

Perspective

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October 2015

Cathedral Thinking By Shirley Mears

Humor and motivation is important in every stage of life. Our October 12th Academy of Senior Professionals speaker is Gene Pflughoft, whose presentation title is intriguing: Cathedral Thinking.



Gene Pflughoft, owner of BCD Inc. (Business and Community Development, Inc), has helped over 900 people to start their businesses, and works with communities in Central Oklahoma as an economic developer. Gene hosts Synergy, which meets each Tuesday morning at 7:30 am at City Hall in Piedmont, and Thursday at 7:30 am at the Mercy Hospital conference room in El Reno.

As a professional speaker Gene has been scheduled for as many as 26 conventions a year. He has been nominated for the Speakers Hall of Fame in 2015. Gene has authored two books: *A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Elders Meeting* and *Those Evil Quilting Women*.

I look forward to seeing everyone as we begin our new 2015/2016 ASP sessions.

LUNCHEON OCTOBER 12, 2015 begins at 11 AM in the Webster Commons, Heritage Room, on the campus of Southern Nazarene University. Each month members receive a call to RSVP. If you have not received a call by Thursday October 8, 2015, you can RSVP by phone: 405-728-0515 or by emailing donlinicarley@prodigy.net

Academy of Senior Professionals at Southern Nazarene University Celebrates Twenty-Fifth Anniversary By Eunice Trent

The Academy of Senior Professionals (ASP) at Southern Nazarene University (SNU) recently celebrated its twenty-fifth (25th) anniversary. The celebration took place on the campus of SNU in the Sawyer Center. Speaker for the ceremony was the long-time ASP president, Jack David Arnold, Ph.D. Dr. Arnold served as ASP's president and served the extended community for twelve (12) years: 1998-2010. The master of ceremonies was ASP's current president, Leonard Skodak, B.A., and the event's technical assistant was ASP's past president, Emmalyn German, M.A.

Ms. Kathleen Sodowsky, ASP's longest-living member, was present at the celebration as guest speaker sharing how she was one of the original members who was asked to be a part of ASP by founder Elbert David Overholt, Ed.D.

The Founder and Director of ASP was Elbert David Overholt, Ed.D. "The issue of housing for seniors was a catalyst for the development of the ASP," wrote Overholt in *The Academy Perspective*, March 1993. The twofold purpose of the ASP is as follows: To create an environment of exploration, sharing, and learning, and to promote an atmosphere of intellectual stimulation.



Jack David
Arnold

Leonard Skodak
Kathleen Sodowsky

Elbert
Overholt



President's Column

By
Leonard Skodak

Musings about Longevity

Recently while preparing for a trip to Wisconsin, the home of my childhood, the thought came to me "How did we get here?" I was going to visit a cousin and some friends that I have known since the age of 4. My cousin and I were bosom buddies and inseparable through the 9th grade when we moved a couple of hundred miles apart and the years passed by. One of my dear friends recently turned 94. Her husband predeceased her 14 years ago. He had had an out of body experience 12 years before that. Another friend whose 100 year surprise birthday party that I attended while there had outlived four husbands. Though not able to see well she is still just as mentally "sharp as a tack" My brother drove my father over from Michigan and we visited my mother's and other family member's graves. My father will turn 94 on October 20th. My mother and grandparents passed at 85 or older.

As the new president of ASP I have had the pleasure of conversing with and getting to know a lot about many of our members. Some of our current members are 90 or more. Kathleen Sadowski, surprised me earlier this year when she told me she was 96. To me she gets around better than I do. Another, Lawanda Allison, took a flying leap out of an airplane a few months ago. All of these have had a long and productive life. I tell people that I have longevity in my genes if I stay off the streets. How did we get here?? Was it through living a good life, staying healthy, not drinking or smoking, exercising daily, eating a healthy diet, no fast or processed foods, or any number of other reasons? Many of those that have gone before us probably did some or all of the above and yet????? Has God called some sooner than others?? I don't think so. If two individuals live identical or parallel lives will they live to the same age?? Will identical twins live equally as long?? Provoking thoughts aren't they?? Just what is the answer?? What do you think??



Obituaries

By
Vickie Sacket

JEAN ANNETTE COBURN July 18, 1930 - May 5, 2015

Jean Annette Dipboye Coburn went to be with her Lord on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. She was born on July 18, 1930 in Ft Worth, Texas.



She is survived by her loving husband, Thurman Coburn; daughters and sons-in-law, Debby and Jerry Griffin and Jan and Mark Collum; grandchildren and their spouses, Doug and Kate, Evangeline and Jason, and Andi and Jason; and great-granddaughter, Eva.

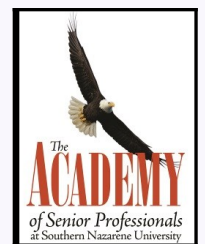
Her funeral service was on May 12 at Bethany First Church of the Nazarene. Memorial donations can be made to her endowment fund at SNU.



REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL DUES OF \$20.00 AT THE OCTOBER LUNCHEON

Your ASP Identification Card may be used for many of the following activities:

- Leisure services include access to the SNU gymnasium, swimming pool, weight and exercise room, and walking track
- Members can check out library materials and have free access to the SNU Library databases with their ASP Identification Card.
- Discounts for SNU fine arts and athletic events
- Discounts at the SNU bookstore
- Dining at the SNU cafeteria
- Free parking in SNU lots





The Director's Corner
By
Eunice Trent, Director of ASP

Welcome to the Fall Season of 2015

The very next time you come to campus, please note all of the changes made since you were here this past May.

The SNU Library is updated with a new look and now has a Starbucks. The Commons cafeteria has gotten a huge facelift with a modern look.

When the weather is nice and you feel up to a walk around campus, it would be worth it to take note of all the beautiful statues around campus. Read more about the SNU Statues on page 4. The statues were created by SNU alumnus and noted artist Scott Stearman ('75).



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**THANK YOU TO
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Book Discussion
By
Carole Gossett

THE PEARL
By John Steinbeck
Noble Prize Winner

This is a parable about values and what happens when a Mexican pearl-diver finds "the Pearl of the World."

Discussion Guidelines

1. The first principle of good discussion is to agree to disagree without being disagreeable.
2. The book must be read to be able to discuss.
3. The moderator will ask for issues that were found in the reading.
4. The moderator will ask one person a question to start the discussion and will only ask further questions, if necessary.
5. Feel free to read passages you particularly liked or disliked, or to make something clear that you wish to explain.
6. Have fun and learn from others. Be polite. Listen to others. Talk one person at a time.

Future Book Discussions

January — *The Republic of Imagination* by Azar Nafisi. Nafisi came to America in the seventies to escape from Tehran when she was about to face execution for teaching American fiction classics to her students. She taught English classes at Oklahoma University after coming to America. She is now a citizen and lives in Washington, D.C. She writes some about herself as she makes her case for a free mind and a willingness to dream through the imagination of fiction..

March — *The Last Oracle* by James Rollins

This book is a Thriller. I found Rollins writes so much "truth" in his books, both historical and modern day science. I suggest to go to the back pages before reading this novel entitled "Author's note to Readers: Truth or Fiction" and read that first. I also found myself referring back to that section as I read the book.

Books are available through the library or bookstores.



Divine Destiny

This sculpture is a gift of the class of '76. Mark Wessels was the class president. They contracted with an Oklahoma sculptor to produce a sculpture for the campus. He took their money but never delivered on his promise. Twelve years later, Mark did deliver on his promise and this sculpture was created for the class of '76 and placed in Webster Commons.

The title, Divine Destiny, speaks to the idea of reaching and becoming everything we were created to be. There is symbolism in the composition. The man lifting the eagle represents parents, the faculty, staff, and administration of SNU, and everyone who invests in lifting a student to reach for their destiny. There is an intentional vulnerability in that the man has no protection from the eagle's talons.

An eagle was not created to walk on the ground, but to soar. As soon as it's released, it no longer rests in his hands, but must climb with its own strength to discover wonders and beauty that those left behind can only dream.

Sculptor's note: If you lean in to read the plaque, be careful. The talons are sharp. As you face the sculpture, on the bottom of left side is a small acknowledgment, "4Mark."



Dr. & Mrs. Roy Cantrell

Because these were posthumous portraits I worked from photographs for my reference on the faces. Over their 25 years at BNC, it is obvious that their faces would change. So, I decided to capture their likeness when they were in the prime of their time at the college.

The current campus is largely the legacy of Dr. Cantrell's leadership and vision. Most of the existing buildings were constructed during the 1947-1972 quarter century when he and Mrs. Cantrell served as president and first lady.

Sculptor's note: I never really liked having my name featured in a big way on the sculptures on the campus. I figured the signature on the bronze was enough. But, it always seemed to show up anyway. On the Cantrell sculpture, I arrived to install the bronze on the granite pedestal and my name had been engraved about 3-inches high at the bottom of the stone. I had the monument company come out and rotate the stone. If you look on the back, you'll see my name in HUGE letters at the bottom.



Do As I Have Done

So when He had washed their feet, and taken His garments and reclined at the table again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord; and you are right, for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."

In this sculpture, Christ is offering a towel and basin to us. His right hand gestures that we are to take it and go; as if He is saying, Don't stay here with me, go into the world and "Do As I Have Done."

This piece represents well the SNU commitment to preparing servant leaders for the world, and was gifted to our campus by Jim and Susie Van Hook.

The 10 Commandments

As you walk around the monument, a story is told. The pages are presented in order from the front) Panel to the right side (as you face the monument), the back and finishing on the left side. The verse in 2 Chronicles also leads us in this direction and is the foundation of the monument.

The Ben Franklin Panel is on the front directly beneath the front of the commandment tablets. Franklin's words lay the foundation of the necessity of God's involvement in the "affairs of men" and the building of a new country.

On Panel 2, the Declaration of Independence becomes the crucial document that illustrates the tangible principle Franklin described on Panel 1. The State Preamble illustrates the vision of those who

founded this State. The Douglas quote gives judicial acknowledgment of God's law in relation to the state.

Panel 3 presents our 2nd and 6th Presidents acknowledging that not only our government, but our civilization sits on the Commandments of God

Panel 4 is a benediction. Our founding father and first President voices a prayer for his new nation in his letter to the Governors of the 13 States and in his Annapolis speech. This act in itself is Washington's confession of our dependence, as a nation, upon God.

This statue was a gift from Wayne and Kay Rice to honor their families.



ASP “Trek” Time

By
Pat Perry



Welcome back ASP Members,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and that we're all ready to start a new ASP year. The Travel Club had a great trip to see the Faberge Exhibit at the Art Museum with lunch at the Museum restaurant.



I'm still looking for local trips for us to take, so if you have some ideas or suggestions please give me a call. If we can get a group together I'd like, for those who are interested, to see Jersey Boys at the Civic Auditorium in January.

We were hoping to take a trip to see the Passion Play in Eureka Springs this Fall, but the time is too short to put it together, we can try again in the Spring. Shirley Mears and I went and it was a terrific weekend.

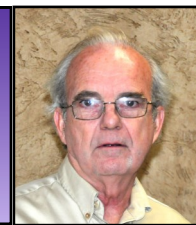
There is still room for you to join us on the Carnival Magic for a Caribbean Cruise, November 8th – 15th. Prices seem to be going down so they can fill up the ship.

The “Bucket List” trip for this year is a 15 day trip to Australia and New Zealand. It is pricey, but one you shouldn't miss. I'll send you a flier if you are interested.

Other trips I'm considering putting together are:

The SNU Connection

By
Howard Culbertson



During the 25-year presidency of Loren Gresham at Southern Nazarene University, opportunities for students to be involved in intercollegiate athletics have expanded enormously.

When Dr. Gresham assumed the SNU presidency in the late 1980s, SNU was running four intercollegiate athletic programs. Today, the university fields teams in 17 different sports, involving more than one third of its student body.

In the last few years SNU has been making a transition from competing as a Division I NAIA school to being in Division II of the NCAA. ASP member Gary Lance has long worked with academic compliance issues of SNU student athletes.

At each ASP meeting this year, the SNU Connection will feature an SNU student athlete (and probably a coach or two). In October, the featured athlete will be a player on the SNU football team, a sport which SNU students began playing intercollegiate in 2000.



Pat Perry cont.

1. A cruise to Bermuda and maybe 4 days in NYC.
2. Take your Grandkids on a Disney Cruise and stay a few days at Disney World or see the Harry Potter Exhibit.
3. Another cruise to Alaska next summer.
4. A trip to Hawaii to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the attack at Pearl Harbor.

Don't hesitate to call or email me with suggestions. See you in October.

Pat Perry
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 Shirley Mears, Morning Seminar Interest Group
 Carole Gossett, Book Discussion
 Pat Perry, Travel Club
 Wayne Sacket, Music
 Get Acquainted Moments, Mary Skodak
 Howard Culbertson, SNU Connections



ASP Calendar

Monday Oct 12, 2015

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 parking lot
 1:15-2:15 p.m. Administrative Council Meeting

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 ASP Director Eunice Trent
 Book Discussion Carole Gossett
 Morning Seminar Shirley Mears
 Luncheon Themes Howard Culbertson
 Obituaries Vickie Sacket
 Photography Hal Swinhart
 Travel Club Pat Perry

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