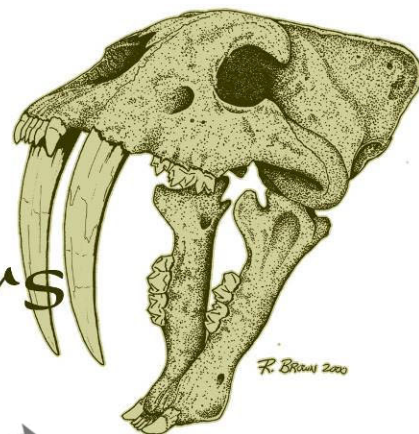


NEWS

Florida Fossil Hunters

Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc. dba/ Florida Fossil Hunters
Volume 28, Number 8

October &
November 2018



From the desk of the President.....

Hello, Everyone. Hope you've managed to avoid all the nasty storms that we've had this season. I got hit with one - the house is a mess and the collection is spread everywhere. Yes, Storm Bonnie hit like a Cat. 5 while getting ready for the club's annual **Fossil Fair**. Each year I get a little freaked-out as the event nears. Yet after each season, the Fair is a huge success because of you - all you members who help to pull this off each year.

I'm thanking you in advance in case it gets too busy during the Fair. You can find the details of the event inside.

One odd thing about this storm.... when I put the collection back into the collection rooms, somehow there is more than before.

In other news, we had a great time at the National Fossil Day/ Permian Monsters exhibit opening at FLMNH. Go check it out for yourself.

We'll have a **speaker at the Nov. 17th meeting** as well as another **Kids' Fossil Blast program**.

In December we'll have the club's **"Fossil Bucks" auction**. Dave Dunaway & Ed Metrin have a great selection of auction items. Earn more Bucks by coming to the meetings, events, and volunteering at the Fair.

We'll be holding the year's final **board meeting** after the Fossil Fair. The Board will be planning next year's events, meetings, etc. If you would like to attend the meeting or become an officer of the club, please let Stormy Bonnie know.

Hope to see you at the Fair!

Russell Brown
President

Coming Events

UPCOMING MEETINGS at the Orlando Science Center

FFH Fossil Fair 2018

October 20 & 21
Central FL Fairgrounds

Saturday, Nov. 17th

Kids' Fossil Blast- 2 pm
Meeting - 3 pm

*More events listed on back page
For more info...*

www.floridafossilhunters.com

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Florida Fossil Hunters News

Fragments

Permian Monsters:

Life before the Dinosaurs

Sept. 29, 2018 to May 5, 2019

Florida Museum of Natural History

Step back in time 290 million years when distinctive creatures dominated life on land and sea, and learn about the greatest extinction the world has ever seen. This unique exhibition brings the past back to life with fossilized skeletons and full-sized replicas of the animals that ruled the world before the age of dinosaurs, in a time known as the Permian. Gain a glimpse into the period with paintings from award-winning paleo-artist Julius Csotonyi. See models of giant insects, bizarre-looking sharks and strange reptiles with mammal-like characteristics. Meet the top predator of the time, the giant saber-toothed gorgonopsid, and sift through interactive dig pits.

Monsters Report

Our club took part in the opening of the Permian Monsters: Life Before the Dinosaurs exhibit and the celebration of National Fossil Day on Sept. 29th at the FL Museum of Natural History. The exhibit is amazing and thought provoking. We strongly recommend that you visit the Museum before the exhibit leaves next May.

Over 1800 guests visited our displays as well as the rest of the museum. Our member volunteers: Alex Bittle, Jordan & Jordan & Omar Campbell, Dave Dunaway, Ed Metrin, Connie Moore, Salvatore Sansone, Steve & Michael Sharpe engaged in lively discussions with the guests and explained the fossils on display. Valerie First brought her "Becoming Human" displays and always had curious folks crowded around her. (Marge Fantozzi volunteered at the FPS tables).

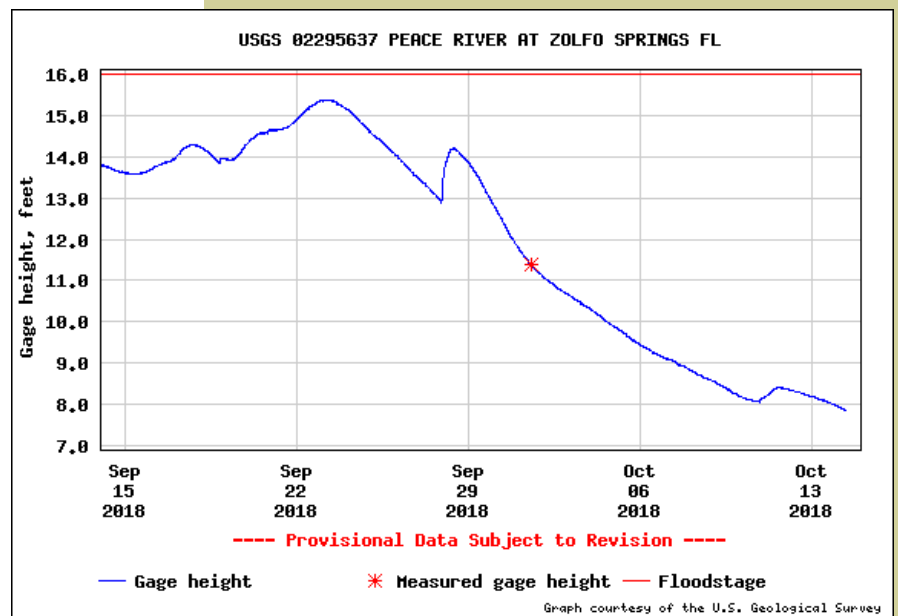
Kids' Fossil Blast

The next kids' program will be on **Saturday, Nov. 17th at 2 pm** at the Orlando Science Center. Jordan Campbell will do the program on Dinosaurs. Come on time so you can enjoy the hands-on parts and learn some things while checking out the fossils and replicas.

Piece on the Peace

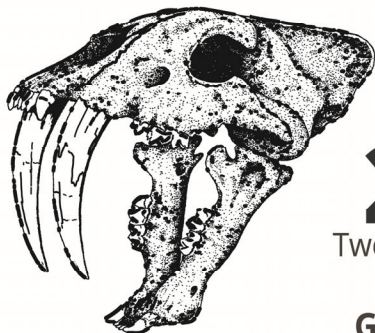
Yippee!!!!!!

After the long summer of heavy rains, the Peace water level is finally going down. In a few weeks we should be able to stand in the shallow areas and dig & sift for fossils. *Get your gear ready.*



Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters



2018
Twenty-seventh Annual
**Fossils, Rocks,
Gems & Minerals**

Saturday, October 20, 2018
9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, October 21, 2018
10:00am - 4:00pm

Central Florida Fairgrounds
4603 West Colonial Drive,
Orlando, Florida 32808

www.floridafossilhunters.com

**Educational
Displays**

**Silent
Auctions**

**Kids \$1
Dig Pit**

Raffles

**Airconditioned!
INDOORS!**

Come with us on a journey through time with rocks and fossils. Find meteorites from the birth of our solar system. Discover the early creatures as life experimented with every possible shape and way to survive from simple scavenging ones sitting on the seafloor to those that fed on rocks, to life forms that finally figured how to propel themselves and chase prey. Yes, humans are in that group.

To stage this Fair full of discovery, we need the help of all of our members.

Please volunteer your time and donate fossils, rocks, and food for the event.

SET-UP: On Friday, Oct. 19th, we will need help setting up: assisting vendors taking inventory from vehicles to tables, hanging posters, banners, etc., helping Sara set up the food area, listing & labeling the Silent Auction items. We'll also need some strong backs to help set up the Kids' Pit.

SIGNS: On Saturday, Oct. 20th, at 8 am we need someone to distribute the signs around the area. A team of 2 people would be best. Then on Sunday, at 5 pm, we need the signs collected.

ADMISSIONS: On Sat. & Sun. we need folks to handle the front table: take money, give change, answer basic questions, have guests sign up for the Door Prize, etc.

SILENT AUCTION: On Sat. & Sun. we need people to stage hourly auctions: select items, make announcements, collect money & make change, Add donations to the list and label items.

MEMBERSHIP TABLE: On Sat & Sun, we need people to answer questions about the club, help them fill out applications, give info on field trips. Also take care of shirt, bag, & book sales.

KIDS' DIG PIT: On Sat. & Sun., we need people (including kids) to help resupply the Pit, sweep up the spilled sand, pass out bags & ID sheets. We also need people to try to identify what the kids have found.

SECURITY: On Fri. night & Sat. night, we need people to watch over the vendors' tables and make sure no one breaks in.

FOSSIL DISPLAY: On Sat & Sun we need people to talk to guests about the fossils displayed, the geological history of Florida, and answer their questions.

CLEAN-UP: On Sun at 5 pm, we need people to help pack up fossil displays, auction items, supplies, food, etc. We might also need some people to take some of the boxes to their house until the next meeting. Some of us bring more than one vehicle load to the Fair and we always run out of room in the cars.

Donations

There is joy in sharing... it releases endorphins in our brains and makes us feel good. So in the pursuit of more good feeling in the world, I ask that you donate extra fossils & rocks for the Kids' Dig Pit and the Silent Auction. You can also donate books, toys, display cases, etc. for the Silent Auction. Just bring them with you to the Fossil Fair.

During the Fair, the club also has a "kitchen" in the back with food for vendors & volunteers. (so they don't get hungry & grumpy) The club provides sandwich fixin's and utensils and the members bring the rest: salads, fruits, casseroles, chips/crackers, desserts, etc.

To volunteer

at the Fossil Fair and any of our outreach events:

- 1) Sign up at the meetings
- 2) Email Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com
- 3) or phone 352-429-1058

IT'S THAT EASY!

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Canaveral Gem & Mineral Society ...PARADE OF GEMS

We hold an annual Jewelry & Gem Christmas Gift Show Saturday & Sunday the second full weekend in November. This year, that's November 10 & 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Melbourne Auditorium 625 East Hibiscus Avenue, Melbourne, Florida 32901

NOTE: Through our Parade of Gems we are able to provide scholarships for college students studying Earth Sciences. Help us help them while enjoying a great show with opportunities to buy gifts, lapidary materials and beading materials as well.

YOU'LL FIND:

LOTS OF VENDORS — offering finished jewelry, gemstones, and everything in between

KIDS FUN WITH ROCKS — Kids will choose rocks, find out where they're from and learn to hunt on their own!

DEMONSTRATIONS -- Our club members will be demonstrating skills used to finish stones, as well as various jewelry-making techniques

SILENT AUCTION -- You'll have the opportunity to bid on lots of items, from finished/unfinished gemstones to finished jewelry

GIVE-A-WAYS -- Keep your ticket stubs, because we'll have several drawings during the show and you can win wonderful items each day!

CLUB MEMBERSHIP TABLE -- Stop by our table to get further information about our club or speak to any of the people wearing the orange vests or club badges.

TITANIS WALLERI

The generic name, *Titanis*, refers to the titans, Ancient Greek gods that preceded the Twelve Olympians, in allusion to the bird's size. The specific name, *T. walleri*, honors the holotype's collector, Benjamin I. Waller.

Evolution

It lived approximately 5-2 million years ago (early Pliocene to early Pleistocene) in North America. Fossil evidence has been found in three locations in Florida and one in Texas.

The Gilchrist County, Florida site dates from 3.0 to 2.9 million years ago. The Santa Fe River, where 27 of the 41 *Titanis* fossil



specimen have been found, is located in Gilchrist County, Florida. The other locations that *Titanis* has been found include Port Charlotte and Inglis, Florida. Only one specimen has been found outside of Florida, and that was in the Nueces River in Texas.

From circumstantial evidence (i.e., bone fractures), it has been suggested that the species did not become extinct until 15,000 years ago, but more precise dating by McFadden and colleagues refutes such a late date; all known *Titanis* fossils appear to be at least 2 million years old. *Titanis* was part of the group of giant flightless birds called the Phorusrhacidae, which are nicknamed "terror birds", and has been thought to represent the youngest species of the lineage (recently, a significantly younger South American example has been reported). The Phorusrhacidae originated in South America; *Titanis* is the only known member of the branch of the group that migrated out of that continent during the Great American Interchange.

Studies of the closely related *Andalgalornis steulleti*, which is also in the family Phorusrhacidae reveals new information about the head and neck movement of *Titanis Walleri* and all "terror birds" of this family. In a series of tests on the skull of *Anadalgalornis*, it was found that these birds would have had a hard time moving their heads laterally. However, the back and forth movement of the skull was tremendous, and it is thought that *Titanis* most likely used its massive skull to pummel prey to death.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Withlacoochee Rockhounds



**44th Annual
Rock, Mineral, Fossil, Gem, and Jewelry Show**



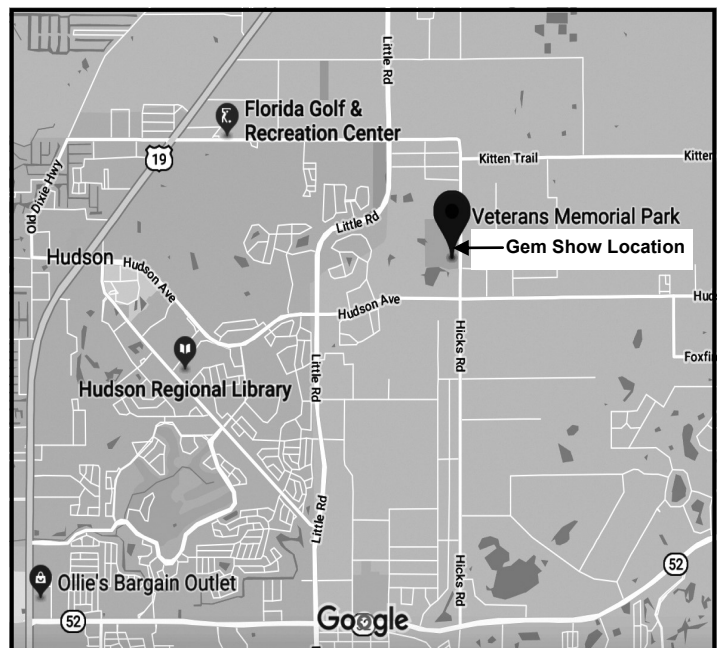
Hernando County, FL

[www.withlacoocheerockhounds .com](http://www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com)

**November 30, December 1, 2, 2018
Veterans Memorial Park
14333 Hicks Rd.
Hudson, FL 34699**

Featuring

- Minerals
- Gemstones
- Fossils
- Handcrafted jewelry
- Lapidary equipment
- Fluorescent minerals
- Demonstrations
- Educational displays
- Lectures
- Door prizes
- Famous diamonds of the world
- Replica of Aaron's Breastplate



**The show is open from 9:00 AM until 5:00PM Friday and Saturday.
Sunday from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM
Admission: \$3.00 adults, \$1.00 teens, 12 and under FREE**

VULCAN MINE Field Trip

Vulcan Mine near Brooksville

FIELD TRIP LEADERS

Saturday, Nov 10th & Dec 8th

TRIP LEADERS: NEEDED

Call or email Bonnie to volunteer to lead the NOV or DEC trip bonnierussell62@gmail.com | 352-429-1058

This is one of the few places where kids are allowed in to fossil hunt. Be sure to stay with them since there are steep cliffs, sharp rocks, and small sinkholes.

Meet on the driveway loop near the entrance to the Mine by 8:30 am to sign releases before we are escorted into the mine around 9 am. We get to drive our vehicles in so you can have your coolers, snacks, and equipment handy while you hunt. They usually allow us to dig until noon and sometimes people can stay till 2 pm.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST

MUST BE ESCORTED INTO AND OUT OF THE MINE. NO EXCEPTIONS. IF YOU ARE LATE, YOU DO NOT GET IN.

THERE ARE NO RESTROOM FACILITIES AT VULCAN MINE, other than the boulders and the hills.

Directions: The trip will take approximately 2 hours from Orlando to Vulcan Mine. Be sure to allow for extra time to stop at a restroom before you get there.

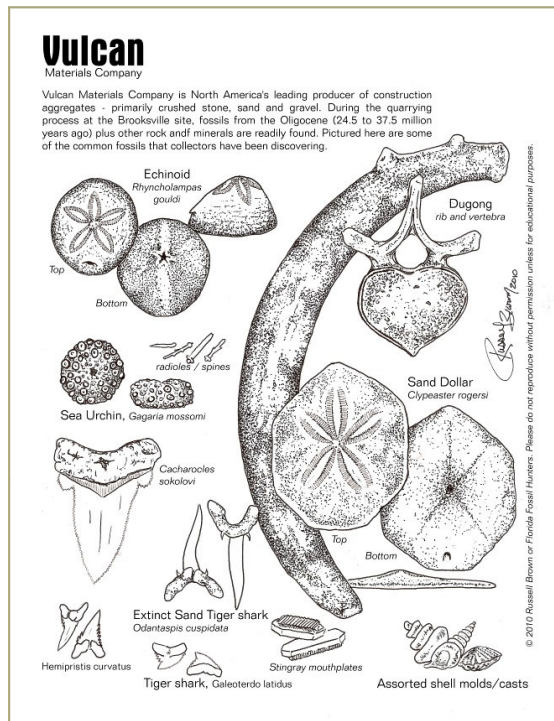
From Orlando take Hwy. 50 west (or the 408 west to the FL Turnpike, take exit 272 and then continue west on Hwy. 50) to Brooksville. Follow 50A/98 North through Brooksville and turn right on Ponce De Leon Blvd. (Hwy 98 North). Go approximately 10 miles. Vulcan/Cemex will be on your left. The address is 16313 Ponce De Leon Blvd, Brooksville, for those of you who want to download a map.

If you follow the truck route for Hwy. 50, you have to turn right onto 41, and then take the fork to the left to hook up with Ponce De Leon Blvd/98. There are several fast food places on 41 where you can take advantage of the bathroom facilities. Be sure NOT to keep following 41 north. You want to take 98 north from Brooksville.

This is mostly surface collecting with occasionally a little digging to pry out a specimen. Bring a small trowel or screwdriver or rock hammer, and a bucket to put your fossils and rocks into. You may want to bring small containers and tissue for fragile fossils.

Wear a hat, sturdy shoes, long pants (some of the rocks are sharp), and sunscreen. Bring lots of water and/or drinks and some snacks or lunch to eat.

We find mostly echinoids and sometimes sea urchins, pieces of bone, or other fossils are found. We also find chert rocks. This is the material that the Indians used to make their arrowheads and tools.



**TRIPS NOV
10 & DEC 8**

ID Sheet above is available on
the field trip and website.
floridafossilhunters.com/Field_Trips.htm

You MUST be a member of the club for insurance purposes to participate in this field trip.

MUST have paid your 2018 dues (you can bring a \$17 check with you)

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters

is a fun and educational group whose goal is to further our understanding of the prehistory of Florida. We encourage family participation and welcome explorers of all ages.

Membership is \$17 per year. Other household members may be included at no charge.

Meetings are usually held on the third Saturday of the month but may vary with club activities. Check the website for the date and location of the next meeting or call one of the officers.

Officers:

President	Russell Brown	(352) 429-1058
Vice President 1	Steve Sharpe	(352) 552-2296
Vice President 2	Salvatore Sansone	
Secretary	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Treasurer	Sara Morey	(619) 302-4863

Chairs:

Education	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Field Trips	OPEN	
Fossil Fair	Valerie First	(407) 699-9274
Fossil Auctions	Dave Dunaway	(407) 786-8844
Fossil Bucks	Dave Dunaway	(407) 786-8844
Fossil Lotto	Ed Metrin	(407) 321-7462
Membership	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
Newsletter	Bonnie Cronin	(352) 429-1058
	Elise Cronin-Hurley	(407) 929-6297
Photography	John Heinsen	(407) 291-7672
Facebook	Paul Hardin	
Webmaster	Elise Cronin-Hurley	(407) 929-6297
	elise@liseydreams.com	

Board of Directors:

Ed Metrin	(407) 321-7462
Dave Cass	(407) 409-9095
Marge Fantozi	
Marcia Wright	
Cindy Lockner	
Dave Dunaway	
Salvatore Sansone	

Membership Application

Names: _____

Associate Members: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

____ New ____ Renewal

Please list any interests, experience, talents or just plain enthusiasm, which you would like to offer to the club:

Membership is \$17 per year. Our membership year runs from January to December. All renewals are done in December and January.

Please make your checks payable to:

Florida Fossil Hunters
Post Office Box 540404
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404

Associate members are people in the same household, included at no extra charge, 2 adult votes per household.

Newsletter Policy

Articles must be submitted by the first of the month to be included in that month's newsletter. These can be mailed to the above Post Office Box or e-mailed to: bonnierussell62@gmail.com . Articles can be sent as text in the e-mail or in Microsoft Word files (.doc or .docx).

Please note in subject of email 'FFH'.

Florida Prehistorical Museum, Inc.

Florida Fossil Hunters News

Florida Fossil Hunters Mark Your Calendar

See inside for more information on events.

Sept. 29, 2018 - May 5, 2019

Permian Monsters
FL Museum of Natural History

FFH Fossil Fair 2018

October 20 & 21
Central FL Fairgrounds

Saturday, Nov. 10th

Vulcan Mine Field Trip
need leader

Nov 10th & 11th

Canaveral Mineral & Gem show
Melbourne

Saturday, Nov. 17th

Kids' Fossil Blast- Dinosaurs 2 pm
Meeting - 3 pm

Nov 30th - Dec 2nd

Withlacoochee
Mineral, Gem, Fossil Show
Hudson, FL

Saturday, Dec. 8th

Vulcan Mine Field Trip
need leader

Join Our Facebook group, Search:
[Florida Fossil Hunters](#)

facebook

Be Green

Email Bonnie at bonnierussell62@gmail.com
to receive the newsletter via email.



Visit us online at www.floridafossilhunters.com

Articles and comments should be sent to: bonnierussell62@gmail.com

Florida Fossil Hunters

Post Office Box 540404
Orlando, Florida 32854-0404



Florida Fossil Hunters News

2018 FOSSIL FAIR

Florida Fossil Hunters

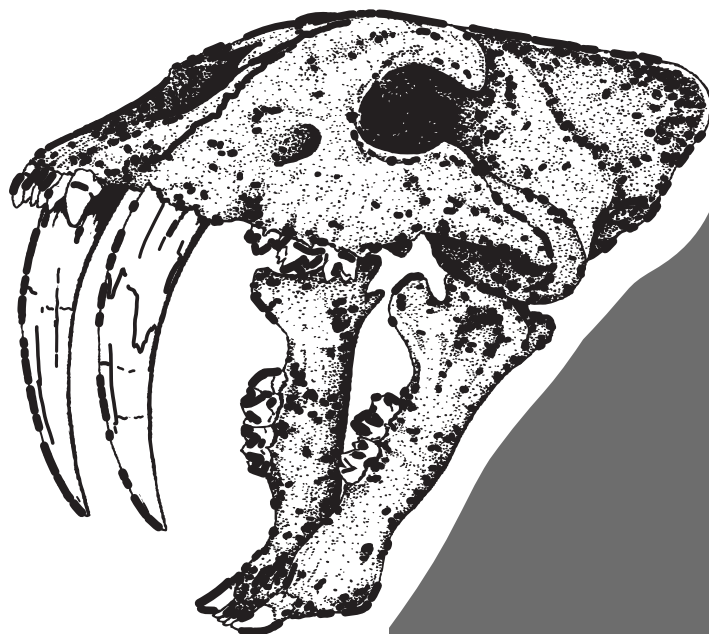
Twenty-sixth Annual
**Fossils, Rocks,
Gems & Minerals**

Saturday, October 20, 2018

9:00am - 5:00pm

Sunday, October 21, 2018

10:00am - 4:00pm



Central Florida Fairgrounds

4603 West Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida 32808

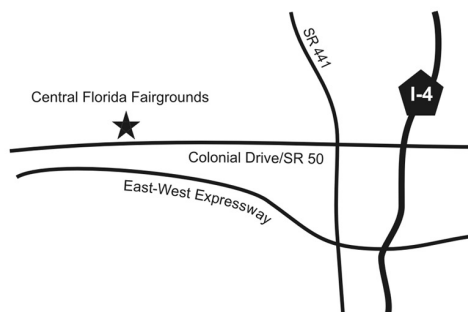
\$4.00 Adults | \$1.00 Children

**Learn to dig in Florida and
see what can be discovered!**

Directions:

I-4 to Orlando, Exit 84,
West Hwy 50/Colonial Drive
exit Westbound.

The fairgrounds will be
on the right side, just past
Mercy Drive.



Raffles

Vendors

**Silent
Auctions**

**Kids \$1
Dig Pit**

**Educational
Displays**

**Airconditioned!
INDOORS!**

For more information on the 2015 Fossil Fair contact us by email at
info@floridafossilhunters.com, call 407-699-9274, or check the website at

www.floridafossilhunters.com