



The American Museum of Natural History



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A magnificent bronze sculpture of Gardner D. Stout, past president, right, was unveiled at the Board of Trustees' Annual Meeting by Thomas D. Nicholson, director, center. The work was created by artist Eliot Goldfinger, Exhibition, left, and will appear in the annual exhibit of the National Academy of Design.



Norman D. Newell, Invertebrates, receives the Museum's Gold Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Science from Robert G. Goelet, president, at a special ceremony following the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees on November 27. A well-known paleontologist, Dr. Newell joined the AMNH in 1945, becoming a curator emeritus in 1977.

## FLEX TIME DEEMED SUCCESS

Early in 1978, the Museum introduced flex time, a modern system of flexible working hours, in three departments. Under the guidance of Geraldine M. Smith, Personnel Manager, the pilot program was put into effect in Ichthyology, *Natural History Magazine*, and the American Museum—Hayden Planetarium. Ichthyology was chosen as representative of the many science departments in the Museum; *Natural History* was selected because of its special situation of coping with deadlines; and the Planetarium was part of the initial program because it presented the added complication of shifts, with some employees working during evening and night hours. The shift schedules had to be dealt with quite individually so that all employees would benefit from the new program.

Early in '79, the Museum will expand the number of departments on flex time to include approximately one-half the Museum staff. The Administrative departments on the third floor, many more science departments and the entire Education Department will be brought into the program.

In brief, flex time means that an employee can select his or her work hours within a set structure. The structure will change with the expansion of the program, but at present the offices are open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., allowing employees a flexible period of two hours at the start and end of the workday. All employees have to be present during the "core hours,"

10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but are able to choose which of the flexible hours they wish to work, as long as they put in a full 70 hours during each two-week pay period and the departments are adequately covered.

"The program provides employees with two things," says Geraldine Smith. "One is opportunity for flexibility and the other is responsibility." The employee keeps track of the number of hours worked with the help of an individual time accumulator. This device, about the size of a transistor radio, fits into an electric machine, conveniently located in each department.

After an initial period of adjustment, the consensus of the original three departments on flex time seems quite favorable. Employees appear to be enjoying the advantages of flex time, although it is used in a variety of ways. As C. Lavett Smith, chairman of Ichthyology, pointed out, "some members of my department have used flex time as they would staggered hours, that is, working the same hours every day but coming and going later to avoid rush-hour traffic. Others have chosen not to change their work patterns because of car pools."

Alan Ternes, editor of *Natural History*, observed that flex time frees the supervisor from handling many small details. "The employee no longer has to make special arrangements for important appointments." Ternes's staff have also expressed their pleasure at having the "flexibility of not being late."

When the expanded program goes into effect, the

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## OBJECTS OF BRIGHT PRIDE—ART OF THE NORTHWEST COAST INDIANS



A shaman's face mask (Tlingit).

The AMNH has one of the largest and most important collections of Northwest Coast Indian art in the world. There are so many fine, intricately carved wooden and bone objects here that only a portion is on display to the public. Many more items are in storage, and some have never been seen by this generation of visitors.

When the Center for Inter-American Relations and the American Federation of Arts joined forces to organize an exhibition of Northwest Coast Indian Art, they turned to the AMNH for permission to use the collection. Philip C. Gifford, Jr., scientific assistant in the Department of Anthropology, worked closely with them. The result of many months of negotiation and careful selection is a stunning exhibition of 100 items—"Objects of Bright Pride"—that opened in Cleveland Nov. 22, 1978. After the first of the year, the exhibition will move on to Denver, Los Angeles, Seattle and New Orleans before it returns to New York in July, 1980, for a final U.S. showing at the Center for Inter-American Relations. Dr. Thomas D. Nicholson, director of the Museum, believes the exhibit may then travel abroad.

The Center for Inter-American Relations assembles up to five exhibits a year of traditional or contemporary art from countries in the Western Hemisphere outside of the U.S. Until recently there has been more Latin American exposure, but this show is in keeping with the Center's new emphasis on Canadian art.

The Northwest Coast Indians represented in this show lived along a 1200-mile stretch of coastline extending from Yucatat Bay in Alaska to Puget Sound, Washington. There were six tribes in all—the Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Kwakiutl, Bella Bella and Bella Coola. The area that they covered was so rich in natural resources that there was no need for them to

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## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY A BIG SUCCESS



The Whitneys work their magic on LaRhon Cannady, 5, son of Rhonda Cannady, Education.

On Fri., Dec. 8, the Museum held its annual Christmas party for the children of employees. Organized by Ernestine Weindorf, *Natural History*, the party began with a warm welcome from Charles A. Weaver, Jr., Deputy Director. Mr. Weaver introduced the Whitneys, a troupe of magicians who charmed the audience with their unusual tricks, and then there was dinner for all in the Rotunda near the origami Christmas tree. Each child had a visit with Santa Claus and received a special present before going home.

1. Joey Donato, son of Joe Donato, Electrical Shop.
2. Alexis Vuilleumier, son of François Vuilleumier, Ornithology.
3. Gregory Eldredge with his father, Niles Eldredge, Invertebrates.
4. Susan Van Praag with her father, Larry Van Praag, Projection.
5. Sidaya Moore, daughter of Theresa Moore, Education, with friend Tanya.





Songstress par excellence, Kathleen Jones (*Natural History*) with pianist Harry Shapiro (*Anthropology*).



Richard Zweifel (*Herpetology*) and Bea Brewster (*Invertebrates*), members of the quintet "Noon Music."



Steven Medina (*Mammalogy*), accomplished a *cappella* singer.



Paul Vann—Mr. Blues from the Mailroom.



Barbara Conklin (*Anthropology*) and Harry Shapiro do the Domino Polka.



Thomas D. Nicholson, the evening's ebullient Master of Ceremonies.



offices will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., allowing for an increase in the flexible periods at the start and end of the workday. The core hours will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and employees will have three hours in the morning and four hours in the afternoon to divide between work and personal needs, with the same stipulation of having to put in a full 70 hours during each pay period.

The Museum will continue to test and evaluate the program during 1979.

### EMPLOYEES' CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNITED FUND INCREASE

The chairperson of this year's United Fund drive at AMNH, Joseph Sedacca of the Graphics Department, has proudly announced that the total amount raised is \$7800. This represents an increase of 45% over the 1977 figures, which were a 17% jump from the 1976 total.

The 1978 figures clearly indicate that, as in previous years, the most popular manner of contributing is through payroll deductions. AMNH employees seem to find this method the most efficient.

Mr. Sedacca asked GV to thank each and every contributor, the drive's co-chairperson, Richard G. Zweifel of the Herpetology Department, and Rose Wadsworth of the Exhibition Department, as well as all the departmental coordinators.

Next year's co-chairpersons will be Dr. Zweifel and Charles Miles of Building Services. GV wishes them much success.

### NOTICE TO SALTATOR SAPIENS

Classes in Polish folk dance will be held in the Museum soon on Wednesdays at noon. If you want to join in, please call Adele Solenik, ext. 444, or Debby Berry, ext. 501.

Continued from page 2 (OBJECTS OF BRIGHT PRIDE)

develop any agriculture or herding, and instead they sustained their numbers with hunting and fishing. In fact, the summer was devoted to food gathering, and during the winter months the Indians were able to spend time improving their dwellings and making the many ceremonial objects now on exhibit.

A unique creation of the Northwest Coast Indian culture is the totem pole, whose stylized designs depict family history. Other less well-known objects were produced to enhance the wealth and status of their owners or for ceremonial reasons. Some of these include striking and colorful masks, feast dishes carved in the shape of animals, wood storage chests, rattles in the shape of birds, and elaborate ladles and spoons.

Most of the work done by the Northwest Coast tribes was in wood, but they also used ivory, horns of goats and sheep, and bone chips and shale. An outstanding feature is the use of bold and contrasting colors—often red and black—and the stylized compositions of animals and man.

"Northwest Indian art is one of the most distinctive of all the arts of man," says Allen Wardwell, director of the Asia House Gallery, who selected the objects in the exhibition. "But we have no way of knowing how it evolved because few of the examples collected go back beyond 200 years." Mr. Wardwell also prepared the fully illustrated catalog for the show which is available in the Museum Shop.

### GOLD MEDAL AWARD PRESENTED TO MUSEUM

On Jan. 9, 1979, the West Side Association of Commerce presented the AMNH with its Gold Medal Award in recognition of the Museum's dedicated service to New York City and the nation. The presentation was made by Harold W. McGraw, Jr., chairman of the Association, to Robert G. Goelet, president, at a dinner in the Hall of Ocean Life. Citations were also presented to Thomas D. Nicholson, director, for his contributions to the city and the nation, and to Alice Gray, scientific assistant, for her distinguished service to children.

### HERE AND THERE

**Deputy Director:** In early October, the members of three departments combined their talents to go on a field trip to Wyoming to search for fossil bee nests. Jerome G. Rozen, Jr., Malcolm C. McKenna and Harold Cousminer collected over 1,000 cells of bees which inhabited the region in the Eocene Period (ca. 45,000,000 years ago). They are now X-raying the nests to identify the bees in relation to those in existence today.

**Education:** Malcolm Arth, curator, has accepted an invitation to serve on a Smithsonian Institution advisory panel to determine the future direction of the Anacostia Neighborhood Museum.

**Entomology:** Alfred F. Newton, Jr., has been appointed a research associate... Mohammad U. Shadab was married on Oct. 30, 1978, in Pakistan. He and his new wife Ghousia now live in New York.

**Exhibition:** Stephen Quinn, senior preparator, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Asa Wright Nature Centre in Trinidad, W.I.

**General Services:** Peggy Brown, telephone operator, became the proud grandmother of Matthew Wishoet on Dec. 24... James Blake spent the Christmas holidays in San Francisco.

**Invertebrates:** Harold L. Cousminer, Howard R. Feldman and Lawrence W. Powers have been appointed research associates.

**Mineral Sciences:** R. Keith O'Nions has been appointed a research associate, and Dr. Jonathan W. Snellenburg has been appointed a research fellow. Gertrude Poldervaart was on jury duty from Dec. 4 to Dec. 20 in Hackensack, N.J. . . . George E. Harlow spent a week at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Va., learning about transmission electron microscope techniques as applied to his mineral studies. He will be using a similar instrument soon at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine.

**Ornithology:** John Bull, scientific assistant, led a tour in South Africa in November... Eugene Eisenmann, research associate, was elected chairman of the Pan-American Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation... Mary LeCroy, scientific assistant, has just returned from a six-week field trip to New Guinea.

**Volunteers:** Odile Stern and her husband shared with us the many expressions of sympathy they received on the tragic death of their daughter, Michèle. A memorial fund has been established in Michèle's memory to help the Youth Counseling Program at St. Matthew's and Timothy's Neighborhood Center Inc., 26 West 84th Street, New York, N.Y. Contributions can be sent to the attention of Father Jay Gordon.





## POMPEII AD79 OPENS AT AMNH APRIL 22



*A bronze statuette of Jupiter*

Even before its opening at the AMNH, POMPEII AD79 is being hailed as the "big hit of '79." Comparisons aside, the presence of this beautiful show, put together by the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, is a major spring/summer event in New York City, offering visitors an intimate and fascinating glimpse into the life of ancient Pompeii.

On August 24, 79 A.D., this attractive resort town just south of Naples in Italy was buried under an immense volume of hot cinder ash that came pouring out of nearby Mt. Vesuvius. All life came to a halt, and for the next 1600 years or so, the city lay untouched.

Finally, the curious and the avaricious—followed by scientists and art historians—began to poke around in the covering above the city until eventually nearly two-thirds was exposed, revealing an unparalleled record of Roman life during the late Republic and early Empire.

Some of the finest items found at Pompeii and the nearby city of Herculaneum will be among the 350 or so objects arriving at the AMNH early in April from Dallas, Texas. After careful inventory, POMPEII AD79 will be installed in the Museum's new exhibition space, Gallery 3, which housed "Ice Age Art" until mid-January.

George Gardner and Joseph Sedacca of Exhibition and Graphics are in charge of designing and installing POMPEII AD79 here at the AMNH. "In our exhibition design, we are trying to accent the ethnographic aspect of Pompeii, as well as the artistic," says Mr. Gardner. "With so much to show, we don't want to crowd items, or simply put them on pedestals, but to give a sense of their original uses and settings in an open, appealing space."

The two are working closely with Hetty Joyce, an authority on classical art, who has been hired as the scientific consultant for POMPEII AD79. Dr. Joyce, who has lectured at Harvard University, told GV she hopes POMPEII AD79 will bring to life that particular period in Roman history when Pompeii thrived, and died. "Many people seem to have only a vague picture of how the Romans actually lived and thought," she notes. "In our show, we'll be attempting to recreate everyday life in Pompeii, which was a typical Roman city in many ways."

The coordinator of all Pompeii-related activities at the Museum is Linda Hyman. A professor of art history who comes to AMNH from an involvement in such events as the Metropolitan Museum of Art's centennial celebration, Dr. Hyman is orchestrating the massive ticketing procedure for POMPEII AD79, as well as promotion and social functions, including the "Pompeian Wine and Cheese" parties and the "Roman Table Dinners" for outside groups. (There will be a gala party for employees and volunteers the evening of May 10; please see page 2 for details).

While the POMPEII AD79 people have been hard at work on their exhibition, the Volcano! team has been planning this exciting companion show, which will also open April 22. Martin Prinz, Mineral Sciences, is in charge of Volcano! which will talk about the phenomenon of volcanism around the world, with sections on the causes (related to plate tectonics) of

volcanoes, their formation, their predictability (or lack of it), and their useful aspects: they are, for example, a source of geothermal power. Donovan and Greene Designers is creating the you-are-there approach of the exhibition, which will include the use of newsreel footage of erupting volcanoes, slides showing continental plates moving, and dramatic specimens of volcanic materials. Margaret Cooper, Exhibition, is working closely, as always, with both scientist and designer, to assure a final result satisfactory and pleasing to the scientific community as well as the lay public.

As the final countdown to April 22 begins, GV wishes much success to all the principals and "benvenuto" to POMPEII AD79 and Volcano!

### **ALL IN THE FAMILY—AMNH POMPEII AD79 PARTY TO BE HELD MAY 10**

To mark the opening of its two big spring hits, the AMNH is throwing a special party for all paid, unpaid, part-time and full-time employees on the evening of May 10 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. There will be special viewings of the two blockbusters—POMPEII AD79 in Gallery 3 and Volcano! in Gallery 77—followed by canapes, drinks, entertainment, and general conviviality. Sorry, no spouses. . . .

Information on tickets to the two shows for relatives and friends was mailed to all employees and volunteers in mid-March. For those who failed to receive an order form, permitting eight individuals to visit POMPEII AD79 and Volcano! on dates of their own choosing, please contact the Personnel Office.

### **THE GOLD OF EL DORADO**

The "Gold of El Dorado," an exquisite selection of prehispanic gold, most of which is from the Gold Museum in Bogota, Colombia, is now on exhibit at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, and is due to arrive at the American Museum of Natural History in late November. It will remain on display in Gallery 3 for fourteen to sixteen weeks. The show will include over 400 items of gold, numerous examples of pottery, as well as some objects of stone and cloth.

The gold items encompass ornamental pieces and figures which were used in ritual ceremonies, as well as simple weapons, needles and cooking utensils. What is perhaps particularly striking about the gold items is the fine workmanship that went into their making. Warwick Bray, who wrote the catalog for the show, tells us that the Indians of Colombia developed almost all the techniques known to modern goldsmiths.

The legend of El Dorado haunted the new world and the old from the time the Spaniards first invaded the Inca Empire of Peru. There were many different versions of the legend. El Dorado was thought by some to be a lost city, a treasure-filled temple, a mountain of gold. In fact the words "El Dorado" mean Gilded One and derive from a ceremony practiced by the Muisca Indians at a sacred lagoon very near to the modern city of Bogota. At this lagoon, or Lake Guatavita, the new ruler of the Muisca Indians went through the ceremony before taking office.

"They stripped the heir to his skin, and anointed him with a sticky earth on which they placed gold dust so that he was completely covered with this metal. They placed him on a raft . . . and at his feet they placed a great heap of gold and emeralds for him to offer to his god. . . . The gilded Indian then made his offering, throwing out all the pile of gold into the middle of the lake. . . ." (Juan Rodriguez Freyle, 1636).

El Dorado, as legendary myth or as historical truth, captivates the imagination, but perhaps the real importance of the upcoming exhibition is what it has to tell us about the civilizations that produced the beautiful work that will be on display.

### **SIR KARL RAIMUND POPPER TO RECEIVE GOLD MEDAL FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO SCIENCE**

Sir Karl Raimund Popper, British philosopher and historian of science, has been invited to accept the American Museum's Gold Medal for Distinguished Service to Science at the May 21 Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Sir Karl's work has been largely in the philosophy of science, rather than in science itself, but his ideas are as significant for systematics and evolutionary biology as are those of any contemporary biologist. He has been characterized by P. B. Medawar as "incomparably the greatest philosopher of science that has ever been." Perhaps his single most important work is "The Logic of Scientific Discovery," in which he stated that "the wrong view of science betrays itself in the craving to be right; for it is not his *possession* of knowledge, or irrefutable truth, that makes the man of science, but his persistent and recklessly critical *quest* for truth."

In "Conjectures and Refutations," Sir Karl's first book, he provides some background on the intellectual climate in which his ideas developed:

"After the collapse of the Austrian Empire . . . the air was full of revolutionary slogans and ideas, and new and often wild theories. Among the theories which interested me, Einstein's theory of relativity was . . . by far the most important. Three others were Marx's theory of history, Freud's psychoanalysis, and Alfred Adler's so-called 'individual psychology.' . . . It was during the summer of 1919 that I began to feel more and more dissatisfied with these three theories . . . and I began to feel dubious about their claims to scientific status. . . . The study of any one of them seemed to have the effect of an intellectual conversion or revelation, opening your eyes to a new truth hidden from those not yet initiated."

What to the adherents of these theories seemed their greatest strength—their "explanatory power"—struck Sir Karl as in fact their greatest weakness. This line of thinking led him to postulate his falsifiability criterion: "A theory which is not refutable by a conceivable event is non-scientific. Irrefutability is not a virtue of a theory (as people often think) but a vice."

Several of Sir Karl's works have been reviewed by Norman I. Platnick, associate curator, Department of Entomology, and Eugene S. Gaffney, associate curator, Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, in *Systematic Zoology*. In their review of "Conjectures and Refutations," they in turn provoke the reader to think



about "the obvious questions that Sir Karl's views raise about the theories that biologists, particularly evolutionary biologists, rely on, such as evolution, natural selection, adaptation and the like. Do they belong to the realm of Einstein's theories or to those of Freud, Marx, and Adler?"

The Gold Medal represents the highest recognition for scientific achievement awarded by the American Museum. The most recent recipient before Sir

Karl was Norman D. Newell, curator emeritus in the Department of Invertebrates. Dr. Newell was awarded the Gold Medal last November. Other recipients have included Willi Hennig, Margaret Mead, and Theodosius Dobzhansky.

Sir Karl Raimund Popper has earned distinction in many circles, and he was the overwhelming choice of a large number of American Museum curators polled for the 1979 Gold Medal Award.

## MEDAL OF FREEDOM POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED MARGARET MEAD AT MEMORIAL PROGRAM



The late Dr. Margaret Mead, who was a member of the Museum family for over 50 years, was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom at a moving ceremony held on Jan. 20. The Medal, the nation's highest civilian award, was presented by Ambassador Andrew Young. Catherine Bateson, Dr. Mead's daughter, received the award on behalf of the

family. Participants in the Memorial Program included R. Buckminster Fuller and William D. Carey (top row, l. to r.); Dr. Bateson, Ambassador Young, Barbara Walters and Philleo Nash (middle row); and Gerard Piel, David Hurst Thomas and Jacquelyn Anderson Mattfeld. Gregory Bateson and Jean Mayer also spoke; Thomas D. Nicholson was moderator.

## NOTICE TO PING PONG PLAYERS:

All ping pong players are cordially invited to try out for the ping pong teams that meet daily to play in Section 17, Second Floor, behind Graphic Arts. The group, which does not currently have a name, plays each lunchtime between 12 and 1. For more details, call Steve Medina, Mammalogy, ext. 376.



## HERE AND THERE

**Accounting:** Mary McKenna, administrative assistant, retired in February. All of her friends in Accounting and elsewhere wish her well in her new life. . . . Audrey Yuille was promoted to computer coordinator, and Xiomara Delgado was hired as a clerk.

**Anthropology:** Carol Gelber and Lisa Sherman joined the Department as curatorial assistants (I); Marie Dillon signed on as secretary.

**Building Services:** Benjamin Andrews, Charles Boyd, and Wayne Cancryn are the new part-time parking attendants. . . . Joseph Barnes, Frances Fitch, and Charlie Sanabria are the new Museum attendant guards.

**Construction & Maintenance:** Edwardo Perez and German Rivera joined the Department as assistant maintainers.

**Development & Public Affairs:** June Martinez has been hired as assistant guest services coordinator. . . . Julie Goldweitz is the Pompeii assistant and Gayle Green, the communication supervisor for Pompeii.

**Exhibition:** Colleagues and friends mourn the death of consultant Jack S. McCormick, an ecologist who designed the beautiful and informative Hall of North American Forests. . . . Raymond de Lucia, retired in January, 1978, has returned to the Museum for a month or so to refurbish some of the dioramas in the Akeley Hall, third floor. . . . Stephen C. Quinn's painting of the courtship behavior of the Redcapped Manakin appeared with an article on deforestation in the February issue of *Animal Kingdom*. . . . Joan Barton was hired as part-time preparator.

**Herpetology:** Michael Klemens was hired as scientific assistant.

**Ichthyology:** James Atz gave two talks at the University of New Brunswick in January, one on fish reproduction, the other on the relationship of systematics to experimental biology. The talks generated two radio interviews by the Canadian Broadcasting System. . . . Donn Rosen traveled to Wash., D.C., and Philadelphia in January in the course of assuming his duties as secretary of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, effective January 1. . . . C. Lavett Smith reports a worthwhile, and fascinating, four weeks in Papua New Guinea in October-November, 1978, with the National Museum of Natural History. . . . Moses Chang was hired as part-time curatorial assistant (I) and Susan Ruthberg as curatorial assistant (III).

**Library:** Dorothy M. Fulton, associate manager, Photographic Collection, retired in February. In charge of the magnificent color slide collection from its inception, Ms. Fulton will be much missed. . . . Louis Samot became the father of a baby girl, Melinda, on February 9th. . . . Nina Root and Mary Giatas attended a mid-winter conference of the American Library Associa-

tion in Wash., D.C., from January 8-12. . . . Sylvia Aburto was hired as senior clerk, and Julius Ajayi and Alfredo Santana joined the staff as part-time library assistants. . . . Wilda Gastelu was promoted to serials project librarian and James Wassenich was promoted to acquisitions project librarian.

**Mammalogy:** Curatorial research interns Janet Sherman from the University of Chicago and Virginia Naples from the University of Massachusetts worked on edentates in the department during January. . . . Amy Lightfoot and Daniel Russell were hired as curatorial assistants (I).

**Micropaleontology Press:** Lisa Arcomano was hired as secretary.

**Mineral Sciences:** Martin Prinz, George Harlow and Joseph Peters attended the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in February, acquiring numerous minerals to add to the collections.

**Museum Shop:** Sonia Carrero, Noel Epstein, Marina Fergus, Linda Ford, Marie Graziano, Sam Katz, Kathleen Kiefer, Brian Lawrence, Shelly Major, Alfonso Manosalvas, Brenda Moore, Stephen Rechner, Debra Wilkes and Howard Zucker were hired as part-time sales assistants. . . . Peter Poller was hired as part-time supervisor, as was Patricia Rowe (weekends). . . . Mara Bacsujlaky was promoted to full-time sales assistant.

**Natural History Magazine:** Mark Abraham is the new production assistant, Daniel Dynan the fulfillment manager, Jeffrey Maer the marketing assistant and Vittorio Maestro, associate editor.

**Planetarium:** Patrick Breen, attendant, retired in December. He reports that he will spend his time relaxing and being with his family, as well as visiting relatives in Ireland this summer. . . . Mark R. Chartrand, III, Fred C. Hess, Allen Seltzer and Fujiko Worrell went to Montana in February to watch the last total eclipse of the sun visible over the continental U.S. in this century. . . . Dennis Ferrell is the new assistant box office manager; Jennifer Hayes was hired as secretary.

**Southwestern Research Station:** The station has a new postcard, showing the grounds and some of the buildings.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Steven Barghoorn and Marjorie Shaffer were hired as curatorial assistants (I); John Horner joined the department as a part-time curatorial assistant (I).

**Volunteers:** Ruth De Lynn has just returned from Hawaii, where she observed honey creepers in altitudes of over 10,000 feet for Earth Watch. . . . Mitzi Bhavnani and Eleanor Earle are coordinating the recruitment and training of POMPEII AD79 volunteers. They invite the families and friends of all employees to participate in the program.





## **GALA OPENING FOR POMPEII AD79 AND VOLCANO! HELD APRIL 24**

The gala party celebrating the opening of POMPEII AD79 and Volcano! attracted many dignitaries. The above photo captured New York City's mayor, Edward I. Koch (center), Montana's governor, Thomas L. Judge (right), and AMNH's president, Robert G. Goelet, as they chatted by a Roman fountain.

## **MUSEUM HOSTS SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM**

"Vicariance Biogeography: A Critique" was the title of a symposium held at the Museum from May 2 to May 4. Drawn to this symposium were botanists, zoologists and geologists. Twelve invited scientists presented papers, and twenty-three discussants delivered prepared responses. The symposium stirred up so much interest in the scientific community that 100 participants came to the proceedings from as far away as the West Coast, Canada, Europe and Latin America.

Biogeography is the umbrella term for the branch of biology that is concerned with the distribution of animals and plants. It asks the basic question, "Why do certain organisms live where they do?" There was no one answer to the question, no one explanation for the distribution of animals and plants throughout the world. Some biogeographers believed in a stable world and held certain biological notions based on their acceptance of a stable geology. Other biogeographers were influenced by concepts such as land bridges, sunken continents and continental drift, and consequently held very different views on the distribution of organisms.

Vicariance is a process of the formation of barriers. A vicariant event is any process that subdivides the range of a species or group of species of plants and animals. In other

words, the formation of a mountain is a vicariant event that then can effect the evolutionary history of the flora and fauna in the areas subdivided. The concepts and techniques for making reciprocal comparisons between earth history and biological history constitute modern vicariance biogeography.

Vicariance biogeography aims to synthesize certain notions about the distribution of animals and plants. Up to now scientists have tended to describe individual histories—the evolution of one species. But with much of the new information now available to the biological and geological sciences, there is reason to believe that groups of animals or plants may share the same history. Our new knowledge of earth history suggests that the evolution of the earth and its life paralleled each other very closely. The implication of this is that if we can reconstruct the history of organisms in a certain area, then we should be able to reconstruct the history of that part of the earth, and conversely earth history should tell us something about biological history.

As was expected, the symposium proved to be a forum for many points of view. The intellectual ferment aside, what was also accomplished in the few days was to introduce new terms into the scientific vocabulary—a sure sign that vicariance biogeography will not fade away but will be reckoned with by both assenters and dissenters.

## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB FETES NEW MEMBERS



1.



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3.



4.

The annual dinner of the Quarter Century Club, in honor of those employees who have served the Museum for 25 years or more, was held on the evening of April 10. Each year several new members join the club, but rarely are there as many new members in one year as in 1979—eight in all, including Thomas D. Nicholson, the director.

Dr. Nicholson was especially pleased to be included in this select group, and as Master of Ceremonies, he quipped that now the Museum cannot get rid of him. He will be able to return each year for the QCC dinner. Dr. Nicholson spoke briefly about each of the new members. Then Robert G. Goelet, president, and Geraldine Smith, personnel manager, presented those who were at the dinner with citations. They were George Crawbuck, Exhibition; Arthur Schaefer, Construction and Maintenance; George Krochak, Vertebrate Paleontology; and Otto Simonis, Vertebrate Paleontology.

Victoria Pelton, Ichthyology; Marilyn Badaracco, Guest Services; and Henry Gardiner, Exhibition, also became QCC members but were unable to attend the dinner.

Mr. Goelet spoke briefly about Dr. Nicholson and then turned the microphone over to Dr. Joseph Chamberlain, a friend and colleague. Dr. Chamberlain, director of the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, had worked at the American Museum for 16 years. He was director of the American Museum—Hayden Planetarium and was responsible for bringing Dr. Nicholson to the Museum in 1954. Dr. Chamberlain spoke nostalgically of his years at the Museum and of his close working relationship with Dr. Nicholson. Then he presented Dr. Nicholson with a citation of membership in the QCC.

The 25-Year Club now numbers 175 members, and 82 of them returned to the annual dinner to meet and greet each other. While guests were mingling and sipping cocktails in the Rotunda, GV roved around from group to group and spoke to some of the members.

Harriet Walsh was looking well and rested and happy to be among Museum friends. A veteran of 47 years on the Museum staff with *Natural History Magazine*, Ms. Walsh said that since her retirement in 1977, from what began as a "temporary" job, she is thoroughly enjoying her leisure.

Joan Mahoney, who handled *Natural History's* circulation until her retirement in 1976, overheard Ms. Walsh and concurred with her. Ms. Mahoney is delighted to be doing "as little as possible."

George Petersen, though retired from the Museum since 1973, has continued to do art work for television and advertising agencies. He divides the year between his summer residence in Michigan and his winter home in New York. Mr. Petersen had worked in the Museum's Exhibition Department and was proud to tell GV that he had hired George Crawbuck, one of this year's new QCC members.

John Scott, who was with the Building Services Department until his retirement in 1973, was looking tan and fit from a recent visit to Virginia Beach. He reported that his son is a Virginia State policeman; and between his three children—a son and two daughters—he now has eight grandchildren, six of whom are girls.

A chat with Patrick O'Dwyer, Manager of the Planetarium until 1973, revealed that he is living what he described as "the life of a country squire" in Hunterdon County. He and his wife now live with his daughter and son-in-law on a beautiful 12-acre tract of land. His wife is convalescing from an illness, and he is keeping himself busy working in the fruit orchards on the property.

Teresa Martin, who retired from the Museum in 1977, reports that she is enjoying life. She has moved to upstate New York and has had time to do some traveling within the U.S.

The annual dinner of the Quarter Century Club ended jovially with an after-dinner drink in the Rotunda and the promise of a return engagement next spring.



**QCC captions:**

1. *Otto Simonis, Vertebrate Paleontology, shaking hands with Robert G. Goelet, president.*
2. *From left to right, John J. Hackett, General Services (ret.), Stephen W. Knapp, Building Services (ret.), and Edward Teller, Herpetology, share a convivial moment.*
3. *Arthur Schaefer, Construction and Maintenance, receiving citation from Mr. Goelet.*
4. *George Crawbuck, Exhibition, accepts citation from Mr. Goelet.*

## **"PAPUA NEW GUINEA—THEN AND NOW" RECEIVES HIGH PRAISE**

Earlier this year, Dr. Malcolm Arth, who played a major role in last year's exhibition "Papua New Guinea—Then and Now," received a special letter of thanks addressed to all at the Museum involved in the show from Wesley Embahe, Minister for Media of Papua New Guinea. The following are excerpts:

*Most of the reports of Papua New Guineans who participated have now come in, and it is with a great deal of pride and satisfaction that I reported to the Papua New Guinea Parliament on the overwhelming success of the exhibition . . .*

*Just reading the various reports, one could not help . . . seeing the dramatic effect the exhibition had on the American public. Most people said it was a great feeling being a Papua New Guinean at that particular point in time . . .*

*For the invaluable assistance you rendered us and the pleasure of [being] at your prestigious museum, I say thank you very much and sincerely hope that the personal contact established will flourish.*

Yours Faithfully,  
Wesley Embahe, MP

## **HIGHLIGHT AND HISTORY TOUR REPORT**

According to Sarah E. Flanders, Volunteer Coordinator, the success of the Highlight and History Tours has grown by leaps and bounds. In the period from July 1 to December 31, 1978, for example, there were 22,784 visitors who participated in a total of 946 tours. For the same time period in 1977, there were 5649 visitors who took 287 tours. A total of 194 Museum members participated in 13 specially-arranged tours set up by Henry Schulson, Membership. Special tours were also arranged for VIPs—866—visiting the Museum.

## **OPENING OF ASIAN HALL EAGERLY AWAITED; APRIL 1980 IS TARGET DATE**

Now that the 1978-79 exhibition season is rapidly drawing to a close, New Yorkers and Museum personnel alike are eagerly awaiting next year's outstanding displays, namely, the "Gold of El Dorado" and the sumptuous Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples, due to open in April, 1980.

In the planning and early preparation stages for the past ten years, the Hall is now taking final shape. To see what this largest (20,000 square feet) of all the Museum's permanent exhibitions is going to look like, GV recently took a special guided tour with designer Alex Williams.

"When you first enter the Hall from the second floor near 77th Street, you will be confronted with a magnificent, life-sized diorama of the legendary city of Samarkand," explains Mr. Williams, who used to be on the Museum staff and is now a consultant. "In a way, this city is symbolic of Asia as a whole because it was a major crossroads, where numerous cultures—Eastern and Western—constantly met."

Asia as defined by the Hall's curatorial authority, Walter A. Fairservis, Jr., Research Associate, stretches from Tokyo in the East to Vienna in the West. "Many people have wondered why we included Eastern Europe," Dr. Fairservis has noted.



## **GARGOYLE IN GOTHAM:**

Resembling a cross between Superman and Frankenstein, this plastofam figure, actually 2 inches high, reaches towering dimensions through the imaginative lens of I-Am-A-Camera Jim Cox. Mr. Cox refuses to divulge either the true identity or exact whereabouts of his subject, claiming his right to protect a source. Authorities, meanwhile, are following up leads that the unusual figure has ties to the Exhibition Department. For their part, local realists are claiming that Mr. Cox has struck another blow for the view that art imitates life. Another, equally persuasive faction, however, has been contending just the opposite.

## **HEADHUNTER FANS:**

You can go out to cheer the Museum's softball team on the following dates:  
Tuesday, June 26, 5:30 p.m., Thursday, July 12, 5:30 p.m.  
The team plays on the Great Lawn in Central Park off 81st Street at Diamond #1 (near the Shakespeare Theater.)

"But from an anthropological point of view, Asia definitely extends this far, both in terms of the strong influences of such groups as the Mongols and the Turks, and in terms of an overall state of mind that existed in the past, if not in the present."

Thematically, the Hall deals with several major Asian, and worldwide, topics. One entire area, for example, covers the broad sweep of prehistory from Peking Man to the early civilizations of Mesopotamia. It then gives way to a section on Classical Civilization, where Judaism and Zoroastrianism are discussed.

Another major area is devoted to Asian ethnology, which essentially parallels the important cultural regions of the continent. Here there are magnificent displays devoted to China, to Southeast Asia, to India, to Central Asia, to Japan, and to what is known as Buddhist High Asia (Tibet).

Certain areas of the Hall have, quite understandably, considerable overlap, but it is this fact which gives the exhibition some of its richness. In the section on "The World of Islam," for example, there are artifacts from Iran as well as from India, and in the section known as Southwest Asia, the material culture of the Islamic Bedouin is featured near displays about Armenian (Christian) life in Turkey.

No chronological or ethnographic description, however long or brief, can fully capture the magic of this Hall, or its

magnitude and extraordinary changes in mood and essence.

There are wedding scenes, peasant scenes, maps of ancient trade routes, an Ice Age cave, and a rendering of the extensive family tree of Genghis Khan and his descendants. There is an inspiring diorama depicting the Dali Lama's palace, Potala, and a huge Buddha covered in gold leaf that serenely peers down from the top of a shrine in the section on Japan.

In a series of small settings divided by the major dynasties that have ruled China, there are displays of some of the world's finest pieces of jade and ivory collected—along with almost all the other items in the Hall—by expeditions to Asia at the turn of the century.

The overall impression created is of a dynamic and living exhibition, albeit devoted to many traditional cultures which have already died out, or about to. In the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples, however, they are still very much with us, and will be for some time to come.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Bettie Erda was guest curator for the Katonah Gallery exhibition of Asian shadow puppets loaned by the Department from March 17-May 27. . . . Deidre Hawkins was hired as secretary.

**Building Services:** Elizabeth Clayton, Walter McCarthy and Samdaye Singh signed on as attendant guards. . . . Charles Pierson was hired as assistant manager and Vito Melito was promoted to supervising attendant guard.

**Construction & Maintenance:** Two painters, Jerome Wilson and Eddi Tobin, were in the hospital in mid-May, but making a speedy recovery. . . . Anthony Bray and William Lamison joined the Museum as assistant maintainers.

**Entomology:** Elise Burton was hired as a part-time curatorial assistant (I).

**Exhibition:** Henry Gardiner, exhibit design chief, retired May 25 after 25 years with the Museum. His magnificent designs have included "Ice Age Art," "Peru's Golden Treasures," and the permanent Halls of Mollusks and Mankind, Mexico and Central America, Man in Africa and the Lindsley Hall of Earth History. Mr. Gardiner will be missed by everyone at the Museum and by countless visitors as well. . . . Charles B. Tornell, former supervisor of the department, passed away in April at the age of 73. Coming to the Museum in 1941, Mr. Tornell made major contributions to the Hall of the Biology of Man and the Warburg Memorial Hall. . . . Fred Scherer, retired, was featured in an article that appeared in The Courier-Gazette of Rockland, Maine. . . . Stephen C. Quinn was promoted to principal preparator and Rose Wadsworth was promoted from research assistant to administrative assistant. . . . Neal Martz received the Therese and Edward H. Richard Memorial Award on April 23 for portrait sculpture in the round.

**General Services:** Charlesetta Moses was hired as the new switchboard operator. . . . Paul Vann, singer, will perform at the People Center on June 23 and 24 at 1 and 4:30 p.m.

**Herpetology:** Charles J. Cole spent the last two weeks of February at Louisiana State University collaborating with colleagues on projects concerning reproduction in all-female species of lizards. . . . George Foley spent a week in the Carolinas vacationing, and getting bitten by fire ants. . . . Laura Hatten was hired as a curatorial assistant (I).

**Ichthyology:** Amy Rudnick joined the staff as secretary.

**Invertebrates:** On April 24, Norman D. Newell was elected a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences. On May 9 he was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In addition he has been selected to receive the Gold Medal of the Paleontological Society of America. . . . In acknowledgment of his outstanding contributions, Niles Eldredge has been awarded the Paleontological

Society of America's Schuchert Award. . . . Frank Lombardi got married April 6.

**Library:** Nina Root attended the International Conference on the History of Museums and Collections in Natural History held at the British Museum April 3-6. She delivered a paper on the history of the AMNH library collections. . . . Miriam Tam and Diana Shih attended a conference in Albany on the New York State library systems in the 1980's. . . . Kathleen Rose was hired as the assistant librarian for the photographic collection; Wilda Williams was hired as part-time Library assistant.

**Mammalogy:** Guy Musser went to Washington, D.C., in March as a member of a Smithsonian Institution review committee. . . . Sydney Anderson participated in a review of the Department of Zoology at the Field Museum in Chicago. . . . Ken Creighton signed on as a curatorial research intern from the University of Michigan. . . . Dr. Anderson and Gil Willis were at St. Catherine's Island during March and April with a team of six volunteers from Earthwatch.

**Micropaleontology:** John Van Couvering spent a busy winter, traveling to Madrid in February for the Neogene/Quaternary Boundary correlation project, to Kenya in March to do field work on Early Miocene paleoanthropological sites, and to Houston in early April for the meeting of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, where he participated in the group set up to revise the American code of stratigraphical nomenclature. . . . The staff, including Norman Hillman, Martin Janal, Ruth Manoff, Lilian Farhi and Dr. Van Couvering, paid their annual visit to Meriden Press in Conn. in April. . . . Martin Janal spent three weeks traveling in India during March-April.

**Museum Shop:** Jeffrey Maer was promoted to assistant manager. . . . Thomas Burgess, Dora Delgado and Rhonda Kronenfeld were hired as part-time sales assistants.

**Ornithology:** Jared Diamond, Research Associate and professor of physiology at the University of California at Los Angeles, was elected a member of the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in April. . . . Lester L. Short and his wife participated in this year's Discovery Tour cruise on the Nile. After leaving Egypt they did research at the British Museum. . . . G. Stuart Keith recently returned from a month of birding in Surinam. . . . Dean Amadon and his wife spent a month at the Archbold Research Station earlier this year; on the way home they spent several days at St. Catherine's Island. . . . John Farrand was elected Vice-President of the Linnaean Society.

**Planetarium:** Jon U. Bell and Fujiko Worrell, interns, attended a conference sponsored by the Middle Atlantic Planetarium Society in Ithaca, N.Y., on May 2-5. Mr. Bell presented a paper entitled "A Sky Information Telephone Service for the Public". . . . Kenneth Franklin recently received a set of photographs of Jupiter taken by Voyager I from Robert A. Frosch, the head of NASA. . . . Carlos Cruz and Calvin Samuel are the new attendant guards.

**Training Office:** Sherrie B. Joseph has been hired as the training manager in the new Training Office of the Museum, which is responsible for new employee orientation and the training of other employees in a variety of areas.

**Southwestern Research Station:** Vincent Roth was made a fellow of the Arizona-Nevada Academy of Science. . . . During the winter, floods in Cave Creek Canyon widened the creek to 100' in some places, at least partially washing out all roads to the Station.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Theresa Moran was hired as secretary.

**Volunteers:** Miriam Pineo and Walter Johnson, a volunteer active in the Vertebrate Paleontology Department, were married on April 21. . . . Among those in charge of POMPEII AD79 facilitators is Mary Drew, who usually lives in San Francisco but is in New York for a few months. . . . More POMPEII AD79 facilitators are needed for the summer! For more information, call 873-1300, ext. 538.





Workmen carefully introduce Ahnighito to its new permanent home in the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites.

## 34-TON METEORITE GETS NEW HOME

In September, the AMNH undertook one of the most ambitious moving projects in its history. Ahnighito, the largest meteorite belonging to any institution in the world, was moved in a complex, two-week transfer from the Hayden Planetarium to the new Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites.

Ahnighito, which had descended to earth at least several thousand years ago as part of the Cape York shower in Greenland, had been resting on a big Toledo Scale on the first floor of the Planetarium since 1935. Since then, millions of children and adults had delighted in comparing their own body weights to that of the meteorite.

Accompanying the 34-ton behemoth on its relocation journey was a much smaller member of the Cape York shower known as the Woman. The move was designed to bring together for the first time all the major meteorites available to the Museum in a new and improved Meteorite Hall.

"Since we opened the big Section of Meteorites, Minerals and Gems in 1976, we've recognized the need to build the Meteorite Hall to the same high standards of exhibition as the other two areas," said Thomas D. Nicholson, director. "Thanks to the interest and generosity of Arthur Ross, we now have the opportunity. And of course, a major exhibition such as this would simply be incomplete without Ahnighito."

Ahnighito will serve as the centerpiece of the new

Hall, which will be double the size of the old Hall of Meteorites. The area is scheduled to open sometime during the fall of 1980.

First, however, Walter F. Koenig, chief of operations for the meteorite move, had to calculate just how to get a 34-ton piece of nickel iron out of the Planetarium, up to 81st Street, down Columbus Avenue and into the Museum's southwest corner tower near 77th Street. This undertaking would involve Museum carpenters, sheet metal workers and moving men, in cooperation with outside riggers and other construction workers.

"It was a great challenge," reminisced a proud and relieved Mr. Koenig several days after the move. "The meteorites fell to earth once; we didn't want that to happen again," remarked one of the many Museum people participating in the effort.

Stage 1 of the massive move sparked considerable attention not only in the media but in the neighborhood as well. On Sept. 4, removal of a wall of the Planetarium was begun so that Ahnighito and the Woman could be hauled out into the Museum Parking Lot. By Thurs., Sept. 6, this step was completed and the two meteorites hoisted by a 55 foot-high crane onto a flatbed truck.

The two visitors from outer space and the flatbed truck, belonging to a Bronx rigging firm, sat under guard in front of the Planetarium for nearly a week while Museum workmen constructed the supports for Ahnighito in the new Meteorite Hall. The floor leading from the southwest tower to the meteorite's final resting place was also shored up at the basement level.

At last, when all was ready for the final move, Ahnighito and the Woman were hauled up to 81st Street and across to Columbus Avenue on the bright, sunny morning of Friday, Sept. 14. Even at 8 a.m., small throngs began to gather. Many bystanders, confronted by two huge hunks of iron being towed down the city's streets, responded with a New Yorker's classic mix of sarcasm and humor.

As Ahnighito drew up just below the windows of *Natural History*, a welcoming party formed, composed of staff, administration officials, media representatives, bystanders and Mr. Arthur Ross himself. The rigging crane carefully swung Ahnighito and the Woman to a system of rollers which had been laid along the 108-foot route from the tower entrance to the new Hall. An elaborate hydraulic system then dragged the meteorites along the rollers and into place.

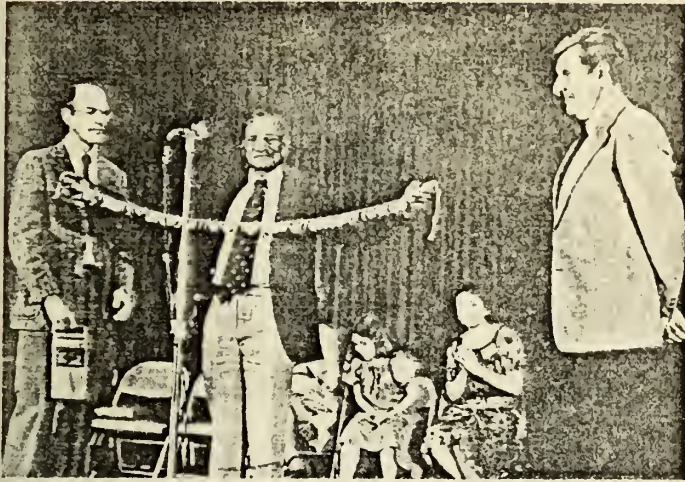
The following Monday, Sept. 17, the two were gingerly lowered onto a series of sturdy support columns constructed by Museum personnel in the new Hall; there they will rest for many years to come.

With the project completed Mr. Koenig departed for a much-deserved vacation in Europe, while the rest of the staff returned to their normal tasks, assured once again that working at the AMNH is like working nowhere else in the world.





## MARGARET MEAD FILM FESTIVAL DRAWS CROWDS FOR THIRD YEAR



John Kilipak Kiskokau proudly displays the string of gold coins to be presented to Dr. Nicholson by the people of Peri.

The third annual Margaret Mead Film Festival—the first since the death of Dr. Mead last fall—was held Sept. 13 through 16. The co-chairpersons for this year's Festival were Malcolm Arth, curator of Education, and Florence Stone, coordinator of Special Projects.

The first segment of the two-part Festival was devoted to the work of Asen Balikci, the featured filmmaker, who is an anthropologist and ethnographer teaching at the University of Montreal. Introducing his own films on the Netsilik Eskimos and "Sons of Haji Omar" (his latest film on the Pashtoons of Afghanistan), Dr. Balikci spoke of his debt to Margaret Mead. In 1959, as a graduate student at Columbia University, he was in her film seminar. From Dr. Mead, Dr. Balikci said "I learned to film the whole body, and to show every action in its context."

The weekend segment of the Festival included seventy films, screened in six different Museum locations. The films were divided into categories based on themes that were of special to Margaret Mead. The selection included films on Childhood, the Family, the Spirit World, Oceania, Urban Life, American Attitudes, Early Ethnographic Films, Cultural Change, and New Films.

On Sunday afternoon, a very special presentation was made in Education Hall, in honor of Dr. Mead. John Kilipak Kiskokau, who first met Dr. Mead in the 1920s when she was doing field work in Manus, came to the Museum and presented to Dr. Nicholson a string of gold coins. These coins had been collected in Peri, the small village where Dr. Mead had worked, at the time of her death. As is customary for the people of Peri, a period of mourning ends with the giving of gifts to the kin of the departed. JK, as he is affectionately called by those who know him well, traveled many, many miles to complete the mourning of the villagers of Peri and to honor Dr. Mead in the institution which was her professional home for over a half century.

It was a moving ceremony and a fitting completion to the 1979 Margaret Mead Film Festival.

### THE LIGHTER SIDE OF OUR MAILBAG...

This note, from Kimi Klausner of Los Angeles:  
Dear Mr. Ryus:

I'm very sorry that I can't subscribe to your maga-

zine but you made one mistake. I'm not an adult. I'm 10 years old, I don't subscribe to science magazines. I subscribe to MAD magazine. You can write me in about 15 years. Sorry.

### FALL, THE SEASON OF GOLD

"Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia" will lead off the season of glitter at the American Museum November 13. "It's Gold," a smaller companion exhibit will open at the same time. Then in early December, a third exhibit of the American Gem Society will open.

Gold of El Dorado, the spectacular exhibition of pre-Columbian artifacts will include 500 objects of gold as well as many pieces of pottery and stone. The exhibition in Gallery 3 is designed to first introduce visitors to the El Dorado legend. On display will be photographs of the lagoon where we are told the El Dorado ceremony took place.

As legend has it, upon ascending the throne, the leader of the Muisca people underwent a strange ritual. He was covered with gold dust and taken out on a raft to the center of the lagoon. There gold offerings were thrown into the water and the leader ceremonially bathed. From this ceremony comes the legend of El Dorado, literally gilded man.

Thus familiarized with the legend, the viewer will enter the exhibition area that deals with death and the after life. All that is known of the ancient peoples of Colombia and their gold has been gathered from burial mounds.

Because Colombia is a land of sharp geographical contrasts—where mountains, rivers and jungles naturally isolate one area from another—a panoply of goldworking styles resulted. The gold and pottery in the exhibition will, therefore, be arranged by region.

Another section will be devoted to the technology employed by the gifted Indians who crafted the beautiful ornamental and utilitarian objects on exhibit. Visitors will learn how the Indians mastered the art of lost-wax casting and how they used gold alloys to great effect.

All Museum employees will be given 8 priority tickets to "Gold of El Dorado." The tickets will enable employees and their families to enter the exhibition without a waiting time.

The companion exhibit, "It's Gold," will open in the Rotunda at the same time and will offer visitors another aspect of this metal. It will consider gold as it occurs in nature—as a mineral and an ore, and as a useful metal for monetary, medical, decorative and industrial applications.

A third exhibit will display this precious metal as a setting for native American gemstones. The American Gem Society will have a small exhibit of jewelry designed by Aldo Cipullo. It will open December 3 in the Hall of Minerals and Gems.

### MUSEUM AWARDED HEW GRANT

On September 5, the Museum received a \$25,000 grant from the Institute of Museum Services of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Museum was among 56 cultural and educational institutions in New York State which shared \$1,000,000 in grant money.

These grants are designed to help such institutions counter inflation and the energy crisis, and to defray operating expenses. New York State received the largest number of grants.







Offerings from "Gold of El Dorado" included in the Museum Shop catalog are this umbrella, tote bag, and scarf.

## MUSEUM SHOP CATALOG AVAILABLE

This year's Museum Shop catalog displays an exciting array of beautiful, useful and fanciful items for sale. Included in the selection are more than a dozen items on the theme of "Gold of El Dorado."

Employees and volunteers can receive discounts on all items. But, since the computer does not process discounts, Martin Tekulsky reminds us that purchases must be made in the Museum shop, and not through catalog order forms.

## NATURAL HISTORY MAGAZINE EARNS PLACE OF HONOR

*Natural History* magazine earned finalist standing in the 14th Annual National Magazine Awards sponsored by the American Society of Magazine Editors. The magazine was nominated in the categories of Visual Excellence and best Single Issue Topic. It was one of 39 finalists selected from more than 575 entries representing 177 publications. Winners in each of 8 categories were chosen by a panel of 11 judges.

## HERE & THERE

**President's Office:** Louise LoPresti, formerly administrative secretary to David Ryus, has accepted the position of assistant to the Dean of Law at Columbia University. All her friends at the Museum wish her well on her new job.

**Animal Behavior:** In July, Lester Aronson chaired a

session and presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Society for Experimental Biology in Belfast. . . . Ethel Tobach received the 1979 Distinguished Publication Award from the Ass'n for Women in Psychology; and with Cary Otsuka, a graduate student at City College, studied *Aplysia* at the College of France in Concarneau. . . . Betty Faber returned from 6 weeks at the Asa Wright Nature Center in Trinidad with 36 different cockroach species. . . . Peter Moller spent the summer working in the Electrophysiological Laboratory of CNRS at Gif-sur-Yvette, France, with Thomas Szabo.

**Anthropology:** Joseph A. Nocera sent warm thanks for the inscribed plaque presented him on his retirement. . . . Jane Epstein was promoted to curatorial assistant (III).

**Building Services:** The roster of new Museum attendant guards includes Felice Bartoletti, Gabriel Chabriel, Nanette Haslam, Ernest Haynes, Allen Henriquez, Lloyd Julius, Pedro Perez, Inez Rivera, John Russell and Scott Sherrer. Promoted to senior Museum attendant guard are Guido Luberto, Howard Paige and Delbert Parker. . . . Barbara McCaw promoted to senior secretary.

**Controller's Office:** John Alinovi is the new assistant to the Controller.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Batya Knapp and Daphne Prior were promoted to Public Affairs associates. . . . Recently joining the staff are E. Davis Howard, III, contributors' assistant; Lorraine Airall, senior clerk; Arline Bleecker, Public Affairs manager; Rosemarie Tiedeman, secretary.

**Education:** Barbara Neill promoted to supervising Museum instructor.

**Entomology:** Randall Schuh promoted to associate curator.

**Exhibition:** George Campbell retired in June as principal preparator and will be greatly missed; but future visitors to the Museum will know him from the several small dioramas he already completed for the Asian Hall. He has returned to England to live and looks forward to visits from colleagues and friends. . . . Stephen Quinn led a Discovery Tour to Trinidad and Tobago and reports that 7 intrepid adventurers observed the leatherback sea turtle laying eggs. . . . Frederica Leser, Martin Cassidy, David Schwendeman and Derek Squires were promoted to senior principal preparators. . . . Joan Braccini, Patricia Harrison, Neal Martz and Beth Sudekum promoted to preparators. . . . Leslie Alexander hired as senior secretary.

**General Accounting:** Xiomara Delgado was promoted to senior clerk.

**Herpetology:** Michael Klemens spoke on "Turtles of the World; Their Care and Production in Captivity" at the Conn. Herpetological Society. . . . Richard Zweifel and Charles Cole spent a week in April on Ossabaw Island, Ga., observing habitats and collecting amphibians and reptiles to compare with those on adjacent St. Catherine's Island. . . . to which Charles Cole repaired the following week, assisted by son Jeff and grad student Charles Crumly. In addition to the more scholarly pursuits, Mr. Crumly ate 2 lizards' tails on a bet. . . . In May, the Zweifels and Lanyons (Ornithology) observed all species of animals on the Museum's Galapagos tour. . . . Charles Cole chaired a workshop at Washington Univ. in St. Louis at the International Conference of Polyploidy: Biological Relevance. . . . The Zweifels and Charles Myers summered at annual meetings of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Maine. . . . Janis Roze presented a lecture on "Competitiveness of Natural Resources"





in Mexico City. . . . Health took a tumble—and we hope Frances Zweifel and George Foley recover speedily from their recent operations. . . . Charles Cole promoted to curator.

**General Accounting:** Welcome aboard to Patience Adams, clerk; and Claire Richman, assistant manager.

**General Services:** Catherine Bizelia was promoted to senior telephone operator.

**Ichthyology:** An elegant new hall exhibit featuring City College students and their work was prepared by Gareth Nelson. . . . M. Norma Feinberg returned happily from Trinidad with a fine sackful of specimens. . . . James Atz and Donn Rosen with Mrs. Feinberg and Ms. Lynn Parenti attended the ASIH meetings in Maine in Aug. where Dr. Rosen & Ms. Parenti presented papers. . . . Jim Atz was recently appointed to the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources Council in Washington, DC where he participated in their workshop on Animal Welfare in April. He was also the Sophie Speak Maples Commemorative Lecturer at the annual meeting of the Closter Nature Center. . . . A terrific group of volunteers worked hard on the alcohol collection this summer. Special thanks to Loretta Stillman, Caridad Vicente, Alice Weber, Felix Locicero, and Walter Popp among others for this careful handling of a difficult job. . . . Marj & C.L. Smith enjoyed their Discovery Tour cruise to the Bahamas but a Smith field trip in New York was more eventful: a near collision in a rain squall brought adventure to its zenith. Marj & Smitty also completed 25 years of fishing together: Happy Anniversary! . . . Vicki Pelton enjoyed a week "tenting" at the New Jersey shore. . . . Amy Rudnick is a welcome addition to the Ichthyology Dept. as secretary to Drs. Rosen & Nelson. . . . Donn Rosen has returned from a productive field trip to the streams of Guatemala & Mexico. . . . Jerry Platt successfully defended his Master's thesis on 23 April. He continues his job as curator at the Museum of the Hudson Highlands and is a mainstay of the C.L. Smith—New York Fish Study field crew. Congratulations! . . . Janice Schneider, a champion among volunteers, is also the New York City Girl's Bowling Champ. . . . Vicki Pelton enjoyed a visit in Florida and brings back warm greetings from Charles & Priscilla Rasquin Breder.

**Invertebrates:** William Emerson and William Old attended the American Malacological Union-Western Society of Malacologists joint meetings held in Corpus Christi, Texas, this summer. Mr. Old presided. In July, he was a judge at the 15th Annual Jacksonville Shell Show. . . . Niles Eldredge was promoted to curator.

**Library:** At summer's end Nina Root attended an International Federation of Library Associations conference in Copenhagen and attended an annual conference of the American Library Association in Dallas earlier, with Pamela Haas and Miriam Tam. . . . Ms. Tam and Mary Giatas attended a mid-summer seminar on bindery operations in upstate NY. . . . Relaxation took the form of family visits: to Warsaw, Poland, for Janina Gertner; to New Mexico and Arizona for Pam Haas; to Mexico for Nina Root; and to California for Lucy Shih. . . . Red Wassenich traveled in Canada and California; and Diana Shih divided August between courses and vacation in Edmonton, Alberta. . . . Welcomes go to Amanda Clark, John Dudek and Frances Funar as p/t library assistants; Sylvia Diaz, reference librarian; and Susan Palmer and Theresa DiMeola, senior clerks.

**Mammalogy:** Lyndon State College, Vermont, has given us Dan Russell, curatorial assistant. . . . Muriel V. Williams was hired as senior secretary. . . . Steven Medina was promoted to senior museum technician and piled his trade via a radio interview on his munching

beetles, providing the listening audience with sounds not often heard beyond our walls. . . . William Coull, tanner, wishes to thank all those who contributed or offered to donate blood to his ill niece, Patricia Panzer, who is now recovering. . . . Edward Hawkins, a Museum technician for more than 40 years when he retired, passed away June 10.

**Micro Press:** An interesting observation on the Building 15 flood: it began in Rivers of Africa, and wound up among seafloor fossils in their collections! . . . Virginia Alvarez was hired as secretary. . . . Lisa Arcomano left to accept art history scholarship at Univ. of Chicago.

**Mineral Sciences:** New are David Waggoner, Thomas Walters and Steven Frishman, p/t curatorial assts. (III); and Jeremy Delaney, postdoctoral Fellow.

**Museum Shop:** Welcome to Gertrude Long, assistant manager, and Herbert Tillman, senior clerk. . . . Veronica South, Annemarie Conlon, Angela Ghiozzi, George Nobles, Marcia Pelletier and Lillian Rodriguez signed on as p/t sales assistants and Janet Greenstein as p/t cash analysis. . . . Martin Tekulsky was promoted to marketing manager and David Sievers to senior clerk.

**Natural History Magazine:** Daniel Dynan promoted to assistant circulation manager. . . . New on board are Robert Aronson, business manager; Rita Campon senior secretary; Laurie Warhol, advertising production manager; May May Gong, secretary.

**Ornithology:** Lester L. Short has been awarded a grant and named Visiting Fellow in the Australian Nat'l University's Dept. of Population Biology thru Feb. '80; Dr. Short will study hybridization and chromosomal variation in Australian parrots. His wife, Jennifer, is accompanying and assisting him. . . . Jean T. Delacour summered at Clères, France. . . . Eugene Eisenmann recovering from illness at home. . . . Robert W. Dickerman returned from Australia where he was on a N.I.H. fellowship for the past year. . . . Mary LeCroy and Francois Vuilleumier attended A.O.U. meeting in Texas in August. . . . Dr. and Mrs. Vuilleumier are happy parents of a girl born in June; Dr. Vuilleumier was promoted to curator. . . . Helen Hays and assistant, Joe DiCostanzo, spent a season on Great Gull Island, along with Malcolm Coulter, who completed his Chapman Fellowship term with us and leaves for Long Point Bird Observatory in Canada. . . . Dr. & Mrs. Wesley Lanyon went on a Discovery Tour to the Galapagos & Ecuador, followed by field work in Mexico and a vacation in the Adirondacks. They are now conducting field work in Surinam. . . . William Phelps, research associate from Caracas, was in New York for a visit. . . . Former research associate Ruth Chapin, now retired and living in Columbus, Ohio, recently spent several days visiting here. . . . G. Stuart Keith, research associate, was featured in People Magazine's June 25th issue. . . . The Bird Dept. welcomes Sylvia Hope, new graduate student who will teach and take courses at Queens College.

**Payroll:** Welcome to Kay Fung, senior clerk.

**Planetarium:** Newly joined as p/t rental clerk is Lisa Anne Littles.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** VP at last has its new assistant curator: John Maisey. He and his wife, Vivien, have arrived from England. . . . Others new on board are Michael Klimetz and Barbara Goldstein, curatorial assistant (I).

**Volunteers:** Through the efforts of those dedicated marvels, the numbers of people enjoying the Museum's Highlight & History Tours has quadrupled. . . . A round of applause took the form of the Mayor's Voluntary Action Center once again recognizing our volunteers work. Mrs. Ashok Bhavnani was nominated for consideration in this year's awards program.







## EL DORADO DRAWS CROWDS

The opening weeks of El Dorado have been very gratifying for all those who were involved in its earlier stages. The beautifully-designed show is drawing enthusiastic crowds as anticipated—by the end of the first week, 23,000 people had viewed the exhibition.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, long lines waited to see the golden treasures, but as might be expected, Gallery 3 is less crowded on weekdays.

The Museum is offering two innovations during the run of this exhibition. An evening lounge, the Lion's Lair, has been opened on Wednesday and Friday nights. Situated in the Hall of African Mammals, this café will be serving soft drinks, Perrier, liqueurs, aperitifs and Café Muisca, the Colombian version of Irish coffee. The Lion's Lair will be open from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Also new is the El Dorado Evening, an exhibition-dinner package offered on Wednesday and Friday nights in two price categories: \$14.95 and \$21 per person. The El Dorado Evening includes admission to the Museum, coat checking, priority admission to El Dorado, an audio tour of the exhibition, Natural History Magazine/El Dorado Supplement, and a lovely dinner with a Latin flavor accompanied by a carafe of wine. This will be served in the cafeteria from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The \$21 choice also includes a poster-sized book, "Gold of El Dorado," with 30 color photographs of the exhibition. The book retails for \$9.95.

The First Lady of Colombia, Mrs. Nydia Quintero de Turbay (seated left) and her lovely daughter, Claudia deGranja are among the guests.

Mayor Edward I. Koch enjoys a Byword tour.



Awaiting the arrival of the first guests are (from left to right) Mrs. Virgileo Barco, Ambassador Barco, Mrs. Robert Goelet, Mr. Goelet, Mrs. Donald Platten, Mr. Platten, Dr. Thomas D. Nicholson.



Sidney Horenstein, scientific assistant in the Department of Invertebrates, tells the inquisitive youngsters surrounding him at Identification Day program, November 4, the name and age of fossils and rocks. Mr. Horenstein was one of eight Museum scientists who were on hand to identify corals, artifacts, bees and bugs brought in by more than 1,000 adults and children.

## AMERICAN MUSEUM RECEIVES GIFT FROM THE STATE OF ISRAEL

On November 5, Natan Shaham, Israeli Consul, presented the American Museum with a gift of five artifacts, part of the national treasure of the State of Israel.

The ceremony took place in President Goelet's office. There, the delicate artifacts, which had been brought to New York by diplomatic pouch, were carefully unwrapped. Present on that occasion were David Ryus, vice president, Cynthia Wilder, research assistant, and Alex Williams, designer of the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples.

The five artifacts are first-century domestic objects from Massada. A sixth gift item is a replica of a Talmudic period menorah from the synagogue in Ein Geddi made expressly for AMNH. These will be permanently placed in the new Hall of Asian Peoples, scheduled to be opened in October 1980.

Cynthia Wilder was largely responsible for the negotiations that led to this exciting gift. For the past three years, Ms. Wilder has been tracking down appropriate objects for the Asian Hall, and as she explained, "We could not draw on our own collections for the Judaica section, so these artifacts are particularly important for us." The gift will be incorporated into the section of the exhibition devoted to Judaism, part of a still larger area that illustrates the rise of the Great Faiths.

## DIRECTOR RECEIVES ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY MEDAL OF HONOR

At a convocation ceremony held November 19, Thomas D. Nicholson, director, received the prestigious Medal of Honor of St. John's University, its highest alumni award. Given in recognition of outstanding leadership contributions, the award came in Dr. Nicholson's tenth year as director of the American Museum.

Dr. Nicholson is a *summa cum laude* graduate of St. John's University, University College, from which he received his B.A. degree in 1950. He also attended St. John's Preparatory School, graduating in 1941.

Among the other graduates who have received the medal, established in 1977, are the Very Reverend Joseph T. Cahill, C.M., president of St. John's University; Edmund Pellegrino, M.D., president of the Catholic University of America; and William Tavoulareas, president of Mobil Oil Corp.

Expressing his thanks for the honor in a letter to Monsignor Cahill, Dr. Nicholson wrote: "I am indeed proud to have been chosen by St. John's University for its Medal of Honor. I am equally proud that the University sees in my work at the American Museum of Natural History an achievement deserving its recognition. In doing so, you honor the Museum as well as me."

## CLARK WISSLER LECTURE SERIES BEGINS AT BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Harry L. Shapiro, curator emeritus of the Museum's Department of Anthropology, was the honored guest at Ball State University's inauguration of the Clark Wissler Lecture Series held on November 13 in Muncie, Indiana. For the occasion Dr. Shapiro prepared a lecture entitled "Clark Wissler: Pioneer in Anthropology."

The Department of Anthropology at Ball State University, Indiana has dedicated the lecture series as a memorial to Clark Wissler, who was curator of Anthropology at AMNH from 1907 until his retirement in 1942.

Clark Wissler was born on a farm in Wayne County, Indiana in 1870. After graduating from the University of Indiana and obtaining a Ph.D. from Columbia, he joined the staff of the American Museum in 1902. As an assistant curator in the Department of Ethnology, he concentrated on the lifestyle and culture of the American Indians. During his forty years with the Museum, he built its collection of American Indian exhibits to one of the best in the country and became dean of the scientific staff. When his curatorship at the Museum became less demanding, he returned to the academic field, lecturing at Columbia, New York University and the Institute of Human Relations at Yale. His time also was devoted to publishing many books; the most celebrated was entitled *The American*



*Indian*. Dr. Wissler achieved international renown and was awarded honorary degrees from both Yale and the University of Indiana. He died in New York in 1947.

The Wissler estate donated Dr. Wissler's manuscripts and personal correspondence to serve as a research source for interested scholars. The lecture series is supported through departmental funds and invitations to guest speakers will be extended annually. Ball State University welcomes students and the public to attend the lectures at no charge, and transcripts are available upon request.

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS

In the midst of this holiday season, and as a new decade begins, I want to take the opportunity to thank all employees and volunteers at the Museum for their dedication and enthusiasm, especially during recent months.

As you all know, POMPEII AD79 opened at the Museum last spring, and this fall we launched "Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia" on what promises to be a highly successful national tour.

The skills and talents that have gone into creating these exhibitions, and to promoting and presenting them to the public, are unsurpassed, and account—to a very large extent—for their great popularity.

In May, the scientific departments of the Museum were responsible for arranging the challenging symposium: "Vicariance Biogeography: A Critique." Over 300 scientists from around the world attended the gathering, the first of its kind to air the controversy on what mechanisms determine the geographic dispersion of species.

I deeply appreciate everyone's contributions to the Museum during this exciting year. I am also counting on your knowledge and expertise for the future, when we open the new Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples and embark on increasingly varied and wide-ranging scientific and educational programs.

In the meantime, let me wish all of you the happiest of Holidays and the healthiest of New Years.

Best regards

*T. D. Nicholson*

Thomas D. Nicholson  
Director

## CREATOR OF HIGHLIGHT & HISTORY TOURS RETIRES

After 10 years' service to the Museum, Sarah Flanders retires on December 20. Dr. Flanders and her husband, Dr. Herbert Dietz, will slip away to their Connecticut retreat, "The Owl's Roost," where she looks forward to the joys of retirement—time to spend with her family, to travel, to take courses at Wesleyan University, and, of course, to occasionally volunteer her services to the Museum.

A graduate of Bryn Mawr College and of Cornell University Medical College, Sarah practiced medicine with her husband in Oneonta, N.Y. for many years before returning to the New York metropolitan area 16 years ago.

Starting as a volunteer with AMNH, Sarah served as Natural Science Coordinator in the Education Department for six years. At the conclusion of that responsibility, she refused to stay at home and, instead, volunteered to continue her work. Drawing on her impressive knowledge of the Museum's collections and personnel, Sarah developed the Highlight and History tour program. Starting modestly on July 1, 1977, the program has informed and entertained over 70,000 visitors from more than 70 countries. Sarah recruited, arranged and conducted the highly successful and initiative program.

Sarah has received, among her many honors, two mayoral awards: first from Fiorello LaGuardia for her leadership as Captain of the Bellevue Hospital Emergency Squad (which treated and transported victims from the *Normandie*) and then a Citation of Merit from Edward I. Koch's Voluntary Action Committee in recognition of her volunteer work.

Sarah will indeed be missed by all.



The Museum's Christmas tree has been prepared and decorated by Alice Gray (Entomology) and her battalion of creative associates. Miss Gray, who declines to estimate the number of man-hours involved in readying this shimmering holiday beauty, has supervised for 7 consecutive years the folding of the more than 1500 origami figures that adorn it. And each year, in true holiday spirit, more than 200 of the figures find their way to other City institutions to lend their special cheer. This year, two children's hospitals were the recipients.



Each of these origami hedgehogs requires more than one hour to fold. Folded by Kathleen Schmidt (Entomology) and Jack Geist of Time magazine, six hedgehogs adorn the tree, and another seven huddle under it.





Dr. Mark R. Chartrand III, right, Chairman of the Department of Astronomy, accepts one of many items of space memorabilia recently donated to the Planetarium by Mr. Samuel J. Foosaner, a New Jersey tax attorney. Known as the "Jay Barbree" collection, it was first amassed by Mr. Barbree, a correspondent for NBC who for many years covered the space program for the network.

## PLANETARIUM POSTER GOES ON ROAD TRIP

The Fine Arts Committee for the New York Festival has chosen the Planetarium's Sky Show poster—"Stars of the Pharaohs"—for inclusion in an exhibit demonstrating the breadth of New York State's cultural institutions.

The exhibit, NEW YORK: ART ON THE ROAD, was unveiled for business leaders and government officials at a "Salute to Congress" in Washington, D.C., and presently is touring New York State.

The Planetarium poster was one of 97 chosen to represent the more than 650 cultural institutions in New York State.

## HERE & THERE

**Archbold Biological Station:** Dr. Ann F. Johnson has joined as Archbold Research Fellow in Plant Ecology. Her research has focused on the development and distribution of strand and dune vegetation along the coasts of Mexico, California and Long Island, and in the Indiana Dunes bordering Lake Michigan. Her research at the Station is concerned with the adaptations and environmental relationships of plants of the scrub communities . . . The Station was host to the annual meeting of the Organization of Biological Field Stations the last weekend in September . . . Dr. James Layne was guest at a reception given by Governor of Florida, Bob Graham, in honor of Dr. Russell Peterson, President of the National Audubon Society, in Tallahassee on 25 October.

**Astronomy:** Deborah Holloway is the new secretary in the Planetarium, working directly with Thomas Lesser, Allen Seltzer and Gwendolyn Gwyn.

**Discovery Tours:** R. Todd Nielsen promoted to Associate, coordinating 11 destinations for 1980.

**Education:** Barbara Neill, who supervises the Alexander M. White Natural Science Center, has returned after hospitalization for surgery. The Center has begun to sparkle

once again . . . In September, Johns Hopkins University Press published Kenneth Chambers' new book, *A Country Lover's Guide to Wildlife*. Ken also led the Museum Discovery Tour to Alaska in June/July and reports seeing more animal life this year than ever before . . . Malcolm Arth participated as a panelist at the international symposium on "Children in Museums" held in Washington, D.C. in October. He also was one of 5 faculty members invited to Denver to conduct a seminar for museum professionals on Lifelong Learning in the Humanities held during November.

**Exhibition:** In October, Michael Harnett, Patricia Tuohy and Ignacio Fajardo (formerly with Entomology Dept.) joined as intern/preparators.

**Herpetology:** The October 24 issue of the Bergen County *Record* ran an article on Frances Zweifel, wife of Chairman Richard Zweifel, concerning her newest publication, "Pickle in the Middle and Other Easy Snacks," a cookbook for children . . . Ed Teller was promoted to Senior Technician . . . A welcome recent visitor was Ysabella Hincapié-Weiss, formerly p/t in the department who has since completed her Bachelor's degree at City College . . . Scientific assistant, Michael Klemens, reports spending many weekends last spring, summer and early fall collecting amphibians and reptiles in Connecticut as part of a long-term herpetological survey of the state. Over 100 new locality records have been logged into the 5th year of the study.

**Library:** Pamela Haas presented a paper at the Regional Archives Conference Meeting on October 20 in Albany, "Preparations for the reorganization of a 100-year-old, approximately 2,000,000-image photographic collection in a major research institution" . . . In October, the Library began working on the new HEW grant to strengthen its collection and is awaiting the arrival of two computer terminals. Nina Root, Miriam Tam and Pamela Haas trained in Albany on the new Networking system, OCLC.

**Mammalogy:** Sydney Anderson and his wife, Justine, found themselves in Bolivia during the recent revolution there. In mid-October, they arrived to continue a long-term study of Bolivian mammals. Caught in Santa Cruz when hostilities broke out, they were immobilized for several days: they could not buy gas, and the roads were blocked. Most of the violence in the conflict took place in La Paz and the Andersons suffered nothing worse than a few days' inconvenience.

**Micro Press:** Dr. Harold L. Cousminer has moved to Israel to work as a palynologist with the Geological Survey of Israel . . . and much of Micro Press seems to be following: John Van Couvering, Martin Janal and Genevieve Silberstein have gone on visits . . . Bella Kotler vacationed in Romania . . . Dr. Van Couvering travelled to the eastern Mediterranean for a quick round of research and business: first to Israel to consult on opening a new vertebrate fossil site in the Negev, then to Athens for an international meeting of stratigraphers, and finally to Cairo for a research visit to a hominoid site in the Fayum Depression and to attend the African Geological Society meeting. All in 2 weeks!

**Ornithology:** Dr. Dean Amadon is working at the S.W. Research Station in Arizona and will continue on to Sacramento, California to attend a meeting of the Raptor Research Foundation . . . Helen Hays attended the Colonial Waterbird Conference in Lafayette, La . . . Ruth Chapin recently visited her friends in the Department. She is now living in Columbus, Ohio . . . Dr. Jean T. Delacour paid a recent visit and will now winter in California . . . Dr. Francois Vuilleumier led a Museum Cruise on the Nile. From there he spent a few weeks in Switzerland . . . Mary Le Croy returned from 6 weeks of field work in New Guinea.









FEBRUARY, 1980

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## FEATHER ARTS

Some of the finest examples of featherwork art in the world will be on display at the AMNH beginning April 18. "Feather Arts: Beauty, Wealth and Spirit from Five Continents," featuring over 250 creative and colorful artifacts, covers 1000 years of history while exploring the craft and context of objects made with feathers.

Organized by the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, the exhibition will be on view in Gallery 3 which currently holds the "Gold of El Dorado" exhibit. "Feather Arts" will run until September 1.

Featherwork art has for thousands of years served as a means of communication as well as art and is as rich in historic significance as it is in beauty. One of the works in the exhibit, an effigy of the Hawaiian war god Kukailimoku, created from honeycreeper plumage, is believed to have been collected on a voyage of Captain Cook in the 18th century.

One of the other featherworks in the exhibit has a more

ominous history. A pair of emu feather shoes, glued together with blood adhesive, were worn by Australian sorcerers while casting death inducing spells.

The examples of featherwork art on display are presented thematically rather than geographically under such headings as "Wealth," "Practical Feathers," "Spirit" and "Beauty." "What is Feathering?" is a general examination of this ancient art that will give the viewer an even greater appreciation of the works.

Eugene Bergmann of AMNH's Exhibitions and Graphics Department has enlisted the help of Mary LeCroy of Ornithology to provide specimens from the Museum's collection. AMNH will exhibit an eagle, a quetzal, a bird of paradise, a lorrie and other bird specimens along with the "Feather Arts" collection. There are also some examples of featherwork art on display in the Museum's Indians of the Eastern Woodland and Plains Halls.

A warrior from the Eastern Highlands of Papua, New Guinea wearing additional feather headdress



A dance headdress from Kiwai Island in the Torres Straits, Papua New Guinea







## KATHARINE BENEKER MURPHY

Katharine Beneker Murphy, who retired from the Museum in 1966 as assistant to the Chairman of Exhibitions & Graphics as well as Keeper of Memorabilia, died on Dec. 19 in Cape Cod Hospital, at the age of 70. From 1941, her creative ability at the American Museum was mainly expressed through her numerous contributions in the Exhibition Dept.

Under her guidance, the Museum produced temporary and special exhibitions that were lauded for their esthetic appeal, clarity and versatile use of relatively simple techniques and materials. Her expertise manifested itself through presentations entitled "Men and Masks," "From the Neck Up," and a temporary exhibition which lasted nearly 10 years, "Men of the Montaña." She was responsible for conceiving the Corner Gallery which was designed to present the vast world of man and nature through the use of multi-media arrangements. She also coordinated the exhibition work for the Hall of the Biology of Invertebrates.

In addition to her husband, John F. Murphy, Sr., she is survived by two sisters Mrs. Helen Menin of Greenlawn, N.Y. and Mrs. Jean Kubik of Birmingham, Mich.; one brother, Benson Beneker of South Dartmouth and several nieces and nephews.

## HORACE STUNKARD HONORED

Dr. Horace W. Stunkard, Research Associate in the Department of Invertebrates, joined the Board of Trustees for their December dinner.

In honor of his 90th birthday year, Dr. Stunkard, one of the world's foremost parasitologists, was cited by the Board for his 58 years of outstanding service to the Museum.

## OFF WITH YOUR HEAD!

The Brontosaurus at the American Museum can no longer hold its head very high because it's the wrong one. The great dinosaur has fallen victim to reexamination of past research in the field of vertebrate paleontology.

The problem started over one hundred years ago when scientists Othniel Charles Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope, who were world leaders in the field of vertebrate paleontology and fierce competitors, were naming new species as quickly as they could dig them up. Marsh first described the Brontosaurus from a specimen found in 1879 but failed to mention the fact that the skulls he used in his restoration were found several miles away from the rest of the skeleton.

Only in 1915 when Earl Douglass of the Carnegie Museum found a very complete Brontosaurus did suspicion arise. Upon further exploration at the site which contained only *Diplodocus* and Brontosaurus, none of the skulls recovered resembled that found by Marsh. The skulls that Marsh used in restoration had been found with skeletons of the *Camarasaurus*. It is these *Camarasaurus*-like skulls that were used to make replicas for other museums.

With this new data available, arguments to modify the casts for future models and to replace already mounted ones were at hand. Months, years and decades passed until those who argued for the transformation had passed away too. Through the years textbooks, oil companies and

the Macy's Day Parade brought the Brontosaurus with its misrepresented head into the hearts of adults and children alike.

Recently, two scientists, David S. Berman, associate curator of the Carnegie Museum and John S. McIntosh of Wesleyan University, took up the question again. Their findings are fully discussed and illustrated in "Skull and Relationships of the Upper Jurassic Sauropod *APATOSAURUS* (*Reptilia Saurischia*)" Bulletin No. 8 of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History published in 1978.

Only now has the century-long story been rectified starting with the Carnegie Museum's Brontosaurus skeleton. Its new headgear is described as slender and elongated with delicate pencil-like teeth. Eugene Gaffney, curator of vertebrate paleontology at AMNH said the Brontosaurus which was first displayed here in the 1890's will also undergo reconstruction at a future date in the interest of maintaining accuracy.





1979 ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Once again the annual Children's Christmas Party delighted over 300 boys and girls. The evening began with a performance by the Nifty Puppeteers. Santa Claus appeared in the traditional red and white jacket but blue pants . . . Santa's tailors just didn't get those measurements right! All the children received Christmas presents and a special presentation was made to Ernestine Weindorf, Natural History, who organizes this event every year. Dinner was served in the Hall of Ocean Life.

- 1. Pat Bartolone, Building Services; Ernestine Weindorf, Natural History; Lisa Macaluso, daughter of Tony Macaluso, electrician; Joelle Johnson, niece of Rhonda Cannady, Education.
- 2. Larry Van Praag, projection, with wife, Ann, and family: Susan, Karla, Robyn, Joanna and Teddy.
- 3. Lester Nicholson with daughter Adrienne, son and granddaughter of Thomas D. Nicholson, director.
- 4. Irving Almodovar, General Services, with wife, Jenny and daughter Michele Lee.
- 5. Guy Musser, Mammalogy, with son Maxwell.
- 6. George Poinsett, Building Services, with son Jarmaine.
- 7. Jennifer Velez, daughter of Eileen O'Keefe, Natural History.



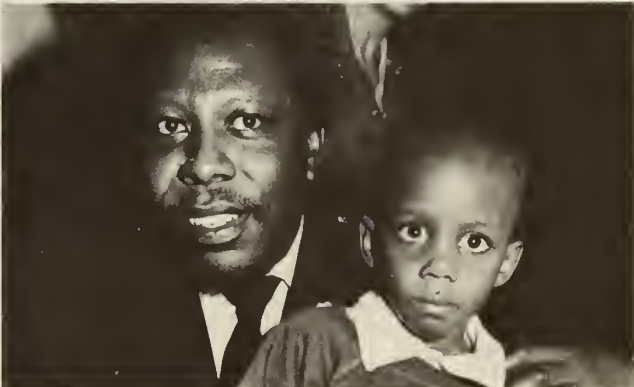
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## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SUBWAY

Just a reminder that the token booth at the south end of the 81st Street IND station is opened and operated daily. Employees who use the subway are urged to buy their tokens at that booth to keep the volume of business up high enough to keep it open.

## BIG QUESTION

The Office of Public Affairs annually receives thousands of letters but none as big as the one from the Pence Kindergarten class of Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Printed, in green ink, on 3 ft by 2 ft stationery, the letter read: "Dear Museum: How do you keep the dinosaur bones together to make a skeleton? We are at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. at Pence Kindergarten School. Can we see some of your dinosaur bones?" The letter is signed by the five year-olds in the class.

## LEAP YEAR NOTES

Tom Lesser at the Planetarium noticed a rare occurrence: although this February is 29 days long, it still has no Full Moon when considered in Eastern Standard Time. He found this to be true in 6 other Februaries in the twentieth century; 1904, 1915, 1923, 1934, 1961 and 1999.

Then astronomer Ken Franklin noticed something even rarer for this February, of significance for American Museum of Natural History employees: February, 1980 has three paydays! He found that February 29 falls on Friday every 28 years or 10227 days. Thus the last one was in 1952, the next in 2008. But 10227 days is 1461 weeks. Since we are paid on alternate weeks, those two Februaries would be out of step with our pay cycle. Thus we will have to wait until 2036 before we will get another February with 3 pay days. Since we were paid twice a month in the past, February 1980 is the first such happening in the 111 years the Museum has been in existence.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Bella Weitzner, curator emeritus, recently published "Notes on the Hidatsu Indians Based on Data Recorded by the Late Gilbert L. Wilson." The publication was preceded by Miss Weitzner's 88th birthday. Miss Weitzner, who began at the Museum in 1908 as an office clerk, has published several anthropological papers . . . Miriam Kurtz joined the staff recently as secretary.

**Building Services:** Kathleen Bradley and Roland Carvalho just signed on as attendant guards.

**Construction & Maintenance:** The two new carpenters are Joseph O'Grady and John Slevin . . . congratulations to Fernando Rivera in his promotion to Museum maintainer and to Carl Hilgers who was promoted to Metals Shop foreman.

**Deputy Director/Research:** Deborah Berry, admin. secy., made her TV debut on the Today Show (Channel 4) aired Dec. 25th with the choral group "The Canby Singers."

**Development & Public Affairs:** Peter J. Gallagher, manager for Development, has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Ossining Restoration Committee. The committee works to preserve structures and properties of historical significance within the town of Ossining, New York . . . Terry Schaff, Development Assistant, attended an Arts & Business Council seminar at the Waldorf Astoria in New York on Oct. 30 . . . E. Davis Howard III, attended a seminar on the use of computers in fund raising to help prepare the way for the Development Offices transition into computerization . . . Anthony Flynn was hired as development associate.

**Education:** The new People Center weekend supervisor is Ching Valdez.

**Entomology:** Anne Beal and Betty Rivera were hired as part-time curatorial assistants.

**Exhibition:** Alexander Seidel, an artist in the division for many years, died recently at the Ashbrook Nursing Home in Scotch Plains, N.J. He was 81 years old. Born in Wilda, Germany, Mr. Seidel began working at the Museum shortly after he arrived in the United States. During his term with the Museum, he designed and painted many of the backdrops for the exhibit display cases. He retired from the Museum in 1961 when he began as a designer for Steuben Glass. Mr. Seidel was a resident of Plainfield, N.J. . . . Stephen Quinn attended a two-week workshop entitled "Design and Production of Exhibits for History and Science Museums" offered by the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. The workshop dealt with the latest exhibit design techniques and materials presently in use among the Smithsonian's many museums . . . Glynnis Berry has

joined the department as intern/preparator . . . Vivian Stillwell was promoted to principal preparator/artist.

**General Services:** Joseph R. Saulina, manager, has retired from the Museum after many years of service. He plans to start his retirement in Florida. We wish him the best of luck.

**Ichthyology:** Loretta Stillman joined the department as curatorial assistant (III).

**Invertebrates:** Judith DeName's title was changed to Museum technician.

**Library:** Joining the library staff are Ivy Alston as senior clerk; Morris Bakst and Adrienne Usher as part-time library assistants; Rita Compain as part-time serials librarian and Janet Steins as assistant photo-collection librarian. . . . the Rare Book Room on the 4th floor near 77th St. will now be called the Library Gallery. . . . the Library is compiling the quarterly bibliography of Recent Publications in Natural History which will become a regular feature in *Curator*. . . . Miriam Tam visited her family in San Francisco for two weeks.

**Micro-Press:** Bernard Cribbs is the new Museum technician in that dept.

**Mineral Sciences:** Richard Bedell joined the dept. as part-time curatorial assist. (III) and Sarah Eilenberg joined as curatorial assist. (III). Gertrude Poldervaart, a recent hospital patient, sends word of appreciation for the thoughtful messages from AMNH colleagues.

**Museum Shop:** The roster of new Museum Shop personnel includes Gail Abraham, Audrene Clark, Tracey Devlin, Janet Ingram, Rayda Marquez, Carol Peers, Anthony Robinson, Christine Russell and Shawneequa Darden as part-time sales assistants; Maria Jeanniton as full-time sales assistant; Edward Morton, now as part-time administrative assistant; and Joyce Rezendes as part-time supervisor . . . Farrell Carney was promoted to administrative assistant.

**Planetarium:** Welcome additions to the staff are Jay Bankoff, part-time sales assistant; Clarence Brown, assistant producer; Thomas Craig and Gail Mack, Museum attendant guards . . . David Roth was promoted to assistant manager.

**Vice-President's Office:** The new administrative secretary to David Ryus is Sandra Kay Elinson who has a M.A. in English literature and is MA to children Morgan and Blake. She co-edits the *Braille Feminist Review* and serves on the board of Media Projects for the Blind in her spare time.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Dorothy Boaz joined the department as Museum technician.

**Volunteer Office:** Majorie Bhavnani is the new Highlight and History Tours coordinator.

# Grapevine



American  
Museum of  
Natural  
History

ARCH, 1980

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## MASSIVE MINERAL COLLECTION ACQUIRED

The largest and most significant acquisition of minerals it has ever made, the AMNH recently acquired over 40,000 specimens of minerals previously owned by Columbia University.

The acquisition increases by nearly 80 per cent the size of the present mineral collection at the Museum. The new total is now approximately 90,000 minerals. The Depart-

ment of Mineral Sciences also has about 20,000 specimens of rocks, 4,500 meteorites and 4,000 gems, including the world-famous Star of India.

"Of greater significance than the number of specimens is the scope and diversity they have given to our collection," Thomas D. Nicholson, director, said. "Some of the specimens are unknown in any other collection in the U.S. Together with our present collections, they represent most of the major mineral areas of the world—all available for

A rare specimen of stibnite from Japan, much like this one from the Museum's existing collection, is part of the newly-acquired Columbia mineral collection.





study here in one building of the Museum."

The purchase price of the new mineral collection was \$500,000. The AMNH raised about half the amount while the other \$250,000 is being drawn from general funds and will be replaced with additional funds generated for the purpose.

According to Wallace S. Broecker, chairman of the Department of Geological Sciences and Newberry Professor of Geology at Columbia University, the AMNH provides the kind of careful attention needed for a collection of this size. "Museums, particularly one like the American Museum, are better organized to perform the curatorial functions needed to give a collection like Columbia's full use."

Actual curation of the new mineral collection and its integration into the main collection of the Museum may take from three to five years to complete. Most of the collection will be used for scientific studies, though many specimens are thought to be of exhibition quality.

The Museum's vast mineral collections have been built over the years through gifts, purchases, exchanges and field expeditions conducted by Museum scientists. These acquisitions range from the Clarence S. Bement collection of 14,000 specimens purchased for the Museum by J. Pierpont Morgan in 1906, to the invaluable Mongolian minerals brought back from Asia by Roy Chapman Andrews in the 1920's and the 1930's.

## **NATURAL HISTORY MAGAZINE: THE FIRST 80 YEARS**

Natural History Magazine will celebrate its eightieth anniversary in April with a special 170-page issue. Alan Ternes, editor, and his staff chose over twenty articles that appeared during the magazine's first fifty years. Among the subjects featured are the discovery of Pluto, changes in the theories of evolution, and expeditions of some of AMNH's scientists. Many of the articles will have editorial postscripts updating the theories presented. Most of the historic photographs were researched by Janet Steins from the Museum Library.

The addition of more color photographs and the increasing diversity of articles are the two major changes

the publication encountered in the past years. Since its beginning, distinguished authors including such renowned names as Theodore Roosevelt, Margaret Mead, Marston Bates and Colin Turnbull contributed outstanding essays about the world of man and nature. With an equally long list of prominent photographers such as Cornell Capra, Ansel Adams, Henri Cartier-Bresson and Lee Boltin, the photographic contributions added to the increasing popularity of the magazine.

The achievements of *Natural History* receive much recognition. The November 1978 cover photograph by Dennis Werner received an award from the Society of Publication Designers. This year, Stephen Jay Gould's essays hold finalist standing in the National Magazine Awards sponsored by Columbia University's School of Journalism.

With the support of its 470,000 members, *Natural His-*

### **ARTHUR GRAY, SR. 1892-1980**

Arthur Gray, Sr., co-founder of the Lerner Marine Laboratory of the AMNH died March 2, after a brief illness. He was 88 years old.

Mr. Gray is the father of Arthur Gray, Jr., a member of the Board of Trustees of the Museum.

Born in Canton, Ohio, the late Mr. Gray came to New York City shortly after World War I. He was the co-founder of the American Arbitration Association and was long associated with the Commercial Credit Corporation before retiring many years ago.

In 1948, Mr. Gray, an avid sportsman with an interest in marine biology, together with his brother-in-law, Michael Lerner, founded the Lerner Marine Laboratory in Bihimi in the Bahamas. The Laboratory was closed in 1974. Mr. Gray and Mr. Lerner also founded the International Game Fish Association in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

In addition to his son, Mr. Gray is survived by his wife, Beatriz, 10 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.



### **JOHN C. PALLISTER 1891-1980**

John C. Pallister, a research associate in the Department of Entomology, died on March 6, 1980. He was 88 years old.

A graduate of Cleveland College and Western Reserve University, Mr. Pallister served as the head of the department of entomology and invertebrate zoology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History from 1918 to 1932. He joined the AMNH in 1938, after spending six years as a lecturer on natural history throughout the United States.

Mr. Pallister's expeditions included journeys to Mexico in 1945, Peru and the headwaters of the Amazon in 1946-47, Yucatan in 1952 and southern and eastern Mexico and the British Honduras in 1964.

His many published works included the three volume *The Animal Kingdom*, published in 1954; *The Insects World*, 1963, and scientific papers and articles appearing in *Natural History*, *Sports Illustrated* and several other renowned publications.

Mr. Pallister also worked with the public on an informal basis in helping them identify both rare and common insects.

A resident of New York City, Mr. Pallister is survived by his wife, Domenica.

tory continues to expand and change. The cost of Associate Membership will become \$15 and the number of issues per year will increase from 10 to 12.

## **NORMAN D. NEWELL HONORED**

Norman D. Newell, curator emeritus in the Department of Invertebrates, has been selected as the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists (SEPM)

Raymond C. Moore Medalist for 1980.

Dr. Newell is the first recipient of the newly-initiated award that honors those who have made outstanding contributions in paleontology, especially those aspects of the field that promote the science of stratigraphy and the use of fossils for interpretations of paleoecology.

Earle F. McBride, SEPM president, in announcing the award to Dr. Newell, said the organization "honors itself in selecting you as our first Moore Medalist."

The Medal will be presented at the SEPM Awards Luncheon on June 10 in Denver.

## **AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: THEN AND NOW**

"Museum Photography: Rarities from the Photographic Collection" and "A Museum Scrapbook" are two exhibitions presently on view which provide a glimpse into the Museum's past. To former and present employees, nostalgic pictures and the reality of today provide an interesting comparison.

The exhibitions were organized by Pamela Haas and Mary Giatas respectively. The Photographic Collection comprises approximately one-half million black and white and over fifty thousand color photographs—some dating back to the Museum's founding in 1869. This branch of the Library considers the cataloging and preservation of these rare images to be as important a task as the curation of rare books. The Photographic Collection, part of the Library since 1978, will gladly accept suitable contributions.

Public Reading Room: 1913





## VIP

Mrs. Helmut Schmidt, wife of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, visited the Museum on March 7. An enthusiastic amateur biologist, she displayed great interest in the Hall of Reptiles and Amphibians, the dinosaur halls and several bird halls.

When asked by Robert G. Goelet whether Chancellor Schmidt might like a gift of the Museum's dinosaur necktie, Mrs. Schmidt responded: "Yes, and make it a dinosaur with thick skin."

## AMNH PUBLICATIONS HONORED

The AMNH has received two awards from the printing industry for its publications.

Martin Tekulsky, Museum Shop marketing manager, was awarded a Certificate of Merit by the Printing Industries of Metropolitan New York for the Shop's catalog. The Museum's Scientific Publications were also cited by the Printing Industries for outstanding achievements in typesetting and printing through a Certificate of Merit presented for the 1979 materials.

## PLANETARIUM OPENS NEW SKY SHOW

The American Museum-Hayden Planetarium is presenting a new sky show, "The Beginning," which opened on March 6 and will run until September 7, explores the creation of the universe. The show examines the most recent theories of the origin including many major dis-

coveries made during the last 50 years.

"The Beginning" is presented at 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and at 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 p.m. on weekends.

## ADMISSION FEE INCREASED

Beginning in March, the suggested admission fee to the Museum will be \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. It is the first increase in Museum admission fees in almost three years.

Monies brought into the Museum through visitor contributions serve as an important source of revenue; last year, over \$1.4 million dollars were raised through the suggested admission fee. The Administration projects a larger gross through the increase in the admission fee and an expected increase in overall attendance.

The Museum first instituted a pay-as-you-wish-policy in 1971.

## ROLL CALL FOR MUSEUM SOFTBALL TEAM

Spring training for the Museum's softball team, Headhunters, is right around the corner. Players will meet once a week in Central Park and 81st Street to prepare themselves to compete against teams from other museums and corporations. Although the Headhunters are recruiting men for their team, an opportunity to start a Women's Softball Team is also possible. For further information, please call Irving Almodovar, ext. 208.

## HERE AND THERE

**Astronomy:** Philip Harrington, intern, and Larry Brown, assistant producer, joined the Planetarium staff . . . . Dr. Kenneth Franklin, astronomer, and Allen Seltzer, Planetarium educational coordinator, journeyed abroad to view a total solar eclipse. Dr. Franklin saw the eclipse from Kenya while Mr. Seltzer saw it from India.

**Education:** Malcolm Arth lectured at the National Museum of Natural History in New Delhi and worked with their staff on the development of educational programs. Dr. Arth also visited seven other cities in India and attended a meeting of the Indo-U.S. Subcommittee on Education and Culture in Madras . . . . While Dr. Arth toured New Delhi, Dr. Mammen Koshy, curator of Zoology at the National Museum of Natural History in New Delhi, began a visit to the U.S. and AMNH to study educational programs . . . . Dr. Arth addressed the American Association of Museums Seminar on Lifelong Learning in the Humanities in New Orleans . . . . Walter O'Neill, an artist and a Museum instructor, left the department in December but will return in the Spring as a teacher in the Evening Lecture Series . . . . Wali Pasha, a Museum instructor, resigned to accept a position outside of the Museum. His friends in the department and throughout the Museum wish him well.

**Exhibition:** Joan Braccini, a preparator, married Paul Juchnewicz on December 22, 1979. The couple spent their honeymoon in Paris.

**Herpetology:** Sarah Heady, a volunteer, starred in "Pal Joey" at her high school in Manhattan. Members of the department who attended gave her rave reviews.

**Invertebrates:** William Old served as a judge at both the Southwest Florida Conchological Society Shell Show in Ft. Myers and the Broward County Shell show in Pompano Beach.

**Library:** Nina Root and Mary Giatas attended the American Library Association's mid-winter conference in Chicago . . . . Rita Compain, Morris Bakst and George Meyers vacationed in Florida this winter.

**Micro-Press:** John Van Couvering and Martin Janal attended the annual national meeting of the Geological Society of America in San Diego and also participated in the first-ever meeting of the Society of American Micropaleontologists . . . . Genevieve Silberstein, a Museum technician, moved to Israel.

**Ornithology:** Mary LeCroy was elected to the executive council of the Colonial Waterbird Group at their third annual meeting . . . . Dr. Lester L. Short, who spent eight months as a Visiting Fellow at the Australian National University in Canberra, returned to the Museum with news that "all major projects were highly successful." . . . John Farrand was honored at a luncheon given by his friends in the department. After more than 6 years as a curatorial assistant at AMNH, he has become an editor at Chanticleer Press . . . . Dr. Jacques Blondel, a Chapman Grant recipient, is working with Dr. Francois Vuilleumier. Dr. Blondel, who lives in France, and Dr. Vuilleumier recently spent a weekend in the field at St. Catherine's Island, Georgia.

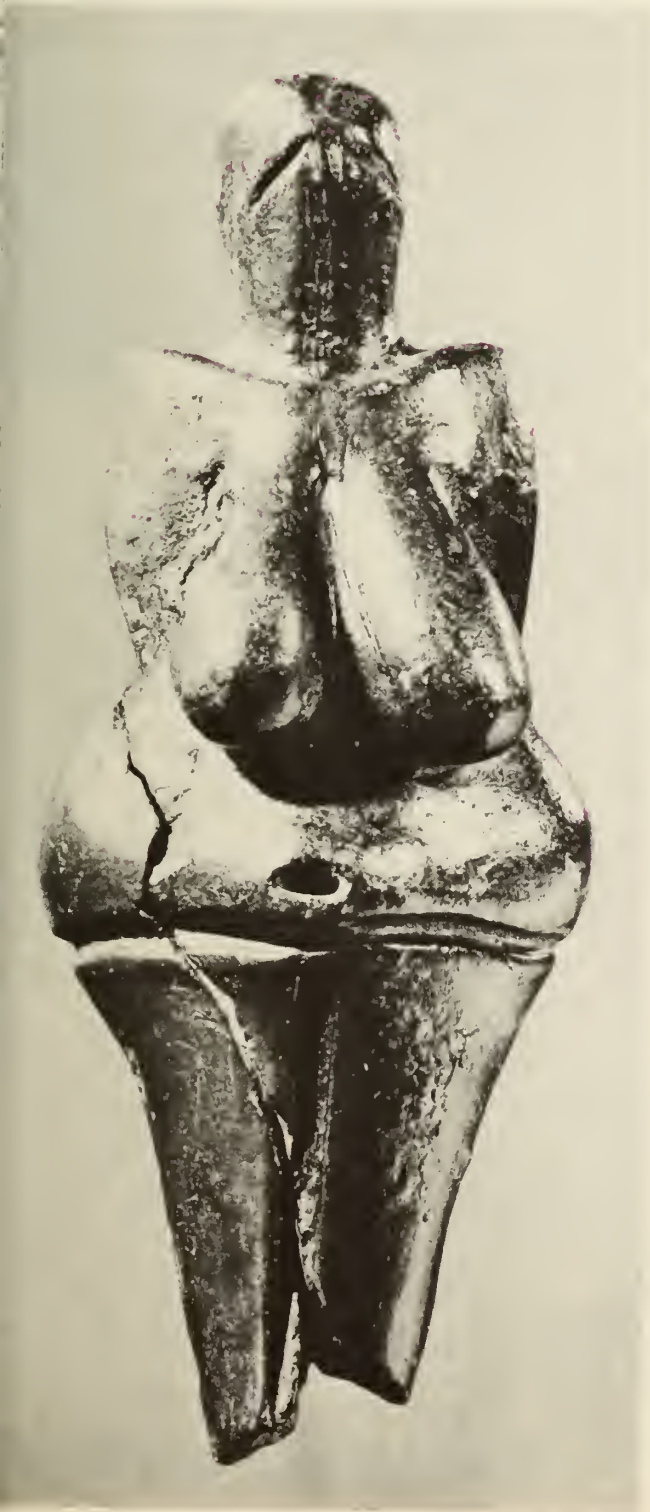
**Southwestern Research Station:** Director Vince Roth and his wife, Barbara, are vacationing and spider collecting in Guatemala. The couple are traveling in their 1956 camper . . . . Ruth Morse, an assistant, spent the Christmas holidays in England, France and Wales. She also stopped at AMNH on the way back to Arizona. It was her first visit to the Museum. . . . Gennie and Joe Remington are vacationing in Tucson. Joe is recovering from surgery he had last November.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Eugene Gaffney and his assistant, Steve Barghoorn, will travel to Lord Howe, an island 500 miles off Australia, to collect and study horned turtles. The excursion is funded by the AMNH and the Australian Museum.



RIL-MAY, 1980

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## TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS TOUR THE COUNTRY

The Museum's traveling exhibitions are far from their original homes — they are spread throughout the United States.

The "Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia" is the most recent departee, having left the AMNH in March. The exhibition is now at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, being readied for an April 25 opening. After the Chicago presentation, it will travel to San Francisco's California Academy of Sciences for display, August through November. The New Orleans Museum of Art will host "El Dorado" from December through next March.

"Peru's Golden Treasures" has already been shown at seven museums including the Seattle Museum where it opened in March after three months in Coral Gables, Florida, at the Metropolitan Museum and Art Center. The San Diego Museum of Art will present the exhibition from August through December.

"Peru's Golden Treasures" was created at the American Museum of Natural History, where it ran from October, 1977, to January, 1978.

"Ice Age Art" is currently on display at the Dallas Health and Science Museum in Fair Park and has been the subject of extensive interest. Now touring under the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Service (SITES), the exhibition was also seen at the California Academy of Sciences.

"Ice Age Art" was seen at the AMNH from May, 1978, and was closed January 15, 1979. It was the first time a comprehensive view of man's earliest art was presented in the United States.

"Objects of Bright Pride," another traveling exhibition, is an unusual case. All of its artifacts are culled from the AMNH Northwest Coast Indian Art collection, yet the exhibition has never been presented at the Museum. The reason is that comparable material is on permanent display in the Hall of Northwest Coast Indians.

The exhibition has, however, traveled extensively throughout the United States. In February, 1979, "Objects of Bright Pride" appeared at the Denver Art Museum and then moved to the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. The Seattle Art Museum presented it in the fall of 1979 and the New Orleans Museum of Art displayed it throughout this winter.

"Objects of Bright Pride" is returning to New York for exhibition at the Center for Inter-American Relations, 680 Park Avenue. The show will run from May 14, through July 27.





"Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia" opens at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago on April 25. Photo Credit: Lee Boltin

## EL DORADO ATTENDANCE HIGH

"Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Colombia," now at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, drew more than 377,000 visitors to Gallery 3 during its four months at the Museum.

The exhibition was sponsored by Chemical Bank with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities.

The presentation of "Gold of El Dorado" at the AMNH was its United States debut. Before coming to the Museum, the exhibition was seen in London and in Hannover, West Germany.

## MUSEUM GIFT FIT FOR A KING

The stunning plumage of "Feather Arts: Beauty, Wealth and Spirit from Five Continents" and its companion, "Papua New Guinea: A Feather in the Cap" invariably brings thoughts of the late Dr. E. Thomas Gilliard, former curator in the Department of Ornithology, to the minds of long-time AMNH employees.

Dr. Gilliard, who died suddenly in 1965 at the age of 52, was one of the world's foremost authorities on the birds of New Guinea. While undertaking more than a dozen expeditions to the South Pacific and South America, Dr. Gilliard studied countless exotic birds, many of which are

represented in the new exhibitions in Gallery 3 and the Akeley Gallery.

During his 33 years with the Museum, Dr. Gilliard became an internationally renowned expert on the birds of paradise. It was his knowledge of this family of birds that in 1956, brought Dr. Gilliard a fascinating experience.

In 1956, a new ruler was to be crowned in Nepal. The United States envoy to the coronation of King Mahendra left New York armed only with an autographed photo of President Eisenhower as the official U.S. gift. When it was realized that this would be inappropriate by Far Eastern standards, a hasty search for a new gift was launched.

Dr. Gilliard, contacted at the Museum, suggested a gift of plumes from the greater bird of paradise. These rare plumes, used as part of the Nepalese coronation ceremony and as part of the King's headdress, were difficult to obtain as birds of paradise are found only in New Guinea and their exportation is illegal. The Museum had accrued a formidable collection of these feathers through the cooperation of the U.S. Customs office. Thousands of birds of paradise, illegally shipped and earmarked for the millinery industry, had been seized by Customs and stored at the Museum.

Dr. Gilliard's offer was gratefully accepted by the envoy and he arranged for 100 of these protected bird plumes to be sent to the coronation.

Dr. Gilliard was invited to the ceremony. He described his experiences in Nepal in a 1957 National Geographic Magazine article, "Coronation in Katmandu."

Dr. E. Thomas Gilliard







## DR. BRUCE HUNTER

Although officially retired from the Museum, he is continuing the rapid pace he established during his more than 25 years with the AMNH. He'll spend the summer touring Asia. In October, he will lead a Museum Discovery Tour to China. Mr. Hunter is working on his third book on the Mayan civilization, and is continuing his painting with an eye toward a possible exhibit. He is also continuing his study of classical piano.

Photo Credit: Martha Swope

## MONEY RAISED FOR THE UNITED WAY

More than \$7,000 was pledged and donated to the United Way by AMNH employees during the Museum's annual drive last November and December.

Richard Zweifel, chairman and curator of the Department of Herpetology and AMNH United Way campaign chairman, said the \$7,154 in pledges and donations came from 352 donors. The average donation was about \$20. Zweifel said that donations were down by about 8 percent from the previous year.

Charles Miles, manager of Building Services, assisted Zweifel, serving as co-chairman of the drive. Dr. Zweifel also credits each division and department coordinator for their help.

## AMNH HELPS IN OPENING NEW MUSEUM

The Department of Vertebrate Paleontology recently played a major role in a successful campaign to help New Mexico establish its own natural history museum.

Richard Tedford, AMNH chairman and curator of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, said the Museum of North Arizona, using donations from several other museums, prepared an exhibit designed for display in several New Mexico cities and at the State Capitol build-

ing. Among the AMNH contributions were a horned dinosaur skull and skeletal parts of a camel, a mastodon, several horses and other animals.

The natural history museum in New Mexico will eventually be built in Albuquerque.

## 1980 CHARLES LINDBERGH AWARDS DINNER

On May 20 the American Museum will host the third annual Charles A. Lindbergh Awards Dinner in the Hall of Ocean Life, the same hall in which Charles Lindbergh's plane the "Tingmissartog" went on display in 1934. At that time the plane was suspended over an exhibition of equipment and accessories used by the famous aviator on his trans-Atlantic flights.

The evening is sponsored by the Charles A. Lindbergh Fund, an organization established to assist researchers and scientists whose projects are aimed at stabilizing the progress of technology with the preservation of nature. Grants up to \$10,580 (which was the cost of Lindbergh's plane the "Spirit of St. Louis" in 1927) are awarded annually. In addition to these grants, the Lindbergh Award is presented to an individual whose work demonstrates how balancing technology and preserving nature is achieved.

This year's award will be presented to Edwin A. Link for his invention of the "Link Trainer," a device used for training pilots on the ground, and for his research in oceanography and advancement of deep sea diving equipment. He is also the designer of the Submersible Dwelling, a futuristic model for underwater laboratories and habitats. Mr. Link will accept his award in the Hall of Ocean Life, surrounded by various scenes depicting marine life.

Among those invited are General Jimmy Doolittle and astronaut Neil Armstrong. Members of the Charles Lindbergh family as well as eminent leaders in aviation, aerospace, ecology and science will attend.

## EXTERIOR REHABILITATION PROGRAM IN PROGRESS

Exterior Museum repairs are once again in progress after an allotment of over \$1 million was received from the City of New York. The City Capital Budget Program contributed the funds to be used for repairing the roofs, windows and masonry on the 77th Street Museum facade. The Department of Construction and Maintenance sees completion of the project by the end of the summer.

New gutters, flashings, leaders and windows will help prevent further deterioration of the building. Plastering and repainting of the already damaged walls and ceilings will be scheduled after exterior repairs are completed.

The Museum began to plan this enormous undertaking in the 1970s. New York City's fiscal crisis postponed the renovations for several years. The next phase of the program will concentrate on repairs in the area of the Department of Mammalogy and other parts of the Museum.

## DIRECTOR SPEAKS AT DEDICATION OF CLEVELAND EXHIBITION

Director Thomas D. Nicholson presented the dedication address for the exhibition, "The Confiscation," at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History on April 3.

"The Confiscation," prepared by and for the Cleveland Museum, consists of materials confiscated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. According to Dr. Nicholson, the items confiscated include not only whole animals and skins but handbags, shoes, coats, jewelry and other by-products of endangered and illegally slaughtered and shipped animals.

Dr. Nicholson is a leading exponent of the responsibility



of museums under state, federal and international laws concerning the taking and trafficking of wildlife. His work as president of the Association of Systematics Collections has helped educate curators and governing authorities on the importance of protecting endangered species.

Another of Dr. Nicholson's interests will lead him to Chicago for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Adler Planetarium on April 21. The Adler Planetarium is the oldest institution of its kind in the United States.

Dr. Nicholson will present the 50th anniversary address and will officiate at the opening of the Planetarium's new exhibition: "Man: The Navigator."

The celebration will be a reunion of sorts, as Dr. Nicholson rejoins Joseph Miles Chamberlain, former chairman of the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium and assistant director of the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Nicholson succeeded Dr. Chamberlain at both posts. They also taught together at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy before coming to the Museum.

Dr. Chamberlain is now the operating president of the Adler Planetarium.

## A PAT ON THE BACK

Congratulations come to the Museum from many quarters. Here's a pat on the back in letter form from the den mother of a Cub Scout troop in Ozone Park:

"Dear Employees of the Museum,

Thank you for helping us enjoy our tour of the Museum on Saturday, March 15. The Cub Scouts like the whale, dinosaurs, and the elephants the most.

"A special thank you to the gentleman in charge of the cafeteria who opened the lunch room for us, and the elevator operators and guards who made sure the boys were behaving and not lost."

The letter is signed Mrs. Mary Ann Barnett, Cub Scout Pack 173

## HERE AND THERE

**Animal Behavior:** Ethel Tobach has been invited to participate in the XXII International Congress of Psychology in Leipzig, Germany, in July. Dr. Tobach will present a paper, "The Synthetic Theory of Evolution and Psychology as a Science." ... Cheryl Harding, research associate, is one of 82 participants invited to the NATO Advanced Study Institute Conference on the Biology of Aggression, held at the Chateau de Bonas near Toulouse, France, in July. The proceedings will be published as a book on the current state of aggression research. ... Peter Moller, research associate, and graduate students David Crockett, Michael Senchyna, Cathy Rankin and Cheryl Pfeiffer of the Animal Behavior-Biopsychology Program will join two French scientists in Paris and all will then proceed to Gabon, Africa, where they will conduct research on the ecology and ethology of the Gabon mormyrids and electric catfish. Their experiments will take them through April and into early May.

**Building Services:** Walter J. McGrath, a Museum employee for more than 30 years, died on March 13. He was 75 years old. Mr. McGrath, a resident of Port Jefferson Station, New York, retired from the Museum in 1967. He is survived by his nephew, Robert Smith. ... Norene Brooks, former assistant personnel manager, has been promoted to senior associate manager of Building Services. ... Walter McCarthy has been promoted to senior museum attendant/guard ... George Leidinger is the new assistant manager ... Martha Robles was promoted from secretary to senior secretary.

**Deputy Director/Research:** Deborah Berry, administra-

tive secretary, accepted a position as an assistant to the president of Barnard College.

**Development and Public Affairs:** The new Public Affairs manager is Herb Kurz, the former Director of Public Relations for Development at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. ... Peter J. Gallagher, former AMNH manager of Development, is the new Director of Development at Marymount College in Tarrytown.

**Education:** Lynn Sweeney has been promoted from museum instructor to senior museum instructor.

Florence Stone has been named special program coordinator. ... Malcolm Arth, Marcia White-Finley, Ted Williams and Florence Stone attended the Conference on Visual Anthropology at Temple University.

**Ichthyology:** Donn Rosen visited California and Great Britain. ... Guido Dingerkus is soaking a net in Florida and Dick Deneau is near Fiji. ... Harry Jacobson has been promoted to senior technician. ... Amy Rudnick is visiting her parents in Florida.

**Invertebrates:** Julia Golden has been appointed scientific assistant.

**Library:** Diana Shih, Kathi Kovacic and Lucy Lee spent three days in Albany training for the Museum's new OCLC terminals that were installed in the library. The terminals allow the Museum to participate in a national network system of searching and cataloging books and serials.

**Micropaleontology Press:** Marge Miller married Joseph Derrico on December 28, and, much to the joy of her friends, she will not be moving to Texas but will remain in New York City.

**Mineral Sciences:** Martin Prinz returned from a seven-day excursion to the uninhabited island of Zabargah in Egypt. Despite the high winds, Dr. Prinz was able to conduct research and learned about the origin of the peridot gems found on the island, a land mass he found to be an uplifted part of the Red Sea region. ... Friends through the Museum, particularly those in the department, will come back Gertrude Poldervaart, who's returning after eye surgery. ... George Harlow and Joe Peters attend the annual Tucson Gem and Mineral Show and purchased several fine specimens including aquamarines. Dr. Harlow, Dr. Prinz, and Jerry Delaney attended the 11th Annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in Houston.

**Natural History Magazine:** Mark Abraham has been promoted from production assistant to assistant production manager.

**Ornithology:** Stuart Keith has returned from a Museum Discovery Tours cruise of the Nile ... Dean Amadon spent a month at the Archbold Research Station in Florida. ... David Ewert, a former graduate student in the Department of Zoology who is now teaching at Central Michigan University, returned to the Museum for a short visit ... Wesley E. Lanyon is attending a joint meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society and the Wilson Ornithological Society in Corpus Christi, Texas. Dr. Lanyon is presenting a paper on his research in Mexico in 1979. ... Francois Vuilleumier returned from Caracas, Venezuela, where he presented a paper, "Ecological Aspects of Speciation in Birds with Special Reference to South American Birds."

**Personnel:** Jerome Williams is the new senior personnel assistant and Brian Campbell is the new personnel records assistant.

**Southwestern Research Station:** Vince and Barbara Roth returned from an exploratory trip to Mexico and Guatemala during which they collected spiders, traveled the back roads and visited mountain villages and water canoes. Mr. Roth also reports that he and his wife were accosted by "a pistol packing masked bandit" who was "outtalked by Barbara. He left," Mr. Roth adds, "mumbled to himself."



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Museum Director Thomas D. Nicholson, left, and Frank Perdue discuss an example of feather arts at the Museum.

## ROUGH OLD BIRD HAWKS FEATHER ARTS EXHIBITION

More than a few startled people have called the Office of Public Affairs to make sure that what they have been hearing on the radio is correct.

No one questions the information; it's the speaker who surprises the radio listeners by surprise.

The callers are told that, yes, that was chicken magnate Frank Perdue they heard hawking the Museum's exhibition "Feather Arts: Beauty, Wealth and Spirit from Five Continents."

The imaginative commercial featuring Perdue was produced by Ogilvy and Mather, the well-known advertising agency that has had the Museum as a long-time public service client.

On the spot, Perdue admits he has been ignoring part of poultry—the feathers, "you know, those colorful, tickly things that sprout on the outside.

"I'm not talking chicken feathers either," he adds. "I'm talking peacock feathers, kingfisher feathers, woodpecker feathers."

Perdue, who donated his services, wraps up his advertisement: "It takes a tender museum to put on such a delicate show."

## CHINESE DELEGATION STUDIES AT AMNH

A scientific delegation from the Peoples Republic of China has completed 10 days of research at the American Museum of Natural History and are off on a swing across the country before returning home.

The 10-member delegation conducted working sessions with their AMNH counterparts as well as with



Scientists from China compare notes with AMNH experts during their recent 10-day visit to the Museum.

paleontology and paleoanthropology staff members of Columbia, NYU, SUNY at Stony Brook, Yale and Princeton.

Richard Tedford, chairman and curator of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, expressed the hope that the visit by Chinese scientists will inaugurate a regular exchange program.

"This was an unusual opportunity for us to examine specimens from their collections and for them to see things here that they were only able to read about," said Dr. Tedford.





A Royal Dancer from the Kingdom of Bhutan wearing a ceremonial death mask. Photo Credit: The Asia Society's Performing Arts Program.

## FULL HOUSE FOR THE DANCERS FROM BHUTAN

The American Museum's auditorium was filled to capacity the weekend of April 26 and 27 for the final U.S. performances of the Royal Dancers and Musicians from the Kingdom of Bhutan. More than 2,500 Museum members and visitors attended.

Originally scheduled for one performance, special arrangements to schedule a second performance were made by Henry Schulson and the Membership Office to meet response.

The Royal Dancers and Musicians from the Kingdom of Bhutan, a country nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas, captivated audiences with their vivid masks and costumes. The folk dance-dramas, performed with great skill and agility, interpreted the religious beliefs of Bhutan and provided an entertaining and educational insight into a unique culture.

Sponsored by the Asia Society's Performing Arts Program, the troupe of 13 performers made their debut last February in Carnegie Hall and performed in 24 cities across the United States and Canada. They are now scheduled to appear in six European countries before returning to Bhutan.

## COUNCIL OF WOMEN TOUR ASIA HALL

More than 30 women from all over the world toured the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples as the National Council of Women of the United States sponsored Museum visit for wives and friends of members of the United Nations.

Led by Malcolm McKenna of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, and George Gardner and Ralph Bauer of the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, the visitors enjoyed a rare, behind-the-scenes view of what will be the Museum's largest, permanent anthropological exhibition as it nears completion.

The touring group had a heavy Asian representation including citizens of India, the People's Republic of China, Israel, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB FETES NEW MEMBERS

Membership in the Quarter Century Club now stands at 179, with eight new Museum employees inducted during the annual 25-year dinner, May 15, in the Hall of Ocean Life.

The new Quarter Century Club and Museum life members are Louis A. Benesh, assistant controller; Kenneth Chambers, coordinator, Department of Education; John Maloney, driver; Margaret Shaw, senior secretary; Helmut Sommer, senior technician; Chester Tarka, scientific illustrator; Helmut Wimmer, art supervisor; and Richard Zweifel, chairman and curator in the Department of Herpetology.

Among those honoring the eight new members were Robert G. Goelet, president of the Museum, James Oliver, director emeritus, Eloise Hirsh, first deputy commissioner for management in the city's Department of Parks and Recreation, and Thomas D. Nicholson, director



Robert G. Goelet presents Richard G. Zweifel with a certificate.



1. Quarter Century Club members Alice Gray and Thomas D. Nicholson flank Alexandra Goelet, Robert G. Goelet and Eloise Hirsh at the dinner. Mrs. Hirsh is a first deputy commissioner for management in the city's Department of Parks and Recreation.

2. Ken Chambers and Lou Benesh, 25-year members.

3. Evangelina and Helmut Sommer.

3

of the Museum, who served as master of ceremonies. Dr. Nicholson is also a member of the Quarter Century Club.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Nicholson called 1955, the year the newly-inducted 25-year club members joined the Museum, "a year of high talent."

Dr. Nicholson also spoke of the legacy that new Museum employees acquire.

"Museum staff members inherit a great tradition passed on by, among others, the 25-year people," he said.

This marked the first year that club members were invited to bring their spouses or companions to the dinner.

"We've shared so much with our husbands, wives and companions that they have almost as much to do with our being here as we do," Dr. Nicholson said.

In addition to honoring those who have reached their 25th year at the Museum, the annual dinner also serves as a reunion for retired and current employees, providing a warm, social atmosphere in which to renew old acquaintances.

"I used to know about 95 percent of the people in the





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4. Lou Benesh accepts congratulations from James A. Oliver, director emeritus

5. James Maloney receives his certificate from Robert G. Goelet

6. Peggy Shaw (center), husband, Howard, and Irene Palser



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Museum," said Matthew Kalmenoff, a retired principal preparator in the Department of Exhibition and Graphics who has returned to lend his skills to the preparation of the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples.

"Now I'm lucky if I know 5 percent of the employees. So I come to the dinner to be with old friends," Mr. Kalmenoff added.

Al Potenza, the associate manager of Building Services and a member of the Museum staff for 44 years, said he usually "makes all the dinners" and will attend the 25-year dinners after he retires in June.

"It'll probably be at least as much fun, if not more fun than."

George Crawbuck, a principal preparator in the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, said the recognition was important.

"Last year, before I received the certificate, I was a bit nervous, somewhat exhilarated and filled with a sense of anticipation. This year, I feel elated, perhaps a bit smug, but most of all I am very satisfied."

## NATURAL HISTORY WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Natural History has won the National Magazine Award for distinction in essays and criticism. Alan Ternes, editor of Natural History, accepted the award at the American Society of Magazine Editors' (ASME) 15th annual awards luncheon held this spring.

The award was presented to the magazine for "This New View of Life," a regular feature by Stephen Jay Gould, a teacher of biology, geology, and the history of science at Harvard University. The ASME judges praised Dr. Gould's column as "consistently excellent."



Alan Ternes, Editor of Natural History, is congratulated by Geraldine Woods, vice-president and editor-in-chief of Woman's Day, and Osborn, dean of the Columbia School of Journalism, as he receives the National Magazine Award.

Mr. Ternes cited Dr. Gould's work in the magazine as "interesting and readable while dealing with some of the more profound questions of science and the evolution of life."

Among the Gould columns submitted to the ASME for consideration for the award were "Wide Hats and Narrow Minds," which appeared in the February, 1979, issue, and "Mickey Mouse Meets Konrad Lorenz," which appeared in May, 1979.

Although this marks the first time Natural History has won a National Magazine Award, the publication has been nominated as finalist several times, including last year when "The Enduring Great Lakes" issue was selected in the single-topic issue category. The magazine's overall visual excellence was applauded by the ASME in 1979.

Established in 1965, the National Magazine Award is administered by the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Winning magazines received silver plaques and a reproduction of an Alexander Calder stabile.

## "ALIVE AND WELL AT ONE HUNDRED ELEVEN"

April 9th marked the Museum's 111th anniversary. To mark the occasion Director Thomas D. Nicholson narrated a slide presentation entitled, "Alive and Well at One Hundred Eleven" for the Museum staff and volunteers in the main auditorium.

The slide presentation comprised a visual record of the Museum's progress over the past decade. In his introduction, Dr. Nicholson stated that "the major theme uniting all research, exhibition and teaching at the Museum is evolution: change and adaptation through time."

"The achievements made in changing the Museum's programs, operations and appearance are attributed to the quality of the Museum's collections and the cooperation and diligence of its employees and volunteers," he said.

The slide presentation focused on the Museum's major accomplishments, including new permanent exhibition



A significant advance in the Museum's 111-year history has been computerization for research and administrative activities. At the

computer keyboard in the Department of Mineral Sciences is Assistant Curator George E. Harlow.



halls, three new galleries for temporary exhibitions and the expansion and renovation of many areas for the scientific staff and collections. The largest of the new science resources, a major new building addition of the past 10 years, is the ten-story Childs Frick Wing, housing the Museum's fossil mammal collection and the staff of the Department of Invertebrates.

Educational activities were greatly strengthened with the opening of six new learning facilities bringing multicultural programs, scientific workshops and touchable specimens in "discovery boxes" to individual youngsters and to entire school classes in the community. And the Discovery Tours Program was developed for adults to travel with Museum scientists on educationally oriented tours to various parts of the world.

The slide presentation showed the Museum's collection of more than 34 million specimens and the research they generate to be the foundation of the Museum's existence. In the 1970's the federal government recognized the collections in many departments to be national scientific resources. Visitors from universities and industrial communities use the Museum's collections, as well as the facilities in its interdepartmental laboratory, including its Scanning Electron Microscope.

In addition to reviewing the Museum's recent accomplishments, the presentation also projected plans for the future. New permanent exhibition halls such as the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples, the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites and the Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples will be opened within the next two years. A new hall based on the South American collections is in the planning stages.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Cynthia Wilder joined the Department as a part-time curatorial assistant.

**Building Services:** Thomas Lee is a new office aide and Patrick McManus will serve as a new Museum attendant guard.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Kenneth Harbour, Jose Frank and Melvin Adams are the new assistant Museum maintainers . . . Allen Blueford serves as a new Museum maintainer.

**Deputy Director/Research:** Nancy Foshee has become the Office's new administrative secretary and Grapevine Reporter.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Frederick Prussak is the new manager of Development . . . Robert Steyer joined the Public Affairs staff as an associate . . . Alison Weld serves as a new part-time information desk supervisor. . . Terry Schaff and her husband, Doug, spent two weeks in Paris recently.

**Education:** Sydney Buffum joined the Department as a new Museum instructor.

**Herpetology:** Charles Myers spent seven weeks in Panama conducting field work . . . Richard Zweifel and family did field work on St. Catherines Island, Georgia . . . Linda Goldberg spent two weeks in Florida.

**Library:** Paula Perry became the new reference services librarian . . . The new part-time library assistant is Linda Wright.

**Membership:** Kate Bennett-Mendez and Janice Rous, former director of education at the Jewish Museum, will present a paper at the American Association of Museums' annual meeting. The paper is entitled "Parents: An Untapped Resource." . . . Ms. Bennett-Mendez and her husband, Ray, recently returned from a three-week trip to Peru . . . The new Membership offices are on the third floor behind the Hall of Plains Indians.

**Museum Shop:** Julio Marrero and Charles Kanarick are

## MUSEUM WORKERS WEATHER TRANSIT STRIKE

Like many of their fellow commuters, most Museum employees endured the 11-day transit strike with determination, ingenuity and occasional good humor.

More than 75 percent of the Museum's staff members reported to work each day during the April strike, according to best estimates.

Director Thomas D. Nicholson, in a memorandum to employees, said there was not one instance in which program, service, or facility could not function normally.

"Your service in support of our work is in the tradition that has given the American Museum its greatness," Dr. Nicholson wrote. "I wish I could thank all of you personally."

For many, the trip from home to the Museum became an adventure. And, while those who live near the Museum were true to their daily routine, many staffers improvised to make the morning trip.

Betty Faber, a research associate in the Department of Animal Behavior, rollerskated to 79th Street from the Port Authority Terminal.

"It was a lot of fun," said Dr. Faber. "In fact, it was so much fun that I'm still doing it."

Fernando Rosado, a senior clerk in shipping and receiving, rode his bicycle in from Queens each day. He said it took him about an hour-and-a-half each way.

Carpools were important to many of the Museum's regular employees and volunteers. Grace Khoury, information desk supervisor, was in a carpool that handled as many as five passengers a day each way.

"It was faster than the bus," said Mrs. Khoury.

the new assistant managers . . . Elizabeth Hicks is a new part-time sales assistant.

**Natural History:** Bradford Smith is the magazine's new business manager.

**Ornithology:** Dr. Tso-Hsin Cheng, a member of the Chinese delegation from the Peking Institute of Zoology and Chinese Academy of Sciences, visited the Museum . . .

Other visitors to the department included Joseph Forshaw from Australia and Malcolm Coulter, a former Chapman Fellow now with the Long Point Observatory in Canada and Roger Pasquier, a former AMNH curatorial assistant now based at the Smithsonian Institution . . . G. Stuart Keith is the co-author of a new book called "Collins Bird Guide—A New Guide to Birds of Britain and Europe." . . . Jean T. Delacour returned to his home in Clères, France . . . John Bull returned recently from a two-week trip to Surinam where he conducted field work . . . Robert Eckhardt, University of Maine, will work with the department until September. Dr. Eckhardt, a Chapman Fellow, has been doing field work in the West Indies . . . Helene Hays will spend her summer at Great Gull Island . . .

Jennifer F.M. Horne Short has returned from an extended stay in Australia and Kenya . . . The Great Gull Island Project offices have been moved and are now located on the mezzanine of the Whitney Wing.

**Personnel:** Cesar Negron joined the staff as the new personnel records assistant.

**Photography:** Brenda Massie, formerly of the Entomology Department, is the new technician . . . Harold Walters serves as a new photographer.

**Planetarium:** Thomas Coyle is the new assistant book office manager.

**Plumbing Shop:** Charles Rice, a long-time Museum employee in the department, died on March 3. He was 59 years old.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Scott Madsen became a new curatorial assistant I.





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## THREE SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS GET NEW CHAIRMEN

Three of the Museum's scientific departments have new chairmen as of July 1. Charles W. Myers, curator, now heads Herpetology; Lester L. Short, curator, Ornithology, and Randall T. Schuh, associate curator, Entomology. Dr. Myers succeeds Richard G. Zweifel who served as chairman of the Department of Herpetology for 12 years. Dr. Myers' research on South American poison-dart frogs contributes to the broadening of taxonomic research on tropical reptiles and amphibians.

In the Department of Ornithology, Dr. Short succeeds Wesley E. Lanyon who held the chairmanship for seven years. Dr. Short's research concentrates on the relationships, distribution, behavior and ecology of birds, especially those of South America, Africa and Australia. He augmented his research on hybridization this past year while visiting the Australian National University. Dr. Short recently completed a book on the woodpeckers of the world.

Dr. Schuh takes over from Lee H. Herman, Jr., who was chairman of the Dept. of Entomology for seven years. A specialist in the systematics of plant bugs, Dr. Schuh's research includes the evolutionary development and biogeography of certain species on a world basis, utilizing specimens collected from North and South America.

The Museum administration began the system of rotating chairmanships in its scientific departments in 1974. The system was initiated to help bring new ideas to the development of the scientific departments and to share the responsibilities of administration.



Charles W. Myers

Randall T. Schuh



Lester L. Short



## HIDDEN CAVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT REOPENS FOR THE SUMMER

The cement wall that protected the entrance to Hidden Cave in Fallon, Nevada, was blown away on July 1. Erected last summer by archaeologists excavating this key site, the wall has protected the priceless prehistoric deposits which still remain within Hidden Cave.

The 1980 archaeological expedition to Hidden Cave is directed by David Hurst Thomas, chairman of the Museum's Department of Anthropology. Dr. Thomas will be assisted by more than 50 scientists, their staffs and archaeology students, working to piece together the evidence recovered during the summer excavation.

The Hidden Cave Archaeological Project is an unprecedented cooperative effort, co-sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History, the Bureau of Land Management, the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, and the University of Nevada, Reno.

The research team will spend two months excavating at Hidden Cave. This site is of particular interest to scientists because of the unusual array of artifacts which have been recovered there.

Hidden Cave is also of contemporary interest because of the presence of a thick lens of volcanic ash, similar to that emitted from Mount St. Helens in Washington. Archaeologists at Hidden Cave have found evidence of an extremely violent, disruptive volcanic eruption of Mount Mazama in Oregon, nearly 7,000 years ago.

## DR. ROZEN ADDRESSES CONFERENCE OF STATE LEADERS AT MUSEUM

Speaking at the opening dinner of the Sixth Annual Meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures, Jerome G. Rozen, Jr., deputy director for Research, asked legislative leaders to support their cultural institutions. The dinner was held on July 8 at the Museum.

In his address, welcoming more than 600 state legislators and their guests from around the country, Dr. Rozen told the leaders of the nation's legislative bodies that government and cultural institutions serve the same constituencies. He pointed out that cultural institutions aid the economy and thus help to save dying cities. He cited the area between the Museum and Lincoln Center as an example of how cultural institutions have contributed to the rejuvenation of a once depressed area of the city.

Created to improve the operations of legislatures across the country, this year's NCSL meeting was hosted by the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut legislatures, as well as a private sector host committee. The evening's program consisted of a reception in the Hall of Minerals and Gems, followed by dinner and dancing in the Hall of Ocean Life.

As a welcoming gesture to the guests visiting the "Big Apple," Louis Ferretti, executive chef of ARA Services Inc., the Museum's caterers, created a special ice sculpture of an apple. Carved from a 300 lb. block of ice, the apple was 40 inches high. Museum electricians illuminated the big ice apple with a red light.

## MOUNT ST. HELENS ERUPTS AT THE MUSEUM

Far from the destruction and volcanic ash of Mount St. Helens, the Museum has put up an exhibit describing the activity of the still threatening volcano.

"Action at Mount St. Helens: Recent Eruptions and the Geology Behind Them," which opened in late June, examines the volcanic activity during a six minute videotape. It is an Exhibit of the Month, sponsored by the Arthur

Ross Foundation.

Some of the tape of the Mount St. Helens eruption was provided by the National Broadcasting Company while film clips of other volcanoes were taken from the Museum archives. Narration of the videotape is provided by Peter Mattson, professor of geology at Queens College.

The Mount St. Helens exhibit, prepared by members of the Department of Exhibition and Graphics and the Projection Department, is being shown in the Super Room in the second floor rotunda.

## BISON BEAUTIFICATION

Since he had helped prepare many of the original exhibits in the Hall of North American Mammals, Raymond de Lucia viewed the refurbishing of the Hall's Bison Group diorama as a sort of homecoming.

"I guess I've just about gone full circle with the Hall," said Mr. de Lucia, the Museum's former chief preparator of exhibits, who came out of retirement to help spruce up the diorama. The exhibit, which also includes pronghorn antelope, has not had a major cleaning since it was opened in December, 1942.

Mr. de Lucia, who had worked for the Museum for almost 40 years, was joined by David J. Schwendeman, a senior principal preparator, and Beth Sudekum, a preparator, in cleaning plant life in the exhibit, improving the lighting and, of course, tending the bison and pronghorn.

The cleaning project, unlike other refurbishing efforts, was open to the public and was a big hit with children and adults who had never seen a vacuum cleaner used for grooming bison.



David J. Schwendeman uses a vacuum cleaner to improve a bison's hairstyle while Raymond de Lucia and Beth Sudekum clean plant life in the Museum's Bison Group diorama



## FIVE MUSEUM EMPLOYEES ARE FETED



Celebrating their years of service to the Museum are, seated, left to right, Louis Penna, Barbara Neill, Albert C. Potenza, Alma G. Cook and John F. Cook. Joining in on the festivities are, left to right, Malcolm J. Arth, Pauline Meisler, Thomas D. Nicholson, Barbara J. McCaw and Charles A. Weaver, Jr.

A retirement Tea honoring five employees, whose combined service to the Museum totaled more than 100 years, was held on June 26 in the Hall of Ocean Life. For Albert Potenza, Louis Penna, Barbara Neill, and Alma and John Cook it was a day to remember. All agreed that their fondest memories will always be of the people and friends who worked with them at the Museum.

Since the 1940's Mr. Potenza held numerous jobs in the Department of Building Services, retiring as its associate manager. He plans to volunteer some of his time to New York Hospital and to catch up on his bike-riding and golf.

Also with the Museum since the 1940's, Mr. Penna retired as senior clerk in the Department of Building Services. He also worked in the Departments of General Services and Construction and Maintenance over the years. Always willing to try his hand in different areas of work, Mr. Penna once assisted S. Harmstead Chubb, associate curator emeritus in the Department of Comparative and Human Anatomy to mount the skeleton of a donkey for display. He plans to move to California where family members live.

Ms. Neill, supervising instructor in the Department of Education, came to the Museum in 1960. For the past several years she was in charge of the Alexander M. White Natural Science Center where she taught children about the plant and animal life of New York City. Ms. Neill's retirement plans include painting, writing and illustrating children's books and moving out West to a place with a couple of acres of land where she can pursue her bent for growing things.

Mr. Cook was supervising clerk in the Department of General Accounting; Mrs. Cook served as administrative secretary to the deputy director for Administration. The Cooks are one of several Museum couples whose work relationship evolved into a marital relationship.

He worked at the Museum since the mid-thirties; she was the secretary to several high-ranking executives of the Museum for more than 30 years. The Cooks plan to travel a bit, enjoy their five grandchildren and relax at home. With a flair for writing, Mrs. Cook offered these words to summarize her thoughts on retirement: "By choice or by chance, the patterns and designs in the fabric of our lives are woven there by that mysteriously wonderful loom of fate. It will be a new challenge and an interesting one to see what emerges as the shuttle moves to form a different pattern of life — retirement."

## AN UNUSUAL ADDITION TO THE FEATHER ARTS EXHIBITION: THE FANS OF SALLY RAND

A pair of fans used by the fan dancer Sally Rand is the newest addition to the Museum's "Feather Arts" exhibition.

Miss Rand became famous and even slightly notorious in the 1930's and 1940's for her dance in which she manipulated two large ostrich feather fans to cover her body. She continued dancing while she was in her late 70s, and died last year at age 75.

Two white ostrich feather fans were loaned to the Museum by the Chicago Historical Society and will be on display in conjunction with the "Feather Arts" exhibition which remains here until September 1.

The "Feather Arts" exhibition contains 250 examples of featherworking from five continents, and some objects are 1,000 years old.



Rand and fans



## HERE AND THERE

**Animal Behavior:** Peter Moller, research assistant, along with Cathy Rankin, David Crockett, Michael Senchyna and Cheryl Pfeiffer returned from field work in Makokou, Gabon, Africa this past month. They studied the ecology and ethology of mormyrid fishes . . . Helmut E. Adler, research associate, chaired a session at the 22nd International Congress of Psychology in Leipzig, Germany, in July. He presented a paper entitled "Man-Animal, Man-Machine" . . . Herman Berkhoudt, from the Department of Morphology at the University of Leiden, Netherlands, is visiting H. P. Zeigler's laboratory for a year. Dr. Berkhoudt's special interests include the study of morphology, physiological and behavioral aspects of feeding in birds. Support for Dr. Berkhoudt's visit is provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation . . . Laurence McRae joins the department as Museum technician.

**Anthropology:** Craig Morris was promoted to associate curator.

**Building Services:** Joining the staff as Museum attendant guards are: Gwendolyn Crawford, Claude Shell, Bernard Thumann, Roy Turner, Helen Edwards, Carmen Robles, Marva Carmichael, Larry Conklin, Gabriel Flores, Adrienne Frederick, Gertrude Joseph and Gisele Kirkland . . . Jeanalda Thomas is the new assistant to the manager.

**Controller's Office:** Pauline G. Meisler has been named assistant director for Financial Operations and Controller . . . Mildred Wise was promoted to assistant to the Controller.

**Education:** The new senior secretary is Elizabeth Holly.

**Entomology:** Lisa Beal was hired as a part-time curatorial assistant.

**General Accounting:** Xiomara V. Delgado was promoted to supervising clerk.

**General Services:** Shirley Bosomtwe is the new office aide . . . Jean Jatkowska retired at the end of May after many years of service. She held the position of supervising clerk, taking care of the archives and general files . . . Paul Vann attended a class reunion held in his hometown in North Carolina.

**Guest Services:** Marilyn Badaracco was promoted to manager.

**Herpetology:** Charles Jay Cole, curator, his son Jeff and Chuck Crumly, graduate student in Herpetology, spent two weeks in early May on St. Catherines Island, Georgia, continuing field work on the department's lizard project there. In early June Dr. Cole and H. C. Dessauer, research associate, presented a report at the meeting of the American Society of Biological Chemists in New Orleans . . . George Foley, senior technician, and his wife Jean traveled to the Carolinas and Florida for three weeks in May. They were given a grand tour of the new Natural History Museum in Charleston . . . Michael Klemens, scientific assistant, spent a week in May in northwestern Connecticut and brought back many specimens from new localities for the department's collections, including a near record-size snapping turtle . . . Richard Zweifel's daughter, Nell, who was active on many collecting trips over the years, graduated from high school and plans to enter the Eastman School of Music in the fall.

**Ichthyology:** Lynn Parenti, graduate student, received the Stoye Award in general ichthyology from the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Fort Worth, Texas, in June.

**Invertebrates:** Two new department employees are Monica Werner, secretary and Juan Jaramillo, Museum technician.

**Library:** Nina Root was promoted to chairwoman of the department. Ms. Root and Mary Giatas, acquisitions librarian, attended the American Booksellers Association meetings in Chicago . . . Nina Root also attended the American Association of Museums meeting in Boston and delivered a paper on the "Role of the Library in Museums" . . . Pamela Haas was promoted to assistant librarian for Archives and Photographic Collection and became chairperson of the New York Museums, Arts and Humanities group of the Special Libraries Association for 1980-81 . . . Paula Perry, reference services librarian, attended the Ohio College Library Center Interlibrary Loans subsystem training workshop in Albany at the SUNY/OCLC office in June . . . Bryan Johnson joined the staff as cataloging project librarian.

**Mammalogy:** Donna Santillo joined the staff as secretary.

**Membership:** Kate Bennett-Mendez was promoted to manager.

**Mineral Sciences:** The new Museum technician is Juan Delgado.

**Museum Shop:** The roster of new Museum Shop personnel includes Darlene Toulon and Richard Roder as full-time sales assistants; Scott Borok, Sally LaFort, Madonna Ash, Vanessa Glover, Laurel Hatten and Dagmar Stepanek (formerly of the Planetarium Shop) as part-time sales assistants.

**Natural History:** Rebecca Finnell was promoted to associate editor and Rita Campon was promoted to assistant editor.

**Ornithology:** John Bull, scientific assistant, returned from a 17-day field trip to Surinam and spoke to the Museum Staff Wives on "Birding Among the Ruins: A Trip Along the Nile." He also addressed the Linnaean Society on "Bird Migration in the Middle East" . . . Peter Cannell, graduate student, left to spend the summer on Kent Island where he will be doing research and field work . . . Jonathan Maestre, student of Ohio Wesleyan University, joined the Department for eight weeks under the Museum's summer undergraduate program to assist Lester Short in analyzing barbet vocalizations.

**Planetarium:** Additions to the staff are Valentina Salazar and Scott Bell as part-time sales assistants; Gwendolyn Bowen as Museum attendant guard; and new Planetarium course instructors Barry Gordon, Astrophotography; John L. Helms, II, Piloting for Sailboat Operators, and Dr. Henry J. Bartol, Introduction to Astronomy . . . Mark R. Chartran, III, was elected as a fellow of the British Interplanetary Society. He visited the Carl Zeiss Planetarium in Germany to look into an automation system for the Planetarium Sky Projector. He also participated as a member of the NAS Science Working Group to plan observations and public information services for the 1986 appearance of Halley's Comet . . . Sandra Kitt, librarian, recently returned from a trip through the Orient. She visited Hong Kong, China, Tokyo and Honolulu.

**President's Office:** Sandra Elinson, administrative secretary to the vice president, and her husband Mitchell celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary on June 10.

**Public Affairs:** Frank Post joined the staff as public affairs assistant.

**Purchasing:** The new senior clerk is Jennifer Tyson.

**Women's Committee:** Members of the Men's and Women's Committee express their gratitude and appreciation to all those cheerful employees and friends in the Museum who helped make successful the fund raising activities held this year. The Committee could not have done it without you. With everyone's assistance the Committee raised more than \$182,000 over the year.



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## FOURTH ANNUAL MARGARET MEAD FILM FESTIVAL FEATURES FILMS ON CHINA, AUSTRALIA AND AFRICA

The Museum's fourth annual Margaret Mead Film Festival will present more than 50 selections — including several film premieres — on subjects ranging from Australian aborigines and African villagers to Chinese cities.

The first two evenings of the festival, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 1 and 2, will focus on four films of Africa and Australia by this year's honored artists, David and Judith MacDougall. This American husband and wife team has been making films on Australian Aborigines for the past five years.

The evenings with the MacDougalls are special ticket events, and advance registration is recommended. Information may be obtained by calling the Education Department or 873-1070 on weekdays. Full program information included in the September issue of Rotunda.

The weekend portion of the festival, Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 4 and 5, presents films by a score of filmmakers many of whom will be on hand to discuss their work. The Oct. 4 and 5 programs are free; the films will be shown in the areas throughout the Museum.

Subject areas include portraits of two Chinese cities, Chinese commune and factory life, perspectives on Iran, Latin American faith and ritual, Soviet ballet, the Black experience, and dance and drama in Java and Thailand.

Margaret Mead



## MUSEUM VOTED ONE OF BIG APPLE'S SEVEN INSTITUTIONAL WONDERS IN CITY-WIDE COMPETITION

High school students have selected the Museum as one of the seven institutional wonders of New York City in a contest conducted by Power Memorial Academy.

The award was presented to Phyllis Mandel of the Education Department, who represented the Museum at a June 23 ceremony in the academy. The contest was conducted by Op Search, an academy program which asks students to pick the top man-made and natural wonders in the city. More than 5,000 students from 19 public and private New York City schools researched, nominated and voted for their choices as the Big Apple's seven wonders.



## MUSEUM TRUSTEES ON NORTH POLE VOYAGE

Museum Trustees Lansing Lamont, left, and William Beinecke, right, were among a group of 17 ham radio operators, naturalists and sky divers who tried to reach the North Pole this spring. Weather conditions prevented them from reaching the pole. However, the two hardy trustees did plant a Museum expedition flag at 84 degrees 30 minutes north on the polar ice pack — 358 miles south of the pole.



## A BRIDGE BETWEEN BUILDINGS



Working on the bridge connecting the Library and the Photo Collection are, left to right, Carl Hilgers, Fernando Rivera, and Al Sigler of the Museum's Department of



Construction and Maintenance. In the background are library staffers Ivy Alston left, and Sylvia Diaz

Work has begun on a bridge between two Museum buildings to help the Library consolidate its various sections and improve access between the Library and its Photographic Collection.

"When the Photographic Collection was placed under Library management in May, 1978, administration of the new section proved to be difficult," explains Librarian Nina Root.

"The Library is on the fourth floor of Building 1, and the Photographic Collection is on the fourth floor of Building 11," she adds. "Although the windows of the Library's reference section and the Photographic Collection face

each other across a 26-foot courtyard, one must go down to the second floor of Building 2, walk through the Birds of the World and Man in Africa halls to the People Center corridor, and take the elevator to the fourth floor to reach the Photographic Collection from the Library."

The Museum's Department of Construction and Maintenance started building the bridge in June. A completion date has not been set. The bridge will serve as the roof of a room being constructed between the third and fourth floors which will provide additional space for the Department of Education.

## MUSEUM PROVIDES BACKDROP FOR JEANS AD AND SOAP SEGMENT

Although the Museum is better known for what's inside its walls, the institution and its grounds have been photographed for films and television shows and often serves as a showcase for performing arts programs. One of the recent nonscientific and nonanthropological events at the Museum was the filming of segments for a Gloria Vanderbilt jeans commercial in June on the Central Park West steps.

Late in July, Guest Services supervised arrangements for the video-taping of a dramatic kidnapping in the Museum for the popular soap opera, "As The World Turns."

In the segments shot here, a young woman is chased to "a natural history museum" (unidentified) and kidnapped after hours by an assassin hired by her fiancé's family.

The Museum has a standard permission policy which allows outside commercial and educational organizations to film and photograph. Companies are charged usage and out-of-pocket costs on a project-by-project basis.



The Museum's Theodore Roosevelt statue served as a backdrop for this recent television commercial for Gloria Vanderbilt Jeans



## VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY RECEIVES EXXON GRANT

The Exxon Corporation presented a grant of \$830 to the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology to help defray drafting and other expenses in the publication of a scientific paper on the Late Tertiary Geology of north-central Nebraska.

The grant resulted from an application submitted by Walker Johnson, a retired Exxon employee who serves as a volunteer in the Department. Exxon's Volunteer Involvement Program/Community Service Fund awards bonuses to its present and retired employees who offer their services to non-profit organizations.



These two characters were among the cast of the Fujian Hand Puppets from the People's Republic of China. The Fujian group performed at the Museum earlier this month.

## UNUSUAL CHINESE PUPPET PROGRAM COMES TO MUSEUM

Chinese puppeteers on their inaugural tour of the United States made their only New York appearance at the Museum, Sept. 4-7.

The 11-member troupe from the province of Fujian on the southeastern coast of the Peoples Republic of China presented four shows with their unique, foot-long puppets carved from wood and dressed in beautifully embroidered costumes.

The puppet shows were sponsored by the Museum and the Asia Society's Performing Arts Program in cooperation with the U.S.-China Peoples Friendship Society. The programs were held in the main auditorium.

## FEATHER ARTS EXHIBITION MOVES ON; ENRICHED THE FANCY OF 288,806

"Feather Arts: Beauty, Wealth and Spirit from Five Continents" closed Sept. 1 after a successful 19 week run at the Museum's Gallery 3.

The colorful collection of feather artifacts drew an audience of 288,806. August was the exhibition's most popular month, with 87,706 attending the show.

## CALIFORNIA CONDOR IS SUBJECT OF ARTHUR ROSS EXHIBIT OF THE MONTH

California's endangered condor is the subject of the Museum's latest Exhibit of the Month, sponsored by the Arthur Ross Foundation.

"California Condor: A Species in Peril," examines problems threatening the bird's future, and reviews action being taken to save this magnificent species.

Included in the exhibit are impressive photographs of the bird and its environment, as well as a model condor egg and a radio transmitter used by scientists in population studies of the animal. A mounted specimen dominates the opening portion of this Exhibit of the Month.

"California Condor" will remain in the Roosevelt Rotunda through October 15.

## EMPLOYEES TO PREVIEW ASIAN HALL ON SEPT. 29

Museum employees and volunteers will be guests the evening of Monday, Sept. 29, at a special preview party marking the opening of the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples. The Hall opens to the public on Oct. 17.

At 5:30 p.m. the beautiful new exhibition, on which so many at the Museum have worked over the years, will be open for previewing by employees. Afterwards, there will be drinks and food served in the Hall of Ocean Life beneath the Blue Whale, which has become the Museum's leading "host" in recent years.

Invitations to all are being sent out, with an R.S.V.P. to Guest Services.



The exotic La Rocque Bey Dance Company closed the Museum's summer dance activities with a performance drawn from the African, Caribbean and Afro-American origins.

## DANCE ACTIVITIES WERE A SUMMER HIGHLIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

Those hot summer days may have kept some Museum visitors listless, but for many people, summer at the Museum was an exciting festival of dance events organized by the Department of Education and the Caribbean Program.

The LaRocque Bey Dance Company closed the season, in August, with a performance of its colorful "African Ceremony and Festival Dances." Under the direction of La Rocque Bey, the troupe performed 18 pieces drawn

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from traditional African and Caribbean origins, spiced with modern Afro-American interpretations.

Magda Saleh, former prima ballerina with the Cairo Ballet, and Walter Terry, the famed dance critic, joined forces in mid-August to present "Two Evenings of Egyptian Dance" at the Museum. Dr. Saleh (she holds a doctorate) narrated her 90-minute color film, "Egypt Dances," and performed several selections while Mr. Terry gave commentary and looked at Egyptian influences on American dance.

July was highlighted by the African-American Summer Festival. The noted Ladi Camara African Dance and Music Ensemble came to the Museum in mid-month to present a selection of traditional African dance and song. At the same time, three old-time Harlem tap-dancers — Sandman Sims, Bunny Briggs and Chuck Green, were joined by choreographer Eleanor Harris, in a tap dance demonstration.

The Lincoln Square Neighborhood Center's Bamiki Dance Group opened the Festival's events with a presentation of African dance and mime.

The Ibo Dancers opened July with two programs of Haitian folk dance. Of special note was their simulated voodoo ceremony with music provided by Haitian folk song stylist, Miriam Dorisme.

## HERE AND THERE

**Animal Behavior:** Ethel Tobach, curator, spent two weeks at the Museum of Natural History of Humboldt University, Berlin. She also presented a paper at the International Congress of Psychology in Leipzig on the "Impact of the Theory of Evolution on Psychology" . . . Betty Faber, research associate, spent a month in Trinidad studying the ecology and behavior of cave cockroaches . . . Carol Simon and Howard Topoff, research associates, worked on lizards and army ants respectively at the Southwestern Research Station in Arizona.

**Anthropology:** Anne Helsley joined the staff as curatorial assistant III . . . Owen Moore was promoted to curatorial assistant III.

**Building Services:** The roster of new Museum attendant guards includes: Kevin Cahill, Lidya I. Cobo, Gary Fedakowski, Carlos Francis, Lawrence Grasso, William Hernandez, Joycelyn Martin, Brian J. O'Toole, Paquito Pajarillo, Beverly Rodriguez, Christopher Ryan, Vitaliano Viaje and Kyle E. Walters . . . New staff members in the department are: Ivonne Jackson, secretary; Darlene Slade, assistant to the manager and Betty Weems, assistant manager . . . Recent promotions include Sankar Gokool, senior assistant manager; Jeanalda Thomas, assistant manager, and Mary Dillon, supervising Museum attendant guard . . . Five employees in the department promoted to senior attendant guards are: Elizabeth Clayton, James C. McGinty, Jr., Edwin Garcia, Lloyd Julius and Richard Singletary.

**Administration:** Arlene Simon is the new administrative secretary.

**Research:** Jerome G. Rozen, Jr., deputy director, returned from the Southwestern Research Station in Arizona where he conducted research on bees.

**Development & Public Affairs:** Kathryn DeLawter joins the Development staff as secretary.

**Education:** The new secretary for the African-American and Caribbean Programs is Ingrid Perkins.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** A recent addition to the staff as exhibit designer is Michael Blakeslee . . . George S. Gardner, chairman, led a panel discussion on the subject of "Exhibition Design: Three Case Studies" at the American Association of Museums' annual conference in Boston.

**Herpetology:** Richard Zweifel, curator, and his wife Fran spent two weeks during July in St. Johns, V.I., chasing frogs through the underbrush. In August they camped in the Adirondacks, where black flies chased them through the underbrush . . . Ed Teller, senior technician, went to Maine in July where he and the Dave Seamans, formerly of Mineral Sciences, visited a quarry and found exciting gem specimens . . . Carol Townsend, scientific assistant, Charles Cole, curator, and his son Jeff spent three weeks in Surinam, South America, collecting female species of lizards . . . The White Oak Award was presented to Michael Klemens, scientific assistant, "for outstanding contributions to the preservation of natural areas in Connecticut as well as research on the herpetofauna of Connecticut" by the state's Chapter of the Nature Conservancy.

**Ichthyology:** James W. Atz, curator, spoke at the Gordon Conference on Bone and Teeth. He discussed the relation of systematics to comparative physiology.

**Invertebrates:** Judith E. Winston joins the staff as assistant curator . . . Morris Karl Jacobson, associate in malacology, died in Melbourne, Fla., on July 21. A long-time friend of the department; Karl was a founder of the New York Shell Club in 1949 and author of numerous molluscan papers. He co-authored four books with William K. Emerson, curator, including *Shells of the New York City Area* and *The American Museum of Natural History Guide to Shells* . . . Dr. Emerson and William Old, scientific assistant, attended the 46th annual meeting of the American Malacological Union in Louisville, Ky.

**Library:** The new part-time library assistants are Carol Van Dyck and Judith A. Walsh . . . The library staff hosted 100 anthropology librarians during the American Library Association's annual meeting . . . Pamela Haas, librarian, attended a seminar on the "Photographic Image: Problems in Curatorship and Conservation" in Andover, Ma., and a conference on "Image Access to Visual Resources" at the Smithsonian's Belmont Conference Center . . . Nina Root, chief librarian, was elected the first chairperson of the Preservation of Library Materials Section of the American Library Association.

**Micropaleontology Press:** John Van Couvering, editor, and Martin Janel, associate editor, participated in the International Geological Congress in Paris in July . . . Ruth Manoff, associate editor, also went to Paris to scout for papers at the African Micropaleontological Colloquium.

**Museum Shop:** Ann M. Streng is the new full-time sales assistant.

**Natural History Magazine:** Joining the staff as fulfillment manager is Robert R. Bruno . . . New supervising clerk is Lilly R. Kelly.

**Ornithology:** This year's American Ornithologists Union meeting was held at Colorado State University. Among those who attended the American Ornithologists Union meeting at Colorado State University were Francois Vuilleumier and Lester L. Short, curators; Dean Amadon, Lamont curator emeritus; Wesley E. Lanyon, Lamont curator; Mary LeCroy, scientific assistant, and Eugene Eisenmann, research associate . . . Lester L. Short attended the fifth Pan-African Ornithological Congress in Malawi where his wife, Jennifer Horne Short, and G. Stuart Keith, research associate, joined him . . . John Farrand, Jr. and Ruth deLynn were appointed department associates.

**Photography:** Arthur Singer, chief photographer, addressed the Third Annual Visual Communications Congress on the subject of photo studio management methods.

**Planetarium:** Two new employees are Henry Laureano and Marcy Engelstein, part-time sales assistants.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Katherine Wolfram is the new scientific assistant . . . Ann Burke was promoted to curatorial assistant III.



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 1980

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## **SOUTHWEST CANYONS EXHIBITION OPENS IN GALLERY 77**

"Profiles of the Past: Geology of Three Southwest Canyons" opened in Gallery 77 on Friday, Oct. 31.

The exhibition takes visitors on a geological tour of Bryce, Zion and Grand canyons via 160-degree, curved photo murals, and a selection of rocks, fossils and animals characteristic of the areas.

Featured are the three stunning 36-foot color panoramas of the southwest canyons taken by photographer John Redfern. The photographs are from Mr. Redfern's forthcoming book, "Corridors of Time: 1,700,000,000 Years of Earth," published by Times Books.

"Profiles of the Past: Geology of Three Southwest Canyons" was organized by the Museum. Sidney S. Brenstein, scientific assistant in the Department of Invertebrates, is scientific advisor for the exhibition which remains in Gallery 77 through May 1.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS MARK OPENING OF ASIAN PEOPLES HALL**

The Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples opened Oct. 17 amidst a variety of social activities marking the occasion.

The festivities began with a preview and reception Sept. 13, sponsored by *Natural History* magazine for advertisers, potential advertisers and friends.

It was followed by a reception for Museum employees and volunteer employees on Sept. 29. Accompanied by President Emeritus Gardner D. Stout, President Robert G. Goellet welcomed the gathering to the Hall of Ocean Life.

Director Thomas D. Nicholson delivered a brief address concerning the Hall's importance.

The evening was topped off with the arrival of a group of Chinese who performed a traditional lion dance.

On Oct. 16, Trustees and other guests attended a formal Gala dinner.

Among the dignitaries at the black tie event were ambassadors from various Asian missions to the United Nations. The key speaker was U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

In his speech, Mr. Waldheim commented on the far-reaching importance of the Hall.

"As in our international-political dealings," Mr. Wald-

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President Robert G. Goellet, right, presents President Emeritus Gardner D. Stout with a copy of "The Tales of Genji," at the Oct. 16 dinner for the Hall of Asian Peoples.



U.N. Secretary Kurt Waldheim, third from the right, key speaker at the Oct. 16 dinner, tours the Hall of Asian Peoples with Dr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Nicholson, right, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert G. Goellet. At far left is Mr. Waldheim's daughter, Christa.



heim said, "so in our study and observation we must keep the thought always in our minds that no nation is an island unto itself and that all the world's peoples are neighbors who need to learn much from one another. . . .

"Besides being a great source of enjoyment and instruction," the Secretary General concluded, "let this exhibition serve as an instrument for better international understanding and, in this way, help to promote the cause of peace."

Mr. Goelet presented Mr. Stout with a limited edition of the celebrated Japanese story, "The Tales of Genji."

Membership reserved the Hall Sept. 28 and Oct. 15 for Museum Members' previews.

A special reception was held on Tuesday, Oct. 21, with friends of the Museum, dignitaries, and members of the press attending.

The Museum's Asia Hall social activities culminated on Thursday, Oct. 30, with a reception for corporate friends at which Donald C. Platten, chairman of the Museum's corporate campaign, was the host and key speaker.

In addition, Guest Services arranged Asia party packages for outside organizations from September through November. Some of the outside organizations that have had Asian evenings include the *Asian Wall Street Journal* and the American Society of Human Genetics.



Larry Van Praag, right, and Mike Rapkiewicz, center, wish Art Grenham a fond farewell at the projection manager's recent retirement party.

## GONE FISHING—AND SAILING

Art Grenham, the Museum's projection manager since 1974, retired on Sept. 30.

Mr. Grenham first came to the Museum as a temporary employee in 1968 to supervise the installation of the slide film show in the John Lindsley Hall of Earth History. He later supervised the construction of the Museum's Centennial exhibition, "Can Man Survive?"

In 1969, Mr. Grenham became a permanent employee and worked in various departments including Guest Services and Exhibition until he was named manager of Projection.

Residents of Hicksville, N.Y., Mr. Grenham and Gladys, his wife of 24 years, will move to Hartwell, Ga., where they will live in a chalet on their vacation property until a permanent home is completed in April.

Mr. Grenham said he intends to take up new careers in his retirement—sailing and fishing.

Succeeding Mr. Grenham is Larry Van Praag, who becomes chief projectionist for the newly reorganized division. Projection is now a unit of the Department of Exhibition and Graphics.

## BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS EXHIBITION TO COLOR AKELEY GALLERY

A stunning collection of color pictures by natural history photographer Kjell Sandved comprises "Flying Fantasies: Butterflies and Moths," which opened in the Akeley Gallery on Friday, Nov. 14.

The exhibition uses Sandved's detailed photographs to explore a variety of subjects relating to butterflies and moths. One outstanding series of images examines coloration and patterning of the insects' wings.

Sandved's work, on loan from the Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Service, is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month. It will remain at the Museum through Jan. 25.

## CHARTRAND LEAVES PLANETARIUM

Mark R. Chartrand, III, chairman and associate astronomer of the Hayden Planetarium for the past six years, resigned Nov. 1 to become executive director of the National Space Institute, Washington, D.C. Allan Seltzer, education coordinator for the Planetarium, has been named acting chairman.

Dr. Chartrand began his career at the Planetarium in 1970 as an assistant astronomer and director of education. He was appointed chairman in 1974.

He has had numerous articles published on astronomy and space exploration, and has made many guest appearances on local and national radio and television.

A contributing writer for *OMNI* magazine, he currently teaches a course at The New School for Social Research entitled, "Working in Space: A Primer for Extraterrestrial Profits."

## SENATOR VISITS MUSEUM



Senator Bill Bradley, (D) New Jersey, lifts his daughter Theresa to see a display in the Hall of Small Mammals. The former star of the New York Knicks took time from his schedule to bring his daughter to the Museum.



The Glory of the Sea Cone (*Conus gloriamaris* Chemnitz, 1777), one of the most sought after species, is represented in the Munyan Collection

## INVERTEBRATES RECEIVES MAJOR SHELL COLLECTION

A large and scientifically valuable collection of world-wide cone shells was generously donated to the Museum by Thomas and Virginia Munyan of Margate, N.J.

The collection consists of approximately 2,200 specimens representing more than 400 species, some new to the Museum's previous holdings. The Munyans acquired the collection during the past 25 years through selective purchase from dealers and on personal collecting trips to Africa, Australia and the South Seas.

The collection is rich in shells in different stages of development, rare color forms, and unique specimens such as morphological freaks.

Considered by the department as one of the finest private collections of Conidae in the world, the Munyan's donation has considerably enhanced the Museum's holdings.

## EXHIBITIONS ARE TOPIC OF DIRECTOR'S LETTER

The following letter to the editor written by Director Thomas D. Nicholson, appeared in the Sept. 27 edition of The New York Times. Dr. Nicholson's letter explores the relationship and balance between special exhibitions and those based upon the Museum's permanent collections.

To the Editor:

I would like to comment on the remarks attributed to Philippe de Montebello, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, by Ellen Lentz in her Sept. 16 news story.

I support fully Mr. de Montebello's emphasis on the significance of high-quality special exhibitions in the pro-

grams of museums today, including most especially exhibits based on collections from abroad. However, I regret two unfortunate implications that may be inferred from his remarks, and I would like to set the record straight insofar as the objectives and programs of the American Museum of Natural History are concerned.

Mr. de Montebello suggests that public attention (and perhaps museum interest) is being distracted from exhibits based on permanent collections, and there is the implication that museums are providing special shows as a means of making money. I disagree vigorously with both points of view.

First, with respect to exhibits based on permanent collections, I would cite the effort we have invested in our new Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples, to open Oct. 17. A major accomplishment, requiring 14 years in planning and construction, the hall is part of our continuing long-range commitment to permanent exhibition.

Over half of our 32 major halls have been renovated or rebuilt in the past 20 years, and we will continue this pace. The Arthur D. Ross Hall of Meteorites opens in early 1981, the new Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples in 1982. And we are already in design for South American Peoples. We have lost none of the excitement and enthusiasm for imaginative permanent exhibits that have always been part of our tradition at the American Museum.

We are also convinced that exhibitions should never be conceived and presented by museums as profit-making projects (we have turned down several such proposals in recent years). However, we are equally convinced that good exhibitions, soundly conceived and dramatically designed with competent scholarly and educational supervision and goals, can and will be the most significant investment a museum can make to insure its long-range financial support. And this is true for both permanent and special exhibitions.

Our popular permanent Guggenheim Hall of Minerals and Morgan Hall of Gems generated more than double their cost in private gifts and grants to support our mineral science research program — within four years of their opening.

The American Museum entered the arena of attractive, popular special exhibitions some 10 years ago, when we perceived its appeal and advantages to the public. Yet we never sacrificed our commitment to exhibitions based on our permanent collections. And the stimulus was not the box office. It was the continuing conviction that scholarship, education and exhibition in our program are interdependent.

Exhibition, to put it simply, is our business. And if we conduct our business well, we will earn the support we need.

Thomas D. Nicholson

Director

American Museum of Natural History  
New York, Sept. 19, 1980

## ORIGAMI HOLIDAY TREE TO GO ON DISPLAY

The eighth annual Origami Holiday Tree went on display in the Roosevelt Rotunda at 3 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 24, when the Museum held a tree lighting party for its employees and volunteer employees.

Under the supervision of origami specialist Alice Gray, scientific assistant emerita in the Department of Entomology, and Michael Shall, head of The Friends of the Origami Center of America, the ornaments have been folded by Museum employees, both paid and volunteer, and people

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from The Friends of the Origami Center.

In addition to existing ornaments, this year's tree has intricate red dragons commemorating the opening of the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples.

The Origami Holiday Tree is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month.

## AFRO-AMERICAN PROGRAMS FEATURE JAZZ SOUNDS AND TRADITIONAL DANCE

Visitors to the main auditorium on Sunday, Nov. 23, heard the Metropolitan All Stars recreate the sounds of Duke Ellington, Miles Davis and Ella Fitzgerald when the Education Department's Afro-American program presented "Jazz and Caribbean Connection."

The Metropolitan All Stars jazz ensemble were followed in the same program by Art Jardine and the Torrid Zone, who provided the Caribbean "connection" in the concert. Jardine's group emphasizes the lively "jump-up" rhythms of the traditional steel drum.

On Dec. 14, Dinizulu, and his African Dancers, Drummers and Singers will return to the Museum to present traditional African sounds and dances in the main auditorium at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The group performed at the Museum last year.

"Jazz and Caribbean Connection" was supported by a gift from Evelyn Sharp. Dinizulu and his Dancers, Drummers and Singers is supported by grants from The New York State Office of Parks and Recreation, and by a gift from Evelyn Sharp. There is no charge for the Dinizulu performance.

### CAFETERIA TAKE-OUT SERVICE RULES

Housekeeping problems could cause discontinuance of the food take-out service in the Museum Cafeteria. Here are some rules to be followed to keep the program in effect:

- Notify the counter person that food being purchased is to be taken out.
- Make sure that all items are wrapped or capped.
- Pack all foodstuffs in paper bags available behind the cashier.

Cooperation in following proper packaging procedures is essential if Cafeteria take-out is to be continued.

## HERE AND THERE

**Animal Behavior:** Ethel Tobach, curator, presented a paper on peer review at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Montreal. Betty Faber, research associate, was appointed co-leader of an entomology seminar in Trinidad. Dr. Faber continued her research there with a grant from the Explorers Club . . . James Deich, postdoctoral fellow, will be working with H. Philip Zeigler, research associate, for two years.

**Anthropology:** The new textile conservation trainee joining the department is Karin Knight. New additions to the staff include: Margot Dembo, curatorial assistant III; Jed Stern, curatorial assistant, and Lilly Kelly, secretary.

**Building Services:** George Gordon and Lloyd Julius were recently promoted to senior Museum attendant guards. Yvonne Jackson has been promoted to senior

secretary. The roster of new Museum attendant guards includes Margaret Androvett, Nilda Borroto, Alexandre Dubovoy, Emmanuel L. Garcia, Cynthia Goodwin, Doris Long, Roberto Maisonave, Kim Nichols, John O'Connor, Gustavo Salomon, Steve Silverstein, Dwayne Stovall, Edwin Torres and Joseph Vega.

**Construction and Maintenance:** William Fitzpatrick is the new Museum maintainer. Jovan Stankovic, Louis Fragosa, and Alexis Jacobs join the staff as assistant Museum maintainers.

**Deputy Director for Research:** The position of administrative secretary is filled by Deborah J. Hickman.

**Development & Public Affairs:** Lorraine Airall was promoted to contributors' assistant.

**Education:** The new senior secretary is Nayda T. Correa. The part-time reception center supervisor is Edith Cooper.

**Entomology:** Joining the staff as a part-time curatorial assistant is Elizabeth Potter . . . Alice Gray, scientific assistant emerita, was leader of a two-week entomology seminar for laymen at the Asa Wright Nature Center in Trinidad.

**Exhibition & Graphics:** Steve Quinn, principal preparator, collected bird and mammal specimens from Arizona for the special exhibition "Profiles of the Past: Geology of Three Southwest Canyons." He also installed the exhibition "The Native Peoples of the Colorado Plateau" for the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff.

**Ichthyology:** C. Lavett Smith, curator, and assistant Felix Locicero returned from the University of Michigan Field Station in Pellston where Dr. Smith conducted a course on the biology of fishes . . . Norma Feinberg, scientific assistant, broke her leg on the dock at Woods Hole, Mass., and was unable to board the research vessel, Knorr, that set out to collect fishes. The staff did their best to gather specimens for her . . . Lynne Parenti, who studied in the Department of Ichthyology, and Richard P. Vari, research associate, are presently involved in researching fish species on the Corantijn River in Surinam.

**Invertebrates:** Judith Winston is the new assistant curator in the department. For the past three years she lived in Discovery Bay, Jamaica, studying the life history of coral reef bryozoans. Specializing in this field, she received a research grant for the three-year project from the National Science Foundation while she was an associate research scientist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore.

**Library:** Carmen Dones is the new senior clerk for the department . . . Janet Steins left her position as assistant photo collection librarian to work for the State University of New York at Stony Brook . . . The department was awarded a one-year grant of \$61,950 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to inventory and catalog anthropology photographs.

**Mammalogy:** Debra M. Calafia is the new secretary.

**Membership:** Douglas Preston, formerly editor of *Rotunda*, has been named assistant editor of *Curator*. Stanton Orser replaces him as Membership assistant.

**Museum Shop:** New part-time sales assistants include Ahhalia Bahadur, Frank Cruz, Judith Feinberg, Steven Jones, Zoilo Lopez, Donna L. Reynolds, Chris Schramm, Elizabeth Thorne and Whitney C.C. Tymas . . . Olive M. Green was hired as a full-time sales assistant.

**Natural History Magazine:** The new managing editor is Judith Friedman. Susan Rosenberg is the new senior secretary.

**Planetarium:** Joining the staff are Diane Koutsoukos as part-time box office manager, Deborah Schiffer as secretary, and Roy J. Ringel and Denise Walker as part-time sales assistants.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Michael R. Anderson joins the department as curatorial assistant III . . . Jeanne Kelly was promoted to Museum technician. Alison Weld has been named curatorial assistant III.





DECEMBER, 1980

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## ORIGAMI TREE SPARKLES AGAIN

For the eighth year, the Museum's traditional Origami Holiday Tree welcomes visitors in the Roosevelt Rotunda. Each of the 3,000 ornaments adorning the tree was carefully folded by Museum employees, volunteer employees and members of The Friends of the Origami Center. True to the holiday spirit, all the work on the intricate ornaments was done by those who generously donated their time.

## MUSEUM CHRISTMAS PARTIES CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON

More than 400 children and 200 adults attended the annual Children's Christmas Party which took place this year for the children of Museum employees on Friday, Dec. 12, at 5:30 p.m.

The festivities began in the main auditorium where Director Thomas D. Nicholson, MC for the evening, introduced a puppet show by the Nifty Puppeteers. After the program, the activities moved to the Hall of Ocean Life where frankfurters, ice cream, cake and milk were served.

The evening's high point came with the arrival of Santa Claus, this year played by jolly Alan Ternes, editor of *Natural History* magazine. Santa distributed gifts with the assistance of his helpers, played by children of Museum employees.

The party was organized by Ernestine Weindorf, administrative assistant in *Natural History* magazine.

On Friday, Dec. 19, Museum employees and volunteer employees were welcomed to the Staff Wives Annual Christmas Party.

Strictly for adults, guests were invited for cocktails in the Roosevelt Rotunda in full view of the Origami Holiday Tree.

Drinks were followed by a buffet dinner in the Hall of Ocean Life. Paul Vann and his Band provided the evening's music.

The Christmas Party was organized by the Staff Wives of the American Museum of Natural History. Edith Bull, wife of John Bull, scientific assistant in the Department of Ornithology, is chairwoman of the group.

*(Editor's Note: Next month's "Grapevine" will carry photographs of the Children's Christmas Party.)*

## LITTLE THEATRE OF THE DEAF TO PERFORM NEW PLAY

The Little Theatre of the Deaf will present a new play for children in the main auditorium Saturday, Dec. 27, through Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 2:30 p.m.

The play, entitled, "Of This World," takes a look at the life and writings of the Japanese haiku poet Issa. "Of This World" was written by Richard Lewis, director of The Touchstone Center For Children. It is being presented in association with the Center.

The Little Theatre of the Deaf is the children's division of



the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Theatre of the Deaf. The company has enjoyed exceptional recognition and attention for its specialized theatrical form of communicating to a deaf audience through a visual language utilizing the actor's body, hands and face.

## BAT FLIES INTO MUSEUM'S COLLECTION

Workmen fixing a window in the Public Affairs Office last month discovered a grey-colored bat clinging to the ivy that was growing outside one of the tower rooms.

Ever alert, members of the staff promptly called in an expert — Karl F. Koopman of Mammalogy, whose specialty is the evolution and distribution of bats.

Within minutes Dr. Koopman appeared, mounted a ladder to examine the animal, pronounced it to be of interest, and took it away in an interoffice envelope.

Some weeks later, "Grapevine" decided to follow up on the discovery.

"Yes, the bat is now available for study in our collections," reported Dr. Koopman. "It's a silver haired bat, one of three migratory species which pass through the New York area on their way south at this time of year. Not too many people have studied its migratory patterns and we have only about 50 in our collection, so I was happy to add it."

Dr. Koopman said that it was not particularly unusual for the bat to have been found in the old ivy of the Museum tower.

"*Lasiorycteris noctivagans* is atypical in that it roosts in

trees," he noted. Most bats roost under loose bark, inside holes in trees, and in buildings and caves.

The silver haired bat, whose range is restricted to North America, usually migrates between the beginning of October and the end of November. Hence, the *L. noctivagans* in question was essentially on target.

Since the species migrates solitarily, the specimen collected outside the Museum was also behaving normally in this respect, according to Dr. Koopman. Its only mistake was being in the wrong place at the right time...

Dr. Koopman examining a bat in the Mammalogy Department's extensive collection. Recently, an addition to that collection was made when a silver haired bat specimen was "contributed" by Public Affairs.



## MUSEUM AWAITS ARRIVAL OF NEW COELACANTH SPECIMEN

The Department of Ichthyology expects delivery in a few weeks of a rare coelacanth from the National Museum of Zimbabwe and is making arrangements for scientists throughout the country to examine this fish that many experts believe is most closely related to land animals.

Until a live coelacanth was captured off the southeast coast of Africa in 1938, it was thought to have become extinct approximately 70 million years ago.

An estimated 90 coelacanths have been caught and studied over the past four decades. The newest specimen to be obtained by the Museum in conjunction with the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research holds great promise, says Guido Dingerkus, field associate in the Department of Ichthyology.

This specimen was frozen immediately after being caught by commercial fishermen off the southeast coast of Africa near the Comoro Islands. Most coelacanths have been examined by scientists after the fish have been preserved. A frozen coelacanth will enable researchers to study the blood, liver and tissues that would be chemically altered if the fish had been otherwise preserved.

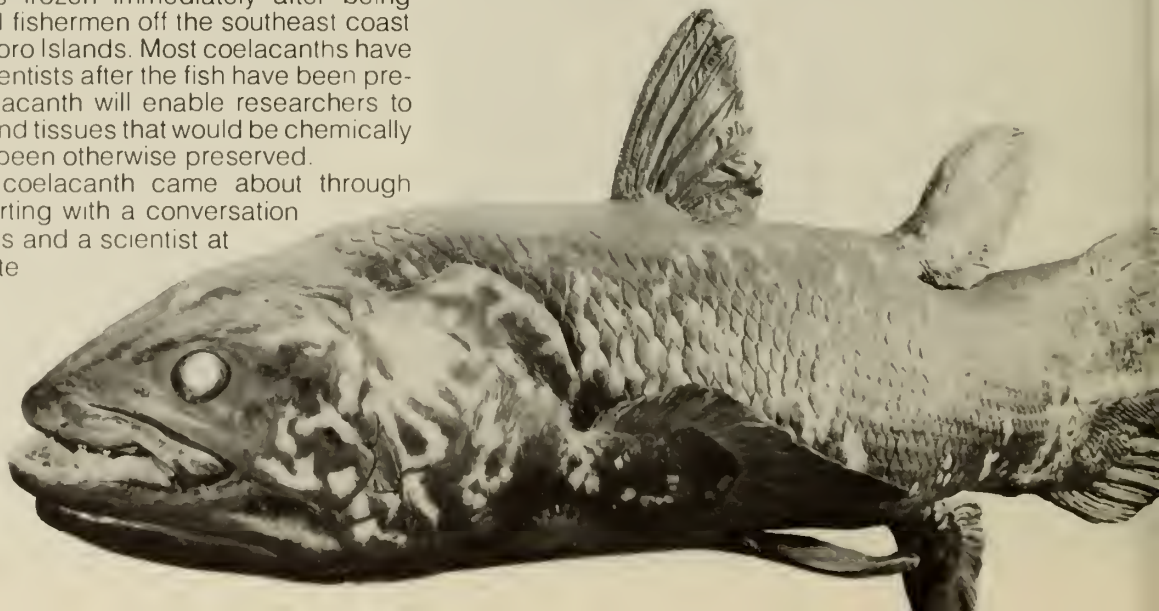
Acquisition of the coelacanth came about through a series of events starting with a conversation between Mr. Dingerkus and a scientist at Sloan-Kettering Institute

for Cancer Research about their respective research interests.

They subsequently learned that a frozen coelacanth was available, and Mr. Dingerkus called the Zimbabwe museum. Both scientists will take blood and liver samples for their research projects, and Mr. Dingerkus will examine gill tissues for chromosomes. Several other scientists have expressed interest in examining the fish.

Mr. Dingerkus says he believes this specimen is only the second frozen coelacanth to be examined in this country.

Coelacanth research is hardly new to the American Museum. Five years ago, C. Lavett Smith, chairman and curator of the Department of Ichthyology, and Charles S. Rand, professor of comparative hematology in the biology department of Long Island University, dissected a coelacanth and discovered that the fish give birth to live young.



This mounted coelacanth is similar to the specimen which will be brought to the Museum from the National Museum of Zimbabwe.





The famed Ahnighito meteorite, shown being moved into the Museum in this 1979 photograph, will be one of the many attractions in the new Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites which opens in April.

## ARTHUR ROSS HALL OF METEORITES SLATED FOR APRIL 30 OPENING

The Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites, the Museum's next permanent exhibition hall, will open April 30 on the first floor next to the Halls of Minerals and Gems.

The new hall will explore the development of meteorites and the clues they provide for studying earth and planetary history. "Meteorites can tell us about the beginning of the solar system," says Dr. Martin Prinz, chairman of the Department of Mineral Sciences and scientific consultant to the hall. "They can tell us about the relationship between the planets and they can put the history of earth in perspective."

The exhibition will include the 31-ton Ahnighito, the largest meteorite in "captivity"; moon rocks on loan from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); exhibits which explain how meteorites are formed and what secrets they contain about the solar system, and samples of the five types of meteorites which play an important role in the origin and development of planets.

On the day before the hall opens, the Museum will host a special symposium on meteorites and planets, with experts from universities and government institutions as participants.

*Natural History* magazine will take note of the hall with a special section in its April issue containing six articles on the significance of meteorites.

The new hall, which represents nearly two years of planning and construction, has been supported by Arthur Ross, a Museum Trustee and generous contributor to Museum activities over the years. Mr. Ross, who sponsors a monthly exhibition at the Museum, is vice chairman and

managing director of the Central National Corp. He is a director of several major corporations and is a trustee of many cultural and nonprofit organizations.

Portions of the Museum's extensive meteorite collection had been displayed in the halls of minerals and gems, which opened in May, 1976. However, a decision was made to establish a separate meteorite exhibition because, as Director Thomas Nicholson remarked four years ago, "we've recognized the need to build the Meteorite Hall to the same standards as (the halls of) Minerals and Gems."

## CHINESE SCIENTISTS TOUR MUSEUM

Two prominent scientists from the People's Republic of China were given a behind-the-scenes tour of the Museum and its facilities. The tour was part of a program developed by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the World Wildlife Fund, and the People's Republic, to assist China in its efforts to conserve wild species and natural areas.

Wang Sung, professor at the Institute of Zoology in Peking, and Tsao Ching Ju, a forester with the Chinese Academy of Forestry, were welcomed to the Museum in October.

Among the many activities planned for them was a tour of the Museum's mammal collection. Professor Wang is working on a book about the endangered mammals of China.

Other activities on the scientists' itinerary included get-togethers with Museum staff members in the fifth floor staff lounge, a luncheon meeting with Director Thomas D. Nicholson, and a special tour of the new Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples.

## DIRECTOR COMMENDS VOLUNTEER EMPLOYEES

Approximately 10 percent of the Museum's total labor is done by volunteer employees, according to a recent statistical summary of the 1979/80 fiscal year submitted to the Trustees.

In a letter written to Miriam Johnson, coordinator of volunteer and information desk services, Director Thomas D. Nicholson asked Mrs. Johnson to, "Please convey to all of our volunteers my sincere thanks and congratulations, not only for the quantity of the service they provide to the public through their work at the Museum, but also for its obvious quality."

"The impressions of quality have been substantially reinforced by the excellent service that your volunteers are currently providing."

According to Dr. Nicholson, volunteer employees benefited the Museum "by the equivalent of approximately 60 man-years of equivalent full-time employment ... during the fiscal year."

## COLBERT DEDICATES AUTOBIOGRAPHY TO MUSEUMS

Edwin H. Colbert, Curator Emeritus in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, has dedicated his autobiography, "A Fossil-Hunter's Guide: My Life With Dinosaurs and Other Friends," to the American Museum of Natural History and the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Dr. Colbert began working for the American Museum in 1930. During his tenure here, he served in a variety of positions including chairman and curator in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. He retired from the Museum in 1969, and later continued his work and studies at the



Museum of Northern Arizona.

In 1970, Dr. Colbert was awarded the American Museum of Natural History Gold Medal for distinguished achievement in Science. Among the many things he was cited for was having "greatly increased public awareness of (his) science both as an intellectual discipline and as a source of pleasurable diversion."

Dr. Colbert's autobiography was published by E.P. Dutton in November. In his book, Dr. Colbert reflects upon his life's work, including the important discovery of the *Lystrosaurus* fossil remains in Antarctica. The finding of the ancient reptile's jawbone clearly established a link between the Antarctic and African continents.

Dr. Colbert recently celebrated his 75th birthday. He was presented with a *festschrift*—a volume of writings presented as a tribute—to commemorate the occasion. The *festschrift* was published by the Museum of Northern Arizona.

## HERE AND THERE

**Animal Behavior:** Rachelle Batushansky, past visiting investigator and fellow in the department, spent three months as a mass media science fellow for the American Association for the Advancement of Science at television station WDSU in New Orleans. She is presently co-director of a research laboratory for prenatal studies at the Department of Anatomy and Embryology of the Hadassah Medical School—Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

**Anthropology:** Stacy Goodman was promoted to curatorial assistant III.

**Building Services:** Samdaye Singh, Joycelyn Martin and Gabriel Flores were advanced to senior Museum attendant guards ... joining the department is Tanya M. Williams as secretary.

**Construction and Maintenance:** The new Museum maintainer is Michael J. McManus.

**Deputy Director for Research:** Jerome G. Rozen, deputy director, attended meetings of the International Committee on Museums held in Mexico City. Dr. Rozen and his wife toured the National Museum of Anthropology and the Natural History Museum of Mexico City. They collected 20 genera of bees in Chihuahua desert near the research station in Durango.

**Development and Public Affairs:** The new part-time clerk typist in the Office of Guest Services is Caron C. Van Dyck ... June Martinez leaves her position as assistant guest services coordinator to become the banquet sales representative for the Berkshire Place Hotel ... Sheryl Drew joins the Volunteer Office as part-time information desk supervisor ... Marjorie Bhavnani is promoted to a full-time highlights tour assistant.

**Education:** Malcolm Arth, chairman, and Catherine M. Pessino, coordinator of school programs, left for India to participate in an environmental education workshop. They will visit wildlife sanctuaries and forest reserves in central and southern parts of the country ... Sue E. Gronewold was hired as a part-time lecturer for the Hall of Asian Peoples.

**Entomology:** The departmental secretary position is filled by Tanya Clement ... Elizabeth Potter, curatorial assistant, has returned to her post after several months of absence ... Louis Sorkin was promoted to scientific assistant ... Randall T. Schuh, chairman and curator, and Norman I. Platnick, associate curator, attended the first annual meeting of the Willi Hennig Society in Lawrence, Kansas. They also were present at a conference on macroevolution in Chicago.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Michael Gaisner was promoted from part-time projectionist to full-time projectionist.

**Herpetology:** Richard G. Zweifel, curator, received a fellowship awarded by the Australian Museum in Sydney to study frog specimens in that area and in the Australian Museum's collection. He will be accompanied by his wife, Fran ... Charles Crumly, graduate student in the department, finished no. 2105 in the New York City Marathon. His time was 3:9.31.

**Library:** Joining the staff are Bernice M. d'Aquino as assistant photo collection librarian, Annlinn K. Grossman as project librarian/archivist and David Wendell Floyd as part-time library assistant ... James "Red" Wassenich was promoted to reference librarian ... Nina Root, chief librarian, attended a meeting of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History in London. She is the society's North American representative. Mary Genett, acquisitions librarian, accompanied her to various British museum libraries ... Pamela Haas, assistant librarian for photographic collection and archives, spoke at the American Society of Picture Professionals in Boston on the Museum's photographic collection ... Stanley Sawicki is the new project acquisitions librarian.

**Mammalogy:** Patricia Griffith, curatorial assistant, is a new employee in the department.

**Museum Shop:** New part-time sales assistants are: Bertha Bishof, Renee Gallant and Marcie Serber.

**Natural History Magazine:** The new production manager is Frederick Grossman ... Ramon Alvarez is the new supervising clerk.

**Ornithology:** Lester L. Short, chairman and curator, and G. Stuart Keith, research associate, attended the Fifth Pan-African Ornithological Congress in Malawi. After the congress, Dr. Short was successful in recording and sonographing calls from the rare Stierling's Woodpecker which he located near Nairobi, Kenya. Mr. Keith went on to observe seabirds off the coast of South Africa ... François Vuilleumier, curator, attended a meeting on Census Methods of Bird Populations in Asilomar, Calif. He is presently conducting research in Mérida, Venezuela ... Dean Amadon, Lamont curator of birds emeritus, was present at the Raptor Research Foundation meeting in Duluth, Minn. ... Wesley E. Lanyon, Lamont curator, returned from field research in Surinam ... Dr. Lanyon's son, Scott, is serving as a volunteer in the department ... Mary LeCroy, scientific assistant, led a Museum Discovery Tour to New Guinea and Australia. Remaining in New Guinea, she continued her research, concentrating on the birds of paradise ... Jean T. Delacour, research associate, celebrated his 90th birthday with friends and Museum colleagues before leaving for Los Angeles for the winter ... James C. Greenway, Jr., research associate, plans to return to his position early next year ... John Bull, scientific assistant, and his wife Edith attended the Northeast Regional Audubon Society meeting on Cape Cod and participated in a bird and whale watch off Provincetown. They also visited Fisher's Island, N.Y., where the Ferguson Memorial Museum bird collection was examined. The island is the only known cormorant breeding area on the coast of New York ... William H. Phelps, research associate, is assisting Robert W. Dickerman, also a research associate, on a manuscript while on temporary leave from field study in Caracas, Venezuela.

**Planetarium:** Joining the staff as part-time sales assistants are Susan Tammany, Gesmina Huggins and Todd A. Gabriel ... The new Museum attendant guard is Leroy Mercer ... Gwendolyn Bowen was named assistant box office manager ... Charles Luckner, manager of the Planetarium gift shop, has returned to work after a long absence.

**Staff Wives:** The Staff Wives Committee, chaired this year by Edith Bull, conducted its first meeting Oct. 30. The meeting included a behind-the-scenes tour of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology conducted by Richard Tedford, chairman and curator.









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Workers lower the Easter Island head sculpture from the old fourth floor Hall of Peoples of the Pacific into the new Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples

## NEW MEAD HALL TO DEBUT IN FALL OF 1982

The long awaited Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples will open its doors in the fall of 1982 with a dramatic new design.

Formerly the Hall of Peoples of the Pacific, the reconditioned exhibition has been named in honor of the late anthropologist most responsible for its realization. Dr. Mead spent her early days at the Museum as an assistant curator of the old Philippine Hall and South Sea Islands Hall. It was her guiding hand that consolidated the two halls into the Hall of Peoples of the Pacific, which opened in 1971.

Eugene Bergmann, exhibition designer in the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, worked with Dr. Mead on a new design for the hall. While retaining the Pacific atmosphere of the old hall, Mr. Bergmann's design builds greatly upon the anthropological story told by the exhibition.

Light blue — reminiscent of the warm Pacific waters and sky — is the dominant color of the new hall, and is reflected in its ceiling and floor.

The exhibits for each island or culture group are clearly delineated by patches of different colored carpeting. Placed against a blue floor, the carpets give the illusion of islands in the sea.

Located on the third floor, one floor below its former home, the new hall has a lower ceiling than its predecessor.

To compensate for the lower ceiling, Mr. Bergmann discarded the intricate network of grates and blue metallic chips used in the old hall to create the illusion of "leaf light." Instead, the new ceiling has been painted sky blue, and is contoured and curved to correspond with the islands of carpet on the floor.

The distinctive aluminum and glass exhibit cases have been mounted on solid, wood-like bases. Florescent lights and spotlights are being used inside each case. While the arrangement of the cases has been changed to meet the requirements of the new floor plan, their scientific content remains virtually intact.

Tentatively scheduled for the new hall is a special exhibit devoted to the work of Margaret Mead. Current plans call for the area to recount her work through a series of photographs and a collection of materials taken from her expeditions.

## ENTOMOLOGY RECEIVES GRANT FOR CARE OF COLLECTIONS

A three year custodial grant of some \$310,000 for the care and upkeep of its collections has been awarded to the Department of Entomology by the National Science Foundation, it was announced by Randall T. Schuh,

(continued on page 2)



department chairman.

With more than 16 million specimens, Entomology has the largest collection in the Museum.

Part of the grant will be used to buy new cabinets for the storage of specimens. The department has already received some of the 150 metal cases it intends to acquire over a three-year period.

Unlike some of the department's older cases on the fifth floor, the new units are equipped with an efficient rubber gasket which seals the case when it is closed. This greatly reduces the need for constant fumigation used to protect the specimens against insect pests.

Money has also been appropriated for a full-time staff member to sort the spider collection — the largest of its kind in the world. Louis Sorkin, scientific assistant, has been appointed to that arduous task.

Funds will also be used to contract 24 specialists to temporarily work on specific areas of the collection. They will be drawn from other institutions and universities.

### HOPI EXHIBITION OPENS IN GALLERY 3; MUSEUM PLANS COMPANION EXHIBIT

On Feb. 9, the Museum unveiled a major traveling exhibition on the Hopi people, a Pueblo group that has inhabited the Southwest since at least the 13th century.

"Hopi Kachina: Spirit of Life," which is on view in Gallery 3, is devoted primarily to the spiritual life of the Hopis, which is dominated by a large group of deities known as kachinas.

Kachinas are supernatural messengers who mediate between mortals and the gods to ensure rain, good weather and bountiful harvests. They represent many spirits and powers present in the Hopi world, including animals, plants, neighboring peoples and historic personages.

Kachinas are often represented in the form of small wooden carvings called tihus, of which there are some 150 in the exhibition. These are presented to children to teach them the history and traditions of the Hopi.

In addition to the tihus, there are two kiva murals from the ancient site of Awatovi in Arizona. The murals are among the oldest and best examples of early American art. They are being exhibited for the first time in "Hopi Kachina."

The exhibition also includes two excellent audio-visual presentations, one at the beginning of the show, and one at the end. The first concentrates on the life of the Hopi people. The second is composed of interviews with Hopis about their ancient culture, its persistence and their way of life today.

To accompany the traveling exhibition, the American Museum has organized its own exhibit, which will open in Akeley Gallery on March 10. "Bird, Cloud, Snake: Hopi Symbols" will present the work of modern Hopi artists; a series of sculptures and paintings on Hopi themes by Horst Antes, a German artist, and some outstanding examples of Hopi pottery and textiles from the Museum's collections. It is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month.

"Hopi Kachina: Spirit of Life" was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities with additional funding from Sante Fe Railway Company, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company Foundation, The Hearst Foundation, Transamerica Corporation and the Pinewood Foundation.

It opened at the California Academy of Sciences and has appeared at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh. After leaving the American Museum, it goes on to the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

### FREDERICK HENRY OSBORN DEAD AT 91

Frederick Henry Osborn, a former Museum trustee and research associate in the Department of Anthropology, died in New York on Monday, Jan. 5. The 91-year-old Mr. Osborn was a nephew of the Museum's fourth president, the late Henry Fairfield Osborn.

A striking figure at six feet, eight inches tall, Mr. Osborn served as a general in the U.S. Army and was appointed chief of the Morale Branch during World War II by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. A business magnate as well, Mr. Osborn retired from his commercial career at 40 to pursue his scientific interests which specifically included heredity and population. At the time of his death, Mr. Osborn was an Honorary Associate in the Museum's Anthropology department.

The author of several books, Mr. Osborn's titles include "The Future of Human Heredity" and "Population: An International Dilemma."

Hand carved from cottonwood, and adorned with deerskin, paint and feathers, the qöqlö kachina doll is an example of the more than 150 dolls featured in "Hopi Kachina: Spirit of Life." Photo by Susan Middleton





## BIRD HALLS TO RECEIVE A SCIENTIFIC FACE-LIFT

The extensive project of rewriting label copy for the Museum's various bird halls has been undertaken by Wesley E. Lanyon, Lamont Curator of Birds in the Department of Ornithology.

Dr. Lanyon's work is part of an effort by the department to update its halls. The work is scheduled for completion before the centennial meeting in 1983 of the American Ornithologists Union.

Much of the label copy in the various halls will require minor adjustments, according to Dr. Lanyon. The most troublesome halls are the Museum's older ones, including the Sanford Memorial Hall of the Biology of Birds. The Graphics division has already begun work on Dr. Lanyon's new label copy for the Chapman Memorial Hall of North American Birds.

The reasons for most of the label copy changes are indiscernible to laymen, Dr. Lanyon reports. He explains that many scientific names have changed throughout the years, especially for specimens in the older exhibitions.

Dr. Lanyon is working closely with the Department of Exhibition and Graphics in carrying out the updating project.

Several minor physical changes are also tentatively planned for some of the halls. Current plans include repositioning the Dodo exhibit and the Osprey nest exhibit in the Sanford Hall, and refurbishing the backdrop of the Birds of Europe exhibit in the Hall of Birds of the World.

The Dodo bird model in the Sanford Memorial Hall of the Biology of Birds is one of the exhibits that may be redone by the Department of Ornithology



Santa Claus, center, played at this year's Children's Christmas Party by Alan Ternes, editor of *Natural History* magazine, asks Michelle Lee Almodovar, daughter of Irving Almodovar, senior clerk, General Services, what she wants for Christmas. Helping Santa are, from left to right, Susi Changar, Kate Ternes, Alan's daughter,

Ernestine Weindorf, administrative assistant, *Natural History* magazine, Wendy Holt and Lisa Macaluso, daughter of Tony Macaluso, electrician in Construction and Maintenance. The Christmas party drew some 400 children of Museum employees



## BILL MOYERS' JOURNAL TAPES INTERVIEW HERE

Bill Moyers and his crew from the acclaimed PBS television series, "Bill Moyers' Journal," spent the better part of a day at the Museum on Monday, Jan. 12, taping an interview with the well known author, mythologist and teacher Joseph Campbell.

The interview was conducted in the Hall of Northwest Coast Indians. Professor Campbell says the Museum first sparked his interest in mythology. Among his earliest recollections is the Hall of Northwest Coast Indians.

Mr. Moyers' talk with Mr. Campbell is tentatively scheduled to air on PBS (Channel 13 in New York), on Friday, March 6, at 9 p.m.

## PING-PONG ENTHUSIASTS

Steve Medina, senior technician in the Department of Mammalogy, is looking for ping-pong players to join the Museum's Ping-Pong Club. Those interested should contact him on ext. 376.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH ACTIVITIES ARE SCHEDULED IN FEBRUARY

The Museum is celebrating Black History Month during February with a series of cultural events in the People Center, as well as two special presentations.

Among the two special programs was "Good Time Duo," presented on Feb. 15, at 3 p.m. in Education Hall by musicians Don Oliver and Steve Freeman. Written especially for children, the presentation is a performance of traditional work songs and field hollers that have passed from generation to generation.

The second major presentation was a tribute to the late actor, Paul Robeson. Recordings of Robeson's speeches was set against a backdrop of poetry readings, a gospel choir and a live jazz band. The tribute was held on Feb. 22, at 2:30 p.m. in the Main Auditorium.

The People Center has devoted its entire February schedule to programs exploring black cultures.

Some of the many weekend programs being offered by the Center are "Music and Folk Traditions of East Africa," "African-American Cuisine," "Patterns, Symbols and Signs in African Art" and "African-American Folklore and Stories." In addition, Lou Myers will present a one-man show at the Center entitled "Unsung Heroes." It is a tribute to black people in history.

The People Center will also run a series of films highlighting the heritage of black people.

The idea for a Black History Week was originated by author and historian Carter G. Wilson in the 1920s. The observance was recently expanded to include an entire month.

At the Museum, Black History Month has been organized by the African-American Program of the Department of Education. It is supported by grants from the New York Community Trust and the Surdna Foundation.

On Jan. 15, the Caribbean Program of the Department of Education held a special tribute in the Main Auditorium honoring the late civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. More than 1,800 people attended the event.

Among the many performers participating in the event were the La Rocque Bey Dance Company, opera singers Paulette Saint-Lot and Betty La Fontaine and pianist Shirley Anne Seguin.

## HERE AND THERE

**Building Services:** New Museum attendant guards are Christine E. Blake, Lawrence Flugger and Rhonda Pretlow. ... Edward Haubrich was promoted to senior Museum attendant guard. ... Tanya Williams, secretary, was married on Dec. 19 to George Frederick Henry. ... Charles Brown, who left the Museum in 1977 as a Senior Museum attendant guard, died on Dec. 8.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Higinio Justiniano is the new assistant Museum maintainer. ... George Tauber, who retired in 1969 as an assistant superintendent, died on Oct. 19.

**Development and Public Affairs:** The new Development manager is Stanley E. Gornish, the former Director of Development at the Community Services Society. ... Jacob Goldstein recently joined the Volunteer Office as an office aide.

**Education:** Catherine Pessino was promoted to assistant chairwoman.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Two new employees in the department are Judith E. Brussell, part-time preparator, and Michael G. Fabian, preparator. ... Promoted to preparator positions are: Ignacio Fajardo, Michael Harnett and Patricia Tuohy. ... Beth Sudekum was promoted to senior preparator. ... Eugene Bergmann, exhibition designer, returned in December from Lima, Peru, where he was on a Fulbright grant for four months. His responsibilities there included advising the National Museum of Anthropology and Archeology on revisions of their current and future permanent exhibits, assisting in the construction and design of several temporary exhibits and teaching a four-week course in exhibit design. ... Liza Donnelly left her position as preparator to work as a free lance artist and cartoonist. *The New Yorker* magazine recently bought one of her cartoons to be used in an upcoming issue.

**Invertebrates:** The new editorial assistant for micro paleontology press is Dianne R. Faucher.

**Library:** Joining the staff as a part-time library assistant is Meryl F. Bronsky. ... Anthony Orth-Pallavicini is the new project assistant. ... Katherine Meng, cataloging project librarian, was married on Dec. 21 to James Kenworthy.

**Mineral Sciences:** Galina Tsoukanova joins the staff as a curatorial assistant III. ... Robert Klimentidis, technical specialist, moved to Houston where he will work for Exxon.

**Museum Shop:** Cathy Richardson was hired as a part-time sales assistant.

**Natural History Magazine:** The position of advertising production manager was filled by Elaine Callender. Linda Nasta joins the staff as secretary.

**Ornithology:** François Vuilleumier, curator, recently returned from Venezuela where he did field work and collaborated in editing a book. Dr. Vuilleumier is conducting informal discussions on avian biology and related subjects on alternate Tuesdays during the noon lunch hour in the sixth floor classroom. The discussions are continuous throughout the year and are open to members of other departments. For further information call ext. 32. ... Eugene Eisenmann, research associate, has been elected vice-chairman of the Pan-American Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation. ... Helen Hays, chairwoman of the Great Gull Island Committee, stayed on the island with five others through Nov. 23, to document fall migration. ... George Barrowclough is the new assistant curator.

**Planetarium:** New employees include Ruth Apteker, part-time cashier; Thomas Mullarkey, part-time sales assistant; John Sweeney, Museum attendant guard, and Peter J. Wenz, part-time laserium floor supervisor. ... Phoebe L. Pierce, who left the Museum in 1977 as senior secretary, died on Dec. 4.



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Courtesy of Auger Coward

Paul Fonda and Kris Kristofferson take a break during the filming of their upcoming movie, "Rollover," in the Museum's Hall of Ocean Life. The Hall was converted into

a reception area for the movie, complete with Peter Duchin and his Orchestra, and a large cast of extras. "Rollover" is tentatively scheduled for release in early winter.

## MUSEUM ACQUIRES NEW SCANNING ELECTRON MICROSCOPE

The Museum's new, state-of-the-art scanning electron microscope (SEM), due to arrive in April, will enable scientists and researchers to peer even farther past the boundaries of light.

The new SEM will be located in the Interdepartmental Laboratory where it will be used for a wide range of research projects. Included in these projects are Archbold Curator Guy Musser's Department of Mammalogy study of rodent skulls and their tooth structure; Curator Roger Atten's Department of Invertebrates investigations of fossil and recent snail shells, and Assistant Curator Norman Platnick's Department of Entomology examination of spider morphology.

The SEM does not need visible light to operate because, in a sense, it creates its own. It shoots a finely focused beam of electrons at the specimen to be examined. The variations of the specimen's surface deflect this electron beam. The deflected beam is collected and electronically processed. The specimen's surface is then recreated on a television screen. These images can then be observed, photographed or videotaped.

An optical microscope, on the other hand, can only "see" transmitted or reflected light. This limits its maximum magnification to 2,000 times. The SEM can magnify a specimen to 570,000 times.

The Cambridge Stereoscan 250 Scanning Electron Microscope will replace the old model S4-10 which the Museum acquired nine years ago. Assistant Curator

Bruce Haugh, Department of Invertebrates, has used both in his fossil echinoderm research and is very excited about the new instrument's capability.

"The Stereoscan 250 has an incredible depth of field and with its improved vacuum, electronics and specimen chamber, has image quality that is beautiful," he says. "We can see much more detailed information than ever before and this will rapidly add to our knowledge of how things are structured."

The new SEM will be highlighted in an exhibition this fall on the history and development of microscopes. Displays will range from the earliest magnifiers to the contemporary instruments and will show how they were constructed. Videotapes recorded from the Stereoscan 250 will vividly demonstrate innovations in the field of microscopy.

## BRITISH MUSEUM MARKS ITS 'INDEPENDENCE'

This year, one of the American Museum's younger European cousins is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

London's famed natural history museum, known officially as the British Museum (Natural History), will celebrate its status as an independent unit of the British Museum this year.

Housed in an impressive stone building, the Museum is well noted for its vast collections and comprehensive exhibitions, including its new ones which make liberal use of bold graphics and modern devices—including computers. It will mark its centennial by opening a new exhibition on the Origin of the Species.





Artist Ron Caruana takes a rubbing of one of the reliefs outside the Roosevelt Memorial Building

## ARTIST POPULARIZES MUSEUM WALLS

Tombstone rubbing has been popular in North America and the British Isles for many years. Rubbings are done by professionals and by amateurs, and the results are taken home as souvenirs, as historic documents, as works of art.

Recently, a young artist approached the Museum for permission to do some rubbings of the magnificent animals depicted in bas relief outside the Roosevelt Memorial Building.

In a mere six months, Ron Caruana, having received permission for the project, has produced moose, caribou, panthers, lions, antelope, wolves, rams, sables, rhinoceroses, water buffalo, zebras and a gnu.

One of the bison is currently hanging, nicely framed, in Director Thomas D. Nicholson's office.

Mr. Caruana belongs to a long tradition of artists who have made use of the American Museum of Natural History in one form or another.

In the early days of the institution, there were the sketchpad artists and painters. Since the invention of the moderately-priced camera, many photographers have worked here taking pictures of the realistic and colorful animal dioramas.

Mr. Caruana, who signs his work "Zoltan," started his career in rubbings in Maine, where he began on tombstones. In addition to the bas reliefs at the Museum, he has done a mural of a cut metal sculpture relief located in the Pfizer Building lobby, and a rubbing of a free-standing

sculpture of Mercury located at the AT&T Building at 1 Broadway.

Rubbings usually are not attempted on three dimensional objects. The enterprising Mr. Caruana has not taken on the Mercury figure, but he is also doing a rubbing of Carl Akeley's beautiful sculpture of a running lion in the Museum's Rotunda.

"This is the most literal work I've done," reports Mr. Caruana, who trained in goldsmithing and has done metal weaving, as well as weaving with fabric and other materials. The latter, commissioned by Bloomingdale's, appeared in some of the store's model rooms.

An exhibit of Mr. Caruana's Museum rubbings is in planning stages. In the meantime, the artist plans to resume his rubbings at the entrance to the Museum.

## PLANETARIUM COMMITTEE CHIEF CHOSEN



Museum Director Thomas D. Nicholson, right, welcomed L.F. Boker Doyle to the Planetarium Committee Meeting in March. Mr. Doyle, secretary of the Museum's Board of Trustees and an executive vice president of the Fiduciary Trust Company of New York, is the newly appointed chairman of the Planetarium Committee. He succeeds Alfred R. Stern.

## FORMER MUSEUM VICE PRESIDENT DIES



C. DeWolf Gibson, an honorary trustee and a friend to many in the Museum, died March 4 at his home in Wakefield, R.I. He was 85 years old.

A man of tremendous energy and imagination, he first became interested in the Museum as a child, when his father, a naturalist who was a member of the first Admiral Perry expedition, presented the institution with many fossil and mammal specimens.

Mr. Gibson first became associated with the Museum as a member of the Men's Committee, which he joined in 1940. In 1952, he accepted the post of chairman and took

charge of fund raising to help the Museum meet its operating costs.

He became a trustee in 1953. After retiring from the Reduction Company in 1960, he started a new career as Vice President of the Museum in charge of administration.

Over the next decade, he served for several years as acting president. He was particularly active in helping the Museum prepare for its highly successful centennial celebrations in 1969.

Mr. Gibson was appreciated at the Museum for his abilities as an administrator and a fund raiser who also had a firm knowledge of science. During his career he was a member of the Lerner Marine Laboratory Executive Committee and the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Committee.

Mr. Gibson also had an interest in going out into the field, accompanying members of the Department of Ornithology on some of their trips and contributing material to the Golden Eagle Group in the Chapman Memorial Hall North American Birds.

Mr. Gibson was a perceptive observer of birds and seashore near Perch Cove, R.I., where he illustrated numerous notebooks with pen and ink sketches.

He retired as Vice President in 1968 and was made an honorary trustee in 1969. Mr. Gibson leaves his wife, former Helen Kingsland Welsh, a daughter, three grandchildren, one great-granddaughter, and a brother. He also leaves behind an institution where his dedication and service will be remembered for many years to come.

## ABOUT BRYOZOANS, SHARKS AND BIRDS: PROFILES OF THREE NEW ASSISTANT CURATORS



"You can't understand the animals unless you get down here to see them," **Judith Winston**, assistant curator in the Department of Invertebrates, comments about underwater life. So, to best facilitate her work, Judith Winston is, among other things, a skin diver.

A Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Dr. Winston comes to the Museum from the Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore where she was an associate research scientist. As an assistant curator at the Museum, Dr. Winston is involved in research on bryozoans.

As she explains, "Bryozoans are good experimental animals and serve as a model of colonial animals. We don't know too much about their ecology. The animals are especially excellent as models for other species of their kind, since the bryozoan life span is, unlike other similar animals, from 10 to 15 years."

Dr. Winston has spent a great deal of time doing underwater research in Jamaica. Current plans call for her to return to her research there soon. She hopes to bring back living bryozoans to supplement the Museum's collection of fossilized specimens.



For **John G. Maisey**, assistant curator in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, there's a lot more to sharks than people expect.

A native of Great Britain, Dr. Maisey left his position as

an instructor at the St. Alban's School outside London to study sharks at the Museum.

"Contrary to popular opinion, there is nothing primitive about sharks," Dr. Maisey says. "There hasn't been a lot of work done on fossil sharks since the turn of the century," he explains.

Through his work, Dr. Maisey hopes to explain how sharks relate in the origin and development of jawed vertebrates.

Continuing his research, Dr. Maisey intends to visit Indiana and Tennessee this summer — once areas of extensive oceans. It is here that he will collect fossils to add to the Museum's collection.



**George F. Barrowclough** is a new assistant curator in the Department of Ornithology.

A biochemical geneticist, Dr. Barrowclough's addition to the staff brings a new dimension of research to the department. Prior to his appointment, most of the Museum's work on birds was morphological.

By determining a bird's genetic make-up from blood samples one can test its "similarity to other bird populations and species," Dr. Barrowclough comments.

By looking at a bird's chemical make-up, specifically enzymes, Dr. Barrowclough detects genetic variations within a specific species, as opposed to variations among different populations. Determining a bird's different protein structure, Dr. Barrowclough is able to study variance in DNA make-up.

His work is especially significant in testing species hybridization. Dr. Barrowclough notes that biochemical genetics is also significant in studying inbreeding in birds and populations of birds that are rare or becoming extinct.

### YOU CAN HELP SAVE WATER!

Those April showers may bring May flowers, but they certainly aren't going to adequately replenish dwindling water supplies this year.

The Museum would like to remind its employees to be careful of water use at home and at work. Should you find any plumbing problems in your department, report them immediately to Maintenance and Construction. Become a water 'curator,' and help to keep New York wet!



## MUSEUM EDUCATORS EXCHANGE IDEAS DURING INDIA TRIP

Two members of the Museum's Department of Education arrived in India in November for a few weeks stay on a museum exchange program sponsored by the Indo-U.S. Sub-Commission on Education and Culture.

Malcolm Arth, chairman of the Department of Education, was invited to attend an environmental education workshop in New Delhi with Indian and American scientists and educators. They discussed the effectiveness of present methods of communicating pressing environmental problems to museum visitors.

Arriving two weeks earlier than Dr. Arth, Catherine Pessino, assistant chairperson, worked with the education staff at the new National Museum of Natural History in New Delhi. She helped the staff plan and develop discovery boxes, school loan kits and the use of educational spaces.

"I had a wonderful and informative time working with the National Museum staff," said Ms. Pessino. "The most striking revelation to me was the similarity of problems that we both have had to grapple with and overcome."

For the workshop, Dr. Arth and Ms. Pessino were joined by three other American participants. They all subsequently toured Corbett National Park, the internationally known bird sanctuary at Bharatpur and a number of research stations and museums in central and southern India.

A high point of the game reserve portion of the trip at Corbett National Park was the hope of seeing, and possibly photographing, a tiger. They set off on elephants into the forest and tall grass of the reserve with Dr. Arth riding the lead animal. ("With a mahout," he hastened to add.) Almost immediately, they found fresh tiger tracks.

"The tiger went to ground in a large thicket," said Dr. Arth. "As we were pondering how we could safely approach it, we encountered a huge wild elephant! Our startled elephants suddenly crashed into the thicket, taking down trees and creating a terrible din! Needless to say, our tiger vanished without a glimpse of us and vice versa."

## HERE AND THERE:

**Anthropology:** Owen Moore, curatorial assistant III, is leaving the Museum for two years to participate in a CARE program in Liberia... Secretary Nazarie Romain left the department after three years to pursue a full-time nursing degree at New York University... Joining the department as a part-time conservation specialist is Vuka Roussakis. Maurelle Godoy joins as secretary.

**Building Services:** Edward Adu Adjei, Margaret R. Androvett, Gisele K. Kirkland, Joseph K. Vega and Lottie M. Jones have been promoted to senior Museum attendant guard. The new assistant manager is Joseph Seva... The roster of new Museum attendant guards include Francisco DeJesus, Julia Hernandez, Roy Jeronimo, Reginald Posey, Edna Billings, Michael Dupre, Howard Rayburn, Charles Price, Carolyn Prince and Richard Olwell.

**Construction and Maintenance:** The new Museum maintainer is John Jordan and his new assistant is James Wallace.

**Controller's Office:** Donald R. Kossar is the new budget accountant in the department... The new cash control manager is Stanley Krasnow... Fred R. Quijano was promoted to computer auditor and accountant.

**Development and Public Affairs:** The new secretary for the Office of Development is Delsie Brown and the new senior clerk is Farida Wanis... Elaine A. Fludgate is the

new guest services assistant... Adele Zydel left her position as senior secretary in the Office of Public Affairs to become an executive secretary at Lincoln Center... New Public Affairs Office members include Rick Sheridan, public affairs associate, and Ellen Goldberg, senior secretary... Ruth Sternfeld, a new volunteer, has recently undertaken a project to review, classify and organize archives for the Vertebrate Paleontology Department... Volunteer, William Glover, former drama critic for AP, is conducting interviews in Vertebrate Paleontology with visiting Frick Curator Emeritus, Morris Skinner.

**Education:** Malcolm Arth, chairman, will serve for the third consecutive summer as co-director for the Museum Management Institute. It is held at the University of California at Berkeley in July... Nayda Correa, senior secretary, left the department to take a position in the Office of the President of Fordham University... Pamela Spearman is the new senior secretary.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Stephen Quinn has been promoted to senior principal preparator... The new part-time projectionist is Michael Pryce... In the Sunday, January 25, 1981, New York Times, Chief Preparator Emeritus and Consultant, Raymond deLucia, was featured in an article which described the work he's been doing at his studio in Thornwood, N.Y. His latest work is a diorama 18 feet wide and 8 feet high depicting a coastal marsh. This was done for the Thames Science Center in New London.

**Herpetology:** Curator Charles Cole has recently returned from New Orleans where he spent a few weeks working on the biochemical genetics of unisexual lizards. He conducted his studies in Research Associate Herbert Dessauer's lab at Louisiana State University.

**Library:** Nina Root, chairwoman of the Preservation of Library Materials section, and Mary Gennet, acquisitions librarian, attended the American Library Association conference in Washington, from Jan. 30 to Feb. 4... Richard Burbank and Alvia Wardlaw are the new part-time library assistants... The new project assistant is Lumil Bloch.

**Micropaleontology Press:** Jonathan Rosenthal is the new assistant editor.

**Museum Shop:** Misae Sartiano has been promoted to part-time cash analyst... New shop employees include full-time sales assistant Jane Heymann and part-time sales assistants Randi Davidson, Claudia Fouse, Sharo Chan, Raymond Wiggers, Philip Simon, Brian Davis, Eugene Antenucci, William Todd and Theodore Nemeth.

**Natural History Magazine:** Lauren Krensel has joined the staff as secretary.

**Ornithology:** Ivy Kuspit, departmental secretary, is the new assistant treasurer of the Credit Union... Dr. and Mrs. Wesley E. Lanyon have recently returned from an exciting Museum Discovery Tour which took them down the Nile River... Dr. and Mrs. Dean Amadon spent the month of February in Lake Placid, Fla., where Dr. Amadon continued his studies on birds of prey at the Archgold Research Station... Lester L. Short recently returned from the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History where he did further studies on barbets. He also gave a lecture at Wayne State University in February on evolutionary hybridization in birds.

**Photo Studio:** Arthur Singer, chief photographer, placed first and second in the professional category of *Mineralogical Record* magazine's annual photographic competition. It was held at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show.

**Planetarium:** David Roth was promoted to shop manager... Julio Marrero left his position as assistant manager of the Museum Shop to become assistant box office manager at the Planetarium... The new part-time sales assistant is Rosaana Lee.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** The new secretary is Kathleen Marius... Morris Skinner, Frick Curator Emeritus, is visiting the department to record his 50 years of geological work and fossil collecting for Childs Frick.



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Remains of the Inca city, Huanuco Pampa, site of a 10-year expedition led by the American Museum.

## HUANUCO PAMPA: A VIEW INTO HISTORY

Craig Morris, associate curator in the Department of Anthropology, and Delfin Zuniga, curatorial assistant, have returned from what they called their last field trip to the Inca city of Huanuco Pampa.

During Museum-led expeditions spanning a 10-year period, some two million artifacts were uncovered at the 30-year-old Inca stronghold in Peru's central highlands.

They were joined over the years by a wide range of specialists including archeologists, astronomers and other anthropologists. During this period, they dug more than 10,000 trenches, excavating 300 of the city's 3,500 buildings. The size and complexity of the city demonstrates that it was a major provincial capital of the Inca Empire.

"The thrust of our research differs from the more traditional archeological approach to ancient cities of focusing on very specific religious institutions and architecture," said Dr. Morris. "Instead, we collected a sampling of artifacts from the city as a whole in order to see and understand its overall pattern of life and activity. This is one of the first times this approach has been used, especially on such a large scale."

Excavating an Andean city may be an exciting and worthwhile adventure but it also presents many dangers. Accidents and diseases, including altitude sickness, dysentery and fevers, are additional challenges that the field researcher must deal with. Craig Morris, in fact, caught a mild case of typhoid fever only a few months before returning to the Museum.

"Fortunately, it wasn't very serious," he said. "After a couple of days, the modern antibiotics that I was taking knocked it out."

Understanding of the Inca culture has been greatly enhanced by the expedition's recovery of so large a collection of artifacts from a complete city. Although the excavation of the project has been completed, the incredibly complex process of computer analyzing the two million artifacts goes on.

Construction of Huanuco Pampa began in 1450 during the emergence of the Incas as the dominant political force

in South America. It was designed in the shape of a bird, following the Inca practice of building their larger cities in the shapes of various animals.

The city was not designed for the one household nuclear family, but was set up for barracks-style living. Women were usually segregated from the men, and they apparently engaged in different kinds of activities.

The people living under Inca rule paid their taxes by performing specific services for the state. Huanuco Pampa, as a state administrative city, apparently was designed to accept a large transient population who came to pay their tax burden by working on construction projects, brewing corn beer and other similar activities which benefited the group as a whole. The state, in turn, furnished lavish festivals and gave back to the tax-payers woven cloth, foods and beverages.

Most of the major Inca cities had been destroyed by the Spanish Conquistadors, hindering understanding of the magnificent Inca Empire. But Huanuco Pampa, because of its 13,000 foot elevation and limited access, escaped relatively unscathed and has furnished future generations with a view into history.



Sidney Horenstein, scientific assistant in the Department of Invertebrates, receives his Municipal Art Society citation from John Gambling.

## SIDNEY HORENSTEIN CITED BY MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY

Sidney Horenstein, scientific assistant in the Department of Invertebrates, was awarded a Certificate of Merit from the prestigious Municipal Art Society of New York.

WOR Radio announcer John Gambling presented the certificate to Mr. Horenstein on Wednesday, June 3, at a special ceremony in one of New York's most renowned landmarks — St. Patrick's Cathedral. The award to Mr. Horenstein was one of nine made by the Society to people, organizations and institutions.

Mr. Horenstein was cited for the many public walking tours and lectures he sponsors and leads which explore geology and nature in the "Big Apple."





Former Honorary Trustee Sylvan C. Coleman, in a photograph taken several years ago

## HONORARY TRUSTEE SYLVAN COLEMAN DEAD AT AGE 75

Sylvan C. Coleman, an honorary trustee of the American Museum, died on April 15 at Lenox Hill Hospital. He was 75 years old.

A former chairman of E.F. Hutton & Company, Inc., Mr. Coleman was elected a trustee of the Museum in 1970. During his tenure he was active in the capital drive campaign. He was named an honorary trustee in 1975.

Throughout his long career, he served as director for many companies, including American Home Assurance Corporation, Petroleum Corporation of America, American International Life Assurance Company of New York, Continental Telephone Corporation, General Dynamics Corporation and West Chemical Products, Inc. He also was a director of Fountain House Foundation, Inc., the American Cancer Society (New York City Division), and Manhattan Eye Ear and Throat Hospital.

Mr. Coleman is survived by two brothers.

## BARBARA NEILL DEAD AT 62; WAS FORMER MUSEUM INSTRUCTOR

Barbara Neill, former supervising Museum instructor in the Department of Education's Alexander M. White Natural Science Center, died of cancer at her home in Tenafly, N.J., on May 8. She was 62 years old.

A native of West Hartford, Ct., Miss Neill studied at the Hartford Arts School (now part of the University of Hartford), and served as a camp counselor and psychiatric aide after her graduation. She joined the American Museum in 1948 as a volunteer.

In 1950, she was named assistant director of the Children's Nature Museum in Charlotte, N.C. Miss Neill left that position in 1952 to become assistant to the curator of junior education at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, in Santa Barbara, Ca.

She also served as director of the New London County Children's Museum in New London, Ct., from 1955 to 1957, and as director of the Lutz Children's Museum in Manchester, Ct., before returning to the American Museum in 1960. She retired from the American Museum last year.

Author of numerous articles for nature magazines, in her free time Miss Neill enjoyed drawing, and raising tropical fish and horses. She is survived by her brother, Gifford, of Chicago. Several friends have made contributions in her memory to the Department of Education's Nature Room Fund.



The new find growing in Arizona

## NEW SPECIES OF DAISY DISCOVERED AT SOUTHWESTERN RESEARCH STATION

A unique species of *erigeron* (flowering daisy) has been discovered in Portal, Arizona, by Vincent D. Roth, resident director of the American Museum's Southwestern Research Station there.

The small daisy, discovered at a falls near the research station, grows approximately one-half inch high. It was found growing in small rock crevices. The flowering area of the daisy measures three-quarters of an inch in diameter.

The white-petaled, yellow-centered daisy has been found only in an area of land measuring slightly less than a quarter of an acre. It currently is being described by Mr. Roth and Guy Neson of Memphis State University.

## QUARTER CENTURY CLUB HAS EIGHT NEW MEMBERS

Eight new members were inducted into the Museum Quarter Century Club during the club's 32nd Annual Dinner on May 21 in the Hall of Ocean Life. The new members were honored for 25 or more years of service to the Museum.

The employees who have joined the club are: Sam Castelli, a cleaner and senior member of the moving crew in the Department of Building Services; Edward Collingwood, a mason in the Department of Plant Operations, Construction and Maintenance; William Coull, senior technician in the Department of Mammalogy; William Emerson, curator in the Department of Invertebrates; Walter F. Koenig, manager of construction and maintenance in the Department of Plant Operations, Construction and



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Castelli toast the occasion.



Quarter Century Club member William Barbieri, foreman of carpenters, right, meets new member, Walter Koenig and Mrs. Koenig.



John Sedacca, a new member of the club, chats with retired Quarter Century Club member Alma Cook, and her husband John



Enjoying pre-dinner cocktails are, left to right, Quarter Century Club inductee Fred Schaefer, Mrs. Schaefer, and Mrs. Collins.



New Quarter Century Club member, Fred Schaefer, at the dinner with friend Marilyn Junge.



William K. Emerson, left, receives his Quarter Century Club membership certificate from Museum President Robert G. Goelet

Maintenance; Frederick Schaefer, carpenter in the Department of Plant Operations, Construction and Maintenance; Joseph M. Sedacca, manager of the graphics division of the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, and Richard G. Van Gelder, curator in the Department of Mammalogy.

In his address to the inductees, Director Thomas D. Nicholson cited them individually for their dedication to the Museum. He linked their efforts to the Museum's progress over the years and to its innovative plans for the future.

With a copy of the Annual Report in his hand, Dr. Nicholson reviewed the great progress the Museum has made, and the many major exhibitions — temporary and permanent — that have opened at the Museum recently.

The Director talked about the Museum's great new era of expansion. Among the many projects in progress he cited were the new Hall of South American Peoples, an IMAX screen theater, two new auditoriums, several important traveling exhibitions, additions to the Museum Shop and the installation of a Museum restaurant.

"Don't let anyone tell you that yesterday was the 'good old days' because today is the 'good old days,'" Dr. Nicholson said.

He also addressed the topic of a new generation of Museum staff. "We look to new employees of this Museum and ask of them the same determined dedication you have given us."

## MARILYN ROBERTS COORDINATES SHAKESPEARE SUMMERFEST ACTIVITIES

Marilyn Roberts is the project coordinator for Shakespeare Summerfest activities held throughout the Tri-State area while *Shakespeare: The Globe and the World* is at the American Museum of Natural History. Shakespeare Summerfest is a collaborative effort of the Museum and colleges, universities, theater companies, and other institutions in the Tri-State area, presenting a summer-long program of activities relating to and highlighting the Museum's exhibition.

Marilyn, a Ph.D. candidate at Columbia University, expects to receive the degree in 1983. She completed her undergraduate studies in English and drama at Vassar College. From there she went to study Shakespeare at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in England, where she



received a Master of Arts degree. She also holds a Master of Philosophy degree with a concentration in Tudor-Stuart drama from Columbia University. Her professional experience includes work as a consultant and writer/researcher for the National Fund for Minority Engineering Students.

Miss Roberts has been working with participating Summerfest organizations throughout the metropolitan area — a most prestigious list, including Columbia University, Hunter College, the New School for Social Research, the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, the American Shakespeare Theatre, C.W. Post College, and many other institutions.

She also has directed the specially trained troupe of strolling players who provide demonstrations for the talks given while *Shakespeare: The Globe and the World* is at the Museum.

## ARTHUR ROSS HALL OF METEORITES HUB OF APRIL ACTIVITIES

A variety of events, ranging from social activities to a special symposium, heralded the April 30 opening of the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites.

On April 29, the Museum held a special meteorite symposium which brought a distinguished group of scientists here to speak on meteorites and planetology. The seven-hour symposium attracted more than 1,000 members of the general public, museum members, scientists and journalists.

Thomas D. Nicholson, Museum director; Martin Prinz, chairman of the Department of Mineral Sciences, and Arthur Ross, Museum trustee and benefactor of the new hall, opened the symposium with introductory remarks.

Among the symposium participants were John Wood of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory and Harvard University, who lectured on "The Birth of Planetology," and Lawrence Grossman of the University of Chicago, whose topic was "Meteorites as Rosetta Stones for Planetology."

In "Meteorites Falling Everywhere," Donald Brownlee of the University of Washington and the California Institute of Technology spoke on new ways of locating meteorites. Clark R. Chapman of the University of Arizona's Planetary Science Institute offered information on the processes that bring meteorites to Earth, and Eugene Shoemaker of the U.S. Geological Survey explored the possibility that a great meteorite impact may have caused the extinction of the dinosaurs in "The Sky is Falling."

The California Institute of Technology's Gerald J. Wasserburg talked about planetary beginnings in "Ancient Meteorites, Planetary Beginnings and Pandora's Box." Ronald Greeley of Arizona State University gave a "Grand Tour of the Planets," and Noel Hinners, director of the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, spoke on the future of planetary science and space exploration in "Where Do We Go From Here?"

In addition to the lectures, a special preview of the new hall was offered to those attending the symposium.

A day earlier, trustees and special guests of the Museum previewed the new hall and attended a gala dinner celebration. Among those attending the VIP dinner were members of Admiral Robert E. Peary's family (Peary recovered the Ahnighito meteorite, the centerpiece of the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites); former Senator and Mrs. Jacob Javits; former New York City Mayor John V. Lindsay and his wife Mary (a Museum trustee), and NBC-TV newsman John Chancellor.

The Hall opened to the public on April 30. That evening a special reception was held for friends of the Museum. Attending the event were Museum supporters, corporate contributors and members of the press. In addition, a private viewing and reception was held for museum members on May 19.

## HERE AND THERE:

**Anthropology:** Janet Strom joined the department as curatorial assistant I ... Evelyn Feld takes a position as curatorial assistant III.

**Building Services:** Roseann Franco is the new department secretary.

**Controller's Office:** The new internal auditor is Robert Acker.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Sheryl Drew has been promoted to assistant volunteer coordinator. She succeeds Mary Croft who is now a Museum instructor in the Department of Education ... Nineteen volunteers accompanied by Volunteer Coordinator Miriam Johnson and Museum Highlights Tour Assistant Mitzi Bhavnar chartered a school bus on May 12 for an all day visit to the Newark Museum's exhibition "Tibet: A Lost Country." The group was invited by the Newark Museum's Volunteer Organization. Valrae Reynold, Newark's curator of Oriental collections, guided our volunteers through the lovely exhibition ... Dennis Grillo has joined the staff as the new guest services assistant ... The new senior clerk in the Development Office is Jeffrey Lewis.

**Education:** In addition to Mary Croft, Brian Moss has joined the department as Museum instructor.

**Exhibition:** On April 28, Senior Principal Preparator Stephen Quinn, was elected a member of the Society of Animal Artists. His artwork is beautifully displayed in the newly published book by Harper and Row entitled "The Complete Field Guide to North American Wildlife" ... After 21 years, Frederica Leser resigned her position as senior principal preparator. Her future plans include developing her interest in passive solar and earth sheltered architecture by actually doing some building of her own in Long Island ... Retired since October 1975, former Principal Preparator John Stark received a third place award for a copper and brass sculptured weathervane of a clipper ship at the 2nd Annual International Maritime Art Awards Show. This art show was held at the Mystic Seaport Museum Stores Gallery.

**General Accounting:** The new clerk in the department is Oscar Rey Montalban.

**Herpetology:** Curators Richard G. Zweifel and Charles Cole spent the first week of May on Sapelo Island, Georgia, examining habitats and collecting specimens for the continuing projects on the adjacent St. Catherine's Island.

**Interdepartmental Laboratory:** Joan Whelan has joined the Museum staff as the new technical specialist.

**Invertebrates:** Curator Roger Batten's wife, Loretta, died on April 3, in Englewood (N.J.) Hospital.

**Library:** Chairwoman of the Department of Library Services, Nina Root, organized and was a keynote speaker at the First Annual Preservation of Library Material Conference held in Philadelphia on May 13 and 14 ... At the conference, Pamela Haas, assistant librarian for archival and the photographic collection, presented a paper on "Organizing, Storing and Preserving Photograph Collections." The new assistant librarian for reference services is April Carlucci ... New part-time library assistants include Paul Heesling, Susan Malone, Bonnie Marshall, Brenda Pantell, Edwin Redway, Kevin Stringfield and David Sullivan.

**Mineral Sciences:** Louis Binder has joined the department as a technical specialist.

**Museum Shop:** Misae Sartiano has been promoted to full-time sales assistant ... New part-time sales assistants include Barbara Armour, Richard Hester, Hyung Kim, Kelly Miller and Deborah Palardy.

**Natural History Magazine:** Debra McCord is the new assistant production manager.

**Planetarium:** The new assistant box office manager is Louis Salvatorelli ... The roster of new part-time sales assistants include Donna Axelrod and Patricia Dickerson.



JULY/AUGUST, 1981

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## IMAX IS COMING: AUDITORIUM CHANGES UNDERWAY

IMAX will have a home in New York. It is coming to the American Museum in February. This motion picture system totally immerses viewers in sight and sound, creating a unique movie experience.

"As the first institution to bring IMAX to New York City, the Museum is continuing its leadership in cultural affairs," says Thomas D. Nicholson, director of the Museum. "This educational experience will broaden the horizons of our longtime friends and members and will assuredly attract new visitors to the Museum and its exhibitions."

IMAX uses a slightly curved, oversized screen which will completely cover the front of the auditorium. It also incorporates a six-channel sound system and 70-mm film which has frames 10 times larger than standard 35-mm film. Only 11 theaters in the world use IMAX, one of which

Seating capacity for the auditorium will be approximately 850 for regular events and 600 for IMAX. Certain seating areas will be blocked off to ensure good viewing.

Since the demand for IMAX will limit the auditorium's availability for other programming, plans are being made to convert Education Hall into intermediate-sized theaters. This 10,000-square-foot space will become two auditoriums, each seating approximately 150 and 300 persons. They will share a lobby, restrooms and checking area and be equipped for lectures, films, performing arts and conferences.

The Museum's sheet metal crew is building a projection booth on the auditorium balcony to house the IMAX projector which is the size of two Volkswagens. Each IMAX reel is four feet in diameter, contains 20,000 feet of film and advances at 330 feet per minute. A standard reel of 35-mm film contains 2,000 feet and moves at 90 feet per minute.

Six-directional sound will engulf the audience. IMAX's superior sound system will be used for other auditorium events and the reduction of the angle of the projection booth will improve the visual quality of other films.

The acclaimed movie, "To Fly," will open the theater. The 27-minute film depicts the history of aviation in America through scenes which show the country's inventiveness and scenic grandeur. Viewers experience flight in the earliest aviation devices and move to the world of space travel.

Current plans are to show "To Fly" four times daily and two evenings weekly. Tickets will be sold for the showings.



Carl Hilgers, right, foreman of sheet metal workers, and William J. Barbieri, foreman of carpenters, review plans for the IMAX film projection booth in the Museum's main auditorium.

the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. Museum crews are currently renovating the auditorium to accommodate the 10 by 12 foot projector and the retractable screen which will extend to the side walls and ceiling.

When modifications are complete, the auditorium will have the unique capability to be used for IMAX and more conventional events such as dance, lectures and films. Approximately 38 feet high and 50 feet wide, the screen could serve a theater the size of a football field if used with a conventional projector. The current screen measures 16 by 20 feet.

When not in use, the screen will fold into the stage floor. The mechanism for collapsing the screen will be placed within the auditorium's ceiling. Conversion of the auditorium to or from IMAX will take approximately one hour.

## ELEPHANT GROUP RECEIVES FIRST AID



David J. Schwendeman, senior principal preparator in the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, repairs the broken tail of one of the animals in the famed elephant group in the Akeley Memorial Hall of African Mammals.

The tail was broken in late July, apparently by vandals.

To repair the elephant's tail, Mr. Schwendeman used cement to restiffen the fibrous sisal material which comprises the animal's tail bone. He repositioned the hide over the bone



(continued from page 1)

and sealed the tear with a papier-mâché mix colored to match the elephant's hide.

In addition to the damaged tail, Mr. Schwendeman said he found and repaired a loose eye and damaged ear. The ear had needed repair for some time.

This is not the first time this freestanding display has been damaged, according to Ralph Bauer, manager of the Office of Exhibition. Mr. Bauer said that hairs were pulled from the elephants about two years ago when elephant hair bracelets were in fashion.

## REGISTRAR'S OFFICE ESTABLISHED

Barbara Conklin, curatorial assistant III in the Department of Anthropology, has been appointed to the new post of Museum registrar.

The registrar's office will begin to plan for a central museum file to hold the permanent records for all accessions and loans. A Museum-wide collection management committee will help ascertain each department's needs and develop registration policies.

It is anticipated that the registrar's office will lend support to other departments in the Museum by preparing accession records and handling loans to and from the Museum. At the same time, the central file will provide permanent documentation on the movement of collections to and from the Museum.

Paul Beelitz, curatorial assistant III in the Department of Anthropology, will serve as assistant registrar. Mr. Beelitz has been active in the past in the care of traveling exhibitions, including "Gold of El Dorado: The Heritage of Columbia," which recently finished its national tour.



New Registrar Barbara Conklin at work in her office

## EXHIBIT DESIGNER BLAKESLEE: AN EDUCATOR AT HEART

Michael Blakeslee, exhibit designer in the Department of Exhibition and Graphics, is one of the talented designers behind the exhibition, "Traditional Japanese Designs in Stencils, Textiles and Costumes," on view in Gallery 77 through Oct. 1.

Mr. Blakeslee joined the Museum last August shortly after he was awarded his master of fine arts degree from the Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

One of the most striking aspects of "Traditional Japanese Designs" is the light and airy feeling, specifically designed, according to Blakeslee, "to bring out the simplicity of the Japanese traditions and home." Since most of the materials included in the exhibition are used in the



Exhibition Designer Michael Blakeslee and one of the textiles in "Traditional Japanese Designs in Stencils, Textiles and Costumes." The Torii and Frances Blakemore Collection."

home, he placed the items in an environment reminiscent of a Japanese house.

Originally from Oklahoma City, Mr. Blakeslee graduated with a degree in psychology from Oklahoma State University. Before moving to New York, he held a variety of positions at various museums throughout the country.

"Working at the American Museum allows me the chance to work with objects of cultural value and to be able to enhance the public's appreciation of these objects."

Currently, Mr. Blakeslee is updating the Museum's various bird halls in anticipation of the centennial meeting of the American Ornithologists Union here in 1983 (GRAPEVINE: Jan/Feb. 1981). His next project will be working on the design for "Afro-American Arts of the Suriname Rain Forest" — a major traveling exhibition slated to open in the Museum on Oct. 28.

He is especially excited about the "Suriname" show and hopes, through his design, "to educate the public about a culture that is relatively unknown in the U.S."

A long way from Oklahoma City, Michael makes his home in the Cobble Hill section of Brooklyn with his wife Ann. Among his many achievements, he has traveled to at least 40 of the 50 states "seeing the sights and, of course, visiting any and all museums!"

## MUSEUM INITIATES SIX-MONTH VISITOR SURVEY

The Museum has begun a major survey of its visitors scheduled to run from July 1 through Dec. 31. It is designed along the lines of the 1974-75 Museum survey conducted by the National Research Center for the Arts, Inc., an affiliate of Louis Harris and Associates, Inc. The goal of the 1981 Visitor Survey is to identify changes in visitors' attitudes, backgrounds and interests.

The Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month, the increase in special exhibitions such as *Shakespeare: The Globe and the World*, and the new restaurant planned for construction are just some of the changes in Museum programs and operations resulting from the 1974-75 survey. After the 1981 Visitor Survey results are analyzed, adjustments of the Museum's ongoing programs and future plans may be made.

Over the survey's six-month period, specially selected volunteers will distribute 12,000 questionnaires on 52 sampling days. Of these days, one weekday and one weekend/holiday have been selected for questionnaire distribution each week.

The volunteer force for the project was organized by Miriam Johnson, manager of the Volunteer Office. They have been located in teams of two or three at each Museum entrance on the sampling days. After counting out the nth adult visitor, a volunteer approaches the selected person and has him or her fill out the first section of the questionnaire. The questionnaire is completed after the visitor has finished his or her visit to the Museum.

The staff of Building Services has been very helpful in retrieving completed questionnaires that visitors have



Muriel Shapiro, a volunteer employee, asks a Museum visitor to fill out the survey form.

misplaced. Each questionnaire is important; anyone finding one is requested to bring it to the Volunteer Office or to the Office of Public Affairs.

During the course of the survey, *Grapevine* will publish updates and progress reports.

## MUSEUM EDUCATORS TEACH CHILDREN THE ART OF FISH AND NATURE PRINTING

If you were impressed by the artworks in "Pressed on Paper: Fish Rubbings and Nature Prints," currently in the Akeley Gallery, you might consider making some prints from nature yourself.

The process of making fish and nature rubbings may look easy. However, after trying some, one soon realizes that hefty helpings of diligence, patience and skill are necessary to achieve gratifying results.

The art of making fish rubbings grew in Japan in the early 19th century. It proved a practical way for fishermen to document their catches and allow the family to eat the fish the day of the catch.

The fish rubbings in the exhibition were made by coating a fresh specimen with ink, placing a piece of white paper over the animal and gently rubbing it until the ink transfers onto the paper.

Sydney Buffum and Brian Moss, Museum Instructors in the Department of Education, have been using much the same principle in teaching groups of children the art of making rubbings.

Offering classes on Wednesdays and Thursdays throughout July and the early part of August, the instructors found the work most rewarding.

"The kids came up with some excellent rubbings," Brian Moss said.

The children were given a variety of natural history items and fresh porgies and spotted fish specimens from a local fish market. In place of ink they were given poster paints (which Ms. Buffum says works almost as well), and clean sheets of newsprint. Ms. Buffum and Mr. Moss first took the children to the exhibition and later invited them to the



A fish rubbing of a porgie by Museum Instructor Brian Moss, with two ghost images. Ghost images are created by rubbing the paper over the fish after the primary print is made. This creates a lighter image

Calder Lab where they were encouraged to try their hand at making rubbings. They were given crayons to fill in the colorless areas of their prints.

Making fish rubbings became the hit of the summer for the children who visited the Museum. The children's program was made possible by grants from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

"Pressed on Paper: Fish Rubbings and Nature Prints" will remain in the Akeley Gallery through Sept. 9. It is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month.



## MALCOLM ARTH CO-DIRECTS MUSEUM INSTITUTE

Malcolm Arth, chairman and curator of the Department of Education, is a co-director of the Museum Management Institute.

The Institute provides museum professionals with intensive training in museum skills — with a special focus on management and business principles. The workshops are held during the summer on the University of California Berkeley campus, and are taught in classroom settings.

Dr. Arth, a leading innovator of museum education programs, teaches various methods of dealing with personnel issues faced by mid-level managers. As a co-director, he acts as liaison between management professionals and museum personnel participating in the institute.

## ADMISSION AND PARKING FEES ARE INCREASED

The American Museum raised its suggested admission rates on July 1, and the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium upped its fixed fees on July 2.

The admission fees were raised to meet rising costs. Visitor contributions accounted for 7 percent of the Museum's total revenues for the fiscal year ending in June, 1980. Visitors, through their contributions, in effect are partners in helping the Museum continue to serve as one of the nation's major cultural and scientific centers.

Maintaining its discretionary pay-what-you-wish admission policy, the Museum now suggests that adults make a voluntary contribution of \$2.50 and children \$1.50 upon entering the Museum.

The new fixed admission fees for the Planetarium are \$3.25 for adults, \$1.50 for children, and \$2.25 for students and senior citizens with identification.

Tickets for the Planetarium's Laserium shows also have been increased from \$4 to \$4.50 beginning Sept. 1.

Parking costs for the Museum parking lot have been raised. It now costs \$4.25 to park a car in the lot and \$5 per bus.

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## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** William Ostrove, a volunteer for 15 years in the department's objects conservation department, died on July 2. Mr. Ostrove was responsible for much of the restoration of artifacts in the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples ... New department members are Landis Smith, curatorial assistant III, and Cynthia Weinstein, curatorial assistant I.

**Building Services:** Edwin Garcia was promoted to supervising museum attendant guard, and Julio Marrero, former assistant box office manager at the Planetarium, was promoted to assistant manager ... New Museum attendant guards are Vasli Benjamin, Mohanlal Boodram, Margaret Burnitskie, Wai But, Fazeela Gaphoor, Kevin Jones, Paul Lavelle, Marjorie Matthews, Judith Maupin, Patricia McDonald, Richard Nafel, Christina Ramotowski, Pablo Sanchez and Michael Simmons.

**Cash Control Office:** The new assistant managers of the Cash Control Office are Walter Ellison and Barbara Armond.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Noel Vaz has joined the staff as Museum maintainer

**Development and Public Affairs:** New public affairs office members include Kay Brief, public affairs associate and Kelly Matthews, senior secretary ... Ellen Lourie is the new part-time information desk supervisor ... A number of friends of volunteer Emanuel Robison have given more than \$150 to the Museum as a memorial. Mr. Robison died on July 8 after a short illness and his family suggested donations to the Museum in lieu of flowers. He had been a volunteer since 1972.

**General Accounting:** Edris Sewell has joined the general accounting staff as clerk.

**Herpetology:** Charles Myers, chairman, and Richard Zweifel, curator, attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists in Corvallis, Oregon, during the last week in June ... Sarah Heady, volunteer in the department for several years, is currently participating in the undergraduate research program by working with parthenogenic lizards.

**Ichthyology:** Darrell Siebert has joined the department as part-time curatorial assistant ... Gareth J. Nelson, curator, has returned from three months of studying anchovies in England with side trips to Stockholm, Amsterdam, Leiden and Paris. While in Sweden he encountered a great crested grebe which made such an impression that Dr. Nelson is certain he would have become an ornithologist had he only met that bird 20 years sooner ... Guido Dingerkus, field associate, and Lance Grande, graduate student, presented student papers at the annual meeting of the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Mr. Dingerkus received the Stoye Award for best student paper on systematic ichthyology. This is the fourth such prize awarded to a student of this department in seven years ... C. Lavett Smith, chairman, is currently organizing a Hudson River Environmental Society Fisheries Conference for Sept. 1 and 2 at the Norrie Point Environmental Center, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Paper and poster sessions will document recent research on the Hudson. A special evening session on Sept. 1, devoted to recreational fishing in the Hudson, is expected to be especially lively.

**Library:** Lizz Garcia had an 8.1 pound baby boy, Pedro, on July 1 ... Nina J. Root, chairwoman, and Pam Haas, assistant librarian for archives and photographic collection, attended the annual meeting of American Library Association in San Francisco June 26-July 2.

**Mammalogy:** Curator Guy G. Musser was appointed chairman of the department.

**Museum Shop:** New part-time sales assistants include Rosa Alfaro, Raquel Gordon, Donna Lippman and Sherry Zipp.

**Ornithology:** Eugene Eisenmann, research associate, is out of the hospital and is recovering from an illness at home. We expect to welcome him back to the department soon ... Peter Cannell, graduate student, spent the first part of the summer in Maine doing field work on flycatchers ... François Vuilleumier, curator, attended the joint meeting of Society for the Study of Evolution and the American Society of Naturalists held at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, June 28-July 2 ... John Bull, scientific assistant, and his wife, Edith, spent two weeks during the latter half of June in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands under the Museum's Discovery Tours program ... Lester Short, chairman, and his wife, Jennifer, have returned from a Museum Discovery Tour to Western Europe. The Shorts took a side research trip to Belgium.

**Natural History Magazine:** Kim Hamilton joined the Membership Office as membership assistant.

**Planetarium:** Nancy Headapohl is the Planetarium's new part-time sales assistant.

**Mineral Sciences:** Gertrude Poldervaart, secretary, thanks her co-workers for the good wishes and condolences they expressed during her recent illness.



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER, 1981

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## BOARD ELECTS TWO NEW TRUSTEES

Frank G. Lyon and William Barnabas McHenry have been elected to serve five-year terms on the Board of Trustees at the American Museum of Natural History. The new trustees were elected to the Class of 1985.

Frank Lyon serves as chairman of the Men's Committee of the American Museum.

A private investor, Mr. Lyon was born in Beverly Hills. He is a director of several organizations, among them the Beverly Wilshire Hotel Corporation, Stevens New Haven Development Company and the Windermere Island Corporation. He also is a trustee of the Blair Academy in Fairtown, N.J., and of the Executive and Finance Committee of the Ocean Trust Foundation, an environmental concern based in San Francisco.

Mr. Lyon is married to the former Mary Bacon and lives in Greenwich, Conn. The Lyons have three children: Wendy, Charles and Mark.

William Barnabas McHenry is general counsel for The Reader's Digest Association, Inc. He is deeply involved in the arts and serves as a trustee of the Supreme Court Historical Society, Metropolitan Opera Association and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mr. McHenry most recently served as a vice-chairman for the Presidential Task Force on the Arts and Humanities, and the New York-Beijing (Peking) Friendship City Committee. He is a native of Harrisburg, Pa.

Mr. McHenry is married to the former Marie Bannon Jones, and makes his home in Manhattan. The McHenrys have three children: Thomas J.P., W.H. Davis and John W.H.



A sidewalk café on the steps of the Roosevelt entrance was a new service to Museum visitors that was tested this year.

## MUSEUM TESTS VISITING HOURS AND A SIDEWALK CAFE

Recent experiments on visiting hours and with a sidewalk café may result in new policies at the American Museum next year.

To accommodate Museum visitors, Director Thomas D. Nicholson extended public hours on weekdays and weekends by one hour. Weekday hours (excluding Wednesdays when the Museum is open until 8 p.m.) were extended from Aug. 17 through Oct. 4. The weekend hour extension is still active and will remain so through December.

Response from visitors to the added hour has been overwhelmingly positive. People were given a chance to stay for a longer time in exhibitions, at the cafeteria and the

Museum Shop. Overall attendance figures for the period covering the weekday extensions showed that some 4500 visitors took advantage of the extra hour.

A sidewalk café was installed on the steps of the Roosevelt entrance on Central Park West from July through early October. The café, seating approximately 50, featured al-fresco dining. The Museum entrance was transformed into a café-like environment by the introduction of small white tables topped with green-and-white umbrellas and a vendor's bar.

A variety of foods were offered to Museum visitors and street strollers. Among the culinary delights were a fruit and cheese plate, a finger sandwich plate, hamburgers and hot dogs, and an assortment of snacks.

The café was well received until sales began to dwindle with the coming of cooler weather in September. Current plans call for it to re-open in late spring.



## GLASS-ENCLOSED BALCONY TO EXPAND MUSEUM SHOP

A glass-enclosed book balcony will fill the air space in front of the 77th Street elevators when the 1000-square-foot addition to the Museum Shop is completed. Work on the expansion may begin this winter.

The mezzanine-level balcony will overlook the present shop and extend into the hall bounded by the 77th Street Foyer, the Museum Shop's main entrance, the Warburg Memorial Hall of Man and Nature, and the stair landing to the second floor.

Shoppers will be able to enter the balcony by using either the elevators or a stairway which will be built in the existing Museum Shop. The shop currently has 1750 square feet of space.

"This addition will allow us to increase the breadth and depth of our book selection," said Martin Tekulsky, Museum Shop marketing manager. "We look forward particularly to expanding our selection of children's books."

Mr. Tekulsky welcomes suggestions for new titles, which should be referred to him through department heads. All books are reviewed by the scientific staff before purchase.

The book balcony also will feature posters, wall hangings, stationery and records.

When the book area moves to the mezzanine, downstairs space will be freed for displaying additional clothing, accessories, crafts and artifacts. A dressing room will be added to the shop.

To insure continuity in appearance, the architect for the expansion is Fred B. Bookhardt, who designed the original shop.

"We expect the balcony to be quite contemporary and airy," said Mr. Tekulsky. "The expansion will certainly increase the shop's visibility to Museum visitors."

## MEMBERSHIP OFFICE CONDUCTS SPECIAL SURVEY

The first results of a three-part seasonal survey of Museum visitors directed by the Membership Office are now being compiled. The first part of the Membership survey was conducted during the summer. The three-part Membership survey is independent of the Museum's 1981 general visitors survey currently in process (GRAPEVINE, July/August, 1981).

It was revealed in the 1974-5 general Museum survey of visitors that 68 percent of regular Museum visitors were not members. Results of the new Membership survey will be used to determine marketing strategies to attract this important audience.

Visitors were surveyed on their attitudes toward membership programs in the Membership survey. Among the questions asked were what visitors expect from joining an organization, what they are willing to spend to join one, what benefits they wish to receive, and to which other institutions they belong.

The Membership survey questionnaire was written by four business students at Columbia University with consultation from their faculty and the Membership Office. Results are now being keypunched into an IBM computer at Columbia as part of the students' coursework.

Also involved in the Membership project was the Volunteer Office. Volunteer employees were posted at Museum entrances to distribute surveys to visitors.

Analysis of the summer survey data marks the completion of the first part of the program. The Membership Office expects to survey two more times during the coming year.



Eugene Eisenmann

## ORNITHOLOGIST EUGENE EISENMANN DEAD AT 75

Eugene Eisenmann, a research associate in the Department of Ornithology and a leading ornithologist and author of works on birds, was found dead of a heart attack on Friday, Oct. 16, in his apartment on Manhattan's West Side. He was 75 years old.

Mr. Eisenmann was active in bird conservation and a leading expert in neotropical ornithology. He was the author of the book, "The Species of Middle American Birds" and co-author of "The Species of Birds of South America."

Mr. Eisenmann served as chairman of the American Ornithologists' Union Committee on Classification and Nomenclature charged with the production of the sixth edition of the A.O.U.'s check-list of North American birds covering the area from Canada to Panama.

He was born Feb. 19, 1906, in Panama. A lawyer, he had a lifelong interest in bird studies. He received his law degree from Harvard University in 1930, and was a partner of the New York City law firm, Proskauer Rose Paskus, until 1956.

Mr. Eisenmann was a longtime volunteer in the American Museum's Department of Ornithology. He was named a research associate in the department in 1957.

He was active in the Linnaean Society of New York since 1941, and was elected a fellow there in 1957. He also was a fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union and former editor and frequent contributor to the organization's journal, *The Auk*.

He also was a member and former director of the Board of Governors of the Cooper Ornithological Society, a member of the Wilson Ornithological Society, a commissioner of the International Commission on Zoology and secretary and vice-chairman of the International Council for Bird Preservation, Pan-American Section.

Mr. Eisenmann is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Ethel Eisenmann Maduro of New York City and Mrs. Audrey Eisenmann Kline of Panama City, Panama, and a brother, Mr. Richard Eisenmann of Washington, D.C.

## WIVES AND CHILDREN OF U.N. DELEGATES ENJOY SPECIAL MUSEUM TOUR

Nearly 50 wives and children of delegates from the United Nations visited the American Museum recently.

The U.N. wives and children, who hail from such faraway places as Suriname, Indonesia, Belgium and Singapore, were greeted at the Museum by Assistant Volunteer coordinator Mitzi Bhavnani. They were given Museum Highlight Tours by volunteer employees Nancy Blume and Tamaralei Tulenko.

Their visit was arranged through the Hospitality Committee for United Nations Delegations, Inc., and the Museum's Office of Guest Services.

In a note to the Museum, Mrs. Vivian Hanson, chairman of the U.N. committee, commented that the international guests were impressed with the Museum, especially the Arthur Ross Hall of Meteorites.

"Many, many thanks for giving us this opportunity to introduce our foreign guests to one of New York's great treasures — the American Museum of Natural History," she wrote.

## NIGERIAN RULERS VISIT MUSEUM

Three traditional rulers of Nigeria, the Ooni of Ife, Orungun of Illa and the Eleruma of Iruway, visited the Museum in late August on a five-day tour of New York City.

Clad in traditional robes and colorful caps, the rulers were greeted in the Executive Dining Room by Director Thomas D. Nicholson, who welcomed them to the "Big Apple" and to the Museum.

Accompanying the rulers on their visit here were Enid Schildkrout, associate curator in the Department of Anthropology; Maria Uyehara, Caribbean programs coordinator in the Department of Education; Museum Director Nathaniel Johnson, Jr.; and Mitzi Bhavnani, assistant volunteer coordinator in the Volunteer Office.

The rulers were accompanied on their tour by an entourage of staff and by members of the press. Among the exhibitions they visited were the Hall of Man in Africa and the Hall of Asian Peoples.



Three Nigerian tribal rulers are greeted by Director Thomas D. Nicholson during their recent visit to the Museum.

A luncheon was held in the Executive Dining Room. Following traditional protocol, the rulers ate alone in a chamber separate from their own staff and Museum personnel. The Nigerian royalty visited New York on a five-day trip following their participation last year in the First World Conference on the Orisa Tradition, held in Ife, Nigeria. Their trip was sponsored by the New York City-based Visual Arts Research and Resource Center Relating to the Caribbean.

## UNITED WAY APPEAL BEGINS

The United Way's Tri-State fund appeal is seeking your help. The American Museum has led the field in support from cultural institutions. Museum employees have made generous contributions in the past. This leadership and enthusiasm is expected to continue. When department coordinators contact you, be generous. It's a fine cause. Donations are deducted from paychecks and are tax-deductible. For further information about the program, please call the Museum's United Way Chairman Herbert Kurz, manager, Office of Public Affairs, exts. 311, 444, 481, 593, or Catherine Pessino, assistant chairwoman of the Department of Education, who is co-chairperson of the drive, at exts. 254, 248.



Robert M. Acker

## ROBERT ACKER NEW INTERNAL AUDITOR

Robert M. Acker is the Museum's internal auditor, a post created in May.

Mr. Acker brings a wealth of experience to the new position. Prior to coming here he was an accountant and internal auditor for the big transportation firm, Santini Brothers.

Mr. Acker's duties at the Museum include checking systems and operations in its many departments. While he doesn't consider himself "a problem solver," he does hope to bring his expertise to bear in helping to make the Museum an even more efficient place.

A native of the Bronx, Mr. Acker has frequented this institution since he was a child. Interestingly, one of his all-time heroes is the naturalist, former U.S. President and politician, Teddy Roosevelt.

The life of an internal auditor is not any easy one, especially at a place as large as the Museum. Mr. Acker expects that it will take "at least a year or two to learn all the systems." One of his first tasks when entering a department is to learn about that area's systems and history—an arduous task which has been made easier for him through the help and cooperation of fellow employees.

In his spare time, Mr. Acker is a photographer. He and his wife, Mary, live in the Bronx. He hopes to return to graduate school for studies in finance.



## MUSEUM CELEBRATES ASIAN HALL WITH PUBLICATION OF NEW BOOK

To celebrate the first anniversary of the Gardner D. Stout Hall of Asian Peoples, the American Museum has co-published a book, "Asia: Traditions and Treasures," with Harry N. Abrams Inc., publishers.

The book describes the history and cultures of Asia. Most of the material in the Hall of Asian Peoples was collected in the 1870s through the 1920s—the "golden age" of Museum expeditions. Since that time, many traditions of Asian peoples have yielded to modern ways.

"Asia: Traditions and Treasures" features 120 rare photographs from the Museum's own collections. Many of them depict early explorations on the Asian continent. The book also contains 80 photographs by Lee Boltin of objects in the Museum's hall.

Walter N. Fairervis, Jr., a research associate in the Department of Anthropology, is author of the book. He served as scientific consultant for the Hall of Asian Peoples.

Douglas Preston, assistant manager of special publications, supervised research for the book and acted as the Museum liaison with the publishers. Mr. Preston wrote all photocaptions for the book as well as an afterword.

"Asia: Traditions and Treasures" will be sold at bookstores. It will retail for \$50.

### TELEPHONE DIRECTORY PUBLISHED

Copies of the new American Museum telephone directory are now available. Supplies of the directory have been sent to departments through inter-office mail. To obtain additional copies, please contact James Koo, manager, General Services, ext. 263 or 239.

## HERE AND THERE

**Building Services:** Evelyn D'Attore and Shirley Cubillo are the department's new secretaries.

**Cash Control Office:** Paula Buncom was promoted to senior clerk.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Aldwin Phillip was promoted to electrician.

**Development and Public Affairs:** R. Todd Nielsen has been promoted from Discovery Tours associate to manager. . . . Natalia Kavaliauskas is the new Discovery Tours assistant. . . . Kathryn De Lawter, development secretary, has joined the Department of Education as senior clerk. . . . Frank J. Post has been promoted from public affairs assistant to associate.

**Education:** Rhonda Young has joined the department as a lecturer for the handicapped. She is a graduate of The American University. Before coming to the Museum, she taught emotionally disturbed students in Arlington, Va. . . . Margherita Auletta is the new secretary for the department. . . . Pratima Gupta, a docent at the National Museum in New Delhi, has joined the Department of Education for three months as part of an educational museum exchange program. . . . In mid-September, Malcolm Arth visited England where he was invited to present a paper at the annual meeting of the British Museums Association in Manchester.

**Exhibition:** New additions to the department include Robert Jeslee, senior preparator; Christopher Murphy, intern preparator; Michael Anderson, intern preparator and former curatorial assistant III in the Department of Ver-

tebrate Paleontology. . . . Patricia Harrison, preparator, has returned from maternity leave. . . . In June, Senior Preparator Beth Sudekum married David Nemec.

**General Accounting:** Erlinda Reyes has joined the department as a clerk.

**General Services:** Richard P. Sheridan has joined as assistant manager after leaving the Office of Public Affairs where he was an associate.

**Herpetology:** Amy Hkimi, curatorial assistant, gave birth to a son, Jaafar Amin, on Sept 10. . . . In August, Research Associate Janis Roze studied snakes in museums in Paris and Hamburg; he also spent several weeks in Bulgaria observing Balkan peoples.

**Ichthyology:** Guido Dingerkus is the department's new part-time curatorial assistant.

**Library:** Vivian Wan, acquisitions project assistant, has accepted a new position as bibliographical clerk with John Wiley Publishers. . . . Ivy Cayol, senior clerk, has gone on maternity leave. . . . Katheryn Keim has joined the department as part-time library assistant. . . . The library has received a one-year grant for \$166,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to inventory the holdings of the photographic collection. . . . April Carlucci, assistant librarian for reference services, spoke before the New Regional Group of the Medical Libraries Association on Aug. 26 describing the Library's services available to local medical libraries through the Medical Library Center Cooperative group.

**Mammalogy:** Karl F. Koopman, curator, has returned from Africa and Europe where he attended conferences on bats.

**Membership:** Kate Bennett-Mendez, manager, took part in a panel discussion on membership at the meeting of the American Association of Museums in Indianapolis last June. She planned to present similar information at the Northeast Museum Conference in October.

**Micropaleontology Press:** Susan E. Carroll has joined the staff as assistant editor.

**Mineral Sciences:** Eric Dowty, formerly an assistant professor at Princeton University, has joined the department as research fellow for 1981–82. . . . Martin Prinz, chairman, George E. Harlow, associate curator, and C. E. Nehru, research associate, participated in the Meteoritical Society meeting in Berne, Switzerland, in August. Dr. Harlow studied collections in London and Paris. Dr. Prinz carried out research in Vienna.

**Museum Shop:** Gerald Acevedo, Jennifer Faison, Diane Bonheur and Jeanne Raczkowski are new part-time sales assistants in the Museum Shop. . . . Charles Kanarick, assistant manager/book buyer, married Rita Cohen on September 13.

**Natural History Magazine:** Ramón Alvarez was promoted to assistant circulation manager.

**Ornithology:** Among those who attended this year's American Ornithologists' Union meeting in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Aug. 22–29 were Lester L. Short, chairman, his wife Jennifer Horne-Short; Helen Hays, chairman of the Great Gull Island committee; Mary LeCrosier, scientific assistant; Eugene Eisenmann, research associate, and George F. Barrowclough, assistant curator. Dr. Short spent a week on St. Catherine's Island, Georgia, studying endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers, and at the Archbold Biological Station, Florida. . . . Wesley L. Lanyon, Lamont Curator of Birds, is conducting field work in Suriname. . . . Helen Hays has returned from Great Gull Island. This year there were 100 more terns than last year nesting on the island. . . . Lucille Erway, a former volunteer in the department, died on June 11. . . . François Vuilleumier, curator, is at the University of the Andes in Venezuela teaching a graduate course in tropical ecology.

**Planetarium:** Michael Schultz and Thomas Garcia are new part-time sales assistants in the Planetarium Shop.





NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 1981

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## FORMER MUSEUM DIRECTOR DIES



James A. Oliver

James A. Oliver, director emeritus of the American Museum of Natural History, died on Dec. 2 at Metropolitan Hospital following cardiac arrest. Dr. Oliver was 67 years old. He was also director emeritus of the New York Zoological Society and a retired director of the New York Aquarium, the only person ever to have been director at all three institutions.

Dr. Oliver was associated with the Museum for 39 years, starting in 1942 as an assistant curator in the Department of Herpetology. On a military leave of absence from the Museum from 1943 to 1946, he returned to the Museum in 1946 and in 1947 was promoted to associate curator of herpetology. Leaving the Museum for a decade in 1948, he joined the faculty of the University of Florida and later the staff of the New York Zoological Society where he was appointed Director in 1958. During this period, he remained on the Museum staff as a research associate. He was appointed Museum Director in 1959 and was named Director Emeritus in 1973. He retired in 1976 from the directorship of the New York Aquarium, a post he assumed after leaving the Museum.

As Director, Dr. Oliver guided the Museum through an important period of growth and activity, establishing a 10-year program of building new exhibitions and modernizing existing ones. By the end of 1969, the Museum's Centennial year, more than 11 major halls were opened or advanced toward completion, including the Hall of Ocean Life and the Biology of Fishes, the Hall of Man in Africa, the Hall of Mexico and Central America and the Hall of Earth History.

A respected scientist, administrator, educator and author, Dr. Oliver's research investigations include the first detailed observations and photographs of the breeding of king cobras in captivity.

Dr. Oliver was born in Caruthersville, Mo., in 1914, and grew up in St. Louis. He earned his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Oliver is survived by his wife, the former Ruth Norton; a son, Dexter Oliver; a daughter, Patricia Karambay; and two grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at the Bronx Zoo in April. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Museum or to the Bronx Zoo.

## EMPLOYEES WELCOME HOLIDAY SEASON IN ORIGAMI TREE-LIGHTING CEREMONY



The Museum's Origami Tree, with hundreds of hand-folded ornaments representing thousands of volunteer hours, glitters in Roosevelt Memorial Hall for the ninth season.

A New York holiday tradition is glittering in the Roosevelt Memorial Hall. Surrounded by staff, visitors and volunteers, Trustee Arthur Ross threw the switch on Monday, Nov. 23, at 3:15 p.m., to light the origami tree. He joined Dr. Nicholson in ushering in the holiday season.

The origami tree is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month. Employees annually gather to enjoy the first glimpse of the tree as well as cider and donuts.

Representing thousands of hours of volunteer work, the origami tree features 3,000 ornaments, 300 mobiles on its branches and a 15-foot mobile of 500 stars which hangs from the 100-foot high ceiling above the tree.

Alice Gray, scientific assistant emerita in Entomology, has supervised the preparation of the origami since the tree's inception in 1972. Some 20 volunteers assisted in the folding and preparation of ornaments this year and another 25 volunteer employees will devote time to

(continued on page 2)



(continued from page 1)

demonstrating origami to visitors in the Hall.

"The Museum's tree is the largest decorated with origami in the nation, the only one dealing primarily with natural sciences and the only one with mobiles," said Miss Gray.

For the first time, miniature habitats composed of folded-paper figures surround the base of the tree: Central Park in winter, a pond, a northern woodland in spring, an English hedgerow and a barnyard.

Kathy Schmidt, scientific assistant in Entomology, designed and folded the pond habitat. This scene features a blue heron, two types of waterlilies, marsh marigolds, a frog catching a dragonfly, grasses, irises, and a turtle.

Also new to the tree this year are cobras, walruses, three-dimensional elephants, ballerinas, hippopotamuses, tyrannosaurs, road-runners, horses, swallows and chameleons.

She estimated that since June she has spent approximately 150 hours working on this project during lunch, on her two-hour, one-way commute from Baleville, N.J., and in the evening.

The idea of the origami tree, which was the first public one in New York, began with a small, three-foot tree in the Museum's Department of Entomology. Miss Gray put her hobby to use decorating the department's offices with origami at holiday time. Museum Trustee Mrs. Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff, chairperson of the Exhibition Committee at the time, became interested in origami. Miss Gray reports that she was given two months to decorate the first 25-foot tree, beginning the tradition in 1972.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY RINGS IN HOLIDAY SEASON

Santa Claus made an early visit to the American Museum on Friday, Dec. 11, as the honored guest at the annual Children's Christmas Party.

Mr. Claus, known around the Museum as Alan Ternes, editor of *Natural History* magazine, received more than 400 children and 200 adults at the event.

The children began the evening at the American Museum-Hayden Planetarium, where they were treated to the celebrated sky show, "Star of Wonder." An annual tradition for many New Yorkers and Museum employees, "Star of Wonder" looks at the sky at the time of Christ's birth.

The second part of the celebration took place in the Hall of Ocean Life, which was festooned with holiday decorations for the occasion. A colorful tree, with a vast array of gifts for the children, stood beneath the Blue Whale. Mr. Claus' throne was nearby. With the able help of his assistants, Mr. Ternes' daughter, Kate, and her friend, Suzi Changar, Santa distributed gifts to the children and listened attentively as they told him what else they wanted for Christmas.

The children were served frankfurters, milk, cake and ice cream. Coffee was reserved for the adults.

The Christmas Party was organized by Ernestine Weindorf, administrative assistant in *Natural History* magazine.

(Editor's note — See next month's *Grapevine* for photographs from the Children's Christmas Party.)

## VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY TO HAVE NEW CURATOR, EXPERT IN THE EVOLUTION OF HEARING

Michael J. Novacek, associate professor in the Department of Zoology at San Diego State University, will join the staff of the Museum on July 1, as associate curator in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology.



Michael J. Novacek

Usually, such characteristics of bats as hearing adaptations and vocal patterns have been tied to the adaptation that takes place because of bats' feeding habits, geographical location and other factors. Dr. Novacek believes that these hearing adaptations have a genealogical pattern.

"I feel that there is a genealogical story to be told by the ear," says Dr. Novacek. "And, after joining the Museum, I will continue my research to try to answer such questions as: whether or not these features provide evidence for natural phylogenetic groupings among bats?"

Dr. Novacek will work closely with Richard Tedford, department chairman and curator, and Malcolm McKenna, Frick curator, on the maintenance, use and improvement of the Frick Wing, which houses the world's largest collection of fossil mammals.

A graduate of UCLA, Dr. Novacek received his Master's degree from San Diego State University and his Ph.D. in Paleontology from the University of California at Berkeley. He will come to New York next summer with his wife, Vera, and his four-year-old daughter, Julie.

## CARIBBEAN EXPERIENCE EXPLORED AT MUSEUM



High school students listen attentively as Felix Arrieta, an officer in MABSTOA (NY Bus Drivers), talks about career opportunities. In the background is the set for the musical-comedy, "El Jibaro," which the students attended as part of the Puerto Rican "Day of Inspiration."

The Museum's Education Department presented programs on the culture of Caribbean nations during November and has scheduled more for December. On Nov. 1 and 15 and again on Nov. 21 and 22, the Puerto Rican Experience was featured in "Herencia Cultural," a presentation of art, dance, music, films and displays in the People's Center. On Nov. 17, 18 and 19, a special program in Spanish for high school students, "Day of Inspiration," was given in Education Hall in cooperation with the Grand Council of Hispanic Societies in the Public Service, Inc.

Hispanic officers from the police, fire, sanitation and correction departments, Con Edison, Boys' Clubs and other public service organizations gave speeches on career opportunities. The program was highlighted by a performance of "El Jibaro," a musical-comedy adaptation by Manuel Gonzalez of the 19th Century play by Ramon

Dr. Novacek's research has centered on such topics as mammalian auditory evolution. Since 1974 he has concentrated on the evolutionary implications of the auditory features in insectivores and primates. In 1978 this study was focused on auditory evolution and variation in bats, a group noted for its diverse and spectacular hearing adaptations.

endez Quinones depicting the life and folklore of a Puerto Rican peasant family. The program was attended by 350 high school students each day.

On Nov. 28 and 29 the island nation of Jamaica was highlighted with traditional folk dances, arts workshops and a lecture. Haiti will be the country honored on Saturday, Dec. 12, and Sunday, Dec. 13, with a crafts workshop, a lecture/slide presentation, "Voodoo: Religion or sorcery?," folk dances and songs.

The final event in the series will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 12 and 13, in the People Center, when additional family Christmas Eve celebrations of South and Central America are presented for children. These traditions will include the breaking of candy-filled pottery piñatas (Mexico), a visit by the three biblical kings who give gifts to the children and a craft demonstration of the making of Haitian holiday lights and piñatas.

These Caribbean programs, presented by the Museum's Education Department, are supported by a gift from Evelyn Sharp.

## CONFERENCE DRAWS INTERNATIONAL SCIENTISTS



An international conference about the extinct, three-toed *Hipparion* horse was held at the American Museum Nov. 1 through 10. The conference attracted vertebrate paleontologists from France, Italy, the People's Republic of China, Spain, West Germany, the Soviet Union and the United States.

The vertebrate paleontologists met to compare the complete fossil record of *Hipparion* which died out about one million years ago. The conference was the brainchild of Richard H. Tedford, chairman and curator in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology; John Van Couvering, editor of *Micropaleontology* Press; Michael O. Woodburne, professor of earth sciences at the University of California, and Paul Y. Sondaar, senior paleontologist at the Institute of Earth Sciences at the State University of Utrecht, Holland. The conference was supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Pictured at work on fossil specimens are, left to right, Morris F. Skinner, Frick curator emeritus, American Museum of Natural History; Claudio de Giuli, Institute of Geology and Paleontology of the University of Firenze, Italy; Chansiang Chiu, Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, People's Republic of China; John Howe, Department of Geology, Bowling Green State University, Ohio; B.J. McFadden, Florida State Museum, University of Florida, Gainesville; R.L. Bernor, College of Medicine, Howard University, Washington, D.C.; Ulrich Staesche, Geological Survey for Lower Saxony, West Germany; Paul Y. Sondaar; Melissa Winans, graduate student, University of Texas; H. Tobien, Johannes Gutenberg University, West Germany; Richard H. Tedford; M.T. Alberti, Institute of Geology, National Museum of Natural Sciences and S.T. Hussain, College of Medicine, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

## MUSEUM CAFETERIA TO GET NEW APPEARANCE; SECOND RESTAURANT IS PLANNED

The American Museum's cafeteria, located on the basement level, soon will receive a face lift. In addition, a restaurant will be added to the existing cafeteria.

The two food service areas are tentatively titled the Court Square and the Atrium restaurant. Work on them is expected to be completed by April, 1982.

The Court Square will transform the old cafeteria into a bright, new fast-food service area. It will accommodate up to 550 people and serve foods that include hamburgers, hot dogs, salads and soups.

It will have a light and airy look, according to Marilyn Badaracco, manager of the Office of Guest Services. Existing cafeteria furniture will be replaced with modular units that will create seating islands around the floor.

The Atrium will be completely separated from the Court Square. It will offer a higher level of dining and service, with the menu and ambience structured accordingly. It will seat 160 people and will include a small bar where diners can "sip and sup" if they choose.

The restaurant will be in a glass-enclosed structure similar in design to a greenhouse. A garden court with plants and sculpture will complete the scene.

The Atrium's menu will be competitive with area restaurants in selection and price. Ms. Badaracco hopes to market special Museum group tours which will include lunch or dinner in the restaurant.

The current cafeteria will remain open to the public during construction. Work will be done in various sections at a time and at night.

The cafeteria renovation and the new restaurant were designed by Cord Development.

## DISCOVERY TOURS SETS SIGHTS ON NEW HORIZONS — INDONESIA

Discovery Tours is launching an educational vacation this winter to the islands of Indonesia, an area long studied by the Museum's scientists but never before part of its tour program.

"The Museum's involvement in Indonesia stretches back to the early part of the century and includes the work of Margaret Mead," said Todd Nielson, Discovery Tours manager. "We tailor our itineraries to the Museum's strengths in research and exhibition."

The Indonesian Odyssey, which was completely booked five weeks after its announcement, will travel to the islands of Bali, Java, Komodo, Sulawesi, Lombok, Flores and Butung.

As with all Discovery Tours, experts accompany the group to give formal lectures and to be available for informal discussions.

Lecturers on this cruise, Feb. 21 – March 13, are Mu-

(continued on page 4)



BOROBUDUR: ancient Buddhist temple in central Java



seum Director Thomas D. Nicholson; Martin Prinz, chairman and curator of the Department of Mineral Sciences; C. Lavett Smith, chairman and curator of the Department of Ichthyology; David Hurst Thomas, chairman and associate curator of the Department of Anthropology; Richard G. Zweifel, curator of the Department of Herpetology; Mary LeCroy, scientific assistant in the Department of Ornithology, and Clifford Geertz, professor of social sciences at the Institute of Advanced Study at Princeton. Mr. Nielsen calls this group "extraordinarily well-balanced and informed."

The Indonesian Odyssey has booked 160 passengers and more than 100 are on the waiting list.

Twelve educational vacations comprise the 1982 season. Last year, 534 persons traveled with Discovery Tours on 12 trips.

In addition to the Indonesian trip, Discovery Tours is offering three other cruises during 1982: Nile Cruise, Feb. 7 – 27; Galapagos Islands Cruise, June 5 – 17, and the Adriatic and Aegean Adventure, Aug. 31 – Sept. 16.

The eight land tours on this year's schedule are limited to between 18 and 25 persons each.

- Archeology Tour to Mexico, Jan. 11 – 29, led by C. Bruce Hunter, lecturer in archeology and former assistant chairman of the Department of Education
- Ancient Maya Archeology, Feb. 1 – 18, also led by Mr. Hunter
- East African Safaris, Feb. 3 – 21 and Feb. 24 – March 14; led by Richard G. Van Gelder, curator in the Department of Mammalogy
- Art and Archeology Tours to China, March 23 – April 15 and April 7 – May 3, led by Mr. Hunter and John Hay, assistant professor of Chinese Art at Harvard University.
- Anthropology Tour to Morocco, April 4 – 17, led by Paul J. Sanfacon, lecturer in the Department of Anthropology
- Alaska Wildlife Adventure, June 25 – July 12, led by Kenneth A. Chambers, lecturer in zoology in the Department of Education.

News of Discovery Tours reaches members through advertising in *Natural History* and promotional literature sent to the magazine's mailing list. Members' acceptance of these tours has generated a major source of income for the Museum.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Philip Gifford retired from his position as scientific assistant and is now scientific consultant for the new Margaret Mead Hall of Pacific Peoples. He will be in the department only two days a week now and intends to devote his spare time to the completion of his book ... Karin Knight, textile conservation trainee; Janet Strom, curatorial assistant I, and Cynthia Weinstein, curatorial assistant I, are working with Vuka Roussakis, part-time conservationist specialist, and Junius Bird, curator emeritus, as textile conservators restoring pre-Columbian textiles (many of which are 2,000 years old) in preparation for the new South American hall.

**Building Services:** The new Museum attendant guards are Benjamin Acosta, Herbert Andujar, Nicanor Diaz, Andres Marcucci, Joan Olsen, Tulip Swift, Carmen Ortiz and Cheryl Wright ... Janet Santiago has joined as department secretary.

**Cash Control Office:** The new assistant manager is Miguel Rosario.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Robert Hernandez, Rosa Haack, Joanne Fleming and Michael Eldredge have joined the department as assistant Museum maintainers.

**Deputy Director for Administration:** Robert J. Dombrski, assistant to the deputy director for administration, has resigned from the Museum after 23 years. He is retiring to Florida to pursue his hobby of yachting

**Development and Public Affairs:** Barbara Voye has

joined the development office as associate ... Jacqueline Schiffman is the new senior secretary in development ... The new senior clerk in the volunteer office is Genevieve Wolf ... David Lehmann has joined public affairs as assistant ... Caron Van Dyck, part-time clerk-typist in guest services, will be performing at the Vineyard Theater, 309 E. 26th St., in two Mozart one-act operas, *Bastien and Bastienne* and *The Impresario*, Nov. 27 and 28 and Dec. 4, 5, 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 29, Dec. 6 and 13 at 2 p.m. Ms. Van Dyck was recently chosen to take part in a five-week master class conducted by Joan Dornemann, who is an assistant conductor and prompter at the Met.

**Exhibition:** Steve Quinn, senior principal preparator, has his bronze sculpture "Black Rhinoceros" selected for inclusion in an exhibition of the Society of Animal Artists at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. The show will run from Nov. 20 through April 4.

**General Accounting:** Fred Hewitt is new assistant manager. The new clerk in the department is Cecilia Leon.

**Herpetology:** On Nov. 3, Linda Goldberg, curatorial assistant, became engaged to Michael Goldstein. The wedding is planned for Jan. 10 ... Charles Myers, chairman, returned to the Museum after 5 weeks in Panama where he worked on poison-dart frog research ... Charles Bogert, curator emeritus, and Mrs. Bogert, recently returned to New Mexico from their latest trip to East Africa. Paul Luikart is the new part-time curatorial assistant.

**Invertebrates:** William Old, scientific assistant, was made an honorary member of the Boston Malacological Club at the November meeting at Harvard University.

**Library:** Mary Genett, acquisitions librarian, and Diana Shih, cataloging librarian, will attend a 10-week workshop on In-House Binding and Repairs ... Lynn Wiley is the new, full-time reference librarian ... The new part-time library assistant is Antoinette Coniglio ... A one-year grant to the Library to inventory the holdings of the photographic collection was received from the U.S. Department of Education. Staff members working under this grant are Noriko Gines, project supervisory cataloging librarian, and Tony Orth-Pallavicini, project associate ... Pamela Haas, assistant librarian for archives and photographic collection, gave a talk to an NYU archives class on Nov. 12 ... Bernice d'Aquino, photographic collection librarian, attended a seminar on special libraries on Nov. 20 ... Mary Slade is the new senior secretary in the library ... Barry Koffler has joined as acquisition assistant ... The new project assistant is Tasha Hall.

**Mammalogy:** Ethel Tobach, curator; Lester A. Aronson, curator emeritus in the Department of Ichthyology, and Howard R. Topoff, research associate in the Department of Entomology, attended the first Biennial Conference of T.C. Schneirla at Wichita State University, Nov. 6 through Nov. 8. Mrs. T.C. Schneirla was the honored guest at the conference, which was attended by more than 100 people and was sponsored by the American Museum of Natural History, the City University of New York and Wichita State University. Dr. Schneirla was the former curator of the Museum's Department of Animal Behavior who died in 1968.

**Museum Shop:** Monique Lui, Susan Mae Angst and Elyce J. Bristol are new part-time sales assistants in the Shop.

**Micropaleontology Press:** John A. Van Couvering, editor, married Enid Schildkrout, associate curator in the Department of Anthropology, on Nov. 28 ... Martin Janal, associate editor, and his wife, Eve, announced the birth of a daughter, Hannah Jenny, on Oct. 12.

**Natural History Magazine:** Jeff Pieper, previously of Music Magazine, is the new associate circulation manager ... Frank Stevens is the new supervising clerk.

**Personnel:** Joyce Wallach is the new records assistant in personnel.

**Planetarium:** Barbara Ginell and Rosanna Fermin have joined the Planetarium Shop as part-time sales assistants.









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Plans for the South American hall, currently under construction on the second floor, are discussed by, left to right, Laila Williamson, research

assistant, Robert Carneiro, curator, and Craig Morris, associate curator, all of the Department of Anthropology, and Eugene Bergmann, exhibit designer of the Exhibition Department.

## WORK ON NEW SOUTH AMERICAN HALL IN EARLY STAGES

Plans are being made in the Department of Anthropology for an important new addition to the Museum's permanent hall of peoples and places. Robert L. Carneiro, curator, Laila Williamson, research assistant, and Craig Morris, associate curator, are already at work on the South American hall, expected to open in about five years. Exhibition Department Exhibit Designer Eugene B. Bergmann is the designer of the new hall.

A South American hall is not a new idea at the Museum; an older hall housed many of the Museum's thousands of South American specimens until the early 1960s, when it was closed. Another hall, the Men of the Montaña, was a special exhibition of western Amazonian ethnology which was closed in 1972 to make room for the Hall of Asian Peoples.

Since that time, there has been an awareness in the Department of Anthropology of the interest in and need for a permanent exhibition portraying the cultures of South America. Now the plan is becoming a reality with the renovation of space on the Museum's second floor in sections six and eight.

The main exhibition is planned for section eight with an introduction in section six. The exhibition will cover the major regions and cultures of the continent, from Colombia to the southern tip of Chile.

"This permanent exhibition will actually be two halls in one," says Dr. Carneiro, who will work on the ethnological portion of the exhibition. "There will be the archaeological

section chronicling the history of the continent through the study of the material remains of the people. This section will focus largely on the regions of coastal and highland Peru."

"And there will be the ethnological section," says Dr. Carneiro, "which will be devoted largely to depicting the culture of the Indians of Amazonia as fully and vividly as possible. Amazonia will be treated by topics, such as ceremonies, warfare and technology, instead of by tribes with a small exhibition area on the Indians of Chaco, Pampas, Patagonia and Tierra del Fuego. Among the highlights of the exhibition will include a colorful ceremonial feather costume of the Oyana Indians and examples of the famous Jivaro shrunken heads."

Dr. Morris, who will head up the archaeological section, says that the challenge in mounting an exhibition of this scope is to place the materials in their cultural context and at the same time present them in an aesthetically pleasing way.

"For example," says Dr. Morris, "the exhibition will include outstanding displays of such famous pieces as Andean textiles and the ceramics of the Moche and Nazca regions. These pots and garments should not be seen simply as works of art but as the functional articles that they were to the people who used them."

"This is part of the reason," continues Dr. Morris, "that it takes years to mount such an exhibition; great care must be taken that each item is researched and then presented in such a way that the viewer is not only impressed by the item on display but that he takes something of the history of the artifact and the people home with him."



## AMNH CHRISTMAS PARTY AS SEEN IN CHILDREN'S FACES

In the Nov./Dec. Grapevine, the annual Children's Christmas Party was described in words. The results can now be seen, and what better way to show the joy and wonder of the Museum's annual Christmas Party than in the faces of children. Here are just some of the hundreds of young relatives and guests of Museum employees as they waited to see Santa or in other ways expressed the season's excitement and expectation.



Jessica Morales, daughter of Vincente Morales of the Graphics Department



Monica Powell, stepdaughter of Claude Shell of Building Services



Clayton Hardy, Jr., nephew of Darlene Slade of Building Services



Michele and Christopher Almodovar, daughter and son of Irving Almodovar of General Services



Ibrahima Diop, son of Barbara Diop of the Controller's Office



Michele Peter, niece of Debbie Peter of the Anthropology Department



David Barcia, nephew of Bernice d'Aquino of the Library Photographic Collection

## DIRECTOR COMMENDS EMPLOYEES FOR EFFORTS DURING FOUL WEATHER

Museum Director Thomas D. Nicholson had nothing but praise for Museum staff and paid volunteer employees for their ingenuity and perseverance in getting to work in some of the worst winter weather in recent memory.

"The Museum staff and volunteers deserve accolades for confronting the worst that could be thrown at them in the way of weather and not letting it interfere with getting to work," said Dr. Nicholson.

"Their ingenuity and resourcefulness in the face of snow, ice and sub-zero temperatures was amazing," he said. "Despite snarled traffic, stalled public transportation and other inconveniences the Museum did not have to alter its schedules. We continued to operate as if it was the finest summer weather."

Museum staff resourcefulness was illustrated by one employee's comment: "I didn't know there were so many ways to get to work until this weather came along."

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE SERVICES OFFERED



Juan Charlin, a volunteer employee who speaks both Portuguese and Spanish, provides assistance at the information desk in Roosevelt Memorial Hall.

Museum employees and volunteers handle their jobs smoothly each day, and many of them can work in foreign languages. The Office of Guest Services has recently completed a list of Museum employees who speak, read and/or write foreign languages. The list includes 16 languages, from Afrikaans to Urdu, and names people from 17 Museum departments.

If your department should need interpreting services or other foreign language skills or would like a copy of the Foreign Language Directory, contact Caron Van Dyck in Guest Services at Ext. 342 or 416. If you have a foreign language skill and would like to be included in the Directory or would like to make a correction, let Miss Van Dyck know.

Another foreign language service available at the Museum is made possible by volunteer employees who staff the information desks. According to the Volunteer Office, among the more than 45 of these individuals at the in-

(continued on page 4)



formation desks, more than 13 languages and dialects are represented. Multilingual volunteers are identified by yellow name tags which list the languages they speak. In this way the Museum's thousands of non-English-speaking visitors can hear a friendly voice speaking their native tongue.

## ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE FROM OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Copies of the 1980-81 Museum annual report can be obtained by calling the Office of Public Affairs (Exts. 311, 444, 481 or 593). In his annual message in the report, Museum Director Thomas Nicholson speaks on the current evolution and creation controversy. He strongly condemns the idea of considering creationism a science, saying, "Creationism, we insist, has no place in scientific thought and theory; it isn't even a matter of equal time or equal billing with science. It (creationism) belongs somewhere else, perhaps, depending upon what you believe, but not in science. In a process that is compelled to seek and find both questions and answers from what is observed in the natural world, the only authority that science can accept is nature."

### MUSEUM'S MOST SUCCESSFUL UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN ENDS

The 1981 United Way campaign was the most successful in the history of the Museum, with contributions and pledges 50 percent higher than the maximum amount ever raised before.

Thomas D. Nicholson, Museum director, had high praise for all involved in the campaign, saying: "The result is indeed a tribute to the understanding and generosity of our supervisors, who gave so much of their personal commitment to the program, and to all our employees, both salaried and unsalaried, who listened and contributed generously."

Of the Museum's 640 paid employees, 346, or more than 50 percent, contributed to the campaign. Contributions totaled \$9,210.86, an average of \$26.62 per contributor. Two-thirds of these contributions, or \$6,229.96, were made as payroll deductions.

Chairman of the 1981 drive was Herbert Kurz, manager of Public Affairs; assistant chairwoman was Catherine Pessino, assistant chairwoman of the Department of Education.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** The two new curatorial assistants III are Lara Regan and Carolyn Lasar.

**Building Services:** Trenton Chapman was promoted to supervising Museum attendant/guard... Oliver Khin, Kevin O'Grady, Curtis Price, Olga Soto, Carol Walsh, Cynthia White, Albert Olsen, Augustin Martinez, René Ojeda, Samuel Vega, Carmen Careno, Johnney Ray Fernanders and Brian McManamon are the new Museum attendant/guards.

**Office of the Controller:** Pauline G. Meisler, assistant director for financial operations and controller, was honored by an appointment to the Official Faculty Bank of the Foundation for Accounting Education. The F.A.E. is the educational arm of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Construction and Maintenance:** Narciso Carrington has been hired as Museum maintainer.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Daniel Mullane is the new Naturemax Theater manager... Caren Rosenbaum has joined the Office of Guest Services as assistant... Frank J. Post, public affairs associate, has left the Museum to join the National Society to Prevent Blindness as public relations associate.

**Education:** Nathaniel Johnson, Jr., senior instructor, is in India participating in the Educator Exchange Program sponsored by the Indo-U.S. Subcommittee on Education and Culture. He is expected to return in February. In India he is stationed at the National Museum of Natural History in New Delhi.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Victor Manoli is the new projectionist.

**General Services:** Jackie Beckett has joined the photography studio as Museum technician.

**Ichthyology:** Wieslawa Szymczyk of the Wroclaw University in Poland has been welcomed to the department as a visiting researcher. Dr. Szymczyk is a vertebrate paleontologist investigating relationships and osteological structure of Myctophids and Clupeids. She will be in the department until mid-June... Lance Grande, graduate student, presented a paper on fossil clupeomorph fish at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Invertebrates:** Sylvia Sepulveda is the new Museum technician.

**Library:** Working under a U.S. Department of Education Grant is Lori Gross, photography librarian/archivist, and Tasha Hall, project assistant... Nina Root, chairwoman, Pamela Haas, assistant librarian for archives and photographic collection and Mary Genett, assistant librarian for reference services, attended the ALA Mid-winter Conference in Denver, Jan. 23-26... Noriko Gines, project supervisory cataloging librarian, Bernice d'Aquino, assistant photographic collection librarian, and Lori Gross attended a meeting on Machine Readable Archives at New York Hospital Cornell Medical Center on Jan. 27.

...Elizabeth Garcia was promoted to a permanent position in the technical area of the library as senior clerk... Bryan Johnson has returned to the Museum to resume his position as part-time acquisitions librarian.

**Museum Shop:** Kwesi Kambon is the new part-time supervisor... Bernadette Hazelwood has joined the shop as part-time sales assistant.

**Ornithology:** François Vuilleumier, curator, and Walter Bock, research associate, are conducting discussion on avian biology and related subjects on alternate Tuesdays during the noon lunch hour in the 6th floor classroom. These discussions will continue throughout the year and are open to members of other departments. For further information call ext. 323 or 286... Ornithology welcomed back Ruth deLynn, associate, R. Stuart Keith, research associate, and George F. Barrowclough, assistant curator who were hospitalized... Lester L. Short, chairman, returned from Kenya and Rwanda where he conducted field work for three months... Anna Crowe, wife of Tim Crowe, Chapman Fellow, has arrived from South Africa to assist him.

**Purchasing:** Alfonse Russomanno is the new manager of purchasing.

**Planetarium:** Charles Luckner, former Planetarium shop manager, retired from the Planetarium after 22 years. On Dec. 30, a retirement tea was held in the Planetarium for Mr. Luckner... Joe Doti, Planetarium technician, was named Planetarium local shop steward for Local Union 306 (the motion picture and projectionist union)... Maddi, Planetarium technician, was named chief technician... Sandra Kitt, Planetarium librarian and freelance artist, illustrated a book entitled "Comets" by Christopher Owens which was reviewed in the January edition of Sky & Telescope magazine. Ms. Kitt has done numerous illustrations for the print media.



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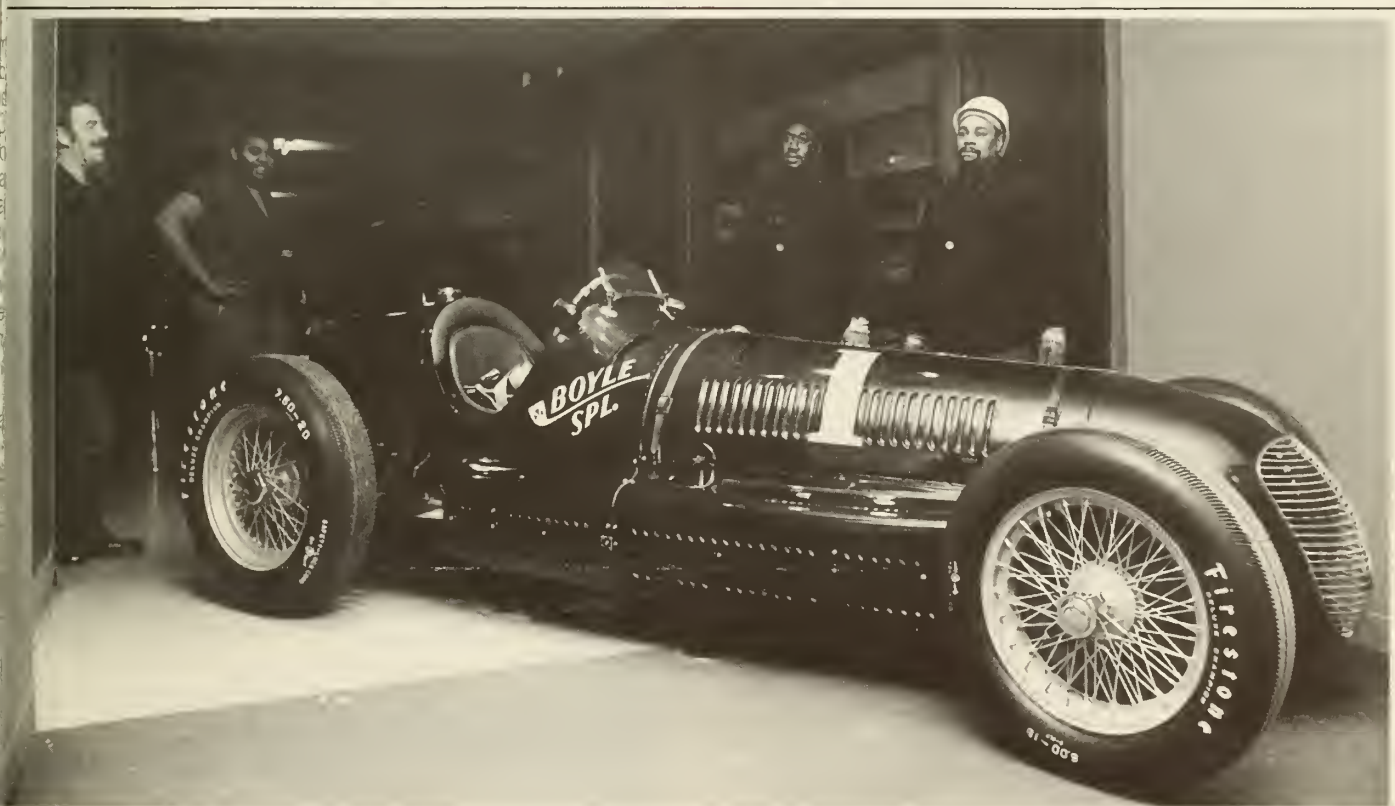
## PHILIP F. ANSCHUTZ ELECTED TRUSTEE OF THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Philip F. Anschutz, president and founder of The Anschutz Corporation, has been elected to the Museum's 12-member Board of Trustees, it was announced by President Robert G. Goelet.

Mr. Anschutz founded The Anschutz Corporation, a Denver-based oil company, in 1965. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1961 with a B.A. degree in finance and economics.

He is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the United Bank of Denver and has been a member of the Boards of Directors of the Denver Art Museum, Denver Symphony and the Iliff School of Theology.

Mr. Anschutz has an extensive collection of American art which traces the development of the American West and American art. A portion of this collection is on tour in the exhibition, "Painters of the American West," which has traveled to museums in Brussels, Beijing, Shanghai and Munich. In June, it opens in London's The Mall Galleries and then goes on to the Musée Jacques Mart-Andr s in Paris and Vienna's Museum of the Twentieth Century.



## "CHAMPION" MASERATI ARRIVES AT MUSEUM

The 1938 Maserati, which was driven to victory by Sports Champion Wilbur Shaw in both the 1939 and 1940 Indianapolis 500s, presents a moving challenge to Museum employees, left to right, Larry Conklin, Dwayne Stovall, Demond Downing and Delbert Parker. The car arrived at the Museum by truck, was moved by manpower and elevator to the third floor, and again by manpower past the Hall of Reptiles and

Amphibians, arriving at its present position of honor in the exhibition, "Champions of American Sport." The exhibition, honoring 100 sports heroes from 16 sports, opened to the public on March 19 and will be in Gallery 3 through June 27. The exhibition was organized by the National Portrait Gallery and is sponsored by Philip Morris Incorporated and its operating company the Miller Brewing Company.



## MUSEUM GEMS DAZZLE VIEWER

One of the treasures of the American Museum is its collection of gems in the Morgan Hall of Gems. Some stones, like the 563-carat Star of India sapphire, are known to almost everyone. Others are equally famous among gemologists and collectors, but their names are little known to the general public.

One such stone is the Padparadschah sapphire. Part of a display of sapphires in the Morgan Hall, the Padparadschah is the crowning glory in this group of outstanding stones. The color is a deep orange, and the 100-carat stone, from Sri Lanka, is named from the Ceylonese word meaning "lotus flower."

"As in the case of emeralds and rubies, one color comes to mind with the word, sapphire," said Joe Peters, associate in the Department of Mineral Sciences. "'Fancy' sapphire indicates a corundum stone of any color other than blue (a sapphire) or red (a ruby). Other than blue and red, fancy sapphires can be any color of the rainbow, or even colorless."

Other outstanding stones in this sapphire display include a deep green sapphire from Australia, a rare pink stone from Sri Lanka and a purple gem of 80 carats valued at more than \$250,000.

Smaller stones in this display come from two outstanding collections, the first a suite of American stones from Montana and the second comprised of stones from Sri Lanka. Both collections were put together by the late George Frederick Kunz, gem expert at Tiffany's, and donated to the Museum by J.P. Morgan in the early 1900s.

## THEIR PASSING IS MOURNED

One employee, two former employees and the son of an employee have died. We extend deep sympathy to their families.

Joseph C. Bequaert died in January at the age of 95 in Amherst, Ma. Dr. Bequaert was a research associate in the Department of Entomology at the Museum from 1916 to 1922, and in 1923 began a 31-year association with Harvard University. He is survived by a daughter, a son and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions can be made to: The American Malacological Union, 3706 Rice Blvd., Houston, Tx. 77005.

Luther A. (Alex) Williams died in February in Franklin, Me. Mr. Williams joined the Museum as an exhibition assistant in 1958 and served as chief of the Exhibition Division until 1962. He was involved in the design of the Hall of Man in Africa which opened in 1968, and as a consultant he designed the Hall of Asian Peoples which opened in 1980. He is survived by his wife Sally and a daughter.

Patricia Vaurie died in March in New York City. She was 72. Mrs. Vaurie began her 38-year association with the Museum in 1944 as a volunteer in the Department of Insects and Spiders (now Entomology). In 1947 she was appointed research assistant in the department, and in 1957 she became a research associate in Entomology. Mrs. Vaurie added significantly to our knowledge of beetles, submitting her 77th paper on the subject for publication a few days before her death. She traveled extensively with her husband Charles collecting insect specimens for the Museum. Charles Vaurie, curator emeritus in Ornithology, died in 1975. Mrs. Vaurie is survived by a sister in California.

Robert Sommer, 19, son of Helmut Sommer, senior technician in the Department of Mammalogy, was struck by an auto near Patterson, N.J., and died in March. He is survived by his parents and a sister.

## TOUR COORDINATOR GOES TO ISRAEL FOR AWARDS CEREMONY

Mitzi Bhavnani, assistant volunteer coordinator, spent the first day of spring sitting in Israel's Knesset in the company of some of the world's outstanding scientists and artists.

Spending time with notables is not unusual for Mrs. Bhavnani, who often conducts the Museum's VIP tours in her role as coordinator of the Highlights Tours program.

On her trip to Israel she accompanied her aunt, geneticist Barbara McClintock, to the March 21 awards ceremony.



Mitzi Bhavnani helps guide the Queen of Thailand on her visit to the Museum last November. Leading special tours is one of Mrs. Bhavnani's responsibilities.

mony of the Wolf Foundation, which honored 18 persons in the areas of agriculture, mathematics, chemistry, physics, medicine and the arts. Israeli President Yitzhak Nasser presented the Wolf Prize to Dr. McClintock for her contributions in the field of genetics.

Dr. McClintock, who has worked at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on Long Island since 1941, was the first to discover that genetic material was not fixed, but rather moved on and between chromosomes. Her findings of the late 1940s contradicted one of the basic tenets of genetics held until just 10 years ago—that genes were arranged on chromosomes in fixed patterns. Dr. McClintock's classic genetics work with maize is the basis for today's research in gene exploration, such as gene splicing and human engineering. She has won eight awards in the past year for her work.

Mrs. Bhavnani is responsible for the conduct of the Museum's Highlight Tours, VIP tours and member tours. In this role, she conducts an intensive training course for the volunteers and regularly monitors their on-the-job performance throughout their tenure here. Currently there are 40 active guides who conduct approximately 150 tours each month. Mrs. Bhavnani has built an extensive reference library for the guides' use by taping, transcribing and

editing curators' lectures and preparing study sheets on Museum highlights. Throughout the year, Museum volunteer guides are kept up-to-date on new halls, exhibitions and other recent developments with lectures by Museum curators and other experts.

As guests of the Wolf Foundation, Mrs. Bhavnani, her husband Ashok and Dr. McClintock toured Israel.

## EMERITUS ICHTHYOLOGIST HELPED TO DECIDE WHAT'S KOSHER

James W. Atz retired as curator in the Department of Ichthyology in 1981 and is now curator emeritus. Perhaps the most unusual feature of his career to date is his list of kosher and non-kosher fish which appears in the *Kashruth*, the handbook of Jewish dietary laws. About 125,000 copies have been distributed to interested American Jews.

Kosher fish must possess fins and scales. By strict definition, only those fish with scales that can be scraped from the body without destroying their skin are kosher. However, since the advent of microscopes, scientists have known that it is impossible to remove scales from most fish without damaging their skin, as there is a microscopic layer of epidermis covering their scales.

Dr. Atz cooperated with a rabbinical authority to create a practical interpretation of the ancient law, and to provide a list of those fish which fit that interpretation. Fish, like carp and perch which have cycloid and tenoid scales that can be easily scraped from the skin with a knife, were determined to be kosher. Those, like blowfish and sharks which have ganoid, placoid and modified scales, were not considered kosher because the skin must be ripped to remove the scales.

Dr. Atz feels that his contribution to the *Kashruth* is a "fine example of the kind of service the Museum can perform for the community at large." He will continue to come to the Museum two days a week for at least another year or two to complete research projects and to answer questions about what's kosher.

## TWO NEW APPOINTMENTS MADE TO TOP MUSEUM POSTS

Both *Natural History Magazine* and the Hayden Planetarium have new top administrators. At *Natural History*, Thomas Kelly has rejoined the staff as associate publisher



L. Thomas Kelly

and general manager after an absence of six years. He served as the magazine's business manager from 1973 to 1976. During his absence, Mr. Kelly worked for other magazines, including *Nuestro* and *Inside Sports*. In his new capacity, he will handle the day-to-day supervision of advertising, circulation, production and other business activities with Publisher David Ryus.

Asked of new challenges he sees on his return to *Natu-*

*ral History*, Mr. Kelly said, "Our major challenge in the 1980s is to expand reader and advertiser awareness of our magazine. We have an excellent product, but there are a number of new competitors in the field. Therefore we must increase our efforts to make people aware of the quality of our publication."

At the Planetarium, William Gutsch has been appointed



William Gutsch

chairman. He succeeds Mark R. Chartrand, III, who resigned in November, 1981. Allen Seltzer, Planetarium education coordinator, has served as acting manager at the Planetarium since November.

Dr. Gutsch comes to the Planetarium from the Strasensburgh Planetarium of the Rochester Museum Science Center, where he served as staff astronomer and script writer for eight years.

Dr. Gutsch writes a bi-weekly column for the Rochester Times-Union on astronomy and space science, and lectures for scientific organizations and at colleges. He has also written and produced science features for the ABC and PBS television networks.

## ARCHEOLOGIST AND CURATOR EMERITUS DIES

Junius B. Bird, curator emeritus of South American archeology and one of the world's leading archeologists, died in his home in New York City on Friday, April 2. He was 74 years old.

Dr. Bird was associated with the American Museum for 54 years. He first joined the American Museum's expeditions in 1928. Over the years, he became recognized as an expert in the field of traditional cultures, especially those of the Western Hemisphere, and the world's foremost expert on New World fabrics.

Dr. Bird was best known for his excavations in southern Patagonia and on the north coast of Peru, but he also excavated in Alaska, northern Canada, Newfoundland, Greenland, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Yucatan, Honduras, Panama, Bolivia and northern Chile.

His first major excavations were carried out between 1934 and 1937 at Fell's Cave and Palli Aike Cave in southern Chile where he discovered the earliest human remains

(continued on page 4)





Junius B. Bird

found up to that time in South America. These remains, which were associated with skeletons of extinct horses and giant sloths, were later dated by the carbon-14 method, and showed that paleo-Indians had reached the southern tip of South America by 9,000 B.C.

In 1946-47, Dr. Bird excavated a huge midden known as Huaca Prieta in northern Peru. Here he found thousands of textile fragments which revealed an unexpected virtuosity among the Indian fisherman-farmers of the third millennium B.C. Dr. Bird spent many years analyzing the great variety of textile types and patterns found there and later studied pre-Columbian textiles from other parts of Peru.

Dr. Bird has been instrumental in the development and curation of the Museum's extensive textiles collection, which contains artifacts dating back over 2,000 years.

Among his other contributions to the Museum is the preparation of the permanent exhibition of pre-Columbian gold, "Gold of the Americas," which opened in 1970.

Dr. Bird was born in Rye, N.Y., on September 21, 1907, the son of Henry and Harriet Bird. Henry Bird was an entomologist and Junius' older brother, Roland T. Bird, became a paleontologist and was also associated with the American Museum.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret McKelvy Bird, of New York City; three sons, Robert M. Bird of St. Louis, Harry B. Bird of Yorktown Heights, N.Y., and Thomas L. Bird of New York City; five grandchildren; and a sister, Alice Erikson of Rye, N.Y. The family asks that donations be sent to the Junius B. Bird Expedition at the Museum.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Patricia Bramwell has joined the department as secretary.

**Building Services:** A new Museum attendant/guard is Luis Stephenberg.

**Construction & Maintenance:** Nelson Miranda is the new assistant maintainer.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Marc A. Breslav has joined Public Affairs as associate. Kate Bennett-Mendez

is the new manager for Development. The new Naturemax assistant manager is Erik Haagenzen. Neil Clegg and Gloria Tirado have joined the Naturemax staff as cashiers. The new Naturemax facilitators are Fern Bligen, Michael Sinor, Paul Mercado, William Nixon and Stephen Bess. Joyce Brett is the Naturemax senior secretary. In Discovery Tours, 275 passengers traveled on five tours to nine countries in the first three months of 1982. Eleven Museum lecturers conducted the five Discovery Tours. C. Bruce Hunter led archeology tours throughout Mexico. Richard G. Van Gelder led the East African Wildlife Safari. Norman Newell and Steven Quinn lectured aboard the 600-mile Nile Cruise; and Thomas D. Nicholson, Martin Prinz, C. Lavett Smith, Richard Zweifel, Mary LeCroy and David H. Thomas lectured throughout the Indonesian Odyssey. The winter season is normally the busiest time of the year for Discovery Tours. With the addition of the successful Indonesian Odyssey, the number of passengers more than doubled since the previous year. At the time of writing, an Art and Archeology Tour to China is in operation and expeditions to Morocco, Alaska, the Galapagos Islands, China and the Adriatic and Aegean are scheduled for later in 1982.

**Education:** Ismael Calderon, is the new Caribbean program coordinator. He and his wife, Iris Calderon, senior secretary in the Department of Invertebrates, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Jonathan. Jane Connelly is the new senior clerk in the department.

**Entomology:** Michael Stern has joined the department as secretary.

**Exhibition:** Stephen J. Quinn was recently re-elected to a second three-year term on the Board of Directors of the Asa Wright Nature Centre in Trinidad, West Indies. Janet Squires, daughter of Derek Squires, senior principal preparator, was married to Frank Anzalone on Feb. 13.

**General Services:** Emil Javorsky has joined the photography studio as senior photographer.

**Invertebrates:** The new Museum technician in the department is Bonnie Burns.

**Library:** Mary Genett, formerly acquisitions librarian, is the new assistant librarian for reference services and conservation. Ms. Genett will be reorganizing the library's preservation program. Patricia Rindzuner is the new senior secretary in the library. Nina Root, chairwoman, planned the 2nd Annual Preservation Conference held in Arlington, Va., and Mary Genett was one of the speakers.

**Mineral Sciences:** The new senior secretary in the department is Beth Miller.

**Natural History Magazine:** Tom Kelly has joined the staff of *Natural History* as associate publisher. (See story on pg. 3.) Carol Midkiff is the new secretary in the department.

**Ornithology:** François Vuilleumier, curator, recently returned from a month's stay in Montpellier, France, where he collaborated with scientists from that country on a paper testing the idea of convergence in bird faunas of Mediterranean climates in Chile, California and France. During February, Dean Amadon, Lamont curator emeritus of birds, was at the Archbold Biological Station where he conducted field observations on birds of prey. Lester L. Short, chairman and curator, visited the Smithsonian Institution March 10-13th, where he attended a meeting of the Pan-American Section of the I.C.P.B. and continued his barbet studies.

**Payroll:** Theresa Sporing, senior clerk, is proud to announce the birth of her granddaughter Nicole, born Jan. 23.

**Planetarium:** Nancy Headapohl is now a full-time sales assistant.

**Southwestern Research Station:** For those who have been to the station and anyone else interested, T-shirts with the logo of the station can be purchased by writing to Vincent Roth, Resident Director, Southwestern Research Station, Portal, Az. 85632.



## ELEPHANT, KIDS, CLOWNS CELEBRATE JUMBO'S ARRIVAL IN U.S. 100 YEARS AGO

To the delight of area kindergarteners, Targa the elephant munched a cake baked by Park West High School students at a special anniversary party on April 30 on the Museum's front steps. The elephant, clowns and children gathered to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the arrival in the United States of Jumbo, the African elephant who brought the word "jumbo" to the English language. He



was 11 feet high at the shoulder and weighed 6½ tons.

Once ballyhooed by P.T. Barnum as the "largest and heaviest elephant ever seen by mortal man," Jumbo met an untimely death in 1885 when struck by a train. His skeleton and hide were mounted by 19-year-old Carl Akeley who later created the herd of elephants now the focus of Akeley Hall of African Mammals. Donated to the American Museum, Jumbo's skeleton was displayed here for more than 70 years and was moved into storage in 1977 to make room for a new gallery.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus arranged the Friday, April 30, festivities.

## FORMER MUSEUM TRUSTEE NAMED U.S. SENATOR

Nicholas F. Brady, a trustee of the Museum from 1971 to 1979, was sworn in on April 20, as a United States Senator from New Jersey. He is filling the unexpired term of Harrison Williams who resigned from office because of the Abscam investigations.

Senator Brady was appointed by New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean. He will serve until a special election is held in November. His office reports that he does not intend to seek election to the post in November but will return to his position as chairman and managing director of Dillon, Read & Company, Inc., a New York City investment banking firm.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE HELD FOR JAMES A. OLIVER

James A. Oliver, director emeritus of the American Museum of Natural History, was memorialized at a service held at the Bronx Zoo on June 17, at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Oliver died on Dec. 2, 1981. He was associated with the Museum for 39 years, starting in 1942 as an assistant curator. He was appointed Museum director in 1959 and was named director emeritus 1973. The memorial service was coordinated by the New York Zoological Society, which Dr. Oliver also served as director.



## THE NATURE OF "AZTEC MEXICO: DISCOVERY OF TEMPLO MAYOR"



The Coyolxauhqui stone was once the focal point of the Aztec religious ceremonies, and its cast is part of the American Museum's exhibition. Credit: Fernando Robles "The Art in the Great Temple" INAH, 1981.

There's some "hidden" nature in the upcoming exhibition, "Aztec Mexico: Discovery of Templo Mayor." The exhibition which opens here July 27, is the first showing in the United States of artifacts from the main ceremonial center of the Aztec empire and may thus seem to fall under the subject area of anthropology. Actually, it has multidisciplinary appeal.

Templo Mayor, or the Great Temple, was topped by double shrines dedicated to two major Aztec gods—including Huitzilopochtli, the god of war—who was worshipped there. Ornithologists might be delighted to know that Huitzilopochtli means "hummingbird on the left," though the significance of this translation is unclear.

Aztec legend also has it that the site of Templo Mayor was chosen when the Aztecs came upon a sign promised by Huitzilopochtli: an eagle perched on a cactus growing out of rock. Here they built their city, their first shrine erected where the eagle stood, and where Templo Mayor was to stand after numerous enlargements. The Aztecs called their city Tenochtitlan—the place of the *tenochtli* cactus, a member of the prickly pear genus *Opuntia*. Even something for errant botanists.

Animal remains found among offerings at Templo Mayor, but not part of the exhibition, include shells of invertebrates and skeletons of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Biologists assisted during the archeological digging at Templo Mayor and found that many of the species were not native to the area of Tenochtitlan, now known as Mexico City.

Some of the species evidently had been transported a great distance in Aztec times as part of tribute from conquered territories. Thus, modern biologists helped contribute to the knowledge of the extent of the Aztec empire.

Emily Umberger, guest curator for the Museum's exhibition, says that the Aztecs had an "encyclopedic view" which caused them to want to have representatives of all the flora and fauna in their empire gathered in one place. To this end, their last ruler Moctezuma II maintained a zoo and several botanical gardens near Templo Mayor.

## MUSEUM EMPLOYEE GIVES TIME TO JOB, COMMUNITY AND TO SPORTS

Edward J. Collins, a veteran of 26 years as a mason in the Museum's Construction and Maintenance Department, is a man for all seasons, especially the baseball season. An avid Yankee fan, Mr. Collins was a pitcher for minor league and military service baseball teams.

His baseball career began on the sand lots and in the church leagues of the Bronx. There a scout spotted him and invited him to play on the Journal American All-Star team against the Cuban National team at the Polo Grounds. His playing ability led him to a contract with the New York Giants and to play for 15 months with military service teams such as the Aberdeen (Md.) Bombers. With the Bombers he played with such pro standouts as Whitey Lockman. After leaving the service in 1947, he played for the Erie (Pa.) Sailors, a New York Giants farm team, until he was sidelined by an injury.

But even though he was sent to the showers in his baseball career, Eddie has gone on to long careers at the Museum and with the Kings Park L.I. fire department.

After more than 25 years with the Museum, he says, "I come from a family of longtime Museum employees. I had two uncles who were here at the Museum for 20 and 50 years, and my father worked in the shipping room for 20 years."

He retired after 20 years as a volunteer fireman but is still serving his community, recently being elected to a five-year term as a fire commissioner on the New York State Board of Fire Commissioners from the Kings Park fire district.



Edward J. Collins stands in the Museum's exhibition, "Champions of American Sport," in Gallery 3, with the plaque he recently received for 20 years service to the Kings Park, L.I., Fire Department.

## EIGHT HONORED AT ANNUAL QUARTER CENTURY CLUB DINNER

Eight new members were welcomed into the Museum's Quarter Century Club by Director Thomas D. Nicholson and President Robert G. Goelet during the Club's 33rd Annual Dinner on May 4 in the Hall of Ocean Life. The eight honorees have each given 25 or more years of service to the Museum.

Joining the Club in 1982 are: Nicholas A. Amorosi, a senior technician in the Department of Anthropology; Martin W. Cassidy, senior principal preparator in the Reproduction Section of the Department of Exhibition and Graphics; Robert J. Daly, a senior technician in the Department of General Services; Kenneth L. Franklin, the astronomer at the American Museum of Natural History; William A. Graham, assistant to the Manager of Construction and Maintenance; Ernst Heying, senior technician in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology; Jaroslav Hora, cleaner at the Hayden Planetarium, and John Zemba, carpenter in the Department of Construction and Maintenance.



In his address to the gathering, Dr. Nicholson praised the new members, citing personal contributions of each employee and adding humorous anecdotes about them. In his address, Director Nicholson urged each employee to take pride in his achievements and to see in his completed work part of his immortality—the way he will be remembered by future generations.

President Goelet added his congratulations to the new members and, commenting on his seven years as Museum president, said that "every year I get a year younger." He presented inductees with certificates of membership in the Quarter Century Club.

Guests at the dinner included Mrs. Goelet; Mrs. L.F. Boker Doyle, wife of the Museum trustee; Museum Trustee Legal Counsel Carroll Wainwright, Jr.; Deputy Director for Administration Charles A. Weaver Jr. and Mrs. Weaver; and David D. Ryus, Museum vice president. Also present were many long-time members of the Club who returned to share the evening

with their colleagues. Among the longstanding members present were Louis A. Ferry, who joined the Museum in 1924 and retired from the Department of Construction and Maintenance, and Harry L. Shapiro, who became associated with the Museum in 1926 and is curator emeritus in the Department of Anthropology.

Other members enjoying the festivities were: Henry Gardner, who joined the Museum staff in 1954 and is retired from the Exhibition and Graphics Department where he worked on the design of the Hall of Man in Africa and the Hall of Mexico and Central America; Harry L. Lange, who joined the Museum in 1927 and retired from the General Accounting Department in 1972; John E. Scott, who joined the Museum in 1930 and retired from Building Services Department in 1973, and Marjorie Ransom, supervising Museum instructor in charge of the Education Department's Discovery Room, who joined the Museum in 1947. More than 90 members and guests attended his year's dinner.

## TWO RARE AFRICAN OWLS ADDED TO MUSEUM COLLECTIONS

Two rare African owl specimens have been added to the Museum's extensive ornithological collections. One of Africa's largest and rarest owls, a Shelley's Eagle Owl, died of natural causes at the Bronx Zoo on April 13 and was sent to the Museum for preservation a day later. A specimen of the tiny Cinnamon Scops Owl arrived a week later. The ornithological collections of the Museum are among the largest in the world and include approximately one million specimens.

Through the efforts of the Museum's former associate curator of ornithology, the late James P. Chapin, the Antwerp Zoological Society donated the Shelley's Eagle Owl, "Shelley," to the Bronx Zoo in 1960 with the understanding that it would go to the Museum upon its death.

Shelley outlived the term of several chairmen of the Museum's Department of Ornithology. Wesley E. Lanyon, Lamont curator of birds, calls Shelley a "memorable and noteworthy addition to the collections." He added that the donation of Shelley "demonstrates the good relationship between the New York Zoological Society and the Museum."

It is believed that prior to Shelley's arrival here, there were only seven skins in all the museum study collections of the world. Until April 14 the Museum had no specimens of the species. Certain curators were reported to have called the zoo

annually to inquire about Shelley's health.

Little is known about the biology of this elusive forest owl. Its feet and claws are of great size and strength, leading some ornithologists to believe that it preys largely on mammals, perhaps even small monkeys.

The second African owl, the tiny Cinnamon Scops Owl, arrived on April 21 in a package mailed from Bolivia. Obtained as a nestling in 1957 in its native west African rain forest, it had been kept as a pet, first in Africa and later in Bolivia, by Charles Cordier, a famous collector of live bird specimens.

Dr. Chapin also was responsible for this donation, as he had asked Dr. Cordier to send the owl to the Museum upon its death.

Until April, the sole specimen of the Cinnamon Scops Owl at the Museum was a nestling taken in 1910. The adult owl is believed to be the only such specimen in any museum collection in this country.

The seven or eight-inch-long owl is exceptionally difficult to find. It is the single red-phase species on the African continent of *Otus*, the genus that includes the common Screech Owl of this country.

Commenting on the fact that two rare African owls, both with connections to Dr. Chapin, were added to the collections within a week of each other, Ruth DeLynn, an associate in the Department of Ornithology said: "We'll have to wait years for something like this to happen again."



Cinnamon Scops Owl



Shelley's Eagle Owl. Credit: New York Zoological Society



## AMNH CREDIT UNION IS ONE OF OLDEST AND BEST

Many new employees are unaware that housed within the walls of the Museum is another venerable institution—the American Museum of Natural History Employees Federal Credit Union. The AMNH Credit Union was founded in 1936. Since its inception the Credit Union has served more than 2,000 Museum employees and has made \$13 million in loans.

A Credit Union is a savings and loan organization, chartered by the Federal government and operating under Federal rules and guidelines. It is run by employees for employees, independent of the Museum. The general membership elects a board of directors to determine policy and vote on issues, a supervisory committee to conduct a yearly audit and a credit committee to approve loans.

Members of the board and committees are all employees of the Museum in other capacities. They represent such diverse departments as Construction and Maintenance, Exhibition and Graphics, Ornithology, Education, Building Services, Invertebrates, Accounting, Mammalogy and Payroll and give

their lunch hours and evenings to the Credit Union.

The goal of the Credit Union is to encourage systematic savings through automatic payroll deduction and to aid in emergencies with low interest loans. The AMNH Credit Union currently has 322 members who receive dividends on their savings, are potentially eligible for loans and can make deposits and withdrawals as from a bank account. All deposits and withdrawals are made by check. In keeping with current trends in interest rates, the Union Board of Directors voted on May 1 to increase the interest rate on loans to 14 percent from 10 percent. This new rate is still significantly lower than commercial rates and is effective only for new or rewritten loans, not loans secured before May 1.

Credit Union hours are noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Credit Union is located in the basement opposite the Roosevelt elevators. A 1209 key is required to get into the area leading to the C.U. office.

## HERE AND THERE

**Building Services:** Jaime Cianfrocco is the new assistant manager, and Jose Pinto is a new Museum attendant guard. Theresa Sporing was promoted from senior clerk in Payroll to assistant to the manager of Building Services.

**Cash Control Office:** Coy Winstead has joined the department as assistant manager.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Marcia Schaeffer has joined the Department of Development as associate for special gifts. Amy Rudnick has been promoted from secretary in the Department of Ichthyology to senior secretary in Guest Services. Michael Sinor is the new Naturemax part-time assistant manager, and Christine Gilmartin is the new assistant volunteer coordinator.

**Education:** John Maloney, driver in the Department of Education, is joining the Anthropology Department as senior technician. He has been with the Museum more than 25 years and in the Education Department for 21 years. While with the department, he delivered the Circulating Exhibition Collection to city schools. Malcolm Arth, chairman and curator, has been appointed to the Joint Museums Committee of the Indo-U.S. Subcommission on Education and Culture. This committee advises the subcommission on long-range goals of museums, exhibition and related fields. Phyllis Mandel, senior instructor, is leaving the Museum at the end of May to pursue medical studies at Columbia University and plans to enter medical school in 1983.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** The new principal artist is Sam Kaplan. Robert Bullock is the new senior preparator.

**Herpetology:** Beginning April 30, Charles Cole, curator, will spend most of the spring and summer at the Southwestern Research Station in Arizona in connection with his long-term studies on parthenogenetic lizards. He will be joined for two months by his son, Jeff, and Carol Townsend, scientific assistant, who will help in the work for part of the summer. Research Associate Janis Rose spent a week in April in Puerto Rico, where he presented four lectures in tropical herpetology at four universities.

**Library:** Ancil Grannum has joined the Library as part-time library assistant. The new part-time restoration assistant is Edwin Redway. Kathryn Keim is the Library's new project assistant. The new senior clerk in the department is Adrienne Usher, and Nancy Ellis is the new project assistant.

**Mineral Sciences:** The mineral Petersite, a calcium-copper-rare earth phosphate, was named after Joseph J. Peters, scientific assistant, and his brother, Thomas Peters, scientific associate and director of the Paterson Museum, honoring them for their studies of New Jersey minerals. The name was approved by the International Mineralogical Association. Joe Peters recently attended a Rochester mineral show symposium and gave a talk on "Gem Minerals of San Diego County," which was

the Museum's display at the show. George Harlow, associate curator, and Joe Peters attended the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show, the largest in the United States, and brought back some fine new mineral specimens. Martin Prinz, curator; Jerry Delaney, post-doctoral fellow, and C. E. Nehru, research associate, delivered talks at the 13th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference in Houston. George H. Mason, only child of Brian Mason, former curator of Mineralogy (1953-1963), died of injuries sustained in a fall at Colorado National Monument on April 8.

**Natural History Magazine:** Henry Schulson is the new manager of Membership. Stan Orser is the new membership associate. Annie Finch, editorial assistant, has published an epic poem, "The Encyclopedia of Scotland." Alan Ternes, editor, spent three weeks in China visiting scientific dignitaries and natural history museums.

**Ornithology:** After an illness and long recuperation, James C. Greenway, Jr., research associate, attended a luncheon with various members of the department. Helen Hays, chairwoman of the Great Gull Island Project, has once again left to spend the summer on the island where work goes on banding the Common and Roseate Terns. John Bull, scientific assistant, and his wife, Edith, spent several days at New Haven where he gave a talk on the Galapagos Islands at the New Haven Bird Club. He also visited the Peabody Museum at Yale University to further his research. Dean Amadon, Lamont curator emeritus of birds, and his wife, Octavia, returned from a month-long stay in Holland and Israel during April. In both countries, Dr. Amadon continued his studies on birds of prey in museums and in the field. Lester L. Short, chairman, his wife, Jennifer Horne-Short, and George Barrowclough, associate curator, attended the Annual Cooper Ornithological Society Meeting April 19-26 in Logan, Utah. Dr. and Mrs. Short lectured on "Barbet Pairs as Honeyguide Territorial Determinants." At the semiannual meeting of the Pan-American Section of the International Council for Bird Preservation (I.C.B.P.) in Washington, March 11, Dr. Short was elected vice-chairman of this continental section of I.C.B.P. (previously he had been secretary), which, with its national section, deals with urgent matters of avian and other faunal preservation in Latin America. Dr. Short replaced Eugene Eisenmann, late research associate in the Department of Ornithology. This continues the long tradition of involvement of environmentally aware departmental scientists in the conservation movement.

**Payroll:** The new part-time payroll records assistant is Carol Burke.

**Planetarium:** Tony Pace has joined the Planetarium as part-time assistant manager of Laserium.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** The new curatorial assistant III is Paul Sereno. New part-time curatorial assistants are Robert Bradley and Richard Cifelli.





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## GARETH NELSON NAMED ICHTHYOLOGY CHAIRMAN

Gareth Nelson, curator in the Department of Ichthyology, has been named department chairman, effective July 1. He succeeds C. Lavett Smith, who has been chairman since 1975 and remains as a curator. The chairmanships of the scientific



Gareth Nelson

departments rotate on a seven-year basis. Donn E. Rosen, also a curator in the department, was chairman before Dr. Smith.

Dr. Nelson, a 44-year old graduate of Roosevelt University, earned his Ph. D. degree from the University of Hawaii in 1966. He joined the Museum as an assistant curator in 1967. In addition to his duties with the Museum he serves as an adjunct professor at City College of the City University of New York.

Dr. Nelson's current research interest is the species and relationships of anchovies. Using x-ray techniques to count elements in the backbone, Dr. Nelson can now recognize 140 species of anchovies, ranging in size from less than an inch to more than 15 inches. Anchovies are found in fresh and salt water environments throughout the world, except in polar regions.

## MARGARET MEAD RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS AWARD FROM UN

In recognition of a life devoted to a fuller understanding of the human story, and in appreciation of her contribution to the cause of the human environment, the United Nations Environment Programme awarded posthumously its international environmental leadership medal to Margaret Mead.

The award was made in May, as part of the 10th anniversary

of the Stockholm Conference.

The award ceremony was part of a special commemorative session in Nairobi open to all members of the United Nations. During the session, the state of the world environment was reviewed, and the progress achieved since the Stockholm Conference was assessed. The Stockholm Conference was the first major environmental conference to convene under UN auspices. There, participants agreed on an international plan of action as a basis for cooperative protection of the world's environment.

Dr. Mead was a staunch friend and ally of the United Nations Environment Programme. The Programme helps both government and non-governmental organizations to assess the state of the world environment and fosters international and regional environmental protection programs. Dr. Mead's support and encouragement was considered vital in the first decade of the Programme's existence.

Dr. Mead began her career at the Museum in 1926 as assis-



Margaret Mead

tant curator of ethnology in the Department of Anthropology after returning from her first field trip in Samoa. At the time of her death, in 1978, she was curator emeritus of ethnology.



## CURATORS IN HERPETOLOGY EXEMPLIFY MULTI-FACETED ROLE

Webster's Third New International Dictionary defines a curator as "a person having the care and superintendence of something." The curators at the American Museum add many dimensions to that simple description.

In a recent memo to the Board of Directors, Museum Director Thomas D. Nicholson described Museum curators as exhibitors, collectors, naturalists and scientific researchers. Museum President Robert G. Goelet illustrated this multiplicity



Richard G. Zweifel holds a California king snake, part of a breeding colony which the Department of Herpetology maintains to further Dr. Zweifel's research.

of roles with a drawing showing the ideal curator as a four-headed, eight-handed creature capable of performing many duties at once.

In his report, Dr. Nicholson used the three curators of the Department of Herpetology as examples of how the challenges of curatorial duties are met.

"Our role relating directly to the Museum's exhibitions came to fruition in 1977 with the completion of the Hall of Reptiles and Amphibians," explains Charles W. Myers, chairman and curator of the Department of Herpetology. "There have always been reptiles and amphibians displayed in other halls in the Museum, but now we have interesting specimens from around the world on permanent display in a centralized exhibition."

The collection of the Department of Herpetology contains more than 250,000 specimens of amphibians and reptiles and is, as Dr. Myers describes it, the "heart of the department." It is one of the largest and most comprehensive collections and is used by researchers throughout the world.

As naturalists, the curators in Herpetology deal with the public both directly and indirectly. Not only do they answer written and telephoned queries from the public, but they also work with the print and broadcast media to share scientific knowledge with the public.

The primary role of the department's scientific staff is to conduct original scientific research which furthers knowledge of amphibians and reptiles. Each of Herpetology's three curators

is highly active in this area.

Dr. Myers works in the field and in the laboratory with Central and South American poison frogs. His present work concentrates on what seems to be a single species of small poison frog which nevertheless exhibits amazing diversity among small populations in western Panama. Frogs in different populations show variations in color and in defensive skin toxins (poisons) that may exceed those seen in any other known frog population. A "golden frog" from western Colombia, which Dr. Myers raises in Herpetology labs, is a bright yellow color and has a skin toxin more potent than curare, the famous poison used by South American Indians to kill humans and other animals.

Curator Richard G. Zweifel's research centers around the systematics of frogs of Australia and New Guinea and the genetics of snakes. His study of the California king snake is aimed at explaining how different color patterns are inherited and how these patterns vary geographically. The department maintains a breeding colony of more than 50 king snakes for Dr. Zweifel's research.

Curator Charles J. Cole has been awarded a five-year grant from the National Science Foundation for his research with species of the whiptail lizard. The study is intended to improve the understanding of natural parthenogenesis (reproduction by the development of an unfertilized egg whereby clones of genetically identical individuals are produced) and assorted genetic and reproductive characteristics of unisexual (all-female) lizards.

"There is so much to be understood about natural history in all its aspects," says Dr. Zweifel.

"In our roles as curators we strive to develop information in our own areas of interest to help the scientific community as well as the general public to understand the natural world more completely."

## NATURAL HISTORY HAS NEW PUBLISHER

L. Thomas Kelly, who in March, 1982, rejoined the staff of *Natural History* magazine as associate publisher and general manager, has been named publisher. Mr. Kelly served as the magazine's business manager from 1973 to 1976. He has held financial and operating posts with several other major magazine publishing houses including Time, Inc., The New York Times Company Magazine Group and Newsweek, Inc.

In announcing the appointment, David D. Ryus, vice president of the Museum, said that *Natural History* and the membership program have developed into the largest generator of revenue for the Museum and, as such, needed the additional management strength that any growing business unit requires.

"It is a great pleasure to see a person who has previously played a role at the Museum return with greater responsibilities," he said.

Mr. Ryus, in addition to being vice president of the Museum, had also been publisher of *Natural History*. During his tenure as publisher, circulation of the magazine increased dramatically from approximately 300,000 in 1973 to more than 460,000 this year. *Natural History* advertising revenue increased fourfold during the same period.

Commenting on Mr. Ryus's accomplishments, Mr. Kelly said, "As I assume the responsibility of publisher, I hope to continue the significant progress David Ryus made during his tenure. We have established our position well as an authoritative, high quality magazine, and I am extremely optimistic about *Natural History's* continuing growth potential."

Mr. Ryus will remain involved in all of the magazine's activities as a consultant and member of the editorial advisory board.

"Tom's appointment will provide me with more time to devote to other aspects of the Museum's affairs," said Mr. Ryus.

Mr. Ryus said that the editorial direction of *Natural History* will continue to be in the hands of its editor, Alan Ternes.



**INVERTEBRATES ACQUIRES  
7,000-SPECIMEN CATE COLLECTION**

A 7,000-specimen shell collection rich in paratypes and other typological specimens has been donated to the Department of Invertebrates by malacologists Jean Cate and the late Crawford Cate.

Avid collectors, the Cates published numerous papers on miters; cowries and allied cowries. The recent acquisition contains 3,500 specimens mentioned in these papers and nearly doubles the number of allied cowries in the Museum's collections.

Though the collection is worldwide in scope, its geographical strength is the Pacific Basin, particularly Australia,



William K. Emerson displays two of the shells from the Cate Collection.

Indonesia and Hawaii. Most of the specimens are marine snails.

Cowries are glossy, smooth, hump-shaped shells which are brilliantly colored, often mottled in appearance and have been used as currency by traditional cultures. The allied cowries are smaller shells and more elongated than the true cowries; they feed on soft coral, often taking the coloration of their hosts. Mitters are usually small, spindle-shaped shells; some miters in the Cate Collection are as long as five inches.

"These specimens are a particularly useful addition to the reference collection in that scientists can study the shells illustrated or cited in the Cates's papers," said William K. Emerson, curator of mollusks.

"The Cate Collection is quite well known and consists primarily of Cypraeidae, Ovulidae, Triviidae and Mitridae.

The Cates, of Rancho Santa Fe, Ca., donated their collection to the Museum in 1981, several months before Mr. Cate's death in August. Several years ago, the Museum acquired the bulk of the Cates' miter collection, approximately 1,800 lots of specimens.

**RECOVERED PURSE BRINGS PRAISE TO  
MUSEUM EMPLOYEES**

A lost purse recently brought panic, then joy and finally accolades for the Museum employees who recovered it.

A Museum visitor from Maine lost her purse here, with all her cash and credit cards, and wondered just how she would get

home. To her surprise and relief, she found the purse, with the contents intact, at the Museum's Lost and Found Office.

Her pleasant experience led to the following comments in a letter to Museum Director Thomas D. Nicholson:

"I want to extend my most sincere thanks to you and your wonderful caring staff. ...I was assisted by a gentleman on the basement floor in front of the cafeteria door and a very warm considerate young woman on the first floor. ...There are good honest people everywhere. Congratulations to your people for doing such a great job with the public."

And Dr. Nicholson responded:

"I am indeed proud that our employees were able to assist you in the courteous and helpful way you described. ...I am sorry that you were not able to identify the employees who helped you... I do want to know when our employees carry out their work effectively so that I can personally acknowledge it to them and encourage others to do the same."

If you recall assisting the lady from Auburn, Maine, in locating her purse, please let the Office of Public Affairs know. We'd like to extend our thanks, too.

**FREE NATUREMAX ADMISSION AVAILABLE  
TO MUSEUM EMPLOYEES**

Complimentary admission to any film performance in the Museum's Naturemax Theater is available to all Museum employees and their immediate families. An employee needs only to present his Museum ID card at the Naturemax box office prior to a performance for admission on a space-available basis.

"I urge all employees and their families to see our films and to get out and spread the word to their friends," says Daniel J. Mullane, Naturemax manager. "We are currently showing three outstanding IMAX films. Our newest film, 'Hail Columbia!', is shown daily, alternating with 'To Fly.' 'Hail Columbia!' is also shown in a double feature on Friday and Saturday evenings with 'Living Planet,' a beautiful world film tour of some of the most outstanding achievements of man and wonders of nature. You can help to let people know about this exciting educational and entertainment attraction by seeing the films and sharing your excitement with others."



The audience watches in awe as the Space Shuttle Columbia lifts off in the IMAX film, "Hail Columbia!", the newest film feature in the Museum's Naturemax Theater.



## THEIR PASSING IS MOURNED

Three former Museum employees, a long-time Museum volunteer and a Museum expedition leader have died.

Louis A. Ferry, who served the Museum for almost half a century, died in Clifton, NJ, on June 7. He was 79. Mr. Ferry joined the Museum's Construction and Maintenance Department in 1924 and retired in 1970. He saw the institution grow from nine buildings to a complex of 21. Beginning as a carpenter and display maker, he rose to foreman and supervisor and assisted in the preparation of such exhibitions as the dinosaur halls and the Theodore Roosevelt collections.

Robert W. Kane died on June 11 in New York City. He was 71. Mr. Kane joined the Museum in 1932 as an artist and in 1934 was sent to Africa to do research and collect materials for the Hall of African Mammals, which was then under construction. The result was some of the Museum's outstanding diorama backgrounds, including the Wild Dog and the Black Rhinoceros dioramas. Other Museum art work created by Mr. Kane includes the Maple Sugaring group in the North American Forest Hall and the three murals of animals on the stairwells of the 77th Street building. For a series of murals in the Planetarium he devised a unique painting method using fluorescent pigments to give a luminous effect.

Mary V. Wissler died on May 29 in Middletown, Ohio. She served the Museum for almost 40 years as a staff member, joining the Museum in 1935 and retiring in 1973 as senior

librarian, reference. After retirement she held the title librarian emerita and continued to serve the Museum as a volunteer, compiling an in-house index to *Natural History*. Among her many contributions to the Museum was the research necessary to locate the Museum's cornerstone for the centennial celebration in 1969. Ms. Wissler's father was Clark Wissler, former curator-in-chief of the Museum's Department of Anthropology and dean of the scientific staff.

A Museum volunteer who will be missed by friends throughout the Museum, Louis Wolf, died in New York City on June 18 at the age of 86. Dr. Wolf, a retired dentist, began at the Museum in 1978 as a volunteer conducting Highlight Tours and working at the information desks. He also served as a volunteer in the archives of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology.

Hannibal Hamlin, retired chief of the neurosurgical clinic at Massachusetts General Hospital, died on June 28 in Boston at the age of 78. As a young Yale graduate, Dr. Hamlin joined the Whitney South Sea Expedition of the American Museum in October, 1927. In March, 1928, he became leader of the expedition and served in that capacity until January, 1930. He remained as a member of the expedition until August, 1930. During this period, collections for the Museum were made in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. Dr. Hamlin was the great-grandson of Lincoln's first vice-president, also named Hannibal Hamlin.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** David Hurst Thomas, chairman, was promoted from associate curator to curator.

**Building Services:** Cecelia Leon, formerly a clerk in General Accounting, has been promoted to secretary in Building Services.

**Credit Union:** In the May/June issue of Grapevine it was stated that interest rates on loans were raised from 10 percent to 14 percent. Interest rates on loans were actually raised from 12 percent to 14 percent. The interest rate on fully secured loans continues at 10 percent, as do dividends on savings.

**Controller's Office:** Jason Lau was promoted to assistant controller. Donald Kossar was promoted to senior budget accountant.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Susan Pollak is the new Development associate. A new secretary in Development is Joan Mansson. Kate Bennett-Mendez, manager of Development, co-moderated a discussion entitled "Fine-Tuning Your Direct Mail Package" at the American Association of Museums' annual meeting in June.

**Education:** Sydney Buffum was promoted from Museum instructor to senior Museum instructor. Pamela Spearman, senior secretary, will be leaving the Museum in September to begin studies toward a doctorate in developmental psychology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

**Entomology:** Norman Platnick was promoted from associate curator to curator. Dr. Platnick is also to be congratulated on the birth of his son William Durin on June 25.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Michael Satran is the new part-time projectionist. William Fish has been promoted from principal preparator to senior principal preparator.

**Herpetology:** Jose Rosado, former curatorial assistant, received an MBA degree in Finance from the Boston University Graduate School of Management. Mr. Rosado is currently employed at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology.

**Ichthyology:** The new chairman of Ichthyology is Gareth Nelson (see article, page 1). Christine Ngai has joined the department as secretary.

**Invertebrates:** Amy Hkimi was promoted from curatorial assistant in Herpetology to secretary in Invertebrates.

**Library:** The new photographic collection librarian is Maryann Turner. Katherine Barrett has joined the department as part-

time assistant to the librarian. Debra Pucci is the new senior clerk. Bryan Johnson has been promoted to full-time acquisitions librarian. Mary Wissler, librarian emerita, died on May 29, 1982 (see article page 4). Contributions may be sent to: Hospice Society, Middletown Hospital, Middletown, Ohio 45042. Katherine Keim, project associate, married W. Braden Kerchof on April 24. Nina Root has been elected to a four-year term of the American Library Council. In June, Ms. Root addressed the Archons of Colophon on "A Biography of the American Museum of Natural History Library."

**Museum Shop:** Jessica Pallington is the new senior clerk. New part-time sales assistants are Kathy Hathaway, Melissa Gurner, Sung Mee Kim and Nadine Bilgore.

**Natural History:** Erik Eckholm is acting as managing editor while Judith Friedman, who gave birth to a baby boy, Joshua, on June 11, is on leave. Carol Jewett has joined the staff as summer intern. E. Kay Danzig, editorial assistant, was married to Mark H. Grisar on June 27 in Tarrytown.

**Ornithology:** Lester L. Short, chairman, and his wife, Jennifer Horne-Short, spent the last week in May on St. Catherine's Island, Ga., to check on red-cockaded woodpeckers which were released there. François Vuilleumier, curator, recently returned from a Museum Discovery Tour to the Galapagos and Ecuador. He attended the Joint Annual Meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE) and the American Society of Naturalists (ASN) at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He presented a paper on "Niche Shifts During Speciation and in South American Birds." Peter Cannell, graduate student, and Tim Crowe, Chapman fellow, also attended the Joint Annual Meetings of SSE and ASN. Tim Crowe has finished his Chapman Fellowship research and has returned to South Africa. George Barrowclough, assistant curator, is on an extended field trip in Utah, Nevada and California.

**Payroll:** Xiomara Delgado, former supervising clerk in General Accounting, is now Payroll records assistant.

**Planetarium:** Julio Marrero has joined the staff of the Planetarium as technician. He was formerly an assistant manager in Building Services. Chung Yin Moy is the new part-time sales assistant in the Planetarium Gift Shop.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Michael Novacek has joined the department as assistant curator.



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## VOLUNTEER HELPS TO IDENTIFY NEW SPECIES OF RAT



Erika Piik

"It was a little tedious, but I was surprised at how much scientists go through to write a paper," said Erika Piik of the volunteer work she did two years ago when she was 15. Of course, that's something that any young Museum volunteer might realize after measuring rodent skulls and running statistical programs all summer. But Erica's patience and care resulted in the description of a new species of amphibious rat of the genus *Hydromys* and the co-publication of a scientific paper with Guy G. Musser, chairman of the Department of Mammology.

Erica met Dr. Musser, during the summer of 1980. She had a long-standing interest in science and a desire to gain firsthand experience in what the work of a scientist was like. Dr. Musser recognized her to be the kind of volunteer he most likes: a bright and competent person, with little scientific background but great interest.

She began her daily work by performing routine curatorial duties. Then, under Dr. Musser's direction, she began to collect basic data by taking measurements, from a series of small rats from the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie in Leiden, Holland. Dr. Musser believed the rats had been misidentified. A.M. Husson, curator at the Rijksmuseum, had also disagreed with the original identification, made in 1939, but had left the problem because of other duties. In 1969, he sent the series to Dr. Musser, who began to work on the problem.

Erica's assistance with data collection and later with the running of simple statistical programs on a desk-top computer, allowed completion of a project that had been pending for more than 40 years.

"If she hadn't helped it would have taken a much longer time to get this project done," said Dr. Musser.

Erica, now 17 and a high school senior in Rye, N.Y., spent the past summer working as a stagehand at a local theater. She plans to study communications and English in college but has a strong secondary interest in science. Her name appeared with Dr. Musser's, as coauthor of a May, 1982, paper describing the

new species, *Hydromys hussoni*, in the journal of the Rijksmuseum.

It would have been standard procedure for Dr. Musser to list Erica Piik in the acknowledgements section of his paper. But, as he said: "I feel that volunteers should have more reinforcement for jobs well done."



William T. Golden

## MUSEUM TRUSTEE IS HONORED

William T. Golden, a Museum trustee and former vice president, was recently honored by the National Science Foundation which presented him with its Distinguished Public Service Award "in recognition of his remarkable civic virtue, great wisdom and powerful influence in making the resources of scientists and engineers accessible for the public good."

Mr. Golden was also elected a member of the American Philosophical Society, the 600-member, Philadelphia-based organization which recognizes accomplishments in all fields of learning, including the biological, physical and social sciences.

Mr. Golden was elected to the Museum's Board in April, 1968, and has served on a variety of Board Committees, including chairing the Development Committee. He was a vice president of the Museum for 10 years, stepping down last December. He also serves as a member of the board and treasurer of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as a trustee of Barnard College and the New York Foundation and as a trustee and vice chairman of the Mount Sinai Medical Center.





Museum volunteer Joan Appel, right, explains star folding to volunteer Hiromi Uda.

## A THOUSAND STARS TO RENEW SHINE ABOVE ORIGAMI TREE IN ITS 10TH YEAR

A thousand stars glitter in their tinsel glory, not in the heavens, but above the tarantulas, giant roaches and millipedes that are the usual boarders in the third-floor tower office of entomologist Alice Gray.

Stars hang from the ceiling, spill out of boxes and decorate desks. They practically engulf the volunteers who keep making the 288 folds in the six sheets of paper needed to create a new star.

"We have about 1,000 stars now, and we're still folding," says Miss Gray, the scientific assistant emerita who spearheads the decoration of the Museum's annual holiday origami tree.

"The star mobile is getting a bit tired. It's 10 years old now, so we're replacing it with one made of stronger, heavier stars. The old mobile was 15 feet across. I expect the new one will be close to 20 feet in diameter.

"We are only keeping one piece from the first mobile—the comet Kohoutek which was added in 1973. Kohoutek was a failure as a comet but made a wonderful addition to our mobile. It is made from solid triangles and has silver tinsel streaming from its tail."

Like the old one, the new star mobile will hang from the Roosevelt Rotunda's 100-foot ceiling, above the 25-foot artificial, scotch pine tree.

Work on the 1982 origami tree began in February, just after the ornaments from the 1981 tree were safely tucked in boxes and cataloged. Each year, about 25 percent of the ornaments are lost or damaged and must be replaced.

Faithful folders gather in Miss Gray's office every Friday, year in and year out. Japanese-born volunteer Hiromi Uda never folded in her native Japan, the home of the art of paper-folding. She learned at the American Museum two years ago and is still folding 20 hours a week.

Volunteers Pat McCarthy, Helen Senegas and Gwen Williams are now tying thousands of knots to attach the stars to the 150 smaller mobiles which comprise the giant floating creation.

Five-year tree veteran Josie Lipman has folded approximately 750 ornaments, from bunches of grapes to birds, over the years.

Volunteer Joan Appel has devoted 1,000 hours to folding, just in 1982. For the habitat group of Central Park in winter, she originated and folded—from one piece of paper—such creations as a woman pushing a baby carriage. Now she's working on an English hedgerow habitat complete with a family of hedgehogs, squirrels, mouse, snake, pheasants, insects, rocks and bushes.

A prehistoric scene and a barnyard may be added to last year's folded paper habitats of Central Park, a pond and a northern woodland in spring.

Ornaments do not come only from Friday folders. Miniature stars, tyrannosaurs and starfish have emerged from the trained

fingers of weekend and Wednesday night volunteers. A worldwide network of paper folders send their creations as well.

Employees, too, are origami folders. Kathy Schmidt, scientific assistant in the Department of Entomology, folded the pond habitat group on lunch hours and during her four-hour daily commute.

"Origami is a form of cartooning," says Miss Gray. "You must represent the essential quality of the thing. Children visiting the tree can discriminate among the brontosaurus, tyrannosaurs, stegosaurus and pterodactyls, so we must be accurate."

Young as well as older visitors to the Museum's tree are treated to volunteer's origami demonstration by volunteer folders. Twenty-five volunteers taught simple decorations throughout the holiday season last year. The tradition will continue this year, and new volunteers are now in training.

The holiday origami tree is an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month. It will go on display Monday, Nov. 22.

## MUSEUM VOLUNTEER TEAM HONORED BY CITY

The Volunteer Archive Research Team in the Museum's Department of Vertebrate Paleontology will receive an Honorable Mention Award in the 1982 Mayor's Volunteer Service Awards Program. The Awards will be made at City Hall on Sept. 29.

The 14-month project for which the team will receive the award involved examination, preservation, indexing and filing of documents, field notes and reports in the archives of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. The archival records, documenting the past 90 years of active work in the field of vertebrate paleontology, include letters between former Museum President Henry F. Osborn and paleontologists doing field work such as W.D. Matthew and Walter Granger and the extensive correspondence of Edwin Colbert and George Simpson, both of whom served as chairman and curator of the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. Records also document the attitudes of well-known figures such as Thomas Edison, Franz Boas, August Belmont, E.D. Cope and Presidents Wilson and Taft on the subject of paleontology.

The team was headed by volunteer employees Ruth Sternfeld, former archivist with Rockefeller University, and William Glover, retired drama critic for the Associated Press. They recruited a permanent team of six volunteers: Dorothea Bourne, Norma Bengelsdorf, Margaret Mullaney, Helen Orloff and Augusta Wilkins. A sixth member of the team, Louis Wolf, died last June. Others joined the team on a temporary basis for varying periods during the project.

"The team's smooth operation and innovative approaches to the formidable task have generated requests from other departments," said Miriam Johnson, manager of Volunteer and Information Desk Services. "Members of the team are already at work in Entomology. Mammalogy has also asked them to review and develop their historical files and to preserve other important resource materials."



Volunteer employees study archival records in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology. Left to right around table are Augusta Wilkins, Margaret Mullaney, Dorothea Bourne, William Glover and Ruth Sternfeld.



## PLANETARIUM TECHNOLOGY COMES OF AGE

On Oct. 1, when the Planetarium reopens, there will be a major difference in the famed 660-seat Sky Theater. While the Planetarium was closed from Sept. 7 through Sept. 30, a \$250,000 automation system was installed. The Planetarium's Sky Shows will then be run by computers.

Preparatory work was begun in 1976, with studies of various systems at other Planetariums. In 1981, a grant from the Charles Hayden Foundation enabled the Planetarium to begin to install the equipment.



Planetarium Senior Lecturer Thomas A. Lesser, left, demonstrates one of the four "eagle" computers, which will control Planetarium Sky Shows, to Joe Maddi, chief technician.

The new system will control 240 projectors and 4,000 slides to create the 360-degree panoramas, such as the lunar landscape and the skyline from Central Park. There are also special-effects projectors that create astronomical phenomena, such as meteor showers, fireballs and eclipses. The effects of the projectors and slides, used in conjunction with an audio tape and the Zeiss model VI planetarium projector, make up a Planetarium Sky Show. The system was manufactured by Audio Visual Laboratory and installed and designed by Audio Visual Associates. It contains four computers called "eagles," which will run the show and 100 projection devices called "doves;" the avian names are given to their products by AVL. More than 200 electronic pieces, dubbed "pigeons" by the Planetarium technicians, and 10,000 feet of wire complete the system.

Thomas A. Lesser, Planetarium senior lecturer who served as the project coordinator, said that the new system "will move the Hayden Planetarium into the forefront of planetarium technicians. This is the largest AVL system installed anywhere."

Mr. Lesser did note, however, that Planetarium visitors who see the show immediately after the installation will not notice any difference from previous shows. "But, as we make use of its capabilities in future shows," he said, "one will readily see a much more rapidly paced and technically sophisticated sky show. One of our goals is to produce a more visually interesting, multi-image, multi-media presentation."

## ICHTHYLOGY RECEIVES IMPORTANT FISH COLLECTION, PLANS DEPARTMENT EXPANSION

The Museum's Department of Ichthyology has acquired a significant collection of more than 200,000 fish specimens from the University of Virginia. To accommodate this new acquisition, as well as other additions to the Museum's fish collection, the

department will expand its present space by 40 percent.

"We are fortunate and pleased to receive this new collection," said Donn E. Rosen, curator. "It represents perhaps the most complete collection of specimens from the Appalachian region and includes specimens from the Atlantic Bight and states in the West such as Utah."

The collection of 15,000 lots of fishes was assembled between 1950 and 1980. It is well curated and comes with 15 volumes of documentation and annotated field notes. Once added, it will represent about 10 percent of the Department's fish species and locality categories.

"The new collection will be a major step toward a more complete representation of fishes from the Middle Atlantic and New England states," said Dr. Rosen. One of our curators, C. Lavett H. Smith, and many students in our department, as well as outside researchers, are very interested in the biogeography and systematics of this region and will benefit greatly from this collection."

Dr. Rosen, who joined the Museum's Department of Ichthyology as an assistant curator in 1961, was department chairman from 1964 to 1974. The Department moved into its present, more consolidated quarters in 1967, having been separated in various locations prior to the move.

"When we moved in 1967, I underestimated the rate at which we would accumulate material," said Dr. Rosen. "The Virginia collection was the straw that broke the camel's back, and without the planned addition, we would have been unable to accept this important collection."

The addition will provide approximately 3,000 square feet of space on the Department's present first floor quarters off the Hall of Eskimos, and on the second floor off the Hall of Man in Africa. All departmental offices will be located on the second level, with two-and-a-half levels for specimen storage.

"We are asking the National Science Foundation for half of the approximately \$500,000 needed for the project. The NSF funds would be used for storage containers, equipment and processing of new materials," said Dr. Rosen. "The renovation and new construction will be funded from other sources. With the added space and capacity that new technology in storage equipment will give us, we feel that the new addition will house our present collection efficiently and allow for expansion over the next 10 to 20 years."

## FRANK A. LOPEZ HEADS PURCHASING

Frank A. Lopez is the Museum's new purchasing manager. He joined the staff in early August, bringing with him 10 years of experience in the purchasing field.

As purchasing manager, Mr. Lopez's prime objective is cost containment.

"The Museum must strive for optimum spending and for consolidation of procurement, especially during the current economic crunch," said Mr. Lopez. "It is in the best interest of the Museum to keep its spending down, while obtaining the highest quality and value in equipment and supplies for its money."

The new purchasing manager is working closely with each department in the Museum to better determine their purchasing needs.

"A closer working relationship with this office and other Museum departments will enable me to assist each department individually, cutting back on the amount of time and involvement each department now spends on the purchasing process. Keeping the lines of communication open will establish a greater sense of confidence in this department's ability to procure materials," he said.

Mr. Lopez worked in the purchasing department of the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York from 1980 to 1982. Prior to that he was the assistant director of purchasing at Columbia University for eight years.

Mr. Lopez, his wife, Ileana, and their 6-year-old son, Adrian, live in Manhattan, near Columbia University.





Sandra E. Kitt, Planetarium librarian, works on the design that was chosen for the cover of a 1983 UNICEF Christmas card.

## PLANETARIUM LIBRARIAN: MODEL, ARTIST AND SEAMSTRESS

Sandra E. Kitt, the Planetarium's librarian for the past 10 years, recently donned the hat of professional model for the September issue of *Glamour* magazine. Ms. Kitt is featured on two full pages of the fashion magazine, modeling clothes that she made. The issue featured career women who maintained busy schedules but who found time to supplement their wardrobes by making their own clothes.

In addition to sewing, Ms. Kitt is also a freelance artist whose work has appeared in a number of books currently in print and who has also exhibited her work extensively throughout the city.

One of Ms. Kitt's designs, "The Three Wise Men," was recently accepted by the United Nations for their 1983 UNICEF Christmas card collection. The card will be published in nine countries, including the U.S., in the appropriate language of that country. Her cards have also been carried by Incorporated Gallery on Madison Avenue.

As if these activities didn't demand a full-time schedule, Ms. Kitt has for the past five years found the time to serve as a reader/monitor for "Recording for the Blind." Again, her face will grace the pages of another publication, the cover of their 1982 annual report.

## HERE AND THERE

**Building Services:** Susan Salazar is the new assistant manager. . . . New Museum attendant/guards are Carmen Dinescu, Lynda Hess, Dave Johnson, Julie Martinez, Gilbert Mendez, Jimmy Milian, Elizabeth Pancewiz, Stephen Sims and Martha Wong.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Lucy Raimengia has joined Naturemax as assistant manager. . . . Brenda Bryant is the new secretary in the Office of Development.

**Education:** Mary Hollins is now employed as senior secretary

. . . Karen Gleeson has joined the department as an anthropology instructor. . . . Darrell Schoeling and Lynn Miller are new instructors in natural science. Ms. Miller is in charge of the Alexander M. White Natural Science Center.

**Entomology:** Joining the department as secretary is Gail Smith.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** Lynn Golden has joined as principal artist. . . . John Gillespie, principal preparator, retired in August.

**Herpetology:** Richard G. Zweifel, curator, and his wife Frances spent a month during the traveling in the western U.S. They visited the Southwestern Research Station in Portal, AZ. . . . Charles W. Myers, chairman, spent two weeks in June and July in Panama carrying out his poison-dart frog studies. During the first week in August he traveled to Raleigh, N.C., to represent the department in the annual meetings of the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Itzchak Gilboa, associate, also attended the meetings. . . . Charles J. Cole, curator, has returned from the Southwestern Research Station where he conducted field work on all-female species of lizards during the summer. He was assisted by his son Jeff, a volunteer in Herpetology, and for several weeks by Carol R. Townsend, scientific assistant. . . . Ysabella Hincapie has joined the department as curatorial assistant III.

**Invertebrates:** The new assistant curator is Neil H. Landman. Dr. Landman received his Ph.D. degree from Yale University where he specialized in invertebrate paleontology. His particular interests are growth and evolution of Mesozoic ammonites, forms extinct since the end of the Cretaceous Period (65 million years ago), and recent *Nautilus*, their closest living relative. He is currently working on growth rates in *Nautilus* and the early ontogeny of uncoiled ammonites. . . . Iris Pabon, senior secretary, returned to the Museum in September from maternity leave.

**Library:** Maryann Turner, photographic collection librarian, visited the Smithsonian Archives and the National Anthropological Archives on August 19. . . . Nina Root, chairwoman, and Pam Haas and Mary Genett, assistant librarians, attended the American Library Association annual meeting in Philadelphia July 10-14. They were joined for the day on July 10 by Bryan Johnson, acquisitions librarian; Maryann Turner, Diana Shih, cataloging librarian; Lynn Wiley, reference librarian; and Miriam Tam, assistant librarian for technical services.

**Micropaleontology Press:** Peter Felknor has joined as an editorial assistant.

**Mineral Sciences:** Hiroshi Takeda, professor of mineralogy at the University of Tokyo, will be carrying out research at the Museum for two months on U.S.-Japanese Antarctic meteorites. The department will be comparing samples, data and ideas on a new type of meteorite from different parts of Antarctica. . . . Roland Bernhagen has joined the department as technical specialist.

**Museum Shop:** New part-time sales assistants are Gregory Dain, Susan LaFlamme, Sarah Wrench, Curt Julien and Sandra Cort. . . . Christopher MacGowan is the new part-time sales supervisor in the Shop.

**Natural History Magazine:** Ernestine Weindorf has been promoted from administrative assistant to assistant to the publisher. . . . Franklin Stevens was promoted from supervising clerk to assistant fulfillment manager.

**Planetarium:** William Gutsch, chairman, recently returned from a trip to Santiago, Chile. Dr. Gutsch was invited there by officials of the University of Santiago to consult with them on the design of a new planetarium to be built on the grounds of the university. Dr. Gutsch also visited the Armagh Planetarium in Ireland to give a lecture on "Planetarium Education in the United States". . . . While on vacation in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Thomas Lesser, senior lecturer, served as a planetarium spokesman for the July 5 total lunar eclipse. Mr. Lesser was interviewed by television and radio stations and by the print media while in St. Thomas. . . . Allen Seltzer, education coordinator, completed a graduate-level course at West Chester State College in Pennsylvania entitled "Astronomy in England."

# Grapevine



American  
Museum of  
Natural  
History

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 1982

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## MUSEUM PLANS

### "STAR GODS"

#### BENEFIT

The halls of the Museum have been the sites of many unique social events in its 113-year history. The Museum benefit being held on Tuesday, Dec. 7, in conjunction with the winter's major exhibition, "Star Gods of the Ancient Americas," will be no exception.

The event is being planned by the Museum Benefit Committee, founded in the summer of 1982. Mrs. Charles A. Dana Jr., Trustee Arthur Ross and Mrs. Robert G. Goelet, wife of the Museum President, will co-chair the Benefit. The

ner and dancing. The Hall will be aglow with the sparkle of stars and lights, in keeping with the "Star Gods" theme. Decorations for the party will be by Diane Love, Inc., of Madison Avenue. Lester Lanin, who is bringing together some of the all-time great swing musicians for the party, is supplying a 16-piece orchestra to play the "big band sound."

Proceeds from the evening's benefit will be used to support a grant which was received from the National Endowment for the Arts. (See page 3 for additional information on the NEA grant.)

#### GIVE A GIFT THAT LASTS: MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP AT DISCOUNT

This holiday season you can give a gift that will last through 1983—and you can give it at a discount. Museum employees and volunteers can make a gift of a participating or associate membership in the Museum for almost 50 percent off the regular price.

For only \$17 (regularly \$30), a participating membership will give your friends and relatives free family Museum admission, six free tickets to Naturemax, subscriptions to *Natural History* and Rotunda, special programs and Museum Shop discounts.

For \$8 (regularly \$15) an associate member will receive individual Museum admission, a *Natural History* subscription, a free Naturemax ticket and a Museum Shop discount. Pick up an order form at the Membership office today or call Membership at ext. 594 for further details.



(left to right) Mrs. Robert G. Goelet, Arthur Ross and Mrs. Charles A. Dana, Jr., chairmen of the Museum's "Star Gods" Benefit, examine possible decorations for the Dec. 7 event.

Committee includes some of New York's best qualified citizens to serve on it.

The evening will begin with a private viewing of "Star Gods" in Gallery 3 and a cocktail reception in Roosevelt Memorial Hall centered around the glittering Origami Holiday Tree. Special, oversized ornaments will be folded for the occasion.

The party will then move to the Hall of Ocean Life for din-

#### ACID RAIN PRESS CONFERENCE HELD HERE

Hubert W. Vogelmann, chairman of the Department of Botany at the University of Vermont, was the key figure before media representatives at a press conference held in the Portrait Room on Oct. 13. His subject: acid rain. Dr. Vogelmann presented evidence indicating that acid rain is killing coniferous trees in upper-elevation forests of the northeastern U.S. and parts of Europe. Dr. Vogelmann is the author of an article in the Nov. issue of *Natural History* magazine entitled "Catastrophe on Camels Hump," outlining recent evidence that acid rain may be the cause of the extraordinary tree mortality in certain forests. News of his findings as they appeared in *Natural History* magazine was carried by the news media nationwide, as well as in Canada and Europe.





C. Lavett Smith, curator in the Department of Ichthyology, is in his element on a recent collecting expedition. Photo by: Jerry Nyckel.

## FAUNA COLLECTED IN CENTRAL PARK

Although many people watch birds in Central Park, relatively few New Yorkers are aware of the rich and varied aquatic fauna in its ponds and streams.

Recently, members of the Museum staff were contacted by the Central Park Conservancy, an organization which raises funds for the restoration of Central Park, with a request for lists of the important animals in the park. Several members of the Department of Ichthyology mounted an expedition on Sept. 22 to collect in all of the park's major bodies of water except the reservoir.

Using a variety of nets, eight species of fish were recorded including goldfish, yellow perch, large-mouth bass, pumpkinseed, bluegill and guppy (an obvious introduction).

While the list is not large, some of the fish are well-known game species and can provide considerable recreational fishing. Park rangers have been encouraging young people to fish the park waters.

During the spring and early summer, pumpkinseeds and bluegills spawn in shallow areas and can easily be observed building and guarding their nests by observers on shore. Those interested in animal behavior can study the territorial and courtship displays as the males entice the females into the nests while excluding other males and protecting the eggs and young.

A survey of the reptiles and amphibians of Central Park was also conducted this fall, by Michael W. Klemens, scientific assistant in the Department of Herpetology. Inventory methods involved live turtle trapping, dip netting and overland searching, including stone and trash turning. Mr. Klemens found five species including bullfrog, snapping turtle, painted turtle, red-eared turtle and a single garter snake. Red-eared turtles are a mainstay of the pet trade. Mr. Klemens believes that they, along with several other individuals of the balance of the species found, had been released from captivity. Bullfrogs and possibly snapping turtles are breeding in the park.

"Central Park offers Museum staff and visitors a superb

opportunity for direct observation of natural history phenomena and the world of urban ecology," said C. Lavett Smith, curator in the Department of Ichthyology.

## GREAT HORNED TURTLE RETURNS HOME; CASTING IS AMERICAN MUSEUM'S GIFT

Celebration, speeches and leis greeted the return of the great horned turtle to its former home, Lord Howe Island, in August.

Not seen in any sort of put-together fashion on the island in 40,000 years, an exhibition-quality casting of *Meiolania*, a gift of the American Museum, was installed in the Lord Howe Island Museum. A second American Museum casting of this turtle was given to the Australian Museum in Sydney which will eventually exhibit it.

The horned turtle once roamed the island in large numbers. Its fossilized bones practically littered the beaches of this island 400 miles east of Australia. Yet no one had accurately reassembled one of these creatures until Eugene S. Gaffney began studying the turtle.

Dr. Gaffney, curator of amphibians and reptiles in the Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, and his assistants, Steven Barghoorn, curatorial assistant III, and Ann Burke, museum technician, have been unraveling the systematics of the great horned turtle over the past three years. With the support of the Australian Museum, the Natural Science Foundation and the American Museum, their field trips and research resulted in piecing together this primitive turtle with a nonretractile head and club tail.

"It is rare that we give large, exhibition-quality castings to other museums, though we frequently exchange smaller casts for research purposes," said Dr. Gaffney. "The Australian Museum has been unusually supportive of and interested in our work."

Dr. Gaffney is particularly interested in the turtle because it is an anachronism:

"The turtle vanished almost yesterday. It has been extinct for only 40,000 years, yet it belongs to a group that probably originated during the Age of Dinosaurs. Its persistence in Australasia raises interesting questions that might be answered by a better understanding of continental drift."

Two years' work by three people was required to reconstruct accurately the fossilized bones, make nearly 100 molds of the bones and create four castings.

Two casts, as well as the original specimen, remain at the American Museum. One was mounted for display in the Roosevelt Rotunda as an Arthur Ross Exhibit of the Month this spring. The second is available for study in the Vertebrate Paleontology Department's collection.

## MUSEUM CAFETERIA CHANGES MANAGEMENT

On Wednesday, Dec. 1, the Museum Cafeteria will have new management. Restaurant Associates Industries, Inc., a New York-based company which operates more than 70 food establishments on the East Coast, will manage the cafeteria, succeeding ARA Services, Inc., which did so for 18 years.

"We are nearing completion on the cafeteria renovations and construction of the new restaurant," said Marilyn Badaracco, manager of Guest Services. "Next spring we plan to enlarge and improve the outdoor cafe. This expansion in scope of food service and enlargement of the food facilities, coupled with increased catering sales, indicated the need to engage a company with diverse expertise in food management. The Museum feels confident that RAI can provide this expertise."



## VON HUMBOLDT STATUE MOVED TO CENTRAL PARK WEST

Museum employees who walk regularly on Central Park West know that there is a new statue at the 77th Street entrance to Central Park. The statue is of the famous German naturalist and traveler Baron Alexander Von Humboldt. He is best known for his work on the oceanic current, off the west coast of South America, which is named for him. The statue was moved in October to its present location from the south-east corner of the Park at 59th Street. The gate at that entrance to the park is known as the "Naturalists Gate," and a plaque on the gate post honors the thousands of naturalists who have entered the Park "under the sponsorship of the American Museum of Natural History."



## \$250,000 NEA GRANT HELPS CARRY OUT EARNED INCOME DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Using a recently received "challenge grant" from the National Endowment for the Arts as a nucleus of support, the Museum has embarked on a program of capital improvement projects which will significantly expand visitor services and strengthen the Museum's base of support in the 1980s.

The \$250,000 grant from the NEA, which is being matched by \$1 million from other sources, will be part of a total of \$10 million expected to be spent by the Museum on these projects over the next eight to 10 years.

In order to de-emphasize income sources which have weakened and to emphasize others which have strengthened during the past decade, the Museum has developed an Earned Income Development Plan.

The plan includes capital projects which will improve visitor services such as the Museum Shop, membership and the cafeteria which are sources of earned income. It also includes other projects which will make the Museum an even more attractive destination for visitors. The four major projects are:

- Consolidation of the Museum's education facilities into the Charles A. Dana Education Wing, which includes the refurbished Frederick H. Leonhardt People Center, the Henry Kaufmann Theater, the Harold F. Linder Theater, the Edith C. Blum Lecture Hall, an activities room, the Alexander M. White Natural Science Center, the Louis Calder Laboratory and Education Department offices.
- Addition of a Natural History Book Center to the Museum



Museum President Robert G. Goelet (left) accepts check for \$250,000 from Frank Hodsell, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. Photo by: Lillian Bristol, Montclair (N.J.) Art Museum.

Shop. The Center is currently under construction in the 77th Street Building on a mezzanine-level balcony bounded by the Museum Shop's main entrance, the 77th Street Foyer, the Warburg Memorial Hall of Man and Nature and the stair landing to the second floor.

- Relocation, expansion and enlargement of Membership offices and services to meet the needs of the Museum's increasing numbers of associate and participating members.
- Construction of exhibition cases for the new Hall of South American Peoples that is currently being built at the west end of the Hall of Mexico and Central America. The Hall is expected to be a popular new permanent exhibition which will open in about five years.

In addition, there are other projects which are part of the Museum's Earned Income Development Plan. For example, there are plans already underway to expand and improve the Museum's food service facilities. Also part of the overall plan for the 1980s was the renovation of the Main Auditorium as the Naturemax Theater, which opened in February.

"These changes in physical characteristics and in services represent a significant plan by this museum to enter the next decade and the next century an even stronger, more viable institution than ever," said Thomas D. Nicholson, Museum director.

## ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY SET FOR DEC. 9

Christmas will start early at the Museum this year with the Annual Children's Christmas Party, to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 9, starting at 5:30 p.m.

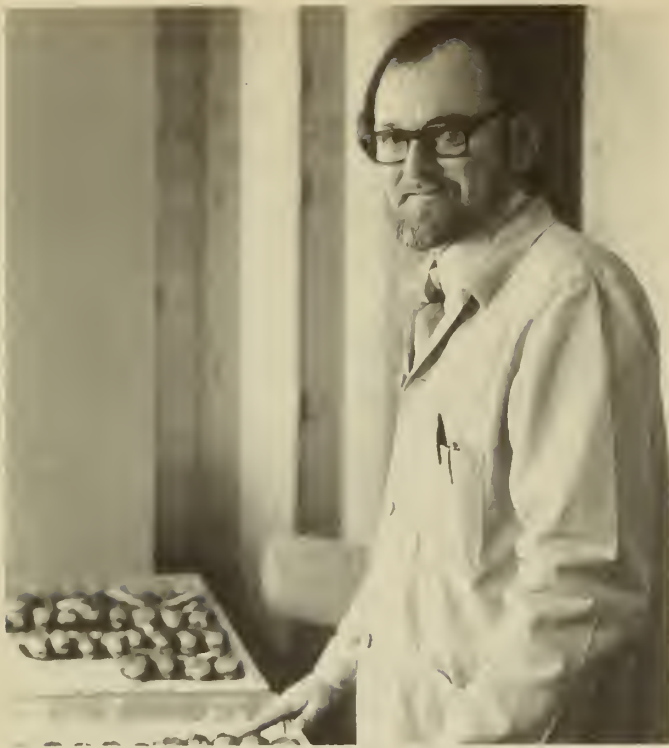
The evening will begin with the telling of holiday tales by "Miss Betsy" in the Main Auditorium. The local storyteller, accompanied by a musician and using puppets, will thrill employees' children with stories and music of the holiday season. The audience will be invited to participate in the fun.

At 6:30 p.m. the party will adjourn to the Hall of Ocean Life where Santa will present gifts to the children. A holiday feast of hot dogs, milk, cake, ice cream and other treats will be served.

Reservations for the party are necessary. If you have not received your invitation to the party, contact Ernestine Weindorf, who is coordinating the event, at exts. 392 or 440.

(Editor's Note: See the Jan./Feb., 1983, issue of Grapevine for a photographic story telling of the joy of the season as reflected in the faces of the children who attended the party.)





Lester L. Short

## LESTER L. SHORT COMPLETES BOOK

After 17 years of work, Lester L. Short, chairman and curator in the Department of Ornithology, has finished virtually the first complete reference covering all known woodpecker species.

Entitled "Woodpeckers of the World," the book has detailed descriptions of every element in the ecology of each of the 198 species of the world's woodpeckers. The only other complete reference on woodpeckers is a French monograph which was published in the 1860s.

The large-format book is illustrated with 101 full color plates by the renowned artist George Sandström. It is Dr. Short's third book. The foreword is by Dean Amadon, Lamont Curator Emeritus of Birds in the Department of Ornithology here and the author of a number of books in his own right.

Dr. Short, among his myriad duties and research activities, has been planning for the centennial anniversary meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union (A.O.U.), which was established here in 1883. Members of this venerable scientific association will be returning to the Museum for the anniversary meeting during the last week of September, 1983.

Dr. Short is also secretary of the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature, which has prepared the new sixth edition of its "Check-list of North American Birds," due out in 1983. The Committee is the final arbiter of the common and scientific names of North American birds and the way in which they are classified.

## HERE AND THERE

**Anthropology:** Enid Schildkrout, associate curator, gave birth on Aug. 30 to twins, Alicia and Benjamin . . . Ian Tattersall, curator, will be on a field trip to Borneo until after Jan. 1 . . . The new curatorial assistant for the department is William Weinstein.

**Cash Control:** Bernice Walker is the new assistant man-

ager. . . Two new part-time employees are Richard Ross, clerk, and Xun Li Chao, cashier.

**Controller's Office:** The new senior secretary is Lorraine Stanek.

**Development and Public Affairs:** Dyhanne Morrow has joined the Office of Development as secretary . . . Connie Zavala is the new senior secretary for the Office of Public Affairs.

**Deputy Director/Research:** While on a three-week field trip, Jerome G. Rozen, Jr., deputy director for research, visited the Southwestern Research Station in Arizona to further his study of solitary bee biology. He also went to Wyoming to study a fossil bee nest from the Eocene era.

**Education:** Lynn Miller and Darrel Schoeling are new Museum instructors . . . The new senior secretary is Mary Hollins.

**Entomology:** New curatorial assistants III are Michael Schwartz and Bella Galil. Mr. Schwartz will work with Randall Schuh, department chairman, on NSF-supported research on North American plant bugs; Ms. Galil will work on computerized catalogs of literature on rove beetles and plant bugs.

**Exhibition and Graphics:** The new intern preparators are Theodore Anderson, Tim de Christopher and Christine Rossi . . . Promoted from intern preparator to preparator are Michael Anderson and Christopher Murphy.

**General Accounting:** Neena Parikh has joined as clerk.

**Herpetology:** Amy Hkimi, curatorial assistant for two years, was transferred in June to the Department of Invertebrates as a secretary.

**Ichthyology:** David Crockett passed his thesis examination and has received his Ph.D. degree . . . Joining the department as secretary is Vicki Salmonese . . . Chris Sanford is the new part-time curatorial assistant.

**Library Services:** Cary Johnson is the library's new project assistant, working on a grant to the Photo Collection from the U.S. Department of Education . . . Nina Root, chairwoman; David Hurst Thomas, chairman, Department of Anthropology; Richard G. Van Gelder, curator, Department of Mammalogy, and Thomas D. Nicholson, director, accompanied the recent Great Expeditions tour around the world as staff and lecturers.

**Mammalogy:** Joy Eskell is the new departmental secretary . . . Debra Califia has left the Museum to work at Columbia University.

**Mineral Sciences:** George Harlow, associate curator, and Eric Dowty, research associate, presented papers at the Geological Society of America Conference in New Orleans on Oct. 18-21; Dr. Harlow was co-chairman of a session at the conference . . . Martin Prinz, chairman, and C.E. Nehru, research associate, attended a recent conference in Houston on chondrites and their origin . . . Dr. Prinz was elected a fellow of the Meteoritical Society.

**Museum Shop:** Carolyn Grogan joined the shop as senior clerk . . . Henry Louisias, Lincoln Crosley, Donald Brenche and Ernesto Matos are part-time sales assistants . . . On the fourth floor is a new Dinosaur Shop that sells books relating to fossils and other novelties of prehistoric times. Staffed by volunteers, the shop provides a fourth-floor extension of the Information Desk Services.

**Natural History Magazine:** Part-time membership desk assistants are Marion Halberg and Richard Beckerman . . . Kelly Mathews transferred from Public Affairs as senior secretary.

**Vertebrate Paleontology:** Bryn Mader is the curatorial assistant . . . Robert Bradley was promoted from part-time curatorial assistant to curatorial assistant III.

**Volunteer Services:** Pam Le Boutillier, a veteran volunteer and one of the original Museum Highlights Tours guides, entertained 29 tour guides and their families on Oct. 2 in her Old Westbury, L.I., home. At the get together, tour guides got acquainted and discussed their experiences.

















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