

The Academy Perspective

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October 1994

Vada Lee Barkley, Editor

PLANS AND PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETS

by Robert L. Griffin, Chair

Looking forward to a meaningful year, the committee met Monday, September 19th, to plan the program schedule for 1994-95.

Members of the committee include Vada Lee Barkley and Elbert Overholt, both exofficio members. Representing interest group areas Helen Silvey, Fine Arts; Virjeane Bayles, Forums and Lectures; Coleen Cornwell, Travel; Trudy Cargill, Social Functions; Marvin Peterson, Community Service; Lyle Flinner, Continuing Education; Bob Griffin, served as chairperson.

Elbert Overholt and the subcommittee on University Colleagues will present the program Monday, October 10th, at the 11:45 a.m. luncheon meeting in the SNU Commons.

Other topics planned for the year and depicting various Interest Groups will include Larry Jones' "Feed the Children" ministry; "SNU Students Speak"; "Travels and Service" by Maurine Dickerson.

Some topics are tentative at this point and exact dates of presentation will be worked out to fit schedules.

Presentation will be limited to thirty minutes.

Meetings will commence with lunch at 11:45 a.m. on October 10, November 14, December 12, January 16, February 13, March 13, April 10, and May 8. The December program will have a Christmas theme and will be directed by Helen Silvey and Trudy Cargill. The Annual Meeting will be April 10. [Plans-p 2]

WHO SAYS RETIREMENT IS BORING?

Most of us have mixed emotions about retirement. We look forward to taking life easy; yet we fear boredom. Blessed is the retiree who can balance the two.

For us August 15th began as routine. During breakfast, I checked the calendar and noted an appointment with Gary Unruh at 1:30 p.m.

At 1:30 we parked in front of Gary's office and got out. I stepped up on the curb and headed for the front door. A commotion behind me made me turn. There was Art sprawled on his hands and knees. He had hooked his shoe on the high curb and fallen with most of his weight on his left wrist.

"I think I broke my wrist," he moaned.

I helped him get up and led him to a chair inside the office. A secretary brought an ice pack. Another explained that Gary wasn't in; our appointment was for 1:30 "TOMORROW"!

X-Rays at Dr. Powers' office revealed a fractured bone in the left wrist. The nurse taped the wrist, put on a sling, and handed us a prescription for pain medication and an appointment confirmation with our orthopedist.

We stopped at the pharmacy then came home. Art took a pain pill. I set the alarm for 6 a.m. I knew Art would need lots of help--and time--to get ready for the doctor's appointment at 9 o'clock the next morning.

At the office the receptionist handed me the usual ream of forms. I started to write but discovered my hand was too shaky. With Parkinson's in his right hand

and his left arm in a sling, Art calmly filled out the blanks legibly. Hours later, he emerged from the doctor's office with a short-arm cast on his left arm.

After lunch we were looking forward to an afternoon nap. I had barely changed into a gown and robe when the phone rang. Art answered. Joy, our Taiwanese "daughter" wanted to come by to see us.

"She has a problem," Art explained.

"Just what I needed," I groaned.

Now you and I just think we have problems. When Joy has problems they begin with a capital "P." In fact, that's how she became our "daughter." What began as tutoring turned into counseling when her husband sued her for divorce.

She desperately needed a mom, a lawyer, and an interpreter. I volunteered to be her "MOM." I helped her find a lawyer and an interpreter.

After almost three years as Joy's confidante, I said to a mutual friend, "Maybe I should never have let her call me "Mom."

He said, "You may have saved her life."

Despite all the stress, I am proud of Joy and what we've accomplished with God's help.

Some time after 9 p.m. Tuesday night, Art and I went to bed. Rehashing the day's events required more time than usual. We had barely dozed when the phone rang.

"This is Claudia from Mexico," she announced. "Do you remember me?"

"Of course," I yawned. "You spoke at one of our Academy meetings." [Retirement-p.2]

Plans (Continued)

Editor's note: Representative from Larry Jones' "Feed the Children" November 14; Maurine Dickerson, "Travels" January 16, confirmed since the committee meeting. Either Elbert or Dr. Loren Gresham will update us on the Senior Housing project on October 10. It's exciting.

Retirement (Continued)

"Yes, and Mrs. Barkley, you gave me your card and said if I was ever in a crisis situation to call you and maybe you could help me."

"O yes," I gulped. I remember that."

"Well, the reason I'm calling is that my parents don't have the money to send me to SNU this fall. I was wondering . . ."

When I gave those student speakers my card, I was thinking of a minor crisis. Footing the bill for a semester or two in SNU was not exactly what I had in mind.

After that call, however, I wasn't sleepy. Saying "No" to such a need doesn't come easy. If all membership dues were paid up, we might have made some difference.

The next morning an insurance representative called to discuss my pending long-term care policy application. He asked several questions--obviously trying to ascertain my mental alertness or lack of it. I stumbled a bit on my Social Security number. I couldn't remember the strength of some medications. When he asked about volunteer service, however, I passed that test with flying colors.

After a dozen years of retirement, I still sometimes long for that happy medium that everybody likes to strike.

COMMITTEE AND OTHER ASSIGNMENTS 1994-95

Plans & Programs:

Robert Griffin, Chairperson
Helen Silvey Virjeane Bayles
Coleen Cornwell Marvin Peterson
Trudy Cargill Lyle Flinner
Elbert Overholt Vada L. Barkley

Membership:

Lloyd Neighbors, Chairperson
Bruce Bowers Wilma Troutman

Kathleen Sodowsky Loy Watson
Elbert Overholt Vada L. Barkley

Bylaws and Organization:

Richard Howard, Chairperson
Leo Carden Gladys Snell
Mendell Taylor

Elbert Overholt Vada L. Barkley

Callers:

Angie Alger 789-1223
Myrtle Greer 789-5675
Helen Hill 789-3793
Kathleen Sodowsky 722-7388
Winnie Brown 789-8777
Gladys Snell 942-3826

Get-Well & Sympathy cards:

Kathleen Sodowsky 722-7388

Historian:

Paul Gresham 495-1241

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID

According to our records the following membership dues were paid by 5/9/94:

Dan/Angie Alger
Art/Vada Lee Barkley
Don Beaver
Chant/Fay Beck
Bruce/Ruth Blowers
Sadie Bounds
Al/Winnie Brown -
Lecil Brown
George/Trudy Cargill
Don/Coleen Cornwell
Sam/Edna Davis
Vernon/Margaret Dawson
David/Dorothy Ellis
Lloyd/Joyce Ellis
Viola Eskridge
James/Betty Falkner
Robert/Dorothy Griffin
Walter/Helen Hill
Leon/Mabel Jennings
Harold/Juanita Knippers
Jean/Betty Knutson
Jean Ladd
Anna Belle Laughbaum
Dick/Lucille Law
C. Olan/Edna Moore
Lloyd/Bobbie Neighbors
Elbert/Esther Overholt
Edith Payne
Marvin Peterson
Helen Silvey
Lawrence/Gladys Snell
Kathleen Sodowsky
Milton/Mabel Sonnevik
Mendell/Gertrude Taylor
Bob/Wilma Troutman
Lyle/Dawn Tullis
Betty Watson
Loy/Luna Watson

Waiving 1993-94 dues to invest in an Endow Fund for SNU probably caused some confusion about this year's dues. But if your name is not on the above list, your dues are due--\$10 per person.

NEWS BITS

Dick and Winni Howard have just returned from sightseeing in London.

Virjeane Bayles, Fay Beck, Bea Flinner, and Mendell Taylor took turns in the hospital.

Maurine Dickerson helped organize the library at our Indian Bible College in New Mexico.

Esther and Elbert Overholt, Bob and Dorothy Griffin, Vernon and Margaret Dawson headed for cool Colorado this summer.

Milton Sonnevik attended a reunion in Norway.

Lois Brasher helped feed the hungry at Lambs Club.

Vada Lee Barkley wrote job descriptions for Academy committee personnel.

**SIMBAI, PAPUA NEW GUINEA:
WORK & WITNESS REPORT**
by Bruce Blowers

There is a saying, "Beware, Work and Witness could be life-changing." A team of 12 members from Kansas City First Church experienced this reality as we journeyed to Papua New Guinea. While there we built a combined worship building, pastor's study and bookstore, a 30 foot by 62 foot wood frame structure large enough for a congregation of 200 squeezed in by New Guinea standards.

We recovered from jet lag two days at Kudjip, the main station where our hospital is located, and home for Ruth and me the last 10 years of our missionary service.

Monday morning, after a 25 minutes flight, we bumped down on the Simbai sod airstrip. The local congregation was gathered outside the parking bay fence and sang to us:

"Welcome, welcome, come inside. Jesus has died on the cross. The Spirit has asked you to come and work, Welcome, welcome, come inside."

Thus began seven days of hard work, and wonderful cooperation from the local congregation and area pastors.

They blessed our lives by their vibrant testimonies.

My wife, Ruth and I, and other Nazarene missionaries had patrolled through this area in the late 1960's claiming these people for Christ. Today, God is moving and there are over 40 churches in this district.

The project was a tremendous blessing for the local congregation and for the district. The church will be large enough for a venue for pastors' conferences, youth camps, and district assemblies. Attendees will use the floor of the sanctuary for their sleeping platform. And our interaction with

the Christians there enriched our lives. We saw poverty and contentment; hardships and vibrant faith; in the storms of life there was the gripping hope of heaven that brought joy and peace. Work and Witness does change lives. Through obedience we can and did make a difference, and in the process reaped a fresh spiritual and eternal perspective on life.

**UNIVERSITY COLLEAGUES
ACTIVITIES**

Don and Coleen Cornwell helped with registration again. Jean and Betty Knutson, Milton and Mabel Sonnevik, and Betty Falkner plan to help Dr. Martha Banz, Dean, Arts and Sciences, with hand-scoring standardized tests. Several will be helping Paul Gray in the archives again this year.

IS THIS BOOK FOR YOU?
by Elbert Overholt

Peace Child by Don Richardson is an intriguing story of how Don and Carol Richardson traveled to New Guinea and lived among the Sawi. Along with their eight-month-old son, they worked with a cannibalistic, head-hunting tribe and attempted to break through their admiration for treachery and deceit.

Mr. Richardson gives a detailed account of his attempts to explain the gospel. The Sawi people, being worshipers of deceit, first considered Judas as the hero of the story of Christ's betrayal.

Struggling to educate a people whose value system was opposite to a New Testament ethic, the Richardsons were wondering if they might also fall victims to this culture that valued "fattening" a person with false friendship and then at an opportune moment make them prizes for the head collection.

With help from God and using a Sawi method of making peace by offering a child to the opposition, Don and Carol were able to present Jesus Christ as the ultimate "peace child."

This is an exciting and inspirational story of the battle between good and evil. I recommend it to you.