“Finishing Well” is the title of Mr. Don Blose’s presentation at the Academy luncheon on February 10 by Jack David Armold, 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, February 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 MERCER-ADAMS LUNCHEON SPONSOR
We were very disappointed that our SNU President, Dr. Loren Gresham, could not be with us in December since we cancelled our meeting due to the extreme cold and icy weather. Therefore we have taken steps to remedy that situation. Dr. Gresham will be our Luncheon speaker in May instead of yours truly. He has some interesting and exciting things to share with us about the future of SNU.

We have also made arrangements to have an “SNU Matinee with Emmalyn” 2:00 pm Thursday May 15, 2014, at the Cantrell Hall. There will be a reception following the program in the Heritage room of the Webster Commons, where we have our luncheons. Please add this event to your calendars for ASP.

Having this Matinee in the Cantrell Hall will allow us to make use of the Organ, Grand Piano, Keyboard, and Hand Bells. I also will be singing solos and duets with my husband, Dale. In addition there will be stories from my very unusual life.

Dr. Jack David Armold volunteered to host the Reception as an expression of his appreciation to the Academy for enriching his life in lifelong learning and to me for my leadership, talents, and friendship in advancing the mission of the Academy.”

Of course we will have so many nicely painted pictures from our art class we will want to include an art show at the reception.

Speaking of art, we have now decided to make our first art class with Paulette Woods a demonstration class with a discussion about supplies. This first class will be held in the craft room of Southern Plaza on Friday, February 21, 2014 at 1:00 pm. Those who attend will then have the opportunity to sign up once the details are given. We may have to have two sessions for each class because of the interest shown.

Soaring into Spring . . . I am so looking forward to Spring!

Happy Valentine’s Day!

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 - Mercer-Adams Funeral Service
March 10 - Spanish Cove Retirement Village
April 17 - Southern Nazarene University Peer Learning Network
May 12 - Southern Plaza
Preview for March Book Review so you will have time to buy/borrow the book and read it.

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. Here is the information:


It was Amazon's Best Book of the Month in May, 2013.

The ASP book discussion group will meet in the President's Dining Room at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, March 10.
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Helen Southerland, Morning Seminar Interest Group
Pat Perry, Travel Club
Shirley Mears, Get Acquainted Moments

"Sharing a Continuous Flight"

ASP Calendar

Monday February 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

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Production Editor Joan Dozier

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

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