

A DECADE OF FAITHFUL SERVICE!



ICR was thrilled when the Lord provided the opportunity to produce ICR's broadcast, "Back to Genesis." This one-minute daily feature tackles some of the tough questions concerning creation and evolution.

It was an instant success, with hundreds of radio stations generously adding the feature to their programming line-up. But the Lord had yet another opportunity for the broadcast, and it came through Dolly Martin.

In 1994, Dolly was working at the Texas-based KHCB Radio Network, which airs "Back to Genesis." As Program Director of KHCB's Spanish station, *Radio Amistad*, she wondered if the English broadcast could be translated into Spanish to use at her station. ICR was excited to receive her call. Soon it became obvious that if Dolly was going to revoice the programs in Spanish, why not offer it to stations all around the world? Dolly was more than willing to commit to the huge undertaking of hosting the broadcast. Thus was the birth of "De Regreso a Génesis" ("Back to Genesis").

That was ten years ago this month, and Dolly has faithfully volunteered ever since that time. She has hosted the broadcast,

done production work, and represented "De Regreso a Génesis" at radio conventions. She has never asked anything from ICR, faithfully serving for a decade! For these reasons, we want to thank Dolly for her service.

After ten years, Dolly's commitments have grown, and she has felt it necessary to resign from the broadcast. We will miss her, and would like to express our deep appreciation for all her years of service. Dolly, the Lord has used you to reach millions around the globe with the creation message!

As Dolly leaves the broadcast, we are delighted to introduce our new volunteer announcer for "De Regreso a Génesis," Pastor Enrique Sanchez. Pastor Sanchez, his wife, Maria, and two daughters—Cristina (19) and Elsa (15) minister at the Vida Nueva Evangelical Free Church in the San Diego area.

Pastor Sanchez is enthusiastic to continue in the ministry which Dolly Martin started—taking the creation message in Spanish to over twenty countries around the globe. Please continue to pray for ICR's vital outreach to our Hispanic brothers and sisters! 





President's Column

by John D. Morris

2003 has come to a close, and what a year it was! Much was accomplished, and all the glory goes to our great Creator/Savior, "For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever" (Romans 11:36). Please rejoice along with me as I recap the year's activities.

First, some personal news. The recent fires in southern California came very close to ICR and to many of our homes. ICR was closed and at a partial speed for several days, but neither the ICR buildings nor any homes of ICR personnel were damaged. Thanks for praying for us.

Outreach

Hunger for creation information remains high. In all, an estimated 92,000 people attended an ICR sponsored and/or staffed event. This includes a variety of seminars, presentations, conferences, creation/evolution debates, Good Science Workshops, and Creation Science Camps. Some of the most productive and influential meetings were held on "Loop Tours," where one speaker traveled an area of the country speaking in a different location each day, often in smaller towns where a full-blown seminar might never be scheduled. Trips to other countries also spread the vital creation message to those who had never heard it before. A most unique outreach effort was conducted by a retired couple who drove from church to church throughout the western states, showing ICR videos as often as they were able. God blessed with a rich harvest of lives and minds changed for eternity.

Radio

ICR's radio programs continue to expand into new markets. The weekly "Science, Scripture & Salvation," the daily "Back to Genesis" and "De Regreso a Génesis," and the "Jonathan Park" adventure specials

were aired by 1,668 stations (an increase of 56%) this year.

Public Information Services

ICR has always endeavored to provide its clientele with answers to questions and assistance to students. Lately this has grown faster than we could construct a data base of answers to Frequently Asked Questions. The full service is still under construction, but many "answers" are already up and available on our website and through e-mail.

Speaking of the web, our www.icr.org continues to expand and develop. The number of people who visit far eclipses those who attend seminars. The site not only has FAQ's, but an archive of past *Acts & Facts* articles, *Days of Praise* devotionals, technical articles, an on-line store of creation resources, speaker schedules, and much more.

ICR Museum

The ICR Museum of Creation and Earth History has updated and improved many of its exhibits. A new wing of the museum is currently under construction and will be opening in the coming months. The present museum is really a "walk through history," i.e., true history, giving a full Christian/creation worldview augmented by scientific information. The new wing will be a "creation/evolution" room, giving positive evidence for creation while refuting evolution's claims.

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Publications

Acts & Facts is now requested and received by over 119,000 homes, and *Days of Praise* goes to over 300,000. The breadth and quality of these publications continues to expand.

The list of books, videos, and CD's produced by ICR scientists continues to grow. Books include: *God and the Nations* and *The Remarkable Journey of Jonah* by Dr. Henry Morris; *Is the Big Bang Biblical?* by Dr. John Morris; *Footprints in the Ash* by Dr. John Morris and Dr. Steve Austin; and *After Eden* by Dr. Henry Morris III. Audio/visual resources include: *Winning the Creation Debate* by Dr. Duane Gish; *Marty's Grand Adventure* on video or DVD; 4 new DVD's of lectures on new research projects; 5 DVD conversions of key VHS products; an album available on audio cassette or CD entitled *After Eden*; an audio cassette album of 12 "Jonathan Park" radio adventures; and several books by ICR associates.

Tours

A spring study tour to the Galapagos Islands and the fall return trip to Yellowstone Park were fully booked. These tours not only educate those in attendance, but facilitate ICR research.

Research

These more scholarly activities of ICR oftentimes occupy center stage, especially the *Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth* (RATE) initiative. The research continues to yield excellent results, and these were featured at the July "International Conference on Creationism." Other research projects by the ICR faculty and graduate students yielded a total of 16 major papers being presented.

Dr. Austin was invited to instruct the rangers at Grand Canyon on his discovery of nautiloid fossils there. Impact of this discovery continues to ripple throughout science and education.

The ICR Graduate School

The ICR Graduate School continues to be the "core" of ICR ministry. Although

not large in numbers, it provides the scholarly platform from which writing and research can issue. In 2003 we saw two students complete their master's programs. Their research theses and papers and the participation of others in faculty research added much to the creation worldview.

Administration

Although the year is not over as I write this summary, it appears that God has once again met every financial need, and allowed us to finish the year with all bills paid, just as He has done throughout each of ICR's 33 years in existence. The extended family of ICR supporters and donors willingly gave of their resources to help underwrite the ministry. Some gave appreciated stock or property, others gave of their income or time. All are gratefully accepted and will be prayerfully put to use.

A special thanks to each one who helps undergird ICR with prayer. God has blessed in such marvelous ways, and I am sure He does so in answer to prayer. We thank Him for all He has done and anticipate His plans for the coming year, and each year until He returns. ☞



From Louisiana

My sister is in high school and is doing a presentation speech on evolution vs. creation with the creation position. I have been able to give her your website to direct her to many helpful articles in her research. Thank you for your commitment to good science! God bless you and your ministry.

From prison chaplain in Washington

[Our prison] gladly received your 400 issues of *Days of Praise* recently and we want to express our thanks to you for it; praying for the continuance of your work in the Lord. ☞



RATE PRESENTS PAPERS AT AGU MEETING

Three members of the RATE group (Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth) presented technical papers at the American Geophysical Union (AGU) annual fall meeting in December 2003. They discussed some of the most highly significant results of RATE to the geophysics community in a poster session entitled, "Centennial Celebration of Radioisotopic Geochronology: Dates, Rates, and New Databases." About 10,000 scientists from specialties in geophysics were in attendance at this year's week long conference in San Francisco.

Dr. D. Russell Humphreys presented a paper entitled, *Recently Measured Helium Diffusion Rate for Zircon Suggests Inconsistency with U-Pb Age for Fenton Hill Granodiorite*. Dr. John R. Baumgardner presented a paper entitled, *The Enigma of the Ubiquity of ^{14}C in Organic Samples Older Than 100 ka*. And, Dr. Larry Vardiman presented a paper for Dr. Andrew Snelling entitled, *Abundant Po Radiohalos in Phanerozoic Granites and Timescale Implications for Their Formation*. Each paper offered evidence which supported an age of the earth of only thousands of years, not millions.

Similar results of these three papers were presented at the Fifth International Conference on Creationism in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in August 2003, but this was the first time these results had been given at a secular conference. Dozens of scientists, particularly specialists in radioisotope dating, viewed the posters prepared for the conference. They visited with the three scientists and debated the young-earth implications.

The typical reaction was polite inquiry and surprise that Creationists were given

such a forum and that they had something significant to offer. Each paper was based on original data collected and a scientific interpretation of new experimental evidence. It is expected that energetic discussions will likely occur back in the labs and at future meetings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Please pray that this foray into the scientific establishment will impact many hearts and minds. Also, please pray for the RATE group as it carefully continues to report its findings to the world in conferences and books. ☪



Southern California Loop Tour

Recently zoologist Frank Sherwin spent several days traveling through Southern California on a speaking tour. Churches were excited to have Frank present the truths of creation in his usual humorous way. He received the following testimony from Tom Balli at Calvary Chapel of Lake Arrowhead:

Thank you for allowing us to be part of the loop in which we were so blessed to have you come and share with us. Everyone who came expressed how much they learned and were blessed by the information.

Although his tour was a relatively short one, the free will offerings that were given showed the appreciation and generosity of our supporters in southern California. ☪

Moving?

Please mail your new address and your old mailing label to:

Institute for Creation Research
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El Cajon, CA 92021



THE ULTIMATE GAMBLE

Science has repeatedly shown the incredibly small chance of organic life arising from inorganic non-life (biogenesis). There would be a better chance of winning a lottery *every day* for the next century. An evolutionary naturalist in Britain admitted:

... more than 40 years of work has failed to produce any convincing detailed scheme as to how living cells could have evolved from simple organic molecules.¹

Indeed, the only success these origin-of-life experiments have had is to produce a goopy tar on the walls of the reaction vessel. The naturalist has no choice, no recourse, but to place their faith in the infinitesimal odds that life just might spring from this sludge. The rejoinder is, "Well, the chances of the mechanistic formation of life are *not zero* [but it's awfully close!], and if that's the case, I'll take my chances that this universe and people *are* the product of time, chance and random processes." They are betting their eternal destiny on chances that any odds master would see as much too slim to even consider.


These same people view the Bible in terms of gross error, superstition and contradictions. But when shown that the Biblical text is reliable and the manuscripts are 99.8% true to the original they say, "But it's not 100%!"

Scripture is eminently true starting with our origin. Theologian James Orr stated, No stronger proof could be afforded of the truth and sublimity of the biblical account of the origin of things than is given by the comparison of the narrative of creation in Genesis 1-2:4, with the mythological cosmogonies and theogonies found in other religions.²

Jewish scholars had great regard for the Pentateuch and other Old Testament books. They took intense care for their preservation and exact copy procedure once the scrolls wore out. A noted Jewish archaeologist stated, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference."³ Josh McDowell stated that there is more evidence for the historical reliability of the New Testament than any ten pieces of classical literature considered. Ultimately we look to the Lord Jesus for His evaluation of Scripture. One finds time and again His stating, "Have you not read. . . ?" (cf. Luke 6:3; Mark 2:25; 12:10; Matthew 12:3; 19:4). Clearly, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isaiah 40:8).

How tragic it is to have people who will place their faith in impossible odds, feeding the hope that they are products of impersonal evolutionary forces, while at the same time embracing the .2% "error" (variation in the text) in the Bible as an excuse to not believe any of it.

We at ICR affirm what Martin Luther said long ago, "When the Scripture speaks, God speaks."


1. Palmer, T. *Controversy: Catastrophism & Evolution*, Kluwer Academic, 1999, p. 264.
2. Orr, J. *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*. Grand Rapids, 1939, 1956.
3. Glueck, N. *Rivers in the Desert*, Philadelphia: Jewish Publ. Society, 1969, p. 84. 

TRACS ANNUAL MEETING

by Henry Morris III

The Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) met for its annual review of accreditation applications and to convene a convention of member schools. Regular readers of *Acts & Facts* will remember that Dr. Henry Morris III was elected to serve as a Commissioner for TRACS. He, along with Dr. Ken Cumming representing ICR's Graduate School, attended the week-long November meetings at the Grand Old Opry Resort in Nashville, Tennessee.


TRACS was started nearly twenty-five years ago by ICR's founder Henry Morris and four other Christian leaders to provide an academic accrediting association which would demand Biblical soundness as well as educational excellence. The present membership of about 50 schools in TRACS all ascribe to a strong, young-earth, creationist-based doctrinal position as a framework for their academic curricula and educational philosophy. TRACS is fully recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education which also approves the Regional accrediting associations like WASC, SACS, NCASC. The Commission heard and acted on applications or reaffirmations from 15 schools.

Some 350 educators attended the conference and were challenged by a variety of technical and academic workshops. College and seminary presidents were invited to a special leadership luncheon to hear Jack Haye, a Senior Vice President of Wells Fargo Bank, who Chairs the Trustees of Patrick Henry College. Plenary sessions hosted several well-known educational leaders and authors. These meetings and workshops were an excellent example of "iron sharpening iron" (Proverbs 27:17); godly men and women encouraging one another in vital Christian education. 



This month on "Science, Scripture, & Salvation":

Weekend of: Title/Topic:

- Jan. 3 Refuting Evolution (Part 1)**
Have you ever found yourself in a discussion or an argument about creationism and just wished you knew more so you could defend it better? Well, get ready for some basic training in refuting evolution! Tune in!
- Jan. 10 Refuting Evolution (Part 2)**
As creationists, we all get discouraged or frustrated at times when we see the lie of evolution being taught in our schools and infiltrating our society as a whole. Will this trend ever change? Good news lies ahead, stay tuned for more information!
- Jan. 17 The Miracle of Life**
This month marks the thirty-first anniversary of the dreadful 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion on demand. But no matter what the government says, God still views life as precious! Listen in!
- Jan. 24 Educational Influences**
Evolution has been taught in public schools and universities for decades. But is evolution's influence on education so strong, that some Christian schools and Bible colleges are falling prey to it also? Tune in to find out!
- Jan. 31 The Ice Age**
Brrrr! The Ice Age. When did it happen? What caused it, and how much of the earth did it really cover? There are many questions about the Ice Age. We'll address these and others on today's broadcast. Stay tuned! 

Wise Stewardship

Most of us are familiar with the Biblical principle of “stewarding” our resources in such a way that our complex family, church, and Kingdom responsibilities are evaluated carefully. We must first provide for our family (I Timothy 5:8). We must give regularly and systematically to our church (Malachi 3:10; I Corinthians 16:2). We must also consider the broader work of our Lord in the Kingdom (I Corinthians 8:1–7; Galatians 6:7–11). Sometimes the Holy Spirit tugs at our heart to “do” more, but we feel a real conflict between the priorities. Here are a couple of recent examples of those whose choices reflected wise stewardship.

Ownership into Income

A gift of stock purchased some time ago was given to ICR in exchange for a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA). The donor could have sold the stock, but would have faced a fairly hefty capital gains tax along with an on-going tax on the interest earned (as small as that is at the present). Instead, by “gifting” the stock to ICR for a CGA, the donor receives a significant tax deduction for the “profit” from the stock (at present market value), and a guaranteed income for life. That income is much larger than could be earned in another guaranteed format, and a large portion of the income is tax-free—thereby compounding the effective yield from his stock. Both ICR and the donor benefit.

Maturity Transfers

Another donor lives in an assisted living home. The nature of the relationship with the home suggested that any “new” assets be given to that organization. When a recent annuity matured, rather than allow a commercial venture to further profit from the resource, the “old” asset was given to ICR. That donor had already taken care of family and church, so it was pleasing to “give” a significant donation to ICR that might have gone elsewhere. The donor’s heart of stewardship was satisfied and ICR received wonderful and timely help. Life insurance policies, annuities, maturing bonds and CD’s can all be used in this way to “fund” special gifts for the Lord’s work.



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Donations can be made on-line at www.icr.org/contribute.html