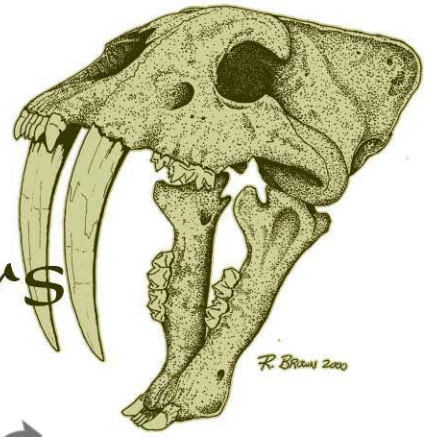


NEWS

Florida Fossil Hunters



Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters
Volume 27, Number 2

February 2017

From the President.....

Hello to everyone. Hope you are standing in the water at the Peace River while you read your newsletter.

A bunch of the Florida Fossil Hunters took advantage of the good weather and the low water to go diggin' in the Peace on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Sheila Walaszek took care of the planning and coordination. A big thanks to her and to Mark Voke who brought his trailer full of canoes for us to use. There were some first timers as well as veteran diggers in the group. We all found fossils and had a blast! We hope to get out soon and do it again.

We had a great time at the last meeting - Kids' Blast, a little fossil eye-candy, and our own Lee & Nancy Williams' presentation on their exploits in Saudi Arabia. In addition to the incredible stories, they brought fossils and treasures for us to see. Thanks for sharing, Lee & Nancy.

At the February meeting we have another special guest speaker lined up: **Harley Means of the Florida Geological Survey**. Wear your FSU garnet and gold (Gators, please refrain from throwing rotten veggies).

I'd like to thank the members who braved the cold and gave up their Saturday to represent our club at Leu Gardens' Dino Day: Steve & Michael Sharpe, Cindy Lockner, Bob Graham, Rus Ahlgrim, and Bonnie. Valerie First was volunteering at the Manatee Festival. She will also be participating in Darwin Day on Feb. 12 at the University Club sponsored by Florida Free Thinkers. There will be three speakers and they want her to set up her tables of fossils.

There are a couple of **Science Night Live's** at OSC coming up - Feb. 18th and June 3rd. Also **OSC's Earth Day** is on April 22nd. We are looking for volunteers for all three events.... it's a fun way to earn fossil bucks.

Cindy Lockner, aka Swan Whistler, was presented with the 2016 Howard Converse Award (details inside). Congrats, Cindy.

Be sure to check out the newsletter for details of all the events coming up.

See everyone at the meeting... or on the Peace River.

Russell Brown
President

Join Our Facebook group, Search:
Florida Fossil Hunters



Coming Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

Saturday, February 18th
2 pm Kids Fossil Blast
3 pm Meeting &
Speaker: Harley Means

Saturday, March 18th
3 pm Meeting

Saturday, April 15th
2 PM - Kids' Fossil Blast
3 pm - Meeting

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

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Florida Fossil Hunters News

Fragments

The Fossil Club of Lee County Annual Fossil Festival, February 18th

9am to 5pm at The Shell Factory, 2787 N. Tamiami Trail (US 41), North Fort Myers, FL 33903. There will be fossil vendors, a kids' dig, silent auctions, and more. For more information go to www.FCOLC.com

Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society February 25-25, LAKE LAND, FLORIDA:

First Presbyterian Church; 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr; Sat. 9-4:30; Adults \$3, Students/Children free; adults \$3, students, children and teachers free; door prizes, Spin & Win Mineral Wheel, kids' Treasure Dig, demonstrations, educational displays, silent and Chinese auctions, more than 30 dealers, rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts, hobby supplies, lapidary demonstrations, wire wrapping, cabochon making.; contact Kim Price, (863)-412-9156; IBVGMFS@gmail.com; www.bonevalley.net

Tampa Bay Fossil Club, March 11-12

Florida State Fairgrounds, intersection of I-4 & Hwy 301 just east of Tampa. Adults \$8, kids 12 & under free. Sat. 9-5, Sun 10-4. Fossils, gems, minerals, shells, kids' games, fossil mine, raffles, silent auctions. www.tampabayfossilclub.com

Central Florida Mineral and Gem Society Annual Gem Mineral and Bead Show, April 28-30, ORLANDO, FLORIDA

National Guard Armory; 2809 South Fern Creek Ave.; Fri. 1-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5, Students \$2; Central 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; www.cfmgs.org

Earth Day at OSC, Saturday, April 22nd

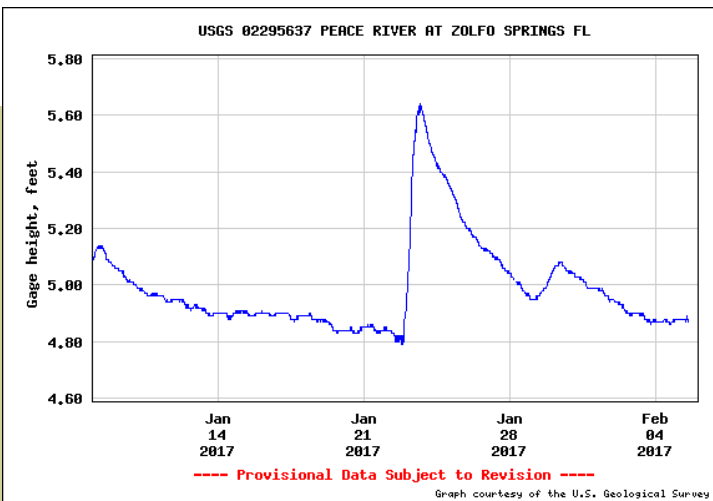
Florida Fossil Hunters will participate this year in the Earth Day celebration at the Orlando Science Center on Saturday, April 22nd from 10 am to 3 pm. We'll have more information later. If you'd like to volunteer for this event, sign up at the meeting or email Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com.

Kids' Fossil Blast

The group at January's Fossil Blast designed some very interesting creatures with Unique structures for feeding and locomotion... good examples of creative imaginations.

At February's program we will look at some of the most successful creatures on this planet and try to figure out why they escaped extinction so far and why others didn't make it. See you at 2 pm on Saturday, February 18th at the Orlando Science Center.

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



Piece on the Peace River

The water level is low and clear! It's perfect for digging for fossils and folks have been finding lots. A group of FL Fossil Hunters went Feb. 4th on a trip organized by Sheila Walaszek.

Any of you could do the same. Let me know if you'd like to get a group to dig with you: set a date and place to meet and I'll forward the email to fellow members. I can also give you Mark Voke's email so you can arrange with him to bring canoes for a group.

Bonnie Cronin (bonnierussell62@gmail.com)

Florida Fossil Hunters News

ASK A SCIENTIST - GEOLOGY

March 12th

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

FLORIDA MUSEUM -
3215 Hull Road,
SW 34th Street and
Hull Road Gainesville,
FL 32611



Science is all around you! Take advantage of this opportunity to talk one-on-one with researchers from UF's Department of Geological Sciences and ask those questions you have been wondering about. Bring your specimens and find answers during an afternoon of discovery and learning. For more information, call 352-273-2064.

Women in Paleontology 2017

This year's program promises to be bigger and better. We are fortunate in having the support of the folks at the Florida Museum of Natural History who have helped us secure a grant from the Paleontological Society this year to target young girls and minorities.

If you want to be part of this event, contact Cindy Lockner at clockner@comcast.net or Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com

The date for this year's program is **Saturday, May 6th**. Mark your calendars! We are so excited!!!

It's Time to Renew for 2017



March newsletters will only be sent to those who have renewed for 2017!

Memberships still only \$17 a year for an entire household. Recent members are paid through 2017. Download the application online, pay at the next mtg or use the form on page 7 and mail it along with your check to Florida Fossil Hunters, P.O. Box 540404, Orlando, FL 32854-0404.

Questions? email Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com

Women in Paleontology Webinars

This new webinar series is dedicated to promoting Women in Paleontology and Jan. 25's webinar will be presented by Tara Lepore, who is a researcher and educator at the Alf Museum of Paleontology in California. Tara will discuss her personal route to paleontology, resources for those interested in pursuing a career in the field, and she will cover a little bit about her research on coprolites.

FOSSIL Project Women in Paleo Webinar Series

Tara Lepore, researcher and educator Jan 25th

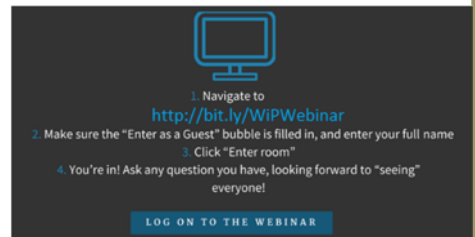
Brenda Hunda, museum curator Feb 22nd

Cindy Lockner, amateur paleontologist Mar 29th

Lisa White, museum director of education Apr 26th

Sponsored by:  Contact @egardner for details

In partnership with the Paleontological Society and with technical support from iDigBio, the FOSSIL Project is thrilled to be hosting a four-part webinar series throughout Spring 2017. All are welcome to attend these free webinars. Just connect at <http://bit.ly/WiPWebinar>. Connection time will begin at 6:45pm ET, allowing for 15 minutes to address any technical problems. If you are unfamiliar with AdobeConnect online conferencing software, don't worry! All you need is an internet connection and the webinar link above. There is no sign-up or installation. (Unless you wish to use a mobile device – then you will have to download the AdobeConnect app for either Android or iPhone/iPad.) And here is a helpful "quick start guide" for connecting!



Be sure to enter the webinar as a "guest" and write your full name so that we can keep track of attendance. Please see the attached webinar directions image for help.

If you haven't yet, please consider joining the myFOSSIL community website at www.myfossil.org. As a member of myFOSSIL, you can view the recorded webinars at a later time, engage with other members in the dedicated webinar forum, and – best of all – receive a certificate of completion for attending/watching all four webinars.

Fossil club/society officers, please feel free to forward this email to your members, or publish the attached full schedule in your newsletters.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Hope to see you this evening!

Eleanor E. Gardner, M.S., FOSSIL Project Coordinator,
Florida Museum of Natural History
(352)-273-1936 | egardner@flmnh.ufl.edu
fossil@flmnh.ufl.edu | www.myfossil.org/

It's always a good time when we get to inspire children and talk to adults with curious minds and there were plenty of them that day.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY POP-UP MUSEUM: FLORIDA FOSSILS

Feb 25th 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Join us as we venture outside our walls and bring the Museum to you! This themed event features hands-on activities and natural science exploration. Enjoy a unique, participatory experience between the Florida Museum and the community. We need YOU to make it happen. All ages are welcome. Come prepared for an adventure you will never forget!

When: Feb. 25, 1-4 p.m.

Location: Depot Park, 200 SE Depot Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601 as part of the event Cotton to the Cade 2017

Topic: Florida Fossils

What to Bring: A fossil from home to have identified!

Cost: FREE

Partner: FL Museum Vertebrate Paleontology, UF Dept of Geological Sciences, FL Program for Shark Research, FL Paleontological Society, University of GA, Fossilsawfish.com

Be sure to keep an eye out for future events each month, coming soon to a location near you!

For more information, contact Tina Choe at tchoe@flmnh.ufl.edu or call [352-273-2079](tel:352-273-2079).

Leu Gardens Report, Jan. 28th

When we signed up to participate in Dino Day at Leu Gardens, Keri Byrum, the Asst. Director said that they expected between 1,500 to 3,000 people to come. Frankly, I thought she was exaggerating. At 9 am the guests began to show up and soon there was a solid line of kids and adults waiting to see our tables. We talked nonstop about Florida fossils and dinosaurs for almost 6hrs. The count at the end of the day was 4,660!

Many thanks go out to Cindy and Bob for bringing their dinosaur material and wowing the guests. Thanks also to Steve & Michael Sharpe, and Rus Ahlgrim for volunteering their time to share the wonders of fossils and the past they bring to life.

It's always a good time when we get to inspire children and talk to adults with curious minds and there were plenty of them that day.

Car Wash for Fossil Project (see flyer)

Andre Tovar has scheduled three Eagle Scout car wash fundraisers for his project on the following dates:

- Saturday, April 15 from 10 a.m to 4 pm
-- Winn-Dixie / Circle K on 434 in Longwood
- Saturday, April 22 from 10 am to 4 pm
-- True Value Wekiva
- Saturday, May 27th from 10 a.m to 4 pm
-- Winn-Dixie / Circle K on 434 in Longwood

Get the grime off your cars & promote fossil education!

Go Play in the Dirt

The FL Museum of Natural History is currently working at a large-scale, extensive excavation at the Montbrook fossil site. The **Hemphillian Montbrook Site** is about a 40-minute drive south of Gainesville, near the town of Williston in Levy County.

The **Montbrook Site** is very productive and almost all volunteers will find some fossil specimens on their first day.

The most commonly found fossils are bones from the shell of freshwater turtles and vertebrae, spines, scales, and skull bones of fish, including gar, catfish, snook, and drum. Fossils of alligator, birds, and mammals are also found, but less frequently. For more information about the Montbrook fossil site, visit: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/museum-voices/montbrook/>

We will be working at the site from January 14 to May 21, 2017. Work at the site will occur from Tuesday through Sunday, with a few exceptions for some weeks. Volunteers from 15 to 17 years of age will be accepted but must be accompanied by an adult sibling (18+ years old), or a parent or guardian. **Otherwise, volunteers must be at least 18 years old.** Volunteers must be physically fit enough to work outdoors for several hours and be able to walk up and down irregular slopes. Volunteers can work just a single day, a few days, or a regular schedule one or more times a week. There is no limit to the number of times a volunteer can work at the site.

To volunteer for the Montbrook Fossil Dig, download an application form with more information (including which days we are digging at the site) <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/files/2314/7984/0017/Montbrookdigapplication2016-2017.pdf>. Send in the filled-out form using the directions on the back or second page of the form. If you have any questions about volunteering at the site, please email Rachel Narducci or Richard Hulbert.

You can also pick up the application form at our club meetings or contact Bonnie and she can mail the forms to you.

Montbrook Fossil Dig 2017 dates

February 2017: 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28

March 2017: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31

April 2017: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30

May 2017: To be decided

Florida Fossil Hunters News

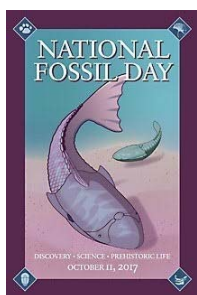


Cindy Lockner receives Prestigious 2016 Howard Converse Award while volunteering at the Montbrook Fossil Site

FPS Member Cindy Lockner was recently recognized for her volunteer service to the

FLMNH at Thomas Farm, Millennium Park, and the Montbrook fossil sites. The prestigious Converse Award, is presented each year by the Florida Museum of Natural History to recognize an individual(s) from the non-professional paleo community who have made outstanding contributions to Florida paleontology. Congratulations Cindy!

Florida Fossil Hunters,



I am excited to officially invite the Florida Fossil Hunters, as a National Fossil Day Partner with the National Park Service, to attend this years NFD Mega event at the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville. The museum has officially set the date for Saturday November 4th, 2017, from 10 am to 3 pm. I wanted to make sure we got on your

organization's calendar early in the year to help make sure this year's event is a big success! This year the Florida Museum marks its 100th anniversary as the state's official natural history museum and we want Florida paleontology to shine!

Thank you again for your time, and your continued support of paleontological education, we look forward to seeing you in November!

Paul R. Roth III
 Past President – Florida Paleontological Society, Inc.
 President – Florida Geological Foundation, Inc.
 Volunteer – Florida Museum of Natural History
proth@windstream.net | 352-468-2915

“Celebrate National Fossil Day”
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/fossilday/index.htm>

From the President...Russell Brown, President

Live from Orlando, it's Science Night Live Saturday, February 18, 2017, 8:00–11:30 p.m.

IT'S SOCIAL. IT'S SCIENCE. IT'S 21+.

Tickets are available online only so get yours before they sell out! www.osc.org

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! The next event promises to be out of this world!

- 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*
- Experience the hands-on exhibit Kinetic Zone
- 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 & up and tickets are going fast!

Must be 21 and older. For more info, call **407.514.2000**.

“Your Brain on Love”

GUEST SPEAKER: Dawn Maslar, MS – The Love Biologist

9:00 & 10:00 p.m., Digital Adventure Theater, Level 2
 20-Minute Presentation Followed by Q&A

Florida Fossil Hunters will display fossils and talk with the guests about them. To volunteer for this event, contact Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com or call 352-429-1058. Please... Russell & I tend to fall asleep by 9 pm. Valerie First is planning on being there with her fantastic collection.

“Overview of Florida's Geologic History”

Are you curious about how Florida formed and why it looks the way it does? Then bring your curiosity and questions to the meeting on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Harley Means, our guest speaker, is a licensed professional geologist who works for the Florida Geologic Survey in Tallahassee. During his tenure at FGS he has acquired professional experience in Florida geology, paleontology, archaeology, zoology, natural history and conservation. His research interests include: stratigraphy, paleontology, geoarchaeology and hydrogeology of Florida's numerous springs.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

VULCAN MINE Field Trip

Vulcan Mine Field Trip near Brooksville

FIELD TRIP LEADER

Saturday, March 11th

If you did not sign up at the meeting, please call or email:

Trip Leader: **NEEDED!**

Call or email Bonnie to volunteer for the Mar or Apr trip or sign up for the field trip

bonnierussell62@gmail.com | [352-429-1058](tel:352-429-1058)

This is one of the few places where kids are allowed in to fossil hunt. Be sure to stay with them since there are steep cliffs, sharp rocks, and small sinkholes.

Meet on the driveway loop near the entrance to the Mine by 8:30 am to sign releases before we are escorted into the mine around 9 am. We get to drive our vehicles in so you can have your coolers, snacks, and equipment handy while you hunt. They usually allow us to dig until noon and sometimes people can stay till 2 pm.

All participants

MUST

be escorted into and out of the mine. Do not leave on your own since it is easy to become lost.

THERE ARE NO RESTROOM FACILITIES AT VULCAN MINE, other than the boulders and the hills.

Directions: The trip will take approximately 2 hours from Orlando to Vulcan Mine. Be

sure to allow for extra time to stop at a restroom before you get there.

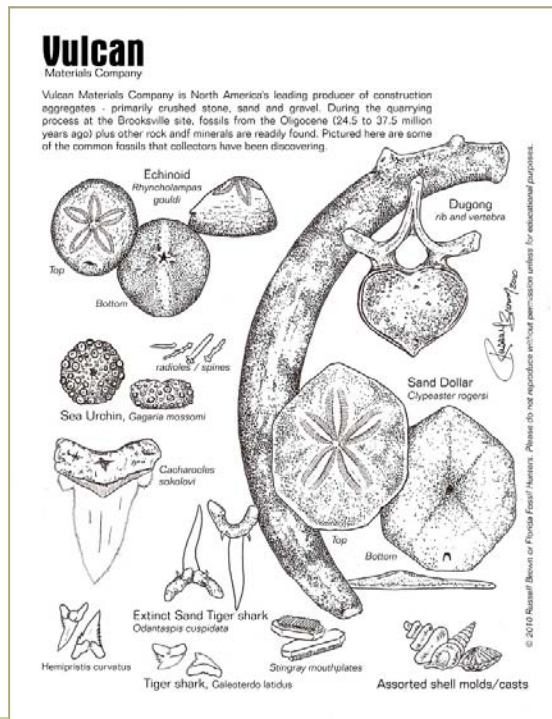
From Orlando take Hwy. 50 west (or the 408 west to the FL Turnpike, take exit 272 and then continue west on Hwy. 50) to Brooksville. Follow 50A/98 North through Brooksville and turn right on Ponce De Leon Blvd. (Hwy 98 North). Go approximately 10 miles. Vulcan/Cemex will be on your left. The address is 16313 Ponce De Leon Blvd, Brooksville, for those of you who want to download a map.

If you follow the truck route for Hwy. 50, you have to turn right onto 41, and then take the fork to the left to hook up with Ponce De Leon Blvd/98. There are several fast food places on 41 where you can take advantage of the bathroom facilities. Be sure NOT to keep following 41 north. You want to take 98 north from Brooksville.

This is mostly surface collecting with occasionally a little digging to pry out a specimen. Bring a small trowel or screwdriver or rock hammer, and a bucket to put your fossils and rocks into. You may want to bring small containers and tissue for fragile fossils.

Wear a hat, sturdy shoes, long pants (some of the rocks are sharp), and sunscreen. Bring lots of water and/or drinks and some snacks or lunch to eat.

We find mostly echinoids and sometimes sea urchins, pieces of bone, or other fossils are found. We also find chert rocks. This is the material that the Indians used to make their arrowheads and tools.



**TRIP LEADERS
ALSO NEEDED
APR 8**

*ID Sheet above is available on
the field trip and website.
floridafossilhunters.com/Field_Trips.htm*

**You MUST be a member of the
club for insurance purposes
to participate in this field trip.**

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 |
| Webmaster | Elise Cronin-Hurley | (407) 929-6297 |
| | elise@liseydreams.com | |

Board of Directors:

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

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, included at no extra charge, 2 adult votes per household.

Newsletter Policy

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 Prehistorical Museum, Inc.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters Mark Your Calendar

See inside for more information on events.

Saturday, February 18th

2 pm Kids Fossil Blast
3 pm Meeting &
Speaker Harley Means

Saturday, February 18th

Science Night Live
OSC, 8 to 11:30 pm

Saturday, March 11th

Vulcan Mine-NEED LEADER

Saturday, February 25th

Bone Valley Gem, Mineral
& Fossil Show, Lakeland, FL

Saturday, March 11th

Vulcan Mine-
NEED TRIP LEADER

March 11th & 12th

Tampa Bay Fossil Show

Saturday, March 18th

3 pm Meeting

Sunday, March 19th

Ask a Scientist-Geology, FLMNH,
Gainesville

Saturday, May 6th

Women in Paleontology,
Orlando Science Center

Saturday, April 8th

Vulcan Mine
- NEED TRIP LEADER

Saturday, April 15th

2 PM - Kids' Fossil Blast
3 pm - Meeting

Saturday, April 22nd

Earth Day at the OSC

Saturday, May 6th

Women in Paleontology

January to May

FLMNH Montbrook Dig
Orlando Science Center

FFH Fossil Fair

October 28th & 29th

Saturday, Nov. 4th

National Fossil Day at FLMNH

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

facebook

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