

DINOSAUR RIDGE



Another Great
Boy Scout Day!

Ridge Report – Summer 2009

Friends of Dinosaur Ridge
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Morrison, CO 80465
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Web: www.dinoridge.org

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
- * Rocky Mtn. Assoc. of Geologists
- * Denver Gem & Mineral Council
- * Coors Foundation
- * Great Outdoors Colorado
- * Jeffco Conservation Trust Funds
- * Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD)
- * Golden Civic Foundation
- * Colorado Garden Show Inc.
- * Boettcher Foundation
- * Dan & Mac Turner Estates
- * Colorado Geologic Survey
- * Xcel Energy Foundation

FRIENDS OF DINOSAUR RIDGE 2009

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Vice-President	Kathleen McCoy	Lawyer
Secretary	Beth Simmons	MSCD Geo. Instructor
Treasurer	Keith Meakins	Accountant

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Kathleen McCoy	Lawyer
Pete Martin	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Betty Rall	Geologist

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Tim Connors	National Park Service
Harald Drewes	Geologist
DuWayne Ebertowski	Federal Highway Admin (Ret.)
John Ghist	Earth Science Teacher
Bob Higgins	National Park Service (Ret.)
John Kelly	Geologist
Jan Jacobs	Technical Editor
Martin Lockley	University of Colorado, Denver
Marge MacLachlan	Geologist
Judy Peterson	Paleo-artist
Robert Reynolds	Denver Museum of Nature and Science
Kermit Shields	Geologist
Beth Simmons	Metro State College
Andrew Taylor	Metro State College
Lou Taylor	Consulting Geologist
Bruce Wyre	Management Consultant

Committee Chairs:

Sub Committee Chairs:

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Martin Lockley
 Lou Taylor
 Clare Marshall
 Tom Moglestad

Kermit Shields

Erin Fair
 Tom Moglestad

Bruce Wyre

Pete Martin
 Joe Tempel
 Robert Reynolds
 Keith Meakins

Sam Bartlett

Tom Moglestad

Committees:

Sub Committees:

Education

Publications
 Curation
 Exhibits
 Events & Tours

Volunteers

Membership
 Community Outreach

Finance

Budget
 Fundraising
 Investments
 Accounting

Preservation

Marketing

Staff - Friends of Dinosaur Ridge:

Executive Director	Joe Tempel
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 Computer Tech	Brian Davidson
Driver/Docent	Bobbi Kilgore
Driver/Docent	Clare Marshall
Driver/Docent	Ted Gildea



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Activities at Boy Scout Day, May 2009 — Details in next issue.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your longest serving president, four years, I would like to say it has been a pleasure to serve the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge. We have accomplished a great deal in the past four years. The barn was renovated for offices, a classroom, and exhibits. Parking space was doubled at the Visitor Center, and we constructed a new entrance monument. The track sites on both sides of the Ridge were stabilized, along with the ashbed site. Alameda over Dinosaur Ridge was closed, and we initiated Shuttle Bus Tours. The "T.rex" tracks along Triceratops Trail were protected by constructing a cover over the top of them, a deck was constructed to keep visitors out of the mud, and a palm frond structure was constructed for enjoyment of the geology of the Fossil Trace Golf Club and the beautiful views of Golden.

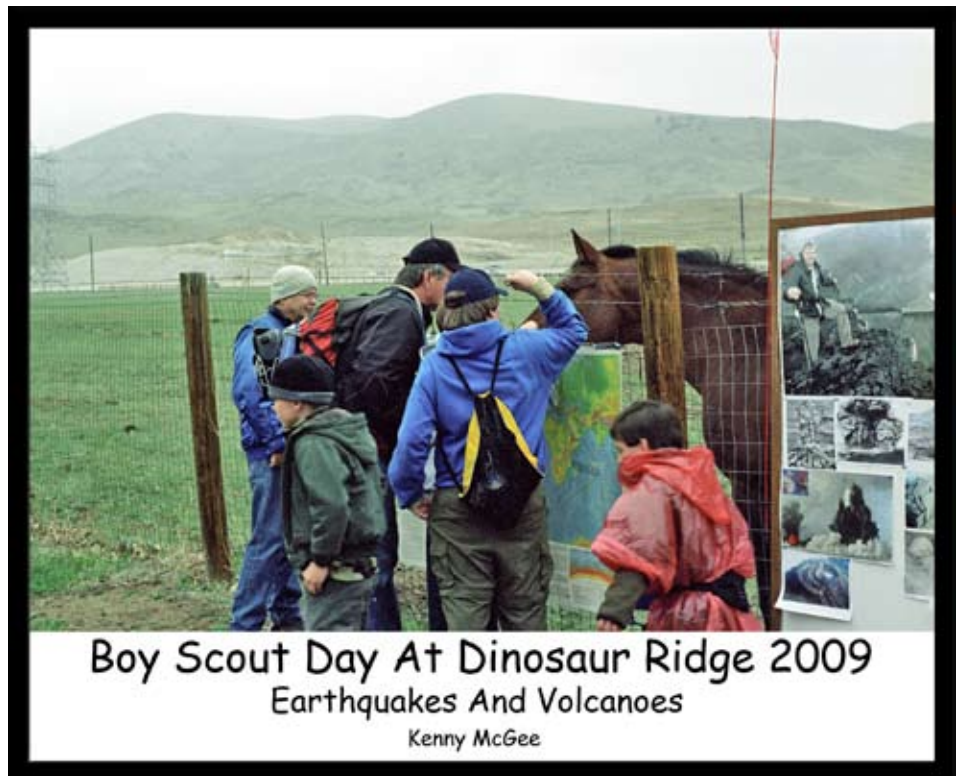
Attendance of guided tours in 2008 (24,000) exceeded the previous high in 1994 when *Jurassic Park*, the movie, was released. The number of visitors to our Gift Shop has never been higher (approximately 50,000). We have produced an interactive CD-ROM describing Dinosaur Ridge, Triceratops Trail, and the Red Rocks area, a video of Triceratops Trail, *A Guide to Triceratops Trail*, *The Trailwalkers Guide to Dinosaur Ridge, Red Rocks, and Green Mountain*, *The Legacy of Arthur Lakes*, *the Junior Paleontologist Activity Book*, and *A Guide to Trek Through Time and Exhibit at Dinosaur Ridge*. Well, I can't take credit for all of this, but it is nice to be part of all the successes of our organization. We have the staff, board, and volunteers to thank for our success.

I want to invite everyone to support our new president, Sam Bartlett, who was elected at our April Board Meeting. Sam has served as Vice President for the last four years, and as acting president during my absences. Sam also serves as

the chairperson of our Preservation Committee, identifying improvements needed on the Ridge and at Triceratops Trail, and has been instrumental in implementing those improvements. Sam is directing a major fundraising effort to raise \$2 million in order to construct a structure over our Dinosaur Tracksite at the Ridge. At the same meeting we also reelected Keith Meakins as our treasurer. Keith is in the process of transferring our budget and accounting QuickBooks™, depositing payroll directly to the employees accounts, and printing checks from QuickBooks™. This should streamline our operation that is getting bigger and more complicated as we increase our public programs and the number of employees.

Again, thanks again for all your support over the last four years! I look forward to contributing to the Volunteer/Outreach/Membership Committee in the future.

-CHRIS CARROLL



MANAGEMENT REPORTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Annual Meeting

On March 18, 2009 we held the 20th Annual Meeting for the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge. About 60 board members, members, and volunteers attended. They enjoyed a Mexican buffet catered by Qdoba, a 20th Anniversary cake for dessert, and a program by Martin Lockley. Martin superbly summarized the past 20 years of activity at Dinosaur Ridge in 45 minutes! He presented the Friends with a bound volume containing all of the Annual Reports and Ridge Reports from the past 20 years! He also spoke about the following future activities at the Ridge:

Proposal to expand the Morrison Fossil Area to include the Golden Fossil Area -- The Morrison Fossil Area includes a small piece of the Ridge just north of Morrison Road and the larger piece that is transversed by Alameda Parkway. The Golden Fossil Area will include Triceratops Trail, Fossil Trace Golf Club, the area near the School of Mines and the area north of Golden. It will be called the Morrison-Golden Fossil Area. Our request is still pending with the National Park Service.

Future Collaborations with Publuma -- Publuma, a Polish dinosaur theme park developer, wishes to collaborate with the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge. They are presently in the process of shipping us full-size replicas of an *Iguanodon* and a *Stegosaurus*. Although they currently are developing a dinosaur theme park in Moab, Utah, they remain interested in someday developing a dinosaur park at Dinosaur Ridge. We don't know when this would occur but we intend to keep lines of communication open with them. We will prepare a Memorandum of Understanding with Publuma to outline how we want to collaborate with them in the future.

We celebrated the past nine presidents of the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge (see list, right) and were impressed with how many presidents, board members, and volunteers remain active in the organization after 20 years. Please see Tom Moglestad's report on the volunteer awards presented at the Annual Meeting.

(continued on page 6)

PAST PRESIDENTS OF DINOSAUR RIDGE (1989-2008)

Dick Scott	1989-1991
Bob Raynolds	1992-1994
Pete Modreski	1995-1996
Betty Rall	1997-1999
Ed Warren	2000
Joe Tempel	2001
Pete Martin	2001
Andy Taylor	2002-2004
Chris Carroll	2005-2008

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

(continued from page 5)

Fundraising

This time of year, I focus my efforts on fundraising. I have submitted grant applications to SCFD for \$104,000 to provide tours on the Ridge and in the exhibit hall (\$91,700) and to purchase a full-size replica of a *Stegosaurus* (\$12,300). I am going through the interview process with the Cultural Councils in Jefferson, Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield and Douglas counties.

I've also submitted the following grant applications:

- Western Interior Paleontology Society: \$3,000 for the full-size replica of the *Stegosaurus*.
- Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council: \$4,500 to replace our interpretive signs (received).
- Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists: \$2,000 to replace our interpretive signs.
- MDU Foundation: \$10,000 for the design of the Structure over the Track Site (to be received in June).

Future Projects on Dinosaur Ridge:

Before we can implement the following new projects on the Ridge over the next few years, we needed to submit a “site plan” to Jefferson County for their approval. We are hoping to get their approval of this site plan in the next couple of months.



Artists concept of the proposed Track Site Cover

- Structure over the Dinosaur Track Site on the east side of the Ridge
- Parking lots on both sides of the Ridge
- Interpretive kiosks on both sides of the Ridge
- Picnic structure at the curve
- Port-a-potty enclosure on the east side of the Ridge
- Construction of a split rail fence around the curve
- Operation of our Vanosaurus and a 14 passenger electric bus between our Visitor Center and the west side of the Ridge.

Replacement of Roofs at Dinosaur Ridge:

You may have noticed that the T-lock asphalt shingled roofs on the buildings and sheds at the Visitor Center have suffered wind damage over the winter months. We filed an insurance claim and have received about \$18,000 to replace the shingles with 110 mph-proof asphalt shingles. The work has been completed and the new shingles have already been tested by the wind and passed.

-JOE TEMPEL



Electric Bus

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT – 2009, 1ST QTR.

Visitation, Attendance and Sales

	2008 1st Qtr	2009 1st Qtr.	Change
Visitors to Visitor Center	5,367	7,973	+ 49%
Tours (Total Attend.) *	947	2,849	+201%
Trek Through Time	----	3,196	-----
Chats, Hikes, Field Trips	73	86	+ 18%
Traveling Exhibits Visitors	8,000	1,000	- 88%
Sales (\$) **	16,441	26,562	+ 62%

* includes guided school tours, shuttle bus tours, and school outreach.

** includes receipts from Gift Shop, Shuttle Bus and *Trek Through Time*

Significant increases in visitation, tour attendance and sales resulted from two new offerings, the Shuttle Bus and *Trek Through Time*, as well as very favorable weather in the first quarter, particularly during Spring Break in March. The traveling exhibit, "A Track Returns," by Lou Taylor, was displayed at the Western Interior Paleontological Society's symposium in Golden and at the Ft. Collins Rockhound Gem & Mineral Show. Currently it resides in *Trek Through Time* as one of several new hands-on exhibits on touch carts. See Erin Fair's article on these new exhibits (page 9).

Denver Botanic Gardens presents "Jurassic Gardens"

The Denver Botanic Gardens is displaying several life-size models of dinosaurs in its new temporary exhibit that will run until September 30, 2009. FODR's Education Assistant, Erin Fair, led a 3-hour tour for DBG educators and later presented "Dinosaurs 101" to their volunteers. DBG ran an ad for Dinosaur Ridge in its newsletter; it went out to 19,000 members! Check the back cover of this issue of the *Ridge Report* for a generous offer from DBG and go see "Jurassic Gardens."

FODR a charter member of Dinosaur Corridor

The Friends of Dinosaur Ridge, the Morrison Natural History Museum, and Triebold Paleontology, operator of the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center in Woodland Park, are all celebrating their twentieth anniversaries in 2009 by forming the Dinosaur Corridor, a collaborative marketing group. Other natural history museums along the Front Range have indicated an interest in joining. The group plans a color brochure for the upcoming season, a one page website, and a symposium later this year or early next.

Colorado Mountain Club utilizes the Triceratops Trail

The Friends of Dinosaur Ridge was pleased to learn that the Colorado Mountain Club, part of the American Mountaineering Center in Golden, leads a significant number of school groups on small tours of the Triceratops Trail as part of its education mission. CMC and FODR have begun to collaborate in an effort to cross promote tour programs in a manner similar to the successful cross-promotion between FODR and the Morrison Natural History Museum.

-TOM MOKLESTAD

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

VOLUNTEER AWARDS FOR 2008

PRESENTED MARCH 18, 2009

The Top Gun Awards

- Lifetime Achievement: T Caneer
- Volunteer of the Year: Kermit Shields
- Outstanding Performance for Collections and Curating: Kathy Honda
- Outstanding Performance at a Community Outreach: Matthew Mossbrucker, Bobbi Kilgore
- Outstanding Performance as Docent of the Year: John Townrow
- Outstanding Performance as Tour Guide of the Year: Harald Drewes

Success Awards

No Child Left Indoors/Girl Scout Day in fewer than 24 hrs: Norb Cygan, Kermit Shields, Sam Bartlett.

Successful Shuttle Bus Team: Ted Gildea, Clare Marshall, Bobbi Kilgore, Brian Davidson, Barb Davidson, Jack Davidson.

"Hike with _____": Martin Lockley.

Adopt-a-Track: Doris Meakins.

Trek Through Time Pioneer Docents: Marsha Barber, Cindy Barnes, Jen Franklin, Ted Gildea, Sue Jenne, Bobbi Kilgore, Marj MacLachlan, Clare Marshall, Kathleen McCoy, Judy Peterson, Betty Rall, Alix Rich, Blair Roberts, Andy Taylor, John Townrow, Bruce Wyre, Bill DiPaolo.

Trek Through Time First Docents: John Ghist, Karin Bond.

Public Relations: Debra Dauer, Larry Lange, Jan Jacobs, Mary Taylor.

Manager of the Year: Holly Tempel; Stegosaurus Snack Shack, Roger Bennett; Gift Shop, Joe Tempel; Dinosaur Ridge.

Dinosaur Discovery Day Participating Partner: Tim Sandsmark, Lookout Mountain Nature Center.

Specialty Cakes: Doris Walker.



Kermit Shields and Bobbi Kilgore pose happily with their awards



Phew! That's a lot of awards to give out!

20-20 Visionary (For 20 Years Participation): Jan Jacobs, John Kelly, Duff Kerr, Karin Bond, Frank Adler.

Twentieth Century Rex for 20 years of Service: Marj MacLachlan, Pete Modreski, Bob Raynolds, Joe Tempel, Betty Rall, Martin Lockley, Sally White.

**Thanks to all our volunteers for making
2008 a banner year!**

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

HANDS-ON STATION SUCCESS!

For those that have been in the *Trek Through Time* exhibit hall in the last month, you've noticed a few new additions in the form of hands-on Touch Carts. Five new carts were added to serve the desire to poke, prod, and touch by the hundreds of students that visit.

Are YOU a Dinosaur?

This cart has been wildly popular, especially with the addition of the Elasmosaurus skull (pictured, right). The notion behind this cart is to try to quell the "oh look at the swimming dinosaurs" exclamation from people and teach that Colorado's sea monsters were indeed reptiles. Using the skeletal anatomy of the elasmosaur and the Tyrannosaurus, students and adults are able to compare the two animals and see the differences between them.

Dino Offense and Defense

A fan favorite! Picking dinosaurs from the three time periods represented on Dinosaur Ridge (the Late Jurassic, the Early Cretaceous, and the Late Cretaceous), we have displayed defensive and offensive physical structures that both predator and prey had: horns, spikes, talons, and teeth. Kids *love* to be able to touch these replicas! Getting their hands on fossils, even if they aren't exactly the real thing, is something they all seem to remember.

Discoveries

Showing the historic and recent discoveries of the Dinosaur Ridge area, this cart has a replica of the Arthur Lakes tyrannosaur tooth rediscovery from Yale, a cast of an ornithopod track from the Dinosaur Ridge Tracksite expansion in 1994 shown in the video, and something new that will be coming in the next month or so! You'll have to wait and see what this new, Late Jurassic discovery is!

Hands-On Hiatus

Using a microscope, students can study different types of sandstone. The students get a chance to look at the rocks from three formations: the Morrison, the Lytle, and the South Platte. Studying the rocks is important for identifying the environment, and this hands-on approach is something I've noticed students really get excited over. Though...it may be that they just want to play with a microscope.

A Track Returned

This exhibit was showcased at the Western Interior Paleontological Society's (WIPS) Symposium in February, 2009. Reformatted a bit and mounted on the wall in the *Shaped By Discovery* section, the recovered ornithopod track, named Pi due to its round shape, is on display! The tale of her return and the way to identify where the track came from is detailed on the wall behind the footprint.

So far the first draft of these carts has gone well! A revision will come in the fall/winter of this year where changes will be made. If you have noticed anything about the carts or have an interesting idea to make them more hands-on or interactive, please don't hesitate to let Tom or me know! This first draft is just the starting point for these inventive, temporary exhibits. New ideas can bring something fun and exciting to *Trek Through Time*, and hopefully be an improvement to the visitor's experience!

-ERIN FAIR



Elasmosaurus skull replica

CALENDAR OF EVENTS — 2009

05/28/09 Book Signing: The Legacy of Arthur Lakes Signing Event (6pm-9pm)

Authors Honda and Simmons together with several contributors will sign copies of *The Legacy of Arthur Lakes* in the Chevron Classroom at the Visitor Center. Help us celebrate FODR's most recent and most ambitious publication. Hors d'oeuvres and wine! Copies still available!

06/06/09 National Trails Day at Triceratops Trail (10am-2pm)

The American Hiking Society sponsors a celebration of the nation's trail system. Guides will be stationed along the Trail in Golden. A one mile hike.

06/13/09 Dinosaur Discovery Day: Geocache & Earth Cache (10am-2pm)

Enthusiastic geocachers will explain their hobby. Guides stationed along the Dinosaur Ridge Trail. Trek Through Time Exhibit Hall free all day.

06/16/09 Field Trip to Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center & Florissant Fossil Beds

See page 14

07/11/09 Festival of Dinosaurs (TBA)

To be rescheduled for fall.

07/11/09 Dinosaur Discovery Day: Backyard Fossils (10am-2pm)

Bring your own fossils for identification by paleontologists. Guides stationed along the Dinosaur Ridge Trail. Trek Through Time Exhibit Hall free all day.

08/08/09 Dinosaur Discovery Day: Rocks, Minerals, Fossils (10am-2pm)

Event sponsor, Denver Area Gem and Mineral Council will give out free mineral specimens. Guides stationed along the Dinosaur Ridge Trail. Trek Through Time Exhibit Hall free all day.

09/12/09 Dinosaur Discovery Day: Colorado Geology Day (10am-2pm)

Featuring the Jefferson County Public Library's Knott's Kids Day with giveaways, dinosaur book displays, and dinosaur story times. Guides stationed on the Dinosaur Ridge Trail. Geology exhibits at the Visitor Center. Trek Through Time Exhibit Hall free all day.

10/10/09 Dinosaur Discovery Day: Earth Science Week (10am-2pm).

In celebration of Earth Science Week the Association for Women Geoscientists and other professionals will facilitate stations on the Ridge and exhibits at the Visitor Center so that Girl Scouts can earn badges. Scouts must register. The public is welcome.

11/06/09 Rock Out for the Ridge

Fundraiser dinner and silent auction at Red Rocks Park Visitor Center. Featured speaker, John Foster, will present "Walk Through the Jurassic Morrison." (6pm-9pm)

11/14/09 Dinosaur Detectives: Backyard Bones (10am-11:30am) - Free

Outdoor presentation of dinosaur bones for kindergarten through 2nd grade. Other ages and parents are welcome. Trek Through Time Exhibit Hall free for attendees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

VOLUNTEER CORNER

The spring tour season is upon us. Erin's schedule has most days filled up with various kinds and sizes of tours. The beginning of the season is a good time to remind ourselves about leading a successful tour.

Safety is always important.

The gates have stopped car and truck traffic, but remember to remind guests about speeding bicycles and the Vanosaurus. Discourage rock climbing and throwing rocks. And, always remind guests about the rattlesnakes!

Tour organization is critical to a good experience.

At the outset of each tour, remember to confirm all details with the tour leader. (Restroom availability, ending time for tour, crowd control, etc.) Make sure that your objectives and the guest's objectives are the same.

Time Management was discussed in MeMo #3 (see the MeMo Repository in the Volunteer office). Especially on multi-guide tours, it is critical that we stick to the time limit for each stop. Having a wrist watch is advisable, but if you're watchless, ask one of the teachers to be a time-keeper.

Be sure to be Age Appropriate in your tours. (See MeMo #1) Younger groups need lots of hands-on experiences and a question-and-answer format. Lecture format is usually not appropriate for them. Take advantage of the posters and props that are available. Providing your own props and ideas is always refreshing.

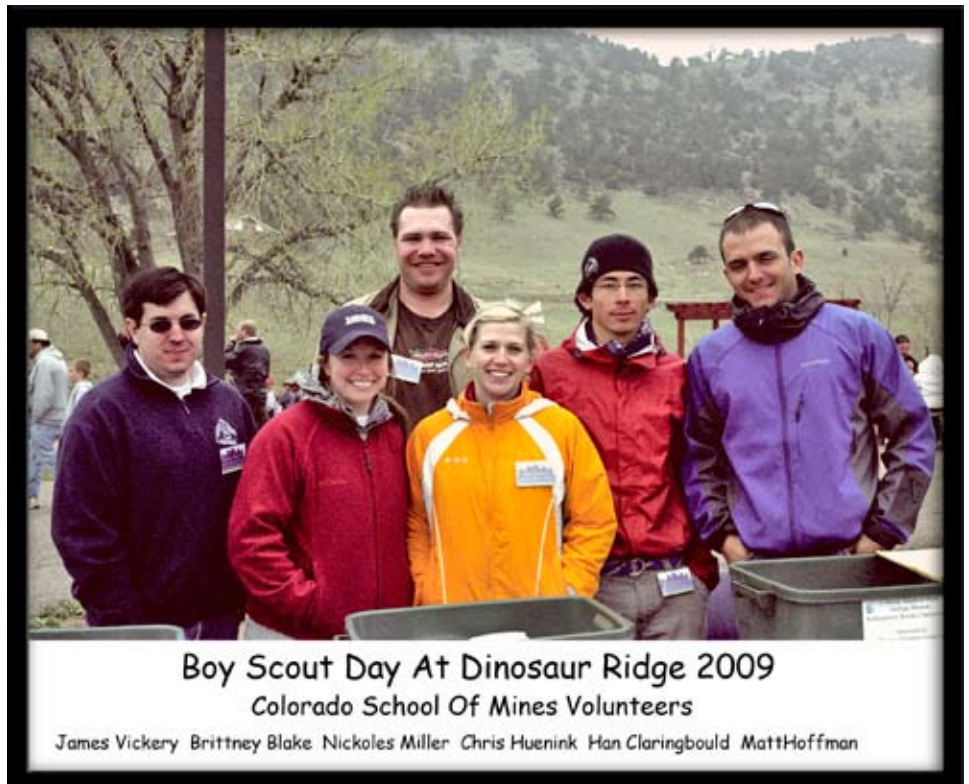
Have fun and be excited about our geology and paleontology. That excitement will be contagious. Remember to tell the groups, or at least

the group leaders, about other opportunities that we have, such as DDD, Triceratops Trail, the Trek Through Time exhibit, and our publications.

It is always helpful if you proactively volunteer for tours so that Erin doesn't need to spend her time calling around for help. Check with her for the most current tour schedules. tours@dinoridge.org

Thanks to all of the volunteers that have helped out, many of whom were recognized at the March Annual Meeting. While this report may focus on tour guides, we also want to recognize all of the other volunteers, including those working in the Trek Through Time exhibit hall and those working behind the scenes making casts or helping with all sorts of other various jobs. We couldn't do it without you!

-KERMIT SHIELDS



COMMITTEE REPORTS



Well-rounded beach cobble made from eroded dinosaur bone

FIRESIDE CHATS

Friends of Dinosaur Ridge Fireside Chats continue to be popular programs. The two most recent programs have been given by FODR board member Lou Taylor in January and by Brent Breithaupt and Neffra Matthews in February. Brent is the Director of the University of Wyoming Geological Museum and Neffra is Chief of the Branch of Photogrammetric Applications for the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's National Science and Technology Center in Denver.



Morrison equivalent beds along the Atlantic in Portugal.

Jurassic of Western Portugal: Almost Morrison

Dr. Louis H. Taylor

January 28, 2009

Those familiar with Dinosaur Ridge know about the discovery of Jurassic dinosaurs by Arthur Lakes in 1877 and, of course, the extensive dinosaur trackways being preserved and maintained by Friends of Dinosaur Ridge.

However, most of us know little about the discovery, twenty years later, of contemporaneous dinosaurs along what is now the Atlantic coast of western Portugal. About 70 kilometers (43.3 miles) northwest of Lisbon, the Lourinhã and Alcobaça Formations produced and continue to produce dinosaurs and other fossils similar to those found in the Morrison formation of North America. Recent work by Portuguese paleontologists in the Portuguese Jurassic beds has revealed the presence of dinosaur tracks, eggs, and embryos, as well as a number of new dinosaur taxa.

The Lourinhã/Alcobaça faunas are similar to the Morrison Fauna. The Portuguese formations contain similar plants, molluscs, fish, amphibians, crocodiles, snakes, lizards, pterosaurs, mammals, and dinosaurs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Globetrotting with Theropods: A Photogrammetric, Spatial, and Morphological Comparison of Middle Jurassic Dinosaur Tracks from North America and the United Kingdom

Brent H. Breithaupt and Neffra A. Matthews
February 25, 2009

The Middle Jurassic is an important time in the evolutionary history of dinosaurs. Fortunately, there are a number of significant dinosaur tracksites from this time period that provide valuable information about the trackmakers, their environments, behaviors, and global distribution. A key to more fully understanding the animals of this time is consistent, detailed 3D maps of sites worldwide. Close-range photogrammetry is an excellent method for the 3D documentation of fossil footprints. Dramatic technological advancements have resulted in a simplification of the process for capturing overlapping stereoscopic photographs.

Affordable, quality digital cameras, high performance laptops, and cost effective software allow for the production of dense, accurate point clouds in the field. As these point clouds are generated from photographs, image textures can be reg-

istered with the quality, reliability, and authenticity necessary for scientific use. These data can be exported into a variety of visualization softwares, where vertical exaggeration and scale can be manipulated to enhance features difficult to see or measure in the field, and can be used to produce solid models. Digital ichnology (track) data, along with digital spatial data utilized in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) provide excellent tools for capturing the incredible wealth of information provided at dinosaur tracksites. These tools can aid in unraveling numerous ichnological complexities, such as variations in footprint morphology related to trackmaker, substrate, and preservational level (e.g., underprints).

In particular, important Middle Jurassic tracksites in Wyoming and Utah can now be easily compared with similar data from other localities. Digital track data for the United Kingdom (also known for significant Middle Jurassic dinosaur track localities) can be compared to those from North America. This comparison will provide a unique glimpse of the paleoecology, paleobiology, and behavioral complexities of Middle Jurassic theropod dinosaur communities in the Northern Hemisphere.



Brent and Neffra (SVP 2008)



Brent and Neffra preparing to photograph a tracksite

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHARLES DARWIN: "THE TRUE STORY"

Several FODR members took advantage of a rare opportunity to hear an expert speak about Charles Darwin. On April 4, they traveled to the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Research Center (RMDRC) in Woodland Park to hear Dr. John van Wyhe of Cambridge University, England, speak on "Charles Darwin: The True Story." Dr. van Wyhe is one of the world's leading experts on Darwin.

Dr. van Wyhe has written four books about Darwin, the latest a celebration of the 200th year of Darwin's birth, published by the National Geographic Society. Dr. van Wyhe's incessant research and investigations revealed that much of what has been written about Darwin is legend or myth as he unraveled the day-to-day events of Darwin's life. Part of his investigation included the complete restoration of Darwin's room at Cambridge down to peeling off the paint to find the original color of the woodwork to uncovering the original pillow cover in the window seat where Darwin did much of his writing. Dr. van Wyhe discovered one of Darwin's original insect boxes which he restored and placed in the room complete with insect net and pinned beetles.

Following Dr. van Wyhe's lecture, members walked to the RMDRC, where RMDRC president Mike Triebold and Darwin collector Angus Carroll opened a new exhibit entitled "Darwin and Dinosaurs."

"Darwin and Dinosaurs" will be at RMDRC until early July, after which it will become a traveling exhibit. The artifacts displayed include copies of many of Darwin's works, some original notes, and books and journals that relate to Darwin and the early discoveries of dinosaurs in Europe. Some works displayed are by Sir Richard Owen, who created the term dinosaur and who described many of the fossils collected by Darwin on his discovery voyage aboard the Beagle. The artifacts are on loan to RMDRD by Mr. Carroll.

The Friends of Dinosaur Ridge plan to sponsor a bus trip to the Dinosaur Resource Center and the nearby Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument on June 16th. Plans for the trip are to spend about two hours at RMDRC, have lunch in Woodland Park, and head for Florissant where Beth Simmons, FODR secretary and fossil beds historic researcher, will lead a tour around the Petrified Forest Loop and tell the history of the Fossil Beds. The trip will leave Dinosaur Ridge at 9:00 AM and arrive back at DR after 5:00 PM. Cost: \$75 per person

Call Erin Fair at (303) 697-3466, ext. 11 to reserve

-BETH SIMMONS AND LOU TAYLOR



20 YEARS OF RIDGE AND ANNUAL REPORTS

After several years collecting old Ridge Reports and Annual Reports, Friends of Dinosaur Ridge finally has a complete set of 82 separate reports, covering the first 20 years (1989-2008 inclusive). The Dinosaur Tracks Museum (University of Colorado at Denver), with the valuable help of the Denver Book Binding company, compiled, checked, copied, and bound the archive copies.

Friends of Dinosaur Ridge was presented with the three-inch thick volume on March 18th during the 20th Anniversary celebrations. A second bound copy resides at the Dinosaur Tracks Museum at CU, and a third loose-leaf copy will be donated to the Colorado Historical Society.

The project was co-ordinated by Martin Lockley who thanks all who helped in this task: in particular present and former board members Jan Jacobs, Rudi Hartmann, Pete Modreski and Joe Tempel.

-MARTIN LOCKLEY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DONATION DINOSAUR IN TREK THROUGH TIME

In mid-March, the O'Saur family donation sensation was delivered to our exhibit hall. Sharon Whelan, a recently retired elementary school art teacher, created the Cretaceous-aged hadrosaur and her nest. The sound system was designed and assembled by Dan Doughery, a retired structural geologist. Hadie, the hadrosaur mother, named her first three hatchlings after the dinosaurs that were discovered and named on Dinosaur Ridge: Al, Steg and Patti.



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