Emeritus College

E-301A Martin Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634

Editor: Del Kimbler



Special points of interest:



Emerita Lucy Rollin received the 2011 Distinguished Emeriti Award at Emeritus Day. See related story on page 5.



The 2008-2011 Triennial Report was distributed at Emeritus Day and is available upon request.

The Chair's Corner by Herlie Hendrix

"Best One Ever!" That's what many of those attending the Emeritus Day on October 11, 2011 told us. I am so appreciative of Diane Smathers' efforts in organizing all of the many activities needed to make Emeritus Day so special. There were 129 persons who attended. Exhibitors included representatives of the Oconee Medical Center, Sullivan Center, 4-H Program, United Way of Pickens County, S.C. Alzheimer's Association, and the University Libraries.

The keynote speaker was Janet Altman who is a Dementia Specialist from Columbia. Janet presented detailed information on the development of dementia and the underlying causes. She spoke of the care required and assistance available for dementia patients. She shared examples of people who have dementia and those who are just "absented minded." She noted that "absent mindedness" is a typical age related phenomenon and is not necessarily a sign of dementia. Janet had a wonderful sense of humor which made her presentation on a very important topic informative and enjoyable.

Three awards were presented by the Emeritus College. I was fortunate in being able to present the Emeritus Scholar award to Katherine Vendley, one of our undergraduate scholarship winners who is majoring in nursing. The distinguished Emeriti Award was presented by Associate Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Jan Murdock to Emerita Lucy Rollin for her many contributions to the academy, the community, and society since her retirement. The remaining award, the Friend of the Emeritus College, was presented by Director Smathers to the United Way of Pickens County who has consistently supported the mission of the Emeritus College.

To conclude Emeritus Day, a memorial service was conducted by Emeritus Ray Sawyer who read the names of each of our 15 Emeriti who have died during the past year.



Advisory Board News



Board Chair Herlie Hendrix welcomed Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Verna Howell at the fall board meeting. Verna discussed ways in which the College might partner with Student Affairs. This is part of the volunteer initiative which is being launched this year.

The board approved a program budget for 2011-2012 of \$20,275. The board also ap-

proved minor changes to the DEA nomination form and voted to present the Friend of the Emeritus College Award to the United Way of Pickens County.





In Remembrance

Reginald A. Baumgardner Professor Emeritus Horticulture 1935—2011

Bill Gravely Durham Professor Emeritus Spanish 1941—2011

James Harvey Hobson, Sr. Alumni Professor Emeritus Chemistry 1917—2011

> Robert F. Ling Professor Emeritus Mathematical Sciences 1939—2011

Linvil Gene Rich Professor Emeritus Environmental Engineering 1921—2011

> Douglas V. Rippy Professor Emeritus Materials Science 1942—2011

What's Happening: Upcoming Events

Holíday Reception



President and Mrs. Barker once again invite emeriti to attend the Holiday Reception on Thursday, December 8, 11:00-1:00 at the

President's Home. This is a nice way to begin the holidays and see *orange* decorations! An email reminder will be sent.

It is what it is. Or is it?

Below is a picture of the "favor" given to those who attended the Emeritus Day luncheon. Originally intended as a pill box, several emeriti offered other possible, and more creative uses:



Fish hooks Hearing aid batteries Red neck coin purse Salt shaker for hunters Hide extra key to house Hide wedding ring??? Seed planter Contact lens case

What are your thoughts?

Spring Concert

The Emeritus College and The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi will sponsor a public concert with Dr. David Northing-

ton, concert pianist and Phi Kappa Phi National Artist. The concert will be Sunday, March 11, at



3:00 pm at the Brooks Center. There will be an *informance* before the program and a reception immediately following. Invitations will be mailed.



Business Cards

Business cards are available for purchase by emeriti. For info, visit our web site

www.clemson.edu/emerituscollege

<u>Poll Question</u>: In visiting what building on campus is parking most difficult? Send you answer to **dsmthrs@clemson.edu** Answer in next newsletter.

Development Update: Continuing to Serve



\$250—Gold Level Adolph Beyerlein Walt & Rameth Owens Jerry Reel Helene Riley Paul Zielinski

\$100—Silver Plus Level

Carolyn Briscoe Bruce Cook Larry Gahan Bob Lambert Don McKale Bob Lambert Wavne Patteson Frank Paul Lucy Rollin Roger Rollin Ray Sawyer Dave Senn **Diane Smathers** Ab Snell Bud Webb Bill West Client Whitehurst Harold Woodell

\$50—Silver Level

John Acorn Joe Arbena John Bennett Walt Castro Deuel Griffin Ed Freeman Herlie Hendrix Almeda Jacks Dick Klein Max Loyd John Syme Marian Withington

Continue to serve your College by sending a check to E 301 A Martin Hall, Clemson, S.C. 29634.



Success Stories: Emeritus Day 2011



The Clemson Experimental Forest

By Ben Sill, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering

The Clemson Experimental Forest (CEF) is a 17,500 acre woodland surrounding the University campus and is the largest forest adjacent to a college campus in the



U.S. The CEF is home to beautiful natural settings with waterfalls, botanical treasures, as well as wildlife species from songbirds and tree frogs, to bobcats and eagles. Historic home sites and trails occur within the forest. And, in addition to teaching and research, it provides areas for public recreation and exercise such as mountain biking, hiking, fishing, hunting, horseback riding and nature observation.

North of the campus the Forest land is representative of the foothills area of South Carolina with slopes rising up to 1000 feet in elevation. Between the hills are stands of mountain laurel and wildflowers, while small rocky streams remind the visitor of mountain settings. South of campus the gentle topography is typical of our Piedmont region.

The Clemson Forest had its beginning in the mid 1930's when George Aull, a visionary CU agricultural economist, submitted a proposal to the federal government to purchase these farm lands which at that time were severely eroded. This large tract was established as a "federal land-use project" with goals of promoting conservation, preserving natural resources, restoring forests, and protecting watersheds. The Clemson Forest lands are held under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (1937), and PL 237 (1955) both of which restrict uses of the land. In 1954 the land was deeded to Clemson University which continues to manage the CEF. The Forest is completely self-supporting through the sale of wood products.

The special nature of the CEF is obvious when a few statistics are presented. It has: 200 miles of streams, 100 miles of trails, 170 bird species, 50 mammal and 65 amphibian/ reptile species, 8 species of orchids, 50 tree species, 3 state champion trees, 30 species of concern. In addition, 5 species of insects new to science have been discovered on the CEF.

Over the decades Clemson students and faculty have been largely unaware of the Clemson Forest, its natural and cultural features, and what it has to offer in terms of opportunities for education, recreation and the enhancement of human health. Today awareness of the Clemson Forest is increasing through

specific efforts over the past 5 years. The recent table top book Ouiet Reflections by photographer and conservationist Tommy Wyche provides information about the Forest's history while showcasing its beauty and biodiversity. Two recent segments of the popular ETV program "Expeditions with Patrick McMillan" have featured the Clemson Forest. A new 3 credit Honor's College course is now being offered on the Forest, and numerous presentations and tours have been conducted. The Department of Architecture is working with the Forest manger to develop new entrance signage and info displays, and a new initiative by the Department of Biological Sciences will take all 2,500 freshmen biology students to the Forest to give them a "field biology" experience.

The Forest is truly a special place due to its size, its resources, and its accessibility to the campus and to a growing region of the country. In the past it was one of numerous green places in the general region of Clemson. As economic development expands in our area, the Clemson Forest will become more of a green island, and will serve an even more important public conservation and human health role for the University and the Upstate of South Carolina. This will take planning and effort, but the result can make the Clemson Forest an ICON.

For tours or more information, contact Diane Smathers.

Waterfall in Clemson

Experimental Forest

As economic development expands in our area, the Clemson Forest will become more of a green island, and will serve an even more important public conservation and human health role ...



Ben Sill chairs the President's Commission on Sustainability

Spotlight on.... Lucy Rollin



Lucy W. Rollin, professor emerita of English, was awarded the 2011

Distinguished Emeriti Award for her contributions to Clemson University before and after her retirement.

Rollin started her career as an English professor at Clemson in 1983 where she taught classes on children's literature, adolescent literature and composition. She received her Ph.D. at Emory University and is a

member of both Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi.

She spent more than 20 years at Clemson and has authored several books. She is a known expert on Mark Twain and is a respected authority on the psychoanalysis of children's literature. She now teaches an interdisciplinary



psychoanalysis seminar at the University of South Carolina. She has also published many works in the area of pop culture.

Since her retirement, Rollin has continued her involvement at Clemson. She is on the Emeritus Board and serves on the National Board of the Association of Retirement Organizations in Higher Education.

Rollin is also active in the Clemson community. She has starred in leading roles at the Clemson Little Theater and is a chair on the theater's season planning committee. Rollin is also involved in the Clemson Arts Center and the Clemson Free Clinic.



The award is presented by the Clemson Emeritus College and is awarded to a professor emeritus who has continued to assist and better the university after his/her retirement.

Article by News Services student intern, Erin Lybrand.

Book Review

by Rameth Richard Owens

Continuing the examination of dementia begun on Emeritus Day, the current selection is *Still Alice*, a novel by Lisa Genova, (Simon and Schuster, 2009, 293 pp). Alice Howland is an acclaimed researcher in cognitive psychology, an international lecturer, and an eminent, named Professor of Psychology at Harvard University. She and her husband, John, also a successful Harvard scientist, enjoy a stable, mutually supportive marriage with three grown children. All is well, or so it seemed.

In September 2003 Alice began noticing blips in her usual behavior patterns. Near the end of a five-mile course, run hundreds of times before, she found herself in Harvard Square with NO idea how to get home. She forgot to catch the plane to a conference she had prepared for all day. On Christmas Eve, when she began to make white-chocolate bread pudding as she had done for decades, she couldn't remember the recipe. Fifty years old, Alice attributed these and other memory lapses to menopause, but a thorough neurological evaluation led in January to an unexpected, devastating diagnosis: early on-set Alzheimer's disease.

Alice's mental processes unraveled fast, as if hurtling down a fifty-degree slope. Despite numerous post-its and copious to-do lists, she repeated lectures, skipped whole syllabus segments, and once sat with students instead of lecturing, then left after ten minutes because class hadn't begun ! Placed on medical leave at summer's end, she no longer did research, met classes, or went to her office. As weeks stretched into months, she and her family drew on all their intellectual and emotional resources to confront this new reality. John explored every possible source of effective treatment. Alice formed a support group among AD cohorts, while making futile plans to end it all (when "the time" came). Her daughters rearranged their schedules and hired a companion to assure Alice around-the-clock care.

Though the story is fictional, the information supporting it is factual. What piqued Genova's interest was her beloved grandmother's Alzheimer's diagnosis at age 85. As a neuroscientist (PhD, Harvard, 1998), she knew what was happening at the molecular level, but she didn't understand what her grandmother experienced as AD relentlessly disassembled her personality. Scientific articles described its clinical aspects, monographs offered caregivers advice, but nothing presented the patient's point of view. After interviewing numerous specialists (neurologists, primary-care physicians, a genetic counselor, social workers) and e-conversing with dozens of early onset AD patients, Genova largely filled that void. Not a first-person account, *Still Alice* is the next-best alternative: a description of events from Alice's perspective. Instead of dealing with older AD patients, it focuses attention on 500,000 Americans, heretofore neglected, whose symptoms emerged before age 65. In them disintegration occurs rapidly, and the disease is tied to one of three identifiable genetic mutations.

Originally self-published, *Still Alice* has appealed to a surprisingly large audience. Translated into 25 languages, one million copies are now in print. A riveting story, well-told! (Amazon, \$10.20; to borrow mine, <rrowens@clemson.edu>)





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Continuing to Serve

Calendar of Events

November.....Newsletter

November 17......No Power Point Seminar

Dec 21.....General Faculty Meeting

January 24.....Advisory Board Meeting

February.....Newsletter

February 16.....No Power Point Seminar

March 11.....Spring Concert

April.....Newsletter

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Don't simply retire from something; have something to retire to. — Harry Emerson Fosdick