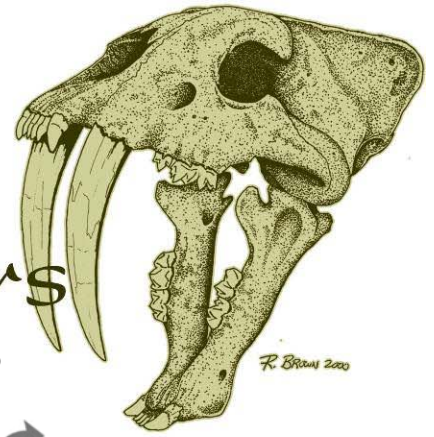


# NEWS

## Florida Fossil Hunters



Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters  
Volume 28, Number 7

September 2018

### From the desk of the President.....

Welcome everyone to the busy Fall season. The club's Fossil Fair will be here soon, along with the Daytona Museum's Natural History Day, and the **National Fossil Day celebration at FLMNH**. Yes, we are **looking for volunteers** to help out at the events. Check out the details inside this newsletter. If you want to sign up or have questions, email [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@gmail.com) or call 352-429-1058.

At last month's meeting, we went over the suggestions from the Board meeting. The proposals for having **6 meetings per year** (instead of 10) plus various events and having items at each meeting to "buy" with your Fossil Bucks were voted on and passed. These will go into effect in January 2019. If any other changes come up, we'll keep you informed.

Had a large collection of agatized coral brought in so everyone at the meeting got to take home at least one. Talked about Yankeetown and the Crinoid Kid. No, I haven't found one yet..... still looking. Also talked about donating items to the Florida Museum. Steve Sharpe & I had gone up to Gainesville to meet with Roger Portell (Invertebrate Curator). While Roger was checking out the Peace River sand dollars Steve had brought him, Steve noticed a few (oh-so-common) calcified sea urchin spines. Steve asked about them and Roger said that's all he had. Steve told him that he had a mayo jar full and Roger was welcome to them. I bring this up because we always assume that the Museum would only be interested in big dramatic specimens. Sometimes the common fossils we collect are needed for scientific study. **Donating to the Museum is a great way to participate in Citizen Science.**

I unveiled the design for this year's t-shirt at the meeting. **Fossil Fair Shirt orders** are already coming in so be sure to reserve yours.

We'll have a **speaker** from the University of Florida at the September meeting. See the details on page 6.

*Come on out and join us at the shows and events.*

Be seeing you soon.  
Russell Brown, President

## Coming Events

### UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

**Saturday, Sept. 15th**  
Meeting - 3 pm

**FFH Fossil Fair 2018**  
October 20 & 21  
Central FL Fairgrounds

**Saturday, Nov. 17th**  
Meeting - 3 pm

*More events listed on back page*  
*For more info...*  
[www.floridafossilhunters.com](http://www.floridafossilhunters.com)

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# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# Fragments

## Fieldwork Fails: A Live Storytelling Event

Thursday, September 20 | 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
Florida Museum of Natural History

In partnership with [Guts & Glory GNV](#) comes an evening of live, original, true, first-person storytelling. Hear from fieldwork scientists about some of the fun stories and situations they have experienced in nature.

Participants must be 18 years or older. The program fee includes admission to the permanent exhibits and a seat for the show. Food and beverages will be available at a food truck!

Food Vendor: Mayflower Cellars  
Entry fee: \$15 per person  
<https://www.gutsandglorygnv.com/>

## Archaeology Workshop: Pottery

Sunday, September 16 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Florida Museum of Natural History

Are you interested in prehistoric pottery? Learn to identify different types of pottery found throughout Florida and discover how archaeologists use these clues to study people in the past.

Join the Florida Public Archaeology Network for a FREE, fun-for-all-ages workshop.

<http://www.fpan.us/>

## National Fossil Day

Saturday, September 29 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Florida Museum of Natural History

Join the Museum for a fun-for-all-ages celebration of National Fossil Day and the opening of its newest featured exhibit, Permian Monsters: Life Before the Dinosaurs. Explore the world before dinosaurs roamed the earth. Meet paleontologists and geologists who work every day to uncover the secrets these ancient remains reveal about past life on Earth.

Enjoy this FREE, fun-for-all-ages event with hands-on activities, fossil displays and a dig pit. Bring your objects for identification and talk to members of Florida fossil clubs to learn what fossils can be found around the state!

## Permian Monsters: Life before the Dinosaurs

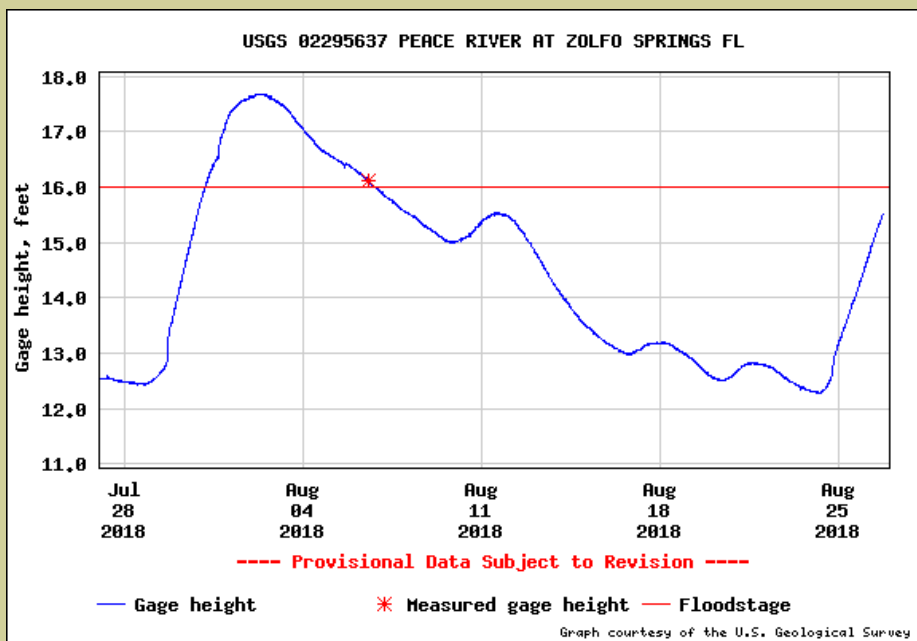
Sept. 29, 2018 to May 5, 2019  
Florida Museum of Natural History

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

It's getting harder to find places to hunt for fossils in Florida for now. The Peace River looks to be going up to flood stage (again!), there is red tide on the Gulf-side beaches, and toxic algae on the southeast coast on the Atlantic side.

On the positive side, you have a opportunity to sort and identify the fossils you have found. Check out our Facebook page if you need help with a mystery fossil. There are lots of folks willing to share their knowledge.



# Florida Fossil Hunters News



## 2018 Fossil Fair - T-Shirt Order Form

TITANIS WALLERI SKULL SHIRT ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 2nd.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark the number of shirts you want per size and select color.**

**\$13 Kid:** SM \_\_\_ MED \_\_\_

**\$13 Adult:** SM \_\_\_ MED \_\_\_ LG \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_

2X \_\_\_ 3X \_\_\_ 4X \_\_\_ 5X \_\_\_

**Choose Color:** Old Gold \_\_\_ OR Light Blue \_\_\_

**\$15 Adult Lt Blue w/Pocket:** SM \_\_\_ MED \_\_\_ LG \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_

*Pocket shirts only available in light blue.*

Email: [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@gmail.com) or call 352-429-1058. I'll collect the money when you pick up your shirts at the Fossil Fair.

**Total number of shirts ordered** \_\_\_\_\_

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 [bonnierussell62@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierussell62@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 of the Museum or with paid museum admission.

**Location:**

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

**Phone:** 386-255-0285

**Website:** [www.moas.org](http://www.moas.org)

**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 with Clayton Ferrer**

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.

**12:00PM: 40 Years of Exploring Volusia Ecosystems with David Griffis**

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.

**1:00PM: A Short History of Nearly Everything with Jeff Rodgers**

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.

**2:00PM: Smithsonian Environmental Research in the Indian River Lagoon with Dr. Valeri Paul, Director of the Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, Florida**

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.

# Florida Fossil Hunters News

# 2018 FOSSIL FAIR

Florida Fossil Hunters

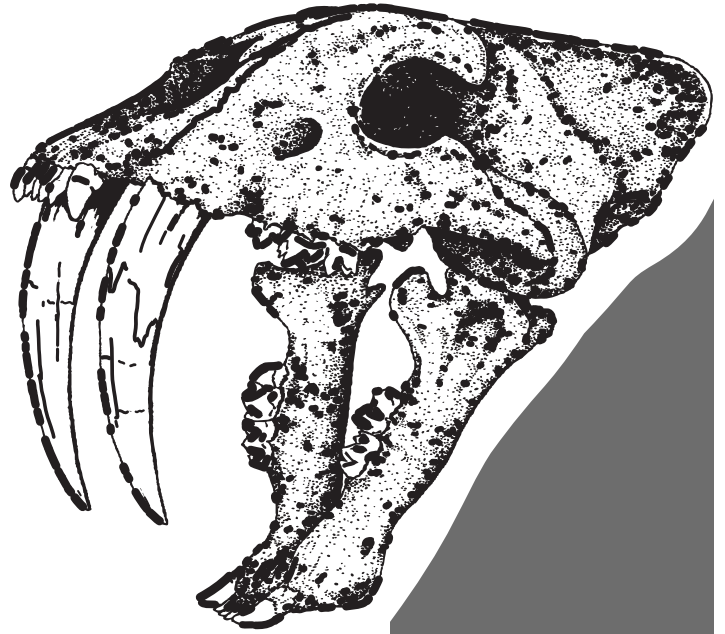
Twenty-sixth Annual  
**Fossils, Rocks,  
Gems & Minerals**

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

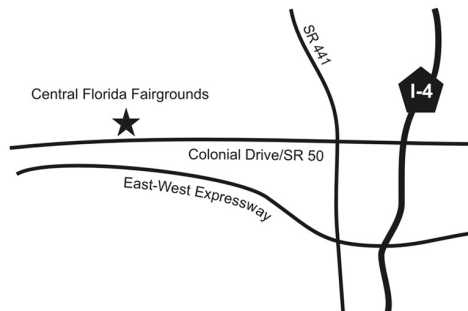
\$4.00 Adults | \$1.00 Children

**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!**



## Caelestiventus hanseni: Newly- Discovered Triassic Pterosaur Lived in Harsh Desert

Aug 14, 2018 by Natali Anderson

Paleontologists have discovered what they say is a completely unexpected desert-dwelling pterosaur that lived in what is now Utah, the United States, about 210 million years ago. The discovery of this early pterosaur, reported in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution*, sheds new light on early pterosaur anatomy and development.

*Caelestiventus hanseni*. Image credit: Michael Skrepnick / Brigham Young University.

Pterosaurs were giant flying reptiles that flew over the heads of the dinosaurs. Soaring on skin wings supported by a single huge finger, they were the largest animals ever to take wing.

Originating in the Late Triassic epoch (around 215 million years ago), they thrived to the end of the Cretaceous period (66 million years ago).

Triassic pterosaurs are extraordinarily rare and are known exclusively from marine deposits in the Alps (Italy, Austria and Switzerland), except for *Arcticodactylus cromptonellus* from fluvial deposits in Greenland.

The new Triassic pterosaur is from the Saints & Sinners Quarry near Dinosaur National Monument in Utah.

Named *Caelestiventus hanseni*, the ancient flying reptile was comparatively large (wing span over 5 feet, or 1.5 m) and lived in harsh desert environments.

It is the only record of desert-dwelling non-pterodactyloid pterosaurs. It predates all known desert pterosaurs by more than 65 million years.

"We're getting insights into the beginning of pterosaurs. Ours shows that they're extraordinarily diverse," said Brigham Young University's Dr. Brooks Britt.

Courtesy of [sci-news.com](http://sci-news.com)

## FFH Sept. 17th Speaker

*Shamindri Tennakoon will be making a presentation on Cenozoic cassids (Mollusca: Gastropoda) from Florida and Mississippi.*

***Shamindri describes her studies as follows:***

I am a PhD student in the Invertebrate Paleontology Division at the Florida Museum of Natural History and the Department of Biology, University of Florida. My research interests are conservation paleobiology, morphometrics, systematic paleontology, and marine ecology.

I'm currently working on two projects for my dissertation research. For one of the projects, I am attempting to delineate morphotaxa of cassid snails (Mollusca: Gastropoda), where I am carrying out a morphometric analysis using common Cenozoic cassid morphotaxa deposited in museum collections. As part of this project, I am also attempting to resolve the taxonomy of cassids from the upper Eocene Ocala Limestone, Florida. Cassid gastropods are predatory snails that feed on echinoids and they leave behind drill holes in their prey's tests. Although predation traces resembling cassid drill holes are common in the fossil record, cassids are an understudied group of gastropods and their taxonomy is poorly resolved for many genera, regions, and time intervals. Fossil echinoids are abundant in Florida's upper Eocene Ocala Limestone and holes resembling those made by cassids are commonly seen in these echinoids. Unlike the echinoids, cassids are rare in the Ocala Limestone and all of them are moldic and mostly incomplete. I am making [RTV silicone rubber peels](#) as 3D replicas of the external moldic cassid specimens deposited in the Invertebrate Paleontology Division, Florida Museum of Natural History which are then used to distinguish different species and obtain measurements for morphometric analyses.

My other dissertation research project is within the discipline of conservation paleobiology, where I am comparing the abundance and diversity of mollusk living assemblages and death assemblages (surficial shell remains of past communities) to assess the impact of an artificial reef (Suwannee Regional Reef System) on reef-associated soft-bottom benthic fauna over decadal time scales.



# 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	<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
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, Sept. 8th**

10 am - 3 pm  
Natural History Festival  
Daytona Beach Museum of  
Arts & Sciences

**Saturday, Sept. 15th**

Meeting - 3 pm  
Speaker: Shamindri Tennakoon

**Thursday, Sept. 20th**

6 - 9 pm  
Fieldwork Fails, Storytelling Event  
FL Museum of Natural History

**Saturday, Sept. 29th**

10 am - 3 pm  
National Fossil Day at FLMNH

**Sept. 29, 2018 - May 5, 2019**

Permian Monsters, FLMNH

**Oct. 5, 6 & 7**

Central Florida Gem & Mineral Show  
National Guard Armory

**Saturday, Oct. 6th**

8 - 11:30 pm  
Science Night Live  
Orlando Science Center  
Need volunteers

**Sunday, Oct. 16th**

2 - 4 pm  
Archaeology Workshop: Pottery  
FL Museum of Natural History

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](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

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Orlando, Florida 32854-0404



## Florida Fossil Hunters News