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IMPERIAL SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #2

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THE BLOOD MOON AND LUNAR ECLIPSE

JAMES STEWART | FLORIDA

A full moon and lunar eclipse occurred, being visible to Americans for the first time in three years, according to Weather.com, on Thursday, March 13, 2025. The process started around 11 PM, but the best time to see it was around 1:26 AM to 3:32 AM CST. Around 10 ISS members stayed up to see it, all in different time zones. Some stayed up until 11:26 PM and some set their alarms for 2:26 AM.

You might be wondering what a blood moon and total lunar eclipse are. A lunar eclipse occurs when the earth and the sun line up perfectly, covering the moon by the earth's shadow. The blood moon gets its name from its red appearance that is caused by Earth's atmosphere. This happens during a lunar eclipse because the moon goes behind the earth's shadow and all the



CREDIT: SPACE.COM

light from the sun is distorted by the earth's atmosphere. By the time the light gets to the moon, it leaves the longer bands of red light, and that changes the bright moon into the blood-red color you see.

If you did not stay up this time, and are living in America, you will have to wait until March 3, 2026, to see the next one.

ISS BURNS THE TRUTH INTO STUDENTS' MINDS

ETHAN HARPER | FLORIDA

On Thursday, January 9th, Mr. Coats kicked off the spring semester meetings of the Imperial Science Society by talking about the California wildfires which began on Tuesday, January 7th.

He decided to focus on the science aspect of it but started with the background and quoted his info from the article "Tens of Thousands Evacuate as Most Destructive Wildfire in Los Angeles History Rages."

At the time the article was written, two people had died, and 80,000 people had been evacuated from Los Angeles California "as fierce winds stoked four raging fires" including one in Hollywood. Mr. Coats emphasized the sad situation of how the actors there were using their skills not to serve God but to serve themselves.

According to the article, Governor Gavin Newsom had "declared a state of emergency as firefighters battle fires in upscale neighborhoods such as Pasadena" the location of the former headquarters of the Worldwide Church of God. As of the afternoon of January 8th, the article says, "more than 5000 acres had burned."

After going through more about the blaze and telling of people's struggles with the fires, Mr. Coats turned the clubs attention towards the science aspects. According to Mr. Coats, "Higher pressure always wants to move towards lower pressures and that's the mechanism behind these winds." The high and low pressure combined creates these winds, known as Santa Ana winds, that are the cause of these fires.

Mr. Coats finished the current event by tying prophecy into it. While many want to blame climate change, Mr. Coats pointed out that the Trumpet is the only one that tells you the real reason for the fires. It is, according to the Trumpet article he was reading, to get "the attention of people who have rebelled and sinned against God." He said that God is trying to tell the nation to repent. He said, "He is trying to get people's attention by sending these curses." He finished by admonishing us to "think about God and what He is trying to do."

WHAT'S UP IN THE ISS?

THIS MONTH'S "OLOGY" QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Cetology: the study of dolphins, porpoises, and whales

Selenology: the study of the moon

Aeropalynology: the study of pollen and spores in Earth's atmosphere

Actinobiology: the study of radiation's effect on living organisms



The committee meets once a week to discuss the happenings of each meeting. Recently, the committee has met to discuss the upcoming Astronomy Night during Royalty Week.

Want to see your name in this newsletter? Email the managing editor at mattie.stewart@imperial-academy.org to start writing today!



CREDIT: THE NOUN PROJECT

FOSSA FACTS

IVORY WESTERBAAN | CANADA



CREDIT: WIRED

Called: fossa
Scientific Name: Cryptoprocta ferox

The Fossa (pronounced 'foosa'), which resembles a cat or otter, is a predator animal that lives in and around Madagascar's tropical forests. According to factanimal.com, it weighs around 12-19 pounds. It's not much larger than your regular-sized house cat.

Being 70-80 cm long and 30-35 cm long, it doesn't go much higher than a person's knee.

With a long tail that is almost more than half its body size, they are able to balance up in the treetops, where they spend most of their time. A fossa's meals are often on smaller animals such as lemurs, rodents, small reptiles, etc. Their golden-brown colored fur coats its skin in a thin layer helping them not get overheated in the tropical climate as well as helping them blend in.

Meanwhile, their greatest predator would be humans. According to biologyinsights.com, a fossa is usually shot because of their tendency to hunt pigs and other small livestock. While they may hunt small animals, they are

not a threat to humans.

They often mind their own business and keep to themselves, as long as they are left unbothered. They are at risk because of habitat destruction and hunting. At the moment there are fewer than 2,500 left on earth. (This may vary over years.)

Biologyinsights.com also comments that attacks often come when threatened or protecting its young. They are almost always solitary creatures, except during mating season. In Madagascar, it is currently the top predator for small animals.

Unlike some cats they jump out of trees headfirst like squirrels do. (I don't suggest doing this yourself.) Its average lifespan is 15-20 years, and it takes around 60 days for it to birth its offspring, usually around the December months.

It can reach speeds around 35 mph only 30 miles behind the cheetah's average. Even there is only one species, the fossa is, however, a "relative" to the mongoose, causing many people to get them confused, as well as debates on this subject.