

Fall 2009 iNDepth

A Deeper Look into the Newport Aquarium



Passholders Only

Shark Breakfast Saturday, September 19 at 9am

Dine with sharks at our next exclusive Annual Passholder-only event and enjoy tasty treats and the wonders of our amazing sharks.

The Breakfast Buffet will feature fluffy scrambled eggs, crispy bacon, warm biscuits, juice and coffee. Breakfast will be followed by a presentation about the Surrounded by Sharks exhibit by our Shark Biologist. After the presentation, you will be free to tour the Aquarium at your leisure.

This exclusive Passholder event begins at 9 a.m. Breakfast will be served until 10 a.m.

Space is limited, so please make your reservations now.

Cost for Annual Passholders:

- \$8.50 for children (2-12 years old)
- \$11.50 for adults (13 and older)

Cost for Annual Passholder Guests:

- \$18.50 for children (2-12 years old)
- \$28.50 for adults (13 and older)

Reservations can be made in person at our Information Desk in the Newport Aquarium lobby or by phone by calling (859) 261-7444 and asking for "Passholder Shark Breakfast Reservations" before Sept. 13. Your non-refundable payment is due when you make your reservation.

Newport Aquarium reserves the right to cancel this event. Every effort will be made to contact guests with reservations in the event of a cancellation.

For the latest Passholder Info, call the Annual Passholder hotline:
(859) 815-1450

See more Passholder information on Page 3.

'Ghosts of Pirates Cove' Returns to the Aquarium

Set sail on a great pirate adventure with your family this Halloween season at Newport Aquarium. Ghosts of Pirates Cove runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on October 24 - November 1.

Plus, up to four kids in costume can visit during Ghosts of Pirates Cove for only \$5 each with every full price adult admission. Each child will also receive a coupon for a free kids' meal at participating Bob Evans restaurants.



Don't miss your chance to experience Ghosts of Pirates Cove. With so much to see and do, it is one of the region's best Halloween traditions. Meet Captain Dubloon, the leader of the ill-fated pirates, and watch the special dive shows featuring the unique art of underwater pumpkin carving and spectacular underwater pirate sword fights.

Kids can also take part in a special treasure hunt throughout the Aquarium, and visit the Pumpkin Patch sponsored by Bob Evans to pick and decorate their own mini pumpkin to take home.

And don't miss the return of Radio Disney for another great event at the Aquarium, with fun games and prizes, on Saturday, October 24 from 2 to 4 p.m. Also that day, take time to have free digital fingerprints taken of your children, to keep on file for safety. Thanks to truTV, this opportunity lasts from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For complete information on activities and dive show times, visit www.newportaquarium.com.

Last Chance for Summer Family Hours!

Time is quickly running out for your family to take advantage of Summer Family Hours. Two kids can receive admission to the Aquarium for FREE with the purchase of every full price adult ticket. And every kid will receive a free coupon for a Kids Meal from Bob Evans. Summer Family Hours run from 4:30 p.m. until 7 p.m., but only until September 4. Take advantage of Summer Family Hours while you still can! Remember: strollers are welcome during Summer Family Hours.



Special Thanks to our
Kingdom of Penguins
Exhibit Sponsor



Biologist Profile

Ric Urban

If you've visited the Aquarium or seen media coverage of it in the past few years, then chances are, you already know Ric Urban. Whether he's out on the floor chatting up guests or talking on camera, Urban is a great ambassador for the Aquarium.



Urban is the Curator of Birds and Mammals and has been on staff since February 2004, when he was hired to bring life to the newly constructed Hidden Treasures of the Rainforest Islands exhibit. His responsibilities now include overseeing the Aquarium's penguins, lorikeets, Asian small-clawed otters, the popular Frog Bog exhibit and others.

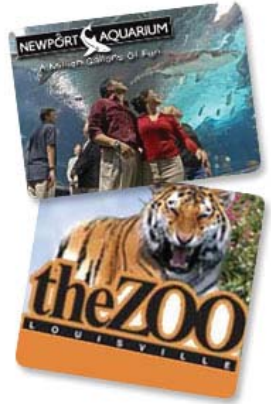
"Basically, anything that's not a fish," he says.

Urban, a Florence resident, has nearly 30 years of experience in the zoo and aquarium industry. He has been a long-time active participant in the Aquarium and Zoo Association (AZA), an 80-year-old organization dedicated to the advancement of zoos and aquariums in the areas of conservation, education, science, and recreation.

He recently oversaw the arduous accreditation process Newport Aquarium went through earlier this year. Thanks to Urban and the hard work of many, the Aquarium received its accreditation, the highest honor give in the industry.

NEW Discount at Louisville Zoo

Gorillas, hippos and tigers, oh my! Newport Aquarium values its Passholders. That's why we partnered with the Louisville Zoo to help your family see some amazing creatures at a great, family-friendly price. Newport Aquarium Annual Passholders can now receive \$3 off an Adult or Child Admission ticket (or special admission packages) during regular Louisville Zoo hours. This offer is not valid with other discounts or for the zoo's Halloween Party event. Aquarium passholders must present a valid Newport Aquarium passholder ID card at the Louisville Zoo admission window. Valid through Dec. 31, 2009.



Animal Care Update

Note: This is the second column in a series from Dr. Peter Hill, Aquarium veterinarian, and Jolene Hanna, Aquarium animal health specialist, who will provide updates on the wellness of the animals.

For the Veterinary Department, the months of July and August have been dedicated to the general health and well-being of the King and Gentoo penguins. Each penguin received a thorough physical exam including blood work which gives insight into the animal's current organ function. This year each animal was also micro-chipped. A micro-chip is an identification tool often used in the zoo and aquarium industry. It is a small glass-encased electronic device which stores a specific alpha-numeric sequence allowing the Aquarium to identify an individual animal without the cumbersome need for bands or collars.



Staff Anniversary

Special congratulations go out to Aquarium cast-member Diane Williams who celebrates an amazing milestone. Williams, who works in the gift shop, will mark her 10th anniversary working for the Aquarium this September. When you see her in the shop on your next visit, please join us in thanking her for her contributions over these many years.

Holiday Parties

Planning your family or company holiday party? Celebrate the season at the most unique venue in town - the Newport Aquarium. Our beautiful Currents ballroom overlooks the Ohio River or choose dinner in our theater with Scuba Santa -- sure to excite kids of all ages! Call (859) 815-1427 to start planning your event today.



Special Thanks to our
World Rivers
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Passholders Only cont...

Family Overnight Adventure October 16 at 7:30 p.m.

More awe-inspiring than sleeping under the stars, the "Sleep with the Sharks" Overnight Adventure lets families spend the night with over 55 sharks and thousands of aquatic animals from around the world.

The fun begins at 7:30 p.m. Friday and continues until 9 a.m. Saturday.

- Activities for different age groups and families
- Snack
- Animal Encounter
- Sleeping with the fishes
- A cereal breakfast in the morning

Overnight Adventures are normally reserved for larger groups, so take advantage of this opportunity for your family!

Cost for Annual Passholders:

- \$25 for children (6-12 years old)
- \$30 for adults (13 and older)

Note: Due to the nature of this event, children under the age of 6 can not be accommodated.

Cost for Annual Passholder Guests:

- \$40 for children (6-12 years old)
- \$50 for adults (13 and older)

Note: Due to the nature of this event, children under the age of 6 can not be accommodated.

Reservations can be made in person at our Information Desk in the Newport Aquarium lobby or by phone by calling (859) 261-7444 and asking for "Passholder Overnight Reservations" before October 11. Your non-refundable payment is due when you make your reservation.

Due to space and safety concerns, air mattresses can not be accommodated.

Newport Aquarium reserves the right to cancel this event. Every effort will be made to contact guests with reservations in the event of a cancellation.

Don't Miss Nauti Nite 2009

Eat, drink, mingle and play: the fourth annual Nauti Nite fundraiser will be held on Friday, October 23 at the Aquarium.

Join friends of the WAVE Foundation as they cruise from port to port enjoying fabulous cuisine, specialty cocktails, delicious desserts and wines, exotic animal encounters, dive shows and a silent auction featuring incredible items. Nauti Nite benefits the WAVE Foundation's conservation efforts and youth education programs. It's a great time for a great cause.

Tickets are \$60 each or \$100 per couple. Special VIP tickets are \$150. For more information or to receive an invitation email wave@newportaquarium.com or call (859) 815-1442.



Easy Being Green

Note: This is the second column in a series from Aquarium Husbandry Director Chris Pierson about tips that every family can use to be more eco-friendly.

Power vampires: real or myth? Power vampires are electrical devices that continually suck power out of your home, even when they are not in use. This excessive power consumption requires power companies to produce more power, therefore, producing more pollution. Worse than pollution, your hard earned money is being exhausted to pay for power that is not even used!



Appliances in your home that stay plugged in when not in use may continue to draw electricity. The most popular power suckers are your computer and your computer monitor. These and other types of electrical devices all maintain a level of readiness that requires constant power consumption.



This constant power feed adds up. In the Tri-State area alone, families are paying anywhere from 8.5 to 11 cents per Kilowatt hour, costing you an additional \$34.21 per year to power appliances when they are not in use. That much electric usage burns approximately 300 pounds of coal, emitting a half ton carbon dioxide!

Putting a stop to this overuse of electricity is simple. Make sure you unplug any unused device from the wall. If the plug is difficult to reach, use a power strip to alleviate problematic placement. Power strips also allow you to switch the entire strip "off." Smart Power strips are also available. These strips shut off the electric supply completely, depending on if a device is in use or not. When it comes time to purchase your next in-home appliance, make sure to look for the Power Star rating.

Special Thanks to
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Did you know...?

Sharks

Sharks and many exotic animals - do not make good pets. Aquarium biologists are often called on to rescue sharks and other animals that pet owners can no longer care for. There are plenty of reasons sharks generally don't make good pets:



- Sharks start small and cute, but they get big and not so cute. They need a big tank.
- Sharks require good water which means lots of water changes or high-end life support systems.
- They do like to eat and they are beyond simple flake food.
- Sharks require special vitamins to keep them healthy.
- They have been known to bite the hand that feeds them. Not on purpose, of course. They just get excited.
- When a shark gets too big for your home, the local humane society won't take them, and the local aquarium might not either.
- Some sharks need to constantly swim and need plenty of room to do so.
- You can't teach them to retrieve.
- They don't get along with cats.

Specialty Days at the Aquarium!

Newport Aquarium features several Specialty Days for various groups and organizations in the coming months. Make a note on your calendar or ask your group leaders if your organization plans to take advantage of these great deals. Admission is discounted for the following groups on these select days.

NEW - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Awareness Days September 25-26

Enjoy a day of family fun that will include sign language interpreters at all of our major attractions throughout the day. This is a great opportunity to visit the Aquarium for just \$10 per person. Tickets are available for friends and family of the deaf or hard of hearing community. Tickets must be purchased in advance of your visit by phone, fax or mail order. Order deadline is September 22, 2009. All tickets will be available at the Deaf Awareness Registration Table on the day of your visit.

Faith Weekend October 10-11

Newport Aquarium will be hosting members of churches from around the Tri-state with an amazing deal. Faith Weekend at the Newport Aquarium provides a special discount to members of any of the 9,000 churches in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. Please place your order before October 7, 2009 as this special group rate will not apply to walk-up ticket purchases.



NEW - Home School Days October 14 and 16

Visit the Newport Aquarium during our 2009 Home School Days and join hundreds of other home school families as they learn about sharks, penguins, sea turtles and frogs! Enhance your school day with great hands-on learning opportunities. Tickets are available for just \$10 per person. All tickets must be purchased in advance of your visit by phone, fax or mail order. Tickets will be available for pick up only at the Home School Day Registration Table on the day of your visit.

Scout's Weekend November 14-15

Special presentations and animal encounters are scheduled throughout Scout's Weekend. Purchase tickets for just \$9 each. Plus, there's something new in 2009: Meet the Biologist! Enhance your visit with a presentation by an Aquarium Biologist. Learn exciting information regarding their careers and the importance of conserving and protecting our environment. Presentations will end with a live animal encounter in the Currents Ballroom. This is a great activity to earn requirements for patches and badges. Additional tickets - \$5 per person - are required for these presentations.



For more information about specialty days and group registration forms, please visit www.newportaquarium.com.