



Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds Newsletter

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A Long-Tailed Weasel on a Winter Day

By J.J. Huie, Naturalist

When I'm hiking or snowshoeing, often I'm too lost in my thoughts to notice wildlife. In winter, my wildlife sightings are usually non-existent except for the occasional mule deer. This winter, however, I was fortunate to spot what I believe was a long-tailed weasel (*Mustela frenata*) while cross-country skiing with a friend near Steamboat Springs.

I recently moved to Steamboat from Colorado Springs to seize a job opportunity and satisfy a desire to explore new trails. Fortunately, I'm still able to contribute to and help edit the Friends newsletter and so maintain my connection to the wonderful Fossil Beds where I was an intern back in the summer of

'03. It's not as easy to write articles that pertain to the Pikes Peak area while living in Steamboat, where there isn't a ponderosa pine to be found. That's part of the reason I was so excited to watch the long-tailed weasel,

most ferocious mammal predators. Chiefly feeding on mice, the long-tailed weasel can also prey on rabbits, squirrels, and birds. Its potential predators are many: hawks, owls, cats, coyotes, foxes, minks, and martens.



Long-tailed Weasel in summer coat

However, the scent glands of weasels make them unsavory and thus cause predators to avoid them.

Observing a long-tailed weasel during the day was a special treat because they are primarily nocturnal. Nevertheless, they can

which potentially could be found at the Fossil Beds and on Pikes Peak, run across a snow-covered meadow next to Steamboat Lake.

While *M. frenata* is only about a foot long (including the tail) with a slender body, it is one of the

be active during the day, when they are most likely to be found in brush or in the forest near water or talus (deposits of large, frost-wedged rocks that are often found at the bases of steep

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Time: How long is one million years?

By Trevor Polley.

In geological time we happily talk about "millions of years ago". We say that 35 million years ago is "recent", that the dinosaurs went extinct 65 million years ago and that the Devonian "Age of Fishes" was 365

million years ago. But what does 35 million years look like? How can we comprehend the passing of 65 or 365 million years?

If we first look at just one million years (that is 1,000,000 or 1 with six zeros or 10 to the power of 6....) and get a feel for

this amount of time, then maybe we can relate to longer periods.

Imagine that one million years is expressed as a single 24 hour day. A single year is 0.0864 seconds, and 70 years passes in 6 seconds

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At the End of the Journey-A Film

On Saturday, January 21, 2006, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Woodland Park Library there was a party to celebrate the completion of the FLFO/NM film. 40+ people enjoyed pizza and salad, good conversation and the premiere showing of the new 13 minute orientation film for the Monument.

Just as our lives are a journey, so too did this film have a journey that can be shared. From the beginning, this journey/project was a partnership between the National Park Service/ FLFO and the friends.

The Friends Board began discussing the production of a film in late 1998. It was set as a primary goal. Seeing a film when you visit a NPS area is a must for many visitors. Parks have films. The Monument has and incredible



story to tell. "Our Park would have a film" became our goal.

In 2000, at a monthly Board meeting, we began the process. Tom Ulrich, Chief Ranger, joined us in the Visitor Center for our 6 p.m. meeting. The Board reviewed various production companies by viewing videos they had produced. From seven different companies we chose Camera One. Gray Warriner was their producer. Gray had done films for 25+Parks. His work is distinctive.

The next step on the journey was to get the funding. Three separate attempts were made over 2 1/2 years. First, a grant was written for \$40,000 to the National Park

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Refurbishing of the Visitor Center At the Florissant Fossil Beds NM

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Friends of Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc. will work with the Pikes Peak Chapter of the Sierra Club to co-sponsor a project at the Florissant Fossil Beds NM.

Project: To refurbish the Visitor Center at the Florissant Fossil Beds NM for completion for the summer of 2006.

Goals:

1. Paint 2 bathrooms
2. Install back splashes on sinks and urinal
3. Touch up painting in the lobby
4. Refinish VC desk
5. Replace rear deck
6. Paint front porch
7. Replace/refinish divider in the woman's bathroom
8. Scrape and paint exterior of the bldg.

When: Weekdays/weekends in May and early June. (Not Memorial Day weekend). We will make a master list of volunteers who are interested in helping. We will list their names, phone numbers, dates and times when they are available and what project(s) they would be willing to help with.

One person from the Friends will coordinate the info and set up the teams.

Materials and equipment will be provided by the Monument and the Friends.

We may need some ladders to be brought by volunteers. The Friends will provide snacks and lunch on full days of work.

We thank you in advance for your willingness to help with this project. We are looking forward to having a lovely VC for the summer of 2006. Please contact Sally Maertens at 719-687-9204 or (E-mail) Sammckind@AOL.com. Please give her your name, telephone #, what days and times you are available and what project(s) you would like to help with. THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Reflections of a Florissant Fossil Beds Intern

By Zach Papaleoni (Student at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry)

Hello hello, hope you're all enjoying that lovely thing we call life. Right now it's 2 a.m. in Syracuse, New York (where I was born and raised) and I just happened to be thinking about my experience interning at the Fossil Beds last summer. First off, I must say with utmost honesty that those three months changed my life significantly. As an interpretive intern, my main objective was to connect visitors with the uniqueness of the park in hopes of inspiring in them a sense of wonder and awe in the face of Nature. This was the first, and thus far only, job I have had which has even pertained remotely to my passion for the natural world (as a side note, my current job, which I've held for the past six years or so, also pertains to one of my deepest passions... pizza).

I came to the great state of Colorado with a mind like a child during his first day of kindergarten. With no background in interpretation, little knowledge of geology, and a zeal for a good game of hide-and-go-seek, I was welcomed with open arms by Florissant's tightly knit crew. The rangers were highly skilled in

their respective fields. Each one was able to maintain their individuality while on the job, using their uniqueness to engage the visitors and tell the story of the area. The Fossil Beds also had a huge group of dedicated volunteers who so selflessly gave their time and effort to the common good. Combined with our first week of training, the entire FLFO community of people empowered me to step outside myself, to become a sponge, and to evolve into the role of Nature's interpreter.

My summer was filled with countless connections with visitors, amazing outdoor excursions with staff members (namely mountain biking with Ranger Harv, a 67-year old who made me feel like I was 85), and even an unexpected discovery of a unique fossil as I was out learning more about geology with Steven Veatch. Since my return home, my perspective on last summer's experience has widened. It must be somewhat like having the opportunity to view the Earth from the Moon after living on the Earth for your entire life. From this angle, I see so many doors, many which are backlit with Sunlight. These are the doors of my life, to the future, to the Earth, to the people, and beyond. I'd like to thank the whole crew of Florissant Fossil Beds for that vision. Keep on keepin' on.

Bats & Snakes & Spiders & Owls & Other Scary Creatures

By Harv Burman, Park Ranger, Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

Most of us have an aversion to some sort of creepy, crawly, or slimy creature. I shudder at the thought of snakes and spiders. You might fear snakes and bats. Your best friend might have a problem with bats and owls. Some dislike all of them plus more. Mostly what is going on is a lack of knowledge and what might be described as "bad press." Much of the disinformation about these creatures came from the Middle Ages and earlier when folks generally went indoors and/or to bed when it became dark. Anything that wandered about or made noises in the night was frightening because they knew very little about it. Much of the

fear and revulsion came from lack of knowledge and unfamiliarity with creatures that lived in hidden places. Let's explore some of the misconceptions about bats, which are high on many people's lists of "frightening" creatures. Some of the bat myths include: "They fly into your hair and get caught. They are after humans to suck blood. They are blind (as a bat). They carry rabies. They are mean, aggressive and nasty."

Bats are warm-blooded, furry creatures and not slimy at all!

They are mammals that have live births and nurse their young.

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Summer Seminar Series —2006

Months of meetings, planning and phone calls have resulted in a wonderful balance of seminars for this summer. We are very excited and a hope that you can find time in your busy summer schedule to join us for one of the many offerings.

We hope to have both the brochure and the teacher flyer available by mid-April. Reservations will start on May 1st, 2006. All fees will be the same as last year. All Friends members will receive the Seminar Brochure. Should you not have it by May 1, please call the Monument at 748-3253. Teachers will receive a discount for early registration and if you are a member of the Friends there is also a discount.

The first seminar will be June 3rd which will be Dr. Meyer's seminar on the Ancient Life and Landscape of Florissant. The seminars end on September 9 with a full-day program at the Manitou Research Station done by Dr. Wayne Shepherd on the Fire Ecology and the research that has been done since the Hayman Fire.

In between these two seminars will be the regular paleontology and geology offerings; plus ornithology, mining, photography, flint knapping, journal writing and how to introduce the National Park Service in the classroom. We have several new instructors this summer and look forward to a great series!

Major Donations to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds

The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds have recently received a number of very generous donations. First, Jane Nicoll has donated \$8,000 dollars for the library at the Monument. She has dedicated the gift as a memorial to her mother. The library, provided by this memorial gift, will benefit students, interns, rangers, researchers, scientists, and others at the Monument for many years to come.

Jane Nicoll's father, Hugh William Brace, has donated \$7,500 to establish a fund to be used to assist with the costs of students studying at Florissant. These funds are in safe investments that



Photo of Jane Nicoll's father and mother in front of the family home about 1961. On the left is her father, Hugh William Brace. Her mother, Ceridwin Charlotte Cecil (Brace), is on the right.

will yield an annual return that will be awarded to a student. The fund's principal will always be maintained—allowing the fund to continue to provide assistance to worthy students perpetually.

Henry T. Michael, who died in 2004, was a member of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds and enjoyed many walks, picnics, and other activities at the Monument. Mary Michael, his widow, has established the

Henry T. Michael Memorial Internship. Each year, there will be \$1,000 available through this memorial gift to fund a paleontology intern.

The Library at the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument

Ceridwin Charlotte Cecil (1921-1990) suffered from the ravages of Muscular Dystrophy for over half of her adult life. She bore the painful illness uncomplainingly and is best remembered for her unstinting good humor and vivacity. As a consequence of bequeathing her body to research into this disease, she had neither a conventional funeral nor burial. This troubled her daughter Jane Nicoll who long pondered on a fitting memorial to her mother. Jane eventually concluded that the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument provided the perfect answer to her quandary. Although Ceridwin had never visited the Monument, she had been involved with education all her working life and had a very special rapport with children who, surely, are fundamental to the continued role of Florissant Fossil Beds. The link with nature in a beautiful environment which has a fascinating history, both in the very distant and more recent past, would have appealed to her enormously. The opportunities which the Monument presents for people from all walks of life to enjoy her favor-

ite pastimes of hiking, wild flowers, birds and just being out of doors would also have given her great happiness. These factors, coupled with her wide ranging interests and love of reading, make the establishment of a library at the Monument, in her name, a particularly appropriate memorial.

The Bursary

Jane had kept the establishment of the library in her mother's name a surprise from the rest of the family until the project was complete. When she showed Hugh, her father, the commemorative plaque to Ceridwin he was, understandably moved. Remembering the many happy times, spread over several years, he had spent at the Monument, he decided he wished to strengthen the link between his wife and this serene place. He therefore determined to fund a bursary in her name to assist with the costs of future generations of students spending their summer months in a site of such world importance where they may benefit from this unique example of a single geological epoch.

The Henry T. Michael Memorial Internship



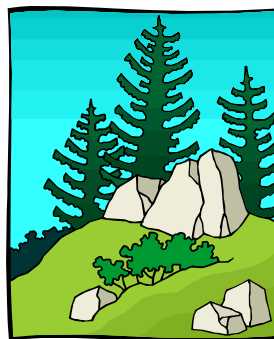
Henry T. Michael

Mary Michael, widow of Henry T. Michael, established the memorial internship for interns at Florissant. Each year \$1,000 will be paid to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds for the memorial internship. The memorial internship will pay part of the costs of a paleontology intern.

Henry grew up in Canton, North Carolina. He enjoyed the forests and mountains of Colorado, and was a member of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds and the Friends of Mueller State Park. His favorite days were spent at the fossil beds with his wife where he enjoyed the peacefulness of the montane forests, the beautiful wildflowers, and the quiet serenity of the fossil beds.

Lake George Gem Club Makes Large Contribution

The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club presented Steven Veatch, president of the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, with a check for \$500 on March 11, 2006. This money will be used to help support this year's interns at the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. The Lake George Gem and Mineral Club is a group of people interested in rocks, minerals, fossils, geography, history of the Pikes Peak/South Park area, Indian artifacts, and the great outdoors. The club's informational programs and field trips provide an opportunity to learn about earth sciences, rocks and minerals, lapidary work and jewelry making, and to share information and



experiences with other members. The club is geared primarily to amateur collectors and artisans, with programs of interest both to beginners and serious amateurs. The club meets the second Saturday of each month at the Lake George Community Center. In the winter the club meets at 10:00 AM. From April through September, the club meets at 9:00 AM, to allow more time for our field trips.

The Community Center is located on the north side of US Highway 24 on the east edge of town, sharing a building with the county highway shops. For more information call Andy Weinzapfel at 748-3356.

Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company Funds the Friends

Major funding to the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds has been provided by the Cripple Creek and Victor Gold Mining Company (CC&V). Their support will help fund a student intern at the monument, fund a keynote technical field trip to the Porcupine Cave, and sponsor a summer seminar at the mine facility. CC&V has been a strong supporter of the monument and the Friends for many years. The Cripple Creek & Victor Gold Mining Company was formed in 1976. CC&V is a joint venture between Golden Cycle Gold Corporation, and AngloGold Ashanti (Colorado) Corp. The joint venture is managed by AngloGold Ashanti (Colorado) Corp. The operation is called the Cresson Project, and was



**Cripple Creek & Victor
Gold Mining Company**

Living a Mining Heritage

first issued permits in 1994. Since then, over two million ounces of gold have been produced. Surface mining removes the low grade ores that were not economic for historic underground mines. Gold and silver are removed from the ore on the valley leach facility, using a dilute sodium cyanide solution. Exploration activities continue with the hope that additional gold ore is located and permits can be modified to further extend the life of the Cresson Project.

Centennial Event to Recognize T.D.A. Cockerell's Florissant Expeditions

T.D.A. Cockerell of the University of Colorado was one of the most prominent early contributors to Florissant paleontology. In collaboration with other museums and colleagues, he organized field expeditions to Florissant during three years from 1906 to 1908. He made some of the best fossil collections ever to come from Florissant and described many new species of plants and insects in numerous publications.

In recognition of Cockerell's contributions, there will be a centennial event at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on June 10, 2006. Speakers will include Dr. William Weber and Dr. Dena Smith of the University of Colorado, and Dr. Herb Meyer



of Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. There will be a field trip within the monument during the afternoon to revisit some of Cockerell's original collecting localities. For more details, please call the monument at 748-3253 or Steven Veatch at 748-5010.

This event is being cosponsored by Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, and the University of Colorado.

A Long-Tailed Weasel (Continued)

slopes). In the winter, the pelage of *M. frenata* is all white except for the black-tipped tail, while the rest of the year it shows off a coat that is chestnut brown above and golden buff on the undersides.

The hunter I witnessed had a bounding gait as it traveled across the snow. Life is much more of a challenge for weasels, even if they don't have to pay taxes. Because of its long, thin body and consequently high surface area-to-volume ratio, the long-tailed weasel must constantly expend metabolic energy to stay warm. While its body allows it to hunt in tight quarters, hunting requires much more energy than resting. That I witnessed *M. frenata*

moving about at all was fortuitous considering that it restricts its hunting time in the winter in order to save energy.

While many of us may go into the winter mountains with the hope of spotting bobcats, coyotes, or maybe even a mountain lion, we may end up discovering a predator, the long-tailed weasel, that is a little more humble in stature but no less impressive. Regardless of what I see, I find it a joy to witness any movement of wildlife when a blanket of snow covers the landscape.

One million years (Continued)

Then;

Moon landing, July 20, 1969	3 seconds ago
US Civil War 1861 - 65	12.1 seconds
Columbus 1492	44 seconds
Julius Caesar 49 BC	2 min 57 sec
Alexander the Great 332 BC	3 min 22 sec
Pharaoh Rameses II 1250 BC	4 min 41 sec
Ziggurat at Ur (Babylon) 2100 BC	5 min 54
Crater Lake, Oregon. Mt Mazama. 7700 yrs ago	11 min 5 sec
Ice age ends. 11500 yrs ago	16 min 33 sec
Cave art. 35,000 yrs ago	50 min 24 sec
Meteor Crater, Arizona. 50,000 yrs ago	1 hr 12 min
<i>Homo sapien neanderthalis</i> from 130,000 yrs	3 hours
Early <i>H. sapien</i> 400,000 years ago	9 hr 36 min

Keep a key time or two noted, such as "Romans ruled 3 minutes ago and people lived in caves 1 hour ago." Now when someone says something was 35 million years ago we can imagine it as 35 days ago and Romans ruled 3 minutes ago and people lived in caves one hour ago. Or if you are told that a shallow sea covered Colorado 365 mya then that is a whole year ago and Homo sapiens have been around for about 10 hours...

End of the Journey (Continued)

Foundation by Linda Lutz Ryan and Sally McCracken. Unfortunately, the NPF didn't fund any grants that year.

Next a grant was written for \$40,000 to the Colorado Historical Society by a representative of Florida's PBS. It wasn't funded because there wasn't enough history in the proposal.

Then the journey took a slightly different turn. The Board approached the F. Martin Brown Trust managed by Colorado Outdoor Education Center. Rick Sanborn, representing the Trust Fund attended a Board Meeting where we requested \$10,000. After many discussions, we were given \$5,000 with the promise of the other \$5,000 when production was completed.

We continue to seek additional funding, still planning to hire Camera One. Then entered a new player-Jeff Wolin, Ranger. Jeff became the major "mover and shaker" in getting the production underway. He secured another \$5,000 from Montana State and a graduate student in their film program. Animators were hired to do a three-minute segment. The graduate student filmed. Jeff wrote and rewrote the script. His many hours of phone calls,



collaboration and rewriting resulted in an amazing film.

The Board wishes to extend its heartfelt thanks to Jeff Wolin and the many others who gave this journey a very happy and incredible end.

A room is being readied in the Visitor Center at the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument to show the film to the visitors. Come and visit in the late spring and see this wonderful production.



Bats & Snakes & Spiders & Owls (Continued)

While many of them may not have cute little faces, they are generally placid and not prone to attacking humans at all. They don't fly into your hair and get caught. Actually they are outstanding fliers and navigators that use "echolocation" (a lot like radar) to find things as small as mosquitoes to eat. They project a sound out of the range of human hearing and listen for the echo to locate things. And they aren't blind. Their eyesight is quite good. Tests have shown that they can avoid things as fine as a human hair, so they have no trouble avoiding your hair in their search for insects. There are only three species of bats in the world that do eat blood, and they only live in Central and South America. With rare exception, even these species only consume blood from animals in such small quantities as to be relatively harmless (and not by sucking but rather by lapping from small cuts). You will lose more blood to a mosquito on a warm summer night than you will to the bats that are trying to catch and eat that mosquito. They do carry rabies but not more often than other animals. Contact with humans is rare and generally only comes from touching a bat on the ground. Bats will bite in self-defense. A grounded bat is disabled, probably sick, and therefore more likely to carry rabies than the general population. They die quickly, so if you just leave them alone you will have no problem. "Kill it!" is a common response upon seeing bats and other scary creatures, but

killing animals just because they frighten us doesn't make sense. They all have an important part to play in the ecosystem. You could do worse than have a warm-blooded, furry friend that might eat 600 mosquitoes per hour. In fact, consider putting up an inexpensive bat house in your yard.

I'm out of space and haven't even talked about snakes, owls, spiders, and all of those other creepy, crawly, slimy things! I'll save them for future articles, but in the meantime keep an open mind and give those creatures a break. They have far more to fear from you than you have to fear from them!



New Museum Open In Florissant

In August, 2005, the Pikes Peak Historical Society opened its new 2600 square foot Museum in Florissant. This new historic Museum is located at 18033 Teller County Road #1, across from the Florissant Post Office. The Museum offer visitors an entertaining and educational tour of the Pikes Peak region, from early explorers to Ute Indians and Mountain Men to the early pioneers, railroads, and gold rush. Unique rocks, minerals, and fossils from the Florissant Lineament provide one of the richest geological exhibits in the Pikes Peak region. The Museum Gift Shop features beadwork and other crafts from the Northern Ute Indians, in addition to books on Colorado history and handmade crafts and goods. The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum is open year round, and admission to the Museum is free. During the summer, the Museum is open daily, except Sunday and Tuesday, from 10am to 4pm. Our winter hours are Friday, Saturday and Monday from 10am to 4pm. For more information, call 748-8259.

For more information on the Pikes Peak Historical Society and the Museum, contact Celinda Kaelin, President, at 719-748-3562.



Midland Railroad Depot



Downtown Florissant about 1899

Lake George Gem and Mineral Show

In Beautiful Lake George, Colorado
38 miles west of Colorado Springs on U.S. 24

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

August 18 - 20, 2006

- Minerals ◀
- Fossils ◀
- Local Specimens ◀
- Jewelry ◀
- Lapidary ◀
- Field Trips ◀

Free admission - Free Parking!

Contact Richard Parsons
303-838-8859/tazaminerals@att.net

Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds, Inc.

Community Programs 2006 Series

Bringing culture and tradition to the community



Celinda Reynolds Kaelin
presents

LIVING ARTIFACTS OF THE UTE PEOPLE

April 19th at 7 p.m.

In 1873, Lieutenant E.H. Ruffner, USA, was sent on a reconnaissance of Ute country in Colorado. His official letter to the Secretary of War stated that the Ute trail to Cochetopa Pass was “well worn, and the peeled trees show that the valley has been much frequented by Indians . . .”

This report on Ponderosa pine trees, culturally scarred by the Utes, is one of the earliest documented references found on these living artifacts. Ute Indians inhabited the Pikes Peak region for thousands of years before the invasion of Europeans. However, their impact on the environment was negligible, and evidence of their presence is difficult to find. Fortunately, these culturally scarred trees are the exception, for Ponderosas are known to live about 600 to 800 years. On Wednesday, April 19, Celinda Reynolds Kaelin will present a talk and slide show at Colorado College’s Tutt Science Center.

There are two types of Ute culturally scarred trees common to the Pikes Peak area; Medicine Trees and Prayer Trees. Medicine Trees, designated by archaeologists as “peeled bark trees,” were used as a food source and for healing. Prayer Trees are not as well known among archaeologists, and differ markedly from the Medicine Trees, although they too are usually Ponderosa pines. Medicine People created these by taking a sapling and bending it parallel to the ground, then using the tree as the focus of ceremony.

Celinda Reynolds Kaelin is a poet, author, lecturer, and historian who is privileged to work and study with indigenous Elders and spiritual leaders from over seventy First Nations. Kaelin is the author of three books, *Journey Song: A Spiritual Legacy of the American Indian* (Four Directions, 1998), *Pikes Peak Backcountry* (Caxton, 1999) and *Dancing with Eagles and Condors* (planned). Kaelin is also the president and historian of the Pikes Peak Historical Society.

This program is presented as a public service by the Friends of Florissant Fossil Beds. The hour-long program will be presented at Colorado College’s Tutt Science Center at 7 p.m., April 19, 2006. To get there, take the Uintah Street exit on 25 and head east, just past Cascade turn right onto a parking lot. The parking lot is east of the Tutt Science Center. For more information concerning “Living Artifacts of the Ute People” call Steven Veatch at 719-748-5010. There is no cost for the program. .

Presented by

The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds

P.O. Box 851

Florissant, CO 80816



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Florissant, Colorado 80816

719-748-8259

SCHEDULE OF 2006 CHAUTAUQUAS

Sun	23 Apr 2:00 p.m.	"Amazing Mountain Men" Col. Bob Emmons, Ret at New Florissant Library	748-3562
Sun	21 May 2:00 p.m.	"Florissant Museum's Incredible Minerals" Andy Weinzapfel, at the Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum	748-3562
Sat	3 June 8:00 til fillup	Florissant Community Clean Up Day Pikes Peak Historical Society	748-3562
Sun	25 June 2:00 p.m.	"Mt. Pisgah Cemetery's Residents" Kathi MacIver, at New Florissant Library	748-3562 689-3072
Sat	29 July 9:00 – 4:00	Heritage Day with Victorian Society, at New Florissant Museum	748-3562 689-3072
		FVFD Pancake Breakfast Florissant Fire House	
Sat	19 Aug 7:00 p.m.	Tabeguache Utes Dance at FFBNM Florissant Fossil Beds Natn't Monument	748-3562 748-3253
Sat	14 Oct 2:00 p.m.	PPHS Annual Auction New Florissant Library	748-3562 686-8515
Sun	19 Nov 2:00 p.m.	"Victorian Era" Howard Melching, at New Florissant Library	748-3562

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

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

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.

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The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds and is governed by the by-laws of the Friends. Articles appearing in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Monument, officers, members, or sponsors of the Friends.

About Our Organization...

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
- Funding for other special Monument related celebrations and special events (such as the dedication of the new stump exhibit area May 11, 2002)
- Planning, funding, and coordinating the Monument's 30th Anniversary Celebration (1999) and 35th Anniversary Celebration (2004)
- Funding for the Monument's newspapers each spring
- Funding and coordination of annual Summer Educational Seminars Program

FRIENDS OF THE FLOISSANT FOSSIL BEDS
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