Volunteers recognized for 100 hours or more of service

Please congratulate these 55 volunteers who reached multiples of 100 hours of service during the second quarter of 2010. Each volunteer received four coupons for free entrance into a fee-based exhibit for every 100 hours of service. The total number of hours (rounded)

- Beamam, John (200)
- Bergen, Marni (700)
- Bleville, James (2,000)
- Blanchard, Jane (900)
- Bliss, Drew (100)
- Burgess, Andrew (900)
- Carlson, Kelton (200)
- Carswell, Brian (JV) (400)
- Cho, Michael (JV) (100)
- Comstock, Gloria (300)
- Conner, Suzanne (600)
- Cruz, Natalie (JV) (200)
- Fischer, Mary (100)
- Flanigan, Anthony (1,110)
- Girstein, Emma (JV) (100)
- Lohman, Elizabeth (JV) (1,000)
- Lutt, Anne (JV) (300)
- Lynch, Mary (600)
- Martin, Manjul (100)
- McCarthy, Alex (JV) (300)
- McCorman, Mike (1,700)
- Muschitz, Barbara (800)
- Nolan, Emma (JV) (100)
- Nunez, Leor (100)
- Ogungbe, Speymi (JV) (100)
- Omstein, Barbara (200)
- Payne, Raleigh (100)
- Pozzetta, Sandra (300)
- Reijntjes-Tolen, Sarah (100)
- Samuel, Craig (100)
- Segal, Emma (JV) (100)
- Simons, Erika (400)
- Singer, Randy (200)
- Smith, Walton (200)
- Sugro, Becky (JV) (200)
- Turner, Robert (1,200)
- Toomey, Barbara (700)
- Vyenberg, Sarah (JV) (100)
- Weber, Haley (JV) (100)
- McCown, Mike (1,700)
- Andew, Deborah (D)
- Carswell, Brian (JV) (400)
- Carlson, Kelton (200)
- Carswell, Brian (JV) (400)
- Cho, Michael (JV) (100)
- Comstock, Gloria (300)
- Conner, Suzanne (600)
- Cruz, Natalie (JV) (200)
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- Vyenberg, Sarah (JV) (100)
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- McCown, Mike (1,700)

McGuire Center for Lepidoptera & Biodiversity (352) 392-5894
Research & Collections (Dickinson Hall) (352) 392-1721

Exhibits & Programs (Polly Hall, (352) 846-2000

Assistant Director of Education and Visitor Services ................. Jamie Creola, 273-2057
Volunteer Program ...................... Julie Crosby, 273-2055
Email: jcrosby@flmnh.ufl.edu
Education Programs ..................... Kendra Lanza-Kaduce, 273-2064
Visitor Services ......................... Brittany Stipes, 273-2037
Butterfly Rainforest ...................... Jeff Hansen, 273-2055
Volunteer Program  ....................... Julie Crosby, 273-2055
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Visitor Services ......................... Brittany Stipes, 273-2037
Butterfly Rainforest ...................... Jeff Hansen, 273-1898

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Mark Your Calendar!

Nov. 16 – Book Club 6-8 p.m. Open to all Florida Museum volunteers and members. See information inside newsletter or contact Julie, jcrosby@flmnh.ufl.edu or 352-273-2055.

Nov. 11 – Veterans Day Holiday Museum open. Some offices and all public schools closed.

Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Holiday Museum closed.

Dec. 03 – Volunteer Winter Breakfast Potluck 9-10:30 a.m. All Florida Museum volunteers are invited. Bring your favorite breakfast/surunch dish to share. No RSVP necessary. For information, contact Julie, jcrosby@flmnh.ufl.edu or 352-273-2055.

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Volunteering at the Florida Museum...

VOLUNTEER PROFILE:
Brian Carswell

By Tessa Yelton

Junior Volunteer Brian Carswell has been a regular at the Museum for nearly his entire life. He started attending camp as soon as he was old enough, and when he grew too old for camp, he became a Junior Volunteer. Brian began working on Discovery Carts several years ago when there was a shark cart and the fossil cart only contained “a T-rex tooth, a mammoth tooth and a cat skull.” Like many veteran JV’s, he said he misses having a separate cart dedicated to sharks, but loves the various new additions to the fossil cart.

Brian has been interested in fossils since he saw the movie “Jurassic Park” when he was 3 years old. “I got my parents to buy me all the dinosaur books we could get,” he said, and he learned everything he could. As a Junior Volunteer, he quickly became known as the fossil expert. During his first summer working on the carts, visitors commented on how much knowledge he had.

As for the future, rather than studying paleontology, he said he plans to get “hands-on” experience working with exhibit docents. As a teacher’s assistant, he usually works on the Discovery Carts, he said “I enjoy working with kids and he returned to the camps as a teacher’s assistant. As for the future, rather than studying paleontology, he said he plans to run for Congress so he can help people and know for sure that he is doing something meaningful.

STAFF PROFILE:
Diane Milner

By Jessica Fitzgerald

In 2001 Diane Milner moved her family from Pretoria, South Africa, to Gainesville after her husband was hired at UF’s College of Veterinary Medicine. She found coming to a different country fascinating, and enjoys learning more about Florida’s natural history.

Diane found the Museum through an ad seeking docents and eventually was hired to train docents and facilitate school programs. Later, she also began working with exhibit docents. Previously, she taught fourth grade for seven years, but said she loves the fact that her present job includes training, teaching and learning but not having to grade papers!

Her hobbies are walking her dogs, swimming, reading and gardening, along with body surfing and relaxing at her favorite beach, Crescent Beach. She and her husband have two daughters and two sons, all of whom have either graduated or are currently attending college. An exciting event took place July 29, when Diane took part in a naturalization ceremony, officially making her an American citizen.

Diane enjoys sharing the Museum with docents and school children. Photo by Jeff Gage.

NEW Benefit and Opportunities

By Julie Crosby

Check out the following exciting opportunities available to benefit volunteers and the Museum’s research, collections, and programs. If you are interested in either of them, please contact the person listed.

BOOK CLUB - A new benefit for Museum volunteers and members! The next Book Club meeting is from 6 to 8 p.m. Nov. 16. All volunteers are invited. This is a great opportunity to discuss fascinating topics with other Florida Museum fans. The November book is “Minge,” by Cynthia Barnett. The author will serve as guest expert for the discussion. Books-A-Million offers Book Club members a 20 percent discount. The discount code is available online, www.flmnh.ufl.edu/bookclub/. For more information, contact Julie, 352-275-4330 or jcroby@flmnh.ufl.edu.

FOSSIL DIG - ‘THOMAS FARM’ - Vertebrate Paleontology is seeking volunteers to work with Museum staff and students at a fossil dig at the famous Thomas Farm site in Gilchrist County. The site will be active every day, weather permitting, Nov. 4-17. Volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. To sign up or for more information, visit www.flmnh.ufl.edu/vertpaleo/fall_2010.htm or e-mail Richard Hubert, rhubert@flmnh.ufl.edu.

In addition to her role as an education assistant, Jeannette is a talented artist who is famous for her beautiful face painting during ButterflyFest each year. Photo by Jeff Gage.

She also enjoys painting, especially on her travels. Her family is important to her, and she loves watching her three daughters learn, grow and graduate from UF, and succeed in their personal and professional lives. She offers this advice to others: “Don’t get discouraged, always think positive, if something isn’t working out, try something new!”