

**Florida Paleontological Society , Inc.**

**Newsletter**



**Volume 6 Number 1 Winter Quarter 1989**

FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

OFFICERS

President Robert Marsh, 6120 Smilely Street, Brooksville,  
FL 34609

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FL 32218

Past President Phillip M. Whisler, 158 Venice East Blvd. Venice,  
FL 34293

Vice President Rick Carter, 2300 Moccasin Dr., Lakeland  
FL 33809

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Museum Road, Gainesville, FL 32611

Treasurer Roger Portell, Florida Musuem of Natural History,  
Museum Road, Gainesville, FL 32611

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Joseph Latvis, Dade City '91	Eric Kendrew, Valrico '89
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Gordon Hubbell, Key Biscayne '89	Jim Pendergraft, Largo '91
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COMMITTEES

M.C. Thomas Book	Dr. S. David Webb, Roger Portell
Book Fund	Clifford Jeremiah
Scientific Publications	Dr. Douglas Jones
Finance	Don Lorenzo, Gordon Hubbell, Roger Portell
Nominating	Robin Brown, Ray Robinson, Phil Whisler
By-Laws	Phil Whisler, Ray Robinson
Historian	Ben Waller, Clifford Jeremiah, Jesse Robertson
Honorary Membership and Awards	Dr. S. David Webb
Leidy Centennial	Dr. S. David Webb, Robin C. Brown
Membership	Anita Brown, Phil Whisler

Honorary Member - Margaret C. Thomas

Editor - Phillip M. Whisler, 158 Venice East Blvd., Venice,  
Newsletter FL 34293

Editor - Gary Morgan, Florida Museum of Natural History,  
Scientific Gainesville, FL 32611

FSM Representative Dr. Douglas Jones

Contents

A. Fall Meeting Minutes

B. Financial Statements

C. Spring Meeting News

D. Museum News

Florida Museum of Natural History  
Mulberry Phosphate Museum  
Museum of Science and Technology

D. Community Clubs and Activities

The Fossil Club of Miami  
Aquaventures Unlimited  
Bone Valley Fossil Society  
SouthWest Florida Fossil Club  
Sun Coast Archaeological & Paleontological Society  
Tampa Bay Fossil Club

E. Literature Available

Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology

F. Book Sale

FLORIDA FOSSILS by Robin Brown  
FOSSIL VERTEBRATES by Margaret C. Thomas  
HANDBOOK OF PALEO-PREPARATION TECHNIQUES by Howard Converse

G. Distributors of FPS Books

MINUTES  
FALL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 1988

The technical program started at 8:45 AM, S. David Webb presiding. The speakers were: Dan Bryant, Dave Lambert and Matt Joekel, all graduate students at the University of Florida and under the direction of Dr. Webb and Dr. Bruce MacFadden.

Following a short coffee break, Vice President Don Lorenzo, in the absence of President Phil Whisler, called the business meeting to order. He made the following announcements:

- 1) Various handouts will be available at the museum after the board meeting.
- 2) Some of the items listed on the agenda are to be discussed in detail at the board meeting. The board meeting will be held following luncheon in the Reitz Union Cafeteria and will be open to all members who wish to attend.
- 3) Vice President Lorenzo appointed Linda Ivany and Jeri Freidman tellers and they were given the ballots to count.

The Secretary reported that the minutes of the last meeting had been published in the newsletter, Volume 5, No. 1, 1988, and made a motion that they be approved as published. The motion was seconded and passed.

The Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit. Copy is attached.

Treasurer, Roger Portell, reports that Richard Hulbert has submitted a contract for editing the "Plaster Jacket" into book form. The proposal will be presented to the board.

The Secretary reported the membership at 322 paid members of which more than 100 have paid dues through 1989.

Dr. S. David Webb reported a great increase in book sales following the mailing of letters and brochures to various retail outlets throughout the United States and some foreign countries. The brochures covered the M. C. Thomas book "Fossil Vertebrates - Beach and Bank Collecting for Amateurs" and the Howard Converse book "Handbook for Paleo-Preparation Techniques". Select persons also received a brochure about the "Plaster Jacket". Copies remain in inventory. Sales of the back issues of the PJ have increased tremendously since this mail out.

Dr. Webb complimented Gary Morgan on the publishing of the first issue of "Papers in Florida Paleontology". Copies are on hand for members and are being given out by the Secretary. Copies not claimed today will be mailed to remaining members.

Plans for the spring meeting were not ready for presentation but will be announced at the earliest possible time. Plans need to be reviewed by the board of directors.

Dr. Webb reported that the Leidy Centennial committee (Chairman Webb, Robin Brown and Joe Latvis) requests input from members. The committee presented the following plans: A day trip, by canoe, down the Peace River to various sites with reviews of the tailing and geology at the sites. IMC has been invited to sponsor at least part of this trip. The committee suggests a date during 1989 between January and May or in the late fall because of the low water in the river during these times.

Susan Pendergraft suggested setting a historical monument commemorating the location of Leidy studies and also suggested reprinting some Leidy materials into a field guide for general use on the trip.

Dr. MacFadden suggested holding the annual meeting in Central Florida and coordinating it with the Leidy Centennial program.

Vice President Lorenzo requested members to send their suggestions for future meetings and news items for publication in the society newsletter.

Roger Portell announced that this society does not retail books or materials and that members and all others who are not buying at the wholesale level should purchase books through the sources on the handout provided by the secretary. Retail outlets will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

Teller Jeri Freidman announced the slate of officers was approved. Gordon Hubbell made a motion that the ballots be destroyed. The motion was seconded and passed.

Vice President Lorenzo read the names of the new slate of officers and directors. The meeting was turned over to newly elected president Robert Marsh.

President Marsh requested that all committees remain intact.

President Marsh read a letter from Dr. Peter Bennett, Director of the Florida Museum of Natural History, appointing Dr. Douglas Jones to the Board as Representative of the Museum.

Don Serbousek reported on a bone bed currently being excavated near Daytona Beach and requested any interested members to participate in the dig. Time is of an essence.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Anita Brown, Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
FALL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 1989

The annual meeting of the Florida Paleontological Society Board was called to order at 1:30 PM, November 19, 1989, following lunch in the Reitz Union Cafeteria, President Robert Marsh presiding.

Board members and guests present included: Tim Cassady, Clifford Jeremiah, Roger Portell, Don Lorenzo, Douglas Jones, Jim and Susan Pendergraft, Rick Carter, Rudi Johnson, Anita Brown, Mike Jeremiah, Dave Webb, Don Serbousek, Wesley Smith, Fred Williams, Danny Bryant and Ben Waller.

Tim Cassady made a motion that the minutes of the last board meeting be approved as circulated in the newsletter, Volume 5, No. 2, Fall Quarter 1988. The motion was seconded and passed.

Roger Portell passed out copies of the financial statement. He then submitted a proposal from Richard Hulbert to complete the editing of the compilation of the "Plaster Jacket" into a book. A copy of the contract proposal will be attached to the minutes. Any missing chapters for an additional cost of \$400.00. The motion was seconded and passed.

Portell requested input from the board on the publishing of additional issues of the scientific newsletter "Papers in Florida Paleontology". Rick Carter made a motion that the next issue, which is ready to go to press, be printed and distributed. The motion was seconded and passed. Dr. Douglas Jones brought up three important considerations about the scientific publication: 1) The importance of continuity in the publication; 2) Careful consideration of future authors; and 3) Future editors for these scientific papers. After brief discussion, it was suggested that these considerations be presented in a future newsletter to get input from the membership once they have an opportunity to review the current edition.

President Marsh appointed Dr. Jones to chair a committee to set policy concerning future publications and requested that he select his own committee. He was requested to report back to the board at a future, unspecified date.

Marsh called for a report from the finance committee. In the absence of Gordon Hubbell, chairman, Don Lorenzo reported the following: It is recommended that two members of the executive committee be authorized to reimburse speakers at meetings for a sum under \$100.00; that any sum exceeding \$100.00 require consent of the full executive committee. Rick Carter made a motion to accept this proposal. The motion was seconded and passed.

President Marsh suggested that the society set up a traveling exhibit about Florida fossils and paleontology. It was suggested that the exhibit made by Howard Converse several years ago be reviewed for use.

The spring meeting was discussed in some detail with several suggestions made. The general consensus was that the spring meeting should be held in conjunction with a Leidy Centennial program. President Marsh appointed a spring meeting committee: Dr. David Webb, Dr. Robin Brown, Vice President Rick Carter and Director Joe Latvis. They were requested to prepare for and announce in the next newsletter a date and program for late April or early May. Further information to be available at a later date.

Tim Cassady suggested polling the membership about locations for future society meetings so that more people could attend and suggested using the newsletter for this purpose.

Ben Waller announced planning in process for a second meeting on Pale-Indians at Homosassa Springs for October 1989. He is issuing an open invitation to society members. More details will be announced later.

Jeremiah suggested establishing a slide collection at the Florida Museum of Natural History which could be used for presentations by members or students. The set could be the property of this society and used as a fund raiser. He suggested that members could help defray the cost of establishing the slide collections by donation of copies of their own slides.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Anita Brown, Secretary

FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS  
15 NOVEMBER 1988

ASSETS

Cash

Checking	6052.64
Saving	5000.00
Credit	11.43
Total Cash and Credit	<u>11064.07</u>

Inventory

Beach and Bank Collecting (386 @ 2.50)	965.00
Handbook of Paleo. Prep. (83 @ 6.50)	539.50
Plaster Jacket (3018 @ 1.00)	3018.00
Patches (3 @ 5.00)	15.00
Butvar (60 lbs. @ 5.00)	300.00
Total Inventory	<u>4837.50</u>

Total Assets 15901.57

FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
REVENUE AND EXPENSE REPORT  
3 FEBRUARY 1988 - 15 NOVEMBER 1988

REVENUE	
Membership Dues	2432.00
Sales	
Publications	
Beach and Bank Collecting	3340.81
Handbook of Paleo. Prep.	535.50
Plaster Jacket	162.00
Butvar	129.00
Misc. Income (ex. Banquet, Patches)	468.57
	<hr/>
Total Revenue	<u>7067.88</u>
EXPENSES	
Contract Services	165.00
Publications	
Beach and Bank Collecting (Printing & Shipping)	994.25
Handbook of Paleo. Prep: (Printing & Shipping)	0.00
Plaster Jacket (Printing & Shipping)	0.00
Newsletter (Printing & Shipping)	489.15
Meetings	
Annual Meeting	154.50
Spring Meeting	0.00
Miscellaneous	
State Filing Fee	25.00
Office Supplies	2.90
Butvar	0.00
Accountant	100.00
Bank Service	9.56
Miscellaneous	11.75
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	<u>1952.11</u>
Income Over (Under) Expenses	<u><u>5115.77</u></u>



SPRING MEETING - APRIL 22Guest Speaker Dr. Clayton Ray of Smithsonian Institution

This spring meeting, as a part of the Leidy Centennial, will commemorate the first scientific descriptions of fossil vertebrates from Florida that were made a century ago by Dr. Joseph Leidy. A significant part of his work featured specimens from the Peace River which were uncovered by phosphate pebble mining in the river.

This Leidy Centennial trip will include a field trip on the Peace River near Arcadia followed by a banquet in the evening. Dr. Clayton Ray of the Smithsonian Institution will be the after dinner speaker. More details will be provided as plans and times are finalized. Meanwhile, be sure to mark April 22 on your calendar for the Leidy Centennial Spring meeting!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY Museum Road, University of Florida,  
Gainesville, FL 32611

The Florida Museum of Natural History is the museum of the University of Florida and of the State of Florida, with research emphasis on natural sciences and anthropology of Florida, the Caribbean Basin and South America. It is open every day except December 25, Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sundays and holidays 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

MULBERRY PHOSPHATE MUSEUM P.O. Box 707, Mulberry, Florida 33860

The City of Mulberry is the home of the Mulberry Phosphate Museum. The museum houses an outstanding collection of fossilized remains, area memorabilia and educational exhibits on the phosphate industry. Directed by Gary Hacking, it is located one block south of State Highway 60 on State Highway 37 and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 5 PM. Special tours are available by calling the City of Mulberry at 813-425-1125.

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY 4801 E. Fowler Ave. Tampa, FL 33617-2099

The MOSI is the sponsor of the Tampa Bay Fossil Club. Located across from the Tampa SunDome, the museum is open from 10 AM to 4:30 PM everyday. Admission is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children between the ages of 5 and 15. Admission for children under 5 is free.

CLUB NEWS AND NOTES

The Fossil Club of Miami, 9563 S.W. 57th Street, Miami, 33173.

Florida's newest fossil club is headed into their fourth meeting and it sounds like they are on the right track. Their regular meeting place is at the Museum of Science at 3280 South Miami Ave. in Miami. Proposed meeting dates will be the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM. After 3 meetings they already have 17 enthusiastic participants and lots of inquiries. They are planning field trips and Bob Carr, the county archaeologist, will be present at the next meeting to tell of the different fossil sites in the area where collectors can go. Officers have not been elected yet but are soon to come. Contact person for information is still Gail Kircun at the above address or call 305-595-9630.

AQUAVENTURES UNLIMITED P.O. Box 651055, Miami, FL 33165

Bob, Gert and the other Aquaventures members have, as usual, been very active. This club seems to offer something for everyone with the possible exception of a "couch potatoe". They dive, they boat, they fossil hunt, they canoe, they dine, they just have fun.

Fossil hunting, usually limited to the Venice Beach and the Peace River area, hasn't been a productive a Bob likes it but it's been fair and produced a couple pieces of jaw with horse teeth for Bob and some arrowheads for Gert. They also were able to attend the Fall FPS meeting and afterward dive the Ichetucknee River where Bob found some nice microfossils, a "perfect jet black arrowhead" and a hand scraper. He's planning for a return trip and I know he would welcome company. Why not call and ask about Aquaventures at 305-221-1783.

If you like fun and adventure then this is the club for you. The club isn't just for divers either. They offer family oriented outings, camping, canoeing, shelling, cookouts, trips and parties. Bob, Gert and other members regularly travel between Miami and the Southwest Florida area in search of Sun, Fun and Fossils. Write Bob or call him at 305-221-1783. Bob has a great flair for writing and his newsletter is full of ideas for weekend outings and other interesting information.

BONE VALLEY FOSSIL SOCIETY 2704 Dixie Road, Lakeland, FL 33801

The BVFS meets the third Friday of each month at 8 PM at the T.E.C.O. Hall, 101 2nd St. NW in Mulberry. The new President for 1989 is Randy Palmer. They recently selected Bill Smith as their "Fossil Hunter of the Year". Congratulations Bill.

BVFS has been very active with some fine field trips. They have been as close to home as the Peace River and the Sarasota shell pit and as far away as a trip to a phosphate mine in White Springs in north Florida. For information about membership call Marcia Kehler at 813-644-3778.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FOSSIL CLUB 132 Countryman Ave. S.W., Port Charlotte,  
FL 33948

The SWFFC meets the second Saturday of each month at 7:00 PM at the First Federal Savings and Loan of Port Charlotte. This year's new President is Mitchell Hope. Recent programs included a talk by Reinhardt Badow of Venice on "Diving at Venice Beach" and also a visit and talk on by the new President of FPS, Bob Marsh, describing his trip to Mexico and Central America to visit archaeological ruins.

SUN COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL & PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY 1529 30th Ave North,  
St. Petersburg, FL 33704

The Sun Coast Archaeological & Paleontological Society has a fine newsletter which presents articles from both fields of study. Recent fossil related articles of interest included news of Dinosaur footprints in the area of Glen Rose, Texas; a splendid article about the Leisey Shell Pit bone bed and how it may relate to Florida's paleohistory; a great article describing a "whale" of a discovery by Frank Garcia; news of the discovery of what appears to be the oldest known fossil reptile; and an interesting article describing the oldest fossilized insect. If you are not receiving a copy of this society's newsletter then you are missing a lot. For information contact President Ray Robinson at 813-821-0805.

TAMPA BAY FOSSIL CLUB - Sponsored by the Museum of Science &  
Industry, 4801 E. Fowler Ave. Tampa

The TBFC meets at the Museum of Science & Industry in Tampa on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Enough nice things can't be said about this society's newsletter, the "TAMPA BAY FOSSIL ENQUIRER". The club now boasts more than 475 members and the newsletter is one reason why. The recent series of articles by Sam B. Upchurch of the University of South Florida are well worth the cost of membership, the drawings are excellent, the format is attractive and professional. Get a copy and check it out.

The field trips by the TBFC are also excellent and the club is gearing up now for its annual Fossil Fair on April 1st and 2nd which I know you will enjoy. The Fair will be held at the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa and will be open to the public from 10 AM to 6 PM Saturday and 10 AM to 5 PM on Sunday. Not only will you have an opportunity to visit the Museum but the Fair will also highlight dinosaur material, exhibits from the Mulberry Phosphate Museum, junior activities and booths, as well as many other activities and exhibits.

For information on the Fossil Fair or regarding membership you can contact Rudi Johnson, President at 813-839-2291.

LITERATURE AVAILABLE

The Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, Volume 8, Number 4 contains a very interesting paper about Florida's fossil dugong. "Fossil Sirenia of the West Atlantic and Caribbean region. I. *Metaxytherium floridanum* Hay, 1922" by Daryl P. Domning is the first in a series of papers on the systematics and paleobiology of the Caribbean and West Atlantic sirenians, describes the osteology of the Bone Valley dugong and discusses it's relationship to other fossil sirenians. If you study Florida fossils you should have a copy of this paper in your library.

FOSSIL BOOK SALE!!!!!!!!!!!!FLORIDA'S FOSSILSGuide to Location, Identification and Enjoyment

by Robin Brown

Here is a new book, written by one of our own members, that should be on the shelf of every fossil collector in the state. The book tells how and, with map references, where to hunt fossils. This hardcover, 208 page book contains over 200 photographs of museum quality specimens which are much clearer and more detailed than many of the other publications on Florida fossils. Also included are numerous line drawings and copies of three original paintings by Christopher Kreider. The book covers how and where to look for fossils, collection and preservation, identification, history and many other interesting aspects of the hobby.

For a book of this quality and content it is very reasonably priced at only \$21.95 plus tax. It is available at most book stores around the state, at the Florida Museum Of Natural History Gift Shop or from the publisher, Pineapple Press, Inc., P.O. Drawer 16008, Sarasota, FL 34239. Be sure to check this book out. Go to your book store and look it over. I know you will like it.

Here's some comments from some professionals.

"I'd recommend this book for all of Florida's public school libraries. It addresses most of the questions that people interested in getting started in fossil collecting ask."

-- Sam B. UpChurch, Chairman, Department of Geology,  
University of South Florida, Tampa

"This book is scientifically accurate and professional in every respect."

-- Dr. Bruce J. MacFadden, Associate Curator, Vertebrate Paleontology, Florida Museum of Natural History

"One of the best illustrated and put together guides for fossil-collectors on the market."

-- Richard L. Casanova, Editor, Fossils Quarterly

"A truly outstanding publication."

-- Walt Schmidt, PhD., State Geologist, Florida DNR

FPS PUBLICATION SALES

THE FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY DOES NOT RETAIL BOOKS TO THE PUBLIC OR TO MEMBERS. PLEASE PURCHASE BOOKS FROM THE RETAIL SOURCES LISTED BELOW. FPS DOES SELL BUTVAR AT COST TO MEMBERS OF THIS SOCIETY AND TO OTHERS UPON ORDER. THE COST OF BUTVAR IS \$5.00 EACH POUND.

FOSSIL VERTEBRATES, Beach and Bank Collecting for Amateurs, by M. C. Thomas. The book sells retail for \$5.25 for single copies and can be purchased from your local bookstore. The Florida Paleontological Society does not Retail books to the public or to members. Please purchase books from one of the below listed retail sources or your local bookstore. Wholesale price is \$2.50 for a minimum order 24 books. Order requests (wholesale only) should be addressed to Anita Brown, FPS Secretary, Florida Museum of Natural History, Museum Road, Gainesville, FL 32611. Make checks payable to FPS.

HANDBOOK OF PALEONTOLOGICAL PREPARATION TECHNIQUES, by Howard H. Converse, Jr. The copyright to this book was graciously donated to FPS by Howard Converse's family. It is an excellent book on how to collect, prepare and preserve your fossil specimens. Wholesale purchase only through the society. For information contact Secretary, Anita Brown.

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BUTVAR FOR SALE Preserve your fossils with butvar. A new supply is on order and will be available soon. Cost is only \$5.00 a pound (this includes tax and postage). This is very reasonable considering how long it lasts and how many specimens you can preserve with it. For a purchase contact Anita Brown at the Florida Museum of Natural History, Museum Road, Gainesville 32611. Make check payable to the Florida Paleontological Society.

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SEA PLEASURES AND TREASURES 255 W VENICE AVENUE VENICE, FL 34285	SMITH, L.E. MATOAKA COTTAGES ST. LEONARD, MD 20685	SMITHSONIAN INST. MUS. SHOPS SALES AFF. NAT. HIST. BLDG. WASHINGTON, DC 20560	THE GIFT BASKET P O BOX 77 TOPSAIL BEACH, NC 28445
TRADER BILLS 910 N OCEAN BLVD. MYRTLE BEACH, SC 29577	VILLAGE ROCK SHOP P O BOX 678 346 S. CHICAGO HOT SPRINGS, SD 57747		

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## FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

As stated in the Articles of Incorporation: "The purposes of this Corporation shall be to advance the Science of Paleontology, especially in Florida, to disseminate knowledge of this subject and to facilitate cooperation of all persons concerned with the history, stratigraphy, evolution, ecology, anatomy and taxonomy of Florida's past fauna and flora. The corporation shall also be concerned with the collection and preservation of Florida fossils." (Article III, Section 1)

### Code of Ethics

#### ARTICLE IX

- Section 1. Members of the Florida Paleontological Society, Inc., are expected to respect all private and public properties.
- Section 2. No member shall collect without appropriate permission on private or public properties.
- Section 3. Members should make a sincere effort to keep themselves informed on laws, regulations and rules on collecting in private and public properties.
- Section 4. Members shall not use firearms, blasting equipment, or dredging apparatuses without appropriate licenses and permits.
- Section 5. Members shall dispose of litter properly.
- Section 6. Members shall report to proper state offices any seemingly important paleontological or archaeological sites.
- Section 7. Members shall respect and cooperate with field trip leaders or designated authorities in all collecting areas.
- Section 8. Members shall appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- Section 9. Members shall conduct themselves in a manner that best represents the Florida Paleontological Society, Inc.

Annual dues for FPS are \$5.00 for persons under age 18 and \$10.00 for Full Membership (persons over age 18) and Institutional Subscriptions. Persons interested in FPS membership need only send their names, addresses, and appropriate dues to the acting Secretary. Please make checks payable to FPS. Members receive a membership card, the FPS Newsletter and randomly issued technical papers.

Newsletter Policy: All news items, art work and photographs related to paleontology in Florida are welcome. The editor reserves the right not to publish submissions and to edit those which are published.