

**“Finishing Well” is the title of
Mr. Don Blose’s presentation at
the Academy luncheon on March 10
by
Jack David Arnold, Ph.D.**

According to Mr. Blose, “Older adulthood is not just a time for relaxing and reflecting, it is also a time when senior adults become acutely aware of the best things in life and what is really important. Moreover, they have a strong desire to pass on the goodness that life has given them. When they pass on that goodness, they finish well.”



“These senior adults inspire us and challenge us to achieve excellence,” he continued, “they remain strong in their missions and true to their values. They continually charge forward. We both marvel at them and root for them at the same time. By their example, we also are encouraged to finish well.”

I believe that Mr. Blose’s presentation will offer encouragement to all our readers. His inspiring message will also serve as a fresh reminder that the latter stage of life is an optimal time for solidifying the legacy by which we wish to be remembered.

Mr. Blose is one of our newer members of the Academy. He is the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Administrator of the Spanish Cove Retirement Village in Yukon, Oklahoma.

Prior to his coming to Spanish Cove, Mr. Blose spent 26 years with the Oklahoma State Health Department, serving his last 12 years as the State’s Immunization Director. As a public health official, he provided the leadership to improve Oklahoma’s childhood vaccination coverage from 49th in the nation to 17th best. He also supervised the State’s annual Adult Influenza and Pneumonia Vaccine Campaigns as well as the H1N1

Pandemic Vaccination Campaign in 2009. He adds, “Most of our State’s senior adults needed little encouragement to get their flu vaccine. Oklahoma’s senior adults are usually among the best vaccinated in the nation.”

During his public health career, Mr. Blose was a national leader, serving many years as a board member and officer of the national Association of Immunization Managers and the American Immunization Registry Association. He has a rich history of service to his church, extended community, state, and nation. He was elected to the Yukon School Board in the 1990’s and has continued to serve as a representative to the Yukon Schools Advisory Council, the Yukon Community Education Council, and the Yukon Public School Foundation for Excellence.

Mr. Blose is a graduate of Stillwater, Oklahoma, High School. He received his Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in public administration from Oklahoma State University. He is also licensed as an Oklahoma Long-Term Care Administrator and currently serves as a Board Member for the Yukon Senior Housing Authority.

In conclusion, Mr. Blose wrote the following about his family members who currently live in Yukon: “I have an exceptional wife, Julie, and five children—two of them still at home. Julie is as pretty on the inside as she is on the outside.”

Important luncheon information:

Members: If you have not been contacted by one of our telephone callers before Friday, March 7, 2014, please contact Mrs. Linda Carley, Telephone Committee Chairperson: 405.728.0515 or doncarley@prodigy.net. **Guests:** Please contact Mrs. Eunice Trent, ASP Director: NEW office number: 405.491.6602, or etrent@snu.edu.

**THANK YOU TO
SPANISH COVE RETIREMENT VILLAGE
LUNCHEON SPONSOR**



Your President's Perspective
by
Emmalyn German

Perfect Practice

Once again we are sorry to have had to cancel our meetings due to icy and cold conditions that could be treacherous. Your safety is very important to us, and we would not want one person to have an accident.

Have you been watching the Olympics lately like I have? I have learned from the "Strengths Finder" program that I am competitive, and that I like to polish the pearl, so that makes me a great candidate for enjoying the Olympics. We are amazed at the skill and determination of the athletes. They have practiced their skills to perfection and do things that require fearlessness.

I have also been amazed at the way the news has shared the kind regard the players have for each other when the other person wins. They know the struggles each has been through and really appreciate and admire the one who wins.

Here at home we have been practicing and practicing for the May performance. We are striving for perfection and polishing the pearl. Mozart is getting better, but we still keep on working on it. If we miss one day of practice it shows. I found my favorite organ piece, and will be arranging for practice time at the organ. "SNU Matinee with Emmalyn is Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. in Cantrell Hall with a reception in the Heritage Room at the Webster Commons at 2:30.



But all these talents are not necessarily the greatest. We have learned that the greatest thing is love. ASP members have honed that skill quite well. It takes practice, volunteering, sitting in community meetings, baking and cooking in the kitchen. There are so many things we can do to reach our community and the world. Everything we do takes practice.

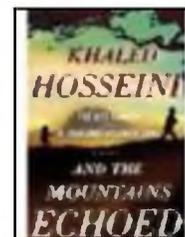
By the time this article reaches you we will have begun our new art classes with Paulette Woods. She has practiced her skills and will be sharing them with those who take these lessons. I can hardly wait.

What are you practicing that reaches out to others?
"Soaring through extended community, learning, caring, and sharing"



Book Review
By
Arlita Harris

Afghan-American author Khaled Hosseini's newest book is *And the Mountains Echoed*, a series of stories within a story as a father tells a folktale to his children, then gives his daughter to a wealthy man in Kabul. What follows is told from multiple viewpoints, spanning more than half a century and shifting across continents. Hosseini is the best-selling author of *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. His third novel illustrates again and again how people's actions, even seemingly selfless ones, are shrouded in ambiguity.



The book may be purchased in many formats or borrowed from your library.

Hosseini, Khaled. *And the Mountains Echoed*. Riverhead Books, published May 21, 2013.

The ASP book discussion group will meet in the President's Dining Room at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 10.

LUNCHEON SPONSORS

- October 14 - Legend of Council Road
- November 11 - United Pharmacy in Yukon
- December 9 - Cancelled for Weather
- January 13 - Concordia Life Care Community
- February 10 - Cancelled for Weather
- March 10 - Spanish Cove Retirement Village
- April 17 - Southern Nazarene University Peer Learning Network
- May 12 - Mercer-Adams Funeral Service



From The Director's Corner
by
Eunice Trent, Director of ASP

PLN PRESENTS Dr. Clayton Christensen
Wednesday, April 16, 2014

On Wednesday, April 16, 2014, Peer Learning Network (PLN) Presents will host speaker Dr. Clayton Christensen, of Harvard Business School. The luncheon event will take place at the Jim Thorpe Event Center, Downtown Oklahoma City from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



In a 2011 poll of thousands of executives, consultants and business school professors, Christensen was named as **the most influential business thinker in the world**. Professor Christensen has authored eight best-selling books and more than a hundred articles, including the recently released, and New York Times best-selling, *How Will You Measure Your Life? The Innovator's Dilemma* received the Global Business Book Award as the best business book of the year (1997); and in 2011 *The Economist* named it as one of the six most important books about business ever written. Five times he has received the McKinsey Award, given to the two best articles published in the *Harvard Business Review* each year; and has received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Tribeca Films Festival (2010). He has been featured twice (1998 and 2011) as the cover story in *Forbes Magazine*.

Clayton M. Christensen is the Kim B. Clark Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School and is regarded as one of the world's top experts on innovation and growth.

ABOUT PLN

The Peer Learning Network (PLN), established by Southern Nazarene University in 1995 and facilitated by the Zig Ziglar Center for Ethical Leadership, brings together the CEO and leadership teams of Oklahoma-based companies who have committed to be Major Partners In the Peer Learning Network. Partners utilize PLN for the purpose of professional development. Members pool resources and thereby hear world-class presenters, share management,

leadership and planning ideas and network with a wide array of successful Oklahoma company representatives.

PLN Sessions are held quarterly. At each quarterly presentation those in attendance hear from engaging speakers who inspire, inform, and challenge.

Registration is a must and can be made by contacting Eunice Trent, Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) Director at 405.491.6602. Cost for ASP members this year is \$20.00 a ticket, which includes a bus ride downtown together with the ASP Group. Payment is due upon registration. Dress for this luncheon is business professional.



SCHOOL OF MUSIC—SPRING 2014

- MARCH 6 –7:30 p.m. Symphonic Band Concert
Herrick Auditorium
- March 31—7:30 p.m. Vocal Jazz Festival featuring
Alison Wedding. Herrick Auditorium
- April 10—7:30 p.m. Percussion Ensemble Concert
Cantrell Music Hall
- April 15—7:00 p.m. Symphonic Band Concert
Lawn by Parker Fine Arts Center
- April 24—7:30 SNU Choral Society and Orchestra
Present Haydn's Creation Mass
OKC 1st Church of the Nazarene
4400 NW Expressway
- April 29—7:30 p.m. A Night of Jazz featuring
SNU Jazz Band and University Singers
Herrick Auditorium
- May 1—7:30 p.m. Guitar Ensemble Concert
Cantrell Music Hall



Meet Ron and Yvonne Mercer

The Academy of Senior Professionals is blessed with a great membership of committed people who have notable service in their vocations and to our schools, community and to Southern Nazarene University.

Ronald L. (Ron) Mercer was born on a cattle ranch in Dewey County, Oklahoma near Taloga. He is a 2nd generation Nazarene. His mother was one of the charter members of the Camp Creek Church just ½ mile from their rural home. He graduated from Southern Nazarene University with a BBA degree and attended the Graduate School of Business at Harvard University. In 1988 his alma mater, Southern Nazarene University awarded him the honorary Doctor of Humanities degree.

Ron spent most of his business life at Xerox, which he joined in 1962 and remained in their employ until his retirement. He was the president of Xerox Canada, Inc., in Toronto, Canada, Senior Vice President for field operations in Rochester, New York, where he was responsible for all sales, service and administrative activities in the United States and was made an Officer of the Corporation. He also served as the District Manager for the Oklahoma District, Regional Sales Manager for the Mid West Region in Chicago and the Regional V.P. and General Manager for the Northeast Region in New York City. He managed the Oklahoma Offices from 1965 until 1970 when he first moved to Rochester, N.Y.

He and his wife Yvonne have four children, all talented with people skills, business acumen, musical gifts and ministry of service to others. They have 11 grandchildren and have been married 59 years. They live in Woodlawn Park and are members of Bethany First Church of the Nazarene. They formerly taught a Sunday School Class and have conducted lay retreats in 30 U.S. and Canadian Districts.

Yvonne has taught children in public school, Sunday school, and supervised children's departments in ministry of service where they have lived.

After retirement from Xerox they moved to Bethany, OK where he and a partner, Gene Adams established a new funeral service, Mercer-Adams in Bethany which has grown during that time to become one of the premier full service funeral providers in Oklahoma.

Yvonne sang in the Bethany First Church of the Nazarene choir for 20 years and served as a small group facilitator at WOW, (Women of the Word) for several years. She and her siblings established the Edwards family music scholarship at Southern Nazarene University upon their parent's death and in their honor.

Ron served as an adjunct professor at SNU for two years teaching business strategy and business ethics. He currently serves on the board of the Bethany Improvement Foundation.

Governor Keating twice appointed him to serve on State of Oklahoma boards, first to the Oklahoma Futures Board which he chaired until his retirement and then to the Department of Human Services where he served as vice-chairman of the Commission until his 9 year term expired in late 2010. He also served on the board of First Fidelity Bank until his retirement in 2010. He continues to serve on The Children's Center Foundation, the Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs (a conservative think tank), Oklahoma Independent College & University Foundation and the Southern Nazarene University Foundation.

Ron has served both as chairman and vice chairman of the finance department of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene for 13 years.

Ron and Yvonne are exceptional special event speakers and give superb leadership in everything they do. Again the Academy of Senior Professionals is so blessed.



ASP "Trek" Time
by
Pat Perry



Happy St. Patrick's Day ASP Members,

We have a busy Spring ahead of us, and I'm sure Ole Man Winter will soon be on his merry way.

I have planned the trip to Devon for Saturday, March 15th and the trip to the George Bush Library in Dallas for Saturday, April 26th. I have a list of those who are interested in joining us and will contact you with the details as soon as they are finalized.

I have an Alaskan cruise planned for September, which includes five days in Denali National Park, which is beautiful. Two holiday trips are planned in December. One is a New York City Holiday trip and the other is a Southern Charm Holiday to Charleston, SC and the surrounding area. Both sound great.

Please give me a call or email me for details and I will give you the information. See you at the March meeting.

Pat Perry
373-4157
pattperry@sbcglobal.net



Reminder from Gary Lance, Treasurer

Remember that our dues are for January thru December each year. You can pay your dues at the March luncheon. The dues are \$20.00 per member for the year."

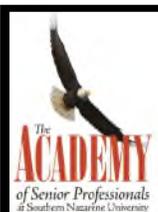
CONGRATUATIONS

Grant Keeton was honored with a mural on the west wall of C and J Sporting Goods on NW 38th, next to the post office mail boxes. He is getting on the pony express horse in the mural.



Arlita Harris was presented with the Leadership in Action Award at the Northwest Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce 75th Accolades Dinner at the Skirvin on January 28.





“Sharing a Continuous Flight”

2013-2014 Officers and Committees

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 Madalyn Shannon Long, Historian
 Helen Southerland, Morning Seminar Interest Group
 Pat Perry, Travel Club
 Shirley Mears, Get Acquainted Moments



ASP Calendar

Monday March 10, 2014
 9:00—11:00 a.m. Shuttle Service from the Sawyer Center lot (41st and Donald) to the Webster Commons
 9:30 a.m. Book Discussion
 11:00-a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Meeting in the Heritage Room
 1:00 —1:30 p.m. Shuttle will return to Sawyer Center lot
 1:15—2:15 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting

The Academy Perspective

- - -Publication Board- - -

Production Editor Joan Dozier

- - -Columnists- - -

President’s Column	Emmalyn German
ASP Director	Eunice Trent
Book Discussion	Arlita Harris
Connectivity	Renda Brumbeloe
Morning Seminar	Helen Southerland
Obituaries	Madalyn Long
Photography	Dale German
Travel Club	Pat Perry

- - -Communications Policy- - -

We value messages from our readers.
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 Expressway, Bethany, OK 73008
 By fax: (405) 491-6381
 By computer:
<http://snu.edu/academyofseniorprofessionals>

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