

# Tracks



Cleveland Museum of  
NATURAL HISTORY

JULY/AUGUST 2008

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 4

## These summer exhibitions are out of this world

### Join the search for life in the far reaches of space

Are we alone in the Universe? The exhibition *Alien Earths* takes you along on the scientific quest to find out — no spacesuit required.

Now on display in Kahn Hall, the exhibition is divided into four areas. Within each one, hands-on interactives and multimedia presentations help explain the science behind the search for life beyond Earth.

- Get a sense of where our home planet fits within the context of the Universe in “Our Place in Space.”
- Find out how planets are formed in “Star and Planet Formation.”
- Delve into how scientists look for planets outside our solar system (extrasolar planets) in “Planet Quest.”
- Learn how what we know about the basic biology of life on Earth is being used to detect potential life on other planets in “Search for Life.”

You’ll leave with a better understanding of how and why scientists are scanning space for other planets and signs of life. You can experience *Alien Earths* through September 1.

*This exhibition was developed by the Space Science Institute and sponsored by NASA and the National Science Foundation.*

### Enjoy heavenly views of our solar system

Imagine what you might see if you were able to hop aboard a spaceship for an interplanetary tour and hang out in orbit around each of our solar system’s planets, occasionally cruising in for a closer look at a moon or planetary surface. Chances are the sights before you would resemble the images featured in the exhibition *Beyond: Visions of Planetary Landscapes*.

Filmmaker, journalist and photographer Michael Benson spent years mining NASA’s archives for photos of planets, moons and landscapes produced by unmanned space missions, some of them 40 years old. He digitally stitched together multiple images from each mission to achieve a flawless final product.

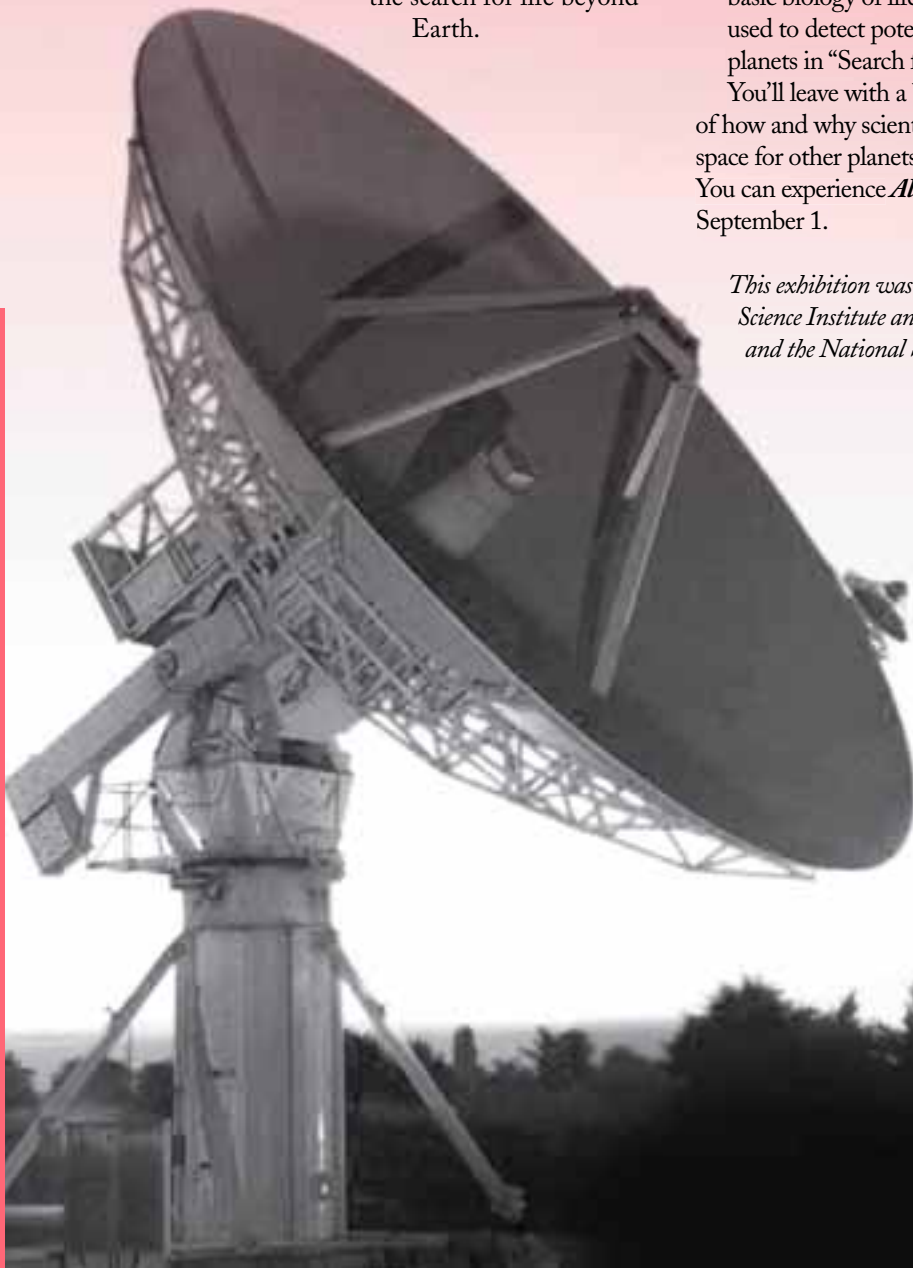
Starting August 9, 35 of these large-scale images will be on display in Fawick Gallery. They are organized into sections, including the Inner Solar System, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn.

You can take in views that include stormy Neptune (courtesy of the Voyager spacecraft), a volcanic plume on Jupiter’s moon Io (taken during the Galileo mission) and Mars’ cratered surface (by the Viking Orbiter). All are stunningly detailed portraits with both scientific and aesthetic appeal.

*Beyond* will be on exhibit through October 5.

### Continue your space odyssey in the Shafran Planetarium

Round out your visit to see *Alien Earths* and *Beyond: Visions of Planetary Landscapes* with a program in the Shafran Planetarium. See the last page of this issue’s *Inside Tracks* section for details. Planetarium programs are free for members, \$4 per nonmember with Museum admission. We recommend reserving tickets in advance by calling (216) 231-1177.



# 2 Volunteer Appreciation Night 2008

The evening of June 17 was reserved for recognizing the Museum's dedicated corps of volunteers, several of whom earned special distinction. We are grateful for their valuable contributions, which further the Museum's mission.



Museum Docent David Mitchell accepts this year's Kent Hale Smith Award for Outstanding Voluntary Service.

## The Kent Hale Smith Award for Outstanding Voluntary Service

Fortunately for the Museum, David Mitchell takes the term "active retirement" literally. Since 2004, he has worked for the Education Division as a docent. For his efforts in this capacity, he was chosen to receive this year's Kent Hale Smith Award for Outstanding Voluntary Service.

As a docent, he has given guided tours and Gallery Focus presentations, staffed the Please Touch carts and more. But Mitchell's talents have shined brightest on special projects. He has

enthusiastically applied his analytical and research skills to produce some remarkable results.

Once, when there was a need for a small-scale display that compared the depth of the ice covering Northeast Ohio during the last Ice Age to the various heights of present-day Cleveland's major downtown buildings, Mitchell took on the task with gusto.

"Calculator in hand, camera snapping photos around town and chunks of Styrofoam flying, David created not one, but two models that are used by docents and the Education staff," explains Science Instructor and Docent Coordinator Nancy Howell. "If you want accuracy, David is the person."

Mitchell and fellow docent Lillian Brinnon took on another project with help from Museum curators. They researched and created a notebook and chart of human evolution to accompany casts of the bones of a chimpanzee, the hominid known as Lucy, and a human skull, pelvis and femur. Docents and Museum staff regularly use these items.

Most recently, Mitchell assisted with the new Junior Docent training course. He made sure students checked in, got to the right places in the galleries and felt comfortable with the program.

## 5,000 Hours of Service

Steven Green, Vertebrate Paleontology  
Barbara K. Neagoy, Botany

## 2,500 Hours of Service

Duane O. Shuster, Museum Store

## 500 Hours of Service

Tom Bartlett, Ornithology & Natural Areas  
Yvonne E. Carter, Archaeology  
Betty Nejedlek, Education  
Robert V. Spurney, Education  
Joseph Stanek, Education  
Allison Swift, Archaeology

## 150 Hours of Service

James W. Bowers IV, Archaeology  
James Boyle, Vertebrate Paleontology  
Janice A. Clark, Physical Anthropology  
Brian B. Fee, Ornithology  
Kim Ivanyi, Ornithology  
Philip J. Kleinhenz, Archaeology  
Wayne Kriynovich, Astronomy  
Carol L. Leininger, Education  
Marjorie Moore, Wildlife Resource Center  
Peter Pesch, Ornithology & Wildlife Resource Center  
Frank Sillag, Mineralogy  
Carol Schoenewald, Education  
Karis Tzeng, Education

## Acknowledgments

The Museum gratefully acknowledges the following gifts and grants made between March 15 and May 9, 2008.

**The George Gund Foundation** awarded a \$50,000 operating grant to the GreenCityBlueLake Institute.

**The Martha Holden Jennings Foundation** renewed its scholarship support for Circle Sampler Camp with a grant of \$4,360. This will benefit 20 needy students in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District and East Cleveland City Schools.

The following individuals generously contributed \$1,500 or more to the Museum's Annual Fund and/or to a restricted fund and therefore have been named to **The Linnaean Society**.

### Linnaean Kingdom (\$10,000 and above)

Gay Cull  
Robert and Janet Neary  
William and Amelia Osborne

### Linnaean Class (\$5,000-\$7,499)

Anne M. Jones

### Linnaean Order (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Walter and Jean Kalberer Foundation  
Peter Krembs  
Thomas and Kathleen Leiden  
Robert and Jean Mathews

### Linnaean Family (\$1,500-\$2,499)

William and Barbara Coleman  
William and Mary Conway  
Richard and Mary Fratianna  
Connie White

The following organizations generously contributed \$1,000 or more to the Museum's Annual Fund and/or to a restricted fund and therefore have been named to **The Corporate Partners Program**.

### Corporate Fellow (\$5,000-\$9,999)

The Lube Stop, Inc.

### Corporate Benefactor (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Orthopediatrics LLC

### Corporate Patron (\$1,500-\$2,499)

card pak Incorporated

### Corporate Contributor (\$1,000-\$1,499)

Continental Airlines  
Good Nature Organic Lawn Care  
A Taste of Excellence

The Museum has made every effort to include all appropriate names. If you are aware of any gifts not honored, please contact Director of Annual Giving Jeffrey Gueulette at (216) 231-4600, ext. 3287.

## Keeping Track with the Director

A visit to the doctor probably doesn't bring natural history to mind for most people. But, medical emergencies aside, it would serve us well to think of our health — and ourselves in general — in the broader context of our history as a species and our place in the natural world.

We enter the world with a set of strikes against us, health-wise: Evolution has left our bodies with a host of vulnerabilities. If you've ever torn an ACL or had a herniated (slipped) disk, you've experienced that firsthand.

But starting even before our first breath, our health also is a product of our environment. Evolution's legacy becomes a background against which we live our lives in the artificial systems we've created (our cities and societies) and the natural systems that were here before us (rivers, lakes, forests).

As the field of public health has shown us, paying attention to the choices we make in our personal lives can go a long way toward preventing disease. We're only just starting to real-

ize that the same rule applies to our collective lifestyle choices.

Our species has long lived as if what we did to the natural world would never affect us. But as pollution, urban sprawl and climate change chip away at the Earth's biodiversity, we're discovering a growing number of consequences for human health. New diseases are emerging and old ones are expanding their range. Climate extremes are becoming more common and killing more people. We are losing plants and animals whose biology could provide insights that help us cure major human diseases. We need to factor conservation and sustainable living into the equation for human health.

The Museum recently hired a director of human health to focus on this concept. Linda Spurlock is a Ph.D. in biomedical anthropology, a skilled forensic artist and scientific illustrator, an archaeologist, an author and above all, an educator.

She'll be responsible for explaining the connections between human health and

our research, education, conservation and sustainability work. She'll create new exhibitions and educational programs by building collaborative relationships with health-related organizations in the community.

It's a challenging position, but one that has the potential to make a difference in Northeast Ohio and beyond.

The Museum embarked on a related project in June, when we debuted the Wellness@Work Awards. This program will honor Northern Ohio companies taking the lead on employee wellness. What makes these awards unique is that they include recognition for organizations that embrace and encourage sustainability in the workplace.

It's our hope that Wellness@Work will not only encourage companies to continue promoting workplace health and wellness, but also motivate others to launch their own programs.

Dr. Bruce Latimer  
Executive Director

## Teaming up for youth health

The Land Rover Kelley Cup Golf Classic is a fund raiser for the Museum's health education initiatives.

On Thursday, August 14, physicians, pharmacists, researchers, managers, administrators and board members from health care organizations across the region will tee off in support of the Museum's youth health education initiatives at the Land Rover Kelley Cup Golf Classic.

The Kelley Cup is a perpetual cup that travels between champions on an annual basis. It is named for Dr. Samuel Walter Kelley (1855-1929), a Cleveland-area pediatrician and pioneer in the study of diseases of childhood and youth. He was an 1884 graduate of Western Reserve University Medical School and went on to publish the first treatise on childhood diseases by an American surgeon. The competition that bears his name was established in 2005 by HealthSpace Cleveland, which merged with the Museum last year.

This year's tournament offers a new course and new challenge. It takes place at Fowler's Mill Golf Course, which

was designed by influential golf-course architect Pete Dye. *Golf Digest* recently ranked it one of Ohio's top public golf courses. The course also is certified by the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses in recognition of its commitment to protecting the environment, conserving natural resources and providing wildlife habitats.

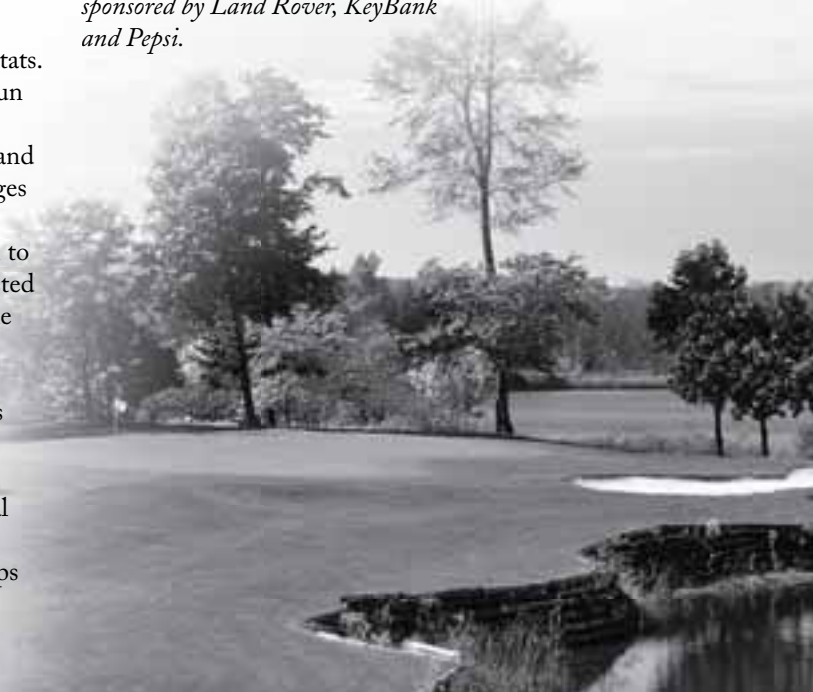
Play begins at 9 am with a shotgun start. During the tournament, the "Pepsi Beat the Pro" and "Land a Land Rover Hole in One" special challenges will help rev up the competition. Afterward, participants will adjourn to the 19th Hole Party for Health, hosted by KeyBank. There they can take the "Longest Putt" or "Longest Drive" challenges, relax and enjoy a buffet dinner, and celebrate with this year's Kelley Cup champions.

All proceeds from the event will support the Museum's local, regional and national health education initiatives. These include scholarships for Junior Medical Camp; distance

learning programs that reach classrooms across the United States and internationally; Health on Wheels, an educational outreach program that brings health education to schools throughout Northeast Ohio; and Museum-instructed health classes.

Those interested in joining the competition can register a team through July 31. Visit [www.kelleycup.org](http://www.kelleycup.org) or call (216) 231-4600, ext. 3369, for more information.

*This year's Kelley Cup is generously sponsored by Land Rover, KeyBank and Pepsi.*



## July

- Wed 2** **Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Frogs and Toads!, 3 pm  
**READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!**, *Is There Anyone Out There?*, 4 pm  
**Planet Chat**, *Bats in Her Barn*, Tracey Knierim, 5 pm  
**Wade Oval Wednesdays** (thru 8/27), 6 pm
- Sat 5** **Adult Field Trip**, Giant Hunting at the Cox Preserve, 10 am
- Mon 7** **Youth Programs**, Future Scientists Summer Session (Mondays thru Thursdays thru 7/17), 9 am; Junior Medical Camp — Grades 6-8 (thru 7/11), 9:30 am
- Wed 9** **Family Field Trip**, Family Archaeology Adventure: Day 1, 10 am  
**Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Astronomy!, 3 pm  
**READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!**, *Moon in Race for 2188 Olympics*, 4 pm  
**Family Program**, More Telescope Mirror-Making for the Amateur (Wednesdays thru 8/13), 7 pm  
**Guild of Nature Artists**, 7 pm  
**Cleveland Geological Society**, annual picnic, 7:30 pm
- Thu 10** **Family Field Trip**, Family Archaeology Adventure: Day 2, 8 am  
**Preschool Program**, Animals and Their Young (Thursdays thru 7/24), Tiny Trekkers, 9:30 am, Young Explorers, 11 am  
**Youth Program**, Budding Naturalists (Thursdays thru 7/24), 1:30 pm
- Fri 11** **Preschool Program**, Animals and Their Young (Fridays thru 7/25), Tiny Trekkers, 9:30 am, Young Explorers, 11 am  
**Family Field Trip**, The Nature Team: At Bats, 8 pm
- Sat 12** **Preschool Program**, Animals and Their Young (Saturdays thru 7/26), Tiny Trekkers, 9:30 am, Young Explorers, 11 am
- Mon 14** **Family Field Trip**, The Nature Team: Fossil Fishing, 8 am  
**Youth Programs**, Circle Sampler Camp — Session III (thru 7/18), 9 am; Junior Medical Camp — Grades 8-10 (thru 7/18), 9 am
- Tue 15** **Family Field Trip**, The Nature Team: Gold Prospecting in Ohio, 8 am
- Wed 16** **Family Field Trip**, The Nature Team: Worms Are..., 9:30 am  
**Adult Field Trip**, Urban Botany Trek: Whiskey Island, noon  
**Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Native American Traditions!, 3 pm  
**READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!**, *TV Land*, 4 pm
- Fri 18** **Adult Field Trip**, Fly Fishing in Pennsylvania, 8 am (thru 7/20, 8 pm)
- Mon 21** **Youth Programs**, Circle Sampler Camp — Session IV (thru 7/25), 9 am; Junior Medical Camp — Grades 7-9 (thru 7/25), 9:30 am; Earth Adventure: Hey, You Rock! (thru 7/25), 9:30 am
- Wed 23** **Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Taxidermy!, 3 pm  
**READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!**, *Back to the Future*, 4 pm  
**Guild of Nature Artists**, 7 pm
- Fri 25** **Adult Field Trip**, Conneaut Creek Waterfall Hike, 10 am
- Sat 26** **Adult Field Trip**, Stream Stomp, 10 am  
**Micromineral Society**, 1 pm
- Mon 28** **Youth Programs**, The Science in Science Fiction (thru 8/1), 10 am; Junior Medical Camp — Grades 7-9 (thru 8/10), 9 am
- Wed 30** **Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Rocks and Minerals!, 3 pm  
**READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!**, *Alien Invasion*, 4 pm  
**Guild of Nature Artists**, 7 pm
- Thu 31** **Adult Field Trip**, Night Out With the Stars, 9 pm

## August

- Fri 1** **Adult Field Trip**, Aquatic Botany, 10 am
- Sat 2** **Animal Enrichment Day**, 10 am
- Mon 4** **Youth Programs**, Junior Medical Camp — Grades 3-5 and Grades 6-8 (thru 8/8), 9 am
- Wed 6** **Smead Discovery Center**, Summer Show and Tell: Butterflies and Moths!, 3 pm  
**Planet Chat**, *Bird Banding: Stories From the Net*, Julie West, 5 pm
- Thu 7** **Youth Program**, Star Camp (thru 8/10), 10 am
- Fri 8** **Adult Field Trip**, Life in the Gorge: Fish and Mussels of the Grand River, 10 am
- Sat 9** **Kirtlandia Society**, 29th-Annual Adopt-a-Student Program and Luncheon, 9:30 am
- Wed 13** **Explorer Travel Club**, Dinosaur Expedition to the Gobi (thru 8/28)  
**Guild of Nature Artists**, 7 pm
- Thu 14** **Adult Field Trip**, Conneaut Estuary/Walnut Beach Hike, 10 am
- Fri 15** **Explorer Travel Club**, Birds of Venezuela (thru 8/25)
- Sat 16** **Adult Field Trip**, Fishing in Trumbull County, 10 am
- Sat 23** **Dog Days**, 10 am  
**Micromineral Society**, 1 pm
- Sun 24** **Dog Days**, noon
- Wed 27** **Guild of Nature Artists**, 7 pm
- Fri 29** **Adult Field Trip**, Bombardier Beetle Search, 10 am

## Exhibits & Shows

### Kahn Hall

*The Canary Project* — Through August 10  
*Alien Earths* — Through September 1

### Fawick Gallery

*Nesting: Photographs by Judith McMillan* — Through July 6  
*Beyond: Visions of Planetary Landscapes* — Opening August 9

### Corning Gallery

*Toad-ily Frogs* — Through September 28

### Lower Level Gallery

*Fieldwork*

### Shafran Planetarium

*Summer Nights, Distant Lights* Monday through Friday, 2:30 pm; Wednesday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:30 am, 12:30, 2 and 4 pm; Sunday, 12:30, 2 and 4 pm

**Children's Program:** *What's Up in the Sky?* Monday through Friday, 11:30 am; Saturday, 11:30 am and 3 pm; Sunday, 1:15 and 3 pm

### Smead Discovery Center

Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 4:30 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 8 pm; Sunday, 1 to 4:30 pm

### Live Animal Programs

*Wildlife in Our Big Backyard* Monday through Friday, 1:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 3 pm

### Museum Hours

Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 10 pm; Sunday, noon to 5 pm. **Museum is closed Independence Day, Thursday, July 4.**

# Inside Tracks



Cleveland Museum of  
NATURAL HISTORY

July/August 2008

## Join us this summer for these weekend events

### Animal Enrichment Day

**Saturday, August 2, 10 am to 5 pm**

Enrichment activities keep the animals in the Ralph Perkins II Wildlife Center & Woods Garden stimulated and healthy. On this special day, you're invited to help us create a more rewarding and challenging environment for them. Make papier-mâché feeders, fish-cicles and special scent treats, then watch our animals in action. Plus, find out how you can enrich the lives of your pets.



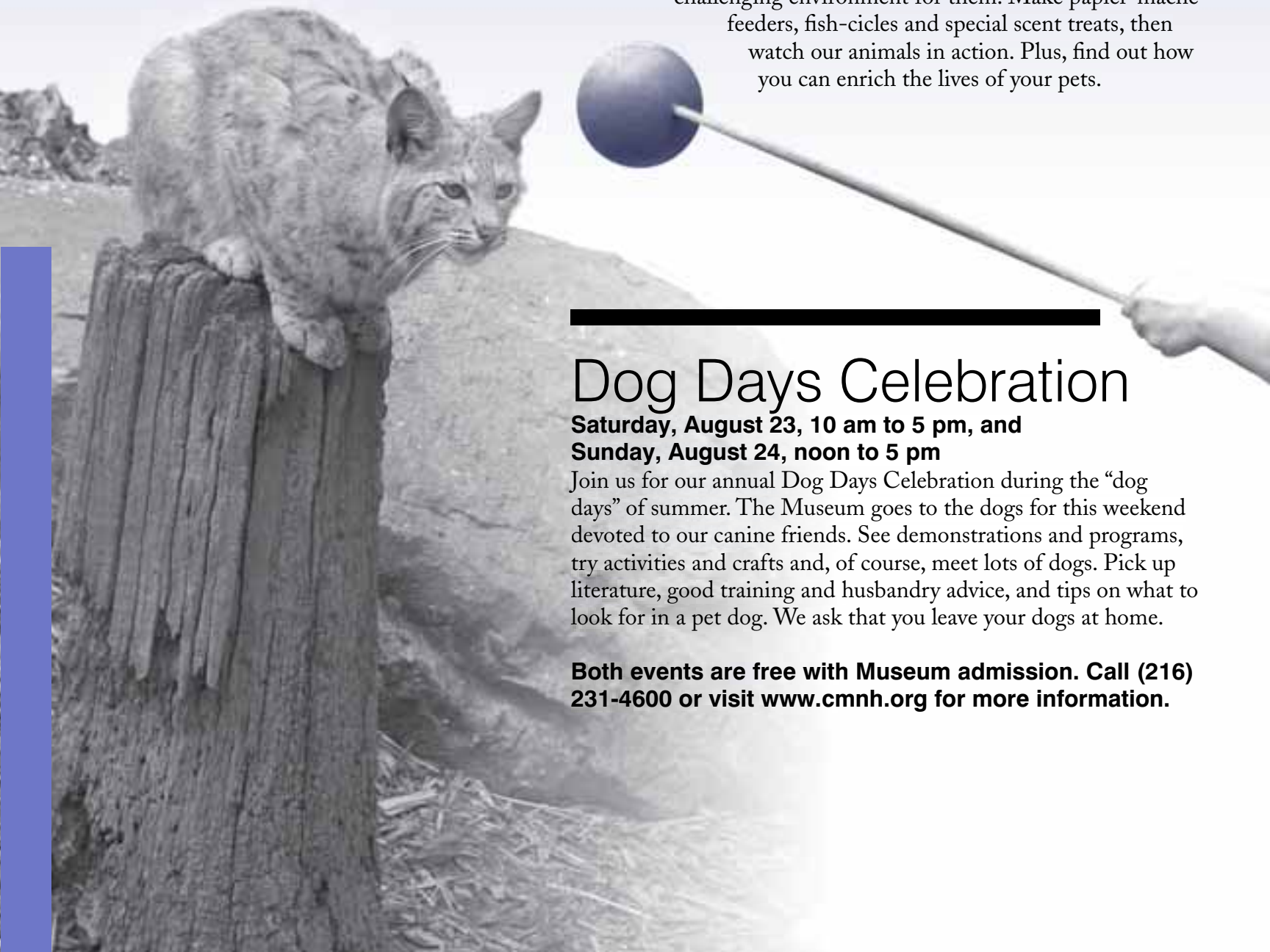
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### Dog Days Celebration

**Saturday, August 23, 10 am to 5 pm, and  
Sunday, August 24, noon to 5 pm**

Join us for our annual Dog Days Celebration during the "dog days" of summer. The Museum goes to the dogs for this weekend devoted to our canine friends. See demonstrations and programs, try activities and crafts and, of course, meet lots of dogs. Pick up literature, good training and husbandry advice, and tips on what to look for in a pet dog. We ask that you leave your dogs at home.

**Both events are free with Museum admission. Call (216) 231-4600 or visit [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org) for more information.**



# Museum Store Programs

## READ! SOAR! EXPLORE!

Wednesday evenings in July, drop in anytime between 4 and 7 pm. Free with Museum admission.

### Adventures in Sci-Fi

People have been trying to figure out our place in space and if life exists beyond Earth for a long time. Join us as we take a look at stories, myths and space exploration. **Featured Books:** **Child:** *Science Verse* by Jon Scieszka and any book from the *Science Solves It!* series. **Young Adult:** *History of Science Fiction* by Ron Miller, *Journey to the Center of the Earth* and *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* by Jules Verne. **Adult:** *The Year's Best Science Fiction* by Gardner Dozois and *Bad Astronomy* by Phillip Plait.

- **July 2, Is There Anyone Out There?** — Imagine that we know for sure that there is life beyond Earth. We want to get to know who else is living in our Universe and beyond, so we have put together sort of a “Who’s Who of the Universe.” Join us to find out just who the beings are in your Universe.
- **July 9, Moon in Race for 2188 Olympics** — The Interplanetary Olympic Committee has announced that Apolloville, Moon, located near the Sea of Tranquility (Mare Tranquillitatis), is being considered for the 2188 Summer Games. Help the Apolloville Olympic Committee present its final bid to the IOC.

- **July 16, TV Land** — TV and movies have been producing science fiction since these media first came to be. In fact, the first movies and television set seemed like science fiction themselves. Join us as we explore some early shows or movies.
- **July 23, Back to the Future** — Today, everyone is making an effort to do something positive for the environment. Let’s look into the future to see if today’s efforts pay off and the quality of life changes.
- **July 30, Alien Invasions** — Did you know that not all aliens come from outer space? Some may be living in your back yard! Let’s explore the aliens living among us!
- **Bonus Points:** Write a book review or draw a picture from any of the READ! SOAR! EXPLORE! selected books.

## Planet Chat

First Wednesday of each month, drop in anytime between 5 and 7:30 pm. Free with Museum admission.

Join us in the Museum Store to discuss topics concerning conservation, citizen science and the world around us. No registration necessary.

- **July 2, Bats in her Barn** — Tracey Knierim shares what she’s learned about the big and little brown bats living on her Geauga County farm.
- **August 6, Bird Banding: Stories from the Net** — Julie West, Shaker Lakes Nature Center Avian Research Technician, shares bird banding stories.

## Wade Oval Wednesdays

Wednesdays through August 27, 6 to 9 pm

UCI’s free summer concert series presents an array of top musical entertainment with genres ranging from jazz to reggae to Beatles hits. Come to the Circle and take advantage of extended hours at the Museum, which is open until 10 pm every Wednesday. Visit [www.universitycircle.org](http://www.universitycircle.org) for programming information.

## Take home something out of this world!

Browse our selection of meteorites and other space-related items available for purchase in the Museum Store. We have items to suit every interest level, from books and star charts for beginners to telescopes for the serious sky-watcher.



**museum  
STORE**

**Hours:** Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 8:30 pm; Sunday, noon to 5 pm  
Shop online anytime at [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org)

## Carol H. Sweet Nature Center Programs at Mentor Marsh

5185 Corduroy Road, Mentor

Mentor Marsh is an interpretive nature preserve of the Museum and the Ohio Division of Natural Areas and Preserves. **Trails:** open daily, year-round, dawn to dusk.

**Nature Center:** open Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 pm. Programs are free but registration is requested at (440) 257-0777 or [bkooser@cmnh.org](mailto:bkooser@cmnh.org).

### Saturday Science, 10 to 11:30 am

These family programs on the third Saturday of the month are geared toward kids at the age levels specified and include a story, hike and craft or activity. Meet at the Nature Center. Dress for the weather. One adult for every three children, please. Limit 20.

**July 19, grades 3 and 4: Camouflage** — We will examine some of the animals that are masters at blending in with their surroundings.

**August 16, grades 5 and 6: "Unnature" Trail** — We'll explore what we expect to see on the trails and what are unnatural occurrences.

### Sunday Nature Programs, 2 pm

Meet at the Nature Center unless otherwise indicated.

**July 6, 13, 20: Naturalist Choice** — Join our naturalist for a walk on one of our trails.

**July 27: Mentor Lagoons Discovery Walk** — We'll explore the western end of Mentor Marsh by walking in the city nature preserve. Join us at the trailhead at Mentor Lagoons (8365 Harbor Drive).

**August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: TBA** — (visit [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org) for program updates)

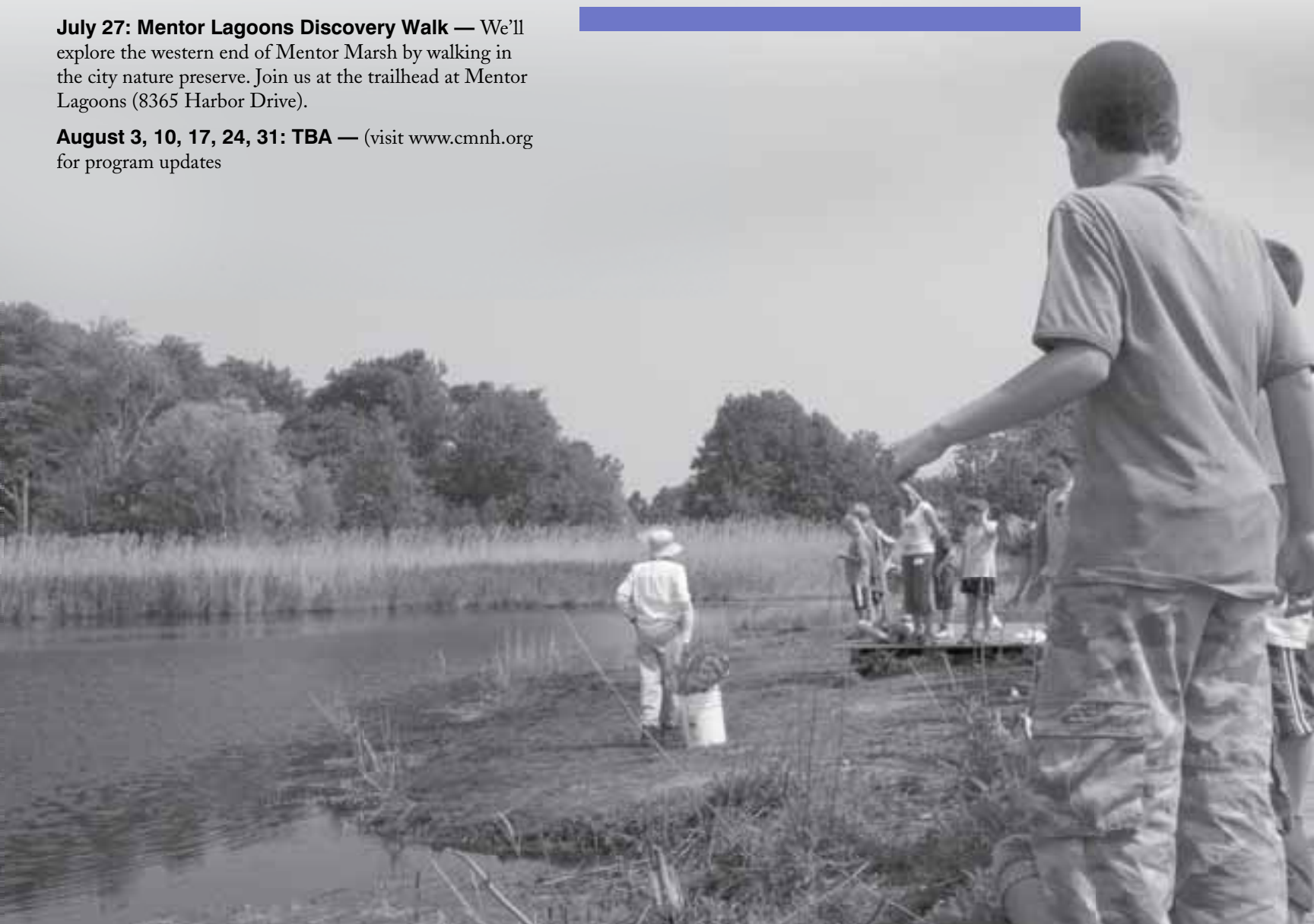
# STAR CAMP

Thursday through Sunday, August 7 to 10

**Daytime program: 10 am to 5 pm**

**Full program includes overnights on Thursday, Friday and Saturday**

Star Camp offers youth ages 9 to 12 the opportunity to learn about observational astronomy. They'll learn the locations of stars and constellations with telescopes set up outdoors at night, weather permitting. In addition, they'll participate in daytime classes to learn techniques for using star charts and telescopes, predicting the weather, recording observations, safe solar viewing, astrophotography with digital cameras, observing meteors and examining meteorites. Students may sign up to attend during the daytime only or for the full day-and-night stay at the Pink Pig on the grounds of Squire Valleevue Farm. Please wear appropriate outdoor clothing and bring your own sleeping bags. Star Camp participants are chaperoned by adults and teachers at all times. Telescopes provided. Limit 12 participants. **Daytime only: members: \$175; nonmembers: \$200. Limit 30. Full program (day & night): members: \$300; nonmembers: \$325. To register, call (216) 231-4600, ext. 3214 or visit [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org)**



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**Cleveland Museum of  
NATURAL HISTORY**

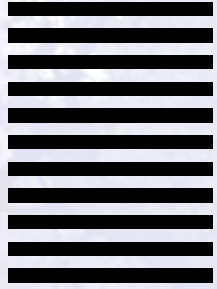


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**Cleveland Museum of  
NATURAL HISTORY**

# Attention *Tracks* readers: Take our survey!

Please let us know what you think of *Tracks* newsletter by filling out and returning this brief survey. Your feedback will help us plan future design and content changes. To thank you for your effort, we'll give you **\$5 off when you renew your Museum membership**. You'll also be entered in a drawing for a **\$50 gift certificate to the Museum Store**. Just remember to include your name, address and phone number where indicated (you can always reply anonymously, if you wish, but you won't be eligible for the renewal discount or drawing). Any information you provide will remain confidential.

## Tell us about yourself:

### Gender:

- Male  Female

### Marital status:

- Married  Single

### Children in the home?

- None  
 1  
 2 to 3  
 More than 3

### Education:

- High school graduate  
 Some college  
 College graduate  
 Advanced degree

### Age:

- Under 18  
 18 to 24  
 25 to 34  
 35 to 49  
 50 to 64  
 65 or older

## About *Tracks* newsletter:

### Overall, how satisfied are you with *Tracks*?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5  
Not Satisfied                      Satisfied                      Very Satisfied

### How would you rate *Tracks*' content?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5  
Poor                      Fair                      Excellent

### Do you pass *Tracks* along for others to read?

- Yes  No

### How many articles do you find that interest you?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5  
None                      About Half                      All

### How would you suggest improving *Tracks*?

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## What *Tracks* content interests you the most?

(check all that apply)

- Donor acknowledgments  
 Educational classes/programs for adults  
 Educational classes/programs for children & youth  
 Ideas for living sustainably  
 Lecture and event information  
 Museum news (new staff publications/activities, personnel changes, etc.)  
 Museum news in general  
 Museum research projects  
 Museum wildlife  
 New Museum exhibitions  
 New Museum initiatives  
 News/information about Museum Associated Societies  
 Products available in Museum Store  
 Profiles of Museum personnel  
 Updates on newly protected natural areas  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## Please indicate the degree of interest you have in the following topics:

Archaeology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Astronomy	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Botany	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Conservation	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Cultural Anthropology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Earth Sciences	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Entomology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
"Green" issues/sustainability	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Hands-on science for preschool to school-age children	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Health/wellness	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Human evolution	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Native Ohio wildlife	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Ornithology/birding	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Paleobotany	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Paleontology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Physical Anthropology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High
Vertebrate Zoology	.....	None	Low	Medium	High

## I would prefer to receive *Tracks* as follows:

- Conventional printed copy  
 Online via e-mail or e-mail attachment  
 Printed copy, but with online searchable archives of articles  
 Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## Contact information (optional):

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

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Daytime phone number:

# A variety of visitor programs for everyone!

Spend some of your summer-time with us — we're open till 10 pm every Wednesday.

## Shafran Planetarium

### Summer Nights, Distant Lights

**Monday through Friday, 2:30 pm; Wednesday, 8 pm; Saturday, 10:30 am, 12:30, 2 and 4 pm; Sunday, 12:30, 2 and 4 pm**

Every clear night throughout the summer months, the sky puts on its own splendid show. Warm summer evenings are great times to observe fiery meteors, glowing star clusters, filmy nebulae and ancient galaxies. Join us on a trip across the night sky to find these special faraway celestial lights.

### Children's Program

#### What's Up in the Sky?

**Monday through Friday, 11:30 am; Saturday, 11:30 am and 3 pm; Sunday, 1:15 and 3 pm**

Fireflies just flash in the night, but stars and planets shine brightly all night. Come to our planetarium to find out what there is to see up in the night sky on a warm summer's evening outdoors. No mosquitoes allowed.

**Planetarium programs are \$4 per person with Museum admission, and tickets should be reserved in advance. Members are free.**

To guarantee seating, please arrive 20 minutes before show time to claim your tickets with your confirmation number. Unclaimed tickets will be released for purchase on a first-come, first-served basis 10 minutes before show time.

**Call (216) 231-1177 or 800-317-9155, ext. 3279, Monday through Friday to make reservations.**

## Live Animal Programs

**Monday through Friday, 1:30 pm in the lobby or auditorium. Saturday and Sunday, 1 pm in the Museum lobby or Murch Auditorium and 3 pm in the Ralph Perkins II Wildlife Center & Woods Garden. Free with Museum admission.**

### Wildlife in Our Big Backyard

Join us in a celebration of the wild creatures that share everybody's backyards in this part of the world. Along the way, we'll explore the special attributes of Ohio's wildlife

and the places that sustain them. Wildlife Resources Center staff and volunteers will introduce visitors to this neighborhood wildlife using live ambassadors from the Museum's animal teaching corps and, depending on the weather, lead tours of the Ralph Perkins II Wildlife Center & Woods Garden.

## Smead Discovery Center

**Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 4:30 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 8 pm; Sunday, 1 to 4:30 pm. Free with Museum admission.**

Visit the Smead Discovery Center for hands-on fun on the Museum's Lower Level. Visitors of all ages are welcome in this multigenerational space. Learn and enjoy. We have concrete activities for tots and "brain buster" puzzles for adults who need a challenge. Need some help pronouncing some of those dino names? Try our dinosaur naming activity with your child. Explore what it means to be a nature artist and draw our step-by-step "creature feature." Find out about local frogs and what keeps them hopping. Play a birdsong piano, touch real fossils, look at creepy crawlies under a microscope, dig for a dino skull and much more! Please supervise children at all times and save your snacks for The Blue Planet cafe.

Join us for these special programs: **Summer Show and Tell, Wednesdays, 3 to 6 pm:** Bring your family and your questions to these Wednesday programs and get ready for hands-on fun. Stay as little or as long as you like. Each week will feature a special make-and-take craft and a resource person who will make science fun and understandable for visitors of all ages.

- **Astronomy! July 9:** Meet the Museum's astronomy staff. Enjoy special astronomy demonstrations, discover how a person becomes an astronomer, and find out about the Museum's sunspot research. Make and take a moon phases booklet.
- **Native American Traditions! July 16:** Museum Educator Nancy Howell shares Native American traditions with you. Make and take a vest decorated with traditional designs.
- **Taxidermy! July 23:** Meet Museum Taxidermist Larry Isard, who will tell you about the stuffed specimens in the Museum and show you how they came to be. Make and take

your own model (no real animals involved).

- **Rocks and Minerals! July 30:** Meet Curator of Mineralogy Dr. David Saja, view some of his mineral specimens and satisfy your "rock hound" questions. Participate in an identification activity and take home a special mineral.
- **Butterflies and Moths! August 6:** Museum volunteer and butterfly researcher Barb Coleman will show you and tell you about local butterflies and moths, share her research tools and inspire you to take care of these natural treasures. Make and take a hatching butterfly craft.

## Natureguide Audio Tour

More than four hours of information about the Museum's permanent exhibits is at your fingertips when you rent the Natureguide Audio Tour on an iPod Nano at the Admissions Desk. This award-winning audio tour now features music composed by Cleveland Institute of Music students. Funded in part by the National Science Foundation. **All units free for members; nonmembers: \$2.**

## Museum Hours

**Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 10 pm; Sunday, noon to 5 pm. Museum is closed Independence Day, July 4.**

## Museum Store Hours

**Monday through Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Wednesday, 10 am to 8:30 pm; Sunday, noon to 5 pm.**

**For visitor information: Call (216) 231-4600 or 800-317-9155 or visit [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org)**



# Making Tracks

## Staff publications and presentations

Vertebrate Paleontology Department volunteer Terry Martin and Invertebrate Paleontology Department Assistant Doug Dunn presented a poster titled *Preliminary notice of a third paleoniscoid (Actinopterygii: Palaeonisciformes), with a vertical suspensorium, from the Upper Devonian (Famennian, Ilf) Cleveland Shale of Cuyahoga County, Ohio* at the 117th Annual Meeting of the Ohio Academy of Science hosted by the University of Toledo on April 12. An abstract of the presentation was published in *The Ohio Journal of Science, April Program Abstracts*.

The Museum was one of the sponsors of the North-Central Section Meeting of the Geological Society of America in Evansville, Indiana, in April. Curator of Invertebrate Paleontology Dr. Joe Hannibal presented the following (the latter two with Dr. Sabina Thomas of Baldwin-Wallace College): *The man in the urn: the story of Joseph Stanley-Brown and his pivotal, though quiet, role in the development of the U.S. Geological Survey and the Geological Society of America*; *Deciphering the building stones of Evansville, Indiana*; and *Observations of Maximilian, Prince of Wied, along the Ohio & Erie Canal in 1834*. He presented *The search for historic cement sources used for the Ohio & Erie Canal* with former Donald S. Dean Adopt-A-Student Evan Scott. And Hannibal and Curator of Mineralogy Dr. David Saja presented *Quarries along the Ohio: the quarrying history, use, and petrology of the Buena Vista Member of the Cuyahoga Formation*. Hannibal also helped write two chapters in the conference guidebook, titled *From the Cincinnati Arch to the Illinois Basin: Geological Field Excursions along the Ohio River Valley*.

Assistant Curator of Invertebrate Zoology Tom Pucci published *A Comparison of the Parasitic Wasps (Hymenoptera) at Elevated Versus Ground Yellow Pan Traps in a Beech-Maple Forest* in the *Journal of Hymenoptera Research*.

Kal Ivanov and Jen Milligan, graduate students working in the Invertebrate Zoology Department, published *Paratrechina flavipes (Smith) (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), a new exotic ant for Ohio* in *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington*. The paper is based on collections of an expanding ant population first found in the eastern United States in 1939.



Alemu Ademassu

## Ethiopian casting expert visits Museum

In 1986, Alemu Ademassu visited the Museum from Ethiopia for three months to study casting techniques in the Physical Anthropology Casting Lab. What he learned about making casts of fossil bones and skulls of our pre-human ancestors, the hominids, from then-casting lab director Jenny Smith he took back to the National Museum of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa, where today he is supervisor of its casting laboratory.

Last April, Alemu returned to the Museum's casting lab for a monthlong visit to learn some of the techniques developed in recent years by its current coordinator, Anne Sanford.

Ethiopia is famous for its rich deposits containing ancient fossils. But visiting scientists are prohibited by law from taking fossils out of the country. They can, however, take plaster or plastic casts of fossils abroad for further study. As a result, Alemu's two-person lab is kept busy.

Primary among the techniques Alemu studied on his visit was how to use Lego bricks to enclose molds while they set. (Casts are created from molds.) The bricks are then removed and reused.

The idea of using the popular children's toy in the laboratory occurred to Sanford when her children outgrew their Lego sets. Now, the casting lab has a cupboard filled with labeled containers of different-sized Lego bricks, including the larger Duplo version.

Alemu has worked with many highly regarded scientists, from Dr. Desmond Clark and Dr. Tim White at the University of California, Berkeley to the Museum's Curator of Physical Anthropology Dr. Yohannes Haile-Selassie and Executive Director Dr. Bruce Latimer. Alemu has even done field work, including assisting with the

Middle Awash Project, led by White.

Sanford is collecting used Lego bricks for the National Museum's casting lab. If you have some to donate, please call (216) 231-4600, ext. 3268.

## Women's Committee update

The Museum's Women's Committee recently elected new officers to its executive board and has a full roster of activities planned for its members this summer and fall.

Recently retired Museum staffer Gail Takacs is now Women's Committee chair; Kristi Webster is vice chair; Betsy Hallaran, membership/treasurer; Sue Divito, corresponding secretary; and Cindy LaRosa, recording secretary. Also serving on the board are Chris Pfeil, immediate past chair and communications manager; Barbara Webster, historian; and Karen Cogar, Museum liaison.

The committee, which supports the Museum and its programs through fund-raising activities, has planned one event or activity each month through 2009.

- July 15: Breakfast on the Farm at CWRU's Squire Valleeview Farm, Hunting Valley
  - September 16: Private tour and lunch, Dike 14 Nature Preserve
  - October 22: Annual general meeting/luncheon and speaker
  - November: Decorate 15 small artificial holiday trees and 15 wreaths for a fund-raiser at the Museum Store's November 14 holiday "Lark Preview Party."
  - December: Holiday get-together
  - March 19 and April 23, 2009: Hands-on workshops at the Museum
- Membership in the Women's Committee is open to all Museum members, regardless of gender, and is an excellent way to have fun, learn about the Museum and meet new people. To join, contact Karen Cogar, (216) 231-4600, ext. 3235, or Gail Takacs, (330) 425-4544.

## Art award presented

The Museum sponsored an award in the 10th Congressional District's 2008 Artistic Discovery Contest, part of a nationwide annual contest for public and private high school students. Stephanie Wollman, a student at Holy Name High School, won the first Cleveland Museum of Natural History Artistic Achievement Award for her photograph titled "Save Our Wetlands!" She received a Family membership, ribbon and certificate, and her winning photo will be displayed at the Museum.

# Eco-Minded: ideas for living sustainably

## Invasion of the... earthworms?

Gardeners have generally admired earthworms for their ability to churn soil and grind food waste into compost, creating nutrients as they go. So it might come as a surprise to learn that the earthworm is hazardous to woods and forests in Northern Ohio.

What's the problem? If earthworms are highly beneficial to gardens, why not woodlands? Earthworms are actually non-native species here, and they are changing our woodland ecosystems.

While European and Asian forests have ecosystems that depend on earthworm activity, in much of North America earthworms were killed off during the last Ice Age. Only the unglaciated regions of the continent — such as the Southeast and the Pacific Northwest — have native earthworm species.

The ecosystems that evolved in the rest of North America in the subsequent 11,000 years were earthworm-free. That is, until European colonists began importing Old World plants in soil containing earthworms, and worms became popular as fish bait on inland lakes and rivers.

Most North American woodland ecosystems depend on fungi, bacteria and tiny invertebrates to break down organic matter slowly, over several years. Scientists have found that earthworms digest the leaf litter from the forest floor too quickly. In sufficient numbers, they can digest leaf litter in one season.

This changes the nutrient balance and chemistry of the soil and makes it difficult for native trees and wildflowers to flourish.

Fortunately, worms migrate very slowly. While we can't get rid of them in areas they have already invaded, we can keep them from spreading to new areas. Here are some suggestions:

- If you use worms as fish bait, don't dump them or the contents of their container on the ground. Seal the worms in the bait container and throw it into a proper trashcan or maintain the worms for your next fishing trip.
- If you plant trees and shrubs, remove and destroy any worms you notice in their roots. Avoid planting non-native plants, especially near the edges of forests or woodlots.
- Don't transport leaves, soil, mulch or compost from one area to another unless you are certain they contain no earthworms or their cocoons.
- Large-treaded vehicles, such as ATVs, can carry earthworms to new areas. Wash all soil from tire treads before transporting these vehicles from one place to another.
- If you compost kitchen scraps with worms, keep it up, but freeze the final product for at least a week in sealed bags before spreading it on the garden. This will kill the worms and their cocoons but not the beneficial soil microbes.

## 2008 Conservation Symposium

Rivers and streams are the lifeblood of our region's ecological systems. This year's Conservation Symposium, which will be held on September 5, examines the successes and challenges facing the conservation of these local watercourses.

Titled *Keeping Current: Stream Ecology, Conservation & Restoration*, the symposium will feature keynote speakers Dr. David Allan, a professor in the School of Natural Resources & Environment at the University of Michigan, and Giff Beaton, a Georgia naturalist. Concurrent sessions of short talks will follow each keynote address. These will tackle topics ranging from dams and channelization to invasive species and riparian corridors.

As in previous years, there will be opportunities to go on field trips to natural areas that include portions of local river and stream systems. These will take place on Thursday afternoon, September 4, and Saturday morning, September 6. Also on September 4, an optional daylong workshop on the Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index and evening cruise along the Cuyahoga River will be offered.

Those interested in attending this year's symposium can obtain a registration form online at [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org) (keyword "symposium") or call (216) 231-4600, ext. 3505. The registration fee is \$15 before August 25 (\$20 after that date).

## We're giving healthy praise to the best corporate wellness programs

The Wellness@Work Awards spotlight forward-thinking companies that actively seek to improve their employees' health, work/personal life balance, education and quality of life. The awards include recognition for companies that embrace and encourage sustainability in the workplace, which can have lasting and far-reaching benefits.

Businesses of all sizes with a base in Northern Ohio are eligible to enter. Thirteen awards will be presented in total — one grand prize and first, second and third place awards in each of four categories determined by the number of employees.



To learn more about the Wellness@Work Awards or to download an official application form, visit [www.cmnh.org](http://www.cmnh.org) or call (216) 231-4600, ext. 3269.

# Making the leap

for biodiversity

The Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership for Biodiversity is changing how conservation and stewardship of natural areas happen in Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania.

Four years ago, Curator of Botany and Director of Conservation Dr. Jim Bissell decided that Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania needed a more coordinated effort to protect rare habitats.

“The idea to start a biodiversity partnership was based primarily on my having watched too many rare habitats lost to neglect or invasive species over 30 years of inventorying native plants communities in our region,” Bissell says.

Conservation organizations were protecting and restoring land in the area, but, with two notable exceptions, the Grand River Basin and upper Cuyahoga River Basin, each was acting independently. He was concerned that important parcels might “slip through the cracks.”

Bissell and Assistant Director of Conservation Renee Boronka held a meeting with representatives from those organizations in March 2004. “We floated the idea of creating a partnership that would keep everyone abreast of what was happening in terms of land conservation in the area,” Boronka recalls.

Museum Trustee Tom Leiden provided funding to bring the director of Gateway Wildlands, a conservation collaborative (now defunct) in St. Louis, to Cleveland to speak. The response was strong from the 52 people representing more than 40 organizations who attended.

A core group met frequently with Bissell and Boronka over the next two years to write a mission statement and strategic plan and adopt a name, the Lake Erie Allegheny Partnership for Biodiversity (LEAP). The moniker derives from the ecoregion that defines the area in which the group operates: the glaciated land south of Lake Erie from Sandusky east to the Allegheny

Mountains.

Fast forward to April of this year, and a press conference held by the National Fish and Wildlife Fund (NFWF) and its federal agency partners, the U.S. EPA, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They announced that LEAP was one of 16 recipients of more than \$1 million in funding through the ArcelorMittal Great Lakes Restoration Program. LEAP’s portion was \$100,000.

It was a major step for the collaboration, and key to its future. The money was not meant for LEAP itself, but to seed a Regional Biodiversity Fund within NFWF. This fund will fill a longtime need for a regional entity capable of equitably distributing grants locally. Soon, conservation organizations will be able to apply to LEAP for money from the fund to pursue projects that will conserve and restore biodiversity in the region.

Just what those projects are plays into another major LEAP initiative: to create a regional biodiversity plan. This will be an integrated, scientific, data-based plan that will provide a regional vision and strategy that member organizations can use to prioritize goals and pool resources. A recently concluded two-year contract with NatureServe, a conservation planning company, laid the groundwork for the plan by creating a model conservation plan for the Chagrin River.

“LEAP could exist nicely as an information-sharing group,” says David Beach, director of the Museum’s GreenCityBlueLake Institute, who has been involved in LEAP from its inception. “But its full potential will be realized by helping to articulate a larger vision of biodiversity.”

The impetus for both the Regional Biodiversity Fund and Plan originated

within the three key issue areas defined by LEAP’s strategic plan. The first of these is to help member organizations with staffing issues, stewardship needs and biological inventories. The second is to facilitate communication among members to keep current on new land acquisitions and land management techniques. And the third is to raise public awareness about the importance of biodiversity and the need to protect and restore habitat.

Subcommittees have been organized to address each issue area. In addition to the Regional Biodiversity Fund Local Advisory Committee and Regional Biodiversity Plan Steering Committee, there is a Public Outreach and Education Committee to publicly promote LEAP and update its Web site; a West Virginia White Committee to address the conservation of the West Virginia White Butterfly, a species of special concern in the region; and a Native Plant Promotion Committee to focus on educating the public and the nursery and landscaping trade on the importance of buying, selling, propagating and planting native plant species.

Though LEAP has only existed for four years, it already is making a difference in the region. A three-year initiative to remove invasive garlic mustard from a 9-mile stretch of the Grand River has put a dent in the plant’s presence there. The group’s bimonthly meetings allow members to talk about new land protection and stewardship projects and invite others to collaborate. Many close working relationships have evolved as a result.

“Everyone’s always talking about regionalism,” Beach comments. “Well, here’s a great example of it: 30-some organizations coming together for the benefit of the region.”

*To learn more about LEAP, visit [www.leaphio.org](http://www.leaphio.org).*





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Enjoy Tracks?

**Pass  
it On!**

## Examining Earth in the balance

### Amphibians at risk

This year is the Year of the Frog, so-named by the global conservation community in an effort to raise public awareness of the plight of frogs and other amphibians. Worldwide, one-half to one-third of all amphibian species are threatened with extinction.

Locally, the Museum and more than a dozen other area conservation- and science-oriented organizations have partnered on "Leap Into Action," a regional initiative led by Cleveland Metroparks Zoo to highlight amphibians and their habitats through special events, activities, displays and programs. The exhibition *Toad-ily Frogs*, on display in Corning Gallery through September 28, is one of the Museum's contributions to this effort.

The exhibition offers an overview of important information about amphibians. Visitors can learn about the characteristics that define these animals as a group. A video display features Curator of Vertebrate Zoology Dr. Tim Matson as he describes his research at vernal ponds in Museum natural areas. Several preserved specimens from the more than 11,000 cataloged entries in the Museum's herpetology collections are juxtaposed by a tank containing live American bullfrog and green frog tadpoles.

Rounding out the exhibition are frog bronzes from the Museum's fine arts collection, computer kiosks running a blog with more information about amphibians and high-speed video of various frogs and salamanders feeding, and a list of things that the average person can do to help ease the amphibian extinction crisis.

*Toad-ily Frogs* is a stop on the Leap Into Action passport, which is available for \$1 (plus tax) in the Museum Store. Complete a scavenger hunt that uses the exhibition and other displays throughout the Museum and earn a sticker for your passport. Other events and locations at which you can earn stickers, plus detailed information about amphibian conservation, are listed at [www.forfrogs.org](http://www.forfrogs.org).

### Witness to climate change

Documenting the visual evidence of Earth's changing climate has become a passion for New York-based photographer Susannah Saylor. Through August 10, the Kahn Hall exhibition *The Canary Project: Landscape of Climate Change* features 22 of her images. See her photos of retreating Alpine glaciers, desertification in China and other changing landscapes, plus images of conservation projects working to reverse or mitigate climate change's effects.

Jay Cossey

