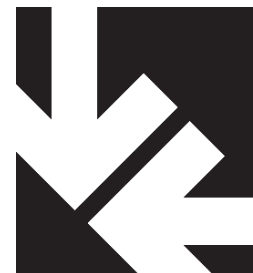


NEWSLETTER

of the
American Scientific Affiliation &
Canadian Scientific & Christian Affiliation



Volume 48, Number 3

MAY/JUNE 2006

ASA Annual Meeting To Be Held at Calvin College, July 28–31, 2006

The ASA will hold its annual meeting on the beautiful campus of Calvin C. in Grand Rapids, MI, on Friday, July 28, through Monday noon, July 31, 2006. Under the theme “Embedding Christian Values in Science and Technology,” the conference is shaping up to be a “must attend” ASA event.

Previous newsletter issues introduced four of the five plenary speakers. Celia Deane-Drummond will be speaking on “A Recovery of Wisdom as Virtue for an Ethics of Genetics.” (She also will be presenting in the physical sciences symposium on “Weaving Wonder and Wisdom: Developing a Christian Face for Values in Science.”) The title of **Vernon Ehlers’** presentation is “Religion, Science, and Politics.” Rudolf Jaenisch will be presenting on “Nuclear Cloning, Embryonic Stem Cells and Cell Therapy: Promise, Problems, Reality.” Karen Lebacqz will open the conference with a talk entitled “Pandemic Justice.” Both Rudolf and Karen have expressed interest in also presenting in the symposium, “Human Stem Cells: Science, Ethics, and Public Policy.”



Francis Collins

The fifth plenary speaker is long-time ASA Fellow and director of the National Human Genome Research Institute at the NIH, **Francis Collins**. He will be speaking on “The Language of God: A Believer Looks at the Human Genome,” the title of his book (published by Simon and Schuster) that should come out just in time for our

meeting. Copies of the book should be available in the ASA bookstore run in conjunction with the conference, and Francis has agreed to a book signing after his presentation.

Francis has also agreed to participate in the special symposium on “Science and Technology in Service to the Poor.” In a talk titled “Learning About Life and God in West Africa,” he will reflect on two Christian mission trips he took with his now physician daughter to the delta area of Nigeria.

More than one hundred people have submitted abstracts for either oral or poster presentations. All of the proposed special symposia have a wide array of fascinating topics that will make for tough choices as to which to

Continued on p. 4, Annual Meeting Update

British Cosmologist Awarded Templeton Prize

Cambridge U. Prof. of Mathematical Sciences John D. Barrow, 53, is the recipient of this year’s Templeton Prize for Progress toward Research or Discoveries about Spiritual Realities. Best known for his work on the Anthropic Principle, Barrow was cited on the Templeton website for using “insights from mathematics, physics, and astronomy to set out wide-ranging views that challenge scientists and theologians to cross the boundaries of their disciplines ...” His 17 books and more than 400 scientific papers have been translated into 27 languages.

In nominating Barrow, former Templeton laureate Thomas Torrance wrote:

The hallmark of his work is a deep engagement with those aspects of the structure of the universe and its



John D. Barrow

laws that make life possible and which shape the views that we take of that universe when we examine it. The vast elaboration of that simple idea has led to a huge expansion of the breadth and depth of the dialogue between science and religion.

Continued on p. 3, Templeton Prize Winner

Meeting Registration

- Register by **June 15** (higher rates thereafter)
- Register early to (a) stay in Prince Conference Center or (b) be assured of space on field trips, both of which have limited space availability

Student Abstract Deadline

- **Thursday, July 13:** abstract and scholarship application deadline for students proposing to participate in the 2006 Undergraduate Student Research Poster Symposium

Visit www.asa3.org for a registration form and further conference details as they develop.

The Executive Director's Corner

Randall D. Isaac

Many of you are making plans to attend our 61st annual meeting at Calvin C. on July 28–31. This will coincide with the 65th anniversary of our organization. The five founders met for the first time on Sept. 2–5, 1941, in the president's conference room at Moody Bible Institute. The war intervened and delayed the first ASA convention until Aug. 28–30, 1946, at Wheaton C. The program was chaired by Russell Mixer. The second convention was held at Taylor U. and the third at Calvin C. This will be the fourth annual meeting held at Calvin.

F. Alton Everest analyzed the subject categories of the first 38 conventions. He reported:

Since 1950, the social sciences have dominated convention papers with the exception of the 1975–1979 spurt of interest in environmental topics. The Creation/Evolution topic has had a steady, but minor, place in convention programs.

In the last few decades, the latter statement continues to hold true. However, social science papers have not been as dominant, probably because of the establishment of more specialized organizations in those fields. More recently there has been a growing focus

on ethics and on technology and engineering, particularly on their application to many of the world's problems.

Several annual meetings have been held in conjunction with other organizations. Six meetings from 1955 to 1968 were held as joint meetings with the Evangelical Theological Society (ETS) culminating in the 1968 meeting in Jerusalem, Israel. We periodically have joint meetings with our related organizations in Canada (CSCA) and Great Britain (CiS). Our 2007 meeting in Edinburgh will be hosted by the CiS and will provide an excellent opportunity to visit that part of the world.

We are also pleased to announce that our 2008 meeting will be held at George Fox U. in Newberg, Oregon, on Aug. 1–4, 2008. Mark your calendars now and start thinking about what abstracts you'd like to submit.

The rapid rise of electronic communication has in no way diminished the need and value of the personal interaction that is available at the annual meeting. More than ever, we need to balance the impersonal written exchanges with fellowship and discussion. Meeting and talking with authors in person helps bring their writing to a higher level of meaning and understanding. Sharing and encouraging each other as Christians in science helps to sustain our faith.

The Executive Council expressed its desire that future annual meetings address a broad range of topics rather than a limited field of discussion. All major segments of our organization should have a visible part of each year's meeting. We must strive to ensure that new ideas and emerging thinkers in each topical segment are given a chance for open discussion.

Not everyone is able to attend our annual meetings. Regional meetings throughout the year have always been a vital part of ASA activities, providing a forum for fellowship that is accessible to more members. Though our national office does not take a lead in organizing these regional meetings,

we are more than happy to provide assistance. We will make mailing lists available, help identify speakers, and where possible assist with funding. We are considering the possibility of aiding local sections to get organized through a lecture series by ASA speakers. Please contact us if you are interested in organizing such an effort or in speaking.

Our biggest need continues to be growing our membership base. In most areas, our members are widely dispersed, making it difficult to achieve a large enough group to establish a local section. Help the cause by giving gift memberships to your interested colleagues now!

Continue to make your travel plans to Grand Rapids, Michigan in July. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Welcome, New Members! February–March 2006

- Barden, Christopher J. –Lakeside, NS
Canada
- Bergin, Matthew B. –Great Falls, MT
- Bitikofer, Mervin –St George, KS
- Boutwell, Walter C. –Pike Road, AL
- Bozovsky, Matthew R. –Chicago, IL
- Carhart, Richard A. –Evanston, IL
- Coulter, Gary R. –Colorado Springs, CO
- Edwards, Hedrick J. –Loma Linda, CA
- Elgersma, Kenneth J. –Milltown, NJ
- Elias, Ricardo –Kissimmee, FL
- Ferguson, Kathleen M. –Worcester, MA
- Fuller, Terrence W. –Miami, FL
- Hathaway, William –Virginia Beach, VA
- Keyes, Robert S. –Cincinnati, OH
- Lang, Jerry T. –Centerville, OH
- Liptack, Michael K. –Monroe, WA
- McClure, Richard –Georgetown, TX
- Parker, Jonathan D. –Huntsville, AL
- Schuster, Dwight –Carmel, IN
- Scribner, Scott R. –Long Beach, CA
- Shelby, David M. –Covington, IN
- Shevel, W. Lee –San Diego, CA
- Topp, Justin D. –Dallas, TX
- VanderLeest, Steve –Wyoming, MI
- Venema, Dennis R. –Langley, BC
Canada

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Please send Canadian matters to: CSCA, P.O. Box 40086, 75 King St. S., Waterloo, ON, Canada N2J 4V1.

Send address changes and other business items to the American Scientific Affiliation, P.O. Box 668, 55 Market St., Ipswich, MA 01938-0668. Phone: (978) 356-5656; FAX: (978) 356-4375; E-mail: asa@asa3.org; Web site: www.asa3.org

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Editors: David Fisher, Margaret Towne
Managing Editor: Lyn Berg

Templeton Prize Winner, from p. 1.

At the March 15 news conference announcing the award, Barrow commented:

Astronomy has transformed the simple-minded, life-averse, meaningless universe of the sceptical philosophers. It breathes new life into so many religious questions of ultimate concern and never-ending fascination. Many of the deepest and most engaging questions that we grapple with still about the nature of the universe have their origins in our purely religious quest for meaning. The concept of a lawful universe with order that can be understood and relied upon emerged largely out of religious beliefs about the nature of God.

He added:

Our scientific picture of the universe has revealed time and again how blinkered and conservative our outlook has often been, how self-serving our interim picture of the universe, how mundane our expectations, and how parochial our attempts to find or deny the links between scientific and religious approaches to the nature of the universe.

Prince Phillip will present the award, in the amount of 795,000 pounds sterling or approximately \$1.4 million, in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace May 3. Further details are at: www.templetonprize.org/bios.html and Barrow's acceptance statement is at: www.templetonprize.org/barrow_statement.html.

Congratulations, Long-time ASAs!

Celebrating 40 years of membership

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Epiphanes K. Balian | Tomuo Hoshiko |
| Roger K. Bufford | Richard L. Humphrey |
| Richard E. Carlson | Kenneth E. Kinnamon |
| Bryan L. Duncan | Vernon P. Magnuson |
| Lester C. Eddington | J. Terence Morrison |
| Vernon J. Ehlers | Robert C. Newman |
| Peter D. Esser | Richard L. Ruble |
| Donald A. Josephson | |

Henry Morris Dies at Age 87

Henry M. Morris died February 25 after a series of strokes. Eugenie C. Scott told the *New York Times* that Morris was "the most important creationist of the 20th century, much more so than William Jennings Bryan."



Henry M. Morris

As director of the National Center for Science Education, Scott dismissed Morris' books as having "no scientific merit," but she recalled his "cordial, gentlemanly" manner and said:

I feel he was absolutely sincere about his convictions that the Bible was literally true and that science would support it and creation science was good science.

After fifteen years in faculty positions at Rice U., U. of Minnesota, U. of Southern Louisiana, and Southern Illinois U., Morris became head of the civil engineering department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. During his thirteen years there, the school's program grew to become one of the nation's largest. His 1963 textbook on applied hydraulics is still in use.

When his book *The Genesis Flood* (co-authored with theologian John Whitcomb) became popular, a new administrator decided Morris was too controversial. In the words of the *Los Angeles Times*, "When he was asked to drop his creationist writings from his resume, Morris knew it was time to move on." He founded the Institute for Creation Research and co-founded what is now San Diego Christian C.

His biographical listings appear in *Who's Who in Science, Antiquity to Present; Who's Who in America; American Men of Science; Who's Who in Engineering; Who's Who in Science*

and *Engineering; Who's Who in the World and Contemporary Authors.*

Morris was an ASA member and Fellow during its early years. His passing is an opportunity for those of us in ASA to demonstrate our appreciation for differing perspectives and interpretations. In the spirit of **Robert Fischer's** book, *God Did It, But How*, we may differ in the methods and the timeframe in which the Creator did it, but we show solidarity with anyone who acknowledges, "It is he who has made us, and not we ourselves."

Internet Evangelism Day May 7

The Internet Evangelism Coalition (IEC) aims to enable any church or Christian group to create an online presence or evangelistic blog. Generated as an umbrella group of major organizations involved in web ministry, IEC offers downloadable resources including a PowerPoint presentation, video clips, music, dramatic skits, handouts and other ideas.

Gary McClure of LifeWay says:

The 2005 Internet Evangelism Day successfully laid the foundation for many more, as we share effective tools and methods for online evangelism. I encourage any ministry that has this type of interest to become a participant right away.

Additional information is at www.InternetEvangelismDay.com.

Upcoming ASA Annual Meetings

August 5-8, 2007:

University of Edinburgh,
Edinburgh, Scotland

"New Frontiers in Science and Religion"

August 1-4, 2008

Location: George Fox University,
Newberg, OR

Annual Meeting Update, from p. 1.

attend. We have received twenty-two applications for scholarships from early career scientists and graduate and undergraduate students who are eager to attend and present at the meeting. Their work ranges from highly technical laboratory experimentation to application projects designed to benefit persons in developing countries. Several gifts already received from ASA members are making these scholarships possible. (More support is needed; if you are able, please direct a gift for additional scholarship support to the ASA office, or designate your gift on the meeting registration form.)

Meeting participants are encouraged to arrive early, either on Thursday afternoon or early Friday morning to avail themselves of possible field trips: a day at P. J. Hoffmaster State Park on the Lake Michigan shoreline; or one or two half-day field trips to the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, and/or an Urban Geography trip.

ASAer in Print

George Murphy has recently had a book published titled *Pulpit Science Fiction* (Lima, OH: CSS Publishing, 2005). It is a collection of thirteen science fiction story sermons (plus one in a more traditional style but using a popular film as an illustration) and two essays on science fiction and religion. This is a means of keeping the Christian message relevant in our rapidly changing times.

It is vital that Christians understand how modern technology and scientific knowledge have changed the way we perceive the world and preaching is one way we can express and explain this. An innovative way that these concerns can be addressed is through popular science fiction. Because so many of the genre's stories deal with the impact of science and technology on individuals and on cultures, they often have implicit religious implications.

George has collected these sermons, most of which he has preached, which show how the Christian faith can be proclaimed in this modern world.

George is an adjunct faculty member at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, and is a Lutheran pastor who presently serves on the staff of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio. He has been widely published in both scientific and religious periodicals and has received two awards from the Templeton Foundation for his papers on science and religion. This book sounds like a great gift for your pastor!



Joseph Lechner Honored

Fifty faculty, staff and alumni gathered for a banquet to honor Mount Vernon Nazarene U. (MVNU) chemistry prof. **Joseph Lechner** on Nov. 11, 2005.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Joseph's research interest is to document the health benefits of biblical commandments.

The university's Advancement office announced the formation of a Natural Sciences Scholarship Endowment fund in Lechner's honor. It is MVNU's first endowed scholarship named for a still-serving faculty member. An anonymous donor has offered to match contributions up to \$300,000.

Congratulations, Joseph, on this significant honor!

ASAers in Action

- The BBC recently announced that **Francis Collins**, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, expects important new gene sequences governing aspects of personality, such as intelligence and behavior, to be known very shortly. BBC says:

While the project to crack our DNA code has been targeted at understanding and eradicating disease, Dr. Collins believes the project will provide significant insights into a broad range of heritable aspects.

Collins stressed that understanding such genes was not the main focus of the Human Genome Project, which focused on identifying the faulty genes responsible for diseases such as diabetes, heart disease and cancer. "There's going to be a lot of behavioral studies involved, and they will yield up some pretty interesting discoveries," he said. In addition, he warned that ethical questions would be raised by the discoveries but stressed that it was not scientifically possible to engineer DNA, for example, to make people more intelligent. "We may be able to discover variations that correlate with intelligence, but to actually utilize that, to tinker with the human gene pool, is ethically a very difficult and challenging topic," he said.

- **Ted Davis**, history of science prof., Messiah C., Grantham, PA, spoke on his assessment of the Intelligent Design movement and the implications of the recent Dover, PA, trial at the Emmanuel Orthodox Presbyterian Church near Wilmington, DE, on April 8. He also gave a similar presentation in March at the Forum on Science, Ethics and Policy (FOSEP) in Seattle. This was sponsored by the U. Washington Dept. of Medical History and Ethics.

- **Paul Arveson**, physicist, presented a talk on Intelligent Design at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington DC, in March. It was the final in a series which had earlier included **Ted Davis**.

- **Tim Deibler** is nearing the end of his second year as Administrator of New

Covenant Christian School, Lebanon, PA. He was selected to participate in the Summit on Urban/Racial Mennonites' Access to Mennonite Education, held in Los Angeles in mid-February 2006.

He recently presented a PowerPoint series on "Major Contemporary World-views" at Meckville Mennonite Church and a message on "Debunking the DaVinci Code" at Krall's Mennonite Church. This fall, he will give an 8-week series on "Major Contemporary World Religions" at the Midway Church of the Brethren.

ASAer on Mission

Three weeks after their marriage in 1953, ASA Fellow **Jack** and Bev **Irvine** moved to Afghanistan, working first with the Afghan Ministry of Education and then with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Returning to the States in 1957, he earned his Masters in linguistics and Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) and taught in Sacramento schools, before taking an assignment with the U.S. Information Service from 1960 to 1965. Next he worked with the Peace Corps, taking two different groups to central India.

For 20 years, Jack was foreign student advisor at Merritt C. in Oakland, CA. After retirement, he spent the summer of 1996 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, teaching English to teachers and also teaching English in evangelistic conversation camps in the summers of 2001–2004.

But Jack is a man of his word, and he says that when they left Afghanistan in 1957, "I promised our old cook Moh'd Sharif and God Himself that we would return." He felt that his brief return alone in 1968–1969 didn't fulfill the "we" portion of his pledge. Jack and Bev returned to Kabul last summer, this time to help Women to Women (WTW), a Christian nongovernmental agency (NGO) to develop "depth and form to an English program." That assignment also tested their versatility in repairing plumbing and wiring,

renewing the organization's agreement with the local government, getting permission to import a 3500-book library, and teaching beginning computer classes.

On July 1, they're scheduled to return again to Kabul for a 9-month assignment with New Ventures.

At an age when many couples are kicking back and taking it easy, the Irvines are making a difference for their Lord. ✉ **Jack Swarengen**

Harvard Creates Science-Religion Chair

Harvard Divinity School has established an endowed Professorship of Science and Religion and is searching for a visiting professor in science-and-religion for the 2006–2007 academic year. *Science & Theology News* (March 2006) observes:

The appointment, so far, has caused few ripples—a noticeable change from 2002, when the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics drew protests after inviting physicist and Anglican priest John Polkinghorne to speak on intelligent design (p. 14).

The article notes that several similar programs have been initiated at other prestigious schools: Princeton Theological Seminary in 1992, Oxford U. in 2000, Marquette U. in 2001, and Davidson C. in 2005.

Several Harvard scientists have acknowledged that there is a place for science-and-religion studies, but insist it must "remain in the Divinity School and not seep into the research labs and lecture halls."

Harvard evolutionary biologist James Hanken says: "Your day-to-day activities of your average Harvard scientist won't be affected."

But the chair's endower, Cleveland lawyer Richard T. Watson, aspires to change that, saying: "Those are the people into whose minds I would like to creep." ✉ *Science & Theology News*

Of Interest

- Archeologists have found underground chambers and tunnels used during a Jewish revolt against the Romans in AD 66–70. The pits served as underground homes and it appears that they knew ahead of time that this was coming. These chambers are at the Israeli Arab village of Kfar Kana, north of Nazareth and were directly beneath floors of above ground homes. The Jewish revolt against Roman rule ended in AD 70 when the Romans sacked Jerusalem and destroyed the Second Temple. It is interesting to understand some of what was going on historically after Jesus and during the ministry of the Apostle Paul.

- The most ancient Christian place of worship ever found in Israel has been discovered on the grounds of the Megiddo prison. Archeologists are recommending that the prison be relocated. The ruins date back to the first half of the third century CE. They include a prayer hall located inside a Roman villa. Archeologists note that the Jesus inscription found on a mosaic on the floor was one of the first such epigraphic references ever unearthed. There are also drawings of fish in the mosaic floor. Israel Antiquities Authority archaeologist Yotam Tepper said the discovery could shed new light on early Christianity, which was banned by the Romans until the fourth century.

- The Field Museum in downtown Chicago has an impressive new 17 million dollar exhibit "The Evolving Planet." It follows the history of life on Earth from 4.5 billion years ago to the present.

- Former Vice President Al Gore recently screened "An Inconvenient Truth," a new documentary about global warming in which he stars. Gore says in the film, "This is really not so much a political issue so much as a moral issue. [sic] If we allow that (global warming) to happen, it is deeply unethical." In a Q&A session, he said, "There are good people in politics who hold this at arms' length because if they acknowledge it, if they recognize it, the moral imperative becomes inescapable."

• Pro-life advocacy has often been considered a concern only of political conservatives. A new book, *The Liberal Case Against Abortion* by Vasu Murti, uses liberal philosophy to oppose abortion. Details at www.dyinglight.com.

• A physician in India has been jailed after revealing the sex of an unborn child via ultrasound to officials conducting a sting investigation. This is the first conviction under a new law that bans revealing a baby's gender, an attempt to stop sex-selection abortions and infanticides of female babies.

✉ Lifenews.com

• Alabama's Senate Judiciary Committee has approved an "unborn victims bill." If adopted into law, it would treat an unborn child as a victim if killed or injured in an assault on the pregnant mother. At present, criminals are charged only with assaulting the mother.

• In early March, the Board of Directors of the world's largest scientific organization, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), denounced legislation and policies that would undermine the teaching of evolution in grades K-12 and "deprive students of the education they need to be informed and productive citizens in an increasingly technological, global community." Across the U.S., at least 14

pending laws are associated with this subject including Alabama, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, New York, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Utah.

• Former atheist Antony Flew will accept the Phillip E. Johnson Award for Liberty and Truth on May 11 at Biola U. Flew abandoned his atheism and became a deist, saying he simply "had to go where the evidence leads," and that the argument from design had overridden his previous "presumption of atheism." Details of his change of heart appeared in the May/June 2005 issue of this newsletter.

Call for Papers

The International Christian Studies Association is calling for papers for a symposium titled *Virtue Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives*. It will be at the U. of San Francisco, Aug. 4-6. It will bring together scholars from many disciplines and denominations. Abstracts (250 words) are due June 1. Mail to: **Dr. Oskar Gruenwald**, 1065 Pine Bluff Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107 or e-mail: info@JIS3.org

Suggested themes: Ethics of beginning- and end-of-life issues, business/ corporate ethics, medical ethics, ethics in scientific research including bio-engineering, stem cells and cloning,

ethical conduct in government, public affairs, law and professions. How can Old Testament virtues which emphasize justice and redress for wrongs be reconciled with the New Testament vision of compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and love? In sum, what are the prospects for an objective, universal grounding of ethics in cross-cultural and interdisciplinary perspective?

For Your Podding Pleasure

If you own an iPod, an increasing number of resources are becoming available for this device. Among them are:

• Evolution Education and the Law, National Center for Science Education at <http://www2.ncseweb.org/wp/> Podcast area is toward the bottom of the left column.

• "War of the Worldviews" podcast. Contrasting Intelligent Design with evolution. <http://web.mac.com/artbattson/iWeb/Veritas/Worldviews/Worldviews.html>

We encourage readers to send us information about additional podcasts that they consider informative, provocative, or stimulating.

Books Available for Purchase from ASA

The ASA has a limited inventory of the following books which may be purchased:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| <i>God Did It, But How?</i> | \$10 |
| <i>Being a Christian in Science</i> | \$11 |
| <i>Evidence of Purpose</i> | \$20 |

Please add \$5.00 for postage/handling. Quantity discounts are available. E-mail Carol Aiken: carol@asa3.org or mail order to: ASA, PO Box 668, Ipswich, MA 01938-0668.

Have you been to the ASA website in 2006?

Bookmark it for frequent visits!
www.asa3.org

The Lighter Side

You know you are living in 2006 when ...

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of three.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television shows a web address at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic, and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go online before getting your coffee.
11. You're too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.

Coming Events in North America

- April 26.** "Searching for Life, Searching for Minds: Astrobiology & the Problem of Design in Nature," Tucson, AZ. Speaker: Planetary scientist David Grinspoon. Details at www.scienceandreligion.arizona.edu.
- May 3.** "The Living Universe," overview of what we know about life in the universe. Tucson, AZ. Speaker: Science fiction writer Ben Bova. Details at www.scienceandreligion.arizona.edu.
- May 4.** "God, Evolution and Agape," Cambridge, MA. Speaker: Timothy Jackson, Prof. of Ethics, Emory U. Sponsored by Evolution and Theology of Cooperation Project at Harvard U. E-mail Heather Curtis: hcurtis@hds.harvard.edu.
- May 10.** "How to Search for Extraterrestrial Life without a Definition of Life." Tucson, AZ. Speaker: Philosophy prof. Carol Cleland. Details at www.scienceandreligion.arizona.edu.
- May 12–13.** U. Chicago, hosting InterVarsity groups. **Deborah** (physics/astronomy) and **Loren** (biology) **Haarsma**, who are on the faculty at Calvin C. in Grand Rapids, MI, will be speakers to prepare for "The Redemption of Reason" Conference Nov. 9–11. Includes free dinner. E-mail John Mulholland: jmulholl@uchicago.edu; www.redeemingreason.org/Impetus/index.html
- June 3–7.** Seventh Annual Metanexus Conference, U. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. International (35 countries), interdisciplinary, interfaith gathering. Topics include altruism, neurotheology, mathematics and theology, positive psychology, evolution and cultural values. See www.metanexus.net/conference2006
- June 7.** "The Molecular Reinscription of Race," Speaker: Troy Duster, Director, Institute for the History of the Production of Knowledge, NYU. Sponsored by the Center for the Study of Science and Religion, Earth Institute, Columbia U., New York, Davis Auditorium; free and open to the public, 6:00 p.m. (212) 854-1673 E-mail: cssr@columbia.edu.
- June 14–18.** CMDA (Christian Medical and Dental Associations) National Conference – Bioethics Track, Irvine, CA. Celebrating 75th anniversary. E-mail Melinda Mitchell: Melinda.mitchell@cmda.org See: www.cmdahome.org/index.cgi?CONTEXT=cat&cat=100185
- June 15–18.** Association of Christians Teaching Sociology (ACTS), 30th conference. Covenant C., Lookout Mountain, GA. The theme: "Christian Sociology as a Calling: Past, Present, & Future." E-mail Program Chair **Russell Heddendorf**: r.heddendorf@att.net; see www.actsoc.org
- June 22–25.** "The Two Tasks: Redeeming the Soul, Redeeming the Mind," National Faculty Leadership Conference, Alexandria, VA. Speakers include Habib Malik, **Walter Bradley, Francis Collins, Owen Gingerich**, Peter Kreeft, and many others. Details at www.twotasks.com



ASA 2005 annual meeting attendees worshipping together.

- July 16–20.** American Association for Artificial Intelligence conference, Boston. E-mail Ted Metzler: tmetzler@okcu.edu; (405) 208-5511. Details at www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/2006/aaai06.html
- July 17–21.** "Faith in the Classroom: Christian Perspectives on Teaching and Learning." This seminar is designed for Christian educators and includes the teachings of John Amos Comenius, a 17th century Moravian thinker as well as modern insights. Calvin C., Grand Rapids, MI. E-mail: seminars@calvin.edu
- July 13–15.** "Neuroethics: The New Frontier," Deerfield, IL. Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity. Large roster of speakers. Details at www.cbhd.org/conferences/neuroethics/neuro.htm
- July 28–31.** ASA Annual Meeting, "Embedding Christian Values in Science and Technology," Calvin C., Grand Rapids, MI. See www.asa3.org
- July 29–Aug. 5.** "Emergence: Nature's Mode of Creativity," Religious implications of Emergence in Cosmic and Biological Evolution, Institute on Religion in an Age of Science, Star Island, NH. See www.starisland.org or www.iras.org
- Aug. 4–6.** "Virtue Ethics: Interdisciplinary Perspectives," U. of San Francisco, International Christian Studies Association conference. E-mail **Oskar Gruenwald**: info@JIS3.org; See www.JIS3.org
- Sept. 11–15.** "World's Religions After September 11: A Global Congress," Montreal. To reflect on our values and the means at our disposal to build a peaceful world in light of the Sept. 11, 2001 events. Sponsor: The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions.

Speakers include: Karen Armstrong, Harvey Cox, Deepak Chopra, Karen Singh, Huston Smith, Shirin Ebadi. See www.worldsreligionsafter911.com

- Oct. 25–29.** "Breakthroughs in Contemporary Cosmology: Process Contributions Toward a New Synthesis," Claremont, CA. Contact J. R. Hustwit at (909) 621-5330.
- Oct. 27–28.** "Creation, Resurrection, and Eschatology," Messiah C., Grantham, PA. Speakers: John Polkinghorne and Luke Timothy Johnson.
- Nov. 9–11.** The Redemption of Reason Conference, U. Chicago. Speakers: **Henry F. Schaefer III**, Alvin Plantinga, **Ian Hutchinson**. Details at www.redeemingreason.org/2006/index.html

With the Lord

James W. Stark of Lansing, MI, died Feb. 4, 2006, at age 79 in Lubbock, TX. His professional life included chemical engineering for Union Carbide and its Eveready division, followed by becoming math prof at Lansing Community C. He was an active volunteer for Central United Methodist Church and Impression V Science Museum and gave generously of his time to teach people to use computers. In the ultimate display of generosity, Jim donated his body to help cancer and burn victims.

Favorite Scripture

Last year we learned that our new Executive Director **Randy Isaac**'s favorite Scripture is Rom. 1:20. "In him we live and move and have our being." What is *your* favorite Scripture? We look forward to being enriched by your sharing that with us: asan@asa3.org.

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.



“The Point” of the ASA Logo

Did you ever wonder what those horizontal and vertical arrows in the ASA logo mean? For those of us who were not ASA members when the symbol was adopted in 1964, here’s the scoop, as researched by **Walt Hearn** and Lyn Berg.

David Moberg was editor of what was then the *Journal of the American Scientific Affiliation* (predecessor of *Perspectives on Science and the Christian Faith*). He introduced the new symbol in the March 1964 issue, saying:

It is our hope that the distinctiveness of the *Journal* will be promoted by the new symbolic design on the cover (the work of Robert Friederichsen, the artist and layout man for our new printer) as well as by the nature and quality of its contents.

The symbol can be interpreted in many ways, but we see it primarily as a representation of the fact that two perspectives, two commitments, confront each other and converge in the ASA. We aim to remain on the exciting frontier of the confrontation of Christianity and science.

Lyn adds, “I have heard it explained that one white arrow represents science; the other, faith.” Juxtaposing the two creates a new arrow (the black one in the lower right corner), which “represents their intersection.”

In other words, we can see one arrow as representing “horizontal knowledge” obtained through empirical exploration of nature, which is sometimes construed as what a Templeton website calls a “flat earth” perspective. The other arrow adds the “vertical viewpoint,” the spiritual, theistic dimension.

It may also be significant that the vertical arrow points downward. To the Editor’s mind, that symbolizes that ASA believes the primary source of vertical knowledge is not “man’s search for God,” for “man by searching did not know God.” Rather, we understand the infinite God has reached down to provide biblical revelation to finite man.

✉ *Historical research from **Walt Hearn** and **Lyn Berg**. Interpretation by **Dave Fisher**.*

In Case You’ve Wondered

Q

Why are some names in bold face type in the Newsletter?

A

Names of current ASA members and Fellows are in bold type. If you’re not a member yet, be **bold** and join!

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