

# The Paleo Times

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## EMSP SOAPBOX

By Ryan Fairbanks & Faye Whobrey

If you have any articles, comments, or need to communicate with me I can be reached through the following: [emsp.sec@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.sec@mofossils.com) (personal) or contact me at 314-809-9593 (cell).

### Next meeting

Next meeting is **Friday, January 9, 2015** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences building at Washington University (see more details below).

## President's Corner December 2014

### ASSOCIATION SHOW:

Do you attend the Association Show in August? A lot of work, time and expense go into making the show a success. All the money from the "BOUTIQUE" at the show goes to the scholarship fund. The Board of Directors for the Association are asking each of the clubs for support. They are looking for two areas of support:

- A. Items for sale at the Boutique
  - Need items to sell for \$4 to \$9
  - Big Ticket items on consignment with 20% going to boutique
  - Boulders for gardens
  - Petrified wood, etc. (Bob Morse offered to tumble these items for boutique)
- B. Constructive comments on how to make show more successful

### Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs:

Each year each of the member clubs appoints a representative to the Board for a two-year term. My term expires in December and I am the Secretary for the Association. If anyone would like to volunteer to take my position as representative and Secretary (meetings are on the uneven months), please let me know. The next Association Board meeting is January 12, 2015.

### Club Meetings:

Christmas Party, December 20, 2014 at the home of Ryan and Abby.  
January 09, 2015: Rick on "Fern Glen Formation"

### Field Trips:

Saturday, December 06, 9:00am, commuter parking lot, Richardson Road & I-5. Combined field trip with Mineral and Gem Club to area near Potosi, MO. This trip is being led by Dr. Bruce. The trip is weather dependent.

Field trips, as with other club activities, are for EMSP members only; no guests. All members must have a current year Liability Waiver on file in order to participate. Members under 18 years old must have their own waiver signed by a parent or guardian. A legal guardian is defined as a person being appointed by a court, not just a relative or family friend. The guardian must also be a current EMSP member. New members should contact Rick to fill out a form or you can request Rick send you one by email, or you can download one from the

club website at

<http://mofossils.com/EMSPLiabilityWaiver.pdf>.

New members should also see Rick to obtain a copy of the Field Trip Rules and Procedures. Field Trip Rules and Procedures may be downloaded at <http://mofossils.com/EMSPFieldTripRulesandProcedures.pdf>

**Education:** We are having a mini-presentation each month on a member's particular interest.

Dr. Bruce did the first mini-presentation on Oligoporous (melonecondid), Late Paleozoic, found only in Mid-West. He had found a nice specimen (first find for him) near Fulton, MO, a couple of weeks ago.

Please let me know if you would like to do a mini-presentation and what your topic is. Something that you have collected with specimens to show and a power-point would be great. If you need help with a power-point, I will be glad to help.

### 2014 Afton Show Report

Thanks to everyone who helped at this year's show. We had a good show, but were well short of last year. We sold 95 items compared to 88 a year ago, but only had sales of \$277.00 less than a year ago. No one item stands out as a best seller. I will prepare a sales breakdown for the next board meeting.

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

For your awareness- EMSP has an Earth Science club scholarship to help with college costs for any earth science related courses or books. Any member or child of a member can apply.

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. Let 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

### Holiday Party

The party is **Saturday, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>** at the home of Abby and Ryan. Plan to show up any time after 4 pm and dinner will probably be served around 6:30.

Reminder - for members and immediate family only. **Please RSVP** to Ryan and Abby for a headcount by Dec 13th. We're making a club field trip slide show. Please **e-mail some club related photos** to "[emsp.vp@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.vp@mofossils.com)". Or you can bring a thumb drive to the party and we will add your photos to the slide show.

**Details-** To better organize the food I would like everyone with a last name starting with the letters A-F to bring an appetizer, letters G-R to bring a side dish and S-Z to bring a dessert. I know some of you already signed up for a dish so you can bring what you signed up for earlier. These are just guidelines for the indecisive; so we don't end up with 30 pies. The club will provide turkey, ham, plates, cups, soda, condiments, bread, and cheese (for sandwiches) and utensils. We'll have space to plug in crock pots. I will also have a keg of brown ale along with several other homebrews up for grabs. Bring along any other adult beverages you enjoy.

This year we will be raffling off a very nice digital camera during the party. Raffle tickets will be \$10 each.

### Paleo-shorts

#### Turtles, Crocs and Dinosaurs

Turtles may be more closely related to crocodiles and dinosaurs than previously thought according to James Parham. He is the co-lead author of the study, "A Phylogenomic Analysis of Turtles," published in the current issue of the journal, *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. Using next generation gene sequencing, the study has reconstructed the turtles "tree of life". Also taken into account was the current fossil record and variations on climate and continent shifts.

<http://news.fullerton.edu/2014fa/jparham-turtle%20study.asp>

## Huge find of Huge Hadrosaurs

In the Kugou Quarry in Zhucheng China, over fifty individuals of the Hadrosaur *Shantungosaurus* have been found. This quarry has been producing since the 1960's but once people found Tyrannosaurs the Hadrosaurs were mostly ignored. David Hone was able to recently travel and examine many of the remains in this quarry. He found over 3000 bones of the *Shantungosaurus* littered about. With many more that were not in accessible parts of the quarry. Quick measurements of the femurs found all of them to be over a meter long, with some at 1.7 meters. These were huge Hadrosaurs; possibly 10 tons of animal. All of the bones found seem to be from adult animals suggesting this was a herd of adults. There is some speculation on what caused them to be buried so quickly; as there is no sign of scavenging. Hopefully these animals will be studied more than they are currently with all the more lucrative dinosaurs coming out of the same area.

<https://archosaurmusings.wordpress.com/2014/11/24/a-population-of-shantungosaurus-the-largest-ornithischian/>

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

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## 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**

# 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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FIRST CLASS MAIL

