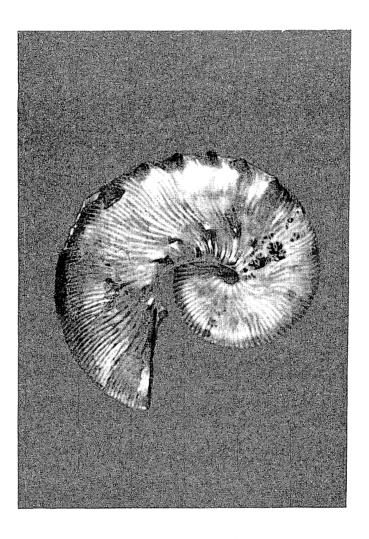
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Official Publication of <u>Mid-America Paleontology Society</u> Volume 14 Number 9 December, 1991



December, 1991

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

<pre>11 JAN MAPS MEETING. (NOTE CHANGE OF WEEKEND.) Augustana College, Rock Island, IL. 1:00 Board & General Meeting combined. 2:00 Program: Show and Tell/Look and See 1 FEB MAPS MEETING. Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL</pre>	 24 APR 1992 MAPS National Fossil Expo- sition XIVMollusks 26 Table reservation forms, travel information, and motel information appear in the January issue of the Digest.
 1:00 Board & General Meeting combined. 2:00 Program: Larry Wiedman will be in charge of the program: Specimens from Jim O'Daniel's Collection. Some of the specimens are from Jim's great, great grandfather's collection and date back to the 1800s. 	A POEM FOR YOU by Gene Harris If you've been good as all children should be, You'll find loads of presents under your Christmas tree Like Eurypterids and trilobites And Triceretops and Ammonites. Like Carcharodon megalodon and teeth of a Demetrodon.

*** 91/12 DUES ARE DUE ***

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of year followed by month--91/12 means 1991/Dec. Dues cover the issue of the *Digest* for the month in which they expire.

We do not send notices but will let you know if you are overdue by highlighting your mailing label on your *Digest*. We carry overdues for two months before dropping them from our mailing list.

Please include your **due date** and **name exactly as it appears on your mailing label**--or include a label.

Dues are \$15 per U.S./Canadian household per year. Overseas members may choose the \$15 fee to receive the *Digest* by surface mail or a \$25 fee to receive it by air mail. Library/Institution fee is \$25.

ABOUT THE COVER

This month's cover features a specimen from the collection of Gil Norris, Rock Island, Illinois. The *Quadrangularis nodosus* is from the Cretaceous Pierre Shale in South Dakota. And Triceretops and Ammonites. Like Carcharodon megalodon and teeth of a Demetrodon. Like the shark called Isurus And the bones of Apatosaurus And Stegosaur hips And Pteranodon lips. But if you've been bad, on this night of nights Your stocking will be filled with Coprolites.

ANAPS MEETING UPDATE

As announced in the last issue of the Digest, MAPS members have been invited to attend the Association of North American Paleontological Society's (ANAPS) convention, June 28 to July 1, 1992, at the Field Musuem of Natural History in Chicago. Further information from the Society indicates MAPS members may register at a reduced fee of \$95 (instead of \$125) with proof of MAPS membership. Your current Digest label will serve as proof of membership.

For more information, see the November issue of the *Digest*, or write to: The University of Illinois at Chicago Conferences and Institutes (M/C 607) Box 6998 Chicago, Illinois 60680

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following letter is in response to the question of how to ration tables at EXPO.

Dear Members:

... My name is Charles Oldham; I am 41 years old, an Environmental Engineering geologist for the Kentucky Department of Surface Mining. I also own and operate a small company--River City Geological Survey and Supply. I have been a member of MAPS since its conception.

I have attended some of the early EXPOs (2-5). Somewhere around EXPO 5 or 6(?) there was a conflict with a large local show...I returned to EXPO in 1989. I was somewhat at a loss when I viewed the show. Where were all the exhibits? What had happened? It was very difficult to swap; almost everyone wanted money. The emphasis on the show floor had changed.

Last year I brought an exhibit of fossil corals from the Falls of the Ohio that was keyed to my paper in the *Digest*. I made the casual comment that it was a shame that there were not more exhibits. I was taken back when a fair number of people within earshot commented that exhibits took up valuable table space and that the show would be better off without them. Also, that it was their opinion that the material for sale on the dealers' tables was a better exhibit than what they had seen so far. I was very much tempted to pack up my display and shove it back in the truck.

MAPS is at a crossroad. Divisional lines are being drawn by different interest groups. So far, the squeaky wheels have been the "professional dealers." (I will refrain from naming names.) I have been contacted and even confronted by some of these "professional dealers" to side with them. Others have commented that "small non-professional dealers" like me should keep my opinions to myself.

The early EXPOs that I attended (2-5) were truly within the concept of: "The Love of Fossils Brings Us Together." Last year I saw the real beginnings of "Fossils for Profit!"

I have always looked upon EXPO as a reprieve from the drudgery of commercial shows...where everyone was equal, where the experts were soft-spoken, and friendship, knowledge and experiences were shared by all...The knowledge I have gained through the years of belonging to MAPS and attending the EXPO I'm sure has paid back tenfold for any expense incurred.

As a dealer and/or collector, I would rather see more individuals than a given number of "professional dealers." Reason? simple, I need to acquire different, unique and reasonably priced fossils. The fossils carried by most "professional dealers" are repetitive and can be acquired at their source.

As for big shows--the bigger the show, the more difficult it is to put on. Big shows take more help, more money--everything is more. A big show becomes dependent (financially) upon drawing dealers who will bear the brunt of the expense. These dealers, in return, demand certain conditions--contracts, insurance, special lighting, RV hookups, table covers, security, loading and unloading, media advertising, etc. In the end the show revolves around catering to the dealers. I know--I have been on both sides of this table. And, lastly, somewhere along the line the "small dealer" is excluded. two tables are not sufficient--three are... Whether or not I am to be considered a "professional dealer" remains to be determined. If I hired a truck large enough, I could cover every table in the entire show and still have stock to set on the floor. Last year I overheard one of the so-called "professional dealers" brag that he registered himself, his mother, and his dog and got six tables. Perhaps this year I should register myself and my five cats--just joking...

Best Wishes, Charles Oldham

EXPO TABLES, ETC.

The table situation at EXPO was discussed at length at the December MAPS meeting, and several decisions were made in an attempt to keep table distribution equitable and allow as many people as possible to obtain tables:

- 1. There will be a limit of 2 tables per **person.** Exhibitors are encouraged to keep boxes under tables and bring out new specimens when others are sold. (This is the procedure used in Europe where space is sold by the meter.) A great effort will be made to limit tables to 4 per family or group. (We reserve the right to arrange tables as we see fit rather than by request.)
- 2. Anyone with special needs that would require more than 2 tables (such as the book dealer) may apply to the Board for an exception. Again the upper limit is 4. Requests must be made by March 1 and will be acted on as soon as possible after they are received. All decisions will be made by March 7.
- 3. Tables in the Ballroom will cost \$15 each. Tables in the Lobby will cost \$15/table/day with no security and will be used only for overflow. MAPS will not provide storage for Lobby tables. (We don't expect to need to use the Lobby tables.)

Also, a reminder that each exhibitor is asked to donate a quality specimen for Saturday's auction. Profits go to the Paleontological Society for a scholarship. Please donate specimens as early as possible during EXPO so that people will have time to look at them **before** the auction.

EXPO registration forms, etc., will appear in the January issue, hopefully in about a week.

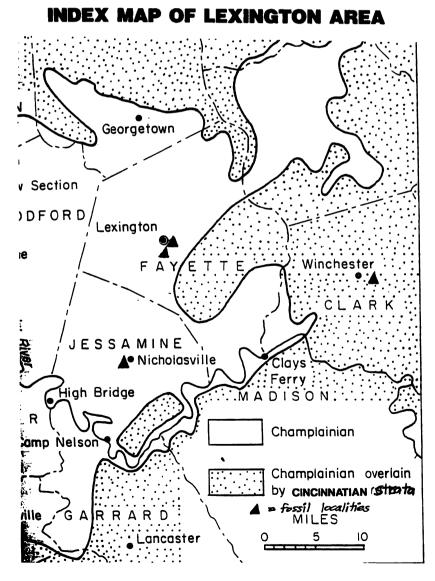
As to the subject of the table allotment... For me

COLLECTING ORDOVICIAN FOSSILS IN THE LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, AREA by: Mark G. McKinzie, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

INTRODUCTION

1991, I had the opportunity to In July, Ordovician fossils in the collect Lexington, Kentucky, area. My girlfriend and I were in Bluegrass country attending the National Paint Horse show. While my girlfriend scoured watched horses. Ι outcrops. Lexington is approximately 80 miles due south of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the south end of the Cincinnati Arch. Even though the outcrops are not as numerous (or as famous) as their northern neighbor, the fossil collecting is still pretty darn good.

FIGURE 1



REGIONAL SETTING AND GEOLOGY

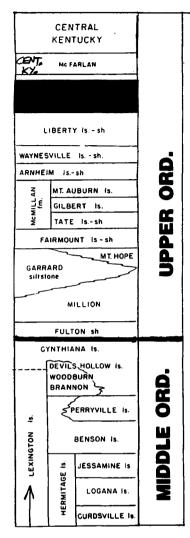
Lexington is located in the heart of the bluegrass belt in north-central inner Kentucky. You can actually map the extent the bluegrass belt as it coincides with of the outcrop area of the Ordovician rocks in It is the phosphate in the Kentucky. limestones that contributes to the strong bones of the Kentucky race horses. As one move east, south, or west of Lexington, one eventually crosses into a hillier region known as the "knobs." This is the boundary with Devonian-Mississippian rocks exposed in the area (see Figure 1).

> town itself lies along the axis The of the north-south trending Cincinnati Arch. The oldest rocks in Kentucky (of Ordovician age) are located south of here along the Kentucky River. The oldest rocks I concerned with were middle was Ordovician/Champlainian series limestones and shales (see Figure 2). In Oklahoma I collect from equivalent rocks in age the Mountains known as Arbuckle the Trentonian Viola limestone. Back home it is a deeper water deposit than the limestones I examined here. As you move upsection, you pass into the upper Ordovician shales of limes and the Cincinnatian series. In ascending order the major groups are the Eden. Maysville, and Richmond. The Ordovician is overlain by the Silurian Brassfield formation.

> In regional sense, the я alternating limestones and shales record the variable rates of clastic influx on an extensive carbonate platform. The Canadian shield was surrounded by a large, thick carbonate shelf flat. and the upper Ordovician. This during epeiric sea was very shallow with thousands of miles of sea bottom at or near normal wave base. Back then. the present-day Atlantic Coast was the site of an extensive

FIGURE 2

STRAT COLUMN



mountain range. The erosion of those mountains produced the Queenston Deltaic Complex of New York.

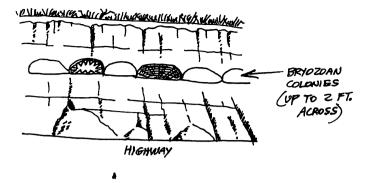
In the immediate vicinity of Lexington. the ocean bottom was far enough from the shoreline limestones that deposited unwere der normal conditions. On a frequent basis, howincreased ever, influx sediment from the distant caused mountains the deposition of interfingering shale and silty units. This alterlime nating and shale sequence was repeated time and time again during upper Ordovithe At. no time cian. the seas were than 120 deeper feet in northcentral Kentucky.

FOSSILS COLLECTED

able to examine nearly a dozen Ι was Ordovician age during my visit outcrops of to Kentucky. Α partial listing of the I visited follows the conclusion outcrops article. I will briefly describe of this the collecting highlights of the some of trip.

The best single specimen I collected came from an abandoned field a block away from were staying at (Locality the hotel we is on the east side of hotel #2). The Lexington at the intersection of HWY 60 and 1-75. The rocks Road) (Winchester exposed are middle Ordovician limestones of I discovered a slab the Lexington ls. 4 partially to nearly complete containing the crinoid Glyptocrinus dyeri. crowns of

FIGURE 3



Lying draped over one of the crowns is the cephalon and thorax of the trilobite Odontopluera sp. block had obviously The been bulldozed one time, or all the at fossils would have perfect. been It is remarkable how much this trilobite resembles the odontopluerid Leonaspis williamsi from the lower Ordovician of Oklahoma. Further surface collecting revealed nothing but brachs and bryozoans.

Just a mile north of this locality at the intersection of I-64 east, and I-75 south is a beautiful roadcut on both sides of the underpass of I-64 eastbound (locality #3). About halfway up the outcrop of the north side is a zone of huge bryozoan colonies (see Figure 3). The bryozoan colonies are up to 2 feet across and 1 foot tall, with flat bases and rounded tops. The overall shape is semi-hemispherical, and all the were touching one another. colonies T+ reminded me of a cookie sheet with the biscuit dough having risen too much, and the biscuits were all clumped together.

One of the colonies had been split in half during the road construction blasting and, instead of being solid, was lined with dogtooth calcite crystals. It would have been a beautiful display specimen except it was much too large to carry home. As it was, I took home approximately 150 lbs. of fossils with me on the plane. Trying to get those on board was an ordeal in itself.

Moving east on I-64 from Lexington, one passes into progressively younger Ordovician rocks. There are numerous good exposures of Cincinnatian series rocks on both sides of the highway. One and a half miles east of Winchester (30 miles east of Lexington) are a series of good outcrops of

December, 1991

the Eden-Maysville groups (Locality #4). The limestones and shales are extremely fossiliferous (see Table 1). The drainage paralleling the interstate are ditches choked with fossils weathered literally free of the surrounding matrix.

The fauna is dominated by brachiopods and bryozoans of all shapes and sizes. Various

will notice a prominent ridge capping every outcrop. This is the Silurian Brassfield directly the rocks formation, and underneath it are upper Ordovician rocks of the Richmond group. From a few miles east Sterling on, one will see this of Mt. contact at the top of all the outcrops. Most of the outcrops I stopped at in the upper Richmond were barren of fossils.

species of the orthid Platystrophia brach very abundant are Also numerous here. the various are growth forms of the Richmondian type bryozoan

It's Constellaria. amazing how many forms this growth genus could assume at exact geologic the time, and in the same depositional environ-As I have seen ment. time and time again Ordovician, in the diversity and the abundance of bryozoans comes at the of the expense I could have corals. collected hundreds of specimens bryozoan but only found 3 during the corals week stay.

It was refreshing to see molluscan fossils remains, specifically pelecypods, with the shell material still preserved. In the Ordovician of Oklahoma, it is unusual to find anything but and casts. molds Absolutely magnificent specimens of the gastropod coiled Cyclonema bilix can be collected at this locality.

further Continuing east on I-64, one

CINCINNATIAN (UPR. ORD.) FOSSILS OF THE LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY REGION

FAUNAL LIST for the EDEN-MAYSVILLE GROUP (UNDIFFERENTIATED)" OFFSHORE" COMMUNITY: 27 GENERA TOTAL

	EPIFAUNAL FILTER FEEDER	5:	SESSILE MICROCARNIVORES:	
BLE 1.	Rafinesquina alternata Strophonema neglecta	STROPHO- MENID BRACHS	Columnaria avaolata Tentradium ontario (TABULATE CORALS)	
	Herbestella occidentalia -	ORTHID BRACHS	NEKTONIC (SWIMMING) CARNIVORES:	
	Herbestella sinuata Platystrophia scutilizata Platystrophia cypha		artingeras spo Orthoceras sp. (NAUTILOIDS)	
	Platystropfia ponderosa Platystropfia ponderosa Platorthia bellula		ELEVATED (STALKED) EPIFAUNAL FILTER FEEDERS:	
TA	Pleetosthis borealis		Glyptocrimua dychi-CRINOID	
	Reserella emacerata Zygospira modeita		EPIFAUNAL & MOBILE COLLECT- ORS(CRAWLERS):	
	Batostoma variana Constellaria florida		Flexicalymene mecki-TRILO- BITE	
	Dekayella norichi Hallopora sp.	BRYO- ZOANS	Bellesophon trootai Cyclonema biliz PODS	
	Heterotrype frondosa Prasopore simultiz _		Hopospina bowden	
	Byssonchia radiata -	PELECI- POD		
	FAUNAL LIST for the UN (UNDIFFERENTIATED)" NEAR	PPER RICH RSHORE "	IMOND GROUP COMMUNITY: 8 GENERA TOTAL	
1	EPIFAVNAL FILTER FEEDER	S:	MOBILE COLLECTORS (CRAWLERS):	
ABLE 2'.	Byssonchia radiata - Modiolopsis madiolaris	PELECY- PO D S	Bellensphon trontsi GASTO- Hopospisa bourden PODS	
	Pterínea <i>dem</i> issa – Hesberte <i>lla orcide</i> ntalia–	L	NEKTONIC (SWIMMING) CARNIVORES :	
P	The A A A	ORTHID	ONTHE AD -NAUTION	

BRACHS

Orthoreras sp.

Herbertella occidentalia Platystrophia ponderora

One mile east of Ollinsville, exit on HWY 60 south and one will immediately see an extensive roadcut on the south side of the road. The Silurian Brassfield also caps the outcrop here. A very diversified molluscan assemblage can be collected at the base of the cut (see Table 2). Notice that the limestones are very sandy and coarser-grained than those at previous outcrops farther west. The fossils are not nearly as abundant, and the bryozoans are noticeably absent. The differences in fauna here and those exposures lower in the Ordovician can be attributed to changes in the sea bottom with respect to proximity to the paleo-shoreline.

ENVIRONMENT OF DEPOSITION

examining After the fossils in the the Cincinnatian series, and viewing changes in lithology associated with them, I realized there is a general shallowing upward sequence as one approaches the Silurian Brassfield formation. Ιt culminates in an unconformity at the base of the Brassfield which represents a period of non-deposition.

The middle Ordovician Lexington limestone and the Eden-Maysville groups both were deposited in an offshore environment where conditions were favorable for an abundance of bottom-dwelling filter-feeders (see The sea bottom was dominated by Table 1). All other brachiopods and bryozoans. were minor constituents of the fossils Though the bryozoans grew in great biota. thickets, they never formed any reef-like The shoreline was miles and structures. miles east of north-central Kentucky at the Yet the water was still shallow time. enough to sweep the bottom on a regular basis. The constant wave agitation probably limited the crinoid distribution

deeper where to waters the bottom conditions were more quiescent. The wave action was not strong enough to disarticulate the shelly fauna, and thick accumulations of debris developed. Many brachiopod shells and bryozoan colonies have encrusting bryozoans on them, which suggests that they were exposed on the surface for some time before burial.

On the other hand, the upper Richmond group fauna is dominated by a molluscan element (see Table 2). Large, robust brachiopods are also a major factor of the biota. The Platystrophia ponderosas from here are considerably larger than the ones from lower in the section. The larger size gave the better stability in an even higher environment. All the pelecypods energy were mobile to some extent and were able to move around in a shifting substrate. The cephalopod Orthoceras sp. probably washed in from deeper waters. But that may not be It is not uncommon to find the case. modern-day squids stranded in tide pools after coming into the shallows to feed during high tide.

The shoreline was much closer to Kentucky during the upper Ordovician, and these fossils may have lived very close to the low tide line. This was a very high energy environment, and the waters were welloxygenated and nutrient-rich.

Note the decrease in diversity as you approach the paleo-shoreline (see Table 1 versus Table 2). This is due to the harsher and more unstable conditions of the onshore environment compared to the more stable conditions of the offshore environment. Ultimately, the differences in fauna reflect the differences in living habitat and the organisms that were best able to adapt to them.

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- 1. Bretsky, Peter; (1970), "Late Ordovician Benthic Marine Communities in North-Central New York," N.Y. State Museum and Science Service, bul. 414.
- 2. La Rocque, Aurele; Marple, Mildred Fisher; (1987), "Ohio Fossils," State Div. of Geol. Survey, bul. 54.
- 3. Meek, F.B.; (1873), "Paleontology of the Silurian (Ordovician) and Devonian Systems,", Geol. Survey of Ohio, vo. 1, part 1.
- 4. Templeton, J.S.; William, H.B.; (1963), "Champlainian Series (Middle Ordovician) in Illinois," Illinois Geol. Survey, bul 89.

LIST OF FOSSIL LOCALITIES

- Go south of Lexington on HWY 27 to Nicholsville (20 miles south). At intersection of 1. business 27 & HWY 27 are outcrops on both sides of road. Jessamine county. AGE: Middle Ordovician/Champlainian series (Trenton age) FORM: lwr Lexington ls. (Hermitage ls?) Abandoned fields just NW of intersection of HWY 60 (Winchester road) & I-75 on NE side 2. of Lexington. Fayette county. AGE: Middle Ordovician/Champlainian series FORM: upr Lexington 1s. Underpass I-64 going under I-75 on NE side of Lexington on both sides of interstate. 3. Fayette county. AGE: upr middle Ordovician/Champlainian series FORM: Cynthiana fm. 4. 1 mile east of Ollinsville on I-64 east of Lexington. Get off on access road to HWY 60 and look at large outcrop on south side of read. Bath county. AGE: upr Ordovician/Cincinnatian series FORM: upr Richmond group 5. $1 \frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Winchester on I-64. Numerous outcrops on both sides of highway. About 25 miles east of Lexington. Clarke county. AGE: upr Ordovician
 - AGE: upr Ordovicial
 - FORM: Eden-Maysville group

ADVERTISING SECTION

are \$5.00 per inch (6 lines x 1 Ads column--43 spaces). Send information and checks payable to MAPS to: Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 34th Avenue Ct., Rock 61201. Island. IL Phone: (309)786-6505. This space is a \$5.00 size. To extend currently running ads, please send request and remittance to **Editor** by the 15th of the month. We do not bill. Ads do not run in the EXPO issue (April). Ads up to 8 lines by 54 spaces can be printed in smaller type to fit a 1" space.

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Robert Hoffman 388 Townline Road Lancaster, NY 14086 716-681-6875

Paul Mallon 1860 Bremen Rd. Hatfield, PA 19440 215-723-1401

Scott Taylor 3510 Norris Houston, TX 77025

Noel E. "Gene" Wood P.O. Box 241 Rock Springs, WY 82902 307-362-8258

Steve Zimpfer 131-1 Pinehurst Ct. Athens, GA 30606 353-2566

Bruce & Ruth Banick 3811 Schintzius Rd. E. Eden, NY 14057

Engineer. Collects all types of fossils. Loves to collect local Devonian specimens. Has local items, some excellent for trade. Treasurer and former president of Buffalo Geol. Soc. Will lead field trips.

Consulting Engineer. Will trade. Member Delaware Valley Paleo. Soc.

Engineer. Will not trade. Major interest fish, leaves. Wants to have a wider association with fossil collectors.

Interested in cephalopods, echinoids, and vertebrates. Collects throughout the Southeast and would like to meet with other collectors in that region.

Retired. Possibly trade. Collecting since 1973. Interested in trilobites, crinoids, ammonoids, and all other fossils. Also preparation.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR CORRECTIONS:

Lawrence A. Gilbert DELETE PHONE

Pierre Gonin ADD PH. ALSO FAX

Gary Lumannick 11770 S.W. 29th Street Miami, FL 33175 305-221-4227

Teacher. Interested in all fossils, especially eurypterids, Badland skulls, Devonian fish and dinosaur bones and teeth. Has for trade Florida vertebrate and invertebrate fossils as well as some Cretaceous fish from Brazil.

Harvey & Steffie Negrich 3011 Hampton Crescent SW CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA

George Wallace Powell, Jr. 2208 Los Pueblos Ln. #2 Falls Church, VA 22043-2278 (New ZIP) 703-893-7856

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The <u>Mid-America</u> Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology; to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

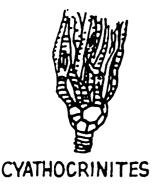
Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: One year from month of payment is \$15.00 per household. Institution or Library fee is \$25.00. Overseas fee is \$15.00 with Surface Mailing of DIGESTS OR \$25.00 with Air Mailing of DIGESTS. (Payments other than those stated will be pro-rated.)

MAPS meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (2nd Saturday if inclement weather). October & May meetings are scheduled field trips. The June meeting is in conjunction with the Bloomington, IN, Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show & Swap. A picnic is held the fourth weekend in July. November through April (except February) meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in the Science Building, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. The February meeting is held at Monmouth College, Monmouth, Illinois. One annual International Fossil Exposition is held in the Spring.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year--October through June.

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Dated Material - Meeting Notice