

Design Science Association

October 2021 Newsletter

Morning meeting
9:00am on the
third Saturday,
Oct. 16th, 2021

*All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
John 1:3*

The Mechanism of Adaptation An Emerging Framework for Understanding the Engineered Optimization of Life

Join DSA on Saturday **Oct. 16** 9:00 AM
at Greater Portland Bible Church
with **Phil Gaskill***

The concept of adaptation is often presented and explained in the context of evolutionary theory. However, Evolution requires divergence from existing organisms and the development of new ones. Adaptation, on the other hand, is simply the adjustment of existing organisms to environmental conditions. Since even before the time of Darwin, natural selection has been thought of as the driving mechanism of adaptation. However, recent field observations, combined with discoveries in molecular biology, epigenetics, and embryonic development, are challenging the natural selection paradigm and uncovering evidence that organisms themselves are programmed to engineer solutions to the environmental problems they face. Phil Gaskill will explain the differences between Evolution, adaptation, and variation, as well as the role of natural selection (hint: there isn't one). He will then present a framework for understanding the mechanism of adaptation and its purpose: the engineered optimization of living things. This new paradigm is a strong argument for design and, ultimately, the Master Designer.



***Phil Gaskill** is an independent researcher. He earned a B.A. in history from Lawrence University, worked as a systems engineer for several IT firms, and was a science writer for Cramer Fish Sciences. He is currently Scientific & Technical Information Specialist for Idaho National Laboratory. Phil has been a student of the history, philosophy, and methodology of science for more than thirty years. He has published articles in both creation and secular peer-reviewed science journals, and speaks periodically on the subject of origins and earth history.

Along with our meeting being in person it will also be live-streamed to our DSA YouTube channel.

Connect to watch from either:

- 1) www.designsciencenw.org/livestream
- 2) a link on the DSA Homepage at www.designsciencenw.org



**Sold
Out**

The **ICR conference** in Battle Ground, WA **Oct. 8 – 10** has **SOLD OUT** – registration is full. If you are one of the fortunate 850 people attending, details of it are at www.icr.org/event/1949/

Creation Encounter Trips



For more information and to register, go to www.creationencounter.com/tours

Cascade Conifers Class & Hike
Monday Oct. 18

Forest Ecology along the Salmon River
Friday Oct. 22



Digging in the Permian: The Secrets of Dimetrodon

Electron microscopist and dinosaur researcher

Dr. Mark Armitage will speak in person at

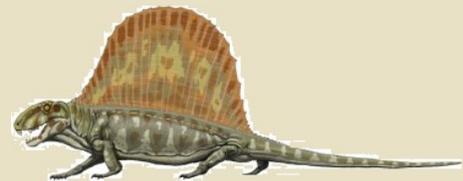
Mount St. Helens Creation Center Saturday evening

November 13 at 7 pm. Dimetrodon is not technically a

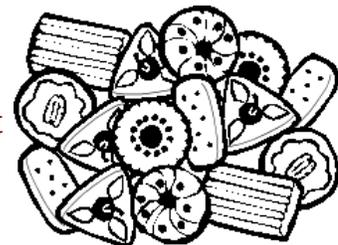
dinosaur but a “pelycosaur,” an extinct group of reptiles said to have pre-dated the dinosaurs by some 40 million years. Mark reveals secrets about these strange

creatures that tell a very different story however - one that fits in well with a recent creation and a global flood. Actual bones will be on display and free children’s

books will be given away. This is a free event but an offering will be taken to support the ongoing research of the **Dinosaur Soft Tissue Research Institute**



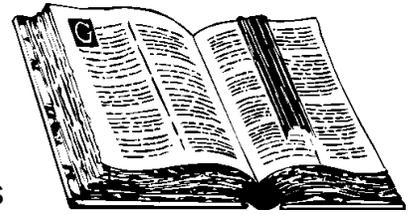
Reminder ~ We can always use refreshments for the snacks table. Fruit, sweets or savory! Cheese and crackers and relish trays are always a hit! We have not had half & half lately so if you care to bring some for coffee and/or a coffee creamer...that would be ideal.



GORGE Project Update!

Thank you for your generous support of the **Geochronology and Radiometric Geology Evaluation** ("Gorge") project! Research has been proceeding and to date, eleven (11) samples of rock and wood have been submitted to a lab for radiocarbon dating. The results should be available by the end of the year. Remaining funds should be sufficient for testing of another five (5) samples. Potentially far-reaching implications of this project will be coming out over time. A video describing the collection of materials is on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_BLEcVcc8U

Who is to say God did not use evolution in His creative process?



Answer: **God** tells us differently. In Genesis 1:24 he tells us that he made living creatures “*according to their kinds*” ... distinct species from the beginning. It was over six days and “*on the seventh day God **finished** his work that he had done*”. He repeats Himself to Moses in Exodus 20:11 “*For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.*”

The motivation driving evolutionary thought is the denial of God’s existence; to explain human life as the product of mere chance and that there is no God who will judge us for our sin.

Some Christian believers, having been taught that evolution is proven scientific fact, seek to reconcile it with what God has said. They may attempt this with sincere hearts, but evolution and God’s account of His creation are **not** reconcilable. Aside from much scientific evidence that evolution did not occur, evolution contradicts God’s Word in several ways including:

- 1) The timeframe in which God tells us He created everything.
- 2) Death and suffering in a world God described as “very good” (Gen. 1:31).
- 3) Death not as the consequence of one man’s sin (Romans 5:12) but as part of God’s creative process.

Famous atheist **Richard Dawkins** said in a Feb. 2011 TV interview, “*I think the evangelical Christians have really sort of got it right in a way, in seeing evolution as the enemy. Whereas the more, what shall we say, sophisticated theologians are quite happy to live with evolution, I think they're deluded. I think the evangelicals have got it right, in that there really is a deep incompatibility between evolution and Christianity.*”

**Coming Up . . . At our November 20 meeting
Eric Hovind will speak on
God's Glory: A Journey of Discovery**

An Association for Good Science

Meeting the Third Saturday of Each Month
at Greater Portland Bible Church: 2374 SW Vermont St., Portland, OR 97219
Discount creation book & DVD sales table at every meeting

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