



The Prospector's Quill

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DECEMBER 2016

NEWS NUGGETS

- The 2016 power season is officially over. Don't forget to winterize your power equipment!
- Follow these easy steps to ensure your equipment will survive the winter:
- First, change the oil.
- Next check the air filter. Clean or change as needed.
- There are two approaches to winterizing your small engine when dealing with the gasoline left in your fuel tank at the end of the season. One approach is to drain the fuel out of the gas tank and then start and run the engine to get all the fuel out of the fuel lines and carburetor. The other is to add a stabilizer.

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GPOC Elects New Board Members for 2017

During the October general meeting, the GPOC membership voted in a new Board to serve the Club for the 2017 calendar year. Nominations were opened during the September General Membership meeting. Nominations were accepted through the October meeting.

Each year, the GPOC elections are managed by the GPOC Trustees. This year, Dick Margeson orchestrated the voting. Last minute nominations were accepted for President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Marty Allen was the only nomination for President. With nominations closed, there was a vote by acclimation in the membership and Marty was voted as our new President.

Stan Gurley was the only one nominated for Vice President. With nomination closed, there was a vote by acclimation in the membership and Stan Gurley was voted as our new Vice President.

Wayne Wittkopp was the only nomination for Treasurer. With nomination closed, there was a vote by acclimation in the membership and Wayne Wittkopp was voted as Treasurer.

Elise Pierce was the only nomination for Secretary. An additional nomination was made for Lynn, however, she declined. With nomination closed, there was a vote by acclimation in the membership and Elise Pierce was voted as our new Secretary.

The only other open position for the GPOC Board was for the Third Year Trustee. There were two nominees: Nancy Gurley and Calvin Johnson. Both members accepted the nomination. Jerry Drews was also nominated, however, he declined.

The floor was opened for Calvin Johnson and Nancy Gurley to give a speech before voting for the Third Year Trustee position. The nominees were not present during an open floor discussion. The ballot count took place with Trustees counting the ballots during break. Calvin Johnson was voted for Third Year Trustee. A vote to accept Calvin Johnson as Third year Trustee was made with the majority accepting.



Stegosaurus: Colorado's State Fossil

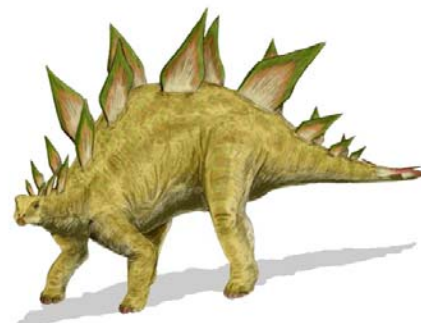
by Destin Bogart

As the state dinosaur of Colorado and one of the most iconic members of Dinosauria, Stegosaurus has earned this spot due to its fascinating history and its large number of fossil remains that allow paleontologists to understand more about Stegosaurus than other dinosaur genera that have a more fragmentary fossil record.

The first remains of Stegosaurus were uncovered during a period in the late 1870s known as, "The Bone Wars," which intensified the collection efforts between two rival paleontologists—Othniel Charles Marsh and Edward Drinker Cope. Marsh initially discovered Stegosaurus in 1877 near Morrison, Colorado. Marsh first thought those remains belonged to a turtle-like animal, but soon revised this finding as more Stegosaurus fossils were unearthed.

The largest Stegosaurus could stand four meters (12 feet) high at the tallest back plate and could reach lengths of up to nine meters (~30 feet). But the size alone is not what sets Stegosaurus apart from the

other animals it shared its ecosystem with; rather the plates that line the spine of Stegosaurus make this dinosaur recognizable to everyone. Yet the plates remain an enigma; paleontologists have put forth many theories regarding how the plates are positioned. When Othniel Marsh first found the remains, he thought the plates lay flat against the body like the armor of a Pangolin (looks like a scaly anteater).



Stegosaurus stenops, from the Late Jurassic of North America, pencil drawing by Nobu Tamura. Copyright: Image license through the courtesy of Creative Commons.

Through the years, paleontologists have refined the theory regarding the exact configuration of these plates, which went from two lines of identical plates on the back, to one row of plates that alternate.

>>> CONTINUED IN JANUARY ISSUE!

GPOC Board & Committee Chairs



GPOC BOARD

President

Ben "Big Ben" Higley
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Vice President

Marty Allen
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Secretary

Lynn Murphy
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Calvin Johnson
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Three year Trustee

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The Gold Prospectors of Colorado (GPOC) was founded around 1974 as a non-profit organization for recreational gold prospectors in the Colorado area. Our membership at any given time has grown to over 600 members and continues to grow across the Front Range, the nation, and even the world!

♠ GPOC Outings & Events Planner ♠

In response to feedback from our members, we are adding a rolling three-month planning calendar to each issue of the Quill. Now you can see and plan for events months in advance—and make requests to the Planning Committee for outings and events in YOUR club! Also check the next page and the GPOC web site at www.gpoc.club for more info on events including location and start times.

DECEMBER 2016

GPOC HOLIDAY PARTY & NEW GPOC BOARD SWORN IN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 GPOC Board Meeting	2	3
4	5	6		8	9	10
11	12		14 GPOC Holiday Party	15 	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 	26 	27	28 NO Planning this month	29	30	31

PLAN YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY DISH & TOY FOR TOTS NOW! VOLUNTEER FOR THE PARTY COMMITTEE!

JANUARY 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR—FULL OF NEW PROSPECTS!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 GPOC Board Meeting	6	7 WMMI Family Day
8	9	10	11 GPOC Gen. Member Meeting	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 GPOC Planning Comm.	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY 2017

HAPPY NEW YEAR—FULL OF NEW PROSPECTS!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 GPOC Board Meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8 GPOC Gen. Member Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 GPOC Planning Comm.	23	24	25
26	27	28				

- **GPOC** Board Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at **7 pm**, Gold Hill Police Station, 955 Moreno Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO, (access from W. Moreno Ave.). GPOC Members only.
- **GPOC** Gen Membership meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at **7 pm**, Elks Lodge, 3400 N. Nevada Ave, Colorado Springs, CO. Public is welcome.
- **GPOC** Planning Committee Meeting. **7 pm** at Denny's on Academy Blvd. & I25, CO Springs.



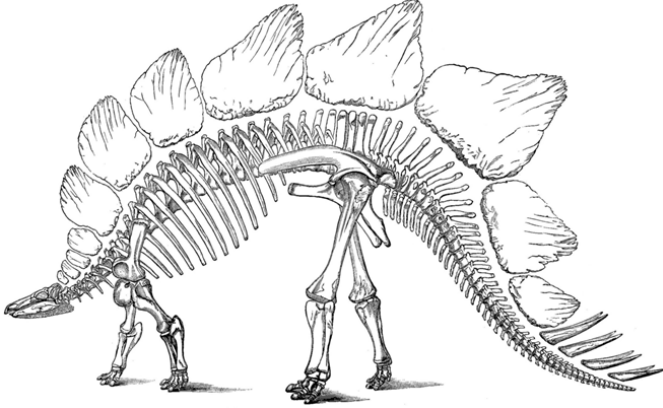
More inside!

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Stegosaurus: CO's Own



O.C. Marsh's 1891 illustration of *Stegosaurus ungalatus*. Paleontologists now place the arrangement of the back plates in two alternating rows and oriented vertically. Copyright: public domain.

>>> See MORE on Page 1!

Fabulous Minerals

Cool Caves Stone Decor

Geodes and Fun stuff

Prospecting/Gold Panning Resources

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The Rock Doc



at Prospectors Village

Highway 285 between Buena Vista and Salida

therockdoc.net 719.539.2019

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