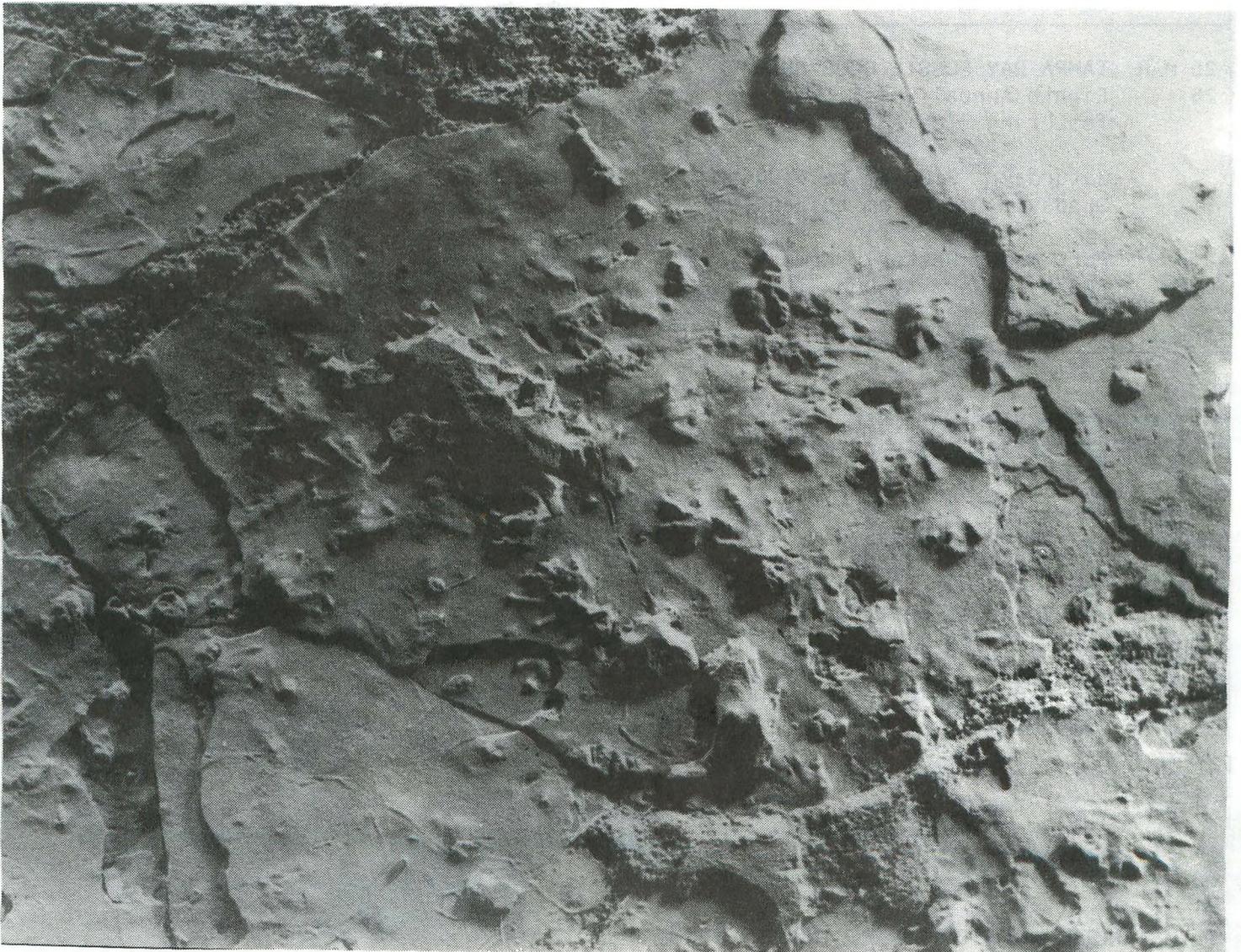


M.A.P.S. *Digest*

Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

Volume 18 Number 3
March, 1995



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

9 JUN MAPS FIELD TRIP, POTLUCK PICNIC
AND MEETING
At Karl Stuekerjuergen's, 1503
265th Ave, West Point, IA 52656
(319) 837-6690

10:00 - 1:00 Field trip to
Burlington Formation near West
Point: Crinoids, Blastoids, and
Brachiopods

1:00 Potluck Picnic

Board & General Meeting
combined, following picnic.

25 MAR TAMPA BAY FOSSIL CLUB SHOW
26 Eighth Annual Fossil Fair
featuring "Ice Age Mammals."

Saturday: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Fort Homer Hesterly Armory
504 N. Howard Avenue, Tampa, FL

7 APR 1995 MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL
8 EXPOSITION XVII—CRINOIDS
9

Fri., Apr. 7: 8am - 6pm
(Keynote speaker: Dr. Thomas
Guensburg - evening.)
Sat., Apr. 8: 8am - 5pm
(Business meeting and auction
following.)
Sun., Apr. 9: 8am - 3pm
(Many people leave by noon on
Sunday.)

For registration contact:
Karl Stuekerjuergen, 1503 265th
Ave, West Point, IA 52656
(319) 837-6690

PLEASE NOTE: THE DATES ARE INCORRECT IN
THE 1994 DIRECTORY

*** 95/03 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--95/03 means 1995/Mar. 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 \$20 per U.S./Canadian household per year. Overseas members may choose the \$20 fee to receive the *Digest* by surface mail or a \$30 fee to receive it by air mail. (Please send a check drawn on a United States bank in US funds; US currency; a money order; or a check drawn on an International bank in your currency.) Library/Institution fee is \$25.

Make checks payable to MAPS and mail to:
Sharon Sonnleitner, Treas.
4800 Sunset Dr. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

ABOUT THE COVER

This month's cover photo was sent by F.W. Lewis, Carmel, Indiana. The "spectacular set" of 300 million-year-old tracks were made by a *Paleosauropus*, an amphibian ancestor of the dinosaur. Erik Kvale of the Indiana Geological Survey discovered the prints in April 1992. Mr. Lewis took the photos at the Indiana State Museum for their records. See pages 3-4 for the story.



This photo, sent by MAPS member James Gabriel, shows some of the activity at last year's EXPO. Don't miss out on EXPO 1995.

EXPO XVII—CRINOIDS

EXPO is less than a month away now, and this will be the last regular *Digest* you will receive until May. The April issue is the EXPO *Digest*. It can be picked up at EXPO, or it will be mailed from there for those of you who are not in attendance.

This year's EXPO promises to be another great show. All tables will again be filled with a wide variety of fossils for sale, trade or show. Friday evening Tom Guensberg, Rockford, Illinois, will present the keynote address "Early Crinoids." Saturday evening provides a fun event with the live auction, following a short business meeting and presentation of awards. Proceeds from the auction fund scholarships presented to the Paleontological Society.

Those of you who will be "first-timers" are in for an exciting weekend. Just a warning: although the show is open until 3:00 on Sunday, many people leave by noon because of the distances they have to travel home. So if you can only come on Sunday, it's best to arrive early.

A SPECIAL POSTAL CANCEL will again be available on Friday and Saturday at the Post Office set up across from the front desk.

THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY will have a representative at a table with literature published by the Society and information about the organization.

THE PALEO. RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PRI) will be presenting the Katherine Palmer Award at the Saturday evening program. They will also have a table of their publications at EXPO.

We hope to see a lot of you there. And for those of you who have asked: ADMISSION TO VIEW EXPO IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

SEDIMENTARY NOTES

Mildred Scheffel-Tennant was recently named an Honorary Member of the Geology Section--Peoria Academy of Science. She was recognized for her long and continuing contribution of time and specimens in preparing grab bags for the club show.

=

FOSSILS STOLEN FROM CARLETON
from Dry Dredgers, Department of Geology
U. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
Feb 95, Greg Hand, Ed.

Stolen fossils and minerals are becoming a big business. Not long ago, fossils stolen in Moscow turned up in Germany and on catalogs distributed in the US.

On Saturday, September 23, 1994, 133 museum quality mineral crystal specimens and 522 fossils with a total value of over \$50,000 were stolen from the Geology Department at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. The mineral specimens were removed from several large hallway display cases and the fossils were taken from other display cases and from an adjacent lab. The fossils included several good quality mammoth and mastodon tusks, teeth and jaw bones and several hundred marine shell fossils from Miocene deposits in Florida.

Each of the specimens is identified with a catalog number in black pen lettering on white paint on the back or bottom. A complete inventory of the stolen specimens is available from the Carleton Geology Department (507)663-4407 or (507)663-4401 according to Mary Savina, Chair, Geol. Department.

FOSSIL FACTS AND FICTION
by Marion K. Zenker

One of the joys nearly every child discovers in the out of doors is picking up rocks. This natural curiosity about our world has historically led to the most important discoveries in the science of paleontology (the study of fossils). From *Archaeopteryx* to *Tyrannosaurus rex*, more than eight out of ten of all scientifically important fossils are discovered by amateur collectors (according to dinosaur expert, Dr. Robert Bakker). These discoveries provide new and important information about the history of life on Earth. From this pool of curious youngsters picking up rocks also come the geologists, the paleontologists, the botanists and archaeologists of the next generation.

Most of us share this curiosity about the Earth around us. The increasing numbers of
(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER HIM BY

Pre-dinosaur Amphibian Takes a Stroll Through Indiana

by Jeff Kirby, assistant geologist with the Indiana Geological Survey, Bloomington
 Reprinted with permission from *Outdoor Indiana*, Indiana DNR, Indianapolis, IN,
 Ginger Morgan, Asst. Ed.
 (sent by F.W. Lewis, Carmel, IN)

To some, footprints serve as fleeting reminders of a carefree moment walking along the water or a refreshing romp in the snow. To the Indiana State Museum, a particular set of footprints are proof of amphibian life many millions of years ago.

Described by Ron Richards of the Indiana State Museum as a "spectacular set of prints," a slab of siltstone containing footprints made by an ancestor to the dinosaurs 300 million years ago will soon be on display. The Indiana Geological Survey and the Crane Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, donated the precious slab of stone to the state museum in December 1992.

Geologist Erik Kvale of the Geological Survey discovered the prints in April 1992 while conducting a study of the geology of the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Martin County. "The footprints are world class and among the best preserved anywhere," said Kvale. "They certainly are the largest and best preserved specimens of their kind ever found in Indiana."

"We're pretty excited to get these kinds of things," said Richards, chief curator of

paleobiology and natural history at the State Museum. While the museum's first priority is to permanently preserve the footprints, "getting them out where people can see and enjoy them is a primary objective." Richards and other museum staff currently are working on the display and expect to unveil it soon.

Geologists at the Geological Survey, a division of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources located at Indiana University in Bloomington, and geologists at the IU Department of Geological Sciences have studied the prints extensively. Experts believe the prints were made by *Paleosauropus*, an amphibian with legs that protruded from the sides of a body measuring about 10 inches from head to tail. Amphibians begin life in water and later develop legs and lungs that enable them to become land dwellers. The footprints show five toes on each back foot and four on each front foot. Each toe had a small pad at the end, similar to a modern salamander or frog.

In addition to the footprints, each of which measures about one inch across and form trackways as long as seven feet, scientists found marks made by the animal's dragging tail and by crawling insects in the stone. Also, part of a scouring, rush-like *Calamites* tree was discovered in an upright position adjacent to the trackways, indicating a rising sea level, since the tree was slowly being buried in the silt of the advancing tidal flat.

Martin County lay near the shore of a great inland sea that opened to the southwest 300 million years ago. Geologists

JUST HOW OLD IS 300 MILLION YEARS?

Need a translation of geologic time beginning with the formation of the Earth? Imagine that this moment is the stroke of midnight on December 31. One year ago was:

January 1	Formation of the Earth--amphibian leaves footprints (4.6 bya*)
February 17	First continents (4 bya)
March 28	Oldest fossil evidence of life (3.5 bya)
December 6	Middle of Pennsylvannian Period (300 mya)
Dec. 12-24	Age of dinosaurs (225-65 mya)
11.5 minutes ago	Modern humans evolved (100,000 ya)
1.5 minutes ago	Last glaciers melted (15,000 ya)
3.5 seconds ago	Columbus sailed to New World (500 ya)

*bya=billion years ago

believe the world sea level has fluctuated in the past, and at times of high sea level, low areas of continents have been flooded. They also believe Indiana was located near the equator at that time.

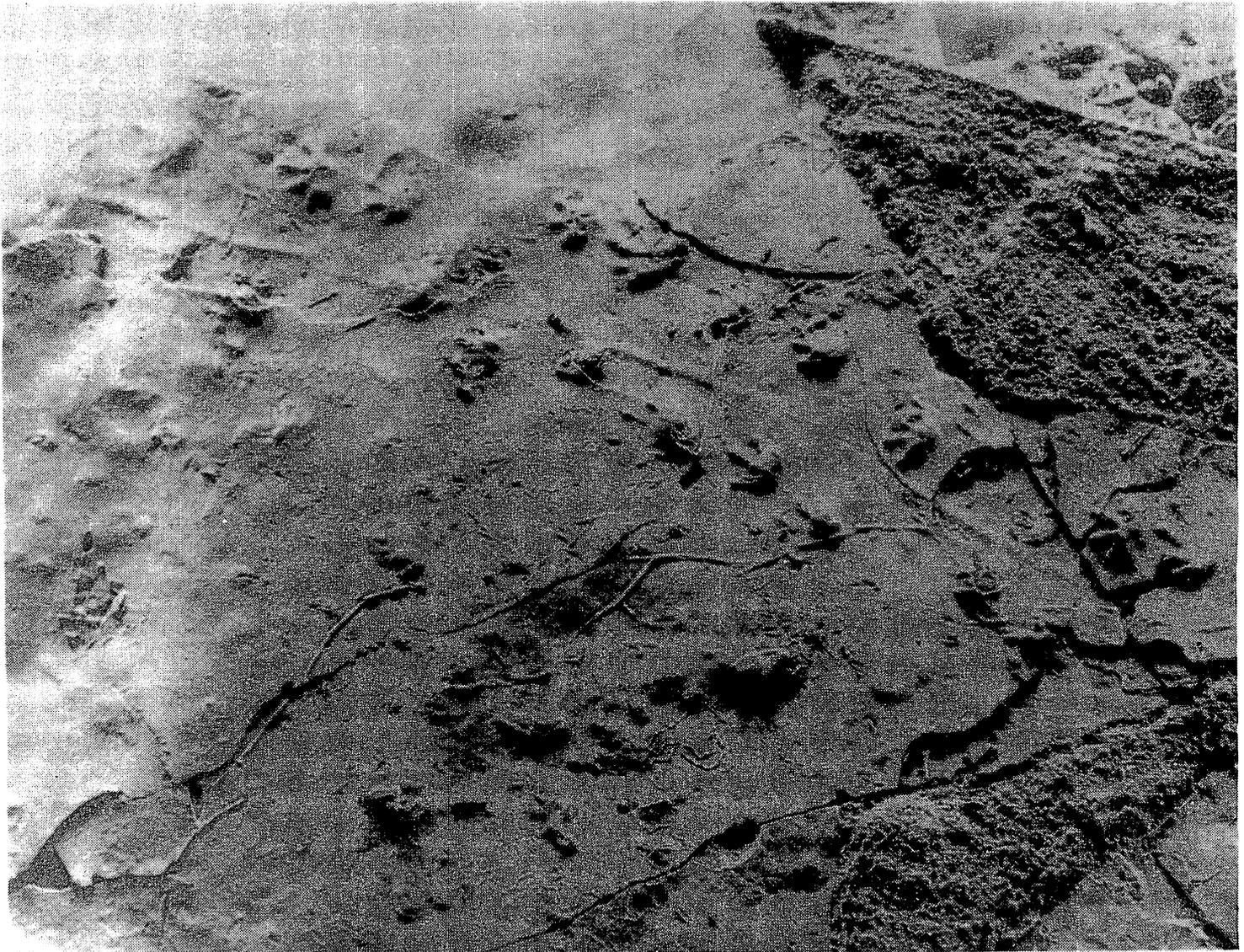
Kvale speculates that a sea was slowly spreading over a swamp in the Martin County area when the amphibian wandered onto a silty flat adjacent to the swamp in search of insects. The prints left behind were preserved during the process of lithification, in which the silt became siltstone.

The foot prints were made many millions of years before the age of dinosaurs at a time when, according to Kvale, "amphibians were

probably at or near the top of the food chain and were likely the largest creatures on land." Reptiles, which hatch from eggs laid on land and include the order of dinosaurs, evolved directly from amphibians.

Kvale plans to study the trackways more thoroughly and hopes to release the results of the study in a report. Meanwhile, the historic footprints remain at the Indiana State Museum as a reminder of the far-off beginnings of land-dwelling animal life in this area.

For information on the amphibian footprint display, call Ron Richards at the Indiana State Museum at 317/232-1637.



*Footprints of a Paleosauropus
a 300 million year old amphibian with legs that protruded from its sides.
Photo by F.W. Lewis*

FOSSIL FACT AND FICTION (continued from p 2)

visitors to our National Forests and other public lands is a direct result of that curiosity. Yet, the existing policy of managing paleontological (fossil) resources on public lands is, at best, confusing and, at worst, endangers the property and civil rights of all our citizens. Ambiguous and capricious enforcement of existing policy and conflicting rules and regulations within and between 60 different land management agencies creates an atmosphere of confrontation and distrust. This has led to a decades-long struggle over access to public lands for fossil collecting. Several fictions about fossils and fossil collectors have proliferated in the public arena, jeopardizing all efforts to arrive at rational regulation of these resources on public lands. It is time that those "fictions" are unmasked and the facts which belie them coherently presented.

FICTION: Fossils are rare, or if not all fossils, certainly vertebrate fossils are rare. **FACT:** Dr. Charles Love, geologist from Western Wyoming College, quoted in a 1993 AP article, estimated that "just one-half mile layer [of the Green River Formation]...contained 12 billion fish [vertebrate fossils]. That's enough," he said, "to give two [fossil fish] to every person on the planet." Michael Voorhies of the University of Nebraska's Department of Paleontology, quoted in a recent *Cairo, Nebraska* newspaper, estimated that there are approximately 3,000 fossil elephant (mammoth) skeletons buried beneath every square mile of Nebraska. One mammoth for nearly every U.S. citizen! Literally billions of fossils are exposed and destroyed by weathering every day of the year.

FICTION: Public lands are "raped," "pillaged," "plundered" or "poached" of fossils by "greedy" amateur and commercial collectors. **FACT:** Nearly all exposed fossils are destroyed by the same forces of weathering (wind, rain, ice and sun) that expose them in the first place. Any damage to or loss of fossils or fossil sites by careless or "greedy" collecting, is minuscule in comparison to that caused by nature herself. Nothing is learned from fossils that are "gone with the wind."

FICTION: Fossils can be protected for future generations by leaving them in the ground. **FACT:** to these resources (fossils), the environment is the enemy! Fossils are not renewable resources like birds and trees, nor are they non-renewable resources like oil and coal. With very rare exceptions, the only way to preserve fossils for research or display is to discover and collect them.

FICTION: The collection and preparatory activities of private, paleontological houses drives the price of fossils beyond the reach of museums and researchers. **FACT:** It is precisely the previously unmet demand for teaching specimens by natural science classes at all educational levels, for display specimens by museums and for trained preparators that created the need for private, professional, Earth science supply houses. These small, professional businesses have not only increased the actual number of specimens available for research and display; but their activities have dramatically reduced the cost of many common fossils to collectors, museums and scientists alike. These private, professional paleontologists also developed new methods of fossil collection, preservation and preparation that have greatly enhanced the quality of the specimens available and vastly increased the pool of trained preparators working in public and private museums. Their contributions to the science of paleontology in the discovery of new species and donation of research and display material to universities and museums would fill a novel-length book.

FICTION: Only academic paleontologists can be trusted to "do" paleontology correctly. **FACT:** The Summer/Fall 1993 Dinosaur Society Report discovered that: "One of the world's richest lodes of unprepared dinosaur fossils lies not in the badlands of Alberta, nor in a newly opened quarry in China, but beneath an American football field(sic). Over 125 tons of dinosaur material, still encased in plaster field jackets, are stored under the stadium at Brigham Young University in Utah, awaiting [preparation and] study. This material was nearly all discovered and excavated by amateur collector, Dinosaur Jim Jensen, over several decades." Virtually every

museum in the country has the same story to tell--shelf upon shelf, building upon building, full of unprepared, unstudied fossil material discovered, collected and donated by amateur collectors. Tax-funded museums and universities simply do not have the resources of time, space or trained personnel to properly catalog, let alone study or prepare the vast store of paleontological material already in their possession.

FICTION: Paleontological resources must be regulated in the same way as archaeological resources. **FACT:** Paleontological resources (fossils) are infinitely more abundant than archaeological resources (the remains of humans and their culture). This is understandable since archaeologists study only one species, *Homo sapiens*, that has inhabited our Earth only a relatively short period of geologic time. However, paleontologists study the remains of all the other billions of plant and animal species that ever lived on our planet over an enormously long period of geologic time. A 1987 National Academy of Science Committee Report stated: "We challenge the archaeology-paleontology link and urge a different approach to...(regulations) fossil collecting."

In 1982, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposed new regulations for fossil collecting on public lands. This began a decade-long attempt to arrive at rational regulation of these resources through bureaucratic channels. Massive public protest persuaded the BLM to withdraw those regulations. In 1983, legislation was introduced into the U.S. Senate mandating the permitting of fossil collecting on BLM and Forest Service lands. That bill died in committee. In 1984, the National Academy of Science (NAS) established a study Committee on Paleontological Collecting with the charge to develop recommendations for federal regulation of fossil collecting on public lands. In 1987, the NAS committee issued its report titled, *Paleontological Collecting*, publishing its guidelines to federal land managers for regulating fossil collecting on public lands. The statement of principle adopted by this NAS Committee as the basis for its final recommendations reads in part: "the science of paleontology is best served by unimpeded access to

fossil-bearing rocks in the field. Paleontology's need for unimpeded access is in sharp contrast to the prevailing situation in archaeology. From a **scientific viewpoint, the role of the land manager should be to facilitate exploration for and collection of, paleontological materials...**the science of paleontology will be advanced by eliminating much of the unnecessary complexity of the present (and proposed) regulation of fossil collecting on public lands." (emphasis added)

This NAS study remains the most comprehensive look at this issue to date and is the only one that involved virtually every affected group and entity in gathering its data, arriving at its conclusions and formulating its recommendations. Yet, a small number of academic paleontologists immediately attacked the committee's conclusions and recommendations and blocked all efforts to write regulations based upon the NAS committee findings. At the urging of these same academics, Senator Baucus (MT), in 1992, introduced legislation that would ban all fossil collecting on public lands except by persons selected by degreed academics. public protest killed his bill within days. In 1994, the U.S. Forest Service proposed rules changes that would have required prior authorization and/or special permit for all fossil or mineral collecting on FS lands. Tens of thousands of letters, faxes and calls in opposition caused the Forest Service to withdraw those proposed rules changes.

Then, the American Lands Access Association (ALAA) was formed, as a direct result of the fears created in the amateur fossil and mineral collecting community by the introduction of the Baucus Bill. In consultation with amateur, academic and private paleontologists, they authored the *Paleontological Resources Preservation Act* (PRPA). This bill is faithful to the guidelines established by the NAS committee. It mandates that casual, surface collecting of fossils be open to all collectors without permits; creates a workable permitting system for collecting that may disturb the surface and includes an enforceable mechanism for preserving the occasional, unique, scientifically important specimen or site.

ADVERTISING SECTION

Ads are \$5.00 per inch (6 lines x 1 column--43 spaces). Send information and checks payable to MAPS to: Mrs. Gerry Norris, 2623 34th Avenue Ct., Rock Island, IL 61201. 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.

GOOD OPPORTUNITY. Attention all collectors. Canadian and European fossils for trade at MAPS EXPO. Friday and Saturday. For more information write to Jean-Guy Pellerin. See directory 1994 p. 68 for address.

FOSSIL INSECTS IN BALTIC AMBER!
Wholesale/Retail from Nature's Treasures. 3000 pieces per month available through our sources in Russia. SEE US AT THE MAPS EXPO, April 7 - 9, or call us at (708) 983-5504. Ask for John Ashburn.

95 LIST Available listing 25 good collecting sites in the Iowa region.
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Reprint of a classic: GEOLOGY AND PALAEO-TOLOGY OF EIGHTEEN MILE CREEK BY Amadeus W. Grabau, 1898 two volume edition; \$29.95 + \$3.00 S&H + NYS 8% tax to Hamburg Natural History Society, P.O. Box 772, Hamburg, New York 14075

SS White for SALE. Two Model K series 2 airbrasive machines almost new with very little time. Asking \$1700 or best offer. Gary Chilson, 11861 NW 11th Street, Plantation FL 33323.

Whether you're a fossil collector or not, this is your struggle, too. This is not just a public lands access issue; it is a private, property rights, a civil rights and free enterprise issue as well. Under the present complex and confusing policies of our Land Management agencies, every person who enters public lands is a potential target for arrest, confiscation of property and prosecution by any over-zealous Forest Ranger, BLM agent or District Attorney. The existing regulatory climate threatens the viability, even the existence of a hobby that is a source of pleasure to children of all ages; of hundreds of thousands of small businesses that are economically important; and of a science that provides major tools in deciphering the prehistory of life on our planet. Present public lands policy makes every citizen who sets foot on public lands a potential felon. Please join this struggle! Help protect the right of our children and their children to discover the joy of picking up rocks--the thrill of touching a piece of the past!

The *Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 1995* is ready for introduction. It has confirmed Prime Sponsors in the U.S. House: The Honorable Tim Johnson (D-SD) and Joe Skeen (R-NM). Presently several Senators are reviewing the bill and our requests to become Prime Sponsors in the U.S. Senate. You can help! Send for copies of the bill and other background material on this issue. Contact Marion Zenker, ALAA Legislative Coordinator; Black Hills Institute of Geological Research, Inc.; P.O. Box 843; Hill City, SD 57745. Write, call and fax your Members of Congress to sponsor and support this Act.

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1616 Delaine Ave.
Dayton OH 45419
513-299-2853

Chemist/industrial hygienist. Major interest Ordo-
vician. Member of NC Fossil Club, Durham & Dry
Dredgers, Cincinnati. Wants to learn about fossil
collecting.

Michael & Sheila Cannaert
& Leah
4170 Dexter Rd.
Ann Arbor MI 48103

John P. Chandler
1630 228th St. SE #D102
Bothell WA 98021

Sally Day
25304 62nd Ave. S., FF-206
Kent WA 98032

Samuel R. Edwards M.D.
243 March St.
Santa Paula CA 93060
805-652-6062

Physician. Will trade. Major interest Paleozoic,
esp. early Cambrian; trilobites, graptolites. Mem-
ber of Southern Cal. Paleo. Soc., Los Angeles. Wants
to meet more people who share his interest.

Forest Gahn
1201 Virginia
Burlington IA 52601
319-753-5827

Undergraduate geology student. May trade. Hopes to
earn Doctorate in Invertebrate Paleontology and
specialize in early Mississippian crinoids. Is
especially fond of the Burlington Limestone and its
stratigraphic equivalents. Would like to correspond
with individuals sharing similar interests. ('95)

John W. Gale
18560 Bishop Ln.
Strongsville OH 44136
215-846-9359

Self employed. May trade. Major interest Paleozoic.
Nothing for trade at present (95).

Eric Gohre
17 Regal Way
Oroville CA 95965
916-589-1420

Quality control. Will trade. Major interest Upper
and Lower Cretaceous in N. California. Also has
collected from numerous locations in Western U.S.
Eager to receive info on collecting sites in Western
U.S. Has donated bone & leaf specimens & shark
teeth from the Chico form. to the U.C. Berkeley.

Diane Kroll
P.O. Box 477108
Chicago IL 60647

Self-employed. Major interest paleontology, prepa-
ration, education.

Charles Safris
4107 Greenview
Urbandale IA 50322
515-276-2996

Les Shirkey
9700 So. Cass Ave.
Argonne IL 60439
708-252-1087

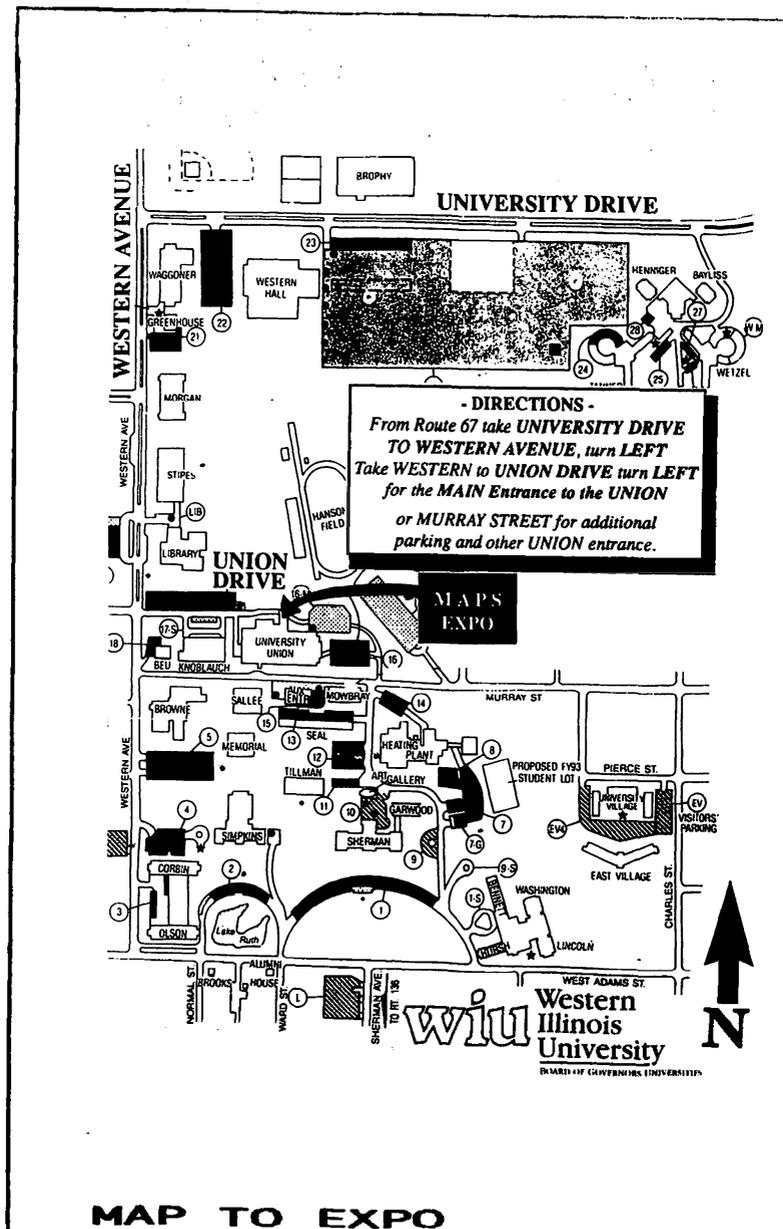
Geologist. Will trade. Major interest Inverte-
brates--echinoids, ammonites. Has wide variety for
trade--including Archaeocydarids. Knows a lot of
members, likes MAPS, loves fossils.

Jack Whittles
2999 King Richard Way
Nanaimo, B.C.
CANADA V9T 1J5
604-758-9883

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR CORRECTIONS:

Craig P. & Susan Hesbit
7 Winchester Road
Farmington MO 63640
314-756-2317

Geoff Thomas
8 Genoa Street
MOORABBIN VIC 3189
AUSTRALIA



The **M**id-**A**merica **P**aleontology **S**ociety (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 \$20 per household. Institution or Library fee is \$25.00. Overseas fee is \$20.00 with Surface Mailing of DIGESTS OR \$30.00 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 meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in the Science Building, Augustana College, Rock Island, 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 April, May/June, July/August/September.

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CYATHOCRINITES

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Mrs. Sharon Sonnleitner
MAPS DIGEST Editor
4800 Sunset Dr. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

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