

Fossil Club of Lee County

January, 2010

Message from the President



Greetings to all and I wish everyone a Happy New Year. We begin the year with a well funded treasury and a membership of over 150 people with varied interests in fossils and paleontology. We ended last year with a great Fossil Show. Thanks to the many of you who supported that event so well. Then we had a Holiday Dinner meeting with lots of wonderful dishes and desserts. A great way to finish 2009. We have booked excellent speaker programs for January and February. Our speaker for January is Richard C. Hulbert Jr., Collections Manager for the University Of Florida Museum Of Natural History. If you have his book entitled "Vertebrate Fossils of Florida", bring it to the meeting and he will be glad to sign it for you. Our good friend Dr. Robin C. Brown is our speaker for February. If you have any of his books, bring them in and I am sure he will be pleased to sign them. Our annual auction will be held in March. This is not only a wonderful opportunity to acquire some great fossils, but it is also our major event to raise monies for scholarship funds. If you have fossil items or other items you think appropriate for the auction, please donate them at the January or February meeting. A separate article about the auction is in this newsletter and it provides the details for the March meeting. We plan to have several field trips this year. The Peace River water is pretty cold at about 65 degrees so a wet suit is recommended.

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Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on, January 21, at 7:00 p.m. at the Calusa Nature Center, Ft. Myers

Officers

Bill Shaver, President (239)834-0694 / billshaverpeaceriver@hotmail.com

Al Govin, Vice President (239)910-2339

Ray Seguin, Treasurer, 939-1921 or 936-5019

Sharon Drake, Secretary, (239) 823-9052

Board Members

Director—Louis Stieffel, 458-9818

Michael Orchin, 574-6318

Sandy Schwartz, 772-8015

Trip Director, Bill Shaver

Dive Trip Director, Mike Siciliano , 980-1406

Committees

Newsletter: Cheryl Mitchell

Speakers: Bill Shaver

\$1.00 Raffle: Mike Siciliano

Auction: Louis Stieffel

Web Master: Curtis Klug

Pit Trip Director: Gunther Lobish

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We'll see how many people are game for a late January or early February trip to the river. We are still hunting Quality and Vulcan and also if there is interest we could set up a trip to Ruck's for calcite crystals/etc. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to bring in refreshments. We need volunteers for March and April. The club will reimburse you for your expenses. Everyone is invited to participate.

Also, on the subject of volunteering, our host, the Calusa Nature Center is looking for volunteers to help out with a wide variety of tasks. See me or any of our club directors for more information. Our speaker is an expert on fossil horse and tapirs as well many other species. Bring in any specimens you have for ID and also for Show and Tell. As usual we will have door prizes and a raffle.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our January meeting.

Best regards, Bill

FCOLC UPCOMING SPEAKERS

JANUARY: Speaker: Richard C. Hulbert Jr. Author of "The Fossil Vertebrates of Florida". Topic: Dating Fossils of Bone Valley

FEBRUARY: Speaker: Dr. Robin Brown, Author of "Florida Fossils" & "Florida First People".

MARCH: ANNUAL AUCTION

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Barry Rogers with tools (kayak, shovel, sieve, including wet suit) ready to go up or down the river. This photo taken with lower water and higher temps on December 2, 2009, about 400 yards above Zolfo Springs Boat Ramp. A lot of rain fell on the following weekend of December 4 - 6, raising the water level 12 to 20 inches.

During December the temperatures have been cold, so a wet suit is a critical investment. The water levels are also very high, limiting access to many of the better locations. There can be rewards. Above are a couple of megs found by Jack Boyce near Griffin Bridge in Wauchula on December 29th. That was the day a cold front moved through and Wauchula air temps were in the low 40's. Brrrrrrr!!!! My Christmas present.

Submitted by Jack Boyce

MINUTES OF MEETING THE FOSSIL CLUB OF LEE COUNTY, DECEMBER, 2009

There were no official minutes for December. The Holiday Dinner was held at the Zion Lutheran Church with 55 members attending. Bill Shaver thanked everyone for bringing in wonderful dishes and desserts and a special thanks was given to Sandy Schwartz for cooking the turkey and to Chuck Ferber for cooking a ham.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon Drake, Club Secretary

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Just a reminder! Dues for 2010 are due January 1st. If you joined the club since October 2009, you will be credited for 2010. Family membership is \$20.00. Single membership is \$15.00, and Couple membership is \$17.00. Please send check to Ray Seguin, Treasurer, at 2124 Harvard Ave., Fort Myers, FL., 33907 or come to the monthly meeting and give it to him in person! Thank you for your participation. See the club website for additional information.

[Www.fcclc.com](http://www.fcclc.com)



WEB SITES OF INTEREST

FOSSIL CLUB OF LEE COUNTY:
www.fcolc.com

MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
@ GAINSVILLE: [http://
www.flmnh.ufl.edu/](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/)

FLORIDA VERTEBRATE FOSSIL
PERMIT: [http://flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/
vertpaleo/vppermit.htm](http://flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/vertpaleo/vppermit.htm)

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FOSSIL
CLUB: [http://
www.southwestfloridafossilclub.com](http://www.southwestfloridafossilclub.com)

ORLANDO FOSSIL CLUB: [http://
www.floridafossilhunters.com](http://www.floridafossilhunters.com)

PEACE RIVER WATER LEVELS:
<http://www.canoeoutpost.com>

SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY
MUSEUM: <http://www.mnh.si.edu>

FLORIDA FOSSIL PERMIT: [http://
www.flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/vertpaleo/
vppermit.htm](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/vertpaleo/vppermit.htm)

FLORIDA FOSSIL CLUBS: [http://
www.fossil-treasures-of-florida.com](http://www.fossil-treasures-of-florida.com)

PICKING UP ISOLATED NATIVE
AMERICAN ARTIFACTS: [http://
dhr.dos.state.fl.us/archaeology/
underwater/finds](http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/archaeology/underwater/finds)

Contact Cheryl at [kayak-
peacriver@yahoo.com](mailto:kayak-peacriver@yahoo.com) if you have any
suggested additions to our web site in the
interest column. **Please help support
the newsletter by submitting appropri-
ate articles for publication.**

• LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Calusa Nature Center and Planetarium Calusa Na-
ture Center and Planetarium
3450 Ortiz Av, Fort Myers
Tel 239-275-3435
www.calusanature.com

Imaginarium
200 Cranford Av, Fort Myers
www.cityftmyers.com/imaginarium

Southwest Florida Museum of History
2300 Peck St., Fort Myers
www.swflmuseumofhistory.com

The Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum
3075 Sanibel-Captiva Rd, Sanibel, FL
www.shellmuseum.org

Randell Research Center
PO Box 608, Pineland, FL
(on Pine Island)
www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/

Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve
Six Mile Cypress Drive (Between Daniels and Colo-
nial) www.sloughpreserve.org

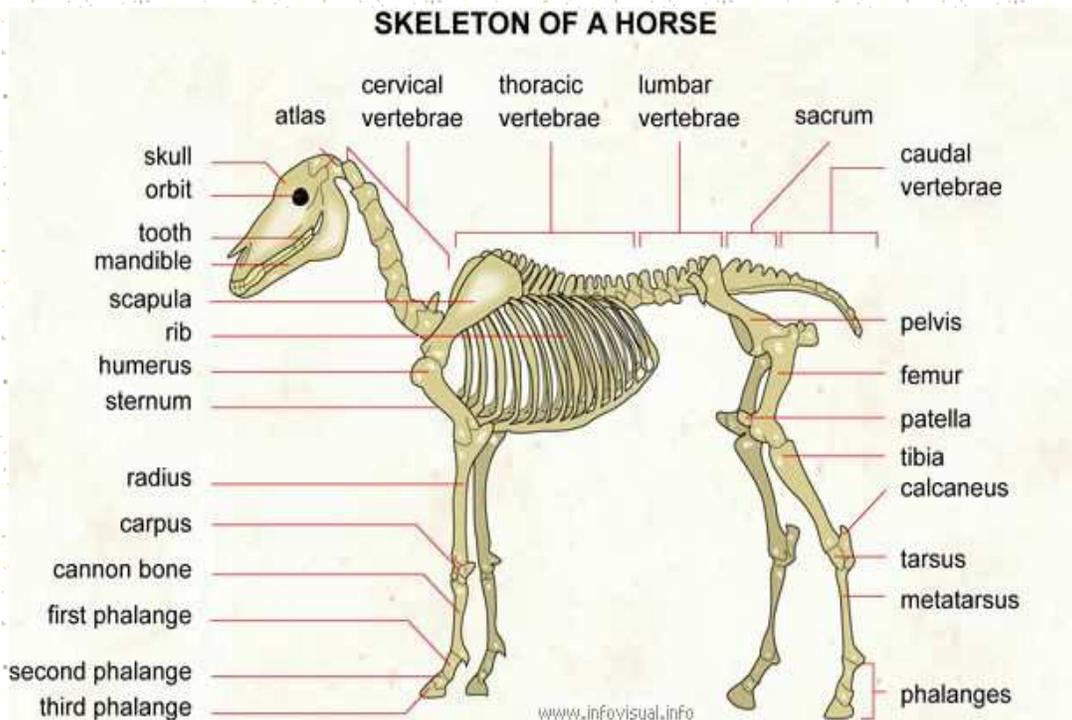
Cracker Museum at Pioneer Park in Zolfo Springs,
FL Tel 863.735.0119

Lost in Time, St. Pete Pier, St. Petersburg, FL
Tel 727.823.7493

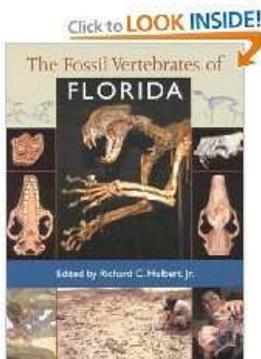
Peace River Wildlife Center
3400 West Marion Avenue (Ponce De Leon Park)
Punta Gorda, Florida
www.peacriverwildlifecenter.com



Richard C. Hulbert, Jr., January Program Speaker



Richard C. Hulbert, Jr., is the Vertebrate Paleontology Collection Manager at the Florida Museum of Natural History. He has been doing field work and research on Florida and Georgia fossils since 1981. Pursuing his current research interests which include Miocene horses and tapirs and Pleistocene mammals, he is particularly interested in understanding the interrelationships between long-term climate change and terrestrial vertebrate evolution. Richard's book, "The Fossil Vertebrates of Florida", published in 2001, summarizes the current state of vertebrate paleontology in Florida. Richard also manages and administers the Fossil Permit program for the hunting of fossils on state owned properties. For the FCOLC monthly meeting for January 21, 2010, Richard will speak to us about fossil horses and geochemistry.



Richard C. Hulbert, Jr. Research paper: LATE MIOCENE *TAPIRUS* (MAMMALIA, PERISSODACTYLA) FROM FLORIDA, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES, *TAPIRUS WEBBI*. <http://flmnh.ufl.edu/vertpaleo/hulbert2005.pdf>



ABOUT REFRESHMENTS

In our December newsletter we recognized those who volunteered to bring in refreshments during 2009. We inadvertently overlooked the Legree family who brought in some delicious desserts. Thank you, Pat, Don, and Rodney.

We would like others to step forward and volunteer for refreshments for the months of March and April. Remember, refreshments do not have to be lavish, just some munchies and drinks will do. The club will reimburse you for your expenses.

In view of the fact we have several new members and our northern friends are back, we should plan on snacks and drinks for seventy (70) people.

As always, everyone in the club appreciates those of you who volunteer to bring in the refreshments! Bill



REFRESHMENTS

JANUARY: Pat and Ted Oakes, Sue Sprout, Sally Ann Moore and Skip Friend.

FEBRUARY: Leslie and Louis Steiffel, Pat and Don Legree

MARCH: NEED VOLUNTEERS



NOTE: Volunteers that sign up to provide refreshments, which includes bringing in iced beverages, will need to take home the club coolers home with them. The club bought coolers for that purpose. This has not been a problem in the past, but there have been two recent incidents where the volunteer/s forgot to get the coolers. And for all of you that have taken your turn to bring in refreshments, the club really appreciates your support! If there is still confusion, please speak to Bill Shaver. Thanks!



The March meeting will start earlier than usual, due to the club annual fossil auction. The new meeting time will start at 6:30 instead of the normal 7:00 pm. This will be all that happens at the meeting, as there will be very little time for any regular club business. This annual auction is the club's largest fundraiser of the year. We use these funds to keep the club going and also to help with the scholarships we provide. I ask that members bring donations for the auction to the January meeting, and at the very latest, the February meeting. After that, all lots will be filled and no more items will be accepted for this current year's auction. I plan on having approximately 100 lots, as usual, and the auction for these will take up the entire meeting time, and possibly may last longer than our normal ending time. Viewing will start at 6PM. Registration will be from 6-6:30 PM. You must get a bidder number to bid. Please wait until you are totally finished before checking out. Once you finish checkout, your bidder number will no longer be accepted for bids. We accept cash and checks, but no credit cards. Light refreshments will be available, but I ask that you try not to disturb the auction if you must get up and get refreshments. If you want to bid on an item, please make sure that you are noticed. Please hold up your bidder number so as to be seen, or your bid can not be placed.

Come early, stay late, and bring lots of money. Be prepared to take home some nice fossils and other items!!!

Thanks,
Your auctioneer,
Louis Stieffel

UPCOMING EVENTS

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FOSSIL CLUB is having their annual auction on February 13, 2010, at 7 p.m. Please refer to their website for further information.

The Tampa Bay Fossil Club FossilFest is March 20 & 21 at the Florida State Fairgrounds, 9 - 6 Saturday, and 10 - 4 Sunday.

Cape Coral Fossil Show. Saturday, March 27, 2010 11 am—4 pm. Admission \$5.00 (children under 12 free). Sponsored by Cape Coral Parks and Recreation. Tel: 239.549.4606 or <http://www.capecoral.net> (This is a safe link)

Venice Shark Tooth Festival

Friday, April 9, 2010 - 4 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, April 10, 2010 - 10 am - 9 am

Sunday, April 11, 2010 - 10 am - 5 pm



Florida Fossil Permit Application

This application is for a permit that will entitle the person named on the permit to collect, for the period of one (1) year, vertebrate fossils on land owned or leased by the State of Florida. The permittee must abide by all the provisions contained in Florida Statutes § [1004.575-576](#) and the University of Florida Regulation implementing this law. Persons who already have a permit and wish to renew it for an additional year should not use this form. They should follow [these instructions instead](#).

Print out and mail completed application to: Program of Vertebrate Paleontology, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32611-7800, USA

The following must be enclosed with the filled-out application:

1. Photocopy of applicant's identification document (i.e., driver's license, birth certificate, or passport).
2. Check or money order for \$5.00 in U.S. currency payable to the Program of Vertebrate Paleontology. If you are sending two or more applications, just send one check for the total amount, not multiple checks of \$5.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.

Applicant's Full Name (must match that on identification document):

Complete Mailing Address (include zip code):

Telephone (include area code):

E-mail address (optional):

I, the undersigned, affirm that I will abide by Florida Statutes § 1004.575-576 and the Regulations of the Program of Vertebrate Paleontology, University of Florida Rule 6C1-7.541 F.A.C.

Signature:

Date:

FLORIDA VERTEBRATE FOSSIL PERMIT: <http://flmnh.ufl.edu/natsci/vertpaleo/vppermit.htm>