



January Luncheon Speaker: Gayle Chambers-Dyer

By Shirley Mears

Meeting Gayle Chambers-Dyer means meeting a new friend. She has many, many friends. She also loves to shop and she has an eye to create soothing, beautiful environments. The phrase "Home is where the heart is" applies to Gayle's passion.



Chambers-Dyer was a wife, mother and homemaker from 1957 to 1986. She became a widow in 1984 and again in 2000.

She established her first business in 1982 as owner of Willow Creek Antiques and Gifts. In 1984 she became co-founder and owner of "An Affair of the Heart", Inc. The business is now one of the largest events and marketplaces in the country for arts, crafts and gift items. The shows are produced 3 times a year in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Chambers-Dyer attended Oklahoma City Community College where she became active in women's career development. This instilled in her the desire to become a mentor and to offer advice and counsel derived from her own experiences to other women. She became a volunteer for mentoring at OCCC during the years of the women's career development courses.

She has taught a workshop for the Oklahoma Governor's Conference on tourism. Her business received the tourism award of merit for public relations in 1996.

Chambers-Dwyer sits on the advisory board of the Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence. As a member

of the National Association of Women Business Owners, she has served on the education and training committee and has been speaker at NAWBO workshops.

She has been chairman of mentoring for NAWBO and in 2001 served on the Governors conference for women in business committee "Best of the Best." Presently, she is on the board of directors of NAWBO and is the President-Elect for 2003-2004. She has been a finalist in the "Journal Record's Woman of the Year", and was inducted into Journal Record's Circle of Excellence.

Gayle is a member of Southern Hills Baptist Church. She is the mother of 2 daughters and grandmother of 3 grandsons. Gayle is also a newlywed. She and her husband, Ermon, were married in July. Gayle commented that "Good families and a good sound business are very much alike, when each is nurtured and handled with wisdom and a passion to have them become all they can be, good things happen." Growth and success, she feels, comes from a commitment to the Lord to guide her through life's challenges.





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

**Celebrating Older Learners:
The World is our Textbook**

Maurice Chevalier, as an aging French entertainer, said, "I'd like old age to be my best performance!" Then he added, "I prefer old age to the alternative."

Solon, the Athenian statesman who lived in 6th century B.C., wrote, "I grow old ever learning many things." Two centuries later another Athenian, Aristotle, penned these words, "Education is the best provision for old age."

In Aristotle's day education was the privilege of the rich—the *young* rich. Formal education usually ended by age 20. While no longer limited to the rich alone, with few exceptions, Western education still largely operates within this **antiquated age-related model**. It's time for something new.

May I suggest the following to change the old educational model?

- **We should expand the traditional structure of education into one that will fit the evolving needs of our world.**
- **We should realize that education cannot be confined or quantified, and that it will have to take place over the entire span of one's lifetime.**
- **We should understand that education is lifelong—an integral part of individual and personal enrichment.**

To help older people "**be students forever**" is the business of the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP). In other words, we should provide accessible, flexible learning opportunities. In addition, the ASP includes *serious fun*.

Serious because its key aim is to highlight the benefits of learning later in life: increased self-confidence and self-esteem; increased motivation; and increased feeling participation in society.

Fun because that's what we have when we hear inspiring luncheon speakers and talented performers, meet wonderful friends, stay mentally alert, and take part in learning.

A great host of older people know the benefits that learning brings to their lives; they don't let a day go by without learning something new.

For every one of those success stories, some

Continued on page 6 — Arnold



**"Sharing
a
Continuous
Flight"**

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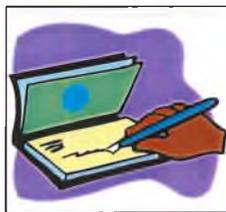
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To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals:



DUES DUES DUES
By Margaret Dawson

Membership dues for the new year will be accepted at the January 13th meeting of the Academy.

Thanks to all who paid the 2003 dues at the December meeting. It should help lessen the rush on January 13. Dues are \$15 per person. We hope to have the 2003 stickers at that time to validate your current membership on your ID card.



ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



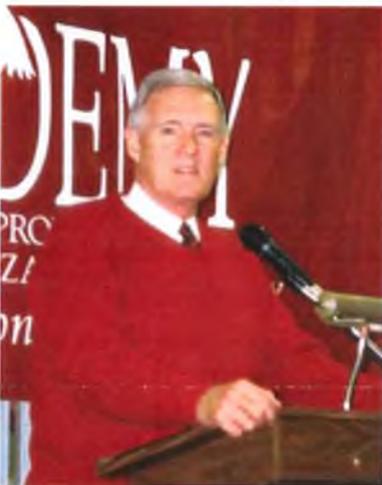
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December ASP Luncheon

1,6 — Darlene Graves, new Membership chair organizes luncheon meeting.

2,3 — Matthew Blagg, luncheon entertainer.

4 — Dr. Loren Gresham, special speaker

5 — Decorations for Christmas luncheon

7 — Jeff Maddox, new ASP member

8 — Edna Baker, guest of Jim Posey



5 (above)



6 (left)

7 (right)



8 (right)



President and Mrs. Gresham Entertain Academy at Christmas Open House



Mable Sonnevik



Lois Brown



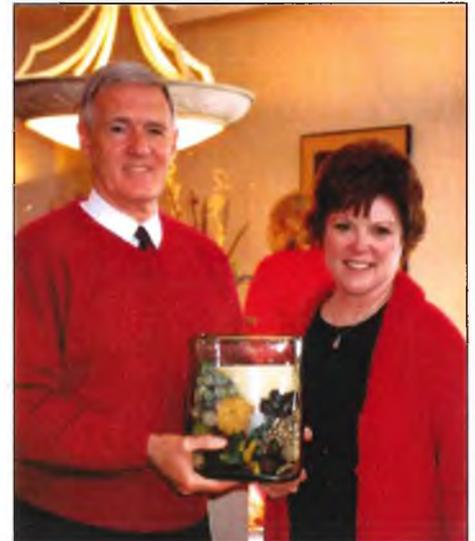
Bobbie Neighbors & Roy T. Poole



Pat Bolerjack



Kathleen Sodowsky — Wini Howard — June Phillips



President & Mrs. Gresham
With gift from the Academy



Milton Parrish/Milton Sonnevik



L-r: Darlene Overholt, Geneva Bolerjack, Dale McClafin, Paul Gray, Gerrie McClafin



"If you ask me"
By Vada Lee Barkley

"And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up...(Luke 21:28). What things? What we see on the news. When that terrible fear is getting you by the throat and seems ready to suffocate your very soul, when all the ways of life are closed against you and you can no longer see the road beneath your feet, when your soul is bowed to the ground beneath the crushing load of bitter disappointment and care that saps your strength, when you or a loved one is faced with a dreaded diagnosis, when a loved one is taken from you, when you just cannot see any hope at all, then look up.

What has been the time of the church's greatest influence? Not the days of visible might and splendor; not the days succeeding Constantine when Christianity became imperialistic and the kingdoms of the world and their glory seemed ready to bow beneath the scepter of Christ. Not the days of the great medieval pontiffs, when the Pope in Rome wielded a sovereignty more absolute than any secular monarch on earth. Not the days of sunshine, when things have gone well with the church, but rather in the times when She has cried out to God from the depths.

In these days of stress and uncertainty, both as individuals and as the church, we do well to remember the words of the Master. He has everything under control.

When these things come to pass, look up! Why? Because "your redemption draweth nigh."



LIFE IN BLACK AND WHITE
(Under 40? You won't understand)

You could hardly see for all the snow,
Spread the rabbit ears as far as they go.
Pull a chair up to the TV set,
"Good night, David; Good night, Chet."

Dependin' on the channel you tuned
You got Rob and Laura—or Ward and June.
It felt so good, felt so right.
Life looked better in black and white.

I Love Lucy, The Real McCoys
Dennis the Menace, the Cleaver boys
Rawhide, Gunsmoke, Wagon Train
Superman, Jimmy and Lois Lane.

Father Knows Best, Patty Duke
Rin Tin Tin and Lassie, too,
Donna Reed on Thursday night—
Life looked better in black and white

I wanna go back to black and white.
Everything always turned out right.
Simple people, simple lives
Good guys always won the fight.
Now nothing is the way it seems



A look at a book
By Wini Howard

OUT TO PASTURE
By Effie Wilder

Out to Pasture is a book to brighten your days. It is not exactly thought-provoking, but it is enjoyable. It is a look at life in the slower lane, where at least some of us are living now. No offense, if you are rushing around as much as ever.

Hattie McNair is sharing her diary (called a journal today) with the reader. She is retired and living in a retirement home called Fair Acres, down in South Carolina. The residents are mostly Southerners, but there is an occasional Yankee touch, which adds occasional humor.

Out to Pasture is the first of three books Wilder has written about life at Fair Acres. They are completely fictitious, but it is obvious that the author is sharing the many amusing and sometimes very touching incidents that she has been a part of at the home. All three books are called novels, but plot is certainly not the major focus of any of them. The characters and their conversations are what hold one's interest.

The book is mainly concerned with the reactions of Hattie to and involvement with those in the home. She openly says that she will be saying more about The Nuts since they are much more vocal and noticeable. Comments about them furnish much humor. And Hattie keeps reminding the reader that this is what is needed there.

Yes, this book is on the lighter side, but most folks could use some humor. Seniors who can laugh at each other, and also at themselves, are much more pleasant to live with.

Effie Wilder's books should be in the Metro Library.

In living color on the TV screen.
Too many murders, too much fight,
I wanna go back to black and white.

In God they trusted, in bed they slept.
A promise made was a promise kept.
They never cussed or broke their vows.
They'd never make the network now.

But if I could, I'd rather be
In a TV town in '53.
It felt so good, felt so right
Life looked better in black and white.

I'd trade all the channels on the satellite
If I could just turn back the clock tonight
To when everybody knew wrong from right
Life was better in black and white!

Arnold—Continued from page 2

senior adult thinks, “I’m too old to learn all these new things.” The ASP leaders and members should:

- reach out to these people
- help them tackle the barriers to learning they face
- show them the range of learning opportunities
- encourage them to get involved

I think of **lifelong learning as a building**. At its base lies a strong foundation of educational skills learned in one’s early years. On the foundation stands a secondary learning structure to accommodate a growing and voracious market for learning.

Educators will become free agents sharing their knowledge worldwide via the Internet. Education will be offered globally to people in virtual classrooms with no clocks, no schedule, and **no age restrictions**. **The whole world will become the little red school-house!**

Would **Aristotle**, who along with **Plato** and **Socrates** laid the groundwork for the way we teach and learn today, approve of this **brave new world of learning**? I think he would embrace it wholeheartedly for what it is: the next major step in the evolution of education.

The ASP celebrates older learners!



Academy Obituary

By Billie Harrison

Juanita Helen Thomas was born September 11, 1920 in Henryetta, Oklahoma, to J. W. and Bertha Myers. She went to be with her Lord September 26, 2002.

Juanita attended Bethany Peniel College, now Southern Nazarene University, and graduated with teaching credentials in music and elementary education. She met and married the love of her life, Hoyle C. Thomas. Juanita was a source of inspiration for 50 years in the ministry with her husband. She is survived by her husband, Hoyle; son, Rudy, and wife, Robin; daughter, Sue Ann, and husband, Donny Dean, and five grandchildren. Juanita was a member of Bethany First Church of the Nazarene as well as the Academy of Senior Professionals.

Juanita’s valiant spirit and phenomenal courage left us all somewhat better from having known her.



ASP Calendar

Monday: January 13

10:00-11:00	am	Book Discussion Group-General Conf. Rm.
10:30-11:00	am	Shuttle: West BFC Parking Lot to Commons
11:15am-1:00	pm	Luncheon meeting-Heritage Room
1:00-1:30	pm	Shuttle: Commons to West BFC Parking Lot
1:15-2:00	pm	Administrative Council-Faculty Lounge



News Briefs

- **New Easier Access to ASP Web pages:**

As a result of work done recently on the SNU web pages, it is now easier to access the ASP web pages. Once on the internet all you need to do to get into the ASP pages is to enter the address: **www.snu.edu/sr_professionals**. Or—You may still go to the SNU home page (www.snu.edu), click on “Alumni & Friends” and then click on Academy of Senior Professionals. You will enjoy the “new look” for SNU and ASP.

- **Membership Directory for 2002-2003:**

The new membership directory for the Academy was distributed at the November and December luncheon meetings. Copies will be available at the January luncheon meeting. Be sure to check your information for accuracy. Please inform Don Beaver of any change that needs to be made. Look for the “Information Update” forms to record your changes.

- **ASP Lapel Pins:**

If you are interested in purchasing an ASP Lapel Pin, which shows an eagle and ASP on it, please see Membership Chairperson Darlene Graves. The cost of each pin is \$3.00.



Book Discussion Group

By Elbert Overholt

Aging with Grace by David Snowden will be discussed in the lower conference room of the Commons at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 13.

Pick up a copy of this book concerning the Nun Study and join us for a time of thoughtful discussion.