

Alan York taught 'Butterflies, Beetles, and Spiders - Oh, My!' for *4-H Round-Up Career Exploration Day* and special thanks go out to Alan York, **Brandi Schemerhorn**, and **Katie England** for their live insect presentations at local libraries that were used to support the summer reading initiative *Catch the Reading Bug!*

Tom Turpin and Melissa Shepson participated in the *Discover! Summer Institute for Educators*. This program was developed by the Purdue University College of Education's Gifted Education Resource Institute (GERI). This high-quality summer institute is for educators who want to learn more about effective practices and practical strategies to facilitate learning and help students achieve their potential. Turpin delivered a three day intensive workshop about ways to use live insects in the classroom and a keynote address to the group entitled 'The Bug and I; Ultimate Team Teaching.' Shepson delivered the workshop 'Bugging your Students with Books.' This workshop was designed to provide literature and website resources to teachers that can be used to incorporate the study of insects across the curriculum, and encourage both language and science literacy. **Arwin Provonsha** was on hand to lead interested participants on a tour of the Bug Barn during one of the Institute's 'Morning Excursions.'

The annual Butterfly Count popularity has grown by leaps and bounds. The first one in 2003 had ten participants, but this year there were approximately 130 people in attendance. The success of this event can be contributed to the excitement and enthusiasm of volunteers from the entomology department who serve as guides. After a brief butterfly tutorial, groups were led by entomology staff members **Jonathon Neal**, Arwin Provonsha, **Cliff Sadof**, Tom Turpin, Larry Bledsoe and Melissa Shepson along with graduate students Kapil Raje and **John Shorter** on walkabouts around the wildlife property. After results were tabulated and announced participants shared a meal provided by Eli Lilly Tippecanoe Laboratory Cafeteria. Results from the Count can be viewed at: <http://www.entm.purdue.edu/butterflycount/results.html> .

Purdue Bug Day was a new venue at the State Fair this year, created and implemented by Tom Turpin and Melissa Shepson with help from Jodie Ellis, Arwin Provonsha, Judy Provonsha and youth volunteers. Entomology's contribution was a mini 'Bug Bowl' with the Insect Petting Zoo, Insect Cooking and Roachill Downs Cockroach Races. The eight youth volunteers, ages 10-14, had a genuine interest in the activities and unsurpassed enthusiasm. They enjoyed it so much that most worked beyond their 3-hour shift and some stayed for the entire day. Julia Bell, a 7th grader and budding entomologist from West Lafayette said, "It was the best day of my life!"



Bug Knowledge: Youth volunteers had to learn about the insects in the Insect Petting Zoo so they could talk to people about them



What's Cookin'?: Youth volunteers help Tom Turpin prepare some of his favorite insect dishes.