



# **FOSSIL CLUB OF LEE COUNTY**

**JULY 2018**

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## **Letter from the President**

After getting over seven inches of rain, at my house, in two days, I realize that the rainy season is in 100% full beast mode! NO river or creek hunting till the end of the year! So, guys, if you want to fossil hunt, I suggest looking at every pile of dirt along the roads, any new house pads, new constructions that require digging, any new golf courses, or housing developments. Also, walk the beach at Casperson, Mannisota, Englewood, and Venice. Or, better yet, DIVE Venice, if you can. But, until the rains stop, and the water level falls, you gotta get creative! Good luck! Bring in to meetings any of your show and tell finds!!

I am putting out a call for a club member, who owns-and uses- a computer, to consider doing the monthly club newsletter. We have had several different newsletter editors over the years, and presently I am doing it. However, if you have a creative bent, this may be for you! As president, I submit this letter to you each month. And, many of the contents are static, and only needs a minor change once in a while. Other than that, you would have creative license to include whatever bits and news and pics of fossils and paleontology that your heart desires! The best part of all of this is you don't have to be a whiz at it! The way I have it set up at present, is that I gather all the information and send it off to Cherie, our newsletter developer! SHE puts it all together in the format you see, sends it back to me for double-check and approval, and is of,, it's done! Then I forward the completed newsletter to the treasurer, Al Govin, who has the digital membership list, and he forwards it out to everyone. Well, YOU could be that person instead of me!! You want to show some fossils? Do it! You want to talk about our lack of Florida dinosaurs? Our FLMNH ongoing fossil digs in Montbrook? A members's great fossil find? Then DO IT! So, whatta ya think?? Let me know if interested. I will be glad to help any way I can. This is your chance to be famous!



The meeting this month, July, will be fossil matrix hunting!! Bring a magnifying glass, as the sieved, clean matrix we will be using has some very small fossils in it. Coming from the famous Lee Creek mine, in Aurora, North Carolina, it has some nice teeth, and other fossils in it. Don't miss the fun! The Excitement! The adrenaline rush of discovery!! First one to find a fossil nurse shark tooth gets to yell!

As of now, a speaker has not been locked in for the August meeting. If none, I will be doing an extensive fossil Identification presentation.

More hurricanes this time of the year. Please prepare now, so we don't have to worry about ya!

See you at the meeting!

Louis Stieffel  
President  
Fossil Club of Lee County



**OFFICERS**

Louis Stieffel, President  
239-851-7499, [cape187@earthlink.net](mailto:cape187@earthlink.net)  
Leslie Stieffel, Vice President  
239-980-6311, [cape187@earthlink.net](mailto:cape187@earthlink.net)  
Al Govin, Secretary, Treasurer  
239-910-2339, [algovin1@hotmail.com](mailto:algovin1@hotmail.com)

**DIRECTORS**

Dean Hart.....941-979-8217  
Dave Seehaver  
Jeanne Seehaver  
Dr. John Taraska  
Travis Willis

**COMMITTEES**

Al Govin, Club Trips Director  
Curt Klug, Web Master  
Cherie Jacobs, Newsletter Developer  
Al Govin, Badges, Membership, Trips  
Travis Willis , Club Trips  
Cindy Bateman, Librarian  
Dave and Jeanne Seehaver, Merchandise  
Dean Hart, Refreshment  
Victoria O'Toole, \$1 Raffle  
Dawn Linda Borys Markoski, 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](http://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/](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/)

[The Fossil Project](#) [www.myFOSSIL.org](http://www.myFOSSIL.org)

[Randell Research Center](#) PO Box 608, Pineland, FL [www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/)

[Smithsonian Natural History Museum](#) [www.mnh.si.edu](http://www.mnh.si.edu)

[Southwest Florida Museum of History](#) 2031 Jackson St., Fort Myers [www.MUSEUMofHISTORY.org](http://www.MUSEUMofHISTORY.org)

[The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum](#), 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL [www.shellmuseum.org](http://www.shellmuseum.org)

[Cracker Museum at Pioneer Park](#) in Zolfo Springs, FL Tel 863.735.0119

[www.hardeecounty.net/crackertrailmuseum/about.html](http://www.hardeecounty.net/crackertrailmuseum/about.html)

[Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife Burrowing Owls](#)

[www.ccfriendsofwildlife.org](http://www.ccfriendsofwildlife.org)

[Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium](#) 3450 Ortiz Av, Fort Myers Tel 239-275-3435

[www.calusanature.org](http://www.calusanature.org)

[Imaginarium 2000](#) Cranford Ave, Fort Myers

[www.i-sci.org](http://www.i-sci.org)

### Florida Fossil Clubs

Southwest Florida Fossil Club

[www.southwestfloridafossilclub.com](http://www.southwestfloridafossilclub.com)

Tampa Bay Fossil Club

[www.tampabayfossilclub.com](http://www.tampabayfossilclub.com)

Orlando Fossil Club

[www.floridafossilhunters.com](http://www.floridafossilhunters.com)

The Fossil Forum

[www.thefossilforum.com/index.php](http://www.thefossilforum.com/index.php)

Fossil Treasures of Florida

[www.fossil-treasures-of-florida.com](http://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](http://www.flheritage.com/news/faq.cfm)

**If you find an Indian artifact, such as an arrowhead, on Florida state lands or river bottom, be aware that possession of an Indian artifact found on state lands after 2004 is a Class 3 Felony.**

## FCOLC Minutes June 21, /2018

President Louis Stieffel called the meeting to order.

35 members present. This is the annual show and tell and trade and sell meeting

Volunteers to run for all offices of club requested.

Matrix hunting will be held at the July meeting. If you have a favorite magnifying glass bring it along.

Reminded everyone rivers and creeks to high to hunt & will stay until December.

General discussion was held asking all members to seek out places to hunt for the club.

National Fossil Day is upcoming.

FCOLC Fossil Fest will be held February 23, 2019.

To contact fossil show coordinator call 845 494-7312.

Club reminded to use Amazon Smile and help out the club with donations.

At all future meetings snacks like this evening will be had.

Door Prizes were awarded.

No dollar raffle due to evenings events.

Show and tell was held along with individual sales.

Minutes by Al Govin

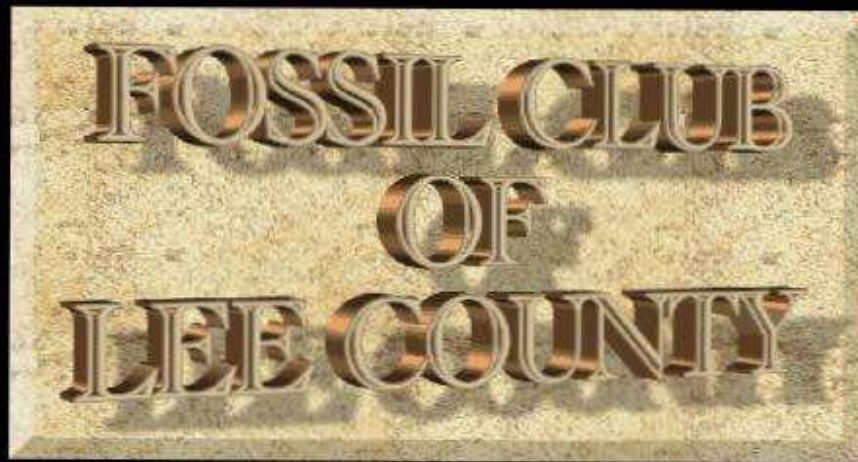
Secretary/Treasurer

Here is a terrific idea, brought to the club's attention by Valerie Rahn! Seems that Amazon will donate a portion of any purchase you make—to the Fossil Club of Lee County!! But, you need to register with Amazon, to be able to have this work. It cost you nothing, and you still shop exactly the same as you normally would. Valerie posted these instructions on our FCOLC Facebook page. I copied them here. **THIS IS A GOOD THING!! PLEASE do this!**  
Thank you VALERIE!!



Please Help Us with our Community Outreach and our scholarships  
by  
Making us Your **AMAZON Smile** Contribution

1. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)
2. Select: **Fossil Club of Lee County, Inc.** as your Non-profit.
3. Use [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) every time you shop Amazon will donate a portion of the proceeds to us.
4. It costs nothing but can mean everything.
5. **THANK YOU!!**



The Fossil Club of Lee County, Inc. is an organization of people interested in the fossils of southern Florida and all points beyond. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. The Zion Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall is located at: 7401 Winkler Road, Ft Myers, FL 33919.

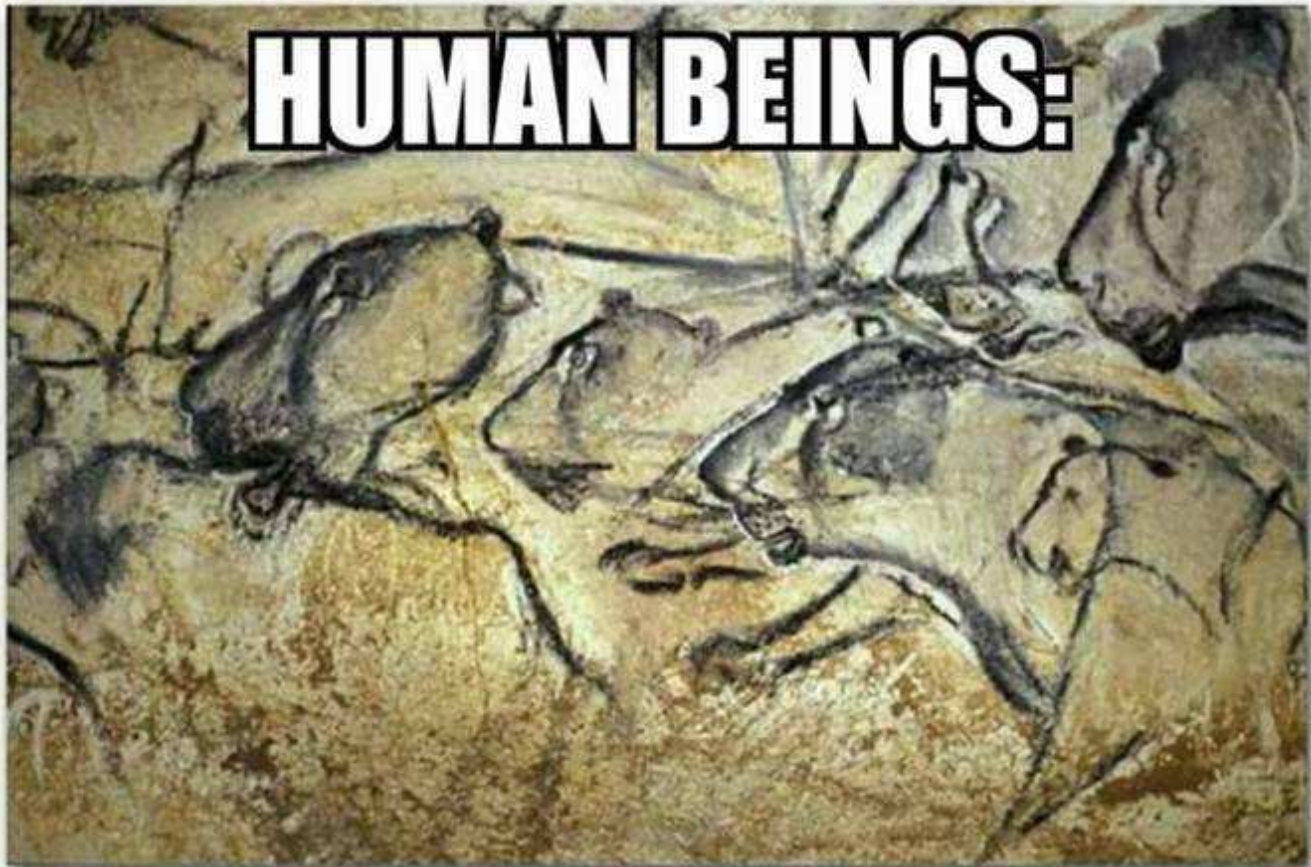
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/378838762286864/>

For those of you who ask what books to get-- here's a great group!

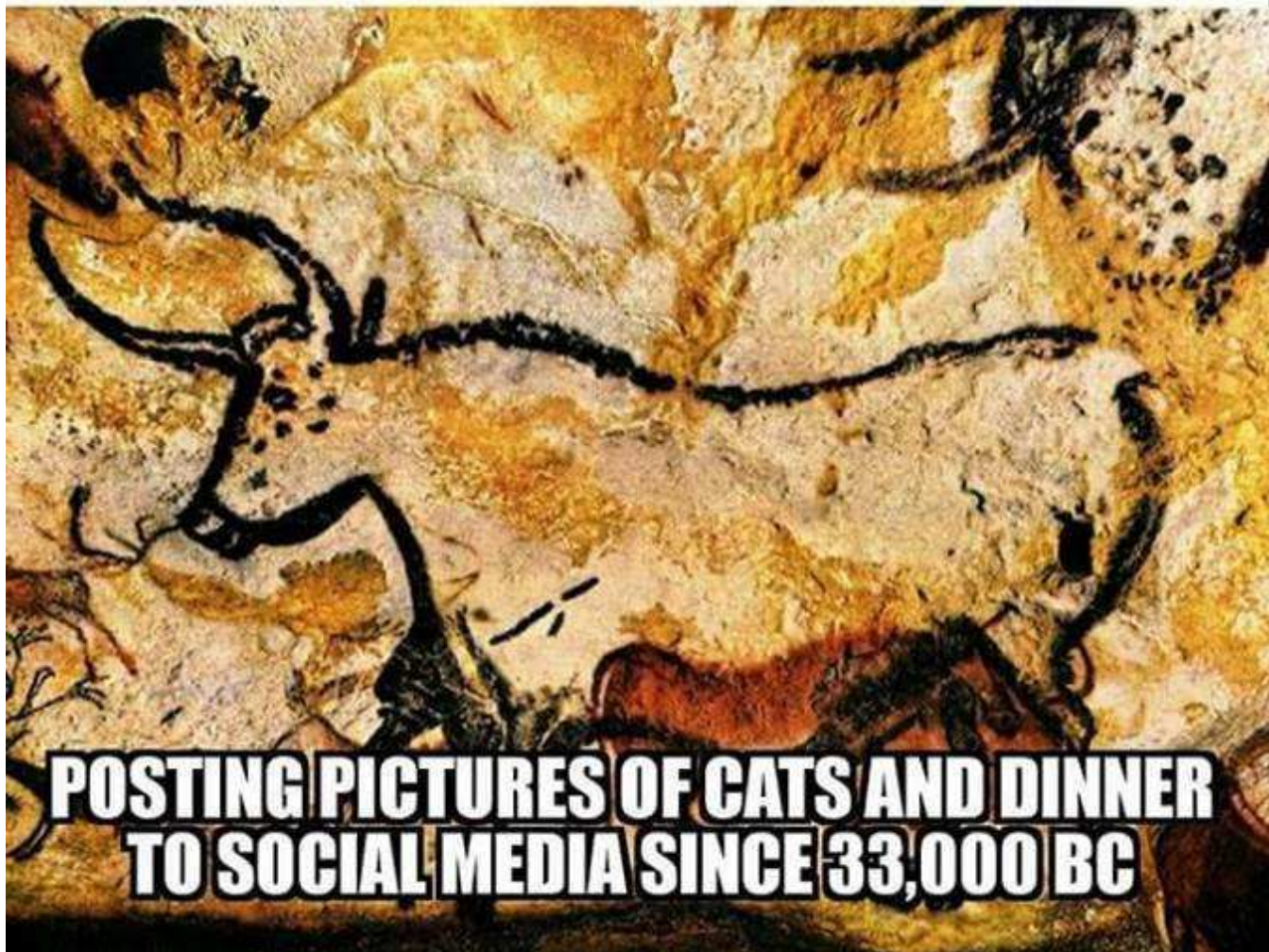
We offer most, if not all, in the club store at the meetings.



**HUMAN BEINGS:**



**POSTING PICTURES OF CATS AND DINNER  
TO SOCIAL MEDIA SINCE 33,000 BC**



## October Event

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society Inc., a non-profit 501(C)3 educational organization, is hosting a Rock, Mineral, Gem, Jewelry & Fossil Show on October 5th, 6th & 7th, 2018 at the Florida National Guard Armory, 2809 S. Fern Creek Ave., Orlando, FL 32806. Show time: Fri. 1pm to 6pm, Sat. 10am to 6pm and Sun. 10am to 5pm. Vendors offering beads, minerals, gemstones, jewelry, fossils, artifacts, rocks, cabochons, etc. Silent Auction, Door Prizes, Demonstrations, Family Activities, Scavenger Hunt. Admission: Adults \$5, Kids \$2, Scouts in uniforms free. Website: [www.cfmgs.org](http://www.cfmgs.org). Contact: President Salvatore Sansone 321-278-9294 or [ssfossilhunter@aol.com](mailto:ssfossilhunter@aol.com).

Thank you. If you have any questions, please e-mail or call me at 407-816-1229.

Betty Sumner Secretary  
Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society, Inc.

## Bull shark



# GLYPTODONT SKELETON AND CARAPACE!

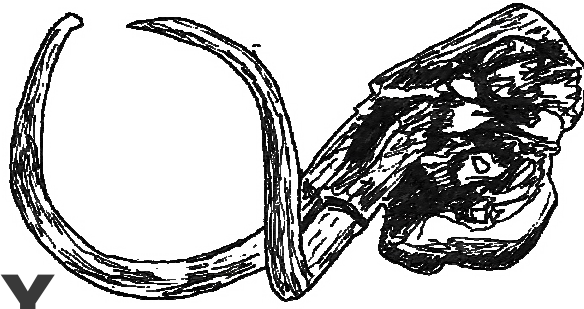


July 



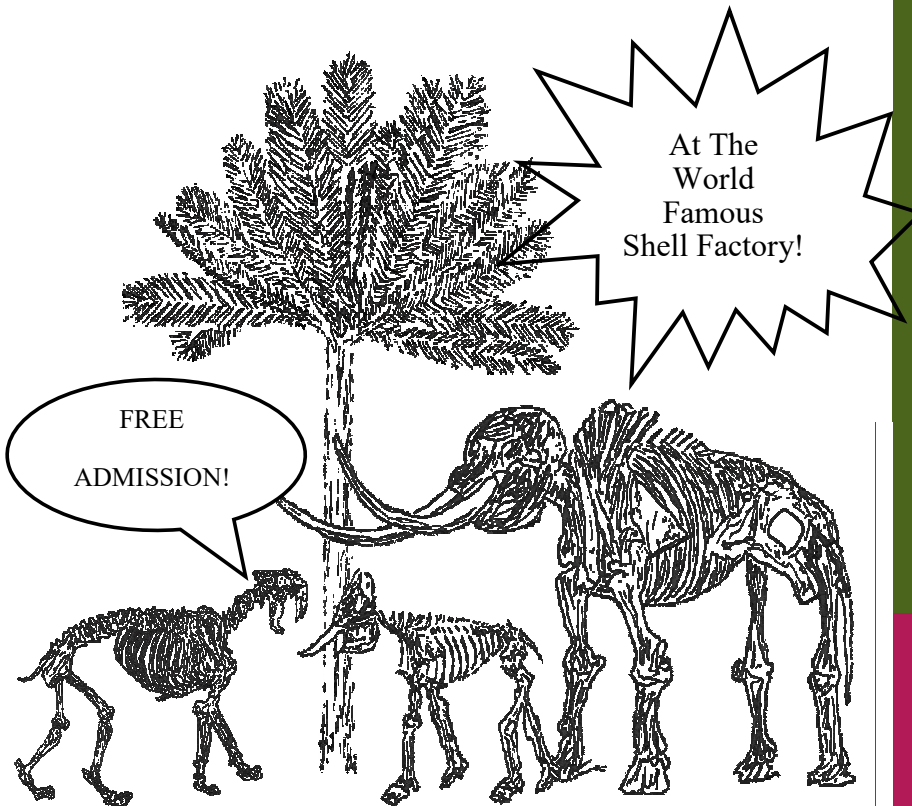


# THE FOSSIL CLUB OF LEE COUNTY PRESENTS THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FOSSIL FESTIVAL



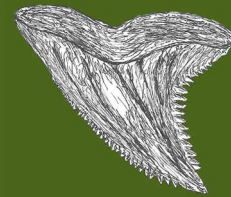
**Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019 at the Shell Factory**

Come to the Shell Factory to learn about Florida's pre-historic past, learn how to collect and identify your local fossils and maybe even get to take home a piece of the past! Talk with the local experienced fossil hunters, shop, explore all that Florida's past has to offer! There is something for everyone! Kids fossil dig, vendors with magnificent fossils of all shapes and sizes, minerals, literature for the novice all the way up to the experienced hunter!



Feb. 23, 2019  
9AM to 5PM  
At the Shell Factory  
& Nature Park

Silent Auction  
Grand Prize Raffle  
Vendors & Fossil  
Dealers  
KIDS DIG!!  
Games & Prizes  
Free Fossil Museum  
& Exhibits



There's something  
for everyone at the  
Fossil Festival!

Join us!

[www.FCOLC.com](http://www.FCOLC.com)

The Shell Factory

2747 N Tamiami Trail

Fort Myers, FL 33903

232-995-2141

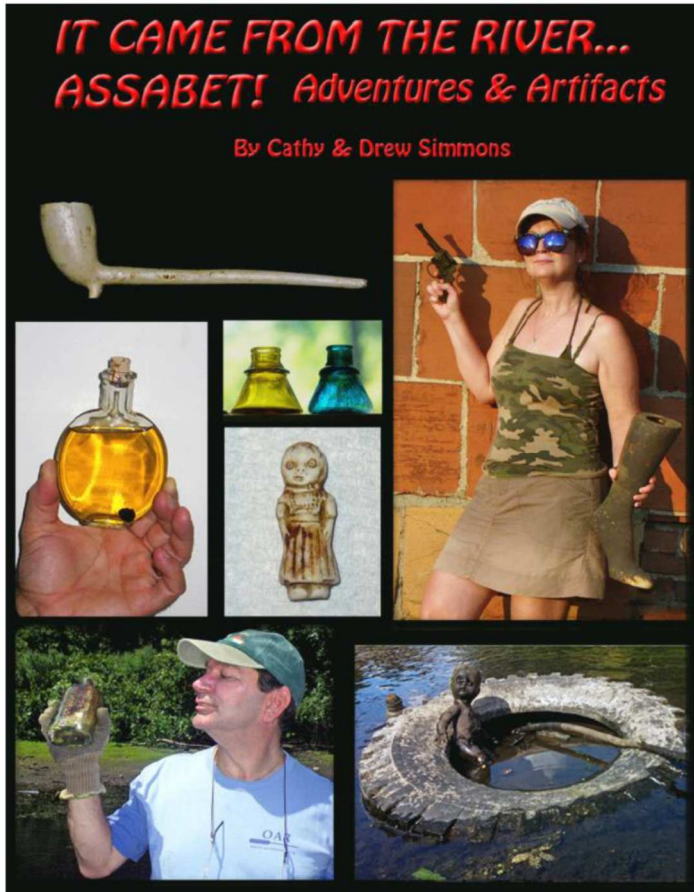
[www.theshellfactory.com](http://www.theshellfactory.com)

Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

9AM until 5PM

## IT'S HERE!

FCOLC members Cathy & Drew Simmons of Massachusetts announce their newly published book, which is now available on Amazon.com! (no fossils in the Assabet River, but lots of antique bottles and other interesting items!)



**DESCRIPTION:** Antique bottles, marbles, clay pipes, creepy dolls, bowling balls... a leg? What will they find next? Fourteen years of kayaking, mudlarking and river cleanup have produced a fascinating collection of items that tell tales of older times in New England. This 8.5" x 11" paperback book contains more than 350 color photos of hundreds of interesting objects they've found, and stories of their many adventures along the way. So, come along with Drew and Cathy, on a site-by-site journey down the Assabet River, through the towns of Hudson, Stow, Maynard, and Concord, Massachusetts.

A great book for antique bottle collectors, treasure hunters, kayakers, history buffs, and anyone who loves old stuff!

**ABOUT THE AUTHORS:** Drew and Cathy met at an antique bottle show in Chelmsford Massachusetts in 2003. Cathy had been collecting antique bottles since she was 15, and Drew since the age of 10. When Drew and Cathy married, they started bottle hunting together. Drew, being an avid kayaker, introduced Cathy to something new: searching for old bottles *in the river!* They set out to find bottles but found so many other amazing things in the process! They consider themselves to be temporary caretakers of these items and enjoy doing research and sharing information. They care about the river and its inhabitants, appreciating wildlife from a distance (especially the snapping turtles). They don't use shovels or dig into the river banks. They are members of OARS (Organization for the Assabet Rivers), and lead volunteer cleanup teams in the Assabet every September. These teams have removed truck-loads of modern trash from the river!

Drew and Cathy are also members of the Merrimack Valley Antique Bottle Club and the Assabet Valley Camera Club.

"Not everyone understands the bliss to be found in mucking around, so I feel *really* fortunate to have met Cathy and Drew. I don't have to explain the appeal of finding new-old things to them. In this book you'll find their joy in the unlikely discoveries, and the unexpected insights they've gained from time spent in places where nature quietly wends its way through the middle of civilization. You don't need to be an avid bottle-hunter to appreciate their expeditions and finds described in this book."

- Mary Stevens, Editor of this book and writer/publisher of Whittle Mark East: The Official Newsletter of the Merrimack Valley Antique Bottle Club.

Author signed copies are available by mail for \$29.99 plus shipping. Contact Cathy and Drew at [drewsnorro@gmail.com](mailto:drewsnorro@gmail.com)