Encope emarginata (Leske)
Canepatch Formation, Pleistocene
Horry County, South Carolina

A LOVE OF FOSSILS BRINGS US TOGETHER
MAPS DIGEST  Volume 19  Number 6  July-September, 1996

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

12 OCT  MAPS MEETING. Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, 123 N. Capital St., Iowa City, IA. Main Lecture Room, #125.

1:00 Board & General Meeting combined.
2:00 Program:

28 SEP  FALLS FOSSIL FESTIVAL, FALLS OF THE OHIO STATE PARK, CLARKSVILLE, IN.

Sat.: “Rare Fossils-I” by C. Oldham. “Rare Fossils-II” by L. Osterberger “Rebuilding Ancient Ecosystems” by Dr. David Meyer “Trilobites: Curious Creatures of the Ancient Sea” by Tom Johnson Sun.: Fossil Collecting Workshop “Those Fabulous Crawfordsville Crinoids!” by Bob Howell

Contact: Alan Goldstein, P.O. Box 1327, Jeffersonville, IN 47131-1317 Fax: 812-280-7110; E-mail: Deepskyspy@aol.com

5 OCT 13th ANNUAL BVFS FLORIDA FOSSIL FAIR, Lake Mirror Center, Lake Mirror Dr., 800 East Main St., Lakeland, FL

Sat. 9-5
Sun. 9-4

Contact: Ed Holman, 2704 Dixie Rd., Lakeland, FL 33801 (941) 665-3426

25 OCT FOSSILMANIA XIV, Somervell County Expo Center, Highway 67 in Glen Rose, TX

Fri. & Sat. 9-6
Sun. 9-2

Contact: Ken Smith (214) 327-9281

16 NOV  CENTRAL FLORIDA FOSSIL FAIR

Florida National Guard Armory
27 2890 S. Ferncreek Ave, Orlando

Sat. 9-6
Sun. 9-4

Contact: Terry Angell 407-277-8978

18 APR 1997  MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION XIX—EXTINCTIONS

Fri., Apr. 18: 8am - 5:30pm
Sat., Apr. 19: 8am - 5pm
Sun., Apr. 20: 8am - 3pm

*** 96/09 DUES ARE DUE ***

Are your dues due? You can tell by checking your mailing label. The top line gives the expiration date in the form of year followed by month—96/09 means 1996/Sept. Dues cover the issue of the Digest for the month in which they expire.

We do not send notices but will let you know if you are overdue by highlighting your mailing label on your Digest. We carry overdues for two months before dropping them from our mailing list.

Please include your due date and name exactly as it appears on your mailing label—or include a label.

Dues are $20 per U.S./Canadian household per year. Overseas members may choose the $20 fee to receive the Digest by surface mail or a $30 fee to receive it by air mail. (Please send a check drawn on a United States bank in US funds; US currency; a money order; or a check drawn on an International bank in your currency.) Library/Institution fee is $25.

Make checks payable to MAPS and mail to:
Sharon Sonnleitner, Treasurer
4800 Sunset Dr. SM
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

ABOUT THE COVER

This month’s cover was sent by Don Clements, Rocky Point, North Carolina. This specimen of Encope emarginata (Leske) is an echinoid from the Canepatch Formation, Pleistocene, in Horry County, South Carolina. See his article on collecting in the Eastern Coastal Plains on pages 3-4.
EXPO XIX--EXTINCTIONS

The theme for MAPS 1997 EXPO has been decided upon and a keynote speaker secured as we get back into the swing of things after the summer break. Our 19th EXPO will focus on unusual or significant extinctions. Warren Allmon, Director of the Paleontological Research Institute, Ithaca, New York, will be Friday night's keynote speaker, in addition to presenting the PRI's Catherine Palmer Award to a deserving amateur.

Maggie Kahrs is once again the EXPO editor. She will be happy to hear from anyone who can provide her with an article relating to the theme.

All information regarding reservations for EXPO comes out in the January issue of the Digest.

DINOFEST 1997

David Jones, Worthington, MN, writes:

Sorry I missed MAPS EXPO, but DINOFEST in Arizona (going on at the same time) blew my mind. For those who like to plan ahead: Society of Vertebrate Paleo. convention will be in Chicago in late October or early November, 1997. Write to Robert Hunt, W-436 Nebraska Hall, (vertebrate paleo. collections), University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0541 for details.

CORRECTION

The trilobite drawing accompanying the "Fossil Stamp Update" article on page 5 of the May-June issue is artwork by Dr. Richard Batt and appeared in a brochure published by the Hamburg Natural History Society, Inc., Hamburg, New York. I regret that I was unaware of the artwork’s origin.

For future authors: Please indicate artists/photographers when you submit drawings/photos that are not your own. (Otherwise, I assume they are yours, sometimes incorrectly.)

MURPHY’S LAWS OF TRILOBITE COLLECTING

by Marc Behrendt, Somerset, Ohio

(Previously printed in Trilobite Times, 7/95)

Invariably, while collecting, I have observed and experienced occurrences which defy the imagination and odds to be repeated again. Yet they do occur, over and over. In general terms, they are considered Murphy's Law. However, the laws for trilobite collecting can be stated in their own specific vernacular. The following is a compilation of a year's observations. I decided to let you, the reader, develop your own favorite name for each law, corollary, or axiom.

Murphy's Law: Anything that can go wrong, will.

--The fossil bed will lie just below the waterline.
--The adversity of weather is directly proportional to the intensity of anticipation.
--The pick will hit a fossil.
--When a fabulous trilobite is found exposed, one piece will be missing.
--Corollary: The chance of finding that piece is inversely proportional to the importance of the missing piece.
--When thoughts are entertained to abandon a fruitless site, one good specimen will be found.
--Corollary: No further specimens will be found until one thinks of leaving again.
--While searching unsuccessfully for quality fossils all day, a newcomer will join you and find something immediately.
--A beginner on his first field collecting trip will find something fantastic. (And not know it.)
--If the goal of a collecting trip is to enjoy the peace and quiet, a major field trip will be at the same site.
--The rare trilobite being sought today will be found by somebody tomorrow at the same site.
--The best trilobite of the day will be found in the flakiest shale.
--If a tiny piece of shale is removed from a trilobite to examine it closer, the small piece of shale will take with it a large piece of the specimen.

A 'MAPS' VIDEO by B.L. STINCHCOMB


A 2,000 mile trip on famous U.S. Route 66 as it was in 1950. Emphasis is on geology, paleontology and scenery on a 1950 trip with human interest from St. Louis to California. Famous paleontological areas like the Braidwood and Essex ironstone concretion fossils, Springfield Missouri crinoids, Permian and Triassic redbeds and strata of the Grand Canyon on the Colorado Plateau, Pleistocene extinctions and fossils, Barstow Calif. silicified "bugs" and Kettleman Hills Miocene fossils are featured.

On the tape also are "shorts" on geologic "time scale", Coosa River Cambrian, Dominican Republic amber fossils, Labrador archeocyathids, St. Croix River Precambrian and Cambrian plus addendum to "MAPS" study videos by Gil Norris.

Allow at least two weeks for delivery.

Make check for $12.00 TO MAPS. Send check and request to

Dr. Bruce L. Stinchcomb
18 Patricia
Ferguson, Missouri 63135

Send to

name

address

town and zip code
COASTAL CAROLINA FOSSIL COLLECTING TECHNIQUES
by Don Clements, Rocky Point, North Carolina

Quarries

There are very few natural exposures for fossil collecting in the coastal plain and piedmont of the Carolinas. Most of the prolific collecting sites are in privately owned mines, quarries, marl pits, and borrow pits. There are a few procedures to be followed in fossil prospecting and collecting in quarries that will enhance the effectiveness of your efforts.

Before going into the field, it would be to your advantage to have an understanding of the various lithologies found in the quarry as well as which fossils are found in a particular stratum. The particular type of fossil you are interested in may be confined to a specific age or paleoenvironment. This information will become apparent once you have an understanding of the lithology and the geological processes that produced the fossil-bearing rocks. A good place to start in your quest for information would be a local college or your state’s geological survey. Museums are another source for information pertaining to geology and fossil collecting.

Once you have an idea of the geology and fossils found in your area, it is time to prospect a local quarry or other pit. While obtaining permission from the owner or operators, you should query them concerning the type of fossils found there and what areas are frequented by other collectors. Many workers are willing to provide such information and are glad to take a break from work for a little conversation. Be sure to follow any instructions regarding off-limits or dangerous areas and try not to be a nuisance to the business that has been gracious enough to allow you to collect.

Now that you are educated and in the field ready to hunt, you should be aware of the 2 basic types of surface collecting. Surface collecting is searching for fossils that are at least partially exposed at the surface. It is usually not productive to look for fossils by randomly digging or breaking rocks, although these methods are used in other parts of the country. When looking for large or distinctive fossils that can be seen from some distance, it is customary to walk briskly along ridges in order to cover as much territory as quickly as possible. This method of surface collecting is known as ridge running. If you are looking for large shark teeth or bones, this is the usual method. Walking parallel to the ridges, starting at the bottom, is a proven method. By starting at the bottom, your dislodged earth and rocks will not distort the picture of the exposure. If there is a lot of competition for collecting space, you should start ridge running at the top, as this surface is more erosional and less depositional. Before selecting a ridge, it is important to consider the position of the sun so that it is not directly in your face. In general, the sunny side of a ridge is preferred for early morning collecting and the shadier sides for hot afternoons. Your personal preference for sun angle should become apparent after a few trips afield.

The second type of surface collecting is to prospect several areas and then settle on a productive hill to collect with concentrated effort. This type of collecting will be better for the collector interested in geology and paleontology, as the details are not apparent to the ridge running collector. The keen observer will look for shapes, textures, and colors, as most fossils are not found completely exposed. Many smaller and rare fossils can only be found by this method. Don’t take more than a few steps without pausing to peruse the ground surface. Stooping to pick up a common fossil may provide you the opportunity of discovering something you may not have noticed while standing. While slowly searching and picking up bits for inspection, it can often be productive to look back over the area you have just traversed. The sun will be at a different angle, and fossils you have overlooked will occasionally come to light. You should always be aware of the formation and age of the sediments in which you are searching. Spoil piles are notoriously mixed up, and the fossils you are interested in may not be found in certain formations or sediment
types. Keep in mind that many of the fossils the ridge runner is searching for may be minimally exposed and only found by the intensive searcher.

Occasionally, a concentration of desirable fossils is found while surface collecting. Framed screens from window screen to 1/4 inch size should be available to concentrate this abundantly fossiliferous sediment. If only one screen is to be had, 1/8 inch or smaller is the preferred size. Larger screen wastes many wonderful fossils and should only be used for sediment reduction into smaller screens or out of necessity, due to lack of smaller screen availability. In the absence of screens sediment may be taken home in buckets or heavy duty bags to be sorted at a later date. Be aware that surface abundance is the result of erosion and does not necessarily reflect overall fossil abundance. This should be kept in mind when samples are taken for home screening. The following articles should be part of the collector's tool bag while collecting the quarries and pits of the Carolinas coastal plain:

1. Backpack or sturdy book bag with notebook
2. Rock or mason's hammer, preferably worn on the belt
3. Assorted chisels
4. Small sledge if collecting the more indurated formations
5. Safety glasses, pocket magnifier, & hard hat (if required)
6. Small vials, such as pill or film containers
7. Ziplock or other plastic bags of assorted sizes
8. Whisk broom and trowel for very loose sediments
9. Wrappings such as old newspapers or cloth and toilet paper
10. Drinking water, sweet and salty snacks.

It is hoped that beginning collectors and vacationers unfamiliar with coastal plain collecting will find this information useful. A future article will deal with the specific procedures and characteristics of collecting vertebrate fossils from stream and other bank exposures using screens.

WEIRD CAMBRIAN FOSSILS SHED LIGHT ON ANCIENT BURST OF LIFE
by Kim A. McDonald

Toronto--The evolution of life as produced some unusual-looking creatures, but none stranger than the taxonomic wonders that Desmond H. Collins has chiseled out of Canadian shale over the past two decades.

Down the narrow hallway from his office at the Royal Ontario Museum here, tucked away in hundreds of wooden drawers, are the fruits of his labors: 25,000 flat, black and gray rocks containing the 515-million-year-old impressions of evolution's most bizarre creations. So bizarre, in fact, one finds oneself wondering at times if the outlines are real.

As for why no new body plans have emerged, many scientists now believe that the early development of animals fixed all later forms into the basic embryonic plans that emerged during the Cambrian. This is why Mr. Collins' collection of esoteric Cambrian fauna is important to biologists.

"So," says Mr. Collins, "we can now add something to the life of the Onycophora, which we're beginning to realize was a varied and very numerous group of animals in the Cambrian, far more so than in the present."

The same applies to other phyla. "One of the results of the work being done now on Cambrian fauna," he says, "will be a modification of the classification system of today."

MAMMAL BONES IN AMBER
source: Quad City Times, Apr 11, 96. p.4A sent by Allyn Adams

Amber from the Dominican Republic has provided scientists with the first well-identified mammal bones to be found in the fossilized tree resin. Ross MacPhee and David Grimaldi of the American Museum of Natural History in New York reported finding, encased in amber, six vertebrae and portions of several ribs from a small shrew-like, insect-eating creature. The bones, between 18 and 29 million years old, are thought to be the remains of a bird's meal.
On May 16, 1996, Fred Schaefermyer (President, ALAA) and I participated in a meeting held on Capitol Hill in an attempt to resolve various issues surrounding "The Fossil Preservation Act of 1996" (HR 2943). The meeting was attended by representatives from the offices of Congressmen Joe Skeen and Tim Johnson and Senator Tom Daschle. Lawyers and management representatives from the USGS, the BLM and the Smithsonian were also present. Elaine Hoagland from the Association of Systematic Collections (an organization of museum managers) was also in attendance, as were representatives of the American Geological Institute and the Paleontological Society. The format for the meeting was an item-by-item listing of changes to HR2943 incorporated into a "redraft" prepared by one representative each from The Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists (SVP), The Paleontological Society and The Dinosaur Society. In fairness to the individuals who prepared the "redraft," I must note that it was intended as a working draft and was not intended for general circulation. The Council of the Paleontological Society has refused to support the "redraft." To the best of my knowledge, neither the SVP nor The Dinosaur Society has yet taken any position of the "redraft."

Notwithstanding the foregoing disclaimers, I feel that I should comment on the "redraft" because it does give some insight into the nature of the problems we face as collectors.

Basically, we are confronted by a number of people, perhaps few in number, who would allow us to collect on public lands only by their authority and under their supervision. The "redraft" would provide three options for collection on federal lands: (1) apply for a permit, (2) restrict collecting only to approved fossils and approved areas and (3) forget the whole thing, stay home and watch TV. The second option is a real lulu. To collect pursuant to the second option would require that the collector go into the field with a map identifying areas approved for collecting without a permit, with a list of collectable fossil species and with the knowledge necessary to make a sure identification of the "permitted fossils." Should the collector stray either from the permitted areas or from the permitted list, that collector would be subject to criminal penalties.

I suspect that if such a bill were to become law, those of us with any intelligence would opt for the third option, i.e. the TV. Incidentally, the list of approved areas would start at 0 and would expand only as various land areas were surveyed for fossils (who would conduct these surveys and who would bear the expense?). In view of the fact that the "redraft" would provide for regulation of collecting of invertebrate fossils, as well as vertebrate fossils and, further, impose criminal penalties for any violation, we hobbyists would be much better off with no legislation at all. I regard the "redraft" as the most onerous proposal I have seen in my approximately 3 years of service as chair of this committee. Thankfully, it appears to be DOA.

Returning now the the subject of the May 14th meeting, the SVP declined to send a representative, a boycott apparently based on the belief that the official position of their group was not being accorded due respect in the progress of HR2943. This was an unfortunate development in that some amount of time was wasted in attempting to define the principal concerns of the SVP and how those concerns might be addressed.

One of the first topics addressed in the meeting was whether or not a distinction should be made between fossil vertebrates and fossil invertebrates. The issue first arose in the context of a proposal by the SVP to establish a "Subcouncil on Fossil Vertebrates." The consensus seemed to be that the bill should not provide for special treatment of fossil vertebrates. I pointed out, by reading from the NAS Report of 1987, that most fossils encountered in the field, even vertebrate fossils, represent common species, e.g. fossil fish,
sharks teeth, etc., and even in the case of
dinosaur bones, they are most likely to be
encountered in the form of scattered frag­
ments. One participant suggested that the
major concern of the SVP with regard to
amateurs might "muckup" a valuable fossil
site. I argued that whatever loss might
occur at such sites due to amateur collect­
ing was more than offset by the value to
science of location of such sites by
amateurs, citing several relatively recent
examples. Further, under the bill, once
such a site is identified, the land manager
could act to protect the site by
restricting access.

I did hear several comments from represen­
tatives of federal agencies which I found
somewhat unsettling in that they might be
interpreted as indicating a predisposition
to regulate. For example, a comment was
made to the effect that permitting would
have the advantage of affording the land
manager an opportunity to warn a fossil
collector of dangers associated with
various activities on federal lands such as
mining and timbering. I pointed out that
such activities would pose equal danger to
hikers, bird watchers, etc. I doubt if the
American public is ready to accept a law
which would require a permit to enter onto
public lands for any and all recreational
purposes.

By far the major portion of the meeting was
devoted to a discussion of the apparent im­
passe between the SVP and commercial col­
lectors. In its present form, HR2943 would
allow commercial collecting, beyond surface
collecting, only under a permitting proce­
dure and with requirement that "scienti­
fically unique" finds be deposited in a
public institution. The "redraft" would
prohibit the granting of a commercial
permit for the quarrying of a "scientific
important" fossil. During the course of
the discussion of this topic (in which
neither Fred nor I participated) someone
volunteered that the real "rub" derives
from the sale of fossils at rock shows at
prices perhaps beyond the reach of the
average professional paleontologist.

Here I will risk several observations.
Firstly, with regard to the high prices of
such material, as a mineral collector, I
can empathize with the professional
paleontologist to the extent that I have
often found myself coveting specimens well
beyond my financial capabilities. However,
collectors such as myself can be consoled
in the knowledge that the high prices
provide an incentive for mine owners to
save such materials from the crushers and
to collect specimens with a minimum of
damage. If a specimen is beyond my finan­
cial means, I would be no better off for
that specimen going through the crusher.

While the analogy is far from perfect, I
suspect that something similar occurs in
the fossil market. Is the professional
paleontologist who finds a fossil beyond
his financial means better off if that
fossil is left in the field to disinte­
grate? While I do not purchase fossils at
the shows I attend, I do look at them and I
am awed by the magnificent manner in which
they have been prepared and displayed.
Often times I find myself looking at the
same fossils I saw when I started out as a
youngster in the hobby, but I find that
these fossils now look much different. The
new technology which has been developed, at
least in part, by commercial collectors for
the recovery and preparation of fossils,
e.g. microabrasion, is truly impressive.
Oftentimes the value of such materials is
in large measure, not the intrinsic value
of the fossil in the ground but, rather,
the value of the skill which went into
recovery of the fossil intact and in its
preparation for display.

One final comment on commercial collecting—
I find a contradiction in the complaint
that the prices are too high and on the
other hand I find that same complainer
advocating denial of access to the major
portion of the land area of our Western
states. In other words, the complainer
would restrict the supply of fossils enter­
ing the commercial market and at the same
time complain of the price. If one wished
to lower the price and concurrently re­
strict the supply, these goals can both be
achieved only if a way is devised to defeat
the economic law of supply and demand.

Hopefully, committee hearings are not too
far off. They should be interesting. I
will sign off by once again urging you to
write your elected federal representatives.
FOSSIL BOOKS FOR SALE - Descriptions Illustrations - References - Localities - Postpaid USA
1. Fossils and Localities of the Claiborne Group (Eocene) of Texas - $9.15
2. Texas Cretaceous Bivalves & Localities - $11
3. Texas Cretaceous Echinoids - $11
4. Texas Pennsylvanian Brachiopods - $14.25
5. Texas Cretaceous Ammonites & Nautiloids - $21
6. Complete Set 5 books - $57.50

Paleontology Sections HG&MS, 10805 Brooklet, Houston, Texas 77099 - TX Residents add 8½% sales tax.

FOSSIL PREPARATION TIP
from The Fossil Record, vol.6, no. 4 Apr 90, Rocky & Gail Manning, eds.

Follow these steps for a good cheap way to break down shales and extract fossils.

1. Dry shale--heat in oven to around 100°F
2. Pour kerosene onto shale; leave one hour
3. Pour off kerosene
4. Pour on boiling water

The fossils are then easily screened from the resulting mud.
Please ADD the Following NEW OR REJOINING MEMBERS to Your Directory:

BIRMINGTON PALEO SOC
Sam Kindervater
RMM/Discovery 2000
1421 22nd St. S.
Birmington AL 35205
215-558-2017

Bone Room, The
Ron Cauble, Owner
1569 Solano Ave
Berkeley CA 94707
510-526-5252
evolve@boneroom.com

Small Business Owner. Will not trade. Major
interest vertebrate fossils.

Tom Bowers
310 Bullian Lane
Austin TX 78746
512-327-7462
wk. 512-602-4649
fx. 512-602-6300
tom.bowers@amd.com

Semiconductor Mfg. Engineer. Will trade. Major
interest Penn.-Cretaceous Marine invertebrates
 esp. trilobites, ammonites, echinoids). Member
 of Central Texas Paleo Soc., Austin, TX.

Jim Brace-Thompson
3017 Max Circle
Marina CA 93933
408-384-4738

Editor for college textbook company. May trade.
Major interest all invert. (macro-, micro-; plant
& animal), fish and shark teeth. Also conducts
education outreach to local schools & writes
articles on fossil collecting for Rock & Gem mag.
Prefers self-collecting. Can trade info & maps on
specific sites in CA & almost all other states.
Member Fossils for Fun, Sacramento, CA.

Thomas E. Bullard
517 E. University St. #2
Bloomington IN 47401

Library worker, Indiana U. Will not trade. Has
had a lifelong interest in fossils and prehistoric
life.

Gary Burlin
3925 N. Ridge East Lot 53
Ashtabula OH 44004
216-992-4775

Factory worker. Will trade. Major interest
trilobites/cleaning and restoration of trilobites
and vertebrate material. Nothing for trade (96).
Looking for good used portable air dent machine
(96). Wants to get in touch with other collectors
that he can buy from.

Samuel J. Ciurca Jr.
44 Stonington Drive
Pittsford NY 14534

Consulting engineer. Will not trade. Major
interest Mazon Creek formation in IL. Member of
Earth Science Club of Northern IL.

Scott Crawford
Apt 234 113 McHenry Road
Buffalo Grove IL 60089-1797
630-616-3831

Graduate Student. Will trade. Major interest
Paleozoic Invertebrates. Just starting (96).
Wants to learn by meeting others with similar
interests.
Les & Marilyn George  
405 Mill St. Box 91  
Sheridan MT 59749  
406-842-5576  
Twn. Mgr.—M.P.C. Will trade. Has general material for trade. Wants to increase his knowledge and friendships.

Carl Locker  
3910 Ardley Ave  
Oakland CA 94602  
510-531-0513  
Fossil Preparator. Will trade. Major interest Cambrian only. Has for trade Cambrian fossils. Wants to meet collectors and learn.

Jeff & Maura Mackin  
22470 Brookside  
Southfield MI 48034  
810-350-3621  
Will trade. Wants to meet others with the same interest.

Barb & Skip Schweitzer  
3730 Winchell Rd.  
Mantua OH 44255  
216-562-9801  
Teacher/Taxidermist. Members of Fossil Society, Cleveland Mus. of Nat. Hist.

Christopher P. Sheridan  
1030 Mowere Rd  
Phoenixville PA 19460  
610-922-3911  
Chemical worker. Will trade. Major interest all fossils. Has for trade various fossils at times Pleistocene mammal remains from NJ.

Martin Stetz  
2153 Green Ridge Drive  
Wickliffe OH 44092-2010  
216-944-2565  
wk. 216-943-9006  
mst@1ubritol.com  
Customer Service Supervisor. Will not trade. Major interest brachiopods, trilobites, plants. Member of Fossil Society, Cleveland Mus. of Nat. Hist. Wants to make more contacts and possibly trade later on.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING CHANGES OF ADDRESS OR CORRECTIONS:

Richard Aylor  
2022 W. Main  
Jefferson City MO 65109  
573-636-2745  
AREA CODE

Rick Batt  
9992 Middle Road  
East Concord NY 14055  

The Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology; to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: One year from month of payment is $20.00 per household. Institution or Library fee is $25.00. Overseas fee is $20.00 with Surface Mailing of DIGESTS OR $30.00 with Air Mailing of DIGESTS. (Payments other than those stated will be pro-rated.

MAPS meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday of October, November, January, and March and at EXPO in April. A picnic is held during the summer. October through March meetings are scheduled for 1 p.m. in Trowbridge Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. One annual International Fossil Exposition is held in April.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year—October through April, May/June, July/August/September.

President: Marvin Houg, 3330 44th St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
1st Vice President: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
2nd Vice President: Karl Stuekerjuergen, 1503 265th Avenue, West Point, IA 52656-9029
Secretary: Alberta Cray, 1125 J Avenue NW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
Treasurer: Sharon Sonnleitner, 4800 Sunset Dr. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
Membership: Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403