

NEWSLETTER

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Newly elected fellows **Joan Centrella**, **Harry Lee Poe**, **William R. Wharton** with ASA Executive Director **Randy Isaac** at the ASA Business Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland. Not present were Fellows **Richard A. Leo** and **Janel M. Curry**.

ASA Elects Five Fellows

Each year ASA recognizes some accomplished members who are active in the science and religion dialogue and elects them as Fellows. In 2007 the following have been given this status:

• **Richard A. Leo** was on the faculty of Grove City College in Grove City, PA, as a professor of physics for thirty-seven years, from 1967–2004. Dick is retired but keeps busy at the college as the supervisor of science student teachers. He received a B.S. in physics from Arizona State University and an M.S. in physics from the University of Minnesota. He has been a member of ASA for 35 years!

Dick has been very active in his church over the years, serving on many committees and chairing some, as well as teaching a variety of classes to both children and adults. He has gone on mission trips to various parts of this country as well as to Mexico and Slovakia.

Because of the influence of ASA, he has been a leader on his campus in generating the science and religion dialogue. Many ASA scholars as well as

two Nobel laureates have been invited to the campus for seminars. Dick was instrumental in developing a course in science and religion which is team taught, one faculty member from the sciences and one from religion. Unique to Grove City College, this is a required course. He has also encouraged other faculty members to join ASA by paying for half of their first year's membership and six have done so.

• **William R. Wharton** has been a physics professor at Wheaton College since 1984. Prior to that he taught nine years at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh. He earned a B.S. in physics at Stanford University and a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from the University of Washington. He joined the ASA in 1984.

Bill became a Christian when he was in graduate school and says this conversion first touched his heart and later his mind. He is active in his church in many areas of service and he and his wife have been involved in a Bible study and fellowship group for the past 20 years. He has been the principal organizer of science symposia at

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ASA Council Meets in Edinburgh

As is customary, the ASA council convened its semiannual meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting in Edinburgh on August 1. ASA President **Ruth Miller** presided, with **Walter Bradley**, vice president, **Ted Davis**, secretary-treasurer, and **Jennifer Wiseman**, member-at-large, in attendance. Past president **Hessel Bouma III** tuned in via Skype. **Gwen Schmidt**, student and early career representative, and **Randy Isaac**, executive director, were also present.

The results of the election on the by-laws were announced. The electronic balloting method greatly increased participation. Fifty-four percent of eligible voters cast votes, 80% of them cast electronically. The final vote was 791 to 2 with one abstention, so the measure passed overwhelmingly.

The first impact of the change in bylaws was to end the ASA fiscal year on March 30. Council member terms will also change accordingly. This will greatly improve our ability to prepare budgets based on fourth quarter membership renewals and donations. The council passed a three-month spending authorization for the first quarter of 2008 and will consider a full-year budget at its next meeting March 29, 2008.

The second change enabled by the new bylaws formalized the formation of small chapters. Whereas the bylaws require 10 members to form a local section, a chapter can be formed at the request of only one member in a leadership position. The council approved an incentive program to help fund new and growing chapters. For details, see p. 3, Form an ASA Chapter in Your Area.

The Executive Director's Corner

Randall D. Isaac

Put on your sunglasses! The glory of the Lord is shining brightly upon you! That is the message of hope that **Trey Smith** wanted to convey to all of us through his request to be laid to rest with his sunglasses on.

As I write this column, Marta and I are preparing to travel to Virginia to participate in the funeral of one of our closest friends. Trey is the fourth very good friend of ours who has gone on to glory in the last two years. We miss each one very much but find great comfort in the hope of the resurrection.

Trey was an enthusiastic ASA member for several years. A few weeks ago, though he knew his time was short, he renewed his membership for three more years. He saw no need for his support to end with his earthly life. He courageously faced three rare cancers in ten years, outliving all his doctors' expectations. Throughout his battles with physical diseases, he displayed an exemplary devotion and commitment to God. He taught his family a valuable lesson in the death of a Christian.

Trey loved life and lived it to the fullest. He saw every day as a gift from God and he enjoyed it to the hilt. Through it all, he grew increasingly aware of the importance of our faith in God and our hope in the resurrection.

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For him, the reality of glory was so real and meaningful that he wanted to wear sunglasses as a powerful symbol of the shining brilliance of meeting his Lord.

As members of ASA, we have signed a statement of faith that includes a fundamental belief in the existence of a supernatural God and of the resurrection. The last sentence of the Nicene creed is "And we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come." Though our vocation is dedicated to the study of the natural world, we do so in the context of understanding the higher reality of a world to come.

The symbolism of the sunglasses indicates not only the brilliance of the glory of God that leaves no need for the sun or the moon, but it also reflects that we look through a glass darkly. From our current vantage point, we cannot behold or fully comprehend the greater reality that God has created. From the other side, we will be able to take those sunglasses off and see him as he is, for we shall be like him.

Our discussions in ASA are most often focused on the natural world. This is our vocation and passion. Our common interest is contemplation of the relationship between the natural world and our Christian faith. Too seldom, we talk about the resurrection and the life to come. We shy from that discussion since we cannot examine it in our laboratory or describe it with our equations. Many antagonists proclaim our folly for believing in a realm that cannot be proved by science. What is our response? Cowering silence or a stand for God and his presence in our lives?

Trey was not shy about his faith. As a physicist, he was passionate about science. As a business executive, he was aggressive about his corporate leadership. As a husband and father, he was dynamic and loving. As a Christian, he was steadfast and faithful, proclaiming his trust in God and his hope in the glory to come. He may be laid to rest with his sunglasses on, but now in glory he sees it all clearly.

Next year, the annual meeting will be a joint meeting with CSCA at George Fox University near Portland, OR, on Aug. 1-4. **John Van Zytveld** and **Arnold Sikkema** are putting together a top-rate program on the subject, "The Heart of Science: do right, love mercy, walk humbly." Make your plans now to attend.

In 2009 we will meet in Texas for the first time. **Walter Bradley** will be the program chair as we gather at Baylor University on July 31-Aug. 3.

The audio of most of the talks presented at the Edinburgh meeting are available online. Some of these would be terrific discussion starters with the ASA colleagues in your area. We'll be glad to help you find each other.

Some day we will all meet for a great discussion in glory. Meanwhile, keep those sunglasses on.



Welcome, New Members! August-September 2007

Anderson, Kelly E. -St Paul, MN
Brockman, Craig A. -Tecumseh, MI
Doerfel, William H. -Norman, OK
Downs, Jr., Robert C. -Dayton, OH
Freeman, Louise M. -Staunton, VA
Gavin, Lloyd A. -Sacramento, CA
Gossard, Paula R. -Delaplaine, VA
Griggs, Bradley L. -Greenwood, SC
Groenhardt, Brian A. -Maryville, TN
Hysmith, Troy P. -Charlotte, NC
Kelley, Jim K. -Houston, TX
Kelner, Paul E. -Mansfield, OH
Knauerhase, Rob -Portland, OR
Koenigstein, Carrie T. -Piedmont, SC
Lepkowski, James M. -Ann Arbor, MI
Mayer, Gary T. -Ellwood City, PA
Morin, Terrence -Moscow, ID
Paul, Charles K. -Ranchos de Taos, NM
Perry, Duane E. -Duluth, MN
Pinkham, Carlos F. -Northfield, VT
Raburn, Michael L. -Raleigh, NC
Ramsland, Thor -Woodbine, MD
Sauder, Kurtis -Lyndhurst, VA
Smith, Thomas S. -Westland, MI
Stanford, Matthew S. -Waco, TX
Thomson, Scott E. -Grove City, PA
Wisehart, Chris -Aloha, OR
Witherington, Ann E. -Lexington, KY
Wuth, James F. -Normandy Park, WA

2007 Fellows, from p. 1.

Wheaton and has invited ASAers to participate. In recent years he has given a one-year free ASA membership to any graduating physics majors who wish it. He has had a paper and several book reviews published in *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*.

Most of Bill's 44 published materials deal with nuclear physics research. He has been involved in seminars in Urbana, San Jose, Oxford, and other places. This year he gave a presentation at a Reasons to Believe meeting in Chicago titled "A Defense of Causation (Causal Chains) in Physics."

• Since 2001 **Joan Centrella** has been Chief at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Gravitational Astrophysics Laboratory in Silver Spring, MD. Prior to joining NASA, she was a physics professor at Drexel University. She received a B.S. in astronomy from the University of Massachusetts and earned a Ph.D. in astronomy from Cambridge University. She has been a member of ASA since 1999. Joan lectured on "Binary Black Holes and Gravitational Waves" at the CiS/ASA meeting in Edinburgh and was on a panel engaging university colleagues and students at a prior annual meeting.

Joan developed and taught an adult Sunday class titled "Worshiping God in an Age of Science: A Vast and Ancient Universe" at her church. She has published many scientific papers on astrophysics in refereed journals and has presented papers at scientific meetings such as the International Laser Interferometric Space Antenna (LISA) symposium and at the American Physical Society where she is a Fellow. She serves on the Executive Committee of its Division of Astrophysics. In 2007 she has been involved in presentations at MIT, Harvard, Princeton, and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. She also gave a presentation this year titled "Eyes in the Sky" at the University of Maryland.

Joan has had a special faith journey. She was raised in a Christian family but left the church when she went to college. When she was teaching on the

college level, she decided with conviction to follow Christ. She says, "During the past 18 years, I have been the undeserving recipient of remarkable healing in spirit, soul, and body."

• **Harry Lee Poe**, who has been the Charles Colson Professor of Faith and Culture at Union University in Jackson, TN, since 2000, received a B.A. in English from the University of South Carolina and an M.Div. and Ph.D. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to being at Union University, Harry was involved at Southern Baptist Seminary as associate professor of evangelism and church growth and was associate vice president for academic programs. He also taught at Bethel Theological Seminary and was associate dean for academic affairs. Early in his career, he was an assistant chaplain at the Kentucky State Reformatory and pastored a church in Simpsonville, KY. He joined ASA in 2000.

Harry has long been interested in the intersection of faith and culture, including how the gospel relates to the arts and sciences. He and a colleague have taught a course titled "Science and Faith" and won one of the Templeton Science and Religion Course Awards. He has also authored and co-authored several books including *Designer Universe* and *Science and Faith: An Evangelical Dialogue*. He has published 29 poems and many articles and reviews.

Harry has been involved in organizing and giving lectures at the C. S. Lewis Summer Institute-Science Symposia. He gave the keynote address at the 2007 Christianity in the Academy Conference in Memphis. His presentation was titled "Toward a Christian Understanding of Classical Education." He has also been involved with the Jackson, TN, symphony for many years, being president of its board last year. He continues to be involved with the prison ministry.

Harry felt called to ministry at a church camp when he was ten years old. During college he prepared for a career in law and politics and at age 24 left that area and went to seminary to train for ministry. His goal at that point was to be a pastor. Eventually he felt

called to teach and has been very contributive to that significant calling!

• **Janel M. Curry** has been at Calvin College since 1996 and has been Dean of Research and Scholarship since 2000. She joined the ASA in 2000. She earned a B.A. in political science at Bethel College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in geography from the University of Minnesota. She has served on the Mennonite Central Committee and United Houma Nation, Dulac, LA, and has done research on the legal and cultural status of the Houma tribe.

Janel has given presentations at recent ASA annual meetings. In 2001, in Manhattan, KS, she spoke on "Care Theory and 'Caring' System of Agriculture." In 2006, at Calvin, her talk was titled "Connecting the Campus to the Watershed." She has contributed to *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith* over the years.

She earned a Fulbright Research Fellowship and in June–August 2005 at the University of Guelph, Ontario, researched "A Comparative Study of the Impact of the Differing Societal Philosophies of the U.S. and Canada on Natural Resource policy."

Form an ASA Chapter in Your Area

The ASA is a fellowship of Christians in science. One of our most important functions is to bring together a network of scientists who are willing to profess their Christian faith and are interested in discussing relevant issues. Only a small percentage of our members are able to attend our annual meetings. It is therefore of considerable importance that we find ways of enabling personal interactions at the local level.

Large local sections have been a critical part of ASA. Yet, while they thrive in some areas, the time and effort required to organize large meetings make it difficult to sustain. For this reason, the bylaws were revised to encourage the formation of more small groups called ASA chapters. The intent is to stimulate discussion type groups that can meet more frequently and with less planning and organizational effort.

What kind of group interaction would be valuable in your area? Some groups might meet monthly to discuss an article in the latest *PSCF*. Others might prefer a book discussion. Or perhaps bring in a speaker to present a perspective to be discussed. Some groups like to include food while others help each other diet. Do you know the ASA members in your area? We'll be glad to help you find out who they are. The ASA directory is a good start, but we are adding new members at a steady rate so the directory is not up-to-date.

The ASA office is ready to help in any way we can. We cannot, however, do the local organizational work for you. You need to take the initiative for that. To help encourage you to start a chapter, the bylaws were approved to enable small chapters to be formed easily.

The process is quite simple. When a leadership team with at least one ASA member wishes to apply for an ASA chapter, they must make their request in writing (email, of course!) to the ASA office. In order to be able to use the ASA name, they must agree to the ASA statement of faith, adhere to all ASA policies such as not taking a stand on controversial issues, and encourage discussion of honest differences in an atmosphere of love and respect. They must also send a record of their meetings to the ASA office as well as maintain updated information of the names of the leaders and all activities.

Upon establishment of such a group, ASA will offer a one-time credit of \$1,000 to be used for speaker expenses or the cost of a meeting place. To provide an incentive to grow the group, ASA will offer another credit of \$500 for every five ASA full members that a chapter enlists. For this purpose, three student members would be credited as one full member in light of the much lower student membership rates.

An example of a recently formed chapter is the Pacific Northwest chapter whose first meeting is described on page 8. Others in the process of forming are a chapter in Illinois and one in Texas.

Our journal and conference are outstanding resources. But we can do much better at leveraging them. I'd like to challenge each of you to use these resources as a starting point for generating small group interactions in your local area. ✉ *Randy Isaac*

Edinburgh Annual Meeting Responses

The attendees at the Annual Meeting in early August were a stimulating group from so many parts of the world. Several of them were asked, "What stood out for you at this annual meeting? What were the aspects which touched you the most?" Some of the answers follow.

- I was amazed at the unity demonstrated here. Over the table in the dining hall and during the question-and-answer sessions as well as in other settings, I witnessed a real inclusiveness. This group included people from around the world and from many different churches yet there was a real sense of unity expressed. I think that speaks volumes about their wisdom and grace.

- The humility of the speakers impressed me. I saw no arrogance. No one made me feel they had all the answers! Some even went out of their way to say what was still not understood or what puzzled them.

- I came as the spouse of a Christian scientist and planned to tour Edinburgh, see its castle, museums, stores, churches, etc. But it surprised me how I kept going to the sessions and how much I really enjoyed them. I was more a student than a vacationer! I'll have to come back sometime to see more of the city of Edinburgh.

- I was impressed at how many of the speakers were sharing how they used their scientific capability to serve God and his creation. They applied their knowledge to helping people in sub-Saharan Africa by building bridges, and to getting food to various groups across the world, and to working on Creation Care such as modifying fuel or using wind energy. The practical application of their scientific gifts really touched me. It was almost like their scientific scholarship gave them a mission.

- Being a woman, I was amazed at the gifts revealed by the women scholars and I am so appreciative that this culture, not only the scientific culture but the religious culture, is so inclusive.

- What really touched me, and maybe this is a negative, but I was so frustrated that I had to choose from so many sessions. I wish I could have attended *all* of them and not have had to pick. I kept wondering what I missed. I think that says a lot about the quality of the presentations.

- I was impressed with the young people present. These two organizations have to be applauded for encouraging young scientists. They, indeed, are our future.

- Among so many other things, I, an American, was amazed at all the places people were from. I met people from Canada, New Zealand, Spain, Austria, Norway, Holland, Minnesota, Kansas, and South Carolina.

- The ceilidh was delightful. I loved getting to understand some of the Scottish culture.

- I kept thinking how old the University of Edinburgh was and tried to picture inventor Alexander Graham Bell, novelist Robert Lewis Stevenson, geologist James Hutton, or Charles Darwin sitting in the classrooms of St. Leonard's Hall or looking up at the castle or extinct volcano nearby.

Exhibitions

- The \$27 million Answers In Genesis Museum which opened in May in Petersburg, KY, has been featured in the news as a major event which will inform many on the Young Earth Creationist perspective. Its technology is stunning, visitors report, including life-sized dinosaur animatronics and other computer-generated visual effects. It also has a planetarium.

- The American Museum of Natural History in New York City has updated its Hall of Human Origins. It, like the creation museum, incorporates the high technology of our day. Twelve years after opening an exhibit on human origins, the advent of DNA studies, computer modeling, and new fossil

discoveries, this museum has updated their exhibits, bringing together genetic and fossil data.

- The San Diego Natural History Museum has a massive exhibit of twenty-seven Dead Sea Scrolls, ten exhibited for the first time ever. The exhibit (ending Dec. 31, 2007) features materials never before seen together: scrolls from Israel and Jordan reunited for the first time in sixty years, ancient Hebrew codices from the Russian National Library and medieval manuscripts from the British National Library. The exhibition connects the ancient world to the modern. In addition to the manuscripts, there is a virtual-reality tour of a 3-D model of Qumran, ancient artifacts from Qumran, panoramic photography and the original 1050s excavation equipment.
- The Mobile (AL) Museum of Art has an exhibit (ending April 10, 2008) titled "Illuminating the Word: The Saint John's Bible." It is devoted to a single work of art, an illuminated, handwritten Bible commissioned by Saint John's University and Abbey in Minnesota. This Bible is being calligraphed by professional scribes under the direction of Donald Jackson, one of the world's foremost calligraphers. In the Middle Ages, monumental Bibles were made for daily use in monastic communities. The Saint John's Bible is the modern representative of that great tradition. This is unique as Bibles were not generally handwritten after the printing press.
- The exhibit "The Art of Forgiveness: Images of the Prodigal Son" will be at the Mobia, NY, museum until Feb. 17, 2008. The biblical story from Luke 15 of the loving father who forgives his wayward son has inspired artists through the centuries. More than 70 prints, sculptures, and paintings by artists from the Renaissance to the present day are included.

Newsletter Disclaimer

As a newsletter, this publication presents news spanning a spectrum of activities, reports, and publications in order to keep readers abreast of a variety of events and views. Just as newspapers report statements made by people of various viewpoints and opinions without endorsing them, inclusion in this newsletter does not constitute or imply official ASA endorsement.

Thy Will Be Done on Earth: Creation Care

- "The average American uses up 75 cubic meters of solid wood a year in paper and other products—the equivalent of about one ancient tree. Across the globe, 32 million acres of trees disappear each year for their wood or to make way for urban sprawl or farmlands. With them go key sources of oxygen and global cooling. Worldwide, wood consumption is projected to grow by 50% by the year 2050. Think you can't make a dent? Recycling paper is a start. Reusing 7 million tons of paper will save 40 million trees" (*Parade*, July 8, 2007, p. 10).
- Warren Wilson College, Asheville, NC, has maintained a strong relationship to the land it occupies. Its long, green journey began in 1894 as a Presbyterian mission school to help uplift the people of rural Appalachia through education and modern agricultural training. A Calvinist work ethic combined with the biblical concept of stewardship of creation have contributed to its becoming a national leader in campus greening. Environmental Studies is its most popular major and the campus is now a laboratory for energy conservation and innovations institutional sustainability. It has a Gold Certified Building under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The new administration building uses half the energy of a normal building of equal size. Nationwide, only about 100 buildings, with only a few on college campuses, have achieved the Gold LEED designation. (*The Presbyterian Outlook*, Oct. 30, 2006, p. 13)
- The National Wildlife Federation is working with colleges to green their campuses by organizing projects to conserve energy, reduce waste, and restore habitat for wildlife. Go to www.nwf.org/campusecology
- Over 325 college and university presidents have signed the Presidents' Climate Commitment. Under the terms of the commitment, institutions need to develop a plan to achieve climate

neutrality. For more information, go to www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/html/commitment.php Colleges are involved in recycling glass, paper, plastic, and aluminum and in using geothermal for heating and cooling. They are using electric- instead of gas-powered small vehicles (such as a cart used to distribute mail on campus) which are more cost-efficient, produce zero emissions and reduce noise pollution on campus.

- Almost 35 years of efforts from wildlife enthusiasts have resulted in the bald eagle being officially removed from the Endangered Species List. More than 9,700 breeding pairs exist in continental U.S. (*National Wildlife Federation*) However, the Sept. 24, 2007, issue of *Time*, p. 17, states:

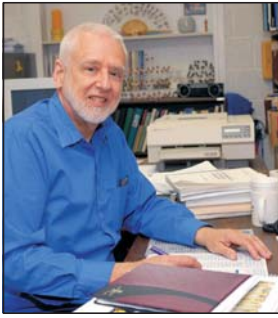
The World Conservation Union released its annual red list of threatened species and warned that a "global extinction crisis" looms as sprawling cities press deeper into habitats once left alone. The group tracks 40,000 of the planet's 15 million species; of these, more than 16,000 are at risk of extinction. All this news is bad for polar bears. Bad for western lowland gorillas. And very bad for people as well. When the winter freeze comes later in China, a disease-carrying water snail will have all kinds of new opportunities to make people sick.

- "There is not one blade of grass, there is no color in this world that is not intended to make us rejoice." Those words were penned by John Calvin in the 16th century. Indeed, God's creation makes us aware of the Creator and we rejoice as we contemplate its beauty, intricacy, size, and variety.

ASAer Receives Special Award

James E. Yoder, chemistry professor at Hesston College in Hesston, KS, has been awarded a 2007–2008 Fulbright scholarship to lecture and do research at the University of Swaziland. James has been at Hesston College since 1968 and expects to teach Introduction to Chemistry, General and Organic Chemistry and Astronomy.

Yoder and his wife, Phyllis, were in Swaziland from 1979–1981 with Menonite Central Committee and he says



James E. Yoder

that “the germ began to grow about a Fulbright in the future some-time.” He says he is both excited and scared. More than

33% of the population is infected with HIV/AIDS, the highest percentage in the world. He says he doesn’t go with all the answers, but with a sense of needing to contribute. James will research improving agricultural productivity, isolating the active medicinal compounds from herbs, plants and roots that native healers suggest for various diseases.

James taught at Wichita State University during recent summers as well as on his sabbatical in 1999–2000. He is a graduate of Hesston College, a 1964 graduate of Goshen (Indiana) College, and earned a Ph.D. in 1969 in organic chemistry from Indiana University in Bloomington. We congratulate James on this honor and hope he keeps us informed of his experiences in Swaziland. ✉ *James Yoder*

ASAers in Action

• **Francis Collins** gave the keynote address at the 2007 National Prayer Breakfast. The President, First Lady, heads of state, members of Congress and other distinguished guests were present. Francis gave an overview of his remarkable journey and concluded by playing his guitar and leading in the singing of “Praise the Source of Faith and Learning,” words of which appeared on page 12 of the Sept/Oct 2006 *ASA Newsletter*.

• The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s 2007 Summer Theological Institute (STI) “Faith and Faithfulness: Christianity in the Age of Scientific Discovery” was held in July at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, TX. It was co-sponsored by the Lutheran

Seminary Program in the Southwest, Texas Lutheran University, and the Templeton-funded Baylor Society for Conversations in Religion, Ethics, and Science (BSCRES). Clergy and members of many denominations were present. ASAers who spoke were **Gerald Cleaver**, head of the Early Universe Cosmology and String Theory division of Baylor University’s Center for Astrophysics, Space Physics and Engineering Research, and BSCRES co-chair, and the STI Scientist in Residence; **Deborah Haarsma**, associate professor of physics and astronomy at Calvin College; **Loren Haarsma**, assistant professor of physics and astronomy at Calvin College; and **George Murphy**, pastoral associate at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Akron, OH and adjunct at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, OH. ✉ *Gerald Cleaver*

• **Thad Trenn** presented a lecture last May at the Brighton, Ontario, Knights of Columbus titled “The Role of the Holy Spirit in our Lives.” One small quote from his presentation follows:

The decisive victory won by Jesus Christ in the eternal realm is henceforth being realized in the here and now through the ever present power of the Holy Spirit. Far from initiating any earthly Utopia-now, Kingdom realization extends beyond time to eternity. Here we have no permanent residence, so the goal of life cannot be achieved on Earth. While waiting, as it were, at this proverbial “airport” we must “check all our baggage” including any and all impediments to eventual passage by learning detachment from earthly things as well as forgiveness from the heart which sets us free. Learning to live by these counterintuitive Kingdom ways helps to facilitate the transition to eternal life.

✉ *Thad Trenn*

• In September **Owen Gingerich** and John Polkinghorne appeared on the history channel. The program was titled “The Universe: Beyond the Big Bang. The Formation of Galaxies.”

• **Wayne Belcher**, a hydrologist with the federal government working on

ground-water flow issues in the Death Valley region, tries to climb in the Cascade Range of Washington, Oregon, and northern California every summer. This past summer, along with some friends, he attempted three of the Cascade volcanoes (Mt. Adams at 12,300 ft., Mt. St. Helens at 8,300 ft., and the South Sister at 10,400 ft.). Bad weather forced the team off Adams and St. Helens. They made a successful summit of the South Sister in central Oregon. Despite being in a complete white out with 50 mph winds (gusting to 70), the team reached the summit around noon. Most climbers had turned around at the base of the Lewis Glacier, about 1,500 ft. from the top. Pictures and video of the climb can be seen on Wayne’s myspace page (www.myspace.com/docrock).

• **Paul Arveson**, physicist in Rockville, Maryland, is working on a book which deals with how one escapes from young earth creationism without losing one’s faith. It will be a practical, self-help book. He would like to collect some stories from ASAers who have gone through this process, including what triggered their change and how they have benefitted from it. If you would like to share your experience with Paul, email him at paul@arveson.com and he will be in touch with you.

• The Affiliation of Christian Geologists recently elected new officers. Jeff Greenberg is president; Charles Carrigan, vice president; **David Campbell**, newsletter editor; and **Keith Miller**, secretary/treasurer. For more information, email acg@list.dordt.edu

ASAer in Print

David O. Moberg, professor emeritus in the Dept. of Social and Cultural Sciences at Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI, has written a third edition of his book, *The Great Reversal: Reconciling Evangelism and Social Concern* (Wipf & Stock). Its central focus is the separation of Christian evangelism from social concern. Analogous to separating faith from works, this “Great Reversal” split much of American Protestantism into conflicting camps of fundamentalists focused upon “saving souls” and modernists concen-

trating upon "saving society." As a result, many denominations split, their segments often aligning with either conservative evangelicalism or the ecumenical movement. Tensions related to the relative priority of individual faith and social justice remain strong in many congregations, denominations, and other groups, but recognition of the importance of both, thus "reversing the Great Reversal" is gaining strength.

This new edition clarifies the biblical foundations and social climate for reconciliation and it adds a Scripture Index and "Supplemental Suggestions for Study." It promotes awareness of the historical background of contemporary Christianity and encourages the balancing of biblical teachings related to current Christ and culture issues, throwing light upon "church and state" controversies that bubble toward the surface during the pre-election posturing of political candidates. It can serve as a wholesome stimulus for personal commitment and for congregational, denominational, and parachurch ministries. See www.wipfandstock.com

✉ David Moberg

Action Groups

• **Christian Engineers and Scientists in Technology (CEST)** is an affinity group within the ASA for engineers and others working in technology. The group publishes a newsletter several times a year and encourages fellowship and exchange of ideas among its members. The latest newsletter included interesting articles on Amish Technology, Energy Alternatives Sought, book reviews and other items of interest. To receive the newsletter, go to: groups.yahoo.com/group/asa_cest/ Click on "join this group" and follow the instructions to join. For more information, **Bill Yoder** can be contacted at LWYoder@ieec.org

• In October **The Ethics and Public Policy Center** and **The Berkeley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs** at Georgetown University in Washington, DC, hosted a debate, dialogue, and discussion titled "Is Religion Poisonous?" with Christopher Hit-chens, a contributing editor to *Vanity*

Fair and author of several books, and Alister McGrath, prof. of historical theology at Oxford University. Michael Cromartie was the moderator. He is vice president at the Ethics and Public Policy Center where he directs both the Evangelicals in Civic Life and Religion & the Media programs.

✉ Paul Arveson

• The **Institute for Interdisciplinary Research and the International Christian Studies Association** co-sponsored a symposium from 2-5 August with the University of San Francisco philosophy department titled "Globalization & Its Discontents: Modernization, Culture and Religion." **Oskar Gruenwald** of IIR and editor of its *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* was the symposium coordinator. Some two dozen colleagues from all over the world addressed the multidimensional challenges of globalization, modernization, culture and religion in seven thematic panels. Oskar was one of the chairs and participated on the panel of Christian-Muslim Dialogue and Human Rights.

Three major emphases emerged: (1) The growing disparity between rich and poor countries; (2) The global reach of mass communication and entertainment media; and (3) Cultural and religious values and predispositions shaping individual and group identities in a world of "future shock."

The growing rich-poor divide was brought out vividly by the symposium screening of "Black Gold," an award-winning documentary regarding Ethiopian coffee growers' quest for a fair price and a living wage. Dr. Ted Baehr of the Christian Film & Television Commission, gave the keynote presentation titled "We Are Not in Kansas or Kiev Anymore."

Happily, the symposium featured civil discussion throughout, confirming the thesis for the need to reaffirm our common humanity. To receive *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, contact Oskar Gruenwald at www.JIS3.org or call him at (626) 351-0419.

✉ Oskar Gruenwald

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Coming Events

- Nov. 11.** 2 p.m. "The Breathtaking Inanity of Flood Geology: Geology, Creationism & Evolution," Dr. Donald Prothero. Baxter Lecture Hall, Caltech, Pasadena
- Nov. 16-18.** Bible & Archaeology Fest X featuring two dozen renowned Bible and Archaeology scholars; Holiday Inn on the Bay, San Diego. Call 1-800-221-4644, ext. 208 or Fax: 202-364-2636; Email: travelstudy@bib-arch.org
- Jan. 12, 2008.** The Houston, Texas science and religion group, organized by **Scott** and Penny **Robinson**, will meet for lunch and discussion. See scottandpennyhouston@comcast.net or call (713) 880-2527. Everyone is invited. This group meets the second Saturday of the odd-numbered months.
- March 8, 2008.** The Houston science and religion group meets. (See above)

Congratulations, Long-time ASAers!

Celebrating 50 years of membership

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Charles W. Crown | Glenn I. Kirkland |
| Robert L. Greenhow | John A. McIntyre |
| John W. Haas, Jr. | Harold M. Spinka |
| Russell H. Heddendorf | Frank Walmsley |
| Robert L. Herrmann | Norman G. Wheeler |
| James F. Jekel | John W. Zimmerly |

With the Lord

• **Lawrence H. Brown** passed into the Lord's presence in May in Midland, MI, at age 83. He received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Philippine Liberation medal with two battle stars. He was an organic chemist at Dow Corning for 31 years. Larry learned about ASA from **Walt Hearn**, who was a chemistry grad student at the University of Illinois at the same time. They and their wives were all members of the "Young Adult Fellowship" at University Baptist Church in Champaign and had biennial reunions up until 2004.

• **Peter W. Cook** died unexpectedly July 21, 2007. He was a Research Staff Member at the IBM Thomas J Watson Research Center for 42 years with a focus on microprocessor circuit design. In addition to science and computer engineering, his passions included Christian faith and philosophy, science fiction, being an elder at the Community Bible Church, and his beloved family. He has lectured at local ASA section meetings in New York. His family has requested that memorial donations be sent to the International Arts Association or to the American Scientific Affiliation.

Pacific Northwest ASA Chapter Holds Its First Annual Meeting

The newly formed Pacific Northwest ASA chapter held its first annual meeting on Saturday, September 15, 2007, at George Fox University, site of the 2008 joint ASA/CSCA Meeting. We had the pleasure of hearing from two speakers: **Randy Isaac**, executive director of ASA, and **Dave Willis**, prof emeritus from Oregon State University and long time ASA member. The meeting was attended by approximately 60 people, including a contingent of students from George Fox.

Randy delivered a talk entitled "Science: A Misused Weapon in a Religious War" in which he discussed the rise of secularism during the Enlightenment and how this led to "reactionary science" which he defined as "science being used by all sides in a war between metaphysical naturalism (a form of atheism) and Islamic/Judeo-Christian faiths." He described how the metaphor of "war" was introduced in the 1890s and how this has influenced the perception of both scientists and



Dave Willis and **Randy Isaac** spoke at the first annual meeting of the newly formed Pacific Northwest ASA chapter.

Christians. He encouraged us to work out a personal integration of science and our Christian faith by addressing two questions: (1) To what extent is science able to describe the universe and its history through "laws of nature" and what are the implications? and (2) To what extent does the Bible teach us scientific information and the history of the universe? He ended his talk by discussing some principles for teaching science in a Christian environment.

Dr. Willis provided an overview of the history of the ASA and its founders, many of whom he knew personally. It was encouraging to hear how, in the early 1920s, concern for young people and the challenges they faced in reconciling advances in science and their faith led men from Moody Bible Institute to initiate the establishment of the ASA in September 1941. While no further meetings were held during World War II, recruitment of members to the new organization continued. It was a distinct privilege to hear Dr. Willis's recollections about our history as many of the early members are no longer with us.

After a short business meeting and a presentation by **John van Zytveld** on the 2008 joint ASA/CSCA meeting, we had opportunity to converse over lunch, followed by a tour of the George Fox campus.

✉ **Annabelle Pratt**

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