

by
Mark
Sandercock

Coming up.... **Creation Weekend 2026**

The Creation Science Association of Alberta (CSAA) is pleased to announce that Dr. Mark Horstemeyer, Distinguished Professor of Engineering at Liberty University (USA), will be our speaker at Creation Weekend 2026. The sessions will begin on Friday evening, October 23, and continue on Saturday, October 24. Over the years, many of the speakers featured at the CSAA's Creation Weekend have been well-qualified scientists with a wide range of expertise

in different fields such as geology, biology, and paleontology. This year we are grateful to have Dr. Horstemeyer speak to us about God's amazing creation through the lens of an engineer. Dr. Mark Horstemeyer has authored over 600 research articles on a wide range of engineering topics including the physical properties of metals, the impact of damping design

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CREATION SCIENCE

Dialogue



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Everybody Loves T.Rex!

Most youngsters are enthusiastic about dinosaurs such as *Stegosaurus*, *Triceratops* and the gigantic four-footed sauropods like *Camarasaurus*. However, of course, it is *T. rex* that everybody loves! But grown up scientists (palaeontologists) love *T. rex* too. Many have published studies on this dinosaur. These works include ideas about species diversity, ecological networks, biogeography and other issues such as what caused the extinction of dinosaurs.

Since *T. rex* specimens were so massive [over 8000 kg and 12 m long (40 ft) and 4 m (12 ft) tall] their fossils, especially articulated skeletons, are rare and valuable. Naturally everyone wants to find an almost complete skeleton. Black Beauty (only 28 % complete) found in 1981 near Crowsnest Pass in Alberta, is displayed as a whole skeleton at the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller. This was the first *T. rex* skeleton that was assigned a name. Soon there were more famous finds. "Stan" (65% complete) was found in 1987 in South Dakota. It sold in 2020 for 31.8 million dollars and is now (as of 2025) on display in a museum in Abu Dhabi.

"Sue" is probably the most controversial *T. rex* specimen. Discovered in 1990 on private land in the Cheyenne River Reservation, there was



conflict almost immediately over who owned this 90% complete skeleton. After a lengthy court battle, the specimen was sold for over 8 million dollars, ending up in the Field Museum in Chicago.

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by
Margaret
Helder



The Ice Age and Climate Change

Climate change alarmism seems to be a cultural obsession these days, among both Christians and non-Christians alike. Much of the hoopla around climate change stems from the claim that there is a scientific consensus and that we need to change our ways, but is this true? Should Christians jump aboard the climate change crusade? In *The Ice Age and Climate Change*, Jake Hebert aims to examine the evidence commonly used in climate discussions, arguing that a Young-Earth Creation (YEC) framework leads to different conclusions than the mainstream narrative.

This book starts with an explanation of why Christians should care about the climate change debate (chapter 2). Many of the “planet-saving” measures that alarmists have suggested directly relate to biblical moral issues and scientific ethics.

In reality, there is no reason for us to live in fear. God promised, in Genesis 8:22, “While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,

winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease.” However, we do have a God-given responsibility to steward the earth (chapter 16).

While the secular view proposes dozens of Ice Ages lasting millions of years, the YEC view proposes that only one Ice Age

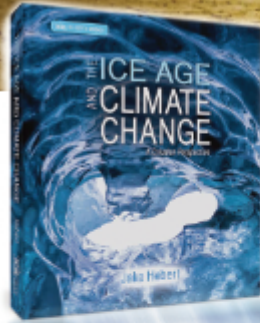
occurred as a result of the Genesis Flood and lasted only a few centuries. Hebert explains the origins of climate change alarmism and a bit about how Earth’s atmosphere self-regulates. He also provides a summary of the geological evidence for a global Flood (chapter 4), Catastrophic Plate Tectonics (CPT, chapter 5), and the HEAT model for the Ice Age (chapters 10 and 11).

The uniformitarian climate change narrative is primarily based on what is called the Milankovitch Theory or the Astronomical Theory. In chapters 8 and 9, Hebert explains the history of this theory and how changes in Earth’s orbit around the sun supposedly trigger Ice Ages. He also discusses how changes to critical dates in the uniformitarian timescale have affected the correlation of the Milankovitch Cycles with dates from seafloor sediment cores and ice cores that were claimed to support the theory, effectively dissolving the foundation for the uniformitarian narrative. Hebert also raises the issue of whether deep ice cores can truly prove an old Earth (chapter 14) and the evidence for young ice sheets (chapter 15).

I think Hebert has done an excellent job of explaining the uniformitarian climate arguments fairly and accurately, and he presents the evidence clearly in a way that non-scientists can grasp. *The Ice Age and Climate Change* is an excellent resource for understanding the climate change debate from a YEC viewpoint.

Jake Hebert. *The Ice Age and Climate Change*. Hardcover. Full colour pp. 295 \$35.00 available from CSAA plus \$15.00 for shipping.

Reviewed by
Andrea
Reitan



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Coming up.... Creation Weekend 2026

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of animal horns, impact testing of football helmets, and the mathematical modelling the deformation of space by gravity. A fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, American Society of Metals, Society of Automotive Engineers, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, he has given engineering lectures all over the world.

Dr. Horstemeyer began his engineering career at Owens Corning Fiberglas, and later worked at Sandia National Laboratories where he later became involved in technology transfer to the US automotive industry. He then worked at the Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems (CAVS) at Mississippi State University, where he was involved in optimizing automotive designs for Ford, GM, Chrysler, and Nissan. During his time at Mississippi State, he also began work to develop a bio-inspired football helmet to decrease concussions. In 2019, Dr. Horstemeyer joined Liberty University—a post-secondary college offering a Christ-centred education and located in Lynchburg, Virginia—as the Dean of Engineering. He stepped down from his position as Dean in 2025, and now serves as Distinguished Professor of Engineering at Liberty where he teaches and conducts research.

Dr. Horstemeyer will present on a variety of engineering topics at Creation Weekend 2026, beginning with Friday evening’s presentation **Noah’s Ark: Testament to Excellent Engineering**. In the process of building a large boat to sustain the year long Genesis Flood, God created a plan that incorporated stability, strength, and safety for the ark, and the people and animals onboard.

Notes Dr. Horstemeyer, “God is an awesome ‘creationeer’ who not only gave specific design guidance to Noah for an ark, but Who can also be fully trusted with the details of our own lives.”

Drawing on his life-long career as an engineer, Dr. Horstemeyer’s second talk, on Saturday morning, is titled

Engineers Who Believed in God. This session will focus on the accomplishments of famous engineers of the past, such as Stokes, Fleming, Werner von Braun. This presentation, which will demonstrate that some of the most well-known engineers in history believed in the God of the Bible, will be an antidote to people who say that what Christians believe is nonsense and that

real scientists don’t believe in God. We can rejoice as we join a great cloud of witnesses like these engineering geniuses who were Christians.

The final talk in the Creation Weekend series, to be held on Saturday afternoon, will be **Creationeering the Geosphere**. This presentation will show how the vastness and complexity of our world is exemplified in how God designed and made the Earth. Dr. Horstemeyer will examine the multiscale hierarchical structures within the core, mantle, and crust. He will discuss how God designed these

structures to maximize safety for human life here on Earth as well as how they worked together during the Genesis Flood. Simply put, God made metals, rocks, and minerals for mankind’s use.

Join us for a weekend of encouragement as we learn about God’s amazing designs at **Creation Weekend 2026—God: The Ultimate Engineer**.





Canadians have no such conflicts over rights since provincial governments long since have declared that they own all such artifacts. “Scotty” is the name for a *T. rex* discovered in Saskatchewan in 1991. It may be larger and more complete even than Sue. It is displayed in a museum near Saskatoon.

Despite the fact that *T. rex* is so well studied, there are nevertheless still points of controversy. A scientific article, for example has

just been printed in *Nature* (December 11, 2025 vol. 648 pp. 357-367) which declares that the identity of certain tyrannosaur specimens is a “hot button issue” often involving intensive arguments. Indeed, says the article, if the identification of certain specimens with *T. rex* is in fact wrong, then “so too is much of what we know about one of the most thoroughly studied extinct vertebrates, a keystone taxon for palaeoecological investigations”. Not only that, these authors say, but these results should prompt a reevaluation of dozens of existing hypotheses based on currently indefensible ontogenetic [developmental] trajectories.” [357] In short, declare authors Zanno and Napoli, their “results undermine a nearly uniform consensus among theropod [carnivorous dinosaur] specialists and rectify [correct] a significant taxonomic error underpinning decades of research.” [365] All italics mine.

What Zanno and Napoli are saying is that the experts in this popular and prestigious field of study, are wrong and they have been wrong for decades. Wow! How did this happen and why are the implications so significant? The issue involves the identity of certain skeletons that have been considered as juvenile (immature) *T. rex* individuals. This article however declares that the smaller specimens are not *T. rex* at all, but rather two species of quite different creatures.

Apparently, a skull labelled CMNH7541, similar to those of *T. rex* but much smaller, was found in Montana in

1946. Since that time, other specimens of the smaller type have been found. Differences between these skulls and those of *T. rex* have been observed. In 1988 such smaller skulls were declared to be a different species (*Nanotyrannus*), but by 1999 most specialists changed their minds and *Nanotyrannus* became *Tyrannosaurus* again. A significantly more complete specimen dubbed “Jane” (BMRP) was found in 2001 but few paid much attention to it. Then in 2006, NCSM 40000 was discovered in Montana. It attracted lots of attention as it was one of two Duelling Dinosaurs (the other was a *Triceratops*). The tyrannosaurid was a complete articulated skeleton, the first complete small tyrannosaur specimen with forelimb and tail “both of which differ considerably from those of *T. rex*.”

Lawrence Witmer, a commentator on the article in *Nature*, wonders why the dinosaur experts decided so quickly that the smaller specimens were merely young *T. rex*. Witmer points out that there were a number of differences between the smaller skulls and the *T. rex* skulls. This should have encouraged reflection before jumping so quickly on the bandwagon of juvenile identification. Now since 2006 one could also discern major differences between the whole skeletons of *T. rex* and the smaller version.

Zanno and Napoli compared the small forms (*Nanotyrannus*) with the massive well known *T. rex* forms. They found there were far more teeth in *Nanotyrannus*, and that the back bone of the small form exhibited too few vertebrae (backbone components) and that the forelimbs and hands of *Nanotyrannus* were proportionately and absolutely

longer than in *T. rex*. Of these comparisons of the small (*Nanotyrannus*) versus the larger *T. rex*, they declared that the smaller form could not develop into the larger form. For a start 1) “no evidence exists of a postnatal [since birth]



tooth count reduction “ (p. 363); and 2) “a postnatal 15% increase in vertebral [backbone] count in a large-bodied terrestrial archosaurian during ontogeny [growth and development] is unknown.” (p. 363); and 3) “we are unaware of any extant taxon in which limbs shrink in absolute dimensions” [during growth and development]. (p. 364)

Thus Zanno and Napoli, authors of this study, declare that the popular position which identifies all tyrannosaur finds as *T. rex*, is wrong. And these people further state: “Our results prompt a re-evaluation of dozens of existing hypotheses based on currently indefensible ontogenetic [growth and development] trajectories.” (p. 357)

One might wonder why it took so long for the community of *T. rex* specialists to reconsider the designation of the smaller skulls made in 1999. A new, much more complete small specimen “Jane” BMRP2002.4.1 was discovered in 2001. Then in 2006, the famous Duelling Dinosaurs were found. This featured an almost complete smaller tyrannosaur skeleton and a *Triceratops* victim. [This was similar to a specimen found in Mongolia in 1971 which featured a carnivorous *Velociraptor* attacking a horned dinosaur *Protoceratops*.]

The tyrannosaur specimen from the Duelling Dinosaurs was called NCSM 40000. Thus there were two skeletons to compare with *T. rex*, Jane (found in 2001) and NCSM 40000 found in 2006. Why did Zanno and Napoli’s 2025 study reassigning the “juvenile” *T. rex* to *Nanotyrannus*, not come a lot sooner?

Alternatively, what does it matter if a new genus, and actually a new family of theropod (predator), is described.

It all boils down to ethics and integrity and vested interests! Lawrence Witmer, comments in *Nature* on the whole issue of the conflict. Of course, the experts want to protect their legacy of pronouncements about *T. rex* and it is a fact

that “these analyses will all need revision.” [p. 283]. Nevertheless Dr. Witmer astonishingly shares with us: “some advocates for the validity of *Nanotyrannus* do not have advanced degrees or are not employed by universities or museums, raising the spectre of the role of influence, elitism and the protective ivory tower of academia.” And further he says: “The ethics policies of some professional societies and journals oppose publication of studies about specimens in private collection.” (p. 383) This may be reasonable, he says in some cases concerning validity of the data, but such a stance may also be a handy strategy to avoid having to confront data one does not like. Thus, possibly we should develop an “ethical concern about wilfully ignoring relevant scientific data.” (p. 283) [A little investigation will show that in the case of these dinosaur studies, all too often the people and institutions ignored turn out to be critical of evolution.]

This shocking example of how the *T. rex* specialists managed to delay confronting unwanted information for a quarter of a century, should wake up many members of the public. Just because most “experts” agree on an issue, does not mean that it is true. Our best approach to scientific information is to be cautious and critical.

“*Tyrannosaurus rex* ranks among the most comprehensively studied extinct vertebrates and is a model system for dinosaur paleobiology.” (p. 357) But much of what scientists have been telling us about it may be all wrong! Let us not forget this famous case.

Lyndsay E. Zanno and James G. Napoli. 2025. *Nanotyrannus* and *Tyrannosaurus* coexisted at the close of the Cretaceous. *Nature* 648: 357-367. [Cover story for December 11 issue]

Lawrence M. Witmer. 2025. Debated fossils aren’t of *T. rex* but a smaller rival. *Nature* 648: 282-283.

“Jane” BMRP2002.4.1. Burpee Museum of Natural History; CMNH7541 Cleveland Museum of Natural History; NCSM 40000 North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences



Adventures In Creation Science

My Personal Research Story

by
Andrea
Reitan

I collaborated with Carol Adams, a member of the Creation Research Society (CRS), to write a technical paleoanthropology paper, and we presented our research at the CRS Conference in July 2025. Our specific topic was *Australopithecus afarensis* (Lucy).

2024 was the 50th anniversary of the discovery of the AL 288-1 partial skeleton known as Lucy. This was commemorated in the Lucy50 Symposium 2024, where Donald Johanson (credited with discovering Lucy) and many other leading evolutionary researchers reviewed the scientific progress of anthropology and Lucy's impact on the study of human origins. The recordings are available to watch on the ASU Institute of Human Origins' YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSD3G-w5UYKwEatG6zSrv3mHdO6AnJ9zqN&si=tm7iDy-wc6YKABFAI>. Zaray Alemseged's statement, "I'm not after the truth," during the Q&A session and Johanson's anti-creationist concluding remarks are revealing. Lucy came up as a topic on CRSnet, the CRS members' email forum, and Carol and I participated in the discussion. The person who had started the discussion eventually suggested that we should do a write-up on Lucy for the *Creation Research Society Quarterly* (CRSQ), and we took that idea and ran with it.

Carol had already written a book in which she had a chapter about Lucy (Adams 2025), so she had personally read some of the research already. Most of my knowledge about Lucy was from presentations by Chris Ashcraft on the Northwest Creation Network's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@nwcreationnetwork/videos>). What he says about Lucy is based on research done by Jack Stern and Randall Susman in the 1980s, so I knew that would be something we would have to look at. However, we decided to start by checking what had already been published in the creationist journals to make sure we avoided repeating what had already been said. There are a lot of blog posts and short reviews of science news articles on creationist websites, but there are very few technical papers specifically about *A. afarensis*.

My next step was to read one of the creationist blog posts and then search for the research paper it referenced. Often, the creationist sources are commenting on a news article and cite that source, but it is usually not the original paper. I would still read the news article, too, though and see what the mainstream science journalists had to say and then find the paper they cited. This process works well for open-access papers, but it sometimes leads to a paywall.

That is when the publisher of the journal requires that you pay for access to the articles, and that can get expensive very quickly. However, I had previously created a free account on <https://www.academia.edu/> to look up something on another topic, and I found that I could search for articles by title and access them there.

Another helpful item that came into my hands was an article in *Creation Magazine* titled "Lucy at 50 has not aged well" (Line, Peter 2024). I read the article and looked at the references to see if any of them might be worth following up. Of particular interest was a quote from a paleoanthropology textbook, *Reconstructing Human Origins: A Modern Synthesis* (Conroy 2005). I was able to find a copy of the second edition for a reasonable price on Amazon. As soon as I received it, I found the quote and then quickly started digging into the sections that mentioned Lucy and/or *A. afarensis*.

While I was following my own train of research, Carol was reading some of the older articles she had from when she first wrote her book. Throughout the process, we were summarizing what we read and sending our notes to each other. We quickly started seeing a pattern in the literature, mostly focusing on how the muscles and ligaments might

have connected to the bones, especially the pelvis, and whether or not Lucy's kind was bipedal, so we shifted our focus to learning more about bipedality.

A bonus to having an Academia.edu account was that it would send me emails with suggestions for other articles related to what I had already looked at. When we started focusing on bipedality, it started sending me links to papers

we would have otherwise missed. I followed several of those bunny trails as long as the suggested papers were relevant to our research. Many of those bunny trails included papers about biomechanics. Biomechanics is the study of how living things move and how their bodies work, using ideas from physics to understand things like muscles and bones.

This project was a great learning experience for both of us. Carol is a retired hand therapist, so taking the

biomechanical route in our research was more in tune with her education and experience than with mine. I am a weather observer for the aviation industry and consider myself more of an Earth scientist. In university, I studied a bit of everything, but the extent of my anatomical knowledge was limited to three nutrition courses and biological psychology. I had to learn a lot from scratch, mostly by



googling terms, and I wound up on <https://www.physio-pedia.com> many times. I enjoyed the challenge!

When registration for the CRS conference opened up in January 2025, I asked Carol if she was planning to attend. I had already decided I was going to be there. Carol thought it would be a great way for us to finally meet in person. Up until this point, we had only communicated by email. Shortly afterward, she suggested that we should submit an abstract and present our research at the conference. Because both of us are sustaining members of the CRS, we needed a voting member to sponsor us. We contacted the person who had suggested we collaborate on this project, and he helped us get in touch with Dr. Brian Thomas at the Institute for Creation Research, who graciously agreed to sponsor us.

Before submitting our abstract, I prepared the PowerPoint for our presentation so Dr. Thomas could see what we would be presenting. During that time, Carol felt it would be helpful to get in contact with Dr. Carl Werner to consult with him. She had previously been in contact with him when she was writing her book and knew he had done a substantial amount of research on Lucy already. He was happy to meet with us on Zoom and provide some guidance.

We were excited when we got the notification that our abstract had been accepted. In the months leading up to the conference, I practiced the presentation almost every day. I was still a bundle of nerves when the time came, but everything went well. The CRS Conference is a sort of testing ground for ideas, so none of the presentations were recorded, but Dr. Werner helped Carol and me to produce a video afterward. You can find it here: https://youtu.be/M_kyqjpx8Ws.

Since the conference, we have double-checked some things and made corrections. We gathered so much information in our research that we will be breaking it into a three-part series for the CRSQ. The next part of my adventure will be the peer-review process. This has truly been a blessed and rewarding experience!

References:

- Adams, Carol. 2025. *The Question of Origins: A Study of the Scientific Merits of the Creation and Evolution Models*. 4th ed. McJavid Publishing.
- Conroy, Glenn C. 2005. *Reconstructing Human Origins: A Modern Synthesis*. 2nd edition. W.W. Norton.
- Line, Peter. 2024. Lucy at 50 Has Not Aged Well. *Creation Magazine*. October.

It's not necessary to know everything, but you had better know almost all the important things!

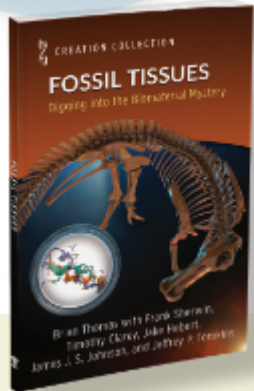
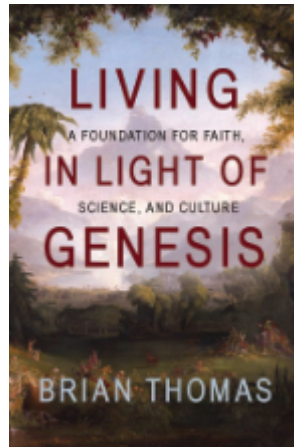
Living in the Light of Genesis

Brian Thomas

This is a personal account of Dr. Brian Thomas' spiritual and intellectual journey from non-believing science student to Christian conversion, to his intellectual struggle with Genesis, to his later career as a research scientist and communicator of the gospel and wonders of God's creation. This account takes us to discussions of a wide variety of scientific fields, some less familiar to us than others. It totally broadens our horizons in a non-confrontational way.

Paper/black and white/pp. 189

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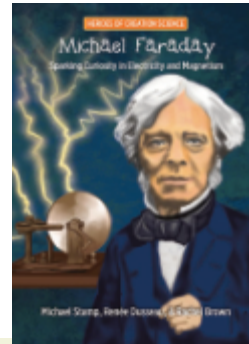
Fossil Tissues

(Creation Collection from ICR) Brian Thomas with Frank Sherwin, Timothy Clarey, Jake Hebert, James Johnson, Jeffrey Tomkins

A startling discovery, in 1997, of soft tissues in an ancient fossil, has become an important new topic in science. The idea that there could be undecayed compounds in the remains of creatures that lived many years ago, surprised everybody. Tests of decay rates on these organic compounds confirm that they cannot have lasted millions of years. Scientists like Dr. Thomas declare that the fossils are indeed young. The author discusses many similar findings and the implications for a young earth. (He presented this topic at Creation Weekend 2025.) Very interesting book.

Paper/full colour/pp. 175

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Michael Faraday: Sparking Curiosity in Electricity and Magnetism

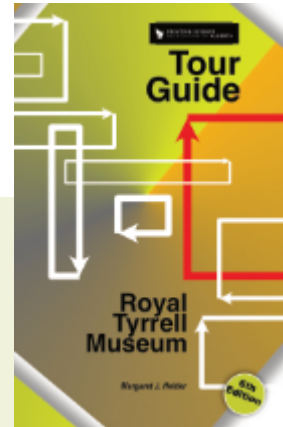
(Heroes of Creation Series)

Michael Stamp, Rene Dusseau and Rachel Brown

In the early 19th century, if one were looking for a future great scientist, Michael Faraday would not strike one as promising. His family was poor and his education limited. But young Michael Faraday had a deep faith and curiosity about the world that God has made. As a result his employers provided this lad with extra opportunities and information. Michael dreamed of and tried experiments involving physical properties. As a result, we have electricity and related inventions. Children 8 – 12 years will love this inspiring story.

Paper/full colour/pp. 73

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Tour Guide Royal Tyrrell Museum (6th edition)

Tour Guide Royal Tyrrell Museum (6th edition)

Tourist season is almost here! If you are heading to Drumheller, be sure to send for a tour guide to the museum before you go. The guide provides answers to evolutionary arguments and fascinating details concerning the dinosaurs and other fossils. The guide comes complete with a map of the major exhibits in the museum and links to fuller discussion online in HeadStart.

Paper (coil) 55 pages \$6.00 (for orders totaling 6.00 add only 2.00 for shipping rather than the regular fee.)

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