).

## Courses Beginning This Month

Please see the published catalog for full descriptions and additional information. (You can find the Spring 2015 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 or events unless you have pre-registered AND received written confirmation of your registration from USCA.

**A HISTORY OF WOMEN IN AMERICA**  
 Dates: 4 Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17 & 24  
 Time: 10:50 - 12:05 P.M.  
 Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110  
 Enrollment Limit: 45

## STORIES

Dates: 2 Mondays, + 2 Wednesdays, March 9, 11, 16, & 18

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

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

## THE MYSTERY AND HISTORY OF MINING

Dates: 4 Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24 & 31

Time: 9:25-10:40 A.M.

Location: Penland Admin. Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

## GREAT DECISIONS

Dates: 8 Thursdays, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 16, 23, 30, & May 7

Time: 2:00 - 3:30 P.M.

Location: Penland Administration Bldg., Rm. 110

Enrollment Limit: 45

## WHEN THE OLD SOUTH WAS NO MORE—How Southerners Responded to the Defeat of the Confederacy 150 Years Ago

Dates: 3 Fridays, March 13, 20, & 27

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

Location: Humanities and Social Science Bldg., Rm.

103 (**Note: location change from catalog listing**)

Enrollment Limit: 58

## SOLAR SYSTEM ADVENTURE TOUR

Date: Tuesday, March 24

Time: 3:15-4:30 P.M.

Location: Ruth Patrick Science Education Center, DuPont Planetarium

Enrollment Limit: 45

## Computer Use in USCA Library

Academy membership provides use of the Gregg-Graniteville Library on the USCA Campus, including book borrowing privileges.

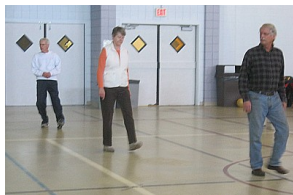
The library also provides several public access computers, but Academy membership does not provide any additional computer privileges beyond those given to the general public.



Computer use requires showing a driver's license or other picture id and is limited to 1.5 hours at a time.



## Quick Pix from February



*Brenda Taylor leads the 'Line Dancing for Beginners' class at the USCA B&E second floor gym.*

## Board Meeting, February 20

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

Visitor: Amy Westra, Administrative Assistant, Conferences and Continuing Education Office

### MINUTES

The minutes of the January board meeting, as reported in the February issue of *The Spiral*, were approved as published.

### TREASURER'S REPORT – Laura Anderson

The Treasurer's Report was discussed. No paper copy was available since Laura had no computer access due to her office being painted. Our finances continue to hold in good shape. The only disbursements were for instructor fees.

Enrollment is currently 28 annual members plus 180 Spring semester members, for a total of 208.

### CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REPORT – Jan VanSlyke

We have had two courses canceled this semester:

*Wine Tasting* – due to lack of response from the intended presenter

*Industrial Revolution* – due to a faculty class assignment conflict

Starting March 2015, Cedar Creek will charge us \$50/session for classes held in their community center. This may affect whether and how many courses we schedule there in the future.

We have taken steps to ameliorate a major portion of our "classroom space crunch" this semester as follows:

*Touring Historic Aiken* – Marty Bailey agreed to provide a second section of the class which allowed us to open it up to all on the waiting list plus additional enrollees.

*The Mystery of Murder ... and When the Old South Was No More* – We were able to move these two classes with the largest wait lists from smaller rooms to much larger H&SS 103, enabling us to invite the full waiting lists.

*Solar System Adventure Tour* – everyone on the wait list has been contacted to determine interest in adding a

second showing of this planetarium presentation on March 17. We are awaiting responses.

The daily rental of B&E 124 for multiple Monday classes is considered to be a success. Deidre Martin, USCA Vice Chancellor of University Advancement and probably our staunchest supporter in the University Administration, agrees. Unfortunately, she is about to retire. She has left notes for her successor urging the continuation of renting us this room at a favorable rate.

In October, Laura indicated that some people are confused by the "person one / person two" ability to register two enrollees at once via our current registration form. At that time it was suggested that, instead, we could include two separate single-person enrollment forms in the catalog. This was to be incorporated in the Fall 2015 catalog as it was too late to change the Spring 2015 catalog. Upon further reflection, Laura thinks this would create more problems for her than it would solve, so this idea was scrapped.

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE REPORT – Nancy Meinhardt

Nancy once again had an excellent article published in the monthly *Mature Times* section of the *Aiken Standard*. Several Board members expressed appreciation for Nancy's hard work and excellent results.

A Board vote was held via email between Board meetings which approved paying the City of Aiken for us to again sponsor an August summer concert in Hopelands Gardens.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### *USCA Continuing Education Reorganization*

The University has whittled the candidates to replace retired Director Mary Anne Cavanaugh down to three, and an offer has been sent to one of them. As of our Board meeting, we have not heard whether the offer has been accepted. Until the reorganization of the department is completed and the new Director comes on board and gets his/her feet on the ground, how the organization will shape up and interact with the Academy is still up in the air. At this point, Laura Anderson's status beyond this semester is still unknown.

#### *Officer Vacancies*

Next year is likely to present additional challenges as the new USCA Continuing Education regime comes on board and there will likely be some growing pains. As we have no current Curriculum Chair-elect, current Chair Jan VanSlyke has agreed to continue as Chair next year, to help assure continuity in this critical Academy function.

At this point, this leaves us with openings for President and President-elect next year.

#### *Kauffman Recognition Day*

The two recipients of our Spring Scholarships will be invited to attend the Kauffman Luncheon, so that they can be introduced to the members. The recipients, whose names were published in the January President's Message in *The Spiral*, are Charlene Grant, a senior majoring in Business Administration, and Candice Floyd, majoring in nursing.

## NEW BUSINESS

*Membership Committee*

Our bylaws define the purpose of the Membership Committee merely to "promote and encourage membership in the Academy".

We no longer have monthly meetings nor push the use of halyard name tags, both of which were the Membership Committee functions. Social events are really the function of the Curriculum Committee; their management in the past by the previous Membership Chair really was being done via her membership in the Curriculum Committee. Community awareness activities are primarily carried out by the Publicity Committee.

With the above in mind, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed that the Membership Committee has become redundant and should be eliminated.

This will require our bylaws to be amended and agreed to by the membership. Doug Wilson will prepare updated bylaws to be approved by the membership at the Members Meeting to be held immediately following the Kaufmann Recognition Day Luncheon on April 23.

*Veterans Center*

USCA currently has a small Veterans Support Center located in the USCA Library. Increasing numbers of enrolled veterans have created a need for a larger center. The University is planning to convert the Records Office in the Penland Administrative Building into this new enlarged Veterans Center. Our *Academy For Lifelong Learning Endowment Fund* was established years ago by the Academy from excess funds and contributions of individual members to be used by USCA in a manner the University deems to best fit its needs. The school has informed us it will be using \$5000 from this endowment to help fund the new Veterans Center. The plan is to honor this contribution by indicating our sponsorship on the "Honor Wall" in the Center.

This could be a good publicity opportunity for the Academy.

When this renovation is carried out, the plan is to move the Records Center into Penland 110, so at that time we will lose the use of this room as a classroom.

*Academy Mail Server*

Our small web site is located on a shared server with many other small sites, all sharing a common IP number. Bellsouth currently rejects email sent from our server (primarily via the mailing lists to Board Members and Curricu-

lum Committee Members). Apparently Bellsouth has received spam email originating from other sites on the server which share our IP number. Repeated attempts by our webmaster and our server host to get this block removed have gone nowhere. The Board approved, via email vote prior to the meeting, a \$4/month upgrade to our hosting account to one with its own dedicated IP number to eliminate this problem.

*Suggestions from Members*

A member mentioned that there are very few handicap parking spaces in the parking lot behind the Business and Education Building near the B&E building entrance. Now that we are holding classes in B&E 124 this has become a problem for some of our members. We have asked Senior University Facilities Executive Brian Enter about this, and he has agreed to look into adding additional handicap spaces near the B&E entrance.

Another suggestion was discussed involving the creation of scholarships, or possibly renaming existing scholarships, to honor deceased members of the Academy. It was decided that singling out individuals to so honor, although quite tempting, would be doing a disservice to other deceased members not so honored and their families, and thus will not be done. The Academy bestows the Kauffman Award to those individuals deemed to have made significant contributions to the organization and this is the preferred method of honoring our exceptional members.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 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.

**Committee Chairpersons:** 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 – MARCH 2015						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>Think Like Einstein</i> 11:00-11:50a [B 124]  <i>New Cold War</i> 3:00-3:50p [B 124]	3 <i>Women in America</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]	4 <i>Line Dancing</i> 11:00a-12:15p [B 2nd floor gym]	5	6 <del><i>Curric. Committee</i></del> <del>10:00a [B 102]</del>	7
8	9 <i>Stories</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	10 <i>Mining</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 110]  <i>Women in America</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]	11 <i>Line Dancing</i> 11:00a-12:15p [B 2nd floor gym]  <i>Stories</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	12 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00-3:30p [P 110]	13 <i>Curric. Committee</i> 10:00a [B 102]  <i>Old South No More</i> 1:00-1:50p [H 103]	14
15	16 <i>Stories</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	17 <i>Mining</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 110]  <i>Women in America</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]	18 <i>Stories</i> 1:00-1:50p [P 110]	19 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00-3:30p [P 110]	20 <i>Board Meeting</i> 12:30p [B 102]  <i>Old South No More</i> 1:00-1:50p [H 103]	21
22	23	24 <i>Mining</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 110]  <i>Women in America</i> 10:50a-12:05p [P 110]  <i>Solar System</i> 3:15-4:30p [RP Planetarium]	25	26 <i>Great Decisions</i> 2:00-3:30p [P 110]	27 <i>Old South No More</i> 1:00-1:50p [H 103]	28
29	30	31 <i>Mining</i> 9:25-10:40a [P 110]				
[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						