



Perspective

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May — 2006

Film creator Bradley Wynn's topic for the May 8 luncheon: *Captain Kirk, the Deep Blue Sea, and Me*

by Shirley Mears

Oklahoma City Film District leader, Mr. Bradley Wynn has lived in several places, but he calls Oklahoma City "home." Since seeing such films as *Indiana Jones* and *Romancing the Stone*, he has lived a lifetime with an adventurous imagination.

While working as a state police officer, he often wrote his imaginative stories on the back of ticket books and escaped from the world of law enforcement by going to the movies.



Bradley Wynn

His passion for film has driven him into seeking and being a part of them by creating the Oklahoma Film Society and creating an historic downtown Oklahoma City Film District. On February 1, 2006, the Society moved into the former Paramount Pictures Film Exchange Building, which is located at 701 West Sheridan. One observer called this

move an "historical keystone."

When Mr. Wynn is not involved with the film industry, he spends time with his much-loved family and tries to keep up with his unique hobby of studying or collecting maritime histories and memorabilia- ships.

All ASP members and guests are encouraged to make their luncheon reservations to hear Mr. Wynn

on Monday, May 8, 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons on the Southern Nazarene University (SNU) campus.

Important luncheon reservation information:

- **Members:** If you have *not* been contacted by one of our telephone callers, then please call Mrs. Shirley Pelley, ASP Telephone Committee Chairperson, at **405.354.3853**
- **Guests:** Please call Dr. Elbert Overholt, ASP Director, at **405.789.2036**
- **All:**
 - The cost of the luncheon is **\$5.00**
 - Kindly *make your luncheon reservations before Thursday, May 4*
 - Please be reminded that when a luncheon reservation is made, it must be included in the count *unless it is cancelled by Friday, May 5*. To cancel a reservation, please call Dr. Overholt at **405.789.2036**

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### 2005-2006 Contributors to the Luncheon-cost subsidies

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- April:  
Olson Enterprises and an anonymous donor  
(One-half subsidy each)
- May:  
J. Robert "Bob" and Naomi Emmel



### Your president's point of view:

by Jack David Arnold

## Anna Belle's love had the patience to endure the disease I could not cure

Because the word *love* is used to describe a variety of feelings and relationships, it is easy to be confused about what *love* really is. Society tends to define *love* as affection for someone of the opposite sex; however, it is possible to think of *love* in much broader and higher terms: the basic feeling of good will for others, care for their health and well-being, and the desire to have only good come to them. The latter personifies the *love* for others and me by the late Anna Belle Laughbaum, Ph.D. (1915-2006). She was my beloved teacher, mentor, and friend for sixty years.

*Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to our own.*

--Robert A. Heinlein

Anna Belle's unconditional *love* for me was at the highest level because she demanded nothing in return. Her *love*, in the deepest spiritual sense, wished only good to come to me. She wanted me to have and experience what would make me happy. She never assumed that she knew what was best for me or what would make me happy. Her *love* even gave me the right to refuse what she wanted to give me.

In human relationships we sometimes forget that true *love* is given freely, with no strings attached. Anna Belle was undoubtedly hurt and disappointed by my worldliness and selfishness when I was in my Slough of Despond, but she never expressed it in words nor did she judge me during "those wasted years." She did write me little notes in the 1970's telling me that she *lovingly* and faithfully sent my name up to the Throne of Grace and asked our Heavenly Father to guide me as a Pilgrim on the Highway called Salvation. She loved John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, "the greatest allegory written in the English language," according to George Bernard Shaw. Although she did not know it, I got lost, stumbled, and fell, as did Christian in Bunyan's allegory, in a By-path Meadow on the grounds owned by Giant Despair in the 1970's.

*Why stand we here trembling around,  
calling on God for help,  
and not ourselves, in whom God dwells,  
stretching a hand to save the falling man?*

--William Blake



## "Sharing a Continuous Flight"

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To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals:

Mail to: Roy Dorris, Treasurer  
4607 N. College, Bethany, OK, 73008

#### Continued next column

Anna Belle was half-amazed when I told her in the summer of 1983 that my isolation from those who "loved me the most" was because of my alcoholism and "self-will run riot." In her quiet manner, she *lovingly* showed me by her actions that she had wanted me to stop hurting myself and others. I think she saw great danger ahead for this Pilgrim. When I told her on a bright summer day that I took my last drink of alcohol on May 15, 1983, she became silent, looked to the heavens, smiled beautifully, and said, "Jack, God's grace is sufficient, isn't it?"

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me;  
I once was lost, but now I'm found;  
Was blind, but now I see.

--John Newton

# Southern Nazarene University

CHARACTER | CULTURE | CHRIST

April 17, 2006

Academy of Senior Professional Members:

As Dr. Elbert Overholt anticipated his retirement from SNU as professor and head of the Department of Education, he dreamed of continuing his professional connection with the University and felt others would enjoy the same type of connection – a connection of socialization with others in retirement years, opportunity for continued learning, and a place for service. After several discussions, Southern Nazarene University formed the Academy of Senior Professionals in 1991 with Dr. Overholt serving as the director.

Throughout the past 15 years, Dr. Overholt has provided outstanding leadership, enabling ASP to become an environment of exploring, sharing, and learning in a climate of continuing intellectual stimulation. I am most grateful for Dr. Overholt's unwavering passion for the Academy and its members.

Recently, Dr. Overholt expressed his desire to transition from the specific role as the Academy's director and suggested that I consider naming Brenda Styers, SNU's Director of Alumni Relations, as the director of ASP. Brenda has an M.A. in Adult Education and understands the value of life-long learning. She is also well acquainted with many of the ASP members who are also alumni of SNU, and she provides a strong connection between the Academy and the University. However, I also saw great value in Dr. Overholt continuing to participate in the leadership of the organization during this time of transition. I asked Dr. Overholt if he would agree to serve as co-director of ASP with Brenda for one year after which Brenda would become director. To my delight, as well as Brenda's, he agreed to the co-directorship agreement.

On April 13, 2006, the ASP Administrative Council accepted this recommendation and I am pleased to announce that effective May 1, 2006, Brenda Styers will join Dr. Overholt as co-director of the Academy of Senior Professionals. Please join me in thanking Dr. Overholt for his outstanding leadership over these past 15 years and welcoming Brenda to this leadership position.

Warmest Regards,



Dr. Loren Gresham  
President, Southern Nazarene University

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Loren P. Gresham, PhD



# ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE



Ari Fleischer—speaker ↑



Michael Crabtree ↑



Jeff Seyfert and SNU display ↑



Eunice & Casey Robinson ↑



George & Mary Evelyn Miller ↑



Jim Posey ↑

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SNU display for the PLN luncheon, April 13, 2006 ↑