

Field Notes

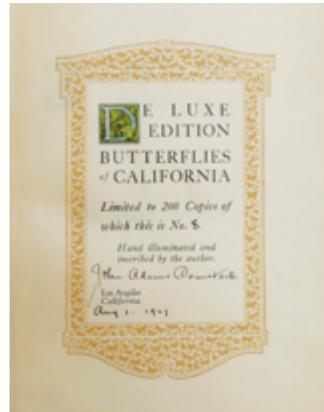
ISSUE 2 VOLUME 4 APRIL 2013



SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

Pages from the Past

John Adams Comstock (1882–1970), who worked in the Museum’s Entomology Department in his later years, was a Renaissance man. Both a talented artist and a devoted scientist, he worked as a jewelry and furniture designer, landscape painter, practicing physician, entomologist, ethnologist, and genealogist. Patients reported that his medical



office always contained shelves with rearing cages for moths and butterflies. His book, *The Butterflies of California*, was published in 1927 and was distinguished not only by his extensive scholarship

and beautiful color photographs of butterflies, but also by his creative designs for chapter headings and title pages. In 1956, he donated his large butterfly collection from southern California to the Museum’s Entomology Department, and was made Honorary Curator in 1968. “Doc” Comstock, as he was known locally, was universally well-respected, and his Del Mar home was filled with American Indian artifacts, his jade cicada collection, and his own hand-built furniture. Our library has Copy #8 of 200 deluxe copies of *The Butterflies of California*, each lovingly hand-illuminated by the author. And to this day, the bookplate used in the Museum’s library is the design which Comstock created in 1935.

Field Notes is published three times a year by the San Diego Natural History Museum.

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The Membership Department can be reached Monday–Friday, 9 AM–5 PM, for assistance with change of address, replacement cards, renewing or upgrading your membership, and any other questions. Contact 619.255.0275 or membership@sdnhm.org.

San Diego Natural History Museum Mission: *To interpret the natural world through research, education and exhibits; to promote understanding of the evolution and diversity of southern California and the peninsula of Baja California; and to inspire in all a respect for nature and the environment.*

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Dear Museum Members,

When I first arrived at the San Diego Natural History Museum over seven years ago, an experienced hand in our Exhibits Department told me, “The two things that you can never go wrong with are dinosaurs and insects.” We will put that hypothesis to the test with our spring lineup of exhibitions and programs. Now open, *Dr. Entomo’s Palace of Exotic Wonders* will be joined on April 12 by *Dino Jaws*, making the NAT a “bucket list” destination for kids and kids at heart.

In addition to hosting these two fun and educational exhibitions, we have a diverse array of activities and programs planned for all ages. Children, families, and bug enthusiasts

will enjoy our *Six-legged Sundays* to be held every Sunday through the end of May. Come to the Museum any Sunday in this period and pepper a Museum entomologist with all your buggy questions, participate in some fun family activities, and enjoy a special showing of Pixar’s *A Bug’s Life*. On weeknights, in addition to traditional lectures, expect several entomology-themed films, including documentaries like *Beetle Queen Conquers Tokyo* and some *Science Fiction Science Nights* in which we lampoon old and new sci-fi movies. Members enjoyed Bug Week in early April, which included behind the scenes tours of the Entomology Department, fun activities all week long, and a special bug-themed egg hunt. Be sure to connect with us on Facebook or Dr. Entomo’s own Twitter feed (@DrEntomoSD) for lots of buggy facts and information on upcoming programs.

Spring is upon us and it is a great time to be a supporter and member of the San Diego Natural History Museum. Insects and dinosaurs are the bread and butter of a natural history museum, and it is easy for us to go overboard with fun educational programs. So come and enjoy our lack of self-control. I look forward to seeing you all here in the coming months. As always, thanks for your support.

Warm regards,

Michael A. Wall, Ph.D.
Vice President, Research and Public Programs
Curator of Entomology



The Oasis Within the Oasis

By Michael A. Wall, Ph.D., Vice President, Research and Public Programs, Curator of Entomology,
Dr. Elisabet Wehncke and Xavier López-Medellín

Imagine the life of an insect in the central desert of the peninsula of Baja California. Temperatures well over 100°F regularly scorch the Earth and the time since last rain is sometimes measured in years. Your tiny little body is protected from these extreme elements by only a thin exoskeleton. While many species of insects thrive in the desert environment, insect life teems in the small pockets of moisture in the desert landscape called the oases.

The palm oases of peninsular Baja California represent a refuge from the surrounding harsh desert environment. With water often pooling to the surface and large crowned palms casting their shade, oases have long been gathering areas for life. The appeal of oases to humans and nature is their reliability as a source of water in the desert. While rain most often comes to the desert in rare large pulses, oases moderate this “feast or famine” water cycle to provide some semblance of stability. Humans have long appreciated this dependable refuge, as evidenced by the fantastic rock art of the

Cochimí people and Jesuit missions situated near many oases.

Long before humans set eyes on the oases of the peninsula, native plants and animals found refuge within them. At the beginning of the Eocene, Baja California was much different from today. The climate was generally warmer and more humid, while the landscape was dominated by a more tropical flora of palms, ferns, and hardwoods. Over the course of the Pliocene, the central region of the peninsula began to dry. Once widespread, the tropical flora receded into isolated pocket oases in which conditions were more favorable. In a way, the oases of Baja California are a picture of the past.

One remnant of the peninsula’s tropical past is the Mexican Blue Palm (*Brahea armata*), a common native palm in many of the Central Desert oases. The Mexican Blue Palm is a member of a group of related species of palms that is most diverse in tropical Central America



Mexican Blue Palm forest in small slot canyon in Sierra de la Libertad where pools of water are rare and often seasonal.

and the Caribbean. While studying the floral and fruiting biology of the Mexican Blue Palm, two researchers (Wehncke and Medellín) discovered large numbers of an unknown insect on the palm leaves. They brought some specimens to the San Diego Natural History Museum for identification.

Initially, we were stumped by this insect. Nothing else like it existed in our entomology collections. We couldn't even identify it to family using our standard identification keys. With the help of some other experts, we eventually determined

that it is an undescribed species in a tropical planthopper genus (*Athestia*). Previously only known from tropical Mexico, Paraguay, and Argentina, the known species of *Athestia* feed only on palms. Just like the Mexican Blue Palm upon which it feeds, this undescribed species of planthopper represents a relic of Baja California's tropical past.

One of the coolest things about this undescribed species of *Athestia* is that it creates its own little sugary oasis within the larger oasis.

Planthoppers have piercing sucking mouthparts which they use to feed on the sap of plants. One of the downsides of feeding on sap is that you need to drink more sugar than necessary in order to get the other essential nutrients needed for growth. What is not needed is then excreted in the form of honeydew, which is really just sugary poo. While feeding in large groups on the undersides of palm leaves, our undescribed species of *Athestia* excretes large amounts of honeydew on the tops of the underlying leaves. This sugary oasis of honeydew is dependable food for dozens of species of bees, wasps, ants, flies, and beetles. Our species of *Athestia* is long-lived, and fresh honeydew is available most months. Even in the few times of the year when *Athestia* is not present, you can find ants foraging on the sticky remains of last season's honeydew.

Mexican Blue Palms and their *Athestia* planthoppers are the hubs of complex ecosystems. Palms use the sun and pockets of water in peninsular oases to grow, flower, and reproduce. Along the way these palms support many species of animals from nesting birds and foraging lizards, to seed-eating rodents and pollen-loving bees. Likewise, *Athestia* planthoppers feed on palm sap to grow and reproduce. Along the way they excrete copious amounts of honeydew that support dozens of species of insects. From these studies we have discovered three insect species that are new to science and we are just starting to understand this oasis within an oasis.

About the authors

Dr. Elisabet Wehncke and Xavier López-Medellín are both professors at the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos (UAEM) and Research Associates of SDNHM Biodiversity Research Center of the Californias.



Feeding adults of the undescribed species of *Athestia* on Mexican Blue Palms in Baja California.

Research at the Museum

The Biodiversity Research Center of the Californias (BRCC) is the research division of the Museum, including the Birds and Mammals, Botany, Entomology, Herpetology, Marine Invertebrates, Mineralogy, and Paleontology departments, as well as the Research Library. BRCC curators and scientists actively pursue research projects which range from studying the distribution and abundance of vertebrates of the San Jacinto Mountains to the floristics of both states of Baja California. Our scientific staff members also serve as expert advisors who support the scientific accuracy of our exhibitions as well as our educational programs. Learn more at sdnhm.org/science.

Understanding and Managing the Effects of Wildfire on the Birds and Mammals of Southern California

In 2002 and 2003, over 1500 square miles of southern California burned in firestorms unequalled for over a century, the region's largest fires since accurate records have been kept. Over 738 square miles burned in San Diego County alone, 17.4% of the county's total area and nearly 25% of the area still covered by natural vegetation—the single most pervasive disaster in San Diego history.

Because of their unprecedented size, the wildfires' effects on our region's ecosystems were unknown and unpredictable. They ignited the debate over the best strategies for residents living in fire-prone southern California. During the next century, the total area of California projected to burn annually is expected to increase by 9–15% above the historical norm.

There are many options for fire management, however these need to be balanced with



During fires, the Dulzura kangaroo rat is a species that seeks safe refuge in burrows below ground.

long-term conservation of habitats and species. Most studies of animals' responses to fire have focused on habitats other than those of southern California. A better understanding of fire ecology here, including species' responses to fire, is essential for planning fire management.

After the fires of 2002 and 2003, the Museum undertook multiple, coordinated studies of the effects of fire on birds and mammals, with funding from the California State Parks, Joint Fire Science Program, and the U.S. Forest Service. Our vast prefire data, including the *San Diego County Bird Atlas*, provide comparisons. Preliminary results are on the Museum's website at sdnhm.org/science/birds-and-mammals/projects.

With funding from the Blasker Environment Grants Program of The San Diego Foundation, Museum scientists are

synthesizing these results to evaluate the fires' effects. Which species were decimated by fires, and which exploited them? What are the patterns of post-fire recovery? Almost every pattern imaginable is exemplified by some species. What traits contribute to a species' response? For example, species able to seek safe refuge of burrows below ground, and those that reproduce rapidly, feed on open ground, nest in low ground cover, and disperse widely should recover most quickly. How does variation in rainfall affect postfire recovery? This question is especially relevant when rainfall is predicted to decrease. We are addressing these and other questions relevant to fire management and conservation. One article on post-fire recovery of small mammals has already been published in the *International Journal of Wildland Fire*.

Ours is the first study to address the effects of fire on a broad diversity of species in multiple habitats in southern California, and it will identify species with different fire-management needs and fire risks, from "fire followers" that benefit from fire, such as the Lazuli Bunting and Rufous-crowned Sparrow to "fire fugitives" at risk from fire, such as mountain forest birds like the White-headed Woodpecker and Brown Creeper that could be driven out of the southern end of their range.



Many species like the Brown Creeper that breed in coniferous woodland are adversely affected by large fires.

Through a better understanding of this variation in fire responses across species, our Blasker Fire Study will aid planning for fire management and adaptive conservation of species and habitats.



Canyoneers Celebrate 40 Years of Nature Outreach

By Alan Marshall, Canyoneer

The Canyoneers were founded by Helen Chamlee Witham, former Associate Curator of Botany, on May 25, 1973. Originally called the Florida Canyoneers, the goal of the group was to help the public understand and appreciate the unique and amazing ecosystems

in San Diego County by leading nature walks, primarily in Florida Canyon in Balboa Park. It wasn't long before the word "Florida" was dropped. When the San Diego Zoo proposed using the canyon for a parking lot, Helen Chamlee was a leader in the fight to preserve Florida Canyon in its natural state. Due to her involvement in this issue in the 70s and 80s, Helen Chamlee was given the unofficial title "Mother of Florida Canyon."

Soon after its founding, Canyoneers were guiding walks in Florida Canyon every Sunday afternoon and school groups were offered walks every Monday and Friday. In addition, community groups could arrange for hikes on Saturdays. School classes came by bus from all over the San Diego area to enjoy Canyoneer walks in Florida Canyon until it became more difficult for schools to afford buses for field trips. To make the program more accessible, the Canyoneers found suitable canyons closer to schools, to reduce the need for transportation. The Canyoneers continue to offer these hikes through the School Guide program, reaching over 450 students each year.

In the mid-1980s, Canyoneers expanded their schedule to

better serve the public by giving weekend Canyoneer hikes not just in Florida Canyon, but in a variety of locations. In its first year, the new calendar had 17 hikes, all within the City of San

Today, 70 Canyoneers contribute over 8,000 hours annually.

Diego. The entire schedule fit in a one-page tri-fold brochure.

Over the years the hike schedule has grown to include hikes from the coastal lagoons to the mountains and desert. The schedule, now 70 hikes each year, is many pages thick, with directions, descriptions, and illustrations. Each year, the Canyoneers introduce new treasures, rotate popular sites, and revisit old favorites.

While the Canyoneers continue to cover many habitats, the group is moving toward increased guiding in the urban canyons where they began. There are several groups working to preserve many of the remaining urban canyons in San Diego. In 2007, the San Diego City Council, with help from the state legislature, dedicated 6,600 acres within the city as open space. In June of 2011, 10,722 additional acres were proposed to be

dedicated as open space land. San Diego Canyonlands, a local nonprofit organization, is leading the effort to preserve this additional 10,722 acres. Without doubt, the many years

Canyoneers have guided hikes in urban canyons has helped to encourage this movement.

Today, 70 Canyoneers contribute over 8,000 hours annually guiding 96 regular hikes, school group hikes, and now clean-up hikes in Florida Canyon in conjunction with the Museum's Family Days. The Canyoneers also reach many thousands more through the *San Diego Reader's* weekly Roam-O-Rama column. The Canyoneers reach is wide and we are lucky to have such hardy outdoorspeople supporting the Museum's mission.

If you would like to join the Canyoneers on a hike, please check out sdnhm.org/calendar for a list of descriptions, dates, and times.

VOLUNTEER NEWS

The annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner held on April 18 was especially meaningful this year with significant milestones for two volunteer groups, the Docents (45 years) and the Canyoneers (40 years) and 59 volunteers honored for milestone years of service. Joan Parker, Docent, and Priscilla Dick, Canyoneer, headed the list as 40-year honorees.

40 years

Priscilla Dick Canyoneer
Joan Parker Docent

35 years

Alan Marshall Canyoneer
Sandi Rosenthal Canyoneer

30 years

Janet Dort Covey
Glenn Dunham Canyoneer
Ray-Etta Morrell Covey
Susan Randerson Covey

25 years

Donald & Ramona Bush Covey
Ina Cantrell Covey
Tina DiStefano Docent
Pat Don Vito Paleontology
Diana Lindsay Canyoneer
Reed Pierce Research Library

20 years

Robert McCommins Botany

15 years

Jo Friedman Canyoneer
Robert Gordon Canyoneer
Walter Hofmann Covey
Al Verna Canyoneer

10 years

Nelson Brav Canyoneer
Ollene Brown Covey
Judith Carlstrom Parobotanist

Thomas Chester Parobotanist
Cynthia Cordle Canyoneer
Mary Emery Exhibit Interpreter
Margaret Fillius Parobotanist
Mike Greene Docent
Larry Hendrickson Parobotanist
Georganne Hocter Docent
Alice Johnson Covey
Kathryn Radinovsky Docent
James Rocks Parobotanist
Sidney Saltzstein Birds & Mammals
Fred Sproul Parobotanist
Melvin Sweet Parobotanist
Carol Warschauer Docent
Christine Waters Docent

5 years

Judith Abeles Botany
Mary Jo Churchwell Parobotanist
Grace Clark Parobotanist
Jill Crane Docent
Ruth Ehly Parobotanist
Peter Fedders Docent
Sherilin Heise Whaler
John Hopper Canyoneer
Matthew Kedziora Parobotanist
John La Grange Botany
Michael Mayer Parobotanist
Connie Muther Whaler
Michelle Pickett Botany
Amy Quinney Docent
Lorna Walsh Botany
Joni Ward Parobotanist
Barbara Whyte Whaler

Meet the Multi-talented Georganne Hocter

One way that *Dr. Entomo's Palace of Wonders* has been personalized for its San Diego visit is via a cuddly crocheted gnat which has been delighting youngsters since *Dr. Entomo* opened as they search for the hidden insect within the Museum.

The creator of NAT the gnat, Georganne Hocter, is another of the Museum's extraordinary volunteers. After Georganne retired from teaching in 2003, a member of her church, volunteer Betty Ball, convinced her to return to school with the Docent's class of 2003-04. Georganne absolutely loved the class and became a devoted Docent. From 2007-2009 she was President of the Docents. She has also served as Exhibits Chair, and is now chair of Outreach Exhibits. Her husband Mike joined

her in volunteering during the blockbuster exhibitions *Dead Sea Scrolls*, *Pompeii*, and others. And, just recently, Georganne was elected to the Museum's Board of Directors.

Georganne's career after graduation from Washington State University, where she and Mike met, includes substitute teaching in Texas, full-time mother and school volunteer, retail worker/manager in El Cajon, and Reading Specialist and Impact Teacher at Central Elementary in the National City School District. She has also been the troop leader for one granddaughter's Girl Scout Troop for ten years.

Georganne and Mike are members of the Museum's Live Oaks Society. Beyond their family, which includes two daughters and their husbands, and three grandchildren, Mike and Georganne believe in helping institutions that matter



to them and that will continue to serve the San Diego community. Their estate will ultimately benefit their church as well as the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Come look for NAT the gnat with your own kids or grandchildren, or just come yourself, while *Dr. Entomo's Palace of Exotic Wonders* is open through June 2, 2013. If you see Georganne, be sure to say hello and thanks!

LIVE OAKS SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The Live Oaks Society honors those who have made bequests or life income gifts to the San Diego Natural History Museum. If you have included the Museum in your estate plans, or when you fund a life income gift such as a charitable gift annuity, naming the Museum as a beneficiary, you may receive significant income and estate tax benefits. For more information contact Donna Raub, Director of Planned Giving at 619.255.0314 or draub@sdnhm.org.



LIVE OAKS SOCIETY

FAMILY FUN

Join us for family-friendly activities at the Museum. All events listed below are FREE for members!

Family Days

All Family Days activities are held between 11 AM and 3 PM

Saturday, April 27
Trash to Treasure
Sponsored by the Rice Family Foundation

Monday, May 27
Birds of a Feather
Sponsored by the Heller Foundation of San Diego

Saturday, June 15
Plant Power!
Sponsored by SDG&E

Wacky Science Sundays* with Ms. Frizzle™!

Join the Frizz and friends every Sunday at 12:15 and 2:15 PM.

April–Butterflies
May–Decomposers
June–Bees
July–Raptors

Ms. Frizzle © 2013 Scholastic Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Six-Legged Sundays

Enjoy insect-themed events for the whole family every Sunday between 11 AM and 3 PM through June 2.

Nature and Me Storytime

Calling all budding naturalists! Nature and Me Storytime is held the second Thursday of every month at 10:15 AM. All ages are welcome (ages 1–5 suggested) with a parent or guardian.

May 9–Spiders
June 13–Dinosaurs
July 11–Reptiles

Find out about all the Museum events at sdnhm.org/calendar.

Summer Camp

Museum summer camps are designed to inspire and encourage children to have fun while learning about nature and science. We're particularly excited to have two new exhibitions this summer, *Dino Jaws* and *Mammoths & Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age* that will inspire some prehistoric enthusiasm! Camp favorites like *Digging for Dinosaurs* and *Hooray! For Habitats* are still on the roster and we are excited to introduce new camps like *Prehistoric M & M's (Mammoths & Mastodons)* and *Paleo FBI (Fossil Bureau of Investigation)*.

We continue to offer our Spanish-language camps for both first and second grade and third through fifth grade age groups. We'll discover reptiles in *Reptiles maravillosos* and explore geology in *iRocas locas!*

We will also feature a special collaboration with the San Diego Museum of Man for the *I'm an Ologist* camp. Kids will have the opportunity to walk in the shoes of a herpetologist, entomologist, paleontologist, ornithologist, and a botanist, and then they will join the Museum of Man and become an archeologist, Egyptologist, and a primatologist. The camps will offer behind-the-scenes exploration and lots of hands-on activities.

Camps are held from June 10–August 23 and Museum members receive a great discount on registration.

Register online at sdnhm.org/education/family-fun/summer-camp or call 619.255.0210. Plus, for the first time we're selling summer camp t-shirts so that kids can remember their experience all year long!

Whether it is dinosaurs, reptiles, insects, or unlocking the mysteries of the natural world, the entire Museum is excited to share their summer with you! Don't forget, summer camp ATtheNAT is where it's at!

STEP RIGHT UP AND EXPERIENCE BIZARRE, BEWILDERING MARVELS OF THE INSECT WORLD!

DR. ENTOMO'S
PALACE OF EXOTIC WONDERS

FREE FOR MEMBERS!
NOW OPEN

sdnhm.org/dr-entomo



COMING SOON!

SUMMER CAMP!

Discover dinosaurs and mammoths, unravel animal mysteries, and explore nature's wonders! Join us for a summer of science, fun, and friendship.

Members receive special pricing on summer camp—register today, because camps are selling out!

sdnhm.org/education/family-fun/summer-camp or call 877.946.7797



**Raúl Gonzalez
Microphotography Show:
The Log from the Sea
of Cortez
Opens May 7, 2013**

We are honored to feature Raúl Gonzalez's latest works in the Museum's 4th floor Ordover Gallery this May–September. His upcoming show, produced in collaboration with *National Geographic* and sponsored locally by **Sony Electronics Inc.**, will focus on the marine life in the Gulf of California, also known as the Sea of Cortez, which is a major research and conservation area of the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Sixty plates will illustrate the magnificent marine life that John Steinbeck and naturalist Edward Ricketts chronicled during their historic journey there in 1940. Steinbeck's book of the excursion, *The Log from the Sea of Cortez*,

remains a tribute to Baja California and an important scientific study of marine biodiversity that is used by travellers and biologists alike. Unfortunately, the seminal publication lacks photographs or drawings, an oversight lamented by Steinbeck. As Raúl explains:

"Perhaps the first time that I thought to illustrate Steinbeck's classic, The Log from the Sea of Cortez, was after reading a small fragment of his adventure which appears quite early on in the book:

"...during low tides we all collected; there was no time to dry hands and photograph at the collecting scene. Later, the anesthetizing, killing, preserving, and labeling of specimens were so important that we still took no pictures. It was an error in personnel. There should be a camera-man

who does nothing but take pictures. (Steinbeck)"

It was because of this book I started production of these plates. All the species photographed appear in the book and the story I am telling is one about the tide pools and how important they are for the evolution of life on the planet. It is also a story about our two countries, the places we share and the bonds we have."

As a photographer and microscopist, Raúl uses the tools of science for production of artwork, amplifying images such as sand, marine algae, snowflakes and butterfly wings up to 10,000 times. His insightful observations of nature paired with his technical skills have earned prestigious awards in renowned photomicrography contests, such as *Nikon Small World*, *Olympus Bioscapes* and the *National Contest of Scientific Photography*.

Celebrate your next event at the Museum!

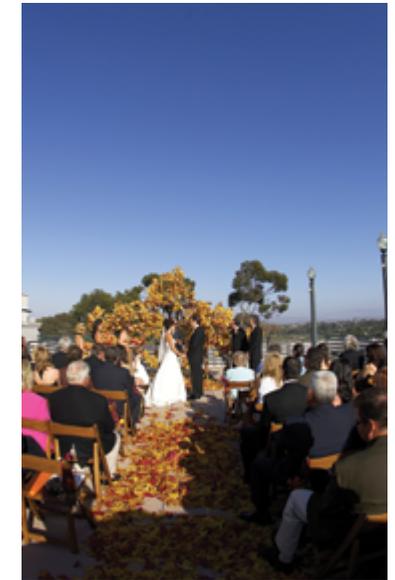
From serious to celebratory, to unique and unforgettable, the San Diego Natural History Museum not only has science and LEED status, but also multiple levels to host your next special event!

With the only rooftop venue in Balboa Park, a giant Megalodon Shark perfect for photo ops, and the state-of-the-art Kaplan Theater which seats 300, the Museum invites you to explore unique galleries of science and

nature and incorporate San Diego's natural history into your next special occasion.

Whether you are planning a seated dinner for 200, a wedding to dance the night away, or a corporate reception-style party for 1,400, the Museum can be transformed to meet your vision for nearly any event.

Book now for 2013 and 2014 weddings, corporate events, and proms—contact events@sdnhm.org or call 619.255.0316.



We're Greening Our Voting!

As a member, you have the right to vote for the Museum's Board of Directors. In mid-May we will be sending the Board ballot electronically. To update your email address or request a hard copy of the ballot, please call 619.255.0275. Ballots will also be available at the Visitor Services desks and in the Membership office at the Museum. Sending the ballot electronically saves the Museum about \$4,000 annually in postage, printing, and staff costs, as well as helping us reduce our carbon footprint.



COMING SOON!

The Log from the Sea of Cortez: Raúl Gonzalez Microphotography

MAY 7–SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

Ordover
the ordover gallery

This exhibition is produced in collaboration with National Geographic and sponsored by Sony Electronics Inc.

Fossil Ball 2013 in our Palace of Exotic Wonders

On Saturday, March 9, the Museum hosted its annual gala, this year celebrating our own exotic wonders: our 7.3 million research specimen collection. Two hundred guests joined in the spirit of the event and came decked out in exotic prints and wild colors. In keeping with the vintage carnival theme of *Dr. Entomo's Palace of Exotic Wonders* exhibition, attendees were greeted by a costumed snake charmer, and if they were brave enough, had their photo taken with her and her reptile companion.

Following the reception in the *Dr. Entomo's* exhibition, guests arrived in the transformed Sefton Atrium through a tented entrance.

Table décor featured five-foot-high "lantern-abras" and beaded lamps. Suspended from the ceiling were sheer fabrics in whimsical colors and shapes.

The gala netted nearly \$60,000 through tickets, underwriting, and the once-in-an-epoch live auction featuring five fantastic items. Wild Thyme created the menu for the event and 3E Wines paired each course with specialty boutique wines. Mixologists from CRG provided the signature cocktails and every guest went home with a beautiful and whimsical paperweight made possible through the generosity of glass artist, Robin Lehman.

Fossil Ball 2013 Gala Chairs

Susan Evanco
Allison Henderson
Pam Palisoul
Eleanor Navarra

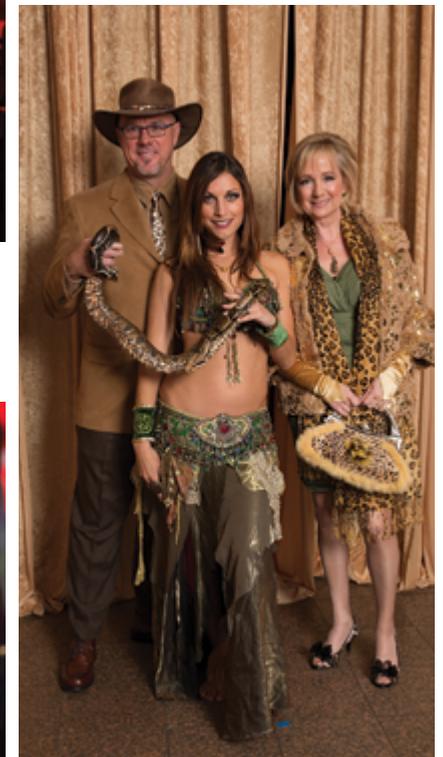
Fossil Ball 2013 Honorary Committee

Cindy and Jeffrey Cavnac
Ms. Courtney Coyle and Mr. Steven McDonald
Mary and Jim Dawe
Bill Disher
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Dort
Iris and Paul Engstrand
Arlene and Richard Esgate
Susan and Craig Evanco
Ms. Michelle Gerus and Mr. Jeff Block
Ms. Allison Henderson and Dr. Jay Miles
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hoctor
Margaret Hollingsworth
Dr. and Mrs. Matt Hom
Gary and Carrie Huckell
Charles Kennel and Ellen Lehman
Jessie J. Knight, Jr. and Joye Blount
Ann Laddon and Adrian Jaffer
Robin Lehman

Diana and Lowell Lindsay
Monte Marshall
Terry and Linda Moore
Eleanor and Jerry Navarra and Family
Mrs. James B. Orwig
Pam and Phil Palisoul
Claudia and Jim Prescott
Adele S. Rabin and Stephen J. Cohen
John Rigby and Teri Appleson
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Donna K. Sefton
Harley K. Sefton
Drs. Paul and Ann Tuskes
Mrs. J. Marie Tuthill
Frank and Caren Urtasun
Christy Walton
Nita and Henk van der Werff
Carol and Dennis Wilson
Sarah Witt and Jeff Witt
Bradley Zlotnick, M.D.



Clockwise from left to right: *Dr. Entomo* exhibition, Tom Sparrow, Museum President and CEO Michael Hager, Phil Palisoul, Kurt Hoffman and Lisa Armacost, Denise Hager, Sefton Atrium, Matt Mauser of the Tijuana Dogs band.



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DINO JAWS