

The Paleo Times

Volume 16 Number 7

July 2017

The Official Publication of the Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology

Rick Poropat, Editor

President's Corner

Hi all,

I hope your summer is going well. I have not gotten to any collecting trips myself, but I've been enjoying the outdoor season before it hit 100F. As a reminder, our September meeting is usually a summer field trip review so remember to take some pictures of your fossil collecting escapes or museum visits.

My family will be in town after all for the August picnic. I hope to see you all there. Also remember that we have the Machinist's Hall show the following weekend. Volunteers to help set up, take down, and run the booth are always appreciated.

Abby

DID YOU KNOW?

An Oreodont is any member of a diverse group of extinct herbivorous North American artiodactyls (even-toed ungulates) that lived from the Middle Eocene through the end of the Miocene (between about 40 million and 5.3 million years ago). Though the best-known species, such as *Leptauchenia* and *Merycooidon*, are often compared to sheep in size and shape, oreodonts are usually considered members of the suborder Typlopoda (the group that contains camels); however, some studies place them outside that group. Oreodonts were unlike any living mammal group in the structure of their skeleton and dentition. They diversified during the period when Earth's climate was cooling from the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM) about 55.8 million years ago and reached their maximum diversity during the relatively cool Oligocene Epoch (34 million to 23 million years ago). Oreodont fossils are very common in the Oligocene Brule Formation (White

SUMMER PICNIC

The annual summer picnic will be held on Sunday, August 13 at the Kirkwood Park pavilion. Plenty of parking is available next to the tennis courts at the corner of Geyer Road and Adams.

This picnic is a *members-only* potluck event. The club will provide burgers, brats, hotdogs, buns and condiments, plates, cups, plastic utensils, napkins, soda and ice. Participants are asked to bring food dishes to share with others. Please bring table covers if you have them.

BYOB. (beer & wine only please as we don't have a permit for the stronger stuff.)

We will begin to arrive around noon for appetizers, socializing and to begin cooking. The main meal will begin around 12:30-1:00pm.

A silent auction is planned with the proceeds going to the club. Members may also bring their own fossils to sell, with 25% of the sale price going into club coffers. Cash is King!

Volunteer Needed

Faye Whobrey is retiring at the end of the year as our representative to the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs (think Machinist Hall Show). We are going to need a replacement! The major duties of this job are to attend an every-other-month meeting of the committee, take notes and report back to our membership. If you are looking for a way to take a more active role in our club, please consider taking on this position.

V O L U N T E E R

all that's missing is U!

Calendar

Aug. 13	EMSP Summer Picnic Kirkwood City Park Pavilion
Aug. 12-13	Falls of the Ohio Fossil Symposium Clarksville, Indiana
Aug. 18-20	Treasures of the Earth Show Machinist's Hall, Bridgeton, MO.
Sept. 6-17	Denver Mineral & Fossil Showcase Various Venues in Denver, Colorado
Nov. 17-19	Mineral, Gem & Fossil Show & Sale Affton Community Center

Treasurer's Report

The end of June 2017 account balance is \$4,236.59, including \$1,100.00 in restricted funds. A detailed report is available by request from the treasurer.

Rick's Ramblings

I hope everyone is having a great summer! I have just returned from Montana where the weather there (100-105 degrees in the field, no shade) makes St. Louis temperatures seem balmy. More about Montana at the September meeting.

There are a couple of events coming up before our next meeting. First is the annual picnic on Sunday, August 13 at Kirkwood Park. More info can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. The second event is the GSLAESC show on August 18-20 at Machinist show. As far as I know, the insurance issue is no longer an issue so we will be participating again. We will be looking for volunteers to operate the admission table on Friday and the club booth all weekend.

Parking remains a big issue for us at Washington University, due to our usual parking lot and Hoyt Drive being closed due to construction. It is recommended that members use the parking garage on the north side of campus, using only the yellow non-24-hour spots which are available after 5 or 6 pm on Fridays. Do not use the 24/7 spots! The garage is accessible from Forest Park Parkway, or you can look for a place on Forsythe and meander your way to the building. The front door is open, but can only be reached from the Forest Park Parkway side of campus.

I want to give everyone a heads-up that the sale of the Henry Porter collection is tentatively scheduled for September 30 and Oct. 1, 2017. Everything in

interesting things in the shed and back yard. The sale will include more than 800 individual fossil specimens or boxed lots, plus power tools, hand tools and cabinets. A sale flyer will be available at the August show and will also be sent to all of our members. Look for additional info in the September newsletter.

Fossil Parks You Can Visit

(Continued from previous issue.)

Fossil & Prairie Park Preserve:

1227 215th St, Rockford, IA

The park is open year-round, sunrise to sunset, with free admission. You may find brachiopods, gastropods, corals, crinoids, bryozoans, and cephalopods from the Devonian-age Lime Creek Formation. What makes this site great for collecting is that the fossiliferous sediment here has weathered to the extent that often exquisitely-preserved fossils lay scattered on the ground surface. You may keep what you collect, but only for your personal collection. Selling your finds is prohibited. There is an accompanying visitor center that is open weekends in May, September & October from 1-4 p.m. and Memorial Day through Labor Day from 1-4 p.m. daily.

Poricy Brook Fossil Beds:

Middletown-Lincroft Rd & Crawford Rd.,
Middletown, NJ

Late Cretaceous shallow-marine fossils of the Navesink Formation, including shellfish and shark teeth, can be collected from the streambed of Poricy Brook from April to October. For a small fee, the park will rent you the tools you're permitted to use, or you can bring your own trowels & screens. Rock hammers, picks, and shovels are not allowed. You are asked to limit yourself to taking home five fossils per visit.

www.poricypark.org/fossilbedsfossilhunt.html

Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center:

4050 North Street, Blasdell, New York

You may find brachiopods, trilobites, horn corals, crinoids, and gastropods. The Penn Dixie Site will be open rain or shine. Dress for the weather. Visitors may keep all the fossils they find. Additional individual, family, group, scouts, day care centers,

professional geological group trips may be scheduled by calling (716) 627-4560.

Trammel Fossil Park:

12026 Tramway Park Drive., Sharonville, OH
Located in the Cincinnati area, in Sharonville, Ohio, this is a great place to go hunting for brachiopods, bryozoans, and other goodies from the Late Ordovician. The park is open to the public year-round, free admission, and you can keep all the fossils you find.

Information from the Dry Dredgers, who helped create and maintain Trammel Fossil Park:

www.drydredgers.org/trammel_fossil_park.htm

See the official website for more information and directions: www.sharonville.org/188/Trammel-Fossil-Park

Wheeler High School Fossil Beds:

Wheeler High School, Fossil, OR.

You can find fossil leaves and branches from the Oligocene, approximately 33 million years old. You will find similar fossils here as the ones in nearby John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, but you can collect them here.

media.wix.com/ugd/25a2fb_367111be90cd0fa9c9ec7da9e3a0bbda.pdf

Mineral Wells Fossil Park:

2375 Indian Creek Road, Mineral Wells, Texas.
The park is open Friday- Monday, 8 am to dusk. Admission is free.

Mineral Wells Fossil Park provides the fossil enthusiast, paleontologist and student an excellent opportunity to see and collect well preserved "Pennsylvanian Period" fossils with ease and abundance. These fossils have been dated to be just over 300 million years old. You may collect and take fossils out of the park – for personal use only. Surface collecting only is allowed. Small gardening tools are permitted. Shovels, hoes, picks etc., or motorized equipment are prohibited.



Fossil of the Month



The fossil of the month is the rare, spiny crinoid, *Dorycrinus cornigerous* (Hall) from the Mississippian Burlington Limestone of Ralls County, Missouri. *D. Cornigerous* differs from the more common *D. missouriensis* chiefly in its smaller size. Both crinoids have five large spines, plus a smaller spine in the center of the calyx. Another common species, *D. unicornis*, has only a single spine in the center, although a single specimen is known with three central spines. Both common species have been found on our annual float trip to Mark Twain Lake.

25th Annual Gems, Minerals, Jewelry, Beads & Fossil Show and Sale

Treasures of the Earth

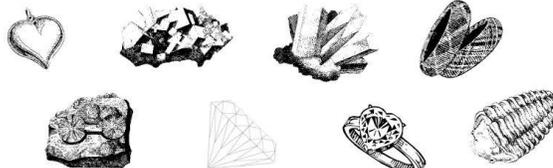
Machinists Hall Auditorium

12365 St. Charles Rock Road, (Bridgeton) St. Louis County, Missouri 63043
1-270 at St. Charles Rock Road

Friday, Aug 18, 2017
3:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday, Aug 19, 2017
10:00am - 6:00pm

Sunday, August 20, 2017
11:00am - 5:00pm



National Dealers (Gems, Fossils, Minerals, Jewelry, Beads and Gifts)
Youth Booth Exhibits Demonstrations
Gem & Mineral Club Information

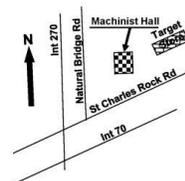
Sponsored By
Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc.

Donations: Adults - \$5.00, Seniors - \$4.00, (62 & up), Juniors - \$2.00, (6-17)
Children 5 & under free when accompanied by adult. All Scouts and Leaders in uniform admitted free.

For more information contact:
Robert Morse - Show Chairman
135 Knox Street
Troy, MO 63078-1343
(636) 462-4123
e-mail: rmorse@centurytel.net

Jerry Kubat - Deputy Show Chairman
1712 Country Acres Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376-3339
(636) 928-1638
e-mail: jkubat7011@earthlink.net

All dealer spaces are filled



The Eastern Missouri Society for Paleontology (EMSP) is a registered Missouri 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 ancient life on earth. The club membership includes professional paleontologists as well as amateur hobbyists. 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 Room 203, on the second floor of the Earth and Planetary Sciences Building on the campus of Washington University. The building is located at the SW corner of the intersection of Forest Park Parkway and Hoyt Drive. Each meeting includes an informal exchange of information and speakers on a variety of fossil-related topics. Note: the building doors automatically lock at 7:30pm.

Club activities include field trips lead by experienced collectors and are a fun way to augment discussions at the monthly meetings. The club also participates in joint field trips with other paleo clubs, visiting fossil sites throughout the United States. EMSP is also proud to be involved in partnerships with the St. Louis Science Center and the Greater St. Louis Association of Earth Science Clubs, Inc; as well as STEM outreach to classrooms, community events and science fair special awards.

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First Class Mail