



Academy for
LIFELONG LEARNING
FELLOWSHIP • KNOWLEDGE • ADVENTURE

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The
Spiral

FEBRUARY, 2021

President's Message

When we decided to offer on-line classes at the beginning of the Covid epidemic, we really tapped into 'beginner's luck' getting started. Karen, the Continuing Education Director, borrowed a camera from another department, and she had on staff Nick Bolick, who had lots of experience with the TEAMS software. Nick worked with us to monitor our classes from the start. We are certainly not experts in this field and the students recognized that, but cut us some slack because they could see we were putting forth our best effort to keep them tied into the classes they had grown to love.

In this second semester of offering online classes, we have had some glitches. Nick has moved to a job in North Carolina, and we currently trying to find a replacement for him. The Continuing Education office staff has been doing all the work of setting up the camera and monitoring the classes, but when certain technical issues arise, it may take them longer to resolve the issues. The staff have their plates full doing their administrative work and are not computer software technical experts, but they are trying very hard to help us keep going with the online classes until this horrid epidemic is behind us. Sometimes the issues are software issues, sometimes the issues have to do with the instructor's wishes that impact the quality of what is seen by the online students, sometimes the students at home are not understanding their part of the process (a lot of us are not all that comfortable with the computer!). But we will continue trying to improve the quality of our online classes by resolving as many of these issues as we can.

We are sincerely sorry for the inconveniences you have gone through, and want to tell you how much we appreciate your patience as we work through the problems related the online classes. A major sticking point right now is whether or not we can find someone with technical expertise to provide set-up and monitoring for the classes. We will keep you updated on our progress, and welcome your comments and ideas.

Harriet Haynes, Academy President

pres@aikenlearning.org

Online Class Problems

The Academy is reliant upon the Continuing Education staff at UofSC Aiken for the creation and maintenance of the Microsoft TEAMS system for our online classes. Nick Bolick, the staff member who set up TEAMS for us to use last fall and who rode herd on it last semester, is no longer with the University. We have keenly felt his loss as the TEAMS system is now being managed by Continuing Education staff members who are doing their best but don't yet have Nick's expertise with the system.

The initial access link for this semester's online classes created some problems for a number of early sessions streaming from classrooms at UofSC Aiken. Some classes could not be accessed at all, and when access was established the ability for remote participants to type in their questions and comments was not enabled. All of this resulted in a revised link being issued to those who signed up for online classes. There were initial access problems with the transition to this second link as well, forcing the return for several sessions to the initial link that didn't permit entering questions and comments.

Online-only classes given by instructors located elsewhere than the classroom so far have gone well.

At this writing the systemic problems seem to be worked out and the revised link is providing full capabilities. New glitches for individual sessions may crop up from time to time, but as the staff gains more experience with the system their ability to cope with problems should continually improve. Your understanding and patience will be appreciated as we all try to work though this together.

To ensure everyone always has the current link Continuing Education plans to send weekly reminder emails to those registered for online classes.

Mr. Irvin's Map to Repeat First Session

Technical issues with the first session of *More Strolls Around Mr. Irvin's Map* on January 25 prevented online students from viewing the session. Instructor

Linda Johnson has graciously agreed to repeat the session on February 15 at 9:30 am for those who missed it.

Courses Beginning Soon

Please see the published catalog for full descriptions and additional information. (You can download the current catalog from the Academy website at aikenlearning.org/Catalog.php).

To enroll, register online at campscui.active.com/orgs/UniversityofSouthCarolinaAiken1?season=2922134, or return the form in the catalog along with any required payment. For questions, contact UofSC Aiken Department of Continuing Education (803-641-3563 / info@aikenlearning.org).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Do NOT attend these classes or events unless you have pre-registered AND have received written confirmation of your registration from UofSC Aiken.

 = In Person  = Online

Warfare: Tactics and Technology of War

4 Wednesdays, February 3,10,17,24

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  


The History of the American Revolutionary War in the Central Savannah River Area

4 Thursdays, February 4,11,18,25

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.

Note Room change:

Sessions 1-3: Penland Admin. Bldg., Room 106;  

Session 4: Fieldtrip Edgefield Discovery Center
405 Main St., Edgefield & Horns Creek Church
Museum;  (No online)

Studio to Stage - Ballet

4 Fridays, February 5, 12, 19, 26

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  

Famous Aiken Winter Colony Visitors You've Never Heard Of Wednesday, February 17

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Note Room Change:

Penland Admin Bldg, Room 106;  

A Brief Tour Of Non-Western Philosophies & Philosophers

4 Thursdays, February 18,25, March 4,11

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  

Line Dancing

Note Date Changes:

5 Mondays, February 22, March 1,8,22,29
(skip March 15)

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.


Business & Education Bldg., Gym - Room 200;  

Reunification of Italy 1796-1870

Note Date Change:

4 Wednesdays, February 24, March 3, 10, 17

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Online only 

Little Known Stories of the American Revolution

4 Wednesdays, March 3,10,17,24

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Note Room change:

Business & Education Bldg., Room 140;  

Environmental Impact of the Savannah River Site

3 Wednesdays, March 3,10,17

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.


Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  

Savannah River Site History

4 Thursdays, March 4,11,18,25

11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  

Session 4: SRS Museum;  (No online)

Great Plants for Growing In Your Southern Gardens

Tuesday, March 9

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Business & Education Bldg., Room 124;  

January 11 Board Meeting

[Note: These minutes were approved at the February 1 Board Meeting.]

Present: President Harriet Haynes, Past President Jan VanSlyke (virtual), Curriculum Chair David Tavernier, Curriculum Chair-elect Steve Gordy, Webmaster Doug Wilson, Secretary Ellen Wood (virtual).

Absent: Publicity Chair Nancy Hughes; Treasurer (to be appointed)

The meeting was called to order at 2:08 by Harriet Hughes.

The minutes of the 11/06/20 Board meeting were approved.
[There was no Board meeting in December.]

Treasurer's Report: none

Curriculum Committee: David Tavernier

- 1 Proposed holding a fund raiser to benefit LLL. Steve Gordy also put forth a suggestion for a fund raising event. Both ideas tabled until February meeting when they will be brought up in greater detail.
- 2 Suggested designating a "Registration Week", expanding upon the idea of the Registration Day.
- 3 Suggested adding line to bottom of registration form to allow for additional contribution to LLL.
- 4 Student evaluations: feedback very positive and contained suggestions for future classes.

Publicity:

There were compliments for the recent articles in the *Aiken Standard* and overall publicity.

Webmaster: Doug Wilson: no report

Old Business:

- 1 'Canopy support' to remain on agenda. Group felt it should read "canopy replacement".
- 2 Noted that a new treasurer not yet named.
- 3 Harriet requested a run-down of student evaluation sheets for February meeting.
- 4 Harriet has asked the office to order four lapel type microphones and two headband types, plus batteries.
- 5 Discussion about having small programs, in the form of videos, going on during future registration days.

- 6 Agreed to postpone April Kaufman Luncheon due to COVID.
- 7 McGrath Merger: four committees have been created. Each will focus on a particular difficult issue and report recommendations at the March meeting.

New Business:

Unanimous vote to continue LLL scholarships; \$2000 to military students (two @ \$750 and one @ \$500) and \$1500 to a non-traditional student.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15.



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Academy Officers: President: Harriet Haynes; Past President: Jan Van Slyke; President Elect: (vacant); Secretary: Ellen Wood; Treasurer: Kim Steele (UofSC Aiken), Web Master: Doug Wilson

Committee Chairpersons: Curriculum Chair; David Tavernier; Curriculum Chair-Elect: Steve Gordy; Publicity Chair: Nancy Hughes

Ex-officio Members: Continuing Education Director: Karen Edgington; Faculty Liaison: Dr. Tim Lintner

Academy on the Web: aikenlearning.org

| ACADEMY CALENDAR – FEBRUARY 2021 | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|----------|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| | 1 <i>Mr Irvin's Map</i> 9:30-10:30a [B 122] <i>The Celts</i> 11a-12n [B 124] | 2 <i>Live from the MET</i> 1-11a [B 124] <i>Cold Cases</i> 1-2p [B 124] | 3 <i>War Tactics & Tech</i> 10:30-11:30a [B 124] | 4 <i>Exercise is Medicine</i> 9-9:45a [B 147] <i>Amer. Rev. in CSRA</i> 11:30-12:30 [P 106] | 5 <i>Ballet</i> 10:30-11:45 [B 124] | 6 |
| 7 | 8 <i>Mr Irvin's Map</i> 9:30-10:30a [B 122] <i>The Celts</i> 11a-12n [B 124] | 9 <i>Live from the MET</i> 1-11a [B 124] <i>Cold Cases</i> 1-2p [B 124] | 10 <i>War Tactics & Tech</i> 10:30-11:30a [B 124] | 11 <i>Exercise is Medicine</i> 9-9:45a [B 147] <i>Amer. Rev. in CSRA</i> 11:30-12:30 [P 106] | 12 <i>Ballet</i> 10:30-11:45 [B 124] | 13 |
| 14 | 15 <i>Mr Irvin's Map</i> <i>(Session 1 repeat)</i> 9:30-10:30a [B 122] <i>The Celts</i> 11a-12n [B 124] | 16 <i>Live from the MET</i> 1-11a [B 124] <i>Cold Cases</i> 1-2p [B 124] | 17 <i>War Tactics & Tech</i> 10:30-11:30a [B 124] <i>Winter Colony Vists</i> 1-2p [P 106] | 18 <i>Non-West Philosop.</i> 9-10a [B 124] <i>Amer. Rev. in CSRA</i> 11:30-12:30 [P 106] | 19 <i>Ballet</i> 10:30-11:45 [B 124] | 20 |
| 21 | 22 <i>Line Dancing</i> 11a-12n [B Gym] | 23 <i>Live from the MET</i> 1-11a [B 124] | 24 <i>War Tactics & Tech</i> 10:30-11:30a [B 124] <i>Reunification of Italy</i> 1-2p [B 124] | 25 <i>Non-West Philosop.</i> 9-10a [B 124] <i>Amer. Rev. in CSRA</i> 11:30-12:30 [P 106] | 26 <i>Ballet</i> 10:30-11:45 [B 124] | 27 |
| 28 | | | | | | |
| ACADEMY CALENDAR – MARCH 2021 | | | | | | |
| | 1 <i>Line Dancing</i> 11a-12n [B Gym] | 2 <i>Live from the MET</i> 1-11a [B 124] | 3 <i>Amer. Rev. Stories</i> 10:30-11:30 [B 140] <i>Reunification of Italy</i> 1-2p [B 124] <i>SRS Env. Impact</i> 3-4p [B 124] | 4 <i>Non-West Philosop.</i> 9-10a [B 124] <i>SRS History</i> 11a-12n [B 124] | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 <i>Line Dancing</i> 11a-12n [B Gym] | 9 <i>Southern Gardens</i> 10-11a [B 124] | 10 <i>Amer. Rev. Stories</i> 10:30-11:30 [B 140] <i>Reunification of Italy</i> 1-2p [B 124] <i>SRS Env. Impact</i> 3-4p [B 124] | 11 <i>Non-West Philosop.</i> 9-10a [B 124] <i>SRS History</i> 11a-12n [B 124] | 12 | 13 |
| [Location Codes @ UofSC Aiken] | | | B = Bus & Educ Bldg | | P = Penland Bldg | |