



Perspective

Vol. 17 — No. 7

April — 2008

Randall Christy moved from teaching in public schools to a worldwide radio ministry in song and word

by Shirley Mears

Randall Christy, President and owner of The Gospel Station Network, has been fascinated with how technology can spread information around the world in an instant for many years. In the last ten years, Randall along with a team of family and friends, have built a network of seven radio stations and affiliates that covers most of Oklahoma and down into Texas.



Randall Christy

The vision to accomplish the growth of a radio network, Randall says, comes as small steps building upon more small steps and building a team of committed faith-filled believers in the same dream. Randall will be sharing ways to have the Good Life while accomplishing life goals in a new technical environment.

I met Randall Christy through Randy McCown, my Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church in Piedmont, Oklahoma. I had been searching for a new way to connect with the community, to give God glory and to bring hope to the citizens of the extended community. Randy had worked with Randall when they were both teaching in the Vanoss, Oklahoma public schools. Randall then became principal at the middle school where Randy was teaching. Randy assured me that there is amazing evidence of God's hand in the growth of The Gospel Station Network.

Randall graduated from the Schuler, Oklahoma high school in a class of 14 students, studied at East Central University (ECU) where he met his wife Susie at the Baptist Student Union. They were married during Randall's junior year at ECU. Randall served as a minister at Union Valley, Oklahoma in a small church of about 30 people; he has been there now for over 22 years and the church has grown to about 325 members. Randall received a Master of Education degree from ECU, served as a high school science teacher and a middle school principal, and holds a superintendent's certificate. Randall and his wife Susie have five children; Randi, Lynette, Kelsea, Clark and A.J.

Throughout Randall's career, he has worked part-time in broadcasting in local radio, where God prepared him for his life's purpose: to build a media network that lifts up Jesus Christ through song, word, and testimony; this radio ministry reaches millions and changes lives on a daily basis. With the addition of the TheGospelStation.com website and The Gospel

Station Network, he and his ministry team are building more stations, developing new relationships, and discovering new ministry opportunities around the globe.

Randall is also part of the Southern Sonlight worship team which welcomes invitations from churches and other groups who wish to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ through song and word. The team members include "Big" Jim Miller, Randall Christy, David and Sharla Frederick as well as Mike Lane. Southern SONlight will come to your church or community event on a love-offering basis, and *all* proceeds support The Gospel Station Network, a non-profit organization. For more information, please contact Sharla Frederick at 1-800-557-8815.



Southern SONlight

All members and guests are urged to make their plans to hear Randall Christy, Monday, April 14th. The buffet luncheon in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons on the Southern Nazarene University campus begins promptly at 11:15 a.m. The luncheon program starts at noon and ends at 1:00 p.m.

Important luncheon reservation information:

- Members: If you have not been contacted by one of our telephone callers by Thursday, April 10th, 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 e-mail ASP@snu.edu
- All: The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00. Kindly make your reservation(s) by Thursday, April 10th.

APRIL LUNCHEON SPONSOR

Tealridge Christian Retirement Village

Our thanks to Anita Kelley



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

Lost time is never found again.
--Benjamin Franklin

**Oh, my darlin', oh, my darlin',
Oh, my darlin', Clementine.
You are lost and gone forever,
Oh, my darlin', Clementine.**

Like the sweetheart in this old ballad, time is a precious resource that will be lost and gone forever if we let it carelessly slip away from us. It is our *own* life that is passing away, as slippery and elusive as mercury. This fleeting life may be compared to a dream, a journey, a bubble, a shadow, a drop of dew, or a flash of lightning.

The ancient Greek philosopher Heraclitus ((6th-5th century) wrote an essay about the nature of time. One of his analogies compared the time of life to the passing of sand through an hourglass (a common measuring device for time in the past). The sand at the top is associated with the future, and one tiny grain at a time, the future flows through the present into the past (associated with the sand pile at the bottom of the hourglass). The past is ever expanding; the future is every decreasing, but the future grains become amassed into the past through the present.

The earliest recorded philosophy of time was expounded by the Egyptian official Ptah-Hotep, who lived circa 2650-2600 BCE. He said to his son, "Do not lessen the time by following desire, for the wasting of time is an abomination to the spirit."

In the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes, thought to have been written by Solomon (970-928 BCE), time was traditionally regarded as a medium for the passage of predestined events: "There is an appointed time for everything. And there is time to give birth, a time to die.... (3:1, 2a).

In recent months, I became acutely aware of fleeting time when two of our beloved Academy members met their demise. My teacher, mentor, and friend of sixty years, James Robert Emmel, and Shirley Pelley, my colleague, confidant, and encourager, ended their Pilgrim journeys all too soon for me. I had hoped to see Bob recover from his illness, maybe even take a cruise with Naomi, his wife, and

Continued next column



**"Sharing a
Continuous
Flight"**

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him. Shirley came to hear me present the spiritual and literary classic *The Pilgrim's Progress* at the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene the Wednesday night before she went on the next Saturday morning to what John Bunyan (1628-88) called the Celestial City. She and I had made a covenant to pray faithfully for a mutual friend and former minister who is now lost in a Bypass Meadow; we prayed for his return to the Pilgrim Highway that is fenced in on either side with a wall called Salvation.

Time runs out so soon! In our teens and twenties, even our thirties, forties, and fifties, we had ample time to play with the toys that life has to offer; however, we found out soon enough how temporal they were for the tides of time can ebb away before

Continued on page 6—Arnold



ASP PICS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY EUNICE TRENT
& ELBERT OVERHOLT



Carolyn Chastain



Betty Williams



Willis & Ruby Snowbarger



Gerald Knutson
V.P. of the ASP



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Roy: ASP Secretary



Evelyn Downs



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—NAMES AND FACES OF SOME OF THE ACADEMY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS—



Don Carley
Trip coordinator



Martin Grantham
ASP host



LaDonna Reynolds



Miltie Brasher



Syble George
Ad Council



Sam & B.K. Stearman



Lawana & Elmer Shellenberger



Kaylon Head
Head and Wallis were speakers for March luncheon



Pat Becker Wallis



Kaylon Head



Paul Scheie
Chair of RIG group



Park Burkhart
Chair, Membership committee



Sharon Wade
New member



ASP Luncheon—Heritage Room
SNU Commons building

—Some of the activities of the Academy of Senior Professionals—



Pat Becker Wallis
Kaylon Head
Speakers respond to questions from ASP luncheon attendees



Bill Martin
Edward Jones Agency
March lunch sponsor



Brenda Styers
ASP Director



Kathy Holman
Pres. Omega Care
of the CAAVA program




Kathy Holman—RIG speaker
for March meeting

Peer Learning Network Presents Tony Snow: "Battling Adversity, Beating the Odds and Passing the Tests"

April 17 at the Cox Convention Center

by Brenda Styers, ASP Director



On behalf of Southern Nazarene University, President Loren Gresham invites members of the Academy of Senior Professionals to this year's PLN Presents luncheon at the Cox Convention Center. Tony Snow's inspiring view from facing down and sometimes battling the White House Press Corps, and another more personal battle: cancer. Snow has come to view these tests as blessings—as chances to embrace life more fully and abundantly. Snow's story is a story of optimism in the face of hardship, of determination in the face of fear. He will share his perspective on the upcoming 2008 elections, reflections from the White House Press Secretary's view, and will leave you inspired to flip adversity on its back and to help yourself, your loved ones and your friends handle the shocks and setbacks that, in the end, can draw us closer and make us stronger.

Tony Snow

Snow served as the White House Press Secretary for the George W. Bush Administration from May 2006 to September 2007. In 1991, he served as Director of Speechwriting and Deputy Assistant to the President for Media Affairs for President George H. W. Bush. Snow has spent a quarter of a century in the news business, working in all three major media — print, radio and television.

Because of the strong partnership between SNU and the Academy of Senior Professionals, SNU is picking up most of the \$40 ticket fee and providing transportation for ASP members. Members' ticket price is \$7. Transportation will leave the SNU Sawyer Center at 10:15 am on April 17, returning to the Sawyer Center at approximately 1:30 pm.

You may purchase your tickets with a credit card by calling the Office of Alumni Relations at 491.6312. The last day to purchase tickets is Thursday, April 10. Full refunds will be available for cancellations received on or before April 10. There is no refund for reservations placed after April 10.

NOTE: Some have asked if friends could join ASP to get this special rate. We respectfully request that only those who intend to participate in the Academy join. With the initiation fee and dues, the savings is only \$8. Thank you.



THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

ASP/SNU Activities Round Out the Year

by Brenda Styers, Director

ASP Set to Elect Officers

During the May 12 luncheon, ASP members will elect officers for the 2008-2009 year. If you are interested in serving as an officer, or you would like to recommend someone, please contact Brenda Styers at 491-6312

ASP Offers New Member Orientation

The Academy recently began offering orientation for its new members. Orientation provides an overview of member benefits, including a tour of the SNU library which is available to the ASP member. The next orientation is Monday, May 12, following the luncheon. If you have joined the Academy since the beginning of the year, or you never received orientation and would like to attend, please RSVP at asp@snu.edu by Thursday, May 8.

SNU School of Music Offers Spring Concerts

An Evening of Jazz with University Singers
April 19, 2008, SNU Herrick Auditorium, 7:30 pm

The following concerts will be held in the SNU Cantrell Music Hall, 7:30 pm

Chamber Winds and Percussion Ensemble: April 22, 2008

Men's and Women's Choruses: April 24, 2008

Chorale: April 29, 2008



Academy Obituaries

Shirley Pelley

Shirley Pelley passed away Feb. 23, 2008. She was born in Texas on Oct. 9, 1931 to Lloyd & Norene Ayres. She grew up in Altus, OK. She earned a degree in Music Education from Bethany Nazarene College (now SNU) and later a Master's degree in Library Science from Oklahoma University and then worked in the O.U. Library for 17 years. She then accepted the position of Director of the Learning Resources Center at SNU from which she retired in 1995.

Shirley loved music and sang in the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene church choir. She was also active as a member of the church board, a Stephen Minister and as a volunteer in the singles ministry, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School.

Shirley was involved significantly in the work of the Academy of Senior Professionals. Her most recent responsibility was service as Telephone Committee Chairperson. She had a warm smile and a good word for everyone.

We miss you, Shirley!



NEWS TO USE

by Shirley Mears

Oklahoma Weather

Oklahoma Weather: Change is the consistent factor.

Oklahomans are very familiar with the unpredictable weather. Just a few weeks ago we experienced a range of 70 degrees and snow in the same week.

As we approach the "Tornado Season" in Oklahoma you might find comfort in a website that offers all four of the major television stations seven day weather forecast. The need to at least anticipate problem weather information is now available by clicking on www.cocf.net instead of waiting for the weather segment of the news show.

A Google search for tornado preparation in Oklahoma produced several websites. I found www.quakekare.com is especially helpful.

If you have some ideas for better tornado preparedness please send them to me at news@45andbetternews.com or call 405-514-8108



RIG, WHAT'S NEW?

by Paul Scheie

{RIG = Research Interest Group}

DECODING YOUR DNA

The 3 billion bits of DNA in each of the cells in your body makes you who you are and different from all other people. This is how DNA evidence is used in forensics to mathematically convict or exonerate suspects. New discoveries are continuing to be made as we learn how to read all the hidden messages within your DNA code. Evidence concerning your ancestry can be found and gives insight into your past. New research has found associations between certain codes in your DNA and diseases, opening a window into what might be your future. We are beginning to decipher some of this code but what will we do with the information, and will we be able to change your DNA in the future?

Brandt Cassidy, Ph.D., who has been involved in genetic testing for over ten years, provided information for the above paragraph. Dr. Cassidy currently is Director of Operations at DNA Solutions, Inc., which is located on the Presbyterian Health Foundation campus in Oklahoma City. Dr. Cassidy will be our presenter at the next meeting of RIG at 9:30 a.m., Monday, April 14 in the basement of the student center. This will be an opportunity for you to get a glimpse into a forensic, genealogical and medical tool that rapidly is becoming commonplace in our technological world.



Library Resources

by Bea Flinner

"Women Crossing Borders: Reflections on Cultural Ministry" By Cheri Pierson, Editor

{A book for ladies)... The editor has written about spreading the gospel, but this is also a good resource for devotions. Contained are articles by ladies who felt the call to spread the gospel in foreign countries. Thirty volunteers made themselves available to become missionaries in frightening and unexpected situations. However, there were some pluses—unexpected happenings, such as adopting children, and another girl "finding" a husband. Represented are thirty-six ladies who made this information available about how God led them to get involved in these efforts. The articles are short but interesting, and they are told in the girls' own words.

The ladies were not exemplary of missionaries about whom we hear so frequently who are serving on specific fields under specific churches. The stories do present challenges for anyone who is interested—but not necessarily under the auspices of a particular church—to be missionaries. Some of them were married. They were just out of graduate school at Wheaton College. *The author reveals the sad happening to a former student who went "Home to be with the Lord!", having been killed in a tragic road accident outside Port Hourcourt, Nigeria on December 11, 2005."

— IN THE SNU LIBRARY —



An Inspiring Speaker

by Lecil Brown

The evangelist for Bethany First Church of the Nazarene and Bethany Peniel College fall revival in 1947 was **Rev. Lon Woodrum**. He was known as a poet-evangelist. In every sermon he "read" several poems most of them from a book of poems he had written called *Stars Over The Storm*. As a college freshman, this writer was impressed and inspired by his poetry, memory and preaching—so much so that I bought the book! The book has 126 pages of poems some of which are stored in my memory these past 60 years.

In recent months, with the help of our friends at **Google**, we are able to look at the entire 95 years of Rev. Woodrum's life and ministry. Born in Illinois in 1901, he "ended up in the gutter in Missouri." Fortunately, he did not stay there. One day he walked into a tent meeting and heard an evangelist known as *Sunshine Carl Walker* say "if any one, even the worst of criminals, should turn to this same Jesus right now, he could become a new person, filled with joy unspeakable and full of glory." He responded to that invitation and his new seventy year walk with God began.

As **Google** further tells us "he worked with thousands of pastors across denominational lines and spoke more than 20,000 times, and was an ordained minister of the West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church." He wrote articles and poems for various publications. Dr. Bob Pierce of World Vision said "God used Lon Woodrum to win more than 100,000 souls to Christ."

In his "golden" years, he fell in love with Glendale, a small community in the Florida Panhandle and pastored the Presbyterian church there the last 13 years of his life. He died there on August 9, 1995. His picture is in the 1948 BPC Arrow.

Continued from page 6—Arnold
we know it.

As we grow older, and our family and friends begin to pass away, we see how relentlessly time is pursuing all of us. There is no time to quarrel, no time to feel resentful or to be estranged. There is no time to waste on the pursuit of selfish pleasures that is over almost before they begin.

All-devouring time follows us always, closer than our shadows. As long as we live only for ourselves, as little fragments of the whole, we cannot escape being the victims of time. It is good to bear in mind how vanishing and temporal life is so that we do not postpone the practice of “putting first things first.”

Carpe diem is a phrase from a Latin poem written by Horace (65-8 BCE). It is popularly translated as “seize the day,” although a more literal translation of *carpe* would be “harvest” (harvest the day”), as in harvesting fruit.

Related, but distinct from *carpe diem* is the expression *memento mori* (“remember you are mortal”); indeed, the latter is often used with some sense of *carpe diem*. However, two major elements of *memento mori* are humility and remorse, neither of which figures prominently in the concept of *carpe diem*.

“Relish the moment” is a good motto. It is not the burdens of today that drive men and women mad. It is the regrets over yesterday and the fears of tomorrow. Regret and fear are twin thieves who rob us of today.

Carpe diem! Harvest the day! Make your life extraordinary! Treasure every moment that you have for time waits for no one! You will treasure it even more when you can share it with someone special!

I intend to climb more mountains, take more long walks with Aristotle, my poodle, go barefoot more often, swim more rivers, tiptoe through the tulips, watch more sunsets, live well, laugh often, cry less, and love more. Because time is more precious than silver or gold, I will celebrate life as I go rejoicing today along the Pilgrim Highway! Arrival at the Celestial City will come soon enough.



**Members of Ad Council
“At Large”
Are There to Serve**



Syble George

Lecil Brown

The membership of the ASP Administrative Council includes two members “at large.” Their principal responsibility is to serve as a sounding board for the ASP membership and bring concerns to the Ad Council at its regular meetings.

The two members currently serving are Syble George and Lecil Brown.

Syble has defined her role as follows: “As a member-at-large, representing you on the ASP Council, I welcome feedback from members. If you have any concerns or suggestions, please e-mail me at syblegeorge1@cox.net or telephone me at 789-4198. You may reach Lecil Brown at lbrown25@cox.net or by telephone at 495-2699. These are quality persons ready and eager to serve you and the ASP membership.



ASP Calendar

Monday: April 14, 2008

- 9:00 a.m. Shuttle: Sawyer to Webster Commons **begins**
- 9:30-10:45 Research Interest Group(RIG)-Student Life Conf. Rm.
- 11:15-1:00 Luncheon begins: Heritage Room—Commons
- 1:00 p.m. Luncheon meeting ends
- 1:00-1:30 Shuttle service **ends**
- 1:15 p.m. Ad.Council: Faculty Lounge—Webster Commons
- 2:00 p.m. Administrative Council ends



ASP Events Highlights



Writing Workshop Returns

May 12, 9:30 a.m.

Student Life Conference Room

Members/guests are encouraged to bring fiction and non-fiction they may have written, including memoirs or reminiscences.

Workshop co-chairs: Bea Flinner and Jack Arnold



—REMINDER—

**ASP DAY TRIP
TO
THE OKLAHOMA AQUARIUM
Jenks, OK
May 20
Fee—\$30.00 per person**

Have you registered for the trip? If not, contact the trip coordinator, **Don Carley, phone 728-0515**. You must be registered by April 15 and fee paid in full by May 1.

Correction

Peer Learning Network (PLN) Program

Luncheon and program are scheduled for the Cox Convention Center April 17. (Not April 14 as printed in the March “Perspective.”)

Transportation will be provided and ticket price for ASP members is \$7.00. Call 491-6312 for tickets and additional information.