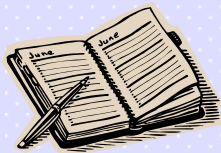




Special points of
interest:

Dates set for this year.
See calendar on back!



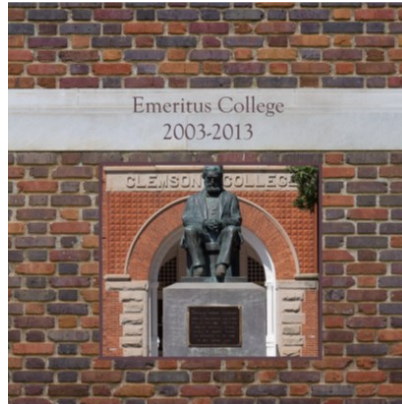
Long Range Plan Approved
See p. 3

New Campaign Announced
See p. 7



Spotlight on Ben Skardon.
See p. 5

Anniversary Book Available



Those attending the Christmas Cocktail celebration on December 17 received a special treat! The 10th Anniversary Celebration book was given to each emeriti in attendance. The book is a look at the last ten years at Clemson University as seen through the eyes of emeriti. There are photos of changes on campus, an interview with former President Jim Barker, a timeline for the College and photos of activities and events for the last ten years. There is also a history of the college written by Jerry Reel.

Book editors, Del Kimbler, Fred Sias and Deborah Thomason, did a wonderful job in capturing this college milestone. Copies of the book will be available at events throughout this year. This book is free for emeriti.

Advisory Board News



The Advisory Board held its January meeting in the conference room at ENTOM. Armed with a packet of color coded handouts, members reviewed the budget, heard various reports, and took action on several items.

John Bennett gave the report for the Development Committee which included feedback on proposed logos for this year's campaign. The theme is *Commitment to Student Excellence* and emphasis will be placed upon endowing a student scholarship. Adolph Beyerlein, chair of the Curriculum Committee, stated that the CIS/SPEAK programs are going well but more volunteers are needed. He provided data for both programs and mentioned that the recruitment brochure is being reprinted. The committee also suggests recognizing emeriti participants in the newsletter. The long range plan was presented by Chip Egan and accepted by the board.

Director Smathers presented several possible staffing plans and the board empowered the executive committee to move forward in this regard.





In Remembrance

Rudolph Abramovitch
Professor/Head Emeritus
Chemistry
1930—2013

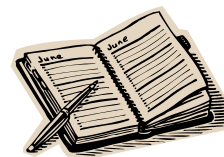
Carl W. Ackerman
Professor Emeritus
Animal Science
1931—2013

Kenneth Ray Murr
Librarian Emeritus
Cooper Library
1950—2014

What's Happening: Upcoming Events



The next **Emeritus Lunch** will be
Tuesday, April 22 at noon
in Pendleton.

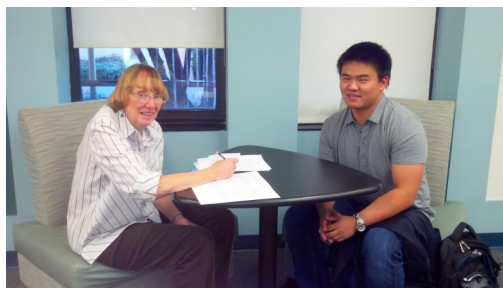


The **Welcome Picnic** will be
Tuesday, May 6, 4:00—6:00
at the Owen Pavilion.



CIS... CONVERSATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

More volunteers are needed to work with international graduate students to improve their English speaking ability. If you are interested in spending an hour or so a week, in a location of your choice, with an international graduate student please contact the Emeritus College office.



dings in China and it was fascinating!" The next round of tests will be given the second week in August. If you would like to participate, contact the Emeritus College office or Adolph Beyerlein at albrl10@charter.net

Special thanks to those who have participated in the program. For a listing, see p. 7. Volunteer now! It's a great experience.

More volunteers are also needed to help grade SPEAK tests. This requires a couple of hours at the beginning of each semester and involves one on one interviews. *"This was a lot of fun"* stated Paula Heusinkveld after grading tests in January. And Harold Woodell said, *"So glad I could do this. I learned a lot about wed-*



The Future of the College



The Long Range Planning Committee, chaired by Chip Egan, recently presented the plan to interim Provost Aziz and the college Advisory Board. Both the Provost and the board accepted the plan and thanked the committee for its hard work. Chair Egan stated *“we realize this is not a traditional plan but more of establishing priorities and setting goals that the board will need to implement.”* Other members of the committee were: Mary Haque, Ray Turner, Donna Winchell, and Art Young. **Left:** Chip Egan talks with Gary Powell, chair-elect of the Advisory Board prior to the meeting.

Two Goals Ranked Most Urgent and First Priority:

- Appoint a task force to study and recommend appropriate staffing for the Emeritus College prior to the retirement of the current Director of the Emeritus College.
- Secure a reliable and sustainable annual operating budget for the Emeritus College.

Four Goals Ranked Second Priority:

- Establish and elect a Faculty Senate representative from the Emeritus College.
- Create an endowment within the Clemson University Foundation with a goal of raising \$50,000 to fund the Emeritus Scholar program.
- Increase the percentage of emeriti who are donors to the Emeritus College from 14% to 20%, and capture data on gifts and bequests to Clemson University made by members of the Emeritus College.
- Increase the use of digital technology and social media to benefit the members of the Emeritus College, such as increased communications with links to the existing archive of video interviews of emeriti, and alerting emeriti to non-profit opportunities for volunteering or social activism.

Eight Goals Ranked Third Priority:

- Seek creative ways to grow and diversify Emeritus College programming.
- Expand the highly successful SPEAK test administration and evaluation to a marketable program for use around the country as a revenue-generating function of emeritus faculty.
- Create an informal Clemson University Roadmap to Retirement resource that contains frequently asked questions.
- Develop an inventory of expertise and identify those emeriti who would be willing to volunteer to become a resource to campus projects, faculty, staff and students.
- Create a pool of “seed money” for projects and proposals that involve research partnerships between students and Emeriti faculty.
- Create a group of emeriti who can build a relationship with the Clemson University Archives that helps guide emeriti faculty in their decisions about their professional materials and files, as well as assist retiring faculty in the move out of their office.
- Expand the effort to mentor and/or coach students in cooperation with Student Affairs focusing on those in academic difficulty due to social or life skills issues.
- Establish a policy for providing space in the ENTOX building in Pendleton to emeriti who wish to maintain an office for ongoing research and teaching.

“We realize this is not a traditional plan but more of establishing priorities and setting goals that the board will need to implement.”

Chip Egan

Editor’s Note: The Long Range Planning Committee was established as part of the 10th Anniversary Celebration. All emeriti were given an opportunity for input. Many suggestions and comments were received.

Success Stories: *As told in pictures!*



Spotlight on.... Ben Skardon



Ben Skardon graduated from Clemson in 1938 and enlisted in the military. He was in the Philippines when the United States entered World War II. In 1942, he was taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese army and is a survivor of what now is known as the Bataan Death March.

Though he lost most of his possessions upon capture, he managed to hold onto

his Clemson ring, which he kept hidden. Two of his fellow Clemson alumni – Henry Leitner and Otis Morgan – were held with him, and they took care of Skardon when he fell ill with a number of diseases, including beriberi, malaria, and an eye infection. Knowing his friend was dying and needed nourishment, Morgan offered to trade Skardon's gold Clemson ring for food, which sustained Skardon and helped bring him back to health. He survived until the Japanese surrendered and the prisoners were freed. Leitner and Morgan, unfortunately, did not survive the war.

After returning from the war, Skardon eventually joined the Clemson faculty, teaching English for many years. One of his students would later become president of Clemson University: James F. Barker. Barker often has said that Skardon

was among his favorite professors.

"Ben's love of literature and love of life were inspirational, especially after we learned his personal story as a survivor of the Bataan Death March," said Barker. "Ben endured unspeakable hardships. He was close to death many times. Yet he chose to live the rest of his life without bitterness. He chose to remember the love and support and sacrifice of his fellow prisoners, some of them also Clemson graduates, instead of the brutality of his captors. Ben's great humanity infused his lessons with deep meaning. I still carry those lessons with me today."

For years, Skardon has shared his remarkable story with Clemson seniors at the ring ceremony, which takes place twice a year. The 96-year-old says this semester's ring ceremony may be

his last, but his story will continue to be shared with Clemson seniors through a video.

Clemson University has started an endowment in honor of professor emeritus Ben Skardon, a Clemson alumnus and survivor of the Bataan Death March in World War II.

The Col. Beverly N. "Ben" Skardon Clemson Ring Endowment will help fund the Clemson Ring Ceremony, an event in which Skardon has participated for many years, sharing the story about how his Clemson class ring saved his life.

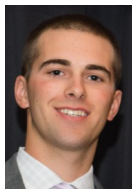
Editor's Note: This article is reprinted from Clemson University Media Relations with minor adaptations.

College Receives Thank You Notes (excerpts)



"I would like to thank the Emeritus College for your generosity in awarding me a scholarship and recognizing me at the ceremony. I really do appreciate it and it truly did help with my tuition which I pay on my own."

Bridget Janse
Special Education major



I would like to thank y'all very much for awarding me the Emeritus College Annual Scholarship. It is a blessing and I am truly thankful to receive it. Likewise, thank you for allowing me to attend the Emeritus Luncheon as well. It was an honor to attend and something I very much enjoyed."

Rollins Jolly
Wildlife & Fisheries Major

"I want to thank you for honoring me with the Friend of the Emeritus College Award on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Emeritus College. I have always believed that the university is the sum of its faculty and that it is important to honor the faculty and provide them the opportunity to continue their relationship with their colleagues and Clemson University Emeritus College has done just that!"

Dori Helms
Provost Emerita

Book Review

by Rameth Richard Owens

The current book selection concerns the Civil War. It is Doris Kearns Goodwin's engrossing biography of Abraham Lincoln as he practiced law in Illinois, secured the Presidency in 1860, and with his **Team of Rivals** (2005) guided the northern states through the harrowing fratricidal years, 1861-1865.

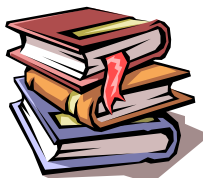
Building on earlier voluminous biographies and incorporating insights from diaries and letters not previously mined, Goodwin describes **The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln**, as the book's subtitle indicates. Many have assumed that the fledgling Republican Party settled on Lincoln as its standard bearer because of his moderate statements about the spread of slavery. Goodwin presents compelling evidence that Lincoln, without declaring his candidacy, mounted a vigorous campaign as a dark horse. While the three recognized candidates relied on their reputations and the enthusiasm of friendly newspapers, Lincoln energetically worked to place his views before the public and to garner support for himself (in case frontrunner William Henry Seward was denied nomination on the first ballot). Lincoln collected for publication the seven riveting Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 and distributed them throughout the West. While Seward was on a nine-month European and Middle Eastern tour, Lincoln moved through five neighboring states, making speeches whose logical clarity and common sense impressed his listeners. Wherever he spoke, he focused on issues, never attacking anyone by name; offending no one, he left behind many friends and no enemies.

Elected when Democrats nominated two candidates and split their vote, Lincoln chose for his cabinet his three major rivals: Seward (NY) as Secretary of State, Salmon Chase (OH) as Secretary of the Treasury, and Edward Bates (MO) as Attorney General. Together with others whom he gradually added, they were "the strongest men from every faction" (280) of his party. Initially misled by appearances -- Lincoln's gangling frame, ill-fitting clothes, and sad face -- these cabinet members assumed they were better men than the President and expected to dominate him. Soon, however, all but Chase altered their assessment, recognizing the enormous strengths which informed the President's extraordinary political skills.

Lincoln had a seemingly inexhaustible supply of stories which he used to entertain, defuse political tension, instruct, and (in stressful situations) diminish his own anxiety. He usually told a story with great gusto and laughed more heartily than his hearers. The President also possessed great empathy, which enabled him to see events through the eyes of others, whether political critics, soldiers' grieving families, or Southern opponents. He bore no grudges, nor sought revenge. When things went awry, he readily took full responsibility, even when his role was quite small. He was keenly sensitive to public opinion, measuring it with the accuracy of a social barometer; he waited patiently for it to catch up with him before issuing a controversial policy, such as the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. He forged a special bond with troops by visiting them repeatedly in camp, shaking thousands of hands, and lifting his hat in recognition of them; these men loved him, as one of their own. With little formal schooling but much self-education, Lincoln had been led by curiosity into the foundational documents of our political system and of our culture. While exploring the U.S. Constitution and the Declaration of Independence and while reading the Bible and Shakespeare, Lincoln had come to understand the nation's political faith and the monumental importance of the Civil War in preserving it. Beyond that he expressed the war's objectives in lyrical language and unforgettable prose ("a new birth of freedom" -- "government of . . . by . . . for the people, shall not perish from the earth" -- "With malice toward none; with charity for all").

Dealing with public challenges that would have overwhelmed a lesser man, Lincoln also coped with enormous stress at home, including the death of his beloved son Willie (age 11) and his wife Mary's subsequent prolonged depression and decreasing mental stability.

Goodwin, in her final assessment, quotes Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, who said on hearing of Lincoln's death, "Now he belongs to the ages" (743). She also cites Leo Tolstoy who in 1908 declared that Lincoln "was a humanitarian as broad as the world . . . bigger than his country" and predicted that "as a great character he will live as long as the world lives" (748, ix).



Making one's way through Goodwin's book (749 pp) is not easy, but doing so is very rewarding. I myself will be forever grateful that in the 19th century Abraham Lincoln helped preserve on this continent the Founding Fathers' experiment in republican government.

[Audiobook available, Cooper Library; to borrow my book: <rrowens@clemson.edu>]

The Campaigns: *Old and New*

Approximately \$13,000 was raised last year for the 10th Anniversary Campaign. Many, many thanks to our donors who helped us attain this goal. Below is a listing of all who gave to the College last year. If you find an error, please notify Director Smathers immediately. We want our donors to receive the recognition they deserve.

Platinum (\$1000)

Jim Acton
John Kenelly
Rob Roy McGregor

Gold Plus (\$500)

The Goswami's
Mary Haque
Ron Moran
Tom Skelton
Ray Turner

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Adolph Beyerlein
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Helene Riley
Joe Turner
Tah Teh Yang
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Steve Cash
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Bud Webb
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Art Young

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Joe Allen
Garnett Craddock
Mechtild Cranston
Skip Eisiminger
Carolyn Foster
Herlie Hendrix
Joe Jones
Lucy Rollin
Brad Russell
Ab Snell
John Wagner
Tom Wilson
Marian Withington

Friends

Gerry Carner
George Kline



This year's campaign began on January 1, 2014 and will focus on student scholarships. The theme is: *Commitment to Student Excellence*. Please support your college by making a contribution today. Mail all checks to **Emeritus College, P.O. Box 709, Pendleton, S.C. 29670.**

Platinum (\$1000)

Gold Plus (\$500)

Gold (\$250)
Tom Dickens

Silver Plus (\$100)

Del Kimbler
Ray Sawyer
Clint Whitehurst

Silver (\$50)

Friends

Thank You CIS/SPEAK Volunteers!



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Skip Eisiminger
Larry Gahan
Mary Haque
Paula Heusinkveld
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Harold Woodell
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Paul Zielinski





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Phone: 864-656-3990
E-mail: dsmthrs@clemson.edu
www. clemson.edu/emmerituscollege

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Calendar of Events

February.....Newsletter
April 22.....Advisory Board Meeting
Emeritus Lunch
May 6.....Welcome Picnic
May.....Newsletter
August 10—12.....AROHE
University of Minnesota
August.....SPEAK TEST
August.....Newsletter
September 22.....Advisory Board Meeting
Emeritus Lunch
October 7.....**Emeritus Day**

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

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