

What on Earth is SPNHC?



John E. Simmons

Museologica

Mission

- Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections
- Founded 1985
- International society
- Improve the preservation, conservation, and management of natural history collections to ensure their continuing value to society

SPNHC

- Botany
- Zoology
- Geology
- Anthropology
- The study of nature



Goals

- Promote and professionalize collection management careers
- Advocate for collections large and small



Membership Categories

- Student (\$20)
- Regular (\$45)
- Library (\$55)
- Institutional (\$75)
- Corporate/Commercial (\$350)



Membership Scope

- Member-run society
- 400 US members from 170 collection holding institutions in 48 states
- 150 international members from 29 countries
- 19 professional societies represented on council
- 21 official representatives and liaisons

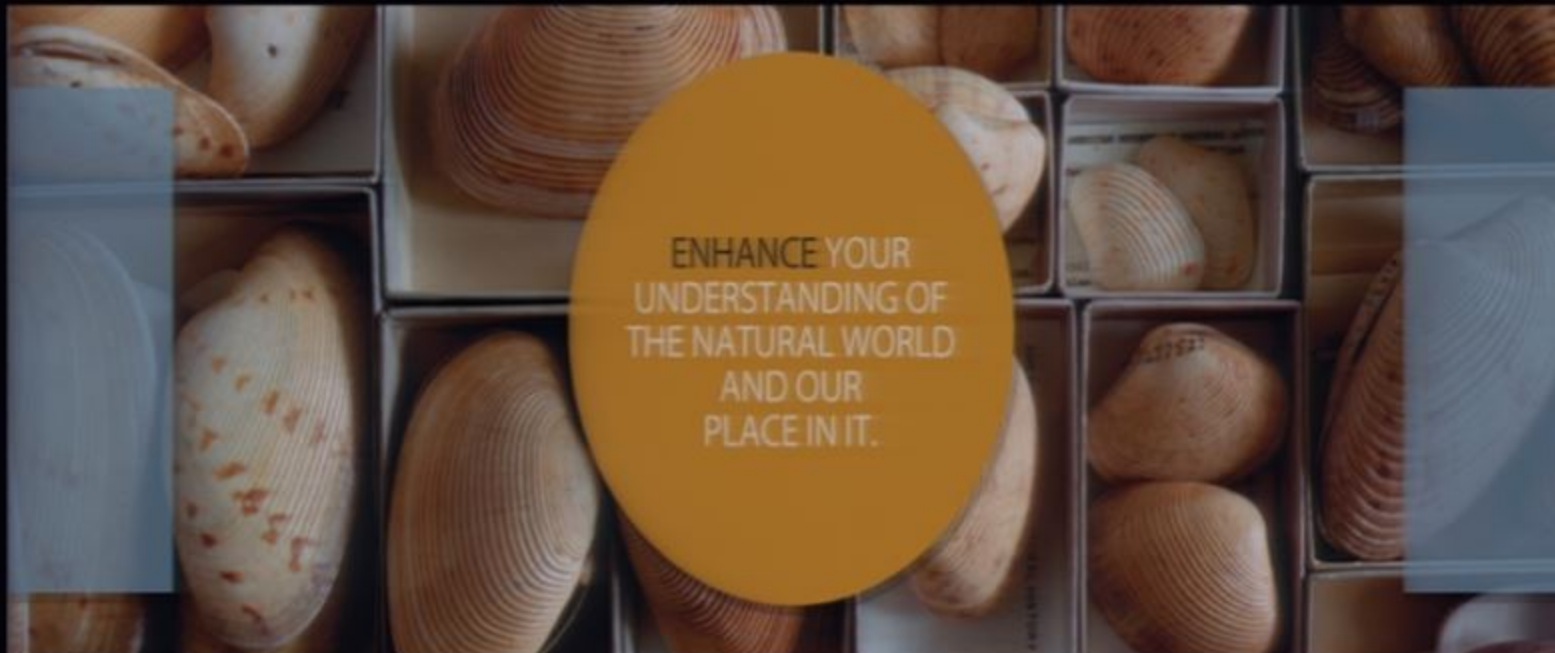
Committees

- Best Practices
- Conference
- Conservation
- Documentation
- Legislation and Regulations
- Professional Development
- Publications
- International Relations



Member Resources

- Website – www.spnhc.org



Member Resources

- NHCOLL-L listserv
 - Citations of new publications
 - Vendor listings
 - Jobs
 - Best practices
 - Reports and publications
- Permit-L listserv
- Facebook page
- Twitter account



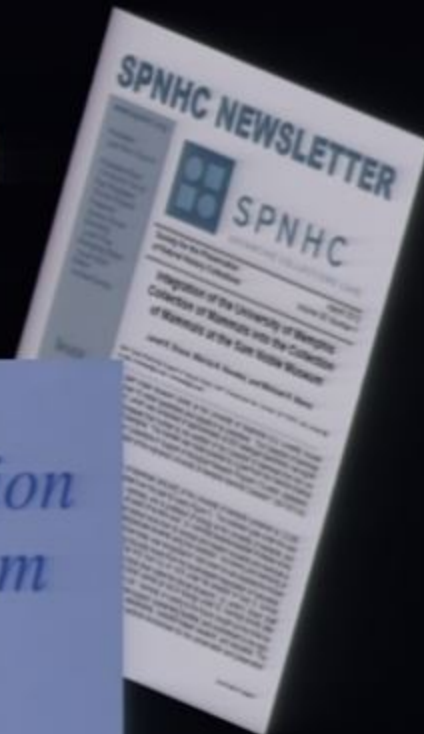
Member Resources

- Grants and awards
 - Research grants
 - Travel grants for annual meeting
- Emerging Professionals group (EPG)
 - Blog
 - Facebook page
 - Resources
 - Contacts



Publications

- *Collection Forum*
 - Peer-reviewed professional journal
- *SPNHC Connection*
- Semi-annual newsletter
- *SPNHC Leaflets*
- *How-To* series



Publications

- *Health and Safety for Museum Professionals* (2011)
- *Museum Studies : Perspectives and Innovations* (2006)
- *MuseumWise: Workplace Words Defined* (2003)
- *Managing the Modern Herbarium* (1999)



Publications

- STASH (Storage Techniques for Art, Science, and History collections)
- Free downloads
- <http://stashc.com>

STASH ■

Preventive Conservation: Approaches to Collection Storage

- SPNHC, AIC, Smithsonian, George Washington University Museum Studies Program
- Strategy to planning to supports
- Art, history, natural science, digital
- Accessibility, risk management
- 37 chapters, 100 authors, 9 editors
- Print version and e-book
- Tentative publication date late 2016

Annual Meetings

- Alternate US and international sites
- Presentations, networking, visit collections, share ideas, experiences
 - 2014, Cardiff, Wales
 - 2015, Gainesville, Florida
 - 2016, Berlin, Germany
 - 2017, Denver, Colorado



31st Annual Meeting 2016

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections

June 20-25, 2016 Berlin, Germany

Collection Digitization

- Collaborations with other groups
 - iDigBio/ADBC/TCNs
 - NSCA - <http://www.nscalliance.org/>
 - AIBS - <http://www.aibs.org>
 - NatSCA - <http://www.natsca.org/>
 - NEON - <http://www.neoninc.org/>
 - ISBER - <http://www.isber.org/>
 - GBIF - <http://www.gbif.org/>
 - TDWG - <http://www.tdwg.org/>
 - GRBio - <http://grbio.org/>
 - BISON - <http://bison.usgs.ornl.gov/>
 - Synthesys - <http://www.synthesys.info/>
 - ICOM - <http://www.icom-cc.org/>

Science Collections Network (SCNet) Workshop Outcomes

- SCNet listserv – IDIGBIOSCNET-L
- Virtual screening of annual meetings
- Wiki/blog infrastructure – committees, best practices, informal groupings
- Technology swaps/loans
- Orphaned collections
- Provide letters of support

SPNHC can help

- Accessibility and visibility
- Training, workshops, resources
- Collective bargaining power
- Collective experience and assets
- Collections community



SPNHC can help

- Help other museums solve problems with natural history specimens



Thank you

