

Luncheon speaker looks at Faith-based initiative in Oklahoma

By Milton Sonnevik

The next meeting of the Academy of Senior Professionals will be Monday, January 14, 2002. The speaker will be Mr. Russ Urquhart, the new program director for the Cornerstone Assistance Network with offices at 1401 N. W. 30th Street, Oklahoma City.



Mr. Russ Urquhart

Mr. Urquhart is the new program director for Cornerstone. He has a bachelor's degree in psychology from San Diego State University. He has over 17 years experience as a small business owner, primarily in business consulting. Mr. Urquhart has served

Children as Executive Director.

He has been involved in a number of volunteer community service projects with faith-based organizations. He has worked with clergy and lay leaders in training, recruiting, and managing volunteers. His experience with church-related ministries includes Kairos, Cursillo, and Prison Fellowship. He has worked with DHS on several projects, including training chronically unemployed welfare recipients.

He is married to Christine, who is employed by Francis Tuttle Technology Center. They are members of Our Lord's Community Church.

Cornerstone recently responded to an invitation issued by the Department of Human Services to bid

competitively on a \$55,000 contract to act in an intermediary role with the 2,771 faith communities in the forty-seven counties in Western Oklahoma. Cornerstone was awarded the contract April 19, 2001.

Simply stated, an intermediary organization is an organization that provides assistance to faith congregations that are interested in providing social services. It is **not** a government agency. The Intermediary is familiar with the faith community, the programs of government social service agencies, and with successful faith-based programs that serve as "best practices." The Intermediary serves both the local congregation and the traditional social service provider for the purpose of helping them work together to reach the poor and needy. The Intermediary will report to and assist Oklahoma's Office of the Faith-Based Liaison.

Cornerstone has over the past five years aided those who are helping "the least of these." The goal has been to seek greater collaboration between faith communities and state agencies in providing services to the poor. Now with the reality of a national and state Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, many more people are working toward making this goal possible.

This new spirit is evidenced by Cornerstone's new role to act as an **intermediary** with faith groups in Oklahoma City and Western Oklahoma. These new duties will be only part of what Cornerstone does. The increased activity is simply an expansion of Cornerstone's current work and an extension of the organization's current efforts.

Dr. Jim Poteet is currently being assisted by Mr. Russ Urquhart in writing a proposal for the Bethany Neighborhood Center's after-school program.

You are urged to attend this very special luncheon, which will inform us regarding the Faith-Based Initiative and its proposals.



Your president's point of view:
by Jack David Arnold

The American Dream:
Our Heritage of Hope

America was built on dreams. Our ancestors chose to take risks by putting their lives on the line and fighting for freedom. They declared their independence in 1776 when Benjamin Franklin, entrepreneur, statesman, diplomat, educator, inventor, author, printer, philosopher, scientist, shopkeeper, musician, economist, public servant, and American dreamer, stated clearly, "We must all hang together or assuredly we shall all hang separately."

In the late 1960's, during the Vietnam War and the Student Revolution, Sydney E. Ahlstrom, author of *Religious History of the American People*, asked the question, "The American Faith: What Happened to It?" He asserts, "The martial themes of 'The Star-Spangled Banner' have lost their allure. The traditional symbols of loyalty and national reverence are everywhere in a state of decay and disuse."

Our comparatively young nation—without ancient ties of blood and place, composed of people from many different racial, religious and ethical backgrounds, differing in their degree of assimilation—stood in great need of a common sense of purpose and a common commitment.

The American experience shows that although men and women have always dreamed, these dreams have had persistent aspects, but they also have adjusted to changing conditions.

When John Cotton (1584-1652) gave the farewell sermon to the Winthrop Company as it was on the eve of sailing to America, he chose the following text: "Moreover, I will appoint a place for my people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more" (2 Samuel 7-10). Cotton believed that God had appointed America to be "a land of promise.."

For over three centuries, the American Dream seems to have been concerned with these beliefs: (1) America was a chosen land; (2) God destined it to be so; and (3) We are a chosen people, superior by virtue of God having chosen us.

As Cotton expressed it, God was to be our landlord. The American Dream was concerned with the human condition. Progress was central to the American Dream; it was unleashed by freedom, guided by Providence, fueled by opportunity, created by work, and it produced abundance.

But the land had large, wide-open spaces, and backsliders were not uncommon. From the beginning, as Howard Mumford Jones has noted in *O, Strange New World*, "The American Dream of a new Eden was crisscrossed with darker shades of doubt and selfishness, personal strivings and more liberal hankerings."

Following our war with Spain at the end of the 19th century, historian Albert Beveridge, though not a minister, still described his dream for America in religious terms:

We will not renounce our part in the mission of our race, trustee, under God, of the civilization of the world... God has made us the master organizers of the world to establish a system where chaos reigns.... We are trustees of the world's progress, guardians of its righteous peace



"Sharing
a
Continuous
Flight"

The Academy Perspective

--Publication Board--

Chair & Production Editor Don Beaver, Ph.D.
Copy Editor Anna Belle Laughbaum, Ph.D.
Managing Editor Elbert Overholt, Ed.D.

--Columnists--

President's Column Jack David Arnold, Ph.D.
Obituaries Glendena Adams
Feature Writer Vada Lee Barkley, M.A.
Book Reviews Wini Howard, M.T.
Library Resources Esther Schandorff, M.L.Sc.

--Staff Reporters--

Photography Edith Sonnevik Payne, B.S.N.
Programs Milton Sonnevik, M.A.
Research Beatrice E. Flinger, M.L.Sc.

--Communications Policy--

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 > Community Relations > Academy of Senior Professionals

--Newsletter Subscription Information--

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

~~~~~  
Even John Cotton could not have dreamed of Americans guarding such extensive holdings!

About the same time that Beveridge wrote about the American Dream in religious terms, the books of American author, Horatio Alger, gave Americans hope that through rigorous honesty, hard work, and strong determination, the American Dream was available to anyone willing to make the journey.

A poor Scottish lad named Andrew Carnegie immigrated to America with a dream as a teenager, built the world's largest steel mill, and became the richest man in the land. Through his philanthropy, he gave his wealth away and helped to build our greatest libraries while reminding us, "No man becomes rich, unless he enriches others."

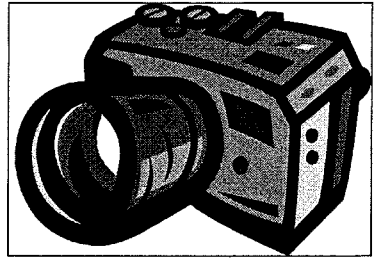
Martin Luther King, Jr.'s passionate speech, "I Have a Dream," opened our eyes. While bullets took the lives of King and President John F. Kennedy in the turbulent 1960s, nothing stopped the seeds they planted for their dreams for an even better America.

Our American heroes are gone but not forgotten. One such legend, Sam Walton, said it so well: "If you believe in your



# ASP PICS

PICTURES BY EDITH SONNEVIK PAYNE

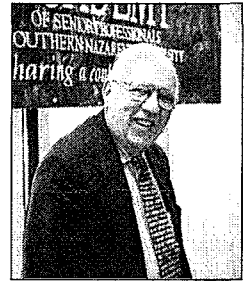


**Bobbie Steele** is the newly-appointed chairperson of the Membership Committee for ASP



**Wes Harmon** presides in the absence of President Jack Arnold

**Milton Sonnevik** introduces the SNU bell choir, the program for the December academy luncheon.



(left) **Elbert Overholt, June Phillips, Dick Howard and Wini Howard** participate in the December Book Discussion Group.



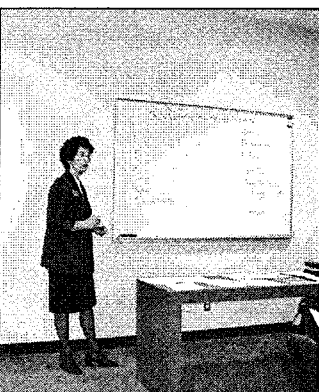
(right) Guests at the December meeting: (l-r) **Morris/Naomi Neal, Darlene Graves, Paul/Ellen Whittaker**



(left) The SNU Bell Choir, directed by **Brad McKenzie**, performs for the ASP Luncheon.



(right) **Margaret Greenwood** and her assistants prepare the food and help to give the meeting room a festive atmosphere.



(left) **Marilyn Olson** presents items for discussion by the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) (shown right) about the SAC 2002 conference scheduled for April 18. The SPC meets monthly as it prepares for this significant event.



## SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE 2002

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2002

BETHANY 1ST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

8:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

FREE: PARKING — EXHIBITS — SNU CAMPUS TOURS  
FREE: TRAVEL/LODGING INFORMATION

FEATURING KEYNOTER TEDD MITCHELL, M.D.,  
DIRECTOR, COOPER WELLNESS CENTER,  
DALLAS, TX

**FEES:**

ADULTS—\$20 (WORKSHOPS + LUNCHEON)

STUDENTS—\$5.00 (WORKSHOPS)

**SPONSOR:**



THE ACADEMY OF SENIOR  
PROFESSIONALS AT  
SOUTHERN NAZARENE  
UNIVERSITY

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

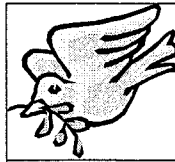
Phone: 405-789-2036; 972-406-8627

e-Mail: molson@thecovenantgroup.com

overez1@msn.com

dbeaver@snu.edu

jackarmold@aol.com



## Academy Obituaries

**Gene Adams** died Sunday, December 9, 2001. Gene was born April 13, 1928 to Letha (Lane) & Everett Adams in Knowles, OK.

In 1945 he moved to Bethany where he graduated from high school and then began his college education at Southern Nazarene University. He graduated from the Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science in 1957. He was employed by Guardian Funeral Homes in OKC and then in 1990 went into partnership to establish Gene Adams Funeral Service in Bethany, OK. He was a long-time member of Bethany First Church of the Nazarene and was an active church and community leader.

Among his many relatives, he is survived by his wife, Dena; three daughters, Tammie Dunn, Brenda Teeters, and Janice Albright. Gene was a faithful member of the Academy of Senior Professionals.

**Colleen Karns Cornwell** died Thursday, December 13, 2001. Colleen was born February 21, 1926, to Elmer Mearkle and Verna M. Dawson on a farm north of Kingsdown, Kansas. Colleen attended grade and high school in Ford, Kansas. She was graduated from Bethany-Peniel College (now Southern Nazarene University) in 1948. She then attended the University of Wichita and completed the master's degree in education at the University of Oklahoma in 1951.

After teaching business subjects in Mineola and Liberal, Kansas, for two years, Colleen served as Director of Human Resources at the Nazarene Publishing House in Kansas City, MO, for 38 years.

She is survived by her husband, Don, and sister, Jean Ladd and her husband, Forrest.

Colleen was an active member of the Academy of Senior Professionals.

**Shural Knippers**, known to his friends as "Nip," died Tuesday, December 11, 2001. Shural was born August 6, 1923.

He was a graduate of Southern Nazarene University with a B.A. in religion, with graduate work at Baptist Seminary in Ft. Worth, TX, and U.C.O., Edmond.

Shural was retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Chaplain Lt. Col. He was a long-time member of Bethany First Church of the Nazarene, an active community leader in Bethany, and a member of the Academy of Senior Professionals.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; sons, Shural, Jr., and John; daughter, Lora; brother, Harold; and sister, Lora Lee.

**USE THE GIFT OF LONGEVITY IN THIS  
NEW YEAR AND PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN  
SAC2002 ON APRIL 18!**





### "If you ask me"

By Vada Lee Barkley

"To the saints of God," says Dr. Hough, "death is nothing to cause distress or sorrow from things held dear, it brings them into an even more precious relationship."

Among Art's notes I found the following statement: "In the morning, when this life is past we are going to find the answers to all questions unanswered here. We shall see the dearest faces we have loved and lost, and we will look upon that one face which has haunted the dreams of humanity since the day when God walked with men in Galilee so long ago."

After death the body decays. The soul lives on. "Then the dust shall return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return to God who gave it (Eccl. 12:7). "Because I live, ye shall live also," Jesus said (John 14:19).

Paul says that the death of the Christian is far better than life on earth. The spiritual body will not be subject to limitations, pain, or decay. The treasure laid up will be available. Sin and death will be banished. And, above all, the believer will be ushered into the presence of God and the host of saints who await him.

*Note: The following information was not received in time for the December "Perspective":*

Practical Resources for Pastor or Layman: A Smorgasbord of Food for Thought. Compiled by Art Barkley; edited by Vada Lee Barkley; \$7.50. Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to the SNU scholarship fund in the name of Art Barkley. Books are available at the SNU book store or contact Vada Lee: 2508 N. Rockwell #134, Bethany, OK, 73008; 491-0766.



### Library Connection

By Esther Schandorff

Thomas Jefferson has been quoted as saying, "I cannot live without books." In these troubled times, may I point out a few books that could give perspective on the people called Muslims. Check on them in the library:

Accad, Fouad Elias. *Building bridges; Christianity and Islam.* Colorado Springs, Colo. NavPress, 1997.

Hussaid, Freda. *Muslim women.* New York, St. Martin's Press, 1984.

Kateregg, Badru. *A Muslim and a Christian in dialog/Badru D. Katteregg and Davie W. Shenk.* Scottsdale, Pa., Herald Press, 1997.

Miller, Roland E. *Muslim friends: their faith and feeling, an introduction to Islam.* St. Louis, Concordia Publishing House, 1995.

Musk, Bill A. *Touching the soul of Islam.* Crowborough, Marc, 1995.

Renard, John *Responses to 101 questions on Islam.* New York, Paulist Press, 1998.

Schimmel, Annemarie. *Islam: an introduction.* Albany, State University of New York Press, 1992.



### A look at a book

By Wini Howard

#### *A Common Life* by Jan Karon

If you have not been introduced to Jan Karon's books—many would agree, I'm sure, — you have missed something very special. Her series of five novels sometimes referred to as the Mitford Series, acquaint us with a fictitious town in North Carolina called Mitford. The Los Angeles Times says Jan Karon "reflects contemporary culture more fully than almost any other living novelist." I wish this were true. Her reflections are mostly very positive.

The sixth novel, *A Common Life*, is about Father Tim's wedding. The preceding books have followed the life of this Episcopalian priest of Mitford, along many interesting and often amusing paths. We have come to know several of his parishioners and other people in the town.

The highlight of the novels, from almost the beginning, is the very attractive divorcee, who has moved into the little cottage next door to the manse.

Father Tim is a bachelor, who has already passed his 60th birthday. His life is full and busy without a wife. His church people are very content with him and his care of them.

After reading five books about Father Tim and the people of Mitford, you can begin to feel like one of the townsfolk. You learn that Father Tim has finally proposed to Cynthia and there is a wedding.

In Karon's sixth book we are given a full account of the wedding preparations (and the whole town is involved), the actual wedding (and the bride almost doesn't make it), and the honeymoon in Maine (not exactly an ideal place). You'll laugh aloud, I hope, and maybe wipe some tears.

The author has recently published two more books. "The Mitford Snowman" is a seasonal book and "Patches of God's Light" contains quotes from Father Tim.

### Schandorff Recognized at Pt. Loma Luncheon

#### Esther Schandorff

Esther Schandorff, ASP member and resident of Bethany, was recently honored at the Homecoming Centennial luncheon at Point Loma Nazarene University. At the luncheon she received one of the awards given to members of the faculty and staff who had served for more than 25 years. Esther served for more than 32 years at PLNU, 25 of them as head librarian.

Schandorff, whose father was a Nazarene minister, grew up in Indiana. In 1951 she graduated from Pasadena College, following two years of service in the U.S. Naval Reserves, which she entered as a pharmacist.

Esther earned a master's degree in library science from the University of Southern California, where she was elected to Beta Phi Mu honor society. After her retirement from PLNU in 1985, she researched and authored a two-volume bibliography on the Holy Spirit. It was published in 1995.

Esther has traveled extensively and served as a volunteer librarian at Africa Nazarene University, Nairobi, Kenya, and Nazarene Theological College in Brisbane, Australia.

(Continued from page 2)

dreams, there's no limit to what you can do."

On September 11, 2001, terrorists launched an attack on America. Many terrorists hijacked several of our airplanes, crashing two of them into the World Trade Center buildings in New York City and one into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., killing thousands. Another plane that was hijacked was taken off course when passengers overtook the plane, crashing it into an isolated place.

The leader of this horrific group of world-wide terrorists, Osama Bin Laden, more than likely believed that by taking these violent actions, he would destroy the American Dream by inciting fear in everyone. At first, Americans were traumatized with what they were seeing and hearing; however, a turn of events took place that totally disrupted Bin Laden's plan. Americans united against a common enemy.

The principle of unintended consequences, which maintains that every process and every system contains consequences that were not originally intended when the process or system was developed, begun and thwarted the enemy's plan. Bin Laden chose to disrupt the American way of life, but what he did not anticipate or intend, is exactly what happened next.

Americans reached out to those in need. We have hung our flags and hugged our loved ones. We have smiled at strangers and cried for people we knew only through their heroism or poignantly ordinary lives. We have shown more patriotism since these attacks than we have since World War I and II.

Instead of destroying the American Dream, Osama Bin Laden's actions have not only brought Americans together, but reinforced our strength with citizens of countries all around the world. These unintended consequences must have thrown Bin Laden's plan into a circle of worry. Americans fought back from day one and will continue to fight back until his entire process, system, or plan, is destroyed.

Benjamin Franklin, who had a dream for America as a founding father, leaves us with these parting, timeless words to consider in this time of healing, rebuilding, and dreaming: "If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing."

**The American Dream is alive and well to all those who choose to chase it!**



**ASP Calendar**

**Monday: January 14**

10:30 am Shuttle: West BFC Parking Lot to Commons

Please Note: Arrivals before 10:30—Go to Faculty Lounge

11:15-1:00 pm Luncheon

1:00 pm Shuttle: Commons to West BFC Parking Lot

1:15-2:30 pm Administrative Council: Faculty Lounge

**Tuesday: December 11**

1:15 pm Strategic Plan. Comm: Commons Fireside Rm.

Focus: Senior Adult Conference 2002—April 18



**News Briefs**  
By Elbert Overholt, ASP Director

- The ASP Scholarship Fund is a good way to honor those of our Academy who have recently passed away. A contribution in their honor will extend our memory of them for years to come.
- The Academy-sponsored SAC 2002 (See notice on p. 4) is still in need of funds for publicity and initial operation. A gift to the Academy for this purpose would be most helpful.
- You will notice by the calendar that no Book Discussion or Memoirs Writing group has been scheduled for January. We will have a Memoirs Writing session in March and a Book Discussion as soon as you tell us the book you would like to discuss. Perhaps you have a book you would like to review. This may be a good means to get that new book you have written before the group.



committed. Someone wanting to use the 'phone or bathroom, and burglarizing while another group member causes distraction.

- Members of a ring engage a senior in conversation for home entry or purse snatching; Someone talks with a woman on a sidewalk in order to set her up for an accomplice to snatch her purse.
- Befriending a Senior in order to later steal money or defraud: Ring members go to a senior's door pretending to need help, engage in conversation until a "friendship" begins—then they beg, borrow or steal money or goods; the same type of activity may take place in a store.

**What You Can Do**

- Be wary of strangers when they: Try to engage you in conversation in your home or in a public place; Pursue you to become their friend.
- Don't let strangers into your home. Verify their identity, then call on the 'phone using a number from the telephone book (not what they tell you). If no verification can be made, ask that the package be left or for the person to return later; If a stranger asks to use your 'phone and you feel that the need is legitimate, offer to make the call while the person waits outside.
- Form a Neighborhood Watch Program. Neighbors look out for one another. Immediately report the suspect activity to police.

To be continued in the next issue of *The Academy Perspective*.



**ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION**

By Bea Flinger\*

\*The following information will be published in several segments, and will be somewhat verbatim copies of the original article which appeared on the internet (*Crimes Against the Elderly-Los Angeles County District Attorney*).

There are numerous ways in which senior citizens are being victimized by dishonest people. Information on the subject is in abundance. This series of articles will relate to what measures may be taken to avoid some of the fraudulent activities.

**Home Burglary, Purse Snatching & Avoiding False Friends**

- People entering the home on false identification: A person claiming to have a package, or perhaps to check on a utility. Robbery or assault is