

# Perspective

Vol. 19 — No. 4

January 2010

**“Are We There Yet?”  
Linda Dobson to share goals and  
plans on Monday, January 18, 2010**

Linda Dobson has an ability of making sense of situations. The old saying “You can’t see the forest for the trees” describes many of us as we face difficult decisions or plans. Many times we need a fresh perspective. Linda Dobson, Executive Director of Sales for the NAI Sullivan Group in Oklahoma City, coaches and mentors 12 commercial real estate brokers, helping the team to make a plan and reach it.

Linda retired as the Corporate Vice President for Commercial Federal Bank in 2003. She then developed her own successful company, Dobson Mortgage Corporation, specializing in financing commercial real estate. In 2007 Linda felt the need to use the skills she had acquired to help others realize their potential. She sold the



mortgage company and joined the NAI Sullivan commercial real estate company as a coach and mentor. Linda leads by example, trains through needs based assessment and mentors according to Biblical principles.

Linda has over 40 years of experience in real estate, sales, and fi-

nance. Her first jobs before the age of 14 were selling the Grit newspaper, harvesting and selling farm produce, and selling homemade bakery goods. While working full-time jobs raising children, and working on the family farm, she managed to attend night school and become a successful business woman. Linda served as past chairperson for the Association of Realtors,

member of CCI, CREC, Piedmont Chamber of Commerce, and Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

Linda will be sharing how, at any age, we receive the gift of one day at a time. Planning well how to use today’s time with a goal in mind we can know if “We Are There Yet?”. You can learn more about Linda by hearing her interviews at [www.thegospelstation.com](http://www.thegospelstation.com), Ministry Interviews page, # 48.

Linda and her husband, Lindell, live in rural Piedmont, are members of the First Baptist Church in Piedmont, and are the parents of four grown children and six grandchildren.

Hobbies include big game hunting, fishing, gardening, reading, and grandchildren.

Important luncheon reservation information:

Members: If you have not been contacted by one of our telephone callers by Thursday, January 14, then please call Mrs. Aleen Drumeller, ASP Telephone Committee Chairperson, at 405.265-0302

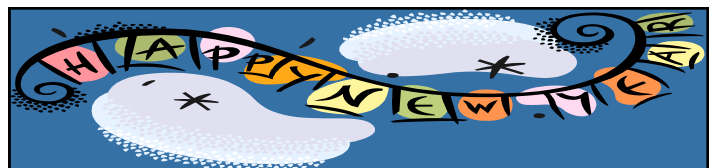
Guests: Please call the SNU Office of Alumni Relations at 491-6312 or email [ASP@snu.edu](mailto:ASP@snu.edu)

All: The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00. Kindly make your reservation(s) by Thursday, January 14.

## **JANUARY LUNCHEON SPONSOR**

***F. Trent Densmore, Attorney, (PC)***

***Our Thanks to F. Trent Densmore***





## Your President's Point of View by Jack David Arnold

### By counting our blessings one-by-one in the New Year 2010, We will create an attitude of gratitude

It was only a few days until Christmas in 1935 during the Great Depression, and my Mother was feeling low. This was the first holiday season for her to “get through” since her divorce from my Dad who left her to care for their three sons who were enrolled in the Linwood Grade School in Oklahoma City. On that Christmas day she was feeling very sorry for herself.

Not one to sit on her “pity-pot” forever, she discovered that the way to feel better was to make a “gratitude list.” She wrote down all the things in her life that she was grateful for, and, as she did, her spirits lifted. She listed us three boys as “gifts from God,” our little house on 12<sup>th</sup> Street in Oklahoma City as “Home, Sweet Home,” and good neighbors and caring relatives as “people who loved us beyond measure.”

Mother knew that gratitude was not simply a feeling; it was something to put into action. She was determined to not slide back into her “poor-me” state of mind again.

In order to shake off the blues and increase her feeling of well-being, she told us boys, “By hook or crook, we’re going to have Christmas around here.” She brought home a small Christmas tree, and we covered it with one string of colored lights and several ropes of popcorn and cranberries. She took us to the Northwest Baptist Church at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Drexel Boulevard on Christmas Eve where we received sacks of apples, oranges, and hard candy from Santa Claus. The memory of that bittersweet Christmas brings a mixture of tears of sadness and joy to me now as I write this editorial.

Mother washed and ironed clothes for relatives and friends after the divorce; she closed off the front of

*Arnold Continued on p. 6*



## “Sharing a Continuous Flight”

### *The Academy Perspective*

#### ---Publication Board---

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Obituaries	Lecil Brown
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Library News	Arlita Harris

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Programs	Shirley Mears
Research	Paul Scheie

#### ---Communications Policy---

We value messages from our readers.

By mail: *The Academy Perspective (TAP)*, Southern Nazarene University, 6729 N.W. 39th Expressway, Bethany, OK 73008

By fax: (405) 491-6381

By computer: [www.snu.edu](http://www.snu.edu) —Alumni & Friends—ASP

#### ---Newsletter Subscription Information---

Annual subscription cost for *The Academy Perspective*:

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Members—Included in membership

#### ---Contributions---

To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals:

Mail to: Roy Dorris, Treasurer

4607 N. College, Bethany, OK, 73008

### Luncheon Sponsors for 2009-2010

<b>October:</b>	<b>Jack David Arnold, Ph. D.</b>
<b>November:</b>	<b>Legend at Council Road, Connie Daniels</b>
<b>December:</b>	<b>Southern Plaza, John Stoddart</b>
<b>January:</b>	<b>F. Trent Densmore, Attorney, (PC), Trent Densmore</b>
<b>February:</b>	<b>Eunice Khoury Insurance Agency, Inc., Eunice Khoury</b>
<b>March:</b>	<b>Concordia Life Care Community, Lisa Vallekamp</b>
<b>April:</b>	<b>Southern Nazarene University</b>
<b>May:</b>	<b>Mercer Adams Funeral Service, Marla Cole</b>

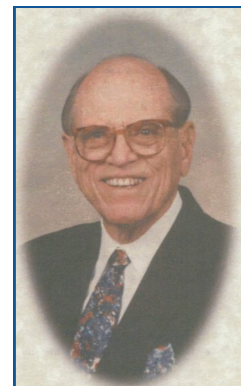
**A Few Photos** from the Steering Committee Meeting held December 17, 2009 at the Spanish Cove for the Senior Adult Conference May 21, 2010



Above, L-R Shirley Mears and Darlene Overholt  
Right, Rhonda Thomas and Linda Dobson



*Obituaries*  
By Lecil Brown



“Brother Sam” - Samuel Marvin Stearman was born on June 12, 1926 in Hooker, OK and departed this life on November 20, 2009. He graduated from Bethany Peniel College (now Southern Nazarene University) in 1950. While a student, he met and married Billie Katherine White on June 25, 1948. They were married for 61 years. Brother Sam pastured churches in Kansas, Ohio, Michigan and Oklahoma. He and Dr. Ponder Gilliland were co-founders of NIROGA (Nazarene International Retreat of Golden Agers). Sam and Billie Katherine were founders of SAM (Senior Adult Ministries). All of us who knew him have been greeted with his “God Bless You!” He was a true friend to everyone and “never met a stranger.” He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother and a sister. He is survived by his wife Billie Katherine and three sons, Steve and wife Vickie of Oklahoma City, Scott and wife Hermine of Woodland Park, CO, and Sam of Oklahoma City; grandchildren Dustin Stearman and wife Laura of Oklahoma City, Sharilyn Starling and husband Greg of Mustang, OK, and three great-grandchildren, Jake, Samantha and Ben. A memorial service for Brother Sam was held in Bethany First Church of the Nazarene at 2 PM on Tuesday, November 24.

**Opportunity!**

*By C. Dale German*

Another year has come and gone.  
Tested much brain and brawn.  
Raked the leaves, mowed the lawn.  
Felt the night, saw the dawn.

More good-byes to some dear friends.  
Like years and good things, all life ends.  
Laughed and cried. Made some amends.  
Read e-mails. Replied with “sends.”

Another year has just begun.  
Full of hope with rising sun.  
All too soon it will be done.  
It matters how the race is run.

Another year! What will it be?  
For all, there’s opportunity!  
We can hardly wait to see  
The good that’s done through ASP.





**RIG**  
**SOME ETHICS**  
By Paul Scheie



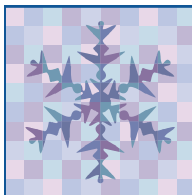
**LIBRARY NEWS**  
By Arlita Harris

Governing bodies determine what is legal and what is illegal within their jurisdiction. However, it is up to the individual to decide what is right or wrong, good or bad, just or unjust when it comes to actions each may take in the various situations they encounter. Are there then, any clear criteria a person could or should use when making these decisions?

This question falls into an area of study that constitutes one of the three legs of philosophy's stool. It is called ethics, or moral philosophy. As might be expected, there is a plethora of theories proposed by philosophers on what the criteria for specific action should be; although, there are some general groupings of theories from which many are able to choose one with which they feel comfortable.

***The major focus in this workshop will be on virtue ethics.***

Our ASP president, Jack David Arnold, teaches philosophy, and he has consented to make a presentation at the January meeting of the Research Interest Group on the topic of ethics using the title, "What is the best philosophy to live by in 'the wilderness of this world'?" He will consider, with examples, three broad ethical theories: (1) *virtue*, in which morality depends on character, (2) *consequentialist*, in which morality of an action depends on likely results, and (3) *non-consequentialist*, in which morality depends on factors other than consequences. Following this, he will show through case studies what light each of these theories might shed on some specific, contemporary moral problems such as health care, abortion, and/or euthanasia. The major focus in this workshop will be on *virtue ethics*. Discussion is sure to follow.



Grab a cup of coffee in the upstairs lounge, and join us in the basement conference room for what should be a very thought provoking session.

January always begins my thoughts of travel (even though we'll have just returned from a cruise to New Zealand and Australia when you are reading this). After the holidays, it's fun to map out travel plans for the coming year.

Here are some free online resources that can help you plan your trips, make your trip safer, and help you plan shots and visas, as well as clothes to pack:

Virtual Tourist at [www.virtualltourist.com](http://www.virtualltourist.com) provides travel guides for any place in the world. Tourists like you rate the hotels and restaurants and recommend things to do as well as transportation and shopping while you are in each city and country. You're also warned about tourist traps and any potential risks or dangers. Packing lists are provided for anticipated weather. There are links to book travel, find special deals, plan your trip, and post questions. You do not need to be a member, although that is an option.

The CIA's World Fact Book [www.cia.gov](http://www.cia.gov) includes an introduction to each country, its geography and climate, people, customs, demographics, economy, communication, and other information that gives a good and up-to-date overview of the countries you plan to visit.

Need a map? National Geographic's Online Map Machine <http://maps.nationalgeographic.com/> maps provides a street-level map to any address in the world. GoogleEarth <http://earth.google.com> is a free 3-D map of most places you might want to visit.

Which countries require visas, vaccinations, or special travel documents? Which have travel or health warnings? Where are the embassies and consulates for the countries you want to visit? The International Travel website at <http://travel.state.gov> provides the answers and additional resources for the world traveler.

By taking the time to plan your trip before you go, there will be a minimum of surprises that can disappoint you.



## Surviving Pearl Harbor

by Shirley Mears

The bombs were exploding. The ship, *USS Oklahoma* was sinking. Paul Goodyear, on board, escaped from the oil-covered waters at Ford Island, Oahu, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Chaos confused everyone after the surprise Japanese attack that threw the United States into World War II. The attack lasted two hours. The National Park Service states that about twenty-one ships were damaged as well as an additional 320 aircrafts.

Paul Goodyear, then just 23 years old was frantic as he and other soldiers tried to help with the rescue of their comrades. The ship sank instantly. "It was wide open in preparation for an upcoming inspection and did not have water integrity," Paul Goodyear explained in an interview aboard the Carnival Conquest Cruise Ship on a Caribbean Salute to Veterans Honor Tour. The cruise was organized by Al Rayl along with Cruise Critic, who was kind enough to sponsor Paul Goodyear and Oklahoman Patricia Perry.

"Many of the soldiers on the USS Arizona died instantly, but some of the USS Oklahoma soldiers either suffocated or drowned in pitch-black compartments." Paul then shared how the rescue efforts caused additional deaths when the hull of the ship was cut; the remaining air was pushed out as more water rushed into the ship. The underwater rescue attempts caused many hard memories." The Oklahoma was anchored off Ford Island on Battleship Row in the middle of the harbor, next to the USS Maryland. The Maryland escaped the majority of the torpedoes.

Goodyear said there were 429 soldiers who died and were entombed in the ship. The *Oklahoma* wasn't raised until 1943 when it was sold for scrap.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on December 7, 2007. Pat Perry of *45 & Better News* was the only Oklahoma media person present. The memorial was completed and opened December 7, 2008. It stands

in front of the *USS Missouri* which is now anchored where the *USS Oklahoma* was docked on that fateful day.

To see an interview with Paul Goodyear, now 91 years old, go to [www.bobadamsphotography.com](http://www.bobadamsphotography.com) and to hear a brief summary of the interviews go to [www.thegospelstation.com](http://www.thegospelstation.com) and click on the Ministry Interviews page.

### NEWS BRIEFS



**Paula Greer** moved this last month to a care center near her son in Topeka, Kansas. We will miss her here.

Continue to remember our Founding Director **Elbert Overholt** who is battling anemia.

Our Christmas Gift to SNU President Gresham and his wife this year was a gift to Southern Nazarene University for the **Loren and Linda Gresham Leadership Grant** in the amount of \$500.00. If you would like to contribute toward this grant gift, please contact our treasurer Roy Dorris.



*Arnold continued from p. 2*

our little home and rented out the two front rooms to strangers to make a living for us. I later found out that she took the street car down to Montgomery Ward's and put three toys on lay-away in the fall before that Christmas in 1935. Somehow she had made enough money to give my brothers and me one toy each.

Our generous Great Aunt Gus, a silent-movie star who came back from Hollywood to Oklahoma City to start the As-You-Need-It Bookkeeping Service on the fifth floor of the First National Bank building, remembered Mother and us boys on that Christmas by buying my Mother a *mangle*, a machine for ironing laundry by passing it between heated rollers; she gave my oldest brother, Billy, three dollars, my middle brother, Junior, two dollars, and me, Jackie, the youngest, one dollar. I thanked, kissed, and hugged my Aunt Gus who wore sweet-smelling perfume on that day!

Mother baked mince-meat pies and gave them to three of our neighbors because she felt "they were less fortunate than we were." That was her choice. She also gave thanks for her blessings by picking up the telephone and calling relatives and friends who were alone during the holidays.

Actively acknowledging our own good creates more good in life. Those who are grateful experience the wonderful balance of being both receivers and givers. Gratitude nurtures within us a positive, joy-filled consciousness and unifies us with life's flow; it is this that gives birth to inner-fulfillment.

Many of the world's great figures have been faced with problems so great that at first they seemed



## ASP Calendar

### Monday: January 18, 2010

- 9:00—11:00 a.m. Shuttle Service from the Sawyer Center lot (41st and Donald) to the Webster Commons
- 9:30—10:30 a.m. Research Interest Group - Student Conf. Rm. (Webster Commons 1st Floor)
- 11:00-a.m.— 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Meeting in the Heritage Room
- 1:00—1:30p.m. Shuttle service to the Sawyer Center parking lot
- 1:15— 2:00 p.m. Administrative Council meeting: Faculty Lounge

*Arnold continued*

insurmountable. What would have happened if Beethoven had wallowed in self-pity because of his deafness? The world would not have benefited from the rich legacy of his profoundly beautiful nine symphonies. What would our transportation system be like today if the Wright Brothers had given up after their first test flight had failed? What if Herman Melville had stopped writing novels because, at the time of publication, *Moby Dick* was ignored by both critics and readers?

Counting our blessings one-by-one can transform melancholy into cheerfulness; laughter and joy are expressions of praise and thanksgiving for life's glories. When looking at the glass that symbolizes life, we can view it as half-full or half-empty. The choice is ours. People, who see the glass as half-empty, bemoan their lot in life; they have the attitude that life is "out to get them"; however, persons who cultivate an attitude of gratitude will more readily see the glass as half-full, and their positive outlook is self-perpetuating.

**Let us remember that the more joyful we are, the more attractive we become. When we feel gratitude for our experiences, we find it is easier to see that "in all things God works for the good of those that love him, who have been called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28 NIV). When we give smiles to others, we are likely to receive smiles in return. Our smiles will reflect happy hearts that are open and receptive to the good, true, and positive people and things in our lives in the New Year 2010!**



*Save the Date:*  
Senior Adult Conference 2010

### "Advancing the Quality of Life A Lifelong Learning Conference"

Bethany First Church of the Nazarene

May 21, 2010

8 AM to 3 PM

Look for registration information on the ASP web page  
toward the middle of January:

[www.snu.edu](http://www.snu.edu)—Alumni & Friends—ASP