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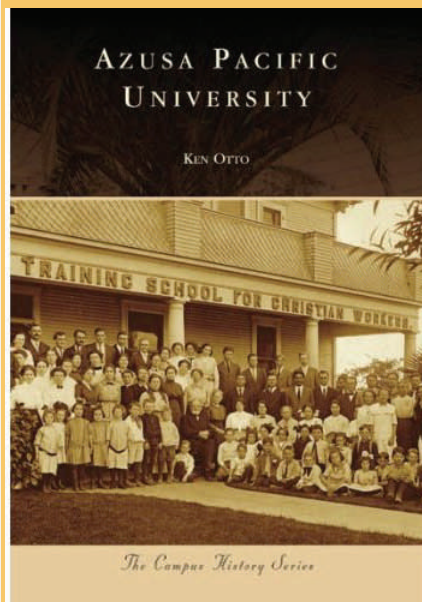
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"Azusa Pacific University " by Ken Otto, M.L.I.S., M.S.



Ken Otto, M.L.I.S., M.S. in Computer Science, Associate Professor, Special Collections Librarian and University Archivist, demonstrates superbly in *Azusa Pacific University* (Arcadia Publishing, 2008) how the old and the new coexist at our institution of higher learning and synergistically open up new vistas for the future. A part of Arcadia Publishing's *Campus History Series*, this narrated photo-documentary demonstrates the steady trajectory of growth from the Training School for Christian Workers (1899-1939) to Azusa Pacific University (1981-2007), including Pacific Bible College (1939-1957), Azusa College (1957-1965), and Azusa Pacific College (1965-1981) along the way. This little book of carefully selected anecdotes and pictures shows quantitative growth in almost all areas—student life, academics, financial stability and acquired properties—but most impressive of all is that A.P.U.'s motto and the actualization of it have remained unchanged: "God first". Otto writes in his "Introduction", "More than a century after its founding, Azusa Pacific University serves as a comprehensive, Christian, evangelical university dedicated to God-honoring excellence in higher education...."

Some of the "old" continues: musical groups going out to minister, street evangelists working in Los Angeles and elsewhere, powerful athletic teams scoring big wins, while the "new" has blossomed beside these traditional endeavors: "50 areas of undergraduate study, 23 master's degree programs, and 7 doctorates". Both old-timers and newcomers not only will enjoy reading about A.P.U.'s evolution but also will profit from this experience since the past and its traditions often exert silent, strong influences on the present.



After reflecting on this vibrant history, thoughtful readers may also wonder about what is ahead for this institution. Will God remain first in all professional and private decisions of the administrators, faculty, staff, and students, those who have always shaped what A.P.U. has become? Ken Otto's beautiful book helps the A.P.U. community to answer that question affirmatively.—Carole J. Lambert





“Azusa Pacific University” by Tamsen Murray, Ph.D.



Tamsen Murray, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Executive Director, Office of Christian Leadership and Vocation, and the late **Sheldon Jackson, Ph.D.**, Professor Emeritus of History and Political Science, in “Azusa Pacific University” comment on this institution’s growth and expansion of focus in *Founded by Friends: The Quaker Heritage of Fifteen American Colleges and Universities*, edited by John W. Oliver, Jr., Charles L. Cherry, and Caroline L. Cherry (Scarecrow Press, 2007, pp. 241-251). Since the focus of this book was to trace the Quaker roots of these institutions, this detailed narrative provides interesting accounts of key moments in A.P.U.’s development: the historic meeting of a small group of Quakers and a Methodist evangelist on March 3, 1899, in the Whittier, California, home of Philena Hadley in order to establish a training school for Christian workers, specifically ministers and missionaries; the opening of the school a year later in March 1900 in the Hadley home with two students; the eventual moves to Los Angeles, Huntington Park, and Azusa; and the leadership shifts from female

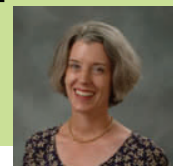


to male. Murray and Jackson write, “That the first four presidents of the Training School were women gave concrete testimony to the Quaker belief that women should have equal opportunity in institutional and church offices.” The sub-

sequent Presidents were men.

A painful moment in A.P.U.’s history is also revealed in this text: “William Kirby had joined the faculty in 1924 and had become an unofficial spokesman for the fundamentalists in their criticisms of national and state Friends.” In 1933 he set up a new church, separate from the Huntington Park Friends Church; his church met in the Training School for Christian Workers’ chapel for two years and eventually became the “school church”. This divide also altered the School’s informal relationship with the Quakers’ California Yearly Meeting which “lost influence at a school that had been started by Friends and had received students, teachers, board members, and financial support during the thirty-three years of its history.”

Although still remaining loosely connected to Friends, the institution grew to embrace additional evangelical denominations, “yet was not controlled by any one.” Finally in 1993, the Yearly Meeting and A.P.U. established a more formal working arrangement that included the founding of the Friends Center as part of the Haggard School of Theology. The close, generous relationship between Friends and A.P.U. is mirrored in the service of the Quaker Marshburn family: Dr. William V. Marshburn served on the Board of Trustees from 1907 to 1935; his sons Frank, Bill, and Cliff served on the Board in the 1950s; and Cliff’s son Donald served on the Board from 1981 to his retirement as its Chairman in 2006. A.P.U.’s current community can be grateful to the godly women and men who have helped it to grow in its Christian educational and missionary endeavors.—Carole J. Lambert





***"The Original Dr. Steve's
Almanac
of Christian Trivia "***
by Steve Wilkens, Ph.D.



Steve Wilkens, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy and Ethics, offers a delightfully entertaining yet informative assortment of factoids in his book *The Original Dr. Steve's Almanac of Christian Trivia* (Intervarsity Press, 2007). The phrase "things you should have learned in Sunday school, but didn't" appropriately characterizes the contents of the book. "Dr. Steve" is able to deliver factual information that could easily be deemed dry and tedious in a manner that demonstrates smart wit and humor. Readers will find themselves laughing out loud in the middle of one of his anecdotes and will come away with learning something that they likely had not known before or never really thought of or think about in the first place. The "miscellany of oddities" contained in his almanac have a broad range, from short biographies about people whom we know by name, such as St. Patrick and Mother Theresa, but may not know much about historically, to what constitutes and defines a "megachurch," to where the lyrics of "Jesus Loves Me" originated. Want a quick lesson on John Wycliffe? Dr. Steve gives an account of Wycliffe's contributions to carrying on the ideas of the Reformation in England, but then throws in how Wycliffe's efforts were continued by John Hus and Luther, thus connecting all of these reformers and the unfortunate decrees of death they suffered by the Council of Constance (except for Luther). Do some denominational names



seem oxymoronic? Here are a few from Dr. Steve's list: Orthodox Presbyterians, Charismatic Episcopal Church, Evangelical Free, United Methodists, and a double oxymoron, United Free Will Baptists. Have you ever thought about the origins of Sunday school? Dr. Steve begins his explanation with this: "What comes to mind when you think of Sunday school? Flannel-graphs? Graham crackers that have outlived their 'sell by this date' date by about two years? Twelve verses of 'If You're Happy and You Know It' (is it possible to not know if you are happy?), complete with motions? Whatever your memory, it is probably a far cry from the actual origins of the Sunday school movement." On some level, any person who grew up attending Sunday school should be able to relate to these early memories. The history of the Sunday school movement follows Dr. Steve's amusing opener, and we learn that its founder is an Anglican layman named Robert Raikes. At this time, England had no public school system. Raikes believed that, to help break the cycle of children in poverty, they needed to be educated. Since children worked in factories during the week, the only time was on Sunday. He taught them how to read and write, and the book that was used was the Bible. Upon completion of Dr. Steve's quick read, you will feel like you have learned something new. In addition to your new found knowledge, you will also have enjoyed a good laugh or two, which makes *The Original Dr. Steve's Almanac of Christian Trivia* exceedingly worthwhile.

—Abbylin Sellers





*“Be still and know
that I Am God.”
Psalm 46:10*

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Office of Research

Mission Statement:

Our purpose is to assist faculty and Doctoral students with their research and dissemination endeavors and to promote an academic climate that celebrates and strengthens the Azusa Pacific University community of Christian scholars and researchers.



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Mission Statement:

Our purpose is to support Azusa Pacific University's mission in the pursuit of academic excellence and the advancement of knowledge by striving to consistently meet or exceed expectations in services provided to faculty, project directors, the University community, and external funding sponsors, and by providing consistency in administrative systems and processes.

