

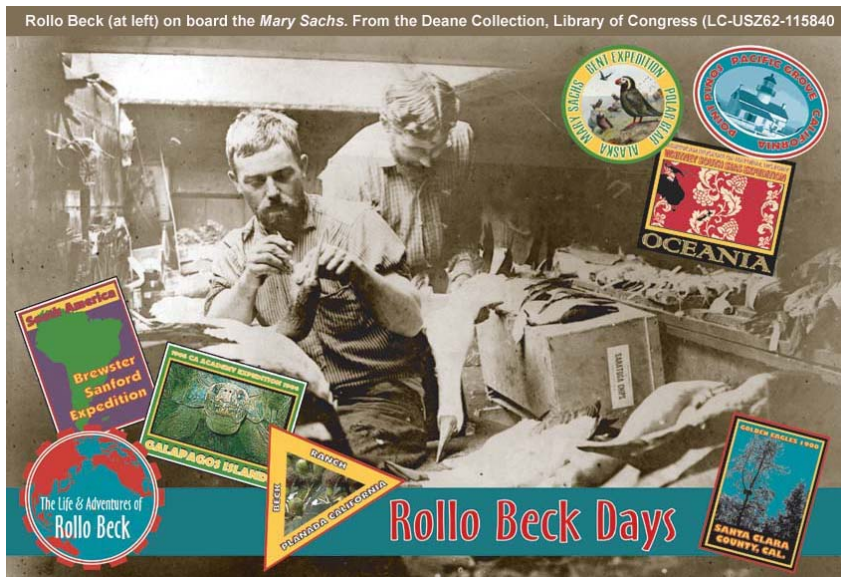


PRESS RELEASE



From: Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History
 To: All Media
 RE: New permanent exhibit & related events
 PR Date: March 18, 2006. For immediate release.
 Event Date/Time: Events run from April 21-23, 2006
Exhibit opening reception on Friday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.
Lecture, *Beck's Galapagos Adventures*, by Matt James, Ph.D., Saturday, April 22, 2:00 p.m.
Monterey Bay Pelagic bird trip, Sunday, April 23, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 Contact: Esther Trosow, (831) 648-5716, ext 17 or archivist@pigmuseum.org

PGMNH Celebrates New Rollo Beck Exhibit with Rollo Beck Days on April 21st through 23rd



Starting on April 21, 2006, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History will offer a new permanent exhibit highlighting the life and career of ornithologist & world-traveler, Rollo Beck (1870-1950).

Several generations of visitors have enjoyed over 90 of Beck's taxidermied specimens in the Museum's Monterey County bird exhibit, and this new addition to the display will introduce viewers to the man behind the birds. In the early-to-mid 20th century, the native Californian was responsible for obtaining and preserving specimens for some of the most important bird collections in the world. Many of Beck's birds are kept by institutions including The Natural History Museum (Tring, England), the American Museum of Natural History, and the University

of California's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. He headed the California Academy of Sciences' expedition to the Galapagos, obtaining specimens that essentially rebuilt their collections after the 1906 San Francisco earthquake & fire.

To celebrate the exhibit's opening, several events are scheduled. There will be a **free exhibit opening reception on Friday, April 21st evening from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.** Music for the evening's festivities will be performed by Gene & Gordy Allen, aka KSBW's movie-reviewing barbers. **On Saturday, there will be free bird walks** led by Audubon Society birder Rita Carratello, who will assume the character of Pacific Grove's scientist/mayor Julia Platt. **At 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, there will be a free lecture** about Rollo Beck's adventures in the Galapagos Islands by Matt James, Ph.D. (Geology Department Chair at Sonoma State University). On Saturday, there will also be **free bird preparation demonstrations** by Maureen Flannery, California Academy of Sciences' acting collections manager of ornithology and mammalogy. **On Sunday, April 23rd, there will be a pelagic bird trip from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** Retired PGMNH director Steve Bailey, Ph.D. and Don Roberson, author of *Monterey Birds*, will be the trip leaders on board the *Point Sur Clipper*. The boat trip departs from & returns to the Monterey Bay Whale Watch Center, located on Monterey's Fisherman's Wharf #1. Cost per person is \$45.00, with a 25-person minimum and a 35-person maximum. Contact Monterey Seabirds at: www.montereyseabirds.com/RolloBeckDaysTrip.htm for more information and to make reservations, or call (831) 375-4658 with a credit card number to hold your spot.

For more information about the upcoming Rollo Beck exhibit and programming, please contact Museum Archivist Esther Trosow at (831) 648-5716, ext. 17, or e-mail archivist@pigmuseum.org. The Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History is located at Forest & Central avenues, and is open free to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Call (831) 648-5716 for general Museum information, or pigmuseum@mbay.net / www.pigmuseum.org