

# Think & Believe

A Publication of *Alpha Omega Institute*

May/June, 2008; Vol. 26, No.3

## Creation Ministry in Other Lands

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting

God recently opened doors for AOI speakers to teach in other countries. What did we find? Here are a few glimpses:

### Ecuador

Richard Stepanek found a deep need for solid creation teaching, both in schools and churches. Most people are confused about science and the Bible. They are led to believe in evolution and never hear scientific evidence that affirms the truth of Scripture. He says, “**The problem is, people just don’t know.**” They end up rejecting the Word of God because of lack of scientific knowledge.”

Rich was surprised with the openness in public schools. Not only did he share the scientific evidences of creation, but also the Gospel message. Rich says, “There is more freedom in Ecuador than in the States to talk about God. People don’t realize we are losing our freedoms here.” One teacher in a secular school told him, “This was an answer to prayer. We have talked about evolution and creation, but we didn’t understand it. Today you talked about it so clearly and answered our questions.”

### Costa Rica

We (Dave and Mary Jo) also found the same need at the University of

Costa Rica, in public schools, in churches, and in one-on-one discussions. We too, were amazed by the freedom to teach on creation and the Bible in public schools.

When we asked our Costa Rican friend, Patricia Urpi, why the creation ministry is important in Costa Rica, she replied: “Because people are bombarded with so many different teachings in the church, in schools, and in life – various doctrines, evolution, radical environmentalism, New Age, UFOs, etc. People don’t know what’s true and what’s not true. **Creation teaching puts it in perspective.** It also helps young people and adults defend their faith in school, at the university, and other places.

We were very encouraged to see Scott Leisner at work. Scott is a campus ministry director in Costa Rica and has come to AOI for training to teach creation. He did an excellent job as our translator and, near the end of our time in Costa Rica, he took over the creation teaching at schools and churches using our programs! Besides that, he has now started to train others to spread the message in Costa Rica and other lands. **PTL! Multiplication!**

### India

In India, Richard Stepanek focused on seminaries where he found forms of evolution and a watered down version of the Bible being taught. One student said, “Rich, we really need to know this [creation] information in India, because

**we are suffering a lot of persecution. We’re not going to die for a lie.** We need to know that the Bible is true. **This information gives us knowledge and a firm foundation.** It prepares us for persecution because we know the Bible is true.”

A pastor told Rich he could keep him busy 24/7 teaching in seminaries with this kind of teaching. Another man with an internet-based ministry recorded 6 half-hour segments of Rich teaching. He told him, “This is what India needs to hear. We don’t have anything like this in India.” Rich says, “The need is overwhelming. The fields truly are white, but the laborers are few.”

We find this need everywhere we go. That’s why we continue to “go” wherever the Lord opens doors of opportunity. Thank You for “going” with us through your prayers and support. Please pray for more laborers and funds to train others. **T&B**



*Rich Stepanek with children in Ecuador.*



*Rich Stepanek with a pastor and his family in India.*



*Scott Leisner, AOI trainee, gives a lecture to Costa Rican students.*

## Gems From Genesis

### “And It Was Good”

by Mary Jo Nutting

Six times in Genesis 1, we find the phrase “It was good.” This phrase follows a pattern: God speaks and something happens. Then God examines His work and pronounces it “good.” Following the creation of man – male and female – God looks at all that He has made and says, “It is very good.”

This is not a series of haphazard, trial and error events. Rather, God follows a well thought-out plan. He is purposeful and precise in what He does. He doesn’t make mistakes. Nor does He follow “dead-end” pathways or blind alleys. Each step, each act is “good.” How different this is from the evolutionary view of origins, based on time, chance, and natural processes – accidents, death, elimination of the “unfit,” and eons of time leading to extinction. How different is the God of the Bible from the “gods” of

evolution! He knows what He wants and He does it – in an orderly, masterful way.

Some people would have us believe that God used evolution as His method of creating. But why would God use such a wasteful, cruel way, based on chance, struggle for survival, and death? Evolution is not consistent with the revelation of God given in Scripture. Throughout the Bible, we see God’s power, wisdom, and goodness. We read that He is a God of order, not of chaos. He continually acts to bring order out of chaos, light out of darkness, and life out of death.

GOD IS GOOD! He will not act in any manner inconsistent with His character. He is Light and Life and Love. And He is LORD! All His works are done in righteousness, justice, grace, and truth. At the cross,

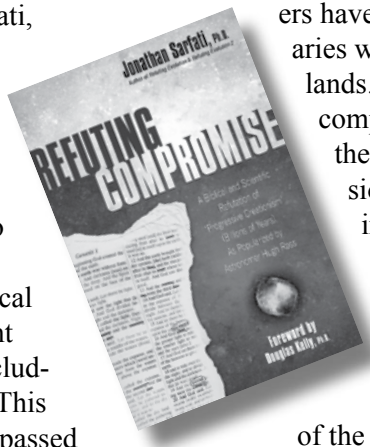
His love triumphed over hatred, and His goodness defeated the evil. Even now, He is working to bring all things into conformity to His will and preparing a place for us to dwell with Him forever in righteousness. His goodness is poured out on us abundantly day by day. “The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.” (Ps 33:5) “O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.” (Ps 34:8) “O give thanks unto the LORD; for He is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.” (Ps. 118:29) **T&B**



## Book Review: Refuting Compromise

by Dave Nutting

Refuting Compromise, by Dr. Jonathan Sarfati, is a very important book that needs to get into the hands of Christians and their pastors and teachers. Why? Due to the widespread teaching of evolution, Biblical compromise is rampant in Christian circles including many seminaries. This compromise has been passed



down to pastors and, as AOI speakers have seen, even to the missionaries who then bring it to other lands. The overall result of this compromise is a weakening of the Biblical message, confusion within the Church, and in too many cases, a loss of faith in the true God of the Bible.

Sarfati does a tremendous job of analyzing and refuting many of the “theistic evolution” and

“progressive creationism” arguments – both Biblically and scientifically. By the way, many of these “scientific” objections to the Bible that Sarfati answers are the same ones we hear on the university campus by students who argue against the existence of God!

We hope this excellent book will help you and your family stand firmly on the Truth of God’s Word! Special Price: \$15 includes shipping. See the enclosed order sheet. (Special good through 6/30/08.)

## Buzz Pollination: Evidence for Design

by Stephen B. Austin

During the cold winter months, when the ground is frozen and snow often covers the soil, I spend many hours studying various plant species in preparation for the spring season.

Recently, while studying the details of an old “friend,” *Dodecatheon pulchellum*, commonly known as the shooting star, I came across a fascinating statement in a book titled, **Sagebrush Country: A Wildflower Sanctuary**, by Ronald J. Taylor.

It said: “The unusual shape of the shooting star flower reveals biological significance. The flower has adapted to be ‘buzz’ pollinated by bumblebees.”

The flowers of the shooting star hang downward, and the petals are bent backward, with the stamens (the male portion) and the style and stigma (the female portion) extending outward. Thus the flower superficially resembles a dart or shooting star.

The pollen is not easily extracted from the pollen tubes, because it is fine-grained and firmly attached. However, bumblebees, especially those of the species *Bombus terrestris*, are ideally designed to do the job. They grasp the base of the stamens while hanging up-

side down and vibrate their flight muscles rapidly, thus “buzzing” the flower. This dislodges the pollen, much like we dislodge salt from a saltshaker by shaking it up and down.

The vibrations shake the pollen off the flower’s anthers and onto the bee’s body. The bumblebee grooms most of the pollen from her body onto special

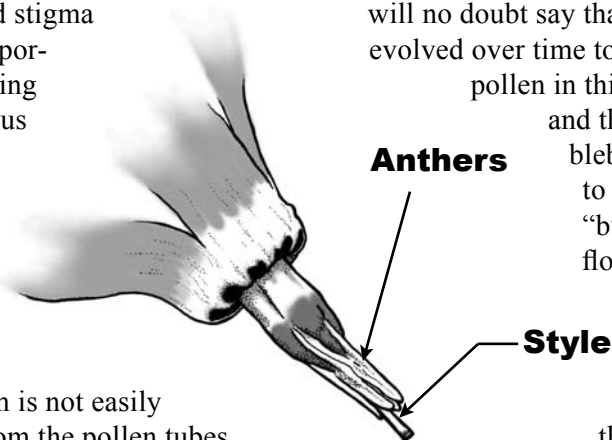
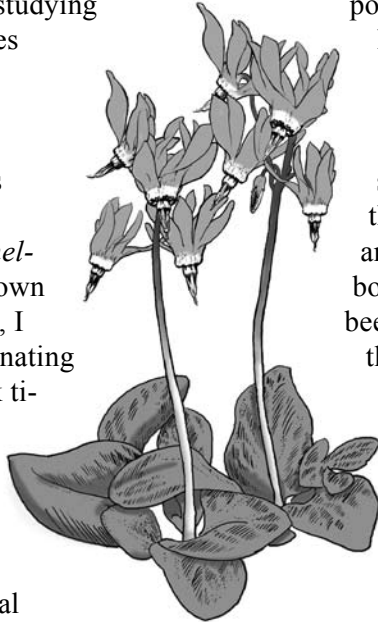
pollen-carrying structures located on the hind legs, and then takes it back to the nest to feed the larva.

However, some of the pollen remains on the bumblebee’s body and is deposited on the next flower the bee visits.

This design of pollination flies in the face of the theory of evolution. Oh, evolutionists will claim that buzz pollination is the result of simultaneous evolution. They will no doubt say that the plant evolved over time to withhold its pollen in this fashion, and that the bumblebee “learned” to extract it by “buzzing” the flower. However, they fail to provide any evidence of this and they also fail to explain how the shooting star was pollinated while it was evolving.

Thus, I believe it takes far less faith to accept the creation of plants on day three, as recorded in Gen-

esis 1:11-13, with all their unique features, than to grasp for the flimsy straws of evolution. I firmly accept as truth the passage in John 1:3, which says: “All things were made by him [Jesus Christ]; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” This includes the flower known as shooting star and its unique pollination system. **T&B**



### Did you know?

- Honeybees perform a dance consisting of waggles, loops, and buzzes to communicate direction, distance and the quality of food sources.
- Honey is not created by bees. Instead, the bees extract the nectar from the flowers and regurgitate it over and over until it becomes honey.
- The amount of honey the average American consumes in a year is just over one pound.
- To produce one pound of honey, workers may visit two million flowers and travel 55,000 miles.
- When collecting pollen and nectar, a worker bee may visit 50-100 flowers in one trip. Upon return, she may be carrying over half her weight in pollen and nectar.
- Although a productive hive can store up to two pounds of honey a day, a single worker may only produce 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey in its entire lifetime.

Source: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/bees/dancesroun.html>

## Director's Column: The Galbraiths In Navajo Land

by Dave & Mary Jo Nutting



We are very encouraged with Alan and Diane Galbraith's excellent ministry. They are some of AOI's "trainees" and are also volunteers. Not only do they do an excellent children's ministry, but, for several years, Alan and Diane have been taking the creation message to the Navajos at a mission in New Mexico. This Mission has two unique teaching opportunities: One is to the men in the "Overcomers" alcohol recovery program; the other to children attending the Nizhoni (Harmony in Navajo) Christian Academy.

A majority of the men in the Overcomers program are not Christian when they enter the program but many become believers by the time they graduate. The creation teaching the Galbraiths bring serves as a foundation for their introduction to Christianity and, like the experience of New Tribes missionaries, starting in Genesis makes it easier to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

In addition to the standard creation vs. evolution teaching, the Galbraiths have included a session on how the major events of the first 11 chapters of Genesis can be found in the history,

legends and lore of many isolated peoples world wide. For example, the Navajo have a worldwide flood story in their mythology. At the end of the week, the Galbraiths take the men on a field trip emphasizing flood geology and design biology. This field trip to the Bisti Wilderness is a highlight of the week.

For the Nizhoni school children, ranging from elementary through high school grades, the Galbraiths present the same topics as for the Overcomers. Like the Overcomers, the Navajo youngsters also enjoy the field trip and the fossil exhibits which the Galbraiths bring with them. More recently doors have



opened for the Galbraiths to teach creation to Navajo young people at multi-church revival meetings in northwest New Mexico. They have found the

Navajo Christians to be true brothers and sisters in the Lord. They ask that you pray for the Lord to raise up Navajo pastors to lead their people to a new and better day. **T&B**

## Upcoming Events

G= Galbraith, J=Johnson, N=Nutting, S=Stepanek

- 5/25, Fruita, CO**, Monument View Bible Church, Mark Henry, (970) 858-3954, **LJ**  
**5/28, Manitou Springs, CO**, Summit Ministries, **DN**  
**6/5, Manitou Springs, CO**, Summit Ministries, (719)-685-9103, **DN**  
**6/9-13, Ulysses, KS**, Ulysses Mennonite Brethern, Nathan Gift, (620) 356-4015, **LJ**  
**6/9-13, Grand Junction, CO**, Creation Teaching Training Session, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **DN**  
**6/12-14, Denver, CO**, CHEC Homeschool Conference, (720) 842-4852, **RS**  
**6/21-26, Nogales, AZ**, First Baptist Church, Gene Willey, (520) 281-1677, **RS**  
**6/24, Manitou Springs, CO**, Summit Ministries, (719)-685-9103, **DN**  
**6/29-7/ 4, Collbran, CO**, Twin Peaks Bible Camp, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **LJ, RS**  
**7/ 3, Manitou Springs, CO**, Summit Ministries, (719)-685-9103, **DN**  
**7/11-13, Browning, MT**, Glacier Meadow Camp, Dean Landis, (406)-270-8333, **DN**  
**7/18-20, Browning, MT**, Glacier Meadow Camp, Dean Landis, (406)-270-8333, **DN**  
**7/21-25, Indiana, PA**, Calvary E-Free Church, Gino Cosentino, (724) 463-8890, **LJ**  
**7/24-26, Colorado Springs, CO**, The Beginning and End of the Universe Conference, Rich Carroll, [www.rememberthycrator.com](http://www.rememberthycrator.com) (719) 477-2100, **DN**  
**8/3-8, Lake City, CO**, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **DN, RS**  
**8/10-15, Lake City, CO**, Camp Redcloud, Gail Tompkins, (970) 523-9943, **DN, RS**

**Reminder:** AOI is set up to receive on-line donations. It's easy! Just go to [www.DiscoverCreation.org](http://www.DiscoverCreation.org), scroll to the bottom of the home page, click where it says "Donate and help the ministry of Alpha Omega Institute," and follow the directions. You are an important part of AOI's worldwide creation ministry as you pray, give, and share creation resources with others. Thank you for joining with us. (Of course, if you prefer, you can still call the office or send a donation by mail. ☺)

### Creation Training: June 9-13!

"The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest." (Luke 10:2) Are you laboring in God's harvest fields? If you are interested in receiving training to learn how to share the creation teaching and the gospel message more effectively, we'd like to help. Call for more information.

### There's still time to sign up for one of AOI's exciting Creation Mountain Adventures!

Grab your family and friends and join us for a wonderful time of fun, fellowship, and learning in God's beautiful creation. There's something for everybody! Don't miss it! Check the web for more information and call today to reserve your spot.



**Twin Peaks Bible Camp: June 29-July 4**  
**Redcloud Ranch 1: August 3-8**  
**Redcloud Ranch 2: August 10-15**



Alpha Omega Institute • PO Box 4343 • Grand Junction, CO • 81502 • (970) 523-9943 • [www.discovercreation.org](http://www.discovercreation.org)  
 Think and Believe is published by Alpha Omega Institute, a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Editors: Dave & Mary Jo Nutting. Single copies are free upon request. Please write for permission to reprint material in this publication. Your donations are much needed and appreciated. © Alpha Omega Institute 2008

