



EXPLORATIONS

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2004 | VOLUME 2, ISSUE 2

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR THE ANCIENT DEEP...

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR

Savage Ancient Seas™ is the aquatic world of the late Cretaceous period over 70 million years ago. It is a world of huge carnivorous marine reptiles with double-hinged jaws and teeth in the middle of their palates, gigantic flesh-eating fish big enough to swallow an adult human being whole, flying reptiles with 3 foot skulls and the biggest sea turtles to have ever lived. Unrivaled for their amazing varieties, voracious appetites, incredible teeth and gaping jaws, the creatures of the Savage Ancient Seas™ are unlike anything known in today's world. You haven't seen anything like this before! When dinosaurs ruled the land these spec-

SAVAGE ANCIENT SEAS



tacular creatures ruled the American Inland Sea. Find out how these creatures lived and how they may have become extinct through the educational kiosks throughout the exhibit. Visitors can also learn how the animals sank to the bottom of the sea, when they died, and where they were buried in chalky sediment layers and eventually became fossilized.

Learn how these ancient aquatic creatures lived and died... and who has survived today.

Savage Ancient Seas is a traveling exhibit by Triebold Paleontology. Sponsored by The State Fair of Texas® and



SEPTEMBER 24 - DECEMBER 12

DINO-WEEKEND

NOVEMBER 6-7

Discover the world of dinosaurs!

3



FALL DMNH & KERA NATURE & SCIENCE LECTURE SERIES

Don't miss the Fall series!

4



DMNH HEADS NORTH TO ALASKA

Dinner in the Wild, 2004: presented by

CENTEX





NICOLE SMALL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

THE DALLAS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES
Intent To Purchase Land In Downtown Dallas

**For Members' Eyes Only:
 Members Only
 Appreciation Room:**

DMNH announces our "Members Only Appreciation Room". Members are invited to join us the first Saturday of each month from 12pm-4pm beginning Saturday, November 6. There will be special themed crafts each month as well as snacks and beverages provided.

Retail Partner Program

DMNH thanks our Gold Level Retail Affiliate Partners! Please be sure to take your DMNH member card when visiting these locations to receive special discounts!!

PARTICIPATING RETAIL AFFILIATES:

Cinemark Imax Theatre
www.cinemark.com

Dallas Children's Museum
www.dallaschildrens.org

Exposure Indoor Rock Climbing
www.exposurerockclimbing.com

For Children
 4804 Lovers Lane

The Orvis Company
www.orvis.com

Mountain Hideout
www.mountainhideout.com

Sci-Tech Discovery Center
www.mindstrechingfun.com

SCORE! Educational Centers
www.escore.com

Sunstone Yoga
www.sunstoneyoga.com

Tempest Tea
www.tempesttea.com

Toys Unique!
 5600 West Lovers Lane, #130

Wild Birds Unlimited
www.wbu.com

On August 19, the Dallas Museum of Natural History Association announced that we have signed a definitive agreement to purchase land on the northwestern boundary of downtown Dallas as a site on which to build the new Museum of Nature & Science. The four acre site is located at the northwest corner of Woodall Rogers Freeway and Field Street.

A new facility is crucial if the Dallas Museum of Natural History is to keep pace with the breathtaking advances in the delivery of informal science education for children and their families. The new building will have five times the exhibit and programming space of the current facility, allowing the Museum to provide exciting content including live plants and animals, water elements, permanent

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**A NEW FACILITY IS CRUCIAL IF THE
 DALLAS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY IS TO KEEP
 PACE WITH THE BREATHTAKING ADVANCES IN
 THE DELIVERY OF INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION
 FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

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The new site is an optimal location, situated at the crossroads of the Trinity River Project, the Arts District, the Victory development, the West End, and other popular attractions such as the Sixth Floor Museum. We are grateful to our benefactors who have placed us in the position to acquire such an exceptional site.

The family-friendly facility will provide an education and entertainment destination that will draw millions of visitors of all ages during business and evening hours to the downtown area and will contribute to the rejuvenation and economic development of downtown Dallas.

and temporary exhibits, indoor and outdoor programming, in-depth research and collections, interactive displays and cutting-edge technology.

The purchase of the downtown site, currently the focus of a due diligence effort, is expected to close early next year. Acquiring the land is an exciting milestone on the path to create a dynamic facility dedicated to inspiring minds through nature and science. We are excited about this new journey and hope that you will be a part of it.

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Museum Receives First National Science Foundation Grant
Museum partners with the University of Alaska Geophysical Institute

DMNH received its first National Science Foundation grant in the amount of \$450,000 to continue field research in Alaska.

The grant will help continue the research on the dinosaurs of northern Alaska and their ecology. Northern Alaska is considered to be the single most important area in all of North America to study dinosaurs.

According to Curator of Earth Science, Dr. Tony Fiorillo states that the dinosaur beds are extensive

and dinosaur remains are plentiful "...because the dinosaurs likely lived in the high latitudes this work will provide needed insights into dinosaur biology."

DMNH is partnering with University of Alaska Geophysical Institute on this project. Dr. Paul McCarthy of University of Alaska Geophysical Institute will be studying the rocks in which the dinosaur bones are found to better understand the ancient environments in which dinosaurs lived.

EXPLORATIONS EXHIBITS & EVENTS GUIDE

OCTOBER

Through October 17: The State Fair of Texas®
Feast on famous Fletcher's Corny Dogs, visit DMNH, ride the ferris wheel and more! More info: www.bigtex.com

Through December: Portraits by Marla McDonald

Through December:
Wild, Wild Weather

Discover the science behind tornadoes, hurricanes and floods. Sponsored by The Allstate Foundation and in partnership with:



Through December 12:
Savage Ancient Seas

Prehistoric sea creatures attack Dallas Museum of Natural History. Sponsored by The State Fair of Texas® and Washington Mutual

Thursday, October 14, 6:30pm: DMNH & KERA Nature & Science Lecture

See page 4

Saturday, October 23, 12pm-4pm: Fall Festival

Halloween is upon us! Highlights include Halloween safety tips from the Dallas Police Department, The Raptor Center will showcase LIVE owls and tell us more about these fascinating creatures!

Have your face painted, listen to ghostly fun Halloween stories and more! Special treats for Members. See page 2



DALLAS MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum Hours: Mon-Sat; 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun; Noon - 5 p.m.

Admission: Adults: \$7.00, Seniors 55+ - \$6.00,

Students 13-18 - \$5.00, Children 3-12 - \$4.00, Children 2 and under are free. *Members are always admitted free*

Thursday, October 28, 6:30pm:
DMNH & KERA Nature & Science Lecture

See page 4

Thursday, October 28, 8:00pm: Bailey Society Social Hour
Immediately following lecture. Manhattan Bar at Cedar Springs.

NOVEMBER:

Saturday, November 6, 11am-4pm, Sunday, November 7, 12pm-4pm: Dino-Weekend

Discover what dinosaurs ate, how they survived and how BIG they really were!

Sponsored by and supported by



Saturday, November 6, 12pm - 4pm:
Members Appreciation Room Open

Tuesday, November 9, 6 - 7:30pm:
"An Evening of Cocktails, Art & Energy" (Bailey Society)

See page 4

Thursday, November 18, 6pm: Dinner in the Wild

See page 5

November 30 – January 9: Origami Tree
See a 10-foot tree covered in Origami ornaments!

DECEMBER:

Thursday, December 2, 6pm: Mix-In (Bailey Society)

See page 4

Saturday, December 4, 12pm-4pm:
Members Appreciation Room

Enjoy special treats and surprises!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MUSEUM PROGRAMS CALL:

Main Museum Number	214-421-3466
Museum FAX Number	214-428-4356
Website	www.dallasdino.org
Museum Rentals	214-421-3466 ext.226
Family Festival Days	214-421-3466 ext.211
Camp Program	214-421-3466 ext.209
Outreach Program	214-421-3466 ext.209
Speaker's Bureau	214-421-3466 ext.226
Sleepover Program	214-421-3466 ext. 210
Volunteer Program	214-421-3466 ext.211
Membership	214-421-3466 ext.220

KERA & DMNH
NATURE & SCIENCE
LECTURE SERIES

Sponsored by:



FALL 2004 CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 6:30PM

Rethinking Global Consumption

Gary Gardner, Director of Research at the Worldwatch Institute
Location: KERA Community Room, 3000 Harry Hines Blvd.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 6:30PM

Great Epidemics

Presented in partnership with
UTSW STARS Program

Robert W. Haley, MD, Professor of Internal Medicine and Director of the Division of Epidemiology at the University of Texas (UT) Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
Location: University of Texas Southwestern, McDermott Plaza, Lecture Hall, D1.602

Check back for other upcoming lectures on www.dallasdino.org

For more information and reservations contact Lucy Brittan, 214-421-3466 ext. 218 or lbrittan@dmnhmet.org.

DMNH
MEMBER EVENTS

FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 23, 12pm-4pm

DINO WEEKEND – DISCOVER THE WORLD OF DINOSAURS!

Saturday, November 6, 11am-4pm
Sunday, November 7, 12-4pm

MEMBERS APPRECIATION ROOM OPEN

Saturday, November 6, 12-4pm
Saturday, December 4, 12-4pm

DINNER IN THE WILD

Thursday, November 18, 6pm

E V E N T S G U I D E

BAILEY SOCIETY NEWS

DMNH & KERA Nature & Science Lecture Series. Thursday, October 28, 6:30pm: Social hour to follow @ 8:00pm at Manhattan Bar on Cedar Springs.

“An Evening of Cocktails, Art & Energy”

Tuesday, November 9, 6-7:30pm:

TX Cultures Night was held Friday, August 13. Guests enjoyed great entertainment and feasted on delicious food from around the world. We could not have done it without the generosity of our sponsors.

Mix-In. Thursday, December 2, 6pm: Mix with other young professionals at the Gypsy Tea Room. Details to come.

DMNH THANKS THE SPONSORS OF TEXAS CULTURES NIGHT

Clay Pit - Contemporary Indian Cuisine
Fadi's Meditterrian Grill
Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse
Taco Cabana Mexican Patio Café
World Piece Cafe
(opening soon, formerly Watels)

E V E N T S G O N E B Y



Guests filled the Museum to see live snakes, lizards and more! Special thanks to our exhibitors and Daryl Sprout with Snake Encounters! Pictured: Volunteer Elizabeth Glenn enjoys a snake crawling on her at Reptile Weekend, August 6-7. Special thanks to our sponsor:



Membership Manager, Blair Richert dressed as “Disaster Deputy” entertained guests on Weather Day, July 10. Pictured: WFAA-TV’s meteorologist, Greg Fields, DMNH Blair Richert, and new DMNH members.



Bailey Society Members enjoyed a Ranch Party on Saturday, September 11. Bailey smile before a hayride around the beautiful ranch. DMNH thanks Board Member, Rebecca Bayless for allowing the use of Bold Star Ranch.



DR. TONY FIORILLO, CURATOR OF EARTH SCIENCES

Dr. Tony Fiorillo Heads North to Alaska:

An interview with DMNH's Curator of Earth Science

For the past seven summers, our Curator of Earth Sciences, Dr. Tony Fiorillo, has traveled to Alaska for polar dinosaur research. But we think it is just an excuse to escape the Texas heat. He works in partnership with the University of Alaska. We recently had the pleasure of talking with Dr. Fiorillo about his latest discoveries.

Where did you travel on your most recent trip to Alaska?

I traveled from Barrow to Unalaska with stops in Denali National Park and Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

What was the highlight of this year's trip?

In July, I was about 50 miles south of the village of Wainwright. There, along the banks of the Kaolak River we found dinosaur footprints belonging to three different types of dinosaurs. This discovery represents the first record of dinosaurs from this part of Alaska. We have one set of those footprints in the lab.

Did you make any other discoveries this summer?

Another exciting find this summer is the discovery of fossil marine mammal bones in Unalaska, one of the large islands in the eastern Aleutians.

Why is this significant?

These bones belong to an extinct group of marine mammals known as desmostylians, as well as bones belonging to a fossil seal. All of these bones are worthy of scientific publication, and our suspicions

are that the desmostylian bones belong to a new animal. If so, this is my first opportunity to name a new animal, and you can imagine my excitement.

Why is research in the Arctic important?

The study of Alaskan dinosaurs could provide insights into Texas dinosaurs. I have also been excavating bones of something called an Alamosaurus in Big Bend National Park. The Alaskan dinosaurs are largely different than those in West Texas and by studying the rocks containing the bones in both places this work will bring new insights into the how and why dinosaurs scattered across the continent millions of years ago.

What else have you found in Alaska?

Most of the work I have done in Alaska has focused on understanding dinosaurs and most of that work has occurred in northernmost Alaska. In addition to several hundred

dinosaur bones and footprints, I have also spent some time collecting things like fossil plants in order to better understand the ecosystems in which the dinosaurs lived.

Why you are excited that Dinner in the Wild 2004 will head 'North to Alaska'?

I always enjoy talking about the results of my work and I am pleased to have the opportunity to share the results of my research with our patrons at this year's Dinner in the Wild.



The Museum's newest acquisition is a set of footprints of a small predatory dinosaur from northwestern Alaska. The footprints are highlighted in white.

Bayless Family Gives Generous Grant:

Grant to support Dinner in the Wild and Paleontology department

The Bayless Family has made a generous grant of \$65,000 to support the annual fundraiser, Dinner in the Wild and the Museum's ongoing paleontological research.

As a new dedicated member of the DMNH Board, Rebecca Bayless was looking for areas of critical need and what would most benefit the community.

"There is a call for more paleontological displays at the Museum - particularly ones that the Museum's Curator, Dr. Anthony Fiorillo is responsible for discovering, retrieving and preparing. I believe this would give our community and the Museum a tremendous sense of achievement," says Rebecca Bayless.

Dr. Tony Fiorillo, Curator of Earth Sciences has just completed his seventh year in Alaska and is thankful for the donation. "The grant opens up a lot of doors for the paleontology department. This will not only allow the department to expand what it can do in processing the fossils collected, but will also allow me to continue my field research in Alaska," says Fiorillo.

Additionally, a portion of the grant will go towards the annual Dinner in the Wild. "As the chairperson for this year's Dinner in the Wild, I saw the need for Board underwriting on a larger scale. I wanted to lead the way by example in this effort," says Bayless. "We are grateful for the ability to donate our time and energy and to help financially. We hope that our gift will inspire other people to realize it is an opportunity to contribute to tremendous success in helping the Museum's work!"

DMNH thanks the Bayless Family for their dedication and support.



Rebecca and Jon Bayless

10TH ANNUAL DINNER IN THE WILD "NORTH TO ALASKA"

NOVEMBER 18, 2004 TOWER BUILDING IN FAIR PARK

PRESENTED BY:

CENTEX

SPONSORED BY:



Dallas

& The Bayless Family

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DALLAS ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA DELTA DELTA

For Information: 214-421-3466 Ext. 218 or lbrittian@dmnhnet.org

Saluting our Patrons!



DMNH's Heather Franklin and Carmen Garcia, Marketing Director of The State Fair of Texas®. The State Fair of Texas® is a sponsor of the Fall traveling exhibit, Savage Ancient Seas.



Lauren Dugger from Exxon and DMNH's Dr. Tony Fiorillo. Exxon's donation went towards general 2004 operating needs.



DMNH's Blair Richert and Lyle Foster with Green Mountain Energy. Green Mountain Energy is the sponsor of the DMNH & KERA Nature & Science Fall Lecture Series.



Nancy St. Jacobs and Ben Turk with Washington Mutual. Washington Mutual is a sponsor for the Fall exhibit, Savage Ancient Seas.

EXPLORATIONS

EXPLORATIONS is a quarterly publication of the Dallas Museum of Natural History located at 3535 Grand Avenue. The Dallas Museum of Natural History is supported by the Dallas Museum of Natural History Association. Comments and inquiries can be submitted to Monica Contreras at mcontreras@dmnhnet.org or by mail. Nicole Small, Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Anthony Fiorillo, Curator of Earth Sciences; Sally Pietsch, Chief Financial Officer; Patti Broyles, VP Expansion; Nora Lenhart Director of Visitor Services. Design, BDN Creative Company, Printing, Graphics 2. The Dallas Museum of Natural History is a Smithsonian Affiliate and is funded in part by the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts and is supported by Microsoft Corporation and the Junior League of Dallas. American Airlines is the official airline and the official sponsor is:

The Dallas Morning News
DallasNews.com

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Members are always admitted free

P. O. Box 150349, Dallas, TX 75315 www.dallasdino.org



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