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In the Field

THE BULLETIN OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

JULY • AUGUST 1998



Living Colors A Butterfly Garden

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In the Field

THE BULLETIN OF THE FIELD MUSEUM

JULY•AUGUST 1998

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Peter Crane, vice president of academic affairs and director, is elected as a Fellow to the Royal Society, a 338-year-old national science academy in London.

A complete schedule of July/August events, including a list of programs offered in conjunction with the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit.

The University of Oklahoma Press publishes The Field Museum's collection of baby bird paintings by famed artist and ornithologist George Sutton.

LIVING COLORS: A Butterfly Garden

Page 6

In the Museum's new summer exhibit, visitors can walk through an outdoor environment surrounded by hundreds of live butterflies. The exhibit features three typical Midwest habitats: a prairie, a woodland and a backyard garden.



John Weinstein / GN88714.01

In Search Of The Lost Cave Of Tsavo's Man-Eating Lions

By Robert Vosper

A few months after being born in Chicago on Feb. 25, 1965, Tom Gnoske fell in love with a stuffed toy lion and wouldn't go anywhere without it. For four years, he refused to talk to anyone except his lion, a few other stuffed animal toys and, on occasion, his mother. Most of his relatives didn't believe he could speak. What everyone did realize about this painfully shy child, who was watching *Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom* religiously every Sunday night before the age of five, was that he had an unusual fascination with wild animals, especially lions and tigers.

To encourage his son's interest, Tom's father took him to The Field Museum in 1969 to see the highlights: dinosaurs, Bushman and the fighting elephants of Stanley Field Hall — all of which mildly intrigued young Tom. But then, while walking through Hall 22, a once dark, mysterious exhibit space devoted to African megafauna, Tom spotted the two man-eating lions of Tsavo.

As Tom stared in awe at the 10-foot-long feline predators, his father told him the story of how in 1898 the two adult, male, maneless lions killed and ate 130 railway workers in what is now Kenya's Tsavo National Park, a protected reserve the size of Massachusetts. The true story, now popularized in the 1996 film *The Ghost and the Darkness*, ends with John Henry Patterson, a British army officer and chief engineer for the Uganda Railway, hunting down and killing the lions 12 months after they devoured their first human. A couple of months later, while heading out to explore some "rocky looking hills" southwest of the railway bridge he was building over the Tsavo River, Patterson stumbled across something that made his skin crawl.

"... under an overhanging tree, stood a little sandy hillock, and on looking over the top of this I saw on the other side a fear-some-looking cave which seemed to run back for a considerable distance under the rocky bank," wrote Patterson in his 1907 book *The Man-Eaters of Tsavo*. "Round the entrance and inside the cave I was thunderstruck to find a number of human bones, with here and there a copper bangle such as the natives wear. Beyond all doubt, the man-eaters' den."

The story scared Tom so profoundly he never forgot it. A good thing too, because it set the stage 28 years later for an amazing story, the likes of which The Field Museum hasn't experienced since the turn of the century when Museum scientists returned from unexplored regions of the world with fantastic tales of discovery and adventure.

On April 30, 1997, Tom Gnoske, chief preparator and assistant collection manager in the Museum's bird division, and Julian Kerbis Peterhans, an adjunct curator in the mammal division and assistant professor at Chicago's Roosevelt University, rediscovered

the man-eaters' den that had remained hidden for a century. With this discovery, Kerbis and Gnoske set off a firestorm of activities that will begin this fall with research projects headed by Chapurukha "Chap" Kusimba, assistant curator of African archaeology and ethnology, and Bruce Patterson, MacArthur Curator of mammals (who is not related to John Patterson). The discovery also led to an April 7, 1998, signing of an agreement with the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) to collaborate on projects in Kenya relating to exhibits, education and research.



The Field Museum, John Patterson (236569)

But to understand how this discovery set these activities in motion, one must return to Gnoske's story.

Interested in painting birds and mammals as a high-school student, Gnoske entered the Art Institute of Chicago in 1984 and later volunteered in the Museum's zoology department to learn more about the functional anatomy of his subjects. In 1988, he accepted a position as preparator in the bird division and in 1997 a position as assistant collection manager of birds. During these early years, Gnoske spent most of his free time in the Museum's library compiling historical accounts of big cats preying on humans — a relatively rare occurrence in which the culprit is usually sick, injured or old.

While collecting these stories, he befriended Julian Kerbis, who was working at the Museum on his doctoral research. As a kid, Kerbis grew up across the street from Lincoln Park Zoo and would lie in bed at night listening to the shrill cries of the zoo's hyenas drift across the lake front. He became so enamored by these wolflike carnivores that they later became the focus of his doctoral work at the University of Chicago. And like Gnoske, he also became fascinated with man-eaters, though from a slightly different perspective. In his doctoral research, Kerbis analyzed bones from early human fossil sites to determine if they contained any clues as to whether the ancestors of modern-day humans were the hunters or the hunted.

During some early research expeditions to East Africa, Kerbis and Gnoske started col-



Tom Gnoske

lecting contemporary stories of man-eating incidents. For example, while carrying out research in Uganda's Ruwenzori Mountains (Mountains of the Moon), they heard a story, later confirmed by Ugandan wildlife officials, of a lion in its midteens with a bizarre proclivity for eating bicyclists. The lion would

hide in the grass alongside a road in southwestern Uganda waiting for a victim to ride by. Running out of the grass at a speed exceeding that of an Olympic sprinter, the lion, which is ancient by most standards, would pounce on an unsuspecting bicyclist, drag him into the long grass and devour him on the spot. In describing the fate of the lion's victims, local officials coined the term "meals on wheels." After each trip, Gnoske and Kerbis' files on these types of incidents grew thicker, fueling their growing fascination with man-eaters.

This growing fascination eventually led Gnoske to reread Patterson's book about his near-fatal encounter with the Tsavo lions. But every time he picked it up, he became more perplexed with Patterson's description of finding a lion cave. From what he understood, lions live and eat exclusively in the open. He finally decided to share the passage with Kerbis.

"My immediate impression was that this was a hyena den — lions aren't known to live in caves today and they certainly aren't known to stash carcasses in hiding because they don't have to," explains Kerbis. "Lions are the dominant predators that can pretty much eat things where they kill them. I assumed, without seeing the cave, that hyenas had scavenged abandoned lion kills. In this case, the kills were human."

But Kerbis couldn't be sure unless he analyzed the types of bones Patterson had uncovered. For example, it is well document-

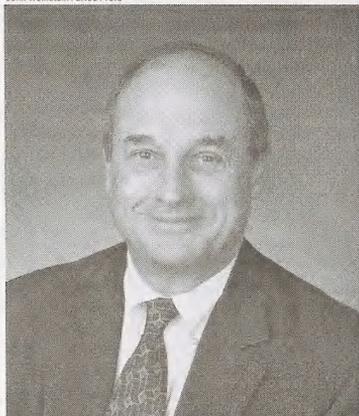
Above: Tom Gnoske (left) and Julian Kerbis (right) in front of the cave in April 1997.

Left: The cave as photographed by John Patterson in 1899.

Continued on page 10

Science And Nature Cover The Field

John Weinstein /GN8119.6



If you want to study current trends in society, your best bet is to scan the magazine rack at your local bookstore. By looking at the covers of consumer magazines like *Cosmopolitan*, *Rolling Stone* and *Esquire*, you can quickly gauge which bands, actors, athletes, clothes and hairstyles are in vogue. But don't make any drastic changes to your wardrobe just yet, because what appears on the cover one month often fades into

oblivion the next.

Fortunately, the publishers of scientific journals and magazines operate under different rules. The discoveries and trends featured on covers of publications like *Science*, *Natural History*, *Nature* and *National Geographic* are chosen not only because they are turning heads in the scientific community, but because they will have a lasting impact on the way we think about the Earth and its people.

Each year, for the last three years, discoveries by scientists connected to The Field Museum have graced the covers of two of the world's most respected scientific journals: *Science* and *Nature*. These discoveries represent years of dedicated work by those involved and stand as remarkable tributes to the entire Museum scientific staff whose combined research efforts have made the Museum an international leader in the fields of evolutionary biology, paleontology, archaeology and ethnography.

"Predatory Dinosaur Remains From Madagascar: Implications for the Cretaceous Biogeography of Gondwana" — Cover of *Science*, May 15, 1998

In July 1996, an international team of paleontologists — including Field Museum research associates David Krause and Catherine Forster — unearthed on Madagascar an exquisitely preserved, 75-million-year-old skull of a predatory dinosaur called *Majungatholus atopus*. Nearly 29 feet in length, the

dinosaur was originally named for an isolated skull fragment thought to belong to a pachycephalosaur (dome-headed dinosaur). After Field Museum preparators cleaned the fossil, however, the team realized the dinosaur, with an equivalent bony hump above its eye sockets, was not a "bone-head" at all, but a carnivorous theropod and distant cousin of *T. rex*.

This finding is significant for understanding global distributions of dinosaurs because *Majungatholus* was previously the only pachycephalosaur reported from the southern hemisphere. In addition, it belongs to an enigmatic group of theropods called abelisaurids, otherwise known only from India and Argentina. The occurrence of these dinosaurs on such widely separated landmasses has important implications for understanding the effect of plate tectonic movements during the Mesozoic "Age of Dinosaurs." For those of you who want to see the skull, we have a mounted cast of it on display in Stanley Field Hall with the real skull stored in our permanent research collections.

As a side note, in previous research expeditions to the island — which included Greg Buckley, collections manager of fossil invertebrates and plants — the team found a diverse array of vertebrates, including sauripod dinosaurs, mammals, turtles, snakes, crocodiles and birds.

"The Origin and Early Evolution of Plants on Land" — Cover of *Nature*, Sept. 4, 1997

Peter Crane, the Museum's vice president of academic affairs and director, and Paul Kenrick, post-doctoral scholar in the geology department, initiated a study in 1991 of both living and fossil plants to learn how they made the transition some 480 million years ago from living in the sea to living on land. In the summer of 1997, six years of effort came to fruition with the publication of their work both as a book and as a major review article in the international science journal *Nature*. Because of their research, scientists are now able to better understand how plants developed from aquatic organisms of only a few living cells to massive organisms with complex reproductive stems and new features like wood, leaves and roots. All of their research, analysis and results are presented in detail in the book *The Origin and Early Diversification of Land Plants* (Smithsonian Institution Press) —

the first comprehensive application of cladistics to the massive body of data on both living and fossil plants. This book recently received the Henry Allan Gleason Award of the New York Botanical Garden for "an outstanding publication in the fields of plant taxonomy, plant ecology and plant geography." Paul Kenrick is now in charge of the most important paleobotanical collections in the world at the National Museum in London.

"Paleoindian Cave Dwellers in the Amazon: The Peopling of the Americas" — Cover of *Science*, April 1996

While excavating the Caverna da Pedra Pintada, a cave on the north bank of the Amazon in Monte Alegre, Brazil, Anna Roosevelt, curator of archaeology, discovered evidence of early human habitation — including cave paintings, stone spear points and carbonized remains of fruit, nuts, wood, fish and small animals — dating back more than 11,000 years. For decades, archaeologists believed the first migrants to the Americas came across the Bering Strait from Asia about 11,200 years ago, settled in the North American high plains, then moved into South America down the Andean mountain chain. Most experts assumed these migrants were big-game hunters who avoided the rain forest where plant food and game were assumed to be scarce. Roosevelt's work is not only forcing scientists to rethink their long-held theories about how the Americas were populated but is shedding new light on the role of tropical forests in human evolution. *Discover* magazine named her discovery in their January 1997 issue as one of the top 100 science stories of 1996. And her research continues to make headlines, as evidenced in an April 8, 1998, *Chicago Tribune* article "Amazon Findings Blazing Trails in Migration Theory." Roosevelt's work was funded through grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a fellowship from the MacArthur Foundation when she was at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

John W. McCarter, Jr.

John W. McCarter, Jr.
Field Museum President and CEO



In the Field

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The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

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John Weinstein /GN88697.6

Peter Crane Gains International Fame With Election To The Royal Society

By Robert Vosper

For many scientists, getting elected to the Royal Society as a Fellow is one of the greatest honors they can receive. After all, in becoming a Fellow the scientist joins a 338-year-old British institution whose members once included Sir Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin.

On May 14, 1998, the Society elected 40 new Fellows, including botanist and paleontologist Peter Crane, the Field Museum's vice president of academic affairs and director.

"Obviously, I am extremely honored," said Crane after hearing the news. "However, I'm especially excited for what it says about the overall quality of the research programs at the Museum. This recognition underlines the fact that the research being undertaken at The Field Museum — not just by me, but by many of our scientists — is truly world class."

The equivalent of the National Academy of Sciences in the United States, the Royal Society promotes the natural and applied sciences and recognizes excellence in the field through its elections. Each year, the Royal Society elects up to 40 new Fellows and six new Foreign Members. Fellows are drawn from citizens of British Commonwealth countries and the Irish Republic and must be proposed by six existing Fellows and assessed by sectional committees in each major field of science. Currently, there are 1,201 Fellows and 111 Foreign Members in the Society, including such notables as Sir

David Attenborough, Christian de Duve, James Dewey Watson and Edward O. Wilson. In accepting a fellowship, members of the Society are called upon to fulfill a wide range of tasks for and on behalf of the institution. For many, this means substantial time and effort, given voluntarily, in the cause of science and the Royal Society.

Crane, a British citizen, is distinguished for his many contributions to understanding the origin and early evolution of angiosperms (flowering plants) and their massive ecological impact on plant and animal life throughout the world. According to a statement from the Society, his research is "noted for combining the approaches of the earth and life sciences to bring a new perspective to the old controversy surrounding angiosperm origins."

His current research focuses on the fossil history of land plants and especially the early evolution of flowering plants and associated vegetational changes in the Cretaceous Period, between 140 million and 70 million years ago. Crane's fieldwork has taken him all over the world, including to the northeastern United States and central Portugal, where his team recovered exquisitely preserved, 100-million-year-old microscopic flowers. Much of his work is designed to improve understanding of the large-scale biotic and environmental changes that occurred during the critical mid-Cretaceous phase of Earth history.

In addition to his overall responsibility for the Museum's collections and research programs as vice president of academic



Peter Crane (above) is the fifth curator in Field Museum history to be elected to a national science academy. The others were geologist David M. Raup, who was elected in 1979; zoologist Karl P. Schmidt, who was elected in 1956; anthropologist Berthold Laufer, who was elected in 1930; and anthropologist Alfred L. Kroeber, who was elected in 1928.

affairs, Crane is the Museum's A. Watson Armour III Curator of geology and a professor in the geophysical sciences department at the University of Chicago.



John Weinstein /GN88712.17

New Program Targets Preschoolers

While attending The Field Museum's recent "The 2 of Us" program, a group of preschoolers (above) learned firsthand how snakes like this harmless garter use their elongated, scaly bodies to slither around. The program — a series of hands-on learning activities in a classroom setting — is part of The Siragusa Foundation Early Childhood Initiative aimed at teaching children ages three to six about natural history and instructing parents and teachers how to use the Museum and its resources.

"When I walked around the Museum, I used to see young children running all over the building with their parents in tow and wasn't sure whether they were really learning anything," says Connie Sulkin, the program's coordinator. "We created the program to teach children, parents and teachers how to use the Museum and how to become more

observant. We also wanted to encourage families to explore exhibits in small bites."

Other programs of the Initiative, which is funded by The Siragusa Foundation, include: "Story Time: Facts, Fables and Fiction," in which children learn about the Museum and its exhibits through songs, stories and art activities; "Interpretive Stations," in which Museum volunteers use touchable objects to educate children about exhibit-related topics; and "Parents as Teachers First," a collaboration with the Chicago Public Schools in which the Museum trains mentors who work with children on home-learning activities that promote social and academic development. Sulkin is also developing self-guided tours for families, teachers and school groups. For more information about The Siragusa Foundation Early Childhood Initiative, please call Connie Sulkin at 312.922.9410, ext. 740.

Around Campus

Adler Planetarium

Almost 30 years ago on July 20, 1969, U.S. astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the Moon. Trace the history of U.S. space flight as the Adler celebrates **Space Day**. During the celebration, visitors can make paper models of famous spacecraft, learn about the Moon and Mars and participate in a "spacey" scavenger hunt. Sunday, July 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Dog Star, Sirius, was an important part of the lives of Egyptians several thousand years ago. During Adler's **Dog Days of August** celebration, visitors can listen to Egyptian Dog Star myths, learn about Egyptian astronomy and celebrate the flooding of the Nile River. Saturday, August 8, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Shedd Aquarium

It's a harmonious combination: **Seahorse Symphony** and **Jazzin' at the Shedd**. Every Thursday evening through September, music lovers — and everyone else — can enjoy Shedd Aquarium's new special exhibit, "Seahorse Symphony," featuring seahorses, pipefishes, trumpetfishes and an original soundtrack by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. They also can hear live jazz in a relaxed outdoor setting overlooking Lake Michigan and the skyline. The music starts at 5 p.m. Oceanarium and special exhibit admission on Thursdays is only \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and children. Aquarium-only admission is free. For more information, call 312.939.2438.

Museum Campus Trolley System Gets Boost From Congress; Museum Initiative Passes General Assembly

By Robert Vosper

If The Field Museum and its Museum Campus partners were gamblers, then May 22, 1998, would have been a great day for them to have hit the high-stakes poker tables in Las Vegas. On that day, Congress appropriated \$4.25 million for the Museum Campus trolley system, and the Illinois General Assembly approved, as part of the State budget, Gov. Jim Edgar's \$55-million Museum Initiative.

The \$4.25 million Congressional appropriation, which is part of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), will be used to expand the existing corporate-sponsored trolley service that shuttles visitors from Soldier Field parking lots to the three campus institutions. Most of the funds will support the purchase of new trolleys, their conversion to alternate fuel and the expansion of the system to nearby CTA and Metra stations, as well as to lake-front attrac-

tions like Navy Pier and Grant Park. Ultimately, the expansion will improve visitor access to the Museum Campus, reduce area traffic congestion and curb noise and air pollution.

"The Museum Campus is the gateway to the heart of our city," said Illinois Representative Danny K. Davis, who spearheaded the project with the help of Illinois Senators Carol Moseley-Braun and Dick Durbin, and Illinois Representative Luis Gutierrez. "Chicago is indeed fortunate to be one of the great cultural centers of the world, and all of us must work to keep it that way. The free trolleys and other recent innovations and improvements at the Museum Campus add to the world-class status of our museums and will be a delight to the millions of our citizens and visitors who come to the Chicago lake front."

On the same day Congress passed ISTEA, the Illinois General Assembly in Springfield approved the State budget for fiscal year 1999, which included the Museum Initiative proposed earlier this year by Gov. Edgar at a ceremony in The Field Museum. It calls for making available to Illinois museums over the next five years \$50 million for the creation of new exhibits and for capital improvements. In addition, the State will set aside \$5 million for museums to use in developing creative educational programs for Illinois school children.

John Weinstein / GN88748.43



Discovery, Fun And Adventure Await At The Campus

Top: The finished Museum Campus. Not so long ago, the park in front of the building used to be a paved parking lot for employees and the north-bound lane of Lake Shore Drive used to run between the Shedd and the Field.

Now that the Museum Campus is officially completed, the Chicago Park District, The Field Museum, Adler Planetarium and Shedd Aquarium will be offering Campus visitors a host of free entertainment throughout the summer. The schedule and location for these activities are as follows:

The Adler Satellite Tent, located outside the Adler Planetarium, will feature hands-on activities that combine the learning and fun of the three campus museums every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through Labor Day weekend from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. At this tent, visitors

can create their own sundials, transform themselves into butterflies and "virtually" race fish against a Ferrari and a bus.

The Big Bang Tent, located in the center of the Museum Campus, will feature carnivals and theater performances by Midnight Circus based on the museums' themes of earth, sea and sky. Performances by this eclectic group of actors, acrobats and musicians will be 30 minutes long and will be presented five times daily at 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The Chicago Architecture Foundation will offer 45-minute architectural walking tours relating to the history of the lake front, the creation of the campus and the remarkable architecture of the three museum buildings. Throughout July, tours will be available every Thursday at 6 p.m. and every Saturday at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.; additional days and times to be determined.

Please call 312.409.4178 for more information.

Come visit the brand new, expanded Field Museum Store. A delight for all ages and interests, it's a new world marketplace on the shore of Lake Michigan featuring objects from around the globe, as well as books, gifts inspired by nature and educational toys for children. The store is located just inside the south entrance to the building. Museum admission is not required.



7/1 Wednesday

Assignment: Rescue Performance Piece

2 – 4 p.m. See "A Thousand Faces," an original performance piece created by The Field Museum/Music Theater Workshop Teens Together Ensemble. Through movement, monologue, scenes, poetry and song, teens will bring the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit to life by becoming both real and fictional characters encountered by Varian Fry during his rescue efforts. Free with regular admission. Continues Tuesdays through Fridays in July and August. For more information, call 312.322.8854.

7/5 Sunday

Assignment: Rescue Storytelling

2 – 2:45 p.m. Join Marilyn Price for "Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History" in which she weaves humor and wisdom into tales from the Jewish folk tradition. This experienced storyteller also uses a magical blend of history, ethics and values in her narratives. Additional presentations on July 19, August 1, 15 and 29. For all ages. Free with Museum admission. For more information, call 312.322.8854.

7/12 Sunday

Assignment: Rescue Dialogue

2 – 3 p.m. Psychologist Eva Fishell Lichtenberg discusses the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit and her own journey of escape from Germany as a child. Intended for families with older children. Additional presentation on July 26. Free with Museum admission. For more information, call 312.322.8854.

7/19 Sunday

Assignment: Rescue Field Trip

9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Spend a day exploring Chicago connections to the work of Varian Fry with Irving Cutler, professor emeritus at Chicago State University. Cutler will lead a daylong excursion to several Chicago museums, including the Spertus Museum, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Art Institute and the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art. It also includes a guided tour of the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit. Lunch and transportation by bus included. \$65 (\$55 members). For more information or to register, call 312.322.8854.

7/23 Thursday

7/24 Friday

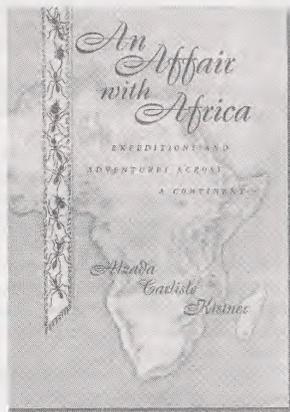
Members' Nights

5 – 11 p.m. Come see all the Museum's summer attractions in full swing, including "Living Colors: A Butterfly Garden;" the new dinosaur prep lab; the Museum Campus; and, of course, all the behind-the-scenes favorites that have made **Members' Nights** a part of Chicago history. This is a members-only event.

8/8 Saturday

Assignment: Rescue Dialogue

2 – 3 p.m. Walter Reed will share his experiences as a teenager in an internment camp in Southern France during 1940, his escape from Europe and his return as a GI conducting intelligence work. Designed for families with older children. Additional presentation on August 22. Free with Museum admission. For more information, call 312.322.8854.



8/13 Thursday

Lecture And Book Signing: An Affair With Africa

6 p.m. Join author Alzada Carlisle Kistner as she discusses her most recent book, *An Affair with Africa*, which chronicles her numerous expeditions to Africa with husband, David Kistner — the world's leading authority on the rare beetles that live with army ants and termites. *An Affair with Africa* begins in 1960 with their research expedition into the mysterious terrain of the Belgian Congo where the

couple became entangled in the turmoil of Africa's violent revolution. The book, which captures the allure of Africa and its political chaos, ends with the story of her nine-month excursion across the continent in 1972. Currently, Kistner is the associate editor of the journal *Sociobiology*. The lecture and book signing are free; no advance registration is necessary. For more information, call 312.322.8854. Parking is available for \$5 in the East Parking Lot on McFetridge Drive.

8/30 Sunday

Assignment: Rescue Film Viewing And Discussion With The Filmmaker

1 – 2 p.m. View the final screening of *Lisa Fitko — We Said We Will Not Surrender*, a film by Constance Zahn featuring activist Lisa Fitko and her husband, Hans.

Learn how this couple played a crucial role in aiding Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee by leading antifascist resistance fighters, as well as important political and cultural figures to safety (see below). The film highlights her personal experiences as a young woman in Berlin, her escape to Prague in 1933 and her work organizing an escape route through the Pyrenees. After the film, Fitko and Zahn will speak about the five years they worked together on this film. This event is free with general admission. See the "Free Visitor Programs" page for a listing of dates and times the film will be shown in July and August. The film is in German with English subtitles. Call 312.322.8854 for more information.



Below: For six months between 1940 and 1941, Lisa Fitko and her husband risked their lives leading groups of anti-Nazi refugees to freedom through the Pyrenees. Fitko is now 88 years old and lives in Chicago.

ASSIGNMENT: RESCUE

The Story Of Varian Fry And The Emergency Rescue Committee

The exhibit "Assignment: Rescue," which is currently on display until Aug. 30, 1998, reveals through photographs, walk-in environments, artifacts, artwork and documents the extraordinary story of Varian Fry, an American relief worker responsible for rescuing 2,000 anti-Nazi refugees from Vichy France during World War II. Among those he rescued were Hannah Arendt, Victor Brauner, André Breton, Marc Chagall, Marcel Duchamp, Max Ernst and Jacques Lipchitz.

Fry, an American foreign-policy editor, undertook a daring mission to France in 1940 to rescue anti-Nazi artists, scientists, writers, intellectuals and political refugees. Representing the Emergency Rescue Committee, a private American relief organization created when France fell to Germany, Fry entered

Vichy (the unoccupied portion of France) to offer assistance and support to political, intellectual and artistic refugees endangered by the "Surrender on Demand" clause of the Franco-German Armistice. This clause required the Vichy government to extradite any German nationals the Gestapo demanded. After arriving in Marseilles, armed only with a YMCA card entitling him admission to the country as a relief worker, Fry soon discovered that the French and American authorities would offer him little or no assistance.

Realizing the refugees would have to flee in secret, Fry began a perilous clandestine rescue mission from his room at the Hotel Splendide and later from the Centre Américain de Secours, a legal cover for his operation. With a team of Europeans and American



associates, Fry forged documents, exchanged money on the black market and devised escape routes to Spain. The French, however, cut Fry's mission short when they expelled him in 1941.

Varian Fry remained haunted by the knowledge that his mission had been incomplete. He died in 1967, shortly after receiving the Croix du Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor. In 1996, he was the first American named "Righteous Among the Nations" by Yad Vashem (Israel's Holocaust Remembrance Authority) in recognition of rescue performed by a non-Jew on behalf of Jews in the face of life-threatening danger.

Above: Photographs of key members of Varian Fry's Emergency Rescue Committee, as well as some of the forged documents they created to help 2,000 anti-Nazi refugees escape from Vichy France.

John Weinstein /GN88717.25A



Living Colors: A Butterfly Garden

Imagine: It's spring and all around you the world is turning green, the trees are budding and the flowers are coming into bloom. There's rich-pink phlox and white-meadow rue, fragrant lavender and lilac, red-bee balm and daisies with golden eyes. Everything smells fresh and new, and the air is filled with the sound of gently flowing water.

As the sun warms the air, a flash of red, coppery orange and bright yellow catches your eye. One by one, butterflies are spreading their wings, welcoming the sun and taking flight. Soon the space around you is filled with a rainbow of living colors: butterflies, everywhere you look... hundreds of them — chasing each other, sipping nectar from the flowers and flying within inches of your head. If you're very quiet, maybe one of them will land on your shoulder.

Welcome to "Living Colors: A Butterfly Garden." It's more than an exhibit; it's an experience in nature that is currently on display until Sept. 7, 1998.

At the building's south terrace, the Museum has constructed an enchanted garden of living colors in an expansive screened-in area. Here visitors can follow a path through a natural environment and experience three typical Midwest habitats: a prairie with grasslands, pond and stream; a woodland with trees and a waterfall; and a very special backyard garden. In each area, the Museum has planted native flowers and grasses, trees and shrubs — all specially chosen to appeal to butterflies and moths.

Though it is natural, the Museum has left nothing to chance. It has stocked the garden with native Midwest lepidoptera — 38 species of butterflies and moths (about 1,000 individuals at any given time).

The garden is designed to be a glorious sensory experience in which visitors are encouraged to linger and investigate the exhibit's natural surprises. For example, a mottled brown "leaf" may suddenly open and reveal itself as a beautiful red admiral, or a spicebush swallowtail may land on a



A monarch (*Danaus plexippus*) butterfly. Each year, these large North American butterflies fly 2,000 miles from the eastern United States and Canada to their wintering grounds in Mexico.

zinnia, uncoil its long proboscis and take a sip of nectar.

In the exhibit's backyard garden there is an "emerging tree." Here visitors can find butterflies in the making: the pupa stage or chrysalis. Inside the chrysalis, the pupa — formerly a caterpillar — will metamorphose, changing its structure to become an adult butterfly. For a lucky few, a butterfly may emerge from its chrysalis (or a moth from its cocoon), pushing clear of its enclosure and expanding its crumpled wings. When the wings are dry and hardened, it will take flight, looking for its first meal and an opportunity to reproduce.

Beyond the garden is an interpretive area with drawings, photographs and interactive displays. In this area, visitors can learn everything about butterflies: their life cycle, the way they fly, the difference between butterflies and moths, the reason their wings are so colorful, how they hide from predators and what is being done to protect these important, delicate and beautiful creatures.

While walking through the exhibit, visitors can ask guides for help in identifying the butterflies that have made this environment their home. In addition, the plants in "Living Colors: A Butterfly Garden" will grow and change as the summer progresses — making each visit a completely different experience.

John Weinstein /GN88714.07



John Weinstein /GN88716.16

Above: After walking through the butterfly garden, visitors enter the interpretive center where they can learn more about butterfly behavior.

Middle: A young boy goes looking for a butterfly in one of the exhibit's natural areas.

Top Left: A luna moth (*Actias luna*) finds comfort in the hands of a young visitor.

Philippine Centennial Exhibits

In celebration of the Philippine Centennial, The Field Museum has created two special exhibits: "Voyage of a Nation: The Philippines," and "Vanishing Treasures of the Philippine Rain Forest," both of which are currently on display until Nov. 29, 1998.

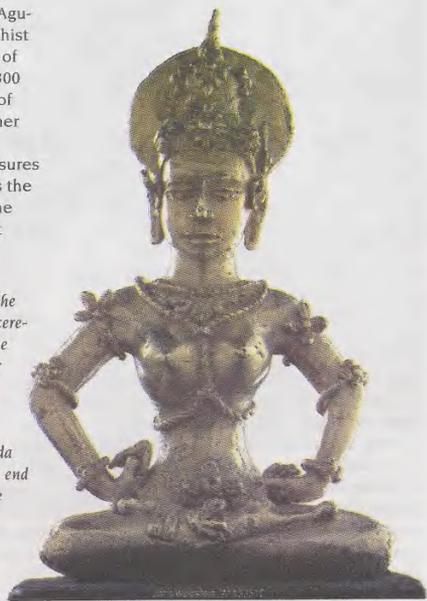
"Voyage of a Nation: The Philippines" is a 3,500-square-foot exhibit featuring 120 cultural artifacts from the Museum's collections, as well as from collections of other cultural institutions and the Filipino community. It recalls significant events in the island nation's histo-

ry and emphasizes the creative skills of Filipinos throughout the country's different regions. A highlight of the exhibit is the Agusan Statue, a solid gold statue of a Buddhist or Hindu deity discovered on the island of Mindanao and dating from 1000 AD to 1300 AD. This statue reflects the long history of contact between the Philippines and other world cultures.

The second exhibit, "Vanishing Treasures of the Philippine Rain Forest," highlights the rare birds and mammals found only in the Philippines and the ecological crisis that threatens their future.

Left: On May 29, 1998, the Museum raised the Philippine flag outside the north entrance in a ceremony marking the opening of the two Philippine Centennial exhibits. Pictured to the left is Peter Crane, vice president of academic affairs and director, who gave the opening remarks and introduced Dr. Max Basco, chairman of the Philippine Centennial Committee, and Emelinda Lee-Pineda, Philippine Consul General. At the end of the ceremony, the children (right) recited the Philippine Pledge of Allegiance in Tagalog, the official language of the Philippines.

Right: The Agusan Statue.



This Place We Call Home: Classes Exploring Chicago's Wilderness

As a way for people to learn more about the enormous concentration of threatened and endangered plant and animal species in the Midwest, The Field Museum, the Morton Arboretum and Chicago Wilderness starting offering the Naturalist Certificate Program (NCP) and Stewardship Training Program (STP). The NCP/STP program consists of a series of classes designed to guide the interested beginner or the more experienced naturalist through an integrated program of nature study.

Based on the concept that learning about nature is best conducted in the outdoors — the program integrates lectures and hands-on field classes in ecology, botany, zoology, geology and interpretation. Through these classes, participants learn how to identify plants and animals and how to conduct

research in natural areas. It is also a great way for people to meet others interested in natural history and the environment. In the words of a current student: "Be prepared for outdoor activity and encounters with nature that you may well remember for the rest of your life."

If you have any questions or would like to register, please call the Morton Arboretum at 630.719.2468.

Right: A group of NCP/STP students collect butterflies at a Chicago wilderness site.

Dick Todd/Photo USA



Upcoming Summer NCP/STP Classes At The Field

Ecology of Chicago Region Butterflies (N283F)
Doug Taron, Biology Curator, The Chicago Academy of Sciences

Late June and early July marks the peak of butterfly activity. In this class, participants learn how to identify butterflies, discuss the life histories of butterflies and learn about their habitat preferences. Everything taught in the class will be applied in monitoring exercises in Chicago's natural areas. Saturday meeting sites will be announced during the first class.

Friday, July 10, from 6 to 8 p.m., at The Field Museum; and two Saturdays, July 11 & 18, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., in the field (class meets at the site). \$101 (\$84 members). Limit 20.

Local Flora: Summer (B316F)
Rich Hyczyk, Field Museum Instructor

This class is the second in a three-season sequence that teaches partici-

pants the names and characteristics of native plants and those introduced by humans in local forests, prairies, wetlands and other habitats. Participants are encouraged to bring a hand lens. There are no prerequisites for this class.

Two Tuesdays, July 14 and July 28, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Field Museum; and three Sundays, July 12, 26 and August 2, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the field (class meets at the site). \$101 (\$84 members). Limit 20.

Tree Identification and Ecology (N242F)
Casey Sullivan, Urban Forester, Village of Riverside

In this class, participants learn how to identify native and commonly planted woody plants of the Chicago region. Participants will examine up to 80 trees, learn the skills needed to identify trees and will discuss relevant aspects of tree biology and ecol-

ogy. The recommended field guide for this course is *Forest Trees of Illinois* by Robert H. Mohlenbrock. Participants are encouraged to bring a hand lens.

Wednesday, July 22, from 6 to 9 p.m., at The Field Museum; and three Saturdays, July 25, August 1 and August 8, from 9 a.m. to noon, in the field (class meets at the site). \$101 (\$84 members). Limit 18.

Additional NCP/STP classes are offered at the Morton Arboretum and include:

Nature Connections; Wetland Ecology and Restoration; Introduction to Natural Areas Management; Stream Ecology; Insects and Their Relatives; Introduction to Botany; Recognizing Sedges (Carex) in the Field; and Understanding Grasses.



Field Nights Are Coming!

In celebration of **Downtown Thursday Nights** — a joint program of the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce — The Field Museum will open its doors to the public for free on Thursday evenings, 5 to 8 p.m., through August 27 (except July 23).

Against Indifference — An Evening With Elie Wiesel

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 1998, at 6:30 p.m.
\$18 (\$16 students, seniors and educators; \$14 members)

As part of the ongoing programming for the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit, The Field Museum is honored to host "Against Indifference" — a presentation by Elie Wiesel, Nobel Peace Prize winner, Boston University professor and author of more than 40 books.

When Wiesel was just 15 years old and living in Sighet, Romania, the Nazis sent him and his family to Auschwitz, where his mother and sister died, and later to Buchenwald, where his father died. At first, Wiesel remained silent after the war about what he endured as an inmate in the death camps. Persuaded to end that silence during an interview with French writer François Mauriac, he wrote *La Nuit* (Night), which was published in 1958 and has been translated into 25 languages.

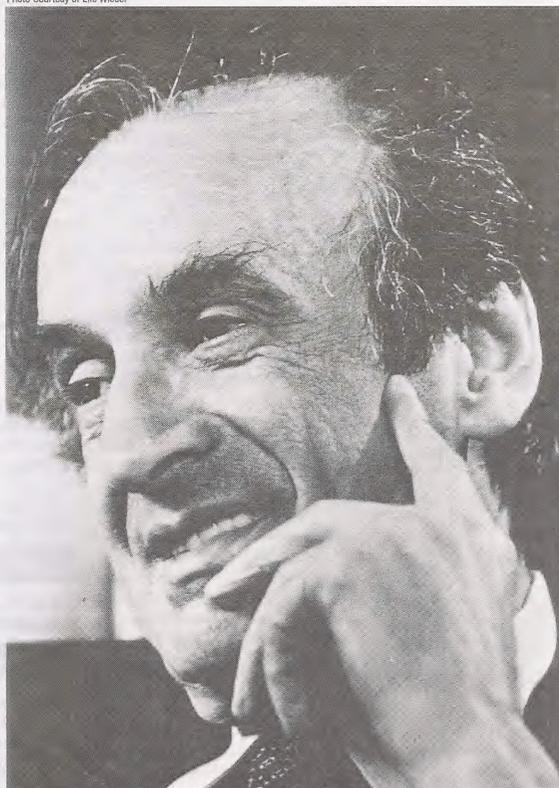
Since breaking his silence, Wiesel has

worked on behalf of oppressed people and has defended human rights and peace throughout the world. A devoted supporter of Israel, he also has defended the cause of Soviet Jews, Nicaragua's Miskito Indians, Argentina's "disappeared," Cambodian refugees, South African apartheid victims and more recently the victims and prisoners in the former Yugoslavia. After receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, Wiesel and his wife established The Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity to advance the cause of human rights and peace throughout the world by creating a new forum for the discussion of urgent ethical issues confronting humanity.

Tickets for "Against Indifference" are limited and must be reserved in advance. Call 312.322.8854 for more information or to charge your tickets by phone.

Arrangements for Elie Wiesel were made through the B'nai Brith Lecture Bureau. His appearance is sponsored in part by Sotheby's.

Photo Courtesy of Elie Wiesel



Please note that programs are subject to change. Check the informational directories located throughout the Museum for daily program listings.

Daily, July 1 – Aug 31

1 p.m. **Story Time: Facts, Fables and Fiction:** Enjoy a relaxing time creating art and learning new songs and stories in this program for preschoolers. One adult for every three children, please.

Tue to Fri in July & Aug

2–4 p.m. **A Thousand Faces.** As part of The Field Museum/Music Theater Workshop Teens Together Ensemble, eight teens are creating a performance piece in conjunction with the exhibit "Assignment: Rescue." Through movement, monologues, scenes, poetry and song, teens will bring the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit to life by becoming both real and fictional characters encountered by Varian Fry during his rescue efforts. The performance is free with general admission.

July 4 – Saturday

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Drawing in The Field** activity. Join artist Amy Geerling as she helps visitors draw their favorite artifact.

July 5 – Sunday

Photo Courtesy of Lisa Fittko



Above: This photograph from 1928 shows Lisa Fittko at age 18. After helping to rescue anti-Nazi refugees living in France, Fittko and her husband fled to Cuba. They gained admission into the United States seven years later.

Right: A viceroys butterfly (Limenitis archippus) takes flight inside the Museum's "Living Colors: A Butterfly Garden" summer exhibit.

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** . . . A documentary film, presented as part of the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit programming, that reveals the extraordinary efforts of Chicagoan Lisa Fittko, a refugee from two World Wars, a political activist, a stalwart of the German Resistance and a smuggler of refugees. Fittko and her husband, Hans, participated in antifascist activities from a series of locations during their life in exile and played a crucial role in Varian Fry's mission. The 42-minute film is in German with English subtitles. For more information, call 312.322.8854.

2–2:45 p.m. **Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History.** Stories from the Jewish folk tradition told with wisdom and humor by Marilyn Price, an experienced storyteller who blends history, ethics and values in her tales. Intended for all ages.

July 11 – Saturday

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Meet Field Museum Scientist Phil Parrillo** and learn about the Museum's lepidoptera research collection and the life cycle of butterflies and moths.

10:30 a.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Vanishing Animal Treasures of the Philippine Rain Forest** — a lecture by Lawrence Heaney, Field Museum associate curator of mammals.

Highlights of The Field

Museum tours are offered Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.: Visit some of the exhibits that make this Museum one of the world's greatest. Discover the stories behind the exhibits. Check weekend listings for Saturday & Sunday Highlight Tours.

11:30 a.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Dolphins and Whales of the Philippines** — a lecture by Louella Dolar, Ph.D. candidate at the University of California at San Diego.

12:30 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Vanishing Plant Treasures of the Philippine Rain Forest** — a lecture by Jacinto Regalado, Field Museum research associate in the botany department.

1:30 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Bird Studies in the Philippines and their Role for Conservation** — a lecture by Steven Goodman, Field Museum field biologist.

July 12 – Sunday

Noon & 2 p.m. **Butterflies, Wonder Why** play by the Green Light Theater Company. Learn more about the migration, metamorphosis, habitats and mimicry of butterflies in this lively performance.

2–3 p.m. **Dialogue with Eva Fishell Lichtenberg**, a psychologist who will discuss the "Assignment: Rescue" exhibit and her own journey of escape from Germany as a child. For families with older children.

July 15 – Wednesday

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

July 19 – Sunday

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

11 a.m. & 2 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Culture of Madison & The Licos Sisters** — a performance highlighting dance and music from the Philippines.

11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Martial Arts of Escrima, Kali & Arnis** — a performance by Four Winds Martial Arts performance group.

Noon. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Performing Arts of Chicago Youth Group** — a dance performance.

1:30 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Sugar Country** — a folk performance of old and new songs of the Philippines.

2–2:45 p.m. **Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History.** See July 5.

July 25 – Saturday

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Meet Field Museum Scientist Phil Parrillo.** See July 11.

July 26 – Sunday

11:45 a.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Zamboanga del Norte** — a presentation of courtship dances from the Subanon region.

Noon & 2 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Maharlika Escrima** — a performance of Spanish sword and dagger fencing combined with indigenous Philippine sword art.

1 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Sampaguita Choral Group** — a performance of the popular and religious songs of the Philippines.

2:30 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Filipiniana Dance Troupe** — a performance of lively dances from around the Philippines.

11 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Walk-around Yo-Yo** — a demonstration by Joe Pintor who will teach visitors about games and toys of the Philippines.

Noon & 2 p.m. **Butterflies, Wonder Why** play. See July 12.

2–3 p.m. **Dialogue with Eva Fishell Lichtenberg.** See July 12

July 29 – Wednesday

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 15.

August 1 – Saturday

10 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Drawing in The Field** activity. See July 14.

2–2:45 p.m. **Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History.** See July 5.

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Taste of the Philippines** — purchase a variety of pastries and rice dishes from Chicago-area Philippine restaurants, including Mom's Bake Shop and Barrio Fiesta.

11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Martial Arts of Escrima, Kali & Arnis Experience** performance.

Noon. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Performing Arts of Chicago Youth Group** performance.

2 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Philippine Performing Arts of Chicago** performance.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Bakya Carving** — a demonstration by artist J. R. Cadawas of traditional Philippine carving.

11 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Walk-around Yo-Yo** demonstration.

August 2 – Sunday

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Taste of the Philippines.**

11 a.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Filipiniana Dance Troupe** performance.

1 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Almazan Philippine Dance Troupe** — a performance of traditional dance and music of the Philippines.

Noon & 2 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Maharlika Escrima** demonstration.

11 a.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Walk-around Yo-Yo** demonstration.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. **Philippine Centennial Celebration: Bakya Carving** demonstration.

August 6 – Thursday

6 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

August 8 – Saturday

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Meet Field Museum Scientist Dave Pollock.** See July 11.

Noon. **Insect Parade.** Help celebrate the beginning of the Monarch migration by joining our Insect Parade on the Museum Campus. Throughout the day, a variety of butterfly activities will take place at the Museum. Visitors dressed as insects will be admitted free to the Museum.

2–3 p.m. **Dialogue with Walter Reed** in which he will discuss his experiences as a teenager in an internment camp in Southern France during the 1940s, his escape from Europe and his return as a GI conducting intelligence work. For families with older children.

August 9 – Sunday

Noon & 2 p.m. **Butterflies, Wonder Why** play. See July 12.

August 15 – Saturday

2–2:45 p.m. **Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History.** See July 5.

August 22 – Saturday

11 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Meet Field Museum Scientist Dave Pollock.** See July 11.

2–3 p.m. **Dialogue with Walter Reed.** See August 8.

August 23 – Sunday

Noon & 2 p.m. **Butterflies, Wonder Why** play. See July 12.



John Weinstein/ONB8714.98C

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

August 27 – Thursday

6 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

August 29 – Saturday

2–2:45 p.m. **Stories of Heroes, Heroines and History.** See July 5.

August 30 – Sunday

1 p.m. **Lisa Fittko — We Said We Will Not Surrender** documentary. See July 5.

Sutton's Baby Birds Branch Out From Museum's Rare Book Room

The University of Oklahoma Press recently released *Baby Bird Portraits by George Miksch Sutton, Watercolors in the Field Museum* — a book of 35 paintings of downy chicks, nestlings and fledglings produced from life by George Sutton, one of the most beloved bird artists of the 20th century. Paul A. Johnsgard, the book's author and foundation professor of life sciences at the University of Nebraska, selected the paintings from a collection of originals in the Museum's rare book room, most of which have never before been reproduced. The paintings in the book depict 19 species of North American birds, including familiar garden varieties like cardinals; Great Plains inhabitants like grassland sparrows; and upland and wetland birds, including bobwhites, moorhens and sandpipers. Each species is accompanied by an essay written by Johnsgard.

During his long ornithological career, Sutton painted hundreds of birds from life and recorded their developmental changes. A student and friend of famed ornithologist and painter Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Sutton is renowned for using brushwork and subtle color variations to document the characteristic features of the birds' species, as well as to capture the poses and attributes that make each bird so unique.

The Field Museum obtained the paintings from William Johnson, a long-time friend of Sutton and to whom the artist entrusted his work before his death in 1982. A few years later, Johnson began searching for a public institution that not only could preserve the collection but shared his desire to see the paintings published. He eventually contacted Joel Oppenheimer of Douglas Kenyon

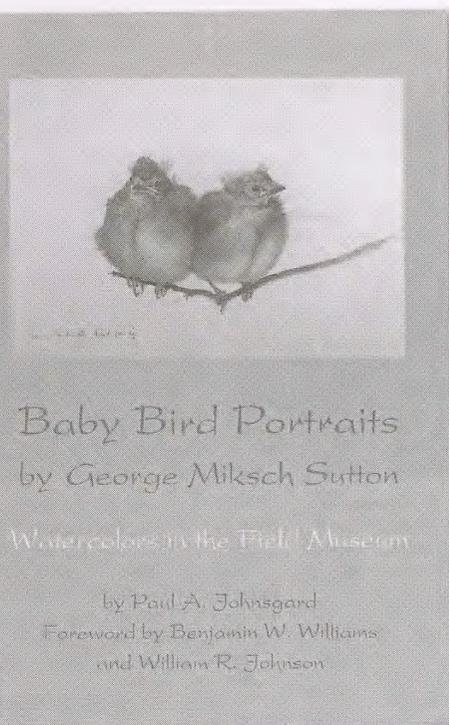
Gallery in Chicago (now Kenyon Oppenheimer Inc), who, knowing of the Museum's vast collection of watercolors by Fuertes, approached Ben Williams, the Museum's librarian.

"... when Oppenheimer brought the baby bird collection to the Museum for our examination, we first viewed Sutton's studies while surrounded by Fuertes' Abyssinian bird portraits," writes Williams in the book's foreword. "The experience gave substantial reality to the idea of a Fuertes-Sutton tradition and settled our resolve to join these two collections."

The collections were eventually united in 1986 through the foresight of Joel Oppenheimer and through the generosity of Brooks McCormick.

Baby Bird Portraits by George Miksch Sutton, Watercolors in the Field Museum sells for \$20 and is available in The Field Museum Library by calling 312.322.8874. There is an additional \$3 charge for shipping and handling.

John Weinstein / GN8883.31A



Left: The Friends of The Field Museum Library got a sneak preview of *Baby Bird Portraits* by George Sutton on April 24, 1998, at Joel Oppenheimer's gallery in Chicago. The reception included a lecture and book signing by Paul Johnsgard, the book's author. Shown here are Joel Oppenheimer (left) and Brooks McCormick (right). For information about joining The Friends of The Field Museum Library, please call 312.322.8874.

The Field Honors Its Volunteers

Last year, 464 volunteers collectively donated 65,000 hours of their time to the Museum — the equivalent of 36 full-time employees. In doing so, these volunteers, who can be found working throughout the building from the research areas to the public relations department, ensure the Museum meets its growing demand for effective programming in research, collections and public learning.

To express its appreciation, the Museum treated volunteers to a dinner in Stanley Field Hall on April 20, 1998. Awards were presented to those who have volunteered for 10 years or more at the Museum and those who donated 400 hours or more of their time in 1997.

During the dinner, Field Museum President John McCarter presented special anniversary awards to Stanley Dvorak, a 44-year veteran of the zoology department who began volunteering 14 years before the Museum created a formalized program, and to Barbara Roob, who has volunteered in the education department for the

last 25 years.

At the end of the award ceremony, McCarter noted: "We hope to recruit more people like you who love this institution, believe in its mission and are willing to make the exceptional contributions of their time and service."

For information about volunteering at The Field Museum, please contact Patti Stratton at 312.922.9410, ext. 526 or visit the Museum's Web site at <<www.fmnh.org/info/volunteer.htm>>

Kim Mazanek / GN88674.18



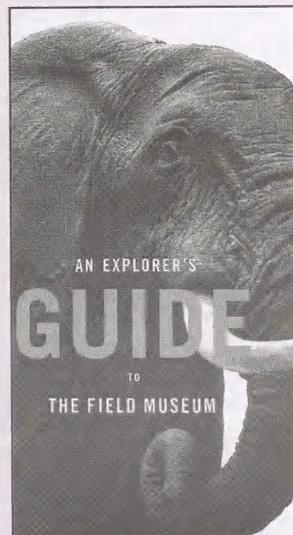
From left to right are Stanley Dvorak; Janet Voight, associate curator of invertebrates in the zoology department; and Field Museum President John McCarter.

Museum Publishes Guidebook

With 300,000 square feet of exhibit space containing thousands of objects, it's easy to understand why some Field Museum visitors feel a little overwhelmed. To help solve that problem, the Museum recently published a guidebook, *An Explorer's Guide to The Field Museum*, written by Logan Ward, a journalist who covers art, travel and environmental issues.

The colorful, 72-page book highlights 60 objects from the Museum's collection — 30 from nature and 30 from global cultures. Plants, animals, rocks and fossils fill the first half of the book. Objects of human culture from Asia, the South Pacific, South America, Egypt and other parts of Africa constitute the second section. Each object is assigned a number keyed to two maps in the book. The first map is a floor plan that shows visitors where to find the object; the second is a world map showing the origin of each object.

Available at the Museum and local bookstores, *An Explorer's Guide to The Field Museum* sells for \$5 and is intended to be used repeatedly on return visits to the Museum.



The Field Museum: John Patterson / 48827



Above: A photograph taken by John Patterson of the railway a few miles south of Tsavo Bridge. On the left and right of the tracks are the 9-foot-tall wait-a-bit bushes that extend like a thick blanket throughout Tsavo National Park. Field Museum scientists hope to learn whether these bushes are the reason why some male lions in the area are maneless.

ed that after feeding at a kill site, hyenas will bring back to their dens bones rich in bone marrow (like femora and humeri), break them open and extract the soft, vascular fatty tissue embedded inside. On the other hand, if a lion lived in a cave it would most likely drag an entire carcass back from a kill site.

Kerbis and Gnoske agreed it would be worth finding the cave.

"In all my research in the Middle East and Africa, I rarely found a carnivore den containing any significant quantities of human remains," says Kerbis. "I think Tom wanted to confirm whether it was a lion den. Though that question interested me, my desire to find the cave focused more on documenting the types of human bones a large predator would leave behind, which would be useful in my research into early human fossil sites."

But before they had a chance to locate it, the mystery took a strange twist.

A few years after their initial discussion, Kerbis showed the passage to Chap Kusimba, a native of Kenya who was studying the preurban cultures of the East African coast. Upon reading the passage, Kusimba turned to his colleague and told him that Patterson may have uncovered a burial site belonging to the Wataita who inhabited the area until 1948 when the Kenyan government created Tsavo National Park. As he explained, the Wataita often buried their dead in shallow graves, disinterred the bodies, removed just the skulls and placed them in rock shelters.

Now the mystery and questions surrounding the cave were more than any of the three could resist. From a research perspective, they agreed the den was far too important to ignore.

Kusimba was the first to search for the den. In the summer of 1996, as part of his yearly pilgrimage to his archeological site in Mtwapa, about 15 miles north of Mombasa on Kenya's coast, he took a break to visit Tsavo National Park. His main objective was to get permission from KWS for Field Museum researchers to search for the cave, but he also took the opportunity to scout out the area. Patterson's sketchy description of finding the cave after walking up a dry river bed toward some "rocky looking hills" to the southwest of Tsavo Bridge served as Kusimba's guide.

Though he found no evidence of the cave, Kusimba returned to Chicago with the full support of KWS for the project and with a contact in the KWS research office by the name of Samuel Andanje.

Kerbis was the next member of the team to visit Tsavo. Before leading a field research training program in Uganda, he and his wife, Pamela Austin, spent five days in Tsavo in January 1997 as Andanje's guests. At the park, Naitali Kio, head warden of Tsavo's eastern

In Search Of The Lost Cave . . . Continued from page 1

section and a graduate of the Museum's Advanced Training Program, lent them a vehicle, a driver, two KWS rangers and two members of his elite antipoaching unit. During the trip, the couple searched to the southeast of the bridge, often as far as eight miles from the Tsavo River — all in the blistering heat of the area's arid and hostile environment and encountering at every step the *ngoja kidogo* (wait-a-bit) thorn bushes that envelop the entire landscape. The thorns of these bushes are so strong and sharp they can literally rip the clothes from a person's back. Though they uncovered two promising river beds that matched Patterson's description of finding the cave after walking up a dry ravine shaded by doum palms — one of which they investigated extensively — they could not locate the cave.

"God, it was frustrating," says Kerbis. "We were so comprehensive in our search, going up every stream bed as described in Patterson's book and then looking at all the offshoots. Overall, I think we found about six caves, none of which remotely matched Patterson's description."

The team was beginning to wonder if it was worth continuing.

But Kerbis and Gnoske decided to take one more stab at it, this time with the help of Ben Marks, a collection assistant in the bird division. In March 1997, after working with Ugandan researchers as part of the MacArthur-funded African Tropical Biodiversity Program in the Impenetrable Forest of Uganda and conducting collection research in a highland swamp along Rwanda's border, the three hopped aboard a dilapidated bus to Tsavo.

"Though we couldn't use Field Museum time or funding to search for the den, we were determined to find a way to do it," says Gnoske. "After our work concluded, we scraped together personal funds and left for Kenya on a grueling 18-hour bus ride from Kampala."

On the first day, the team spent 10 hours investigating every inch of the last remaining stream bed identified by Kerbis in the earlier trip but found no evidence of the cave. Exhausted and dehydrated, they returned to the area where they believed Patterson had camped and where the lions had focused their reign of terror.

"We stood in this spot and considered all the possibilities such as poor coordinates and shifting sands and stream courses that may have buried the cave," explains Gnoske. "One thing we knew is that there was no point in deviating from Patterson's description because the area is so vast. Without the book, it would have been like trying to find a needle in a haystack."

They agreed that since their searches had been so comprehensive, there had to be something wrong with Patterson's directions. They didn't think the cave was any further from the bridge than they had already searched because Patterson wasn't foolish enough to leave camp for a lengthy expedition with only one porter — whom he called "moota" (fatty) — and with few supplies other than a .303 caliber sporting rifle. In addition, he couldn't go too far because he was still overseeing the construction of the bridge. The other option was that Patterson had made a navigational error, something the team ruled out because of Patterson's vast experience in the field as a seasoned British army officer and a distinguished engineer.

"At this point none of this was making any

sense," says Gnoske. "We were at our rope's end."

Then Kerbis remembered catching an error in Patterson's book in which he described the confluence of the Tsavo River and the Athi/Galana rivers meeting to the northwest, when in fact they meet to the northeast. He also pointed out that when Patterson went out to explore the "rocky looking hills" from his camp, he described crossing the Tsavo River — which would have been impossible since his camp was already south of it!

Gnoske then admitted he thought the scattering of boulders to the northwest of the bridge looked much more like "rocky looking hills" than the large solid granite structure in the southwest toward which they had focused their searches. In Tom's view, this structure looked more like Mount Rushmore than a hill.

However, they still weren't convinced Patterson had made a mistake. They reluctantly agreed to conduct a preliminary search in the morning of the area to the northwest of the river. That night, Gnoske found the evidence that transformed a scouting mission into a full-fledged search.

Unable to sleep, knowing this was his last chance to find the cave, Gnoske decided to review Patterson's book — what he found in light of Kerbis' comments shocked him. Throughout the book where Patterson gave directional coordinates, he was consistently 90 degrees off. From Tsavo, he wrote he could see Mount Kilimanjaro to the south, when it is to the west. He wrote that the Ndungu Escarpment was to the east, when it is to the north. And he wrote that the N'dii Range was to the south, when it is to the west.

The next morning, Gnoske told Kerbis of his late-night discovery. What they believe happened was that when Patterson wrote his book eight years after discovering the cave, he incorrectly oriented the hand-drawn map he was using as a reference by 90 degrees. Alternatively, the map was wrong, or the book's editor incorrectly transcribed his notes.

This new information sent their confidence soaring. They jumped into a jeep, drove down the Mombasa-Nairobi Highway that splits the park in half, crossed the Tsavo Bridge and drove up the river's northern bank. Within minutes they discovered a dry stream bed with doum palms majestically lining its banks. On foot and accompanied by KWS personnel, they split into four groups: one went down the left bank, one down the right, one down the middle and one following all three.

After 45 minutes, Gnoske, a member of the fourth group, heard Kerbis shouting from across the ravine. He ran toward the screams, working his way through a tangled cluster of wait-a-bit bushes until he entered a clearing. Directly ahead stood a smiling Kerbis in front of what could only be described as a "fear-some-looking cave." To confirm their discovery, Kerbis and Gnoske compared it to a copy of a grainy black and white photograph Patterson took when he found the cave in 1899 (see p. 1). The two caves were identical. Like a couple of anxious children on Christmas morning, Gnoske and Kerbis scrambled up to the mouth of the cave, pushed past some stranger fig roots blocking the entrance and entered a dark chamber 4 feet high, 15 feet wide and about 20 feet deep. In the back, about 2 feet off the ground, a small opening led to a narrow chamber that Kerbis, the thinner of the two men, could only investigate by

"squirming around like a salamander."

Their initial joy, however, turned to bitter disappointment. Other than a few bats and a wasp's nest Kerbis found the hard way, the cave was empty: Nothing — no bones, no copper bangles, just a thin layer of red sand covering the cave's rocky floor.

"It was really disappointing," says Kerbis. "Tom was really frantic because the last thing we had to do to confirm this whole story was to find some bones; even a tooth would have satisfied us. It immediately became clear that the cave was right in the middle of a seasonal stream bed and that the cave's contents had long since washed away. In fact, from what I could tell, the cave was carved out by the stream."

Kerbis was so upset he went out for a walk and happened to find a collapsed eagle's nest. While Kerbis investigated the nest to take his mind off the cave, he could hear Tom frantically scraping the cave's rocky floor with his fingers hoping to find some evidence of human remains.

Once their initial disappointment subsided, Kerbis and Gnoske realized that by excavating the cave and stream bed they might be able to recover some of the bones — something that would take much planning and the expertise of an archaeologist.

The next day they asked KWS Regional Director John Muhanga for permission to assemble a Museum team to excavate the area. Muhanga was so overjoyed with the discovery that he not only agreed to the project but began talking about creating near the cave an interpretative center and an exhibit about the lions (the cave is only a mile from the Mombasa-Nairobi Highway). He then asked whether they would help KWS create a research-based educational center in Voi, a town 40 miles south of the cave. Their initial discussions eventually culminated in an institution-wide memorandum of understanding between the Museum and KWS, which Field Museum President John McCarter and KWS Director David Western signed on April 7, 1998, at The Field Museum.

Back in Chicago, their discovery took on a life of its own (all of which will be covered in more detail in future issues of *In the Field*). Chap Kusimba agreed to begin excavating the cave and the stream bed in the fall of 1998 in collaboration with Dr. Karega-Munene, head of archaeology at the National Museums of Kenya. Kusimba also decided to take the opportunity to learn more about the different cultures that have inhabited the park and how they carved out an existence in Tsavo's hostile environment. As part of his research, Kusimba will study the ivory and slave caravans of Arab traders that snaked through the park for 2,000 years, ending a few years after Patterson shot the lions. Because the slaves and porters suffered unimaginable conditions along these routes, which ran from the East African coast to Africa's interior, many died along the way or were too weak to continue. There is enough

documentation to suggest lions and hyenas fed on these poor souls and that humans became a dietary fixture for the area's predators. Therefore, the Tsavo lions that Patterson encountered probably were continuing a behavior passed down to them through the generations. In the minds of these lions, Patterson's camp was simply a caravan that didn't move.

Meanwhile, Bruce Patterson agreed to study the extent of Tsavo's maneless lion population and to conduct DNA tests to learn whether their lack of manes is a result of living among the wait-a-bit thorn bushes or is the result of a genetic trait. Though still in the planning stages, KWS will consider the request of Gnoske and Bruce Patterson to remove several live lions from the park and to raise them in the United States to see if they will grow manes. KWS will pick maneless lions that would otherwise have to be destroyed because they wandered out off the park and wreaked havoc on the local populace.

During the excavation, Kerbis will analyze any bones unearthed by Kusimba to see if they show any distinctive gnaw marks that might suggest whether the cave belonged to a hyena or a lion. And because 28 Indian "coolies" were among the 130 railway workers killed, the team should be able to tell from dental patterns whether the bones belonged to individuals from sub-Saharan Africa or from the Indian subcontinent. If they find remains of Indians, then Patterson was correct to assume he had found his slain railway crew. In addition, Kerbis will explore Tsavo's prehistoric bone-filled lava tubes to document how the area's environment has changed over time.

Gnoske, an experienced taxidermist, will continue to be involved by assisting on all the projects and helping KWS set up the facility in Voi and the interpretative center near the den.

"All of us credit Tom with the interest and vision for the comprehensive research program that has now developed around the man-eaters," says Bruce Patterson. "In a real sense, this integrated program has been founded on a 5-year-old's sense of wonderment of a museum exhibit and nurtured by the unrelenting curiosity that it created. Not bad for two 75-year-old exhibit mounts."



Georgia Phipps/okes (08/27/13:20)

den in Kenya and later served with the British Army in World War 1. He lectured widely on his conquest and, after speaking at The Field Museum in 1924, sold the skins and skulls of the lions to the Museum. The man-eating lions of Tsavo (above) are currently on display in the Rice Wildlife Research Station.

From the Field Archives

July 1930

The Museum placed on exhibit a white rhinoceros collected during the Conover-Everard African Expedition of 1926-1927. Field Museum taxidermist Leon Walters prepared the specimen and used the cellulose-acetate process he invented to recreate the rhino's thick skin.

President Stanley Field purchased the single heaviest and largest meteorite ever recorded at the time. The meteorite, weighing 745 pounds, tore into a field near Paragould, Ark, on Feb. 17, 1930, at 4:05 a.m. It hit the Earth with such force it left a 9-foot-deep crater in the ground; the sound of which could be heard as far north as Poplar Bluff, Mo. and as far east as Covington, Tenn.

Museum zoologists sailed from San Francisco on a steamship bound for Aitutaki, which is part of the Cook Island chain of volcanic and coral islands 2,000 miles northeast of New Zealand. At the time, it was the most remote and least known island of the Pacific Ocean. According to *Field Museum News*, very few foreigners had set foot on the island that "is sparsely populated by natives whose life is entirely unmodified by civilization."

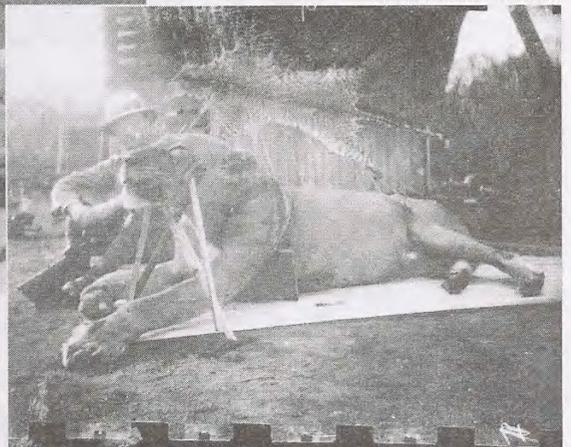
August 1930

The Field Museum completed an exhibit of an extinct group of small three-toed horses (*Mesohippus*) that lived in North America 38 million years ago. With this display, the Museum became the first institution anywhere to have created a life-sized and lifelike restoration of an extinct mammal group.

A donor sent the Museum's zoology department a rare, live rainbow snake (*Farancia erythrogramma*), native to the southeastern United States. Staff taxidermists reproduced the snake's colorful skin using the cellulose-acetate process invented by Museum taxidermist Leon Walters.

French naturalist Jean Delacour asked Museum zoologists to study 9,000 mammals he collected from French Indo-China (Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos). Included in the collection was a new species of black monkey with a white back, several new species of squirrel and a small deer previously unknown to science.

The Field Museum, John Patterson /Z93658



Right: John Patterson with one of the Tsavo lions he shot and killed in 1898. He killed the first lion on Dec. 9, 1898, and brought the second one down three weeks later. The lions were so heavy, it took eight men to carry each carcass back to the campsite. After completing the railroad, Patterson became chief game war-



Field Museum Tours at a Glance

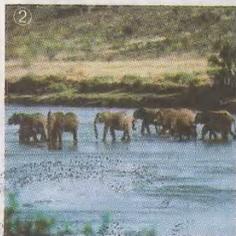
Jungle Rivers of South America: The Amazon and Orinoco

Oct. 27, 1998, to
Nov. 11, 1998

Duration: 16 days

Guest Leader: naturalist
Morgan Smith

Price: Starts at \$4,950,
including airfare from Miami.



Arabian Adventure: Yemen and Oman

Nov. 11, 1998, to
Nov. 26, 1998

Duration: 15 days

Guest Leader: Willard White,
vice president of institutional
advancement

Price: \$7,400, including
airfare from Chicago.



The Far Side of Antarctica by Icebreaker

Nov. 17, 1998, to
Dec. 19, 1998

Duration: 33 days

Guest Leader: polar scientist
Rita Mathews

Price: \$18,995; airfare
not included.

Antarctic & The Falkland Islands

Jan. 19, 1999, to
Feb. 1, 1999

Duration: 14 days

Guest Leader: polar scientist
Rita Mathews

Price: Starts at \$4,395;
airfare not included.

① Egyptian Odyssey

Jan. 24, 1999, to
Feb. 7, 1999

Duration: 15 days

Field Museum Leader:
anthropologist Jonathan Haas

Price: \$4,295, including
airfare from Chicago.

Costa Rica's Wildlife and Ecology

Jan. 29, 1999, to
Feb. 7, 1999

Duration: 10 days

Field Museum Leader:
botanist William Burger

Price: \$3,125, including
airfare from Chicago.

② Africa and the Indian Ocean by Private Jet

Feb. 7, 1999, to
March 3, 1999

Duration: 25 days

Field Museum Leader:
zoologist Bruce Patterson

Price: \$27,950, including
airfare London/London via
private, first-class jet.

Tanzania Migration Safari

Feb. 11, 1999, to
Feb. 24, 1999

Duration: 14 days

Field Museum Leader:
zoologist William Stanley

Price: \$5,890, including
airfare from Chicago.



③ The Philippines: Islands of Diversity

Feb. 13, 1999, to
March 3, 1999

Duration: 19 days

Field Museum Leader:
zoologist Lawrence Heaney

Price: TBA.

1999 Spring, Summer and Fall

February

Exploring the Yachtsman's
Caribbean

March

Family Adventure to Belize

April

Micronesia Expedition

May

British Columbia
and Alaska

Turkey: Crossroads
of Civilizations

June

Remote Ireland
and Scotland

July

The Best of Alaska

Galapagos Islands
Adventure

August

France: Total Solar Eclipse

Northwest Passage
to Greenland

North Pole Dive Expedition

September

Botswana and Namibia

Kenya Migration Safari

Iran: Land of Ancient Persia

October

Archaeology and
Landscapes of China

Please Note: Dates, prices and itineraries are subject to change. Prices are per person, double occupancy.
For more information, please call Kelly or Christine at 800.811.7244, or e-mail them at <<fimtours@sover.net>>.