FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21 NO. 1 WINTER 2004

Notes from the Florida Paleontological Society Fall Meeting, held December 6th and 7th, 2003 in Bristol, Florida.

On Friday night, members of the Florida Paleontological Society met in Marianna. Many went to Jim's Seafood Buffet for a "wonderful" dinner and then headed back to the Microtel for a cozy night's rest. Others opted for a "night of pain and suffering" and decided to camp at Torreya State Park.

On Saturday morning we all awoke to find that the temperature had dropped to a chilly 30 degrees overnight. We dressed warmly, jumped in our vehicles, and were off to Florida Caverns State Park. Arriving about an hour early, we spent time hiking some of the trails in the park. At 9:00 am everyone met at the visitor's center and the group headed into the cave. After being outside in the cold for over an hour, the caves constant temperature of 72 degrees was very inviting. We toured the cavern for about 45 minutes taking lots of pictures along the way. After the tour (and gift shop visit) we went to lunch, then it was off to the Bristol boat ramp and Alum Bluff.

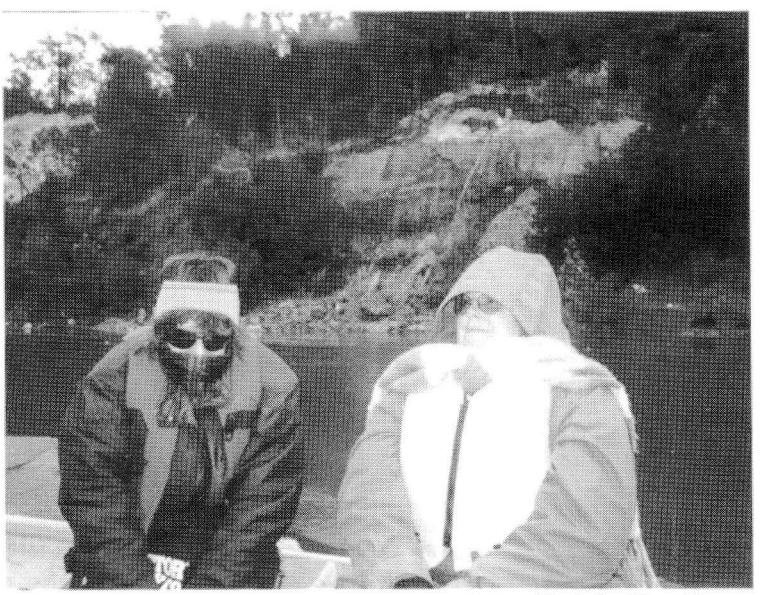


Photo by Tom Ahearn

Shelly Zimmerman and Melissa Cole enjoying the return trip down the Apalachicola River, ending an afternoon of fossil hunting on Alum Bluff. Water temperature 56 degrees Fahrenheit, air temperature 31 degrees, and wind chill factor --- don't ask!

When we arrived at the boat ramp we found that many of those that did not go on the caverns tour had arrived early. Harley and Ryan Means (Florida Geological Survey) were already shuttling people back and forth to the bluff in their boats. The original plan had been to use a larger boat owned by the FGS, but Harley informed us that the batteries to start the boat had gone dead because of the low temperatures.

After the incredibly cold boat ride, we arrived at the bluff. People collected fossils for several hours from the early Miocene Chipola Formation and/or the late Pliocene Jackson Bluff Formation and then began to head back to the boat ramp in small (somewhat frozen) groups. Near the end of the collecting, Harley's son Chandler found a nearly complete *Malea* (gastropod); the second one known from the bluff. Roger Portell immediately "acquired" it from the child and promised it a good home. Chandler decided to donate the specimen to the museum rather than being badgered the rest of the evening (just kidding). When we arrived back at the car it was nearly sunset. We hopped in our vehicles and were off to dinner.

We arrived at Apalachee Restaurant and ate dinner. Afterwards, Harley Means gave an excellent talk on artifacts found in the Apalachicola River. The presentation was well received and included some very nice pictures as well as some artifacts (points) that were passed around. Everyone had a great time, except for the poor people at the restaurant that had to clean up the huge mess from our muddy boots!

On Sunday morning those who camped packed their camping gear and headed for Marianna along with those who opted for "creature comforts".

Photo by Sean Roberts

Rebecca Roberts examines small bivalves weathering from an outcrop of the Jackson Bluff Formation.

About half way there some of us realized that we were an hour early because of the time zone change. Finally, everyone met and headed to a wonderful quarry. When we arrived, Roger gave an overview of the local geology and explained what fossils we might find. After the group picture, everyone split up and began to collect. Lots of Eocene and Oligocene echinoids (sand dollars, sea urchins, sea biscuits) were found, as well as a large *Carcharodon auriculatus* (?=*C. sokolowi*) tooth, crabs, large foraminifera, shells, and corals. Everyone left the quarry with buckets of goodies to take home.

The fall meeting was a huge success! Thanks go to Harley and Ryan Means, Roger Portell, and George Hecht for organizing such an interesting meeting.

Sean Roberts

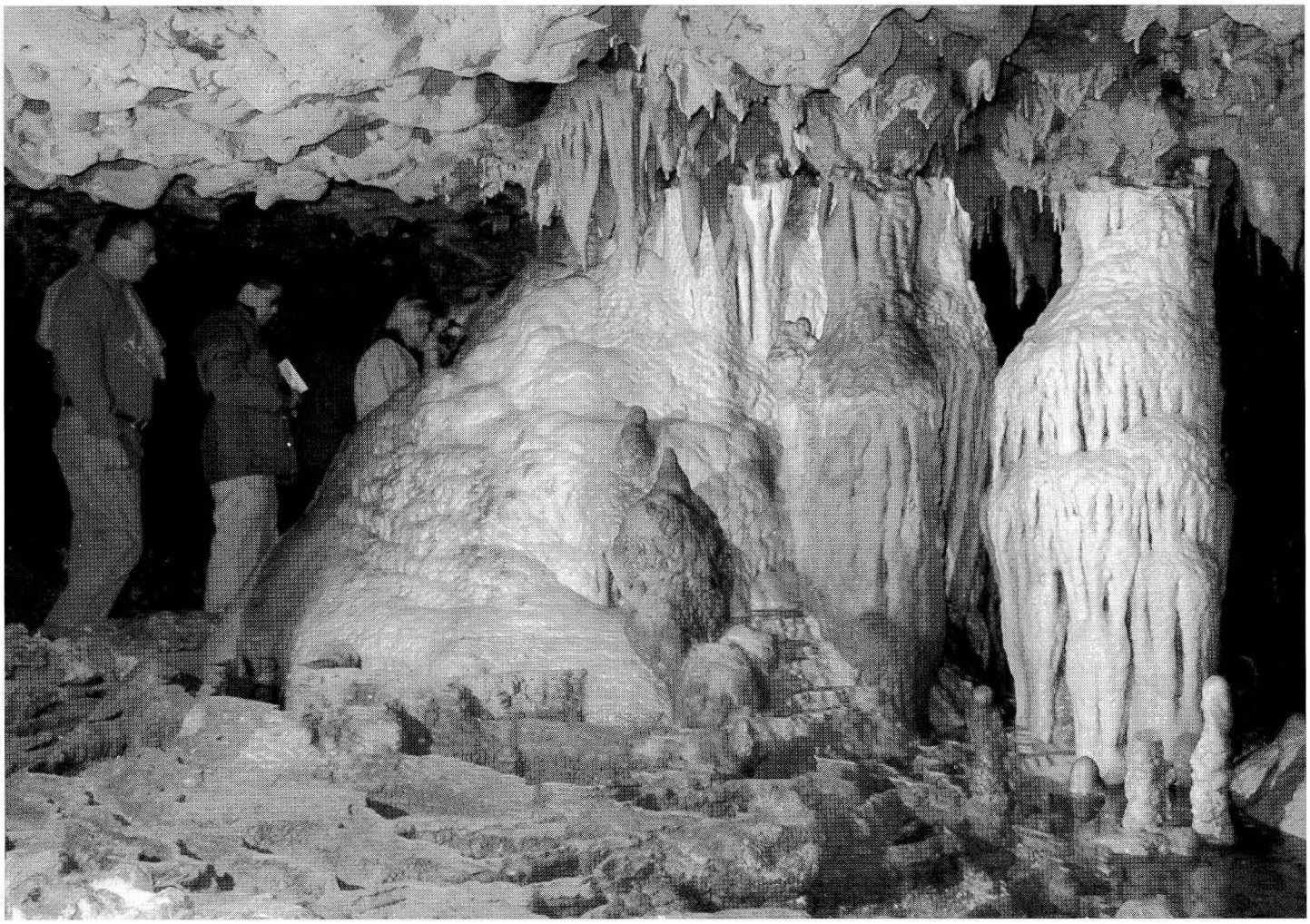


Photo by Sean Roberts

Exploring the columns, flowstone and rimstone dams in the "Sewing Room" of the Florida Caverns. Pictured Ted Akin, Matt Doi, and Nita Akin (from left).

A message from the FPS President, Joyce Bode December, 2003

I don't remember exactly when I joined the FPS, but I have newsletters dating back to the early 1990s. The main reason I joined FPS was to become a part of an organization that focuses on advancing the science of paleontology and in collecting and preserving Florida fossils. I became involved in guiding fossil field trips at Cargill in 1989, and continue to work with the Hardee County Outdoor Classroom all-day field trips.

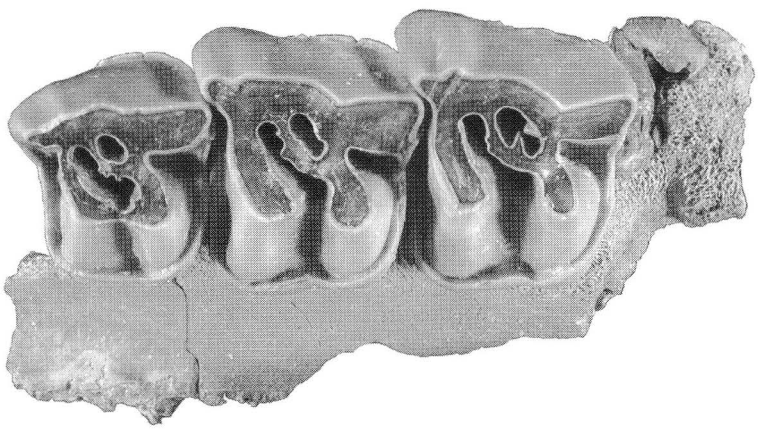
Although I am not an avid fossil collector, I enjoy working with fossil collectors and educators. Being associated with museum paleontologists is a highlight of membership. Our society is an important adjunct to our state's natural history museum and to universities throughout Florida. Just think of all the important contributions made by members of our Society. Furthermore, the Society has funded scholarships and has made it possible to publish important scientific research.

The first By-laws of the society were published in 1978 and revised in 1985. After much consideration and review, the revised by-laws are enclosed in this Newsletter and are ready for your approval. The "Purpose" has been included as Article II, and the Life Membership category has been added. There have been some minor changes and corrections to bring the by-laws up to date.

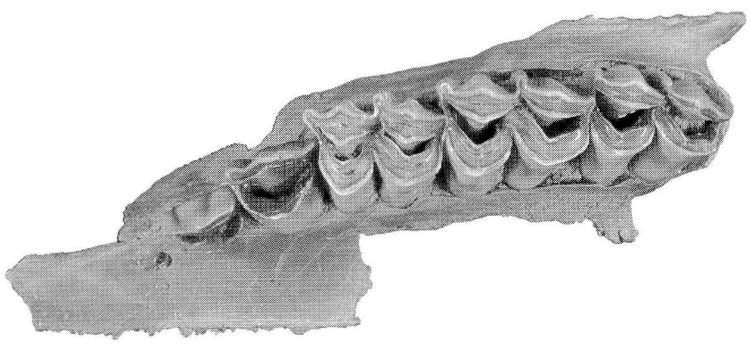
It is important to keep active membership and leadership in our Society. Please consider being an active participant in the business affairs of the Society and in keeping FPS a viable and productive organization of amateur and professional paleontologists. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can have more participation in Board and Membership meetings to keep FPS moving forward, please contact Roger Portell or me with your ideas. My e-mail address is jbode@tampabay.rr.com. I look forward to an exciting and productive 2004.

News from the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH) Vertebrate Paleontology Division (VP)...

With their geological background, paleontologists do not use the phrase "end of an era" lightly—after all some of the most important events in the history of life of Earth were used to locate the boundaries of geologic eras. But the retirement in 2003 of **David Webb** as Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology from the Florida Museum of Natural History certainly qualifies as the end of an era for the VP Division. When Dave started here in 1964, the fossil vertebrate collection had less than 10,000 catalogued specimens, and was relatively minor in terms of scientific significance. Just with regards to fossils from Florida, it lagged behind those of the Florida Geological Survey in Tallahassee, Harvard University's Museum of Comparative Zoology, and the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Now our collection of over 210,000 catalogued specimens places us within the top ten VP collections in the entire United States. Field work by Dave and his students, along with many significant donations from private individuals, has made our collection one of the premiere holdings of Miocene, Pliocene, and Pleistocene vertebrates from the United States.



An occlusal view of a maxilla of* Aphelops mutilus, *from the Newberry Rhino Site.



Occlusal view of the maxilla with upper dentition of the llama* Hemiaucheniua minima, *from the Newberry Rhino Site.

Fortunately, even in these times of tight state budgets, we were able to conduct a search for Dave's successor (not a replacement!). From among the many highly qualified applicants, we brought four finalists to Gainesville in 2003. Our new associate curator of vertebrate paleontology will be **Jonathan Bloch**, currently the Haslem Postdoctoral Paleontology Fellow at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, and a recent graduate of the University of Michigan were he received his Ph.D. working with well known paleontologist Philip Gingerich. Most of Jonathan's past and current field work and research involves Paleocene and Eocene small mammals from the Bighorn and Green River basins of Wyoming, but he also has collected fossils in Egypt, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan. He also has extensive museum curatorial experience at the University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology and the George C. Page Museum in Los Angeles. Jonathan will join us in the first half of 2004, bringing with him his paleobotanist wife **Elizabeth Kowalski** and their newly born son Aidan. Although he will continue his work on Paleogene mammals from the western U.S. and Asia, Jonathan plans to begin to prospect for and conduct research on Florida vertebrate fossils as well.

As might be expected, Dave Webb did not spend his last year of employment here idly. He completed and submitted for publication papers on a new genus of early llama (with co-author **Julie Meachen**), on a bizarre new camel with mountain goat-like adaptations from California (with **David Whistler** of the Los Angeles County Museum), and a review of the terrestrial mammals of the early

Pliocene Palmetto Fauna of the Bone Valley Phosphate Mining Region (with **Richard Hulbert** and **Gary Morgan**). Much work also went into the forthcoming revised edition of Cenozoic Mammals of North America, where Dave once again contributed to both the Miocene and Pleistocene chapters, as well as a volume Dave is editing about the archaeology and paleontology of the Aucilla River.

Bruce MacFadden, Kurt Auffenberg, and other staff at Powell Hall are now consumed with finishing the Hall of Florida Fossils by the set opening date of May 22, 2004. Final versions of the text panels and graphics are being completed and sent to the fabricators at a rapid pace. Newly mounted skeletons of various species have already been completed; others including a spectacular mount of the giant ground sloth *Eremotherium eomigrans* are scheduled to be delivered in January. The specimens from the Tusks! exhibit on fossil proboscideans of Florida returned from a successful showing in Tallahassee, and Don Serbousek's mastodon skeleton (a.k.a. Priscilla) is now displayed in the main entryway of Powell Hall alongside the mounted skeleton of its former neighbor, the Columbian mammoth (both from late Pleistocene deposits in the bed of the Aucilla River).

The humerus of the ground sloth* Thinobadistes wetzeli, *from the Newberry Rhino Site.

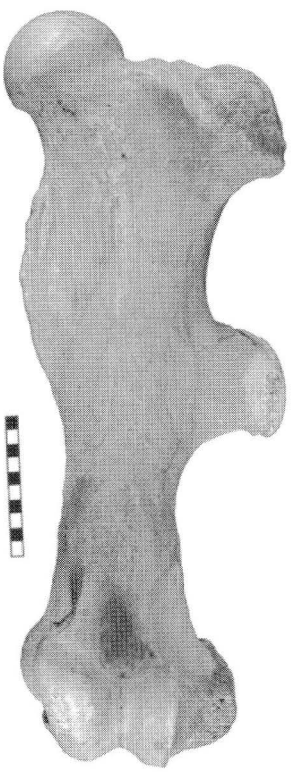
The primary focus of the research of Bruce MacFadden and his postdoctoral research associate **Penny Higgins** continues to be the use of stable isotopes of carbon, oxygen, and nitrogen to study the paleobiology and past environments of fossil mammals. A recently completed project involves comparison of fossil mammals from the early Miocene of Panama with those of Florida. Bruce's graduate student **Joann Labs** had a presentation at the 2003 meeting of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP) on her work using oxygen isotopes to study growth rates in fossil shark vertebra.

Julie Meachen completed and defended her Master's thesis in the spring of 2003 and is now working on a Ph.D. at UCLA. Julie's thesis was a description of a new, relatively small species of the long-legged llama *Hemiauchenia* from several late Pliocene sites in Florida. **Jeremy Green** completed his undergraduate thesis on the mastodon *Mammut americanum* from Florida with the assistance of the FPS's Gary S. Morgan Student Research Award and graduated from UF with a B.S. in Zoology. While waiting to get accepted into graduate school, Jeremy is busy working on several projects regarding *M. americanum*. He and Richard Hulbert submitted a paper on variation in its deciduous dentition to the Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology. This study was greatly aided by owners of private collections, many of them FPS members, who allowed Jeremy to mold and cast their specimens. By combining specimens from public and private collections, Jeremy and Richard were able to study over 135 teeth, by far the largest sample of deciduous teeth ever analyzed for this species. Jeremy is also collaborating with Gina Semprebon (Bay Path College, Massachusetts) and Nikos Solounias (New York College of Osteopathic Medicine) to study the diet of *M. americanum* in Florida using microscopic scratches and pits on its tooth enamel. Jeremy presented the results of this study at the 2003 SVP meetings. As expected, it falls into the general browsing category, but its pattern of scratches and pits do not closely correspond to any modern browser (the closest was the black rhino). They suspect that this difference is caused by greater consumption of bark, twigs, and other woody material by this species than in most modern browsers.

FLMNH museum scientist **Richard Franz** has historically worked on the conservation, ecology, and behavior of a wide variety of modern animals, including the gopher tortoise. He has recently turned his attention to fossil tortoises. He is attempting to use

the fossil record and his expertise in modern tortoise behavior to determine when these behaviors first evolved (for example, when did the gopher tortoise begin to excavate deep burrows). Several studies are currently underway on fossil tortoise specimens from Florida, South Carolina, and Nebraska.

Field work by the VP Division over the past several years has concentrated on a new late Miocene site just north of Newberry in western Alachua County. Richard Hulbert, **Art Poyer**, and several hundred volunteers have collected thousands of specimens, most of either the rhino *Aphelops* or the three-toed horse *Nannippus*. Art has screenwashed several tons of clay matrix from the site and recovered a rich microfauna of snakes, lizards, toads, and small mammals. Among the most important of the latter are *Notolagus*, an extinct genus of rabbit previously known only from the western U.S. and Mexico, and the tree squirrel *Sciurus*. Surprisingly, this is the first late Miocene record of tree squirrels in North America. Art and Richard also worked extensively at a new site in western Marion County found by **Julia Galatis** in the spring of 2003. It is the only site in north-central Florida where late Miocene vertebrate fossils are found in stratigraphic superposition above a bed containing early Miocene vertebrates. The former are mostly large mammals, including *Aphelops*, *Teleoceras*, and the giraffe-camel *Aepycamelus*. The early Miocene fauna is predominantly composed of small mammals, especially a large species of the rodent *Proheteromys*.



An anterior view of the femur of* Aphelops mutilus, *from the Newberry Rhino Site.

Middle Pleistocene land vertebrates (between about 150,000 and 800,000 years ago) are relatively uncommon in Florida, especially in contrast to either the late Pleistocene or the early Pleistocene. Therefore, the recovery of middle Pleistocene vertebrates from a site near La Belle in southwestern Florida by **Mark Renz** and colleagues is highly significant. The site is in a borrow pit owned by the Florida Department of Transportation. To date, Mark's group have collected a number of mandibles, maxillae, and limb bones of mastodon, mammoth, the sloth *Paramylodon*, *Equus*, the llamas *Palaeolama* and *Hemiauchenia*, and the peccary *Platygonus*. These specimens have all been deposited into the FLMNH collection. Other significant recent contributions to the museum's VP collection by avocational paleontologists have been many hundreds of fossils from the Bone Valley phosphate mines by **James Ranson**, a lower jaw of *Nannippus* from the Bone Valley by **David DeWitt**, numerous specimens of either late Miocene or late Pliocene age from the Withlacoochee River, most notably a nearly complete skull of the sloth *Megalonyx leptostomus*, by **Aaron Gipson**, and a sample of latest Pleistocene vertebrates from a site in the Peace River by **Andreas Kerner**.

Among the outside researchers who visited us and studied our specimens in 2003 were: Jacques Gauthier, Yale University (Oligocene and Miocene lizards); Gary Morgan, New Mexico Museum of Natural History (Oligocene and Miocene bats and insectivores); Barbara Edmunds, Portland State University (sloths, armadillos, glyptodonts); Victor Bravo, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo, Mexico (Miocene and Pliocene horses); Bruce Shockey, Valdosta State University (South American ungulates); Robert Feranec, University of California, Berkeley (stable isotope analysis of late Miocene and Pleistocene mammals); and Spencer Lucas, New Mexico Museum of Natural History (gomphotheres).

Richard Hulbert
Vertebrate Paleontology
Dickinson Hall
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-7800

Outdoor Classroom
By Joyce Bode

During the past five or six years, over 20,000 Hardee County sixth-grade students have been introduced to Florida geology and fossils through the Outdoor Classroom program. Kayton Nedza, the Hardee County Outdoor Classroom teacher has developed a partnership with Cargill Crop Nutrition's Phosphate Mining division to bring all of the 6th graders each school term to Cargill's South Fort Meade Mine for a field day.

Each field day includes slides, questions and answers about endangered and threatened species and learning how to identify and protect these species. Phosphate mining operations are shown first hand by allowing the students to climb up on a dragline and enter a pit car. Land reclamation is taught by having the students plant trees or plants in a current reclamation project. Students are encouraged to return to the reclamation site in a couple of years to see how their trees and plants have grown.

The last field stop of the day is the fossil hunting site. This is a highlight of the trip and the students are encouraged to try to identify fossils they find. A collection bag is given to each student that has drawings on it of the most likely fossils they will find. Of course shark's teeth are very popular with the students, but they also are delighted to find dugong ribs, stingray mouth plates, fish vertebrae, and whale vertebrae. They get to take their fossils home so their parents are also introduced to elementary paleontology.

Cargill is to be commended for investing in education and continuing to foster interest in mining, reclamation, and Florida geology and paleontology. Donations of fossils are needed to continue this program as the mining has moved away from fossiliferous areas. Cargill is very appreciative of all donations and wishes to thank those who have donated in the past. If you are interested in the Outdoor Classroom program or if you have any fossils you are willing to donate to this program, please contact Joyce Bode at (863) 701-0077 or jbode@tampabay.rr.com

Treasurer's Report

Greetings from Gainesville! As you can see from the enclosed financial statements, we continue to stay in the black, a result of strong and steady sales of publications, a healthy membership, and long term investment in the FPS through a new life membership category. A one-time payment of $500 insures your status as an FPS member and you will never have to worry about late dues payments. Through the efforts of our President Joyce Bode we have reviewed and revised the By-laws. A detailed reading of the By-laws has reminded me of our legal duties in recording the activities of the FPS. A listing of club members in a directory form is an FPS requirement. Unless otherwise notified all club members will be listed once a year with name and address. **If you would prefer not to be listed please write or e-mail me.** On the subject of addresses please inform me of any changes to either your mailing address or e-mail. Our list serve has been handy for the occasional announcement and for late breaking meeting news. Don't miss out; send me your e-mail address. Another issue is membership dues. According to the By-laws, dues are annual and paid prior to January 1st. Many renewals are coming late in the year and begin to overlap with early payments for the following year. Each year I receive letters saying that a late dues notice has been sent to the wrong member. Dues are applied first to the delinquent account and follow up dues reminders will continue to be sent. According to the By-laws, dues not paid by January constitute a resignation by the FPS member. Please pay dues on time. There are about 30 members that are delinquent one year or more on their dues. Those members will be dropped from the mailing list after this newsletter. We are on track to offer more publications in both the Florida Fossil Invertebrates and Florida Fossil Species series, we continue to offer field trips to otherwise off-limits collecting sites, and are on track to have newsletters on a regular schedule. Please continue to be a part of the Florida Paleontological Society!!

George Hecht
Treasurer

The Gary S. Morgan Student Research Award Winner announced....

Ms. Sarah Corbett, a graduate student in the Department of Botany at the University of Florida was the 2003 awardee. Each year a committee of FPS members selects a recipient for this award from a statewide pool of university student applicants. The $500 award is presented to an outstanding undergraduate or graduate who is currently studying some aspect of Florida Paleontology. The following is a synopsis of Ms. Corbett's project.

Revision of the Miocene flora of Alum Bluff, Apalachicola Bluffs and Ravines, Liberty County, Florida

Background

Located near Bristol, Florida (Liberty County), the site proposed for this study is Alum Bluff. The Bluff exposes a stratigraphic sequence of early Miocene to Pleistocene age sediments. The stratum of interest in the undifferentiated Hawthorne Group, and is middle to late Miocene in age (ca. 15 million years old) (Bryant et al. 1992, Schmidt 1986). Within the upper portion of this stratum, fossil leaves, roots, seeds, pollen, and wood have been collected. Due to the rarity of Tertiary fossil plant localities in the southeastern coastal plain, the site is of special interest. The pioneering work of the Alum Bluff flora was conducted by Berry (1916). Berry identified 12 plant species (based on leaf forms) and one fungal species from the site. Some of Berry's identifications, however, are dubious. More taxonomic information can be inferred today from marginal characters of the leaves, cuticle, and venation patterns than were understood in Berry's time. In addition, recent leaf, seed, and pollen collections reveal new taxa not treated by Berry. Berry's work essentially compared the fossil flora to the modern flora of the Florida panhandle region. Some of the newer finds from the site, however, suggest other floristic relationships.

Plan for Research

I propose to continue collecting new specimens from the Alum Bluff site to find additional species to add to the small flora originally described by Berry. In those leaf specimens where cuticle can be removed, this feature will be used to aid identifications. Representative specimens of each species identified will be imaged. Preliminary work indicates that some specimens already in the collections of the Florida Museum of Natural History are new to science. Additional collections may be expected, and it is likely that specimens yet to be discovered are new to science as well. These new species will be identified and named in accordance with the International Code of Nomenclature. Sediment samples from the zones of interest will be processed for palynological investigation using techniques described by Traverse (1998). Preliminary processing has revealed several distinctive pollen types, including members of the Juglandaceae and Pinaceae. Further analysis of the pollen samples will be done with both light and scanning electron microscopy.

Important information concerning biogeography and plant migration due to climate change can be interpreted from the Miocene plant assemblages from Alum Bluff. Further biogeographical information will be uncovered by comparing the Alum Bluff flora with floras of similar age from western North America, Europe, and Asia. The Alum Bluff flora has already proven to have Asian and western North American affinities, as evidenced by the presence of *Paliurus* (Rhamnaceae), which is extinct in North America today, but was recently noted from Alum Bluff by Manchester (1999). *Paliurus* has also been found in Eocene to Miocene strata in the western U.S., since the Eocene in Asia, and in the Oligocene and Miocene of Europe (Manchester 1999). The presence of *Paliurus* suggests different floristic affinities than those Berry described based on his identifications and suggests that the paleogeographic story of the Alum Bluff flora is more complex than previously thought.

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FLORIDA PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Mail completed form to :
Florida Paleontological Society
University of Florida, Box 117800
Gainesville, FL 32611-7800

New_____ Renewal_____

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City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

1. INDIVIDUAL ACTIVE ($15.00) _____
2. INSTITUTIONAL ($15.00) _____
3. COUPLES ($20.00) _____
4. FAMILY (3 or more $25.00) _____
5. LIFE ($500.00) _____
6. ASSOCIATE (under 18 $5.00) _____

NOTE!! MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR A CALENDAR YEAR AND ARE DUE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1 EACH YEAR! PLEASE RENEW ON TIME!

BIOGRAPHICAL FACT SHEET

1. NUMBER OF YEARS OF INTEREST IN PALEONTOLOGY_____

2. WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOUR STATUS: COLLECTOR ___ OCCASIONAL DEALER ___ FULL TIME DEALER ___ PROFESSIONAL POSITION ___ JUST STARTING ___

3. PRIMARY AREAS OF INTEREST:

	VERTEBRATE	INVERTEBRATE	BOTANY	MICRO
PLEISTOCENE	____	____	____	____
PLIOCENE	____	____	____	____
MIOCENE	____	____	____	____
OLIGOCENE	____	____	____	____
EARLIER	____	____	____	____

4. LIST ANY PREFERRED TYPES (Echinoids, Crabs, Horses, Sloths, Plants, etc.).

5. LIST ANY PUBLISHED WORKS ON PALEONTOLOGICAL SUBJECTS.

6. DO YOU BUY _____ TRADE _____ FIND _____ FOSSILS?

7. LIST ANY SKILLS OR ABILITIES THAT MAY BE OF USE TO THE SOCIETY'S PROJECTS (RESTORATION, PERPARATION, COMPUTER USE, GRAPHICS SKILLS, SPEAKING, PHOTOGRAPHY, PUBLIC RELATIONS, WRITING, FUND RAISING, ETC.).

8. LIST ANY UNUSUAL SPECIMENS FOUND, CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THEY WERE LOCATED AND THEIR DISPOSITION.

PLEASE USE AN ADDITIONAL SHEET IF REQUIRED. THANK YOU!

Payments, contributions, or gifts to the Florida Paleontological Society are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Dues payments may be deductible by members as ordinary or necessary business expenses. We recommend that you consult with your tax advisor.

Former Florida Paleontologist Stanley J. Olsen (1919-2004)

Stanley J. Olsen passed away in early January, 2004. In 1956 he was hired by the Florida Geological Survey (FGS) to revive their vertebrate paleontology program, which had languished for over 30 years. Olsen thus became the first person hired in Florida specifically as a professional vertebrate paleontologist. He published about 23 papers on fossil vertebrates from Florida between 1956 and 1968, most on carnivores. Perhaps his best known contribution is FGS Special Publication Number 6, "Fossil Mammals of Florida", first published in 1959 and reprinted several times. In the early 1960s, Olsen began work in the then emerging field of zooarchaeology and published several profusely illustrated guides to identifying bones that are still in-print and widely used today. He left the FGS and began a successful zooarchaeology program at the University of Arizona. Among his best known later accomplishments was an investigation into the domestication of dogs, which culminated in the book *Origins of the Domestic Dog: The Fossil Record* published by the University of Arizona Press in 1985.

Herpetologist Walter A. Auffenberg (1928-2004)

Dr. Walter Auffenberg, emeritus distinguished curator of herpetology at the Florida Museum of Natural History and author of numerous papers on the fossil reptiles and amphibians of Florida, passed away on January 18, 2004 following a long illness. He received his masters and doctorate degrees from the University of Florida in the 1950s; his dissertation on the fossil snakes of Florida was eventually published in 1963. He wrote three of the original Plaster Jacket pamphlets, on the fossil snakes, crocodilians, and turtles of Florida, respectively. Although he worked on a wide variety of fossil amphibians and reptiles, Auffenberg was perhaps best known in paleontological circles for his work on tortoises and box turtles. He also was instrumental in the discovery of late Cenozoic vertebrates in filled sinkholes exposed by mining in the Haile limestone quarries west of Gainesville, and was part of the field crews that excavated the McGehee Farm site in the 1960s. Auffenberg's primary research focus shifted in the 1970s towards the ecology and conservation of tropical lizards, and he published several well known books and many research articles on extant lizards.

FPS Product Sales
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Shipping and Handling Extra

Butvar-76	$6.00 per pound
MC Thomas, Beach and Bank Collecting	$5.00
H Converse, Paleo Preparation Techniques	$10.00
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Sinibaldi, Fossil Diving	$10.00
Sinibaldi, Paleo Dictionary	$6.00
Papers in Florida Paleontology	$4.00/set
Florida Fossil Invertebrates	
Part 1, Eocene Echinoids	$5.00
Part 2, Oligocene and Miocene Echinoids	$5.00
Part 3, Pliocene and Pleistocene Echinoids	$5.00
Part 4, Pliocene and Pleistocene Decapod Crustaceans	$5.00
Fossil Species of Florida	
Number 1, *Mammut americanum*	$4.00
Number 2, *Tapirus veroensis*	$4.00

To purchase the above items, please contact:
George Hecht, Secretary
Florida Museum of Natural History
Box 117800
Gainesville, Florida 32611-7800

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 cooperations 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 X

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 of laws, regulations, and rules on collecting on private or 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 and 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.

Recent Publications of the Florida Geological Survey

Geologic Map of the State of Florida, by Tom Scott and others, 1:750,000 scale, color.

The new state geologic map, represents over 36 years of new geological data collection. The map illustrates the areal extent of the surface and near surface geologic units, which are color-keyed to the legend. Cross-sections and a generalized stratigraphic column are included on the map. Open File Report 80, which describes each lithostratigraphic unit, is also included with the map. The map and accompanying text may be ordered from the FGS library for $10. Contact Carol Armstrong @ 850-488-9380. You may also download the map from our web site: **www.dep.state.fl.us/geology/gisdatamaps/index.htm**.

Open File Report 85
First Magnitude Springs of Florida, by Thomas M. Scott, Guy H. Means, Ryan C. Means, and Rebecca Meegan, 2002, 138p. Color, with maps and photos.

Seventeen springs, eight spring groups/systems, seven river rises, and one karst window (49 vents total) were sampled from 25 September 2001 through 15 November 2001. The physical characteristics, water chemistry and bacteriology of Florida's first order magnitude springs are discussed and described in this report. Call 850-488-9380 for ordering information.

ANNUAL DUES for the FPS are $5.00 for Associate Membership (persons under age 18) and $15.00 for Full Membership (persons over age 18) and Institutional Subscriptions. Couples may join for $20.00, and Family Memberships (3 or more persons) are available for $25.00. Persons interested in FPS membership need only send their names, addresses, and appropriate dues to the Secretary, Florida Paleontological Society, Inc., at the address on page 2. Please make checks payable to the FPS. Members receive the FPS newsletter, Florida Fossil Invertebrates, Fossil Species of Florida, and other random publications entitled to members.

NEWSLETTER POLICY: All worthy news items, art work, and photographs related to paleontology and various clubs in Florida are welcome. The editors reserve the right not to publish submissions and to edit those which are published. Please address submissions to the Editors, Florida Paleontological Soceity, Inc. Newsletter, at the address inside the front cover.

2004 Paleofest

A Celebration of Florida Paleontology

on the occasion of the opening of

THE HALL OF FLORIDA FOSSILS: EVOLUTION OF LIFE AND LAND

at the Florida Museum of Natural History

Reserve the Dates!

Thursday, 20 May, 2004

FLMNH Members Sneak Preview*

Powell Hall

6:00 pm – Opening remarks

Douglas S. Jones, *FLMNH Director*
Bruce J. MacFadden, *Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology*
Kurt Auffenberg, *Fossil Hall Project Director*

6:15 pm – Featured speaker

Chris Brochu, *University of Iowa,* to talk on "The Real Florida Fossil Gators"

7:00 pm – Sneak preview and guided tours of Fossil Hall

*This event is a benefit open to FLMNH Members. Membership information is available at: www.flmnh.ufl.edu, or contact Jennifer Pochurek, 352-846-2000, ext. 204

Saturday, 22 May, 2004 (Day)

Open to the general public

Powell Hall

10:15 am – Opening remarks

Douglas S. Jones, *FLMNH Director*
Bruce J. MacFadden, *Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology*
Kurt Auffenberg, *Fossil Hall Project Director*

10:30 am – Ribbon cutting and opening ceremony

10:00 am to 3:00 pm – Festival of Paleontology

(Subject to change)

- Guided tours of The Hall of Florida Fossils
- "Stump the Paleontologist" Fossil ID Table.
  Bring your fossils in for indentfication.
  (Fossil experts Gordon Hubbell, Richard Hulbert, Gary Morgan and Roger Portell)
- Children's fossil dig pit
- Other children's educational activities
- T-shirts, sharks' teeth, children's tattoos giveaway
- Talks about fossils, including:
  - Chris Brochu: "The Real Florida Fossil Gators"
  - Gary Morgan: 18-Million-Year-Old Florida Bats
  - Gordon Hubbell: Fossil Sharks
  - Fossil plant talk
- Display tables
  - Pony Express fossil program
  - Fossil prep lab
  - On-line fossil activities and links
  - Florida Geological Survey
  - Florida Spelological Society
  - Fossil photography
  - State fossil clubs
  - Book signing

Refreshments will be available for purchase.

Saturday, 22 May, 2004 (Evening)

Open to the general public

(Location TBA)

7:00 pm – Featured speaker

Jack Horner, *Museum of the Rockies* (Montana State University), will present a talk on Dinosaurs

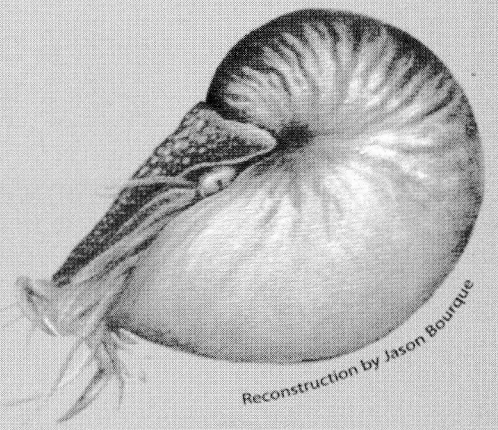
Sunday, 23 May, 2004

Open to the general public

Powell Hall

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Guided tours of The Hall of Florida Fossils



Reconstruction by Jason Bourque

FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

The Saturday activities coincide with the Spring Meeting of the Florida Paleontological Society (FPS).