



Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds eNewsletter

#10—October 7, 2012

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Jr. Ranger Album Released!

The packages arrived at the Florissant Fossil Beds at 12:30 PM on Friday, October 5, 2012. The UPS delivery man couldn't imagine why 6-7 people were gathered around him waiting to open up the 3 large boxes he had just delivered. Jeff Wolin's face was just one big smile. The dream had become reality.

Inside of those 3 boxes were 300 copies of the new CD - "Songs for Junior Rangers" - Volume 1 that Jeff Wolin had worked on for well over 2 years from dream to completion. The completed CD represents months of planning, finding grants, phone conferences, meetings and trips to New Orleans to record at New Orleans Jazz with some amazing musicians. New Orleans Jazz is a National Park Service area in the old mint where there is now a state of the art recording studio.

A grant for \$25,000 was received from the National Park Foundation for the production of the CD. An additional amount of \$5000.00 was received from the F. Martin Brown Fund based at the Colorado Outdoor Education Center. The Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds submitted the grant application on behalf of Jeff's request. The Friends helped also by processing all of the bills for the CD,

Contained in this newsletter is all of the information about the CD. The Friends purchased 125 of the CD's which Jeff is autographing for us. If you wish a copy of the autographed CD, please send your request and

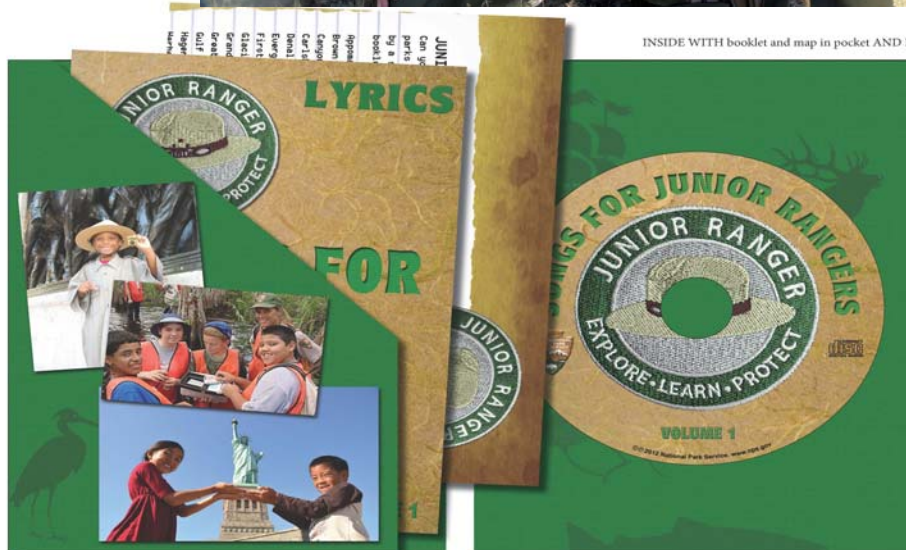
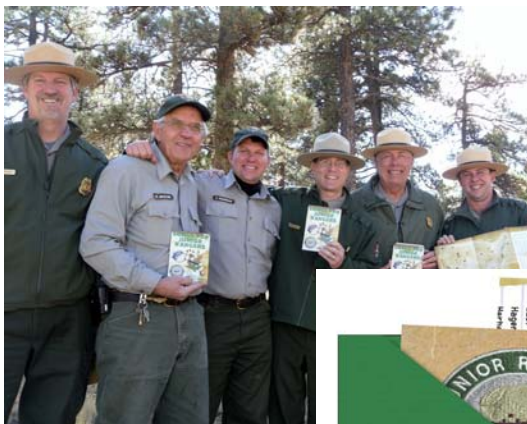


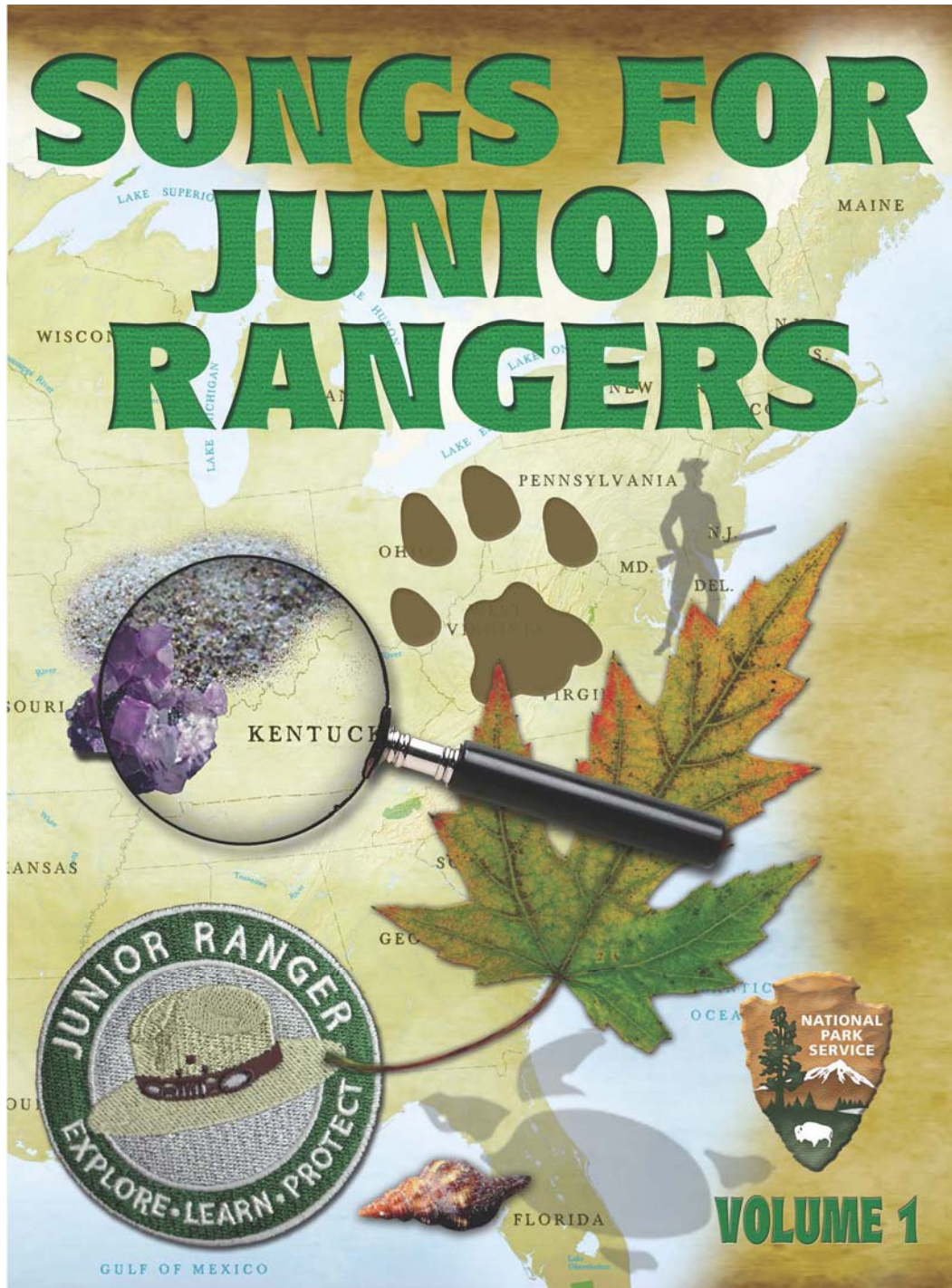


\$10.00 to the Friends of Florissant Fossil Beds, PO Box 851, Florissant, CO 80816. We will get them to you as quickly as possible. Please put CD on the front of your envelope.

Our sincere congratulations to Jeff on the successful completion of this CD. We are all very proud of him.

The Album will be streamed live from the Mint on Saturday, October 20 at 1:00 pm MST at www.musicatthemint.org. Be sure to "tune in."





SONGS FOR JUNIOR RANGERS

- 1 : Humps, Hooves, and Horns** : Bruce Barnes
- 2 : Explore, Learn, and Protect** : Jeff Wolin with the Omagh Community Youth Choir
- 3 : La Gran Garza Azul** : Kristina Morales
- 4 : Four Presidents** : Johnette Downing
- 5 : Spelunca Funka** : Dee Dee Graves
- 6 : Run Fish Run** : Aaron Nigel Smith (courtesy of aya World Productions/ BMI Publishing)
- 7 : Down on the Mall** : Committed
- 8 : New Orleans Jazz** : Bruce Barnes
- 9 : Wapiti Hoppity** : Youth Ambassador Program (YAP)
- 10 : Beach Party at High Altitude** : Jeff Wolin
- 11 : Thaddeus Kosciuszko Polka** : Trout Fishing In America (courtesy of Trout Music/BMI)
- 12 : Junior Ranger** : Krishel Augustine
- 13 : Skyscraper Plants** : Stephen Dale
- 14 : Let's Move Outside** : Erica Falls
- 15 : New Bedford Whaling** : Ceol Ceili, Daryl Simpson, Omagh Choir
- 16 : Arms Up** : Russell Thomas and Kristina Morales
- 17 : Frozen Bulldozin'** : Erica Falls
- 18 : The Airmen of Tuskegee** : Bruce Barnes
- 19 : Turtle Up, Turtle Down** : Jeff Wolin
- 20 : National Fossil Day** : Jeff Wolin



Includes a poster map, Junior Ranger activity, and complete lyrics



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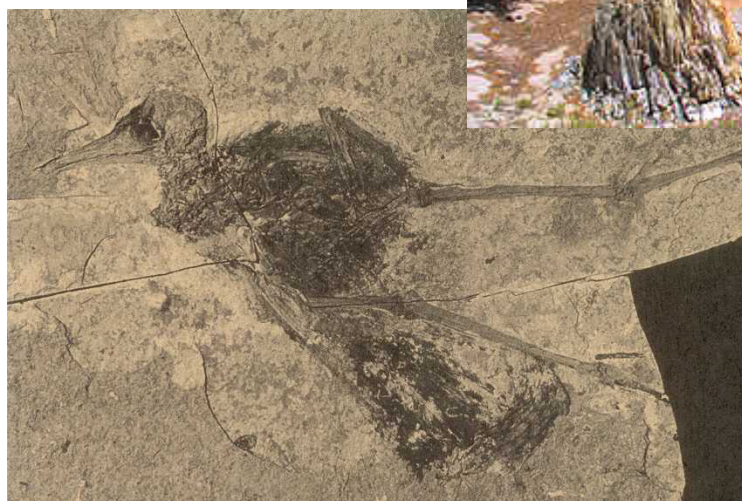
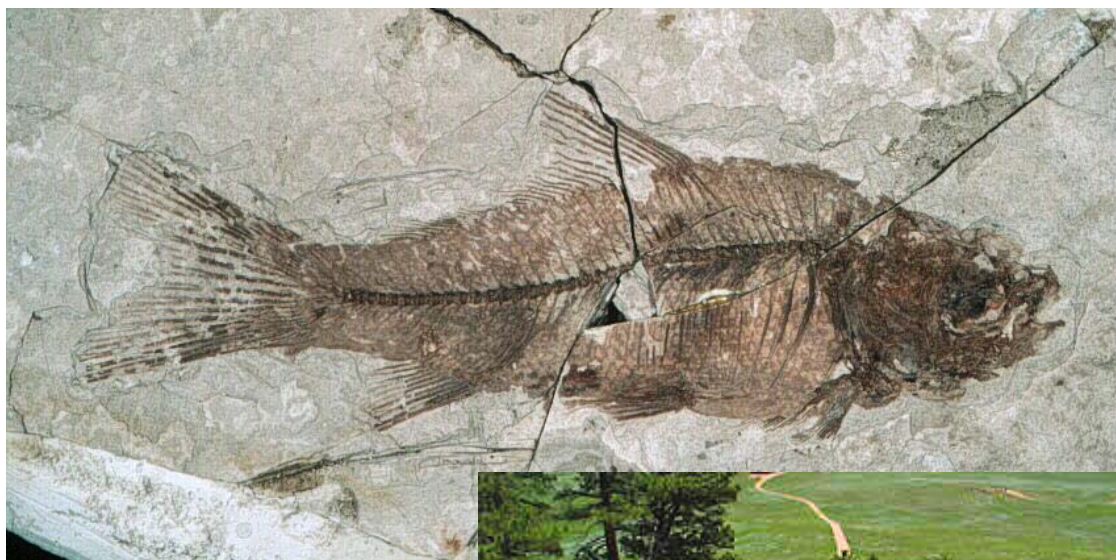


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Thank you from Ashley Ferguson, Paleo Intern

Dear Friends of the Florissant Fossil Beds,

Thank you so much for sponsoring me and giving me the opportunity to work at this amazing park. To have a chance to work with so much history has been an outstanding experience and I have learned so much from being here. I've gained experience that can be applied to my future paleontology field that I wish to go into. I've made many friends here that I know I will never forget. Plant fossils are just as interesting as I thought so I may start looking into studying Paleobotany. I will miss the wonderful Colorado atmosphere, the clean air and the wonderful people here. I thank you again for letting me have this wonderful opportunity!



Fossilization

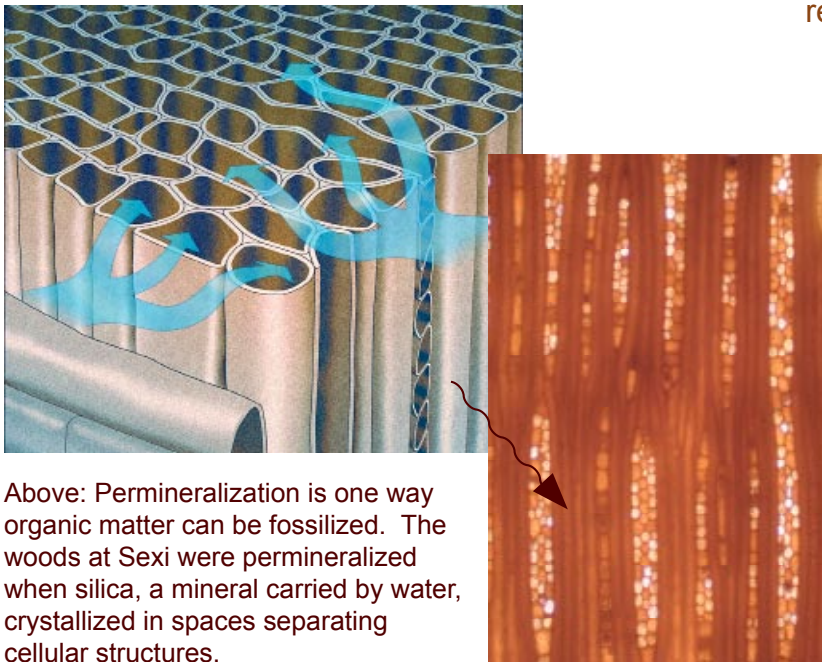
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Preservation

Fossilized leaves and wood are both found at The Petrified Forest Piedra Chamana. Due to the differing nature of their internal structures, the wood fossilized through permineralization, whereas leaves were preserved as delicate impressions.

Fossilized Wood

The volcanic debris flow that buried wood at Sexi also contained water enriched with the mineral silica (SiO_2). Water and silica slowly infiltrated and filled in spaces in the wood. As a result, the anatomical structure of the wood was preserved as rock.



Above: Permineralization is one way organic matter can be fossilized. The woods at Sexi were permineralized when silica, a mineral carried by water, crystallized in spaces separating cellular structures.

Right: The preserved anatomies of the petrified trees are visible when viewing thin sections of fossilized plant material with a microscope.

Fossilized Leaves

During one of the volcanic eruptions, leaves were buried in volcanic ash. Over time the organic matter in the leaves decayed and became compacted and consolidated in the ash. Today the leaves are preserved as impressions, but no original plant material remains.



Although the leaves have deteriorated since their deposition, impressions of their veins and shapes remain preserved in ash.

Significance

These fossilization processes have preserved detailed features of the woods and leaves. This information is useful in scientific investigations of the past environment, such as those examining the diversity of the Eocene environment or making inferences about the climate at Sexi 39 million years ago.

Peruvian law provides for the conservation and protection of the petrified forest. The fossils are part of the Patrimony of the Nation and fall under the jurisdiction of the Peruvian Ministry of Culture.

Continue by reading about the diversity of the fossil woods and leaves at Sexi.