

The FOSSILETTER

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Fossil Section February Meeting

The Section meeting will be February 4th at the Brighton Town Hall at 2300 Elmwood Avenue. Due to a conflict with a town function in the downstairs meeting room, we will be meeting in the first floor auditorium. The meeting will feature a talk on what is often a controversial subject. The talk, presented by Don Duggan-Haas and Robert Ross from the Paleontological Research Institute is titled "No Such Thing as a Free Megawatt, Hydrofracking as a Gateway Drug to Energy and Earth System Science Literacy" This talk is based in part on a recent publication by PRI which deals extensively with the various aspects and impacts of the fracking boom. Copies of this book will be for sale at the meeting. PRI strives to provide a unique perspective on the controversial subject as its presentations are all heavily fact based and are neutral as to the impacts.

2014 Fieldtrip Season

It may not seem like it right now, but the fieldtrip season is not that far off. We generally hit the road in mid April so it's not too early to get your site requests in. This season I will be aiming to have two trips a month from April to late September. The exact beginning and end of the season will be weather dependent.

From the Bookshelf

Extinctions, their causes and their impacts, are an ongoing area of research in the paleontological and geological community. I'm sure we are all familiar with the great end Permian and the Cretaceous/Paleogene extinctions which so radically reorganized the life on earth. Another of the big 5 extinctions can be seen in the Late Devonian Frasnian/Fammenian strata of New York State.

A recent publication:

The Great Extinctions: What Causes them and How They Shape Life, by Norman Macleod

gives a through treatment of these extinctions as well as others which have occurred in the earth's history. The book is well written and illustrated and deals in depth with the subject while not getting overly technical. It is well worth picking up a copy.

Books for Sale

Paleontology books published by James Hall, John M. Clarke and Rudolf Ruedemann always sought after items but are getting increasingly hard to obtain. Long time RAS and Section member Demaris Verzulli has a variety of these publications and is interested in seeing they go to a good home. If you are interested please contact Demaris at 315-524-5242. I will send out an Excel sheet list the books available in the next day or so.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

February

Tuesday February 4, FOSSIL MEETING 7:30 PM **Brighton Town Hall Auditorium** 2300 Elmwood Ave. Visitors welcome. This meeting will feature Don Duggan-Haas and Robert Ross from the Paleontological Research Institute. Their talk is titled: **No Such Thing as a Free Megawatt, Hydrofracking as a Gateway Drug to Energy and Earth System Science Literacy.**

March

Tuesday March 4, FOSSIL MEETING 7:30 PM Community Meeting Room, Brighton Town Hall. 2300 Elmwood Ave. Visitors welcome. The speaker for this meeting is still to be determined. Please check the website and your email for updates.

Visitors welcome to all Fossil Section meetings! Refreshments served. For more information and the latest updates check the RAS Website (www.RASNY.org). You can also contact Dan Krisher at DLKFossil@gmail.com or John Handley at jhandley@rochester.rr.com for further information.

ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE FOSSIL SECTION

Monthly meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month from October-- May at 7:30 pm at the Brighton Town Hall, Community Meeting Room, 2300 Elmwood Avenue, Rochester, NY unless otherwise listed.

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 APPOINTED POSITIONS			
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FossilLetter Editor	Open		

The Fossilletter is published during each meeting month of the year. Please send submissions to Dan Krisher preferably via e-mail at dlkfossil@gmail.com or by snail-mail to 416 Bromley Road, Rochester, NY 14428 585-293-9033. Deadline date for submissions to the Fossilletter is the 15th of the month.

For scheduling changes and the latest updates please check the RAS Website (www.rasny.org) and click on the Fossil Section link. Last minutes updates can also be found on the *General Announcements* page of the Academy Website.