

Think Believe

Discover Creation...Worship the Creator



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AOI Celebrates 30 Years of Ministry

by Dave and Mary Jo Nutting

We are so **grateful** for God's faithfulness and provision – and for the opportunity to be involved in His work for the last 30 years. We are also **thankful** for those who have walked with us on this journey. So many people have joined with us over the years to bring the truth of Genesis and the good news of the Gospel to children, youth, and adults all over this nation and around the world. We couldn't have done all this without individuals like you who support this ministry. Thank You!

By God's grace, AOI speakers have taught Creation in nearly every state of the union and in 30 countries at about 6,000 events to hundreds of thousands of people. AOI has also produced the popular **Discover Creation DVD Series** (now also Spanish subtitled!),

the impacting **Discover Creation Children's Adventure**, Lanny Johnson's book **The Hand of God**, 172 issues of **Think & Believe**, and 108 issues of **Kids Think & Believe Too!** (That means about 1 million actual T&B's were mailed.) Many AOI articles have been republished around the world. God has opened doors for AOI staff

to speak to children and adults in churches, schools, universities, camps, conferences, VBS's, home groups, and on radio and TV programs. **AOI's website** is currently attracting about 1,000 unique visitors each week. For all of this, **we give glory to God and praise Him** for the strength, provision, and opportunities that He has given. Thousands of children and youth have responded to the Gospel and we have heard from many adults whose faith began, or has been strengthened, through an AOI seminar.

Though much has been accomplished in the past 30 years, the need is still great. Evolution and other ungodly philosophies still predominate in our public schools and mainstream media. Way too many churches compromise with evolution and young people are leaving in droves.

Meanwhile, society runs further and further away from Biblical faith and moral absolutes. The need for AOI and other creation ministries is very great. By God's grace and provision, we intend to continue to share the message that God's Word is true, from beginning to end, and that God is still actively calling people to repent and believe the Gospel.

Rejoice with us in what God has done through our small staff! Over the last 30 years, AOI has:

- Spoken in almost every state and in 30 countries
- Spoken at approximately 6,000 events
- Mailed about 1 million Think & Believes
- Rejoiced with many whose faith began, or was strengthened through an AOI seminar.

Vision for 2014 and Beyond

- Continue to fortify young people and adults through seminars, camps, and conferences.
- Expand/strengthen our Creation Action Boot Camps for teens.
- Train and support local creation teachers in communities around the US and the world.
- Expand our Internet presence to reach more people here and abroad.
- Launch the Discover Creation Training Institute (DCTI) in August to build on, and extend, the ministry of AOI.

The **Discover Creation Training Institute** will provide in-depth training and mentoring of young people (and some not so young) to **strengthen and extend** the vision **far beyond** what has been established in the past 30 years. This one-year specialized training program is designed to fortify students and greatly multiply the impact of this ministry. It will promote a creation-based Biblical worldview with an emphasis on applied apologetics and will include personal discipleship, mentoring, and practical ministry outreach. (See the enclosed brochure and www.DiscoverCreation.org/TrainingInstitute.htm.)

Please join us in prayer, in person, and financially as we build on 30 years of groundwork and **move forward into the future with passion, vision, and purpose.** 

Why We Are Excited to Join AOI

By Brian & Aimee Mariani

(Brian) always loved science and the Bible. I simply believed the Bible as it was written, even if I didn't know all the answers to the questions presented in my public school science classes. Having attended secular science programs at two large universities, I know firsthand that there is a lot of deception out there and that it is tough to give answers for your faith to very intellectual people. I was not prepared to share and defend my faith.

I (Aimee) was also raised in a Christian home, was homeschooled, and attended solid churches. My close family and years working at a Christian camp developed my appreciation of community, as well as a desire to lead others to worship and delight in God through experiencing the outdoors and enjoying His work in creation.

God opened the door for Brian and me to attend a 1-year Bible college, where we met. Even though we each grew up in a good church and were solid in our faith, that one year became foundational for both of us as we gained a clear view of the big picture of Scripture, along with Biblical answers to defend our faith.

In our world, especially in college, there are many issues, problems, and questions being addressed from a secular and frequently anti-God viewpoint. Consequently, students are fed a pile of confusing, downright wrong, (and even deceptive) answers. We can see how our world is highly influenced by naturalistic, no-God thinking in our culture. That is not good. People need to be equipped with answers from God's Word and from

science in order to stand firm on the foundation of Truth.

We desire to provide teaching, accountability, mentoring, and discipleship to young Christians that will help them build a solid foundation of faith. That's why we are excited about being a part of AOI's year-long Discover Creation Training Institute and week-long Creation Action Boot Camps. We believe both will enable students to go

out and use the knowledge, experience, and answers they gain to spread the gospel of Christ. We pray that through these programs, we will see young people doing more with their time, their abilities, and their lives; impacting the world for the glory of God. Come and be a disciple! **AOI**



Book Review

This month we are recommending two new books since they complement each other so well.

Guide to Creation Basics

is a well-organized and clearly-written introduction to creation. Beautifully illustrated with hundreds of full-color pictures, the accurate information is presented in a non-technical manner that is easy to read and reference. It demonstrates **why** it is important to study creation and covers both scientific and Biblical topics relating to this important



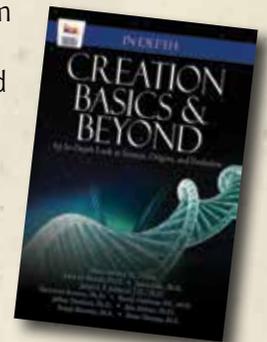
foundational issue.

Topics include: problems with the Big Bang, evidence for recent creation, life's all-or-nothing design, uniqueness of humans, dinosaurs, the Flood, carbon dating, the fossil

record, and many more. Great for middle school through adult. (Hardcover, 120 pages, \$17.00 plus \$3.00 S/H)

Creation Basics and Beyond is a thorough, yet understandable, in-depth introduction to questions involved in the creation-evolution debate. Written and reviewed

by experts, it provides a great supplement to **Guide to Creation Basics**. Short, readable chapters clearly demonstrate that the scientific evidence does not support evolution, but instead strongly confirms the biblical account of creation and supports the claim that the Bible is really the inspired Word of God. Good for high school through adult. (Softcover, 352 pages, \$10.00 plus \$3.00 S/H)



Special: Save \$5.00 when you order both books together. (\$24.00 plus \$4.00 S/H) **AOI**

The Moon: Big Problem for Evolution

By Brian Mariani

When considering any topic, it is important to learn the broad overview and understand the “Big Picture.” We should evaluate everything in its appropriate context. That is why I joined AOI – because the big picture all around us screams of God and His design.

Let’s take the moon for example. Evolutionists have suggested four possible hypotheses regarding how the moon could have come into existence.

First, there is the Fission Hypothesis that says that when the Earth was still molten, it was spinning so fast that a piece flung off and began spinning nearby.

Second, is the Nebular, or Accretion Hypothesis that says the earth and moon formed side by side at the same time.

Third, scientists have suggested the Capture Hypothesis where the moon was a wandering planet and got captured by the earth’s gravity.¹

The most favored evolutionary scenario is the Giant Impact Hypothesis. It says that a mass the size of Mars collided with the earth about 4.5 billion years ago. This giant collision ejected large amounts of debris that scattered around the earth. Eventually, due to gravitational attraction, the earth and the moon formed simultaneously as all the rubble collected together. That giant collision is said to have caused the earth’s tilt as well as the spinning of both the earth and moon.

Documentaries, museums, and scientists often promote the Giant Impact Hypothesis as if it were simply fact. However, there are many problems with it, and with all of these hypotheses. Even the fact that there are four main theories shows that there is not a good naturalistic model to account for the moon.

There are many things that had to have happened in just the right way for the moon to have formed naturally. Some of these are theoretically improbable, if not impossible.

For example, gravity, at those distances, is just not strong enough to shape the Earth or the Moon after a collision like that. Furthermore, Ph.D. Peter Noerdlinger in a New Scientist article states, “The collision has to be implausibly gentle, you

practically need someone to hold a Mars-sized object just above Earth and drop it, to avoid messing up Earth’s orbit.”² In fact, new titanium measurements and computer models are presenting troublesome inconsistencies for Giant Impact theorists. Daniel Clery of Science magazine reported how

experts in lunar origins met at the Royal Society in London to correct the problems with their theory, but one of the lead researchers remarked after the event, “It’s got people thinking about the direction we need to go to find a story that makes sense.”³

There is no solid explanation for the formation of the Earth’s moon – or any moon for that matter. Yet, there are at least 146 moons in our solar system. This is a big problem for naturalism.

In addition, the characteristics of the earth and the moon appear too perfect to be explained by naturalism. The Moon stabilizes the Earth’s tilt and refreshes the oceans due to tidal action. The Sun’s size, mass, heat, and distance from Earth are perfect. Earth’s circular orbit, rotation rate, tilt, magnetic field, and climate are perfect for life. When we look at the big picture, it seems obvious that God’s creation is amazing. Praise God! **AOI**

¹ Don DeYoung and John Whitcomb, *Our Created Moon: Earth’s Fascinating Neighbor*, p 30-36, Master Books, Green Forest, AR, 2010.

² Peter Noerdlinger, Ph.D., quoted in *New Scientist*, 23 January 2007, p. 16.

³ Clery, Daniel, *Impact Theory Gets Whacked*, *Science*, 11 October 2013, Vol. 342 no. 6155 pp. 183-185, <http://www.sciencemag.org/content/342/6155/183>, accessed Jan 2, 2014.

Check out Brian’s new blog series “Biggest Challenges to Evolution” at: www.DiscoverCreation.org/blog.



Director's Column by Dave Nutting



You might ask, "Why start a training institute? Doesn't your staff already have enough to do? Why not just use the Internet?"

We certainly have asked ourselves those same questions! However, the world is actively foisting its anti-God worldviews on society and even the Church. It is imperative to invest strategically and intentionally into the lives of the next generation(s) so they will be fortified themselves and also equipped to be a positive force in their own communities.

This has been a desire on our hearts for a long time. Seeing the Marianis' enthusiasm to work with us and Scott Mauser on this, and through much collective prayer, we believe God is leading us to launch the charter class this August. We realize that much can be done through media and the Internet – and we intend to continue to expand that venue both here and internationally. However, we also firmly believe that relationships and personal on-going interaction are keys in developing disciples who can effectively pass the torch to their generation and beyond. AOI's Discover

Creation Training Institute is designed with that in mind.

Our goal is to help each student grow in his/her relationship with God while being trained and equipped to share a solidly creation-based, Biblical worldview and the truth of God's Word with family, friends, school kids, and others in their own communities. We will emphasize applied apologetics with personal discipleship. Field trips, ministry opportunities, and outreaches are planned to augment classroom learning and provide an environment for students to learn by seeing and doing. Students will be challenged and encouraged towards personal growth through close interaction with AOI staff, volunteers, and other students. Also, by engaging our students in multiple facets of AOI ministry, we expect to greatly multiply the creation ministry much further than our current staff can take it-- both with face-to-face ministry and with technological outreach that young people are so good at.

By God's grace and provision – and the participation and support of His committed people – this dream and vision will become a reality. Will you join us today? 

DISCOVER CREATION TRAINING INSTITUTE



A unique one-year training program with a creation-based Biblical worldview

- Non-traditional learning
- Multiple Field trips
- Biblical Studies
- Creation Science
- Archaeology & Ancient Man
- Apologetics Training
- Creation Outreach Ministry

Survive, Fortify, Thrive!

Call 800-377-1923 or visit DiscoverCreation.org/TrainingInstitute.htm



Upcoming Events

For a list of upcoming events, we invite you to visit our website. Please pray for these events and encourage others to come.

Connect with us!

To learn more about what God is doing in our lives and with the ministry, stay up to date with us. We have new projects with great articles, creation nuggets, and behind the scenes information. Follow our blog (www.discovercreation.org/blog) and "like" our updated facebook page (www.facebook.com/AlphaOmegaInstitute).



DISCOVER CREATION ADVENTURES

New! Affordable! Creation Vacations!

Enjoy a tremendous mountain vacation and receive life-changing information that will equip you to stand firm in your faith.

Family Mountain Adventure
Horn Creek Christian Camp - Westcliffe, CO • June 29 – July 4

Rock & River Teen Adventure
Arkansas River, CO • July 7 – 12

Yellowstone Creation Adventure
Yellowstone National Park, • Aug. 29 – Sep. 1

www.DiscoverCreation.org/vacations.htm