



Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds

Volume 2003, Issue 3

December 2003

Steve Veatch Elected President

Steven Veatch was elected President at the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds.

Steve conducts educational geoscience programs throughout the Pikes Peak region. Steve is an adjunct professor of earth science at Emporia State University where he received an MS in earth science. Steve's special interests include geologic processes operating at the surface.

Steve credits his intense passion for the earth sciences to his family. His great-great grandfather, a hard-rock miner, grew up in Caribou, a mining camp near Boulder in the early 1870s. On the other side of the family, his great-grandfather came to work at the Elkton Mine, one of the

big producers in the Cripple Creek District. His grandmother was born in a



small house in Elkton, and his grandfather was Spencer Penrose's private personal secretary.

Steve's grandfather told him many of the Penrose adventures in gold and copper mining. Steve, coming from a mining family, was destined to build a rock collection and spend a lifetime searching for rocks.

Steve is a member of the Colorado Springs Mineralogical Society, Colorado Scientific Society, Colorado Archaeological Society, Western Interior Paleontological Society, Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education, the National Association of Lake Management, the National Association of Geoscience Teachers and the Geological Society of America.

Inside this issue:

Herb Meyer 2
Presents Program

Meet New Board 2
Members

Board Diggin's 3

Message from the 3
Superintendent

Message from the 4
President

Member List 5

Calling All 6
Teachers

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds was held at the Education Center. **Sally Maertens** presided over the meeting. **Steve Veatch** was elected as President, Sally Maertens as Vice President, **Laine Weber** as Secretary, and **David Atkins** as Treasurer.



Board Member **Harold Kaelin** works very hard on fund raising and developing community seminars. He is the owner of Twin Rocks Ranch near Florissant.

Modern and Fossil Forests: The Link to China

Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds start Fall Community Program Series at Colorado College.

Dr. Herb Meyer, Paleontologist for the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, presented a slide lecture at the new Tutt Science Center at Colorado College on October 7, 2003. In fact, this was the first event to occur in this new science building.

Dr. Meyer discussed his two trips to visit fossil and living forests in China. The talk emphasized efforts that are being made to collaborate with the Chinese on issues related to conservation of both paleontological sites and modern forest communities.

Many of the modern trees and forests of China are similar to those that inhabited western North America 35-15 million years ago.

Understanding the modern forests in China helps us to understand the ancient forests of America.



New Board Members

The Board of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds has two new members.

Please meet these members:

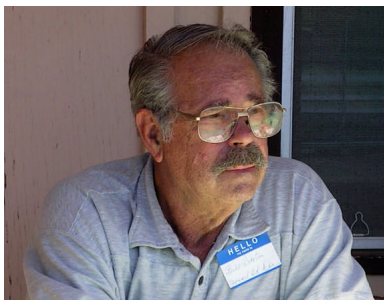
Andy Weinzapfel is a consulting geologist and lecturer. He is a certified petroleum geologist, and holds a professional degree in geological engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. A former Conoco Geologic Fellow, he has 33 years domestic and international experience in minerals and petroleum exploration in diverse settings from the Arctic to South American rain forests. His interest in

the geology of the Pikes Peak region began in 1984, with the purchase of undeveloped land used for family camping. In 2002, he moved full-time to the area, and is currently pursuing field investigations. He is married and has three adult children.

Laine Weber was born in Columbus, Ohio and attended Ohio State University.

She moved to Colorado in 1979. She received her B.A. in Biology / EPOB (Environmental, Population, and Organisms) from CU Boulder. She worked at the

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument as a fee collector and eventually directed the environmental education program. She left the monument in 1996 to go back to school to obtain a MAT (Masters of Arts in Teaching) and a secondary science teaching certificate from Colorado College. Laine has taught sixth grade earth science from 1997 to the present at the Woodland Park Middle School. She has one daughter, Melanie, in sixth grade at Ute Pass Elementary.



Bill Dexter—Past president and now an active board member. Bill is currently working on several committees including the Summer Seminar Series and the Community Programs.

Board Diggins'

Board members **Nancy Anderson** and **Toni Clare** (of the Florissant Quarry) will be spending the winter starting at Christmas in Hawaii. We will miss them and wish them a safe journey.

Board member **Bill Dexter** is in Japan for the second

time in a year. We look forward to hearing about this trip.

David Atkins, our treasurer, is very busily engaged in completing the paleontology certification from the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. **Sally McCracken**,

our Vice President, was married to **Hank Maertens** on January 1, 2003 in New York.

We regret that **Dick Keefe** had to resign to from the Board. We wish Dick good health and peaceful days.



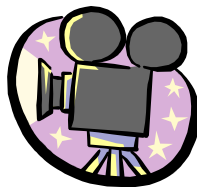
Sally Maertens

Board Challenge Match to Our Membership

The Board is starting a \$775 match to raise funds for the production of a film for the Monument. The film will be used in the Visitor Center for offsite programs and to sell in the Visitor Center. The funds must be raised by

January 15, 2004.

This is a great non-profit donation before the end of the year to honor someone or in memory of some-



one. At the present time we have set aside \$9,000 for this film and have chosen the company that will be doing the filming.

More New Members from Afar

The Friends continues to attract members from distant places. **George and Karen Jakubas** from Traverse City, Michigan, attended the Annual Meeting and have now become members.

Welcome!



Shelly Veatch and mother, Karen

Message from the Superintendent

Let me begin by thanking the Friends for all their support over the many years that they have been in existence. I can't tell you how thankful I am to have a group such as the Friends who are dedicated to both the resources and the mission of the Monument. Recently we've had generous contributions from members who have donated a new

drinking fountain and a large screen TV for interpretive use. The excitement associated with our new administration building grows daily. Testing in the proposed site location has revealed five previously unmapped fossil Sequoia stumps. This new data will be valuable to current research about the ancient Sequoia forests. And we are

of course most thankful for the generous contribution from the Friends earmarked for additional space in the new building.

Jeff Mow, Superintendent

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument



Life Members

We would like to recognize and thank those who have become Life Members. The Board of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds deeply appreciate your support.

David Atkins

Kent Borges / Stephanie DiCenzo

Michael Baltzer

Leona J. Bowersox

Grace Brown

Frederick Campbell

A.M. Fowler

Warren and Betty Hill

Maggie Johnston

Robert Landgraf

Jon Lavasque

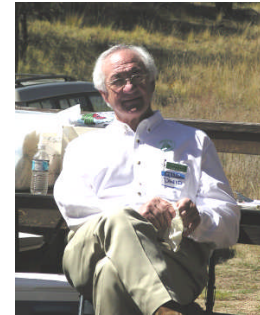
Estella B. Leopold

Hank and Sally Maertens

Stephen M. Nelson

Jean H. Rodeck

Vim Crane Wright
(deceased)

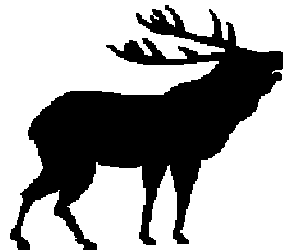


David Atkins is the newest addition to the list of Life Members. David also serves as the Treasurer for the Friends.

Message from the President

There are many new things happening with the Friends. The community programs will continue next year. The 2004 series, starting in just a few months, will be held at the new Tutt Science Center at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Details on these great programs will be coming to you soon. There are some exciting changes in our summer seminar series which will be announced later next year. We will also be taking advantage of several opportu-

nities to help the Monument with funding. Some of these opportunities will include



our annual fund campaign and obtaining grants and matching funds. The Board is working on several new events and additional pro-

gramming for the members, the community, and Park visitors. We are pleased with the new look of our newsletter, and plan to issue it quarterly. The newsletter will be one of several ways to stay connected to you.



Updated Web Site

Updated Web Site Now Available

The Friends would like to announce to all its members that we now have an updated web site. The site can be found at the following URL: www.fossilbeds.org.

We would like to encourage each member to visit the site to provide comments or contribute to it.

The website is currently being maintained by **Chris Fleischhacker**.

New Members

Tammy Adams
 Andrea Arthurs
 Dr. & Mrs. R.W. Baxendale
 Carol Bowers
 Jeff Brandt
 Marilyn & Bob Callan
 Paul A. & Clare Callender
 Jack Case
 Dan & Laura Clegg
 Tom Coxe
 Patty Dennard
 Lisa DiPaola
 Barbara C. Farhar, PhD
 Leslie Faust
 Chris Fleishhacker
 Anita Flindt
 Shawn Frizzel
 Michael Halla
 David Hazlett

Cheryl Kammerer
 John Kerr
 Julie Lawson
 Diane Leganza
 Shellie Luallin
 Christine Macias
 Donald P. McGookey
 Linda Metzgar
 Robert & Sara Ann Miner
 Jeff & Amy Mow
 Amy Murrel
 Michael Nichols
 Tim & Jane Nicoll
 Robert Nuttelman
 Ron & Cheryl Osmon
 Donna Paderewski
 Jan Perry
 Toni Ratzlaff
 Jaime Scott

Jean Shircliff
 Dara Siegmund
 Jean C. & Vickie R. Smith
 Richard Stevenson
 Dr. Robert Substad
 David Syndergaard
 Teresa Voilan
 Phil & Kathrene Waltz
 Andy & Susan Weinzapfel
 Elaine West-Fry
 Diane Williams
 Katie Wilson
 Cindi Witmer
 Jeff Wolin
 Jonathan Woods
 Jim Yagmin

If your name is not listed, look for it in the next edition.

Renewing Members

Nancy Anderson
 G. David Atkins
 Richard & Linda Beidleman
 Charles & Marcia Bonwell
 Richard & Dorothy Bradley
 Terry Bramschreiber
 Maj. Joseph & Lois Cancellare
 Jean V. Christopher

Col. Outdoor Ed. Center, Inc.
 Deane S. Dixon
 Robert & Ann Erickson
 Brian Kachel
 Ross Krummel
 Joy Miller
 Bill & Claudia Miller
 Jeff Petrie

Elizabeth L. Simmons
 David Valier
 Phyllis Weaver
 Wynne J. Whyman
 Steven Wilkinson
 Reinhard A. Wobus

If your name is not listed, look for it in the next edition.

Homestead Holidays

Start your holiday season with a visit to an 1880's homestead. Florissant

Fossil Beds National Monument celebrates Homestead Holidays with an open house at the Hornbek Homestead on Saturday and Sunday, December 6th and 7th from 10 am until 3 pm. Staff and volunteers dressed in period costumes will serve refreshments and conduct tours of the historic 1878 Hornbek Homestead, which will be decorated for the holidays. Come and stand around a warm woodstove as delicious smells of baking bread take you back to a simpler, quieter time. Local artisans will be demonstrating quilting, weaving, and other period crafts. Kids will be able to participate in making butter and doing craft activities reminiscent of life in the 1800's.

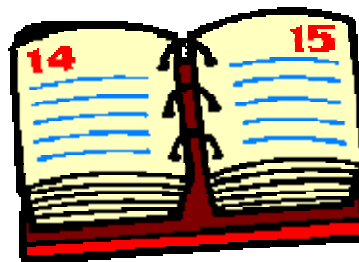
You may also want to visit the bookshops at the Homestead and the Fossil Beds visitor center. There is a wide selection of natural and local history, children's nature books, as well as maps, nature videos, audiocassettes, CD's and games. Items purchased from the non-profit Rocky Mountain Nature Association Bookshop support the interpretive and education programs of the Fossil Beds. There is no charge for this event beyond the normal park entrance fee of \$3 per person over the age of 16.

The Hornbek Homestead is located in Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on Teller County #1 a mile south of the town of Florissant. From Colorado Springs, travel 35 miles west on US highway 24. The Monument visitor center is about a mile south of the Homestead. For more information call 719- 748-3253.

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, PO Box 185 Florissant, CO 80816,

Events Calendar

November 13	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library
December 11	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library
January	Community Program Series at Colorado College (details to be announced)
January 8	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library
February 15	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library
March 11	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library
April 8	Board Meeting 6 pm Woodland Park Library



Check the Friend's website regularly for updates

www.fossilbeds.org

Calling all Teachers!

A note to our members who are teachers: The Gateway to Educational Materials is a Consortium effort to provide educators with quick and easy access to thousands of educational resources found on various federal, state, university, non-profit, and commercial Internet sites. Check it out today. <http://www.thegateway.org/welcome.html>

New Paleontology Center



A new dinosaur center is planned for Woodland Park, Colorado, the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center. This is a planned visitor and education center; construction has already begun and the planned opening is Spring 2004. You can see their website at <http://www.rmdrc.com>. The RMDRC is a project of Triebold Paleontology, Inc., a commercial company that makes and sells casts of dinosaur and other fossils.

Advertising Rates:

Business Card Size:	\$6.00
¼ Page	\$12.00
½ Page	\$24.00
Full Page	\$48.00

You may submit advertisements to: Steven Veatch, P.O. Box 5938, Woodland Park, CO 80866 or via email: sgeoveatch@att.net

The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc. newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends and is governed by the by-laws of the organization.

Managing editor: Jeff Brandt (jeff@thebrandts.org)

Contributing and Science Editor: Steven Veatch (sgeoveatch@att.net)

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Membership Renewal



If there is a **red dot** on your address label your membership has expired and this will be your last newsletter.

Please renew today!
Renewal Information

Membership Categories (choose the membership level that is right for you and renew your membership).

- () 1 Year \$15
- () 2 Year \$27
- () 1 Year Family \$25
- () 2 Year Family \$40
- () Lifetime \$300
- () Corporate \$100

Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ email _____
 Interests _____

Mail this form with your check payable to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc.

Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc.
P.O. Box 851
Florissant, CO 80816

Board Challenge Match!

The Board has a \$775.00 challenge match to raise funds for the production of a film for the Monument. Matching funds must be raised by January 15, 2004. Send in your donation today for the educational film about the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument to be used in the Visitor Center.

Donation Categories

- () \$10
- () \$25
- () \$50
- () Other amount _____

Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone _____
 email: _____

Mail this form with your check payable to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc.

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P.O. Box 851
Florissant, CO 80816

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Fossil Beds*

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(Steve Veatch)

E-MAIL:
fossilbeds@yahoo.com

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.fossilbeds.org

**FRIENDS OF THE FLORIS-
SANT FOSSIL BEDS**
P.O. Box 851
Florissant, CO 80816

Email Addresses Wanted

Please send your current email address to fossilbeds@yahoo.com. This will allow us to send you reminders or events and important news items as they occur.

Please provide us with feedback on the newsletter or any topic you are interested in. We would also like to know who is interested in serving on various committees or on the Board. You can reach us at the address to the left or by email at fossilbeds@yahoo.com.

In 1987, the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc. was organized by a group of dedicated individuals interested in assisting the National Park Service in its mission to preserve and protect our national treasures. As a non-profit organization, the Friend's mission is to secure resources to help preserve the fossils and promote programs activities that enhance the Monument's educational, research, and scientific objectives.

Friends' groups help many of the National Park service areas in a variety of ways. Membership fees and donations to the Friends of Florissant Fossil Beds are used for:

- Environmental education programs
- Field seminars
- Year-round interpretive programs
- Jr. Ranger programs
- Paleontological and geological resources
- Natural history resources
- Publications

Past accomplishments and ongoing support by the Friends of Florissant Fossil Beds includes:

- Major funding of the yurt shelters
- Travel and research funding for the Monument's paleontologist
- Assistance in the purchase of an all-terrain wheelchair for handicapped visitors
- Financial support for the University of Denver's (fossil data) Digitization Project
- Purchase of furniture for the seasonal rangers and intern housing
- Planning, funding, and coordinating the Monument's 30th Anniversary Celebration (1999)
- Funding for other special Monument related celebrations and special events (such as the dedication of the new stump exhibit area May 11, 2002)
- Funding for one Monument newspapers annually
- Funding and coordination of annual Summer Educational Seminars Program

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