

The Academy Perspective

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Vada Lee Barkley, Editor

THE AWESOMENESS OF "TWO-CENTS' WORTH"

by Vada Lee Barkley

As a teacher I advised hundreds of students. I've tackled every problem from overcoming the blahs to life choices. I relied on divine guidance and, thank God, I have no regrets. A recent incident reminded me, however, of the awesomeness of my "two-cents' worth."

In January 1994, SNU Board of Directors Alumni members fanned out across the city to visit former professors. Two young men came to our home. One was Ken Horton.

Upon learning Ken was Don Horton's son, I said, "I knew your father in college. I want to give you a big hug."

Ken listened eagerly to everything I could tell him about his dad.

"Your dad used to call me 'Mom Prof,'" I told him. Among other memories, I related the following:

I was faculty sponsor of Gospel Team. We were meeting in Herrick on the third floor. One night near the end of the first semester (Don must have been a junior), Don sat by a darling young lady at Gospel Team. As we left the building he stepped up to me and said, "I need to talk to you."

I suggested that he walk his girl friend to the dorm and meet me in my office (on third floor of Bresee Hall, a few yards from where we were standing).

He said, "No, I'll just go with you." So I knew this must be urgent.

It was. Don told me that he was seriously considering transferring to Olivet (or maybe it was ENC) the next semester. He explained his reasons. I explained my reasons for his remaining here and finishing college. He accepted my advice.

Some weeks later Don came bounding up the stairs and into my office. He pointed to a date on my wall calendar. He and Marie were getting married on that day.

After graduation from SNU and NTS, Don accepted a pastorate in Texas. He was helping with his church building project when he was struck down and killed by a truck. Ken was just a child at that time.

As he rose to leave our home, Ken said, "Now I'm going to hug you." Then it dawned on me, without my bit of advice at a crucial time in his father's life, there might not be a Ken Horton.

TREASURER'S REPORT ON SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FUND

To date we have received \$395 for the Special Assistance Fund project. The \$395 plus the \$250 taken from our treasury makes a total of \$645. Since we gave \$1000 from our treasury for the President's Scholarship Fund, the Ad Council hopes to match that amount. If you would like to contribute to this Special Assistance Fund, make your check to SNU and mark it for that fund. This donation is tax deductible. We hope to get the balance (\$355) by March 13.

Don't tell that tired-looking fellow he needs a vacation; the chances are he just had one.

TALENT PROGRAM MARCH 13

Bob Griffin, Program Chairman

Eight individuals will share their talent at the monthly meeting of the Academy of Senior professionals March 13. The program will include:

Vocal Solos --

Gene Chambers

Mabel Sonnevik

Don Beaver

Readings --

Lecil Brown

Virjeane Bayles

Anna Belle Laughbaum

Ray Richards (The Funny Side of Life)

Piano Solo --

Anna Faye Dawson

Looking ahead to the final two meetings of the year:

April 10 -- Annual business meeting.

May 8 -- Will feature Academy members who have published books. Program directed by Virjeane Bayles.

ANOTHER ACADEMY MEMBER PROMOTED

Dorothy Ellis went to be with her Lord on February 23rd. Her funeral was at Resurrection Cemetery on Monday, the 27th.

Dorothy was a faithful member of the Academy. During the '93-'94 year she served on our calling committee. She always took her responsibilities seriously. She was social chair-person of her Sunday School class at BFC and she enjoyed using her creativity and expertise to serve others.

We will miss Dorothy, but we know she's at peace.

SPRING RAMBLINGS

by Robert Troutman

It seems to me that spring would be a better time than January 1 to make resolutions for the coming year. Most of us need all the help we can get to admit our weaknesses and determine to correct them. Spring is a time when nature is starting a new cycle. That would seem more likely to inspire us to make new starts than would January's bleak surroundings. Come to think of it, though, what's going on outside isn't really what counts, is it? Letting God control what's going on inside is what changes us. So I guess any day's as good as another for making a new start.

According to the kitchen calendar, March 20 is when the vernal equinox occurs, so that's the first day of spring. It may be as cut-and-dried as that to those who know what a vernal equinox is--but not to me. Spring doesn't begin on a set date. It begins with an inner emotional response to certain external visible stimuli. (I'm not sure exactly what that statement means, but I thought it sounded learned.) Spring comes gradually and it doesn't come at the same time every year. It depends on when God wakes up the sleeping winter world. While Wilma and I were walking Friday, we saw crocuses like pots of gold scattered in the grass, two daffodils that couldn't wait until the rest of the family was ready for a grand entrance, and flowering quince turning red with cold. External visible stimuli that brought an inner emotional response! So forget the vernal equinox--spring is already here!

CHRISTIAN AUTHOR

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

by Elbert Overholt

The Maxwell Chronicles by Michael Phillips provide very interesting and intriguing reading.

I just completed Pinnacles of Power and I am anxious to get into Depths of Destiny. Michael Phillips is one of today's most prolific and versatile Christian authors. In addition to editing and serving as co-author with Judith Pella, he has written over a dozen books on his own. His latest series, The Secret of the Rose, includes The Eleventh Hour, A Rose Remembered, and Escape to Freedom. Another in the series is scheduled to be released in the fall.

Pinnacles of Power is Phillips first original fiction. It was written 10 years before the publishers would accept a story of such delicate content. They liked the writing but were afraid that Christian organizations might think they were being identified as the characters and organizations in the story. The plot of the story centers around a young Christian magazine reporter who begins with routine research into the expanding global ministry of a renowned televangelist and his organization.

The reluctance to publish this work is understandable when you realize it was written in the early 80's when televangelism, religious broadcasting, Christian book publishing, and music recording were all in the midst of huge growth and worldwide impact. The reporter's inquiry into such sensitive issues as the use of donations and the building of a huge development project led him to soul wrenching decisions relative to his obligation to the truth, his loyalty to his friends, his relationship to God, and his life as a Christian servant.

This book is one of the "can't lay it down" types. If you like good, clean writing with lots of action and deep spiritual insight you'll enjoy Michael Phillips and Pinnacles of Power and many of Phillip's other writings.

ART'S CHUCKLES

By the time a person learns to stand up for his rights, he finds his arches have given way.

Most freeways have three lanes; a left lane, a right lane and the one you're trapped in when you pass your exit.

People who get down to brass tacks usually rise rapidly.