

The Paleo Times

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EMSP SOAPBOX

By David Lukens & Don Howell

If you have any articles, comments, or need to communicate with me I can be reached through the following: dmslukens@yahoo.com (personal) or contact me at 636-751-8746 (cell).

Next meeting

Next meeting is **Friday, January 13th** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences building at Washington University (see more details below). BUT do not forget the Christmas party on Dec. 10th.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Words can't really express how I feel as my term as President comes to an end. THANK YOU ALL, EACH AND EVERY CLUB MEMBER!

Every one of you has touched my life in some positive way. The amount of money in our treasury has gone up considerably during my tenure, but the real asset to the club, that I am most proud of and thankful for, is the increase in member families. A special thanks go out to David and Carl because I couldn't have had as successful experience as I had without their help.

It has been wonderful being your president, thank you;

Don Howell III

President Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology

Thanks / Congratulations

Thanks to everyone who brought refreshments to the last meeting. A big thanks to everyone who volunteered at the Affton White show and worked to make it a success. Also thanks to both the outgoing club officers: Don, Pete, and Bruce, and to the new

officers: Carl, Rick, Faye. And to Peggy who is both an old and new officer.

Thanks to our guest speaker Tyrone Daulton from Washington University.

Welcome to our visitor : Angie H.

David

NEXT MEETING (January)

Items to be discussed during the January meeting

- Dues are due with the start of the new year.
- Plans for Spring field trips
- Results for the Affton White Show
- Plans for the Tucson Show, what do we need to buy and how much is authorized

Upcoming Events/ Field Trips

Fossil collecting at Lee Creek Mine, Aurora, NC has been suspended until Fall. PCS Phosphate is working in the collecting trip staging.

-The opening week-end of "Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age" will be November 25-26 at the Missouri History Museum. A schedule of events can be found on the Museum's website: www.mohistory.org.
- On Tuesday, December 13, our club's Dr. Bruce Stinchcomb will be a featured lecturer at the Mammoths/Mastodons show. His lecture is entitled St. Louis Area Big Bones: Missouri's Ice Age Mega fauna. Bruce will be speaking in the Lee Auditorium. (see attached PDF file)

-Annual EMSP Christmas party will be on Dec 10th starting at 5PM (see notes below) at Bruce's fossil

house in Fenton. A map is attached to the newsletter. Food will start around 6:30 and party ends when it ends. Address is 4831 Ridgeview, Fenton MO. Club will furnish meat, bread, plates, and plastic dinnerware. Please bring a dish to share with others. As other years, we will have a grab bag for the kids to draw fossils out of. If we get enough donations we will draw for adults to. So if you have some fossils to donate to the grab bag please bring them.

Notes from the Meeting

- There was a guest speaker in November, Tyrone Daulton, a renowned research scientist for the Center for Materials Innovation in the Washington University Physics Department. In question, is the cause for the demise of the Clovis culture and the large mammals they hunted during the Younger Dryas “cool” period. Daulton presented his evaluation of the nanodiamond/comet impact theory: “Did a Comet Kill the Mammoths and Cause Diamonds to Rain from the Sky?” Daulton thinks not. His findings show that the proposed nanodiamonds are actually graphene, graphane and their oxides. Therefore, the disappearance of the Clovis people and the large mammals remains mysterious.
- The potential field trip to Bruce’s Ariola site was cancelled due to the onset of the hunting season.
- The Annual Christmas Party will be hosted by Bruce S. at the Arnold Geology House. Festivities will start with members gathering between 5 pm and 6 pm the evening of December 10. Eating will commence between 6:30 and 7. As always, the Club will provide meet/cheese trays and dinnerware. Guests are asked to bring traditional pot-luck. The Annual L’Ecuyer Award will be presented. The Geology House provides plenty to look at during this family-oriented party. Members might consider car-pooling.
- A thank you is extended to Faye W. for undertaking the somewhat daunting task of drafting office holders for the upcoming year. Membership voted and passed on the following nominations:

- President—Carl Campbell., Vice-President—Faye Whobrey., Secretary—Dave Lukens. and Peg Cole.; other participation is encouraged, Treasurer—Rick Poropat.
- A special thank you is also extended to all members agreeing to serve as officers, show volunteers, and special committee members.
- We are looking for volunteers to expand our list of people who can do explain our box at science fairs. We need people to sign up, even if you can only cover one show.

We are always looking for more donations of small fossils (quarter size or smaller) for the fossil boards. We are especially in need of small trilobites (the Utah ones are best) were also looking for horn corals, other corals, gastropods, bryozoans, and other donations. Please bring to the next meeting so we can meet later and work on putting more fossil boards together for the upcoming show.

Paleo-shorts

- Original and summary articles provided by members of EMSP. Where possible, I have tried to add in website where you can read more.
<http://www.sciencecentric.com/news/11112107-palaeontologist-describes-large-nest-juvenile-dinosaurs-first-their-genus-ever-found.html>
- Paleontologist in Mongolia have a 70 MYA nest with baby dinosaurs. The 2 ½ feet nest contained the remains of 15 15 juvenile Protoceratops andrewsi dinos. At least 10 of the skeletons were complete and all appeared to be of the same age. This points to the fact that they were born together and stayed in the nest for a certain period of time and were taken care of by their parents. Indications are that the dinosaurs were buried in a sandstorm. Protoceratops reached an adult size of 6 feet when they were about 10 years old and apparently were attentive parents. Part of this may have been due to the harsh, Sahara Desert like environment in which they lived and the numerous predators including Velociraptor inhabiting the area.
<http://www.sciencecentric.com/news/11111806-researchers-pinpoint-date-rate-earth-most-extreme-extinction.html>

A new study is helping to pinpoint the climax of the Permian extinction which killed off 95% of ocean life and 70% of land based life. Based on analysis of sedimentary deposits in South China and Tibet, the mass extinction climaxed around 252.28 million years ago and lasted less than 200,000 years, with most of the extinction lasting about 20,000 years. These specific dates should also help to indicate exactly what may have caused the extinctions. A number of theories exist including massive CO2 from volcanic eruptions, global warming, extended droughts, and others.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/11/111117141201.htm>

Researchers from Princeton University believe that they have new evidence pointing to the cause of the extinction at the K-T boundary. They have found fossils of dying plankton for 500,000 years that connects the mass extinction to the massive volcanic eruptions in India known as the Deccan Traps. They also found evidence of meteorite impacts near the time of the final extinction. The fossil evidence indicates that the 2nd of 3 Deccan eruptions wiped out almost 100% of the plankton. The 3rd eruption would have kept the Earth hospitable to life for almost ½ million years. The study of planktonic foraminifera, used to determine the scale of ancient disasters, died as a result of huge lava flows, acid rain, and changes in the atmosphere and as it got worse, all large species died out. The meteorite / asteroid strikes would have pushed the few survivors over the edge. Many scientists believe that the Chicxulub asteroid impact, which occurred during the 2nd stage of the Deccan. In addition, core samples from the asteroid site indicate that it occurred about 300,000 years prior to the final extinction. The studies of the plankton fossils off the Indian coast point to a 50% drop in species between the 1st and 2nd mega lava flows with only 7 or 8 species surviving. No groups recovered between the following flows and none survived the last flow. The volcanic eruptions were estimated to have emitted 30 times from CO2 and SO2 than the asteroid impact. This resulted in severe acid rains, acidic conversions of the oceans, and massive swings in global temperatures. Analysis of rock layers from this area showing the KT boundary show a horrible environment with high humidity, severe storms, and giant blooms of the plankton species Guembelitra cretacea, which is one of the few species that do well in disasters. High amounts of iridium were also found given evidence

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/11/111116174738.htm>

A well preserved mosasaur dating to 65-98 MYA from western Kansas is providing new information due to its exceptional preservation. The preservation of soft tissue including scales and skin indicate that it was able to reduce its frictional drag and kept the front of its body rigid while using its rear body and

http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/336423/title/Cretaceous_Thanksgiving

A 120 MYA old microraptor gull fossil has been found with bird bones in its stomach. The position shows it swallowed the bird whole. This indicates the raptor may have lived or at least moved through the trees and was agile.

<http://www.news-journalonline.com/news/local/east-volusia/2011/11/24/more-pieces-of-possible-mastodon-found-at-daytona-site.html>

An amateur paleontologist in Florida has found the partial remains of a mastodon at a construction site. Among the parts found have been teeth, ribs, and parts of the skull. The remains were initially found by construction workers digging a retention pond. It is hoped that since the bones are from city land, they will end up in the Museum of Arts & Sciences. The last major find in Daytona was in 1975 when a giant ground sloth skeleton was found in Reed Canal Park. Along with the other bones, both tusks have been found, one complete and the other ¾ complete. A sample of the bones have been sent to the U of F for carbon dating.

<http://www.paleontologynews.com/link.asp?ID=1521949&Title>

Scientists in Alaska have found the remains of a new dinosaur. The remains have been identified as the 70 MYA skull of a new species of ceratopsian dinosaur named Pachyrhinosaurus perotorum. Similar species have been found in Canada. When the dinosaurs lived, the area was closer to the North Pole but warmer. Several other species including 3 herbivores and 4 carnivores have been previously identified in this area. Several were found to have large ideas for hunting in the times of year when there was little light. When the mass of rock the bones were found in were brought to the Dallas museum and picked apart, parts from at least 15 different animals were found.

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2011/11/20/whales-in-desert-fossil-bonanza-poses-mystery/>

Scientists from Chile and the Smithsonian Institution have unearthed an ancient whale graveyard in Caldera,

in northern Chile dating to more than 2 million years ago. The fossils are now located in the Atacama desert but it is unsure why all the whales are together almost side by side. It is unsure if they were beached or if they were trapped in a shallow area of water and died. The skeletons of over 75 whales have been identified including almost 20 that are complete. Among these are a grouping of two adult whale with a juvenile between them. The bones were found during work to widen the road and are located in a narrow area 800 ft x 60 ft. The remains have been identified as baleen whale with adults being around 25 feet long. In addition a sperm (toothed) whale and a strange dolphin with 2 whale like tusks have also been found. The dolphin has also been previously found in Peru. Fossils have been found previously in the Atacama desert including an extinct aquatic sloth and a seabird with a 5-meter (17-foot) wingspan.

Upcoming shows

January 2012

1-31—QUARTZSITE, ARIZONA: Wholesale and retail show; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1055 Kuehn St.; I-10 Exit 17; Sun. 9-6 daily; free admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry Web site: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

January 2012-February 2012

28-11—TUCSON, ARIZONA: Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show; Martin Zinn Expositions; Ramada Ltd.; 665 N. Freeway; Thu. 10-6 daily; free admission; more than 400 dealers, free shuttle among locations, Artists' Gallery at the Hotel Tucson City Center; contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665; e-mail: mzexpos@gmail.com; Web site: www.mzexpos.com

March 2012

2-4—RICHMOND, INDIANA: Annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society; Wayne County Fairgrounds; 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4;

23-25—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: 14th Annual Indianapolis Spring Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show; Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows; Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Bldg.; 1202 E. 38th St.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Web site: www.toteshow.com

April 2012

28-29—MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE: Annual show; Memphis Archaeological & Geological Society; Memphis International Agricenter; 7777 Walnut

Grove Rd.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5 Web site: www.TheEarthWideOpen.com

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 – Carl Campbell (cecampbell@stlcc.edu)

Vice-President: Faye Whobrey

(ewhobrey@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer: Rick Poropat (poropatr@att.net)

Secretaries: David Lukens

(dmslukens@yahoo.com, cel 636-751-8746) and

Peggy Cole

DUES ARE DUE

Our treasurer, Pete Smith 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 Pete 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 (once we pick some...) E-mail requests to dmslukens@yahoo.com



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 Earth & Planetary Sciences building is on the southwest corner of Hoyt Drive and Forest Park Pkwy. There is a large parking lot just across the street.

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

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7pm
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Photo
by Bruce
Stinchcomb

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2011 PROGRAMS/EVENTS