New Members
ASA is thrilled to welcome new student members! In our October Student Membership Drive, we set the ambitious goal of 250 new student memberships, then surged past that to 325. Gordon College is home to the most new members, at a whopping 54, followed by California Baptist University with 38 and Wheaton with 28. Students joined from institutions close to ASA headquarters such as MIT, and from as far away as the University of Alaska and the University of British Columbia.

Wherever you’re from, if you’re a new member, we’re so glad to welcome you! We’re grateful to God for the chance to support the next generation of Christians in science, and on page 3 we’d like to highlight two new ways students can get connected to the community and resources of ASA, through the Nexus Community Forum and our new collaboration with InterVarsity’s Emerging Scholars Network. If you’re a long-term member, thank you so much for your involvement in ASA and in the membership drive. Please consider getting more involved in some of these opportunities to support students as well.

Spotlight on Students continued on page 3

Annual Fund Update
$ 180,000 Goal by 3/31/16
$ 58,000 Gifts & Pledges to date
$122,000 Left to fundraise

Our desire is to engage 100% member participation. Your contribution will help us reach our goal and accomplish our priorities. We would be most grateful if you made your gift today!
Toward the end of each calendar year, we have the privilege of drawing special attention to the incarnation of our Creator. While we risk drowning in commercialism and holiday entertainment, we have a great opportunity to consider once again the significance of such an amazing event. How is it possible for a Creator to become part of his creation?

As Christians with a vocation or special interest in science, we see a unique relevance to the concept of incarnation. For us, the study of God’s creation is our livelihood and daily focus. On the other hand, our study of God’s revelation to us through his Word illuminates the basis of our faith. As ASA members, we bring those two studies together in a harmonious perspective that unites God’s two books of revelation, that of his works and of his Word, the Lord Jesus Christ.

There is no scientific description or mathematical equation that describes the incarnation. It is a unique event that, as far as we know, has never been nor ever will be repeated. The mechanisms of God’s original creation are still beyond our capacity to understand, even as we eagerly pursue our quest to learn how that creation unfolds in time. Similarly, the process by which the incarnation occurred also remains beyond our comprehension. As a singular event, we cannot study it in the laboratory. But the evidence comes to us through faith by God’s revelation and our experience of his love.

It is sometimes hard for us as scientists to admit the existence of realms beyond reach of our technologically advanced instruments. At other times, as we marvel at the profound complexity of the world around us, it seems quite feasible that there are worlds we cannot perceive. Most poignantly, when we gaze upon the simple manger on which the Christ child lay, we are struck by the union of the spiritual and the natural. Ultimately, the two cannot be separated. The Creator and the creature are one in the person of Jesus Christ. Its significance brings the promise of life to us all.

As ASA members, we share with one another the excitement of studying nature and our passion for Jesus. While the world around us too often sees conflict, denying either the science or the incarnation, we bring our science and faith together in harmony. This season is an opportunity to strengthen our faith as we ponder the miracle of Christ’s birth.

All of us at ASA wish you and your families a joyous Christmas and celebration of his birth.
Nexus Community

Students, want to connect with experienced Christians in science who can talk with you about career choices, graduate school, faith and science, and other topics? Experienced ASA members, want to support the next generation by sharing your knowledge? The Nexus Community Forum is an online space for students and young professionals to connect with other Christians in science. It’s a great place to explore together as new and experienced ASA members engage questions of finding work/life balance, choosing career paths, integrating faith and vocation, and more. Community members include Randy Isaac (ASA Executive Director), Lynn Billman (ASA Fellow and a leader of ASA affiliate Christian Women in Science), and Johnny Lin (ASA President).

Collaboration With

This year, ASA also launched a closer partnership with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to support students. InterVarsity’s Emerging Scholars Network (ESN) produces blog resources to support students and young faculty, and also works to connect Christians to other believers in their fields through conferences and online conversations. We’re working together to produce great content through the ESN blog, provide conference talks and meetups, and more. Check out ESN’s blog at <blog.emergingscholars.org>, and join for free at http://esn.intervarsity.org/content/become-member-esn

ASA Executive Director Search

We are currently accepting applications for our next Executive Director. Often the best form of advertising is word of mouth and personal connections. While we are advertising in several appropriate venues, we would appreciate your dissemination of the job posting to those you feel may be a good candidate or to those who may know potential candidates. Please join us in praying for God’s perfect plan and timing during this important search and critical transition in the life of ASA.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact Johnny Lin, Executive Council President and Search Committee Chairman at johnny@johnny-lin.com.

Send Your Questions to Nexus

Submit your questions to Sharon Carlson at nexus@asa3.org and we’ll feature as many as possible at the Nexus Community Forum in January.
ASA: Tell us a bit about yourself. Where and what did you study, how do you spend your time these days, and what do you enjoy doing in your free time (if any)?

Peter: I earned my degree at Gordon College, where I studied computer science and mathematics. Attending Gordon was a great experience, because the curriculum connected my technical disciplines to faith and society. This was exemplified by the Computers and Society class. The class included a lot of interesting readings and group discussions that made me think about the effects of Internet censorship, piracy, and digital economies.

I’m currently working at Christian Book Distributors as a web developer. I work on a wide variety of projects, with a focus on increasing the reliability and performance of the website. I’m also the president of K2 Coding Inc., a nonprofit which hires college students to teach coding at underserved middle schools.

I’m also actively applying to PhD programs, where I plan to study usable security. I want to conduct research and create tools to help software developers write more secure programs.

ASA: How did you hear about ASA, and why did you join?

Peter: I’ve known about the ASA for a long time, because my parents are both actively involved. My mom, Kelly Story, was the journal copy editor for many years, and my dad, Craig Story, is a fellow of the ASA.

I decided to join because I think the ASA’s mission of integrating faith and science is very important, and I want to be part of the conversation about how best to do that. I think that Christianity can help us assign value in scientific disciplines, and science can also inform our faith. For example, the type of research a scientist chooses to pursue should be influenced by thinking deeply about the world’s needs, rather than simply choosing to research the most profitable topics. The ASA encourages conversations about integrating faith and science by bringing together scientists who hold similar faith worldviews, but come from different scientific disciplines and life experiences.

ASA: What has been most meaningful to you so far in your experience with ASA?

Peter: My favorite event so far was October’s Boston chapter meeting, where Walter Bradley and Randy Isaac discussed how phenomena like the mystery of how the cosmological constants came to be should inform our faith. It was an interesting discussion, and the nuance of each speaker’s argument showed that they cared about understanding the truth rather than “winning” a debate. I think the discussion was representative of ASA’s work as a whole, in showing how Christians can debate a topic with patience and humility. I think that’s especially valuable in our increasingly polarized political climate.
Field Trips, Speakers, and a Science Symposium: Wheaton-Naperville Chapter Profile

By Raymond Lewis

The Wheaton-Naperville chapter of the ASA has been meeting since 2007. We usually hold four lectures per year at Wheaton College, in the suburbs of Chicago. Therefore, we draw a wide audience across Chicagoland and beyond (sometimes, people will come from two or more hours away to attend). Some will gather for dinner at the Wheaton College dining hall before the lecture, and many will stay for refreshments afterwards. The attendees of our meetings include both ASA members and nonmembers, with a variety of levels of education and interests. We have undergraduate and graduate students, college professors, engineers, health care providers, teachers, and more in attendance. The chapter has focused on providing lectures on topics of science and Christian faith of interest to this wide audience. Even though we meet at Wheaton College, we try to get speakers from far and wide. Speakers from outside Wheaton include astronomer Owen Gingerich, science historians Ron Numbers and Blair Nelson, bioethicist Ben Mitchell, microbial geneticist James Shapiro, and computational biologist Joshua Swamidass, among others. Thus, attendees get to hear from speakers of a similar quality as in the ASA annual meetings, but available locally. In addition to our usual four lectures, we invite our attendees to the Wheaton College Science Symposium each spring. We have also had summer field trips to the Yerkes Observatory in Wisconsin and a geological survey across parts of northern Illinois.

Our latest meeting attracted a crowd of about 90 to hear a talk on “Evangelism and Evolution” with Dr. S. Joshua Swamidass of Washington University (St. Louis). In this talk, Swamidass (pictured at right) noted that many scientists are resistant to Christianity because they think that being a Christian means they must renounce evolution. With the visibility of events such as the Dover Trial dealing with the teaching of Intelligent Design or the Ken Ham/Bill Nye debate, it is easy to get the idea that to become a Christian means fighting against evolution. Swamidass contended that it is much more important to focus our evangelism efforts on the compelling message of the Gospel rather than on an apologetic stance that opposes evolution. This puts the appropriate focus on the essential truths of the Gospel and avoids making nonessential claims the basis for evangelism. Many in the audience remarked how helpful it was to be reminded of the centrality of Jesus Christ in our witness.
Welcome, New Members! July–September 2015

Ambuter, Hal
Vernon, NJ
Black, Joshua
St. Catharines, ON
Bondeson, Daniel
New Haven, CT
Bragg, Alexa
Trumbull, CT
Braide, O佟ne
Wenham, MA
Brudzinski, Mike
Hamilton, OH
Cacho-Logsdon, Anna
Irvine, KY
Campbell, Warren
Hendersonville, NC
Cline, Jerry
APO, Armed Forces
Danaher, Jordan
Shrewsbury, VT
Dong, Joshua
Yangon, South East Asia, Myanmar
Eagelson, Hannah
Somerville, MA
Hodge, Mathis
Stillwater, OK
Hover, Ryan
Fitchburg, WI
Jacobsen, Robert
Knoxville, TN
Lee, Ray
Prairieville, LA
Marshall, Perry
Oak Park, IL
Mayfield, Colette
Austin, TX
McKay, Douglas
Nashua, NH
Mensch, Gerhard
Fort Smith, AR
Mills, Tony
Yale, OK
Morgan, Romona
Billings, MT
Oleskiewicz, Dana
Chagrin Falls, OH
Oswald, Wes
Sarasota, FL
Patton, Stephen
Marshall, MO
Redding, Micah
Antioch, TN
Salvati, Zachary
Batavia, IL
Sammons, Grace
Glen Allen, VA
Seaton, Kelly
Durham, NC
Solt, Matthew
Stanford, CA
Swamidass, S. Joshua
Saint Louis, MO
Treguboff, William
Davis, CA
Umstetter, James
Sunnyvale, CA
Valdes, Juan
Miami, FL
Van Allen, Mycha
Ashlee
Saint Robert, MO
Voigt, Emily
Rochester, MN
Warriner, Logan
Lexington, KY
Willingham, Trent
Memphis, TN
Wimmer, Carol
Tulsa, OK
Woo, Peter
Ann Arbor, MI

Members in Glory

Bill Wymer passed away peacefully at his home in North Potomac, MD, on April 2, 2015, with his devoted wife at his side. He is survived by his wife, Judith, of 63 years and their five children and twelve grandchildren. He received his Bachelor’s degree at Louisiana State University in entomology. He served as a Ship’s Officer in the US Army Transport Service during World War II and was later employed as a civilian entomologist at the US Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks and then with the Federal Drug Administration. He was a member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bethesda, MD, and joined the ASA in August 2006.

Ronald W. Beery (1935–2015) Physicist
Ron Beery passed away on Thursday, October 1, 2015, after a courageous battle with cancer. He will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 55 years, Alice, four children, and five grandchildren. He was a professor of physics at Hope College and the president and founder of Audio Scripture Ministries, a recording and translation ministry. He was a member at Parkwood Presbyterian Church in Jenison, MI, a historian, and a fix it man. Ron joined the ASA in 1960. In 1966 he served as treasurer of the Grand Rapids section of the ASA.

Happy Birthday to Paul Godfrey, 101 on Thanksgiving Day! And happy 62nd Anniversary of ASA Membership!
These are exciting times to be a Christian believer and a scientist. Several fields, ranging from the nature of the universe to the nature of the smallest particles, provide opportunities for rich dialogue about the ways in which science and Christianity might contribute to a fuller understanding of God and nature. One area of particular current interest is the nature of and relationships between the body, the mind, and the spirit. The goal of our meeting this year is to explore recent discoveries in neuroscience, psychology, and the physical sciences that may have implications on what it means to live as beings with bodies and minds.

We will also celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the American Scientific Affiliation by reflecting on the contributions our organization has made to the science-faith dialogue over the past three-quarters of a century.
It’s not every day that three different science and faith organizations from around the world come together in mutual pursuit of questions at the intersection of theology, society, and the natural world. This summer’s ASA/CSCA Annual Meeting is one of the special occasions in which our American and Canadian sister organizations will come together with our friends across the pond, the English group Christians in Science.

As with every ASA/CSCA Annual Meeting, we will enjoy lectures from top scholars in a wide range of disciplines, from psychology to ethics to physics and biblical interpretation. This synthesis of science and the spiritual, so important to being a Christian in the sciences, is also quite rare, as conference themes go. Our Annual Meeting is a special time of

Stay tuned for our newly expanded exhibitor opportunities at 75th anniversary annual meeting at APU!