

The Academy Perspective

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Vada Lee Barkley, Editor

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

by Vada Lee Barkley

Twenty-five of you completed the annual volunteer activity survey. Many who did not are equally involved. By organizing a volunteer activities corps (AVAC), no doubt we can accomplish even more.

We can encourage those already involved. By providing opportunities for meaningful involvement, we can make the most effective use of strengths and skills of our members. Sir James Barrie said, "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it to themselves." Jesus said it was more blessed to give than to receive.

We can learn more about what our volunteers are doing. Our program September 15 will feature a number of volunteers from our membership.

We can actively recruit other volunteers. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "When you cease to make a contribution, you begin to die." A book entitled IF I SHOULD DIE BEFORE I LIVE has a prominent place in our library. No one wants to "die in his shell." We need only the right challenge. We all have something to give.

We can help relieve stress and anxiety. In March of '96 Art and I learned how volunteers can help. A former pastor friend went with us to the hospital at 3 a.m., and stayed until Art was admitted. The night before Art was dismissed, four men took two-hour turns sitting with him--oversated as he was, that was no easy task. They were a God-send. At home, friends brought food, ran errands, or sat with Art as needed. None seemed to consider it an imposition. And it meant so much to us.

We may even enable some to remain independent indefinitely. Not everyone has that choice. But, with all the resources of various organizations, with the ability to access those resources, and with the support of a corps of volunteers, most of us can live and die at home.

Please complete a Talent Bank form at the September 15th meeting and return it to me. From these forms, we will assemble a steering committee and set up a data base.

Telephone Brigade

Rita Foster--Anna Faye Dawson--June Phillips--Juanita Knippers--Mary Smith--Ruby Takemire--Geneva DeLozier--Joyce Ellis

LOOKING AHEAD

Thursday, August 28, the Plans and Programs Committee met for breakfast and a planning session. Under the leadership of chairman Shirley Pelley, the committee outlined tentative programs for the year.

September 15 three volunteers from our membership will tell about their work with specific cases. Helen Silvey is with Birthrol; Betty Knutson with Women's Prison Ministries; and Lawrence Snell with Travelers Aid.

Tentative plans for other programs in 1997 include:

Oct:13 -- New Tax Laws consultant

Nov:10 -- Hospice

Dec:8 -- Christmas Music

URGENT REQUEST FOR TUTORS

Leslie Wunder, special education teacher at Bethany Elementary Schools, is in desperate need of someone to help fourth and fifth graders with reading and math. "We're overwhelmed," says Ms. Wunder. Many of these students need a friend, she says.

If you would like to help, please see me or Bea Finner after the September 15 meeting. Or call Ms. Wunder at 354-6928 or at school (499-4611) in the mornings only.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE PERSONNEL

Officers:

President: Vada Lee Barkley

Director: Elbert Overholt

Vice President: Don Beaver

Secretary: Evelyn Downs

Treasurer: George Cargill

Member-at-large: Milton Sonnevik

Plans and Programs Committee:

Shirley Pelley, Chairman

Virjeane Bayles--Lawana Isaacs--Bill and

Lora Lee Dunkin--Gene and Vivian Chamers--Charles and Billie Harrison--Elbert

Overholt--Vada Lee Barkley

Membership Committee:

Margaret Dawson, Chairman

R.T. and Pat Bolerjack--Geneva DeLozier--

Neta Jones--Elbert Overholt--Vada Lee

Barkley

Sympathy and Get Well cards:

Kathleen Sodowsky

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RIG FALL FOCUS: ASP SURVEY AND INTERNET RESEARCH TOOLS

Jack Arnold

The members of the Research Interest Group (RIG) of the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) will focus this fall on a survey of ASP members concerning issues that affect senior citizens and the benefits of conducting research on the Internet.

The first meeting on Monday, September 15, will be led by Bea Finner, Chairperson of the RIG Survey Committee; the members will review and approve the format and content of the questionnaire which will be circulated to all ASP members this fall. The results of this most important survey will guide RIG members in their group research efforts in the coming years.

The second meeting will be held on Monday, November 10, with an opportunity for RIG members and guests to gain hands-on instruction in doing research on the Internet. Susan Baker, Director of SNU Academic Computing, will be the instructor for this special learning seminar.

All RIG meetings this fall will begin at 9:30 a.m. in the Royce Brown Conference Room 130 and will conclude at 11:15 a.m. Coffee and juice will be served. The RIG officers, Bob Emmel, Elbert Overholt, and I, and members cordially invite all interested persons to attend and participate in these fall meetings.

PRESS RELEASE

Dr. Jack David Arnold received the Cardinal Service Award from the Oklahoma City/County Historical Society at the All-Class Reunion of Central High School in Oklahoma City at the Clarion Hotel Conference Center on June 14, 1997

The Cardinal Service Award is a unique honor bestowed upon alumni who have rendered direct service through their dedication of time, special application of talent, contribution of substance, and professional, civic, scientific, or military accomplishments.

Dr. Arnold's membership in the Southern Nazarene University Academy of Senior Professionals was cited as one example of meritorious service to the Oklahoma City/County community.

CRUISING THE INSIDE PASSAGE

Maurice Dickson

On board American Airlines at 6:30 a.m., June 30, 1997. Destination: Vancouver, Canada. Inside Passage of Alaska. Anchorage. Denali National Park. Fairbanks. It was the beginning of a never-forgettable Alaskan Cruise/Tour with Kathleen Sodowsky. We were ready to discover Alaska, America's last frontier.

After arriving in Vancouver, going through customs, and clearing immigration procedures, we proceeded to the gangway and into our Crown Princess Cruise Ship. Here we were to be on this floating hotel for seven nights. What an experience this turned out to be!

Before we sailed, we had a mock drill - not a comforting thought. The bells rang; we grabbed our life jackets and went to the International Hall where we were given a demonstration on how to use the jacket in case of fire or any other unforeseen disaster. On this ominous note, we sailed out of Vancouver harbor at 6:00 p.m.

What a way to go! For the next six days, our lives were filled with excitement, stunningly beautiful scenery, visits to frontier towns, majestic glaciers, and a cuisine "out of this world."

On the ship there was never a loss for something to do: using the library, listening to lectures on Alaska, engaging in exercise classes, attending craft classes and seminars, going to afternoon tea (a tradition at sea), walking on Deck 12 to admire the scenery more closely, and enjoying special entertainment in the International Show Lounge each evening.

From June 30 through July 11, there were many moments to remember:

...The Captain's "Gala Welcome Party" on July 1.

...The evening sunsets at 11:30 p.m. and the sunrises at 3:30 a.m.

...The afternoon Teas at 3:30, with tea, scones, finger sandwiches and cookies, very properly served by chic uniformed waiters.

...Visits with the pastors of the Nazarene churches in Ketchikan, Steve Sheets, pastor; in Juneau, Christopher James Grube, pastor; and in Anchorage, Dan League, pastor.

...A flock of bald eagles circling overhead, ready to dive for salmon.

...A small boat sailing beside our Cruise ship. Suddenly, two ladies were carefully helped on board our ship via a rope ladder thrown over the side of our ship. They had "missed the boat!" Both sailing vessels were in motion all of the time.

...My surprise birthday celebration: balloons on our Stateroom door, a decorated cake at dinner brought by the waiters who sang "Happy Birthday," and honored again at a tea in the afternoon.

...The outstanding, and wholesome, entertainment: a juggler, a banjo virtuoso, a comedian, and several acrobatic acts.

-----to be continued-----

FASTING, OUR CHRISTIAN RITE

This book by Rev. Lucille Law has just hit the market. It was published by Old Paths Tract Society, of Shoals, Indiana.

Lucille could have written the story of Frank Chase's remarkable conversion for money or fame. Instead she attributes the change in the life of this "hate-filled" criminal to prayer and fasting.

Most of us remember when prayer and fasting went together. Maybe this is our Christian rite that we need to practice more today. Thanks, Lucille, for reminding us.

SUMMER'S DOG DAYS

by Jack David Armold
August 13, 1984, Oklahoma City

Laying down my old, yellowed, tattered
magazine,
Thoughts flow as softly and smoothly as
thistledown.
A lightning bug flickers brightly on the
window screen,
Gentle breezes drift and meander through
the town.

The crickets' chirping of the August
songs of prophecies.
Starlight silvers the pointed tips of all
earthly things.
September fingers on the shadows of the
maple leaves,
While my solitary soul looks to the burn
ing Star and sings.

ART'S CHUCKLES

Worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do. But it won't get you anywhere.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Today's young eligible bachelors don't want to marry a girl who bakes biscuits like her mother. They want to marry a girl who makes dough like her father.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Opportunity merely knocks. Temptation kicks the door in.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Compromise is the art of dividing a cake so that everyone around the table thinks he has gotten the biggest slice.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

In the presence of trouble, some people grow wings, others buy crutches.