

EXTENDED SPEAKING TOURS MINISTER TO MANY

What's the most effective way to extend the creation message to those who haven't had the opportunity to attend a lecture or seminar? Radio? Video? TV? The web? The answer is, all of the above—and more.

Recently we've found a way to reach many communities and churches with the truth of creation that might never have been able to schedule a lecture on their own. By arranging for one speaker to be on the road for a month or so, traveling from town to town, the costs have been shared and the message spread further than ever.

"Thank you so much for coming. Our pastor teaches creation, but I had no idea there was so much scientific evidence." "Thank you. You have no idea how my teenage son needed this." "Great information. Great presentation. Great handling of Scripture. What a great God we serve."

We've also found some interesting ways to communicate, taking time-tested truths of creation, meshed with recent research, and packaged in new and attractive ways. Consider three such tours in April and May.

May we call your attention to Mr. Rick Thompson, a gifted teacher and wonderful ventriloquist. He has gleaned creation truths from ICR materials and re-packaged them into an outstanding and entertaining "conversation" between himself and his little "wooden" friend, Sydney Redwood. Together, Rick and Sydney delight audiences



with a stunning "performance," teaching creation thinking in a memorable way. Rick and Sydney just finished a fascinating two-week ICR tour in the Pacific Northwest.

Before his tour, ICR produced Mr. Thompson's captivating lecture on video, and many people that attended his presentation wanted to take it home. It's available from ICR as well. However, his presentation is not just a children's program. Children love Sydney, but the content is best suited for junior high and older. It's really a family program, using a tool that everyone loves.

Also, ICR Adjunct Professor Mike Riddle, a gifted teacher, has just completed his third such tour, this time a four-week jaunt

in Texas. On it he spoke to forty different groups, including churches, schools, universities, and a prison, reaching over five thousand individuals. Mr. Riddle is a most energetic speaker, with excellent communication skills. He has the ability to take material from the ICR



scientists and deliver it in quite attractive ways.

On his previous tours, many people in attendance had asked for videos of his lectures. We were able to offer them on his latest tour, and now make them available

to Acts & Facts readers. Under the title, "The Riddle of Origins with Mike Riddle," the videos cover the following topics: 1) Does it Matter What We Believe? 2) Can Life Come from Non-life? 3) What's in my Family Tree? and 4) Dating Fossils and Rocks: Where do the Dates Come From? These videos are especially appropriate for high schoolers.

A third tour, just finishing as this goes to press, features ICR geologist Bill Hoesch. His evening presentations usually consist of two lectures, one on creation and the other on Mount St. Helens. His tour adopted the slogan proposed by someone on one of the first stops, "Darwin vs. God: Time is Running Out for the Theory of Evolution." Mr. Hoesch, using slides, power point and overheads, has become an outstanding speaker, winning many friends for ICR and creation at each meeting. One lady exclaimed, "I was trained as a geologist, but when I came to know the Lord I put away my geology because I couldn't reconcile the two. Just one evening of lectures by Bill Hoesch solved the problem. Thank you."

ICR intends to utilize innovative methods as appropriate to continue to influence homes, minds, churches, and nations with the foundational truth of creation. ❄️

SOONER STATE EMBRACES CREATIONISM

The logic of creation continues to be obvious to everyone but those aggressive, die-hard evolutionists in control of education. A poll of 750 Oklahoma residents published in the *Tulsa World* on April 12, 2000, indicated that creationism is especially alive and well in the Sooner State. Published below is the question posed and the corresponding responses.

Which statement comes closest to describing your view about the origin of mankind?

God created man pretty much in his present form at one time within the last 10,000 years.

(Creationism) 60%

Man has developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life. God had no part in this process.

(Evolution, without God) 3%

Man has developed over millions of years from less advanced forms of life. God guided this process, including man's creation.

(Evolution, with God) 33%

Don't know/refused 4% ❄️

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Editor: John D. Morris
Co-Editor: Henry M. Morris
Managing Editor: Donald H. Rohrer
Assistant Editor: Ruth Richards

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Back to Genesis

The month of May was the month to go “Back to Genesis,” with two powerful and productive seminars on successive weekends. These area-wide meetings impacted numerous churches and communities, not to mention individuals who testified of lives redirected. Without a doubt the months ahead will witness the fruit of these dynamic meetings.

Omaha Nebraska

This seminar, on May 12–13, began as a burden on the heart of Pastor Jim Hayes of the Westside Church in Omaha. He had attended a similar BTG seminar in Chicago one year before, and was driven to bring the vital creation message to Omaha as well. The reputation of the church in the community assured multiple church cooperation, and its funding much of the seminar’s expenses out of the education budget assured its success. Pastor Hayes had become a true creation advocate, and his influence was obvious.

Over two thousand young people attended the school assembly on “Dinosaurs and the Bible” with Dr. John Morris, while six hundred high schoolers heard Frank Sherwin propose “The Resolution to Evolution,” complete with helpful answers to common textbook claims.

About a thousand adults registered as Sherwin and Morris presented creation information through the weekend. A particular emphasis was given to anti-Christian teaching in the public schools of Nebraska, with instructional guidelines nearly identical to those recently rejected in neighboring Kansas. As a result of the seminar, about one hundred concerned Christians banded together with the goal of influencing the Nebraska State Board of Education. ICR’s explanation of the success in Kansas was just what was needed to energize them.

Yakima, Washington

One week later, Sherwin and Morris were in central Washington, with an identical program. The lectures were somewhat different, however, because the weekend for the seminar had been selected to coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the eruption of nearby Mount St. Helens. On the whole, the numbers of attendees was similar to Omaha, except for Dr. Morris’ lecture on Mount St. Helens, where the



Courtesy of U.S. Government

crowd swelled dramatically. Many of those attending had lived through the eruption and its ash blanket. Nearly all had been to the mountain to see the devastation, but all were shocked and thrilled to hear of all the lessons learned of rapid processes resembling those of the Great Flood, including rapid sedimentation, erosion, fossilization, coalification, and regrowth from devastation. The lecture turned out to be quite a community event.

Mr. Don Jameson, who chaired the local seminar committee, expressed his desire to start a local creation group. An announcement on Saturday afternoon identified a strong core group which intends to penetrate the community with this needed message in the days ahead. ❄️

INVESTIGATING POLONIUM RADIOHALO OCCURRENCES

As part of the RATE (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth) initiative instigated and coordinated by ICR, Dr. Andrew Snelling has undertaken a complete review of the significance of polonium and other variant radiohalos.¹ He has concluded that further research is warranted to investigate the geological distribution and occurrences of polonium radiohalos at both known and new localities.

Polonium radiohalos remain “a very tiny mystery.” Because of the fleeting existence of the ^{218}Po and ^{214}Po isotopes in particular (with half-lives of 3 minutes and 164 micro-seconds respectively), radiohalos produced exclusively from these isotopes present when the host granitic rocks formed imply that those rocks had to form virtually instantaneously (created),² whereas conventional geology maintains granitic rocks crystallized and cooled over millions of years.

However, most polonium radiohalo occurrences are associated with uranium concentrations or orebodies, and some are also in granitic rocks that intrude Flood-deposited strata,³ suggesting to some that the polonium may have been transported by fluids into existing rocks.⁴


One of the known polonium-radiohalo-bearing rocks that is both associated with above average uranium concentrations and intrudes Flood-deposited (fossil-bearing) strata is the Conway Granite of the White Mountains, New Hampshire. Samples of this granite have been collected by Dr. Snelling and then crushed to liberate the biotite flakes which host the polonium radiohalos so that they can be studied under a geological microscope to locate, identify and count the contained radiohalos.

New localities from where polonium radiohalos have not yet been reported, but

which have now been sampled, include the Bathurst Granite (intrudes Flood strata but has no uranium concentrations) and the Carcoar Granite (intrudes Flood strata but has nearby uranium concentrations) both west of Sydney (Australia), the Precambrian Trinity Gneiss (granitic) of the Inner Gorge of Grand Canyon, and early Precambrian granitic rocks of the Yilgarn Craton northeast of Perth (Australia). The rocks from the latter two localities neither intrude Flood strata nor are associated with uranium concentrations. These samples are soon to be crushed and their biotites scanned for radiohalos under geological microscopes.

Assisting in this research effort are David McQueen, former ICR geologist, and Mark Armitage, an ICR graduate, with Dr. Robert Gentry helping as a consultant. Searching hundreds of biotite flakes under microscopes is a painstaking task, but the potential results could yield a major breakthrough in fully understanding and confirming the significance of these polonium radiohalos. Contributions to assist this research would be appreciated, as would help in purchasing a geological research microscope with attached camera, needed to record the data being gathered.

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2. R. V. Gentry, “Radioactive Halos: Implications for Creation,” in *Proceedings of the First International Conference on Creationism*, v. 2, R. E. Walsh, C. L. Brooks and R. S. Crowell, eds., (Pittsburgh, PA: Creation Science Fellowship, 1986), 89–100.
3. K. P. Wise, “Radioactive Halos: Geological Concerns,” *Creation Research Society Quarterly* 25(1989): 171–176.
4. H. Meier and W. Hecker, “Radioactive Halos as Possible Indicators for Geochemical Processes in Magmatites,” *Geochemical Journal* 10(1976): 185–195. 



ICR SCIENTIST CONDUCTS WORKSHOP ON DEBATING

In conjunction with the annual meeting of the Executive Board of the Creation Research Society, an all-day workshop on debating creation/evolution was conducted on Thursday, May 18, in Atlanta. The workshop was conducted by seasoned debater, ICR's Dr. Duane Gish. During the workshop, Dr. Gish emphasized to the forty-eight participants the importance of a thorough knowledge of the scientific evidence, careful preparation, excellent visual aids, and a limitation of the discussion to the most critically important and relevant areas of the scientific evidence.

The Creation Research Society was founded in 1963 (Drs. Henry Morris and Duane Gish were two of the founding members). The Society is devoted to conducting research in all scientific fields related to origins and publishes an excellent scientific journal, the *Creation Research Society Quarterly*, and a newsletter, *Creation Matters*. Membership forms may be obtained by writing to Dr. Glen Wolfrom, Membership Secretary, Creation Research Society, P.O. Box 8263, St. Joseph, MO 64508-8263. ☞

Redding, California

Dr. Duane Gish taught an evening class at Shasta Bible College (Dr. David Nicholas, President), Redding, California, May 8–12. The title of the course was “Scientific Models of Origins.”

Miami, Florida

Dr. Duane Gish and Mike Riddle were the speakers at a Case for Creation seminar at the Glendale Baptist Church of Miami (Rick Armstrong, Pastor) May 26–27. Riddle's lectures discussed the battle between the two world views of an atheistic, mechanistic origin and the theistic supernatural origin of all things, and also the Biblical and scientific evidences related to the age of the earth. Gish's lectures included the scientific evidence for creation derived from the fossil record, the laws of thermodynamics, and the evidence for design and purpose. The seminar was well-attended by members of Glendale Baptist Church, an Afro-American Southern Baptist church. ☞



ORIGINS ISSUES

**EVEN IF . . .
EVEN WITH
BY FRANK SHERWIN**

The “new wave” in evolutionary theory is molecular evolution—looking at the molecules of life such as DNA and then attempting to produce an evolutionary “tree of life.” But these results have been dismal, producing no real evolutionary evidence.

Even if we can reconstruct the phylogenetic tree for living land plants with DNA sequences, it will tell us rather little about the steps in the evolution of the plants around us today.
– Olmstead, *Science* 280(1998): 393

Even with DNA sequence data, we have no direct access to the processes of evolution, so objective reconstruction of the vanished past can be achieved only by creative imagination. – Takahata, *Annual Review of Ecology & Systematics*, 1995

Even with the appropriate genes, the molecular tree of life is difficult to interpret.
– Erwin, Valentine & Jablonski, *American Scientist* 85(1997): 127

Even with millions of research dollars and bright minds, no one has been able to produce compelling evidence for molecular evolution—because it didn't happen! ☞

STEWARDSHIP & TRUST SERVICES

“Of thine own have we given Thee”

Last month, this column dealt with the moving account of King David’s celebration over the ingathering for the building of the Temple (I Chronicles 29:9-19). The article ended with a question as to the *source* of the overflowing joy that dominated the passage. The answer comes from verses 14 and 17:

*Of thine own have we given thee.
... in the uprightness of mine heart
I have willingly offered all these things.*

David had just witnessed God’s people demonstrate that they understood a foundational principle of all joyful giving—that what they were giving, and thus, what they had, was not theirs, but God’s. This understanding had resulted in joyous and abundant giving, the type of giving we are called to even today (II Corinthians 8:7–12).

As we wrestle with how God would have us manage “our” resources toward becoming joyful givers, it seems to me that we must examine through God’s eyes what we are doing with what we have. As we do this, I believe it will become evident why He has entrusted us with all we have . . . to meet not only our needs, but those of others even when, by all appearances, we don’t have enough to care for ourselves, let alone to give more (II Corinthians 8:2–6). As we set our minds on things above, He sets us free to worship Him through joyful giving without covetousness.

By so doing, we too will have the upright and undivided heart with which David worshipped, and we will enjoy the blessing of seeing God’s word made real to men, women, boys, and girls as “our” dollars follow His direction. And as a bonus we will experience freedom from the bondage that comes from trying to hold onto something that isn’t ours.

David concludes with a prayer for us in verse 18 of I Chronicles 29: “O LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, our fathers, keep this for ever in the imagination of the thoughts of the heart of thy people, and prepare [establish] their heart unto thee. . . .”

**Tom Manning, ICR Stewardship and Trust Services, P.O. Box 2667,
El Cajon, CA 92021. Phones: ICR, 619-596-6007; E-mail tmanning@icr.org**