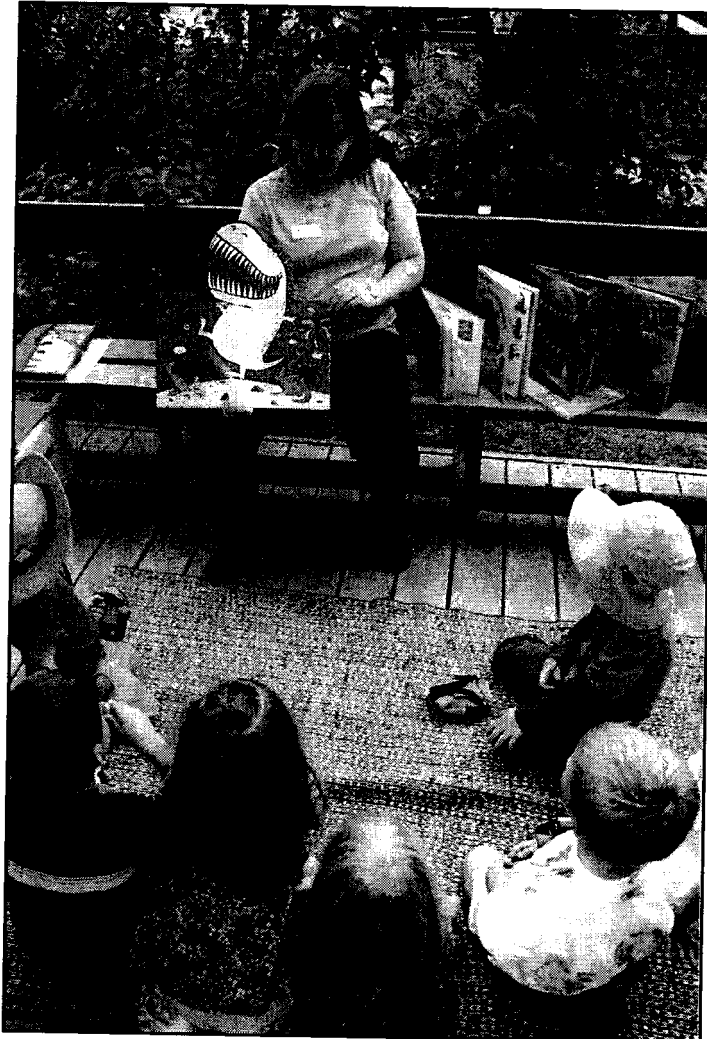


Ridge Report



**Rene Yaws, Jefferson County Public Library, reads to children at Dinosaur
Discovery Day on September 1st.**

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Friends of Dinosaur Ridge
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The Friends of Dinosaur Ridge (FODR), a 501 C3 non-profit tax exempt organization, was established to protect the natural resources on Dinosaur Ridge and Triceratops Trail, and to educate visitors about the area's geological, prehistoric, and natural features.

Major Contributors:

- * Gates Family Foundation
- * Coors Foundation
- * Great Outdoors Colorado
- * Jeddfo Conservation Trust Funds
- * Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (S.C.F.D)
- * Jefferson County Open Space
- * Boettcher Foundation

Friends of Dinosaur Ridge 2007

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Secretary	Bob Reynolds	Consulting Geologist
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Kathleen McCoy	Lawyer
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Betty Rall	Geologist
Ed Warren	Geological Engineer (Retired)

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Harald Drewes	Geologist
DuWayne Ebertowski	Federal Highway Admin (Ret)
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Marge MacLachlan	Geologist
Judy Peterson	Paleo-artist
Kermit Shields	Geologist
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Andrew Taylor	Metro State College
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Pete Martin	Budget
Beth Simmons	Education
Joe Tempel	Fundraising
Tom Moglestad	Outreach
Sam Bartlett	Preservation
Martin Lockley	Publications
Kermit Shields	Volunteer

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Programs & Operations Director	Tom Moglestad
Education Programs Assistant	Erin Fair
Visitor Center Manager	Roger Bennett
Visitor Center Assistant	Jack Davidson
Visitor Center Assistant	Barbara Davidson
VC Assistant and Compter Tech	Brian Davidson

Executive Director's Report by Joe Tempel

Status of Ancient Environmental Education Center:

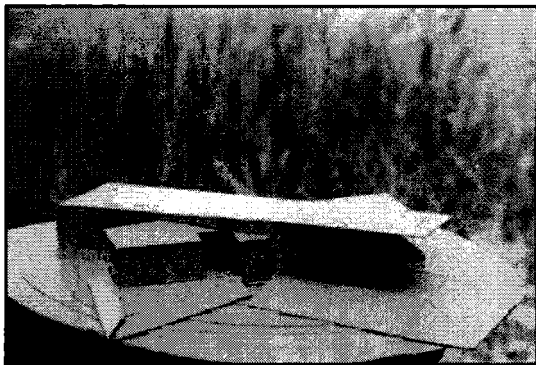
The outside of the barn was finished by Lee Pease and the light boxes for the 5 murals were finished by Paul Nielsen and Dan Green. We have received the first mural depicting the Western Interior Seaway from Michael Skrepnick and are in the process of turning the transparency into a 5' x 5' backlit mural. We have also received three Apatosaurus bone benches from Eric Lenorovitz and Dan Grinor for the video room. Terry Heister has completed the five display cases. Clare Marshall is coordinating the design and Julia Koller is preparing the graphics that accompany the murals. Because of the delay in receiving the murals, we will be scheduling a grand opening in March 2008.

Status of the New and or Improved Visitor Center:

The Jefferson County Open Space is appraising the Rooney Ranch to determine how much they want to purchase from the developer, Greg Stevinson. If they purchase the property around us, we will stay where we are and expand on adjacent open space property. If Jeffco Open Space does not purchase the property around us, we will focus our efforts to move west on the property where Grandma Rooney's house is located. Andrews and Anderson have produced a design for this site (see photograph of scale model) with sweeping vistas of the Ridge and Green Mountain. Preliminary discussions have taken place with Greg Stevinson and Jefferson County to move Rooney Road to the east of our future site in order to remove through traffic from our new visitor center complex. This would not only allow us to safely close Alameda Parkway over the Ridge, but it would provide a private access to our new visitor center. Alameda Parkway is scheduled to be closed to through traffic after the Alameda/C470 interchange is constructed in 2008.

Mac and Martha Turner's Contribution to the Turner Field Experience Fund:

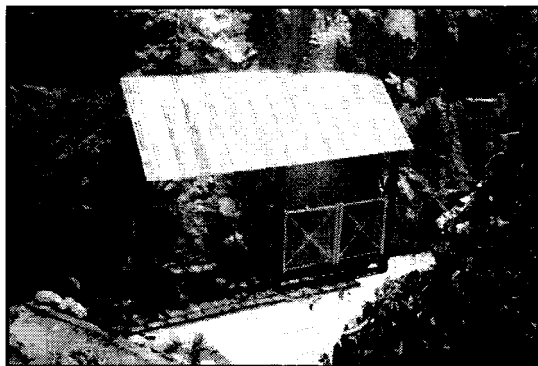
The estate of Max and Martha Turner (see photograph) have bequeathed \$25,000 to the Turner Field Experience Fund to provide transportation for students coming to Dinosaur Ridge. They passed away in 2006 and Dinosaur Ridge was recently notified that we were recipients of this challenge grant that we have already matched. These funds were in addition to the \$10,000 that Dan Turner, family and friends established when Dan, Mac's brother, passed away in 2001. While Dan Turner was a geologist, Mac Turner went into the aerospace and manufacturing business. He and Martha lived in the Los Angeles area for most of their lives. We are very grateful to the Turner family for all they have done for school children in the Denver Metro Area. Over 2,500 children have benefited from the Turner Field Experience Fund to date.



Model of New Visitor Center if relocated west to Grandma Rooney's Site



Mural in Morrison depicting Morrison through time beginning with dinosaurs



Track enclosure at Triceratops Trail



Mac and Martha Turner

Program Director's Report
By Tom Moglestad

Visitation & Attendance:

	Jan-Aug 06	Jan-Aug 07	Change
Visitors to Visitor Center	37,256	35,674	- 4%
Tours (Attendance)	4,701	5,750	+ 22%
Fireside Chats, Hikes, Trips	542	544	+ 0%
Dinosaur Discovery Days	2,910	3,975	+37%

Dinosaur Discovery Days - Thanks to Event Sponsors and Participating Sponsors

Event (Attendees)	Event Sponsor(s)
Jun: DDD-National Trails Day (475)	Andrews & Anderson Architects
Jul: DDD-Raptor Day (450)	Bandimere Speedway & The Fort Restaurant
Aug: DDD-Geocaching (850)	Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council
Sept: DDD-Septem-bo-rama (500)	Andrew Taylor

Participating Sponsors include: American Hiking Society, Jeffco Open Space, and Bear Creek Lake Park for June; Wild Birds Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory, HawkQuest, and the Stone Company for July; Geocaching Colorado for August; Jefferson County Public Library and the Jefferson County Public Library Foundation for September. The July Discovery Day was a very successful joint event with the Morrison Natural History Museum.

The September Discovery Day was a special event for our FODR authors! Their table was popular and filled to the brim with books, and the authors themselves were there ready and willing to auto-graph each one sold (photo pictured right).



Authors Day: (Left to Right) Beth Simmons, Judy Peterson, Harald Drewes, and Andrew Taylor

The final Discovery Day of the year will be the October 6th Girl Scout event, sponsored by the Association for Women Geoscientists and the Girl Scout Mile Hi Council.

School Tours:

Attendance at our school tours continues to increase as we offer new programs for Triceratops Trail and the Backyard Bones: Dinosaur Dig Pit and strive to improve Ridge tours. Typically we have one very large tour in the fall and another in the spring, however this fall we will host Evergreen High School (230), Green Mountain High School (450), and Broomfield Heights Middle School (180), requiring a total of four road closures in addition to our normal-sized tours.

Convention Tours:

This fall, special tours will be conducted for the Geological Society of America, the Association of State Boards of Geologists, and the National Science Teachers Association.

Adopt-a-Track (AAT) Program Update:

So far, 57 tracks at the main Track Site on the Ridge have been adopted with the proceeds going to the preservation of the tracksite.

Preservation Committee

By Sam Bartlett

"When it rains, it pours;" not only applies to Morton Salt, but also to the recent rock preservation issues at Dinosaur Ridge. Just as we were about to finish stabilizing the east and west slopes from winter snows and rains, a huge deluge in late July caused more stability and cleanup problems. Most of us who have been around for some time agreed that the July deluge was probably the worst single thunderstorm that has occurred since the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge was incorporated.

On July 19, Yenter Construction Companies Inc. removed two unstable rock slabs near the tracksite and used their backhoe to scale most of the larger, unstable boulders on the westside of the Ridge. Less than a week later, came the near Noachian deluge, causing further stability problems. Large quantities of mud, and debris were washed down the hill, nearly burying the sidewalks in and around the Bulges. In several areas of previous talus accumulation over the Morrison shale, the accumulated talus was removed down to the unweathered rock surfaces.

Fortunately, Joe Temple was able to convince the City of Lakewood to clean the debris off the sidewalk between the Bulges and the Bone-site in addition to moving some of the previously scaled boulders to this area in order to protect the slope from further erosion. However, the City of Lakewood's equipment could not access the sidewalk at the Bulges and it is still covered in debris. We could use some volunteer helpers to finish cleaning off this sidewalk for future visitors.

The good news is that no damage was done to either the Bulges or the bone sites. The support structure at the Bulges appears to be working as intended and no large rock falls were noted at this site. Additionally, no large rocks were dislodged at the bone site and only additional accumulations of mud were observed there. However, the bone site still needs some stabilization to shore up one area of potential instability resulting from the winter storms.

The area near the ash bed and around the upper road-cut did not fair as well. The July deluge combined with continued vandalism at the ash bed has resulted in extremely unstable rock conditions, causing us to close this area to the public. We have cordoned off the ash bed with Caution Tape, but the vandalism continues. We are currently in the process of soliciting bids to stabilize the toppling rock-blocks at the ash bed and to perform some remedial scaling in this area.

On the eastside of the Ridge no additional damage was observed, other than an additional slab sliding at the downhill tracksite, as a result of the July deluge. Either the near Noachian downpour did not reach the eastside of the Ridge, our previous efforts worked to abate the damage, or the severity of the storm was not enough to cause substantial damage. However, we still need a small stability buttress installed at the base of the tracksite before winter.

The biggest news on the Ridge this quarter is the return of a pilfered *Iguanodon* track early in the summer. This track was retrieved in the early 1970's from a CSU dorm and remained on someone's front porch in the intervening years before being graciously returned to the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge this summer. The Tracksite Preservation Team is currently working on a plan of action to restore the juvenile track to its rightful place. Joe Temple and Martin Lockley recently surveyed the tracksite and determined that the juvenile track belonged in the chiseled-out hole near the bottom of the tracksite that we have been using to highlight the evils of track theft. Once Lou Taylor determines the ownership of the track, the Tracksite Preservation Team will make recommendations to the FODR Board of Directors for its final disposition.

As a side note, this returned *Iguanodon* track has increased the number of tracks in the Adopt-A-Track Program by one. As soon as DuWayne Ebertowski learned of the location and importance of this track, he grabbed his checkbook and immediately adopted the track. Not to worry, there are still plenty of tracks left for adoption. However if we keep adopting tracks at the rate benchmarked by the family of Clare Marshall, we could soon run out of adoptable tracks. Thanks Clare!

Across town at the Triceratops Trail, momentous things are also happening. Early this year, it was announced that one or more of the large tracks in the Hadrosaur Pit could belong to a *Tyrannosaurus Rex*. Before this announcement could be made public, the FODR Board of Directors charged the Preservation Committee with constructing a security structure to protect this rare fossil. Under the tutelage of Joe Temple, Jordan Spalding, a boy scout, his father and his troop erected a security structure and the official track announcement was made in a recent issue of the Denver Post. This special track will be a highlight of the upcoming open house at Triceratops Trail on September 22. Please don't miss it!

The Tracksite Preservation Team has been busy working on tracksite preservation issues and future plans. Dan O'Brien is in the final stages of completing the preliminary design for a tracksite cover and Erik Lenorvitz of the Denver Art Institute is using this design to complete a promotional model. Following the completion of the plans and model, the Tracksite Preservation Team will be working on the final design and fund raising methods for the design and construction of the tracksite cover.

At one of the Tracksite Preservation Team meetings, the issue and dangers of rock climbing visitors came up. Various ideas were discussed. It was decided to first find some NO Rock Climbing signs to install at certain points along the Ridge. Joe Temple is in the process of obtaining four signs from Jefferson County Open Space which will be installed this fall.

Lastly, don't forget the Rock-Out -for-the Ridge on November 2nd. Please plan on attending and supporting our efforts to enclose the tracksite so that future generations can enjoy this magnificent treasure as we have done.

Visitor Center News

By Roger Bennett

We had another very busy summer with many tours and big Dinosaur Discovery Day activities. If we were to have taken a survey of where everyone lived, I am sure we probably had visitors from all the states and many foreign countries. It seems like our brochures, website, and signs have helped people find us much easier. The work on the barn has created much interest and people are looking forward to seeing the new exhibits. The Stegosaurus Snack Shack has been a good addition, and people seem to hang around and have lunch and snacks more often.

Our big excitement this summer was the live capture of two rattlesnakes on the deck. We also have seen a couple of bull snakes which we like because they can kill a rattlesnake. So, many people got quite an education about the snakes and hopefully a better awareness of being more alert when in the area as well as higher up in the mountains. Fortunately we have had no one bitten by any of the snakes. The gift shop was very busy as well, and our sales were again quite good. We continue to try to stock items of interest not only for the kids but the parents and grandparents as well. So, come see us if you haven't been in for a while!

Ramble 7

By Beth Simmons

Ramble 7 to South Park, August 5th. Six ardent Arthur Lakes fans left the Visitors' Center at 8:00. With the contingent was Michael Kohl, Archivist at Clemson University, who wrote two books we sell in the gift shop. For this trip we followed Lakes' journal of the trip to South Park and Florissant in August of 1877, as Mike presented them in *Discovering Dinosaurs in the Old West*. We dined on raspberries and ham for brunch and lunch, just as Lakes had.

We walked in Lakes' footsteps at Kenosha Pass, finding almost the very spot from where he had drawn one of his famous sketches. We observed the worked over placer deposits in Alma that he had sketched; we saw the placer "ranch" south of Fairplay that he mapped. We saw the "Father Dyer" chapel in South Park City where he preached. After lunch in Fairplay on the library lawn, we stopped in "Garro" the site of the Arthur Ranch, owned by Lakes' first cousin, Edward P. Arthur. Lakes often stayed at the ranch when travelling through South Park. At Wilkerson Pass, we read Lakes' description of Pikes Peak and South Park, but could hardly see the Peak through the haze. At Florissant, Andy Weinzapfel treated us to a tour of the Pikes Peak Historical Society's Museum with focus on the outstanding mineral collection (so we didn't have to ride horseback to the top of Crystal Peak). Then, further down the road, Steve Veatch opened up the vault at Florissant Fossil Beds so we could see Lakes' original map of Ancient Lake Florissant.

After getting drenched in a historically correct rainstorm, we ate dinner at the famed Casa Grande Mexican restaurant in Woodland Park. We came home through that rainstorm into Colorado Springs and north along I-25, back to Denver and the VC, tired but satisfied that we had followed in Lakes' footsteps.

The Year of Arthur Lakes - 2007
Calendar of Events
"Rambles and Rhetoric around the Ridge"

Celebrating 130 years since the finds of the dinosaur bones on Dinosaur Ridge
For "Rambles" please purchase the guidebook for the entire season.
Go to www.dinoridge.org for current event information (weather, cancellations, etc.)

Ramble 9 – Sunday, September 23 – Clear Creek Canyon to Green Lake, Beth Simmons & Jack Reed, leaders

Meeting Place: Dinosaur Ridge Visitor's Center

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Topic: Repeat Lakes' many trips to Idaho Springs and Georgetown.

Food: Bring your own lunch.

Ramble 10 – Sunday, October 14 – Hike up North Table Mountain, Harald Drewes, leader

Meeting Place: Dinosaur Ridge Visitor's Center

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM A strenuous hike up North Table Mountain.

Topic: Repeat Professors Lakes and Moss' hike to the lava beds on top of North Table Mountain.

Food: Lunch on top of the mountain.

Ramble 11 – Sunday, October 21 – Fossil Creek - Gary Raham leader

Meeting Place: Dinosaur Ridge Visitor's Center

Time: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Caravan

Topic: Follow Lakes' route on excursions to these famous Cretaceous Seaway sites along the railroad.

Food: Bring your own lunch

Lakes Lecture (Fireside) Wednesday, October 24 – Fireside Chat – Kermit "Oilman Lakes" Shields

Meeting Place: Chevron Classroom

Time: 7:00 PM

Admission: 25¢, as per history. Donations accepted.

Topic: Hear the history of Colorado oil discoveries and experimentation in the late 1800s and first decade of the 20th century.

Rock out for the Ridge – Friday, November 2 –

Ken Carpenter speaker, Lakes one man art show

Dr. Kenneth Carpenter, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, rediscovered the first T-rex tooth ever reported (but not identified) buried in a drawer at the Peabody Museum in New Haven. Lakes and Berthoud had collected it in 1874 in Golden. Tickets required, \$75.00/person.

Lakes Lecture (Fireside) – Wednesday, November 28 – Fireside Chat – Chris "Coalman" Lakes

Meeting Place: Chevron Classroom

Time: 7:00 PM

Topic: Hear the history and future of coal in the state as Lakes projected.

Admission: 25¢, as per history. Donations accepted.

Ramble 12 – Sunday, December 16 – To Bailey, John Ghist, leader

Meeting Place: Dinosaur Ridge Visitor's Center

Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Topic: Follow Lakes' route on a very cold Christmas Eve and day as he rode Jenny, his mule, to Bailey

Restrictions: Jenny limited to 1. Caravan.

Food: Dutch treat lunch stop in Aspen Park

Arthur Lakes' Birthday Party – Saturday, December 22

Meeting Place: Chevron Classroom

Time: 1:00 – 5:00 PM

Topic: Celebrate Arthur Lakes 153rd birthday.

Food: Sandwiches and oyster stew! Cake & candles!

Guides Corner: Mesozoic Moments

MeMo #1

By Kermit Shields

Age Appropriateness

Dinosaur Ridge provides tours for all ages, from pre-school kids to retirement home residents. While we show the same footprints, the same bones and the same rocks to all ages, it is very important that we give a different message to each group, depending on their age, their ability and their objectives.

The first step is to understand the type of group that is taking the tour and their objectives. Clearer information at the time of tour booking might help to get us started on the right foot. In some cases, the tour guide can call the person who booked the tour and confirm tour logistics, group demographics and anticipated objectives. If all else fails, sometimes we need to determine this in the few minutes between when the bus arrives and when the tour starts.

Tour presentations might be a compromise between what the tour guide feels comfortable in presenting and what the group says they expect to learn. Elementary students might just want to learn about 'neat dinosaurs' and we need to be able to cater to that demand. Secondary students might be more receptive to learning how science works and about careers in science and geology. University geology students will demand a more rigorous presentation of the geologic and paleontological issues on the Ridge. And senior citizens might be more interested in the cultural and historical aspects of the area.

A second step is to understand how different ages learn things differently. While adults can sit through a 90 minute lecture, elementary students require lots of hands-on activities and they must be involved in question and answer types of presentations, rather than lectures. The active use of the posters and fossil replicas that we have is important for the visual and tactile learners. For some younger groups, we may need to avoid talking about "sedimentology" and "stratigraphy" and talk more about analogies like birthday cakes with lots of layers or making mud pies or pancakes.

Very young (and very old) groups may have a more limited attention span, especially if the weather is not agreeable. We should be ready to shorten tours and maybe limit them to just the bone site and the footprint site when interest is waning. More is not always better.

When in doubt, ask the group leaders (or maybe the entire group) if it is time to shorten the tour. Even though we may have a lot to say, groups might not have the ability to absorb all of that wisdom. Try to keep in touch with your group and keep them engaged throughout the tour.

Dinosaur Ridge provides a fantastic look at a variety of geological principles and processes. It is our job as tour guides to find the best ways to present that information so that it has the maximum impact on our customers.

Visit the MeMo repository in the Dinosaur Ridge Volunteer Room

Pilfered Dinosaur Tracks Return Home Decades Later

Article from the Denver Post, Aug 3rd 2007

By Ann Schrader

Two dinosaur footprints poached decades ago from Colorado paleontological sites have made tracks back home. One is a "significant" Triceratops track that disappeared 20 years ago from what is now Triceratops Trail near the Fossil Trace Golf Club in Golden. The other is an Iguanodon-like footprint chiseled out of Dinosaur Ridge in Morrison 35 years ago.

"This was a pleasant surprise," said Dr. Martin Lockley, director of the Dinosaur Trackers Museum at the University of Colorado in Denver. Lockley said the Triceratops track was returned by people who said they felt guilty about having it in their possession. "This is the largest and best-preserved horned-dinosaur track in the world," Lockley said of the hefty specimen.

The Iguanodon-like track was part of a sequence of footprints left more than 100 million years ago by the large, beaked herbivore. A few months ago, Robert Higgins of Lakewood took the Iguanodon-like track in the trunk of his car to the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge Visitor Center.

"My son was going to Colorado State University in 1973-74, and he found that thing lying in the hallway of a dorm," Higgins said. "It's been sitting on my porch ever since." Higgins described the track as being about 18 inches in diameter and 4 inches thick, with chisel marks around the edges.

"I'm in my 80's now, and I thought if something happens to me, someone just might throw it away," said Higgins, a retired oil geophysicist. His neighbor suggested taking it to Dinosaur Ridge, just a stone's throw from where the experts tracked down its origin.

"We think we have located the hole," said Joe Tempel, the executive director at Dinosaur Ridge. "More than likely we'll put it back in place, grout it in and use it to tell a story."



Reclaimed Triceratops hind foot print

Rock out for the Ridge - Silent Auction and Banquet

Friday November 2nd, 2007

By Beth Simmons

Come and see the greatest art show and sales ever held, celebrate the year of Arthur Lakes, hear about the State of the Ridge, listen to the main speaker Dr. Kenneth Carpenter (Denver Museum of Nature and Science) tell how he re-discovered the Golden T-rex tooth originally found by Arthur Lakes in 1874, and be present for the awarding of the first Arthur Lakes Legacy Award.

This year's silent auction will offer something very special - unique artwork - in addition to a broad array of treasured items! Whether for your geological office, an empty entry way, your dinosaur room, or even over your fireplace, artists have already committed many pieces of custom artwork. We will offer for a one-time special, framed paintings by Michael Skrepnick, copies of the ones specially executed for the FODR new exhibit hall. Our own board member, Judy Peterson, will submit work. Regional dinosaur artist, Greg Sweatt, has donated two paintings. Our own photographer executive director Joe Tempel will donate a framed photo! Larry Jankowski, award-winning videographer, plans to place a number of framed photos on the block. The real hero of the night will be Arthur Lakes, our own noted bone finder and historic western artist, who provided over forty black and white framed sketches for this once in a lifetime event!

Other items already donated for the auction include a weekend getaway at Fortune Valley Casino in Central City, tickets for the Pikes Peak Cog Railway in Manitou Springs, and tickets for a tour of Glenwood Caverns. Many local restaurants have promised gift certificates for free dining. For the at-home-cook, Easy Entrees donated a gift card. Board member Andrew Taylor has promised some of his finest custom cut gemstones. For your grandchildren, Timbuktoys donated a gift certificate and John Kelly gave a "speed-o-saurus" collectible Hot-Wheels.

The planning committee of Janie Bennett, Beth Simmons, and Larry Jankowski are busy rounding up a plethora of even more items for banquet attendees to purchase. If you have anything to donate such as symphony tickets or ski passes, please give them to Tom Moklestad at the Visitor's Center or a committee member by October 15th. Adopt-a-Tracks will also be available if you missed them last year.

See you on November 2nd at 6:00pm at the Red Rocks Visitor Center for the event of a lifetime! Tickets are available from board members or at the Visitor Center for \$75.00/person. Remember, all proceeds go to the "Track Preservation" Fund.