

# Phactum

The Newsletter of the Philadelphia Association for Critical Thinking  
April 2007

editor: Ray Haupt

[www.phact.org](http://www.phact.org)

The Gods must have been angry with PhACT on March 17. In fact they must have been doubly irritated as they arranged a strike by Faculty and Staff at Community College of Philadelphia and decided to compound the day's difficulties by ordering an Ice Storm. Then to add insult to injury some mischievous lar caused Dave Leiter to have back spasms. All in all March 17 was not a good day for PhACT or Dave, and a most interesting lecture by Dr. Paul A. Offit had to be canceled. It is rumoured, but not confirmed, that Dr. Offit will be the first speaker in the PhACT 2007/2008 lecture series beginning on September 15th, the Birthday of President William Howard Taft whose cake should have 150 candles. So hold your thoughts and devise more questions on the topic of Vaccine Safety and the politics, science, and media hype concerned with that topic.

However, being re-alerted to the possibility of adversity, PhACT has engaged, at great expense, Madame Becky to foresee the State of Universe on April 21. She declares that April 21 will be a Saturday and we will not be at war with Nunavik; perfect conditions for the next PhACT event which will be a luncheon at the Pike Family Restaurant near Ambler, PA at 12: 30 PM. Our speaker will be Dr. Ted Daeschler who made some amazing discoveries on remote Ellsemere Island far above the Arctic Circle. There is more information about this event on page 3 of this newsletter and we hope to see you there.



## The PhACT Council

Eric Krieg, President  
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*Phactum* is, in theory, printed 6 times a year and is the main propaganda organ for the Philadelphia Association for Critical Thinking.

If you are not a subscriber we invite you to become one by sending \$15 for a one year membership to PhACT, \$10 for students.

Send letters of rebuttal, ideas, short essays, poetry, opinion pieces, complaints, and lavish praise to Ray Haupt, Phactum editor, at [phactpublicity@aol.com](mailto:phactpublicity@aol.com).

# PHACT CALENDAR

**Saturday, April 21, 2007** - PhACT will host a buffet luncheon in honor of **Dr. Ted Daeschler**, a scientist working at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Dr. Daeschler and his team discovered "Tiktaalik", an ancient transition species, and has contributed an enormous amount of new information in the field of Evolutionary Biology. This event will be at the Pike Restaurant outside of Philadelphia. See page 3 for more details.

**May 19, 2007** - To Be Announced

**June 23, 2007** - Annual PhACT Picnic at Mondauk Commons Park in North Wales, PA. This is a free event for members and their guests only. More details to follow.

The Wagner Free Institute of Science offers an assortment of science lectures presented at the introductory college level by professors from various universities around Philadelphia. These courses are free and vary from a single night to an eight week course. They do appreciate donations or memberships. See their website at <http://www.wagnerfreeinstitute.org/>.

**Thursday, May 3, 2007 at 6:00 pm** at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology - **Peterson Lecture : The Odds are Against Us: The Gambling Itch from Prehistory to Philadelphia** Across the globe and throughout time, people have won and lost everything from trinkets to kingdoms betting on games of cards, dice, and numbers, and on contests that involve balls, sticks, humans or animals. Today, nearly \$100 billion is spent on legal gambling in the United States. **Dr. Louise Krasniewicz**, Senior Research Scientist, American Section, Penn Museum, uses her anthropological research on games of chance to consider the place of gambling in human cultures across time. The illustrated lecture features gaming artifacts from Penn Museum's collections as well as examples from today's global gaming phenomenon, including the introduction of casinos into Pennsylvania. Free lecture. Reception to follow \$15 per person with cash bar; free for members at Fellows Level (\$500) and above. Information: 215/898-4890.

University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology presents **Amarna, Ancient Egypt's Place in the Sun**, a new exhibition that offers a rare look at the meteoric rise and fall of this unique royal city during one of Egypt's most intriguing times. The exhibition, the centerpiece of the Museum's event-filled "Year of Egypt", runs through October 2007. Admission is free with museum admission: \$8 adults, \$5 seniors and students. Free Sunday afternoons until Memorial Day. For information: [www.museum.upenn.edu](http://www.museum.upenn.edu).

**Sun May 6, 2007 at University of Pennsylvania Museum at 1:30 PM. Year of Egypt: Hollywood on the Nile Free Film Series : The Mummy (1999)** The first Sunday of each month, through May, the Museum screens blockbuster films offering a look at Egypt through the eyes of Hollywood. Brendan Fraser stars in this Stephen Sommers directed remake of the 1932 classic horror story. High priest Imhotep, mummified alive in ancient Egyptian times, comes back to life—with dire consequences. Free.

**Wednesday, 25 April 2007**— The fourth installment of the five-part lecture series, Science and Christian Faith, given by 2006-2007 Metanexus Senior Fellow, John Haught, will be on at 7:30 PM at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Bryn Mawr, PA. This talk, titled "**Darwin and Christ: Toward a Theology of Evolution**," will focus on whether or not Christian theology and evolutionary biology can be reconciled. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit: [www.metanexus.net](http://www.metanexus.net)

At the **Franklin Institute** until September 30, 2007. 222 N. 20th St., Philadelphia, PA, 19103. **Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs.** From 1976-1979 the Treasures of Tutankhamun exhibit toured the United States, attracting more than eight million visitors and inventing the phenomenon of the blockbuster museum show. In a highly publicized return visit, a larger selection of items from the famed pharaoh's fabulous tomb goes on a 27-month U.S. tour, introducing a whole new generation to the golden treasures of Egypt's Valley of the Kings. Tickets are timed and dated and must be reserved in advance. Call 1-877-888-8587.

The **Wilma Theater**, Philadelphia, PA, is hosting a series of panel discussions in conjunction with their production of Bertolt Brecht's, *The Life of Galileo*. The titles and dates of the talks are as follows: "Knowledge Is Only Won Through Doubt: Science and Culture from Galileo to the 21st Century" (April 16), "Science, Ethics, and Politics" (April 23), "Dangerous Ideas" (April 30), and "Science and Religion in the 21st Century" (May 7). Featured panelists include Freeman Dyson, Scott Atran, Derek Pitts, Owen Gingerich, Metanexus founder William Grassie, and several distinguished others. All talks will begin at 7 PM. Cost is \$10 or free to *The Life of Galileo* ticket-holders. For more information: [http://www.metanexus.net/metanexus\\_online/show\\_article2.asp?id=9822](http://www.metanexus.net/metanexus_online/show_article2.asp?id=9822)

The PhACT Calendar is open to members, and non-members too, who wish to announce meetings and events of other groups of which they are interested or affiliated. These events should be of some general interest to the Skeptical or Scientific community and should be within a reasonable radius of Philadelphia. Send submissions to the editor at [phactpublicity@aol.com](mailto:phactpublicity@aol.com). Keep the announcements brief. Space is limited and insertions will be made on a first come-first served basis after the needs of PhACT are accomplished.

# Special Event

(for adults AND kids)

Get the inside scoop on a missing link who is no longer missing.

Come and enjoy a luncheon buffet with members of PhACT on Saturday, April 21, 2007. From 12:30 to 2:30 PM at The Pike Restaurant in Spring House, PA on the East side of Bethlehem Pike



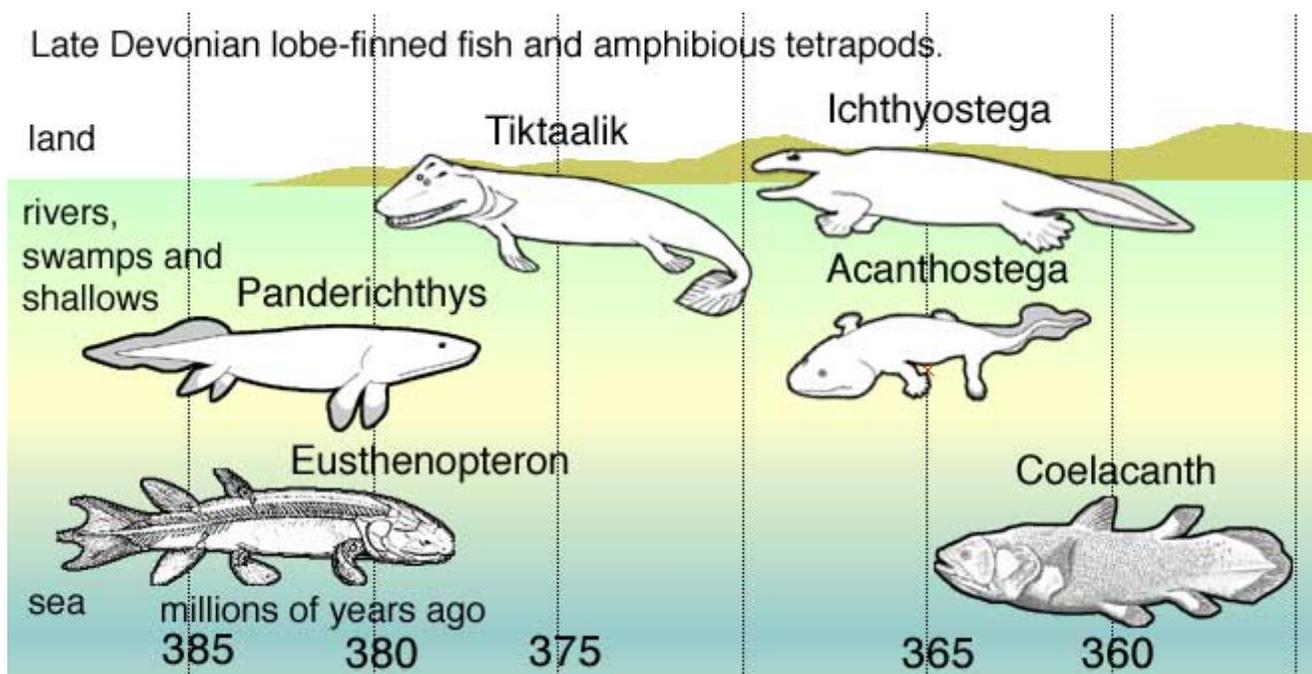
PhACT will honor **Dr. Ted Daeschler** at this luncheon. Dr. Daeschler will give an informal presentation of his adventures on Ellesmere Island; well north of the Arctic Circle.

Dr Daeschler, a scientist at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia, with his team, explored portions of remote Ellesmere Island in northern Canada and discovered “Tiktaalik rosea”, a fossilized transition species from 450 million years ago, bridging the gap between fish and air breathing land animals. This event will be an opportunity to meet, in an informal social setting, a scientist whose discovery has had a great impact in the field of evolutionary biology.

Reserve a place for yourself and bring a friend too. The cost for this event is \$20 for adults, \$12.50 for children and students.

This would be a wonderful opportunity for kids to meet a scientist who not only knows dinosaurs and other ancient creatures, but has also dug them up and is not afraid to tell how to find them.

Reservations are a must. Send checks payable to PhACT and reservations to: PhACT, 639 W. Ellet Street, Philadelphia, PA 19119. Please respond no later than Monday, April 16, 2007.



## Erratta

No errors were reported by readers in the last edition of Phactum. Now THAT is Spooky!!!

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## Letters

### Exotic dancing is dancing

I was disappointed by the condescending tone in the opening sentence of your article on "No Touch" chiropractic (February, 2007), "'No Touching' might well be a sign in a strip joint or an art museum to protect the 'dancers' in one case, the collection in the other."

The scare quotes around "dancers" are quite unwarranted. While it may be a cinch to simply take off one's clothes, doing so in a way that is sexy and creates excitement for a prolonged period requires actual skill. That's why people pay good money to learn how to do so, as you can see here <http://passional.net/store/index.php?cPath=104>. (note: [adult website](#))

In a publication devoted to critical thinking, let's remember to apply skepticism to social stereotypes too.

Eric Hamell  
Philadelphia

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## Various Ruminations

Collected/written by Ray Haupt, editor  
(with help from others)

### So what is Critical Thinking anyway??

We call our organization "PhACT", a handy shorthand for Philadelphia Association for Critical Thinking, but what is it that we claim to do? What is critical thinking? And how well do we do in this quest to be a "critical thinker".

Many of us tend to use that term interchangeably with the word "skeptical". It seems to me that "skeptical" is somewhat of a loaded word containing some negative connotations whereas the term "critical thinker" might refer to is a softened form of skepticism. Is that a fair comparison?

In Webster's 1828 dictionary the word "skeptical"

or "sceptic" is defined:

1. *One who doubts the truth and reality of any principle or system of principles or doctrines. In philosophy, a Pyrrhonist or follower of Pyrrho, the founder of a sect of sceptical philosophers, who maintained that no certain inferences can be drawn from the reports of the senses, and who therefore doubted of every thing.*

2. *In theology, a person who doubts the existence and perfections of God, or the truth of revelation; one who disbelieves the divine original of the Christian religion.*

On the other hand the Encarta Dictionary describes "critical thinking" as: *disciplined intellectual criticism that combines research, knowledge of historical context, and balanced judgment.*

I think I rather prefer being described as a "critical thinker" then a "skeptical", as least as defined above. There is too much negativism in the world today. Who wants to be likened unto habitual knee-jerk naysayers who react before analyzing the matter in question or are just cranky folks by nature anyway.

What is your opinion on the matter of these word usages and the fuzziness of the concepts induced possibly by poor or lazy understanding of the descriptive handles of those world views? Philosophy degrees are not required to respond to such a question; certainly not in this publication. Letters to the editor and longer articles on this matter are very welcome. Tell us: what is Critical Thinking and/or Skepticism to you? Send to: [phactpublicity@aol.com](mailto:phactpublicity@aol.com).

### Managed care network excludes implausible methods.

The following article was purloined from Dr. Stephen Barrett's free weekly Consumer Health Watch Newsletter. You can subscribe to this very valuable health related newsletter at <http://www.quackwatch.org>. It is an online newsletter but donations are appreciated.

American Specialty Health, Inc. (ASH) has published detailed clinical practice guidelines for 81 complementary techniques and procedures, most of which are used mainly by chiropractors. <http://www.ashcompanies.com/Providers/CQM/TechniqueProcedureCPGs.aspx>.

The documents indicate:  
68 of these methods would not be covered under the plan.  
67 are classified as experimental or investigational.

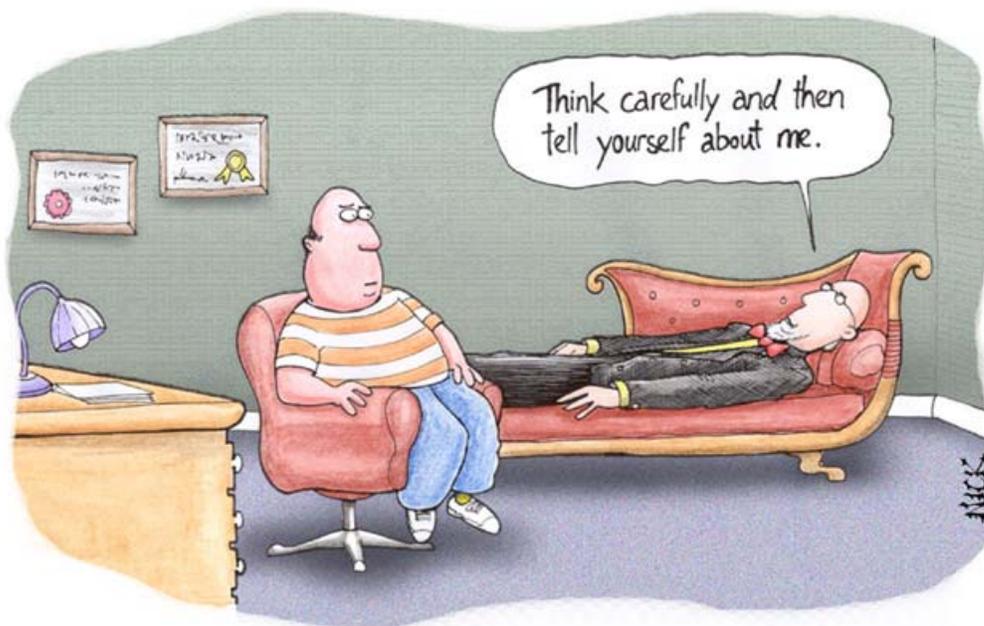
48 are scientifically implausible.  
11 are unsafe, either directly or indirectly.  
53 would render the practitioner ineligible to participate in the network.

ASH administers benefit programs for 12.1 million members and affinity discount programs for over 80 million members. Its practitioner network includes more than 28,000 acupuncturists, chiropractors, dietitians, massage therapists, and naturopaths. A few of the reports are not sufficiently critical. However, the documents are remarkable because (a) many of the implausible practices-most notably applied kinesiology-are widely used (b) chiropractic organizations almost never criticize them, and (c) managed care companies almost never use

that an idea should not be preposterous when you start working on it."

Editorial board member Wallace I. Sampson, M.D. states: "Plausibility depends on prior reliable observations, physical and chemical laws, pharmacological principles, and advocates' economic and legal misadventures. The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine spends \$100 million/year on implausible research and training grants. In performing [randomized clinical trials] on implausible proposals, clinical research has taken a wrong turn and departed from rationality." [Sampson WI. Whatever happened to plausibility as the basis for clinical research and practice after EBM and CAM rushed in? *Medscape General Medicine*, Jan 26, 2007]

<http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/548128>



Reverse Psychology

implausible practices as a criterion for excluding providers. [Barrett S. *American Specialty Health Network* excludes many "complementary" methods. *Chirobase*, March 15, 2007] <http://www.chirobase.org/19Insurance/ash.html>

Medscape laments money wasted on implausible research. *Medscape General Medicine* is criticizing "the accumulation of useless information" about implausible methods in journals and databases. In a video editorial Editor-in-Chief George M. Lundberg, M.D. states: "Money to fund medical research research is abundant, but it's not without limits. I'd like to think

#### A few snippets

"The wisdom of the crowd became the fury of the crowd". Journalist Noam Cohen on the anger of wikipedia editors after the unmasking of 'Essjay', a trusted editor who had claimed to be a tenured university lecturer in religion. In fact he is a 24 year old ex-student with a close interest in Justin Timberlake's musical career. *The New York times*, March 5, 2007.

"The magnitude of what's happening in China threatens to wipe out what is happening internationally." David Fridley, leader of the China Energy Group at the Lawrence Berkeley National

Laboratory, commenting on a report saying that China will overtake the US as the largest emitter of greenhouse gases by 2008. *The San Francisco Chronicle*, March 5, 2007.

"Science and the maintenance of science should be independent of the needs of any particular government department." Colin Blakemore, head of the UK Medical Research Council, after the British government cut 68 millions pounds from research funding to pay for losses elsewhere. *BBC online*, March 5, 2007.

The UK has become the first country to propose legally binding national limits on greenhouse gas emissions. The draft Climate Change Bill, published in March, requires cuts in carbon dioxide emissions of 60% by 2050, relative to 1990 levels. "we need to do more. We need to be more radical" UK environment secretary David Miliband. BBC Online March 13, 2007

In open defiance of attempts to restrain its nuclear program, Iran unveiled new banknotes in March bearing the nuclear symbol of electrons orbiting a nucleus. Worth about \$5, the notes carry a saying from the prophet Mohammed: "Men from the land of Persia will attain scientific knowledge even if it is as far as the Pleiades." New Scientist, March 1, 2007.

"Nobody sees fit to reveal the agreement's dirty little secret: It will do next to nothing at a very high cost" Bjorn Lomborg, author of *The Skeptical Environmentalist*, arguing that the EU's pledge to cut CO emissions by 20% by 2020 will only delay global warming by 2 years and yet cost 90 billion euros annually. The Guardian, London, March 19, 2007

### APA Opposes teaching "Intelligent Design" as science

According to a March 1, 2007, press release from the American Psychological Association, "the Council of Representatives of the American Psychological Association has adopted a resolution opposing the teaching of intelligent design as scientific theory and stating that teaching intelligent design as science undermines the quality of both science education and science literacy." In adopting the resolution, the APA reaffirmed its 1982 resolution on creationism, which stated that "creationism" does not meet the criteria of science and should not be taught as part of the public school science curriculum."

The statement observes that "[e]volutionary theory is a major unifying force in contemporary science... [t]he bases of continuity and variation that follow from evolutionary theory inform, explicitly or implicitly, the work of many psychologists with humans and other animals ... [and] ID proponents dismiss contemporary evolutionary theory as scientifically invalid." Describing teaching "intelligent design" as "a threat to the quality of science education in the United States," the statement "applauds the consistent repudiation by federal courts of Creationism, Creation Science, and now ID as a part of science education."

The Council of Representatives added, "While we are respectful of religion and individuals' right to their own religious beliefs, we also recognize that science and religion are separate and distinct. For a theory to be taught as science it must be testable, supported by empirical evidence and subject to disconfirmation. Thus, intelligent design lacks a basis in science." In a Questions and Answers section, the press release similarly emphasizes, "The APA resolution speaks to the absence of scientific methods or evidence to support the teaching of intelligent design As science. It is not meant to question the legitimacy of intelligent design as a religious philosophy."

### Jurassic Crocodile Unearthed in Oregon

By Jeanna Bryner, LiveScience

The fossil of an ancient amphibious reptile with a crocodile's body and a fish's tail has been unearthed in Oregon. Scientists believe the creature's remains were transported by geologic processes nearly 5,000 miles away from where it originally died more than 100 million years ago.

The new fossil is the oldest crocodylian ever



unearthed in Oregon and one of the few to be unearthed on this side of the Pacific. The "hybrid" animal is thought to be a new species within the genus *Thalattosuchia*, a group of crocodylians living during the age of dinosaurs.

The reptile roamed a tropical environment in Asia about 142 to 208 million years ago. Called a Thalattosuchian, the amphibious creature represents an early milestone in evolutionary history, marking a transition during which these reptiles moved from being semi-aquatic to wholly ocean species.

### Antievolution Measures Dead in New Mexico

With the end of the legislative session on March 17, 2007, all four antievolution measures in the New Mexico legislature are dead. (The House of Representatives is in a special session now to deal with a handful of bills, but these include none of the antievolution measures.) During the legislative session, none of the bills seemed to have a strong chance of success, with House Joint Memorial 14 being tabled in committee in January and House Bill 506 being tabled in committee in February. After HJM 14 was tabled, the Albuquerque Journal (January 30, 2007) reported that the vote "was a signal that the effort to inject intelligent design teaching into classrooms wouldn't get far."

If enacted, HB 506 (and its counterpart Senate Bill 371) would have required the state department of education to adopt rules allowing teachers "to objectively inform students of scientific information relevant to the strengths and weaknesses" of any "theory of biological origins" taught, and allowing students to "reach their own conclusions about biological origins." If enacted, HJM 14 (and its counterpart Senate Joint Memorial 9) would have in effect asked the state department of education to comply with the requirements of HB 506 and SB 371, claiming (among other things) that "many credentialed scientists challenge certain aspects of evolutionary theory."

Before the bills died, Dave Thomas's op-ed "Intelligent design supporters find new, creative ways to get their message out" appeared in the March 13, 2007, issue of the Albuquerque Tribune. Thomas commented, "The measures would have also have given students the 'right and freedom to reach their own conclusions about biological origins.' We don't encourage students to 'reach their own conclusions' on how to add fractions. Why should we suddenly do so with the biosciences? Make no mistake, the only academic freedom involved in these measures is the freedom to teach creationism in science class," adding, "Creationists aren't going away. They're just getting sneakier."

For Dave Thomas's op-ed in the Albuquerque Tribune, visit: <http://www.abqtrib.com/news/2007/mar/13/commentary-intelligent-design-supporters-find-new-/> Dave Thomas is highly involved with New Mexicans for Science and Reason (NMSR) and their excellent website is: [www.nmsr.org](http://www.nmsr.org).

### Global Warming—1

Since the PhACT February meeting the hot topic of Global Warming has heated even more. Vice President Gore in one day testified before each house of

Congress making his case for the Global Warming cause insisting that the earth is warming and the cause is human activity. Our February speaker, Dr. Tom Delworth basically stated the same. Following Gore in the Senate hearings Dr. Bjorn Lomborg, the Skeptical Environmentalist, testified. Lomborg was very much in agreement with the Vice President that there is indeed a warming trend and that it is very likely man-made.

The testimonies by Gore and Lomborg were very different however. The Vice President is calling for various expensive and immediate actions whereas Lomborg, an economist by trade, insists that far more emphasis should be placed on scientific research to effectively accomplish the goal of atmospheric carbon reduction. Furthermore, he insists that this approach will be far less costly and will allow resources to be applied to other human misery problems such as malaria, AIDS, contaminated drinking water, and many other world problems.

Vice President Gore may very well be correct in his contentions about the fact of Global Warming and its cause, but in the matter of solution he does appear to me to be encouraging hysteria rather than cool headed "Critical Thinking". Score a point for Lomborg.

### Global Warming—2

In the last edition of Phactum we reported some facts revealed by Dr. David Cragin; that a gallon of gasoline burned as motor fuel will cause about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide to enter the atmosphere. In addition, ethanol which is becoming all the rage, will also cause about the same carbon contribution for a similar car and distance driven.

The Valley News, a New Hampshire/Vermont publication, had an interesting article on the topic in which they state that the cost, in terms of energy, for production of a gallon of gasoline is the energy equivalent of 0.06 gallons of gasoline. Ethanol, they claim, requires the equivalent of 3 gallons of the energy of ethanol to produce four gallons of the stuff.

If those numbers are correct, then a car trip that burns 1 gallon of gasoline will contribute the gases of 1.06 gallons while that same trip in an ethanol burning vehicle will consume about 2.625 gallons contributing roughly 21.2 pounds and 35.0 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions respectively. Ethanol, it appears, is not a good deal in terms of atmospheric carbon reduction.

## Strange Places - The Ghostly Lady in White at Jarrettown

by Eric Krieg

This month's strange location does not involve running, contrary to previous "Strange Places" articles, but still a strange area.

Jarrettown is now a town in name only and was long since stripped of its defining post office. For a place commanding a name found on maps, it has no clear borders since everything in the burbs has grown out to

Some say that ghosts don't like skeptics - where as others say that ghosts are being killed off by cell phones (so much insanity, and so little time). Some say the barn beside the Inn is more haunted. One story is that in the 1800's, a tornado ripped through the area, leveling other structures and the barn. Some servants who had been sleeping in the barn were killed by the tornado. Some say their spirits play with the locks and are the source of the disembodied footsteps that believing ghost hunters always see. The whole area is a little odd. It's across from what was the last car dump in our township



**AWFUL APPARITION!**  
Mrs. T. (to T., who has been Reading the Popular Novel.) "Pray, Mr. TOMKINS, are you never coming Up-Stairs? How much longer are you going to Sit Up with that 'Woman in White?'"

meet everything else like blobs of bacteria forming boundaries on a petri dish. Observant Phactors might note that the allegedly haunted Jarrettown Hotel is only a km away from where we will hold our annual picnic again in Upper Dulbin's Mondauk Commons Park. There is said to be a ghostly woman in white who inhabits the upstairs room of the Inn. A few of us visited for ourselves a few years back and were told that some of those who work there believed the stories of a ghostly woman who would harass women who came to the room. We observed a woman in white in the upstairs room: It was our own long time member, Sue White - and she was wearing white that day. But like all the haunted places I've visited, there seemed be no activity when I went - funny, the hauntings groups of the area report never missing anything.

and not far from a small pond where a young boy died a generation ago. I run by that spot frequently, but never see anything out of order. The area is crossed by a small stream that can lead to a low fog early in the morning. The road it's on is over 250 years old and used to be paid toll road. I figure it's winding path is a result of a former animal trail, turned Indian path, turned settler road and finally a macadam surface to earn it's state route number of 152.

Tune in next month for the story of the Bucks County inverted gravity area.

*Eric Krieg is president of PhACT and is an arch-skeptic, a dedicated runner, and an enthusiastic explorer of Strange Places and Dubious Ideas.*

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I support the aims of PhACT and would like to join/rejoin for the next year. The annual membership is \$15 and \$10 for students. I have enclosed a check payable to **PhACT**.

Membership dues of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed to pay for \_\_\_\_\_ years of membership.

Donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed for (please indicate)

\_\_\_\_\_ additional support \_\_\_\_\_ a specific purpose: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail checks to:  
PhACT  
639 W. Ellet Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19119**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E\_mail \_\_\_\_\_

**DON'T FEEL RESTRAINED.**



**SPEAK UP!!!!!!**

Editing Phactum has become a fun thing for me but it does get a bit lonely at times. Producing Phactum is easy as far as layout and printing goes but I do need help from members in terms of letters and articles and constructive criticism. It is a great place to express your opinion on almost any matter, although we do try to avoid partisanship in matters of politics and religion and we will not likely be reporting on the escapades of Paris Hilton unless, of course, she contacts the Martians. And do not be afraid to disagree with a meeting speaker or other writer in this forum. If we all agreed on all things life would be boring. Denunciation of the editor is a fair

topic but must be done without using the letter "e".

A very clear and special need is to obtain a willing volunteer to write a synopsis of the monthly lectures and discussions on a consistent basis.

Send letters and articles by email to Ray Haupt at [phactpublicity@aol.com](mailto:phactpublicity@aol.com)

# PHACT

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## Mark Twain, on Science

In the laboratory there are no fustian ranks, no brummagem aristocracies; the domain of Science is a republic, and all its citizens are brothers and equals, its princes of Monaco and its stonemasons of Cromarty meeting, barren of man-made gauds and meretricious decorations, upon the one majestic level!

- "Three Thousand Years among the Microbes"

