

Vol. 21, No. 6 November-December 2021

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CREATION FELLOWSHIP

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The President's Corner

By Every Word

Considering what we have been discussing in the last several President's Corner articles, it is evident—scientifically—that the substance of physical reality is mysteriously intangible. But again, the writer of Hebrews outpaced the Greek philosophers and has telegraphed what modern physics is showing us, as he explains that "... what is seen was not made out of what was visible" (Hebrews 11:3). So the Scriptures continue to unravel this scientific conundrum.

The visible "what" was not simply made from an invisible "what"; it was made from an invisible *whom*. And in another place (John 1:1-3) it explains that this whom is the Word of God ... Christ Jesus! Indeed, Hebrews 1:3 makes plain that even the medium from which you are currently reading this text is sustained by the same unwavering Word, Who upholds the very substance of all physical reality, and Who made the universe as recorded in Genesis chapter 1.

So when Jesus said that "[He sends] rain on the just and on the unjust" (Matthew 5:45), we can glean (among a great many other things) that God enforces His laws (physical and spiritual) evenhandedly everywhere, all the time. If God did not do this, math and science would not even be possible. Therefore, the God-iscapricious claim of atheists is completely without merit, even by their own empiricist standard. But according to the Romans 2:1 standard, they are projecting their own faults onto God. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

It can then be concluded that even the food we eat has its existence only as a result of the creative and sustaining Word that God has spoken. Many passages of Scripture support this conclusion, but Jesus took it to a whole new level when He guoted Deuteronomy 8:3 in Matthew 4:4, saying "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God". Note that He said this to the devil who was tempting Him during a 40 day fast; which points to another statement He made to His disciples who were concerned about Him not having had enough to eat: "I have food to eat that you know nothing about" (John 4:32).

Therefore, the invisible Word of God provides both physical and spiritual sustenance, having even greater substance than the visible substance of physical reality. Jesus said in Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my Words will never pass away". One could say that the Word of God is more real than reality! In John 6:63, He says "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life." And in another place it says, "Because Thy lovingkindness is better than life, my lips shall praise thee" (Psalm 63:3).

Accordingly, all of reality is a construct of the Word of God, including the very existence of mankind. The Word even allows us the choice to follow Him or to spurn Him. If He did not allow us this choice, why defend the Gospel? But the choice comes to every person, just as it did to Adam and Eve. They chose destruction instead of life; but now, the gift of God is Eternal Life through Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23). Thus, Hebrews 1:8,9 is powerfully explanatory: "In putting everything under Him God left nothing that is not subject to Him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to Him. But we see Jesus ...".

As the devil tempted Jesus, so also the devil tempts us with a false human philosophy that not only opposes the Word of God but also offers us an entirely contradictory worldview. The seed of this worldview was popularized in this country as a scientific theory, called biological or Darwinian evolution. Although it became a defunct scientific theory within ten years of its publication, fallen men continued to promote and promulgate it to a willing populace, imagining it to be true science. Today it has been expanded into an allencompassing lying human philosophy that popular culture applies in practically all walks of life and wicked principalities try to enforce upon all flesh.

I call it an evolutionary worldview, evolutionary philosophy, or evolutionary thinking; but because of its apparent ability to take full control of a person's life, I would not rule out the possibility that the Bible calls it something far worse. As many appear never to return

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Rob Bracken

Rob Bracken



Accelerated Nuclear Decay and Radiohalos, Part 1

Barbara Helmkamp, Ph.D Physics

Continued on next page

Why Accelerated Nuclear Decay?

Conventional science says the earth is 4.5 billion years old. This conventional date for the earth derives from present-day decay rates for extremely long-lived radioisotopes (like uranium-238 and potassium-40) along with corresponding measured parent-daughter isotope ratios from rocks. Even though Darwinism is bankrupt on so many levels, its hold persists as the ruling paradigm in part because of the radio-isotopic "evidence" for deep time. But if decay rates have not been constant throughout earth's history. if there was a Flood-year episode of accelerated decay predominantly affecting the extremely long-lived isotopes, then the measured isotope ratios only say that a lot of decay has occurred, not that the earth is billions of years old.

Interestingly, earth's conventional age of 4.5 billion years matches uranium-238's half-life while earth's true age of about 6000 years (5782 y in 2020 per the Jewish calendar) matches the half-life of the comparatively short-lived and famous isotope carbon-14 ($t_{\frac{1}{2}} = 5730 \text{ yr}$). Diamonds are an interesting study because conventionally they are presumed to have formed very early in earth's history. Thus, the gigantic discordance that occurs when carbon-14 vs. uranium-238 is used to date a diamond (or a uranium defect in a diamond) – the latter giving billions of years and the former only thousands⁷ – is poignant evidence for accelerated decay. Carbon dating aside, there is a general, systematic bias in the discordant ages for the same rock unit across various dating methods where the greater the half-life for the dating method's isotope, the greater the apparent age of the rock by that method.⁸

Another important line of evidence for accelerated decay is the helium (alpha particles) and argon produced over earth's history by radioactive decay, where these noble gases are missing from the atmosphere but present in the rocks. Their being largely underground is in keeping with a young earth, not deep time, given how fast these "slippery" gases escape via diffusion.⁹ The abundance of helium underground means a lot of alpha decay has occurred. Likewise for the argon (potassium-40's beta-decay daughter product) meaning a lot of this beta decay has occurred. All this decay occurred a short time ago at an ultra-fast rate (during an episode of *accelerated decay*) rather than at an ultra-slow rate over geologic time.

Most importantly (for these articles) is the *polonium halo* found in granitic rocks and coalified wood which has *no naturalistic explanation* given the half-life bottle neck between the parent nuclide (uranium-238) and its polonium progeny (polonium-218, polonium-214, polonium-210). It would seem that the only way to explain the occurrence of polonium halos lies in a Flood-year episode of accelerated decay. Thus, polonium halos indirectly testify to a miraculous tweaking by God of the nuclear force. This is not unlike how the empty tomb testifies to Christ's resurrection, though it unfolds God's judgment instead of His mercy.

An abrupt genomic decline would seem manifest by mankind's plummeting lifespan after the Flood. And apparently this was by God's decree: "Then the LORD said, 'My Spirit shall not abide in man forever for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.'" (Gen 6:3) Then the Flood narrative begins: "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, 'I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and



animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.' But Noah found

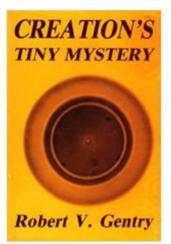
favor in the eyes of the LORD." (Gen 6:5-8). Later in Genesis we learn that Noah, like Adam, died at age 930 (Gen 9:29) while Joseph at age 110 (Gen 50:26) with the patriarch ages decreasing exponentially in between.

A Flood-year episode of accelerated decay may have been the mechanism God used to effect lifespan reduction for mankind and the animals. Assuming earth's uranium and other radioactive isotopes like ⁴⁰*K* were deep beneath the pre-Flood earth's surface thereby shielding the pre-Flood biosphere from their radiation (like storing nuclear waste underground), then, the ark, *housing earth's genomes* and stores of food and water, would have experienced no immediate effects from radioactive decay, whether alpha or beta, whether normal or accelerated, because neither the ark nor her passengers nor her cargo would have held any radioactive isotopes. However, rainwater collected to resupply the ark's drinking water¹⁰ would have been contaminated by *nuclear fallout* from volcanic ash (rich in *K*-spar). Earth was wracked with volcanism and tectonic activity during the Flood year, as evidenced by the ash interspersed in the phanerozoic record (Flood sediments) as well as the tremendous volume of granites (understood to be crystallized magma) spanning the geologic column. All this is to say that ingesting ash-contaminated rainwater, with its contaminant isotopes undergoing accelerated decay, arguably precipitated the lifespan decline.

Polonium Halos

All polonium is radiogenic and short-lived. The only natural source of its isotopes is by decay of primordial uranium which is significantly found in granitic **plutons** (see diagram)¹¹ within zircons (zirconium silicate

ZrSiO₄) presumably as uraninite (UO₂). Ubiquitous in granites, the polonium radiohalo was dubbed a "tiny mystery" because it has *no naturalistic*



explanation with decay rates taken to be constant throughout earth's history per the usual uniformitarian assumption. The bottleneck in the uranium decay series ($^{238}U \rightarrow ^{206}Pb$ + $8\alpha + 6\beta^{-}$) presented by the 4.5 billion-year half-life of uranium-238 ($^{238}U\rightarrow ^{234}Th + \alpha$) makes it impossible to devise a scenario *at today's decay* whereby sufficient numbers of polonium progeny ^{210}Po) can be supplied via aqueous transport to form new

rates (²¹⁸Po, ²¹⁴Po, radio-centers and

generate these polonium halos displaced from their ancestral uranium. A ²¹⁸Po halo is famously pictured on the adjacent book jacket.

Deep time does not solve this problem: granites crystallize and cool too rapidly.¹² Halos found in granites that intruded sedimentary rocks, whether uranium or polonium, cannot have started forming until after emplacement (when no longer molten), while polonium halos had to have finished forming before the hydrothermal waters produced in crystallization stopped moving (from cooling too much). The only resolution lies in a past episode of much faster decay (shorter half-lives) to accommodate the time-temperature window needed for aqueous transport in cooling granites. Since polonium radiohalos pepper granitic rocks that pushed up through Flood sediments,¹³ this episode was necessarily ongoing during these processes; that is, during the Flood year. But accelerating uranium's decay 500 million-fold for a significant part of a year presents a heat problem of enormous magnitude; that is, accelerating decay by the required factor means the heat cannot dissipate which makes for an outrageous rise in temperature. Insight into addressing this heat problem comes from the fact that radiohalos, though themselves heat scars, necessarily survived their own heat generation. It

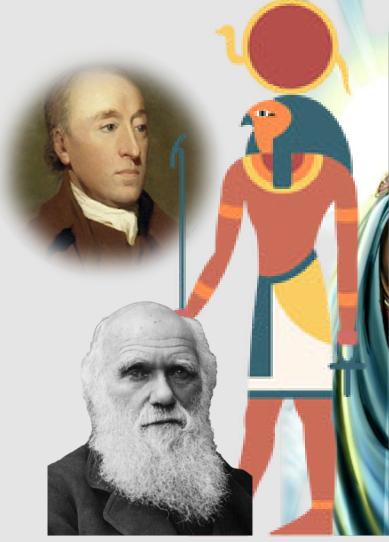
Ok, let's be honest. Evolution is a lie. Matter did not organize itself into increasingly higher levels to "create" all things. Perhaps modern information theory and stochastic chemistry (which segues into biology) offers the strongest evidence against evolutionary theory. The Bible makes clear that "in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen 1:1) and "it is He that made us and not we ourselves" (Psalm 100:3). That pretty much covers everything. True science dovetails with the Bible..

There is a big secret about evolution that no high school or college-level class in any of the sciences will tell us which, when understood, further unravels the whole evolutionary scenario. Modern evolutionists want us to believe two things about evolution. First, that it is the result of modern "enlightened" scientific investigation (i.e. intellectual reasoning that is freed from "religious shackles"). Second, the Bible and science are opposed to each other. Both of those ideas are falsehoods. But as far as evolution goes, why not use lies to support a greater lie? At least that is consistent! Keep everyone in the dark to ensure a greater darkness continues to spread.

The reason FOUNDATIONS exists is to refute those falsehoods and to create trust in the Bible as **the** way to know God through the Lord Jesus Christ. In this article we will refute the first falsehood (we will tackle the second one next month). Did evolution truly develop as a theory from modern scientific study? Have multiple educated, accomplished, unbiased investigators studied the behavior of matter and concluded that upward progression in order and function are genuine processes of nature? Simply put, no.

Exposing where the idea of evolution really came from reveals the first part of evolution's big secret. Ernest L. Abel, who was a Ph.D in Psychology and taught at the University of North Carolina (and is not a creationist as far as I know), wrote an intriguing, slim volume titled "Ancient Views on the Origin of Life," which I discovered over 20 years ago. Abel wrote:

"The theory of evolution holds that all organisms are the result of descent and modification from a simple, undifferentiated primordial substrata. Although it is customary to credit the inception of this theory to Charles Darwin and

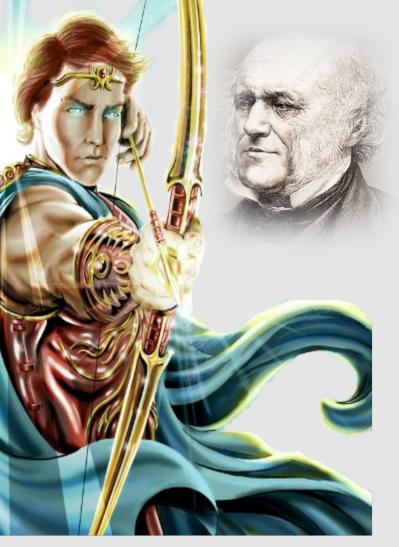


THE BIG SECRET OF by Ed Johlman, FOUNDATIONS

his immediate predecessors, a rudimentary form of this notion can be traced back to the beginnings of written history itself. In fact, the belief that life had its origins in a single basic substance is so widespread among the various peoples of the world, primitive or civilized, that it can be considered one of the few universal themes in the history of ideas."¹

"It has already been noted that the concept of life emerging from a single substrate is a notion held by many of the **primitive peoples** of the world. As such, it was also one of the most recurrent themes in the myths of antiquity."²

Note the use of myth! Abel explodes the first falsehood. The theory of evolution did not arise from modern scientific experimentation and investigation. In antiquity, most if not all written communications were pre-dated with lengthy



EVOLUTION, Part 1 Editor and RMCF Board Member

oral transmissions. Evolution is an ancient concept that tracks back to the earliest existence of man, long before the development of the modern scientific method and sophisticated, technological means of experimentation and analysis.

Abel next observed:

"Two consecutive phases in the development of this conception can be distinguished. The first involves the mythical interpretation of natural phenomena; the second the rational or philosophical."³

To Abel, mythical interpretations referred to the ancients observing the sun moving across the sky and concluding one of their mythical deities (for example, the Egyptian's *Amon Re* or the Greek's *Apollo*) was pushing it along.

"... precise observation is the beginning of science. The actual distinction between the myth-

ical and the scientific approach to Nature lies not in the observations upon which they are based, but in the interpretation of these observations."⁴

Bingo! It isn't the observed data that created evolution but man's interpretation of his observations of the world as he attempted to move away from cause/effect deities (mythical) to completely natural causes (scientific). Isn't that identical to what evolutionists do today? As the Bible says, "There is nothing new under the sun" (Eccl 1:9). Unfortunately that way of thought places the God of the Bible in the "mythical." The "scientific" includes "enlightened" souls like Greek philosopher Anaximander (611-547 BC) who taught that all life sprang from an unknown substance he labeled apeiron ("indeterminate") and that man was birthed from the bellies of fish via some form of abiogenesis. Anaximenes (586-526 BC), a student of Anaximander, took that concept a step further by proposing that all life forms came from other life forms. Doesn't that sound a lot like Darwinian evolution?

So the modern theory of evolution has been sourced from primitive peoples who lived through out antiquity! What a major scientific breakthrough! The big secret of evolution is that persons such as Erasmus Darwin (Charles' grandfather), James Hutton, Charles Lyell, Charles Darwin, etc., had personal movitations to take an ancient, primitive idea and coat it with a 'scientific' veneer to make it appear acceptable to a modern audience. After all, modern people would never believe a man could spontaneously erupt from the belly of a fish. That would be silly! But what if we say over millions, perhaps billions, of years of gradual, accumulated mutations a fish can morph into other creatures who could in turn develop into a man? Suddenly, the idea has become 'scientific' by claiming things are really old! Except for "long ages," there are no substantial differences between what Anaximenes and Darwin proposed.

The question should now be asked, what were their **personal motivations** for propagating evolution? That is the **rest** of the big secret of evolution and it will be revealed in the next issue of FOUNDATIONS. Prepare to be shocked!

¹ Ernest L. Abel. Ancient Views on the Origin of Life. Associated University Press, Cranbury, NJ, 1973. Pg. 15.

² Ibid #1, pg. 16.

³ Ibid #1, pg. 15.

⁴ Ibid #1, pg. 16.



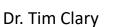
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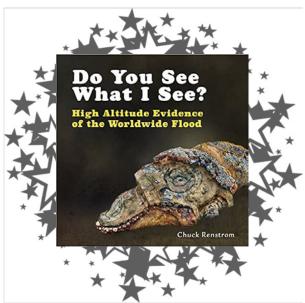
The past 2 years has been tough on everyone, including RMCF. Bringing leading Creation scientists to Colorado for our Friday Night Meetings, and mailing FOUNDATIONS every two months free-of-charge to anyone who requests it, are expensive undertakings.

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Friday Night Meetings with (clockwise): Mike Snavely, Randy Guliuzza, Titus Kennedy, Dr. Christopher Cone



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COVER STORY: Nuclear Decay, Continued from page 5

follows that the requisite cooling mechanism was no generic freeze; rather, it was *necessarily local*, contemporaneous, and commensurate to each halo. A novel idea connected to modelling the nucleus during the episode of accelerated decay at the final link in the ²³⁸U decay chain ($^{210}Po \rightarrow ^{206}Pb + \alpha$) will be presented elsewhere.¹⁴

Natural thin sections and scorch-marks

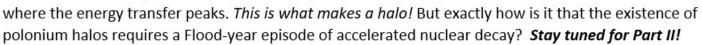
On the natural thin sections of mica (biotite) from granitic rock, *polonium radiohalos* in three kinds depict a *culminating subset* of the eight alpha emissions in the chain of decays from ²³⁸U to stable ²⁰⁶Pb. Firing off

isotopically from the radio center, it takes ~500 million alpha particles with the same range, like bullets from the same gun, to make a spherical shell, or a ring in cross-section. Unlike the uranium radiohalo with its eight rings (which look like five¹⁵) and central source of unspent uranium plus daughter products locked inside a zircon, polonium halos often encompass a hole, or bubble, where the soluble end product (*e.g.*, PbS₂ or PbCl₂) has dissolved away.¹⁶ In mica, the U-halo ring radii range between 12.8 microns (²³⁸U \rightarrow ²³⁴Th + α) to 34.6 microns (²¹⁴Po \rightarrow ²¹⁰Pb + α),¹⁷ making halos viewable under an ordinary optical microscope (where Scotch[™] tape

is used to separate the sheaves of mica for mounting and viewing).¹⁸ The innermost ring corresponds to the first and slowest emission with the longest half-life, and the outermost ring to the seventh (second-to-last) and fastest emission with the shortest half-life. (Illustrations adjacent, minus annotations, and below, are taken from *Creation's Tiny Mystery*.)

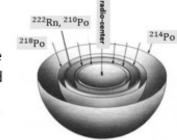
The last three alpha decayers in the uranium series, separated by pairs of sequential beta decays, are ²¹⁸Po, ²¹⁴Po, and ²¹⁰Po. Thus, the polonium-218 halo has three rings, the polonium-214 halo has two rings, and the

polonium-210 halo has one ring. Each ring is a crosssection of the onion-like scar left by ~500 million fission tracks as each alpha particle scorches a mark, in a random direction, at a stopping distance characteristic of its speed (energy). The alpha's fission track is dominated by discoloration at its endpoint



¹ Adams, Fred C., and Evan Grohs, Stellar Helium Burning in Other Universes: A solution to the triple alpha fine tuning problem, arxiv/1608.04690v2, 2016.

⁶ On Christian Doctrine, Book II, Ch. 40.



(stable end product)

 $^{238}U \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{234}Th \xrightarrow{234}Pa \xrightarrow{234}U \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{230}Th \xrightarrow{\alpha}^{226}Ra$

 $\rightarrow 222Rn \rightarrow 218Po \rightarrow 214Pb \rightarrow 214Bi \rightarrow 214Po$

210Pb -- 210Bi -- 210Po - 206Pb

² Point being an AU with more earth-like planets than ours ... because metals ($Z \ge 3$) would form more quickly after its Big Bang thereby generating more of the raw materials (carbon, oxygen) needed for life.

³ Chaffin, E.F., Accelerated Decay: Theoretical Considerations, in RATE Vol II, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, pp. 527-533, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005.

⁴ Point being a young earth that has experienced much radioactive decay of isotopes with very long half-lives at today's rates. ⁵ U-halo in mica (arrow shows very faint outermost ring) and a pair of U-halos in coalified wood. From Gentry, Robert V., *Creation's Tiny Mystery* (Third edition), Earth Science Associates, 1992. Used in accordance with federal copyright (fair use doctrine) without implying endorsement of copyright holder.

⁷ Baumgardner, J.R., 14C Evidence for a Recent Global Flodd and a Young Earth, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, pp. 609-614, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005.

⁸ Snelling, A.A., Isochron Discordances, Inheritance and Mixing, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, p. 462, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005.

⁹ Humphreys, D.R., Young Helium Diffusion Age of Zircons Supports Accelerated Nuclear Decay, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, pp. 74-75, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005. Humphreys, D.R., Argon diffusion data support RATE's 6,000-year helium age of the earth, Journal of Creation 25(2), 2011.

¹⁰ See Efficient Systems illustration at <u>www.answersingenesis.org/noahs-ark/fantastic-voyage-how-could-noah-care-animals/</u>
¹¹ Motilla, CC BY-SA 3.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0, via Wikimedia Commons. The types of intrusions (plutons) shown in numerical order are laccolith, small dike, batholith, dike, sill, volcanic neck, pipe, lopolith.
¹² Spelling, A.A., Catastrophic Grapite Formation: Bapid Melting of Source Bocks, and Bapid Magma Intrusion and Cooling, Answ

¹² Snelling, A.A., Catastrophic Granite Formation: Rapid Melting of Source Rocks, and Rapid Magma Intrusion and Cooling, Answers Research Journal 1 (2008): 11–25. See <u>www.answersingenesis.org/arj/v1/catastrophic-granite-formation.pdf</u>

¹³ Snelling, A.A., 2005, Radiohalos in Granites: Evidence for Accelerated Nuclear Decay, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, pp. 116-118, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005.

¹⁴ This research by the author is in progress.

¹⁵ The radio-center not being a point-source, rings with a separation comparable to the inclusion's diameter get blurred. Also, uranium being only 0.7% ²³⁵U vs. 99.3% ²³⁸U means that its alpha emissions are too few to manifest separate rings.

¹⁶ Snelling, A.A., Radiohalos in Granites: Evidence for Accelerated Nuclear Decay, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling and Chaffin, pp. 170-174, Institute for Creation Research & Creation Research Society, 2005.

¹⁷ Henderson, G., & Turnbull, L., A Quantitative Study of Pleochroic Haloes II, Royal Society (G.B.) Series A, 145(855), 582-591, 1934. ¹⁸ Snelling, A.A., Radiohalos in Granites: Evidence for Accelerated Nuclear Decay, in *RATE Vol II*, edited by Vardiman, Snelling, and Chaffin, pp. 113-114, Institute for Creation Research and Creation Research Society, 2005.



Dr. Barbara Helmkamp earned an engineering degree in Physics from Colorado School of Mines (1986) and a Ph.D. in Physics from Louisiana State University (1995). Between undergraduate and graduate studies she worked as a petrophysical engineer for the Shell Companies in New Orleans. Barbara taught part-time (secondary science and math including Algebra I) at St. Mark Lutheran School (Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod) in Houston from 2005-2008. She completed a course of study in theology for Lutheran school teachers, including Old Testament, New Testament and Church History, through Concordia University Texas (2007). From 2010-present, Barbara has taught part-time (Physics and Chemistry lectures and labs) at Credo Academy, which is a large, board-run, secondary home school co-op in Lone Tree, Colorado. Barbara finds much joy in secondary Christian education, knowing that the forgiveness of sins in Jesus Christ is cherished above all.

PRESIDENTS CORNER — Continued from Page 2

from the malaise of evolutionary thinking, it seems that it is foundational to the delusion of II Thessalonians 2:10-12. But as for you, be of good cheer: Christ Jesus has overcome the world (John 16:33); the Lord knows those who are His (II Timothy 2:19); and whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away (II Corinthians 3:15).

(Note: Scripture quotations are from either the New International Version or the King James Bible).

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the answer to these questions and others!

Brian Young is a nationally knownspaker, author of several books, and founder of Creation Instruction Association. He has written for various magazines and journals. Brian also served as teacher and principal for 10 years. He currently upsaks on creation vs. evolution, as we volution as the second is as scientific creation as a foundation for good science, theology and mosal living. He sho debates in theology and mosal living. He

will be at the Northeast Colorado Creation Group on

Thursday, January 13, 2022 6:30-8:00pm

at Berean Bible Church 211 West Beaver Fort Morgan, CO

EDUNDATIONS

VOLUMN 21 NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

Published by Rocky Mountain Creation Fellowship P.O. Box 3451 Littleton, CO 80161 www.youngearth.org

> President Rob Bracken

Editors Phil Budd Ed Johlman tion. An annual membership in RMCF is available for \$25. Please complete coupon at right to request a free FOUNDATIONS subscription or to purchase an annual membership. Membership fees are used to support the outreach ministries of RMCF.

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For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them. Exodus 20:11

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December 10, 2021



Kate Warren Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? Teaching Biblical Creation in an Evolution-Focused Museum

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January 14, 2022



Brian Young Director, Creation Instruction Association Tentative Topic: Scientific Evidences of a Young Earth

Yes! There really is solid, scientific evidences that our planet Earth is NOT billions and billions of years old. In fact, the Earth actually seems to be quite young! Come and hear Brian present the key evidences that support an age for the Earth that fits very neatly with the Biblical timeline established from Genesis 1.

Attend in person or watch live for FREE via ZOOM or our YouTube TV channel — access the links through youngearth.org