

**A HISTORY OF  
THE ACADEMY OF SENIOR PROFESSIONALS  
OF  
SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY**

**Compiled by Lecil Brown, historian**

**May, 2006 to May, 2008**

**ASP** members returned for the 2006-2007 academic year on **October 2, 2006**. Dr. Pat Allen, SNU Provost, was the special speaker. Dr. Allen came to the university as provost in August 2006. His extensive educational background and experience at other institutions lets him speak with valuable insight into academic matters, which he does with wit and humor. He holds the Ph.D. in Higher Education from the University of Oklahoma. The title of his speech was “The Provost’s Vision for SNU.” Dr. Loren Gresham, SNU President, announced the appointment of Brenda Styers as co-director of the Academy of Senior Professionals. She will serve with Dr. Elbert Overholt during this academic year and assume full responsibility as director in 2007. Billie Harrison reported the death of Vivian Chambers, a faithful and active member of the **ASP**. Vivian Chambers, 82, died on August 9, 2006. She graduated from Bethany Peniel College in 1950. She is survived by her husband, Gene, their daughter, Theresa West of Kirksville, MO and son, Paul Chambers of Flanders, NJ. She is also survived by two brothers, Lee Hillery and Paul Hillery, and one sister, Wilma Norsworthy.

Dr. Tom Barnard was the featured speaker on **November 13**. Dr. Barnard, highly respected educator and administrator, chose as his speech topic “Creating a Legacy—Without Giving Away the Store.” He retired in 2001 from Eastern Nazarene University where he served as Vice-President for Institutional Advancement. He and his wife, Madelyn, moved to Oklahoma City after retiring from Eastern Nazarene University in Quincy, Massachusetts. During his presentation he introduced Michael Crabtree, Assistant to the President of Southern Nazarene University, who spoke on establishing scholarships at SNU. In the Administrative Council meeting following lunch, Naomi Emmel reported that her husband, Robert Emmel, will no longer be able to serve as Chair of the By-laws Committee due to his failing health. New membership directories for 2006-2007 were made available by Dr. Don Beaver, Chairman of the Publications Committee. Amedisys Home Health Care provided the luncheon subsidy.

The Academy of Senior Professionals looks forward each year to welcoming Dr. Loren Gresham as speaker for the December meeting. His presentation this year was on **December 11**. “The Changing Face of Southern Nazarene University” was the title of his speech. Dr. Gresham has a long association with the Church of the Nazarene and its educational facilities. He was born in Nashville, TN when his parents were teachers at Trevecca Nazarene College (now Trevecca Nazarene University). His parents later moved to Pasadena, CA where he graduated from Pasadena Academy and later received his AB in history from Pasadena College (now Point Loma University). Pursuing graduate studies, he received his MA in international relations from the University of Southern California, and his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Gresham joined the SNU faculty in 1967. He was selected to serve as Provost in 1985. The SNU Board of Trustees elected him to the office of President of the University in 1989. Welcome – Dr. Loren and Linda Gresham! Spanish Cove provided the lunch subsidy for December.

Shirley Mears, Program Committee Chair, introduced Robin Lynn Jones who was the special speaker for the **January 8, 2007** meeting. The title of her speech was "Don't Tiptoe Thru Life Simply to Arrive at Death Safely." Jones is a professional adventurer. She spent several years as the general manager of KQCV and is currently the National Promotions and Marketing Director for Moody Broadcasting Network. She has been an active member of the Metropolitan Baptist Church for thirty years. President Jack David Arnold and Co-Director Elbert Overholt, writing for the January issue of the *Perspective*, reminded the members of the importance of maintaining good health practices to enjoy life in the new year. Membership Committee Chair Park Burkhart introduced seven visitors. Billie Harrison reported the death last month, on December 2, 2006, of Dr. Lyle Flinner. Dr. Flinner was born on August 11, 1918 in Newcastle, PA. He is survived by his wife "Bea" as she is known to all of us, son Donald and wife, Kathy June Allayud, of Littleton, CO; daughter Carol and husband, Jim Dorough, of Oklahoma City, two grandchildren, two brothers and two sisters. Lyle was a veteran of WWII, a pastor, and college Professor. He taught the *Kumjoynus* Sunday School Class at Bethany First Church of the Nazarene for 19 years. We will all miss this good man. Concordia Senior Living provided the luncheon subsidy.

"Service through the art of Music" was a delightful program presented by Dr. Wayne McEvilly on Valentine's Day, **February 12**. He is noted for his "Mozart goes to School" programs for children. His Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Southern California in 1963 was entitled "Music and Metaphysics." He believed that music could serve to take man to the very heart of his spiritual being and benefit society greatly. Harold Dozier, recently appointed chair of the By-laws Committee, reported that he had examined the By-laws and found them to be "in good shape." Brenda Styers, Co-director of the ASP, opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests for President Jack David Arnold who arrived a bit late. Darlene Overholt introduced members of the Academy "who are considered highly proficient in piano playing." They were Wally Brown, Evelyn Keaton, Nona Burkhart and Lula Mae Neuenschwander. They received a hearty round of applause. Eunice Khoury Insurance Agency provided the luncheon subsidy.

Coming together again on **March 12**, ASP members enjoyed radio host Eunice Khoury's presentation about "dealing with Medicare, long-term care, annuities and life insurance." She is a Certified Senior Advisor, and has been an independent insurance agent since 1989. She is licensed in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas. She helps people deal with catastrophic illness, nursing home costs and the management of money for Seniors. She produces the *Well Preserved with Eunice Khoury* show on KTOK. New members of the Academy since last meeting are Gene and Treva Hill, Patty McDonald and Lynn Poole. Harold Dozier reported that he had selected Jack David Arnold, Don Beaver and Roy Dorris to serve on the By-laws Committee. Tealridge Christian Retirement Center provided the luncheon subsidy for the March meal.

**ASP** members welcomed Amy Rollins as speaker on **April 9**, who spoke on the topic “The Party of Life.” Amy’s specialty is masterminding parties with intriguing themes. She has the MA degree in Communications from Oklahoma State University. With over twenty years experience in corporate public relations, event planning, fund-raising and television and radio advertising, she gave encouraging suggestions to help with party giving. The Ad Council’s agenda included several items of interest. Co-Director Brenda Styers presented recommendations from the Strategic Planning Committee. After thorough discussion, Park Burkhardt made a motion, seconded by Roy Dorris, that the report be accepted. President Jack David Arnold congratulated Gerald Knutson on his election as Vice-President. Roy Dorris gave his treasurer’s report. The April *Perspective* had the obituaries of three much-loved and appreciated individuals. Lois Brown, 89, died on January 25, 2007. Lois graduated magna cum laude from Pasadena College in 1940 as PC’s first psychology graduate. In the summer that year she married W. Shelburne Brown. Together they served the Church of the Nazarene faithfully in the pastorate, district and college responsibilities for 38 years. She is survived by three children; Linda Brown Gresham, Oklahoma City, Warren S. Brown, Pasadena CA, and Frederick Lyle Brown, Santa Barbara, CA. Wayne Cordell Bright, 89, died on January 18, 2007. Wayne grew up in Ardmore, OK. He was a veteran of WWII, having served in the U.S. Army Air Corp. After his WWII service, he went to Baylor School of Dentistry. He was active in dental practice in Tulsa, OK, later in Owasso, OK and in McAlester, OK. After the passing of his first wife, Thelma Jean, he moved to Bethany, OK and married Carolyn Barnes. George Williams, 79, died on March 13, 2007. George was known for his commitment to foreign missions. He served as missionary president at Del City First Church of the Nazarene for many years. In WWII he proudly served his country in the US Merchant Marines and the USAF. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Catherine, son John, and brother, Cecil. He is survived by his wife, Betty, sons, Ken Williams, Ron and Dennis Watson; his daughters Fran Ward, Susan Downs, and Shelly Spearman; and his brother Crawford. These three outstanding persons were members of the Academy of Senior Professionals. The luncheon subsidy was provided by Compton Orthopedic Service.

For the last meeting of the academic year, and for anticipation of the coming summer months, Dr. Juanita Krittenbrink, on **May 14**, gave a speech fitting for the occasion: “Rising Above the Crowd.” Dr. Krittenbrink serves as Director of the Liberal Studies and Management Sciences division at Redlands Community College in El Reno, OK. She received her Doctorate of Education from the University of Oklahoma. “Dr. K” stated that “As intelligent and dedicated professionals, we MUST continue to live each day of our lives with purpose and meaning.” “Dr. K” lives in Okarche with her husband, Mike, and their twin daughter and son. Her admonitions were well received and appreciated. The Ad Council agenda was rather light. The main item concerned **ASP** members who live out-of-state and thus are unable to attend most of the meetings. After discussion, Brenda Styers made the motion, seconded by Roy Franklin, that members in this category can pay \$10 per year dues and have the *Perspective* mailed to them. Dr. Don Beaver offered an amendment to the motion that two levels of membership be maintained, one active in status with dues of \$15 and one associate status with dues of \$10 per year. The motion was approved. It was reported that 50 **ASP** members went to the Cox Center in Oklahoma City on March 28 and heard Dr. Nicholas Negroponte at the PLN luncheon. Dr. Arnold expressed the gratitude of all members to SNU President Loren Gresham for inviting the members to this event. Thanks to the Burbridge Foundation for the luncheon subsidy for this final meeting of the academic year.

After a summer of travel, some at home, some abroad, **ASP** members returned to the campus on **October 8** eager to see old friends, swap stories, and give thanks for summer traveling mercies. The speaker was Rear Admiral (retired) Gregory Slavonic. Admiral Slavonic is coo-chair of the USS Oklahoma Memorial Committee. The committee's purpose has been to establish a proper memorial to the 429 men aboard the USS Oklahoma who lost their lives on that "day of infamy," December 7, 1941. The memorial is set for December 7, 2007. The Ad Council voted to make a contribution of \$100 to this project. Other items on the Council agenda were to approve the revised By-laws presented by Harold Dozier, and send them on to Dr. Loren Gresham. Roy Dorris gave the treasurer's report, which was approved as presented. An expression of thanks was given to Cathy Allen, Executive Director of VistaCare for the lunch subsidy this month.

The Academy welcomed Barbi Moore of *Heart to Heart International* as special speaker on **November 12**. Barbi has been with *Heart to Heart* since it began in 1992. She was the first part-time employee and advanced to her present position of Chief Advancement Officer. The organization, founded by Dr. Gary Morsch, is a humanitarian organization that has served thousands with necessary medicines and medical training. It has distributed over one-half billion dollars of donated humanitarian aid to the needy in many countries. Barbi is the wife of Bethany First Nazarene Minister of Music, Harlan Moore. It was noted that November 11 is officially recognized as Veterans Day in honor of all of America's veterans. The obituary of Sam Davis, A WWII Navy Veteran, was printed in the November *Perspective*. Sam died on October 15, 2007. He was born September 24, 1926 in Pachuta, MS. He is survived by his wife, Edna. Sam was a true churchman, a devoted husband, father and a friend to all who knew him. Member Ron Mercer and Mercer-Adams Funeral Service sponsored the luncheon today.

Thoughts of Christmas—with all those trips to the malls—were on the minds of most members as we contemplated the meeting on **December 10**. In years past, Dr. Loren Gresham, SNU president, was the special speaker in December and gave an update report on Southern Nazarene University. However, severe weather changed some plans! Dr. Gresham's meeting with the group had to be postponed. Dr. Lyle Tullis, much loved retired SNU professor, died on October 30, 2007. He was 86. He was a WWII veteran. Before coming to SNU, he taught at Oklahoma Wesleyan University. While teaching there he earned the Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University. He was preceded in death by his wife, Dawn, and is survived by three sons, Rex, Ross and Kim.

The new year didn't get started exactly as planned. Ron Mercer, native Oklahoman, highly successful retired Xerox official, and one of our own **ASP** members was scheduled to speak on **January 14, 2008**. However, Ron did not get back from a trip to Viet Nam for the meeting. Undaunted program chair Shirley Mears was able to get Dr. Andrea Mears for the January speaker. Dr. Andrea Mears holds a Doctor of Audiology degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. As a member of the *Hearts for Hearing* team, Dr. Mears specializes in pediatric and adult diagnostic audiology services, adult amplification and adult cochlear implants. Dr. Paul Scheie, new chair of the Research Interest Group, chaired his first meeting of that group. Long-time **ASP** member Fred Morgan, Jr. died on November 27, 2007. He was active in home building and marketing. He was a cherished friend who

lived a Christ-centered life. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, daughter, Loris Smith and husband, Jim. Library Resources review person Bea Flinner recommended a new book by author Stan Toler about our *Wonder God Who Can*. Sherman Huff, administrator of Spanish Cove Life-Care Retirement Community, sponsored the January luncheon.

Jim Priest, well-known attorney and columnist, addressed the group on **February 11**. His thoughts were presented under the general topic "Mentoring is more than Myth." In his weekly column for the *Oklahoman* on marriage and family matters, he strives to strengthen marriages through the church. He practices law with the firm Whitten, Nelson, McGuire, Terry & Roselius. Jim is married to Diane, and has two adult children; daughter Amanda and son, Spencer. Academy members have been saddened by the recent deaths of two much-loved members. James Robert Emmel was born March 22, 1922 in Johnstown, PA. He died on December 22, 2007 in Yukon, OK. He earned the Ph.D. in 1959 from Pennsylvania State University. "Prof. Emmel" as this writer and many others knew him when we were in his speech classes in the late forties and early fifties, was a great teacher and a great life-long friend. President Jack David Arnold gave a fitting and beautiful tribute to Dr. Emmel in the February *Perspective*. Vada Lee (Beard) Barkley died on January 16, 2008. She was born on September 28, 1919 in Union, Arkansas. After graduating from high school, she came to Bethany, OK and enrolled in Bethany Peniel College (now Southern Nazarene University). While teaching at Southern Nazarene University she met and married Rev. Arthur Barkley. Later, after retiring from teaching at Redlands Community College, she wrote poems, songs, articles and books for publication. She was involved in the organization of the Academy of Senior Professionals and served as its first president until 1998. She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Arthur Barkley. Lunch was sponsored by Bobbie Burbridge-Lane and the Burbridge Foundation.

A bit different type of program, but one well received, was about how to better communicate with your dog when the members came together on **March 10**. Pat Becker Wallis and husband, Jim Wallis, of Edmond, OK do research and travel to other countries in search of the best advisors on dog breeds. Their research helped create the award-winning television show on PBS "The World of Dogs Biography Series." She was accompanied by Kaylon Head who has been training dogs for 23 years. The Ad council met and discussed a number of housekeeping matters but took no action on any of them having an impact on history. Elbert and Darlene Overholt wrote an article for the *Perspective* reporting on the delightful Elderhotel trip they enjoyed to Hawaii. Educator and AS member Cecil Schwenke died on January 24, 2008. Cecil was born in Guymon, OK on May 20, 1930. He served his country in the US Navy during the Korean War. He married Frances Gill in 1952. They moved to Bethany, OK in 1952. He received his business degree from Bethany Peniel College in 1954. He started teaching in Bethany High School in 1959 and served as principal for 3 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, Frances, and is survived by four children, 14 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Edward Jones Investments, represented by Bill Martin, sponsored the lunch today.

Program chair Shirley Mears arranged for the president and owner of the Gospel Station Network, Randall Christy, to speak to the **ASP** on **April 14**. Randall's mission has been to spread the Gospel through radio broadcasting. Graduating in a small high school class of 14 in Schuler, OK, he studied at East Central University, where he met his wife, Susie, and later received his Masters Degree in Education. Randall, along with a team of family and friends, have built a network of seven radio stations that covers most of Oklahoma and extends into Texas. In the Ad Council **ASP** Director Brenda Styers reported that she is working with Vice-Provost Martha Banz regarding SNU's Senior Education Program to offer certain courses for members to audit. President Jack Arnold talked about the **ASP** Summer Retreat. A motion was made that the retreat be held on July 7 at the Spanish Cove Retirement Village in Yukon. There was a second to the motion and it passed unanimously. By-Laws committee chair Harold Dozier gave his report and handed out copies of the revised By-laws. He moved their approval and adoption. Gerald Knutson seconded and the motion was carried. Shirley Mears introduced Anita Kelley, Marketing Director of Tealridge Retirement Community, who sponsored the April luncheon. Brenda Styers, speaking on behalf of SNU President, Dr. Loren Gresham, **ASP** members were invited to lunch at the PLN conference in the Cox Convention Center on Aril 17 to hear guest speaker Tony Snow. The Academy members were saddened by the death of Shirley Pelley on February 23, 2008. She grew up in Altus, OK. She earned a degree in Music Education from SNU and later a Master's in Library Science from the University of Oklahoma. She worked in the OU Library for 17 years. She then became Director of the Learning Resources Center at SNU, from which she retired in 1995. She was actively involved in the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene choir, several of its ministries and the Academy of Senior Professionals.

A record 102 were in attendance for the final meeting of this academic year on **May 12, 2008**. Guest speaker Renda Brumbeloe spoke on a subject of keen interest to everyone who has experienced the frustration of flying. He speech was under the title *How the Airlines (Sometimes) Work*. Renda has significant achievements as a music teacher and Minister of Music in churches in Alabama, Florida, and Oklahoma. An election of officers for the next year was held and those elected were Jack David Arnold, President, Emmalyn German, Vice-President, Roy Dorris, Treasurer, and Roy Franklin, Secretary. This academic year has welcomed significant growth in membership. Membership chairman Park Burkhardt reports the following new members:

**2007 October – December**

Joan Dozier  
 C. Dale German  
 Emmalyn German  
 Andrea Huff  
 Gwynneth Ledbetter  
 Della Mae Morgan  
 LaDonna Reynolds  
 Billie Smith  
 John Stoddard  
 E. Joy Williams

**2008 January – May**

Hank Lahmeyer  
 Helen Bradley Lahmeyer  
 Yvonne Mercer  
 Nelda Rawlings Moore  
 Betty Nichols  
 Kathleen Stearns  
 Sharon Wade  
 Dicksy Waller  
 Pat Wellman

President Jack Arnold closed out the year with wishes to all members for safe travels and a pleasant summer.

the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased from 10.5 million to 13.5 million, and the number of people aged 75 and over has increased from 4.5 million to 6.5 million (Office for National Statistics 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to address the needs of older people in the UK. The Department of Health (2000) has published a strategy for older people, which sets out a vision for the future of health care for older people. The strategy is based on the following principles: older people should be able to live independently, safely and with dignity; older people should be able to access the services they need; and older people should be able to participate in decisions about their care.

The strategy also sets out a number of key objectives, including: to improve the quality of life of older people; to reduce the number of older people who are in care; to improve the way in which older people are consulted about their care; and to improve the way in which older people are supported to live independently. The strategy is a key document for the development of health care for older people in the UK.

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