

# The ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

March 1990

California  
Academy  
of Sciences



## Members' Meetings

### *"Antarctica: The Last Outpost for Heroic Exploration"*

Wednesday, March 14 2:00 & 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 15 7:30 p.m.



Dr. John McCosker

*Penguins photographing Dr. McCosker's father*

Dr. John McCosker, Director of the Academy's Steinhart Aquarium, has led four natural history tours to the Antarctic and has visited the Southern Ocean on several occasions in search of sharks. His lecture will focus on the raw natural beauty of the last continent and the myriad of wildlife that live on the harsh surface and in the cold seas. With the increase in resource exploitation and the upcoming expiration of the International Antarctic Treaty, it is imperative that the world community understand what is at stake before protection is reduced or eliminated. Dr. McCosker's slide-illustrated lecture will include the experiences that Academy travelers have had on the continent and on the ice in

Antarctica, perhaps the last outpost for heroic exploration.

The Academy Store will be open before and after the March evening meetings. Next month, join Dr. Seth Shostak when he discusses "Looking for Life in Space" on April 11 and 12.

## *Don't Miss the Boat!*

Watch your mailbox in March for a special chance to win an Academy cruise to see the coastal wilderness of Southeast Alaska and British Columbia from September 5-19.

## *Traditional Arts*



*Mascaritas Puppet Theater*

Experience traditional dance, folktales, music and foods from other lands without leaving San Francisco! Traditional Arts programs introduce visitors to cultures from all over the world every Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in Wattis Hall of Human Cultures. These programs are made possible through a generous gift from the Paul L. and Phyllis Wattis Foundation. For more information, call (415)750-7142.

**March 3**—There will be no program this week due to the "Bounty of the Bay" food symposium.

**March 10**—Mascaritas, a South American puppet theater, presents "Little Red Riding Hood" and "The Selfish Giant," the latter adapted from a children's story by Oscar Wilde. The group's performance style combines puppetry and masked actors, borrowing elements from Comedia dell'Arte. The program is bilingual (Spanish/English) accompanied by narration in American Sign Language.

**March 17**—The American Ragtime Ensemble plays a selection of music from the period 1890 to 1920, including ragtime, cakewalks, marches and waltzes, with a discussion on the historical development of ragtime and its role in the emerging music business and the commercial entertainment world at the turn of the century.

**March 24**—Chris Caswell performs on the Celtic harp and talks about its construction compared with other types of harps.

**March 31**—There is no program scheduled due to the Bay Area Science Fair.

Lecture

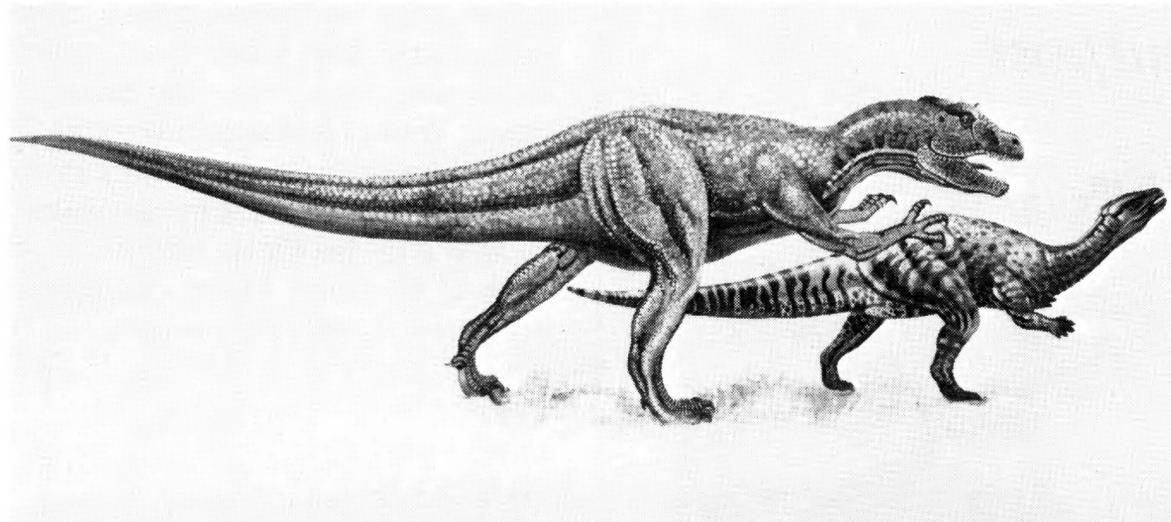
*The California Academy of Sciences  
Presents*

*The Claire Matzger Lilienthal  
Distinguished Lecturer Series*

*Dr. Jack R. Horner*

*“Dinosaur Behavior and Growth”*

*Wednesday, March 28 7:30 p.m.*



Michael Cole

*Allosaurus chasing down a Camptosaurus in a scene we would have witnessed 140 million years ago.*

Dr. Jack Horner, Curator of Paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies, is a renowned authority on dinosaur behavior. As this year's Lilienthal Lecturer, Dr. Horner will discuss the theories and methodology employed by paleontologists in interpreting the fossil remains of dinosaurs to learn more about what these animals looked like, what they ate, what types of environments they lived in and how they behaved. He will also discuss dinosaur nests, eggs and young, and how the growth rate of different

dinosaurs influenced their behavior. Dr. Horner has been a research assistant at Princeton University, a museum scientist at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and is currently an Assistant Professor of Geology at Montana State University. He was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Montana in 1986. To order tickets, please use the convenient order form below. For more information, call (415)750-7217.

**Ticket Order Form — Lilienthal Lecture, March 28**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check payable to the California Academy of Sciences for:

\_\_\_\_\_ member tickets at \$4

\_\_\_\_\_ guest tickets at \$5

Please send this form, your check and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Lilienthal Lecture

The Special Programs Office  
California Academy of Sciences  
Golden Gate Park  
San Francisco, CA 94118

No refunds/No exchanges

Lecture

*Stellar Graveyards:  
The Death of Stars*

*Tuesday, March 6 7:30 p.m.*

Stars, like people, live out their life cycle in a fairly predictable way. From birth, through middle age, to death, a star will follow an evolutionary path to becoming a white dwarf, neutron star, or even a black hole. On March 6, the Morrison Planetarium's Exploring the Universe series presents Dr. Susan Lea, Professor of Physics and Astronomy, San Francisco State University, who will use the special environment of the planetarium to illustrate "Stellar Graveyards: The Death of Stars."

Future presentations in the series are:

**April 3**—A New Generation of Space Exploration: Into the 21st Century with Charles E. Kohlhase, Jet Propulsion Lab, Pasadena

**May 8**—From Antarctica to Mars: The Quest for Life with Dr. Chris McKay, NASA/Ames Research Center

This free series is made possible through the generosity of the Benjamin D. Dean Endowment Fund. All programs begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Morrison Planetarium and seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. For information on seat availability, call the "Universe" line at (415)750-7129.

***Invention Convention*** *March 7 and 8*

If you are interested in original ideas conceived by the scientists of tomorrow, come to the Invention Convention at the Academy where hundreds of award-winning inventions, designed by San Francisco students grades K-12, will be on display. Sponsored by the U.S. Patent Model Foundation, the Invention Convention is part of a national awards program designed to stimulate invention and creativity among America's youth. For more information, call (415)750-7100.

## New Publications from the Academy



Susan Middleton

*The Academy's Supervan brings nature into the classroom.*

Annual Report 1988-1989  
This year's annual report focuses upon the impact of the Academy and its leadership in science education and research.

Research at the California Academy of Sciences  
This publication highlights the research goals and accomplishments of 25 curators in the Research Division of the Academy.

Catalog of Scientific Publications  
This catalog lists over 1,000 publications of the Academy, from 1900-1990.

### Order Form — Academy Publications

Please send me a copy of the following Academy Publications:

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, call  
(415)750-7111.

## Preview of Coming Attractions

When the Rainbow Touches Down, our special exhibit of 96 paintings by Native Americans from the Southwest, is currently on display in Lovell-White Hall. These works, from the Leslie Van Ness Denman Collection, will be on view through Sunday, February 25.

Vanishing Deserts, originally scheduled to open on March 3, has been rescheduled to allow a longer venue and will open in February, 1991.

On February 17, Desert Dedication will open in Hohfeld Hall through May 27. This collection of desert paintings by naturalist Robert Stebbins reflects a life-long interest in the California desert and the artist's concern for the preservation of this fragile region.

Opening in San Francisco Airport's North Terminal in late April is a special exhibit, "The West: Views From the California Academy of Sciences," a retrospective that highlights the Academy's history and its contributions to scientific research. On display is a sampling of the more than fourteen million specimens from our eight research departments. This is the second cooperative effort between the Academy and the Airport. The first Academy Airport show was a tremendous success, measured by the number of times airport personnel had to clean fingerprints from exhibit cases. "The West: Views From the California Academy of Sciences" will be on display through July 30.

On July 7, the Academy commemorates the centennial of the founding of Yosemite National Park with two concurrent exhibits. "Yosemite 100," a multi-media show developed by the National Park Service and the Academy. Also showing in Hohfeld Hall is "John Muir: The Yosemite, Photographs by Galen Rowell." This collection of photographic works by Rowell, Ansel Adams, Joseph LeConte and others are enhanced by writings taken from John Muir's original journals.



Dr. Robert Stebbins

*"Rice Dunes" painting by Dr. Robert C. Stebbins*

## The Hermès Year of the Outdoors Benefit

March 15 6:00 p.m.

The California Academy of Sciences is pleased to join with The Rainforest Alliance and Hermès of Paris to celebrate The Hermès Year of the Outdoors Benefit on Thursday, March 15 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Academy. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres representing the bounty of the rainforest will be served.

All expenses for this benefit have been generously underwritten by Hermès of Paris with proceeds shared equally by The Rainforest Alliance and the Academy. Funds raised will help finance an Academy expedition to study the rainforests of Costa Rica.

For reservations, make your check payable to the California Academy of Sciences in the amount of \$75 per person and mail to Ida Brown & Associates, 2110 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, CA 94133.

No tickets will be issued, reservations will be held at the door. For further information, please call Ida Brown at (415)673-2201.

**HERMÈS**  
PARIS

## *Explore the World on Academy Expeditions*

Let an Academy scientist lead you to a foreign shore! The destination might be almost anywhere on the globe, and your leader will offer special insights into the world around you.

### *Indonesia: Secret Islands East of Bali*

*June 3-20*

*Lecturers: Dr. John McCosker and  
Dr. Stephen Jay Gould*

### *Treasures of Pre-Columbian Mexico*

*June 26-July 10*

*Lecturer: Dr. John B. Carlson*

### *In the Wake of the Vikings: Bergen to Reykjavik*

*July 26-August 10*

### *Alaska and the Queen Charlotte Islands*

*September 5-19*

*Lecturer: Dr. David Kavanaugh*

### *Fall in Vermont* *September*

### *Pakistan and India*

*September 25-October 17*

*Lecturer: Nancy Pickford*

### *Brazil and Argentina* *November*

For more information call  
(415)750-7222.

## *Young Audiences*

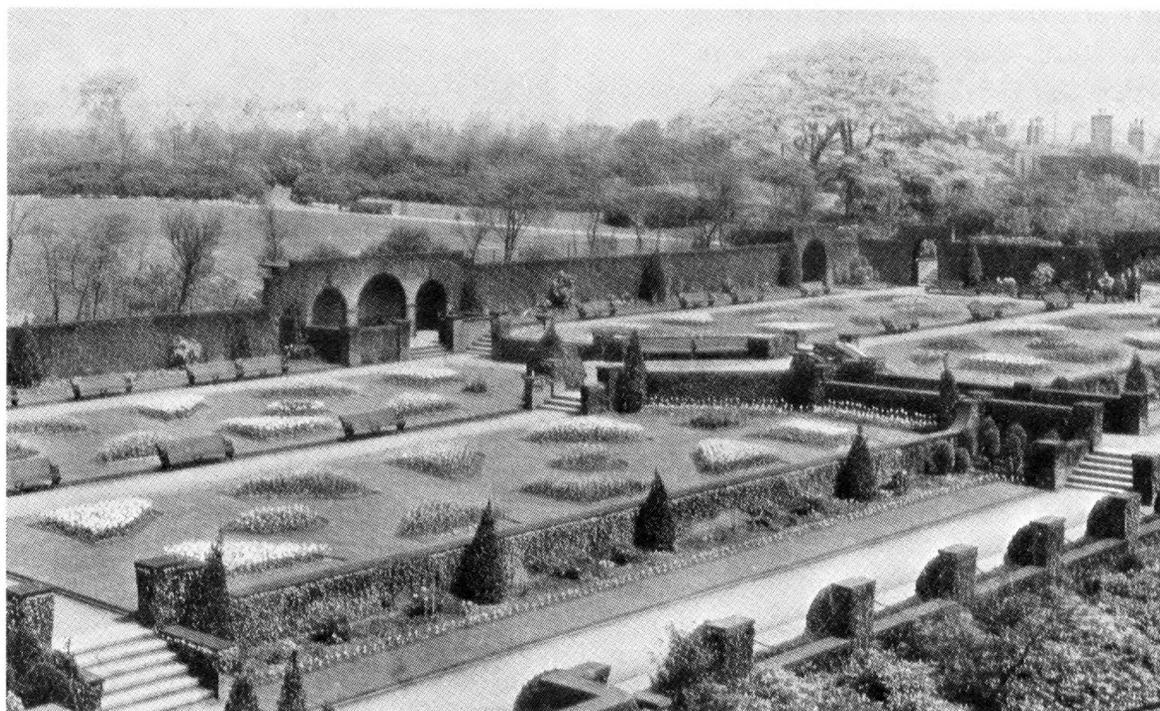
*Sunday, March 25 1:00 p.m.*

With major funding from the McKesson Foundation and Grants for the Arts, Young Audiences proudly presents an exciting series of performing arts programs for children, taking place one Sunday each month in Wattis Hall of Human Cultures.

This month, Dance Kaiso explores the cultural traditions of Cuba, Haiti and Trinidad through a colorful performance of Caribbean folk music and dance.

## *Academy Expedition*

### *Springtime English Garden Tour May 9-26* *Featuring the Chelsea Flower Show*



*The Sun Garden, Falinge Park, Rochdale, England*

This tour is a "must" for the avid greenthumb and the devotee of elegant garden settings. With Dr. Dennis Breedlove as our Academy lecturer, we will tour some of England's finest homes, featuring formal Italian and French gardens, arboretums and water gardens.

The tour concludes at the extraordinary Chelsea Flower Show, one of the premier events of its kind in the world. Bulb and seed growers, and landscape architects convene to create lavish and spectacular displays of cut flowers and amazing topiaries that are canopied

under immense tents. Outside, visitors may explore a myriad of extraordinary garden scenes graced by ponds and gazebos.

Tour lecturer, Dr. Breedlove, Curator of the Academy's Department of Botany, has visited several of England's botanic gardens in the course of his studies. An avid gardener in his own right, he serves on the Board of the Strybing Arboretum Society.

For information and a brochure, please call the Academy Travel Office at (415)750-7222.

## *The Academy Library Resumes Saturday Hours*

The Academy Library is pleased to announce that it is again open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., through May 26. These weekend hours are being offered as an extension of service to Academy members, scientists, science teachers, environmentalists, naturalists and others who cannot use the Library during the regular work week. The Library is available as a non-circulating research collection in natural history and the natural sciences.

In support of this service, the Academy Library is actively recruiting and training Library Service Volunteers who can assist the staff on Saturdays. The Library needs individuals who can volunteer at least six hours per month for six months. Interested volunteers should contact Brian Lym, Assistant Librarian at (415)750-7104 or Rosalind Henning, Assistant Coordinator, Volunteer Services at (415)750-7154.

## Adult Education

Here is a sampling of spring adult education classes that still have space available. For more information on these and other classes, please call the Adult Education Office at (415)750-7100.

### The Masks of Spring

Session I: March 4 (Sunday)  
Session II: March 18 (Sunday)  
Instructor: Gloria Nusse  
Cost: \$40 members/\$50 nonmembers

### Aquatic Biology

March 17 (Saturday)  
Instructor: Joe Mueller  
Cost: \$20 members/\$25 nonmembers

### Natural History of Pepperwood\*

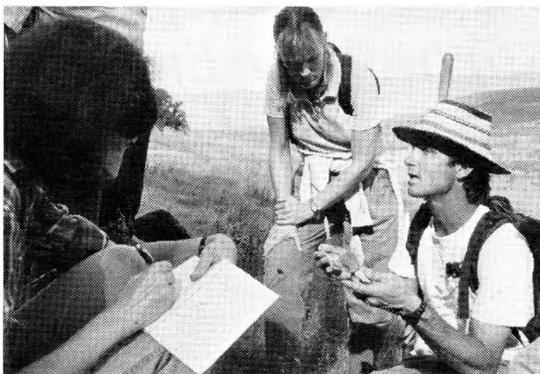
March 18, April 8 and May 6  
Instructor: Greg de Nevers  
Cost: \$45 members/\$55 nonmembers

### Redwood Regional Park Birdwalk

March 24 (Saturday)  
Instructor: Dan Murphy  
Cost: \$15 members/\$20 nonmembers

### Native Peoples of Northern California

March 29–April 26  
Instructor: Margaret Mathewson  
Cost: \$55 members/ \$65 nonmembers



Susan Middleton

*Greg de Nevers, Pepperwood's resident biologist, conducts an Adult Education class.*

### Marine Biology Weekend

March 31–April 1  
Instructor: Joe Mueller  
Cost: \$50 members/\$60 nonmembers

### Berry Basket

April 8 (Sunday)  
Instructor: Kathleen Hubbard  
Cost: \$45 members/\$55 nonmembers

### When the Animal People Could Talk—Stories Around the Campfire\*

April 21 (Saturday)  
Instructors: Ane Rovetta and Greg de Nevers  
Cost: \$35 members/\$45 nonmembers

\*indicates classes to be held at the Academy's Pepperwood Nature Preserve in Sonoma County (otherwise not open to the public).

## Science Fair

March 31–April 4

The 37th annual San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair will be held at the California Academy of Sciences from March 31 through April 4. The fair will display the winning science projects of junior and senior high school students who have developed original scientific experiments and worked them into project form. Each year the fair presents an impressive array of projects that reflect a high level of understanding of scientific problems and research processes. The winners will be honored at an awards ceremony on Saturday, March 31. Please note that in order to set up the Science Fair, African Safari, African Annex, Wattis Hall and Wattis Gallery will be closed from March 27 at 12 noon until the opening at 10 a.m. on March 31.

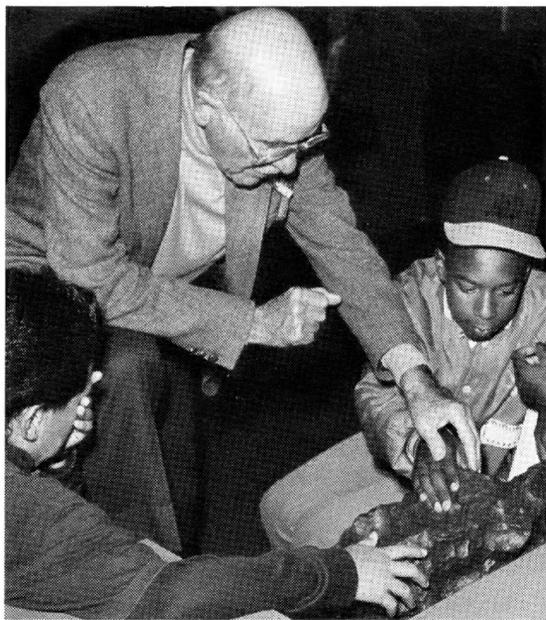
## New Sky Show Time Before Life

March 2–June 10



In anticipation of the grand opening of the Academy's new Hall of Evolution, "Life Through Time," our own "wizards of time and space," the Planetarium staff, take audiences on a trip back through the eons to explore our world during the Time Before Life. Witness the birth of the Earth and discover when our young planet took its first breath of air, where its water came from, how the continents took their shape, and the origin of the Moon. Leading up to the dawn of life, examine the basic conditions necessary for life to exist, then search the other planets—and beyond—for exciting possibilities. For showtimes, call (415)750-7141.

## Docent Training Classes



Marc Charnow

*Docent Joe Marshall talks about a moon rock to interested students in Earth & Space Hall.*

The Docent Council will begin its next Docent Training Course in September. The course will be taught by Academy scientists, and will prepare docents to lead school children and other visitors on museum tours. The class will meet on Thursday mornings through April 1991, and enrollment is open to anyone willing to serve as a tour leader three mornings a month for two years beyond the training period. Tuition is \$85, and scholarships are available. Expand your knowledge of the natural world, and support the Academy—become a docent! For more information call (415)750-7155 or (415)221-5100.

KUCIE STERN

*Time Dated Material  
Please Expedite*

*March 1990*

*Open daily 10 am to 5 pm*

*(415)221-5100*

*Golden Gate Park  
San Francisco, California 94118-4599*



*Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 7544  
San Francisco*

## *Calendar of Events—March*

- 2 New Sky Show, "Time Before Life" begins
- 3 Bounty of the Bay, 9:00 a.m.
- 6 Lecture: "Stellar Graveyards," 7:30 p.m.
- 7 & 8 Invention Convention
- 10 Traditional Arts—Mascaritas  
Puppet Theater, 1:00 p.m.
- 14 Members' Meeting: "Antarctica", 2:00 & 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Members' Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Hermès Year of the Outdoors Benefit, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 Traditional Arts—American Ragtime Ensemble,  
1:00 p.m.
- 24 Traditional Arts—Celtic Harp, 1:00 p.m.
- 25 Young Audiences—Caribbean folk music  
and dance
- 27 Closure of African Annex, African Hall, Wattis Hall,  
Wattis Gallery, 12 noon
- 28 Lilienthal Lecture: Dinosaur Behavior & Growth,  
7:30 p.m.
- 31 Science Fair Opens

### *Coming up in April*

- 3 Lecture: "A New Generation of Space Exploration:  
Into the 21st Century", 7:30 p.m.

## *Edible Gardens—How-To Books from the Academy Store*



Stacy Kopjanski

*Create and harvest your own edible landscapes with guidance from Rosalind Creasy, author of the best-selling *Cooking from the Garden*, *The Gardener's Handbook of Edible Plants*, and *The Complete book of Edible Landscaping*. Grow beautiful, delicious produce while conserving money and natural resources—all by landscaping your gardens with edible plants. From top soil to the dinner table, Rosalind Creasy's books will show you how to plant, harvest and prepare your very own *Bounty of the Bay*!*