



JANUS

The Newsletter
of the
North Carolina
Fossil Club
www.ncfossilclub.org

2008 Number 3

2008 Fall Calendar

September

- 6 Mini Fossil Fair** – Rankin Museum, 131 W. Church St., Ellerbe, NC 10:00 - 4:00. Contact: Ruffin Tucker (704) 784-1672 or paleotck@netscape.net
- 12-13** Ahoskie Heritage Festival. Town Manager, Charles A. Hammond, seeks participation (applications available at www.ahoskie-nc.org).
- 13** Trip to Stratford Hall/Westmoreland State Park, Virginia, with Dr. Lauck V. Ward, sponsored by the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH). Vertebrates & invertebrates are found here. The cost is \$35 for non-VMNH-members (\$20 for children under 12). Contact Janet Roetken at 276-634-4171 (Janet.Roetken@vmnh.virginia.gov).
- 21 NCFC Meeting** – NCMNS, 11 West Jones Street, Raleigh. 1:30 pm, Level A conference room. Ruffin Tucker and Tony Furr: “Precambrian fossils in the Tarheel State: The Ediacaran of Stanly County, NC.”
- 28** Green’s Mill Run - Contact John Steffensen 252-756-0386 (jjlld@aol.com). Meet 9:00 in the Elm Street Park.

October

- 2** Castle Hayne - Contact Dave Sanderson at 919-469-2812 (DSanderson@precisiontune-nc.net). Meet 11:00; Hardhat!
- 5-9** Annual meeting, Geological Society of America, Houston, TX (www.geosociety.org).
- 15-18** Annual meeting, Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, Cleveland, OH (www.vertpaleo.org).
- 18** Boat trip to the upper James River, VA, with Dr. Lauck V. Ward, sponsored by the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH). Vertebrates & invertebrates are found here. The cost is \$100 for non-VMNH-members. Contact Janet Roetken at 276-634-4171 (Janet.Roetken@vmnh.virginia.gov).
- 19** Trip to Lieutenant Run, with Dr. Lauck V. Ward, sponsored by the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH). The cost is \$20 for non-VMNH-members (\$15 for children under 12). Contact Janet Roetken at 276-634-4171 (Janet.Roetken@vmnh.virginia.gov).
- 30** Rocky Point - Contact Dave Sanderson at 919-469-2812 (DSanderson@precisiontune-nc.net). Meet 11:00; Hardhat!
- 31** Northern Guilford Middle School, 616 Simpson-Calhoun Road, Greensboro, NC. Day-long series of fossil exercises in science classes taught by Ms. Cassi Lowder. We plan to wet-screen about 750 pounds of Miocene gravel, courtesy of PCS Phosphate. If you have fossils to donate, please bring them to our September meeting. If you wish to volunteer, please contact James Bain (james.bain@duke.edu).
- 31-2** Carolina Geological Society’s field trip & annual meeting, Spruce Pine Mining District, Little Switzerland, NC (www.carolinageologicalsociety.org).

November

- 1** NCFC Fossil Fair and Board Meeting - Onslow County

Museum, Richlands, NC. Contact James Bain (james.bain@duke.edu). Brief meeting of NCFC Board to follow.

- 15** Richlands Quarry, Onslow County, NC. Contact Sharron and Ron Edwards: ronsharron@ec.rr.com. Meet at quarry office 10:00.

January

- 18** NCFC Meeting - NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Jones Street, Raleigh, Level A Classroom. Program TBA

General Rules

It is absolutely imperative you communicate with the contact person in advance of going on a trip. Maintain close contact with the leader for special instructions/last minute changes. Be certain the leader has accurate phone and/or email addresses. Some trips may be limited in size at the option of the leader.

Castle Hayne and Rocky Point begin at 11:00 AM and hard hats are usually required and not furnished by the company. The terrain is rugged and can be somewhat dangerous and demanding for persons not used to climbing or physical exertion.

Hunting at Green’s Mill Run consists of screening material from the bottom of an urban creek. The water is polluted and the bottom has broken glass, rusty metal, and who knows what else (but also fossils). Waders are desirable. A screen and a long-handled shovel are essential.

Always arrive early. Be sure to fully understand rules and instructions. Safety is our main concern – Never do anything which might endanger you or any other collector. Children, where permitted, must always be under your direct control and supervision.

Safety rule violations are a sure way to lose all fossil collecting privileges at any site.

Volunteers Needed

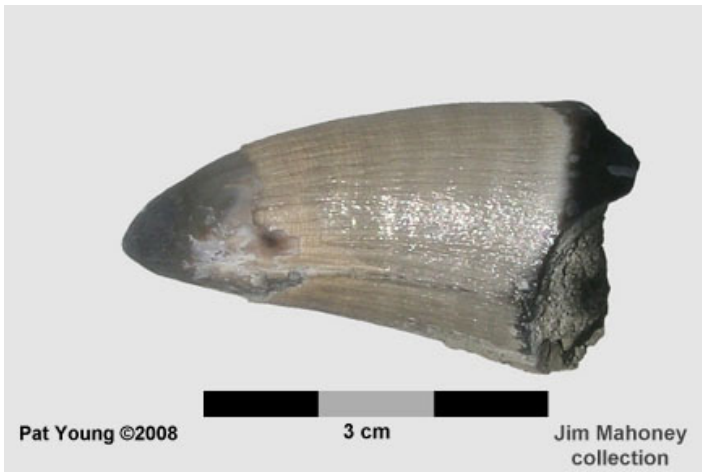
Roxada and Robert Story need help with elementary school groups at the Onslow Quarry on October 23, 24, and 25. Contact by email: rstorys@mindspring.com

This is a great experience! You will be surprised at how turned on these kids are to fossil collecting and how many fossils they can find in an area which seems to have been thoroughly picked over. Help the Storys; you’ll be glad you did!

Cretaceous/Paleogene Field Guide Revised

When John Timmerman talked to the printer about a new print run of the *Cretaceous and Paleogene Fossils of North Carolina*, he was told that it would have to be converted to digital (for a fee). I indicated that I would do the digitizing because there have been several errors that have always rankled John and me and this would give me the opportunity to correct them. This will not be a major revision but there are several corrections/emendations, including the egregious (but consistent) misspelling “*auriculatis*”. John’s “favorite” error was identifying bryozoa as “colonial algae”. Now if we can avoid adding new ones . . .

Richard Chandler



Croc tooth found by Jim Mahoney last spring at PCS Photo courtesy of Pat Young.

Presidential Column

The drawing power of fossils was again in evidence on Saturday, July 12th, when more than 2,500 visitors crowded into Durham's Museum of Life and Science for Dino Day. Attendees viewed treasures from the fossil collections of several of our Club's members, and my guess is that most visitors dug in the "Pungo Pit" of fossil-rich Miocene gravel provided by PCS Phosphate, Aurora, NC. Activity never really let up at the Pit--it was jumping all day long. My hardhat is off to Trish Kohler for her marvelous job of organization, to Joy Pierce Herrington for her unflagging effort at the Pit, and to so many of you who volunteered at diverse jobs. I worked out in the sticky heat in the Pit, trying to remain alert to visitors' questions and needs, but not once did I detect the stealthy efforts by several of you who intermittently "salted" the site with high-quality Aurora fossils throughout the day. Nice sleight-of-hand work, folks! This all bodes well for that Museum's planned summer 2009 opening of their new Dinosaur Trail, replacing their old Dinosaur Trail, which was much-loved by "Durham-ites" from its years of construction (circa 1963-1967) until it was wrecked by Hurricane Fran in September 1996. At least one of the old, fading dinosaurs (Apatosaurus?) is still visible in the woods across Murray Avenue from the Museum. Our preview suggests that the Pungo Pit on their new Dino Trail will be a real magnet for "children of all ages," especially if the gravel can be refreshed from time to time.

Our autumn 2008 schedule is full of opportunities to collect with fellow Club members, and I encourage you to come out and join our fun in the field.

We are now accepting volunteers to help out at our fall Fossil Fair at the Onslow County Museum, Richlands, on Saturday, November 1st (see Calendar). For years now, Cindy has consistently done a superb job of organizing these soirees. When a fresh pile of Miocene Pungo "reject" is provided, as it will be on November 1st, I am always impressed at the speed with which our Club members can hydraulically burn their way through the remnants of a Pungo pile after the public has left for the day. Our efforts at fossil fairs around the State do much to entertain and educate people from all walks of life. Eavesdropping on families leaving the fairs and receiving grateful feedback from museum staff always makes me feel good about our Club. I hope to see you at Richlands.

James Bain

CD ROM Progress Report

The *Fossils of North Carolina* (CD ROM) project is moving along. Below you can see a (tentative) final layout of the chapters with author(s), and the degree of progress on each. I apologize for the length of time this is taking but when I first proposed the project, I had no idea of the magnitude of the task. To give one example: there are well over 500 mollusk species included (and I think that only scratches the NC mollusk surface). We will get there!! Just bear with us a little longer.

Richard Chandler

1. **Geological Introduction:** Richard Olsen, Chris Tacker, Vince Schneider, Richard Chandler - F
2. **Plants**
 Leaf Impressions: Richard Chandler - F
 Fossil Resin: Rufus Johnson - F
 Fossil Wood: Rufus Johnson - F
3. **Miscellaneous Invertebrates**
 Ediacaran Fauna: Ruffin Tucker - L
 Porifera: Richard Chandler - F
 Cnidaria: Richard Chandler - F
4. **Echinoderms**
 Echinoidea: Judy Schneider - F
 Crinoidea: Rufus Johnson - F
 Stellerioidea: Richard Chandler - F
5. **Bryozoa:** Steve Hageman, Frank McKinney, Richard Chandler - F
6. **Mollusks and Brachiopods**
 Pelecypoda: John Timmerman - M
 Gastropoda: John Timmerman - M
 Scaphopoda: John Timmerman - M
 Cephalopoda: Richard Chandler - F
 Brachiopoda: Judy Stiles - M
7. **Crustacea**
 Decapoda - Cretaceous and Eocene: Don Clements - M
 Decapoda - Miocene and Pliocene: Patricia Young - L
 Cirripedia: Richard Chandler - F
8. **Fish**
 Chondrichthyes: Richard Chandler - F
 Osteichthyes: Vince Schneider - L
9. **Reptiles and Birds**
 Reptilia: Vince Schneider - L
 Aves: Kim Greene - L
10. **Mammals**
 Marine Mammalia: Joy Herrington - L
 Terrestrial Mammalia: James Bain - L

Code:

- L = less than 50% finished
- M = more than 50% finished
- F = essentially finished

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (HR554)

Beginning with Janus 2003, #1, I have written a series of *Tall Tales from the Trails* for this newsletter, in which I focused on specific “fossicking” opportunities on public lands Out West, mostly on lands administered for the American people by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of the Interior, and the Forest Service (USFS), Department of Agriculture. In describing diverse government regulations covering collecting, I have often used language along these lines: “Collection of reasonable amounts of fossil plants and invertebrates for personal use is allowed.” In 2006 and 2008, I led trips in which NC Fossil Club Members collected on BLM, USFS, and other public lands.

Our continuing freedom to collect common fossils on public lands is now in question.

The Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (HR554), sponsored by Representative James P. “Jim” McGovern (Democrat, Massachusetts), if passed, will give government bureaucrats significant new powers to regulate our hobby. Congressional action is imminent. On “August 1st, 2008, the House Committee on Judiciary granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than September 12th, 2008” [<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h110-554>].

A group with which we have a strong tie, the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (SFMS), has been watching the progress of this bill with great concern for several years now. During the time that I have been a member of our Club, every member of the North Carolina Fossil Club, Inc., is also a member of the SFMS. We enroll you annually so that we can purchase liability insurance through them. [As an aside, you are welcome to attend most SFMS field trips--see the electronic issues of their newsletter, the Lodestar, and contact the trip leader in question]. To access the Lodestar, or to read commentary on HR554 and related legislation by John Wright, Past President of SFMS, see their Web site (<http://www.amfed.org/sfms/>).

Speaking as someone from Arizona, a Southwestern state where most land is owned by the government, let me assure you that this bill, if it becomes law in its present form, will harm casual and innocent collecting by amateur fossil enthusiasts. Vague wording, coupled with potentially serious penalties for violating the law, will lead to a crazy quilt-work across the West, with local regulations set by district bureaucrats who might or might not understand the issues at hand. The word “fossil” is already a hot button in government circles, with no distinction made by some between a rare vertebrate and, say, a widespread limestone that contains abundant crinoid ossicles. On these pages, I have already spoken of sites where, ironically, local districts of federal government agencies will allow companies to mine rich fossil beds for commercial flagstone or road aggregate but not for fossils (Janus 2007, #3).

Vertebrate fossils, including locally common shark teeth and the disarticulated scales of bony fishes, are already off limits, well-protected by existing laws. And occasional abuse of significant paleontological resources on public lands by amateur (and some professional) paleontologists is effectively prosecuted under those existing laws.

Our hobby is not frivolous. In paleontology, as in astronomy, activities of amateurs are of ongoing and substantial help to professionals. I have noted with pride the many specimens collected by our members that have been donated to museums. I urge you to study this bill, think about the resources in question, and ask yourself if we really need another law against rockhounding. Even as cranky as I am, I have not written to a member of Congress in many years. Perhaps it is time.

James Bain

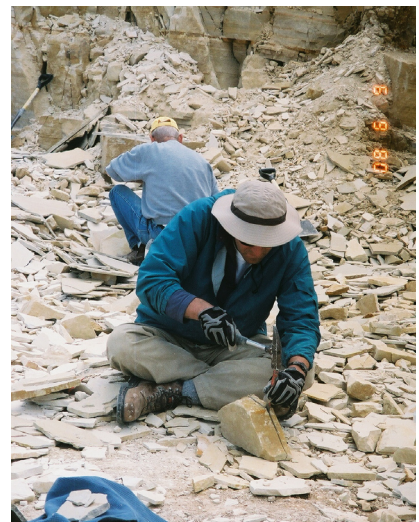
Trip report: North Carolina Fossil Club's collecting trip to the Eocene Green River Formation of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado, June 2008

Hoping to ensure a successful hunt by our fellow Club members, Mike Malaska, Jim Mahoney, and I scouted widely during the week before the main group arrived, meandering around in a vast diamond whose corners were Salt Lake City and Green River, Utah, Rangely, Colorado, and Kemmerer, Wyoming. Though our stated goal was lake sediments of the Eocene Green River Formation, which we did explore, we also strayed a bit farther back in geologic time while scouting, fossicking around in the Mississippian, Pennsylvanian, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous, and maybe even a bit of Paleocene. My friends, “AB” Berman and Natalie Harlan, arrived by motorcycle from Flagstaff, Arizona, and helped us scout the plant and insect quarries south of Bonanza, Utah. Everywhere we went, motels and restaurants were full of roughnecks and others working the latest petrochemical boom (mostly natural gas exploration). Illuminated drilling rigs dotted the night landscape in remarkably remote locales. We saw prehistoric rock art at many sites, some of which appeared to represent alien abductions. While car-pooling in a single vehicle high on Utah's San Rafael Swell, we three explorers got a flat tire on Limestone Bench on a distant dirt road at latitude 39° 01' 17" north, longitude 110° 41' 42" west, only to discover that the spare tire provided by the rental company was also flat, resulting in the use of much colorful language and a grateful donation of a big shale plate of Cretaceous horsetails to some folks who eventually happened by and helped us out. Foods we consumed that week included Beanie Weenie, cold and straight from the can. By phone, the ladies in our lives assured us that they were glad they did not attend this particular week of outdoor fun. We saw lots of Mule Deer and American Pronghorn. Snow drifts blocked our passage over Reservation Ridge on the summit of Utah's Book Cliffs on June 7th, forcing us to backtrack and take a major detour. In our week of meanders, we saw lots of fossils and scenery. See the associated Gar scales Mike found in Janus 2008 #2. (With Cindy's help, Mike hopes to put his slide show from our last meeting up on our Web site.) If you are nice to me, and if you promise not to tell, I might give you a list of localities we visited that first week.

On the evening of Sunday, June 8th, the three of us were met at the care-worn Fossil Butte Motel in Kemmerer, Wyoming, by these members of the NCFC: Mary Boulton, Dick and Angela Stober, Jeff and Sandra Cohn (and son Matthew, not quite two years of age), Mary Anne Wentink (and her fossil hound, Bruce), and Vikki Jacklich. So we numbered ten adults, one toddler, and a pup.

Fossil sites described below have all long been known to collectors, so I will not be shy about giving exact locations. We invented our own names for the small Utah quarries south of Bonanza.

On Monday, June 9th, we visited the excellent small museum at Fossil Butte National Monument west of Kemmerer, and then paid to dig fossil fish at Warfield's. My own haul for the afternoon was not great. I found a few little, herring-like *Knightia*, and I destroyed a big, perch-like *Mioplosus*



Mike splitting shale at Warfield's Quarry, Wyoming, on June 9th. Dick is visible in the background.

while trying to extract it from a wavy layer. [Locality data: “Warfield’s Splitting Quarry,” USA, Wyoming, Lincoln County, Hams Fork Plateau, roughly 14 km NW of Kemmerer, pay-to-dig quarry, park at GPS 4635043 N, zone 12, 526951 E, & walk toward the active quarry face. Stratum F2 of the Fossil Butte Member, Green River Formation; see L. Grande, “Paleontology of the Green River Formation, with a Review of the Fish Fauna,” 2nd ed., 1984, Bulletin 63, Geological Survey of Wyoming, Laramie. Lacustrine deposits from ancient Fossil Lake, age approximately 50 million years, nominally early Eocene. The rock matrix is kerogen-poor, laminated, micritic limestone.]



Diplomystus dentatus from Ulrich’s Splitting Quarry, Fossil Station, Wyoming. Specimen photos courtesy of Mike Malaska.

Afterward, we got excellent take-out pizza at the Scroungy Moose Pizza on State Highway 233 near Kemmerer, and had an outdoor supper with beer in the wind at dusk at a city park on the Hams Fork River. The following day, we had a much more productive time paying to dig fossil fish at Ulrich’s quarry. [Locality data: “Ulrich’s Splitting Quarry,” USA, Wyoming, Lincoln County, W of Kemmerer, high on a hillside near Fossil Butte National Monument, pay-to-dig quarry, park at GPS 4626570 N, zone 12, 524841 E, & walk toward the active quarry face. Stratum F2 of the Fossil Butte Member, Green River Formation; see L. Grande, op. cit.] In little more than an hour, I found *Knightia*, *Mioplosus*, and the predatory *Diplomystus*. I saw, but did not attempt to recover, a large, predatory, “Arawana-like” *Phareodus*. Jim and the Stober’s came away with mirror-image specimens of the same large fish. Jim’s half was very fragile--he worked after hours for the remainder of the trip to stabilize his big fish for the trip home to North Carolina. He even gave it a name.

Driving south that afternoon, we stopped and peered down over the edge of Flaming Gorge at the impounded Green River as a big



From left: Jim, Mary, Dick, Angela, James, Mike, and Mary Anne, at Fossil Butte National Monument, Wyoming, June 9th

front blew through. We then drove up over the Uintah Mountains, down past the West’s largest phosphate mine, all the way down to Vernal, Utah, which we used as our base for the remainder of the trip. Vernal greeted us with a dusty, warm wind. This being a small, rural city in Utah, it took us several nights of investigation before we found a decent pub to wash down the warm red dust.

Wednesday, June 11th, took us south of Vernal on the dirt road connecting Bonanza and the ghost town of Rainbow (working and abandoned gilsonite mines, respectively). The previous week, I confirmed that the Bonanza region was open to the collection of invertebrate and plant fossils by visiting the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office in Vernal. These three small quarries all yielded insects and leaves. We found two scorpions while turning over rocks. Petrified wood, mud cracks, ripples, and raindrops were also found to varying degrees in the three sites, suggesting a shallow shore. Judging from old diamond-saw cuts and survey markers, all three sites appear to have been academic excavations that were not restored when studies were complete. A weevil-like beetle from Bug-O-Rama Quarry, found the previous week by AB Berman and illustrated in Janus 2008 #2, has been donated to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. [Locality data: Bug-O-Rama Quarry,” USA, Utah, Uintah County, south of Bonanza, within sight of the road between the ghost towns of Watson & Rainbow. Park adjacent to the quarry at GPS 4414072 N, zone 12, 656954 E. “Summit Quarry,” USA, Utah, Uintah County, ridge between Hells Hole Canyon & Evacuation Creek, south of Bonanza, within sight of the road between Bonanza & the ghost town of Dragon. Park in the quarry at GPS 4422550 N, zone 12, 659603 E. “Natalie Quarry,” USA, Utah, Uintah County, ridge between Hells Hole Canyon & Evacuation Creek, south of Bonanza, within sight of the road between Bonanza & the ghost town of Dragon. Park in the quarry at GPS 4422745 N, zone 12, 659406 E. All three sites: Caution:



From left: Mary Anne, Angela, Dick, Mary, Vikki, and Jim in the museum at Vernal, Utah, on June 12th. “People” photos courtesy of Jim Mahoney.

scorpions are present under rocks here. Early Middle Eocene (~48 million years old), Green River Formation, upper Parachute Creek Member (includes much oil shale), ancient Lake Uintah. General area is locality U4 of Grande, L., op. cit.]

On Thursday, June 12th, we took a long drive into adjacent Colorado. After almost two weeks of scouting and grubbing around in the rocks, I had begun to limp from the fractures I had sustained on April 10th when struck by a car after setting up a fossil fair in Hillsborough, NC (Janus 2008 #2). I reverted to wearing a brace. My NCFC colleagues were understanding, and they did not try to rush this battered old Mountain Goat. Kneeling and squatting were becoming impossible for me, and my productivity in collecting fell off accordingly. On the way out of Vernal, we stopped at the fabulous new building of the Utah Field

House of Natural History State Park Museum. (The interior of their old museum is shown in Janus 2006 #4). This is one of my favorite small natural history museums in America. Their focus is on ancient life, with especially heavy emphasis on the Jurassic Morrison Formation--Dinosaur National Monument is just east of town--and the lacustrine Eocene Green River Formation and terrestrial Eocene faunas of the area. Any visitor to the vast Colorado Plateau would benefit from a stop here. Their Park Manager-Paleontologist, Steven D. Sroka, Ph.D., took me back into his lab and kindly gave us copies of several chapters from a text we had been unable to get in advance (The Green River Formation in Piceance Creek and Eastern Uintah Basins, Everett WR, ed., Grand Junction Geological Society, Grand Junction, CO, 1995).

We proceeded east to the tiny hamlet of Dinosaur, Colorado,



James at the Raydome site near Douglas Pass, Colorado, on June 12th.

south and east to Rangely, CO, and south from there to Douglas Pass on the Roan Cliffs. These cliffs divide the drainages of the White River to the north from the Colorado River itself to the south. At Steven's suggestion, I called the BLM office in Grand Junction, CO, to confirm that they did not object to us collecting plant and insect fossils at the famous Douglas Pass site. This site has been closed at different times in recent years due to homeland security issues in the immediate aftermath of the September 11th, 2001, terror attacks (adjacent FAA radar facility) and because illicit commercial fossil hunters brought in a backhoe and dug without discretion. Where we parked at the collecting site, right at an elevation of 9,000 feet, we encountered snow drifts in the shade, and snow flurries were blowing around in the air. Still, the sun soon emerged, and cute hatchling Horned Lizards ("horny toads," *Phrynosoma* [?] *douglasi*) appeared and began hunting for ants. FAA staff drove by and gave us permission to dig inside the outer (but not the inner) fence around their radar dome. Our crew came away with fossil leaves and insects. On the way back north to Rangely, we stopped and looked at several rock-art sites from the ancient Fremont Culture in the Canyon Pintado Recreation Area (BLM). [Locality: "Raydome, Douglas Pass" (also spelled Radome), USA, Colorado, Garfield County, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) radar site on the summit ridge of the Roan Cliffs, ~6 km NNE of Douglas Pass on Colorado Highway 134, park at GPS 4389505 N, zone 12, 692131 E, & walk uphill to W toward summit, but do not cross into FAA site itself. Elevation 9,000 feet (often cold & windy). Ticks are present. "Mahogany Ledge" strata of the early Middle Eocene (~48 million years old), Green River Formation, upper Parachute Creek Member (includes much oil shale), ancient Lake Uintah. Amateurs & professionals have collected here for many decades. Locality U2 of Grande, L., op. cit.]

On Friday, June 13th, we visited the famous Cowboy Canyon quarries on Utah State Trust Land east of Bonanza. All of us purchased \$10 rockhounding permits in advance from William



Mary and Vikki at the head of Cowboy Canyon, Utah, on June 13th.

M. Stokes, Minerals Resource Specialist, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, State of Utah, 675 East 500 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, UT, 4102-2818, wstokes@utah.gov, phone (801) 538-5153, fax (801) 355-0922. Excavation of plants and insects here is shown in a nicely made film in the auditorium of the museum in Vernal, and many of those fossils are on display. In fact, one whole wall of a room is covered with Bonanza plants, in which they have hidden a single fish fossil [?from Kemmerer, WY?]. I described this set of quarries in Janus 2006 #4. Many thanks to Becky Hyne for telling us of this locality. On this Friday the 13th, when we encountered several more scorpions, we also made return visits to the quarries "Natalie" and "Bug-O-Rama," followed by a yummy farewell dinner at the Dinosaur Brew Haus near the museum in Vernal. [Locality: "Head of Cowboy Canyon," USA, Utah, Uintah County, ~3.7 km ESE of Bonanza, small quarries on the rim at the NW head of Cowboy Canyon, park at GPS 4429765, zone 12, 660567E, & walk uphill to the north & east. Caution: scorpions are present under rocks here. Early Middle Eocene (~48 million years old), Green River Formation, upper Parachute Creek Member (includes much oil shale), ancient Lake Uintah. General area is locality U4 of Grande, L., op. cit.]



An Eocene leaf from Summit Quarry, south of Bonanza, Utah.

On this trip, I did not drive my Subaru 'way Out West to serve as the Club's baggage wagon. A hideous evil-scientist cackle rises in my throat as I prepare to divulge how we shipped most of our specimens home. The Homeland Security people do not like to see rocks in checked airline luggage. I imagine that is because rocks are radio-opaque.

Fair enough. In recent years, I have had the feds remove fossils from my baggage and discard them, without even leaving me an explanatory or scolding note. So we shipped most stuff home in the US Postal Service's "flat-rate" boxes, in which one can convey a remarkable mass of rock via Priority Mail, anywhere in the USA, for a low price, as long as it fits in the box they give you. (Yes, the box is free of charge.) Ask Cindy about the slabs of Kemmerer Green River "shale" we sent her. And post office staff in all three states told us that people use them to ship rocks all the time. Only one of my boxes burst partially open in transit, and I could have prevented that with more tape.

Our excursion was a success. At our July meeting, where Mike gave his an excellent slide show of our trip, Mary and the gang presented me with a Brunton Pocket Transit. I was really touched. I get terribly homesick for the Colorado Plateau. But with my trusty Brunton, I know I can always find my way back there.

James Bain

Museum of Life and Science - Dino Days Mini Festival



Sharron Edwards with a small part of her and Ron's exceptional display.



Rick Bennett with an interested visitor.



Mary Bolton had some of her finds from the Utah trip.



Kathy Fain with her and husband Jonathan's



Tracey and Chris Mayo with their fish (plural).



Diane Willis, Roxada and Robert Story were outside.

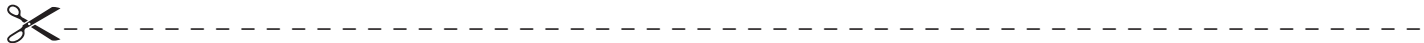


Joy Herrington and Ron Edwards at the ID table.

NORTH CAROLINA FOSSIL CLUB, INC.

(Founded 1977)

PRESIDENT	James Bain	(919) 479-2320	Bahama, NC
VICE PRESIDENT	Jeff Cohn	(919) 325-3405	Apex, NC
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Cynthia Crane-Muston	(252) 830-8897	Greenville, NC
TREASURER	Trish Kohler	(919) 383-6328	Durham, NC
SECRETARY	Joanne Panek-Dubrock	(919) 362-6392	Cary, NC
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSONS	Roxada/Robert Story	(919) 544-2017	Durham, NC
EDITOR, JANUS	Richard Chandler	(919) 851-2153	Raleigh, NC
BOARD	Rick Bennett (2009)	(919) 839-1802	Raleigh, NC
	Mary Boulton (2008)	(704) 541-9397	Charlotte, NC
	Jonathan Fain (2008)	(919) 518-1591	Raleigh, NC
	Joy Pierce Herrington (2009)	(919) 929-2661	Chapel Hill, NC
	Jim Mahoney (2009)	(336) 643-0798	Summerfield, NC
	Jodie McDaniel (2008)	(910) 455-5179	Jacksonville, NC
	Eric Sadorf (2008)	(919) 466-8484	Cary, NC
	Diane Willis (2009)	(919) 967-1008	Chapel Hill, NC



2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - NORTH CAROLINA FOSSIL CLUB

NAME(s) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE(s) (INCLUDE AREA CODE) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

SELECT ONE TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL (NEW)	\$20.00
(ENCLOSE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUAL (RENEWAL)	\$15.00
FOR THE INDICATED AMOUNT.)	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSEHOLD (NEW)	\$25.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> HOUSEHOLD (RENEWAL)	\$20.00

Children of NCFC members who are dependent minors and living at home may accompany parents on any trip *EXCEPT* PCS–Lee Creek or where otherwise noted.

Memberships are effective from January through December of the year (or portion of the year) of the date of application. For example, persons joining in August will need to renew their membership 5 months later in January.

NCFC Liability Statement

The Undersigned hereby acknowledges his/her understanding that fossil collecting is an inherently dangerous activity which can result in serious bodily injury or death, and/or property damage and hereby confirms his/her voluntary assumption of the risk of such injury, death or damage.

The Undersigned, in return for the privilege of attending field trips Related to the collection of and/or study of fossils, or any other event or activity conducted or hosted by the North Carolina Fossil Club (NCFC), hereinafter collectively and individually referred to as “NCFC Events”, hereby releases the NCFC, NCFC Board members and officers, NCFC Event leaders or organizers and hosts, landowners and mine or quarry operators from any and all liability claims resulting from injury to or death of the undersigned or his/her minor children or damage to his/her property resulting from any cause whatsoever related to participation in NCFC Events.

The Undersigned agrees to comply with any and all rules and restrictions which may be communicated to the undersigned by the NCFC Event leader and/or landowner and mine or quarry operator and acknowledges that failure to comply will result in immediate expulsion from the premises.

The Undersigned acknowledges that this release covers all NCFC Events and will remain in effect at all times unless or until it is revoked by written notice to the current President of the NCFC and receipt of such revocation is acknowledged.

The Undersigned further attests to his/her intent to be legally bound by affixing his /her signature to this release.

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

MAIL To: NORTH CAROLINA FOSSIL CLUB, P.O. BOX 13075, RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NC 27709

North Carolina Fossil Club
P.O. Box 13075
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709



*In the Fossil Pit at the Museum of Life and Science's Dino Days (See inside, p. 6.)
Dino Days photographs courtesy Trish Kohler.*