

Former local sportscaster, Robbie Robertson, will speak about sports and events for disabled athletes at the February 13 Academy luncheon

by Shirley Mears

In 2000, Robbie Robertson and his wife, Adrienne, created a non-profit organization called the Sports Group, Inc. The purpose was to host an event for physically-disabled athletes. The event was called the Endeavor Games for Athletes with Physical Disabilities; 119 athletes came.

In 2004, the University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) became the title sponsor of the Sports Group and brought the organization into the UCO family.

In 2005, 308 athletes from 28 states and three countries participated in the Endeavor Games, which is now considered an international event.

Because of the Endeavor Games and three other events produced for the physically-disabled, UCO Disabled Sports & Events has developed a partnership with the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and the United States Paralympics, a division of the USOC.

"UCO Disabled Sports & Events: From an idea to Olympic partnership in six short years" is the title of Robbie Robertson's speech.

Robbie has been in Oklahoma since 1973. He was honored three years in a row as "Best Radio News, Weather, Sports Personality"; named the Oklahoma City Advertising Club's "Advertising Man of the Year"; served as the Executive Director of the Sooner State Games; was elected as the Vice President of the National Con-

gress of State Games; and was selected as a member of Governor Frank Keating's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Robbie and Adrienne are members of the St. John's Episcopal Church of Oklahoma City. He is currently the spokesperson for the Bob Howard Auto Group.

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### Important information regarding luncheon reservations

- **Date, time, and place:** The February 13 ASP luncheon, which will be held in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons at Southern Nazarene University, begins at 11:15 a.m. and concludes at 1:00 p.m.
- **Members:** If you have *not* been contacted by one of our callers, then please call Shirley Pelley, ASP Telephone Committee Chairperson, at **405.354.3853**
- **Guests:** Please call Elbert Overholt, ASP Director, at **405.789.2036**
- **All:**
  - The cost of the luncheon is **\$5.00**
  - Please make your reservation(s) **before Thursday, February 9**

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Contributors to the luncheon-cost subsidies

- October: Tom and Madelyn Barnard
- November: Elbert and Darlene Overholt
- December: Loren Gresham
- January: The Burbridge Foundation
- February: Thurman and Annette Coburn
- March: The Spanish Cove Life-Care Retirement Village
- April: Olson Enterprises and an anonymous donor (One-half subsidy each)
- May: J. Robert "Bob" and Naomi Emmel



Robbie Robertson

executive Director of the Sooner State Games; was elected as the Vice President of the National Con-



Your president's point of view:
by Jack David Arnold

**Youth is the time to study wisdom;
Old age is the time to practice it**

--Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Wisdom is not to be obtained from textbooks, it must be "coined out of the human experience of life," wrote Morris Raphael Cohen (1880-1947), Russian-born American educator and philosopher.

Acquiring knowledge and information is very different from possessing wisdom. We may acquire knowledge from universities, our relationships, the books that we read, and all the other activities that we participate in, but are we gaining wisdom?

Wisdom may be defined as "the ability to discern inner qualities and relationships; insight; good sense; judgment; a wise attitude or course of action" (*Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 10th ed.).

Wisdom is based on a broad range of knowledge, experience, and understanding. As quoted above, Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1812-1888), French author and philosopher, wrote that wise persons must have lived long enough to develop a depth of philosophical reflection. They are, then, in a position to evaluate their experiences and learn from them.

Because wisdom is born of mistakes, we must confront error and learn. Maria Montessori (1870-1952), Italian physician and educator, called mistakes "learning opportunities." Sometimes it seems that the world is full of people who will gladly inform us of our mistakes. Persons who are willing to hear other points of view, and admit that there may be other approaches they could have taken, are the ones who will grow in wisdom as they grow in acquiring knowledge.

To become wise we must be willing to suspend our beliefs about something, to set aside our prejudices, and to think with open minds. We must be eager to branch out and learn in many different areas, even at the risk of being embarrassed or looking foolish. We must be willing to admit that we do not know everything and are willing to learn. William

Continued



**"Sharing a
Continuous
Flight"**

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next column

Cowper (1731-1800), English poet, wrote, "Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much; Wisdom is humble that he knows no more."

It is not uncommon for some to say, "I've learned my lesson! I'll never do that again!" Rarely do we hear someone say, "That was a wonderful lesson. I'm glad that it happened just the way it did, even though I was uncomfortable going through it. I now understand why I suffered, and I can change my behavior so I won't make the same mistake in the future."

This person is bravely admitting his own responsibility for creating the situation exactly the way it



ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



†Visitor: Walter Hammert



†Visitor: Dorothy Hammert



†Speaker: Dale Gober



†Visitor: Shirley Guthrie



†Visitor: Carolyn Waterman



†Membership Chair: Park Burkhart



†New Member: Ruth Taylor



← Visitors:
Jack and Willouise
Martyn

→ Visitors:
Harry Stults, MD and
Shirley Guthrie



ASP members and guests
will hear Ari Fleischer
at PLN luncheon on April 13

by Jack David Arnold

For the third year in a row, Southern Nazarene University (SNU) President Loren Gresham is inviting the members and guests of the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) to *PLN Presents*.

This Partners-in-Learning Network (PLN) luncheon event will take place on **Thursday, April 13, 2006, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at the Oklahoma City Cox Center.**

PLN Presents will feature the Ari Fleischer, former White House press secretary and assistant to the president of the United States. He delivered the daily White House briefings from 2001 to 2003.

Fleischer previously served as the Senior Communications Advisor and Spokesman for the Bush-Cheney presidential campaign. His book, *Taking Heat* (March 2005), details his years in the White House and reached No. 7 on the *New York Times* best-seller list.

Mr. Fleischer is a native of Pound Ridge, New York, and a 1982 graduate of Vermont's Middlebury College. He is now president of his own firm, *Ari Fleischer Communications*. He resides in Pound Ridge with his wife, Becki, and their daughter.

Important information for members and guests:

- Reservations for this event may be made on **Monday, February 13**, at the ASP luncheon meeting
- ASP members will pay \$5.00 for this event which will include a luncheon; guests will pay \$40.00
- SNU will provide bus transportation to and from the Cox Center

WRITER'S WORKSHOP

**FEBRUARY 13, 9:30
STUDENT CONFERENCE ROOM
WEBSTER COMMONS**

Continuation of "The Seven Churches of Revelations" video developed by Paula and Bronell Greer from their on-site visits and extensive research.

Special *PowerPoint* workshop will be
offered to ASP members and their guests
at SNU on Tuesday, February 14

by Tim Griffith

You are invited to participate in a special *PowerPoint* workshop on Tuesday, February 14, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., in the Royce Brown Building, Room 106. Any ASP member or guest at any computer skill level will be qualified to participate in this hands-on workshop.

The ability to utilize *PowerPoint* functions in presentations can dramatically add impact and clarity to the exchange of information. Individuals who desire to develop expertise in this powerful medium could benefit from a two-hour session specifically designed to present a tool kit of techniques used to manipulate *PowerPoint* software under *WindowsXP Office Suite*. An extremely beneficial aspect will be an explanation of the shortcut keys that are mostly identical to equivalent usage in *MSWord*.

The workshop will simplify the complexity of the screen interface with explanations of helpful toolbars that present dozens of functions with just a mouse click. After moving through the basics of constructing an outline, textual manipulations will demonstrate the amazing capabilities of *PowerPoint*. The presentation of information relating to slide design, graphic manipulation, slide sorting, and portability features will enable a beginner to establish competence in using this magnificent software. Additional learning resources and information accessible to the Internet will be discussed.



Laugh a Little
with Harold Dozier

More Steven Wright Sayings

By Harold Dozier

- If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.
- OK, so what's the speed of dark?
- How do you tell when you're out of invisible ink?
- Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
- When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- I intend to live forever — so far, so good.
- What happens if you get scared half to death twice?



Library Resources

by Bea Flinner

A Random Act

Cindi Broaddus with Kimberly Lohman Suiter

A Random Act. What a book! What an unusual, serious subject! What an extraordinary woman! A tremendous story that tells the almost unbelievable story of courageous *Cindi Broaddus!* This outstanding, exceptional lady has appeared on Dr. Phil's television program, and he has played an extremely important part in counseling her, since he is married to Cindi's sister, Robbin. It is an awe-inspiring true story of *fighting to survive and choosing to forgive!*

Much is told about the terrible suffering that Cindi went through as the result of chemical burns which she received on a dark, lonely night at 3:00 a.m., June 5, 2001, when someone tossed a gallon glass jar of sulfuric acid from an overpass on the H.E. Bailey Turnpike outside of Newcastle, Oklahoma, just as the recipients of that terrible act were driving underneath the bridge. One of the persons was Cindi! She and her friend, Jim, were just beginning their vacation—which never happened.

Jim was also burned, but life from then on meant excruciating pain for Cindi. She spent painful times in the burn unit with skin peeling/falling from her body, blindness, and scarred for life—*untold excruciating agony!*

Folks, this is a must for your reading. *In the SNU Library.*



ASP News You Can Use

by Shirley Mears

45 & Better Radio is moving.

Friday afternoons have been home to the radio version of *45 & Better News* for over three years. Now *45 & Better Radio* can be heard Tuesday through Friday mornings from 9:30 – 10:30 on the same great station, KTLR AM 890.

The Friday afternoon radio show schedule had been over-booked. Guests would have to wait for three months to get on the show. Now with four hours every week we will be able to offer more great opportunities to share fun and entertaining interviews, inspirational stories of courage, and exciting events to our listeners.

Please call Shirley Mears at (405) 603-6381 with interview suggestions or send an email to news@45andbetternews.com. A visit to the website, www.45andbetternews.com may give you some thought-provoking ideas about whom to nominate.



Tribute To a Founding Father by Lecil Brown

On January 17, 2006, we observed the 300th anniversary of the birth of **Benjamin Franklin**, one of America's greatest patriots. He was born in Boston, the tenth son of soap maker, Josiah Franklin, who was the father of seventeen children.

Josiah Franklin hoped that Benjamin would enter the clergy. He could only afford to send his son to school only one year and clergymen needed many more years of schooling. As a result, Benjamin was apprenticed to his older brother, James, a printer. When Benjamin was 15, James started *The New England Courant*, the first newspaper in Boston. Benjamin wanted to write for the paper, but he knew his brother would not let him.

Benjamin began writing letters at night and signing them with the name "Silence Dogood." He would sneak them under the door of the print shop at night so no one would know who was writing them. They became popular very quickly and everyone wanted to know who had written them. After sixteen of the letters Ben admitted that he had written them. James scolded his brother and was jealous of him.

In 1723, at the age of 17, Ben could no longer take the harassing of his older brother and decided to run away. He went to New York but could not find work there as a printer. He walked across New Jersey and finally arrived in Philadelphia by boat. He arrived there on October 6 "wet, disheveled, and messy when his future wife, Deborah Read, saw him on that day." Seven years later they were married.

Ben found a job as an apprentice printer. He was a better printer than the man he was working for. He borrowed some money and set himself up in the printing business. He was soon able to get contracts for government work and the business was thriving. In 1730 Ben married Debora and they owned a book store in addition to the print shop.

Franklin bought a newspaper in 1729, *The Pennsylvania Gazette*. He not only printed the paper but contributed pieces he wrote under aliases. It soon became the most successful newspaper in the colonies. He thrived on work. In 1733 he started publishing *Poor Richard's Almanack*. From this publication came many of his famous phrases that are still familiar, such as, "a penny saved is a penny earned."

The next twenty years of Franklin's life were involved in business and civic affairs. He helped launch projects to clean and pave Philadelphia's streets. Books were scarce so he helped to start the Library Company. By pooling resources, members could afford to buy books from England. He helped launch the American Philosophical Society and the Pennsylvania Hospital. He retired from business in 1749 and started concentrating on science, conducting experiments and inventions.

In the 1750's Franklin began to turn his attention to the growing tension between England and the American Colonies. He had proposed a plan in 1754 for the united colonies. Although he had many friends in England, he was sick of the conditions he observed and in 1765, following rejection of the Stamp Act by the Colonies, he devoted more and more attention to the goal of complete independence for our nation.

Franklin was elected to the Second Continental Congress and was on a committee of five that helped draft the Declaration of Independence. After signing the Declaration, he sailed for France as an ambassador. He was loved by the French. It was said "he was a match for any wit in the world." He was later a delegate to the Constitutional Convention and signed the Constitution. Being older, and wiser perhaps than most delegates, his contribution to our nation and the freedom we enjoy was enormous. Franklin died on April 17, 1790, at the age of 84.

Continued on page 6 — Arnold-

Continued from page 2 — Arnold

was. He recognizes he has choices, and that he can choose differently as long as he stays alert to the consequences of his behavior.

The wise person is also a courageous person. We often think of *courage* in terms of outer forms of bravery—physical prowess and fearlessness in battle or sports—yet there are many inner forms of bravery that are not recognized by anyone but ourselves as we struggle to overcome our shortcomings or defects of character. This willingness to look at ourselves honestly and courageously is the first, and perhaps the most important, step we can take on the road to wisdom and personal empowerment.

I could go on and on about *wisdom*. The subject excites me as no other. I will conclude, however, by citing the seven characteristics of the *wise* as listed in the Jewish *Talmud*:

He does not speak in the presence of one wiser than himself, does not interrupt, is not hasty to answer, asks and answers the points, talks about first things first and last things last, admits when he does not know, and acknowledges the truth. (Qtd. in M.



NEWS BRIEFS

- **2005-2006 ASP Membership Directory:** If you did not receive the new Directory at the December luncheon, then please contact Dr. Overholt or Dr. Don Beaver (405.789.3941; dbeaver3@cox.net) for your copy. All members are encouraged to let Dr. Beaver know of any changes in their contact information.

New brochure

Members and friends of the ASP may secure copies of the new ASP brochure at the February 13 luncheon or by requesting them from Dr. Elbert Overholt: 4245 Mariner Drive, Yukon, OK 73099; 405.789.2036; overez1@cox.net.



ASP Calendar

Monday: February 13, 2006

- 9:00 a.m. Shuttle: Sawyer parking lot to Webster Commons **begins**
- 9:30-10:45 Writing Workshop: Commons Student Life Conf. Rm.
- 10:30 a.m. Shuttle: Sawyer to Webster **continues**
- 11:15 a.m. Luncheon begins: Heritage Room—Webster Commons
- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon meeting ends
- 1:15 p.m. Ad. Council: Faculty Lounge—Webster Commons
- 1:30 p.m. Shuttle: Webster Commons to Sawyer parking lot **ends**.



REMINDERS

- **Membership Dues:** Members who have not paid their annual dues, may pay them at the February 13 Luncheon or send their checks to Dr. Roy Dorris, ASP Treasurer, 4607 N. College, Bethany, OK 73008. Yearly individual dues for the calendar year are \$15.00, or \$1.25 per month. The initiation fee for new members is \$10.00.
- **ASP Web Site:** Information about the ASP may be found at www.snu.edu/sr_professionals.
- **Luncheon reservations/cancellations:** Kindly be reminded that when a luncheon reservation is made it must be included in the count unless it is cancelled by **Friday morning before the Monday luncheon**. To cancel a reservation please call Dr. Elbert Overholt (789-3026). Your cooperation is appreciated.
- **Shuttle Service:** SNU continues to offer free shuttle service to and from the northwest corner of the Sawyer Center parking lot, 41st and Donald Street. Newcomers should turn north at the red light at 39th Expressway and Peniel Street; go two blocks north to 41st Street; turn right (east) one block to Donald Street. The shuttle begins service at 9:00 a.m. and continues making trips back and forth to the Webster Commons where the luncheon is held until 1:30 p.m. Members are urged to use this shuttle service.

