



janus

THE
NEWSLETTER
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA
FOSSIL
CLUB

NUMBER 18

FEBRUARY, 1985

SPRING SCHEDULE

The following trips have been arranged for the first half of 1985:

- March 9Texasgulf, Aurora
- March 23Fussell's, Rose Hill
- April 13Texasgulf, Aurora
- May 4Texasgulf, Aurora
- May 18Martin Marietta,
Castle Hayne
- June 1Texasgulf, Aurora
- June 15Board Meeting, 1:00 pm
Raleigh

We will meet at the gate of these quarries by 9:00 am on the day of the trip; please be on time. Sturdy shoes are recommended, and at Fussell's and Martin Marietta hard-hats will be required. In addition, Texasgulf will not allow anyone under the age of 18 into their mine. The TG official that schedules our trips also specifically asked that we be on time and that we not ask the bus driver to run us back and forth to the gate; the bus will only run at scheduled times. Remember, there are limited restroom facilities at the gate; there are none at the quarry.

Guests are not permitted on the Texasgulf trips; NCFC members may bring a guest to other trips.

An open board meeting is scheduled for June 15th; any interested members are certainly welcome. We will be planning our fall trips, including a Smithsonian trip, and will be making other decisions affecting the club. The meeting will be held at Judy Schneider's house; if you need directions please call her at (919) 851-6726.

N.C. STATE MUSEUM NEWS

After years of struggling, the paleontology section of the N.C. State Museum of Natural History in Raleigh has finally been assigned some space for organizing the fossil collection. The suite of eight rooms designated for geology/paleontology are located in the old Health Dept. building, two blocks west of the museum in downtown Raleigh. We hope in the future to be able to use these facilities for programs and work-days for NCFC members, but the immediate task is to move and organize the existing collection. Vince and Judy Schneider, associate curators at the museum, report that Moving Day will be on Saturday, February 16th, and add that able and willing volunteers will be promptly put to work. If you are excited about helping, call Vince or Judy at (919) 851-6726 for details.

...AND NCFC CONTRIBUTIONS

The NCFC board of directors, at the January meeting, voted to contribute \$200.00 to the paleontology department at the State Museum, to be used for shelving or cabinets or for any other necessary equipment in their new quarters. A more specific accounting of how your money is being spent will be reported in a future Janus.

In conjunction with the expansion of the State Museum's paleontology department, donations are invited from NCFC members. If you have fossils you would be interested in donating, contact Vince or Judy Schneider.

SMITHSONIAN TRIP

We are planning a club trip to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., sometime in September of this year. In addition to a behind-the-scenes tour of the paleobiology section of the National Museum of Natural History, we hope to offer a couple of presentations by some of the professional paleontologists on the staff. It will be informative and educational for members and their families.

In the past it has proven most feasible to allow you to make your own arrangements for travel and lodging; we will all then meet at the museum much as we do on field trips.

If you are interested in this trip and want more information, call NCFC president Judy Schneider for talk to an officer or board member at a trip. We will probably set a date by June, coordinating our schedule with that of our hosts at the Smithsonian.

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

You will be receiving very shortly a membership survey in the mail. It is important that you complete the survey and return it in the stamped envelope provided. The Board of Directors will use the results of this survey in deciding what course the N.C. Fossil Club will take in the future. Please feel free to include suggestions or comments with your reply.

EXHIBIT OPENING

All of our 1984 members should have received an invitation to an exhibit opening at the N.C. State Museum last November. We were tickled to have about 50 people (NCFC members and others) show up for the opening of an exhibit on the paleontology of the Texasgulf mine area. Our club worked closely with the museum and with Texasgulf officials to make the opening a success. Carolynne Hertenstein, NCFC treasurer, handled refreshments for the reception.

FOSSIL FAIR 1984

It was terrific! Those of you who missed it really missed something. There were some outstanding specimens brought in by Wilmington area residents, as well as super displays by NCFC members - Tom and Pam Burns, Frank and Becky Hyne, Doug Nunnally, George and Irma Potter, Thelma Bennett, Trish Kohler, and Vince Schneider. Doug Nunnally did the most super job of all organizing the whole thing.

Clayton Ray, Bob Purdy, and Daryl Domning from the Smithsonian, and Dave Bohaska from Calvert Marine Museum, were there to identify (and collect donations of) the fossils, and Dr. Ray has made it clear that the day was a success for them. Dr. Walt Wheeler from UNC-Chapel Hill added a spark to the proceedings. A few people who brought in artifacts were steered to an archeologist that Doug had invited from UNC-W for just such a purpose.

Among the exciting fossils we saw were a walrus skull and a mosasaur jaw (the mosasaur material is from the Cretaceous Peedee Formation).

CASTLE HAYNE

We have a trip scheduled to Martin Marietta in Castle Hayne on May 18th. For those of you who aren't familiar with it, Castle Hayne is the type locality of the Castle Hayne Formation, an Eocene marine deposit (approximately 35 million years old). Among the types of fossils commonly found at Castle Hayne are a good selection of echinoids (sea urchins, sand-dollars); some nautiloids; other shells, some different from the Miocene fauna at Texasgulf, often preserved as casts and molds; other invertebrate material like crabs; also some shark teeth, archeocete whale (ancestral to TG forms), and other vertebrate material.



At the ribbon-cutting for the Texasgulf display at the N.C. State Museum of Natural History are (left to right) John Funderburg, Museum Director; cutting the ribbon is David Edmiston, a TG vice president and former plant manager at Aurora; Judy Schneider, NCFC president; and Jack Milani Jr., a senior vice president at Texasgulf in Raleigh.

NORTH CAROLINA FOSSIL CLUB
Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Type of membership(s):	Individual (new)	\$10.00	_____
	Individual (renewal)	5.00	_____
	Spouse	2.50	_____
	Junior (under 18)	1.50	_____

Please include the first names of all members (spouse and junior).

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: North Carolina Fossil Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 92
Cary, North Carolina 27511

PLEASE! Memberships cannot be accepted at the site on the day of a trip.
Mail your membership well in advance.