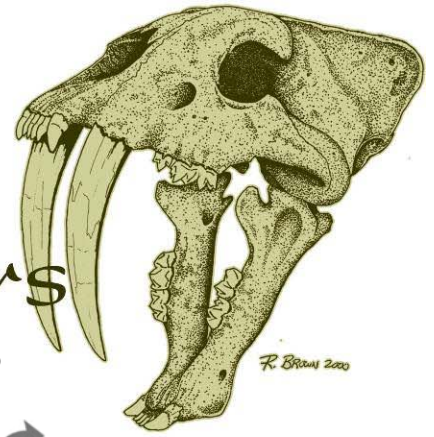


NEWS

Florida Fossil Hunters



Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters
Volume 28, Number 6

August 2018

From the desk of the President.....

Wow, I feel like a kid – summer’s almost over????!!!! Though I couldn’t judge that by the heat and rain. Hope everybody got out and enjoyed the Florida outdoors. Water level in the Peace is still high, but don’t despair, Steve. It’ll come down again. There are still a lot of fossils being found in the creeks of Gainesville and around the Peace as well as the beaches. Please bring your new finds (even if they arrived by mail) to the meeting so we can enjoy them and learn some more.

We had a productive Board Meeting with a lot of ideas shared. Some changes may be coming.... Details on the meeting inside this newsletter. Please check it out. We would like your feedback on some proposed major changes. This is YOUR club.

Most of you are aware that my busy schedule keeps me from a lot of meetings and Steve Sharpe has been filling in for me. Thanks, Steve, my right-hand man. We all need help. It makes the club business and events run more smoothly, for sure. I am appointing Salvatore Sansone as next-in-line, My left hand. These two have demonstrated leadership on many occasions. (Salvatore will also be acting as “club bouncer”)

The club’s **Fossil Fair** is coming up quick. **Other events** are on the schedule: Science Night Live at OSC, “National Fossil Day” celebration at the Florida Museum of Natural History along with their opening of the special exhibit “Permian Fossils”, Daytona’s Museum of Art & Science’s “Natural History Day”. There is plenty to enjoy and volunteer for. December’s Fossil Bucks auction will come around again, too.

Save your Fossil Bucks for the auction.
Save your cash for the Fossil Fair.

Be seeing you soon.
Russell Brown, President

Coming Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

Saturday, August 18th
Meeting - 3 pm

Saturday, Sept. 15th
Meeting - 3 pm

*More events listed on back page
For more info...
www.floridafossilhunters.com*

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Fragments

Live from Orlando, it's Science Night Live!

Saturday, August 18, 2018, 8:00–11:30 p.m.

It's Social. It's Science. It's 21+.

And **Florida Fossil Hunters** will be there to share their passion for fossils and rocks. To volunteer, email Salvatore Sansone at ssfossilhunter@aol.com

Must be 21 years or older to attend.

Enjoy everything you love about OSC, plus special programming designed for adults.

Science Night Live at Orlando Science Center is your chance to spark your curiosity through our fun exhibits and programs... with some adult beverages, of course! Bring your friends, or make a date night of it, and join us for a unique and ever-changing experience that proves there's no age limit on curiosity!

Don't miss these experiences at Science Night Live!

- Explore four floors of hands-on exhibits like NatureWorks, Kinetic Zone, DinoDigs, and more
- Hear presentations from a guest speaker
- Participate in science trivia to win prizes
- Experience giant-screen films in the Dr. Phillips CineDome
- Conduct science experiments in Dr. Dare's Laboratory
- Indulge on light bites and adult beverages available for purchase from Hard Rock Café
- Experience the Science Center in a whole new way...without kids!

There's no age limit on curiosity! Tickets are going fast, so purchase yours before they're gone.

Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society

NEXT SHOW: Fall 2018

Mineral, Gem, Bead and Fossil Show

October 5, 6, 7, 2018

The National Guard Armory

2809 S Ferncreek Ave, Orlando, FL 32806

National Fossil Day on Sept. 29

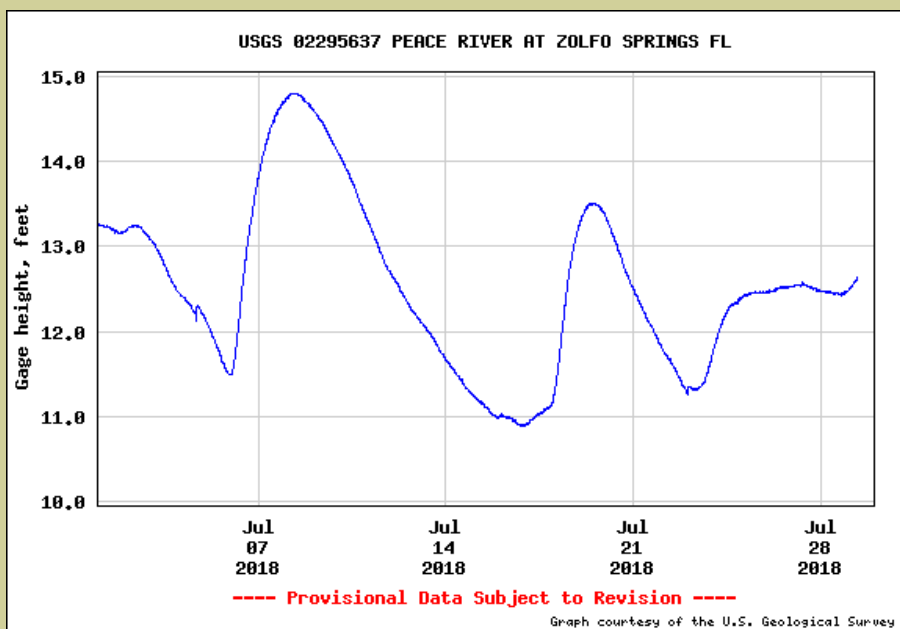
The Florida Museum of Natural History will celebrate National Fossil Day on Sept. 29 as well as the opening their latest exhibit: Permian Monsters: Life Before the Dinosaurs. Join us as we display fossils and talk to the guests.

Step back in time 290 million years when distinctive creatures dominated life on land and sea, and learn about the greatest extinction the world has ever seen. This unique exhibition brings the past back to life with fossilized skeletons and full-sized replicas of the animals that ruled the world before the age of dinosaurs, in a time known as the Permian. Gain a glimpse into the period with paintings from award-winning paleo-artist Julius Csotonyi. See models of giant insects, bizarre-looking sharks and strange reptiles with mammal-like characteristics. Meet the top predator of the time, the giant saber-toothed gorgonopsid, and sift through interactive dig pits.

Piece on the Peace

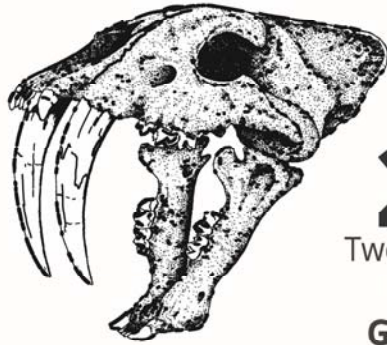
The Florida monsoon season is in full swing and the Peace has its share. Meanwhile hunt on the beaches and creeks that have shark teeth, at least.

You can check the postings on Florida Fossil Hunters Facebook page for hints on where to hunt this time of year and what you can find.



Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters



2018
Twenty-seventh Annual
**Fossils, Rocks,
Gems & Minerals**

Saturday, October 20, 2018
9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, October 21, 2018
10:00am - 4:00pm

Central Florida Fairgrounds
4603 West Colonial Drive,
Orlando, Florida 32808

www.floridafossilhunters.com

Educational
Displays

Silent
Auctions

Kids Dig Pit \$1

Raffles

Airconditioned!
INDOORS!

Come with us on a journey through time with rocks and fossils. Find meteorites from the birth of our solar system. Discover the early creatures as life experimented with every possible shape and way to survive from simple scavenging ones sitting on the seafloor to those that fed on rocks, to life forms that finally figured how to propel themselves and chase prey. Yes, humans are in that group.

To stage this Fair full of discovery, we need the help of all of our members.

Please volunteer your time and donate fossils, rocks, and food for the event.

SET-UP: On Friday, Oct. 19th, we will need help setting up: assisting vendors taking inventory from vehicles to tables, hanging posters, banners, etc., helping Sara set up the food area, listing & labeling the Silent Auction items. We'll also need some strong backs to help set up the Kids' Pit.

SIGNS: On Saturday, Oct. 20th, at 8 am we need someone to distribute the signs around the area. A team of 2 people would be best. Then on Sunday, at 5 pm, we need the signs collected.

ADMISSIONS: On Sat. & Sun. we need folks to handle the front table: take money, give change, answer basic questions, have guests sign up for the Door Prize, etc.

SILENT AUCTION: On Sat. & Sun. we need people to stage hourly auctions: select items, make announcements, collect money & make change, Add donations to the list and label items.

MEMBERSHIP TABLE: On Sat & Sun, we need people to answer questions about the club, help them fill out applications, give info on field trips. Also take care of shirt, bag, & book sales.

KIDS' DIG PIT: On Sat. & Sun., we need people (including kids) to help resupply the Pit, sweep up the spilled sand, pass out bags & ID sheets. We also need people to try to identify what the kids have found.

SECURITY: On Fri. night & Sat. night, we need people to watch over the vendors' tables and make sure no one breaks in.

FOSSIL DISPLAY: On Sat & Sun we need people to talk to guests about the fossils displayed, the geological history of Florida, and answer their questions.

CLEAN-UP: On Sun at 5 pm, we need people to help pack up fossil displays, auction items, supplies, food, etc. We might also need some people to take some of the boxes to their house until the next meeting. Some of us bring more than one vehicle load to the Fair and we always run out of room in the cars.

Donations

There is joy in sharing... it releases endorphins in our brains and makes us feel good. So in the pursuit of more good feeling in the world, I ask that you donate extra fossils & rocks for the Kids' Dig Pit and the Silent Auction. You can also donate books, toys, display cases, etc. for the Silent Auction. Just bring them with you to the Fossil Fair.

During the Fair, the club also has a "kitchen" in the back with food for vendors & volunteers. (so they don't get hungry & grumpy) The club provides sandwich fixin's and utensils and the members bring the rest: salads, fruits, casseroles, chips/crackers, desserts, etc.

To volunteer

at the Fossil Fair and any of our outreach events:

- 1) Sign up at the meetings
- 2) Email Bonnie at bonnierus-sell62@gmail.com
- 3) or phone 352-429-1058

IT'S THAT EASY!

Florida Fossil Hunters News



Join for us for the 13th Annual Natural History Festival, a fun and exciting day of fossils, marine specimens, minerals, ecology, and more!

Florida Fossil Hunters will be displaying fossils and talking to the guests.
Sign up to volunteer at the August meeting.

Admission: Free for members or with paid museum admission.

Schedule:

10:00AM: Fossil Hunters TV Show

Have you tuned into Fossil Hunters on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m.? Here is your chance to meet the cast! Join Zach, Allison, Dave, Trish, John, Linda, Don, and April as they share a video summary of their first season of discoveries highlighting the only television series being broadcasted on fossil hunting. Various guest fossil hunters from the series will be in attendance as well. See some of the most exciting adventures these "fossilheads" have had over the last three years and stay for a Q&A session with the cast following a special video presentation of the "Best of Fossil Hunters."

11:00AM: River of Grass, River of Time: The State of the Everglades in 2018

This is only one Everglades, but the future of this national treasure is uncertain. Learn about the history, troubled past, and unfolding future of the REAL Florida's most celebrated natural treasure.

About Clayton Louis Ferrara

Clay is a formally trained biologist and the first American to be named a Darwin Scholar by the Field Studies Council in London for his achievements as a young naturalist under 30. Now, he is the Executive Director of the United Nations Accredited NGO, IDEAS for Us, where he works to develop, fund, and scale environmental and social solutions around the world.

12:00PM: 40 Years of Exploring Volusia Ecosystems

Volusia County has many unique ecosystems throughout the county. Join environmentalist, David Griffis, and discover unique plants and animals that inhabit pine uplands, wetlands, coastal ecosystems, and more.

About David Griffis

David Griffis is currently an adjunct faculty member of Stetson University in the Environmental Science and Studies Department. Prior to that, for 39 years he worked for the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Science. He retired as the UF IFAS County Extension Director.

1:00PM: A Short History of Nearly Everything

Join Jeff Rodgers, Provost of the South Florida Museum, for a fascinating scientific journey from "nothing" to the world we see around us today. Along the way, we will take a look at the Big Bang, the origins of matter and energy, the first stars, the creation of elements, the formation of habitable planets, the origins and evolution of life, and the uniquely human adaptations that allowed us to forge our modern world.

About Jeff Rodgers

Jeff Rodgers is Provost and Chief Operating Officer of the South Florida Museum in Bradenton, Florida. He has been with the Museum for thirteen years, and served as the Museum's Director of Education and Director of Bishop Planetarium prior to taking his current position. He came to Florida from the American Museum of Natural History and Hayden Planetarium in New York City, where he worked for nine years as an educator and lecturer. Despite his current administrative roles, he is at heart a science communicator, spending the bulk of his time trying to de-mystify the universe and our place in it.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

2:00PM: Smithsonian Environmental Research in the Indian River Lagoon

Often recognized as the most biodiverse estuary in the continental USA, the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) is part of the longest barrier island complex in the United States, spanning 156 miles from Ponce de Leon Inlet in the Mosquito Lagoon to Jupiter Inlet near West Palm Beach. While algal blooms in the IRL have been documented for over 50 years, and fish kills and other environmental events have occurred in the past, these have become more frequent and extreme over the past decade. Ongoing research activities at the Smithsonian Marine Station and other research organizations focused on the IRL include better understanding the factors causing harmful algal blooms, their persistence and termination, documenting the health of the lagoon system.

About Dr. Valeri Paul, Director of the Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, FL

Valerie Paul has served as Director of the Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, Florida, since 2002. She received her B.A. from the University of California San Diego in 1979 with majors in Biology and Studies in Chemical Ecology and her Ph.D. in Marine Biology in 1985 from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego. Valerie joined the faculty of the University of Guam Marine Laboratory in 1985, served as Director of the Laboratory from 1991-1994, and as full Professor from 1993-2002. Valerie studies the ecological roles of marine toxins and other bioactive compounds (natural products) from marine plants and animals and their natural functions in the marine environment. She has specialized in studying the ecology and chemistry of blue-green algae (Cyanobacteria) blooms, including looking for beneficial biomedical uses of the compounds. Valerie recently led a 3-year project at the Smithsonian Marine Station designed to understand the diversity of marine invertebrates in the northern IRL and their functions in mitigating algal blooms. Valerie was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1996 and was elected and served as chairperson of the Marine Natural Products Gordon Research Conference in 2000. Valerie and her collaborators have published over 275 research articles in scientific journals and books.

Location:

Museum of Arts & Sciences
352 S. Nova Road
Daytona Beach FL 32114

Phone: 386-255-0285

Website: www.moas.org

Fossil Bucks

Can't make the December auctions? think that since you can't attend many club functions that you'll never have enough Fossil Bucks to win a bid against the people who volunteer for everything?

Board Member Salvatore Sansone came up with a suggestion (and the rest of the Board agreed) of having a small selection of items (books, fossils, t-shirts, etc.) at each meeting for folks to get with their Fossil Bucks. So bring your Bucks. You might see a little something to spend them on.

P.S. For you new members – Fossil Bucks are money earned by volunteering at club events, such as the Fossil Fair, or club displays at museums, festivals etc., coming to a meeting, or going on a club field trip.

Russell Brown

Report: Prehistoric Party at OSC

We had a fantastic time on Saturday, June 23rd. at the Orlando Science Center. We had our fossil display, as well as Valerie's evolution story in bones, and Ken Seller's books display. There was a good crowd of excited guests – young & old. Salvatore Sansone and Steve & Michael Sharpe did an amazing job of manning the tables filled with trays of gravel for guests to hunt for fossils to keep. There were times when the crowd around those tables were 3 people deep.

At one point, there was the thundering of a T-Rex.... or maybe it was the roar of the crowd, or the crash of Salvatore's body hitting the floor after Michael pulled his chair out from under him. We thank the Orlando Science Center for having us, helping us with the club's outreach. We all had a good time sharing the story of the Earth & its creatures and poking fun at each other.

Thanks especially to those of you who volunteered: the Rodriguez family, Sharpe guys, Salvatore, Valerie, and Ken.

Proposed Changes to Club Meetings

During the June FFH Board Meeting, we discussed changing the number of meetings to six. There have been 10 meetings each year before this. I think it's a good idea to try. With the additional outreach events, the club will still have a busy schedule.

I am asking for any and all input about the proposed change. Please let us know what you think.
Email bonnierussell62@gmail.com or
Phone 352-429-1058.
Russell Brown, President

Florida Fossil Hunters News

The Crinoid

My knees were dimpled and raw from crawling around in the sand like someone who has lost a contact lens, mumbling the mantra, "It's gotta be here."

I've been to the spoil islands up at Yankeetown many a time and enjoyed each trip picking up many echinoids. It wasn't until my Australian buddy told me about the Florida crinoid on one of our trips there, did I become obsessed with finding one. Mike Murray described each detail and even got to check out the real thing at Dickinson Hall. Curator Roger Portell filled in more info about the crinoid and gave me extra time to draw an ID sketch. (Always learning and trying to pass it on.... that's Science.)

When I go fossil hunting I often bring home gravel from the sites to hunt through later for micro fossils. Bonnie & Steve brought some gravel for Citizen Science Day at OSC. That lucky dog, Michael Sharpe, found one that day. I've drawn a detailed picture and there is a photo of the man himself with his find.

You betcha I now have a trash can full of gravel from the last trip Steve & I took to Yankeetown. It was very windy and we hauled so much that gravel that the kayaks almost got swamped.

We hope to plan a club trip soon, weather permitting. The last one got cancelled due wild weather.

Until then, I'll be looking forward to that dinner Salvatore Sansone owes me for losing the bet that there was a Florida Crinoid.

If you pass by Michael Sharpe, kick him for me.
Russell Brown

Himerometra bassleri

Order: Comatulida

Comatulida crinoids includes those we know as Feather Stars. These are crinoids not permanently attached to the sea floor. Instead they hide in cracks in rocks or under corals and can move by waving their arms or walking on them to perch and sift the water for food.

H. bassleri is found in Eocene fossil beds in North Florida.



Himerometra bassleri
Comatulida crinoids

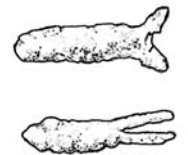
Ventral View



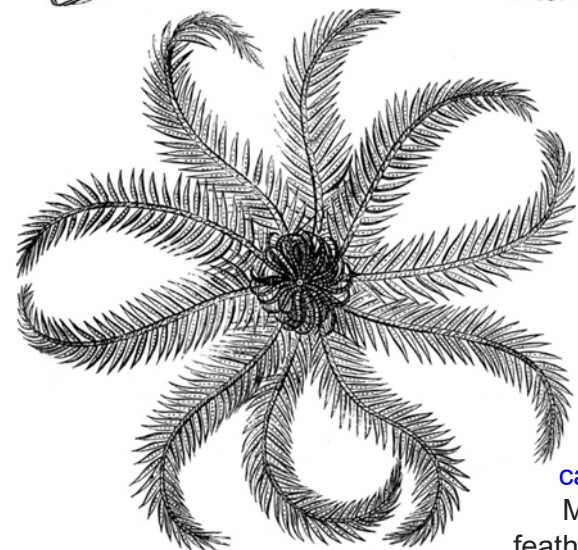
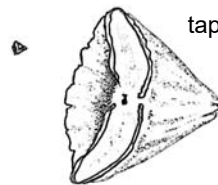
Radials cupped



Basal Rays



tapered ends



caption:
Modern
feather star

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters

Membership Application

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	Steve Sharpe	(352) 552-2296
Secretary	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Treasurer	Sara Morey	(619) 302-4863

Chairs:

Education	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Field Trips	OPEN	
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
Facebook	Paul Hardin	
Webmaster	Elise Cronin-Hurley	(407) 929-6297
	elise@lisedreams.com	

Board of Directors:

Ed Metrin	(407) 321-7462
Dave Cass	(407) 409-9095
Marge Fantozi	
Marcia Wright	
Cindy Lockner	
Dave Dunaway	
Salvatore Sansone	

Names: _____

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,

Newsletter Policy

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 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 Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters Mark Your Calendar

See inside for more information on events.

Saturday, August 18th
Meeting - 3 pm

Saturday, Sept. 8th, 10 am - 3 pm
Natural History Festival
Daytona Bch Museum of Arts & Sciences

Saturday, Sept. 15th
Meeting - 3 pm

Saturday, Sept. 29th
National Fossil Day at FLMNH

Sept. 29, 2018 - May 5, 2019
Permian Monsters, FLMNH

FFH Fossil Fair 2018
October 20 & 21
Central FL Fairgrounds

Saturday, Nov. 10th
Vulcan Mine Field Trip
need leader

Saturday, Nov. 17th
Meeting - 3 pm

Saturday, Dec. 8th
Vulcan Mine Field Trip
need leader

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



Be Green

Email Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com
to receive the newsletter via email.



Visit us online at www.floridafossilhunters.com

Articles and comments should be sent to: bonnierussell62@gmail.com

Florida Fossil Hunters

Post Office Box 540404
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404



Florida Fossil Hunters News