



Paleo Footnotes

Volume 15, Number 10

October 2020

President's Note

Erich Rose

PSoA President

Oh gosh did I have a great day collecting fossils recently. And I had been hoping for something good to come my way all summer. The two previous field trips had been good, but no-show stoppers for me. And yall skunked me on ammonites in Blanco and then crinoids in Bandera. So I think I was truly due for something special. As some of you will recall I have been searching out good examples of each of the known species of echinoids found in the Glen Rose Formation. I have complete specimens of just about all the described species as well as a few yet to be described types in my collection. Cidarids had only been represented by loose plates, spines and a few larger fragments of associated plates. There are currently two genera of cidarids known from the Glen Rose. *Balanocidaris*(?) with it's weird club-shaped spines and *Paracidaris*(?) which produces those knurled spines and the occasional loose plates. I have many bits and pieces of each and now I have at one complete test of *Paracidaris* (?) *texanus* (Whitney & Kellum). Formerly *Phyllacanthus texanus*, Smith & Rader (2009) looked at what they were finding and realized the species should be placed under *Paracidaris*. The species is known from the Lower Glen Rose up into Unit 3 of the Upper Glen Rose. My specimen was found at the top of the Lower Member in what is known as the *Salenia texana* Zone. When we collected at Bandera we were hunting in the *Salenia texana* Zone and I know a few folks found those knurled spines and some loose plates. My location was in Hays County. In addition to the *Paracidaris* I also found my first specimen of the

Next Meeting (ONLINE)

10/20 – 7 p.m.

Austin Gem and Mineral Society Building
6719 Burnet Lane Austin, Texas

Next Field Trip

Saturday, October 24 – 8 a.m.

Field trip to Harker Heights

See details online at our PSoA facebook group!

President's Note cont'd

comatulid crinoid *Solenocrinites wortheimi* like everyone but me was collecting in Bandera. So it was a doubly good day.

I hope all of you can get out and do some collecting on these beautiful fall days while they last. Remember winter will happen in about a week and two weeks from then it will be summer again...



Paracidaris (?) *texanus* (Whitney & Kellum)
Unit 2, Lower Member, Glen Rose Formation, Hays County

See you all Tuesday,
Erich

Upcoming Meeting Program

Paul Hammerschmidt

Programs Chair

TBD at publication time.

September Meeting Minutes

Emelia Rose

PSoA Secretary

- Monthly meetings continue to be held on Zoom, with a great turnout.
- This past month Erich Rose presented on Crustaceans of the GlenRose and Walnut Formations of Central Texas.
- We look forward to seeing you all on zoom!

PSoA Virtual August Meeting Information

Topic: **Paleontological Society of Austin October Meeting**

Time: **Oct 20, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84496338051>

Meeting ID: 844 9633 8051

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,84496338051# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 844 9633 8051

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/knb2A3oAR>

Upcoming Field Trip

Jamie Shelton

PSoA Field Trip Leader

October Field Trip Saturday 24th – 8:00 am

Harker Heights - Walnut Formation

Meet in the HEB Parking lot on Indian Trail Drive off of 190 as you come into Harker Heights. We will caravan to at least two different sites in HH.

Sites are easily accessible, facilities are with driving distance and a sack lunch is a good idea.

Also, please wear masks when gathering initially, once we get to the site it is at your discretion, but we do ask that if you are interacting with another club member (to show off something you found or see what someone else has found) do please put that mask on! We want to make sure all our members are safe!

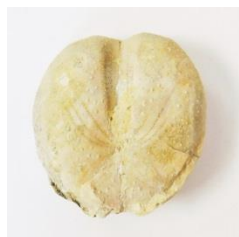
September Field Trip Report

Bandera County (Jamie Shelton)

September had a nice surprise for us all...a little cool front! It was a beautiful day for a drive down to Bandera County! The Hill Country was looking particularly nice after some rains and it meant the collecting would probably be pretty good...and it certainly was! We had a big group this month and fortunately a big site to accommodate us all. Yoli and Will Lins, John Hinte, Paul Hammerschmidt, Noah Harrington, Lorne Ledger, Dave Hoppes, Alan Keith, Kevin Bills, Vaughn Nelson, Heather and Adam Aziz, Erich Rose, Gary and Cathy Rylander, Melinda and Frederick Falk, Brian Bedrosian, Mike Zimmerman, Leslie Riddel, Melvin Noble and myself (Jamie Shelton) spent some good hours checking out this Lower Glen Rose spot that is known for its Floating Crinoids. Melinda and Kathy were the first to find the two different species that are found there. Melinda found the first *Solanocrinites* (she described it as looking like a small bottlecap and that is completely accurate!) and Kathy found the first specimen of the other kind which is as yet undescribed (apparently a paper is in the works for publication, but it has not happened yet). A few others (self included) found a couple of other specimens of the undescribed one, and Leslie found a good version of the *Solanocrinites*. So they are there....just far and few between! But LOTS of other good stuff was found as well! Erich (of course) found a crab carapace. I was ALMOST inclined to ask him to trade that crab for my crinoid.....almost. Brian found some nice *Leptosalenia texana* echinoids, Noah found some good *Heteraster obliquetus* and I know Yoli went home with a whole bunch of nice gastropods! (And Frederick found an interesting gastropod I'd not seen before...). All in all it was a very productive hunt.

But that wasn't it for the day! Melvin then took some of the group out to a place on Lake Medina where they found

many more *Leptosalenias*, and, something really special... Mike Zimmerman found a *Douvilleiceras* ammonite! So I think everyone came away with some good Glen Rose goodies. Next month we'll hit up the Walnut Formation for more good fossils!



Heteraster obliquetus



echinoid



flat crinoid



crinoid



Douvilleiceras

Odds and Ends

New species of cockroach-killing wasps discovered in 25-million-year-old amber

Oregon State University entomologist George Poinar Jr. discovered four new species of ensign wasps in 25-million-year-old amber found in the Dominican Republic and Mexico.

Read more at <https://www.cnet.com/news/new-species-cockroach-killing-wasps-found-trapped-in-25-million-year-old-amber/>

New Species of Mosasaur Unveiled in Morocco

A new genus and species of mosasaur has been identified from a long skull and isolated bones found in a phosphate mine in Morocco.

Read more at <http://www.sci-news.com/paleontology/gavialimimus-almaghribensis-08930.html>

The purpose of the **Paleontological Society of Austin**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is the scientific education of the public, the study and preservation of fossils and the fossil record, and assistance to individual, groups and institutions interested in various aspects of paleontology. Meetings of the **Paleontological Society of Austin** are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Austin Gem and Mineral Society building located at 6719 Burnet Ln. in Austin, Texas. The public is welcome to attend. Visit austinpaleo.org for more information.

Annual Dues: \$18/individual, \$24/family and \$12/associate (non-voting, receiving newsletter) Send to: Treasurer, Paleontological Society of Austin, P.O. Box 90791, Austin, TX 78749-0791.

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