

# The Paleo Times

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## EMSP SOAPBOX

By Ryan Fairbanks & Faye Whobrey

If you have any articles, comments, or need to communicate with me I can be reached through the following: [emsp.sec@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.sec@mofossils.com).

### Next meeting

Next meeting is **Friday, January 10, 2014** at 7:30 pm in the New Earth and Planetary Sciences building at Washington University (see more details below).

### PRESIDENT'S BOX

WOW! What a great way to end the year. The annual EMSP Christmas party was held at the Kirkwood Community Center and was a smashing success due to the efforts of many members. Rick Poropat found the great location for us and he and his wife Kay decorated the tables and provided attendance prizes. Several members brought pictures which were put into a slide show that ran all evening.

The entertainment was the highlight of the evening: Carl Campbell mc'd a game of "Dino IQ". The winning table which consisted of several of our more "senior" members won by just one point over the table with a couple of our younger members. Overall, though, our younger members were the best players. The prizes for the winning group were **DINOSAUR CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS**—of course. The only downside to this really funny game is that this will be hard to match next year.

Since our location was not at a member's home (where we could view their private collection) several members brought some really interesting specimens and displays for everyone to view. Thanks to those members.

The food was fantastic: in addition to the cold cuts, Ryan and Abby smoked a turkey and a ham (absolutely delicious!), and everyone brought great dishes to share.

A special thanks to Carl Campbell for a great two years of leadership, mentoring, and experiences. But just keep in mind, Carl, we still need and want your expertise and guidance in the coming years.

Looking forward to our January meeting on Friday, January 10, 2014, we will be discussing committees and looking for volunteers for all of them. The best way to get the most from your membership, help our club grow and provide more learning experiences for everyone is to put your talents and knowledge to work for the club. Besides our committees some of our members have taken on special tasks: Abby Lee has done a super job putting together the specimen box and Steve Bynum has taken over the outreach to our schools. Pat Eicks continues to maintain our website.

Several members will be going to the Tucson show the last of January so be sure to bring your wish list and money for fossils/minerals to the January meeting.

Thanks / Congratulations

Thank you everyone for bringing a dish to the Christmas party. All the food was great! I hope everyone had a good time.

After the dinner we had a short election of a few new board members. The results were:

President: Faye Whobrey  
Vice President: Abigail Lee Fairbanks  
Treasurer: Rick Poropat  
Secretary: Ryan Fairbanks  
Member at-large: Tom Lee

Elections are held at the end of each year, so if you are interested in a position then let one of the board members know.

Also a big congratulations to Abby Lee Fairbanks for winning the Jacque (Jim) L'Ecuyer Award!

The Jacque (Jim) L'Ecuyer Award was created in memory of a great EMSP president that passed away during his term. The award nomination may be given annually to a non-standing board member in recognition to their service or contributions to EMSP.

This year the award was presented by the board members to Abigail Lee (Fairbanks) at the holiday party. Abigail has been a club member for ~20 years and has helped with education outreach demonstrations for many years and is the 2014 vice-president. She is currently putting together a ready-to-go fossil demonstration kit.

### **Welcome**

The club members are on our website so if you want to check out some dubious characters, check out the website at

<http://mofossils.com/EMSP%20Web%20Members/index.htm>

### **Next Meeting (Jan)**

Carl Campbell will be giving the presentation: "A Geological Journey Around Great Britain"

Items to be discussed during the January meeting

- Plans for Spring 2014 field trips
- Upcoming Tucson Show (do we need to buy anything)

A "show and tell" fossil and a brown spoon was left at the Christmas party and will be brought to the January meeting.

Also, anyone who "reserved" fossils at the November show should plan on paying/picking them up at the January meeting.

### **OTHER ITEMS**

As most of you know, Steve Bynum runs the Outreach Program for the club and does an excellent job of it. But he cannot do it on his own. We need volunteers to sign up and let Steve know that you can help. This is a great opportunity to spread the news about the club and about fossils to people.

Please pick a day and time and let me know so I can coordinate with the Rockwood school system for confirmation.

Thank you,

Steve Bynum  
[emp.outreach@mofossils.com](mailto:emp.outreach@mofossils.com)

Abby is still looking for some donations for the fossil kit that will be used for the school Outreach Program. A list of things she would like to see in it is: A big horn coral, crinoid stems, ammonite, petrified wood, algae/stromatolite, mammoth ivory, a large trilobite, Ice Age bones and some amber or copal with a bug.

Anyone interested in donating one or several items can bring them to the next meeting and find her.

### Paleo-shorts

-Original and summary articles provided by members of EMSP.

### New Species of Horse discovered in Ethiopia, approximately 4.4 million years old.

Back in 2001 two teams of researchers found some teeth and leg bones during two expeditions to the Gona area of the Afar Region. This new horse fills another gap in the evolutionary puzzle. The longer legs and wear patterns on the teeth show how early horses began to transition from the woodlands to the grasslands.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/12/131212113030.htm>

### UPCOMING ROCK, GEM OR FOSSIL SHOWS

Tucson Show January 30 - February 16. Tucson, AZ

Cabin Fever Show Feb 14-16. Kirkwood Community Center

Machinist Hall - Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show. March 21-23

### CONTACTS

Do you need to find out something about the next meeting or have questions on the next field trip? If so, please talk to or contact one of the EMSP officers. Please note that the e-mail contacts have changed

President: Faye Whobrey

([emsp.pres@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.pres@mofossils.com))

Vice Pres: Abigail Fairbanks

([emsp.vp@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.vp@mofossils.com))

Treasurer: Rick Poropat ([emsp.tr@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.tr@mofossils.com))

Secretary: Ryan Fairbanks

([emsp.sec@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.sec@mofossils.com))

### DUES ARE DUE

Our treasurer, Rick Poropat will accept dues payment for a full year. **Dues are \$20.00 per household per year-**

payable in January if receiving the newsletter by e-mail. The dues are \$25 for those receiving the newsletter by regular mail. See Rick at the next meeting or mail a check (payable to Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology) to:

**EMSP**  
**P.O. Box 220273**  
**St. Louis, MO. 63122**

### Distribution of the Newsletter by email

Can't find your newsletter, just when you need it for a trip? Then sign up for the e-mail version. This also saves the club money so we can bring in speakers (once we pick some...) E-mail requests to [emsp.sec@mofossils.com](mailto:emsp.sec@mofossils.com)



Meetings are held the 2nd Friday of every month (except July, August, and December) in room 203 of the new Earth & Planetary Sciences Building on the campus of Washington University. The Earth & Planetary Sciences building is on the southwest corner of Hoyt Drive and Forest Park Pkwy. There is a large parking lot just across the street.

# What is EMSP?

The Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology (EMSP) is a not-for-profit organization Dedicated to promoting the enjoyment of fossil collecting. It is open to all individuals interested in learning about the history of life on earth. The club membership includes professional paleontologists as well as amateur hobbyists. The EMSP provides an open forum for the exchange of information and access to expertise on collecting, identifying, preparing and displaying fossils.

EMSP meetings are held on the second Friday of every month (except July, August and December) at 7:30pm in the Earth and Planetary Sciences Building on the campus of Washington University. Each meeting includes an informal exchange of information and speakers on a variety of fossil-related topics.

Weather permitting, field trips to fossil collection localities around the St. Louis area are held each month. Led by experienced collectors, these trips are a fun way to augment discussions at the monthly meetings. The club participates in joint field trips with other paleo clubs, visiting fossil sites throughout the United States. EMSP is also a proud to be involved in partnerships with the St. Louis Science Center and the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc.

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