



**ASP member George Miller will be the featured luncheon speaker Monday, November 10**

By Shirley Mears/Jack Arnold

“What Worries Americans More Than Terrorists” will be the topic that Mr. George A. Miller has chosen to speak about at the November 8 luncheon meeting, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons. He will also address a couple of related issues involving his volunteer work. A part of his speech will be a short follow up to his March 2000 presentation to the

ASP on Welfare Reform.

Mr.

Miller was born in Montrose, Colorado; received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering at Oklahoma State University; served in the United States



George Miller

Navy, 1945-1946; was employed as chief engineer and news director in radio and television, 1950-1964; and served in the Oklahoma State Senate, 1964-1974.

Currently, Mr. Miller is a member of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority Board (OHCAB) and its Sub-Committee on Strategic Planning, The Oklahoma Board to Prevent Child Abuse, and Metro Ministries of the Central Oklahoma Board. He is also Chairman of the OHCAB’s Sub-committee on Audit and Finance. In the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP), he serves on the Administrative Council as one of the elected Members-at-Large.

[Luncheon meeting begins at 11:15 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$7.25. Reservations are requested before Friday, November 7; (Phone 405.789.2036.)]

**Annual December Reception for ASP members and guests at the Loren Gresham Home**

Dr. and Mrs. Loren Gresham are cordially inviting all ASP members and guests to attend their annual holiday reception for ASP members and guests on December 8, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at their lovely home.

Please remember to put this festive social event on your calendar *now!* A convenient shuttle service between the Commons and the Gresham home will be provided.



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

## Go for the Golden Rule

German-born industrial relations lecturer and clergyman William J. H. Boetcker observed, "Men must be honest with themselves before they can be honest with others. A man who is not honest with himself presents a hopeless case" ("Chronology of a Collapse," *Time*, 21 January 2002, 31).

In America's current relativistic culture—where everyone wants to use different standards and where every situation is supposed to require its own code of conduct—it is promising to hope that people from every culture desiring to live ethically can agree on one standard: the Golden Rule.

My research reveals that many variations on the Golden Rule exist:

**Christianity:** "Whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them" (Matthew 7:12).

**Islam:** "No one of you is a believer until he loves for his neighbor what he loves for himself" (*The Traditions of Mohammed*, qtd. in [www.thegoldenrule.net](http://www.thegoldenrule.net)).

**Judaism:** "What is hateful to you, do not do to your fellow man. This is the entire Law; all the rest is commentary" (*Talmad*, Shabat 31a).

**Buddhism:** "Hurt not others with that which pains yourself" (*Udana-Varga* 5, 1).

**Hinduism:** "This is the sum of duty; do naught unto others what you would not have them do unto you" (*Mahabharata* 5, 1517).

**Zoroastrianism:** "Whatever is disagreeable to yourself, do not do unto others" (*Shast-na-shayast* 13:29).

**Confucianism:** "What you do not want done to yourself, do not do to others" (*Analects* 15:23).

**Bahai:** "And if thine eyes be turned towards justice, choose thou for thy neighbour that which thou chooseth for thyself" (*Epistle to the Son of the Wolf*, 30).

It is clear that the Golden Rule cuts across cultural and religious boundaries and is embraced by people from nearly every part of the world. It is the closest thing a person can find to a universal guideline for ethics.

In a September 24, 2002, article, "What is Ethics Anyway?" the Josephson Institute of Ethics, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that exists to improve the

Continued next column



"Sharing  
a  
Continuous

## The Academy Perspective

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ethical quality of society, states the following: "Ethics is about how we meet the challenge of doing the right thing when that will cost more than we want to pay. Ethics entails action; not just a topic to mull or debate" ([www.josephsoninstitute.org](http://www.josephsoninstitute.org)). Inaction is a decision.

I am not naïve. I know that not everyone is looking for a simple and practical guideline to live ethically. On the one hand, some people choose to lie, cheat, steal, and make wrong decisions that leave scars and hurt others; on the other hand, some people find the Golden Rule a good, honest standard to live by.

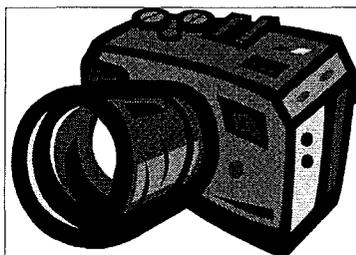
How does the Golden Rule apply to the way senior adults want to be treated? It has the answer:

Continued on page 6—Arnold



# ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



(above left) Introducing new members, Paul and Mary Anna Scheie. Welcome!

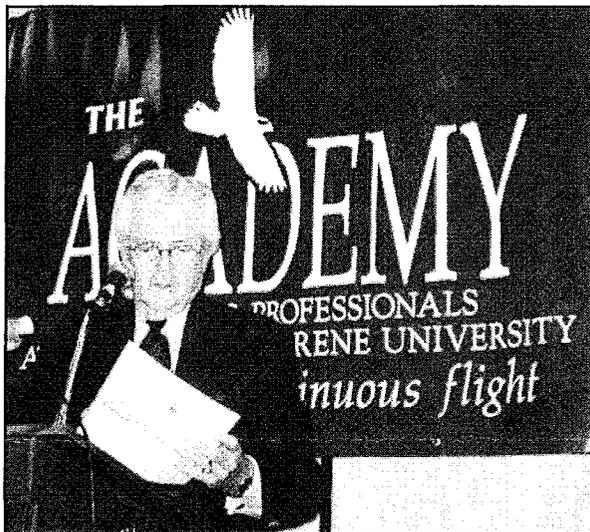


(above center) Organist Wally Brown and friend Barbara Pirong. What a concert!!



(above) Amy Brasher, guest and granddaughter of Lois Brasher, visited the luncheon from Columbus, GA

(right) Academy president Jack Arnold presides at the ASP luncheon meeting.



(below) Billie Harrison introduced visitors and kept things moving at the academy luncheon.

(below) Barbara Taylor was among the guests at the October luncheon.

(below right) "Old" friend/member, Bobbie Steele, visited from Columbia, TN. Come again soon, Bobbie!

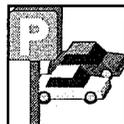


(below center) Wally Brown, master of wit and music, entertained the ASP luncheon group. Thank you for sharing your talent with us!





*"If you ask me"*  
By Vada Lee Barkley



—Special News Item—  
**ASP Parking Changes Considered**

**How Jesus Worked**

(First of two parts)

Jesus had no special technique that He used twice. But He always got the attention of a person fixed upon His own personality. He never dealt the same with any two people. How different from the way we try to bring people to Him in our day!

Jesus came through the throng one day and saw Zachaeus sitting in a sycamore tree. He said to him, "Zachaeus, come down!" And the little man slid down the sycamore tree and into the kingdom of God. He must have been in the kingdom when he hit the ground, because as soon as he got his breath, he said, "The half of my goods I give to the poor, and those who I've wronged, I will repay four-fold." It would take more than the jolt of sliding down a sycamore tree trunk to get an IRS agent to do that.

If only some of us had been there. We would have capitalized on the incident. We would have organized a church—The Church of the Sycamore Sliders. In all our sanctuaries we would have planted a sycamore tree. At first, the trees would have been the natural crude sycamores. But as time went on, and as the movement grew, we would have made the tree easier to slide down.

Oh, to be sure, we would have preached that no one could ever get into the kingdom unless he slid down the sycamore tree as did Zachaeus, our founder. We would no doubt remove the knots and rough bark. Finally, we would pad the tree and then shorten the slide.

Some congregations would use a polished, gently-inclined slide, and some people might even have a little car with ball-bearing rollers, so they could gently slide into the Kingdom.

Older members would shake their heads sadly and say, "When I slid down, the bark was on the tree, and there were knots on it. We did it right in those days. It looks like our church is going to the dogs." No knots, no religion.

Strange, but the statement Zachaeus made about restitution would be overlooked. The whole emphasis would be on the sycamore tree.

But we have no record that Jesus ever said to another person, "Come down."

(Part two in December issue)

**Important Reservation Reminders:**

- Indicating to one of our telephone callers that you will attend a luncheon meeting represents a **financial obligation** on your part for the price of the meal (\$7.25). Regardless of your attendance, the Academy is charged for your meal. — Roy Dorris, ASP Treasurer.
- **If you do *not* receive a call for your luncheon reservation**, please contact Mr. Larry Henderson (405.752.5507 or revpo@yahoo.com). Your reservation is important and essential to a smooth operation between our caterer and the ASP.

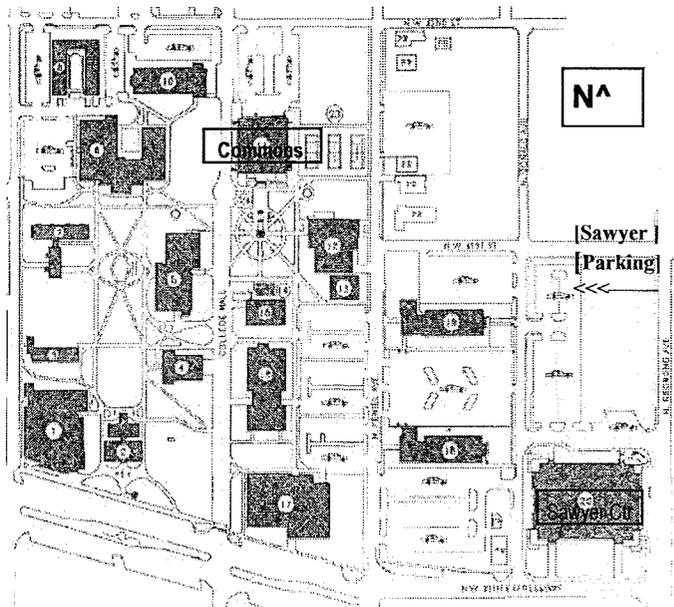
All members and guests are asked to consider parking their cars and using the ASP Shuttle Service for the monthly luncheon meetings.

**Through the November 10 meeting:**

Mr. Charles Harrison, Chair person of the Shuttle Service, begins picking up members and guests in the center of the Bethany First Church (BFC) west parking lot at 10:30 a.m. and delivers them to the Webster Commons in time for the luncheon meeting which begins at 11:15 a.m. After the luncheon, he begins taking them back to the BFC west parking lot at 1:00 p.m.

**Proposed changes:**

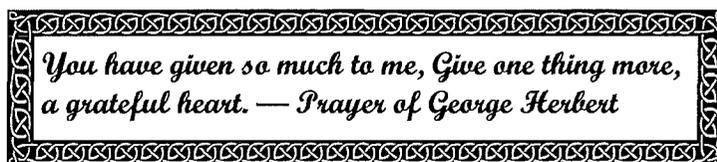
New plans are being considered to use SNU's Sawyer parking lot as our ASP designated parking area. SNU President Loren Gresham has generously volunteered the use of SNU's Security Services to help with the ASP Shuttle Service beginning with the December 8 luncheon meeting. A map showing the close proximity of the Sawyer parking lot to the Webster Commons is shown below.



**Remember:**

**November 10: Park in the BFC Parking Lot**

**December 8: Park in the SNU Sawyer Parking Lot**





## Poet's Corner

By Jack Pischel



## A look at a book

By Wini Howard

## THE WAITING TIME

By Eugenia Price

Many would consider Eugenia Price the most outstanding writer of Christian fiction in the past century. The Waiting Time was her last book, barely completed with great effort. Nevertheless, it is a great story.

Price became well-known for her stories about the South. Although she was a northerner, she moved to Georgia and became immersed in the lore of St. Simon's Island.

The Waiting Time is concerned with the tensions existing in the South leading up to the Civil War. The author is probably trying to give her readers a balanced picture of what was happening in the South as well as depicting the feelings of people "up north." As a northerner, she is being extremely fair to two very opposing points of view. While the Abolitionists are making their voices heard across the country, Price presents also the plight of southern plantation owners. She pictures very sensitively the plight of the slaves, who depend completely on their owners for their very existence.

An interesting love story dominates the book. A sophisticated young lady from Boston has come down south to be mistress of a flourishing plantation. She is thrilled to come, but by the end of the story she is saying, "No one should own another human being." Her marriage, as the story develops, proves to be very disappointing. Her husband's sudden death, by drowning, changes her life completely. The overseer of what becomes her plantation enters her life to bring the rewarding relationship she has always craved. But they must wait. And they do—in a very interesting way.

I assume The Waiting Time is a somewhat realistic picture of life in the South before the Civil War.

Available at the Metro library.



## Information You Can Use

By Shirley Mears

Good information is necessary to make good decisions. How can you be sure you have all the facts available to arrive at a good decision? One excellent source is the local Area-wide Aging Agency.

The AAA Information and Assistance website is one of the fastest ways to determine a course of research. Their web address is [www.areawideaging.org](http://www.areawideaging.org). Don Hudman, Executive Director, has been with the agency since 1989. Offering easy-to-read information to older adults in central Oklahoma is the primary goal of the website and access to other sites of interest.

Additionally, the Survival Kit for Seniors is an annual resource directory available by mail or can be picked up at the AAA offices, 3200 NW 48 Street, Oklahoma City. There is no charge for the directory, but a suggested donation of \$3.00 is appreciated. Call 943-4344 for more information.



## Autumn

by Jack Pischel\*



*Autumn is a drunken painter in the woods.*

*He sets up his easel and begins to mix  
paints with a shaking hand.*

*Confused, he pours his wine into a paint pot;*

*He daubs the canvas;*

*The mixture runs.*

*Disgusted, he flings the liquid into the  
wind which catches it up, dashes it upon  
trees, vines, and bushes, staining them —  
spotting and streaking.*

*The painter mixes ambers and browns, yellows  
and reds, and tries to paint.*

*He is so unsteady that most of the paint is  
splashed into the breezes and carried to the  
foliage.*

*After a long time he flings the rest of his  
paints toward the sky, mumbling into his  
spattered beard.*

*Last of all, he flings his bedaubed canvas.*

*It is torn and tossed until its pieces also are  
returned to nature.*

*With his brushes and his buckets, he turns  
from his failure and his frustration  
and wanders away*

*on  
unsteady  
legs.*

\*Author, Jack C. Pischel, has recently been recognized for his poetic artistry. He entered the poem "Spring", which was printed in the April, 2003 issue of The Perspective, in a poetry contest sponsored by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Aging Services Division, as a part of Older Americans monthly activities.

In this contest it was reviewed, along with several hundred of others, by a panel of judges from across the state of Oklahoma and awarded First Place.

Congratulations, Jack!

Continued from page 2—Arnold

1. **Senior adults want to be valued.** Valuing others, not for what they can do but simply because they are human beings, is the foundation of the Golden Rule. A person who has been made to feel worthless by another person knows how important it is to be valued by another human being.

2. **Senior adults want to be appreciated.** The desire to be loved and valued is perhaps the deepest need of every person. Closely related to that need is our desire to be appreciated for what we can do. Broadway producer Billy Rose shrewdly observed, "It's hard for a fellow to keep a chip on his shoulder if you allow him to take a bow."

3. **Senior adults want to be respected.** Respect gives us dignity and builds our confidence. Author Arnold Glasow said, "The respect of those we respect is worth more than the applause of the multitude" (qtd. in J. C. Maxwell, *There's No Such Thing as "Business Ethics"*).

4. **Senior adults want to be understood.** Understanding other people means extending ourselves to them and meeting them on their level, putting the burden of making a connection on ourselves, not on them. When dealing with others, we should seek first to understand, then to be understood, as St. Francis of Assisi prayed.

5. **Senior adults do not want others to take advantage of them.** When it comes to how others treat us, more than anything else we do not want anyone to take advantage of us. That is really the bottom line regarding ethical behavior. If people could construe that we are taking advantage of them, even after we have had a chance to explain our motives, then our actions are probably a bad idea.

Educators, philosophers, theologians, and lawyers have taken what is a simple matter and made it very confusing. *Ethics is ethics.* People try to use one set of ethics for their professional life, another for their spiritual life, and still another for their family life.

Living an ethical life may not always be easy, but it need not be complicated. **I believe that we can use one guideline to govern all our ethical decision-making: the Golden Rule.**



## ASP Calendar

### Monday: November 10

9:30-11:00	am	Strategic Planning Comm.—Gen. Conf. Rm.
10:00-11:15	am	Faculty Lounge available for early arrivals
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

- **Joy-Filled Job No. 1**  
—If you are interested in helping with **decorating the tables for one or more luncheons**, please contact Mrs. Trudy Cargill, Chair of Food and Catering Services (405.440.0548), or Dr. Elbert Overholt, Director, (405.789.2036 or [overez1@msn.com](mailto:overez1@msn.com)).
- **Joy-Filled Job No. 2**  
—If you are interested in serving as **Chairperson of the Research Interest Group** or the **Book Discussion Group**, please contact Dr. Overholt or Dr. Jack David Arnold (972.406.8627 or [JackArnold@aol.com](mailto:JackArnold@aol.com)).
- **Financial Contributions:**  
Members and guests should know that we have a dire need to improve our financial position in our **Operations Account** so that we can support our operations and projects.  
Members and guests should also be reminded that they could make contributions to the **ASP Scholarship**, which will help needy and worthy SNU students.  
Contribution checks should be made payable to **Southern Nazarene University** with a notation on the check for **ASP Operations** or **ASP Scholarship**. These contributions are tax-deductible. Checks may be sent to Dr. Roy Dorris, ASP Treasurer, 4607 North College, Bethany, OK, 73008 (405.789.3469 or [rdorris11@cox.net](mailto:rdorris11@cox.net)).
- **Information Regarding ASP Benefits:**  
Benefits of ASP membership will be available at the November luncheon.
- **New Membership Directory ready for distribution:**  
Be sure to obtain your copy of the new 2003-2004 Academy of Senior Professionals Membership Directory at the luncheon on November 10. There are many changes from 2002-2003 in the new directory. Please keep us informed of changes that occur in your directory information by contacting Don Beaver (405.491.6646 or [dbeaver@snu.edu](mailto:dbeaver@snu.edu)).