



Fossil Footnotes

Central Texas Paleontological Society

May 2006

President's Message

The picnic and auction were a big success! Wonderful weather, a great locale, a large group from both clubs and lots of wonderful fossils to bid on made for a great time. Thanks to everyone for their contributions. CTPS netted over \$750 from the auction and APS did well also. We all had a good time and went home with great additions to our collections.

Many of us enjoy adding to our collections by finding them. The recent rains and good weather make this the perfect time for collecting. I hope you are taking advantage of it.

The success of the auction is another indication of how much more successful CTPS and APS can be when we join forces. The merger of the two clubs is moving along slowly (as do most volunteer efforts), but I am confident we will bring it to a vote in a few months.

Thanks for all the good wishes after my recent setback. I made a quick recovery and have already been out collecting a couple of times, so the most important things are back to normal.

Ron Root

May 9th Meeting Tuesday night

The May meeting will be at the LCRA Building on **Tuesday night May 9th** starting at 7:00 PM.

Meeting Calendar

May 9	CTPS Meeting
June 14 (Wed)	CTPS Meeting
July 11	CTPS Meeting
August 8	CTPS Meeting
September 12	CTPS Meeting
October 10	CTPS Meeting
November 3-5	Fossil Fest, CTPS Fossil Show at Old Settlers Heritage Association, Round Rock, Texas
December	Christmas Party (no meeting)

Visit our web site

<http://www.texaspaleo.com/ctps/index.html>

Membership Information

- \$18 per Family
- \$15 per Individual. Individual and Family memberships include a newsletter subscription, membership in the South Central Federation, and liability insurance coverage for club activities.
- Associate membership is \$10 per year and includes a newsletter subscription.



See you at the meetin' partner !!

2006 Field Trips

May 13 or 20	Lake Travis
June 17 th -18 th	Ada, Oklahoma
July 15 th	Canoe trip Brazos River
August 12 or 19 th	Vertebrate or Invertebrate Lab at UT
September 16	Brazos River for Eocene fossils
October 14-15	Lake Texoma
November 18 th	Waco Pit
December	Christmas Party

Macro Photography

From: Bill Thompson
billthompson@satx.rr.com]

Subject: Extended Focus in Macro Photography (for fossils, etc.)

I am forwarding this to you. Please forward it to the rest of the CTPS Club.

The software is free and works well. It is easy and fast with a 5-minute learning curve to figure it out.

Good luck to all using it.

Bill Thompson

HGMS news:

Subject: HGMS: Paleo meeting, shark teeth, BBG

The Paleo Program on April 18 at 7:30 will be "Extended Focus in Macro Photography"

or

"How to violate the laws of physics and get away with it"

by Neal Immega

Do your photos of spiny trilobites always have out of focus areas?

The solution is to take 3 photos with different focus points and assemble them using the FREE computer program CombineZ5. You can combine 3 photos in a minute. I will show you how, provide macros, and free software. This process has improved my macro photography from amateur status to pro level.

Go to: www.hgms.org/paleo.html

See examples, download the software and instructions.

You do not even have to come to the meeting. You have it all right there.

Good site for identifying Pleistocene material.

<http://www.fossilexpeditions.com/museum2.htm>

-Mike Smith

April 8, 2006

Picks
Auctions: Ice Age

The market for prehistoric artifacts -- from dinosaur teeth to fossilized fish -- heats up

By **JACOB HALE RUSSELL**
 April 8, 2006; Page P2

A small and unusual segment of the auction market is on the rise: sales of dinosaur bones, fossilized fish and other prehistoric artifacts. Next week will mark New York's first major auction in 10 years of these items. Bonhams, which is organizing the sale, last year bumped up its schedule of these "natural history" auctions from one sale a year to three, due to increased demand. The growth is fueled in part by recent interest in such objects -- particularly fossils -- for interior decorating. Below, three sales that bone collectors will be watching.



Bonhams

Triceratops Brain Case

Triceratops Brain Case With Brow Horns

(est. \$18,000-\$22,000)



Bonhams

 Tyrannosaurus Rex Maxilla
 and Teeth

Triceratops, one of the most popular species to dinosaur buffs, lived 65 million years ago. Full triceratops skulls are rare and thus valuable -- worth up to \$150,000, according to Bonhams's natural history specialist, Thomas Lindgren. These horns sold at auction in the late 1990s for roughly \$15,000.

Tyrannosaurus Rex Maxilla and Teeth

(est. \$125,000-\$150,000)

The market for T-Rex parts has surged since a 1997 auction where a skeleton sold for \$8.4 million at Sotheby's. A major problem in all prehistory collecting is ensuring provenance -- many fossils turn out to have been illegally excavated from public lands. These teeth were excavated in 1995 on a private ranch, according to Bonhams.

Saber-Tooth Cat Skull

(est. \$6,000-\$7,000)

Prices for saber-tooth cat skulls can vary widely, depending on size and how much reconstruction they've required. At a 2003 Bonhams auction, prices ranged from



\$4,700 to \$29,375 for such specimens. This skull has had only minor reconstruction. Like many in the Bonhams sale, this object comes from the collection of adventurer Warren Getler.

Write to Jacob Hale Russell at jacob.russell@wsj.com¹

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<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB114443217213220227.html>

Hyperlinks in this Article:

(1) <mailto:jacob.russell@wsj.com>



Bonhams

Saber-Tooth Cat Skull

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Club Information

The Central Texas Paleontological Society is a scientific, non-profit, community-based organization devoted to the study of fossils, advancing the state of the science, educating the public, and collecting fossil specimens. Most of us are amateurs, fascinated by fossils, who love to collect.

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the LCRA building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. (between Redbud Trail and Enfield Ave.) at 7:00 PM in the LCRA Offices Board Room of the Hancock Bldg. **The public is cordially invited** to attend these meetings as well as our field trips held throughout the year.

Annual dues are: \$15 per person or \$18 per family, which includes a subscription to this newsletter, membership in the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, and liability insurance coverage for club activities. Associate membership is \$10 per year and includes a subscription to this newsletter.

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About the Newsletter

Fossil Footnotes is distributed once a month prior to each meeting. Contact the Membership Chair to subscribe or obtain a sample-issue. If your mailing-label has a date marked with a colored pen, it means your membership has or is about to expire. Please send your check to the club Membership officer or bring it to a meeting.

We accept material from club members (and non-members at our discretion) including, but not limited to, information relevant to club activities, fossil collecting, paleontology & geology, and science education. Feel free to reproduce original material contained in this newsletter for educational purposes (including other club newsletters), so long as you credit the newsletter issue and author, if applicable. Send submissions by e-mail or hardcopies to the Editor (see above) at least two weeks before the meeting. Expect some publication delays for exotic formats.

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