
Human Values in Aging Newsletter
Nov. 1, 2018

H.R. Moody, Editor

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NEW PUBLISHER FOR THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is coming to you from Fielding Graduate University as its publisher. We have greatly appreciated past support for the newsletter from the International Longevity Center, AARP, and, more recently, the Gerontological Society of America. All continue to be valued partners, but Fielding sponsors its Creative Longevity and Wisdom Program, which will be taking an active role in helping to disseminate this newsletter devoted to positive aging.

The relationship with Fielding will help broaden the audience for the newsletter and provide ways to enhance its format, to include visual elements and connections with other elements of holistic education beyond gerontology.

As in the past, the newsletter is sent only to people who specifically request it. If you have any problems and suggestions to add, communicate to me at rmood@fielding.edu

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BECOMING INVISIBLE

"One of the biggest fears we have about aging is of becoming invisible, irrelevant to the world. Women, who are valued for their appearance first and foremost in our society, tend to feel this diminishment more acutely than men as they age.

The negative side of being invisible is clear to most of us. The world no longer seems to notice or care about us or what we have to say — if it ever did in the first place...

But there is a positive side to being invisible, as Doris Lessing captures so eloquently: 'And then not expecting it, you become middle-aged and anonymous. No one notices you. You achieve a wonderful freedom. It is a positive thing. You can move about, unnoticed and invisible.'

From "The Positive Side Of Being An Invisible Woman" at:
<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12324&F=T>

For more from Karen Sands see The Ageless Way (Broad Minded, 2018).

See also "Becoming Invisible" from a Jesuit perspective, at:
<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12325&F=T>

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THE PAST IS ALWAYS CHANGING

"I have come to see that the past is always changing, never placed forever like a book on a shelf. As we grow and change, we understand things and the people who have influenced us in new ways. Also we understand more about old age..."

-May Sarton

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WHERE HAVE ALL THE ELDERS GONE?

"Yes, there are more old people, in number and in ratio of the general population, than ever before in the West, and there are fewer elders than ever before, and the record will show, sooner or later, that these are not coincidental bits of information in a relentless information age.... Something about the suspension of limit and ending compromises the function of elderhood, even the appearance of elderhood, because there is something about limit and ending that conjures elderhood from age."

(Stephen Jenkinson, COME OF AGE: The Case for Elderhood in a Time of Trouble)

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SCHOLARS AND PHILOSOPHERS

What's the difference between scholars and philosophers?

Scholars know more and more about less and less until finally they know everything about nothing. Philosophers are the opposite: they know less and less about more and more until finally they know nothing about everything.

(Full disclosure: I have a Ph.D. in philosophy)

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BOOKS OF INTEREST

[WISDOM@WORK](#): The Making of a Modern Elder, by Chip Conley (Currency, 2018).

THE GERONTOLOGICAL IMAGINATION: An Integrative Paradigm of Aging, by Kenneth Ferraro (Oxford University Press, 2017).

NO ONE'S EASY DAUGHTER: Our Journeys of Transformation, edited by Mary Ber, Mary Sue Koepfel, and Mary McNamara (Imago Press, 2017). Elder nuns reflecting on their life stories.

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WEB SITES TO SEE

TRANSPERSONAL GERONTOLOGY. See "The Elder as Sage, Old Age as Spiritual Path" at: <https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12326&F=T>

DEMENTIA CARE. As a bioethicist, I've published on the questions raised here, and the dilemmas persist: "The Comforting Fictions of Dementia Care" at: <https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12327&F=T>

GOOD LIFE IN OLD AGE. "What Makes a Good Life in Old Age? Citizenship and Justice in Aging Societies," Special Issue of Hastings Center Report, available at: <https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12328&F=T>

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COMING EVENTS

NIGHTS OF GRIEF & MYSTERY TOUR. Stephen Jenkinson, author of *Come of Age:*

The Case for Elderhood in a Time of Trouble, is giving a multi-media presentation inspired by his radical ideas about aging and the life-course. Coming events include Nov. 1, Ithaca, NY; Nov. 2, New York City; and Nov. 6, Turners Falls, MA. For details about these events, sponsored by the Orphan Wisdom School, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12329&F=T>

VITAL AGING: "Evolve! Reigniting Self and Community" (Eight weeks, beginning Nov. 2, 2018, St. Paul, MN). An educational program focused on rediscovering purpose and becoming a more effective leader. Sponsored by the Vital Aging Network of Minnesota. For more information about the program, contact Joann Ellis, at eastsidemom16@hotmail.com or (612) 308-2425 or Mark Skeie (mjskeie@earthlink.net or info@vital-aging-network.org)

LIVES WELL LIVED Film (Nov. 3-4, 2018, Cincinnati, OH). Garfield Theater in Cincinnati. More about the film at:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12330&F=T>

For Cincinnati showings visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12344&F=T>

AGING WITH WISDOM (Nov. 5, 2018, Weston, MA). Olivia Ames Hoblitzelle speaks in the Altman Distinguished Lecture Series, Newton Lifetime Learning Series at Temple Shalom, 175 Temple Street in West Newton, 11:30 am. Illustrated talk with Q&A, discussion, and book signing.

For more on this, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12332&F=T>

SPIRITUAL LEGACY OF REB ZALMAN: E-course (Nov. 5-30, 2018)

Rabbis Victor and Nadya Gross, co-authors and facilitators offer this e-course in honor of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, author of *From Age-ing to Sage-ing*. Ordained by Reb Zalman in 1998, course facilitators are co-directors of the Sage-ing Legacy Program. Sponsored by Sage-ing® International, in co-sponsorship with Spirituality & Practice.

For details and registration visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12333&F=T>

LIVES WELL LIVED Film (Nov. 8, 2018, Greenwich, CT). More about the film

at: <https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12330&F=T>

For Greenwich showing visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12334&F=T>

REMINISCENCE: The International Reminiscence and Life Review Conference (Nov. 12-13, 2018, Boston, MA.)

For details, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12335&F=T>

AGING WITH WISDOM (Nov. 14, 2018, Concord, NH).

Olivia Ames Hoblitzelle speaks at the Red River Theater and Visiting Nurse Association, 11 South Main Street in Concord, at 5:30 pm. Talk with Q&A, discussion, and book signing. For more on this, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12332&F=T>

SPIRITUALITY AND AGING: (Nov. 15 and 16, 2018, Baden and Waterloo, Ontario,

CA). "Aging as a Natural Monastery: Spirituality in Later Life" and "Spirituality, Aging & Narrative: The Sacred Art of Story Listening," both by Bill Randall.

For details, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12336&F=T>

LIVES WELL LIVED Film (Nov. 14, 2018, Boca Raton, FL). More about the film

at: <https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12330&F=T>

For Boca Raton showing visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12337&F=T>

GERONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY of America: Annual Conference (Nov. 14-18, 2018,

Boston, MA). Theme of this year's conference is "The Purposes of Longer Lives" with keynote address by Thomas Cole, author of *The Voyage of Life* and other works on humanistic gerontology.

For more details, visit:

<https://mailer.luxsci.com/link.php?M=19981157&N=8737&L=12338&F=T>

GRASSROOTS CHANGE: "Creating a Grassroots Force to Change Policy and Build

Community" (Webinar, Nov. 27, 2018, 12 noon Eastern Time). The 4th Tuesday Revolutionize your Retirement Interview with Expert's Series features Bruce Frankel, author of *What Should you do With the Rest of your Life?* and Paul E. Nagel, Executive Director of Stonewall Community Development. They will discuss the creation of Stonewall Village, NYC, a "Caring Community" which empowers NYC's LGBTQ Elders. Sign-up begins a week before at www.revolutionizeretirement.com. Accessible via phone and Internet, although questions can only be asked via the Internet. Once signed up,

