



Notice of an Additional Candidate to the Ballot

A matter of importance has been brought to our attention - a candidate for the Board of Directors was left off the e-ballot sent to you this morning. This was unintentional and the result of a miscommunication as AAPS administration transitioned. Below, you will find this candidate's biography.

If you believe this candidate to be good fit for the Board of Directors, we encourage you to use the "write-in" option on the e-ballot. If you have already voted and would like to change your vote, please email AAPSadmin@proton.me

If you are unable to find the e-ballot in your inbox, check your spam filters. Please contact AAPSadmin@proton.me if you have further questions. As AAPS rolls out new systems and the association evolves, we are reliant on the voices and participation of you, our members. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Trevor H. Rempert Rempert Paleontology Research Group

My fellow fossil dealers,

I am Trevor Henry Rempert, avocational vertebrate paleontologist, principal investigator of Rempert Paleontology Research Group, longtime member of the AAPS, writer of 13 academic papers, two-time author in the AAPS's *The Journal of Paleontological Sciences*, describer of the new species *Pseudocorax heteroserratus* and *Hainosaurus boubker*, and leisure fossil hunter.

Today, I write to you as a friend and ask, **"Will you fight for Commercial Paleontology?"**

To many of you, fossil hunting is a cherished hobby. To some, it is a way of life. Amateur fossil hunters and commercial dealers are the backbone of the paleontological field. Since the days of Mary Anning, the Great Halls of Europe and the museums of America have been filled with fossil discoveries dug up by non-professional amateurs.

And yet, it seems our shared passion is in more danger now than ever before. Rather than expressing gratitude, researchers demonize amateur fossil collection and express disdain at the idea that fossils have monetary value. Every month, there is a new cry to restrict fossil hunting, from England and Wales, to BC and Alberta, to the Moroccan Atlas and Kem Kem, to the United States.

It is my view that a proactive AAPS is a necessity in order to preserve Commercial Paleontology.

When researchers publish a paper that intentionally omits the name of the fossil hunter who is responsible for the discovery (e.g., Hell Creek's *Eoneophron infernalis*), we must call out the lack of professional recognition.

When a dinosaur is going to auction and the SVP puts out articles saying all fossils should be compulsorily donated to the state, we must respond by defending our property rights.

And highest of all, when academic malefactors try to shut down fossil sites, it is OUR DUTY to fight to keep these sites accessible to the public.

I humbly ask for your vote as we fight together for the future of Commercial Paleontology.

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