

Perspective

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LUNCHEON NEWS

Les Thomsen to share how God uses laymen to provide education in Zimbabwe, Africa. March 8,

In 1964-66, Les Thomsen lived as a teenager in Uganda, East Africa. Once when returning from a Nairobi, Kenya boarding school, the train was attacked by angry tribal warriors with spears and machetes just inside the Uganda border. Later, he also came face to face with one of history's most brutal dictators, Idi Amin. These experiences, among many others, only deepened his love for Africa.



In January 2007, dear friends, Jerry and Rachel Nelson from Denver, Colorado, shared with Les and his wife, Lane, about their recent trip to Africa. There they had met a local pastor, Noah Sibanda, from Zimbabwe who has a passion for education. Little did Les realize how the fire in his heart

would be reignited and a deep relationship with Pastor Noah would change their lives. It began initially by providing funds for a water well and soon an education program was born. Originally called LastYearsChristmasGift.com, the program has provided funds for education through direct contributions. To date, having helped more than 60 students from kindergarten to college age, the program continues to grow. It is now evolving into many diverse self-sustaining projects; therefore, the Web site will soon be renamed: www.NoahsFarm.org.

March 2010

As Founder and President of Noah's Farm, a nonprofit company, Les will share stories of students in the program including one about Veronica, a college student who had to walk 3 miles a day to attend school and complete her homework assignments. You will also hear about Ruth whose family wanted to disown her.

In 1968, Les was a member of the original class of Mid-America Nazarene College, now Mid-American Nazarene University, and graduated with a BA in speech communication and religion. Married to his college sweetheart for over 38 years, they have two adult children and four grandchildren all living in St. Louis, Missouri. Les and Lane reside in San Antonio, Texas. Lane has been with AT&T for 38 years. Les is currently employed by John Buxie, CPA PC. He has served his local church as a Lay Pastor, Treasurer, and Finance Chairman.

Important luncheon reservation information:

- Members: If you have not been contacted by one of our telephone callers by Thursday, March 4, then please call Mrs. Aleen Drumeller, ASP Telephone Committee Chairperson, at 405.265.0302
- Guests: Please call the SNU Office of Alumni Relations at 491.6312 or email ASP@snu.edu
- All: The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00. Kindly make your reservation(s) by Thursday, March 4.

MARCH LUNCHEON SPONSOR



Concordia Life Care Community, **Our Thanks to Lisa Vallekamp**



Your President's Point of View by Jack David Armold

Introspection and participation, with an emphasis on growth and change, will advance the quality of life for senior adults

"The unexamined life is not worth living" (Socrates).

The study of human behavior is not new to the twenty-first century intellectuals and practitioners. The ancient Greeks were probably the first to ask questions about what motivates people. The origins of psychology are often linked to the philosopher Aristotle (384-322 B.C.). Aristotle built upon the groundwork of Socrates (ca 470-399 B.C.) and Plato (ca 428-348 B.C.). In summary, Socrates taught Plato, and Plato taught Aristotle in the Golden Age of Greece, a period of great happiness, prosperity, and achievement.

The phrase, "*Man, know thyself,*" is attributed to Socrates who urged his fellow Athenians to live noble lives, to think critically and logically, and to have probing minds. He believed, along with Plato and Aristotle, that evil arises from ignorance and the failure to investigate the reasons why people behave as they do.

Socrates emphasized the Greek ideal of self-control and moderation in the maxim, "*Nothing in excess.*" He believed in a divine principle, expressed through an unfailing inner voice, that directs our actions along the path of morality. He taught us to explore our thinking and behavior, to reach within ourselves and to expunge those behaviors that are unworthy of us.

Honest self-analysis and personal inventory can help us to see if we *react* to people and events because we have been socially conditioned in a certain way, or if we are *nonreactive* in our behavior and are guided by the divine principle and inner voice within us.



"Sharing a Continuous Flight"

The Academy Perspective

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We value messages from our readers. By mail: *The Academy Perspective (TAP)*, Southern Nazarene University, 6729 N.W. 39th Expressway, Bethany, OK 73008 By fax: (405) 491-6381 By computer: www.snu.edu —Alumni & Friends—ASP

---Newsletter Subscription Information---Annual subscription cost for *The Academy Perspective:* Non-members—\$10.00 per year Members—Included in membership

---Contributions---

To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals: Mail to: Roy Dorris, Treasurer 4607 N. College, Bethany, OK, 73008

Luncheon Sponsors for 2009-2010

October:	Jack David Armold, Ph. D.
November:	Legend at Council Road, Connie
	Daniels
December:	Southern Plaza, John Stoddart
January:	F. Trent Densmore, Attorney, (PC),
	Trent Densmore
February:	Cancelled—Snow Day
March:	Concordia Life Care Community,
	Lisa Vallekamp
April:	Southern Nazarene University
May:	Eunice Khoury Insurance Agency,
	Inc., Eunice Khoury

Academy of Senior Professionals Member Obituary

Jack Whenry



Jack was born on August 30, 1927, to Carrie and Roy C. Whenry at Ft. Reno. He was raised on the Fort, and he and his lifelong friends were known as the Ft. Reno "Army Brats." He supported the restoration of Ft. Reno. At age 17 he enlisted in the Navy, then Jack completed high school at El Reno. He attended the

University of New Mexico, was graduated with his Bachelors degree, and entered the Air Force, serving as a medic during the Korean War. After 20 years in the Air Force as a hospital administrator, he retired with the rank of Major. Dr. Whenry earned his Ph.D. in Education from Indiana University.

Jack Whenry died on Friday, December 11, 2009. Jack Whenry is survived by the love of his life, his wife, Dorothe Whenry. Survivors also include his four children and spouses: Claudia and Max Ray, Rynda and Rick Clark, Deanna and Bob Rieden, and son Jim and Angie Whenry; his brother, Merle Whenry; eight grandchildren: Zach and Chad Ray, Matthew and Melanie Jewett, Justin Cody and Logan Gibbs, and Shelby Whenry Childress and Justin Whenry; and four great-grandchildren: Kaleb, Zoe, Joel and Aiden; and Dorothe's son and family, John, Yolenda and Lavenrina Collier. Dr. Whenry was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Julia Whenry.

Services for Dr. Jack L. Whenry, 82, of El Reno, were held at 10:30 AM, Friday, December 18, 2009, at Southern Hills Christian Church in Edmond, OK, Reverend Dr. Gary Byrkit officiating. A celebration of Jack's life was held 10:30 AM, Saturday, December 19, 2009, at Ft. Reno Chapel.

PEER LEARNING NETWORK PRESENTS



PLN PRESENTS/LUNCHEON MIKE HUCKABEE

Thursday, April 29, 2010

The Pursuit of the Presidency and the Perfectly Insane American Process: Gov. Huckabee Presents Insights and Experiences from the American Political System

LOCATION

Cox Convention Center Downtown Oklahoma City Concourse Level, Great Hall C

Please Note. This Peer Learning Network Luncheon will replace our normal luncheon on campus.
Cost per person for ASP members is \$15.00
This month be sure to reserve your place at our luncheon!
Transportation will be provided.

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RIG The Monkey Squat By Paul Scheie



LIBRARY NEWS By Arlita Harris

Jack David Armold

Presents a Workshop on

CONSEQUENTIAL ETHICS

PART 1,

Ethical Egoism & Hedonism

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010

9:30-10:30 A.M.

Commons, First Floor Conference Room

Should the end sometimes justify the means? Come and find out.



Research Interest Group Ethics discussion led by Jack David Armold, January 2010

You'll really like <u>Same Kind of Different as Me</u>, by Denver Moore and Ron Hall. One chapter is by one of them; the next by the other. The backgrounds are very different, but they are brought together by Ron's wife in a Fort Worth homeless shelter.

Denver Moore grew up on a plantation in Louisiana, living as a modern-day slave with his sharecropper grandparents. One day, he hopped a freight train and became a homeless drifter, then a prisoner, before ending up on the streets of



Fort Worth, Texas. By that time, he was very hardened and skeptical about life and God; but that was before he met Miss Debbie and his life was changed forever.

Ron Hall grew up in East Texas, also poor, but God blessed him with a college education at TCU, several good jobs, and a position as a municipal bond trader at a local bank. He saw and bought an original art painting in a Houston gallery (using a 90-day loan), and 89 days later, sold it for a \$2,000 profit. That launched his art career. Ron was married to Debbie, his college sweetheart, who convinced him that he should come with her to the homeless shelter, where he met Denver and became his friend.

This unlikely pair, a black homeless drifter and a white millionaire international art dealer, both driven and dedicated to "Miss Debbie" have shared their story in Same Kind of Different as Me. It's compelling, touching, and you will shed some tears.

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The Academy Perspective



SNU on The Gospel Station Network by Shirley E. M. Mears

One of the many blessings I receive from working with The Academy of Senior Professionals is meeting people who have great God stories.

You can tune in to hear the archived three minute segments by going to <u>www.thegospelstation.com</u> and click on the Ministry Interviews tab. There is an alphabetized list with the numbered interviews. The interviews connected with Southern Nazarene University are:

Dr. Tom Barnard, # 29, Jeff Seyfert, # 1 and 35, Dr. Loren Gresham, #36, Dr. Tony Griffin, # 70 and Dr. Stan Toler, # 18. I also was able to interview Dr. Tony Campolo, who visited Oklahoma City last year.

If you have a suggestion for an interview, just email me at <u>news@45andbetternews.com</u> or <u>shirleym@thegospelstation.com</u>. My cell is 405-514





NEWS BRIEFS



Another beautiful snow storm in Bethany caused us to cancel the ASP luncheon for February. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in March!



April's Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 29 at the Cox Center downtown Oklahoma City. It is the annual PLN Presents Luncheon. You will want to plan ahead, purchase your ticket, and make a reservation for transportation at our March 8 luncheon. ASP members cost is \$15.00 per person. See page 3 for more information.

> Register Now Senior Adult Conference 2010

"Advancing the Quality of Life A Lifelong Learning Conference"

Bethany First Church of the Nazarene

May 21, 2010 8 AM to 3 PM

Look for registration information on the ASP web page www.snu.edu—Alumni & Friends—ASP

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Armold continued from p. 2

As important as it is to understand the behavior of others, our behavior is the only behavior we can change. Learning the reasons behind our own behavior helps us to be honest with ourselves; it builds integrity into our lives.

We can learn what is *real* to us, what *matters* to us. We can learn to *respond* rather than simple *react*. We can learn to be *true* to ourselves rather than be *untruthful* through pretense and grandiosity. We can learn to *participate* in life, rather than *isolate* ourselves from others and healthy activities.

The Senior Adult Conference 2010 (SAC2010), which will be presented by the Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) at the Southern Nazarene University (SNU) on May 21 at the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene, 6789 N. W. 39th Expressway, will give all senior adults an opportunity to advance the quality of their lives through introspection and participation.

The SAC2010 objectives are as follows:

- To assist senior adults in personal growth and development
- To use time and space more effectively and creatively
- To raise individual and community cultural levels
- To develop and increase lifelong learning
- To learn to adjust to life's crises
- To cooperate with local groups, individuals, and agencies to gain insight into the aging process
- To cooperate with Southern Nazarene University by presenting a positive image and service to the local and extended communities

Some SAC2010 seminar topics include the following:

- Staying independent
- Addiction and aging
- Drug-adverse effects and interactions
- Ups and downs of downsizing
- Finishing well
- Stages of grief
- Extending your warranty through fitness and wellness



Armold continued

- Identity theft
- Health-care legislation
- Long-term insurance
- Philanthropy and charitable giving

Two outstanding SAC2010 plenary speakers have been scheduled:

- Mr. Charles P. "Chuck" Schroeder, Executive Director of the National Cowboy and West ern Heritage Museum
- Dr. Stan Toler, General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene, author, inspirational musician, and speaker

For registration and other information, please contact the following SAC leaders or go to ASP Web page: <u>www.snu.edu</u>>Alumni &

Friends>ASP: Jack David Armold, 405.350.0405, jackarmold@aol.com; Emmalyn German, 405.470.6737, cdg1937@msn.com; John Martin, 405.659.2131, johnm@butterfieldfoundation.org; and/or Shirley Mears, 405.514.8108, news@45andbetternews.com



Lifelong learning through introspection and participation at SAC2010 will lead us to a peaceful, successful, and spiritual existence on the surface of Mother Earth that it is *truly worth living*.