



The Spiral

Newsletter of the Center for Lifelong Learning, University of South Carolina Aiken

MAY, 2026

President's Message

The Center for Lifelong Learning had an exceptional year marked by growth in both our student population and the range, quality, and number of courses offered. Classrooms were filled with eager, enthusiastic students and instructors throughout the semester. Not only did we engage in meaningful learning, but just as importantly, we met and made new friends, enriching our sense of community.

My thanks go to the USCA External Programs staff for their untiring and professional support. I am also deeply grateful to our General Interest and Technical Committees, whose dedicated efforts and outstanding performance made this a banner year for the Center. Their commitment played a crucial role in our continued success.

At the semester's end, I will pass the presidential baton to our Vice President, Debbi Brooks, who will continue CLL's legacy as a leading learning and social community in Aiken. I am confident that she will uphold and advance the Center's reputation, ensuring ongoing growth and engagement for all involved.

Thank you for your ongoing support, which will contribute to making Fall 2026 more successful than ever.

Warm Regards,

Jim Tisaranni, CLL President
pres@aikenlearning.org

Kauffman Award is announced at the luncheon, to recognize one or more individuals who have made significant contributions to the Center for Lifelong Learning's goals and operation.

This year's Luncheon will be held on campus Monday May 4 at noon in the lobby of the Etherredge Center for the Performing Arts. Invitations were sent to all current registrants in April. There is no charge to registered CLL members for this event, but an RSVP is required for planning purposes.



Looking Ahead to the Fall Semester

The last of the Spring 2026 CLL courses wrapped up at the end of April, but the Center has been hard at work behind the scenes planning its offerings for this coming Fall.

Technology Courses

Looking forward to our next Center for Lifelong Learning term beginning August 24, we will have 33 Technology classes for you. From iPhones to iPads to Macs to Android phones to artificial intelligence to scam/spam prevention, there is something for everyone. We will be offering 7 short Tech Talks this Fall also, short one hour sessions on smart travel, electronic calendars, security, password managers, quantum computing (say what?), searching the internet, and the new Alexa home assistant. There are two brand new courses being offered to you: *PC Basics Review* and a class on smart glasses (I didn't even know there was such a thing). Check out our catalog when it comes out in July and be sure to sign up for classes at Open House on Tuesday, August 11.

Submitted by Vicki Gibboney, Technology Curriculum Chair

General Interest Courses

If you love the variety of courses that CLL has been offering lately, then be sure to join us this fall. We have a calendar full of courses to fit every interest. This semester will take a deeper



Kauffman Recognition Day Luncheon to be Held May 4

This annual event is held each Spring to honor the memory of Dr. Earl Kauffman, a key individual responsible for the creation of USC Aiken's first senior education program in 1990. An annual

dive into the *Irish Travellers*, and the instructor is also bringing us a course on *New Religious Movements*, better known as Cults. If you haven't had a chance to travel this year, we've got you covered. Come along on a virtual photographic safari through Africa, learn about cruising on a private yacht, and let's talk about going back to the moon while we're at it. There will be case studies from an actual coroner, and we will continue to cover your favorites, like history, music, and health and wellbeing. Come join us on August 11th at the Open House to reserve your spot.

Submitted by Katie Dixon, General Interest Curriculum Committee

Tentative Fall Semester Planning Dates

- Catalog availability, mid July.
- Open House and Opening of Registrations, August 11.
- Classes begin August 25

Check the [CLL Website](#) for any additions or updates

Quilling Class

Paper quilling is the art of rolling, shaping, and gluing narrow paper strips to create intricate decorative designs.



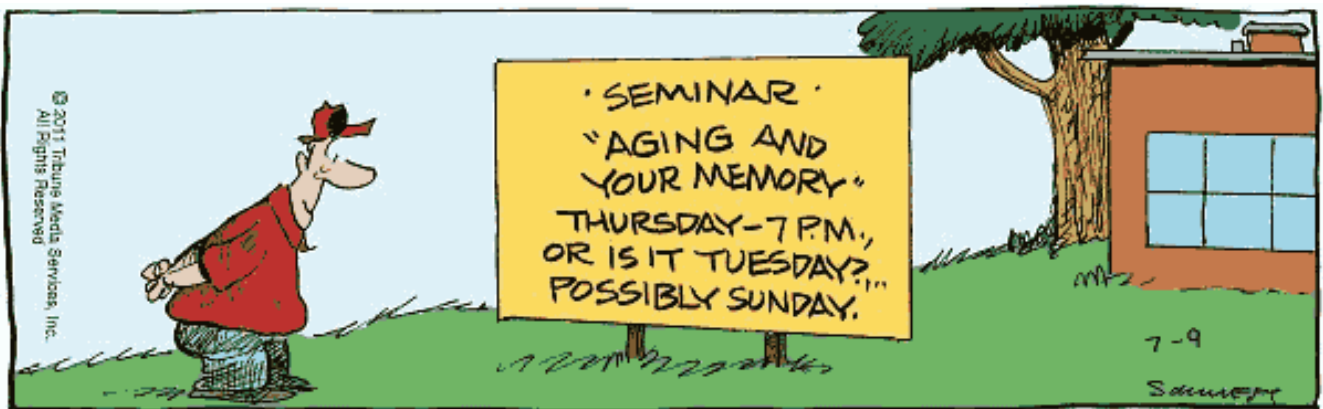
Here are some of the attendees from CCL's first quilling class led by Debbie Bruce. Everyone had a great time and they produced some very pretty cards. We are looking forward to the 3 classes that Debbie will be teaching in the Fall.

The Spiral is published monthly during the academic year by the Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) at the University of South Carolina Aiken, 471 University Parkway, Aiken, SC 29801. 803-641-3756.

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