



*President's Column*  
by  
**Marla Mercer Cole**

April begins with my birthday. Yup. I'm an April's Fool baby. It's actually a great way to start the month. Regretfully, right after that celebration come tax deadlines which are not nearly as enjoyable. Also then comes Easter. What a day of joy it is to celebrate our risen Savior! We are redeemed. We are forgiven. We are blessed by God's great mercy and grace.

April strikes me as bright, joyful, and hope-filled. Spring is upon us at last. Flowers are blooming. Days are brighter and longer. Some indulge in spring cleaning, and I hope to do that myself. I also yearn for a 'spring cleaning' in my heart and mind. Though there are challenges, difficulties, and heartaches in this life, we are meant to be people of hope, joy, compassion and forgiveness. God is at work within us and through us for our ultimate good.

Having said all that, I recognize that we do experience discouragement or times of great burdens that can feel endless. When dark clouds hover over our lives or the lives of those we love, we may need to be reminded that there is hope. And so, let's think of this season of Spring as a magnificent reminder of the great hope we have in God. May each sunny day, each beautiful flower, each

green blade of grass, and each spring breeze remind us to choose joy. Let's let the warmth of the sun remind us of His favor toward us.

## **CANCELLATION NOTICE**

In light of the global health concerns we are currently experiencing, and considering the best interests of the health of our membership, the decision has been made to cancel our April ASP luncheon and Book Discussion. We are closely monitoring the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and following the current guidance from government and health authorities to ensure we are taking the best actions to protect our membership, guests, speakers, volunteers, and community. We will keep you informed about the May luncheon as the situation evolves, and appreciate your understanding.

## **Annual Meeting of ASP Members**

At our annual meeting in May, ASP bylaws revisions and election of officers for next year will be held during the luncheon. If you would like to serve on the Administrative Council, please let Carolyn Jagers know.



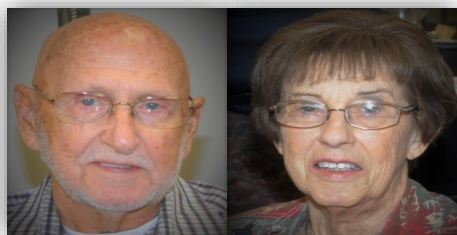
**March Re-Views**  
by  
**Hal Swinhart**



**Book Discussion**  
by  
**Barbara Culbertson**



Linda Carley pinned our newest ASP members, Ed Williams, Gary and Linda Banz, and Conley Henderson. Welcome new members!



Engaged: Ed Williams and Eula Mae Neuenschwander! Congratulations!

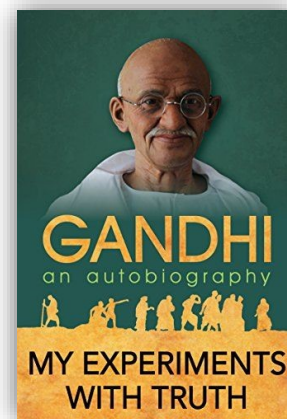


Brian Dougherty with Program Chair Shirley Mears.

What a thrilling presentation of the history of Oklahoma City parks! Thank you, Brian!

Here in the U.S., we continue to deal with fallout from our history of slavery. We may be tempted to think we are the only country having to sort out issues regarding prejudice. Not so. Other countries have struggled and are struggling with these same issues.

In this vein, ASP book discussions have included a book by Nelson Mandela. In May, with *My Experiments with Truth*, we will return to somewhat the same theme. This particular book will take us beyond the theme of racial injustice. It is a volume in which Mohandas K. Gandhi shares his struggles fighting for India's independence and toward eliminating racial injustice in South Africa. Gandhi writes with an astonishing transparency, openly sharing his own failures and weaknesses. It is a story that can pose gripping questions to Christians. I hope you will find this book as captivating as I did.



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