Welcome Class of 2014

A crowd of 170 gathered at the Owen Pavilion to welcome Clemson’s newest cohort of emeriti on May 6. The weather was beautiful, the smiles were contagious, and the fellowship was unsurpassed. Entertainment was provided by emeriti Joel Brawley and Brad Russell. Funds were raised for our student scholarships through a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle.

Emeritus Harold Woodell wrote: I just wanted you to know how much Libby and I enjoyed the picnic. The food, entertainment, and fellowship were excellent. What strikes me most is the fact that I only get to see a lot of my old friends twice a year--at the picnic and on Emeritus Day.

Photo: Advisory Board Chair Gary Powell congratulates new emeritus Bob Taylor from mathematical sciences.

Advisory Board News

The Advisory Board held its April meeting in the conference room at ENTOX. Chair, Donna Winchell called the meeting to order and the board commenced to hear numerous reports. Director Smathers reported on a recent meeting with Provost Aziz, the evaluation of the SPEAK/CIS programs, and asked for input regarding the changes to webmail. She also reported on the program budget and contributions to the foundation.

Lucy Rollin gave the ARHOE report and stated that Larry Gahan is on the ballot for the AROHE board. Adolph Beyerlein, chair of the curriculum committee, presented data about the SPEAK/CIS programs and underscored the need for more volunteers. The develop committee report was given by chair, Jay Smink. Jay presented a proposal for an Octoberfest fundraiser. After discussion, it was decided that more information is needed. Jay then asked for help in securing a few silent auction items for this year’s picnic. Director Smathers showed a new power point presentation that is an overview of the Emeritus College. It is available at www.clemson.edu/emerituscollege.

Under board business, Dr. Bonnie Martin, retired Lecturer was accepted into membership and Del Kimbler was elected chair-elect of the board. Director Smathers recognized outgoing board member Jerry Waddle and presented a token of appreciation to outgoing chair, Donna Winchell.
What’s Happening: Upcoming Events

The SPEAK test will be administered the second week of August. Volunteers are needed for a couple of hours to interview international graduate students and assess their readiness for a TA position. If you are interested, contact Adolph Beyerlein at albr10@charter.net.

Mentors are also needed in the CIS program. If you are interested in meeting once a week with an international graduate student to help improve his/her English and adjustment to our culture, contact the College office.

Nominations for the Kenelly-Voss Distinguished Emeriti Award are due September 1, 2014. The nomination form is available on our web site. www.clemson.edu/emerituscollege

In Remembrance

Richard B. Norman
Professor Emeritus
Architecture
1934—2014

Leon Roswal
Director/Professor Emeritus
Nursing
1925—2013

Linda L. Redmann
Professor Emerita
Family/Youth Development
1945—2014

The next Emeritus Lunch will be Tuesday, September 23 at noon. Mark your calendars!
Where did my email go?

By Martha Duke, Senior Lecturer Emerita, MBA Program

As many of you know, Clemson is decommissioning webmail (Eudora) effective the end of May, 2014. The impact will be substantial for those who are still using this system. You will no longer receive or be able to send email via your @clemson.edu account, and you will lose access to your saved email as well as your address book. While this sounds pretty grim, there are a couple of approaches that you can take, preferable before the end of May: 1) You can stay on-campus and convert to exchange (xmail.clemson.edu / Outlook) or 2) You can forward your email off-campus (recommended).

Stay on-campus with exchange (xmail.clemson.edu / Outlook): This approach is more complex than going off-campus and will require the help of someone with technical expertise who is willing to spend a minimum of around three hours with you. As soon as the semester is over, try contacting the computer support person in your former college or the Help Desk at 864-656-3494.

Forward your email off-campus (recommended): This approach is the easier way to ensure that you continue receiving Clemson email. To forward your email, go to www.clemson.edu/ccit/email_forwarding, scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your off-campus email address (e.g. johndoe@gmail.com). Click on “Add”. If you do not already have an off-campus account, you can easily create a free one using a stable mail server such as Google-gmail (mail.google.com/mail/), Yahoo (us.mail.yahoo.com/), or Outlook (originally called Hotmail – Hotmail.com). You will also need to use this off-campus account to send your email.

Retaining your saved Clemson email: Although manually intensive, the way to do this is to forward each email you want to save to your off-campus account. This will most likely provide an incentive to get rid of unwanted email (I had over 17,000). If you need more time to forward your saved email or are having problems getting into your webmail account, contact the Help Desk (ITHELP@Clemson.edu).

Address Book: Most email servers remember “sent to” addresses and automatically compile an “address book”. If you do not already have a list of addresses, consider manually entering the information from your current address book into Word or Excel for future reference and safe keeping.
Success Stories: *Welcome Picnic 2014*
Success Stories: picnic continued
Success Stories: and more picnic pics!
**Book Review** by Rameth Richard Owens

While mulling over several options for review this quarter, I happened to see our colleague Skip Eisiminger at a lecture on campus. He had with him -- fresh from the Clemson University Digital Press -- his most recent book, *Letters to the Grandchildren*. He graciously shared a copy with me, and it has become our current selection.

Shortly after retiring in 2007, Skip was asked by a former colleague (by then working elsewhere) to contribute a weekly column on "everything from politics to the arts" (viii) for an online magazine, *OfficialWire*. After that venture imploded two years later, he continued for three more, writing in much the same vein for another online experiment, *WeeklyHubris*. When both of his parents died while he was creating these essays, he realized they had left no "letters" as Cicero had for his son. Apparently feeling bereft, Skip decided to address the void by doing for his heirs what he obviously wished had been done for him.

Of his >300 essays he selected 46 for *Letters to the Grandchildren*. Each is about a thousand words in length, printed on roughly two and a half pages. Grouped under five categories, they begin with "Lessons from the Classroom" and continue through "Plays on Words," "Game Changers," "Our Common Bond" and "People Are Our Teachers." Quotations from a variety of sources, especially *The Wordspinner* (his word-game book), set the tone for each one. The essays develop an enormous range of topics (some esoteric and others close at hand), such as surnames, deconstructionism, free speech, personal space, proverbs, puns, wordplay, myths, acquiring language, exaggeration, the number 666, the charm of threes, tools, computers, carpe diem, responsibility, competition, diner slang, curiosity, fear, and order.

Skip's love of language is implicit on every page, and it's writ large on many. This is especially so in the essay on "Word Clay: Wordplay" (53-57). There, among many other items, he cites a mirror palindrome (noon), nine ways to pronounce -ough, a synonym for sillicosis (with 45 letters), the longest word with no vowels (rhythms), "most commonly misspelled and confused words in English" (its and it's), and the most common English word (!). A few of the uncommon words in his vocabulary include neologism, geophagy, archaeoaeolotropic, ossuary, contranym, and bombinating.

His familiarity with the humanities' broad sweep is expressed throughout the essays. For example, when discussing clocks and the evolution of time pieces, he points out that the frame of reference for time itself is different in the West from the East. We tend to see it as a flowing stream; those on the other side of the planet view it as a reservoir of water, "ebbing and flooding" (16). While talking about the importance of anecdote in teaching (a method recommended to him by his mentor, James Dickey), he mentions that the way people around the world launch into storytelling differs from culture to culture. Those of us in the European tradition, particularly when relating fairy tales, begin with "Once upon a time," while Arabs say, "'There was, there was not'" (20). In developing his thoughts on acquiring language, Skip recalls Emperor Frederick II's ill-fated attempt in the thirteenth century to determine children's original language. Never spoken to or interacted with socially, the children all died! After observing in "Pegasus to Pegasaurus" that "English is saturated with Greek, Roman, and Scandinavian myth" (48), he cites numerous examples to support his point.

The process of drafting these essays was greatly facilitated by Skip's extraordinary method of accumulating and filing information. Like most of us, he has file folders, but in addition Skip has card files linked to the file folders -- all catalogued under 2,200 categories by way of >70,000 cards, containing roughly 400,000 items (in multiple steel cabinets). On any given topic, he has information (usually lots of it) at hand, ready for mining. All this and his method for updating and expanding his records are described in "Because a Thousand Trillion Synapses Aren't Enough: The Card File" (38-40).

In his conclusion to the Pegasus essay, Skip suggests that his motivation "to transcribe the myth" of himself is to provide a crumb -- a clue -- for any descendants who might come looking for him in the historical record. There is much more here, of course, than crumbs; there are full-frame sketches of Skip's world view, of his understanding of human beings' search for "the satisfying illusion of control" [49], and of his chuckling with tongue-in-cheek at individuals' inflated pretensions and foibles. And there are also numerous glimpses into family dynamics, especially of generational relationships. Descendants will find it all very interesting, and, my guess is, so will you. Enjoy!
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Continuing to Serve

Calendar of Events

May……………………………………Newsletter
August 10—12……………………AROHE
University of Minnesota
August…………………………..SPEAK TEST
August…………………………..Newsletter
September 23……………..Advisory Board Meeting
Emeritus Lunch
October 7………………….Emeritus Day

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

Emeritus College Advisory Board

Dr. Jim Acton, Stender Professor Emeritus of Food Science and Nutrition
Dr. John Bennett, Professor Emeritus, Electrical & Computing Engineering
Dr. Adolph Beyerlein, Chair and Professor Emeritus, Chemistry
Dr. Farrell Brown, Dean and Professor Emeritus, Chemistry
Dr. Carolyn Briscoe, Professor Emerita of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Michael Crino, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Management
Dr. Tom Dickens, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Accountancy
Dr. Joe Dickey, Alumni Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Animal, Dairy, and Vet Science
Ms. Martha J. Duke, Senior Lecturer Emerita, MBA Program
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Dr. Stuart Silvers, Professor Emeritus, Philosophy and Religion
Dr. Jay Smink, Director and Professor Emeritus, Leadership and Counselor Education
Dr. John Syme, Professor Emeritus, Forest Resources
Dr. Carol Ward, Professor Emerita, English
Dr. Donna Winchell, Professor Emerita, English
Dr. Art Young, Campbell Chair and Professor Emeritus, English and Engineering

Ex-Officio:
Dr. Diane Smathers, Director, Emeritus College
Dr. Nadim Aziz, Interim Provost and Vice President/Academic Affairs
Dr. Lucy Rollin, Professor Emerita, English, AROHE Board of Directors
Mr. Phil Prince, President Emeritus

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