



FOSSIL CLUB OF LEE COUNTY

JUNE 2017

Letter from the President

This month the meeting is our annual **SHOW AND TELL AND TRADE AND SELL** meeting. Come and have fun, at a different sort of meeting than our usual one!

Do you know about the site: morphosource.org? It is free and you can download skulls and parts and send it to a 3 D printer, either your own or a place that has one. Not too much, yet, on this site, but new fossils are being added so keep an eye on it! 3D printing is a great way to get replica fossils!

Dr. John Taraska is returning! He had a brain bleed, while at home in Illinois, and has been recovering. He's finally getting to come back and visit SW Florida!! When you see him at the meeting, wish him well!

I spoke with Eddie Rucks, from the Crystal Mine, Ruck's Pit. We are planning a trip to visit, at a slightly reduced club rate, so be ready to sign up at the meeting! If you're curious check it out: <https://www.facebook.com/The-Fort-Drum-Crystal-Mine-497100650319718/> or Google, Ft Drum Crystal Mine.

Refreshments this month will be Sue Rhodes. July will be Leslie Stieffel. August will be Edgar Jestes. Thank all of you in advance!

Orlando Fossil Club show will be October 28 and 29.

The National Fossil Day celebration this year will be held at FLMNH in Gainesville, on November 4. We plan on having a presence there. And, also, possibly a long weekend with other activities planned!

Future speakers at meetings are in the works, but no firm commitments at this time to announce.

Last month's speaker, Sean Moran was very interesting. He has promised to send me some links to access the fossil info on the FLMNH site. These will be published in a future newsletter.

Don't forget to check out the club's facebook page! Lots of great postings there!! Hope this link works! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/378838762286864/>

If not, just look for FCOLC on Facebook.

Season is winding down, but LOTS of fossils have been discovered this season. Make sure you keep track of what you found on any state owned lands or water-bottoms to put on your fossil permit renewal. And don't forget to renew!!

Bring some of those fossils in for show and tell!

See ya at the meeting!!

Louis Stieffel

President
Fossil Club of Lee County



Meeting Minutes May 2017

Meeting called to order by president Louis Stieffel

Intros made for new members of \$1 raffler-Joe Larkin, Club store operators Dave and Jeanne Seehaver, Treasurer Al Govin, Librarian Cindy Bateman, and new Vice president Leslie Stieffel
Past trips were discussed.

Possible future trips were discussed; Ruck's pit, Gary Schmeltz and shell pits, river trips, and National Fossil day with a FLMNH collections tour.

Louis discussed a bit of the club's history

Al gave a detailed treasurer's report

Speaker Sean Moran presented an overview of the fossil collection of the FI Museum of natural History, and ways for us to access it.

Break. Refreshment person tonight is Tara Coulter

Show and tell.

\$1 raffle numbers were called.

Meeting adjourned.

Al Govin--Secretary

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Al Govin, Club Trips Director
Curt Klug, Web Master
Cherie Jacobs, Newsletter Developer
Al Govin, Badges, Membership, Trips
Cindy Bateman, Librarian
Dave and Jeanne Seehaver, Merchandise
Dean Hart, Refreshment
Joe Larkin, \$1 Raffle
Lou and Valerie Rahn, Festival Organizers
Louis Stieffel, Auctioneer, FOSSIL project representative, Newsletter editor, Speakers, Vertebrate Education

Here is a site that has every river and creek mapped **for the whole state**, separated by county. Click on the zoomify tab below each map to zoom in. Enjoy !

Save to your desktop so you can find and use it often!

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/maps/galleries/hydrography/index.php>

Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall at
Zion Lutheran Church , 7401 Winker Road, Fort Myers, FL 33919

Websites & Locations of Interest

Fossil Club of Lee County: www.fcolc.com

FCOLC Fossil Club of Lee County, Inc. c/o AL GOVIN
TREASURER
3584 MIDDLETOWN ST. PORT CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA 33952

The FCOLC website is a source for links to Fossil websites of interest, archived monthly club newsletters, details on club meetings and officers.

Museum of Natural History @ Gainesville www.flmnh.ufl.edu/

The Fossil Project www.myFOSSIL.org

Randell Research Center PO Box 608, Pineland, FL www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/

Smithsonian Natural History Museum www.mnh.si.edu

Southwest Florida Museum of History 2031 Jackson St., Fort Myers www.MUSEUMofHISTORY.org

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum, 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL www.shellmuseum.org

Cracker Museum at Pioneer Park in Zolfo Springs, FL Tel 863.735.0119

www.hardeecounty.net/crackertrailmuseum/about.html

Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife Burrowing Owls

www.ccfriendsofwildlife.org

Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium 3450 Ortiz Av, Fort Myers Tel 239-275-3435

www.calusanature.org

Imaginarium 2000 Cranford Ave, Fort Myers

www.i-sci.org

Florida Fossil Clubs

Southwest Florida Fossil Club

www.southwestfloridafossilclub.com

Tampa Bay Fossil Club

www.tampabayfossilclub.com

Orlando Fossil Club

www.floridafossilhunters.com

The Fossil Forum

www.thefossilforum.com/index.php

Fossil Treasures of Florida

www.fossil-treasures-of-florida.com

Florida Paleontological Society

<http://floridapaleosociety.com/>

Collecting Vertebrate Fossils on Florida state lands **requires** a permit. A fossil hunting permit is also part of being an ethical Florida fossil hunter.

Florida Vertebrate **Fossil Permit** <http://flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/vertpaleo/vppermit.htm>

Peace River Water Levels

<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/fl/nwis/rt>

Picking Up Isolated Native American Artifacts www.flheritage.com/news/faq.cfm

JUNE MEETING!!

SHOW AND TELL AND TRADE AND SELL!! Yes, it that time again!! Time to show off your finds, trade with others if you want, or buy and sell among members! We do this once a year and it's a totally different meeting! Come and have fun!

SHOW AND TELL
AND TRADE AND SELL

PEACE RIVER STATE FOREST

A RECENT ACQUISITION BY THE STATE AND DESIGNATION AS STATE FOREST HAS PUT ABOUT 8 MILES OF THE PEACE RIVER AND HORSE CREEK OFF LIMITS TO FOSSIL COLLECTING. YOU SHOULD CHECK OUT THESE LINKS AND READ AND FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THESE BOUNDARIES SO YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS.

Peace River State Forest--Links:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/news/20141227/preservation-potential-on-the-peace-river>

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Florida-Forest-Service/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Peace-River-State-Forest>

Aimeee's Corner!!

West Virginia Fossils

I recently went on my fourth annual visit to West Virginia where I stay with a friend in her old family farmhouse and besides enjoying the stellar views and zen-like relaxation, we also comb the plowed corn fields looking for little arrowheads. I don't know why but I've never really considered hunting for fossils while I'm there but on this visit we were driving through the mountains near her home when we passed an area on the side of the road where people had obviously been digging. WAIT A MINUTE! "Could we go back there, right quick, and see what they've been digging for?" My patient friend was happy to oblige. Scanning the scattered rocks I saw lots of brachiopods, many still with nacre, and was overjoyed to find a 4" wide mid-section of a trilobite which was later identified for me as *Dipleura* from the late Ordovician to the mid Devonian. My friends are very accepting of my eccentricities when it comes to rocks and fossils so I try not to push their limits and instead, Tom and I decided to return the next day with a box of tools from one of my friend's outbuildings because I KNEW I was going to find several more trilobites.

I was wrong. Sigh. They proved elusive and I only found the smallest fragments of the large trilobites, and a couple of small specimens. Normally I don't get that excited about shells but the brachiopods were beautiful and the matrix easy to work with so I collected some of those instead. I was also intrigued by multiple impressions in the rocks that looked like the marks left by drywall screws. A fossil friend ID'd them as tentaculites and this was my first experience with them. I did some research and they are a bit of a mystery fossil with an uncertain taxonomic classification. I'm going to continue my research, including the best way to "catch" more trilobites and next May I'll plan to leave the cornfields for a couple of days to play in the rocks.



Aimeee's Corner!!



**spiriferid
brachiopod**



tentaculites



gastropod

Aimeee's Corner!!



paramylodon harlani



ground sloth

Zachary Deyo Fossil Club Of Lee County

May 19

Sanibel STEM night fossil exhibit.

"Remember it is our goal to teach the next generation
and get them interested in our hobby.
You never know who you'll inspire, and it's a lot of fun"
— with [Dave Deyo](#).



**Getting deep in the river!!
With the river so low, access is possible to holes that were too
deep before! Hunting the Peace with Ken Folmann!**





Show and Tell

[Kyle Clements](#)-- [Fossil Club Of Lee County](#)

Rib bone with severe bite marks! You can easily see the serrations from the shark tooth!



Show and Tell

4" Meg tooth that bit itself!! Tooth fell out and was bitten by other teeth in the jaw!



Show and Tell

recent finds by Pam Plummer!
Capybara and Mammoth



Show and Tell

Glyptodont. Found in Myakkahatchee Creek, by Louis Stieffel



GIANT ARMADILLO!

A GREAT EXAMPLE OF WHERE/HOW THOSE DERMAL SKUTES BELONG ON THE GIANT ARMADILLO! HOPE THIS HELPS!



Pinfish teeth

MICRO FOSSILS CAN BE AN EXCITING WAY TO FOSSIL HUNT/ COLLECT. THERE ARE LOTS OF THEM IN THE FOSSIL MATRIX AND THEY TAKE UP VERY LITTLE ROOM. ALSO, LOTS OF VARIETY! HERE IS AN EXAMPLE OF MICRO-FOSSILS THAT YOU WON'T FIND WITHOUT THAT MAGNIFYING GLASS!

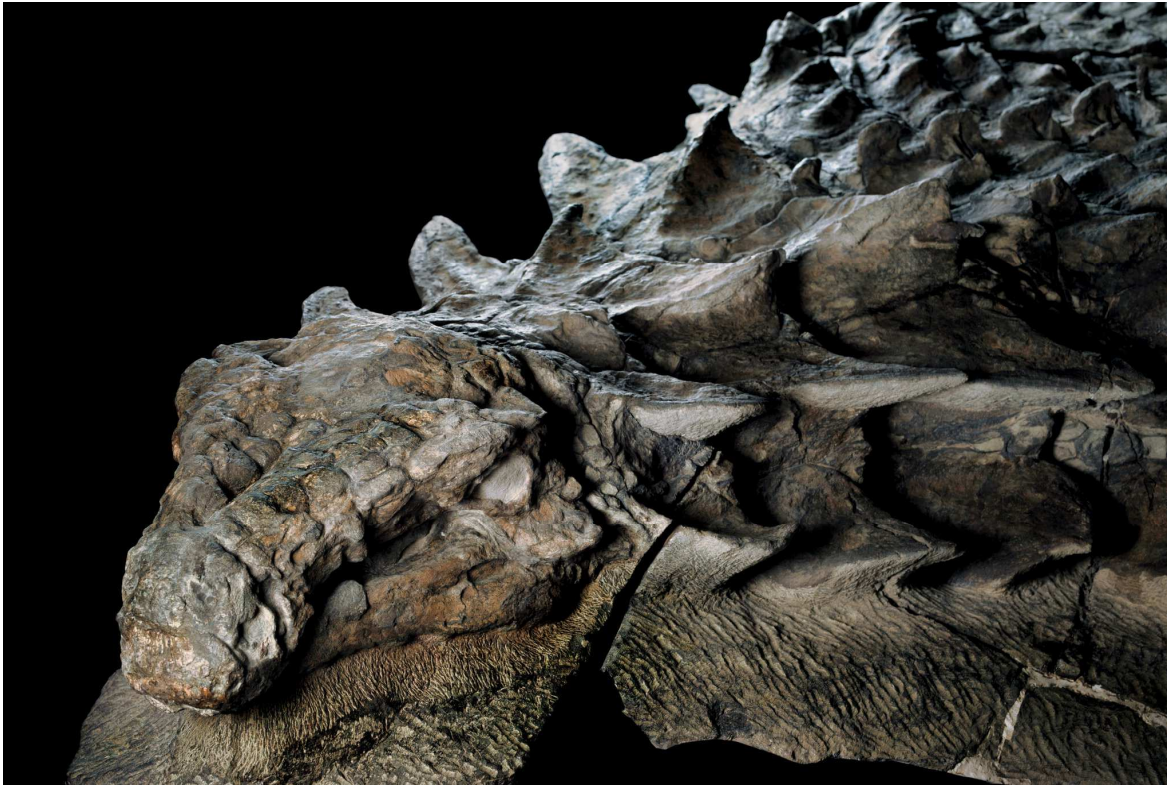


'Dinosaur Mummy' Emerges From the Oil Sands of Alberta

By CRAIG S. SMITH

MAY 12, 2017

NY TIMES



A 110 million-year-old fossil of an armored, plant-eating dinosaur called a nodosaur is the best-preserved specimen of its kind. Credit Robert Clark/National Geographic

The animal probably died as it lived — defying predators with its heavy armor and size — and after 110 million years, its face remains frozen in a ferocious reptilian glare.

How the animal, a land-dwelling, plant-eating nodosaur, died is not known, but somehow its body ended up at the bottom of an ancient sea. Minerals kept the remains remarkably intact, gradually turning the body into a fossil. And when it was unearthed in 2011, scientists quickly realized that it was the best-preserved specimen of its kind.

“It’s basically a dinosaur mummy — it really is exceptional,” said Don Brinkman, director of preservation and research at the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Drumheller, Alberta. The dinosaur, with fossilized skin and gut contents intact, came from the Millennium Mine six years ago in the [oil sands](#) of northern Alberta, once a seabed.

That sea was full of life, teeming with giant reptiles that grew as long as 60 feet, while its shores were traversed by massive dinosaurs for millions of years. The area has been coughing up fossils since the beginning of recorded time.

“The shovel operator at the mine saw a block with a funny pattern and got in touch with a geologist,” Dr. Brinkman said. “We went up and collected it.” The fossil, photographed for the June issue of [National Geographic](#), went on display on Friday.

Alberta law designates all fossils the property of the province, not of the owners of the land where they are found. Most are discovered after being exposed by erosion, but mining has also proved a boon to paleontologists.

Dr. Brinkman said the museum was careful not to inhibit industrial activity when retrieving fossils so that excavators weren’t afraid to call when they found something. “These are specimens that would never be recovered otherwise,” Dr. Brinkman said. “We get two or three significant specimens each year.”

RIVER LEVELS ARE STARTING TO RISE!!

Rainy season is starting. Soon, the super low river and creek water levels will be in the past! You better hunt them while you can!

The Peace at Zolfo is stable but rains lower down has caused the lower river to start rising. It's still low, but this is the month it usually ends hunting there for us.

