

Bethany physician to speak at May 8 Academy meeting

Dr. Dudley Powers, well-known local physician and Bible teacher, will be the speaker for the final meeting of the Academy of Senior Professionals scheduled for Monday, May 8.



Dr. Powers' topic for the luncheon will be "Science and Religion, Conflicts and Confluences," a topic well-suited to his interests and background.

Powers received his M.D. degree in 1962 from the University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston, Texas. Following graduation he spent two years practicing medicine in Bethany, Oklahoma. With deep roots in the Church of the Nazarene, he accepted an assignment to New Guinea as a physician and hospital administrator. After four years in New Guinea, Powers returned to his family medical practice in Bethany, where he has been affiliated with the Bethany Medical Clinic

until his retirement earlier this year.

Powers earned a B.S. degree from Southern Methodist University and a D.D.S. degree from Baylor University College of Dentistry, both schools located in Dallas, Texas. For two years he served on the faculty of Baylor University College of Dentistry.

Dr. Powers has been certified by the American Medical Association and American Board of Family Practice. In addition to other responsibilities, he has served as Chief of Medical Staff for Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City.

As a churchman, Dr. Powers has invested much of his life in service to the Church of the Nazarene. He has served as member and president of the General Board, member and treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Nazarene Theological Seminary, and member of the District Advisory Board of the Northwest Oklahoma District. As a member of Bethany First Church of the Nazarene, he is highly regarded as a Bethel Bible Study teacher and the teacher of the Reach Out Sunday School class.

It is a pleasure to welcome Dr. Dudley Powers to the Academy podium.

Academy re-elects Arnold, Overholt — approves resolutions.

Three resolutions were presented to ASP members at the April 10 Annual Assembly in the Heritage Room of the SNU Commons. All were approved unanimously.

Dr. Elbert Overholt, Director, presented a resolution calling for the establishment of an ASP Scholarship Endowment Fund of \$10,000 for SNU students.

Dr. Robert Griffin, Chair of the Committee on Bylaws and organization, presented a motion to establish a Committee on Publications as the fifth ASP Standing Committee. The ASP Bylaws provide for four other Standing Committees: Bylaws and Organization, Membership, Programs, and Strategic Planning.

Rev. George Cargill, Treasurer, presented the recommendation of the Administrative Council that the annual membership dues be increased from \$10.00 to \$12.00. The membership approved the recommendation without discussion. Cargill's Annual Treasurer's Report was also approved.

Director Elbert Overholt presented the ballot for electing the ASP President and Secretary for two-year terms. No nominations were made from the floor and Assembly members reelected Dr. Jack David Arnold, President, and Mrs. Darlene Overholt, Secretary, by acclamation.

Dues due for 2000-01 Non-member subscriptions to ASP newsletter available

Annual dues for 2000-01 should be paid at the May 8 Academy meeting if possible. Checks in the amount of \$12.00 may be sent to: George "Bud" Cargill, 8228 N.W. 100th Street, OKC, OK 73162.

Non-members may subscribe to *The Academy Perspective* for 2000-01 with a payment of \$10.00.

All checks should be made payable to "SNU" with a notation "ASP Dues" or "TAP Subscription."



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

A Servant's Heart

"All service is the same with God."

—Robert Browning, *Pippa Passes IV*

Servanthood can be one of the most satisfying undertakings of our mature years. The more we learn to focus on blessing others, the more freely the blessings will come into our own lives. At the same time, we need to keep a few things in mind that can help us avoid disappointments.

Although we can expect a blessing from serving others, we cannot always expect to see good results. It's a pitfall, in other words, to engage in acts of blessing or charity with the expectation of a specific reward. Neat, warm fuzzy endings are the stuff of fairy tales, not necessarily of real life. A servant *can* expect the satisfaction of serving, the sense of being connected with others, of doing a good thing.

"Charlie" was an alcoholic and drug addict, whom I tried to help in the 1980s. I took food to him when he was hungry, but I could not force him to eat. I gave him money to pay his rent for his sleazy motel room in south Dallas, but I could not be sure that he used it to pay his rent. I tried to persuade him to go to Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous to benefit from the shared experience, strength, and hope of other alcoholics and drug addicts, but I could not force him to go.

Sadly, "Charlie" has disappeared from my life, but I still pray for his recovery. I was not able to keep him from sliding deeper into the web of problems that put him on the street, and finally, in prison. He may not even appreciate my efforts. I may never see him again.

Although I may not have received a thank-you from "Charlie," *I believe we can expect good things to happen to us that are seemingly unrelated to our acts of goodness toward others.* This concept is hard to prove, but I have seen it happen repeatedly in my own life. For example, last week a young girl ran after me as I was leaving the grocery store to give me my wallet I had dropped at the checkout counter.

The more I do for others, the more good things seem to happen to me. In this connection, the Apostle Paul wrote:

A man reaps what he sows...

Let us not be weary in doing good,

For at the proper time we will reap a harvest

If we do not give up.

Therefore, as we have opportunity,

Let us do good to all people.

—Galatians 7:10 (NIV)

Here's my final thought about a servant's heart. *To lead an effective life of service, I have learned to take care of myself.* On the most basic level, this means paying attention to what my body needs to function properly: healthy nourishment, moderate exercise, and adequate sleep.

The same applies to my need for emotional, mental, and spiritual refreshment. If I truly want to bless others, I seek out those experiences that keep me motivated and inspired.

Seeking out the daily perks and joyful surprises that life has to offer does not make us more selfish; rather, they make us

(Continued next column)



"Sharing
a
Continuous
Flight"

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By mail:

The Academy Perspective (TAP)

Southern Nazarene University

6729 N.W. 39th Expressway

Bethany, OK 73008

By fax: (405) 491-6381

By computer: www.snu.edu>For the Public>Academy of
Senior Professionals>*The Academy Perspective (TAP)*

---Newsletter Subscription Information---

Annual subscription cost for *The Academy Perspective*:

Non-members—\$10.00 per year

Members—Included in membership

(Continued from previous column)

more caring. The more we let ourselves be blessed, the more we feel the joy and motivation to bless others.

Serving others may feel like a sacrifice at times, but we do not need to sacrifice who we are and what we need to receive the blessing of service. We need to learn to relax, to open up our hands, to let God's laws of blessing operate the way they were designed to do. Then, the abundance will begin to flow from our servant hearts to the hearts of others...and back again.

There's a destiny that makes us all brothers.

None goes his way alone.

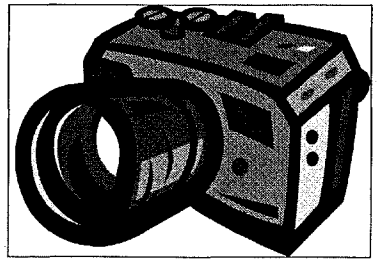
For all we send into the lives of others

Comes back into our own.

—Edwin Markham

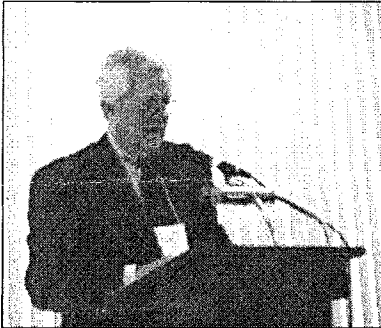
ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE & DON BEAVER



Academy Luncheon—April 10

Perspective Production Members



President Jack Arnold delivers his Annual Report to the ASP Assembly.

Melody Anderson is a student employee in the Academic Computing Office. She has helped scan pictures for the *Perspective*. Melody is a junior missions-sociology-psychology major from Jacksonville, Texas. She plans to become involved in inner-city missions after graduation and a wedding.



Naomi Emmel, substituting for her husband and program chairman, Bob Emmel, keeps the luncheon program moving along.

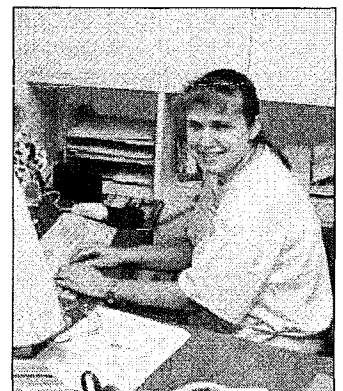


Ron Archer is the Print Shop Supervisor. With his digital copier printer know-how and computer skills, he has provided significant assistance to the production of the *Perspective* and the upgrading of the quality of the Academy newsletter.



Milton and Mabel Sonnevik enjoy the April luncheon. Mabel entertained and inspired the luncheon with two vocal solos. Milton is a former ASP officer.

Natasha Moore is a student employee in the Academic Computing Department. She has assisted with picture production and scanning techniques. She is a senior education major, planning to stay for a master's degree at SNU and then teach 5th grade. Natasha is married to Patrick Moore.



All of you are Invited:

Art and Vada Lee Barkley will celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary Saturday, June 3, 2000, from 2—4 p.m. in the Chapel in the Round at Bethany First Church of the Nazarene.

Learning from the Polls — Part Two

By Elbert Overholt

5. Is the poll scientific? If enough information isn't given to satisfy scientific criteria, immediate questions of reliability and validity are raised.

6. When was the survey taken?

7. What is the professional reputation of the pollster?

8. Who refused to answer the questions?

9. What is the exact wording of the questions?

10. What was the order of the questions?

The questions should present a balanced set of choices. The order of the questions should not have the potential to influence the answers given by the respondent.

The researcher should not attempt to generalize the results of his study beyond the population from which the sample was chosen. Breaking this basic principle of survey interpretation is a common fault of researchers and those who interpret and report the results. For example, choosing a random sample of 1000 American adults and obtaining their answers with an unbiased method of callbacks, obtaining answers from those not at home, those without phones, can accurately reflect the opinions of the American people. However, if they received answers from those in one or two sections of the nation, obtain their answers from only those who call-in, use answers from those who chance by on the street, or pick and choose from answers they approve, the results do not represent accurately the opinion of the "American people." The key reason that some poll public opinion accurately and other polls are unscientific junk is how the respondents were chosen to be interviewed.

Never base your total evaluation of polls on the number of responses. If the poll is a dial-in, mail-in, or coupon poll where the respondents are self-selected, it has no validity. In some cases, a few people answer many times. Remember the *Literary Digest* non-scientific poll of 12,000,000 people said Landon would beat Roosevelt.

Another point of consideration is the sampling error for the poll. In any good scientific poll there will be sample error involved. It is a measure of the possible range of approximation in the results because only a sample was used. This type of error is only a portion of the total potential error in a survey. Sampling error tells us the degree of accuracy the sample truly represents the population. It does not take into account other possible errors caused by such things as people who refuse to answer the questions, the bias of the questions asked, or the possible effect the interviewer may have in the way the questions were asked.

If the polling firm will not provide you with pertinent information concerning the poll, discount its value immediately. Unless you can establish the fact that the poll has a positive degree of legitimacy, it is doubtful you should give the results serious consideration.

In an interesting article carried by *Capitol Watch* (7) the wide range of poll results was clearly portrayed. The

authors pointed out poll results may vary because the pollsters are measuring different things. The American Research Group (ARG), through a poll that gave rolling averages of three night polls, showed the New Hampshire candidates to be running even. A poll released by the Quinnipiac Polling Institute (QPI) showed Gore leading Bradley and McCain leading Bush by margins larger than could be covered by the margin of error. The apparent differences in the poll results can be accounted for by the differences in how the pollsters selected the respondents. ARG poll results reflected the opinions of those almost certain to vote while QPI asked if they were going to vote but didn't question them closely as to certainty of voting.

To carefully evaluate a poll and its results does not mean that an individual will discount all poll results. There are many good research organizations that provide reliable and valid information. A reputable research organization will maintain high research standards and provide the consumer with appropriate information to interpret the study. *The Dallas Morning News* recently published an article giving the results of a poll conducted by Blum and Weprin Associates, Inc. Given with the article was a column explaining how the poll was conducted. This is an example of the kind of information an analytical person would want to evaluate the results of a survey. However, not included was how the 1000 telephone respondents were chosen, a critical factor in determining the legitimacy of the survey.

END NOTES

1. National Council on Public Polls (NCPP) - www.ncpp.org
2. Public Agenda; 6 E 39th St., New York, NY 10016
e-mail: rseidner@publicagenda.org
3. For more information see *Coming to Public Judgment*, Syracuse University Press, 1991, and "How Public Opinion Works," *Fortune*, October, 1992, both by Daniel Yankelovich.
- 4.-6. NCPP
7. capitolwatch.com

Additional Resources

1. The American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) is endeavoring to improve the quality of survey research by developing, discussing, and continually evaluating its lists of "unacceptable" and "best" practices. The AAPOR's (1991) Code of Professional Ethics and Practices is a key source of standards for the research profession.
2. Pew Research Center for the People and the Press; 1150 18th Street, NW, Suite 975, Washington, DC 20036. Phone (202) 293-3126. Fax (202) 293-2569. E-mail <http://www.people-press.org>. The Pew Research Center for the People and the Press serves as a forum for ideas on media and public opinion research. Its current survey results are made available free of charge.



"If you ask me"

By Vada Lee Barkley

The Apostle Paul said: "...forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13b-14)

When was the last time you said, "I'm over the hill?" Did you mean "I don't have anything to do; I don't have to do anything; I can't do anything;" or all of the above?

Before we make that statement again, let's examine the metaphor.

When we're "over" a hill, the struggle is past. It takes little effort to coast downhill. On the contrary, life is an uphill battle to the very end. Whoever said, "Old age is not for sissies" was right on target.

Are we "over the hill?" By no means. We haven't even reached the top of the hill.

Recently a successful retired minister approaching 80 said, "I expect my most productive years to be in my eighties." Why not?



RIG Closes Its 1999-2000 Year

By Bea Flinger

The final meeting of RIG (Research Interest Group) for the academic year took place on April 10. Some of the projected items could not be dealt with because of the inability to receive specific information from outside sources. These will be presented at the beginning of the fall 2000-2001 year.

Dr. Elbert Overholt presented his paper, *Learning From the Polls*. This is a topic that has been of concern to many people, especially in the past year. Are opinion polls scientific, thus making reliable information available to the general public, or are they unscientific? In order to give an answer, ten additional questions were listed. (Note: The last half of Dr. Overholt's paper appears on page 4 of this issue of the *Perspective*.)

Following the ASP (Academy of Senior Professionals) luncheon, a workshop on GENEALOGY was available in the Learning Resources Center. Glorene Brown conducted this presentation, with helpful information—enhanced by excellent handouts. Her enthusiasm on the subject of genealogy, and her success in extensive research, carried clearly to those in attendance.

RIG members have a list of numerous topic suggestions to consider when the group resumes meeting at the beginning of the "new" year. A hearty welcome is extended to those who are interested in research. You will be welcomed as a guest, or hopefully, as a new member. This has been mentioned before, and it bears repeating many times—RESEARCH IS FASCINATING AND REWARDING.



A look at a book

By Wini Howard

How Now Shall We Live?

by Charles Colson and Nancy Pearcey

If you are acquainted with Chuck Colson and his writings, and if you appreciate what has been done through Prison Fellowship, you will no doubt be interested in his recent book. He is dealing with what we as Christians should be most concerned about these days.

Colson is dealing with the question as to how we as Christians should be responding to the moral decay in our world. Should we just draw together and try to protect ourselves from the evil in the world, or should we open our eyes and decide to really try to reclaim our society for God? He believes we can and should decide to minister to and redeem the lost.

In the opening section of the book Colson tells of his visit to the Garcia Moreno Prison in Quito, Ecuador. He had been invited there by a national who was involved in prison reform. This was, and still is, one of the "hell-holes" on earth. The facility, plus the condition of the prisoners, beggars description. The area they passed through was unbelievable in its squalor and depravity.

Finally and unexpectedly they came to another area—out of darkness into light. Prisoners and their surroundings had changed in every way. The transformation was incredible. Colson is saying, "This is what God can do if we reach out to the sin-laden of our world."

This is a book with an important message for us today!



The Library Connection

by Shirley Pelley

A few more titles have been cataloged for your use in the LRC. The last title was ordered by Family Studies and Gerontology. It is of interest, also. Enjoy!

HN 90 .P65

Lavrakas, Paul J.

Polling & Presidential Election Coverage

BF 789 .D4 F143 1996

Spiro, Howard M.; Curnen, Mary G. McCrea; Wandel, Lee Palmer, editors

Facing Death: Where culture, Religion, and Medicine Meet

WM 172 .S9131 1992

Wykle, May L.; Kahana, Eva; Kowal, Jerome, editors

Stress and Health Among the Elderly

BF 789 .D4 S56 1998

Singh, Kathleen Dowling

The Grace in Dying

WT 100 .S465 1998

Ory, Marcia G.; Defriese, Gordon H. editors

Self-care in Later Life: Research, program, and policy

Report on Memoir Writing Workshop Vada Lee Barkley elected chairperson

The second memoir writing workshop was held April 10 in the Faculty Lounge of the SNU Commons. Thirteen ASP members attended and Vada Lee Barkley presided over the workshop.

At the outset of the workshop Barkley identified elements of good writing and stressed BREVITY as the first principle of memoir writing.

Carol Spencer and Mary Smith each read two humorous memoirs and the group critiqued each one.

Barkley urged that each person write something for the next meeting which will be Monday, May 8, 10:30-11:15 a.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the SNU Commons.

Dr. Jack Arnold reviewed some of the main points he learned at a memoir writing workshop in Pensacola, Florida. One of the topics is "Memoir Writing is Therapy." Arnold offered two suggestions for future workshops:

1. Provide copies for each participant
2. Distribute next month's reading to be critiqued before it is read

A motion was made by Jack Arnold and seconded by Milton Sonnevik that Vada Lee Barkley be elected as Workshop Chairperson for the year 2000-2001. Barkley was elected by acclamation.



Mark Your Calendar

May 8

9:00-10:20 a.m. Strategic Planning Com., Royce Brown 135

10:30-11:15 a.m. Memoir Writing Workshop,
Faculty Lounge, SNU Commons

11:00 a.m. Shuttle

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. ASP Luncheon, SNU Commons*

1:00 p.m. Shuttle

1:30 p.m. Administrative Council, Faculty Lounge

*For reservations, call 405/789-2036 or 405/942-5305

ASP luncheon dates:

1999-2000 May 8

2000-2001 Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 8

Feb. 12, Mar. 5, Apr. 9, May 7

"Great Tradition/Great Future" theme chosen for president's annual report

"Spanning two millennia, the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) at Southern Nazarene University (SNU)," President Arnold reported, "has begun a **great tradition** of excellence, achievement, and service in its first decade of operation. Our commitment to this great tradition will give us a **great future**," he added.

In the first part of the Report, the major focus was on what happened in the ASP in the 1999-2000 academic year. Some of its achievements were:

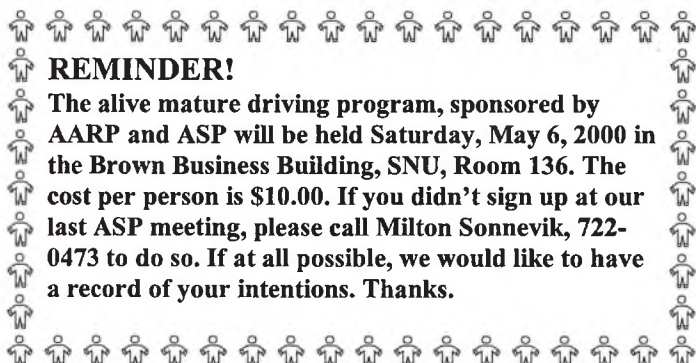
- Inclusion of ASP documents in the SNU Centennial Time Capsule
- Establishment of the ASP Endowed Scholarship
- Addition of the Committee on Publications as a Standing Committee
- Publishing of a new ASP Membership Brochure
- Initiation of two new workshops: Memoir Writing Workshop and Workshop on Genealogical Methods
- Planning for Greater Oklahoma City All-Seniors Day

Glimpsing into the shape of things to come, Arnold cited the following as needs and problems facing senior professionals which represent ASP challenges for the future:

- Adding new dimensions to our lives by learning new subjects and meeting new people through interest groups, classes, and workshops
- Connecting with other senior professionals in the Greater Oklahoma City Area
- Making our presence better known on and off the SNU campus through publications, programs and personal contacts that foster cooperative deliberations and intergenerational activities
- Advancing our financial position by increasing our individual contributions
- Revising and updating the SNU/ASP web page
- Understanding the impact of technology on society and the impact of society on technology
- Developing a new member orientation program
- Researching the problems and issues affecting senior citizens
- Exploring new opportunities for service as volunteers

President Arnold concluded his Report by expressing his gratitude for God's guidance and the ASP members' affirming support in the words of the English poet William Wordsworth:

O joy! That in our embers
Is something that doth live,
That nature yet remembers
What was so fugitive!
The thought of our past years in me doth breed
Perpetual benediction



REMINDER!

The alive mature driving program, sponsored by AARP and ASP will be held Saturday, May 6, 2000 in the Brown Business Building, SNU, Room 136. The cost per person is \$10.00. If you didn't sign up at our last ASP meeting, please call Milton Sonnevik, 722-0473 to do so. If at all possible, we would like to have a record of your intentions. Thanks.