



Perspective

Vol. 16 — No. 3

December — 2006

December 11 luncheon to feature SNU President Loren Gresham

by Shirley Mears, Program Chair

“The Changing Face of Southern Nazarene University (SNU)” will be the title of Dr. Gresham’s speech. Major topics of the speech will include the Ziglar Center for Ethical Leadership and the China Initiative.

Loren Gresham was born in Nashville, Tennessee (April 18, 1941), attended Trevecca Elementary Training School, and after his parents changed teaching positions from Trevecca Nazarene College to



Loren Gresham

Pasadena Nazarene College (PNC), he attended and graduated from Pasadena Academy. He received an A.B. in History from PNC, M.A in International Relations from the University of Southern California, and Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. Gresham’s career at SNU (Bethany Nazarene College) began in 1967 as a Professor of Political Science and History. As a Fulbright Scholar (1970-71), at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, he formed wide acquaintance with leaders in many areas of national life. In 1985 he was selected by President Ponder Gilliland to serve as Provost of SNU. In 1989 the SNU Board of Trustees elected Dr. Gresham to serve as SNU President, the office he currently holds.

President Gresham currently serves as a member of the Council of Education/Church of the Nazarene, Chair of the World Mission Department of the General Board/Church of the Nazarene, member of the Board of the National Association of Inde-

pendent Colleges and Universities, past member of the Board of Directors of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, Chair of the Council of Presidents of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, member of the Oklahoma City YMCA Board of Directors, and a member of Rotary Club 29 of Oklahoma City.

Loren Gresham married Linda Lee Brown in 1964. They have one daughter, Suzanne Lynette Strawn, who, along with her husband, Dr. Brad Strawn, has two sons, Even Bradley and Keaton Paul.

Loren and Linda Gresham have invited all ASP members and their friends to be their guests in their home at the Annual ASP Holiday Reception between 1:30 and 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 11. (Please see the map for directions to the Gresham home on page 6).

All members and guests are encouraged to make their plans to hear Dr. Gresham on Monday, December 11. The buffet in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons on the SNU campus begins promptly at 11:15 a.m. The luncheon program begins at noon and ends at 1:00 p.m.

Important luncheon reservation information.

- **Members:** If you have *not* been contacted by one of the telephone callers, then please call Mrs. Shirley Pelley, ASP Telephone Committee Chairperson, at **405.354.3853**
- **Guests:** Please call Dr. Elbert Overholt, ASP Co-Director, at **405.789.2036**.
- **All:**
 - The cost of the luncheon is **\$5.00**
 - Kindly make your reservation before **Thursday, December 7**
 - Please be reminded that when a reservation is made, it must be included in the count unless it is cancelled by **Friday, December 9**. To cancel a reservation, please call Dr. Overholt at **405.789.2036**.



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

**“Great sweetness and exceeding joy”
brought about by being
“on fire with love for all”**

The almost miraculous capacity to be **“on fire with love for all”** is beautifully illustrated time and time again in the lives of the great men and women of God, although people like us are not expected to go so far as they have in their past lives..

The extravagant, young gallant, Francis Bernadone of Assisi, was known for his showy dress and elegant bearing. He was “courteously attentive” to the ladies. In his elegant lifestyle, he always loathed and feared leprosy. Wandering about in his costly garments, he would never touch the lepers around his village, could scarcely bring himself to look at them. When a leper came to him, though he would give, he always sent someone else to make the gift. When he passed a leprosy sanatorium, he would turn his face from it and put his handkerchief over his nostrils.

A life-changing, powerful force was already working within Francis. One day he seemed to hear a promise deep in his consciousness: “All that you used to avoid will turn itself to **great sweetness and exceeding joy.**” Soon after, riding on horseback from the plains of Umbria, he came upon a terribly disfigured leper. For an instant, the old, powerful revulsion swept through the young man.

From a deeper level than the revulsion came a flash of realization: “*This is my brother!*” Francis climbed down, went up to the pitiful figure, and offered alms. As the leper reached out to take them, Francis knelt and kissed the fingers so wasted by disease; and as he did so, the chroniclers tell us, he felt through his being the promised **“great sweetness and exceeding joy.”**

Italian friar St. Francis of Assisi (1182-1226), who founded the Franciscan order, began as an ego-bound human being. He became a man who rose above separateness to become universal. He was **“on fire with love for all.”**

In the 1990s when I was Senior Professor and Chairman of the General Education Department at DeVry University in Irving, Texas, Professor Paula

Continued next column.



**“Sharing a
Continuous
Flight”**

The Academy Perspective

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To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals:
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Continued from previous column.

Giles told me that she had a greatly talented and loving professor when she was a drama student at Arizona State University. He had challenged her to pursue excellence in all things; however, she had recently learned that he was released by the University because he was dying of AIDS. “What was his name?” I asked. Paula replied with tears in her eyes, “Dr. Witt.” A flash of recognition came at that very moment to me, and I said, “*He’s my cousin!*” I immediately called him and offered to do what was necessary to bring him back to Oklahoma City for a family reunion. He was never able to make that trip and died soon after my call. My heart today is **“on fire with love”** for Danny Mack Witt because he was

Continued on page 6—Arnold



ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



↑Lisa Vellekamp
Marketing Director
(Concordia Life Care Ctr)



↑Waulea Renegar



↑Don & Linda Carley



↑Leon & Joan Cooper

Academy Luncheon Guests—11/13/2006

↓Eunice Khoury
Insurance Agency



↓Chris Christensen (Media Group)



↓Mr. & Mrs. (Guest) Fred Morgan



↓Laura Tullis

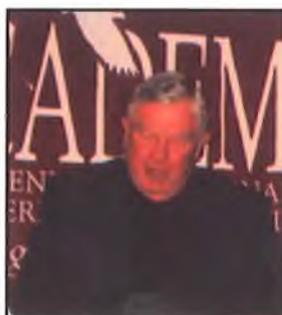


More Luncheon Guests

↓Page Waller



↓Exception: Dr. Tom Barnard,
Luncheon speaker/ASP Member



↓Andrea Williamson & Cathy Allen
Amedisys Home Health Representatives



↓Betty Jean Brannon





A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

by Lecil Brown

A great Christmas gift came to the home of William and Catherine Booth on **Christmas Day, 1865**. It was the birth of **Evangeline Booth**,

their seventh of eight children. Earlier in the year of 1865, William and Catherine Booth were founders of The Christian Mission, which became The Salvation Army in 1878. In the city of London, there were the desperately poor, the drunks, the unemployable, those with no hope. These were the people for whom William and Catherine Booth dedicated their lives.

Evangeline Booth was a brilliant child. As a teenager, she often played at preaching with her brothers and sisters and "talked of souls and sinners, backsliders and penitents." At fifteen she put on the Salvation Army sergeant's uniform and started selling the *War Cry*, the Army's newspaper in the streets. Journalist P. Whitwell Wilson, author of *General Evangeline Booth*, observes that "if Evangeline Booth was to win the hearts of the poor, she had to share their heartaches, and the only way to know poverty is to be poor. The flower girls of Piccadilly Circus were thus interested one day to receive an addition to their company nor had they the least idea who she was."

She became a SA Captain at the age of seventeen and given a post of her own. Her father placed much confidence in her ability. It was said when there was trouble anywhere in the organization her father's solution to the problem was to "Send Eva." She was placed in charge of training and given command of the Salvation Army forces in the London area, where her most effective work was as a troubleshooter. Her first trip to the United States was on such a mission in 1896. Faced with several issues that even threatened the Army's survival in the United States, she was able to resolve the problems and help regain public support. She then proceeded to Canada to head the Salvation Army forces there.

Evangeline's sister, Emma Booth-Tucker, was co-commander along with her husband of the work in the United States. On October 28, 1903 Emma was killed in a train wreck. Her husband found the burden of the work too heavy to carry alone. Commander **Evangeline Booth** was the logical successor. In 1904 she began her thirty-year career as leader of the Salvation Army forces in the United States. During the disastrous San Francisco earthquake of April, 1906, the Army formed its emergency disaster service. During World War I, its "doughnuts for doughboys" brought universal public enthusiasm and brought Evangeline Booth the Distinguished Service Medal.

Recognition of her skill as an administrator, she was called back to London and became General of the Salvation Army in 1934. She directed the world-wide activities of the Army for five years. She returned to her home in Hartsdale, New York where she died on July 17, 1950 at the age of 85.



Life You've Always Wanted

by John Ortberg

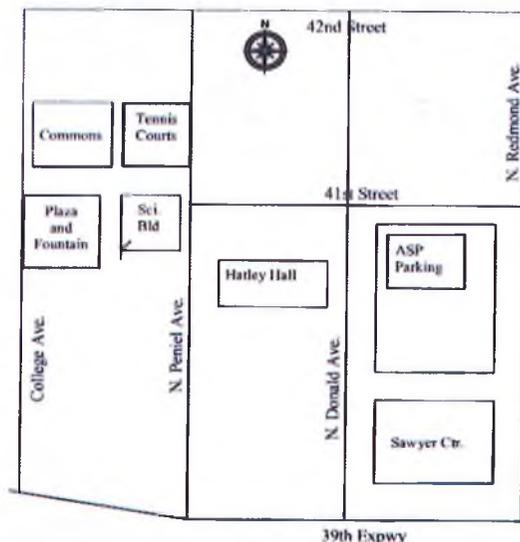
(copied from the book jacket by Bea Flinger)

"The Christian life is about more than being forgiven, more even than making it to heaven. The heart of Christianity is about transformation—about a God who isn't just concerned with our "spiritual lives," but who wants to impact every aspect of living. It's realizing that God meets us not in a monastery but on Main Street, and that all of ordinary, daily life has the potential to be lived as if Jesus himself were the one living it.

John Ortberg calls us back to the dynamic heartache of Christianity—God's power to bring change and growth—and shows us how we can attain it . . . And why we should attain it. Salvation without change was unheard-of to Christians of other days, he says, so why has the church today reduced faith to mere spiritual "fire insurance" that omits the best part of being a Christian?

This book offers modern perspectives on the ancient path of the spiritual disciplines. But it's more than just a book about things we should do if we want to be good Christians. It's a road map toward true transformation, compelling because it starts not with ourselves but with the object of our journey—Jesus Christ."

ASP Parking Map





News to Use

by Shirley Mears

“Tough Times”

I have heard it said that we are either going through tough times, coming out of tough times or headed toward tough times. That is not exciting news. However, it is not surprising news. My trials are nothing compared to the trials others have suffered, but I still have a tendency to focus on them, complaining that others haven't suffered like I have suffered. How does that old song begin, “*Nobody knows the troubles I've seen...?*”

I think the main thing to remember in trials is that “this too shall pass away.” The other thing to remember is that like the scene in the Tom Hanks movie, *Castaway*, each morning brings more possibilities on the shore. Tom's character would find new items that the tide brought on the shore, put them together and sail off his captive island.

Last month I explained some of my trials in The Perspective. This month I am able to announce some progress in my journey.

I met Tom Westbrook, Connections editor, through Chris Forbes, whose position is Marketing Evangelist Specialist with the Baptist General Convention. Chris told me about Tom and the passion that Tom and his team have to share good news with the community. Chris has a website that reveals his passion, www.mostimportantthing.org. His research shows that the baby boomer generation is dropping out of church. Their children are grown and they feel that their faith and eternal destination is settled and that their weekends get busy with many other activities. It is a disturbing trend and some believe it is because many boomers have not gone through the really tough trials and journeys as their parents did, like the Great Depression.

Trials will certainly cause a person to seek truth with a passion. However, it is best to search for that truth before trials come.

Connections is a newspaper based in Stillwater OK. It is a Christian focused paper with a devoted team of about 6 people. It is a non profit organization and is distributed monthly as an insert in the Stillwater Newspress newspaper. Their website is www.connectionsite.org.

I've been invited to join their team and the first Oklahoma City version of Connections will be distributed to part of the **45 & Better News** route in January, 2007. I am excited to be a part of this team as their focus is to make the Connections newspaper a massive tool to give concepts that work to our community.



Research Interest Group (RIG)

by Elbert Overholt

The Veterans History project and the SNU Faculty Heritage study were the two main research studies presented to the RIG by Dr. Martha Banz on Monday, November 13. After giving a short summary of the characteristics of narrative research, Dr. Banz described her interest and progress on these two research studies in which she is engaged.

The Veterans History Project is designed to obtain as much accurate information as possible from the experiences of veterans who participated in the United States war efforts from World War I to the present. She will also treat information from those patriots who were actively engaged in the war efforts on the home front as well as friends and relatives of the veterans.



Martha Banz

The SNU Faculty Heritage Study is an on-going research study to retain descriptions of important experiences and thoughts of current and former SNU faculty that are pertinent in maintaining the characteristics and culture of the University.

These projects will assist greatly in preserving the legacy of two important groups. Dr. Banz is to be commended for gathering and preserving this vital information. She has suggested several ways in which members of the Academy could become involved in assisting with these studies.

If you are interested in either or both of these studies, please give Dr. Banz or me a call. Her office number is 491-6609.

RIG (Part II)

ASP Co-Director, Brenda Styers will be presenting her plans for determining future activities of the Academy on Monday, December 11 at 9:30a.m. on the **2nd floor of the Marchant Family Alumni and Welcome Center.**



Brenda Styers

ALL ARE WELCOME. We'll finish our meeting by 11:00 a.m.

Note: The Marchant Center is located at the corner of 39th and College, immediately east of the Administration Building (Bresee Hall).

Continued from page 2—Arnold
my cousin.

The famous *Meditation XVII* of the English poet and clergyman John Donne (1572-1631) puts forth the essential idea that people are not isolated one from another, but that mankind is interconnected. He conveys this idea in those haunting lines in his *Meditation XVII*:

All mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language, and every chapter must be so translated... As therefore the bell that rings to a sermon, calls not upon the preacher only, but upon the congregation to come: so the bell calls us all...No man is an island, entire of itself...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore, never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.

My sincere wish is that none of us will cease striving until we discover that "great sweetness and exceeding joy" as our hearts are "on fire with love for all" in this Holiday Season, when we live in the certitude that all life is one, and that whatever we do now has an effect, for good or ill, everywhere.



MERRY



CHRISTMAS

Map: Directions to the Gresham Home

	63rd	Gresham's 5000 NW 59th	
	50th		
SNU	MacArthur	Grove	Meridian
	39th		



ASP Calendar

Monday: December 11

- 9:00 a.m. Shuttle: Sawyer parking lot to Webster/Marchant **begins**
- 9:30-10:45 Research Interest Gp. **2nd floor, Marchant Center**
- 10:30 a.m. Shuttle: Sawyer to Webster Commons **continues**
- 11:15 a.m. Luncheon begins: Heritage Room—Commons
- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon meeting ends: No Ad. Council Mtg
- 1:00 p.m. Shuttle service to Gresham's Home or Sawyer parking area will be available



REMINDERS

- **Membership Dues:** Members who have not paid their annual dues, may pay them at the December 11th Luncheon or send their checks to Dr. Roy Dorris, ASP Treasurer, 4607 N. College, Bethany, OK 73008. Yearly individual dues for the calendar year are \$15.00, or \$1.25 per month. The initiation fee for new members is \$10.00.
- **ASP Web Site:** Information about the ASP may be found at www.snu.edu/sr_professionals.
- **Shuttle Service for December meeting:** SNU continues to offer free shuttle service to and from the northwest corner of the Sawyer Center parking lot, 41st and Donald Street. Newcomers should turn north at the red light at 39th Expressway and Peniel Street; go two blocks north to 41st Street; turn right (east) one block to Donald Street. The shuttle begins service at 9:00 a.m. and continues trips to the Webster Commons and/or the Marchant Center. Post-luncheon service will be available to Sawyer parking and/or the Gresham's home following the luncheon. Members and guests are encouraged to use this shuttle service.

December Luncheon Subsidy Contributor

Spanish Cove

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2006-2007

- December 11, 2006**
- January 8, 2007**
- February 12, 2007**
- March 12, 2007**
- April 12, 2007 - Peer Learning event off campus**