

**Register Now for the DSA
Overnight Raft Trip**
**Thursday & Friday,
July 8 & 9, 2010**

This extended-version raft adventure covers 35 miles of the beautiful Deschutes river country, features an overnight stay, and is fully provisioned by Discovery Outfitters.

Why? Besides enjoying good Christian fellowship and the adventure of whitewater rafting, DSA members Steve Hayley and Keith Swenson will present a creationist perspective on the biology, geology (and night-sky stars) of the Deschutes Canyon.

Who? All interested persons are welcome to register. Anyone younger than age 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Meet: We will meet in the parking lot of Central Bible Church [time to be announced] and drive to Maupin, OR, where the raft trip begins. Return time to Maupin will be around 5 PM Friday.



Bring: A list of personal items recommended will be sent to each person registering. Provided by Discovery Outfitters will be all rafting equipment, meals (lunch, dinner, breakfast & lunch) and shuttle to and from raft sites.

Cost: \$165. per person. (Due with this application). Custom DVD of this outing will be included.

Registration: To register, return the completed coupon below with your payment. Acceptance will be on a first come, first serve basis.

For more info, contact coordinator Ruth Hazen at: 503-658-7734, or rehazen@gmail.com

Deschutes Rafting— July 8 & 9, 2010 (Thurs & Friday)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Number adults in party: _____ kids: _____

Amount Enclosed:
\$ _____

(Please note: you will be contacted if trip is full)
Make Checks Payable To:
Design Science Association

SEND TO: Design Science Association
PMB 218, 465 NE 181st Av.,
Portland, OR 97230

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DESIGN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
newsletter

—Suggested donation of \$5 per year covers cost of postage & photocopying—
DSA is recognized as a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

**Morning meeting
9am on the
third Saturday,
March 20, 2010**

“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things which you have not known.” Jeremiah 33:3

Jed Eberly

The Genetic code, Information & Design



DNA HAS AN AMAZING level of complexity and is unparalleled as an information storage system. No other system can store so much information in such a small package. The way the information stored in DNA is used by the cell to make



information and in fact contribute to its loss.

Rapid advances in molecular biology over the past several decades have greatly increased our understanding of DNA and have opened a whole new field of manipulating cellular information by genetic engineering. This in turn has opened the door to the new and controversial fields of cloning, stem cell research, and synthetic biology.

proteins is an example of irreducible complexity.

Data stored in DNA is only valuable if there is a system capable of decoding the message. A naturalistic explanation for the origin of the complex flow of information from DNA to RNA to proteins is an insurmountable hurdle for evolution. As we examine the mechanisms for information storage and transfer in living organisms, we will see how it defies a naturalistic explanation.

While there is the potential for many benefits through ongoing research in these fields, what is their relevance in the creation-evolution debate and how do the worldviews implicit to this debate affect the moral and ethical issues surrounding research in these areas? The latter half of this presentation will explore some of the latest developments in these fields and attempt to answer some of these questions.

Evolution attributes the information within DNA to random mutations and natural selection. But do these factors give rise to new information? There are many kinds of mutations, and while some may confer a selective advantage in certain environments, they still result in a loss of the original data. Natural selection does not provide a satisfactory explanation either, as it can only act on existing information.

THIS MONTH'S DSA MEETING will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010, from 9 to 11:30AM. *Join us for this meeting as we learn more about a fascinating subject!*

New DSA speaker Jed Eberly * will demonstrate that these factors are incapable of explaining the existence of

*Jed Eberly has a Bachelor of Science degree from Montana State University and anticipates graduation in May 2010 from Oregon State University with a PhD in Biological & Ecological Engineering. He has received the Outstanding Senior in Biology award and four scholarships. His research includes: ozone research with the BOREALIS high altitude weather balloon research project, a study of hyperthermophilic archaea from Yellowstone Nat. Park, and current work on development of a fusion protein for photobiological hydrogen production.

An Association for Good Science

Meets monthly at Rolling Hills Community Church, 3550 SW Borland Rd, Tualatin, OR 97062
Discount creation book & video sales table at every meeting.
For more information, call (503) 665-9563 Website: www.pdxdsa.org

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DNA: A Stew-pendous Creation

by Frank Sherwin, M.A.*

Often those who prefer non-Darwinian explanations for the origin of the species are accused of being unscientific. One may believe in creation (or intelligent design), evolutionists maintain, but there certainly isn't any evidence for it. Ironically, it is research by the scientific community that begs to differ, revealing stunning and sophisticated features of the living world:

DNA's simple and elegant structure—the “twisted ladder,” with sugar-phosphate chains making up the “rails” and oxygen- and nitrogen-containing chemical “rungs” tenuously uniting the two halves—seems to be the work of an accomplished sculptor. Yet the graceful, sinuous profile of the DNA double helix is the result of random chemical reactions in a simmering, primordial stew. Just how nature arrived at this molecule and its sister molecule, RNA, remains one of the greatest—and potentially unsolvable—scientific mysteries.¹

There are a number of points of note in this remarkable quote. The most obvious is that judging simply by what the secular scientist can see (Romans 1:20), DNA has all the earmarks of a Sculptor who is gifted, skilled, and clever. But then notice they deny what is “clearly seen” choosing to attribute the “graceful, sinuous profile” of DNA to “a simmering, primordial stew.” In 1952 a graduate student in Chicago attempted to emulate prebiotic conditions on a young Earth “billions of years ago.” But organic life and DNA were never “created.”² What biochemists cannot do given almost unlimited funding, time, and contact with the brightest

and best scientific minds in the world—a “simmering, primordial stew” can do! There have been other simulation experiments, but no one has been able to make “the sugar molecules dioxy-ribose [sic] and ribose necessary to build DNA and RNA molecules.”³

“Random chemical reactions” are not what any biochemist would bet on when making something as detailed as DNA, even in the fullness of time. Recent discoveries have added even more woes to the primordial stew hypothesis.⁴

If the origin of DNA/RNA continues to remain “one of the greatest—and potentially unsolvable—scientific mysteries” then the door is wide open to a supernatural explanation. Questing, unbiased scientists should be free to go down that path. Darwinists are hoping that some day a purely chemical explanation for the origin of the complex DNA molecule will miraculously appear, but that day will never come.

References

1. Physorg.com. 2006. Uncovering DNA's “sweet” secret. October 3, 2006. <http://www.physorg.com/news79110174.html>.
2. Meyer, S. Spring 1996. *The origin of life, The Intercollegiate Review* 31:26.
3. Ibid.
4. Kerr, R. A. October 6, 2006. Has lazy mixing spoiled the primordial stew? *Science* 6 314:36-37.

*Frank Sherwin is a zoologist and seminar speaker for the Institute for Creation Research.

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2010 Creation Encounter Field Trip Schedule

Here's the list of Creation Encounter Field Tours for this coming season:

- May 1 Eastern Columbia Gorge day trip
- August 7 & 8 E. Washington/Missoula Flood 2 day bus tour
- August 26–29 E. WA/Missoula Flood 4 day family camping adventure
- Sept. 23–26 John Day Fossil trip with Central Oregon homeschoolers
- Oct 31–Nov 6 Death Valley natural history study tour
- January, 2011 New Zealand natural history tour

For further details please check the upcoming spring newsletter or website after mid-March at:

www.creationencounter.com

DSA Meeting Presentations for Sale by Mail

Edited DVDs of past DSA meetings are now available to purchase by mail.

For more details, go to www.pdxdsa.org click on: **DVD Catalog** to download a list.

