“Finishing Well” is the title of Mr. Don Blose’s presentation at the Academy luncheon on March 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, 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
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"

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.


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

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.

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."
“Sharing a Continuous Flight”

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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

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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
Connectivity Renda Brumbeloe
Morning Seminar Helen Southerland
Obituaries Madalyn Long
Photography Dale German
Travel Club Pat Perry

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