

# Acts &

# Facts Facts Facts



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## GRAND CANYON VISITORS RETURN VICTORIOUS!



*Grand Canyon 2004 Tour Group poses near the edge.*

One hundred and eleven participants in the 2004 Grand Canyon Tour returned mostly unscathed from two weeks in the Canyon in May. Two groups of thirty rafters each challenged the upper and lower reaches of the Colorado River, ten hikers ventured into Havasupai Canyon, and forty-five intrepid bus participants explored Grand Canyon and the surrounding Parks.

Against all odds and even in agreement with Dr. Vardiman's weather forecast the Tour this year experienced wonderfully warm, sunny weather during the entire trip. The two raft groups led by Steve Austin, Andrew Snelling, and Scott Rugg were treated to views of the Canyon from river

level and the geologic strata up close and personal. Evidence for catastrophic processes of the Genesis Flood were observed in great detail, including outcrops containing two-foot-long nautiloids buried in a layer at the center of the Redwall Limestone. This evidence strikes a telling blow to the conventional interpretation of a calm and placid sea depositing hundreds of feet of the Redwall Limestone over millions of years.

While on the river an ICR film crew videotaped portions of two video documentaries for the RATE project and the nautiloid project. In addition to the excitement of rafting the Colorado River rapids, the raft group on the lower half of the



*Bill Hoesch lectures at Kodachrome Basin.*

Canyon experienced getting stranded for three hours on Lake Mead. The jet boat hired to carry the group to the landing spot ran afoul of the low lake level and came to a sudden stop atop a sand bar at full speed. It seemed like shades of Gilligan's Island until a rescue boat arrived.

The backpackers ventured into Havasupai Canyon led by David Nutting and Frank Sherwin for only the second time since ICR has been sponsoring trips to Grand Canyon. The trip was hot and dusty but views of Mooney Falls and the Supai Formation were worth the exertion. The group was also able to view a few nautiloids embedded in a layer of limestone at the foot of one of the Falls. Swimming in the pools of blue-green water below Mooney Falls was one of the highlights of the trip.

The bus tour led by Henry Morris III, Bill Hoesch, Debbie Brooks, and Cindy Gabay visited Zion National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, Kodachrome Basin, Petrified National Forest, Sunset Crater, Meteor Crater, Walnut Canyon, and floated a quiet section of the Colorado River on rafts for half a day. They were also treated to a young-earth creationist interpretation of the geology of northern Arizona and southern Utah.

During the first Sunday the tour group worshiped at Grand Canyon Baptist Church which meets in the Chapel of the Shrine. Reverend Rick Wiles graciously

welcomed our tour group and Dr. Henry Morris III preached on "Genesis, the Foundation of Scripture."

On Saturday night at the end of the main tour the upper raft group, the backpacking group, and bus tour met in Flagstaff, Arizona, for our traditional "Victory Banquet." This tradition started many years ago at the end of one of our first tours to celebrate all participants returning alive from their various adventures. As far as we know everyone made it back in one piece again this year.

Plan on joining us on one of our future trips! See the enclosed article about ICR tours which describes tour plans for the next two years. The next tour will be late this summer to Mount St. Helens on August 21-28, 2004. See the back of this month's *Acts & Facts* for details. See you there! 



*Mary Jo lectures at Desert View Tower.*

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## President's Column

### THE STATE OF THE CREATION MOVEMENT

by John D. Morris

Most agree that the modern creation movement began in 1961 with the publication of *The Genesis Flood*, the classic work on flood geology. God has marvelously blessed in succeeding decades, and now there are scores of creationist organizations worldwide, with books and videos and seminars and websites multiplying rapidly. Not only has creation information become widely available, but the face of science has swung dramatically toward creation positions (i.e., recognition of the lack of transitional fossils, the acceptance of catastrophism in geology, etc.).

Recently, two new players have entered the field. Long-time creationist colleague, Dr. D. James Kennedy, has backed the new Creation Studies Institute in Coral Ridge,

Florida, under the leadership of my good friend Tom DeRosa. CSI will focus on producing creation-based teaching materials and the promotion of creation museums around the country. Let it be known that ICR fully backs this idea and offers its assistance. There is plenty of work to do, and God, through His people, has enough resources to support a multiplicity of organizations.

ICR remains distinct from other creation groups in its graduate-degree programs and staff of research scientists researching and gathering information made available to all the groups. Sometimes I wonder what could be accomplished if we had access to the huge government grants available to our evolutionary colleagues at universities, but we're winning without these grants.

The rather new Intelligent Design (ID) movement has also emerged, and has been quite effective in demonstrating the exquisite design in living things, quite beyond the ability of natural processes to

## Remembering Sara

A special member of the ICR family recently heard those longed for words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant . . . enter thou into the joy of the Lord" (Matthew 25:21). Miss Sara Bagley received her commendation on April 21, 2004, just short of her 26th birthday, after a lifelong illness that belied the victorious spirit and infectious smile with which she adorned the ICR halls for the last five years.



Born with cystic fibrosis, Sara fully rose above her weaknesses to bless all with whom she came in contact, from childhood friends, to attendants in the hospital, to the many who called ICR's switchboard, or met her in our museum. A recipient of two organ transplants (including a kidney from her mother, Vicki, also on the ICR staff), she was an encouragement to us all. Her vibrant walk with God, in the face of hardship most never experience, will remain a treasured memory.

Thank you Lord, for sweet Sara, and for gracing ICR with such an unforgettable ray of sunshine.

produce, and the religious, naturalist underpinnings of evolution. Their membership spans a wide spectrum of viewpoints, from evolutionists, to New Agers, to Bible-believing Christians. As a tactical strategy, ID has chosen to be scrupulously secular in their presentation.

While ICR applauds the work of ID, sells their materials, and supports their efforts, we cannot join them. As a Christian, Bible-based organization, our goals are different. It is not enough to see the design in living things, as Christians we want to see the Bible championed, the Creator glorified, and creation restored to fellowship with the Creator. We dare not even be “ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth” (Romans 1:16). ☩

## ICR GRADUATE EARNS TENURE AND A PROMOTION

Dr. John Whitmore, an alumnus of the Institute for Creation Research, has earned tenure and has been promoted to associate professor of geology at Cedarville University.

Whitmore, who has been at Cedarville University since 1991, earned his B.S. from Kent State University in 1985, his M.S. from the Institute for Creation Research in 1991, and his Ph.D. from Loma Linda University in 2003, specializing in paleontology. He currently resides in Cedarville.

Dr. Whitmore has participated in several ICR research projects in geology and has co-authored the book, *The Great Alaskan Dinosaur Adventure*, detailing the discovery of unfossilized dinosaur bones in Alaska.

Located in Cedarville, Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited Baptist university of arts, sciences, professional, and graduate programs. Offering 100 areas of study to approximately 3,000 students, the University maintains a fully Christian and creationist worldview. ICR is pleased to recommend its constituents approaching college consider Cedarville. ☩

## LONG-RANGE TOUR PLANS

For those ICR supporters who like to plan ahead for an ICR tour, we wish to inform you of our tentative plans for the next two years. Please do not call or write to make reservations for any of these tours until you see specific details in *Acts & Facts*.

**Mount St. Helens Tour:** It has been five years since ICR has led a tour to Mount St. Helens. Many of you from across the country and internationally have inquired about the next one. So, we have scheduled one for August 21–28, 2004. See details on the back of this issue of *Acts & Facts*.

**Galapagos Tour:** We plan to offer two week-long Galapagos tours on a smaller ship next spring which will be dedicated to our group alone. This will allow us to spend more time discussing the creationist implications of all the unusual plants and animals. The tours are tentatively planned for May 8–15 and May 15–22, 2005.

**England Tour:** Another tour of London and southern England is planned for September 19–October 2, 2005. We will tour museums and historical sites which inform us about the conditions which led England to so readily accept Darwinism in the 1800s.

**Grand Canyon Tour:** We plan to return to Grand Canyon in the spring of 2006! We will be making several exciting changes in future tours. We will probably not require rafters to hike in or out of the Canyon as we have done in the past. We are also considering a possible family-oriented option.

**Yosemite Tour:** A possible new tour may be conducted in the fall of 2006! We’ve wanted to offer a tour of Yosemite for several years, but only recently have we felt that sufficient creationist research in Yosemite has been completed to justify such a tour. Come with us as we explore the granite outcrops and the glacial evidence in Yosemite and the volcanic activity at Mammoth on the east side of the Sierras. ☩



## THE ORIGIN OF LAUGHTER

Since the Scriptures teach that “a merry heart doeth good like a medicine” (Proverbs 17:22), consider: Five out of four people have trouble with fractions. The thing about retired gardeners is they just don’t get around mulch anymore. Grapes don’t say anything when stepped on—they just let out a little whine. The trouble with most political jokes is—they usually get elected. Clones are people two. If you didn’t at least smile at some of the above—please contact your nearest health care provider.

Secular attempts to devise a broad evolutionary explanation of laughter have failed. Nevertheless, evolutionary psychology (a combination of evolution and cognitive psychology) continues in its attempt to corrupt what God has given us by putting a secular spin on laughter’s origin. Evolutionists have tried to shoe-horn laughter into our alleged primate ancestry saying it comes “from deep within our biologic being—grunts and cackles from our animal unconscious.”<sup>1</sup> Oh, *please!* Two other researchers—Owren and Bachorowski—suggest that:

. . . human laughter evolved as a way to form alliances. First came the smile, which communicated a positive disposition to other individuals. Over time, however, smiles became increasingly easy to fake, so a more complex signal was needed. That is where laughter came in.<sup>2</sup>

Provine stated:

Breathy, panting laughter is probably the primal form that dates back to the common ancestor of all great apes and people. Human beings evolved their characteristic laughter after branching from an ancestor in common with chimpanzees . . .<sup>3</sup>

“Like typical primate calls, for example, laughter is evidently a species-wide ‘hard-wired’ behavior.”<sup>4</sup> Instead, creation scientists see this “hard-wired behavior” as simply the work of the all-wise Creator, blessing us with the ability to laugh. In another report on laughter’s origin, evolutionary researchers described infant humans and bonobos (pygmy chimpanzees) displaying similar facial gestures and sounds known as a relaxed open-mouth display.<sup>5</sup> This is hardly surprising, and frequently occurs among southern California *adults* when viewing the latest gasoline prices.

These are all nothing more than secular “just-so” stories, natural man’s attempt to explain God-given expressions of mirth. And when all the guffaws and chuckling stops, evolutionists admit that “we know little about laughter itself” and “laughter research is still in its infancy.”<sup>6</sup>

### References

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5. Beale, R., [http://dsc.discovery.com/news/afp/20031006/laughter\\_print.html](http://dsc.discovery.com/news/afp/20031006/laughter_print.html)
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## Meeting Highlights

### Northern Colorado

ICR zoologist Frank Sherwin was privileged to speak at a number of locations in Colorado including Golden, Greeley, Ft. Collins, and Evans April 12–17. One highlight of the five days of speaking was giving a 95-minute presentation at the University of Northern Colorado on the “Demise of Darwinism.” After the talk, Frank had Walter ReMine (author of *The Biotic Message*), creation scientist Edmond Holroyd, and members of the Rocky Mountain Creation Fellowship up to the podium to answer questions from audience members.

### Greater Detroit

Several churches in the Detroit, Michigan, area had expressed a desire for ICR’s Dr. John Morris to teach on creation. So, when his daughter and her husband, Dennis and Chara Heinrich, who live nearby, revealed his first grandchild was to be born in April, he clustered meetings to coincide with that anticipated event.

First was a one night seminar in Port Huron on April 23, at the Ross Bible Church. Local creation enthusiast Bill Lindke arranged for the meeting.

Next was a Saturday night/Sunday morning seminar at Dixie Baptist Church, where Dennis and Chara are active. Pastor Todd Vanamon and the people of the church made this a warm family time as well as creation teaching venue.

Finally, on Sunday night and at their Christian high school on Monday morning, the Rochester Hills Baptist Church hosted Dr. Morris and his wife. This is the church where Dennis grew up and where his parents attend.

Little Natalie Christine didn’t wait for the seminars. She arrived on April 12, a source of joy to all concerned—especially Grandpa! 🍷

## Radio Log

This month on “Science, Scripture, & Salvation”:

### Weekend of:                      Title/Topic:

- July 3      Creation and the Constitution**  
Baseball, hotdogs, apple pie, and freedom always bring one word into our minds: America! But as America celebrates her 228th birthday, we can’t help but wonder what happened to the godly foundation it was built upon. Did our Founding Fathers really instill Biblical principles into our form of government? Tune in!
- July 10    Myths We Believe**  
At times we may hear stories which seem too incredible to be true. Urban legends have been around a long time, and so have other myths we believe, including some old sayings. But are these tales and superstitions harmful to us?
- July 17    Man on the Moon**  
This month marks the 35th anniversary of “one giant leap for mankind” as Commander Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon. How does that first moon landing affect us today?
- July 24    Origin of Cats and Dogs**  
We all know that Adam and Eve were our earliest ancestors. But have you ever wondered about the beginnings of your loyal dog and curious cat? Were dogs and cats as we know them today created this way in the beginning? Stay tuned!
- July 31    Australian Animals**  
Platypuses, kangaroos, and koalas. These are some of the wonderful creatures that live in Australia. Although evolutionists try to use the unique features on these animals as proof for random chance and mutation, creationists know that these exclusive beings were designed by God. 🍷

## “WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS”

Our Lord Jesus taught us that we could expect an ongoing *condition* of instability until He returned (Matthew 24:6; Mark 12:7). Every now and then it seems, we need to be reminded by *circumstances* that “this world is not our home!” The news is full of contrasting opinions of the reasons and purposes of the terrible issues being played out in the Middle East, and the leaders of the world governments are planning and plotting to meet their various agendas.

## NATIONS “RAGE” AND THE LORD “LAUGHS”

Psalms 2 is a rather important perspective for God’s people to keep in their minds. The physical circumstances often seem rather bleak, and the “bad guys” seem to have it their way much of the time (Psalm 73), but we are continually reminded that their apparent success should not trouble us (Psalm 37:1; Proverbs 3:31–34; etc.), for “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision” (Psalm 2:4).

## GOD’S SPIRITUAL WARFARE!

*For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ (II Corinthians 10:3–4).*

This verse is a source of encouragement for the ministry of ICR. We particularly see ourselves as fighting the “imaginations” and the “strong holds” of those who would dare to set themselves against the authority of Scripture and the evidence of the Creator and His creation. The Western world has embraced the anti-God, and anti-gospel message of *Evolutionary Naturalism* as its religion. ICR is waging spiritual warfare against that terrible lie.

## HELP US “CAPTURE EVERY THOUGHT”

The battle *is* very different and very specialized in our world today. God has brought specialized “warriors” to ICR to engage the enemy. We cannot “fight” without your financial support and your intercessory prayer.



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