

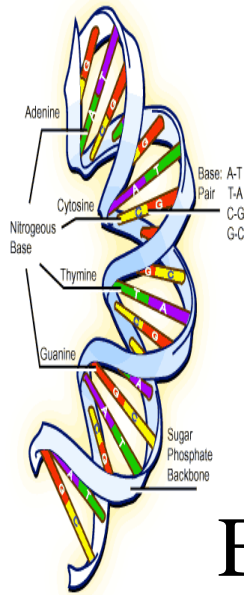
The Wonders of the Cell – God’s Still Small Voice

AIG’s molecular biologist Georgia Purdom likens the growing understanding of the cell’s complexity to God’s speaking to Elijah. The winds tore the rocks but God was not there. Equally violent earthquake and fire followed. Neither was God there. Then God spoke in a still small voice. For the past 60 years biologists have uncovered layer after layer of cell complexity. Their attempts to explain away obvious design became weaker and weaker and more and more absurd as the still small voice continued and continued and continues.

S*ignature in the Cell* (©2009) by Dr. Stephen C. Meyer describes the history of molecular biologists’ understanding of the voice’s testimony. The worldwide race to discover why celery yields celery, eagles yield eagles and humans yield humans began quietly in 1869 when chromosomes were first observed. By 1904 the chemicals in DNA had been identified. In 1944 the race went into high gear until 1953 when James Watson, a young American graduate geneticist, with struggling British physicist Francis Crick discovered the shape of DNA right under the noses of world renowned scientists and received the Nobel Prize.

Watson and Crick found the DNA molecule to have two parallel threads connected by base pairs like steps on a ladder. The unit is tightly coiled (helix shaped). When uncoiled the DNA of an adult human stretches up to six feet. It is located in the most protected region of the cell, the nucleus. This molecule contains the plan for you in a code defining those body parts like arms and legs that make you a human being and those characteristics that make you different from every other human being on planet earth. Astonishingly, this plan is found in most of an adult’s ten trillion cells.

Understanding its shape enabled scientists to answer how DNA works. But that took another 12 years: learning how the code works to produce the thousands of proteins needed for a cell to perform its specialized function such as a skin cell, nerve cell, bone cell or fat cell. They discovered that each base holding the DNA sides together is made up of one of four chemicals. The same bases always face each other (one attached to each side of the DNA ladder). A always faces T and C always faces G. The chemicals serve as a four-letter code and the code stretches for three trillion evenly-spaced letter pairs. With today’s computer technology this is not hard to understand because the code that produces all the output of a computer is made up of various combinations of just two characters, zeros and ones.



The goal is to assemble a protein the cell needs. Here is what the scientists eventually discovered: the protein is not formed on the DNA bases. Instead, an existing protein machine separates a small length of the two DNA sides when it needs to read the code and in a zip makes a copy of that section of the code. Proteins are made from long chains of amino acids. So another molecular machine must read the copy and assemble the amino acid chain the copy calls for. Specifically, each three letters along the DNA length designate one of twenty possible amino acids (AA). Because the copy is in the same order as the original DNA chain, it keeps the AA in the right order. This second molecular machine insures each AA is a left-handed AA and has the right kind of bond. If the AA are out of order, contain a right handed AA, or the wrong kind of bond, the protein is useless.

Evolution claims life arose by chance. How likely could chance produce even one of the simplest proteins known to biologists? About as likely as a blind man finding the silver dollar with an “X” in a universe of silver dollars on his first try. Such odds are greater than all the atoms in the entire universe. But one protein is not enough. Many are found in the most ordinary cell. Another problem: which arose first? Cells need DNA to make proteins but proteins must exist from the start to read the DNA.

After chapters on how the cell functions, Meyer, who has a Ph.D. from Cambridge in the philosophy of science, shows that scientists have been unable to construct a scientifically creditable theory for the formation of the first cell. Where did the code, that information in that first cell, come from? Meyer shows that information is always the product of intelligence. The cell demonstrates intelligent design. Meyer calls this the DNA enigma. It was not produced by chance or laws or a combination of chance and laws. The cell contains the signature of the designer—the God of creation.

After 2009—the Year of Darwin—the 7WM featured 30 books to answer Darwin’s theory. After 2010 we featured Andrew Snelling’s Biblical geological model of earth history. This year our emphasis will be the wonder of the cell. Meyer constantly appears on talk shows and successfully defends his idea on the internet against the world’s leading evolutionists. He says the design argument is winning in the war of ideas. Read his vast website—colorful, professional—at www.signatureinthecell.com with comments of many biologists and the animation of DNA function.

Meyer's book is a fascinating read and has many rave reviews from leading scientists. The section on discovering DNA reads like a detective story. 7WM stocks it. Retail-\$19.95 (paper); 7WM every-day low price-\$18.00. About \$3 postage. A year after his book was published a PowerPoint DVD recorded his live presentation (*DNA by Design*-60 minutes) with DNA animation and another 60 minutes of discussion with audience and Chuck Missler. Also Retail-\$19.95 and 7WM every-day low price-\$18.00. 7WM carries three DVD's by AiG's Georgia Purdom on the cell and at least a dozen books that contain sections on the cell such as *Genesis of Germs* (\$14.00).

...The life we live as people
Comes to us by design
The love of our great Creator
The intricacies of His mind
by David R. Brooks

**For you did form my inward parts;
You did weave me in my mother's womb.
I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully
and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:13-14**

Plan Now to Visit Mount St. Helens

Harry Gardner Park to offer Overnight Camping

One feature often overlooked when visiting Mount St. Helens is Harry Gardner Park, a primarily sandy shoreline along the Toutle River (South Fork) that has been under restoration. The 80-acre park was heavily used prior to the May 18, 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption which buried the campgrounds under more than three feet of mud and debris. Currently the park is only available for daytime use. However, scheduled to be completed by June are 11 RV sites with partial hook-ups and dump station and 12 tent sites. Other features of the park include picnic tables, playground equipment, an osprey nest high on a pole and many interesting river rocks and water pools. The Park is located 11.5 miles east of I-5 off SR 504. Turn right onto South Toutle Road opposite Drew's Grocery (MP 10.5). Cross the bridge about a mile later. The park is along the river on your left. Access on Fiest Road.

Bring Your Mom

Mother's Day, May 13th, is opening day at the Johnston's Ridge Observatory. New displays and a new movie were provided last year. Admission is usually free May 18th but call them at 360-274-2140 to be sure of any special pricing opening day.

2012 Tours of Mount St. Helens

The 7Wonders Museum Tours will be enhanced during the 2012 tourist season by several new tour guides. This will enable us to schedule more tours and fine-tune each tour to the needs of each group with respect to time spent and the abilities and ages of hikers. For a video presentation of our guided tours, go to www.creationism.org/sthelens/ and click on the left-most icon that moves and says, "**Discover the Wonders.**"



7Wonders Museum Responds to Flailing Economy

In an effort to position the 7WM for many more years of service, we will be making three major changes to our newsletter: more frequent issues, added feature stories about MSH as well as science news, and donation information (formerly avoided). Please consider our reasons below.

Tourism Waning

MSH erupted 32 years ago and has awed many crowds. But tourism decreased 50% over the years. The Cowlitz County Administration recently responded in several ways: sales tax on lodging and dining will be directed away from MSH to five cities under a new plan called “The Big Idea.” The tourism director was fired and the Awesome Brochure is gone. We must now take on a bigger share of the advertising burden.

Feature stories

Our Vice-President David Brooks has written about MSH in depth for years and would like to share his insights. He can provide fascinating stories from his own personal experiences and most of the material will be new to 7WM friends. His articles begin flowing with this issue.

Financial Appeals

With the Andersons at the helm there was no financial pressure. They brought their Seattle housing money and purchased outright the buildings and land on which they live and the 7WM is housed. Further, they brought their Social Security checks. Now for the 7WM to continue it may take not only sending the Andersons into the sunset with their housing money but a monthly salary for the next director. We believe God will supply.

Head Hunting Progress

Several replacement directors have been recommended to us and considered in the last year. Their circumstances did not fit for such a move. One present candidate has no housing money or salary but is otherwise qualified. The organization’s reserves are about \$30,000. A combination of pledged monthly donations and some large one time gifts will be needed.

Would you join us in this venture? The newsletter will provide financial updates. However, if this burden is not on your heart, would you please let us know because more frequent mailings to disinterested parties represent wasted effort.

Ways to Help

- Share Kim Jones’ new five minute on-line DVD with friends. Also direct them to the “Seeing the Seven Mountain Wonders” gold box beside the on-line DVD box (that rotates) on creationism.org/sthelens/, the 7WM official web site.
- Make the 7WM a final destination for Christian school students during the off-season.

- Have one of the 7WM presenters speak at your church or group. Several are available. Have a family reunion at MSH this summer, starting with the slide talk at the 7WM.
- Put a notice in your church bulletin about the 7WM. Make 7WM literature available at your church or school.
- Bring a group to the 7WM this summer
- Pray that your Christian friends will learn the message from MSH
- Read each issue of this newsletter. Share with a friend.
- We prefer to encourage 5th graders and above to visit here. While we enjoy little people we believe this message is especially critical for junior and senior high school students. Have all the high school students in your youth group heard the MSH message? Their next school may be an institution that scorns Biblical creation, so give them sound instruction before the world attempts to strip away their faith.

To Be or Not To Be--Standard or Electronic Tell Us What is right for you

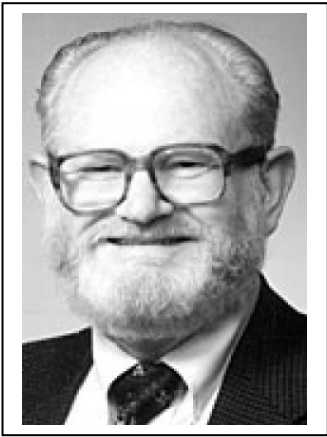
Do you want 7WM mailings? We placed you on our mailing list because you requested it or because we learned your address when you contacted us or visited us. **But our mailings may not be an area of keen interest to you. We understand. Please let us know so we can remove you from our mailing list.**

How would you like to receive 7WM mailings? We have sent you an electronic copy unless we do not have an email address for you or have been instructed otherwise. Please advise us if we should switch delivery methods—by email at mshcreationmuseum@yahoo.com or by phone at (360-274-5737) or even by standard mail. Below we discuss the advantages and disadvantages to electronic mail:

Advantages of electronic mail to sender: no paper to buy, no printer to pay, no envelopes to print, no mailing labels to print, no letters to stuff, no address labels to apply, no organizing for bulk mailing, no trips to the post office, no postage to pay, no returns to pay postage on. In recent years our annual newsletter has been sent to about 1000 households and has cost the Museum roughly \$700 per mailing. Electronic mail would cost roughly a tenth of that amount.

Advantages of electronic mail to the recipient: timeliness, color in both pictures and layout, flexibility of sizing (for worn-out eyes), not wet from the mailbox, not damaged, no paper or envelope to throw away.

Disadvantages of electronic mail: not available or workable for all; not as often read, not by bedside for prayer or meditation unless printed out; addresses frequently change.



Board Member and Dear Friend, Lloyd D. Brown graduated to a new position in his heavenly home last month. We remember him for his faithful service during the building of the 7Wonders Museum's large addition when he arrived daily to install the kitchen cabinets. With a twinkle in his eye and a peaceful demeanor he was a calming

presence in a stressful time of deadlines for the coming

tourist season that year. He took his position as Board Member seriously, ever learning the latest discoveries in creation science and attending all meetings associated with his position here.

At a memorial service Mr. Brown was remembered by friends and relatives for his character as a family man of honor, faithfulness and love. He was the third Board member to die since the founding of the Museum in 1998. The 7Wonders Museum currently has nine board members: Ron Payne, President, David Brooks, Vice President, Directors Lloyd and Doris Anderson, Stephen Anderson, Bruce Barton, Jamie Payne, Dr. Keith Swenson and Gerald Wilson.

A LESSON IN WILDLIFE MIGRATION

By David R. Brooks

Wildlife biologists, and others so concerned, observed two migrations of wildlife in connection with the 1980 eruptions of Mount St. Helens.

The first occurred in the autumn of 1979 when local timber companies first built a system of logging roads into the virgin forests northwest of the volcano. This allowed elk hunters access to the area the forest had previously discouraged. Now the men harried the elk to distraction. Finally, one lead cow had had enough. As she discerned armed madmen hotly pursuing her and her 40 followers, she saw only one place of escape: out of the forest onto the northern slopes of Mount St. Helens. With the other cows and calves and a few young bulls who had escaped slaughter, she climbed into the snows. As the cow and her charges climbed amid the glaciers the men stopped following. Hundreds of hunters scattered in groups watched in awe as she led her herd to a snowy place above the Goat Rocks lava dome near the Lizards. She bedded down with the herd to rest for the remainder of the day and no man dared climb after what was, for them, a very dangerous place.

The following day, the cow led her herd up over the top of Mount Saint Helens. Again, hundreds watched in amazement as she disappeared down the South Side into the forests beyond. The herd of elk never again entered the Toutle River Valley. They were the only elk that originally lived in the blast area to escape destruction the following spring. Otherwise, there was no migration of any animals away from the danger of the volcano. They all died where they had lived.

The second wildlife migration took place just a few days after the explosion of Mount St. Helens. The author lived just beyond the western edge of the blast area in the low foothills northwest of the volcano. As he worked outside, he saw a black bird winging its way from out of the west, headed east. "A raven!" he shouted in amazement. Hitherto, the author had never seen a raven near the Puget Sound trough where people shot and killed them at every opportunity. One of the things that the author loved about visiting Spirit Lake before 1980 was that he could listen to ravens there. Now the ravens came from as far as the seacoast a hundred miles away to feast on their dead brethren. The following year the author worked in the blast area of Mount St. Helens. Every day he saw golden and bald eagles, vultures, ravens, crows, various kinds of jays. Any bird that loves to eat carrion had flocked to the area for the feast. It reminded me that one day all the birds which fly in the sky will be called by an angel, as prophesied in Revelation 19:17, to "Come, assemble for the great supper of God" following His victory in a final war against those who opposed the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and his armies.



7Wonders Museum Review of 2011

Imagine hosting Dr. Steven Austin four nights, standing with him beside the creek at the bottom of the Little Grand Canyon of the Toutle, enjoying the teaching and company of teachers like Chris Ashcraft on DNA, Dr. Larry Vardiman on global Warming and Michael Oard on geology. Then having brunch with Astronomy DVD producer Spike Psarris and family on Christmas morning. So went some of the 300 days of 7WM stewards Lloyd and Doris Anderson's 2011 watch.

Personally, it was a fun year—the Anderson's 50th wedding anniversary celebration, the five knowledgeable scientists and an entire winter month in the sunny south—thanks volunteers (who kept the place open another 20 days)!

If only the weather had cooperated — it was a La Nina year. However, about half of the 33 tours actually did see the bashful volcano. Attendance was nearer 2400 than the record 2700 of 2010. While donations held steady at about \$15,000, sales of 200 creation titles we carry decreased by 1/3 to about \$21,000.

Visitors from Mountlake Terrace came by in July with a story to tell. Just seven months before MSH erupted they spent the better part of an hour giving Spirit Lake lodge owner Harry Truman the Gospel. With vile blasphemies Harry countered by saying he had money hidden and would buy his way into heaven. He had “heard it all” from his Sunday School teaching sister.

2011 was probably the ideal year to try something different—five visiting scientists on five summer Saturdays. 7WM president Ron Payne managed to seat all 80 (actually some stood; others sat on the floor) that came for Dr. Larry Vardiman's 10 a.m. PowerPoint talk *The Big Freeze*. Thankfully that August day was actually cold since 80 people was the most we have ever had in the auditorium (50 is full and 74 was the previous record). How could we ever hit the occupancy permit limit of 88?

Dr. Vardiman gave a fascinating explanation for Global Warming advocates' extreme aggression

They believe the earth's climate is fragile; if altered, devastating results would follow. They note that atmospheric CO² has nearly doubled since 1820 (from 280 to 490 parts per million). They say this will produce a runaway greenhouse effect first leading to much warmer temperatures, producing vastly more evaporation from the world's oceans and plunging the world into an ice age rendering the earth unable to feed its seven billion people

The alarmists dismiss much contrary evidence such as both warmer and cooler periods in the last 1000 years and



God's first covenant in the Bible (Genesis 8:22) stating that the earth's climate is governed by the Creator and will be reliable until the end. It was the once-in-time year-long global flood that supplied the heat threshold in the oceans necessary to produce the one Ice Age. As the Ice Age ran its course over most of the next millennium, the Ark's population slowly multiplied and spread into the fringes of the retreating ice.

Volunteers played a greater role in 2011

Ron Payne handled all the elements of a 7WM tour—the Power Point talk, the tour and the Hummock Trail hike. Our Vice-President, David Brooks, did an unplanned Power Point presentation when he happened to be available one day when Lloyd was away. We have a high school associate who is serving the 7WM for his Washington State Senior Project. Christian Zahler accompanied a number of tours in 2011 and did a fine job as did board member Bruce Barton.

Change is inevitable

Fourteen years ago Lloyd and Doris retired at the ages of 62 and 59 to found the Museum. Fast forward and this works out to 76 and 73 today. Now we focus more and more on just the necessary work. Please pray that God will raise up new directors.

Letters to the editor:

With these changes in content and approach we value your input. Please send your responses to mshcreationmuseum@yahoo.com. In the subject line please write the word “response.”

“Elementary principles.”

“See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, and not according to Christ.

Colossians 2:8

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