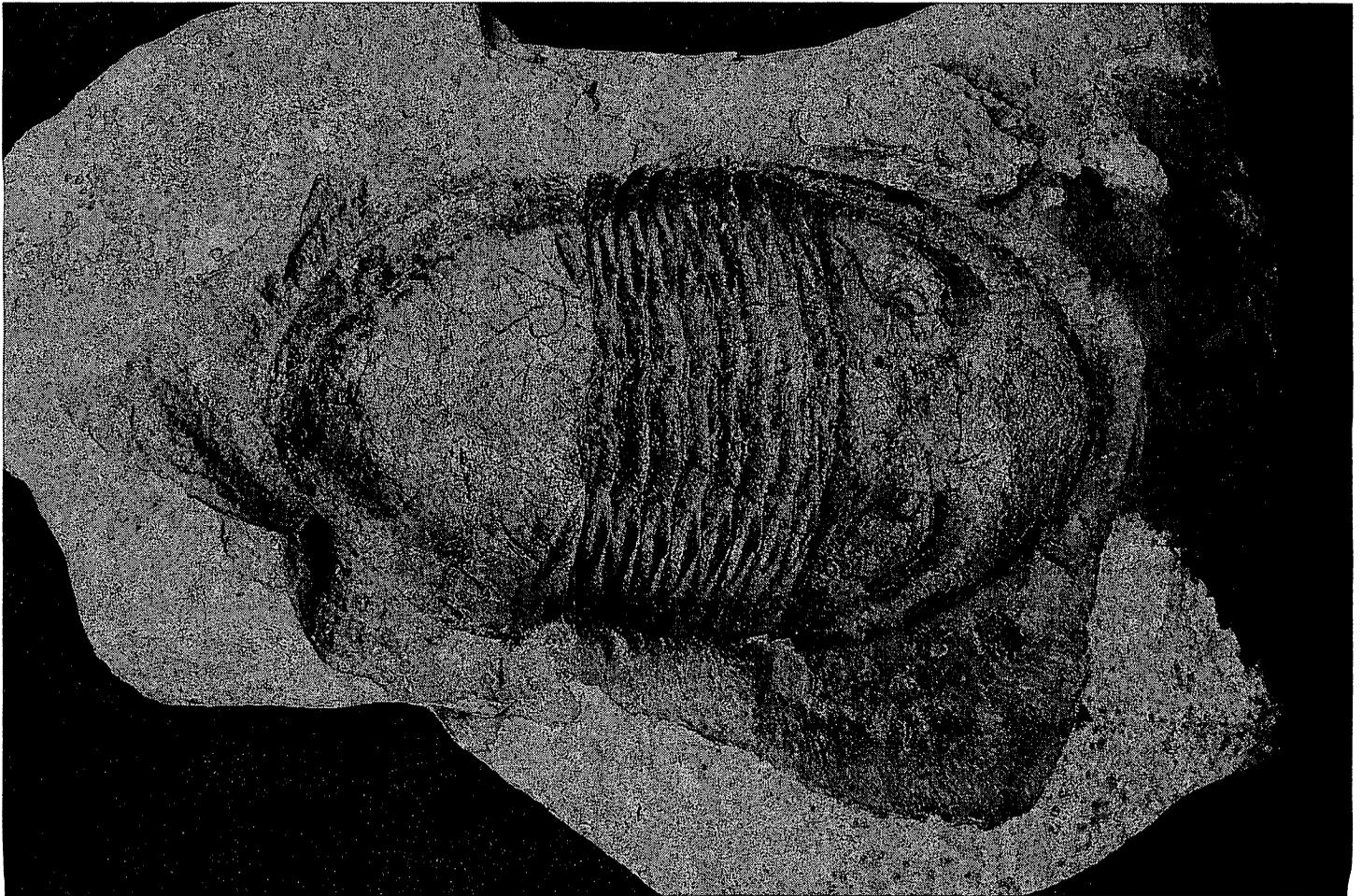


M.A.P.S. *Digest*

Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

Volume 27, Numbers 1 & 2
January-February 2004



A LOVE OF FOSSILS BRINGS US TOGETHER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mar 26-28, 2004: MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION

XXVI – Paleo Techniques: Discover, Develop, Display

Western Illinois University, Western Hall, Macomb, IL

Fri., Mar 26 8 am - 5 pm—Keynote Speaker, Neal Larson
@ 7:30

Sat., Mar 27 8 am - 5 pm—Meeting & Live Auction @ 7:00

Sun., Mar 28 8 am - 12 noon

Information is in the December issue.

Mar 12-14 THE ASSOCIATION OF EARTH SCIENCE CLUBS

OF GREATER KANSAS CITY'S 43RD ANNUAL SHOW, KCI

Expo Center, 11730 N. Ambassador Dr., Kansas City, MO.

Exit 112th St. off I-29 or Exit KCI Airport off I-435.

Fri: 9-8

Sat: 10-8

Sun: 10-5

www.kdgemshow.org

Mar 13-14 TAMPA BAY FOSSIL CLUB'S 17th ANNUAL

FOSSIL FEST, Florida State Fairgrounds, Intersection of US

301 and I-4, just east of Tampa

Sat: 9-3

Sun: 9-4

Dr. Gordon Hubble, who as featured on Discovery Channel's SHARK WEEK will lecture Saturday and Sunday.

www.tampabayfossilclub.com

Mar 20 "MAMMOTHS OF THE ICE AGE," Lizzadro Museum

of Lapidary Art, 220 Cottage Hill, Elmhurst, IL

2:00 – 60 minute video

Apr 3 "FOSSIL COLLECTING FIELD TRIP TO BRAIDWOOD,

IL FOR MAZON CREEK FOSSILS, Lizzadro Museum of

Lapidary Art, 220 Cottage Hill, Elmhurst, IL

8-3 – 9 yrs. to Adult

Jim Fairchild of the EarthScience Club of Northern Illinois will lead the trip to Pit 11. Travel by motorcoach, bring a sack lunch.

Rain or shine. Reservations required – 630-833-1616

\$20/person for museum memb.; \$25/per person for nonmemb.

Apr 24-25 TAMPA BAY FOSSIL CLUB PEACE RIVER FOSSIL

HUNT AND CAMPING ADVENTURE, Arcadia, FL

Fossil hunting, Scuba Diving, Barbeque Dinner, Auction ,
Canoeing. Reservations required by April 15.

Contact: Michael & Seina Searle at 813-909-9358

2004/1 and 2004/2 DUES ARE DUE

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. It reflects dues received by February 26, 2004. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of "year" followed by "month" – 2004/02 means 2004/February. 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 and stamping your Digest. We carry overdues for two issues before dropping them from our mailing list.

Please include on your check 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 check payable to MAPS and mail to:

Sharon Sonnleitner, Treas.

4800 Sunset Dr. SW

Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

ABOUT THE COVER

by George Stone, Carterville, Illinois

The cover photo is the largest complete *Isotelus iowensis* found to date. It measures 10.25" in length.

The picture shows the negative in a nodule weighing 35 pounds, which comes from the Maquoketa shale, Upper Ordovician, Pike County, MO. I've been collecting from this site for 20 years and continue to have great success.

There's a good story concerning how this particular trilobite was found: Two weeks before the "big find," I was lucky enough to collect a 5.5" beauty and told my close friend, who then went out the next weekend and found an 8" *Isotelus i.*, so I told him I would find one even bigger the next week...and so I did (10.25"). He still can hardly believe it.

The giant *Isotelus* from Canada, 27" long, is almost three times the size of the largest *Isotelus i.*, but, anyway, this is still a record for this species.

REMINDER: 2004 EXPO TO MOVE TO WESTERN HALL (WIU GYM)

MAPS Expo will move from the Union at Western Illinois University to Western Hall for the 2004 show. Several factors influenced our decision to move the show: the Gym is 234' x 116' while the Union is 146' x 74'; wiring and lighting are better at the Gym; the Gym offers ground floor unloading and free parking; the auction and programs can be held in an adjoining ground floor room; and there is a food stand in the adjoining room.

Please pass the word to anyone you know who attends Expo. The Union will advertise the change with an electronic sign during at the Union during the show.

As a result of the move, the table limit will be raised to TEN per membership. The table fee will be \$15 for the first two tables and \$30 for each additional table up to the limit of ten.

MEET YOUR NEW OFFICERS

The following slate was elected at the January meeting:

President:	Karl Stueckerjuergen
1 st Vice President:	Dale Stout
2 nd Vice President:	Gil Norris
Secretary:	Doug DeRosear
Treasurer:	Sharon Sonnleitner
Editor	Andie Carter
Director to 2006	Allyn Adams

Continuing on the Board are:

Immediate Past Pres.:	Marv Houg
Director to 2004:	Blane Phillips
Director to 2005:	Alberta Cray

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

February 14, 2004

Present: Karl Stueckerjuergen, Doug DeRosear, Gil Norris, Dale Stout, Blane Phillips, Allyn Adams, Alberta Cray, Sharon Sonnleitner

EXPO: The dates for 2005 have been set for April 8-10. At the Expo business meeting, we will decide whether to stay at the Gym or return to the Union. The theme will be either Bivalves or Insects. Kathleen Morner had reported 183 pages so far for the Expo Digest.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD

January 10, 2004

Present: Marv Houg, Karl Stueckerjuergen, Doug DeRosear, Gil Norris, Dale Stout, Blane Phillips, Allyn Adams, Andie Carter, Sharon Sonnleitner

EXPO: Pete Larson had to cancel as keynote speaker. Neal Larson will replace him. Steve Holley will again have a display for kids.

Dale Stout will e-mail David Board about up-dating the Expo page of our website.

SLATE OF OFFICERS: A unanimous ballot was cast for the slate of officers – see left column.

DAVID JONES GRANT: Tiffany Adrain and Sharon will get prices from printers for printing 1000 booklets on fossil collecting for kids. A fossil specimen will be given out with each book.

MISC.: Karl suggested we reprint some of the old Digest articles in upcoming Digests or archive them on our website. Marv noted that OSHA training is not required for field trips to quarries – only on-site safety training. Dale announced David Jones would like to have a field trip out to the Missouri River in South Dakota at the Boy Scout camp where he works in the summer.

Following the meeting Michael Henderson, Burpee Museum, Rockford, Illinois, presented a program on the trip he led to the Hell Creek formation of Montana where Jane, which is thought to be a nanotyrannus was discovered. If it is, it is one of only two that are known. During the dig, they also found a cervical vertebrae of a Pterosaur, the first known from the Hell Creek formation.

DAVID JONES GRANT: Tiffany Adrain reported she expects to have the fossil-collecting booklet ready for print by the end of February. Cost for the color booklet teaching kids about fossil collecting will be approximately \$5,000 for 1000 copies. Doug moved that we charge \$3 per book and mark it *not for resale*, so we can recover some of the cost for another printing.

Following the meeting Diana Horton, from the University of Iowa, presented a program on the Herbarium collection, which is being transferred to Iowa State University.

**MAPS and ESCONI MEMBER
ANDREW HAY PASSES AWAY**

By Karen Nordquist

Longtime ESCONI (and MAPS) member Andrew Hay passed away November 1, following a battle with esophageal cancer... Andy will long be remembered fro his articles in the ESCONI Bulletin (reprinted as "Creature Corner") and his work on the Mazon Creek books as well as his kindness and sharing over the years. Our sympathy goes to his family. The University and the Hay family have set up a scholarship in his name at Northeastern Illinois University for students in the earth sciences.

SEDIMENTARY NOTES

Word has reached us that MAPS members **Larry Johnson**, Canton, Illinois, and **Dean Sligh**, Princeton, Illinois, have passed away. Our sincere sympathy to their families.

MEET YOUR NEW EDITOR

As noted on page 2, MAPS has a new editor. Andie Carter will publish her first issue of the *Digest* following Expo. She is new to MAPS but took over our local rock and mineral club's bulletin two years ago and has done a great job. I hope you will support her with articles and cover photos. (I will pass on to her any that I have not yet used.)

I've learned a ton doing the *Digest*. I just feel a need to be free of so many deadlines (which I have had trouble meeting in the last few years), and I think it's good to get an infusion of new ideas.

I'd like to thank all of you for the support you have given me during the 15 years I have been Editor. It's been a real pleasure to get to know so many of you through Expo, phone calls, and little notes you send with dues and articles. I will really miss that part of the position.

FROM THE PRI

Dear Sharon,

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the recent unrestricted gift of \$250 from MAPS to the Paleontological Research Institution. Your gift will make a meaningful difference in advancing knowledge of the history of life on Earth and is greatly appreciated.

As a donor, you are part of a dedicated group of friends who realize the value of unrestricted support. Funds contributed to PRF without restriction afford us the greatest flexibility in meeting our financial obligations. The support received this past year alone has resulted in a stronger organization, better equipped to actively focus on and execute our fourfold mission: education, collections, research and publications.

...Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Warren D. Allmon, Director

Dear Sharon,

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the recent restricted gift of \$500 from MAPS to Museum of the Earth at the Paleontological Research Institution. Your gift will make a meaningful difference in advancing knowledge of the history of life on Earth and is greatly appreciated.

...Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Warren D. Allmon, Director

Fossil Frogs and Toads of North America

by J. Alan Holman

Life of the Past

264 pgs., 103 figs., 47 color photos, bibl., 3 indexes, 7 x 10

Cloth 0-253-34280-5 \$79.95

Published January 2, 2004

Available at bookstores or by calling 1-800-842-6796

<http://www.indiana.edu/~impress/books/0-253-34280-5.shtml>

From the Preface

Fossil Frogs and Toads of North America will be published on January 2 by Indiana University Press. This book consists of detailed systematic accounts of the known fossil frogs and toads (anurans) of North America and their localities. Extinct fossil frogs and toads are fully discussed and illustrated, and in some cases are re-diagnosed and re-described. For fossil taxa still living, the book gives the modern characteristics, ecological attributes, and modern ranges, and includes illustrations of diagnostic skeletal elements. The volume begins with an overview of the anurans and anuran studies, a general account of the skeleton and bones, and a discussion of the early evolution of the Anura, along with the formal classification of anuran taxonomic groups found in the North American fossil record. The third part of the book presents an epoch-by-epoch discussion of Mesozoic,

Tertiary, and Pleistocene anurans, the classification and phylogeny of the anurans, and a comprehensive list of references.

" . . . The present intense human interest in frog and toad depletion, I believe, falls into two categories. On the one hand, we have been informed by the media that the demise of these animals indicates great trouble in the environment. Needless to say, this is a situation of grave concern, which, of course, if true, will affect our lives quite adversely. On the other hand, many of us just like having frogs and toads around. Contrary to the opinion of the narrow-minded Linnaeus, they are mainly attractive creatures, whose voices enrich the outdoors, not to mention the tremendous biological interest in them from the morphological, physiological, behavioral, ecological, and evolutionary standpoints. This book deals with frogs and toads from still another dimension, that of North American vertebrate paleontology. Oddly, no such comprehensive study exists..."

Author Information

J. Alan Holman, Professor and Curator Emeritus of Vertebrate Paleontology at Michigan State University, has written seven books, including *Fossil Snakes of North America* (IUP, 2000).

**FIELD ADVENTURES IN
PALEONTOLOGY**

By Lynne M. Clos

Softcover, 6 1/2 x 8 1/2 , 208 pages, 141 photos.

ISBN 0-9724416-3-8

\$28.50 each*

Have you ever wondered what it's really like to dig for dinosaur bones on Alaska's North Slope? To excavate cave fossils high in the mountains of Colorado? To hunt for trilobites in the Utah desert? To collect fossil urchins from cliffs on Australia's seashore?

These and many more adventures await you in the pages of this book. From Ontario to Argentina to Wyoming, you'll screen for microfossils from anthills, excavate bones large and small, and collect beautiful invertebrate and plant fossils. By the time you finish reading these tales, you'll feel like you've been there yourself!

Both books available from: Fossil News, 1185
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STATELY FOSSILS

A Comprehensive Look at the State Fossils and Other
Official Fossils

By Stephen Brusatte

Softcover, 6 1/2 x 8 1/2 , 233 pages, 44 chapters, 65 photos

12 drawings, over 300 references.

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OR

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This extensively illustrated volume covers the natural and cultural history behind every U.S. state fossil, state dinosaur, and state stone or gem that is a fossil. Taxonomy, paleoecology, history, and even legislative antics are discussed. This is the only book currently available covering the state fossils.

*If a club orders a minimum of any combination of 6 books, the club will receive a 25% discount. Include club name with order.

Also available through barnesandnoble.com

PALEO BOOKS – FOR LOVE, NOT MONEY

By John Emerson and Neal Immega

The Houston Gem and Mineral Society has been unusually successful in creating new reference books for the identification of fossils. You might think that it might have something to do with the fact that Houston has more geoscientists than anywhere else on the planet, but that is not the explanation. Collecting and studying fossils has been an unusually rewarding endeavor for the Paleontology Section of the Houston Gem and Mineral Society. Beginning and Advanced paleontology classes and field trips under the leadership of Irene Offeman (Curator Paleontology, Houston Museum Natural Science, retired), Dr. Dick Zingula, (Paleontologist, retired) and S.Q. "Skip" Breard (paleontologist) have been conducted. From those experiences Study Groups formed to continue learning about fossils – particularly those collected on field trips.

Texas Paleontology Series 1 developed from the records and experiences of various Study Group members. Qualification for membership in a group was a sincere interest in learning more about fossils and a willingness to contribute study time and effort. Publication was originally done on a small scale to make a few copies available to other fossil enthusiasts who might be interested in Eocene fossils of East Texas. The demand for the books was and still is overwhelming.

Monetary profit from the each publication pays for the publishing for the next and contributed to scholarships and various educational projects of the Paleontological Section as well as its parent organization, Houston Gem and Mineral Society. Members form committees that oversee the publications – everything from printer selection, advertising, mailing, and clubhouse storage. Thanks to the publications, specialized equipment necessary for fossil study preparation is now available for Club members use. A Publication Fund was established which in addition to supporting the Series publishing costs enables the Section to develop its research library.

One of our recent publications is *Texas Bivalves*, 516 pages of figures and text cost nearly \$13,000 for 1000 copies (1.5 tons of paper!) and makes a substantial pile at the end of the library. The club sells this volume for \$25 and sold about 250 copies immediately. The remainder will probably be sold in the next 10 years. If we had bought 500 copies, it would have cost the club nearly the same total amount (at \$19 each) which would have pushed our selling price way up. We recognize that a "time value of money analysis" would tell us that process is not the way to run a business but HGMS is a non-profit club and not a business. The good news is that "Publish on Demand" substantially reduces the investment and that some authors are going solely to digital publication on CD (about \$1 a copy). As the titles sell out in paper, we intend to move that title to be a CD publication. Our experience with short print runs (on paper) of a 100 copies at a time on a "Publish on Demand" basis is that the cost is about 2x what conventional printing would require. Every publication is reviewed by outside experts in the field to ensure accuracy.

The authors of HGMS publications have very different backgrounds:

Tom and Rosemary Akers are our most prolific authors, having been the principle or secondary authors on nearly all our publications. Tom is a chemist (retired) and Rosemary is the artist for the drawings. They are sole authors of *Texas Cretaceous Echinoids*, *Texas Cretaceous Gastropods*, and *Texas Cretaceous Bivalves*, and coauthors on *Texas Pennsylvanian Brachiopods*, and *Texas Cretaceous Ammonites and Nautiloids*.

John and Barbara Emerson are sole authors on *Middle Eocene Claiborne Group Invertebrate Fossils* and coauthors on *Texas Cretaceous Ammonites and Nautiloids*.

John is a petroleum engineer (retired).

Neal Immega (geochemist, retired) and Scott Singleton (geophysicist) share authorship of the CD

publication *Fossil Forests, Zuhl Collection of* *of Natural Science.*
American Petrified Wood at the Houston Museum

HGMS publications are described in detail on the club web site www.HGMS.org and can be ordered from there but, just in case you are interested, the following describes them:

1. *Middle Eocene Claiborne Group Invertebrate Fossils*, 2001 - Descriptions of 220 species and photos, including 60 that have never been described as having come from the famous Stone City bluffs near Bryan, Tx. Directions to localities. 138 pages. \$18.50 softback, \$15 CD, order from the authors directly at www.iftx.com.
2. *Texas Cretaceous Echinoids*, 1987 - Description of 148 Texas Cretaceous echinoids. Classification. Illustrated morphological terms and glossary. Genera and species lists. Reference list. Collecting localities. 140 illustrations. 140 Pages
Very limited number of paper copies at \$9.25, soon to be in CD for \$10.
3. *Texas Pennsylvanian Brachiopods*, 1990 - 67 genera and 165 species of Texas Pennsylvanian Brachiopods described. Classification. Synonymies. Steps to identification. Illustrated morphological terms and glossary. Key to distinguish Families. Reference list, Collecting localities. Illustrations . 240 pages. \$12.50.
4. *Texas Cretaceous Ammonites and Nautiloids*, 1994 - 260 genera and 604 species Texas Cretaceous Ammonites and Nautiloids described. Illustrated morphological terms glossary. Faunal lists. Classification. Synonymies. Reference list. Genus Comparison Charts. Over 200 drawings and illustrations. 439 pages \$18.50.
5. *Texas Cretaceous Gastropods*, 1997 - 176 genera and 573 species of Texas Cretaceous Gastropods illustrated and described. Illustrated Glossary. Genus Comparison Charts. Reference list. Classification. Annotated list Synonymies. 293 figures. 340 pages \$15
6. *Texas Cretaceous Bivalves*, 2002 - Descriptions and illustrations of ALL named Texas genera (185) and species (816). Illustrated glossary. Morphological terms. Steps to identification. Classification. Synonymies. Reference list. Annotated list. Genus comparison charts. Bivalve formation lists. Genera and species indices. 401 figures. 516 pages. \$25
7. *Fossil Forests, Zuhl Collection of American Petrified Wood at the Houston Museum of Natural Science*. 2004 – Petrified wood from classic American localities. HTML with 500+ images of 200+ identified pieces with location, geologic age and articles about the mineralization process. This product runs only on a PC or in a PC emulation mode. CD \$10

Fossil Hunting is by far the most fascinating of all sports. The hunter never knows what his bag will be, perhaps nothing, perhaps a creature never before seen by human eyes! The fossil hunter does not kill, he resurrects. And the result of his sport is to add to the sum of human pleasure and to the treasures of human knowledge.

—George Gaylord Simpson
 from *Paleo Newsletter*, Jean Wallace, Ed. 1/04

H.R. 2416 – PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION ACT

By George Loud

From *Paleo Newsletter*, Jean Wallace, Ed. 2/04

As I write this in mid-January, H.R. 2416 is “stalled” in several House committees, including the Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands, the Subcommittee on Forests and Forest Health, and the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans, all subcommittees of the House Resources Committee. The companion bill in the Senate (S546) passed on voice vote and some predicted smooth sailing through the House. However, by letter, email and telephone, opponents of the bill were able to get sufficient information to House members on the key committees to at least delay the legislation.

In my early teens (several years ago) I collected a rock only recently confirmed by a professional paleontologist to be petrified bone. Take the problem of identification, add the problem of ignorance of boundaries of public lands, and mix in the draconian criminal and civil penalties of H.R. 2416, and we have a mix likely to cast a chill on all collecting on public lands. For example, H.R. 2416 provides for forfeiture of “all vehicles and equipment of any person that were used in connection with the violation” (section 11(b)). We have such a forfeiture provision in statutes dealing drug trafficking, but fossil collecting?

Diver Arrested in Alabama October 20,2003

State law can also get you. On October 20th Perry Massie, CEO of Outdoor Channel Holdings, and Steve Phillips, owner of a scuba diving school, ran afoul of a rather new Alabama law while diving for relics, gold, fossils and anything else old, and using a metal detector, in the Alabama river near Selma, Alabama. Mr. Massie reports he had been diving at this same locality for 30 years and was ambushed by a law newly “slipped through” the Alabama legislature.

~forwarded by Bob Cranston, who commented:

...If you don't care about those issues, then do nothing and those privileges will indeed disappear. This would be a good time for a strong effort by (American Lands Access Association, Inc.) ALAA to make a major contribution to defeat this legislation.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Check our Website at : <http://www.collectors-mall.com/ALAA/>

AMERICAN LANDS ACCESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Protecting the Public Lands for the Public

Please enroll me as a member of the ALAA! Annual Membership Fee: \$25.00

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

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CLUB AFFILIATION _____

Remit fees to: ALAA, Mrs. Toby Cozens, Treasurer, 4401 S.W. Hill, Seattle, WA 98116

The A.L.A.A. is a 501(c)(4) organization. Its purpose is promoting and ensuring the right of the amateur hobby collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes; and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public land managers. Contributions to the A.L.A.A. are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Tax Purposes.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION ACT SAMPLE LETTER

The following is representative of letters sent by George Loud to over 50 House members:

Congressman (or Congresswoman)
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515
Re: H.R. - "Paleontological Resources Preservation Act"

Dear Congressman (or Congresswoman)

I am writing in opposition to the captioned bill. I serve as Chair of the Conservation and Legislation Committee of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS), a national organization of "rockhound" clubs, representing about 50,000 rockhounds throughout the United States.

I offer a wager to any of your colleagues inclined to support HR 2974. I will bring a group of ten (10) rocks, including one vertebrate fossil, to any location in the National Capital area at a time of their choosing. My bet is that they cannot identify the vertebrate fossil within a reasonable period of time. Yet HR 2416 would require such skill of ordinary citizens and impose draconian penalties in the event of failure.

The Senate companion bill (S546) has already passed the Senate. Here's what Washington Watch had to say about S546:

"Bad Bills. S546 Anti-rockhounding bill titled the 'Paleontological Resources Preservation Act' places severe penalties on recreational rockhounding, would permit only 'experts' to disturb public land surfaces. Allows for seizure of private vehicles, camping equipment and anything else the government wants to grab for even minor violations. This bill assumes that big brother government has all the answers, even though some of the greatest discoveries of dinosaurs in pre-recorded history have been done by private individuals."

Frankly, I was surprised that the forfeiture provision for seizure of vehicles and other property of the malfessor (without right to trial?) is also provided for in the House bill, even if the violation is characterized as a "civil penalty", i.e. does not rise to the level of a crime (misdemeanor or felony). The forfeiture provision would put erring fossil collectors in the same peril as drug dealers.

What else is wrong with HR 2416? Answer: a lot. For example, Section 9 "Prohibited Acts; Penalties - False Labeling Offenses" provides "a person may not make or submit any false record, account, or label for, or any false identification of any paleontological resource excavated or removed from Federal lands." Pity the poor collector or curator, amateur or professional, who mistakes a *Psittacosaurus* bone for a *Chasmosaurus* bone. Such misidentification can make a criminal. Thankfully, I only collect minerals, which I all too often misidentify.

I also object to Section 15 of the bill entitled "Saving Provisions," Provision 3, which specifies that the bill does not apply to "amateur collecting of a rock, mineral or invertebrate or plant fossil that is not protected under this act." I wish to specifically address the situation here in Northern Virginia where I have lived for over 30 years. During this time I have received numerous inquiries from Scout leaders at a loss as to where to take scouts to collect geological materials and fulfill the requirements for a merit badge in geology. I have always directed them to Westmoreland State Park (a Commonwealth of Virginia Park) where fossils can be collected along the Potomac shoreline. I personally have led "Indian Princess" (YMCAIYWCA) groups on such collecting trips along the shores of the Potomac. On one such trip, which I vividly recall because my own daughter was present, every one of the approximately ten children found at least one fossil shark's tooth. Other materials collected included fossil whale bone. The kids were thrilled and took their treasures into their schools for show and tell sessions. Please understand that this activity would not have been possible if the Potomac shoreline was in a National Forest subject to the provisions of the legislation as proposed in the form of HR 2416 because all of the fossils collected by the kids on the trips I have described were vertebrate fossils. I could also relate my own experiences as a youngster collecting vertebrate fossils in creek beds but I do not wish to belabor the point. I recognize that current BLM and Forest Service regulations prohibit the collecting of any vertebrate fossil without a permit, however I believe that this policy is wrong-headed and certainly should not be made statutory law.

Young kids and old kids should be free to collect common vertebrate fossils as well as common invertebrate fossils on public lands. Fossil collecting is and has been a gateway to the sciences, i.e. it is often one's first hands-on experience with anything science related.

For the foregoing reasons I urge you to oppose H.R. 2416.

Signed George Loud

MAPS MEMBERS' SIGNIFICANT FOSSIL FINDS

Under MAPS sponsorship with the David Jones Grant, Tiffany Adrain and Julie Golden, current and past curators of the University of Iowa Paleontology Repository, have created a booklet to encourage young people to collect and study fossils. They asked MAPS members to send stories of finds that inspired them to continue collecting fossils or of significant fossils they found as children that are now in museums. Although no one responded with the story of a museum specimen from childhood, several recounted very interesting tales from their early collecting days. Shorter versions of the following appear in the booklet, Millie and Sam's Fossil Hunt. The booklet is aimed at collecting in Iowa, but the principles apply anywhere. Copies will be available at MAPS. —Ed.

Joe Kchodl, Midland, Michigan

The interest in fossils can begin at a very young age. When I was a boy in some of the most fossil rich parts of New York State, I would spend countless hours walking in the woods near an escarpment. I couldn't kick over a stone without finding something quite unique. Learning at an early age that those things were fossils was not enough. It quickly became time to search the libraries and bookstores for more information. I went out and bought my first book about fossils. It was a pocket guide that was very basic. I read it from cover to cover and began trying to identify the things I found. Most were quite common and easy to identify, some were a little more difficult and some...I had no idea of the joy and wonderment to come.

1967 a boy 10 years of age, walking through the woods near an escarpment in Lewiston, New York, sediments some 350 - 400 million years old, picks up a rock and throws it against the escarpment wall. It shatters in a few pieces. He picked up several of the pieces and sees to his amazement – sea shells ?? The sediment – coarse granulated limestone was all over. The escarpment was made up of this stuff. That is the first fossil type found by this young man and it would lead to a lifetime of fun, excitement, challenge and search for knowledge.

In this one piece I found what I later learned was a brachiopod. This brachiopod was approximately 1 inch in diameter, and what really intrigued me about it is that it still had a pearly appearance. I took it home and tried to remove the matrix around it. Needless to say, I butchered it badly. From that day forward, I took many excursions into the woods to gather rocks and break them up to see what was inside. I found brachiopods and crinoids for years.

For the next 12 years I collected fossils around the Lewiston and Niagara Falls area and amassed quite a nice number of Brachiopods, Bryozoans, Crinoids and various other fossils. I left for the military in 1979 and

prior to departure I gave all my fossils to the Schoelkopf Geological Museum in Niagara Falls, New York. Unfortunately, as I was leaving for the Military, I didn't give them my name or other information – so I believe the collection was incorporated into the greater collection or sold or traded off for other specimens.

Since my return from Europe in 1983, I once again began to collect fossils. To date I have collected approximately 5,000 different specimens, including a nice collection of trilobites. I have had the opportunity to travel to the Czech Republic and have been honored by the Czech National Museum by having a trilobite fossil I donated to them, placed on permanent display. It was also showcased during the 150-year anniversary of the Museum. The directors chose some 50 items that were considered important to the museum and published an anniversary book. Quite to my surprise and honor the *Flexicalymene meeki* trilobite I donated was one of the items chosen.

I now work in a museum; I teach students all over the state about fossils. In the school years 2000-2001, I spoke to 124 schools numbering some 12,000 students. I take my collection on the road to display it wherever I can. I have been privileged to be a guest speaker at numerous Rock and Mineral shows. I have taken a young boy's fascination with these creatures long dead, and turned it into an opportunity to share the knowledge and expertise with future generations.

Mary Pat Smith, Chicago, Illinois

My daughter Julia has a fossil named after her. When she was first born, she was given a bag of fossils for her birth day present. The bag contained a rare Euthycarcinoid fossil that was later named for her and me since it was a new species and genus. *Smithixerxes juliarium* was described in the Journal of Paleontology, November 1982. The specimen is at the Field Museum of Chicago.

Phil Burgess, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin

My initial find was when I was 10 years old, (early 1960's). While hiking in the hills behind Prairie du Chien, I found an entire enrolled trilobite, which included spines, in a nearby roadcut, which was a very rare find for any area! I still have this specimen in my collection, after over 40 years.

I have not found one this good since! This find inspired me to keep looking for other specimens to add to my collection.

Interesting fossil finds can still be discovered in Iowa. Back in 1975, in my very early 20's, I was collecting fossils in the Brainard Formation of Upper Ordovician Age in the then-new roadcuts along U.S. Hwy. 61, south of Dubuque. Among the usual brachiopods, bryozoans, clams and cephalopods I also saw a perfect crinoid crown lying on the bare clay ground. I took my prize crinoid find home with me that day. A few months later I swapped my crinoid to another collector from Mason City, Iowa, with the understood intention that he was to donate my specimen in turn to the museum collection of the University of Iowa. Everything turned out well, and all parties concerned were happy. My donated crinoid eventually was used in a study of Upper Ordovician rocks in the Dubuque area and contributed more to our knowledge of fossils and rocks of Eastern Iowa.

Craig Tipton, Perry, Ohio

When I was about 8 years old, my sister was in college and she told me about the fossils she was studying in a geology class. When we visited her at college once, she and my parents went to a road cut and I found some brachiopods. That was very neat to me at that age. However, after that I only casually observed and picked up fossils that I came upon for many years. It wasn't until I was in my late thirties that a friend invited me to a meeting of a fossil club that was starting up. I went on one field trip and I was hooked! It was a shared experience with others interested in fossils, and through the club, I was able to go to very nice collecting sites, and share the experiences and finds with others who had the same interests.

Indiana has a lot of very productive fossil-bearing roadcuts. One of my favorites is a roadcut near Garr Hill on Route 101 north of Brookfield. This site is well-known and our fossil club has had several trips to this locality. Often when you are there, other collector's will routinely stop to collect too. In this area, the road dives

down one side of the valley and up the other side. I always wondered what was on the other side of the valley, where I never saw anyone collecting and I had never stopped.

So, one time when I was in the area with my two sons, we finally stopped on the side we had never stopped at before. I always tried to include my children in fossil-collecting as they were growing up – what better way to educate them in geology and paleontology! I have to admit that there weren't as many fossils there and the hard limestone layers were thicker. I was just walking along a shelf of limestone that seemed to have a lot of brachiopods weathered out loose on it when I saw a trilobite looking back at me – just sitting there weathered out. The thing that caught my eye was that it looked more like a Devonian *phacops* than the typical Ordovician fauna found in the area. It was missing most of its pygidium, but I picked it up and brought it home. When I checked my reference books, I discovered that it was a relatively rare *Acidapsis*.

After photographing my specimen, I asked the curator of invertebrate paleontology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History if it was wanted for their collection. The answer was "yes", so I sent it in with the location information. A letter of acknowledgement from the Museum was received after a short time. I think the moral of this story is that if you find something unusual or special, it may be better to donate it to a museum (They will want to know exactly where it was found!). One other thought - don't try to prepare or clean the specimen being sent to a museum as you may damage the surface that may have microscopic features that you should not disturb. My collection is just fine with nice examples of more commonly found material.

Jeremy Seville, U.K.

Some years ago I went on a collecting trip to the Anti Atlas Mountains in Morocco. I managed to find quite a large number of an undescribed carroids from a Middle Ordovician Llandeilo locality near Zagora in the south of the country. These specimens were donated to the Natural History Museum in London. The researcher there, Dick Jefferies, believes capoids to be a chordate offshoot of the Echinoderms. These specimens helped with this study. As I found nearly all the specimens used for the description and in recognition of the collecting help I had given to the museum over the years, the specimen was named after me. It is called *Eumitrocystella savilli*.

THE DAY THE WORLD ENDED... FOR ONE REPTILE

By Joseph Monks, Purdue University

From *Newsletter of the New York Paleo Society*, Donald Phillips, Ed. 1/04

Trackways reveal important information about animal behavior and give insight into the past that fossil bones cannot. Such important information includes gait, speed, social behavior and feeding habits. When body fossils are not present, usually due to factors of depositional setting, trace fossils are used to identify the inhabitants of the ecosystem. In this manner, fossil trackways have been used to identify the terrestrial vertebrate fauna of the Illinois Basin for the mid Pennsylvanian. Through trace fossils several amphibians and reptiles have been identified, and now from a new trackway, the feeding behavior of early reptiles is better understood.

The track locality is located on the eastern margin of the Illinois Basin in southern Indiana. The Illinois Basin is Pennsylvanian in age and covers most of Illinois, western Indiana and a small part of northwest Kentucky. The locality is from in the Mansfield formation which is the early Middle Pennsylvanian (Morrowan-Atokan, which is equivalent to Westphalian B). In Indiana the Mansfield is dominated by a tidally influenced fluvial-estuarine shoreline and coastal swamps resulting in coal units. The track locality is a tidally influenced estuarine mud flat.

The faunal list for the locality is diverse, suggesting a complex ecosystem was present and preserved. Invertebrate traces are numerous. They include the horizontal feeding traces of *Treptichnus*, *Plangtichnus* and *Haplotichnus*. Resting traces of the monuran insect *Tonganoxichnus* have been found showing a body imprint as well as prints from the legs and antennae. A trace from a possible large millipede approximately 4 cm across has also been recovered. Vertebrate traces are less common but often well-preserved. They include the temnospondyl amphibian *Paleosauropus* and the reptilian trace of *Notalacerta*. Recently, a new trackway has been under study which appears to have been made by one reptile chasing another and eating it, ending in a termination of the tracks of the prey. Unfortunately because the animals were moving at elevated speeds, their footprints were

poorly preserved. However, the track-makers were most likely reptilian due to the tight curves of the trackway and extended fast pace of the animals.

This termination trackway shows two individuals of different sizes moving along the same non-linear path for an extended distance. The entire trackway is over a meter long and makes a tight "S" shape. The two individual traces do not diverge along the entire path, suggesting that one animal was chasing the other. Further, it is apparent that there are in fact two individuals by the two distinctly different size foot marks. Near the end of the trackway the trackway from the smaller animal stops while the larger one continues, suggesting the larger animal captured its prey. After the predator captured its prey, it stopped to ingest and begin to digest it. An imprint of the larger animal's body was preserved in the mud, showing the body, two hind legs, tail and one foreleg. The distance between the two hind legs is consistent with that of the width of the trackway that would correspond with it, suggesting that the print is the imprint of the body of the predator.

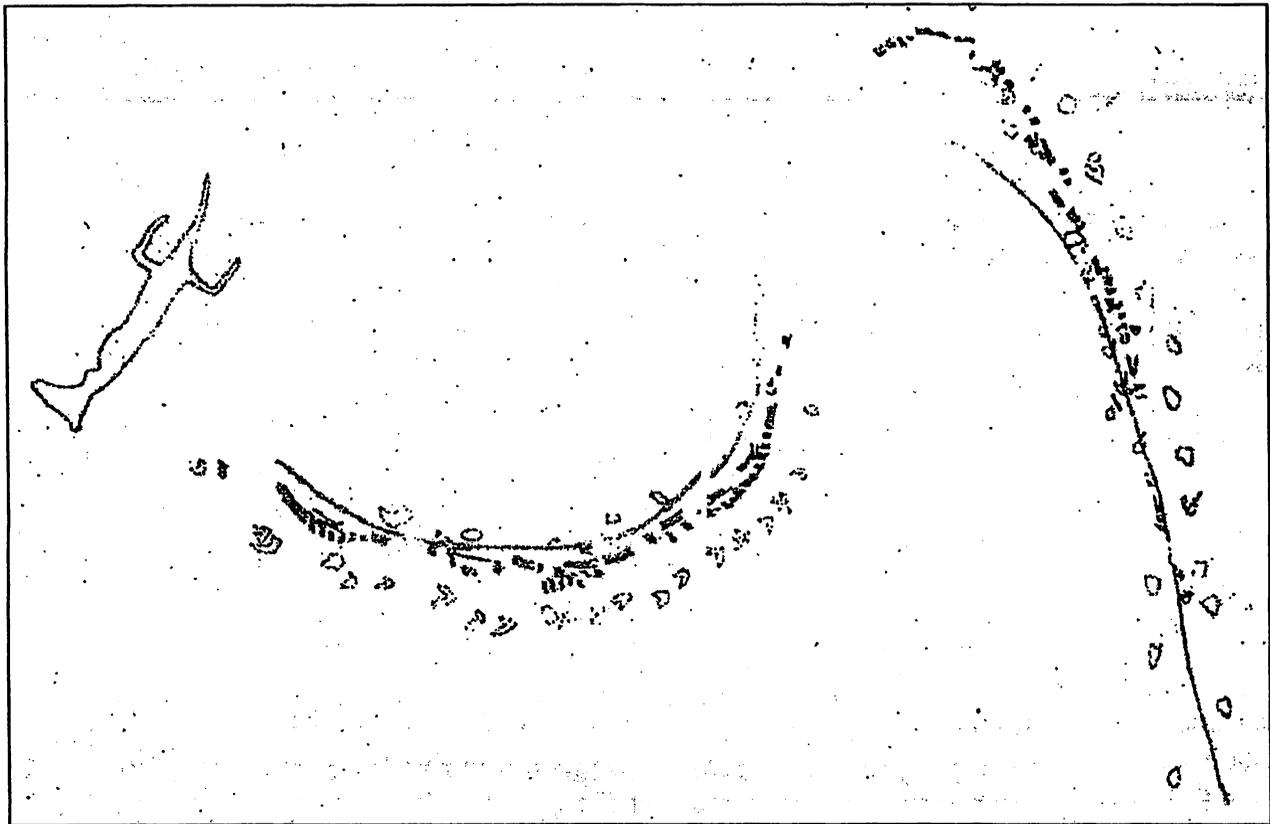
It is also probable that this is a resting trace in that reptilian digestive systems are most efficient at higher temperatures. Because reptiles are cold-blooded and their body temperature is influenced by its surrounding environment, reptiles must bask or shuttle in order to control their body temperature. By basking after ingesting its food, a reptile can elevate its own body temperature, thus maximizing the potential of its digestive system. With an elevated body temperature, the food is processed and passed through the digestive system faster, meaning that the animal can resume its normal life processes, whether it be finding more food, reproducing or evading other predators so as not to become food itself.

Numerous other termination trackways have been described from the Paleozoic also suggesting feeding behavior. However, all of the other termination trackways have subsequently been "debunked" and have been attributed to other

phenomenon such as aestivation. Because this appears to be possible the only known termination trackway, it is important in that it provides insight into the feeding habits of early reptiles. It is generally agreed on that early reptiles were exclusively insectivorous. Their small skulls and tiny teeth were thought to be too small for capturing larger prey, such as other tetrapods. However, it seems that they did in fact utilize other reptiles as a food source. In fact it is possible that this instance even shows that cannibalism was practiced by the

primitive reptiles. From the apparent extended speed of the animals and tight turns, this trackway also suggests that the tetrapods were active, agile predators, not merely sit-and-wait ambush hunters.

[Joe Monks is a long-time member of the New York Paleo Society and currently a student of paleontology at Purdue University. Joe presented a talk concerned with this trackway at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology on October 17, 2003... Donald Phillips, Ed.]



The Trackway.

The animals progressed from right to left. Note the resting trace at the extreme left, with the tail and rear legs at the top. About x30 actual size.

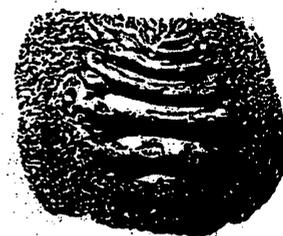
THE SHARK THAT IS ONLY KNOWN FOR FUNNY TEETH

by Jessica Shurtz, Junior Member, Pleasant Oaks G&MC
 from *Chips and Chatter*, 1/04; via *Paleo Newsletter*, Jean Wallace, Ed. 1/04

So what do you call a shark with rounded teeth that may very well not have been a shark at all? Why, *Ptychodus*. pronounced "tie-code-us," of course. It has been a source of bafflement since its discovery in the mid 1880's. It still continues to be debated today as to whether these ferociously-toothed sea creatures were actually sharks or more of rays, although according to Mike Everhart in *The Life and Times of Long Dead Sharks*, "The current view of the family Ptychodonridae is that they are related to hybodont sharks." This is mainly supported by the occurrence of shark-like vertebrae that have been found with many *Ptychodus* species. According to Everhart in *Ptychodus mortoni*, "Judging from the size of some isolated teeth [. . .] these fish probably grew to lengths of 4-5 meters." (That's about 12-15 feet - about the length of a truck!)

The *Ptychodus* shark comes from the Upper to Lower Cretaceous timeframe. There were several different species of *Ptychodus* sharks; all were distinguished by

tooth shape and size. The feature that all their teeth share, however, is that they tend to be rounded (some fatter than others) and arranged in parallel, interlocking structures so that in the end, the surface unites as a wide, crushing plate. Some contain up to 600 teeth per jaw. Common prey of these devastating grinding machines range from mollusks to ammonites and other common shellfish of the time. The *Ptychodus* has been linked with the modern-day Port Jackson shark, whose posterior teeth are flat while its anterior are sharp and pointed.



Some of the most common places to collect *Ptychodus* teeth include Texas, Arizona and Kansas in the United States, England, Germany, Italy, France and Belgium throughout the world. I personally found a very nice *Ptychodus* shark tooth specimen at the TXI cement quarry in Midlothian, just southwest of Dallas.

Sources:

Everhart, Mike. "The Life and Time of Long Dead Sharks" <http://www.elasmo.com/> 5 De 2003
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 Lyell, Charles. "The Student's Elements of Geology. Page 8. [Http://www.simonova.nev/library/1472-8.html](http://www.simonova.nev/library/1472-8.html)

THE CONODONTS NEW INFORMATION

From *The Tully*, Sam Maselli, Ed. 1-2/04

In the November - December issue of *The Tully* in an article entitled "Postcards From Beneath The Earth – The Conodonts" it was stated that scientists were not sure what they looked like. The teeth of these animals are indicators of conditions over time beneath the earth. Changes of color and translucence indicate temperature and pressure, giving a clue to the likelihood of the presence of useable petroleum deposits. The D K publishing company's new POCKETS series has a book titled *FOSSILS* printed in 1996 written by Douglas Palmer, and in this book conodonts are described.

The creatures are eel-like with large eyes, a large mouth and two sets of teeth. One set was forward pointing and curved they were used for seizing and holding prey. The second set of teeth was sharp and straight and in a scissors-like way sliced up the food. The size of these animals varied, with the largest being about 16 inches

long, but more typically they were about an inch and a half long. The remains of this animal are widely distributed in sedimentary rock, and the teeth are easily recovered from limestone using a process starting with acid and involving several other chemicals and steps. Electron microscope examination of tooth wear reveals they were predators.

Conodonts are important because they are thought to have come from the earliest vertebrate animals. They first appeared more than 500 million years ago, and they went extinct about 200 million years ago. Complete fossils are rare for animals that are mostly soft tissue. Ocean sediments have mostly bone and shell because the forces of decay are well organized on the ocean floor. Only time and the vastness of territory covered by water favor and unusual condition that will preserve a few animals or parts of animals that can be studied. New and more powerful research tools are helping us learn more about the interrelationships of ancient life forms.

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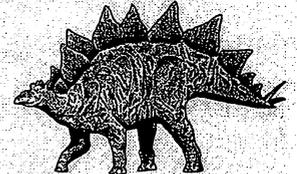
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quarter of a mile away. The trek to the sight would have taken us down a tall, scrub, deep-grass-covered bank and a walk across a marshy, willow-covered flat area. I (Kirchhoff) pointed out not only was it getting very hot, but the marshy area looked very snaky. Bill then stated a now-famous quote between the two of us, "If we don't go and it turns out something good was down there, we will hate ourselves forever." Never one to turn down a challenge or dare, I agreed to go.

The trek to the bank was hot but uneventful.

It was only about ten minutes before the first large tooth was found. We still argue to this day which one of us found it first. Soon vertebrae, more teeth, and other unidentifiable fossils were found. There were so many fossils we soon forgot who found the first one because there were more surface fossils than either of us could have ever imagined on one site. I had never, and probably never will again, stumble on such a virgin, untouched fossil site like this.

The area was a tall bank of woodbine, with an overlay of Pleistocene gravel. The teeth were so large we thought we had possibly found part of a saber tooth cat. The temperature

Continued on page 16.

MAJOR DISCOVERY IN ARLINGTON, TX

Dino Find

By Bill Walker and Phil Kirchhoff

From *The Fossil Record*, Jade Kelley, Ed. 2/04

Early on the morning of July the 27th 2003, the temperature was already in the 90s with forecasts of 104°. This, however, did not discourage two fossil hunters, Bill Walker and Phil Kirchhoff, from deciding to take advantage of the relatively cool morning and go prospecting fro a new fossil shark tooth site.
—Jade Kelley, Ed.

Driving down one gravel road, we ended up at a dead end overlooking the Trinity River bottoms. Facing a large metal fence deterring our progress, we turned the van around to continue looking. When we started our turn, we noticed to our right a promising-looking gray-colored embankment, about a

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sambess@webtv.net

Craftman. Will trade. Main interest vertebrates and ammonites. Has for trade fishes, ammonites, insects, leaves, dinosaur eggs & teeth. Member Societe Geologique de France, Paris.

Patent Attorney. Interested in obtaining additional info on fossils and fossil collecting.

Geologist. Will trade. Major interest fossil collecting. Has for trade Texas Cret. Fossils. Enjoys field trips and newsletter.

6th Grade Science Teacher.

Retired.

MAPS Digest Editor

Private investigator. Interested in trilobites and echinoids. Member of the Central Texas Paleo. Soc. Major interests are trilobites and echinoids. Wants contact with others.

Dental Lab Technician/Homemaker. Interested in fossils of the Midwest region; micro-fossils. Member Dry Dredgers, Cincinnati, and Indiana Soc. Of Paleo

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raf6917@hotmail.com

Illustrator. Will trade. Major interest trilobites, reptiles, dinosaurs. Not much for trade yet ('04). Wants to learn about fossil preparation, and get info on Expo.

Research Scientist. Interested in all fossils and evolution. Will trade. Has pretty much everything for trade.

Jeweler. Will not trade

Teacher. Interested in fossils, fossil micro-mounting.

Mechanic. Will trade. Major interest blastoids, Paleozoic invertebrates, and fossil literature. Wants to learn about fossils and meet people with the same interest.

Toolmaker. Will not trade. Major interest invertebrates, esp., corals & brachiopods. Wants to contact others with similar interest.

Sr. Marketing Data Analyst. No longer seriously collecting. Has nothing for trade. Main interests ammonites and echinoids. Secondary interest sharks teeth, plants (especially wood), insects, and any kind of comparative paleontology. Like any well-defined & obvious fossil. In MAPS for the old-time camaraderie.

Virginia Friedman
1535 Montebello Dr
Suisun City CA 94585-3009
friedman@startext.net

Interested in Penn. fossils (mainly fossil seeds), trilobites, corals, etc. Member of Dallas Paleo Soc., Austin Paleo Soc., & Sociedad Mexicana de Paleontologia.

Stuart Grieve
516 Fetterman St.
Laramie WY 82070
307-742-2079

Fossil Dealer. Will not trade now. Interested in Rocky Mountain area fossils. Wants to learn more about paleontology and geology.

Kathleen Morner
7205 Ticonderoga, NE
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Retired editor/writer/English teacher. Collecting since 1973. Interestd in Paleozoic - particularly echinoderms and arthropods.

Jean-Guy Pellerin
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514-524-7836

Kitchen Technician. Collecting since 1981. Will trade. Has for trade trilobites and echinoderms from Quebec and Ontario, sea urchins from US and Europe. Major interest trilobites, echinoderms, and vertebrates. Member of NC Fossil Club, Dry Dredgers, Western Interior Paleo Soc, Alberta Paleo Soc., Mineraux & Fossiles from France. Wants to make contact with people in other collecting areas.

Marvin & Sue Houg
1820 30th St. Dr SE
Cedar Rapids IA 52403
319-364-2868
mghrock@mchsi.com

Civil Engineer/Insurance Broker. Have for trade material from Iowa, primarily Devonian trilobites of Iowa. Major interest is in trilobites and crinoids.

Jim & Ruby Tatum
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University Professor. Main interest vertebrate fossils. Buys and sells, makes and sells casts, restores fossils. River diver since 1977, deals in common wholesale items as well as rare museum pieces. Treasurer Tampa Bay Fossil Club (96); associate of Paleo Interprises.

Continued from p. 14

had reached over 100°; we had taken no supplies with us. The collecting was so good and there were so many fossils, we had overstayed our limit without realizing it. We were both were very hot, tired, and hungry and starting to suffer dehydration. We went back to my house to cool down, photo and try to identify the fossils. We quickly realized we had stumbled across a Cretaceous crocodile as well as turtle parts. This was all the encouragement we needed. Like any true fossil hunters, we both agreed to brave the 100-degree-plus Texas temperature and go back immediately.

Once back at the site after about 15 minutes of collecting, I discovered two very large vertebrae sitting next to each other in the matrix. After much yelling and dancing, I finally calmed down. At first inspection because of the size of the vertebrae, and the overlaying Pleistocene material, we thought we had found mammoth vertebrae. Besides, who would think of finding Dinosaur material in the middle of Arlington, Texas? Upon removing the vertebrae, I realized that the material was too dense to be Pleistocene. We knew we had something really good

and very old. Dinosaur!!!

There were of course several more weekend trips and much collecting. We took some of the material to the Dallas Paleontology Society meeting, to get help with identification. Mark McKenzie saw some of the teeth found by Walker and immediately identified them as Hadrosaur teeth. He advised Walker and me that Tony Forillio and Derrick Main of the Dallas museum of Natural History were currently working on a paper of Texas Hadrosaurs, more specifically, on Protohadros. He said he had seen some of the fossil material they had and was relatively confident the material we had was Protohadros.

The following week, I started a geology course on Dinosauria at the University of Texas at Arlington. I took some of the material to my professor, Dr. Chris Scotese. It turned out Derrick Main was also a student of Dr. Scotese and doing graduate work under him. Dr. Scotese took the material to Derrick, who in turn took it to the Museum and SMU. Further identification verified the material was Protohadros, a very early Hadrosaur. This find has much scientific importance. The Kirchhoff/Walker Woodbine site proves that Hadrosaurs that were previously thought to have evolved from the China area have also come from right here in Arlington, Texas. Quoting Dr. Scotese on the matter, "Arlington may well turn out to be the Garden of Eden of Hadrosaurs."

In all, four larger vertebrae, a toe bone, hipbone, ishium, five teeth, and other as of yet unidentified pieces have been found. Additional material from the site includes crocodile, turtle, and possibly a raptor claw. The outcropping was Woodbine and estimated to be between 95 and 105 million years old. We found all of this material by surface collecting and very light digging. The Dallas Museum is preparing to make the site a major dig. Walker and I donated most of the material to the Dallas museum. The press got the story, and there was much publicity over the find for about two weeks. If you ever make a major find, dealing with the press can be a whole new experience in itself.

The Kirchhoff/Walker Arlington Woodbine site is scientifically very important on several levels. The amount and diversity of material found makes this the largest woodbine bone-bed site found in the U.S. to date. This is probably the oldest Hadrosaur material ever found. The site has yielded more post-cranial Protohadros material than any before. The geology of the site gives us more insight into what this area looked like 100 million years ago.

While there is much more field and lab work to do on the site, the moral of this story, if there is one, would be: you must to outside of your comfort zone sometimes to make big discoveries. Remember Walker's statement? "If we don't go and there turns out to be something good, we would hate ourselves forever." I now live by this statement.

See ya in the dirt! Phil Kirchhoff, Dinosaur Hunter

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.

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MAPS meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of October, November, January, and February and at EXPO in March or 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.

The MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year—October through April, May/June, and July/August/September. View MAPS web page at <http://midamericapaleo.tripod.com/>

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Dated Material - Meeting Notice

CYATHOCHRINITES



Mrs. Sharon Sonnleitner
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