

Perspective

Vol. 10—No. 7

April—2001

Directors of Soul Mates Seminars To Speak to Academy Luncheon

By Milton Sonnevik

The State of Oklahoma has been fortunate during this past year to have Drs. Les (Ph.D.) and Leslie (Ed.D.) Parrott living in our state. They are here at the invitation of Governor Frank Keating. Governor Keating has been, and continues to be highly concerned about Oklahoma's high divorce rate. The Parrotts have been traveling throughout the state, conducting Soul Mates Seminars, speaking in numerous churches, service clubs, schools, and to state officials.

The Academy is indeed fortunate to have the Parrotts speak at the April 9 meeting. They have been featured on many national radio and television programs including "Oprah," "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw," "CBS This Morning," and CNN. They have also been interviewed on network affiliates around the country.

The Parrotts have contributed many articles published in Redbook, Men's Health, Family Circle, Woman's Day, Brides, New Man and others. They are regular columnists for the Marriage Partnership.

Their work has also been written about in newspapers across the country including USA Today, New York Times,

Los Angeles Times, and Chicago Tribune.

The Parrots are the authors of numerous books on relationship development. A partial list of their publications contains The Control Freak, Love is ..., Becoming Soul Mates, Relationships, Like a Kiss On the Lips, A Good Friend.

In the "Soul Mates seminar," Dr. Les Parrott has this to say, "God loves the church 'the bride' says Paul not as a group of people external to Himself with whom He has entered into an agreement, but as His own body. And similarly, when a husband loves his wife, and wife, her husband, as extensions of themselves, they live as 'one flesh' — as soul mates."

Drs. Les and Leslie Parrott, faculty members at Seattle Pacific University, are co-directors of the Center for Relationship Development on that campus of Seattle Pacific University. The center is dedicated to teaching the basics of good relationships through classroom education, seminars, research, and marriage mentoring. Dr. Parrott is a professor of clinical psychology and his wife Leslie is a marriage and family therapist.



Dr. Les Parrott

For more information, visit their web site: www.realrelationships.com

Some of their books will be available following the luncheon.



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

A Reveille to Write While We Still Can

Writing decreases our sense of isolation; it deepens and widens our sense of life; it feeds our souls. Our buoyancy is restored when we share those moments of truth and even laugh at ourselves.

When we write, we are given a shot at dancing with the absurdity of life, instead of being squashed by it over and over again.

American author, Flannery O'Conner, 1925-64, said that 'anyone who has survived childhood has enough material to write for the rest of his or her life.'

I wrote the following true story from my childhood for our ASP Memoir Writing Workshop, led by our colleague, Vada Lee Beard Barkley:

Trading Sandwiches with Ezra

As I was going out the back door, Mother said, "Now, Jackie, here's your lunch, button up your coat, pull your cap down over your ears, and put this wet handkerchief over your mouth, and leave it on until you get to school. Hear me?"

"Yes, Mother," I grumbled.

My walk to Linwood School in Oklahoma City on that Monday morning, March 10, 1935, was a hard one because the cold northwest wind was blowing red dust into my face and all around me. I could hardly see the houses and trees before me as I walked the two miles to school.

I had to walk directly into that dust-laden northwest wind for almost an hour, stopping now and then behind a house or fence for protection from the wind and dust. Strong gusts almost blew me over when I tried to cross Drexel Boulevard, but I hung on to a nearby streetcar pole to steady me.

When I arrived at the front door of the school, Miss Love, my Principal, greeted me with warm words of comfort. By this time, the handkerchief over my mouth had turned from a bright-white to a muddy, clay red color. Principal Love said, "Don't take off the handkerchief, Jackie, until you get to Miss Ashland's room" (We kids called Miss Ashland, 'Miss Ashcan,' behind her back.)

When I got to my homeroom, Miss Ashland sent me to the back of the room, where I hung up my coat and hat, then carefully placed my lunch and muddy handkerchief on the floor under my coat.

We had no recess that day between our spelling and arithmetic classes because of the dust storm.

At noon, Miss Ashland told us to pick up our lunches and walk in a line to the cafeteria. My friend, Ezra Cutler, got in line right behind me.

After I bought a glass of milk for a nickel, I went to the table on the west side of the room near the windows. I was amazed that I could not see the railroad tracks on the west end of the playground because of the swirling red dust.

Continued on Page 6 — Arnold



"Sharing
a
Continuous
Flight"

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Annual subscription cost for *The Academy Perspective*:

Non-members—\$10.00 per year

Members—Included in membership

Dues Change Considered

In order to assist in supplying the increased demands upon our dwindling funds, and to switch the dues year to the calendar year, your Administrative Council is recommending the following changes in our dues structure:

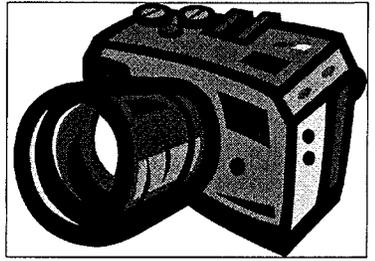
- 1. Charge \$10 dues to cover the remainder of the calendar year.
- 2. Increase the initiation fee for new members to \$10 starting in May 2001.
- 3. Charge \$15 dues starting in January 2002. (This is an increase of \$.25/month)

You will be given an opportunity to vote on these changes at the April meeting.

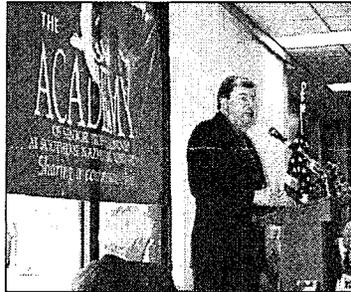


ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



Doug Styers, SNU trombone player, is accompanied by SNU professor Tim Marek for Luncheon program music.



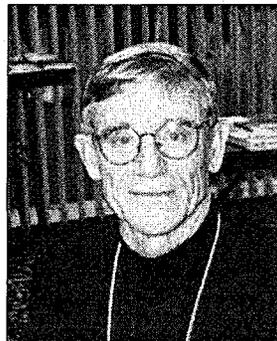
Paul Dougherty, Deaconess Hospital President, speaks to the Academy about Deaconess' growth and development in recent years.



Marilyn Olson, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, discusses the Senior Day Conference scheduled for 2002.



Edythe Leupp, prospective ASP member, is from Portland, Oregon. Welcome Edythe!



Roy Dorris is the newly appointed ASP treasurer.



Dr. Phil Moore, Chair of the SNU School of Music, introduces special musicians.



Margaret Dawson hosts granddaughter Melanie Fisher at the March ASP Luncheon.



Guests for the March ASP Luncheon are Bill and Jerry Julian.



ASP member, Neta Jones and her husband, Glen enjoy the March Luncheon.

A Pressing Need

By Paul Gray

The Fred Floyd Archives of SNU has well over 4,000 items collected, organized, cataloged, preserved in acid-free containers, and available for research. Many of these items have to do with the founding of Southern Nazarene University and the City of Bethany. Also included are many historical items related to the Church of the Nazarene and the ongoing life of the Bethany Community. These materials have been collected and organized over the last 18 years by retired professor and director of the SNU archives, Dr. C. Paul Gray. (The R.T. Williams library had been given material across the years and Dr. Floyd collected many historical items, but none had been organized in archival fashion). The development of accession records in 1981, followed soon by the development of holdings records marked a more formal beginning of the Archives. The Archives are now open for viewing and research.

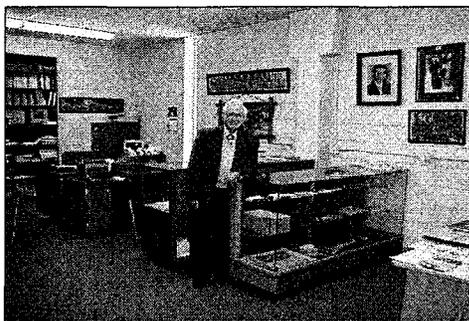
Up to this point, the Project's only financial support has come from the gifts of friends. Mrs. Nelma Ingram, over a period of years, was a very generous supporter until she passed away. Others have assisted in varying degrees. But now, the Archives are going to have to be funded if the work is to continue. The minimal need is \$5,000 per year. Friends of the Fred Floyd Archives feel that a concerted effort must be made to find a way to underwrite the above amount. They believe there must be a person, a family, or a group, who feels led of the Lord to help meet the financial need. The money would be placed in the budget of the University as a "restricted fund."

The hope is that a Visitor's Center/Archive Building will be constructed on campus, where the Archives can have a permanent home. The greatest need now, however, is Funding the Archives so that Marion Snowbarger can become the new Director and Dr. Gray can completely retire.

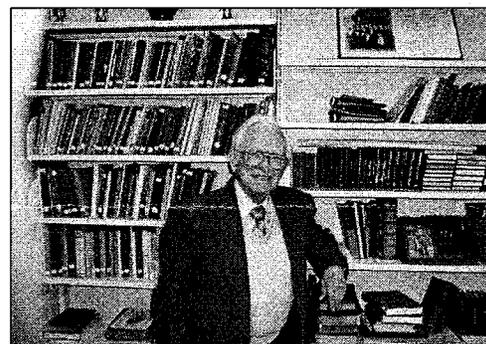
Everyone who reads or hears about this project is asked to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider the need.

This is, indeed,

a pressing need!



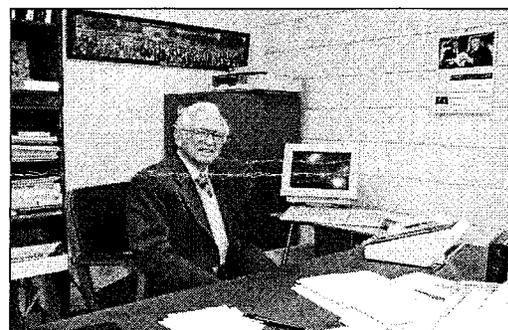
Archives current home is on the third floor of the R. T. Williams Learning Resources Center. Dr. Paul Gray stands among some of the archive collection.



Dr. Gray talks about some of the cataloged materials available for study in the Archives location.



Included in the Archive collection are pictures, print materials, and artifacts. At times samples of the collection are selected for campus display.



Much of the cataloging has been by typewriter. Now Dr. Gray uses the computer to assist him in his processing.

For more information about the SNU Archives please contact Dr. Paul Gray by:

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"If you ask me"
By Vada Lee Barkley

One of the kindest preachers I've met used to say, "You say, 'I can forgive but I can't forget'; 'neither do you forgive.'" Psychologists tell us, however, that we never forget anything.

I remember about a dozen enemies I've made across the years. I've been deceived, defrauded, discharged, defamed, called unmentionable names, and harassed by insulting, anonymous phone calls which the police had to stop.

One student threatened to cut my head off. He came within three for four feet of doing it. Except for God's intervention through an alert superintendent, I would be a statistic.

I've often wondered what happened to that troubled teen. He had previously chased another student around tables in the library and threatened the librarian with his knife.

I forgave the boy when he apologized—though the superintendent made him do it. I still shudder, however, when I hear of a student stabbing a teacher.

Most of these offenses are vague memories. I have more trouble now with offenses to other people. But, it really isn't up to me to forgive offenses to others.

In the midst of the Bill Clinton fiasco, Dr. Billy Graham said, "I forgive Mr. Clinton." President Clinton's offense was against his family, our nation, and God. It's up to them to forgive.

It's like my saying, "I forgive Timothy McVeigh for blowing up the Murrah building and killing 168 people."



Updates On RIG

By Bea Flinner

**RIG Genealogy Workshop
Creates Research Interest**

On March 5, Glorene Brown presented an instructive workshop on a popular topic in today's society — that of searching for information about one's heritage. The meeting was attended by fifteen interested researchers, who were rewarded with valuable charts and numerous suggestions of possible places and ways to search. Thank you, Glorene, for your extensive work and presentation.

The members of RIG conduct research on relevant issues that may affect mature citizens, with the intent of locating information and conveying knowledge that will benefit various members and attendees of the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP). Papers are presented, printed in the Perspective (TAP), or read at one of the luncheon programs.

Visitors are welcome. We have had one regular visitor this year who is working on her doctoral dissertation with the major emphasis being the ASP and various groups within that organization. The last meeting of RIG for this academic year is scheduled for Monday, April 9, 9:00—10:15 a.m. in the Conference Room, Lower Level of the Commons. All RIG members are urged to attend, with suggestions, plans, ideas, and topics to be discussed for the 2001-2002 academic year.



A look at a book
By Wini Howard

My American Journey—II

By Colin Powell with Joseph E. Persico

We are again considering Colin Powell's autobiography, My American Journey. This is a challenging and inspiring story about the opportunities for one who is willing to give his all in pursuit of serving his country. It is rewarding to know that Powell is now our Secretary of State—and I pray for him.

The author's dealings with our society, as an American black, are very revealing. A Southern city would not allow Powell to eat or even use the restroom, even though he was in the army. Many years later the same city gave him a hero's welcome when he spoke at a prestigious affair. To him, this spoke/speaks of great progress in race relations. However, he does say there is still a long way to go.

Powell's account of his journey is a fascinating record of much that has been going on in our country, and even in our world, in recent decades. His repeated assessment of our involvement in Vietnam is most enlightening.

The autobiography is truly "...a great American success story...an enduring and well-written book" (a quote from a New York Times book review). Powell has pictured for us what the American dream is all about. Not only has he lived well, but he has been able to tell his story very well. Such a combination is certainly not very common.

Powell has been urged to run for president but has refused. His promotion to a four-star general in the army, and his positions at the Pentagon and in the White House have shown his great capabilities in dealing with multiple political challenges.

(This book should be easily available from several sources.)



**Memoirs
Writers
Workshop**

By Vada Lee Barkley

The Memoirs Writers Workshop met March 5 from 10:15-11:15 a.m.

Naomi Emmel opened the meeting with prayer.

Those present were Darlene Overholt, Bea Flinner, Mary Smith, Bob and Naomi Emmel, Vada Lee Barkley, Art Barkley, Jack Arnold, and Billie Harrison.

In response to Vada Lee's challenge to make a list of "I'll never forget" incidents and write about one, Bea Flinner read "A Christmas I'll Never Forget"; Darlene Overholt read "When My Dad Died"; and Mary Smith read "The Attack." All of these touched our emotions as did a poem Billie Harrison read, "A Promise Unfulfilled."

The April meeting of the MWW will be April 9, from 10:15-11:15 a.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Commons.

Arnold — Continued from Page 2

As usual, Ezra followed me over to my table. His two fried egg sandwiches were wrapped inside a Colonial bread wrapper. He was very poor and lived with his grandmother in a shack on a dirt road near 10th and Portland. I could smell coal smoke on his clothes during the cold, winter months.

Mother had carefully put my lunch in a small, brown paper sack and had neatly written my name on the outside, "Jackie Arnold." When I opened it, I saw that she had packed two meatloaf sandwiches, two deviled eggs, and two cookies in my lunch.

"Do you wanna trade a sandwich, Ezra?"

"Ya, Jackie! I get so tired of these fried-egg sandwiches."

As we were eating our sandwiches, I slipped a deviled egg and a cookie over to his side of the table. He smiled when I did it but didn't look me in the eye. We talked about how much we missed our recess and playing softball that day.

When that school day was over at 3:15 p.m., I went to the back of the room, put on my cap and jacket. As I went to the boys' room to wash my handkerchief, I said, "See ya tomorrow, Ezra. Sure hope this dust settles so we can play ball."

Ezra never made it to school the next day. He hopped on the slow, moving train that was headed south toward his home on 10th Street.

The red dust soon covered Ezra's little, bloody body before the police found him on the railroad tracks in the blackness of the night.

When I see "Fried Egg Sandwich" on a menu in a café, I remember my friend Ezra fondly and how he loved to trade sandwiches at Linwood.



ASP Calendar & News Briefs
—April Meeting—

MONDAY, APRIL 9

- 9:00-10:15 a.m. Research Interest Group
General Conference Room (Commons-Downstairs)
- 10:15-11:15 a.m. Memoir Writing Workshop
Faculty Lounge/Commons
- 10:45-11:15 a.m. Shuttle from BFC West Parking Lot to Commons
- 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Luncheon Meeting—Heritage Room/Commons
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. Shuttle from Commons to BFC West Parking Lot
- 1:15-3:15 p.m. Bylaws and Organization Committee
Faculty Lounge/Commons
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Book Discussion Group—*How Now Shall We Live*
Second Floor South Sitting Room—Southern Plaza

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

- 1:30-3:00 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting/R.B. Board Room
- 3:00-3:45 p.m. Publications Committee/R.B. Board Room

News Item 1: Dues

Margaret and Vernon Dawson will be collecting 2000-01 dues for those persons who have not paid this academic year's dues at the March 5 and April 9 meetings; they will be collecting 2001-02 dues beginning at the May 14 meeting.

News Item 2: Annual Business Meeting

Members will cast their votes for the ASP Vice-President, Treasurer, and Member-at Large at the April 9 Annual Business Meeting, and the President will present his Annual Report. The luncheon will also include a speaker arranged by the program chairman, Milton Sonnevik.

A Promise Unfulfilled

By Billie Ferris Harrison

[Dedicated to all who lost a child in the terrorist attack in Oklahoma City, April 19, 1995]

Of human tragedies none so much move me
 As the death of a child,
 With the bloom of youth still budded,
 The wonder of the world around still undiscovered,
 Inquiring eyes, imploring mind, unbiased,
 Lilted voice, here stilled forever.

I would that I could once play God,
 And give again the promise
 Of fruit-filled years of laughter, hope and love,
 To hearts and lives so touched
 By this young prodigy,
 Who left the print of God, Himself
 Tattooed on hurting hearts of faithful friends

Could I but give this gift of life
 Again to one so promising,
 I'd be consoled, I'd be complete.
 But death is sure. We must endure,
 Content with memories that live.
 And thoughts that might have been
 At times still haunt.
 Alas, this cherub fact,
 This promise unfulfilled, we give to God.

[At the time of writing, Billie Ferris Harrison was director of the Southern Nazarene University Career Center and "a grandmother in Oklahoma City."]

Note: Reference is made to this poem in the report on the Memoirs Writers Workshop by Vada Lee Barkley appearing on page 5 of the *April Perspective*.



News Item 3: ASP Gifts to Assist Student

At the March ASP luncheon meeting, the members and guests donated a total of \$145.00 to help finance the travel expenses of Doug Styers, the SNU student who played the trombone for the March meeting. He will be traveling to Brazil in early summer.

News Item 4: New Committee Personnel Selected

In the 2001-2002 academic year, Esther Schandorff has agreed to become the Library Committee Chairperson and Gene Chambers will work with Bill Porter to record ASP luncheon meetings.