

# The Academy Perspective

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Vada Lee Barkley, Editor

## THERE IS ALWAYS A DAWN IN CHRISTIAN LIVING Mendell Taylor

God's first gift to man was light. In Genesis 1:3 the Lord said "Let there be light." That awesome command established the foundation for all uses of light in the modern world. This includes the high-tech developments of the computer age; the amazing blow torch of the sun in the form of the laser beam; and the source of light that illuminates our solar system in the form of sunlight. Man cannot create any of these functions of light, he can only discover what is already there and make a proper application of the same.

In Genesis 1:5 the Lord calculates a day in terms of the "evening and the morning" of the first day, which indicates that He is always moving in the direction of light.

I remember what a thrill it was to be at the Garden of the Tomb on Easter Sunday morning. There were pilgrims present from all nations and all denominations, to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. I was the speaker for this occasion, and I had the privilege of speaking on this subject: "There Is Always A Dawn In Christian Living." When Jesus died on the cross on Friday of Passion Week the world that the disciples had been living in became a disaster area. Their dreams for a better world suddenly vanished. Their hopes for a brighter future were smashed. The next day was the longest, darkest, and most disappointing that they could possibly experience. But a whole new world broke on the horizon, for as "it began to dawn on the first day of the week" (Luke 24:1), up from the grave He arose, in a mighty triumph over His foes. "He lives" became the new theme for hope, optimism and celebration. The trees clapped their branches together and sounded forth the proclamation, "He Lives." The lilies of the field, touched by a gentle breeze, nodded their heads affirmatively, declaring that "He Lives." The birds became aware of this magnificent event and sounded forth a song that reinforced the fact that "He Lives." The disciples had a break-through to a wholly new dimension as they declared one to the other, "He Lives."

This meant that there is only one empty thing in the Christian scenario. At first there was an empty throne when He abdicated His equality with the Father and wrapped Himself in the clay of humanity to come and dwell among us. Then there was an empty cup in the Garden when He drank the dregs of guilt and death from the cup. Then on crucifixion Friday, the tomb was filled with His lifeless body. But on Easter Sunday morning, the grave was left empty by His glorious resurrection. The cup was refilled with grace, and love, and power, and forgiveness. Then the throne was refilled as He took His place at the right hand of the Father where He ever Liveth to make intercession in our behalf. We are on the receiving end of these exhaustless benefits.

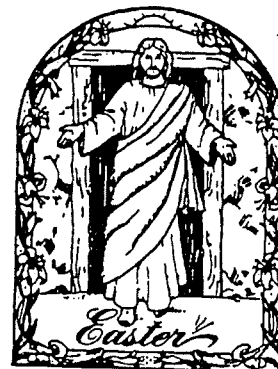
## ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 27

The second annual meeting of the Academy of Senior Professionals is scheduled for Monday, April 27. It will be a luncheon meeting at 12 noon in the Heritage Room of The Commons building.

**PLEASE R.S.V.P.** by noon on Friday, April 24, by calling Elbert Overholt 789-6400, xt 6578 or 789-7645 or Vada Lee Barkley 787-4351. Cost of the luncheon is \$5.00 The caterer must know how many will attend.

The Agenda will include committee reports, the President's report, election of officers, and reception of new members.

ID cards and photos will be available to current and new members. You need these in order to participate in the Academy - University benefits programs.



## A WORD ABOUT OUR MODEL

The following excerpt concerns the facility at Eckerd College, which Elbert Overholt visited and which we used as a model for our Academy of Senior Professionals.

Excerpts from "More than fun in the sun", by Tait Trussell, in NRTA Bulletin, Feb. '92.

"This (Eckerd College Academy of Senior Professionals) is a place for people who want to use their brains after retirement.' says historian Henry Adams. Pulitzer Prize-winning author James Michner agrees, adding, 'The mix of climate, college and senior learners is a rare one.'"

"In a two-way learning experience, Adams, Michner and 144 colleagues learn from each other in a variety of courses, and pass along their own knowledge from lifetimes of success to undergraduates and high schoolers in the nearby St. Petersburg/Tampa area."

"Home for this novel enterprise is Lewis House on Eckerd campus. Overlooking Boca Ceiga Bay, Lewis House is the scenic headquarters for a mix of business leaders, policy-makers, political chieftains and other high achievers, nearly all retired or semi-retired."

"Academy members work with students in different ways. . . ." (advisors, instructors, discussant colleagues, for example.) "Others concentrate on courses conducted by their Academy peers."

Members also take trips and join students for various activities.

## BYLAWS ADDITION

The Committee on Bylaws and Organization recommends the following addition to conform to present practice:

### Article III, Section 4 (d) Plans and Programs Committee

After "Administrative Council;" delete the word and. After "University," add "and, in conjunction with the Administrative Council, provide programs for regular Academy meetings as desired."

## MARCH PROGRAM

Thanks to Milton Sonnevik and Ted Goulden for an excellent program. Ted presented an interesting audio-visual lesson on Birds of Oklahoma. His pictures were exceptional.

## OUR INTEREST GROUPS

### I. University Colleagues

From the beginning, the Academy has been very much involved as University Colleagues. Some 50 percent of our members are currently active or available for assignment in this area.

### II. Expanding Horizons

- A. Communicative Arts
- B. Forums and Lectures
- C. Continuing Education

These three have attracted enough interested members that they should be organized and functioning by June.

### D. Travels

If this one attracts five or more members, it should be on its way soon--to who knows where.

### E. Social Functions

This one needs a few more to get it off the ground.

### F. Others

Exercise (water), Book Reviews, Poetry Readings, and Art exhibits are other possibilities.

### III. Community Service

#### A. Senior Housing Support Group

At least 75% of our members are interested in Senior Housing.

#### B. Hospital

A number of us participated in the Eighth Annual Bethany Classic sponsored by the Bethany Health Care Foundation last July.

Others of our group do hospital visitation. One rocks babies at the Convalescent Center one day per week.

## MEMBERSHIP EMPHASIS

Mabel Sonnevik and her committee have distributed scores of kits providing information to prospects. Those kits, along with personal invitations from all of us, should result in a substantial increase in our membership.

We are looking forward to the reception of a number of members.

### FEES AND DUES:

Present members: \$10--Single; \$15--Couple

New members: \$15--Single; \$25--Couple