

Learning, Growing, and Aging

By Milton Sonnevik

The speaker for our May 7, 2001 meeting is really one of our own. Sue Anne Lively has been a part of the faculty at Southern Nazarene University since 1980. She graduated from SNU in



Sue Anne Lively

1973 with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. In 1978 she completed her Master of Education degree with an emphasis in reading. Following her graduation in 1973, she taught in the public schools of Texas and Okla-

homa for five years. She is currently teaching in the School of Adult Education, where she is the director of the Alternative and Prior Learning Program.

Lively has continued her studies in a doctoral program at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma, majoring in Adult Education. The focus of her dissertation is the adult learners in the Academy of Senior Professionals. For over a year she has been interviewing

ASP members, coming to many of the ASP meetings, reviewing ASP documents and other materials produced by ASP members, in order to learn about the Academy.

The title of her dissertation as well as the title of her presentation, is:

“Learning, Growing, and Aging. Lifelong Learners in the Academy of Senior Professionals in Bethany, Oklahoma.”

Sue Anne Lively successfully defended her dissertation on April 4, 2001. She has also been nominated for the Outstanding Graduate Research Award.

Mrs. Sue Anne Lively is married to Dr. Robert Lively, the head of the History and Political Science Department at Southern Nazarene University. They have one son, Patrick, age 16. A note of personal interest is that her parents are Rev. George and Trudy Cargill. Rev. George Cargill passed on to his heavenly reward just a short time ago, following many years of pastoring throughout the midwest as well as in California.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our last luncheon meeting of the 2000-2001 Academy year. Don't miss a fascinating meeting about ourselves and some history about the Academy of Senior Professionals.



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



"Sharing
a
Continuous
Flight"

The Academy Perspective

When True Professionals Volunteer They Give Themselves Away With No Strings Attached

To say that true professionals get more out of life by giving more to life seems like a contradiction of terms. Recent polls overwhelmingly show that most Americans have reached the opposite conclusion.

In the wilderness of this world, they believe that in order to get the most and best things in life, they must grab them quickly, and by any means, before the other grubbers out there grab them first.

Getting ahead in the world has become an obsession for most Americans, who believe that a satisfying life comes from acquiring and holding on to money, property, and wealth. Yet many of the world's most successful and influential professionals have happily proven otherwise.

The hall mark of the true professional is a strong motivation to serve others in society, as this classic definition in *The Canadian Bar Review (1946)* shows:

A profession is a self-selected, self-disciplined group of individuals who hold themselves out to the public as possessing a special skill derived from education and training and who are prepared to exercise that skill primarily in the interest of others, (4:705).

There is certainly nothing wrong with professionals getting ahead, or being in a financial position where they can be a positive influence on those around them, but it is through giving, not getting, that they can exert a truly positive force for good.

In nature, plants must exist in a natural state of giving and receiving; otherwise, they create unbalance in their environments and can cause extinction of other plants. In the tropical rainforest of Australia, a parasitic vine called the Strangler Fig Fruit (*ficus destruens*) puts out cable-like roots that descend the host tree trunk to the forest floor and root into the soil beneath. The thin roots become thicker and interlace their way tightly around the supporting tree trunk. The expanding leafy crown of the Strangler starts to shade the crown of the support tree, and its roots start to strangle its host. The host tree slowly rots away, leaving a totally independent Strangler Fig which may live for several hundred years or more. (Chambers Wildlife Rainforest Lodge, Tropical North Queensland, Australia, <http://rainforest-australia.com/canopy7.htm>).

I prefer the company of givers over takers. On the one hand, takers have come into my life, gone quickly, and left me depleted; on the other hand, givers have come, stayed awhile, left footprints on my heart, and I have never been the same. Givers establish an environment that blesses and enriches relationships. The Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) fosters this kind of an environment.

Rings and jewels are not gifts, but apologies for gifts.

The only gift is a portion of thyself.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803-82, American author

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Memoirs Writing Workshop Report

By Vada Lee Barkley

The Memoirs Writing workshop (MMW) met April 9, in the Faculty Lounge. Vada Lee Barkley, Bea Flinger, Bob Emmel, Darlene Overholt, Jack Arnold and Carol Spencer attended.

Four members read memoirs. Bob Emmel read "Vermont Vignette;" Darlene Overholt read a letter she wrote on the fiftieth anniversary celebration of her childhood church in Missouri; Jack Arnold read "Murder in Mustang" and Vada Lee Barkley read "My Sweetheart's Homecoming."

Vada Lee encouraged members to keep writing!

The next meeting will be Monday May 7, 2001, at 10:15 in the Commons Faculty Lounge.

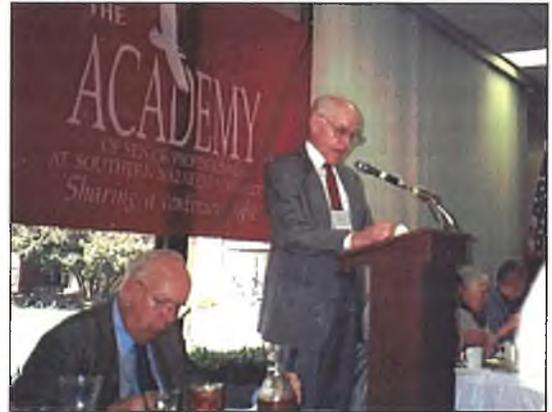


ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



Dr. Les Parrott, ASP speaker for the April 9 program and Oklahoma Governor Keating's advisor on his marriage initiative, shared research studies that indicate why marriages last and why they may be short lived.



Dr. Elbert Overholt, ASP Director, discusses items of business with the Academy. Seated is Milton Sonnevik, program chairman.



The head table for the April 9 ASP luncheon demonstrates the skills of Margaret Greenwood, Marriott caterer, in artistically preparing tables on which members will enjoy a delicious meal. Thanks Margaret!



Members of the decorations committee add their Easter "touch of class" to the ASP luncheon arrangements. Working with Margaret Greenwood, they add their own decorations to help make the luncheon a memorable occasion.

Will Rogers World Airport Honors ASP Members

On March 7, approximately 45 volunteers were honored for their service to the Will Rogers World Airport. Students from one of the nearby schools presented a fine program enjoyed by all present.

Special speakers included Kathy Keating, wife of Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating, Mr. Luther Trent, Director of Oklahoma City Airports, Karen Karney, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Will Rogers Airport, Marie Hollenbeck, Director of Traveler's Aid in Oklahoma City and Sharlene LaBoissiere, Manager of Northwest Airlines, Oklahoma City. Mr. Trent attends the Oklahoma City Trinity Church of the Nazarene.

All volunteers were presented a commendation signed by Governor Keating.

Lawrence Snell and Lyle Tullis, members of the Academy of Senior Professionals, were among the volunteers who were recognized. They have a combined total of 13 years of service working with Traveler's Aid at the Will Rogers Airport. Meeting and helping people from distant places, as well as learning a lot about the world of flying, has made their work enjoyable.

Tullis remembers the time a young lady from Michigan came to the desk asking about how she could get to Stillwater, OK. Before this trip she had never been on an airplane or out of the state of Michigan. She was an entering freshman at O.S.U. Lyle drove her to Stillwater and during her first semester received a letter of appreciation from her. It included these words, "I was a stranger and you did 'that' for me. You told me to go out and make a difference in the world and I promise to do just that."

Snell tells of the time a lady got off an airplane and was waiting for her luggage. She had an 18-month old child following her. The child was so unhappy. She had a smaller child in her arms that was very upset. She said to me, "I wish I had a place to change my babies." Lawrence took her to the nursery, where they had everything the lady needed. The mother came by the Traveler's Aid desk later to express her appreciation.

Both Tullis and Snell volunteer one day a week at the Will Rogers Airport.



L-r: Lyle Tullis, Luther Trent, Kathy Keating, Lawrence Snell.

Lyle Tullis and Lawrence Snell display the folders containing commendations signed by Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating.



Proposed Bylaw Changes

By Robert Griffin

The committee on Bylaws and Organization met Monday April 9, 2001, and recommended the following changes in the ASP Bylaws to be voted on by the Assembly of the Academy at its regular meeting May 7, 2001.

Current Reading:

Article IV Administrative Council
Section 1. Name and Composition

The executive body of the Academy, the Administrative Council, shall consist of five (5) members currently elected by the Assembly. The Assembly shall elect four (4) officers: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. One additional member shall be elected to serve with the officers on the Administrative Council. A Council Member may succeed himself or herself at the discretion of the nominating committee.

The Immediate Past President of the Academy, if not currently elected, shall be an ex-officio member of the Administrative Council.

Proposed Revision:

The proposed revision would include the addition of one more Member-At-Large, making a total of two (2) Members-At-Large. Secondly, the proposal adds the five (5) Standing Committee chairpersons to the Administrative Council.

New Reading of Section 1:

Section 1. Name and Composition

The executive body of the Academy, the Administrative Council, shall consist of six (6) members currently elected by the Assembly. The Assembly shall elect four (4) officers: a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, along with two Members-At-Large. In addition, the five (5) Standing Committee Chairpersons, appointed by the President, shall serve as voting members of the Administrative Council.

The Immediate Past President of the Academy, if not currently elected, shall be an ex-officio member of the Administrative Council. (No change in this paragraph).



RIG Completes A Profitable Year

By Bea Flinger

The special project offered this year by RIG (Research Interest Group) was an excellent workshop on Genealogy, presented by Glorene Brown. The participants were rewarded with helpful handouts and answers to their questions by the leader who has done extensive research.

On April 9, the final meeting of RIG convened for the year 2000-2001. It was a profitable time of laying the ground work for the next academic year. There was significant discussion about topics to be researched throughout the summer and during 2001-2002. Among the suggestions were *Elder Abuse, Depression, Volunteerism, and Alternative Medicine.*

The results of the major research by RIG members will be presented during their regular meetings, at ASP (Academy of Senior Professionals) luncheons, or published in *Perspective.*

The next meeting of RIG will be in October, 2001. Thanks, RIG members!



My Sweetheart's Homegoing
By Vada Lee Barkley

I've prayed earnestly for God to enable me to take care of Art until his death. Undoubtedly He snatched me from the jaws of death to answer that prayer. I couldn't have planned things better.

Despite serious health problems since 1993, Art remained upbeat and active. He required minimum assistance with daily tasks. He ate and slept well with only Tylenol and Icy Hot for pain.

Friday morning, March 9, he got up, spread up the bed, dressed and came to the table. He was holding his chest. But he said his chest didn't hurt.

He said, "You've always stood by when I needed your help." I said, "You've always stood by me. That's what we vowed to do fifty years ago."

When he complained of a sinking feeling, he helped prepare to go into the E.R. at Deaconess. He walked to the car. We talked all the way. And he walked into the E.R.

Soon the pain started. He was having a severe heart attack. After he was stabilized, he spent four days in Critical Care.

After that we had four good days of singing, praying, talking, and listening to our quartet on the Silvertone's tape. He praised the Lord as we listened. He was to come home Friday, March 16.

I waited at home for a hospital bed to be delivered. It came at 3 p.m. Our friend Juanita Knippers and I headed for the hospital to bring him home.

As we passed the nurses station, they ushered us into a nearby room. A few minutes later they let us see him. Art looked like he was asleep, — so peaceful.

The nurse said he ate breakfast and lunch at the nurses' station and sat in the hall with his shoes on until 2 p.m. He went to bed as usual. He went to sleep and woke up in heaven.

Thank God for answered prayer.

We had a beautiful celebration of his life. But his influence lives on. Gifts of several Gideon Memorial Bibles have the potential of touching more than thirty thousand lives. Nothing could have pleased him more. He loved the Bible. Gifts to an SNU scholarship fund will enable some student to remain in SNU a little longer to prepare for service in the Kingdom to which Art devoted his life. What appropriate gifts!

The following words of a song express my feelings:

Just Think
Of stepping on shore — And finding it heaven
Of touching a hand — And finding it God's
Of breathing new air—And finding it celestial
Of waking up in Glory and finding it Home
Finally Home!

—Chapman

Note:

This was written and read for the Memoirs Writers Workshop by Vada Lee at the April 9 meeting of the Academy of Senior Professionals..



A look at a book
By Wini Howard

The Greatest Generation Speaks — by Tom Brokaw

Brokaw says, "...I was not prepared for the avalanche of letters and responses touched off by the book—more stories and wisdom from that generation and time. I had written a book about America, and now America was writing back." His book, "*The Greatest Generation*," is brought into focus again.

This is another fascinating book by Tom Brokaw. I think it is more interesting in some ways than *The Greatest Generation*. I don't believe he had an intention of writing another book. But when readers began to flood him with letters and reflections from and about World War II, he concluded that this material had to be shared. And what an outpouring of love, hope, as well as hurt, it is.

Brokaw is directly quoting from the avalanche of material he has received. He stated, "Some of the letters were written from the front during the war, or from families to their loved ones in harm's way in distant places. There were firsthand accounts of battles and poignant reflections on loneliness, exuberant expressions of love and somber accounts of loss."

Even though I lived through those days, I learned about that which I was not really close to at the time. No one in my immediate family was called up. My father was a minister and my sister and I were in college. The letters that Brokaw received opened my eyes to much of the feelings and happenings that transpired. Many don't have to be told of the intense suffering of those days, but it was a very meaningful journey for me.



News Briefs

1. **ASP Annual Report**—Will be distributed to those desiring a copy at May luncheon.
2. **Information Changes**—All changes in name, address, phone number & e-Mail addresses need to be sent to **Don Beaver** for the new fall **Membership Directory** and the **ASP Web Site**.
3. **Robert Griffin** has resigned as chairman of the Committee on Bylaws and Organization. Interested persons should contact President Jack Arnold who will appoint the new chairperson.
4. **ASP Activities Questionnaire**—Each ASP member at the May 7 luncheon will be asked to complete an ASP Questionnaire which will provide important information for future planning.
5. **ASP Administrative Council Action Items**—All the recommendations from the Bylaws and Organization Committee were approved by the Council and will be referred to the Assembly at the May 7 Luncheon Meeting for consideration. **It is recommended that:**
 - **A second Member-at-Large be added to the Council.** (If passed the Council recommends that the person receiving the second highest vote for Member-at-Large in the April 9 election (June Phillips) be declared the second Member-at-Large for the new term.
 - **The five Standing Committee Chairs**, Bylaws & Organization, Membership, Program, Publications, and Strategic Planning, **be added to the Administrative Council.**

Continued from Page 2: Arnold

Giving money away is admirable, but giving oneself away is the ultimate in giving. Money can buy almost anything in the world except the warm impulses of the human heart, which have to be given and are priceless in their power to purchase happiness for two people: the recipient and the giver.

On Monday, March 5, Lyle Tullis, a Traveler's Aid Society volunteer at the Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City, came to me after the ASP luncheon meeting and told me that the United Nations has declared 2001 to be the International Year of the Volunteer (IYV).

On Wednesday, March 7, Kathy Keating, Oklahoma's First Lady, honored the Society's volunteers, including ASP members Tullis and Lawrence Snell, in a special speech at the airport as part of the State of Oklahoma's IYV celebration.

On Monday, March 12, Charles Philip Williams, a 1950 graduate of Bethany-Peniel College [SNU], pleasantly surprised me by sending a book entitled **Try Giving Yourself Away** [1970] by David Dunn.

After I read this cheerful and heartening little book, the following inference leaped to my attention: **when true professionals volunteer, they are giving themselves away to others with no strings attached.** My friend's gift was timely and serendipitous because it came at a time when I needed some relevant examples and more inspiration to complete my thought before writing this editorial.

I am so grateful for the gift of the Dunn book but am humbled by my friend's overly generous words written on the back of the front cover:

To my wonderful friend, "Pilgrim Jack." You are the epitome of this book. If it presents any thought that will further help you to do what you do even better, I will be happy. With great love, Phil.

He gives nothing who does not give himself.

—French proverb

"A portion of thyself" will be your stock-in-giving," Dunn writes, "if you want to add to the happiness of those around you, and to lead a happier and more exciting life yourself. It is the *spirit*, not the *substance*, which carries warmth"(19).

We need not worry for a second because we land money or material things. We can give ourselves extravagantly and reap great happiness from giving, without reaching for our pocket-books.

Simple human actions, such as a smile, a compliment, a note, an e-mail, a letter, a telephone call, or a visit, reflect kindness, gentleness, and graciousness. The truest form of giving comes from the heart and with no expectation of an acknowledgement, reward, or gain. "A portion of thyself" is a sip of happiness, as satisfying as it is costless.

One thing is certain: when we set out to give ourselves fully and freely to others, our hearts are in harmony with the wonderful world of our Creator, the giver of all good things.

Will you join me in the happy hobby of giving yourself away, with no strings attached, in the ASP's activities and projects, so that you and I may do our modest share toward lifting the gray cloud of greed and gloom that covers mankind, while at the same time, earning greater happiness for ourselves?



Obituary: Arthur Ellsworth Barkley

By Gene and Dena Adams

BARKLEY, Arthur Ellsworth, 84, died in Oklahoma City March 16, 2001. He was born June 30, 1916, near Columbiana, OH.

Converted as a child, he joined the Church of the Nazarene at the age of nine. Since then, he devoted his talents, energies, and resources to his beloved church.

Art spent nineteen years as evangelist, song evangelist, and chalk artist. He held a variety of positions in Nazarene churches in Oklahoma.

During a revival in Yukon, Oklahoma, Art met Vada Lee Beard. June 2, 1950, they were married. Since then they worked as a team.

Art attended North Lima (Ohio) High School, Redlands Community College, Southern Nazarene University, and School of Radio Broadcasting in Kansas City, Missouri.

His secular employment involved several of his talents and interests. He worked as announcer and engineer for three radio stations. He started Bethany Rite-Sway Printing and Quality Printing.

Art is survived by his wife, Vada Lee, of the home; two sons, Arthur, Jr. and James DeWitt, of California; a foster son, Rev. Joshua Guevara, New York; two brothers, Arvid, Oklahoma and Earl, Ohio; one sister, Marie Rhodes, Ohio; four grandchildren, four foster grandchildren, nine great grandchildren, and a host of friends and loved ones.



ASP Calendar May Meeting

MONDAY, MAY 7

- 9:00-10:30 a.m. Strategic Planning Committee
General Conference Room (Commons—Downstairs)
- 10:00-11:10 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
- 1:15-2:00 p.m. Administrative Council
Faculty Lounge/Commons
- 4:00 -5:00 p.m. Book Discussion Group—*How Now Shall We Live*
Second Floor South Sitting Room—Southern Plaza

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(Continued from column 1)

**There's a destiny that makes us all brothers,**

**None goes his way alone.**

**For all that we send into the lives of others,**

**Comes back into our own.**

—Charles Edwin Markham, 1832-1940, American poet