



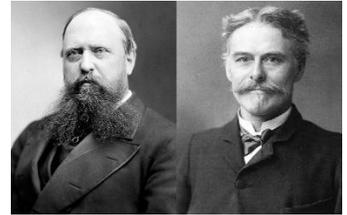
# Colorado Scientific Society

## Lecture Announcement

Thursday, February 19, 2026, Calvary Church Golden

Niobrara Chalk outcrops, Monument Rocks, Kansas

## We already know everything? How fieldwork rewrites 160 years of research in the Niobrara Chalk

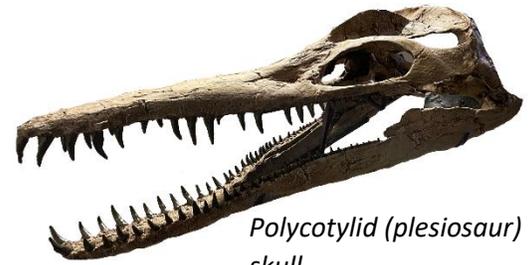


O.C. Marsh (left) and E.D. Cope (right)

**Anthony Maltese**, Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center

### Lecture Highlights:

Intense exploration of the late Cretaceous (~85 Ma) Niobrara Chalk began shortly after the Civil War, with Bone-War rivals Charles Marsh and Edward Cope describing dozens of species of fish, mosasaurs and pterosaurs before the turn of the last century. Work was so intense that by the early 20th century interest waned, with researchers believing that everything important had already been found.



*Polycotylid (plesiosaur) skull*



Today, renewed intensive fieldwork with improved collection and preparation methods are revealing that even this famous and well sampled formation has more secrets left to give up, from soft tissue and molecular info to many brand new species.

### Speaker Background:

Anthony Maltese is a Senior Curator for Research, Exploration and Morphology at the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center and Treibold Paleontology, Inc., in Woodland Park, CO. He is a seasoned paleontologist and museum professional with expertise in curating, laboratory preparation, fossil reconstruction, grant writing, and community outreach with over 20 years of experience in the field.

### Education

BA: University of Kansas focused in Geology/Earth Science, 2003

[Interview a Geologist: Anthony Maltese](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nA6Ftmnzh90) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nA6Ftmnzh90>)

### Keywords

Fossil vertebrates, Niobrara Formation, late Cretaceous, field/laboratory preparation



Anthony with *Deinosuchus schwimmeri* skull

