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## Our 75th Anniversary at Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith



James C. Peterson

The first issue of *Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith*, then called *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation*, was gathered in 1948 and mailed at the start of 1949. So the journal is numbered now in its 75th volume year. The cover and first inside page of that 1949 issue follow this editorial. The journal DNA is there, starting with the prominent quote of Psalm 111:10 that still appears on each cover, but my, how far we have come building on that foundation.

Bryan Sutton sings that "the more I learn, the more I learn that I sure have a lot more to learn." That certainly has been the experience at PSCF. A plethora of new and important insights have been proposed, and argued, and often developed to wide acknowledgment. There has been striking progress in our understanding, that reveals how much more there is to learn. We have been like a camper in a night wood, who has turned up the brightness of her lantern to see with an extended pool of light. More is revealed in that larger pool of light, yet the larger circumference of light also reveals a larger circumference of unknown edge, not yet illuminated. Looking at 75 years of this journal, we are encouraged by realizing what has been accomplished, and motivated by seeing yet more of what is left to do. We seek to do some of both in this 75th anniversary issue.

Our lead article describes the development of ASA from an association with a handful of "members," and eventually a few "lady members," to now an organization where women comprise half of the board of directors and executive leadership, including the current president and executive vice president. How was that achieved, and what more is there to do in that regard?

We next turn to twenty-five ASA/CSCA Fellows and *PSCF* editors each describing an article in *PSCF* that

changed their life when it was published, and why it still warrants attention today.

Twenty book reviews of the latest developments across our fields then follow, plus a letter exchange between a journal author and critic.

It has taken hundreds of scholars, freely giving of their time and expertise, to accomplish this 75-year conversation. Their names have been attached in the journal to their telling contributions. We should remember as well how so many have worked behind the scenes to make the journal possible, and highlight the current staff. Esther Martin rigorously checks our grammar, clarity, and references that Lyn Berg further proofs and typesets. Mark McEwan creates our digital presentations. ASA/CSCA provides the crucial financial context from printing to membership mailings. Stephen Contakes ably leads our team of book review editors: Chris Barrigar on theology and philosophy; Se Kim on biology, ecology, and origins; Arie Leegwater on cosmology, history, mathematics, and physical sciences; Derek Schuurman on computers, engineering, and technology; and Lauren Seifert on the social sciences.

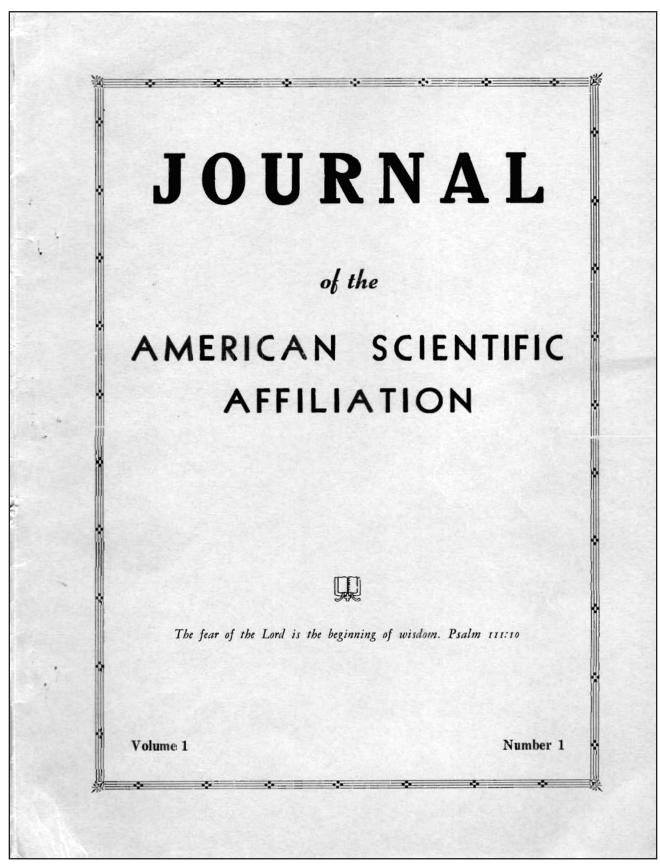
Over the 75 years, ten editors-in-chief have prayer-fully taken on this responsibility. That prayer has been essential is clear from the magnitude of the relentless challenges in developing each issue, and what has been quite evidently accomplished. Of these editors, Roman Miller (1999–2007) and Arie Leegwater (2008–2011) have survived the experience to still be with us!

To all, our deepest thanks.

Looking forward to what I will get to see of our next 75 years,

**James C. Peterson** 

Editor-in-Chief



Cover of the first issue of the Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation (JASA), now titled Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith (PSCF).

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