

# Origins Insights

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE  
CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP



June 2005

## The Age of the Universe from a Creationist Framework: Answering the Question from Science, Part Two

by Bob Harsh

Editor's Note: This article is being presented in multiple parts spread over several issues of *Origins Insights*. Last month Bob discussed comets, sediment on the sea floor, sodium in the oceans and the decay of the Earth's magnetic field.

**Layers of ice in Greenland present evidence for a young Earth** - Ice cores in Greenland contain layers that may be compared to annual rings found in trees. Those layers contain varying isotope ratios. A core was drilled through the Greenland ice sheet from 1989 to 1993 from the top of the ice in central Greenland to bedrock at about 10,000 feet deep. Glaciologists claim that they can *count* 110,000 annual layers. This sounds like it is too old for the Bible time-line.

Layers of ice are produced when snow falls on top of previously laid snow in Arctic regions. Experts can define annual layers because of the dust that accumulates during the times of no snowfall and because of the

### CSF Meetings

#### CSF South

Springs in the Valley Church  
264 Old Clairton Road, Pleasant Hills

Sunday June 19, 2005, 6:30 PM

#### *Video Night* *"The Privileged Planet"*

This 1 hour DVD documentary explores the evidence for intelligent design and purpose in the universe.

The book, "The Privileged Planet" by Gonzalez and Richards has inspired a stunning new science documentary. What makes the production so wonderfully refreshing is the spirit of scientific freedom and open intellectual inquiry motivating it.

See **Planet/3**

#### CSF North

Mars Alliance Church, Rt. 228

Tuesday June 21, 2005, 7:30 PM

#### *The Dragons of the Carnegie* By Phil McCaffrey

Phil is well known around Pittsburgh for his tours of The Carnegie where he explains the exhibits from a Biblical creationist worldview.

Pittsburgh's museum is truly world class, it has the third largest collection of fossils and arguably the most "real" fossils on display. Come out to learn more about the museum, its history and the proposed changes to triple the size of the dinosaur display into "Dinosaurs in Their World."

incorporation of certain isotopes during different times of the year. Creationists view both the Greenland and Antarctica Ice Sheets as products of a post-Flood rapid Ice Age, plus additional ice added after the Ice Age (Oard, 1990).

The recent creation model: (Vardiman, 1993)

- Annual layers would be very thick in the lower portion of the Greenland Ice Sheet.
- The Ice Age portion is determined by the oxygen isotope ratio.
- There is decreasing annual layer thickness higher up in the ice sheet.
- The Ice Age ended about 4000 years ago.
- The compression of the ice sheet has been much less than uniformitarian scientists believe, but still substantial.

The creationist model: (Oard, 1990)

- Ice over Greenland and Antarctica builds rapidly for about 500 years during a rapid ice age.
- Amount of snowfall tapers off during the next 200 years of deglaciation.
- 700-year post-Flood Ice Age: the oceans gradually cooled and the ice sheet thickened with time.

After the Ice Age ended about 4000 years ago, precipitation until the present the ice sheet would continue to build up. [*Do Greenland ice cores show over one hundred thousand years of annual layers?* by Michael Oard]

**World War II Airplanes Under the Ice** - In 1942 two B-17 Flying Fortresses and six P-38 Lightning fighters made emergency landings on the ice on Greenland. Years later, a salvage operation was attempted. It was thought that the planes could be salvaged by removing a few feet of snow. That salvage operation was abandoned because the planes were too deep. Later, in 1992, the Greenland Society of Atlanta attempted to excavate a 10-foot diameter shaft in the Greenland ice pack to recover the planes trapped under an estimated 250 feet of ice for almost 50 years. They were successful in retrieving the planes.

In less than 50 years the aircraft were buried under about 250 feet of ice and snow. The Greenland ice sheet averages almost 4000 feet thick. So we can see that ice sheet has been accumulating at an average rate of five feet per year. If we were to assume the ice sheet has been accumulating at this rate since its beginning, it would take less than 1000 years for it to form and the recent-creation model might seem to be vindicated.

The average annual thickness of ice the northern tip of Greenland is believed to vary from about fourteen inches near the surface to less than two inches near the bottom (Hammer, et al., 1978). Assume the average annual thickness to be the mean between the annual thickness at the top and at the bottom (about eight inches) gives an age of less than 6000 years for the 4000-foot-thick ice sheet to form under uniformitarian conditions! [*ICE CORES AND THE AGE OF THE EARTH*- IMPACT No. 226 April 1992 by Larry Vardiman, Ph.D.]

**Greenland ice says less than 6,000 years. Greenland ice says no to evolution!**

**Sedimentary rock layers are evidence of a young earth** - Most scientists up to late 1700's believed the thick layers of sedimentary rock is evidence of Noah's catastrophic flood. The science of "uniformitarian" geology was invented by Charles Lyell in the early 1800's with the publication of his book, *Principles of Geology*.

The present interprets the past. The process is simple. Assuming that sedimentary layers were produced from the bottom up, the deeper a fossil is found, the older it is. If, for example, soil was eroded from one place and deposited in another place and it took 100 years to build up 1/10th of an inch of sediment, then a fossil found 10 feet deep, could be assumed to have arrived at that ten foot depth no sooner than 120,000 years ago. [ 1/10" = 100 years: 1" = 1000 years : 1' = 12,000 years : 10' = 120,000 years ] Using the above assumed rates

The cause of the build-up of sedimentary layers according to uniformitarian theory is the erosion and deposition of materials from one area to another. The results of that kind of sedimentary layers building should be a very non-uniform series of formations as the layers are examined horizontally. What do we find?

What kinds of things could have thrown off the accuracy of our calculated date?

Are we sure that it takes 100 years to lay down 1/10" of sediment?

- *Calculate the date if it took only 10 years to build up 1/10" of sedimentary rock.*
- *1000 years per 1/10"*

Are we sure the rate of building up the sedimentary layers has been uniform throughout the time it took to build up the sedimentary layers?

Let's imagine at one point there was a massive landslide that deposited 50 feet of sediment in 3.25 minutes. During a period of 1000 years, for some reason there was no new material deposited. Finally a giant glacier bulldozed 200 feet of material away at some unknown time. *Calculate the age of our fossil if the constant rate of new material being deposited was interrupted these three times during the formation of the sedimentary layers above the fossil.*

Did you have a little trouble with your calculations?

Are we even sure that sedimentary layers are created in such a way that the older deposits lie deeper than the younger layers? Guy Berthault has proposed that some sedimentary layers form by the process of sorting by their various sizes of rapidly moving particles of sand.

He has done laboratory demonstrations that have proven that sedimentary layers are formed laterally rather than horizontally! If water was moving from right to left, sorting of the material as it settled out would form all of the layers, from bottom to top. This would place the oldest deposits on the right and the youngest on the left bottom. There would be no age segregation by depth.

**If the Flood made the rocks and fossils then there were no "geologic ages".**

The cause of the build-up of sedimentary layers according to uniformitarian theory is the erosion and deposition of materials from one area to another. The results of that kind of sedimentary layers building should be a very non-uniform series of formations as the layers are examined horizontally. What do we find?

Next month Bob continues this interesting discussion of sedimentary rock layers.

---

**Planet** from/1

Using state-of-the-art computer animations, awe-inspiring astronomical footage, and interviews with leading scientists, including Robert Jastrow and Paul Davies, the documentary draws a strikingly different picture from the Sagan image of mediocrity. We learn how many things you need to get a planet, like Earth. It takes just the right atmosphere, plate tectonics, a large moon, well-placed planetary neighbors, in the exact right location in a spiral galaxy, and much, much more.

## **.Summer Creation Science Events**

### **2005 Creation MEGA Conference July 17-22, 2005 Liberty University, Lynchburg, Virginia**

The MEGA Conference is offering two tracks, basic and advanced, with sessions for ages 12 and up. This conference is co-sponsored by AIG and Liberty University in conjunction with CRS, Master Books, ICC, CSF and The Old Schoolhouse magazine. See [www.CreationMegaConference.com](http://www.CreationMegaConference.com) for more details.

### **Creation Mountain Adventures 2005 Alpha Omega Institute Twin Peaks, Family Science Adventure, July 3-8, 2005 and Readcloud Family Mountain Adventure July 31-Aug. 5 and Aug. 7-12, 2005**

These three adventures are held in the mountains of Colorado and offer an excellent opportunity for families to explore and enjoy some creation teaching. For more information see [www.discovercreation.org](http://www.discovercreation.org)

**Creation Science Fellowship , Inc.**  
Newsletter is published monthly.

**Purpose:** The aim of Creation Science Fellowship is to inform and educate people of the biblical, philosophical and scientific validity of creationism.

**Circulation:** 430

**Officers**

Reid Moon .....Chmn./Sec./Treas.  
Stu Chandler.....CSF Books  
Jim Hawk.....Board Member  
Phil McCaffrey.....Speaker's Bureau  
Tom Duke.....CSF South  
Robert Ivey.....Web Site/Newsletter  
TBD.....TBD

**Email:** [csficc@csfpittsburgh.org](mailto:csficc@csfpittsburgh.org)  
**Web Site:** [www.csfpittsburgh.org](http://www.csfpittsburgh.org)

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit No. 2548

CREATION SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP, INC.  
P.O. Box 99303  
Pittsburgh PA USA 15233-4303  
Phone: (412) 341-4908