

# Perspective

Vol. 18 — No. 5

February — 2009

**“Big Jim Miller” will talk about  
“The Road Not Taken”  
at the February 9 luncheon**

The new voice of the Oklahoma City Thunders Basketball team is “Big Jim Miller”. Big Jim received his nickname as he grew in height. That height easily made basketball a part of his family. His sister played college and professional basketball and now coaches basketball at Vanoss High School, near Ada, Oklahoma. Inspiring young people is a family trait as teaching was a passion of their mother and Jim teaches speech and is the tennis coach at Harrah High School east of Oklahoma City. Jim’s father is a retired cattle rancher and rodeo star. Performing in public is also common to the Miller family.

Jim graduated from Byng High School in 1986. He loved



music, drama, basketball, tennis and scholastic competition; so much so that he was a state qualifier in most of his efforts and was a starter on a state championship basketball team in 1986.

Jim received his bachelor’s degree in radio and television communications from East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma and played basketball there for two years.

Most of Jim’s career was in teaching, coaching, or the media field. Jim can also be heard as the nighttime voice, 7 p.m. to midnight, of The Gospel Station Network. The network has 11 stations and affiliates. The Oklahoma City station is 101.5 fm. The Gospel Station Network is a gospel music format, and Jim also hosts the Monday night spotlight on new or local talent. Southern Nazarene Uni-

**Luncheon Speaker  
Big Jim Miller  
Southern Sunlight  
Voice of the OKC Thunders**

versity’s *The Toler Brothers Trio* has been scheduled as one of those featured shows.

Jim knows a lot about music. He sings bass for the gospel quartet, Southern Sunlight, which is based at The Gospel Station Network and headed by one of our previous speakers, Randall Christy, founder and president of TGSN. Jim is able to share his talent in many ways and another way is performing at the McSwain Musical Theater in Ada, Oklahoma, where he is the five-time Entertainer of the Year.

Jim Miller’s life has taken him down several paths. He is excited to share with us what he has learned along the way.

All members and guests are urged to make their plans to hear Jim Miller, Monday, February 9, 2009. The buffet luncheon in the Heritage Room of the Webster Commons on the Southern Nazarene University campus begins promptly at 11:15 a.m. The luncheon program starts at noon and ends at 1:00 p.m.

Important luncheon reservation information:

- Members: If you have not been contacted by one of our telephone callers by Thursday, February 5th, 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
- All: The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00. Kindly make your reservation(s) by Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.

**FEBRUARY LUNCHEON SPONSOR**  
in honor of Dr. Annabelle Laughbaum and  
Dr. James Robert Emmel  
**Our Thanks to Jack David Arnold, Ph.D.**





### Your President's Point of View

by Jack David Arnold, Ph.D.

**Investing, rather than spending, our lives in worthy purposes and deserving people, brings about the greatest happiness.**

American author and lecturer, Helen Adams Keller (1880-1968) once said, “**I do not simply want to spend my life. I wish to invest it.**” For many people throughout the ages, human life was simply spent in doing what was necessary for survival. The hand-to-mouth existence of our prehistoric ancestors precluded their deep consideration of the future; to them, to live through a single day may often have been an accomplishment.

As an adjunct professor of the humanities at Redlands Community College, in El Reno, Oklahoma, I teach two courses which begin in the pre-historic times and continue through the present Digital Age. The content of these courses documents how human civilization mastered survival, life became more refined, and finally, the pursuit of a life was spent in comfort, ease, and pleasure. In the highly developed state of our world today, most of us have the guarantee of an extended life-span and the assurance of luxuries undreamed of a hundred years ago.

If we choose, we can spend our lives doing a moderate amount of work to obtain a maximum amount of comfort. Experts, who live on the leading edge of human existence, realize, as Helen Keller did, that “**the greatest happiness in life comes, not from the comforts and pleasures that money can buy, but from the investment of the days of our lives in a purpose which transcends our purely personal interests.**”

*Investing*, rather than *spending*, our lives involves the commitment of our resources—ideas, love, talents, time, energy, and money—to those activities which support this larger purpose. The return of a wisely-made *investment* brings happiness and satisfaction.

*Investment* of resources can be exciting. When we watch a worthwhile organization, like the Academy of Senior Professionals at Southern Nazarene University, in which we have *invested* ourselves, we can share in its success, knowing that in some way, it might not have happened without us. When we see our *investment* joining with others to make a positive difference in the senior-adult world and our extended community, we can feel the energy and power of what like-minded individuals can do to bring

*Arnold page 6*



**“Sharing a Continuous Flight”**

## *The Academy Perspective*

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We value messages from our readers.

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By fax: (405) 491-6381

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

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Non-members—\$10.00 per year

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To make contributions to the Academy of Senior Professionals:

Mail to: Roy Dorris, Treasurer

4607 N. College, Bethany, OK, 73008

## Luncheon Sponsors for 2008-2009

<b>October:</b>	<i>Autumn Life Center, Kathy Holman</i>
<b>November:</b>	<i>Mercer/Adams Funeral Home, Ron and Yvonne Mercer</i>
<b>December:</b>	<i>Southern Plaza, John Stoddart</i>
<b>January:</b>	<i>Concordia Life Care Community Lisa Vellekamp</i>
<b>February:</b>	<i>To Honor Dr. Annabelle Laughbaum and Dr. James Robert Emmel: Jack David Arnold, Ph.D.</i>



**Braums Dairy Farm Tour, Tuttle, Oklahoma**

**Date:** Monday, March 23, 2009

**Cost:** The Tour is Free

Transportation is \$5.00 per person.  
(We will use private vans.)

Lunch is on your own at The Olive Garden after the tour.

**Time:** Meet at the Sawyer Center Parking Lot at 9:00 am

**Tour:** 10:30 am. 30 minute video and 1 hr walking

**Contact person:** Dwight Neuenschwander:

**Phone:** 947-3420

**Email:** dwightneuens@hotmail.com



**Maximum Tour is 28 attendees  
Sign Up Today!**



Steve Stearman seems to be having a good time at the luncheon



Two Shirleys share a moment in the spotlight  
Shirley Berry and Shirley Mears



Miriam Nida and Lisa Vellekamp from Concordia Life Care Community who sponsored our lunch on January 19. They shared some of the many options available at Concordia Life Care Community.



Dee Dee Burkhart played beautiful piano music for our lunch



## RIG What's New

By Paul Scheie

Some sixty years ago DNA was shown to be the basis for our individual genetic makeup inherited from our parents. Scientists believed that every living cell in your body would contain the same, unique DNA sequence, part from your mother and part from your father. The DNA in each cell was considered to be a recipe book for expressing all of the genes necessary for the operation of every cell in your body, plus instructions for when and how much each gene is to be expressed in each cell. Nevertheless, it has proved very difficult to correlate many human traits, such as IQ or disease susceptibility, with single genes. Later, it was realized that alterations in protein-DNA interactions, rather than just the DNA sequence, could alter gene expression. More recently, published evidence indicates parts (methyl groups) of some molecules contained in food that is eaten can enter cells and attach to the DNA. The result of such attachment is that some genes are turned off. It was even suggested that one of the genes turned off in this manner produces molecules that may help prevent a cell from becoming cancerous. Moreover, the same laboratory reports that DNA with methyl groups attached can be inherited.

To date, these recent results have been reported from only one laboratory experimenting with mice. Only after others confirm and extend these results can we cite the results as “scientific knowledge”. Until then, we offer them as being interesting, with intriguing possibilities.



## LIBRARY NEWS

## Reading for Fun!

By Arlita Harris, Ph.D.

In the process of getting degrees and teaching, we sometimes forget that it's okay to read a book just for the fun of reading! We don't always have to be studying for the next test or preparing for the next course we are going to teach. Retirement years are a great time to rediscover the JOY OF READING!

I'll share a few of my favorite fiction authors for fun reading – and I even find myself learning something along the way!

Angela Elwell Hunt: *The Debt* is one of the most life-changing novels I have ever read. She's written other really good titles which can be found on her webpage [www.angelaelwellhunt.com](http://www.angelaelwellhunt.com) I worked with Angela when I was a library director in Florida and she lived in the next town. She's delightful!

Francine Rivers' *The Atonement Child*, *Leota's Garden*, *Redeeming Love*, *And the Shofar Blew*, and her *The Mark of the Lion* Series and *Sons of Encouragement* Series are all Bible-based and great reads. I like books that make me think – and these certainly do that! You may read more about them at Francine's website [www.francinerivers.com](http://www.francinerivers.com)

Brock and Bodie Thoene are two of my all-time favorite writers of action historical novels. My favorites are the *Zion Chronicles*, *Zion Legacy*, and *Zion Covenant* series, but they also have *AD Chronicles*, *Galway Chronicles*, *Shiloh Legacy*, and *Saga of the Sierras* series, which are set in other venues and time periods. If you want to read just one of their books, read *The Twilight of Courage*. Read more about them at [www.thoenebooks.com](http://www.thoenebooks.com)

All of these titles are not available at the SNU Library, but they are through the Metropolitan Library System and in other library collections, such as the one at Southern Plaza.

So, send me some of your favorite authors and titles for “curl up by the fireplace reading” and I'll include them in next month's column. Dr. Arlita Harris at [aharris@snu.edu](mailto:aharris@snu.edu)

If you are on Facebook ([www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)), please join the SNU Library Fans group. It's a way for former students and faculty to connect.



### Luncheon Sponsors Welcome

Individuals may sponsor ASP luncheons this spring or in the 2009-2010 academic year as well as businesses, organizations, senior centers, hospitals, etc.

Those persons who wish to sponsor a luncheon should contact Roy Dorris, ASP Treasurer at 789-3469 or email: [rdoris11@cox.net](mailto:rdoris11@cox.net)



**NEWS TO USE**  
*The Power of Stories*  
by Shirley Mears

It is so fascinating for me to hear stories of people who have walked their path through challenges with courage and conviction. I have had the honor of interviewing several Southern Nazarene University and Academy of Senior Professionals. These interviews can be heard by going to [www.thegospelstation.com](http://www.thegospelstation.com) and clicking on the Ministry Interviews tab. These interviews include Dr. Loren Gresham, Dr. Tom Barnard, and Jeff Seyfert. An upcoming interview will be with Dr. Tony Griffin.

Some of the additional upcoming interviews will be with Kyle Dillingham. He is an energetic violinist/fiddle player. He has performed with Roy Clark and it seems Kyle's talent has surpassed Mr. Clarks.

The interviews run during the first fifteen minutes of the 9, 1 and 4 o'clock hour weekdays. In Oklahoma City, the interviews can be heard on 101.5 fm radio but the interviews can also be heard anywhere on line. These interviews can be accessed by clicking on the Ministry Interviews tab and then click on the KIMY link. Each interview is archived for continual availability.

Upcoming interview can be accessed by going to one of my websites, [www.integritynetworks.org](http://www.integritynetworks.org).

Please call me if you have a nomination for an interview. My number is 405-514-8108 and my email is [news@45andbetternews.com](mailto:news@45andbetternews.com).



**From The SNU Calendar**  
by Brenda Styers, ASP Director

ASP members enjoy many benefits through our sponsoring organization, Southern Nazarene University, including reduced ticket prices for many events.

**The School of Music** is presenting the operas, *Dido & Aeneas* and *La Cantarina*. The performances will be held on February 19, 20, and 21 in Cantrell Music Hall at 7:30 PM. Door open at 7 PM. Tickets are \$7 for ASP members and may be purchased through the SNU School of Music. For more information, call 491-6345.

**Athletic** events for February include a double-header for basketball on Thursday, February 12, as both the men and women teams take on Roger's State. Women play at 6 PM; men play at 8 PM. Admission is free with your ASP ID.

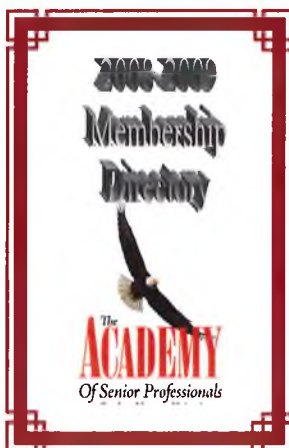
**Academy Obituary**  
By Cecil Brown

**Roberta (Dorris) Hibbert**



Roberta (Dorris) Hibbert died on January 11, 2009 after a long illness.

She was born in Choctaw, Oklahoma on August 10, 1929. She is survived by two sons and one daughter. She is also survived by her brother Roy Dorris, our ASP treasurer, and three other brothers, Robert, Curtis and Harold. Her funeral service was held on January 15, 2009 at Calvary Church of the Nazarene.



The New 2008-2009 Membership Directory is available for purchase for \$5.00. We have a good supply if you would like to purchase an additional copy.

*Arnold continued*

about positive change. The return of a successful *investment* is a tremendous motivation to *invest* again and again.

While we may be delighted with the success of an initial *investment*, the advice of the experienced *investors* is that we should not concentrate in only one area but *share* our resources with many worthwhile organizations and deserving people. The wise *investor* follows a simple rule based on the law of life: **“Don’t put all your eggs in one basket.”** American author and humorist Samuel Langhorne Clemens (1835-1910), pseudonym Mark Twain, had the following advice, **“If you put all your eggs in one basket, then you’ll have to watch that basket!”**

An *investment* in any kind of personal, emotional, and/or committed relationship breeds a watchful concern based on a fear of the loss of that relationship in which we may have *invested* a good deal. Demands made upon another person for too much attention, protection, and love can invite only domination or revulsion in the protectors themselves—two emotions quite as unhealthy as the demands which evoked them.

In the recent past, I *invested* a large share of my time, energies, resources, and affections in a friend “who was always there for me” as my caretaker during my prostate cancer treatments in Dallas. I came to expect a lot from him, and because my expectations were unrealistic, he could not give me what I wanted when I needed it. Now that I have accepted my part in this unhealthy dependency on my friend, I have “detached with love” from him.

Fortunately in my recent personal relationships, I have *not* put **“all of my eggs in one basket.”** When it became abundantly clear that my friend could not fulfill my expectations, I came to realize that I had a ready resource of friends, colleagues, and relatives who recognized my personal loss and came to my side with love, support, and encouragement. I am now free to enjoy them all and reap the rewards of healthy relationships with them.

In Ecclesiastes 11:1, 6 (*New American Standard Bible*), we read these wise words of the Preacher, the son of David, king of Jerusalem: **“Cast your bread on the surface of the waters, for you will find it after many days... Sow your seed in the morning, and do not be idle in the evening, for you do not know whether morning or evening sowing will succeed, or whether both of them alike will be good.”** *Investment* in a wide array of worthy endeavors and deserving people, which fulfills a higher purpose, is vital to achieving happiness in life.



## ASP Calendar

### Monday: February 9, 2009

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

### Book Discussion Group

*C. Dale German*



You can really get into a book. Once it hooks you, you want to keep going back until you’ve finished it because the plot and characters become a part of your thinking. You want to experience it all. When you finish the book, it is natural to want to talk about it with someone. Anyone.

If you have read William P. Young’s, *The Shack*, you will have a golden opportunity to talk about it in our next Book Discussion Group February 9 at 9:30. Just go to the lower level of Webster Commons Building and turn right. We will be there in the Conference Room. If you have not read *The Shack* but have heard about it and would like to hear the discussion, come on down. You are welcome.

You don’t have to feel obligated to like *The Shack*. Many do. Many do not. We will have an open discussion for all views. For a starter I will present two completely opposite reviews of *The Shack*.

This is our second of two Book Discussion Groups in our 2008-09 ASP year. The first book was *Real Change* by Newt Gingrich. That was a political book. Our second book *The Shack* is totally different.

The discussion will be held in the Commons Building in the Student Conference room on the first floor. We will dismiss in plenty of time for you to be upstairs before lunch to check in and visit with friends.

**‘Tis the part of the wise man  
to keep himself today for tomorrow,  
and not venture all his eggs in one basket.**

--Miguel de Cervantes, (1547-1616)  
Spanish author (*Don Quixote*)