From The Director
by Dr. Kenneth Carpenter
We are well into 2012, and the Utahraptor I wrote of in the last newsletter now greets visitors to the museum. Having completed that project we are now moving on to redoing the dinosaurs in the Dinosaur Pit. The bones of the long-necked Camarasaurus are being cleaned and the restored parts painted a light grey so that there is no doubt about what is real. The two-legged Comptosaurus has been dismantled and is now being remounted in a new four-legged pose based on research I did several years ago.

But it is not just the dinosaurs that are being redone. Through a generous donation from the Castle Valley Archaeological Society, we will start refurbishing some of the archaeology exhibits. The Cenozoic exhibit really belongs in the Paleontology Hall, so the contents will be moved. The exhibit case will then be used to tell what archaeology is about and how it is done (a companion exhibit in the Paleontology Hall will tell what paleontology is). This project will be overseen by the new Curator of Archaeology once he arrives. Three candidates were interviewed for that position, and each gave public lectures that were well attended.

Now that the weather has started to warm, the paleontology crew is starting to look towards field work. Our goal remains locating specimens suitable for the new museum. Several sites were discovered last year that we will be investigating further. We also spent several days in the Mancos Shale collecting some giant, four-foot clams. We hope to display one of these soon.

The first Members Only field trip is scheduled for April 21. We will visit the Cleveland Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry and surrounding areas. Although the trip is centered around dinosaurs, there are other topics we will discuss as well. So put on your hiking shoes and pack your lunch (but don’t forget to sign up!).

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More Changes Are Coming!
By John Bird

Wow, how time flies. Time for another news letter. We have finished the removal of the paint from the camarasaur and removed the smeared plaster and bondo so you will be able to see the real fossil bone when you come to visit. The bone is naturally black and we are painting all the reconstruction grey. The work is slow but little by little it is becoming easier to tell the real fossil from the reconstruction. It turns out about 60% of the Camarasaur is “the real thing”.

Our next project is the camptosaur. He is down and you can see us working on him in the museum lab. The camptosaur was the second mount at the museum, the first was “Al” our allosaur. In the years since the 60’s, much new information has been unearthed. We know from track ways that dinosaurs did not drag their tails. Studies have also shown the camptosaur would have carried themselves in a different posture than previously thought. Learning new stuff is all part of the scientific process.

The new mount will reflect the knowledge we have today. The upper body will be lower and the tail will be off the ground and much straighter. It will also have a new skull, Ken is working on that...

I do not know when the camptosaur will be completed, but we are hoping by summer. It is a total cast so it will be easier to work on. Many more changes are planned. Drop by and watch the museum transform.

Note how easily you can tell what is real bone

Next time I will have some news from the field. (This warm weather is giving me cabin fever.)

John
FEATURED ITEMS

Francois Gohier Prints
Blow Out Sale, on Francois Gohier Prints! The prints are matted and ready for framing. Large size for an 11” x 14” frame were $85.00 now $10.00. Small size for an 8” x 10” frame were $35.00 now $5.00. These make great gifts and are fantastic decorations for your home, or office. Supplies are limited so get yours now before they are all gone. Seven images to choose from.

Button Bunch Plush
These delightful little critters are a museum first! They are for ages 0 and up because there are no plastic parts to pose a choking hazard. The eyes and embellishments are stitched on. They are colorful, whimsical and oh so fun!

MOUTH MAN HOODIES
In Raptor or T-Rex styles, available in children or adult sizes. Fun t-shirt weight hooded shirts new to the museum, complete with museum name! The first of its kind in animated apparel. This is a hoodie shirt featuring a closed mouth dinosaur on front and back. Fold arms across chest to reveal open mouthed dinosaur!

Magnets
Made in the USA Clay Critters collectible souvenir magnets complete with museum name.

Ceramic Travel Mug
Go Green Mug in brown with museum name imprinted. Single wall, matte finish, ceramic travel cup with reusable white Silicone Sip Top. Great for every day use for home, trips, or work. Go Green!

Playing Cards
Four designs to choose from. Nice quality playing cards complete with facts printed on cards. No repeats of images.
Museums are diligent keepers of the past, and in themselves, a part of history, yet the world around us is ever changing and the need for museums to keep up with those trends is apparent.常提，发现者带出新信息和改革，当前展览的更新是保持在时代前沿和科技的必要。随着科技的繁荣，游客们渴望一个博物馆不仅庆祝过去，也拥抱未来。

The museum has implemented the use of cell phones in the form of call in tours. By using their cell phone, the visitor can listen to extended information concerning selected exhibits. This feature of the museum has been particularly well received. Soon, a new archaeologist will be on board and it is the intent of the museum to revise, expand and renew the cell phone tours to be even more fabulous than they currently are.

In keeping up with technology, an interactive exhibit is in the works which will use touch screen technology. This will be an exciting new exhibit as interactive exhibits are hugely popular to museum goers.

You might be wondering why I am telling you all of this. As museum members and prospective museum members it is with gratitude that I say thank you for supporting your museum through memberships, as it is, in part, through your generosity that these exhibits and features can become a reality and help make your museum and the public’s museum visit a much more enjoyable experience.

**Memberships**

It is imperative to keep membership levels fresh and new as well. In assessing the membership levels recently, we noticed that there were two areas in which we were lacking. We had never offered an individual membership, which we now do, and there was a gap in the coverage for those who have married children, grandchildren, and visitors. We have addressed this level with our Utahraptor Membership. This is a $100.00 level that was previously the Sabertooth Membership. The cool thing with this level is that the member can now bring the grandchildren from Ohio one time, and their best friends from Boise the next, all on the same membership! This was a fabulous addition to the memberships. It filled a niche that was not being addressed and gave versatility to the memberships that they had never had before. Check out the recently revised levels of membership below.

**Membership Levels**

**Individual Membership $25**
Annual Membership Includes:
- Unlimited admission to the Museum for one person
- Subscription to the Museum Newsletter
- 10% Discount at the Museum Gift shop
- 10% Discount on select fee programs, field trips, etc...
- Priority Invitation to special events
- Priority Handling of special event reservations

**Family Membership $40**
Annual Membership Includes:
- Unlimited admission to the Museum for you and your immediate family
- Subscription to the Museum Newsletter
- 10% Discount at the Museum Gift shop
- 10% Discount on select fee programs, field trips, etc...
- Priority Invitation to special events
- Priority Handling of special event reservations

**Utahraptor Membership - $100**
Standard family membership benefits for two adults plus free admission for up to 10 children, grandchildren or guests per party per visit

Utahraptor Club Certificate of Appreciation.

We will soon be offering businesses and non-profit organizations various levels of membership. Those mailings should be going out soon, and we couldn’t be more excited. A business can offer their employees a valuable gift of free admission to the museum for the duration of the membership! Businesses participation in museum membership not only benefits the business, but also assists the museum with projects and exhibits.

The 1st annual Member’s Appreciation took place last year, the gallery openings are now a Member’s Only event, and there is a Membership Outing upcoming in April. Details will be forthcoming under separate cover via email and postal service.

Other membership benefits include, invitation to special events and lectures, FREE admission year round, a percentage off on gift shop purchases, and the satisfaction in knowing that you are helping your museum be the best it can be.

For information on memberships, contact Christine K. Trease christine.trease@usu.edu, or 435-613-5757. I can’t wait to hear from you!
After a very mild winter, spring-like temperatures are lulling us into the feeling that Winter has gone and Spring is just around the corner. While we all know that it is possible for us to receive another significant snowstorm in the next month or so, we cannot ignore a raging case of spring fever, also known as field season fever. Here at the museum, we took advantage of the first 70 degree days of the year to travel to the vicinity of Green River and collect giant clam fossils for a future museum display. Our director, Dr. Ken Carpenter and I found the locality last fall while looking for marine reptile fossils in the Cretaceous Mancos Shale. Several relatively complete specimens were located this spring, some of them over four feet in maximum length.

I do know that spring is just around the corner since I am getting one or two calls a day from schools trying to set up an end of the school year field trip. Our calendar is filling up with many groups larger than I can handle by myself. If you have some time to spare, usually in the mornings on Tuesday through Friday, consider volunteering at the museum and helping out with the school tours. Don’t worry if you feel you don’t know enough about fossils or archaeology – training will be provided. Call Lloyd Logan (613-5760) to set up a time to talk about volunteering and what is needed and expected of you. You will usually know a week or two before you are needed and you can come into the museum and “shadow” me giving a school tour in addition to your training. You will not be needed every day, possibly not even every week, so there will be minimal disruption to your daily routines. Thanks in advance for your help.

The rugose coral (horn coral) mini-diorama was completed and made its debut at the Utah State Capitol during Museum Day on the Hill”. It was well received by the many visitors who saw it. We have decided to use this traveling exhibit at special venues to help represent The Prehistoric Museum. Keep an eye out for it at various activities like the Garden Expo, Helper Arts Festival, etc.

A star of the “Friday Feeding” is no longer with us. The water monitor was found dead in his water bowl on February 29th. No cause of death was apparent. Visitors and staff alike miss this large and friendly lizard. However, mice everywhere are celebrating and breathing a sigh of relief.

We are in the process of hiring a new Curator of Archaeology. Once this person comes aboard, we will begin detailed planning on ways to give the Hall of Archaeology a fresh and more modern look and impart additional information about our wonderful collections. Much more information can be shown, about many of the objects, other than just who, what, when, and where. Keep an eye out for future changes in the Hall of Archaeology. It’s going to be a busy year.

The Cleveland-Lloyd camptosaurus is currently being remounted in the Observation Lab. Stop by and watch this fascinating process. The Cleveland-Lloyd camarasaur is nearing completion of the paint stripping and repainting project to identify and emphasize the real bone material, getting it ready for a standing mount in the future.

We hope to see you at your museum!
Prehistoric Museum
155 East Main Street
Price, Utah 84501
Visit us on the web at
http://museum.ceu.edu

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