

Spring 2009 iNDepth

A Deeper Look into the Newport Aquarium



Passholders Only

Passholder Penguin Breakfast: Saturday, February 21

Please join us at our next exclusive Annual Passholder event and enjoy the wonders of our amazing penguins.

The Breakfast Buffet will feature fluffy scrambled eggs, crispy bacon, warm biscuits, juice and coffee. Breakfast will be followed by a presentation on our Kingdom of Penguins exhibit by our Penguin Biologist. After the presentation, you will be free to tour the Aquarium at your leisure.

This exclusive event begins at 9 a.m. and breakfast will be served until 10 a.m.

Annual Passholders

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

Annual Passholder Guests

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

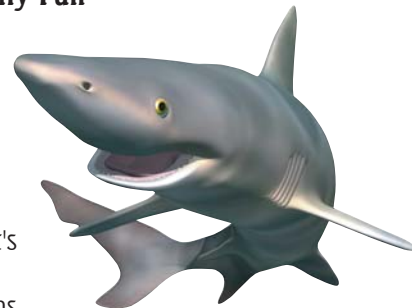
Space is limited, so please make your reservations now. Reservations can be made in-person at our Information Desk in the Newport Aquarium lobby or by calling (859)815-1473 and asking for "Passholder Penguin Reservations" before Feb. 16. Your non-refundable payment is due when you make your reservation.

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.

See more Passholder information on Page 3.

Winter Family Days Offers Affordable Family Fun

Especially in these trying economic times, Newport Aquarium remains committed to providing affordable family fun. And when it comes to affordable, you can't beat free. That's why now is the perfect time to visit the Newport Aquarium. During Winter Family Days, two kids get in FREE with each adult paying full price. That's right. Kids get in free every day, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., now through Feb. 28. There are no coupons to cut, and strollers are welcome during Winter Family Days. Plus, each child will get a voucher for a free Kid's Meal from participating Bob Evans Family Restaurants. [Click here](#) for more details.



Get Ready for Sweet Pea's Fourth Birthday

Newport Aquarium will celebrate the birthday of one of its most unique animals, the rare Shark Ray, Sweet Pea. From April 4-12, join the party with special weekend activities and fun for the whole family. You can visit from 10 a.m. through 6 p.m. for this special event.

Although Sweet Pea's actual birth date is a mystery, the Aquarium will celebrate the four-year anniversary from the date the Aquarium acquired her. When she made her debut, Sweet Pea was the first Shark Ray on display in the Western Hemisphere. In February 2007, Scooter, a male Shark Ray joined her in the Aquarium's Surrounded by Sharks exhibit. They are stars of the first-ever Shark Ray breeding program in the world.



Aquarium Turns Ten

Speaking of birthdays, there's another big one right around the corner. This May marks the 10th anniversary for Newport Aquarium. Look for more information in future issues of iNDepth, and check out the new tenth anniversary logo (above).

Special Thanks to our
Kingdom of Penguins
Exhibit Sponsor



Biologist Profile

Keri Siegert

It's fitting to spotlight the work of biologist Keri Siegert during the 10th anniversary year for Newport Aquarium, seeing as she's been here all ten of those years!



Starting as a front-line employee, Keri quickly moved "behind the scenes" as an intern in the World Rivers gallery. Showing her characteristic desire to "dive right in," she even volunteered in the husbandry department after her internship concluded. Her willingness to help anyone who needed it paid off when she was hired to the position of Biologist in 2001, working in the Kingdom of Penguins exhibit.

Since that time, she's also worked in the Shore gallery and now the Jellyfish and Bizarre & Beautiful galleries. She was promoted to a Level III Biologist in May 2008. Keri received her Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Kentucky University.

While it's rare for someone to stay ten years with one company nowadays, Keri says her reason is simple: she simply likes her job.

"This is a unique position and I like the versatility and the ability to keep learning new things," she said. "I'm not sure what will be next, but I will go with the flow and learn what I can."

Newport Aquarium Throws an ESPN Sportscaster Party

Calling all aspiring sportscasters: ESPN is looking for you. Visit the Newport Aquarium on Feb. 14 from 2 to 4 p.m. for your chance to compete in the "KidCaster" Sportscaster challenge. Participants can show off their skills as the next great sportscaster using ESPN-branded equipment. The always-entertaining road crew from Radio Disney will lead the activities and register everyone to win some amazing prizes, including the national grand prize: a VIP trip to Walt Disney World.



Faith Weekend at the Newport Aquarium: March 7-8

Newport Aquarium will be hosting more than 3,000 members of churches from around the Tri-state on March 7-8. Faith Weekend at the Newport Aquarium provides a special discount to members of any of the nearly 9,000 churches in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

"The Aquarium is very excited to host these special groups," said Newport Aquarium Sales Manager Kevin Dooley. "All church members need to pre-register their group to receive a special discount of \$10 per person. This is a \$10 savings off of our general admission. There are several surprises in store for these groups. This is going to be an extremely fun event."

To pre-register [click here](#) or call (859) 815-1471.

Ride the Ducks Returns

Miss your chance last summer to tour the Ohio River region like never before? Then make plans this year to book your passage on Ride the Ducks Newport.

Ride the Ducks Newport utilizes customized amphibious vehicles - crafted from models used during World War II - to travel the Ohio River and city streets near downtown Cincinnati and Newport telling the history of the region. Sites on the tour include Great American Ballpark, Paul Brown Stadium, the World Peace Bell, Newport Aquarium, Covington's Historic Riverside Drive and much more. Closed during the winter months, the Ducks will be back in full swing this spring.

Visit www.newportducks.com for more information or stop in the new Welcome Center kiosk on the Newport on the Levee plaza in front of the Aquarium for tickets and tour times.



Special Thanks to our
World Rivers
Exhibit Sponsor



Passholders Only cont...

Family Overnight Adventure

Friday, April 24 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 more than 50 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. on Saturday.

- Activities for different age groups and families including a Behind-the-Scenes Tour and Animal Encounter
- Snack provided
- Sleeping with the fishes
- Cereal in the morning

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

Annual Passholders

•\$25 for children (6-12 yrs old)

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

•\$30 for adults (13 and older)

Guests (Non-Passholders)

•\$40 for children (6-12 yrs old)

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

•\$50 for adults (13 and older)

Space is limited, so please make your reservations now. Reservations can be made in-person at our Information Desk in the Newport Aquarium lobby or by calling (859)815-1473 and asking for "Passholder Overnight Reservations" before April 19. 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. In the event of a cancellation, every effort will be made to contact guests with reservations and payments will be refunded.

Help WAVE Raise Money Just by Clicking

There are two new and easy ways to help support the WAVE Foundation through an affiliation with www.goodshop.com and www.goodsearch.com.

More than 900 of the top Internet retailers and travel sites including Amazon, eBay, Target, Apple, Expedia and more have joined forces with GoodShop.com to donate part of every purchase you make to your favorite charity at NO additional cost to you. Just visit www.goodshop.com, enter the WAVE Foundation, and then click through to your favorite store and shop as usual.

You can also support WAVE by using www.goodsearch.com as your preferred web search engine. WAVE will receive almost a penny for every search you do. You'll be amazed how quickly those pennies add up.

Planning a Special Event?

Consider Currents Ballroom at Newport Aquarium. The ballroom has been thrilling event and meeting planners since it opened. Enjoy thousands of species of aquatic wildlife and a spectacular view of the river and skyline. And you don't have to worry about a thing because the sales staff at the Aquarium will take care of all the details for your event or meeting.

Where else could you offer your guests special experiences, like petting sharks and penguins or transportation on our exclusive "Ride the Duck" amphibious vehicle? It all adds up to a unique, fun, fascinating and entertaining venue where your guests will be impressed and walk away feeling special.

Call (859) 815-1427 for more information on the most unique venue in the region with a breathtaking view of the skyline.



Special Thanks to our Sponsor



Did you know...?

Gila Monster



Lurking in the Dangerous & Deadly gallery is an actual monster: the Aquarium's Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum*). You might have noticed recent upgrades to its tank as you passed by the venomous lizard. But did you know that the animal has contributed several important advances in the field of medicine?

- Gila monster is the only venomous lizard native to the United States, and one of only two known species of venomous lizards in North America
- Gila monster venom has been used and studied in medicine for controlling diabetes and fighting cancer.
- A medicine that controls blood sugar in diabetics is based on a protein from Gila monster saliva. It even has the nickname "lizard spit."
- Gila monsters eat only five to ten times a year in the wild. Its saliva protein may help the Gila monster survive between meals.

Looking for Summer Naturalists

High school students (14 to 17 years old) are invited to join the Summer Naturalist program at Newport Aquarium. Summer naturalists receive extensive training on the Aquarium's animals and exhibits and in turn help interpret exhibits, educate and enhance guests' experiences. Students must commit to a minimum of 100 hours from May through Labor Day weekend. Applicants should submit a letter of recommendation from a teacher, mentor or other adult sponsor (other than a parent) with their application. For more information or for an application, visit www.wavefoundation.org and click on the volunteering link. Students can also call the volunteer office at (859) 815-1441 to have an application mailed. Make plans now for an enriching summer. The application deadline is March 1.



Don't Miss Penguin Picks on Fox19

Newport Aquarium's African Blackfooted Penguins are partnering with FOX19 to once again determine who will be the next American Idol.



These penguins, named after Idol judges Paula, Randy, Simon and our newest penguin Kara, will appear in the "American Idol Penguin Picks" segments on the FOX19 Morning Show every week from mid-March through late May. Each week they'll watch the program and then - from the Penguin House here at the Aquarium - they'll use their "penguin intuition" to determine who will be kicked off that week. You'll be amazed how accurate they are.



Guests can visit Paula, Randy, Simon and Kara every day during Penguin Encounters. Stay tuned to FOX19 for more information.

Make Plans Now

More great events at the Aquarium are on the horizon. Mark your family calendar now for:

Spring Scouts Honor Weekend
May 2-3

All scouts and their family and friends can pre-purchase Aquarium tickets through the group sales department for only \$9 each. It's a great deal you won't want to miss.

Call (859) 815-1423 for more information.

