

# When Dinosaurs Roamed the Wetumpka Impact Crater

February 20, 2015 – April 18, 2015

## KFMG

KELLY FITZPATRICK MEMORIAL GALLERY

Lobby & Riverview Gallery

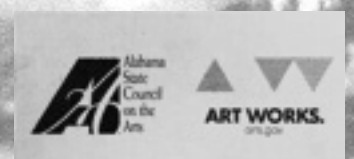
*Wayne Atchison*



More than 85 million years ago, during the Cretaceous Period, a large meteor impacted the area now known as Wetumpka, Alabama. The impact resulted in a crater approximately five miles in diameter causing significant changes to both the landscape of the area and the inhabitants of both land and sea. At that time, the Wetumpka area was largely covered by an inland sea with barrier islands, and the climate was very different from today. This impact crater is regarded as one of the best preserved marine impact craters in the world.

The exhibition includes large scale paintings, iron sculptures, exhibition models, fossils, plants and a series of oversized educational storyboards outlining much of the scientific research about the crater area. The exhibition also features the work of Karen Carr, Jerry Armstrong, Rick Spears, Jonathon Hughes, Wayne Atchison, Larry Percy and Asher Eilben. Additionally, the exhibition includes a juried exhibition of 65 kindergarten through grade twelve student work and a juried exhibition of 35 adult artists from throughout Alabama.

Major funding provided through a grant awarded to the KFMG by the Alabama State Council on the Arts, which is made possible through funding from an annual appropriation by the Alabama State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. This public support enables the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery to reach new audiences, foster community development, provide high quality programming, and demonstrate the importance of the arts as a component for quality of life in Alabama. Additional support provided by the City of Wetumpka, the Wetumpka Impact Crater Commission, the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery and Wind Creek Casino.



Major Funding Provided by:

Alabama State Council on the Arts and National Endowment for the Arts

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Gallery Hours:** Monday through Friday from 9am – 4pm, Saturday 10am - 3pm

**Docent Guided Tours:** Thursday and Saturday between the Hours of 10 am until 3pm.

**Student Reception and Award Ceremony:** Thursday, March 5, 2015 from 3:30 – 4:30

**Adult Reception and Award Ceremony:** 5:00 – 6:30 pm

**Annual Crater Lecture:** Thursday, March 5, 2015 @ 7pm

(Dr. David King@ the Wetumpka Civic Center)

**Annual School Crater Tours:** Friday, March 6, 2015

**Annual Public Crater Tours:** Saturday, March 7, 2015

**“Choose to Know” Saturday Lectures** that are associated with the exhibition “When Dinosaurs Roamed: The Wetumpka Impact Crater” at the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery. All Saturday lectures are free and open to the public and will be presented in the Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Galley. Saturday lectures begin at 11am.

- February 21, 2015 @ 11 am - "Alabama's Remarkable Biodiversity and Paleobiodiversity." June Ebersole of the McWayne Science Center, Birmingham Alabama
- February 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Meteorites and Art, Jerry Armstrong, Cosmic Artist, Atlanta Georgia
- March 5, 2015 @ 7pm – The Science of the Wetumpka Impact Crater, Dr. David King, Auburn University Professor of Geology at the Wetumpka Civic Center
- March 21, 2015 @11am - Artists Talk, Geologically Speaking: The Kerygma Series, Larry Percy, Associate Professor of Art of Troy University, Troy, Alabama
- March 28, 2015 @ 11 am - Dana Ehret of the Alabama Museum of Natural History, the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, “New Fossil Finds for the Alabama Museum of Natural History”
- April 11, 2015 @ 11 am - Art and Science and Making It Up As I Go Along: How to Create Paleo Restoration Models. Rick Spears of the Fernbank Science Center, Atlanta, Georgia
- Friday, May 1, 2015 (Time to be announced) Artists Talk, Paleoart and the Work of Karen Carr, Karen Carr, International Paleoartist of New Mexico





## Wayne Atchison

### Lobby Gallery and Riverview Gallery

Growing up in a family of mechanics and welders in rural Alabama, Wayne learned welding and the art of "making something out of nothing" by seeing how things fit together. Creating things from old paint, metal and wood was a childhood pastime. There were no art classes in public schools and the only artist in the community was a local sign painter. The family was not thrilled when they learned that Wayne planned to enroll in Auburn University to study art.

As a co-op student Wayne paid most of his tuition by welding and repairing construction equipment. Auburn University had a staff of world class instructors and from them he learned many principals of art and design. Among the lessons learned was the "Red Hammer" practice which has served him well in art, life and business throughout his career. "The Red Hammer practice demands that if something is created that is not up to the standard of being your best, hammer it and start again."

The pursuit of a business career in advertising led Wayne to a career in business concept development where he used the principals of art to develop national advertising and implement business development. The skill of seeing how things work together served him well. Along the way he developed his skills as a photographer, silversmith, woodworker and oil painter. Through these skills Wayne has placed many pieces of his work in private collections throughout the United States. Wayne lives on the banks of beautiful Lake Jordan with his wife Kathy where he continues his work as an artist.













Wayne Atchison  
Riverview Gallery

Cretaceous Caterpillar  
Reclaimed Iron  
16" x 36"

About this Image:

There were many cretaceous caterpillars; large, small and huge. This one is fun because his head will turn to give the viewer different looks. It is made from plow parts. This caterpillar might have hunted food in the same earth where the plow parts were found in the Demopolis Formation in Alabama.



Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Butterfly Headed Reptile  
Reclaimed Iron  
40" x 24"

About this Image:  
Butterfly Headed Reptile is perched on ancient tree preparing for flight which might have required a running take off. The found iron objects of this work seemed to fit together, saying, "I am going to fly."





Wayne Atchison  
Riverview Gallery

Lophorothon  
Reclaimed Iron  
32" x 50"

The cretaceous period , 146 to 66 million years ago immediately brings to mind dinosaurs . This whimsical representation of Lophorothon is not intended to be scientifically accurate, but to encourage the viewer to think dinosaurs!  
Are you thinking dinosaurs?



Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Flying Pterosaurs Babies Feeding on Momima Insects and Infant Caterpillar  
Reclaimed Iron  
94" x 50"

About this Image:  
This work came together over a period of years of finding and adding parts that worked together. Fossil discoveries tell us that the insects and caterpillars could have been many different sizes.





Wayne Atchison  
Riverview Gallery

Baby Appalachiosaurus  
Reclaimed Iron  
40" x 10"

About this Image: Assembled from found objects, Baby Appalachiosaurus is perched on a formation of chalk-limestone formed from Coccolithophlores. Coccolithophlores are marine organism fossils. This formation is embedded with cretaceous oysters from the Prairie Bluff formation in Alabama.



Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Toothless Pterosaurs  
Reclaimed Iron  
36" x 50"

About this Image:

The parts for the Toothless Pterosaur reminded me of the large Herons which hunt along the shorelines of Lake Jordan. It is an example of "less is more" because just a few simple parts of scrap iron give the viewer a representation of a Pterosaur.



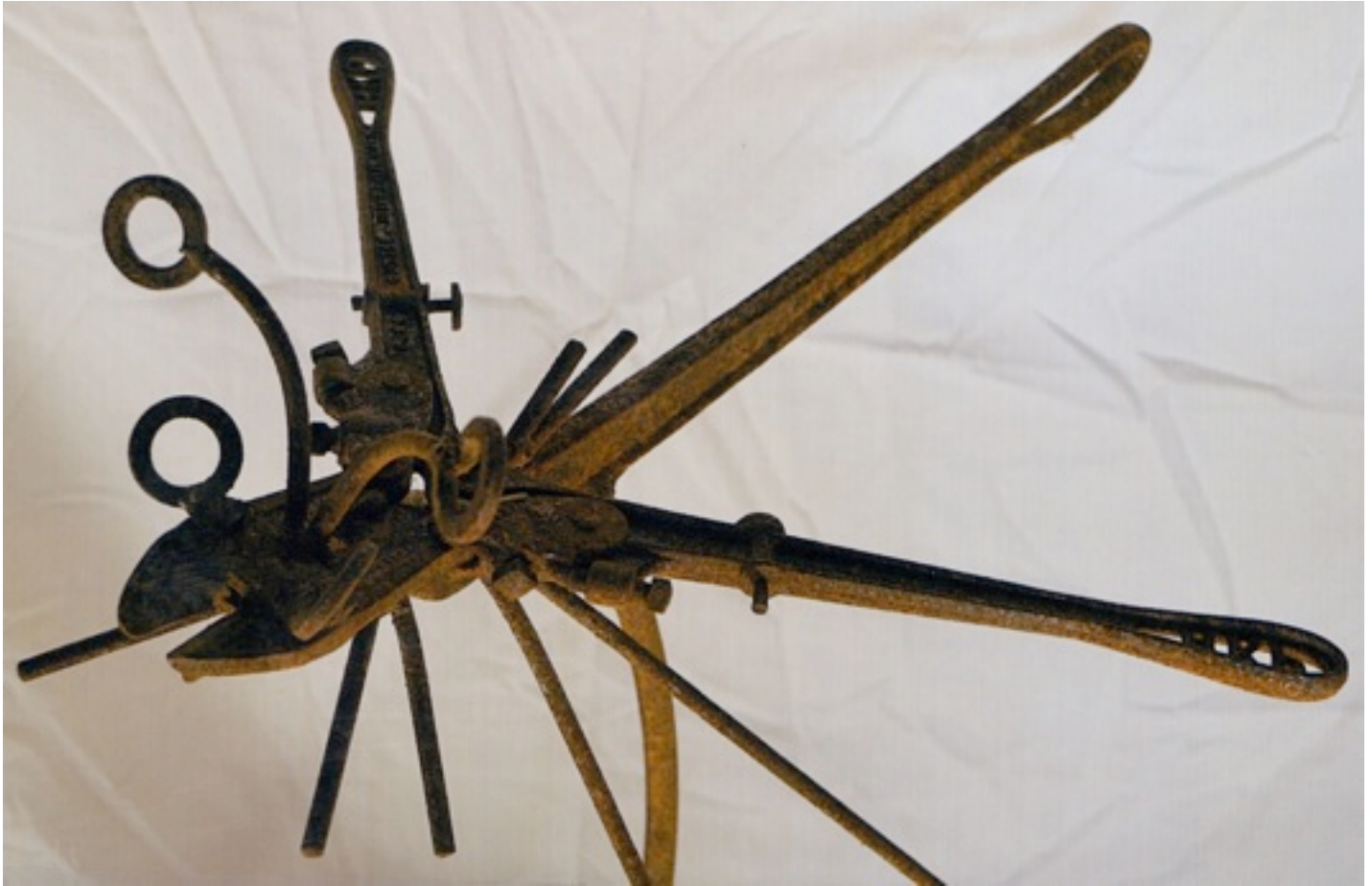


Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Flying Butterfly Headed Reptile  
Reclaimed Iron  
48" x 50"

About this image:

This creature was fun to assemble from scrap iron which was going to the scrap yard. The original cretaceous flying reptile would have been much larger if mature; therefore we can call this one a young one. This creature was a saw blade, large coil spring, hoops from a wooden barrel and a few rusty washers and bolts.



Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Cretaceous Dragon Fly  
Reclaimed Iron  
20" x 20"

About this image:

The idea for Cretaceous Dragon Fly came from some tiny fossils found near Hazen Crossroads in Alabama. During the Cretaceous Period, these beautiful creatures were actually many different sizes. The scrap iron in this sculpture said to me, "I am a dragon fly" and refused to become anything else.





Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Diving Sinornis and Confuciusornis  
Reclaimed Iron  
40" x 24"

Diving Sinornis and Confuciusornis tells the story of aggressive Certaceous flying reptiles which hunted in groups. Fossil discoveries indicate that they did. Do we really know or will future discoveries tell us more? I think these aggressive hunters were graceful in flight.



Wayne Atchison  
Ground Floor Gallery

Fish Reef: Basilosaurus, Xiphactinus, Tselfatia  
Recalimed Iron  
74" x 54"

Fish feeding on an ocean reef could be basilosaurus, xiphactinus and tselfatia . As more fossils are discovered, we learn more about what might have lived in the sea millions of years ago. While working on this, I allowed the found objects to show me how they would work together to form this image of a reef.





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Kelly Fitzpatrick Memorial Gallery

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