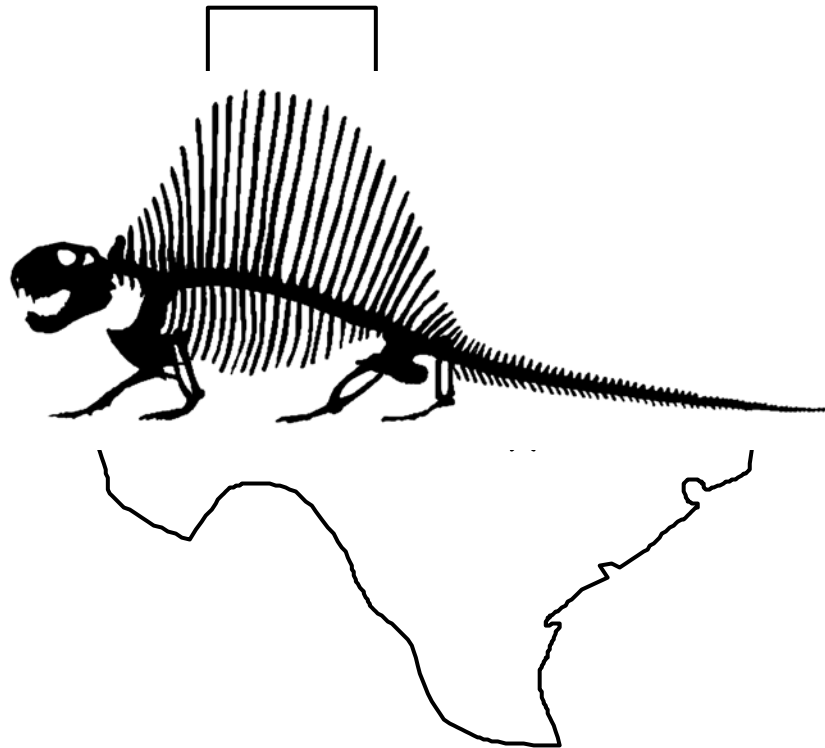


# Paleo Footnotes

Newsletter of the  
Paleontological Society of Austin

Austin and Central Texas



Volume 2, Number 10  
October 2007

## **PRESIDENT'S NOTE**

How busy can it get? Getting the yard and house ready for cooler weather, hunting, fishing, bird watching, birthdays, collecting, baseball, football, *two* fossil shows. (And that awful thing called *work*.) And the weather is sooooo beautiful!

I'm really looking forward to seeing the McNabb's from Iowa at Fossil Fest. We haven't had them come down for years. I hope you are looking forward to seeing some good friends at both FossilMania and FossilFest. Or just out in the field. Or across the table. Please share your time or a dish or two for the show's dealers.

The October field trip is to Lake Texoma. The lake had trees in the water in late June, but has dropped at least twenty feet. I bet that tore a whole bunch of new material loose! So don't miss this trip.

John

## **Minutes of the September Meeting**

Dr. Pamela Owen gave a great talk about past and present bears in Texas. There was a healthy Q&A session afterwards with topics spreading to cover other vertebrates. The Texas Memorial Museum is now open again. There is a new statue of *Smilodon fatalis* outside of the building. See a glimpse in the following UT press release: [http://www.utexas.edu/tmm/press\\_room/press\\_releases/2007/s-cat09-12-07.html](http://www.utexas.edu/tmm/press_room/press_releases/2007/s-cat09-12-07.html)

### Old Business

Treasurer's report

Updated South Central Texas dues and insurance

PSOA won an award for best website. Thanks Mike

UT fossil inventory had a good number of volunteers. ~16 people the 1st and 2nd Tuesday and ~8 people were present the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday. This continues until the fossil inventory is complete.

Fossil Fest / Mania reports

### New Business

Zilker Botanical Gardens need docents for a Fall '08 traveling fossil exhibit.

Imax theatre at the Bob Bullock museum will be showing Mosasaurs in 3D soon.

The famous Lucy fossil is coming to the Houston Museum of Natural History through April 2008. [http://www.hmns.org/exhibits/special\\_exhibits/lucy.asp?r=1](http://www.hmns.org/exhibits/special_exhibits/lucy.asp?r=1)

Next month field trip is to Lake Texoma.

Wally finished the meeting with a very interesting display and presentation of left handed gastropod shells.

- Eric

## Next Meeting – October 16

### "An Egyptian Cultural Tour; From King Tut to theDinosaurs"

7:00 PM

Austin Gem & Mineral Society Building  
6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, TX

Our speaker this month will be Patricia Kane-Vanni. Ms Vanni is a Corporate Attorney in Wilkes-Barre, PA, but her primary avocation is paleontology. She is an active volunteer educator and part-timer at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. In conjunction with this and as a paleontological field worker, amateur paleontologist, and independent scholar, she is the Vice-President of the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society (DVPS), and a member of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP). She has worked on digs throughout the eastern seaboard as well as some successful dinosaur fossil recovery expeditions in Montana in both 1999 and 2000, in England's Isle of Wight in 1999, Egypt's Western Desert in the Bahariya Oasis in early 2000, (The Egyptian expedition video was filmed has been airing on the A&E and History channels since October of 2002 as "The Lost Dinosaurs of Egypt") and the North Dakota badlands in 2006, uncovering a variety of fossils, from turtles to triceratops, even a mummified hadrosaurus! (Discovery Channel BBC filmed this excavation.)

Patti is also an artist/illustrator in the paleontological field and a member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators. Her work includes illustrations of selected dinosaur fossils from the Montana and Egyptian digs as well as numerous other vertebrate and invertebrate fossils for publication. This artwork has appeared in a number of books, magazines and scientific papers.

To top off all that she is also a **singer** and has performed with the Collegiate Choir of the Cathedral Basilica of Sts. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia. With that choir and others she has toured Europe, played the White House, sang the national anthem in stadiums and is involved in theater.

Take a look at her website, and don't miss this lecture:

<http://groups.msn.com/DinosaurandFossilDigs/whatsnew.msnw>

## Fossil Fest Information and Report

From Linda McCall

Fossil Fest is just around the corner! This is *a club* show and we hope that everyone will participate. We have lots of activities planned (some new) and will need every one that can volunteer at least an hour or two of their time to help to do so. Jamie Young is handling scheduling. We will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting, or you can contact Jamie any time to volunteer! We need folks for:

- Set-up on Thursday from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm (pizza will be provided!) We need as many folks as we can here!!
- 2 guys on Thursday at 2:00 pm to help Ed get the tables and cases.
- Admissions
- Kitchen
- Wheel of Fossils

- The Dig Pit (new)
- Touch Table (Sat. & Sun.)
- Daily Group Talks (script provided)
- Somebody to take folks to Berry Creek twice on Saturday and twice on Sunday
- Lots of help to tear down on Sunday from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm (or when done!)

For club members who live local, if you will be unable to donate your time, we would ask that you donate to the kitchen instead. This will help hold down show costs and improve profitability. Items to donate would include 12 packs of soda, bags of chips, hot dogs and buns, etc. Donations can be brought to the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, dropped off to any officer or board member by October 30<sup>th</sup> or brought to the show. Any kitchen questions, contact Ron or Janet Root.

Show t-shirts will be available AT COST to folks volunteering their time at Fossilmania or Fossil Fest? "cost" will be about \$6.00. YAY!

Hope to see everyone there. It's going to be a GREAT show!

### Show Meeting Report:

Seven members showed up for the meeting and to work on Teacher Kits. (Ron and Janet Root, Ed Elliott, John Hinte, Jamie Yound and Linda McCall.) There was a lot on the agenda, but here are the highlights:

- We have 12 dealers signed up for this years show. They are posted on the web, as are the door prizes.
- 4000 fliers are out there somewhere and 1000 more have just been printed up – get them before they are gone!
- Coordinator jobs were assigned
- AGMS will be lending us tables, cases, their rolling drum for grand prizes, tubs and gravel for the Fossil Dig. Karen Richards will be donating time, guys and a truck to pick it all up and take it back on Sunday!
- AGMS will have a table at our show doing dino rubbing and will have a cabbing machine there on Friday cabbing dino bone.
- The committee OK'd a show logo and we will be having t-shirts printed.
- We bagged and tagged about 700 fossils, then ran out of small bags and so had to call it quits, but we are a long way towards completing our 100 kits.

Fellow Club Members,

It's all the new rage! On-line campaigning! I suggest we join in. We have an electronic copy of our Fossil Fest information flier. I am putting it out on the Google website, or you can email me at: [indmccall02@yahoo.com](mailto:indmccall02@yahoo.com) and I will send you one. Please send it out to anyone you can think of that might want to come, or might know someone who might want to come. The Internet can be a powerful advertising tool!

Please bring your donations for the spinning wheel and/or the Fossil Dig to the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dig Pit fossils can be smaller than what we would normally put on the wheel – think Mineral Wells Pennsylvanian and you get the idea! Quality donations are greatly appreciated. We also need you to bring any empty 5 gal plastic buckets, big kitty litter or powdered detergent containers you have laying around so we can store the sand from the little kids Dig Pit when we are done. Thanks!

Who would like to display their stuff? Fossil Fest is the perfect opportunity, but space is limited – so sign up to reserve your case today! Case sign up sheet will be at the show, or you can call or e-mail Linda McCall to reserve one as well. Ph# is: 512.422.2322. E-mail is [lndmccall02@yahoo.com](mailto:lndmccall02@yahoo.com). What a great way to share your “finds” with others. Can’t wait to see what all there is!

Our Fossil Fest signs are getting pretty tired..... so, a sign/banner painting party has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 23, 2007 at 7:00 pm. Email to follow, we will have it at Linda McCall’s house. Come have fun and slop paint around!!

The Dealer Dinner is at Craig Brandt’s house Friday after the show (November 2, 2007). The address is: 6 Oakview Round Rock, TX 78664. As is tradition, please bring a side dish. For a list of do’s and don’ts to bring – ask John Hinte - I got confused!

We might want to look hard at moving Fossil Fest from November to April or May in the future to take advantage of dealers having fresh stuff and to get it away from the Holidays. Please be thinking on that and some possible dates and be prepared to vote at the October 16 meeting. We need to decide before Fossil Fest, as that is when we make the deposit for the following year.

## Field Trip Report

The September field trip to Georgetown was short but sweet. 11 members decided to try their luck in the creek. Ron and Janet Root, Jimmy Hendricks, Melvin Noble, Gunther Oswald, Kathleen Howard, David Lindberg, Mark and Margaret Clark (that last could be *totally* wrong, because I can’t read the sign in sheet – SORRY!), Linda McCall, Suzanne and Ryan Galligher all went wading across Berry Creek to try their luck in the Del Rio. The heavy rains of the last few months had really scoured the banks – so little had had time to weather out. Gunther and Melvin found nice slabs of oysters with scallops from the tan section above the grey, and lots of nice individual *Ilmatogyra arietina* (oysters) were found by all. We tried to go to the Georgetown spillway, but the road was closed, so was Stillhouse Hollow (but we knew that beforehand and so did not waste the drive!) Instead, we went to Smith’s Branch. I think it was David who found the 3 nice *Macraster elegans*. I found one. Ryan Galligher found a nice ammonite in the gravel bars. Tired and hungry but happy we called it a day around lunch.

By: Linda McCall

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES At NPL PRC 'THE WAREHOUSE' Invertebrate fossils and minerals**

FALL 2007

Date: Starting Tuesday evening, September 11th  
And then every 1st and 2nd Tuesday evenings  
Anywhere between 6- 9PM.  
And the 3rd Saturday mornings of the month  
Check with Ann for the Saturday morning times.

Dress to get dirty. Timing is not important. Humor is essential. Bring your friends.

**IMPORTANT:** Give me your name if you think that you may sometimes be able to help  
(GUARD GATE requirement because this is 'After hours')  
**YOU** could be part of this GREAT EVENT!

Many thanks, Ann Molineux, [annm@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:annm@mail.utexas.edu)

### **- Places to Be...Things to Do**

October 17-20 **Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting**  
Hilton Austin, Austin, TX

Oct 26-28 **FOSSILMANIA**  
Somerville Expo Center, Glen Rose, TX

Nov 2-4 **Fossil Fest**  
Old Settlers Association Headquarters, Hwy 79, Round Rock, TX

Nov 17 -18 **Dallas G&M Society Show**  
Resistol Rodeo Arena Exhibition Hall, I-635 at Military Parkway, Exit 4, Mesquite, TX

Nov 30-Dec 2 **Austin G&M Society Show**  
Palmer Events Center, Austin, TX

Editors Note: If you plan to attend any of the events listed please double check the dates and locations as best you can. I was not able to reach all the groups to confirm exact dates and found many discrepancies in other published sources.

The purpose of the **Paleontological Society of Austin** is the scientific education of the public, the study and preservation of fossils and the fossils record and assistance to individual, groups and institutions interested in various aspects of paleontology.

Meetings of the **Paleontological Society of Austin** are held the third Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Austin Gem and Mineral Society building, 6719 Burnet lane, Austin, TX. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Annual Dues: \$15/individual, \$20/family and \$10/associate (non-voting, receiving newsletter)

PSA web page: <http://www.texaspaleo.com/psa/> Web master: Michael Smith: [msmith17@austin.rr.com](mailto:msmith17@austin.rr.com)

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The Paleontological Society of Austin is a member of and affiliated with:

**South Central Federation of Mineral Societies & American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**



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DATED MATERIAL – MEETING NOTICE

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**