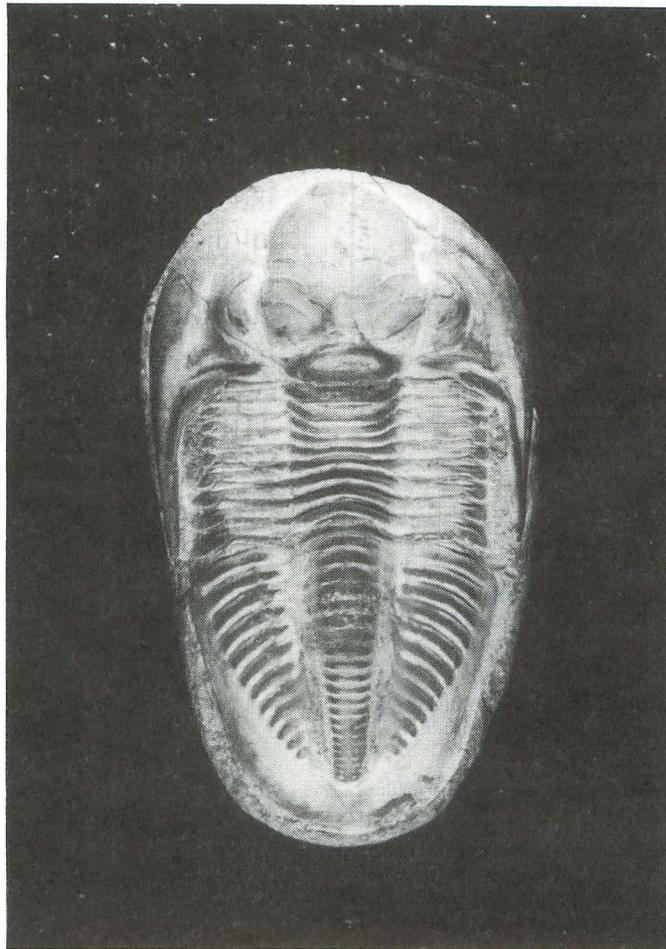


M.A.P.S. *Digest*

Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

Volume 20, Number 8
November 1997



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jan 17 MAPS MEETING , (Meeting Place Tentative)

Cornell College Norton Geology Building, Mount Vernon, IA.
(Snow date: January 24)

1:00 Board & General Meeting Combined

2:00 Program by Cornell Professor

Feb 11-13, 1998 VI NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE MEXICAN PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sciences School, National Autonomous University of Mexico

For more information, contact:

Marisol Montellano

Departamento de Paleontologia

Instituto de Geologia, UNAM

Ciudad Universitaria, Coyoacan

Mexico, D. F. 04510

Ph: (52-5) 622-4280 or 622-4281

Fax: (52-5) 550-8432

e-mail: marmont@servidor.unam.mx

Apr 17, 18, & 19, 1998 MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION XX--CORALS

Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

Fri., Apr. 17: 8 am - 5 pm

Sat., Apr. 18: 8 am - 5 pm

Sun., Apr. 19: 8 am - 3 pm

97/11 DUES ARE DUE

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. It reflects dues received by the end of October. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of year followed by month--97/11 means 1997/Nov. 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 country.) Library/Institution fee is \$25.

Make checks payable to MAPS and mail to:

Sharon Sonneleitner, Treas.
4800 Sunset Dr. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

ABOUT THE COVER

This month's cover photo was taken by Charles Isbon and sent by Fred H. Wessman, Spring, Texas. The *Ameura major* trilobite is a Pennsylvanian age trilobite "with a pedigree." (See page 3-4 for details.) The trilobite was purchased by Fred at a MAPS EXPO and remains in Fred's collection. It measures 2 ½ inches in length.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to another convention which will be going on at the same time as our 1998 EXPO, we understand that all motel rooms in Macomb are going to be booked solid for that weekend. If you cannot get a reservation at a motel, OLSON HALL at the University has dormitory-style rooms still available with community baths (women on one floor, men on another). CONTACT THE UNIVERSITY directly at 309-298-3500 for reservations. Suggest you try the motel you usually stay in first. If they have an opening get it confirmed. More on this subject in December M.A.P.S. Digest.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

The MAPS Board met November 15 at Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, in Iowa City with President Marvin Houg presiding.

Marv reported that he had talked with Chris Cozart who represented MAPS at Paleo21 in Germany in August. Chris said the presentation went well and the conference was a great experience. Dale Stout had received an e-mail from Jere Lipps, President of the Paleo Society in which Jere noted, "Your guy Chris was excellent at Paleo21 representing amateur paleontology!" Chris is preparing a report for a future Digest.

Marv had also talked with Guy Darrough, who represented MAPS at the Vertebrate Conference in Chicago this fall. Guy reported he had a prime spot for the MAPS exhibit and felt the exhibit was very well received. He is also preparing a report for a future issue.

It was reported that Mr. Hans Hagadorn of Germany is this year's recipient of the Paleo Society's Strimple Award for amateurs. Our last year's nominee, Bob Guenther will be considered again in future years. Also Glenn Crossman will be our nominee this year.

It was voted to present our first Eugene Richardson Award to Joseph Emiely at EXPO. This award, which is recognition only was established at the suggestion of Don Mikulic and Joanne Kluessendorf to honor a professional paleontologist who has greatly helped and influenced amateurs.

\$2,000 will be sent to the Paleo Society for up to four scholarships in the name of MAPS. The Paleo Society will determine the exact amount of the scholarships and the awardees.

It was voted to spend up to \$400 for a flatbed scanner for the editor/treasurer. Internet connection expenses will be borne by MAPS also.

It was announced that because of a large national forensics meeting on the Western Illinois University campus, all the hotel rooms in Macomb are taken for the weekend of EXPO. Karl Stuekerjuergen and Allyn Adams will check into the hotels available in the small towns around the area. A new

Holiday Inn Express is being built in Macomb, and the expectation is that it will be done by April. Allyn will check on it and block all the rooms for MAPS members if possible. Available hotels will be listed in the December issue of the Digest.

Election of officers resulted in a unanimous ballot cast for the following slate:

President: Gil Norris
 1st Vice President: Dale Stout
 2nd Vice President: Allyn Adams
 Secretary: Alberta Cray
 Treasurer: Sharon Sonnleitner
 Editor: Sharon Sonnleitner
 Director to '98: Doug DeRosear
 (to replace Allyn)
 Director to 2000: Blane Phillips

Following the meeting, Bill Hickerson, Research Paleontologist at Augustana College, Davenport, Iowa, presented a program on the soft-bodied fauna recently found in Iowa. Some of his work will be published in a future issue of the Journal of Paleontology.

HOW TO EXTRICATE FOSSILS FROM SANDSTONE

by Ruth Kirkby

from *Dinny's Doin's*, 11/97, Vicki Van Why, ed.

The following formula for removing specimens from sandstone was give to Ruth by Dr. J. Leroy Kay, a scientist with the Carnegie Museum in 1963

- 1st Place sandstone block in water until thoroughly soaked—about 10 hours.
- 2nd Remove block from water and allow to drain about 10 hours.
- 3rd Place block in deep-freeze for about 12 hours or until thoroughly frozen.
- 4th Thaw block, which will disintegrate, and sieve through screen wire to spearate fossil specimens from sand

A TRILOBITE WITH A PEDIGREE

by Fred Wessman, Spring, Texas

It is rare that a fossil collector obtains a fossil whose ownership can be traced back over a hundred years. I was fortunate to purchase an outstanding Pennsylvanian *Ameura major* trilobite at the 1990 MAPS Exhibition from Mr. Bob Beavers, an exhibitor at the show. Bob resides in the Kansas City area and is well known for having fine Pennsylvanian age fossils. At the time I purchased the trilobite, I noticed that the matrix was neatly trimmed to the very edge of the specimen. Most modern fossil collectors like specimens well centered on the matrix. This gave me a clue that the trilobite might have originated from an early collection.

The *Ameura major* trilobite has remained in my collection. I always considered it to be one of my best rare trilobites. At the 1996 MAPS Exhibition I was offered a reproduction of an *Ameura major* trilobite that I was sure was cast from the original specimen in my collection. The person selling the cast did not know the origin of the cast. He indicated that there was another outstanding *Ameura major* trilobite in the museum at the University of Missouri in Kansas City, Missouri. After the 1996 MAPS Exhibition, I drove to the University of Missouri and met Professor Richard Gentile. He indicated that the museum did have an *Ameura major* trilobite. The trilobite was almost identical to the specimen in my collection. The matrix was neatly trimmed to the very edge of the specimen, and upon turning the specimen over, I noticed a small label "collected in 1880." Professor Gentile indicated the specimen came from the Dyer Museum in Kansas City many years ago, along with many outstanding Pennsylvanian crinoids. Professor Gentile suggested that I contact Mr. Charles Baker. Mr. Baker has been active in the collecting of fossils and has been an active member of Kansas City fossil organizations. He has also been an active member of MAPS for many years.

I contacted Mr. Baker by telephone. R. Baker offered enlightening information concerning two important early fossil collectors who lived and collected fossils in the Kansas City area from the 1880's until the 1930's.

Mr. Baker confirmed that it was he who had sold the *Ameura major* trilobite to Mr. Beavers. Mr. Baker indicated that he obtained the trilobite from Mr. Cy Miller about 1962. Mr. Cy Miller operated a store in Kasas City for many years and mainly sold collectibles, including many fossils. It was Mr. Miller who purchased the *Ameura major* from the Sidney Hare Estate upon the death of Mr. Sidney Hare.

The two early fossil collectors who collected in the Kansas City Area during the late 1800's and early 1900's were Mr. Sidney Hare and Mr. Edward Butts. Mr. Baker did considerable research on both of these men and the following is from his work.

"Mr. Edward Butts was a civil Engineer. From 1883 to 1889 he was the First Assistant Engineer of the Kansas City Belt Railway Company. He served as City Engineer from 1890 to 1893. In 1894 he took a position as engineer for the Metropolitan Street Company. He was employed in this capacity until 1912. In 1912 he took a competitive examination and became the civil Service Examiner for the Kansas City area. In 1918 he became curator of the Dyer Museum, which at that time was the only museum in Kansas City. He devoted the next 20 years to the acquisition and preparation of museum specimens that became the foundation for the museum in Kansas City today. As a civil engineer and associated with the city in the 1880's, Mr. Butts was on the inside track when they were excavating the Emery, Bird, and Thayer buildings. His inspections became more frequent when the workmen started reporting strange fossils were being dug up.

Fortunately, Mr. Butts was a scientist. He wrote many articles, two of which were on the discovery of crinoids. In 1891 he published a description of a new species of Echinodermata from the Upper Coal Measures of Kansas City, Missouri. In 1898 he wrote a description of some species of crinoids from the Upper Coal Measures of the Carboni-

ferous rocks in Kansas City, Missouri. Both of these publications were the basis for other paleontologists to do further research and much important knowledge resulted. Mr. Butts died on December 30, 1940 in Kansas City.

The life history of Mr. Sidney Hare is better known. He was a very well known Landscape Architect and City Planner. His father and mother moved to Kansas City when he was 8 years old. Like Mr. Butts he, too, became a civil engineer. Mr. Hare was an ardent fossil collector. He not only collected, but was not satisfied until the proper classification had been assigned and properly cataloged. At one time, he donated over 450 different species to the museum. Each fossil was accompanied with the proper classification. Mr. Hare was well known over the years and wrote many articles for the local newspapers. Mr. Hare died on October 25, 1938 in Kansas City."

These two Kansas City fossil collectors were the pioneer fossil collectors of their time. Together they discovered many new species of fossils, particularly crinoids. Some of the new species of crinoids discovered were as follows:

Aesiocrinus harii (Miller & Gurley)

Aesiocranus lykinsi butts

Aesiocrinus magnificus (Miller & Gurley)

Ethelocrinus harii (Miller)

Ethelocrinus magister (Miller & Gurley)

Ethelocrinus sphaeralis (Miller & Gurley)

Ulocrinus buttsi (Miller & Gurley)

The *Ameura major* trilobite that I acquired from Mr. Beavers has become more interesting to me while I have learned about some of the people who had avidly researched these fossils and sought to preserve them with their donations to museums.

OLDEST HORNED DINOSAUR FOUND

source: Mygatt, Matt: Oldest horned dinosaur found,
in Casper Star Tribune, 8/19/97
sent by David Jones, Worthington, Minnesota

A new species of dinosaur found in New Mexico is believed to be the oldest horned dinosaur ever found. A brow horn from a ceratopsian (horned dinosaur) was found by Doug Wolfe, an adjunct curator at Mesa Southwest Museum in Arizona, and his 7 year old son in November 1996 near Quemado in west-central New Mexico. They later found part of the animal's jaws and the base of its brain case, some teeth, an arm bone and a shoulder blade fragment.

The creature lived about 90 to 92 million years ago and is the first dinosaur found in the Turonian age beds in North America. It may be a distant relative of Triceratops. Paleontologist Jim Kirkland of Fruita, Colorado, theorizes the primitive three-horned ceratopsian was 10-12 feet long and maybe 300-500 pounds. Its closest relative probably is Turanoceratops, which was discovered in Russia in 1989.

The new discovery appears to be more primitive than the Russian dinosaur but is probably not much older.

The site of the find was a flood plain about 90 million years ago when the animal lived. There are very few terrestrial deposits from this time period. There are some in Morocco, maybe some in Argentina, and probably some in China and eastern Russia. But, according to Kirkland, nothing is the exactly the same age as the New Mexico material.

The first fossils from the area were found by Kirkland and Wolfe in 1983. Discoveries since then have yielded new duckbilled dinosaurs, new crocodiles, and new turtles. This year a snout and other bones of a smaller cousin of velociraptor were discovered. Since Bob Denton, a contract research scientist found the snout May 31 about 30 percent of the animal's skeleton has been found: limb, tail, feet, hand and shoulder bones and lots of vertebrae

LATEST NEWS ON COELACANTHS

by Virginia Friedman, Mansfield, Texas
(Previously published in other Amateur Bulletins)

About 370 million years ago, a restless faction of the fishes traded in their fins for feet and set out to colonize land. Scientists have debated for decades exactly which members of the fish family made this bold move—and therefore, which of their descendants are our closest living gilled relatives. Now it seems that the “living fossil” coelacanth is out of the running.

That’s the tentative conclusion reached by two researchers who have completed the most comprehensive survey to date of coelacanth mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). German geneticist Axel Meyer and his Spanish colleague Rafael Zardoya, report that the mtDNA of lungfish—an ancient class of air-breathing fish found in Africa, Australia, and South America—is closer than that of the coelacanth to the mtDNA of land animals such as frogs.

It is important to know which extant fish is closest to the first terrestrial tetrapods, or four-legged creatures, because it might tell biologists which key anatomical innovations enabled our fishlike ancestors to conquer the land.

Paleontologists of the 19th and early 20th centuries knew coelacanth only from the fossil record, but that was enough to convince them that the unattractive creatures, with lobed fins that resembles primitive tetrapod limbs, were close relatives of the first land animals. Then, in 1939, anglers of the Comoro Islands in the Indian Ocean stunned the scientific world by catching a live coelacanth, the first of many. The discovery caused such a sensation, says Meyer, that the coelacanth-tetrapod connection “is still the predominant textbook dogma.”

In the 1980's paleontologists began finding hints that the dogma might be wrong. For one thing, features of fossil and living lungfish, such as their external nasal openings pointed to lungfish, not coelacanth, as the closest sister group to the tetrapods. By comparing similar fragments of their mitochondrial genes, which are often simpler and easier to analyze than nuclear genes, molecular biologists Allan Wilson and Meyer announced in 1990 that tetrapods arose

from the branch of the evolutionary tree leading to the lungfish, not the coelacanth.

Most recently, in 1997, Meyer and Zardoya reported that a statistical comparison using either complete coelacanth mtDNA sequence didn't point unambiguously to either lungfish or coelacanth as the tetrapods' closest sister group. They concluded that they could “clearly reject” the possibility that coelacanth is closer to the tetrapods. The possibility that coelacanth and lungfish are equally close relations of tetrapods, although unlikely, could not be formally ruled out.

To settle the issue once and for all, says Meyer, biologists will need to examine the more complex nuclear genes of coelacanth and lungfish.

Source: *Science*, September 5, 1997, Wade Roursh

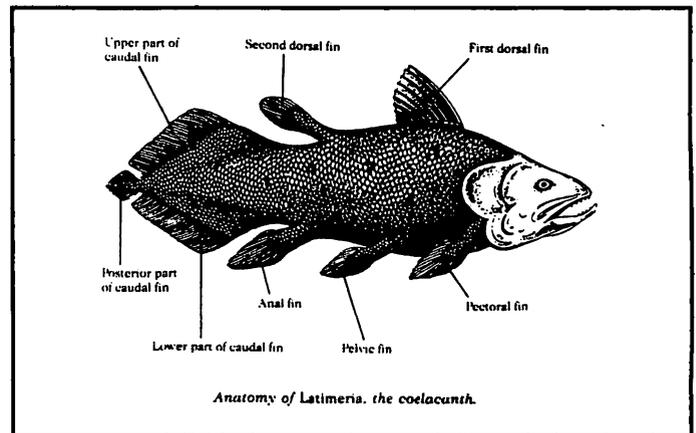


Illustration from *Paleo Newsletter*, 10/97,
Jean Wallace, ed.

LOST DINOSAUR QUARRY REDISCOVERED

press release from Dinamation International Society, September 30, 1997

The location of a fossil quarry, lost for almost a century, was rediscovered on an August expedition along the Red Deer River by Tyrrell palaeontologist Dr. Philip Currie.

Currie, leading a team of 17 professionals and amateurs on a cooperative expedition between Dinamation International Society and the Royal Tyrrell Museum, spent ten days combing the badlands in the footsteps of Barnum Brown, the palaeontologist who collected dinosaur remains for the American Museum of Natural History in New York during the Great Dinosaur Rush in the early 1900's.

To locate the site, the group rafted along the river using Brown's scant field notes and four black and white photographs of the original camp and quarry. Previous attempts to find Brown's first quarry had been unsuccessful.

"We were trying to match up landscapes along the river with those in two of the photographs," says Currie. "We spent a day and a half looking, but were having no luck. Another photograph was of Brown's camp taken from across the river. I sent someone across the river with the photo and they found it right away. It was that obvious," explained the Tyrrell's dinosaur curator. To Currie, it made sense that the quarry would be located near the camp. Several hours later, hiking over three high, steep ridges, Currie found what he was looking for.

"All that was left of the quarry was a sinkhole, but there was lots of material. Pieces of skulls, toe bones, bits of ribs. It looks like Brown excavated only about 25 percent of the site and out of that he got nine complete individuals."

Because the quarry yielded articulated leg bones from at least eight albertosaurs, and only two bones from another species, Currie proposes that the animals were part of a social group. Evidence of social behavior among these fierce, meat-eating dinosaurs is of particular interest to scientists as it is believed that tyrannosaurids, the dinosaur family that *Albertosaurus* belongs to, are the dinosaurs most closely related to modern birds.

Another Dinamation/Tyrrell expedition is planned for the summer of 1998 to recover what remains in Barnum Brown's quarry. Currie, representing the provincially operated Royal Tyrrell Museum near Drumheller, Alberta, will again lead the trip.

Dinamation International Society is a nonprofit organization which provides support for dinosaur research projects around the world. Host research institutions receive the help of participants and a percentage of their expedition fees. All fossil material collected remains with the host institution.

FOSSIL COLLECTING IN THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

by Jasper Burns, The Johns Hopkins University
Press, 201 pages, 1991

Review by Lee J. Cary

from *Bone Valley Fossil News*, 8/97, Ed. Karen & Ben Metrin, eds.

For over thirty years Jasper Burns collected fossils along both sides of the Virginia-West Virginia border as well as some collecting in Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania. The result is a very interesting book containing, in his words, "a portfolio of fossil-collecting localities." Forty-six localities are presented

and each presentation includes specific information about the locality—its exact location, fossils found there, the author's notes about the site, and drawings of some of the fossils. In all there are illustrations of more than 450 fossil specimens.

Of the forty-six localities included, thirty-one are along the Virginia-West Virginia border. Nearly two-thirds of these sites are road cuts. Other sites are roadside quarries and river banks. The fossils found most frequently are Brachiopods, Bryozoans, Corals, Trilobites, and Crinoids. Why would a book on collecting rather common fossils at road cuts in the

Mid-Atlantic States be of interest to [fossil collectors from other areas]? The book itself is worth reading, but the idea behind the book and the way it is organized and written is what is so impressive....

Burns' book starts off with a chapter on "Understanding Fossils." In just a few pages he offers the reader basic information about fossils, geologic time, the Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic Eras, and sedimentary rocks. For the person new to fossil collecting, this first chapter is most helpful. Next comes a chapter on "How to Collect Fossils." Again, this is basic information but well written and of

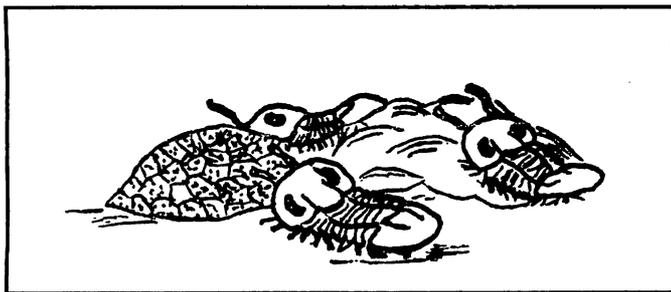
particular value to the new collector. The rest of the book is devoted to the forty-six fossil-collecting localities, with a final brief chapter discussing major fossil groups.

...*Fossil Collecting in the Mid-Atlantic States* is a delightful book on fossil collecting and is the type of book that could be produced in other parts of the country as a guide to collectors and as an introduction and encouragement to those who might become collectors.

SOME TRILOBITES WERE MORE ACTIVE THAN WE THOUGHT

by J. Stewart Hollingsworth, from *Uncompahgre Plateau Paleontological Society Bulletin Board*, 9/97

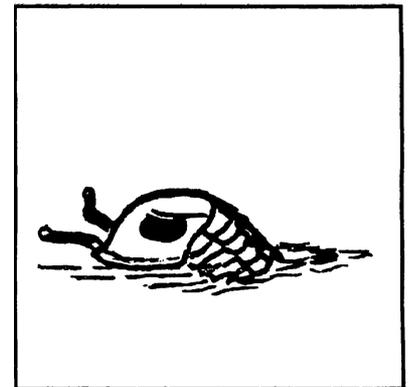
New information is being developed to indicate that trilobites were more active than some workers have supposed. In the September 1997 issue of the *Journal of Paleontology* (Vol. 71, No. 5), Harry Whittington has an article entitled "Illaenidae (Trilobita): Morphology of thorax, classification, and mode of life."



Active illaenids hunting

Whittington, at the Sedgewick Museum, University of Cambridge, is the reigning "Grand Master" trilobitologist. He describes *Cybantyx anaglyptos*, a trilobite from the Silurian of England, in great detail, concentrating on the configuration of the thoracic segments. He notes an unusual arrangement which allowed the trilobite not only to enroll, which was a common habit for trilobites, but also allowed the trilobite to flex the other way, that is head and tail up. This structural arrangement and the probable muscle

attachments suggest that this trilobite crawled over irregular surfaces such as reefs or coral mounds in search of food. An earlier interpretation had suggested an entirely different mode of life for these trilobites with the head flat



Old interpretation of lazy illaenid

on the sea floor and the tail buried in the mud. Some trilobites may have earned their living in this passive manner, but the illaenids were much more active.

Whittington also discusses the fine "terrace lines" which are on the outer surface of this trilobite, especially along the edges of the head and tail. These lines also occur on the edges of the underside of the trilobite shell (doublure). He suggests they sensed the completeness of closure when enrolling. Perhaps also these features were sensory organs, perhaps "feelers" to help find a way across uneven surfaces or to locate food.

ADVERTISING SECTION	
<p>Ads are \$5.00 per inch. 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.</p> <p>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 can be printed in different sizes of type to fit a 1" space.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Make your Collection Shine!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Marc Behrendt Fossil Preparation 421 S. Columbus St., Somerset, Ohio 43783; 614-643-2818 Specialize in invertebrates</p> <p style="text-align: center;">TRILOBITES ON CD ROM!! 125 ROYALTY-FREE IMAGES; Windows or Mac. Image Browser software included. ONLY \$14.95 Ppd. A.J. Copley, 1327 E. Washington, #282 Harlingen, TX 78550</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">FOSSILS INC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A fossil superstore in Eastbrook Mall, part of the largest shopping complex in West Michigan. Specializing in estate liquidations, purchase of entire collections, museums deaccessions. Large inventory of Meteorites, crystals, seashells, amber, etc. Phone: (616) 975-7843 Fax: (616) 456-1079 Internet: E-mail: haas@iserv.net Website: Fossilssale.com Address: 3545 28th Street SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">FELLOW FOSSIL COLLECTORS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I'm looking to Buy, Sell and Trade Fossils with other members of MAPS Please write or call: John D'Orazio, 95 Hill Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 201-743-1930. Thank you!</p>

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW OR REJOINING MEMBERS TO YOUR DIRECTORY:

<p>R. A. Crockett P.O. Box 320291 Tampa FL 33679</p>	<p>Interested in vertebrates and learning more about fossils in general. No trading at present.</p>
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PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR CORRECTIONS:

Stuart Milliken
200 Hunter St. W.
Apt. 6
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 1R6
CANADA

Bob & Vivian Shaha
417 Stonehedge
Claremore OK 74017
918-342-5661

Jewel K. Pozefsky
17 Escondido Circle #238
Altamonte Springs FL 32701
417-830-8963
fx. 417-830-8975
jkpaleo@ibm.net

The Mid-America 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 \$20.00 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 2nd Saturday of October, November, January, and March and at EXPO in April. A picnic is held during the summer. October through March meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. One annual International Fossil Exposition is held in April.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year--October through April, May/June, July/August/September.

- President: Marvin Houg, 3330 44th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
- 1st Vice President: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
- 2nd Vice President: Karl Stuekerjuergen, 1503 265th Avenue, West Point, IA 52656-9029
- Secretary: Alberta Cray, 1125 J Avenue NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
- Treasurer: Sharon Sonnleitner, 4800 Sunset Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
- Membership: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

Dated Material - Meeting Notice

CYATHOCRINITES



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

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