

July 2007

WONDERS OF SCIENCE



“... bringing life to science”

WONDERS OF SCIENCE IS A MINISTRY OF WHITTIER CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

“Don’t Go In There...The Room Stinks!”

Thus was I counseled as I approached the ping-pong room activity center at Harvey Cedars Bible Conference, NJ. The young lad spoke in earnest, his eyes wide, pinching his little nose with an exaggerated gesture of danger to an unwary visitor. “We’re dissecting crabs and sharks today, and tomorrow maybe some lobsters,” he proudly informed me.

This is the third year that the Harvey Cedars Conference sponsored the east coast home school convention. Lasting two weeks, there were over 500 students



Looks like the flying helicopters and the chromatography experiments were a real hit!



and families present. Scientists were brought in from schools in Lancaster, PA and Harvard Medical School for daytime lectures and labs. The labs elicited the “warning” from my young protector.

The directors wanted to provide a conservative spiritual program in the evenings for the attendees and Wonders of Science was suggested. It required an early departure from school the last three weeks of the year, but the Superintendent was aware of the magnitude of this opportunity. Once I had confirmed that I had a capable teaching substitute arranged, we began planning.

I was asked to provide one of the morning lab sessions to join with the other scientists. That entailed bringing along extra lab equipment that we had used during the year in class. The benefit was that these were tested experiments and extremely popular. In fact, the first session proved so popular that parents wanted to attend as well and requested a modification in the established schedule so their students could attend the WOS labs without conflict with other labs.

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The towers are growing more complex each year.

During a “public gathering” multiple times were suggested which brought objections from other parents who also wanted to attend. Finally, the director said he’d better just stick with the original printed schedule. The groans were very audible, but the subsequent cheers and applause were confirming of my forthcoming suggestion.

Not wanting to put the conference in an awkward position before their guests, I raised my hand and offered to do double sessions so the morning WOS labs could be enjoyed by any who so desired. I had as much fun watching the parents getting right into the experiments. Because the size of my labs increased three times to what was planned, those attending parents were a real blessing in crowd control.

This was the first time WOS had ever worked with home school families exclusively and we were so pleased with their interest and level of education. I had rarely had so many correct answers to the questions I posed to the audience.

Another surprise was the limited acquaintance the audience had with the DVD’s and books we were making available. This was also evident at our subsequent program held the next week at another community’s summer conference.

During the evening sessions we gave the traditional science presentations closing with the gospel message. On one evening alone it was exciting to see a dozen or so commitments made, one-third of them by adults.



Many in the group, especially the parents, enjoyed the crime solving forensics chromatography experiment.

COMMENT CORNER...

“While we were ministering at Harvey Cedars, there was in attendance a former Catholic family with eight children. They are recently from Whittier of all places! The father was converted out of the Catholic religion and was considered “dead” by his very devout parents and in-laws. He lost his job, and pulled his children out of the Whittier public schools. The principal told him he couldn’t do that, but his wife began home schooling his children.

Economics being what they are, his sister in Pennsylvania encouraged him to move out east. They have been living in a tiny trailer house, sleeping on three mattresses and even canceled garbage service to stay out of debt.

The daughter of the founder of Harvey Cedars Conference brings in two needy families each season on full scholarship for a week of relaxation and Bible ministry. During one of the WOS demos, one of the teenagers in the family raised her hand and followed in a prayer to receive Christ! Was it ever a thrill to meet with the family after the program and learn of their story.”

-- Dean Ortner --

“I am just so amazed at God!! This morning before coming to church, I was in tears and I was pleading with God to show me how I could help my daughter, who is studying in the sciences at college and is turning her back on God and the Bible. When I arrived at church, your husband was teaching on the very thing I needed to hear. Then I came over to see all the materials you had available that I had no idea even existed. I am just so encouraged and amazed how quickly He answered me.”

-- Summer Conference Attendee --

More from Harvey Cedars Bible Conference in New Jersey

Dr. Kelsey and Dean are admiring some ancient pottery from Abraham's time.

Dr. Kelsey is holding a pot at least 5,000 years old!
Dean has a lamp like Abraham might have used.

Dr. George Kelsey began his professional career as an archaeologist. While digging in the Middle East he unearthed a number of things from Abraham's time. One item was a unique 15 handled bowl, never before known to archaeology.

Subsequent to that career, Dr. Kelsey began a career/ministry that lasted 40 years teaching Arabic to English speaking workers in Jordan. He established a large youth camp still flourishing today.

During his ministry with us at Harvey Cedars, he held the crowds spellbound with his Bible stories and life applications.



Dr. Kelsey was most excited to receive a copy of "Exodus Revealed." He told us that he had baptized people just north of the Red Sea crossing site discussed in the DVD. He said that he wasn't aware of so much evidence of the Exodus under the waters until he saw the Exodus DVD at the conference and was looking forward to using it in his ministry.

The other scientists teaching in the morning sessions were Dr. Jim DeVries from the biology department at Lancaster Bible College and also Dr. Dan DeVries from Harvard Medical School. Their classes gave students first hand experience in how scientists investigate and explore God's creation.

I was encouraged to hear many parents thanking these men for their testimony. Many commented on how grateful they were to hear them taking a stand unashamedly for the Bible and God's hand in creation.



A local fisherman just returned from sea with a catch of Skate and Mong fish.

He is showing us one of the Mong fish with its mouth wide open.

BE INVOLVED!

- Pray for continued contacts and opportunities to share the Gospel through Wonders of Science. Especially this summer!
- Pray for health and safety for Dean and Terry this summer.
- Pray for the Lord's preparation of hearts and souls of program attendees.
- Pray for continued financial provisions that make the ministry possible.
- Thank you to all our faithful prayer and financial support partners!

**Wonders of Science
Counts on You!**

WCS WONDERS OF SCIENCE

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HAWTHORNE, NEW JERSEY



On occasion I'm asked to bring the morning messages if we have a program that includes a Sunday. I was privileged to do so here. The church has grown from its beginnings 80 years ago (with only two pastors to date). There are over 3,000 members and many visitors each Sunday so I was responsible for three sermons, plus the science demonstration that evening. It was a long day, but a great response.

July 1-7	Rumney Bible Conf., NH
July 8-14	Camp Berea Youth Ministries, NH
July 15-19	Alton Bay Bible Conference, NH
July 23	Canton, NY
July 29	Milton Hershey Boarding School, Hershey, PA
Aug. 12-14	Bozeman, MT

We received a very warm welcome and the audiences brought many visitors to witness the unusual WOS presentation. The Lord brought the largest crowds seen recently for a Sunday evening service. They were very interested in the titles of the DVD's and books we had because they thought of so many people with whom they could share the materials.

"An added joy were three visits with our niece, Jessica Jensen, whom we haven't seen in several years. Since she lives an hour north of Harvey Cedars Conference Grounds, she was also able to attend one of the evening presentations."

