

## North Carolina Fossil Club Business Meeting Minutes January 19, 2020

Welcome by Diane Willis at 1:30 p.m. Visitors to the meeting were Laura Schafer and her son George; and Rachel. Announcements: Southeastern Federation of Mineralogical Societies will have an “old fashioned” rock swap in early March. A packet of information was available for more information for anyone interested in going to this event or the executive committee meeting in Live Oak, FL. Please let Diane know if you are interested in attending. Julie Niederkorn shared information about The Waco Fossil Project, a group that takes donated fossil specimens and creates teacher kits to send out across the country. Some New York specimens given to the NCFC were sorted by Terry Denny to send to this project and Julie agreed to take them and send them. The club will get credit for these donations and information on where they are sent. Other donations from the U.S. will be welcome, with very minimal information needed- a baggie with specimens and location listed. Some other fossils were given to the club by Tom Burns and are being sorted by Trish Kohler to determine uses. Reminder to renew membership for 2020. See Mike for this.

**Program: *Fossicking for Eocene and Miocene Plants of Washington State – We “Bear-ly” Made it!***

**Presenters: The Duvall Family, Charlie and Pam Causey, Joy Herrington and Emily Pierce, James Bain, and Diane and Bob Willis**

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

#### **Reports of Officers and Committees**

**Minutes** from the 11-2-19 meeting were read by Terry Denny. There were no corrections. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report** by David Sanderson- Current balance is \$22,629.00. The beginning of 2019 balance was \$20,328.00. Income in 2019 was \$10,953.00 from \$4500.00 in donations and the rest in book sales. The club saved \$1900.00 by no longer printing and mailing Janus. Income was slightly down for 2018 by about 2,000.00 as book sales were slightly slower.

**Membership/Website Report** by Mike Bruff- Currently there are 155 memberships- 72 household, 13 honorary, and 58 individual memberships. Last year ended with 258 memberships though some may not yet have renewed. There was no website update but let Mike know if there are issues with receiving emails being sent out.

**Books Report** by Gary Lewis- Book sales are slower due to no new volumes coming out. However, a best seller was the new reprint of the Cretaceous book with a colorized cover, and the 2020 calendar. There are 14 of these left at \$10.00 each.

**Newsletter report** by Eric Sadorf- The next issue of Janus will be March 1, 2020. Send any submissions by that date.

**Outreach** – Report by Darryl Grater

**Sept 21** – Rankin Museum Mini Fossil Fair, Ellerbe NC – Ruffin Tucker. Jonathan attended,

**Oct 19, Sat** – National Fossil Day at Aurora Fossil Museum with NCFC co-hosts: picnic, demo by Jim Mickle, assistance with fossil contests, drawing, and clay...Cindy Crane, Julie Niederkorn organizers; Jim Mickle, Diane Willis, Trish Kohler, Ramona Krailler, Judy Witkowski-Argentine participated and reported a successful and well attended event.

**Nov. 2** – NCFC Fossil Fair was a big success! Thanks to all, and Ramona Krailler as Coordinator!

**Winter** – 2nd Grade Classroom fossil programs to supplement new curriculum goals in NC by Terry Denny: Abbotts Creek, Raleigh – Holly Grove in Holly Springs, Alston Ridge in Morrisville, Lacy and Lead Mine in Raleigh, and Forest Pines in Wake Forest. Each elementary school averaged around 150 students and teachers.

**Zebulon Elementary** 4th grades: Cheryl Gourley presented to 4th grade on fossils and geology.

**Classroom programs for 8<sup>th</sup> grade** were presented by Ramona Krailler at the following middle schools: Githens, Lucas, Carrington, in Durham for about 900 students. 2 more are scheduled for February.

**Davis Drive Elementary and Alston Ridge:** Jim Mickle presented to 3 tracks one day and a 4<sup>th</sup> track another day. He shared he has developed 5 kits for his cellulose acetate peel technique which are available for K-12 teachers at Science House at NC State.

**Nov. 16** – Chapel Hill Public Library Fossil Program – Diane Willis; Douglas Hill. There is a new Environmental Science person there who asked for a program.

**Afterschool Program, Catholic Charities, Charlotte** – Dinosaur Program: Mary Boulton- no info was available.

#### **Upcoming Events/Outreach (2020):**

**1/25** VA Museum of Natural History, Martinsville – Ice Age Day: Darryl Grater

**1/25** Cape Fear Museum, Wilmington – Dinosaur Family Event

**2/8** Discovery Place, Charlotte – Fossil Day: Jim Mickle and Darryl Grater

**2/22** Schiele Museum, Gastonia – Fossil Fair: Mary Boulton and Darryl Grater

2/28 Davidson Co. Historical Museum, Lexington – Ediacaran Fossils: Mike Bruff

### **Old Business- outreach/conferences/field trips**

**Field Trip Reports:** Diane shared a letter that Linda wrote to contact the quarries to arrange field trips.

**Sept. 28** - Swift Creek- a nice day, everyone found something

**Oct. 11** - Castle Hayne- Lot of echinoids , some crabs

**Oct. 20** – Tar River – Rick Trone-Cancelled

**Nov. 8** – Clarks Quarry- Nice finds

**Nov. 23**–Hanson–Delayed to 1/8 present, small area, nice finds

**Dec. 7** – Old Dock – Don R. Need pile turned over

to weather, but 15<sup>th</sup> with Dave Bohaska happened): Julie Niederkorn- weather better, a good time, but not a lot found

**Dec. 21** – GMR – Rick Trone- small group but good finds, though cold

**Jan. 7–9, 2020** Shark Tooth Hill, Bakersfield, CA – Dallas Paleontological Society had slots for us but no one attended

**Oct. 5** - Hanson Quarry- no report available

**Oct. 17** – GMR – Darryl Grater- Good trip for all

**Oct. 26** – Old Dock – Don R.-Pit flooded but good finds

**Nov. 22** – Onslow Quarry- Open quarry

**Dec. 6** – Belgrade Quarry about 50 there, still nice finds

**Dec. 14 -15** – Stratford Hall (14<sup>th</sup> cancelled last min. due

### **New Business**

**Aurora Fossil Festival** – Sat., May 23 – A Coordinator is needed for NCFC participants to work with Cindy and Aurora Fossil Museum. Community focus, activities on Main St. A fossil pit will be by the Community Center to help bring visitors to the exhibits. Cindy shared many more details at the meeting about this and also other Aurora outreach activities with scouts. Aurora Fossil Museum is now sending out Teacher Kits, being reimbursed by Nutrien. Will be adding on to the upstairs at the museum. The main pit is being repaired but back pit is still open.

**Science Olympiad** – Gary Lewis – State Tournament 4/25 will need volunteers for the day to administer and grade exams all day. National tournament 5/16 at NCSU will also need volunteers to assist. More details to come. Go to science.nc.com to see a list of all events if you have other interests beyond fossils. An outreach email will be sent out for this. Our club partnered with Aurora Fossil Museum to provide prizes to winners.

**Scholarship Committee** – Don Rideout; Rick Trone, Rebekah Gunn, Linda McCall, Jim Mickle- Don reported they met and set deadlines. By 7/15 information will be sent to the board for approval and tentatively by 9/1 to have information out to the public. They are planning to have a grant for this year and are considering a scholarship in the future.

**Fossil Fair 2020 and Fossil Fair 2021:** Todd Power agreed to be the 2020 coordinator at the Greensboro Science Center, on November 7, 2020. He will send out information later on. Locations were discussed for 2021 and Appalachian State was suggested. Andy Heckert will be contacted to ask about this possibility. Joy also suggested the NC Zoo. \_\_\_ agreed to contact them and gather information.

**Logo Pins/T-shirts/etc.** – Gary Lewis, Linda McCall- There was discussion on having club pins or t-shirts made for sale. Linda had an assortment of pin designs for everyone to look at and mark their favorite before leaving the meeting.

**Field Trip Update and Up-coming Field Trips: See *Janus* for more details on signup dates for trips listed below:**

Linda McCall shared a note about bathroom etiquette- someone left a quarry bathroom in a mess and the quarry manager let Linda know this may affect later trips if it happens again. It may not have been our club, but we have agreed to monitor this to prevent future concerns.

**2/21**- Onslow Quarry (open)

**3/14** – GMR

**3/27** - Clarks Quarry

**4/11** – GMR

**5/late** - England – Gloria Sanders (notes available if interested)

**5/29** - Clarks Quarry [email date May 14 8:00am to Monica Spence]

**6/12** - Castle Hayne Quarry [email date Jan. 20 8:00am to Linda McCall]

**3/6** - Castle Hayne Quarry

**3/20** - Belgrade Quarry (open)

**4/3** - Onslow Quarry (open)

**4/18** - Tar R Cliffs

**5/15** - Belgrade Quarry

**Coming up:** Hanson Quarry and Old Dock

An announcement was made that Dr. Dale Russell had passed away in December 2019.

Meeting Adjournment at 4:15 p.m. Door prizes given by James Bain.

The next meeting is March 15, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. in the Level A Conference Room of the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh.

Minutes submitted by Terry Denny.