



# NYESTA

## NYESTA/PRI

# Summer Conference 2023

Ithaca, NY • August 7-9 2023

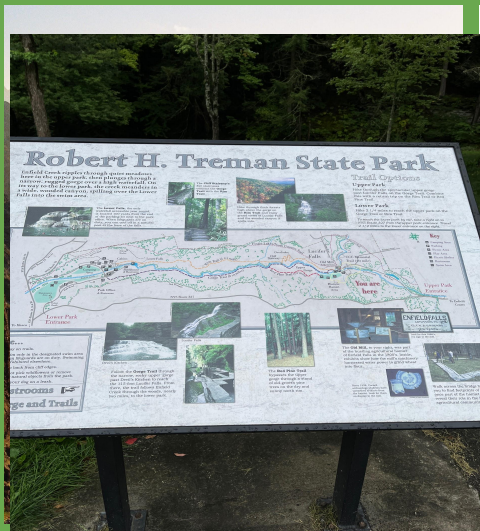


PALEONTOLOGICAL  
RESEARCH INSTITUTION  
EST. 1932



Robert Ross (pictured left) goes over the particulars of the day. (Background from left is Paula current president, Sarah our current secretary, along with Mitchell, Sarah's husband and Lee! And what a day it was! Cloudy conditions, cooler temperatures made for perfect weather for outdoor fun and learning!

(Above left we see Jake, Barbara, Jen and our president, Paula! Above right is Don and part of Rachel I think?)



First stop is the amazing Treman State Park.







# Next Stop Taughannock Falls!

\*Pictures do no justice  
to the grandeur

## TAUGHANNOCK FALLS

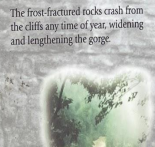
a sculpture in stone  
shaped by water

Using frost and floods as tools, Taughannock Falls  
has chiseled its canyon for at least 12,000 years.

Glaciers dug Cayuga  
Lake, setting the stage  
for Taughannock Falls  
to cut its gorge.



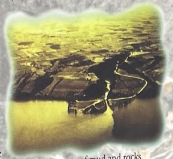
In winter, wet rocks freeze and fracture around the waterfall and on the gorge walls.



The frost-fractured rocks crash from the cliffs any time of year, widening and lengthening the gorge.



During floods, Taughannock Creek washes mud and fallen rocks to Cayuga Lake.

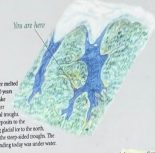


When the creek meets the calm water of Cayuga Lake a mile from Taughannock Falls, it drops its cargo of mud and rocks. This has created the little delta called Taughannock Point where the dry-erase area of the park is now located.



You are here

Two million years ago, there were no Finger Lakes and no Taughannock Falls. Instead, there was a series of shallow seas which were the site of an early forest that was over the sea-level period. New York State was built by the sea and covered in forests of glacial till and the sea. The glaciers flowed through the sea which, surrounding them into deep troughs with steep sides.



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The most recent glacier melted from the region 12,000 years ago leaving Cayuga Lake and the sea which Finger Lakes in the sea which brought down the sea level to the sea level. The sea level was then the sea level. The sea level was then the sea level. The sea level was then the sea level.



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As the glacier moved north, the level of Cayuga Lake began to drop. This is the reason why the level of the sea level is higher than the sea level.

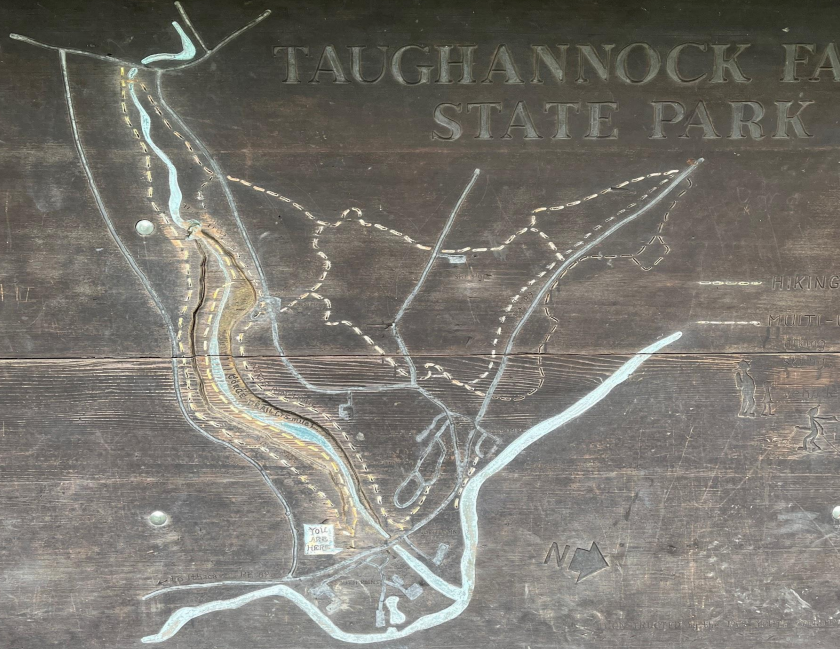


In this Taughannock Creek changed abruptly into Cayuga Lake. Because of the sea level, the sea level was higher than the sea level. The sea level was then the sea level. The sea level was then the sea level.

Taughannock is 215 feet high, the tallest free-falling waterfall in the northeastern United States. "Taughannock" means "in the trees" in the Algonquin language. It may have been the name of an Indian warrior who staged a raid here on the Cayuga people during the Colonial period.

TRAIL

# TAUGHANNOCK FALLS STATE PARK







# Guest Speaker, Banquet and Awards night!



Dr. Greg Dietl brings us through his incredible work studying oyster shell size and environmental conditions.



# Guest Speaker, Banquet and Awards night!

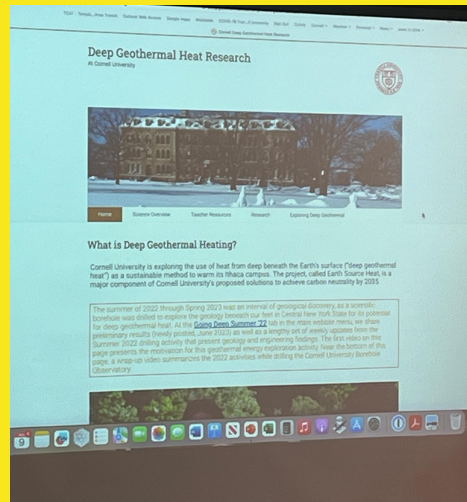


Ken Abbott receiving his Distinguished Service Award from Renee Aubry of NYESTA! Ken is an original founder of this amazing organization. We certainly wouldn't be where we are without him! Thank you for all you do for us and kids!





Don Haas sharing his passion with a lesson on the importance of climate action. I have posted links to his materials [here](#).



Thank you to Terry Jordan from Cornell for the latest updates to the CUBO Project! I have linked the CUBO website [here](#).

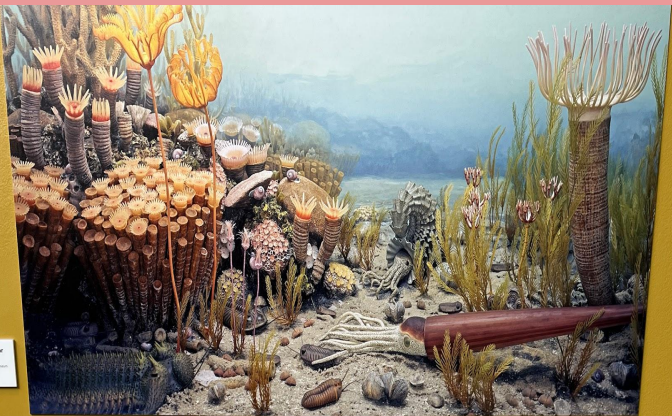
We spent time in the  
Museum of the Earth on  
the PRI Campus too!  
[Here's the link](#) to the  
website.





**NY Rocks! Ancient Life of the Empire State On Display  
through 2023! Go see it before it's gone!**





Devonian sea floor diorama  
 © National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

**Ordovician Trilobites**

- 1. *Synaldis* (small trilobite)
- 2. *Redlichius* (small trilobite)
- 3. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 4. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 5. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 6. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 7. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 8. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 9. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 10. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)

**Silurian Trilobites**

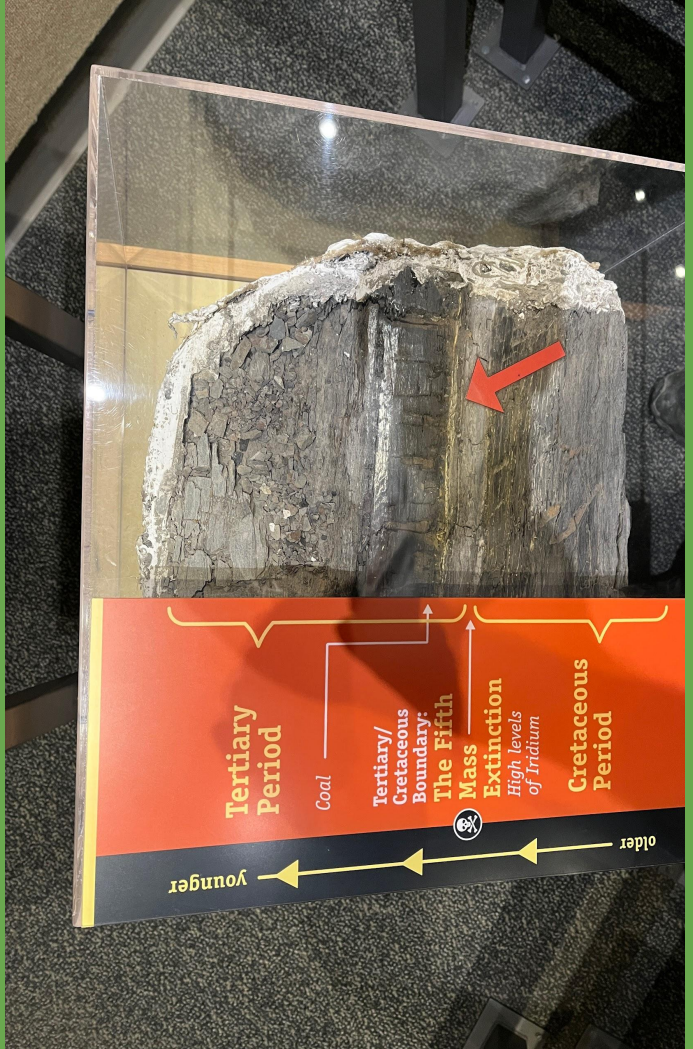
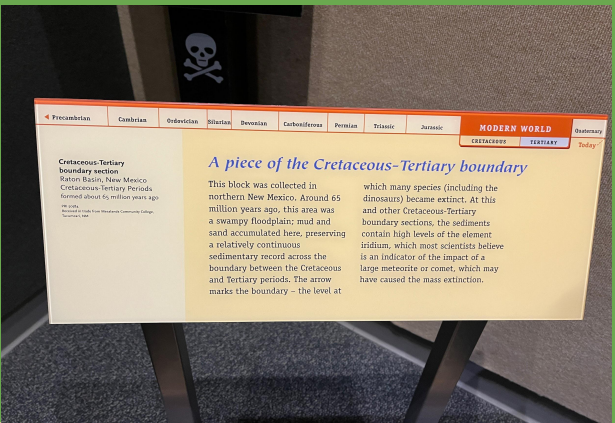
- 11. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 12. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 13. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 14. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 15. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 16. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 17. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 18. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 19. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 20. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)

**Devonian Trilobites**

- 21. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 22. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 23. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 24. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 25. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 26. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 27. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 28. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 29. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)
- 30. *Leptocoelus* (small trilobite)



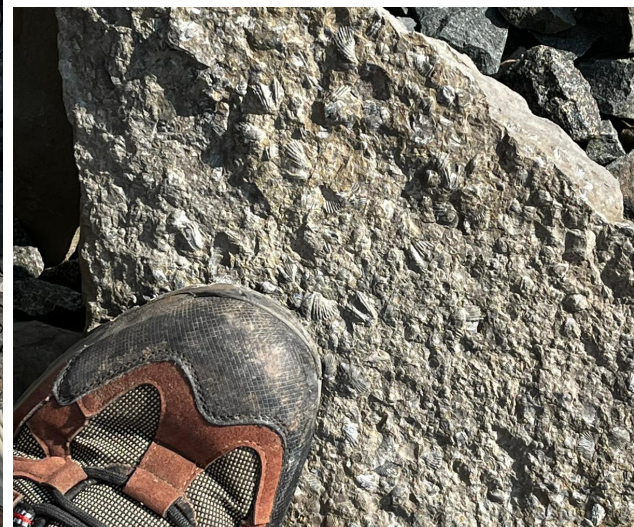




**The Museum of the Earth is such an immersive experience! One of the best historical museums north of NYC!**



**Steggie!! This amazing Stegosaurus was given to the Museum of the Earth by the Smithsonian in NYC. Made from paper mache, this unique example is just a small part of what is offered up in this amazing museum.**



NYESTA had a fossil collecting opportunity as well!

**NYESTA is a not for profit organization for Earth Science Teachers and is run by Earth Science Teachers.**

**Paula Eisenburger - President and NYS Master Teacher**

**Frank Aurigema - Vice President/Conference Coordinator and NYS Master Teacher**

**Renee Aubry - Treasurer**

**Sarah Mayville - Secretary**

**With additional support from Sean Ellison and Joseph Malavc**



**NYESTA**