

Instructor Biographies

Ashton Albright is a high school band and choir director in Alamance County, NC. He earned his Bachelor's in Music Education at Greensboro College in 2020. During his time there, he had his first exposure to big band jazz under the direction of Benjy Springs, and has since found a love for the genre.

Samih Baalbaki was born and raised in Lebanon and studied (in Arabic and French) Lebanese and French constitutional and civil laws. He spent the last seventeen years of his career in the Middle East before retiring (back to the U.S.) in 2012.

Kelli Barker an Air Force brat, worked with lifelong learning at Coastal Carolina University from 2001 to 2020. She retired in July to start SALT and continue to serve her community.

Karanne Boone

Debi Boyle is a certified natural health practitioner (CNHP) and a wellness advocate for essential oils. She shares her passion by teaching others how to use essential oils as a natural solution for health care issues.

Daniel Brass is the owner of Black Dog Running Company. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and management from the University of Florida's Warrington College of Business.

MaryClair Bretz's love of wine started while she was living in Germany and traveling in Europe. She enjoys taking cooking classes and pairing wines with the food. MaryClair has been involved with and chaired many wine clubs in the last several years.

Barbara (Barb) Brooks is a retired educator. Also a retired deaconess, she continues as a church and community worker within the United Methodist Church. She has spent most of her adult life living and working in African American communities in the US; her last ten working years were spent teaching in Cali, Colombia. She has consistently worked for social justice. Her additional interests include sports, traveling, meeting and getting to know people of other cultures, reading, and scrapbooking/card making.

Richard Camlin is the coordinator of adult education with the Belle W. Baruch Foundation at Hobcaw Barony. Having grown up fishing the creeks of North Inlet and Winyah Bay, he has always had an interest in the natural resources of the area. His great uncle, Howard Dorn, managed Hobcaw Barony for Bernard Baruch in the 1950s which piqued Richard's interest in learning about the property. Upon college graduation, he was hired by the lead trustee of the Belle W. Baruch Foundation, Ms. Ella Severin, to assist with daily activities on the Barony. Having worked for Belle Baruch's close friend and companion, Richard learned stories from her that encouraged him to dig deeper into the history of the property.

Donna Catton-Johnson earned an Interdisciplinary B.A. in theatre and visual arts as well as teacher certification in both. She has designed and constructed costumes for CCU, Summer Arts programs, various arts organizations and businesses, and for individuals. She has studied art history and taught costume design.

Marian Calder is the Public Education Specialist for the Horry County Museum. She received her Bachelor's degree in History from Coker College in 2007. In 2011, she began working full time with the Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul Living History Farm. In addition to her membership in various museum organizations, Calder currently serves on committees for the Palmetto Archives, Libraries, and Museums Council on Preservation, the Waccamaw Market Cooperative Board and the South Carolina Federation of Museums.

Having completed a professional career in teaching and training, **Alice F. Dyer** now offers various neuroscience workshops. Her study includes a doctorate in adult education and 40+ years following research in neuroscience, meeting many of the earlier scientists, and applying their findings to teaching and training. Currently she writes a monthly blog, *On Mastering Learning*, available free to all SALT participants.

Valerie Emblen is now happily retired having worked in education all her life. After teaching in primary school (Grades 1-5), she worked in teacher training at the University of North London (now London Metropolitan) and from 1999 worked to develop education systems in countries in Asia and Africa until her retirement. In 2012 she was awarded a Ph.D. for research into the quality of communication between government and donors in Laos.

Jo Evarts taught history, art history, and American literature to high school students and adults for more than 40 years. She earned a B.A. (magna cum laude) from Wellesley College and a master's degree from Harvard. For the past seven years her focus of research and teaching has been on 19th century American art, literature, and culture and teaching courses at Dartmouth OSHER each fall term. She awaits publication of a book on the art of Maxfield Parrish, written with Parrish's granddaughter.

Fashion history is **Margaret Fain's** passion. She is a retired librarian from Coastal Carolina University.

Vanessa A. Fitsanakis, Ph.D., is a neurotoxicologist with experience in research, academia, and consulting. In addition to interactions with various life-long learning groups, she taught courses in neuroanatomy, neurophysiology, and toxicology for over fifteen years at the undergraduate and graduate levels. She has also provided continuing education courses for patient and professional groups about stroke, Parkinson's disease, and Alzheimer's disease. Fitsanakis currently lives in Charleston, SC, but grew up on a farm in Bristol, TN.

Donna Fountain is an experienced traveler to several areas of Italy. She wants to share her knowledge about booking hotels and apartments; using public transportation; purchasing tickets for attractions; booking tours; and day-to-day survival tips including shopping for groceries, important basic phrases, exchanging money, and eating out.

Mary Anne Fratelli retired as the assistant director of client services for a large HIV/AIDS service organization in upstate NY. One of her retirement goals has been to put family and personal stories on paper. She started by taking Darlene Eichler's memoir writing course at OLLI@CCU. She has self-published a collection of stories as a wedding gift for her niece and for family and friends to enjoy. She is at work on the second volume.

Jerry Frontiero learned Italian from his parents (but has studied the language formally). He has visited 108 of 198 countries, all the continents, and 49 states; he frequently travels to Italy. More important than the number of countries are the people he has met and learning about their culture and traditions.

He served in the US Navy and is a Vietnam veteran. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering, an M.S. in materials science, and an M.A. in management.

Cece Gaffney is a retired health behavior science researcher and avid world traveler.

Abigail Geedy was born and raised in south-central Pennsylvania and moved to South Carolina for college in 2012. She has both an Anthropology Bachelor's and Master's Degree and a Graduate Certificate of Museum Management from the University of South Carolina. She began volunteering in museums in 2011 and had worked in curation at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology for the last 5 years. She has just recently joined the Horry County Museum as a Technical Assistant.

Fred Gerardi is a believer in lifelong learning. He taught seasoned adults for a year. His passion is history. Fred spent thirty years as a radio personality concentrating on what is called "The Great American Songbook" and is well versed in the events and music of the 40s. Gerardi was also a baseball umpire.

In 2007, **Leslie Graves** retired from an engineering career with GM. Two years later, she moved to Myrtle Beach from Tennessee. Her two biggest hobbies are collecting treasures from the beach and scouring thrift stores and yard sales for items to be repurposed in her home or her crafts.

Brian Gugala has been in IT for almost 30 years. He holds a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue University. He is the IT manager for a manufacturing company in the Chicago suburbs. Brian has taught non-credit classes at a community college on a range of subjects including Word, Excel, and Windows. Many of his students were "experienced adults," and Brian was praised as being extremely patient and able to explain concepts in clear and understandable manner.

Valerie Gugala is a historian and public speaker; she has researched the Lincoln family all her life, including doing primary source research at historical museums and sites. She has portrayed Mary Lincoln for more than 25 years; she gives lectures (as herself) on topics related to the Lincoln family and their times. Valerie is one of the founders of "Mary Lincoln's Coterie," which has held memorial services for Mary Lincoln on the anniversary of her death since 2001. Because of COVID-19, the coterie was forced to go virtual in 2020.

Catherine (Cathy) Frangie-Hatch is a marketing, communications, education, and publishing professional who has lived in Myrtle Beach for fifteen years. She has been making jewelry for the past twelve years and was a monthly columnist for BEAD Style Magazine.

The Director of the Horry County Museum, **Robert Walter Hill IV** received his Bachelor's degree in History from Coastal Carolina University and a Masters degree in Museum Studies from Harvard University. In addition to his involvement with a variety of regional and national museum organizations, Hill is also a graduate of the Jekyll Island Museum Management Institute for the Southeastern Museums Conference. In 2010, he was named Alumnus of the Year for the Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts by Coastal Carolina University. Hill continues to live in his hometown of Plantersville, South Carolina with his wife Adrienne and their children Robert and Kate.

Heather Hufstetler has worked in independent and assisted living as an activities director for several years. She is a certified happiness and mindfulness life coach. After practicing tai chi, qigong, yoga, and

meditation for many years, she created a popular movement class for seniors in The Woodlands, Texas. Heather enjoys helping experienced adults create more happiness in their daily lives; she believes body and mind awareness is a vital part to growing older with joy and peace.

Former licensed (now retired) therapist **Terry Humphrey** is also an experienced group facilitator, workshop leader, speaker, and life coach. Terry loves getting people in groups to talk about real issues and solutions. A mother of three, grandmother of six, and a great grandmother, she has learned much about the best ways to connect with grandchildren.

Sharon Inci lives and works in Istanbul as an English preschool teacher of 4-year-olds. Her hobbies include walking her pug and directing musical theatrical productions in an all English-speaking community drama group. Having lived in Turkey for 25 years, making afternoon tea is a special treat reserved for birthdays and weekend breaks to London. She looks forward to sharing her love of high tea with her American friends.

Boss Queen **Ellen Jampole** has been an enthusiastic lifelong learner forever. Ellen loves the connections she's made, including "chosen family," through lifelong learning programs. She has an interest in many things, from card making to people watching to hula hooping. She taught herself how to tangle, takes many card-making classes, is a Southerner by birth (so a talker), and is a mover but not a "formal" exercise person.

Nonagenarian **Maury Knight's** life experiences encompass living in various states (MO, WI, IN, NY, NJ, and SC), enjoying a range of careers (teaching, practicing law, leading Ford Foundation Adult Discussion groups, and being a copywriter for McGraw-Hill) and being a mother (three children) and grandmother (four grandchildren). Maury earned a B.S. and an M.S. from the University of Wisconsin. She earned a J.D. from Rutgers School of Law.

Anita McKay's poetry and travel essays have appeared in numerous publications, including *Miller's Pond*, *Rose & Thorn Journal*, *Chronogram*, and *The Voices Project*. She is an avid traveler who enjoys seeing new places, learning the history firsthand, enjoying the food, and meeting people. The most significant part of travel for her is encounters with people.

Craig Miller holds a doctorate in theology. He has taught at nearly all levels of academia over the past forty years, including some twenty years in adult and community education. His goal is to bring alive and make accessible for all learners vibrant concepts that anchor our moral, ethical, and intellectual heritage, and that remain as controversial today as they were 2,000 or more years ago. He also served for thirty years in the intelligence community.

After 26 years as a health and physical education teacher and coach at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, **Kofie Montgomery** retired and moved to Myrtle Beach. While at IUP she taught/coached both college students and elementary students. She currently serves as a guardian ad litem for Horry County. Kofie, a lifelong learner since 2013, has been involved as a student, volunteer, club leader, board member, and committee member. She really enjoys new experiences and laughing with others.

Dale and Gloria Morris developed a love of Italy from their first visit to Tuscany with an OLLI tour. They're becoming seasoned train travelers as they explore various regions in Italy. Dale is a trainer by background and Gloria is a nurse although they are both now retired.

Dr. Paul Moyer, retired since December 2014, practiced long term care medicine for more than forty years in PA. Although he has no formal teacher training, teaching was a frequent responsibility in his professional career. He has taught two math courses for seniors since retiring to SC.

Judy Ogden is a former attorney and university teacher who has more than twenty years of experience as a mediator of all sorts of conflicts. She has a strong commitment to facilitating good communication to enable the positive resolution of problems in people's personal and professional lives. She enjoys working with other lifelong learners as we seek to make the most of this interesting and exciting stage of our lives.

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, **Carol Osborne** taught high school in Virginia Beach for 12 years before pursuing a second master's degree and a doctorate in English from the University of Virginia. In 1998, she accepted a position in the English department of Murray State University, and soon became director of humanities. In 2002, she joined the faculty of Coastal Carolina University and has since taught English and English education courses, served as the associate dean of the Edwards College of Humanities and Fine Arts, and as the director of Department of Academic and Community Outreach. She retired in 2020, joining forces with Kelli Barker to keep lifelong learning alive in this area through SALT.

Glenn Osborne was a Boy Scout, beginning in Cub Scouts as a youth, and ending as an Eagle Scout, earning the God and Country Award and becoming a member of the Order of the Arrow. As an adult, he served as an assistant scoutmaster for four years and as a scoutmaster for over twenty years. After graduating from Guilford College with an Economics degree, he served two years in the Army. He has collected Native American artifacts and studied Native American history and culture for over 65 years, and he has taught archery, knife throwing, tee-pee making and other aspects of Native American history in three different homeschool networks.

Gail Reynolds is a retired teacher from Rochester, N.Y. She has been researching her family history for more than 25 years. She co-founded the Grand Strand Genealogy Club and is a past president and treasurer of that organization. She has been teaching genealogy courses for lifelong learning since 2000. She also consults with individuals on their family history research and speaks on the topic of family history at local service organizations. **Edie Reynolds**, Gail's daughter, holds a B.A. degree in anthropology and is a member of the Grand Strand Genealogy Club. She has been co-teaching genealogy classes with her mother, Gail, for several semesters.

Linda Shultz has been a yoga instructor since 2007. In 2016, she earned Group Fitness Certification (specializing in Senior Fitness) and her license to teach Zumba Gold (Senior Zumba). Linda, who is also a senior and "technically" disabled, is passionate about helping others. Her reward? Seeing how each class participant improves over time. Linda has a way of making all her classes so much fun.

"Wow! That's colored pencil?" **Jolene Stinson Williams** hears that a great deal about her artwork. Jolene is back to teach "colored pencil painting techniques" again. She taught this class for several years in the Myrtle Beach area. She earned a B.S. from the University of Oregon and did graduate work in art therapy. Jolene is a retired teacher. While living in Myrtle Beach she founded the SC Colored Pencil Society of America #124. Currently she resides in the state of Washington.

Kris Szepanski has been running the Fun & Games club since 2019. She loves all types of games, to laugh, and to have fun.

Susan Temple is a Southern storyteller who writes about her varied life and the characters she has met along the way. She has been a stewardess, a teacher, a construction manager, and a Red Cross disaster volunteer, among other paid or volunteer careers.

Olivia Thornton is an artist and art teacher based in FL. Formerly of SC, Olivia holds an undergraduate degree in art; she obtained a graduate degree in art education. After graduating, Olivia taught high school art and art to the public in SC. In 2016, Olivia moved close to Tampa to teach elementary and middle school students as well as the public. Currently, Olivia continues to create art and teach online learners of all ages.

Daphne Trent is a certified health coach with the Sears Wellness Institute and has been teaching health classes for many years. She does online webinars and works one-on-one with people to help achieve healthier habits and lifestyle changes for better health.

Brenda Tringali is a professional organizer/productivity specialist and the owner of At Your Fingertips Organizing. In addition to compassionately helping people reduce their excess, she also loves to help them achieve their personal and/or professional goals by identifying obstacles and implementing customized solutions. Brenda is a member of NAPO (National Association of Productivity and Organizing) professionals and has earned their Residential Organizing and Workplace Productivity certificates.

Jo Ann Tufo is a historian, writer, performer and joined the SALT program in September 2020. She taught a multitude of classes at Coastal Carolina University's OLLI programs from 2012-2020. Jo Ann focuses on American history, popular culture, entertainment history and Women's studies.

Lisa Williams is a transplant from western PA and lived in SC for more than 23 years; she now lives on a farm in NC. She worked at CCU in the Department of Academic and Community Outreach for more than a decade at all the centers. She enjoys hanging out with the alpacas at her farm, gardening, crafting, crocheting, and working with alpaca fiber.