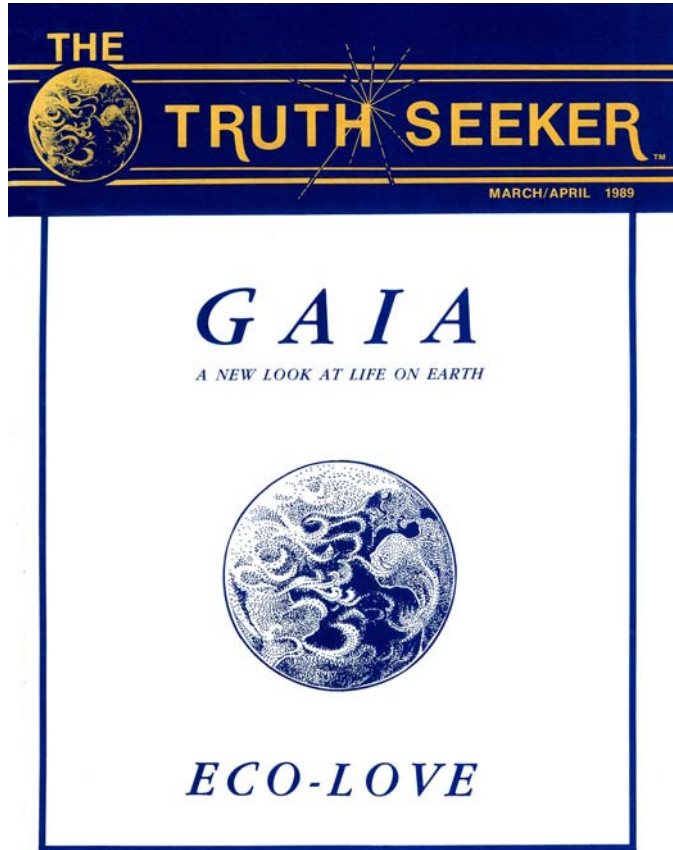


## Magazines of Our Times



### **The Truth Seeker. March/April 1989. GAIA: A New look At Life On Earth.**

Presents seminal essays on GAIA -- a Greek concept that gave living entity to Mother Earth -- by leading ecologists, which emphasized James Lovelock's pioneering contributions to GAIA: James Lovelock (1979) "Gaia: A New Look at Life on Earth." Oxford

### **Additional Commentary**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CapeGazette.com • Covering Delaware's Cape Region •

2/9/07

### **We must be better stewards of environment**

A copy of this letter to the Delaware Public Service Commissioners was submitted to the Cape Gazette for publication.

This letter is in support of the wind energy proposal for all the reasons stated in Citizens of Delaware advertisement in the Cape Gazette on Jan. 26.

Ever since the production of the film "An Inconvenient Truth" by Al Gore and the publication of his book by the same name, planetary conditions have deteriorated to an alarming extent. The full magnitude of this threat to the planet of global warming will not be forthcoming until the release of the United Nations report of its Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The New York Times report of the Associated Press "Washington Wakes Up to Global Warming" (Jan. 28) is a stark reminder of the deteriorating condition of our planet.

This report concluded: "But there is little doubt that when the report is released on Friday it will include references to some of the specific environmental effects of global warming that have already been observed, and an even stronger statement about the imminent threat of global warming."

James Lovelock in "The Revenge of Gaia: Earth's Climate Crises & The Fate of Humanity" (2006) has drawn even more dire predictions if actions are not immediately taken and even then may be too late to avoid some of the catastrophic events that are predicted.

He states: "Thinking this way has made me a member of the new profession of planetary physicians, and as a planetary doctor I have now to bring the worst of news.

The climate centers around the world, which are the equivalent of pathology labs in hospitals, have reported the Earth's physical condition, and the climate specialists see it as seriously ill and soon to pass into morbid fever that may last as long as 100,000 years.

I have to tell you, as intimate members of the Earth's family, that civilization is in grave danger... We have driven the Earth to a crisis state from which it may never, on a human time scale, return to the lush and comfortable world we love and in which we grew up.

"Once started, the move to a hot state is irreversible, and even if all the good intentions expressed at the Kyoto and Montreal meetings were executed immediately, they would not alter the outcome.

"We are in a fool's climate, accidentally kept cool by smoke, and before this century is over, billions of us will die and the few breeding pairs of people that survive will be in the arctic region where the climate remains tolerable.

"Humans are not merely a disease; we are, through our intelligence and communication, the nervous system of the planet.

We are in our present mess through our intelligence and inventiveness. It could have started as long as 100,000 years ago when we first set fire to forests as a lazy way of hunting. We had ceased to be just another animal and begun the demolition of the Earth.

"Nothing is science is certain, but Gaia theory is now robustly supported by evidence from the Earth and it suggest that we have little time left if we are to void the unpleasant changes it forecasts.

We have been poor stewards of the Earth and our careless and greedy appetite for riches and mastery of the Earth has led us to this point of crises for survival. I urge you to take this broader vision of life on earth and to support the wind energy proposal as "one small step for a man, one great leap for mankind."

James W. Prescott, Ph.D., Lewes

(Emphasis added by Joan Deaver in her distribution of the letter). <http://www.freewebs.com/citizensforbettersussex/>