

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.

Next meeting

Next meeting is **Friday, September 12, 2014** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences building at Washington University (see more details below).

President's Corner

Several club members attended the 17th Annual Missouri Mines Rock Swap in June at the Missouri Mines Museum location in Park Hills. There were great assortments of minerals, rocks, jewelry and FOSSILS and absolutely delicious bar-b-q sandwiches were provided by the local high school.

We had an excellent program in June. Recent excavation and finds at Dr. Stinchcomb's Ardeola Site was presented by Professor Carl Campbell.

Dave has collected many, many boxes of school supplies for the local schools and several of us will be transporting some of these on our trip to Jordan. Dave has been doing this for several years and the supplies are truly needed and appreciated. Everyone be sure to take pictures and document your finds over the summer. As usual our program in September will be: "What We Did On Our Summer Vacation." So be prepared to participate.

Have a great summer, stay safe, and Happy Fossil Hunting.

Paleo-shorts

I would still like to see some old articles that people have written for past newsletters. The club has had a surge of new membership in the last few years and I think there are a lot of people now that would love to read those old stories for the first time.

Ancient ocean currents may have affected the Ice Age

Researchers have found that the deep ocean currents that move heat around the globe stalled or even stopped about 950,000 years ago, possibly due to expanding ice cover in the north. The slowing currents increased carbon dioxide storage in the ocean, leaving less in the atmosphere, which kept temperatures cold and kicked the climate system into a new phase of colder but less frequent ice ages, they hypothesize.

The Earth Institute at Columbia University. "Ancient ocean currents may have changed pacing and intensity of ice ages: Slowing of currents may have flipped switch." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 26 June 2014.

<<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/06/140626141654.htm>>.

Bizarre Jurassic parasite

Around 165 million years ago, a spectacular parasite was at home in the freshwater lakes of present-day Inner Mongolia (China): A fly larva with a thorax formed entirely like a sucking plate. With it, the animal could adhere to salamanders and suck their blood with its mouthparts formed like a sting. To

date no insect is known that is equipped with a similar specialized design.

Universität Bonn. "Bizarre parasite from the Jurassic had mouthparts for sucking blood of salamanders." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 24 June 2014. <<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/06/140624105854.htm>>.

Tracking Neandertal evolution

Researchers have analyzed the largest collection of ancient fossil hominin species ever recovered from a single excavation site, shedding light on the origin and evolution of Neandertals.

American Association for the Advancement of Science. "Skulls with mix of Neandertal and primitive traits illuminate human evolution." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 19 June 2014. <<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/06/140619142204.htm>>.

The origin of vertebrate jaws?

A major fossil discovery in Canada sheds new light on the development of the earliest vertebrates, including the origin of jaws, the first time this feature has been seen so early in the fossil record.

University of Cambridge. "New fossil find pinpoints the origin of jaws in vertebrates." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 11 June 2014. <<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/06/140611131743.htm>>.

Upcoming Events

The Falls of the Ohio State Park announces the second Falls Fossil Symposium on August 23 & 24. Details about the Mississippian-themed weekend event are at:

http://www.fallsoftheohio.org/Fossil_Symposium.html.

Space is limited to 35 participants, on a first-registered basis. We have a good line-up of speakers. The keynoter, Dr. William I. Ausich, is one of the best known paleontologists in the world on the

evolution of crinoids and Mississippian crinoids in general.

EMSP Picnic

The picnic date is Sunday, August 3rd. The location is the Sugar Creek Ridge pavilion just south of the tennis courts in Kirkwood Park. Members should park in the lot near the tennis courts. Entrance to the lot is on Adams St. just west of the Geyer Rd. & Adams St. intersection. Overflow parking is located at the community center down the hill from the pavilion.

We will start setting up around 10 am. Members should start arriving around 11:30 with the food served at noon. The picnic is a potluck affair for EMSP members only. The club will furnish, burgers, brats, hot dogs, buns, condiments, soft drinks, ice, plates, cups, napkins and plasticware. Members should bring a side dish to share with others. Members may bring fossils to sell or trade. Kirkwood park has a great playground for kids and Walker lake has a walking path and fishing. (Need to have a fishing license if you are 16 years old or older.)

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. Please note that the e-mail contacts have changed

President: Fay Whobrey (Faywhobrey@gmail.com)
Vice Pres: Abigail Fairbanks (abfactor@gmail.com)
Treasurer: Rick Poropat (poropatr@att.net)
Secretary: Ryan Fairbanks (ryfairbanks@gmail.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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