



Fossil Footnotes

Central Texas Paleontological Society
November 2003

President's Note

October's beautiful weather provided a bountiful collecting month. The annual Lake Texoma field trip was a blast! Twenty-three members and guests had ideal weather and a great time collecting ammonites and echinoids, and the like from the Duck Creek and Weno-Pawpaw formation contacts around Grayson County. My thanks go to Ed Elliott for securing the five campsites at Eisenhower State Park that Friday afternoon. For both Saturday and Sunday, Ron and Janet Root and I enlisted our kayaks to explore and carry some larger specimens we found. And the trip to Oklahoma for supper at Wendy's was good, as usual. It was interesting to have a seventh grade math teacher (Rich) and a seventh grade student (Jonathan) conversing across the supper table. And, as was the case last year, Jeff and Jonathan Doerzbacher came the farthest for the trip, all the way from Tennessee. See the field trip notes elsewhere in the newsletter.

Rebecca and I spent the last week of October at the coast. We got to go at least 4.5 miles up from High Island and looked around McFadden Beach for some Pleistocene. But our success came from another spot where the Beaumont Clay seems to be exposed. I just don't know how fossilized this stuff is, though. To quote the group America from their song A Horse With No Name, "The Ocean is a desert with its life underground, and the perfect disguise above." By the way, the flounder are migrating through Rollover Pass now. And the bull reds are big, and long billed curlews are fun to watch...

Fossil Fest 2003 is here/ gone. As Mike quipped, the show signs are finally "P-less". (I finally got all the "P"s painted and covered.) See the recap by Danny and Mike in next month's newsletter.

Officer Elections are coming. Please volunteer your services, or there **will** be calls!

John

October Trip Report Lake Texoma

The long awaited, much anticipated yearly weekend at Lake Texoma has come and gone. More than once I heard the sentiment that getting away from the daily grind and enjoying the company of like-minded enthusiast was a reward in and of itself. Being around the lake, camping out (some of us), lots of talking with friends, the traditional catfish dinner at Wendy's - all are part of the Texoma experience.



23 and a half members at Eisenhower State Park entrance.

Twenty-three members and guests met at the entrance to Eisenhower State Park, eager to walk the shorelines of the lake. The morning was brisk and clear, the scenery lovely and the fossils cooperative. As always a good number of nice specimens were

collected, too many to itemize. Jeff Doerzbacher picked up a beautiful *Trigonia*, as did Ron Root. Ron also picked up a rock that appears to have substantial portions of a *Phyllacanthus* hidden inside. I saw seven jellyfish (*Kirklandia*) on three slabs, picked up by Mike Smith, Margaret Clark, and myself. John Hinte (when he wasn't floating huge ammonites around on his kayak) picked up a regular echinoid, probably a *Tetragramma*.



Rich Giest hammering out an ammonite.

A large number of echinoids, ammonites (from dime-size to backbreaking *Eopachydiscus*), oyster slabs, scallops, shark teeth, the list goes on. Every year this big lake alters it's shorelines, hammers it's outcrops and moves gargantuan boulders around. And every year we joyfully come in and pick up the pieces. This is a trip that shouldn't be missed and I extend condolences to any that couldn't make it. I think we all had a wonderful time.

Ed Elliott

November Field Trip Texas Vertebrate Lab

November's field trip is Saturday, November 15th, to the Vertebrate Lab. Dr. Pamela Owens will direct us around the facility. We will meet at the guard gate on the Burnet entrance at 10am. We will be carpooling into the facility, so be on time. To be sure of the time, call John Hinte first, 301-1317, as he doesn't remember if 10am is what Dr. Owens agreed on. All are welcome.

October Meeting Minutes

The business meeting was called to order by president John Hinte at 7:15 pm. The meeting began with a discussion of the October field trip. John said we would be at Eisenhower State Park at 8:30 Saturday morning.

John announced that Fossil Mania would be October 24 weekend in Glen Rose. Several members commented on the uniqueness of this show.

The club agreed to continue paying dues to the Southwest Federation. This organization provides the club with the liability insurance that covers us when we are on field trips.

The November field trip will be at the UT Vertebrate Lab.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of the plans and meeting time for Fossil Fest on November 7, 8, and 9.

Ron Root

Calendar

Date	Event
November 7-9	Fossil Fest , Old Settlers Heritage Association, Round Rock, TX Setup - Thursday evening, 6-9:00.
November 9	Rock and Fossil Swap Meet, HGMS Club House, 10a-5p.
November 15	Field Trip: U.T.'s Vertebrate Lab, tour by Pamela Owen, PhD.
November 15-16.	Dallas GMS Show, Bigtown Exposition Hall
November 28-30	Chihuahuan Desert Show, Terlingua/ Study Butte.
December	Christmas Party: Pot luck (the club supplies the meat). Bring a fossil related, wrapped prize for the white elephant exchange.

Club Contacts, 2003

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Club Information

The Central Texas Paleontological Society is a scientific, non-profit, community-based organization devoted to the study of fossils, advancing the state of the science, educating the public, and collecting fossil specimens. Most of us are amateurs, fascinated by fossils, who love to collect.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the LCRA building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. (between Redbud Trail and Enfield Ave.) at 7:00 PM in the LCRA Offices Board Room of the Hancock Bldg. **The public is cordially invited** to attend these meetings as well as our field trips held throughout the year.

Annual dues are: \$15 per person or \$18 per family, which includes a subscription to this newsletter, membership in the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, and liability insurance coverage for club activities. Associate membership is \$10 per year and includes a subscription to this newsletter.

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About the Newsletter

Fossil Footnotes is distributed once a month prior to each meeting. Contact the Membership Chair to subscribe or obtain a sample-issue. If your mailing-label has a date marked with a colored pen, it means your membership has or is about to expire. Please send your check to the club Membership officer or bring it to a meeting.

We accept material from club members (and non-members at our discretion) including, but not limited to, information relevant to club activities, fossil collecting, paleontology & geology, and science education. Feel free to reproduce original material contained in this newsletter for educational purposes (including other club newsletters), so long as you credit the newsletter issue and author, if applicable. Send submissions by e-mail or hardcopies to the Editor (see above) at least two weeks before the meeting. Expect some publication delays for exotic formats.

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