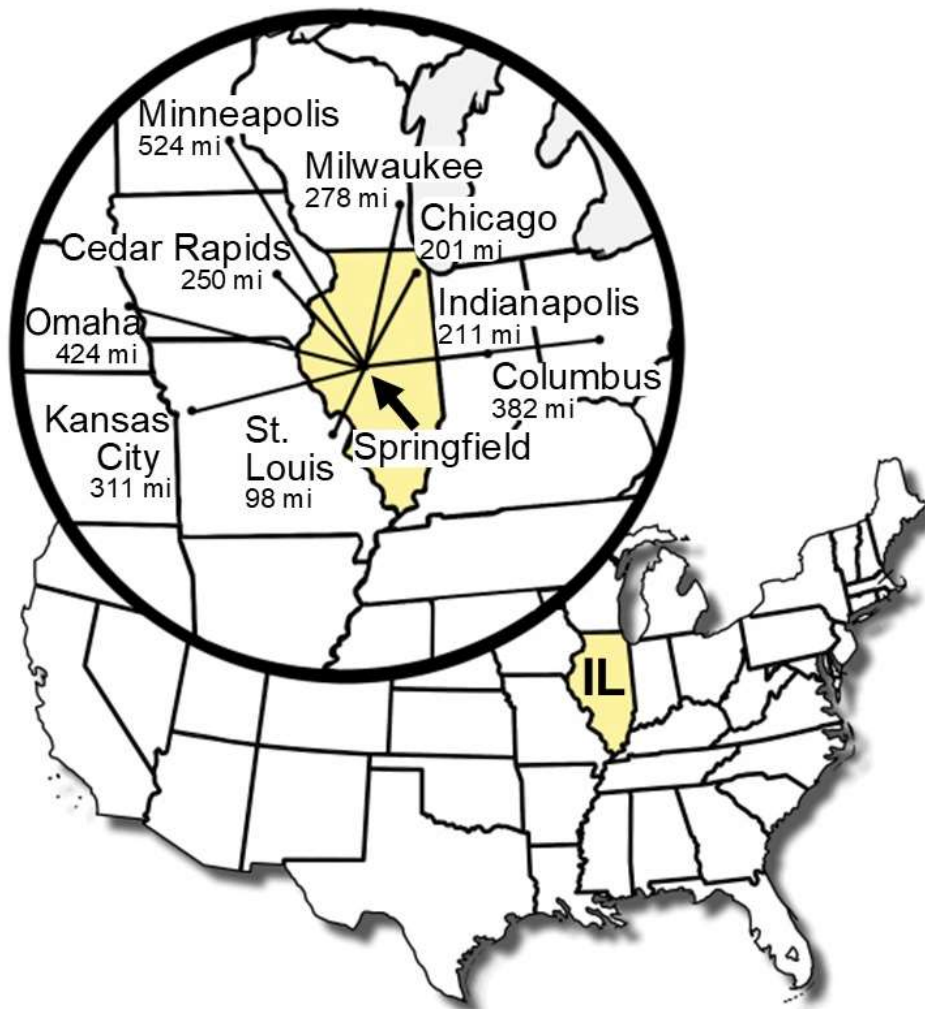


# M.A.P.S. *Digest*

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## ALL ROADS LEAD TO SPRINGFIELD--EXPO XLVII



A LOVE OF FOSSILS BRINGS US TOGETHER

## **\*\*Call for Papers\*\***

The theme for the **2026 EXPO** is **Paleotechniques**. Any paper dealing with processes and theories of extinction, or the extinction of specific animals or animal groups, or specific extinction events that have occurred throughout geologic time is acceptable. The papers should be in Word, Times New Roman, size 12 Font, single spaced with one inch margins, and e-mailed to one of the Digest Editors by **March 1**.

Diagrams/Photos can be sent separately or imbedded in text. **Due to the change in date for EXPO XLVII, time is of the essence for contributing to the EXPO Digest.**

John: [Fossilnautiloid@aol.com](mailto:Fossilnautiloid@aol.com)

Chris: [CDCozart@aol.com](mailto:CDCozart@aol.com)

## **Directions to the Orr Building Illinois State Fairgrounds**

From I-55 North or South, take Exit 100 B and merge with E. Sangamon Ave and proceed west. Stay on E. Sangamon Ave west for ~2.5 miles and turn right on N. 8<sup>th</sup> St for ~.4 miles and turn left on 4 H Rd (at the turn, the Swine Building will be on your right and after the turn a short distance the Orion Samuelson

Building will be on your right). Continue ahead ~.2 mi to the Orr Building on your right (66 4 H Rd; see map page 3 this Digest). **Caution:** Access to the Orr Building from 5<sup>th</sup> St is often blocked by a gate.

## **\*\*\*Dates for MAPS EXPO to change starting in 2025\*\*\***

Dear MAPS Members and Show Vendors,

After much discussion and checking on available dates, **the MAPS Board has decided to move the dates of the 2025 EXPO XLVI to May 9-11 and 2026 EXPO XLVII to April 24-26**. For many years, the show was always held in April but was moved to October when we moved the show to Springfield, Illinois. This was done because at that time only the October dates were open.

Like many of you, we are also concerned about the decrease in attendance. We feel that there are probably many factors that impact the turnout. One of these factors is probably the number of sales that are now carried out via the Internet, for which we have no control. Another factor is that the local club in Springfield has their show just two weeks before our show. We feel that this is affecting local attendance at our show. In addition, there are many other activities taking place at this time of the year. Thus, we feel that by moving EXPO back to April we will hopefully avoid some of these conflicts.

We are open to any constructive ideas you may have on getting the word out on our show.

Thanks,

Marv Houg, President of MAPS

## MAP SHOWING THE LOCATION OF THE TWO VENUES:

### MAPS EXPO: Fossil/fossil-related material/limited non-fossil displayed/sold

Friday April 24: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday April 25: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday April 26: 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

### HOTEL SHOW: Fossils, minerals, gems, jewelry, etc. may be displayed/sold

Wednesday April 22: 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Thursday April 23: 10:00 am to 9:00 pm

Friday April 24: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saturday April 25: All Day



## MAPS NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPOSITION XLVII--2026

**LOCATION:** EXPO will be held at the Orr Building located on the Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 E Sangamon Ave., Springfield, Illinois.

**EXPO HOURS:** Friday, April 24: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday, April 25: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday, April 26: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**SET-UP:** (See Note to Dealers below) Normal set-up will take place on Friday, April 24, at 7:30 a.m. However, for those that want to set up their tables on Thursday, April 23, MAPS has arranged for the building to be opened with set-up from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday. **Buying, selling, or trading will NOT be allowed on Thursday and will be enforced. NOTE: There will be no security Thursday night.**

**NOTE TO DEALERS:** All-hands-on-deck for arranging tables in show format Thursday at 1:00 p.m. At this venue, we are responsible to set up tables--YOUR TABLES.

**Additionally:** from comments at previous shows, all dealers may want to consider using skirting on their tables to enhance material presentation.

**PARKING:** Parking at the Orr Building is free.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The Orr Building (Illinois State Fairgrounds) is accessible via I-55 to E. Sangamon Ave. (Exit 100) west to the Fairgrounds. Business I-55 (Veterans Parkway) can also be used. See location maps page 3 this issue and Directions to Orr Building p. 2 this issue. The Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport is located just west of the Fairgrounds.

**HOTELS/MOTELS:** Although the "Hotel Show" will be located at the Northfield Inn (217-523-7900) (see p. 5 for more information), there is a wide variety of hotels/motels of varying price ranges just off I-55 in Springfield. If you plan to stay in a motel, we urge you to make your reservations early.

**ADMISSION:** Admission is free for the 2026 EXPO Show. However, free-will donations will be greatly appreciated.

**SALES TAX:** The sales tax rate for the Fairgrounds is 7.25%. For those without an Illinois tax number, there is a simple form available. The sales tax rate for the Hotel Show and the rest of Springfield is 9.75%.

**EXPO THEME:** **Paleotechniques** will be this year's theme. Friday night's Keynote Speaker will be TBA. The talk will be given at the Northfield Inn following the presentation of the Don Good and Sharon Sonnleitner Awards and is open to the public. Updates on the website.

**CALL FOR PROGRAM SPEAKERS:** Each day of EXPO, a number of programs/lectures/workshops are given by members and interested individuals on-site at the Orr Building. These programs average 40-60 minutes in length, are usually given in PowerPoint format, and deal with various topics often, but not always, in line with the theme for that year. If interested in presenting a program, contact Dale Stout: [dhstout55@aol.com](mailto:dhstout55@aol.com). Times will be posted.



## JAMES ORR BUILDING



## EXPO ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**Show Chairman:**

Tom Williams, 45 Birch Dr. Chatham, IL 62629; [paleotom234@comcast.net](mailto:paleotom234@comcast.net); phone: (815) 228-5083.

**Co-Chairman:**

Dale Stout, 2237 Meadowbrook Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403; [dhstout55@aol.com](mailto:dhstout55@aol.com); (319) 365-7798

**Table Reservations:**

Tom Williams MAPS, 45 Birch Dr. Chatham, IL 62629; [paleotom234@comcast.net](mailto:paleotom234@comcast.net); cell: (815) 228-5083

**Live Auction:**

Marvin Houg, 1820 30<sup>th</sup> St Dr SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403; [m\\_houg@yahoo.com](mailto:m_houg@yahoo.com); (319) 350-9435

**Silent Auctions:**

Amy Preslicka [nautiloidcephalopod@mac.com](mailto:nautiloidcephalopod@mac.com); (319) 341-6688

**Advertising:**

Marvin Houg, 1820 30<sup>th</sup> St Dr SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403; [m\\_houg@yahoo.com](mailto:m_houg@yahoo.com); (319) 350-9435

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Chris Cozart; [CDCozart@aol.com](mailto:CDCozart@aol.com)

MAPS Website: [www.midamericapaleo.org](http://www.midamericapaleo.org)

## THE HOTEL SHOW

**LOCATION:** The Hotel Show will be held at the Northfield Inn (217-523-7900), 3280 Northfield Drive, off I-55 at Exit 100B. It appears that this facility, as is the trend, is a non-smoking hotel. Located near the Northfield Inn is the Ramada by Wyndham Springfield North (217-523-4000), 3281 Northfield Drive. The Ramada is also a non-smoking hotel. A wide selection of restaurants is located near the two hotels. **The Hotel Show runs from Wednesday April 22 through Saturday April 25.**

**DEALERS:** Dealers also need to register with the Hotel Show liaison, Dan Cooper (513-292-3373) ([dancooper@cinci.rr.com](mailto:dancooper@cinci.rr.com)).

## EXPO XLVII ADVERTISEMENT

A **successful show** depends on customers showing up to view your specimens and wares. To facilitate this, we are asking dealers to advertise EXPO XLVII vigorously to their clients on Facebook. Additionally, page one of the MAPS website (<http://www.midamericapaleo.org>) has the show flyer available in pdf format, by clicking the link, for distribution in your bricks-and-mortar store, your e-mailings, and other shows and venues.

## EXPO XLVII POLICIES--GENERAL

- Everyone is expected to stay through 5:00 Saturday and all are encouraged to stay through Sunday.
- Please note your plans for leaving on the reservation form.
- Aisles must be kept clear at all times.
- No pets are allowed except for certified service animals.
- The Board insists that the majority of materials be fossil or fossil-related.
- Mountings, gemstones, minerals are permitted in limited quantities (approx. 1/3 of displayed material)
- **Human remains, artifacts, or relics, etc., are NOT PERMITTED!!!!**
- **The Board expects all fossils sold to have been LEGALLY collected**
- **It is assumed that all fossil material be authentic and that any alteration/reconstruction be divulged.**
- **No smoking, vaping, alcohol, firearms, or disruptive behavior will be permitted on site.**

## EXPO XLVII POLICIES--TABLE COSTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- Cost of tables: \$50.00 for each SIX FOOT table.
- MAPS will be charged for clean-up. Therefore, dealers are requested to remove table coverings and dispose of refuse. Extra clean-up costs can be charged to dealers.
- **Admission to EXPO is free. Tax deductible donations are accepted and appreciated.**
- Please complete the registration form and enclose with a check/money order payable to MAPS; send to:

**Thomas Williams MAPS**

**45 Birch Dr.**

**Chatham, IL 62629**

- Due to delays in the local mail system, **it would be prudent to send in table registration/fees early.**
- The floor plan will be first laid out on **March 1**, with all received **PAID** requests being assigned tables. Thereafter, tables will be assigned on a first come/first served basis. This is necessary to ensure fairness to all registrants and to determine remaining number of tables. Tables and/or locations not guaranteed after **March 1, 2026.**
- Registrations with special requests (e.g., same as last year, next to John Doe, etc.) must be received by **March 1** to be honored. Special requests will be honored, if possible, but cannot be guaranteed.
- Those with special requests to be located near other dealers/participants must have the permission of all involved for the request to be honored (same names should be on all registration forms) and all those involved must have their payments and registrations in by **March 1** to be honored.
- If the venue fills to capacity, a waiting list shall be created. As cancellations occur, the tables will be assigned in the order received.
- Refunds given up to thirty (30) days prior to first day of show.
- **All reservations will be acknowledged. If acknowledgements are not received on or before March 20, 2026, contact Tom Williams by e-mail: ([paleotom234@comcast.net](mailto:paleotom234@comcast.net)) or phone: (815) 228-5083.**

**NATIONAL FOSSIL EXPO XLVII--2026 EXPO TABLE RESERVATION****Before you reserve tables, please read all the regulations and policies.****Table payment MUST accompany this form. Send form to:****Tom Williams MAPS; 45 Birch Dr.; Chatham, IL 62629**

NUMBER OF 6 FOOT TABLES REQUESTED \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50 PER TABLE = \_\_\_\_\_

**(Payable by CHECK OR MONEY ORDER to "MAPS")****METAL FOLDING CHAIRS WILL BE PROVIDED. YOU MAY WANT TO BRING EXTENSION CORDS.**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Vendor to be located with (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ I will be leaving on Saturday. \_\_\_\_\_ I will be staying through Sunday.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I will help at the Front Desk:

**Fri.** \_\_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_\_ pm; **Sat.** \_\_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_\_ pm; **Sun.** \_\_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_\_ pm

The **Vendor** agrees to comply with all permit, license, and tax requirements of the United States, State of Illinois, and Sangamon County which may be necessary in the conduct of business at the Show (applicable tax rate is 6.25%), and compliance with said permit, license, and tax requirements shall be the sole responsibility of the **Vendor**. The **Vendor** shall hold **MAPS** blameless and free from loss, cost, damage, or expense resulting from the violation of any law, code, or ordinance arising from the use of the space rented. Information regarding Illinois licensing can be obtained at [www.revenue.state.il.us/businesses/taxinformation/sales/rot.htm](http://www.revenue.state.il.us/businesses/taxinformation/sales/rot.htm) or Illinois Department of Revenue, Retailer's Occupation Tax, Springfield, IL 62796-0001.

**VENDORS** are reminded that table set-up is **OUR** responsibility beginning Thursday at 1:00 p.m.**Vendor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

## MID-AMERICA PALEONTOLOGY SOCIETY

Mr. John Catalani  
MAPS DIGEST Editor  
3405 High Trail  
Woodridge, IL 60517



CYATHOCRINITES

The Mid America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology; to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups, and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa. Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: \$20.00 per household covers one year's issues of MAPS DIGEST. All Canadian and Overseas members receive the DIGEST by air letter post. For new members and those who renew more than 3 issues past their due date, the year begins with the first available issue. Institution or Library fee is \$25.00.

MAPS meetings are held via ZOOM until further notice and at FOSSIL EXPO in April.

The MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 4 times per year – Jan-April, May EXPO Registration, June-Sept, and October EXPO Edition. View MAPS web page at: <http://www.midamericapaleo.org>

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