



THE PTERANODON

THE STERNBERG MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY

No. 69

October 2015

October Haunted Happenings

Gotham's Underworld

Friday, October 30th
7-10pm

A Night at the Museum takes a scary twist when the dome becomes **Gotham's Underworld**. Dare to be scared and spend the night in a gallery of horrors. The doors creak open at 7pm. Gotham's Underworld is not for the young or faint of heart. Admission is \$5 for ages 13 and older.

The haunted museum is a partnership between the Sternberg and civic and university groups who compete for a \$250 prize for the best haunted gallery. If your organization would like to haunt a gallery contact Ian Trevethan, the Sternberg's outreach coordinator at (785)445-9022



Spooktacular

Saturday, October 31st
2:30-4:00pm

Ghosts, goblins, ghouls, and all masked characters that haunt Halloween are invited to visit the Sternberg for a **Spooktacular** museum tour. Visit the snake station, see what the tortoises are wearing on Halloween, watch the mice play, and try out an experiment at the science station. Eagle Communications and ECTV will be waiting to interview each goblin and hand out candy, a toothbrush, and a flashlight.

Volunteers are needed to man stations and conduct tours. Contact Thea Haugen at (785)628-5517

Science Under the Dome

Cretaceous Sea World

National Fossil Day at the Museum

October 10, 2015

It's a **FREE DAY**

Dr. Laura Wilson, Professor of Paleontology at FHSU and curator of fossil collections at the Sternberg Museum invites the public to spend a day exploring the fossil history of Kansas. Visitors will examine fossils of creatures that swam in the sea covering Kansas 65 million years ago. Discover how time and environment influenced survival and evolution. Presentations for all ages are planned between 10am and 4pm



Batman at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History

Curtis Schmidt, MSc

Meet Curtis Schmidt, MSc, Zoological Collections Manager for the Sternberg Museum and the Sternberg's resident batman. He is a co-investigator with Dr Elmer Finck, Professor of Biology at FHSU on a three-year study of the **Northern Long-eared Bat**. This bat was recently added to the federal list of threatened species. Schmidt and Finck, received a State Wildlife Grant from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to conduct the study; data collected will provide a baseline of information on the bat's range, hibernation, and birthing habitats in Kansas. Data and specimens collected will be added to the museum's zoological collections.

As collections' manager Curtis is responsible for the collection, preparation, cataloguing, and storage of zoological specimens. He assists in the development of exhibits, teaches a collection's management class, and co-sponsors the museum's summer biology camp.

The Sternberg Museum of Natural History houses one of the largest zoological collections in the United States. Over 200,000 specimens are available to researchers around the world.



Discovery Under the Dome

October Programming

Natural History for Pre-Schoolers

October 1st & 21st

10:00-11:00am

Members \$4, General Public \$6

Adventures & Activities for Grade School

October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

3:30 -5:00pm

Members \$5, General Public \$7

National Fossil Day

October 10th

All Day

Free Day at the Museum

Gotham Underworld Haunted Museum

Friday, October 30th

7:00-10:00pm

Admission \$5

Spooktacular

Saturday, October 31st

2:30-4:00pm

What to see Under the Dome

George Sternberg's Fish-Within-a-Fish

Fossils of fish and reptiles that called the Cretaceous Sea home 65 million years ago.

Bringing Fossils to Life Gallery

Four exhibits showcasing fossils from museum collections and their modern day relatives.

Rattlerssss: From Fear to Fascination.

Twenty-three live rattlers representing species from every continental US habitat.

Titans of the Ice Age

Meet the giant mammals that roamed Kansas at the end of the Ice Age.

Post Rock Country

The story of native limestone and its use as a building block for early structures and fence posts on the high plains.

A MUSEUM AND MORE

BIRTHDAY PARTIES - MEETINGS - SOCIAL EVENTS

CONTACT: AMY KLEIN 785/628-5516

GROUP TOURS

CONTACT: DAVID LEVERING, 785/639-5249

MEMBERSHIP

CONTACT: BRAD PENKA 785/628-5569