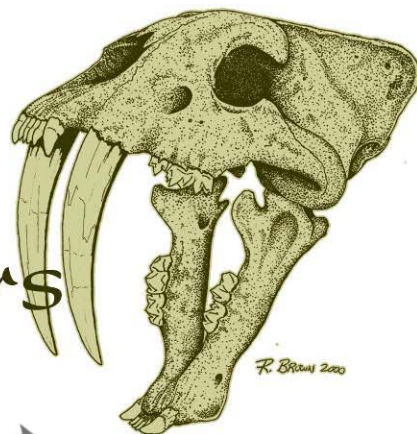


# NEWS

## Florida Fossil Hunters

Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters  
Volume 26, Number 6

August 2016



### From the President.....

Some like it hot, some sweat when the heat is on.... the River is high but the beach was nice. Summer is almost over and there is a lot going on this Fall... in one word: BUSY. Be sure to check the Calendar for a complete listing.

"**Women in Paleontology**" event was before the summer break. I smile every time I think about it. Cindy Lockner set up a wonderful, memorable event. Kudos to her and a lot more inside this issue. We had a great time at Vulcan and Dave Dunaway's "Summer Party".

The August meeting will include a **Kids' Blast**. Bonnie has been feeding me lots of rats and I've been burping up these funky pellet-like things with the bones. Cool.

Speaking to our kids and young adults... Bonnie would love to have some stories about your fossil collecting or pictures from you. You can earn extra Fossil Bucks for the auction.

All members are encouraged to join us in the **club's events**: Science Night Live and Fossil Fest 2016 at the Orlando Science Center; Daytona Art & Science Museum's Natural History Day; National Fossil Day at the South Florida Museum; and of course, our Fossil Fair. Yes, a lot of work but it's fun, too. (plus more Fossil Bucks)

All these events are filled with displays, lectures, etc. aimed at reaching the public. There are still a lot of nature-minded folks out there - who like we once were - who don't know that there are fossils in Florida and clubs and museums filled with fossil-crazy people.

So come join the rest of us crazy people.... see you at the meeting.

Russell Brown  
President

P.S. We are setting up some fossil tables for **Science Night Live** on the evening of our meeting. So we'll have some extra fossil "eye-candy" to look at.

Join Our Facebook group, Search:  
**Florida Fossil Hunters**



### Coming Events

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

##### August 20th

2pm Kid's Fossil Blast  
3pm Meeting

##### September 17th

3 pm Meeting

##### October 15th

2 pm - Kids' Fossil Blast  
3 pm Meeting

##### November 5th & 6th

Fossil Fair  
Central Florida Fairgrounds

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

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# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# Fragments

## Live from Orlando, it's Science Night Live! at the Orlando Science Center

Saturday, August 20, 2016 from 8:00–11:30 p.m.  
It's Social. It's Science. It's 21+

An evening reserved only for adults, enjoy everything you love about Orlando Science Center with grown-up-inspired programming. Don't miss these experiences at Science Night Live!

- Hear an engaging presentation from Microsoft (details to follow)
- Experience SENSORIUM, a digital art show on display for one night only!
- Experience the NEW hands-on exhibits Kinetic Zone & Mindbender Mansion
- View stars and planets through the giant refractor telescope in the Crosby Observatory
- Experience giant screen films in the Dr. Phillips CineDome
- Conduct lab experiments in Dr. Dare's Laboratory
- Enjoy the latest exhibition on display in Fusion: A STEAM Gallery
- Participate in science trivia to win prizes!
- Delight in food and adult beverages available for purchase
- Experience the Science Center in a whole new way... without kids!

This event proves there is no age limit on curiosity. You're never too old to learn something new! It's social, it's science, it's 21 and up and tickets are going fast! Must be 21 and older. For more information, call 407.514.2000

To volunteer at the event, call Bonnie at 352-429-1058 or email her at [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@gmail.com).

## Annual Fall gem, mineral, and bead show Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society

Oct. 7, 8 & 9th at the National Guard Armory; 2809 S. Fern Creek Ave. Orlando; Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Admission \$5, Grade School Students \$2; Annual Fall gem, mineral, and bead show. There will be demonstrations, 30 minute auctions, kids table, sluice mining for gems, and hourly door prizes. See and buy gems, minerals, beads, metaphysical stones, fossils and much more from all over the world. Scouts can earn merit badges from a mineral gemologist to assist with identification and requirements.

Contact Paul Hayes, 1400 Sawyerwood Ave, Orlando, FL 32800, (407)-816-1220; [phayes3@cfl.rr.com](mailto:phayes3@cfl.rr.com); [www.cfmgs.org](http://www.cfmgs.org)

## Kids' Fossil Blast

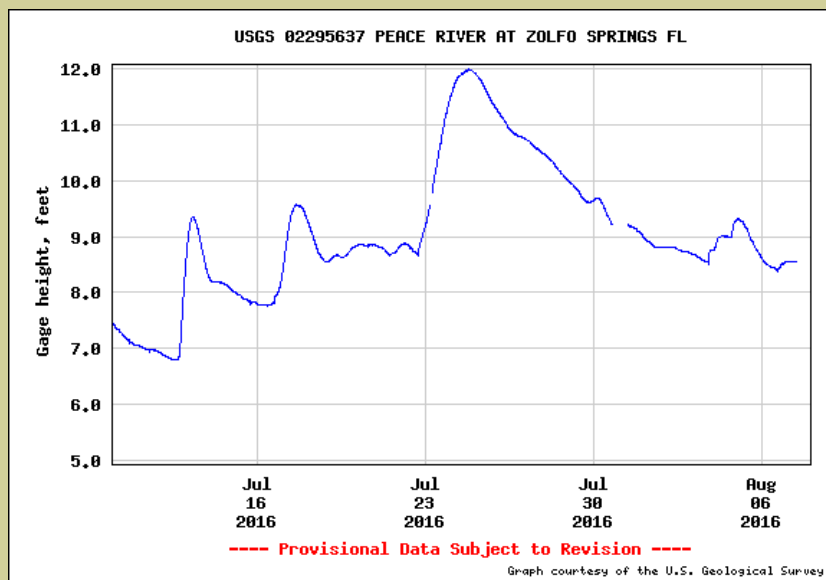
Hope you had some adventures this summer and got to exercise your curiosity. Bring that curiosity with you on Saturday, August 20th. Identifying the bones we find while fossil hunting is always a challenge. So we're going to examine owl pellets and identify the bones we find in them.

Kids' Fossil Blast is an informal, hands-on experience with real fossils, casts, etc., aimed at kids ages 5 to 14. We meet at the Orlando Science Center an hour before our regular meeting.

**Kids' Fossil Blast - Saturday, Aug. 20th at 2pm**

## Piece on the Peace River

It's been a typical summer so far. Since our last newsletter, I think there has only been a few days when the Peace River was low enough for sifting fossils. Hope you have found places to hunt for fossils while you are waiting for the dry season..... Venice Beach, Gainesville, etc. And you can always tour the museums (and they are air-conditioned) while it's hot. Meanwhile keep your eye on the water levels via the link on our webpage. Sometimes it does slip down to 6 ft for a day or two.



# Florida Fossil Hunters News



# 2016 FOSSIL FAIR

## Fossil Fair - Date has Changed to Nov. 5th & 6th

The dates have changed but not the fun of discovery and sharing. Mark your calendars and sign up to volunteer.

### We need folks at :

- the Admissions table to greet visitors and help them fill out the forms for the free raffle.
- the Silent Auction to organize donations, line up the auctions, and help bidders.
- the Membership table to answer questions about joining, fossil hunting, sell t-shirts, etc.
- the fossil display area to talk about fossils and answer questions.
- the Kids' Dig Pit to work in the pit, help kids, and ID the fossils they find.
- the Kitchen area to help with the food for the volunteers and vendors.

As always, no experience necessary. It's on the job training, just like fossil hunting. Just bring your smiles and your enthusiasm for fossils and the incredible story of life on earth.

### Food for Fossil Fair

We ask that all members bring a dish or snack to share with the volunteers and vendors. It's one of the things that make our Fossil Fair so enjoyable. Salads, fruit, veggies, soups, casseroles, snack foods, etc. will be appreciated. The club provides lunch meats, breads, some drinks, condiments and plates, utensils, and cups. ( No alcohol is permitted on site.)

### Donations for Kids' Dig Pit & Silent Auction

We all have fossils and minerals that we've found that sit packed away in boxes because we have lots of them or they aren't the greatest specimens. These make ideal items for the kids' pit and Silent Auction. Not only do they get be someone's precious possessions but they earn money for the club. Items like books, display boxes/shelves, books, toys modern bones, etc. are great for the Auction, too.

## Women in Paleontology 2016

The Women in Paleontology event last May was a resounding success. The speakers represented a variety of studies in Paleontology, Geology, & Archaeology and showed us all that we can do anything we put our mind to. Thanks to all the volunteers who made this such a fantastic event.



And some amazing news.....With the incredible help of Eleanor Gardner with the Fossil Project and the work of Cindy Lockner and Bonnie Cronin, our club has been awarded a grant to increase our outreach to young females, especially minorities. We look forward to making the Women in Paleontology 2017 accessible to a much wider range of girls and inspiring them to reach for the stars.



Thank you, Russell,  
for providing us the  
encouragement  
to do this.



### Vulcan in May 2016

It was hot but the fossils were cool and we had some delightful conversations with these fascinating folks in the shade while eating all the yummy food everyone brought.

# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# International team of scientists launches fossil database

Have you ever wondered exactly when a certain group of plants or animals first evolved? This week a groundbreaking new resource for scientists will go live, and it is designed to help answer just those kinds of questions. The Fossil Calibration Database, a free, open-access resource that stores carefully vetted fossil data, is the result of years of work from a worldwide team led by Dr. Daniel Ksepka, Curator of Science at the Bruce Museum in Greenwich, and Dr. James Parham, Curator at the John D. Cooper Archaeological and Paleontological Center in Orange County, California, funded through the National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent).

"Fossils provide the critical age data we need to unlock the timing of major evolutionary events," says Dr. Ksepka. "This new resource will provide the crucial fossil data needed to calibrate 'molecular clocks' which can reveal the ages of plant and animal groups that lack good fossil records. When did groups like songbirds, flowering plants, or sea turtles evolve? What natural events were occurring that may have had an impact? Precisely tuning the molecular clock with fossils is the best way we have to tell evolutionary time."

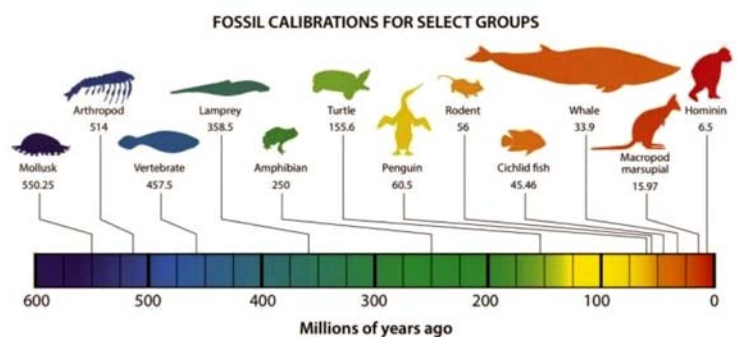
More than twenty paleontologists, molecular biologists, and computer programmers from five different countries contributed to the design and implementation of this new database.

"This exciting field of study, known as 'divergence dating,' is important for understanding the origin and evolution of biodiversity, but has been hindered by the improper use of data from the fossil record," says Dr. Parham. "The Fossil Calibration Database addresses this issue by providing molecular biologists with paleontologist-approved data for organisms across the Tree of Life."

The Tree of Life? "Think of it as a family tree of all species," explains Dr. Ksepka.

Read more : <http://www.geologypage.com/2015/02/international-team-of-scientists.html#ixzz4G0dwoYh9>  
Follow us: [@geologypage on Twitter](#) | [geology.page on Facebook](#)

To access the database go to <http://fossilcalibrations.org/>



## Museum of Arts & Sciences, Daytona Beach Natural History Festival and Fossil Show! September 17, 10 am to 3 pm

*Dave Dunaway & Ed Metrin have volunteered to bring fossils and talk to folks at the event. More volunteers are welcome!*

Join us for our annual celebration of all things natural history. Enjoy natural history specimens on display from rarely seen MOAS collections with many examples of fossils, mollusks, corals, insects, and more. Many other exhibitors will have displays set up including The Orlando Fossil Hunters Club, The Paw Paw Chapter of Native Plants, Halifax River Audubon, Department of Environmental Protection, Lyonia Preserve, Marine Discovery Center, and many more! Bring in a fossil specimen for identification and learn about past life on Earth with our children's PaleoLab! Free for members or with paid museum admission.

For more information on this event, go to [www.moas.org](http://www.moas.org)

## Schedule of Events

11:00am: The "Paleo" Diet: What Did Our Prehistoric Ancestors Really Eat? *Dr. Briana Pobiner leads the Human Origins Program's education, outreach efforts, and public programs with the Smithsonian Institute.* Join Dr. Briana Pobiner from the Smithsonian Natural History Museum in Washington D.C. as she discusses facts, fallacies, and fantasies about prehistoric human diet.

12:00pm: PBS Fossil Hunters TV Show and Cast: Episode 6 "Something Old Something New" Fossil Hunters television series, created by Don and April Brunning

1:00pm: What's Up with the Indian River Lagoon! *Chad Truxall, Executive Director, Marine Discovery Center.* The Indian River Lagoon is one of the great estuarine ecosystems in North America. Learn more about this diverse estuary and its health.

2:00pm: The Forgotten Extinction: How the Terminal Triassic Event Shaped the 'Age of Dinosaurs' *Dr. William C. Parker, Associate Professor, Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Science, Florida State University.* Learn about how a previous mass extinction event shaped dinosaur evolution which led to the rise of these amazing long lived reptiles!

3:00pm: ENCORE PRESENTATION - The "Paleo" Diet: What Did Our Prehistoric Ancestors Really Eat?

# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# 2016 FOSSIL FAIR

Florida Fossil Hunters

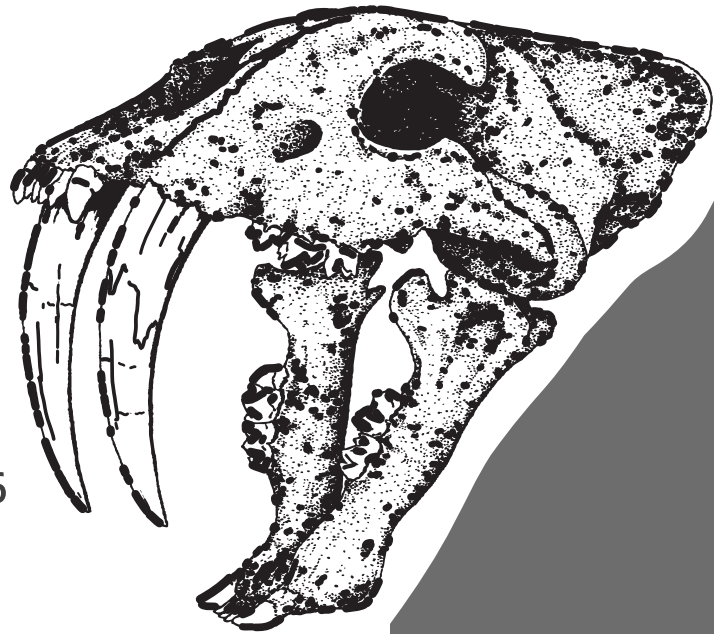
Twenty-fifth Annual  
**Fossils, Rocks,  
Gems & Minerals**

Saturday, November 5, 2016

9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, November 6, 2016

10:00am - 4:00pm



Central Florida Fairgrounds

4603 West Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida 32808

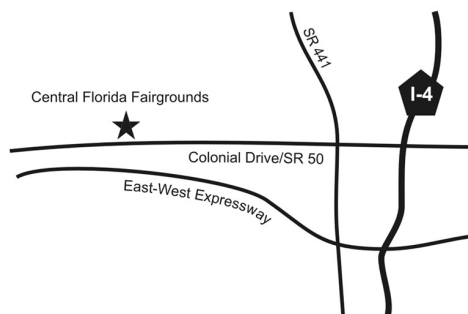
\$4.00 Adults | \$1.00 Children

**Learn to dig in Florida and  
see what can be discovered!**

**Directions:**

I-4 to Orlando, Exit 84,  
West Hwy 50/Colonial Drive  
exit Westbound.

The fairgrounds will be  
on the right side, just past  
Mercy Drive.



For more information on the 2015 Fossil Fair contact us by email at  
info@floridafossilhunters.com, call 407-699-9274, or check the website at

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

**Raffles**

**Vendors**

**Silent  
Auctions**

**Kids \$1  
Dig Pit**

**Educational  
Displays**

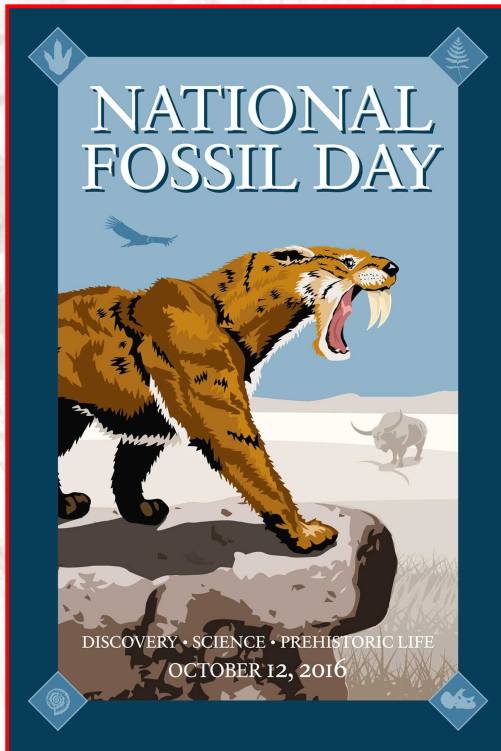
**Airconditioned!  
INDOORS!**



# Mark Your Calendar!

Please Join us in Celebrating National Fossil Day 2016!!!

## *"Fossil's & Dino's at Play"*



## National Fossil Day Celebration!

**Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

South Florida Museum  
Bradenton, Florida



Come join us in celebrating this year's [National Fossil Day](#). The South Florida Museum is excited to be a host institution this year and to partner with local and state agencies, organizations and clubs. Guests can come and meet real paleontologists and geologists who work everyday to uncover the secrets fossils reveal about our ancient Earth.

**Location:** South Florida Museum, 201 - 10th St. West, Bradenton, FL 34205

**Time:** Museum hours 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Special Family Night Event extended hours.

Fossil Clubs and Vendor Displays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Special 1/2 price admission to museum all day! \$9 adults, \$8 Seniors 65+, \$7 children, kids under 3 FREE. Fossil Display Tables & and a Free Kids Dig Pit Sponsored by Mosaic.

**Activities:** Fossil Displays, Fossil Giveaways, Fossil Vendors, Kids Fossil Dig Pit, Speakers, Florida Paleo Authors & Book Signing, Junior Paleontologist Badge Program presented by the De Soto National Memorial Park Rangers, Special exhibit from the American Museum of Natural History: *"Dinosaur Discoveries: Ancient Fossils, New Ideas"*. Special Screening of *Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure* in the Bishop Planetarium, Meteorite Display, Stone Knapping Demonstrations, and so much more!

Updates at: [NFD.FLGEO.COM](http://NFD.FLGEO.COM)

### *National Fossil Day Sponsors*



# Florida Fossil Hunters

is a fun and educational group whose goal is to further our understanding of the prehistory of Florida. We encourage family participation and welcome explorers of all ages.

Membership is \$17 per year. Other household members may be included at no charge.

Meetings are usually held on the third Saturday of the month but may vary with club activities. Check the website for the date and location of the next meeting or call one of the officers.

## Officers:

President	Russell Brown	(352) 429-1058
Vice President	Dave Dunaway	(407) 786-8844
Secretary	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Treasurer	Sara Morey	(619) 302-4863

## Chairs:

Education	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Field Trips	<b>OPEN</b>	
Fossil Fair	Valerie First	(407) 699-9274
Fossil Auctions	Dave Dunaway	(407) 786-8844
Fossil Bucks	Dave Dunaway	(407) 786-8844
Fossil Lotto	Ed Metrin	(407) 321-7462
Membership	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Newsletter	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
	Elise Cronin-Hurley	(407) 929-6297
Photography	John Heinsen	(407) 291-7672
Webmaster	Elise Cronin-Hurley	(407) 929-6297
	elise@lisedreams.com	

## Board of Directors:

Melissa Cole	(407) 834-5615
Ed Metrin	(407) 321-7462
Dave Cass	(407) 409-9095
Marge Fantozi	
Marcia Wright	
Cindy Lockner	

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

# Membership Application

Associate Members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal

Please list any interests, experience, talents or just plain enthusiasm, which you would like to offer to the club:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Membership is \$17 per year. Our membership year runs from January to December. All renewals are done in December and January.

## Please make your checks payable to:

Florida Fossil Hunters  
Post Office Box 540404  
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404

*Associate members are people in the same household, included at no extra charge, 2 adult votes per household.*

Articles must be submitted by the first of the month to be included in that month's newsletter. These can be mailed to

## Newsletter Policy

the above Post Office Box or e-mailed to: bonnierussell62@gmail.com . Articles can be sent as text in the e-mail or in Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx).

*Please note in subject of email 'FFH'.*

**Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc.  
dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters**

# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# Florida Fossil Hunters Mark Your Calendar

See inside for more information on events.

**Saturday, August 20th**  
2 pm - Kids' Fossil Blast  
3 pm - Meeting

**Saturday, August 20th, 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm**  
Orlando Science Center's Science Night Live!

**Saturday, September 10th 10 am - 4 pm**  
Orlando Science Center's Fossil Fest

**Saturday, September 17th**  
3 pm Meeting

**Saturday, September 17th 10 am - 3 pm**  
Daytona Beach Museum of Arts & Sciences  
Natural History Festival

**Saturday, September 17th 7:30 - 11:30 pm**  
Orlando Science Center's Science Night Live!

**Saturday, October 1st 10 am - 4 pm**  
National Fossil Day  
South Florida Museum, Bradenton

Join Our Facebook group, Search:  
[Florida Fossil Hunters](#)

facebook

**October 7, 8, & 9th**  
Central FL Mineral & Gem Show  
National Guard Armory, Orlando

**Saturday, October 15th**  
2 pm - Kids' Fossil Blast  
3 pm Meeting

**Oct 15 & 16th**  
Tampa Bay Mineral & Science Club  
Gem & Mineral Show, Plant City

**Nov 5th & 6th**  
**Florida Fossil Hunters**  
**Fossil Fair**  
Central FL Fairgrounds

## Be Green

Email Bonnie at [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@gmail.com)  
to receive the newsletter via email.



Visit us online at [www.floridafossilhunters.com](http://www.floridafossilhunters.com)

Articles and comments should be sent to: [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@gmail.com)

## Florida Fossil Hunters

Post Office Box 540404  
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404



## Florida Fossil Hunters News