

The Paleo Times

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EMSP SOAPBOX

By Ryan & Faye

If you have any articles, comments, or need to communicate with me I can be reached through the following: emsp.sec@mofossil.com.

Next meeting

Next meeting is **Friday, April 10, 2015** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences building at Washington University (see more details below).

President's Corner

April 2015

Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs – Scholarship Program:

REPEAT – WE NEED APPLICANTS: The Association has funds available for up to three (3) scholarships up to \$500 each for this year. There is a link under “Fossil Links” on our website (www.mofossils.com/fossillinks.html) for more information regarding the scholarship program.

Click on the link that has “forms” in it to get the application.

Proceeds from the “boutique” and the “wheel” go directly to the scholarship fund. Bob Morse, Rockwood Gem & Mineral Club, requested the clubs donate petrified wood that can be tumbled (he will tumble them) and any other items that would be appropriate (larger pieces of petrified wood, **marine fossils**, etc.). When you are out collecting and you see something “nice” but not what you would want

in your collection, pick it up and bring to the next meeting.

I will make sure it gets to Bob for the next show.

Welcome 2015 New Members: Old members make an effort to meet and greet these new members. New Members be sure to “pump” the older members for information as many are very knowledgeable and have a lot of experience to share.

Rhonda & Rusty
Sean & Amy Cutrll
Brent
Steven
Teddy
Terry
Noel
Jennifer
Samantha
Robert
Ruth
Scott & Tanya

Meeting Schedule.

- **April 10, 2015.** Meeting changed back to regular date of second Friday. Professor Mike Fix will give a presentation on “Missouri Dinosaur.” **Please come early as construction for rides for the upcoming carnival will reduce the number of parking spaces available.**
- **April 20, 2015. Board of Directors Meeting.** 6:00pm. Faye’s. Main Topic of Discussion will be budget. If anyone has a topic they want the Board to discuss and

possibly present to club, please provide information to a Board member prior to meeting. You are also welcome to come to the meetings. All attendees please confirm attendance with Faye prior to meeting.

- **May 08, 2015.** Speaker will be Abby on “Stratigraphy in a Nutshell: Focus on Aspects for Amateur Paleontologists (longer version of the mini done in March). Dr. Bruce will also be doing a mini presentation
- **June 12, 2015:** Guest speaker will be George Phillips, Paleontology Curator for Mississippi Museum of Natural Science

Field Trips: If you have suggestions for field trips or would like to lead a trip, please contact Bruce, Chris or Faye.

- **March 07** field trip was led by Bruce to the area west of Potosi looking for fossils in the Lower Ordovician period. Despite snow on the North sides of the hills, some fossils were found and warrant another trip under better weather conditions.
- **March 21** field trip was led by Faye to a Decorah formation site on Hwy MM. Twelve members participated in the field trip and everyone had “finds” to add to their collections.



Casey with a Cephalopod



Helen with a Hypostome

- April: We are working on a field trip for April but haven't confirmed as yet.
- May: To be Scheduled.
- June: Probably have one in June to Ardeola.

Education/Out-Reach:

- Still need volunteers for mini-presentations. Please contact me if you would like to share some information.
- Steve Bynum would appreciate volunteers with our out-reach program for scouts and schools. Contact him for details.
- Friday, April 03, 2015: St. Louis Science Center's First Friday's theme is "JURASSIC PARK" – All About Things Dinosaur. If you would like to volunteer and didn't sign up at March meeting, just contact Prof. Carl Campbell as he would welcome the additional help.

Paleotrek – Dino Dig:

Paleotrek will run from July 4 – 23 for 2105. It is open to EMSP members and prior participants. Much of our field work will consist of prospecting for new excavation sites. There is a one-time fee of \$75/person to help cover storage costs and supplies.

Contact Carl Campbell if you are interested in participating and/or need additional information. He needs to know when and who will be participating before he leaves on July 1.

Shows:

- a. **MAPS**, Iowa City, IA, April 09-12. Great show for adding good specimens at reasonable prices to your collections as well as great educational lectures and the opportunity to talk with very knowledgeable vendors and visitors.
- b. **Missouri Mines Rock Swap**, June 12-14, 2015. Historic Site on south side of Highway 32, 1.5 miles west of US highway 67. The museum is open during this event and is an unbelievable collection of specimens not only from the Missouri mining area but from around the world. They have silent auctions that run continually throughout the show (usually every hour) and all proceeds from the auctions go to the museum. Bring the kids and have a great day.
- c. May 8-10, 2015: Rock & Gem Mineral & Fossil Show & Sale. Columbia, MO. Inside at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2525 N. Stadium Blvd (Route E). Sponsored by Central Missouri Rock and Lapidary Club. CMRLC.ORG

New members- we have a photo database for members to help us remember faces. Please consider posing for a portrait at January's meeting.

Volunteer outreach help needed-

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Please sign up to help staff the Rockwood school district requests and any other for fossil presentations/demonstrations/science night tables. Last year we reached at least 3 science nights at elementary schools, a number of day time presentations, and a library summer reading club. We have the outreach kit- just take and open the lid for an instant interactive table. An accompanying book has more details on each fossil. A PowerPoint presentation is also in the works.

Paleo-shorts

The Killer Newt

A previously undiscovered species of crocodile-like amphibian that lived during the rise of dinosaurs was among Earth's top predators more than 200 million years ago, a study shows. Palaeontologists identified the prehistoric species -- which looked like giant salamanders -- after excavating bones buried on the site of an ancient lake in southern Portugal.

University of Edinburgh. "Prehistoric super salamander was top predator, fossils suggest." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 24 March 2015.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/03/150324085126.htm>.

New dinosaur found in Portugal, largest terrestrial predator from Europe

A new dinosaur species found in Portugal may be the largest land predator discovered in Europe, as well as one of the largest carnivorous dinosaurs from the Jurassic. *T. gurneyi* had blade-shaped teeth up to 10 cm long, which indicates it may have been at the top of the food chain in the Iberian Peninsula roughly 150 million years ago. The scientists estimate that the dinosaur could reach 10 meters long and weigh around 4 to 5 tons.

PLOS. "New dinosaur found in Portugal, largest terrestrial predator from Europe." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 5 March 2014.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/03/140305191427.htm>.

Protein sequencing solves Darwinian mystery of strange South American mammals

Scientists have resolved pieces of a nearly 200-year-old evolutionary puzzle surrounding the group of mammals that Charles Darwin called the "strangest animals ever discovered." New research shows that South America's native ungulates, or hooved mammals -- the last of which disappeared only 10,000 years ago -- are actually related to mammals like horses rather than elephants and other species with ancient evolutionary ties to Africa as some taxonomists have maintained.

University of York. "Protein sequencing solves Darwinian mystery of strange South American mammals." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 18 March 2015.
<<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/03/150318144841.htm>>.

Dinosaurs wiped out rapidly in Europe 66 million years ago

The well-known theory that an asteroid suddenly killed the dinosaurs is based almost entirely on fossils from North America. A new study shows that dinosaurs -- and other continental vertebrates -- remained diverse in Europe up until the asteroid impact, 66 million years ago. This is strong evidence that dinosaurs and many of their contemporaries went extinct rapidly and simultaneously all across the globe.

Pensoft Publishers. "Dinosaurs wiped out rapidly in Europe 66 million years ago." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 13 January 2015.
<<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/01/150113121218.htm>>.

Meetings are held the 2nd Friday of every month (except July, August, and December) in room 203 of the new Earth & Planetary Sciences Building on the campus of Washington University. The building is on the southwest corner of Hoyt Dr. and Forest Park Pkwy. There is a large parking lot just across the street.

CONTACTS

Do you need to find out something about the next meeting or have questions on the next field trip? If so, please talk to or contact one of the EMSP officers.

President: Fay Whobrey
(emsp.pres@mofossils.com)

Vice Pres: Abigail Fairbanks
(emsp.vp@mofossils.com)
Treasurer: Rick Poropat
(emsp.tr@mofossils.com)
Secretary: Ryan Fairbanks
(emsp.sec@mofossils.com)
Educational Outreach: Steve Bynum(emsp.outreach@mofossils.com)

DUES

Our treasurer, Rick will accept dues payment for a full year. **Dues are \$20.00 per household per year-payable in January if receiving the newsletter by e-mail. The dues are \$25 for those receiving the newsletter by regular mail.** See Rick at the next meeting or mail a check (payable to Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology) to:

**EMSP
P.O. Box 220273
St. Louis, MO. 63122**

Distribution of the Newsletter by email

Can't find your newsletter, just when you need it for a trip? Then sign up for the e-mail version. This also saves the club money so we can bring in speakers. E-mail requests to ryfairbanks@gmail.com



What is EMSP?

The Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology (EMSP) is a not-for-profit organization Dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of fossil collecting. It is open to all individuals interested in learning about the history of life on earth. The club membership includes professional paleontologists as well as amateur hobbyists. The EMSP provides an open forum for the exchange of information and access to expertise on collecting, identifying, preparing and displaying fossils.

EMSP meetings are held on the second Friday of every month (except July, August and December) at 7:30pm in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Building on the campus of Washington University. Each meeting includes an informal exchange of information and speakers on a variety of fossil-related topics.

Weather permitting, field trips to fossil collection localities around the St. Louis area are held each month. Led by experienced collectors, these trips are a fun way to augment discussions at the monthly meetings. The club participates in joint field trips with other paleo clubs, visiting fossil sites throughout the United States. EMSP is also a proud to be involved in partnerships with the St. Louis Science Center and the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc.

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