



Everglades Geological Society

BULLETIN

Volume 7, Number 5

March 2001

Meeting This Month: March 20, 2001
6:00 P.M. at the French Connection Cafe
(social hour starts at 5:00)

Topic: General Meeting

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Everglades Geological Society
P.O. Box 61684
Fort Myers, FL 33906

The Everglades Geological Society is an organization which seeks to promote interest in and understanding of Geology and the related Earth Sciences, and to provide a common organization for those individuals interested in geology and the related earth sciences. The Bulletin is a publication of the Everglades Geological Society, Inc.

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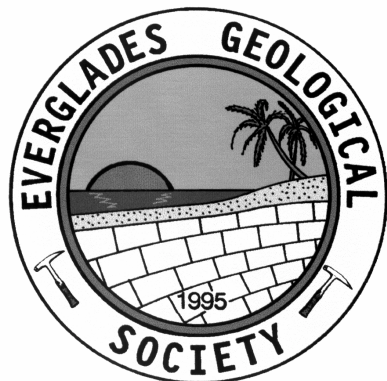
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EGS MEETING THIS MONTH TUESDAY March 20, 2001

The French Connection Cafe
2288 First Street (at Jackson Street)
Fort Myers, Florida
(941) 332-4443



THIRD NOTICE
DUES ARE DUE



If you're no wantin' to be whisked off to Tim Na Nog by the good people, you'll be payin' your dues straight away!

DUES ARE \$15.00 FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS AND \$7.50 FOR ASSOCIATE AND EMERITUS MEMBERS. DUES CAN BE PAID AT THE GENERAL MEETING OR BY CHECK MAILED TO:

The Everglades Geological Society
P.O. Box 61684
Fort Myers, Florida 33906

SEGS ANNOUNCES TENTATIVE DATE FOR AAPG DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

Dr. Jerry Lucia will present his paper entitled "Dolomitization: A Porosity-Destructive Process" at an undetermined location in the Tampa area, on Wednesday, April 18, 2001 at 6:00 P.M. The Southeastern Geological Society is currently coordinating with the USGS to bring this program to the widest possible audience. A formal notice will follow when details have been finalized.

EGS Field Trip 2001

By Amy Tobias

The rendezvous was scheduled for 7:15 am Saturday March 3rd. The geologists arrived on time with anticipation of the two day mission: to view rock exposures and fossils. They made their way from Fort Myers to Gainesville, Florida in record time. Here, the geologists united with other thrill seekers to complete the first part of their mission: to infiltrate the largest natural history museum in the southeast.



Richard Hulbert, Collection Manager of the Vertebrate Paleontology Division at the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH), met the enthusiastic group of eight geologists. He explained the process of collecting, preparing and curating vertebrate fossils as well as showed many vertebrates from Haile Quarry, including a new type of sloth. To the delight of the group, Richard revealed the oversized fossil section of the collection. Eyes widened as the scientists viewed giant tortoise shells, mammoth tusks and skulls. The group

then moved on to FLMNH's Paleobotany Division where Terry Lott explained current research projects. Fossils of leaves, nuts, seeds and flowers left the geologists breathless. Roger Portell, Collection Manager of the Invertebrate Paleontology Division at FLMNH, was pleased to meet with such a fine group of extremely knowledgeable geologists. After learning about the collection, Roger led the group to the compactors which house more than 1.6 million specimens including corals, "worm rock", sea roaches, mollusks that live in a tube, the state rock which is really a silicified coral, the state fossil, etc. The first part of the mission had been a success! The geologists left with a great appreciation for Florida's natural history as well as some free posters.

The weather was warm and mild as the adventurers made their way to Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park to complete the second part of their mission: to descend 120 feet into a giant sinkhole.



It did not take the group long to walk down the stairway to the bottom of the sink. The sinkhole was lush with vegetation and native fauna. The scientists were especially interested in the water that flowed out of the rock and back into the ground a short distance later. Thoughts of aquifers, formations, water and confining beds danced in their heads. After hiking up 232 steps (exactly), the group was out of the sinkhole safe and sound although winded.

Cabot Lodge provided shelter for the group as well as free cocktails from 5 to 7p.m. One restaurant and two bars later, the group headed back to the lodge, free peanuts in hand. It was unsure whether the third part of the mission would be completed as lightning and thunder greeted the group at 6:30a.m. After purchasing towels, emergency ponchos and water, the eight geologists followed Roger to Haile Quarry.



Heartbeats quickened as they drove past the walls of the quarry reaching nearly 40 feet high and ranging in age from Eocene to Miocene. The scientists jumped out of their vehicles, scrambled up spoil piles, and collected Eocene age fossils from the Oldsmar Formation. Most of the fossils were internal and external molds of mollusks. Several exquisite fossils were donated to Roger for the museum collection including corals, echinoids and a fossil he had never seen before.



With sample bags full and tummies rumbling, the group headed for barbecue. The mission was complete.

Thanks to Clyde and Elizabeth for taking the photos. To see more pics visit www.idrive.com and log in as user name: e_g_s password: everglades



Speaking to you from SOMEWHERE IN THE MISSISSIPPIAN

by Rick Shaver February 2001

Here's an interesting block diagram of the recent earthquake area from USGS. They report a magnitude of 6.8, depth of 52 km, for the event which occurred on a normal fault within the subducting Juan de Fuca plate.

Hope to have more geo-news next month as the weather warms up.

Juan de Fuca Ridge – Cascade Range

Juan de Fuca Ridge

The boundary between the Pacific and Juan de Fuca Plates is marked by a broad submarine mountain chain about 500 kilometers long (300 miles), known as the Juan de Fuca Ridge. Young volcanoes, lava flows, and hot springs were discovered in a broad valley less than 8 kilometers wide (5 miles) along the crest of the ridge in the 1970's. The ocean floor is spreading apart and forming new ocean crust along this valley or "rift" as hot magma from the Earth's interior is injected into the ridge and erupted at its top.

Cascade Range

In the Pacific Northwest, the Juan de Fuca Plate plunges beneath the North American Plate. As the denser plate of oceanic crust is forced deep into the Earth's interior beneath the continental plate, a process known as "subduction", it encounters high temperatures and pressures that partially melt solid rock. Some of this newly formed magma rises toward the Earth's surface to erupt, forming a chain of volcanoes above the subduction zone.

Topinka, USGS/CVO, 1999, Modified from: Brantley, 1994, Volcanoes of the United States, USGS General Interest Publication 376-846

Everglades Geological Society

Meets on the Third Tuesday of each month at the French Connection Cafe on First St. in downtown Fort Myers, Florida. Social hour starts at 5:00 PM. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM. No meetings are held in July or August



EGS MEETING CALENDAR 2001

January 16
February 20
March 20
April 17

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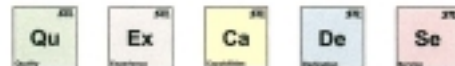


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