

The Paleo Times

Volume 13 Number 10

October 2014

The Official Publication of the Eastern Missouri Society For Paleontology

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, October 10, 2014** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences rm 203 building at Washington University (see more details below).

President's Corner October 2014

Have you read an article while researching for something that you think would be good material to share with the club? If so, please submit an electronic version to Ryan so he can include in the monthly newsletters.

If you have gone somewhere interesting or had a great "find," either bring the item/information to the next club meeting or send information to Ryan for him to include in the newsletter.

This is really great weather to get out, explore and collect. If you don't have someone to go with you, call a fellow club member from the member's list that was available at the September meeting. Also, if your information needs updating please give the information to Ryan so he can provide paper copies at next meeting for those who do not have email.

As a lesson learned, always make sure you have the necessary PROTECTIVE equipment with you before you start on that short collecting trip – I am pretty organized for the two day or more trips but not so good on the 4-hour trip. Sunday afternoon I was using my rock hammer for collecting blastoids in a creek in Illinois and a piece of "something" hit my left eye. So now I have a very RED eye and am going to the doctor. **Could have been prevented with goggles.** And don't just take the proper equipment with you – wear it!

Club Meetings:

October 10, 2014: Carl on "Alfred Wegener and Plate Tectonics".

November 14, 2014: Rick on "Fern Glen Formation"

December 20, 2014 at home of a member see your newsletter or contact an EMSP officer for more details.

Possible Field Trips for this Fall:

Mark Twain Lake: Scheduled for Saturday, Oct 18 Ardeola (Dr. Stinchcomb's marine site)

Do you have suggestions for others?

For those who weren't at the September meeting, all of Capitol Quarries locations, including Danville, are now closed to us. None of our members did anything wrong. MINSA (Mine Safety Act) is putting pressure on Safety Managers and Owners of quarries to not allow groups into their locations due to insurance liability. If this should change in the future (hopefully), DeWayne at Danville will contact John Stade. This is another sad loss of a collecting site as club members have made some good finds at their quarries over the years.

Shows:

November 21-23, 2014

This is the same message as last month as we really need for more members to be involved.

This show is always the weekend BEFORE Thanksgiving (great time to start Christmas shopping for your fossil friends). It is at the White Rodger's Community Center, Afton, MO. Plan ahead to volunteer for ticket booth, EMSP's table, setup on Friday, and come, look, and buy those things that you want but haven't been able to find. There are a lot of vendors to choose from but be sure to check out your own EMSP table as these funds go toward the speakers we bring to the monthly meetings (our club members get a discount).

We are looking for "**marketing**" ideas to increase the attendance at the August show. Please submit your ideas to any of the club officers. Your input will be greatly appreciated.

Board Meeting

September 12th there was a board meeting before the club meeting. Here are the items discussed.

Scheduled the date for labeling the fossil inventory for shows for November 1st at Tom and Keri's house at 1 pm.

Looking for new ideas for field trips. Maybe some non-collecting trips to the Indiana Field Museum or the Chicago Museum.

The Christmas party will be at a member's home on December 20th.

We are also looking for more club participation at shows and in the newsletter.

Paleo-shorts

Spherical Fossils Some of the Earliest Animals?

A new study of some very small fossils (0.7 mm) in southern China suggest they are not single celled organisms as earlier thought. Taking ultra thin sections of the rock the researchers were able to shine a light through to highlight the fossils details. What they found were spherical structures of multiple cells. Some of the cells appeared to be

different and smaller than the others leading some to believe they were the reproductive cells of whatever organism was preserved.

<http://www.livescience.com/47985-sphere-fossils-animal-embryos.html>

New dinosaur from New Mexico has relatives in Alberta

A newly discovered armored dinosaur from New Mexico has close ties to the dinosaurs of Alberta, say paleontologists. From 76 to 66 million years ago, Alberta was home to at least five species of ankylosaurid dinosaurs, the group that includes club-tailed giants like Ankylosaurus. But fewer ankylosaurids are known from the southern parts of North America. The new species, *Ziapelta sanjuanensis*, was discovered in 2011 in the Bisti/De-na-zin Wilderness area of New Mexico by a team from the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science and the State Museum of Pennsylvania.

University of Alberta. "New dinosaur from New Mexico has relatives in Alberta." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 24 September 2014.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/09/140924144955.htm>.

Scientists report first semiaquatic dinosaur, Spinosaurus: Massive predator was more than 9 feet longer than largest T. rex

Scientists today unveiled what appears to be the first truly semiaquatic dinosaur, *Spinosaurus aegyptiacus*. New fossils of the massive Cretaceous-era predator reveal it adapted to life in the water some 95 million years ago, providing the most compelling evidence to date of a dinosaur able to live and hunt in an aquatic environment. The fossils also indicate that *Spinosaurus* was the largest known predatory dinosaur to roam the Earth, measuring more than nine feet longer than the world's largest *Tyrannosaurus rex* specimen.

University of Chicago. "Scientists report first semiaquatic dinosaur, *Spinosaurus*: Massive predator was more than 9 feet longer than largest T. rex."

ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 11 September 2014.
<<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/09/140911142714.htm>>.

Upcoming Events

Afton show: November 21-23, 2014
Look back at the President's Corner for more information.

Christmas Party! This year the party will be held December 20th at a member's home. This year we will be raffling off a very nice digital camera during the party. Raffle tickets will be \$10 each. More details to follow.

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
(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.



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.

**Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology
(EMSP)
P.O. Box 220273
St. Louis, MO. 63122**

FIRST CLASS MAIL

