

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Newsletter



Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc. (DVESS)
P.O. Box 372 Maple Shade, N.J. 08052
DVESS Website : <http://www.dvess.org>

Meeting: June 8, 2011

Program: Patti Kane Vanni on North Dakota fossils.

President's Message - June Five of us had a great trip to St. Clair May 14. Rain was forecast, but we only had fog up on top of the mountain. I was unable to make Sue Vancola's kayak fossil trip the following weekend, but I trust they had a good time, and hopefully she'll be at the meeting to tell us all about her creative way to collect in un-picked areas.

Our annual picnic is scheduled for the last Sunday in June, the 26th, at Gerald Feigin's house. Gerald has a nice backyard with a pool. Bring your swimsuit and something to share at the food table. Sign up at whosbringingwhat.com/dvess. After we eat, we'll have an auction with all kinds of mineral related goodies. Feel free to bring something to donate to the auction. We hold the picnic rain or shine. One year we watched a raging thunderstorm from the protection of Gerald's garage. It was actually quite a lot of fun. --Terry Wilson

Don't forget to bring interesting finds to the club, and we can all ooh and ahh over them. This month I'll bring some fossils I found on my recent trip to England; anyone else have something, feel free to show and tell. – Terry Wilson

DUES ARE PAST, PAST DUE!!!!!!

If you have already paid, thank you. If not "anti-up now". If you joined at the Digg, WELCOME. If you are lapsed, sayonara, no more newsletters!

ALSO !! Now, – a call for your photos of the day's events at Sterling hill, club meetings, our picnic and of your doings you are willing to share. Email me at decuzzic@comcast.net or put them on your facebook page and give me the access to copy them and print them in the newsletter, thanks. Ed

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DVESS General Meeting Minutes By Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary

Meeting was held at Centenary UM Church in Berlin, NJ.

Attendance: Gary Weinstein- Treasurer/Program Chair, Terry Wilson- President/WebMistress, AnnLynne Benson- 1st VP/Special Events Coordinator, Grant Elliott- Recording Secretary, Carol DeCuzzi- Newsletter Editor/Membership, and Mil LeCompte- Jr Rockhound Coordinator. Others present included Peter DeCuzzi, Stu Cleveland, and Sue Vancola, amongst others.

Once she found the elusive hammer, Terry gaveled the meeting to order at 8:00pm.

Program: Derek Yoost spoke on microstructures in meteorites and how they relate to the formations in the solar system. A very interesting presentation.

Programs:

June Patti Kane Vanni on North Dakota fossils.

July Amy Carpennelli, on mass extinctions.

Aug To be announced.

Sept Our annual fantastic, members 'Show and Tell'.

Oct /Nov Lou Detofsky or Don Miller (Fossil elephants) will make presentations, depending on their health. Lou previously volunteered to give a presentation on "Geology of the Caribbean".

Dec Xmas party.

Field trips:

June 25th- Warm Springs, Virginia

July 23rd- Cavern trip in Pennsylvania

Sterling Hill was a success. 159 people had signed up and 3,000 pounds of rocks were collected

Ann was again the lucky door prize winner (The fix is in). Next week's Exec 5/18/2011 TBA.

Meeting concluded at 9:40pm. Some members then repasted at the Pallas Diner.

By Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary

Gems Along the Erie Canal 2011 by Cathy Patterson, Show Chair

Your 2011 EFMLS/AFMS Convention and Show will be here, July 6-10, before you know it,. We have just about 50 retailers and 11 wholesale dealers in the July 9-10 show, and, with your help, we are still hoping for 70 to 80 exhibits. Plus there are lots of opportunities to discover new things in this part of the country. Show time is time to socialize with friends new and old. With the good help of Matt Charsky, EFMLS Show Coordinator, we will have a 12' running length of cases from the Lillian Turner Estate. Lillian was the key person responsible for the first U.S. Postal mineral stamps. From her collection, we will have some stunning rutiled crystals, some as large as 200 carats, and some wonderful replicas of noted diamonds.

A late addition to our speakers roster, which should benefit scores of clubs, is a presentation by John Washburn at 9 AM, July 9 at **the Ramada Inn**, just before the show opens. John will provide information on the most important ALAA meeting scheduled for Wednesday July 6 at the Ramada Inn at 7PM. You'll want to know what's going on regarding our ability to rockhound around the

country.

If you have not yet done it, review your information packet or go on line and download it. Make sure you secure your room reservations as Syracuse is a vacationland and once school gets out the motel situation tightens and lots of rooms will be booked. The balance of your forms including the one for the banquet and field trips, have a cut off date of June 1. See your packet for mailing information, anyway.

A Safety Note on Kits for Emergency Preparedness by Owen Martin, AFMS Safety Chair
(This article is from the AFMS newsletter you are entitled to download it from www.amfed.org The articles and applications are available from this site.)

As we seem to be winding down from a rough winter at looks like our Spring storms are ready to continue bringing the punches. Although I've written a lot of the past couple of years about keeping you and your families safe while "in the field" I thought I'd take this opportunity to write about doing it at home.

In the past couple of months I've seen incidents of flooding, freezes, tornadoes, nor'easters and now fires. So my question to the reading audience is, "do you have an Emergency Action Plan for your own family?" For as long as I can remember our local fire departments and news stations have made recommendations that every family do at least one annual fire drill in their homes so that everyone knows what to do.

Similarly I'm asking each of you to consider building a list and a kit AHEAD of time for a few different circumstances. First, a list for what you will need if you are stranded at home and lacking utilities. This list should allow you enough food and supplies to comfortably make it through at least three days and include a week's worth of water for each person in your house.

Second, a list for what you will need in the case of a short term evacuation. Assume time away from home for less than a week.

Third, a list for what you will need in a situation where you could be displaced from your home for a greater than one week term. A couple of years ago we got hit by hurricane Ike in Houston. My family and I were prepared and evacuated according to plan. Unfortunately several of my neighbors assumed it wasn't going to be a bad storm and stayed. A couple of things that they didn't count on were the total loss of utilities and the tornado that chewed up the roofs of all our houses. I'm sad to say that the only people that were prepared for these other contingencies were my family, me and the older lady across the street. That left 14 families on our street with no clue what they were going to do and lacking a PLAN they flailed around inefficiently for days.

The results included a "second wave" of evacuations for the families, especially those with kids, who didn't realize they couldn't "live" without utilities. Also, several houses had significant ceiling collapses due to water damage that followed from rain after the tornado tore up a lot of the roofs. This left their houses unlivable in some cases for several weeks.

So enough about Hurricane Ike. My company has offices in Rayne, LA, where there was an F-0 tornado a few weeks ago. Just a little tornado: it only left 1500 people homeless. And did I mention the ice storm? A pipe froze and burst in my neighbor's house causing the collapse of part of the

ceiling and them to be without water for three days. Unfortunately the plumbers were busy with lots of those problems...

Oh, and I can add... lots more stories... but should get back to the point!

I titled part of this article with the word "KITS" and thus I strongly encourage you to buy what you need well in advance of your time of need, and build your KITS. You'll find that most of your lists include many of the same things: cash, kids, pets, pillows, flash lights, cell phone chargers, batteries, tents, first aid kits, etc etc etc.

A cavalier attitude towards your own preparedness and safety is unfortunately common, however take the time to EXERCISE SOME COMMON SENSE and get prepared.

(after all the Government is offering a Get prepared for the Coming Zombie Apocalypse booklet on line now !! Editor's note SOOOOO do something now, make it a summer project already!!!)

Summer – A Photo-Op Season



This summer, your club will, no doubt, be having lots of field trips, a picnic, maybe a show, possibly youth activities and workshops all of which are perfect photo opportunities. Why not a Photographer at these events? Could you save those priceless digital shots to be shared with your club newsletter or a poster of photos for our wall? PLEASE See below. . . . Questions? Contact me at decuzzic@comcast.net or 856-428-0621, THANKS!

This space left empty for your ARTICLE and/or photos

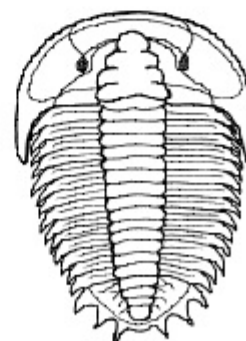
Still waiting.....

WELCOME

to the world of fossils! The study of fossils is called *paleontology* and a person who studies fossils is called a *paleontologist*. We want to help YOU to be a paleontologist. On the pages of this book you will learn a little bit about many different aspects of paleontology. There is information about dinosaurs, ancient ocean life, and even fossilized plants. You will learn what a fossils are and how they form.

A successful paleontologist needs to know not only about fossils, but also about biology and geology. How can you know anything about an ocean creature that became extinct 250 million years ago? By comparing it to similar *living ocean creatures* that you can study today! You will also have to know some basic geology, especially the *Geologic Time Scale*. Geologists talk about **Eras** and **Periods** which are spans of time. You will quickly see how the fossils highlighted in this book are described as beginning in one Period and disappearing in another. If you know the Eras and Periods, and their order from oldest to most recent, you will be able to better understand the world of Paleontology. So, to help you, here is a basic Geologic Time Scale. Study it. Learn it. **MEMORIZE IT!**

Eras	Periods
Cenozoic (Recent Life)	Quaternary - Humans
	Tertiary - Mammals Diversify
Mesozoic (Middle Life)	Cretaceous - Extinction of Dinosaurs; Emergence of <u>first flowering plants</u> .
	Jurassic - Dinosaurs diversify; First Birds
	Triassic - First Dinosaurs; First Mammals
Paleozoic (Ancient Life)	Permian - Reptiles Diversify; Major Extinction
	Carboniferous - Crinoids; First Trees and Ferns
	Devonian - Jawed Fish; First Amphibians
	Silurian - First land plants with veins
	Ordovician - Rapid diversification of many ocean species.
	Cambrian - Stromatolites; Early shelled animals.



WHAT IS A FOSSIL?

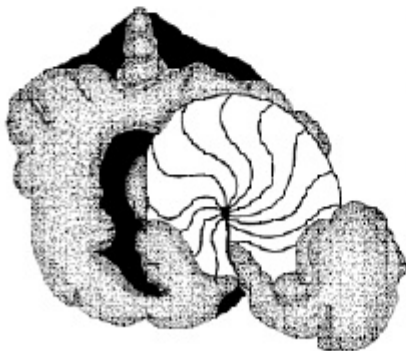
Definition: A fossil is the remains of a living organism or the indications of living organisms that have been preserved in the rock record.

The word **fossil** is from the Latin word **fossus** which means **having been dug up**.

Most fossils are found in **sedimentary rocks** like limestone, dolostone, coal and sandstone. Rarely fossils are found in metamorphic rocks and some extremely rare fossils are found in igneous rocks.

Fossilization is the process by which a living organism becomes a fossil. Here are a few of those processes:

1. **Mold and Cast.** An organism, like a clam, dies and settles into the mud, leaving an impression in the mud in the shape of the shell (the *mold*). The mud hardens and the shell dissolves away. Later, the impression is filled up with new mud, which then hardens. This new mud has the shape of the original shell, which is called the *cast*.
2. **Petrifaction.** Suppose a tree is suddenly buried by sand. Water that is carrying minerals flows through the wood. Microscopic pieces of the wood are washed away and are replaced by a mineral, like agate. This continues until the entire log has been transformed from wood to mineral. This is also called *petrification* or *silicification*.
3. **Original Material.** In rare situations, the original material of an organism can be preserved. Examples include frozen mammoths, insects in amber, and sea shells that are preserved in their original form.



4. **Pyritized Fossils.** When an organism dies and settles in mud that has a lot of iron but no oxygen, the iron can combine with sulfur from the decaying animal and create the mineral *pyrite* (also called *Fool's Gold*) which takes the form of the original shell. *Left: A pyritized ammonite.*

5. **Carbonization.** This is typical of plants. When plants die and are buried, they rot away. But when all the conditions are right, instead of rotting away they decompose and leave a film of carbon, usually in coal or shale. This film (a very, very thin layer of carbon) preserves the shape of the plant, often including the leaves and the stems.

TRILOBITES

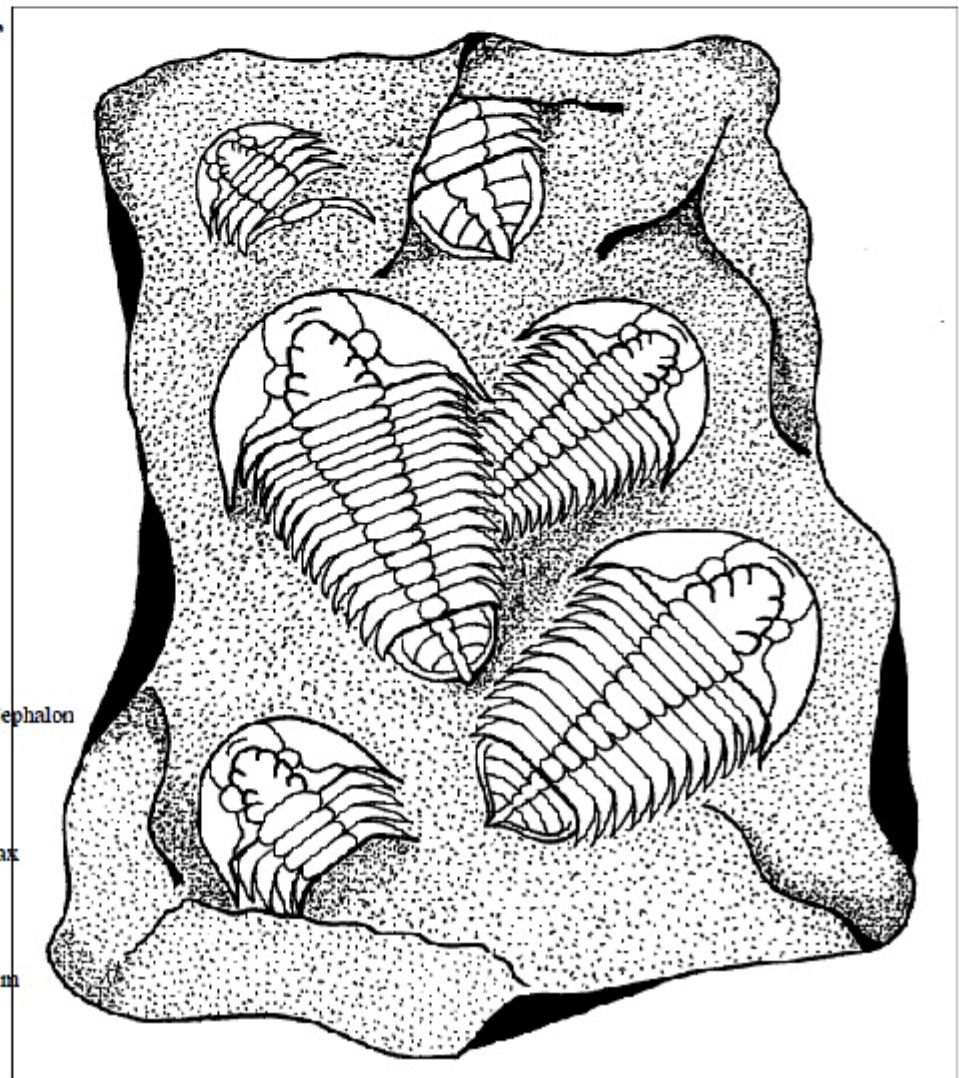
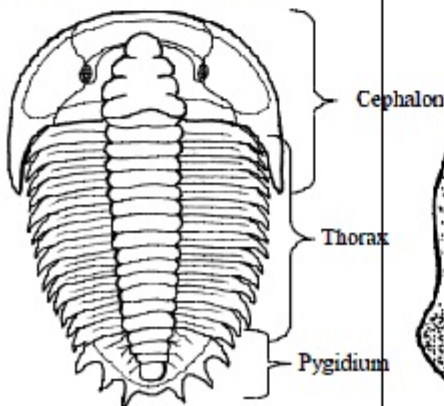
One of the best known - and most popular - marine fossils are the trilobites. They belong to the Phylum known as the *arthropods*. Arthropods have a hard, outer skeleton (which biologists call an *exoskeleton*) and jointed legs. Examples of modern arthropods include crustaceans like lobster, crabs, shrimp and crayfish and all insects - flying and crawling. "Arthropod" is from the Greek language and literally means "**jointed foot**." Trilobites belong to this "family" of creatures.

The first arthropods that appear in the rock record are trilobites. They are first found in rocks of lower Cambrian age (over 500 million years old!). They died out in the Permian Period (about 250 million years ago). Though other arthropods survived to the present day, trilobites became extinct at the end of the Permian Period.

The name *trilobite* literally means *three lobes*. Look at the individual trilobite below. Paleontologists identify three parts of the trilobite. One lobe is the head, which is also called the *cephalon*. The second lobe is the body or the *thorax*. The third lobe is the tail or the *pygidium*.

There are approximately 17,000 known trilobite species (that is, different "kinds" of trilobites).

When a trilobite needed to protect itself from predators, it would roll up in a ball, like an armadillo does today.



For your travel pleasure, consider the following fun places to go...

June:

- 4 – 5: Annual Mineral, Gem & Fossil Show sponsored by the Orange Co. Mineral Society. Museum Village, Rt 17M; Monroe, NY.
- 4-5: 38th Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society. Tannehill Ironworks Historical Park, Birmingham, AL.
- 16 Leidy Microscopical Society Regular Meeting at the Northminster Presbyterian Church 7:30 PM. Fairless Hills, PA The topic of discussion will be the Ecton and Perkiomen mines at Audubon, Pennsylvania by Wayne Geller. Please bring scopes and specimens for projection. All are welcome.

July:

- 6-10 Syracuse, NY - EFMLS/AFMS Convention & Show hosted by the Gem & Mineral Society of Syracuse. New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse. AFMS meetings: July 7-8. EFMLS Annual Meeting: July 8 Show: July 9 -10.
- 16-17: Annual Show sponsored by the Saco Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Conway Middle School Gymnasium, Conway, NH.
- 30-31: 32nd Annual Champlain Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Burlington Gem & Mineral Club. Tuttle Middle School, So. Burlington, VT.

August:

- 6-7: 41st Annual Mid-State Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Water-Oak Gem & Mineral Society. Mt. Merici School, 152 Western Ave; Waterville, ME.
- 19-21 Gem Miners Juilee, Mid Atlantic Gem and Mineral Association, Lebanon Expo Center, Route 72 and Rocherty Road. Friday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. For information call 301-565-0487.
- 27-28: 45th Annual Rock & Mineral Show sponsored by the St. Lawrence County Rock & Mineral Club. Madrid Community Park, Madrid, NY
- 27-28: 48th Annual Gem & Mineral Festival sponsored by the Capital Mineral Club. Everett Arena, Concord, NH

September:

- 10 – 12: 48th Annual Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show sponsored by the Northern Berkshire Mineral Club. American Legion Post #90, Rte 7; Pownal, VT.
- 17 – 18: 42th Annual Mid-Hudson Show – The Fossils of New York sponsored by the Mid Hudson Valley Gem & Mineral Society. Dutchess Co. Fairgrounds, Rt. 9, Rhinebeck, NY
- 17-18: 44th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock & Mineral Club. Zembo Shrine, 2801 N 3rd St; Harrisburg, PA.
- 24-25: 47th Annual Atlantic Coast Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show hosted by the Gem Cutters Guild of Baltimore, Howard County Fairgrounds, I-70 at MD Rt 32; West Friendship, MD
- Sept 30 – Oct 2: Desautels Micromount Symposium hosted by the Baltimore Mineral Society. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge MD.

October:

- 15-16: 38th Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show & Sale sponsored by the Kanawha Rock & Gem Club. So. Charleston Community Center, So. Charleston, WV.

- 22 – 23: 42th Annual Rochester Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show sponsored by the Rochester Academy of Science Mineral Section and Rochester Lapidary Society. Monroe Co. Fair & Expo Center, Henrietta, NY.
- 29: Annual “Ultraviolation” Fluorescent Mineral Show sponsored by the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA.

November:

- 5 - 6: 7th Annual Rock & Gem Show sponsored by the Penobscot Mineral & Lapidary Club. Brewer Auditorium, Brewer, ME.
- 19-20: 45th Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Bead & Fossil Show sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. So. Florida Fairgrounds Expo Center East; West Palm Beach, FL.
- 25-27: 32nd Annual Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Show sponsored by the Roanoke Valley Mineral & Gem Society. Salem Civic Center, 1001 Roanoke Blvd; Salem, VA.

STILL WAITING.....

DVESS MEETING LOCATION : DIRECTIONS:

From Atco (west-bound), after the traffic light at Taunton Ave. (Rite Aid drugstore on the left), the church is about the

3rd building on the right; turn into the first driveway. If you miss it, pass by the church and turn Right onto Broad St. (at

the Berlin Diner) then turn Right into the parking lot of the Baptist Church and go straight all the way - the parking lots of

both churches connect.

From Rt. 73 in Marlton: head East (South) on Rt. 73. As you enter Berlin, you will pass Wal-Mart (on the left) and a

shopping center (on the right) with Shop Rite and Staples. **Get into the Right "Exit Only" lane and follow the signs for**

Cross Keys Rd. At the intersection of Cross Keys Rd. and the White Horse Pike (Rt. 30) turn LEFT. At the next intersection (Broad St.) continue straight past the Berlin Diner and SPEEDY MART on your left; pass by 2 or 3 white storefronts on the left then see the big white church with red front doors on your left. Pass in front of the church and turn into the driveway on the far side. Education Building is behind the church.

From Lindenwold or Clementon on the White Horse Pike (east-bound):

As you enter Berlin business district, you will pass through the traffic light at Cross Keys Rd. (CVS Pharmacy on right corner). Follow highlighted directions above.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Regular members are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities. Sponsoring members are entitled to the same plus a specially chosen mineral specimen. Dues are renewable each year in January. Membership rates for the Society:

Regular Membership:

\$15.00 for the 1st family member + \$5.00 for each additional family member

\$10.00 for the 1st Senior (65+) member + \$5.00 for each additional family member

Sponsoring Memberships (each additional family member - \$5.00):

"Silver" \$50.00 for 1st family member - receive a Geode Specimen

"Gold" \$75.00 for 1st family member - receive a Native Gold Specimen

"Platinum" \$100 for 1st family member - receive a Premium Specimen

SOCIETY INFORMATION

The Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc., (DVESS), a non-profit organization, was founded in 1956 and incorporated in the state of New Jersey in 1957.

The Society:

- * promotes interest , knowledge and the development of skills in the "earth sciences". These interests include mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary arts, archeology and local preservation.
- * supports the conservation of natural resources, advocates the availability of collecting sites and maintains close contact with those in the academic field.
- * is a member club of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies
(<http://www.AmFed.org/EFMLS>)

MEETINGS

The Society meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month throughout the year at Centenary United Methodist Church, 151 South White Horse Pike, (route 30) in Berlin. Junior Rockhounds meet at 7:30pm with the regular meeting beginning around 8 pm.

Anyone with info for the newsletter please share with me. You can be published!

Stuff you did in school, on a trip etc., see my info below (next page).

Editor's Notes: Editor is not responsible for authenticity of information in any articles submitted for publication. Nor are the opinions expressed in the "DVESScapades" necessarily those of the officers of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc., and/or the editor.

AFMS CODE OF ETHICS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies)

- I will respect both private and public property and will do no collecting on privately owned land without the owner's permission.
- I will keep informed on all laws, regulations of rules governing collecting on public lands and will observe them.
- I will to the best of my ability, ascertain the boundary lines of property on which I plan to collect.
- I will use no firearms or blasting material in collecting areas.
- I will cause no willful damage to property of any kind - fences, signs, buildings.
- I will leave all gates as found.
- I will build fires in designated or safe places only and will be certain they are completely extinguished before leaving the area.
- I will discard no burning material - matches, cigarettes, etc.
- I will fill all excavation holes which may be dangerous to livestock.
- I will not contaminate wells, creeks or other water supply.
- I will cause no willful damage to collecting material and will take home only what I can reasonably use.
- I will practice conservation and undertake to utilize fully and well the materials I have collected and will recycle my surplus for the pleasure and benefit of others.
- I will support the rockhound project H.E.L.P. (Help Eliminate Litter Please) and will leave all collecting areas devoid of litter, regardless of how found.
- I will cooperate with field trip leaders and those in designated authority in all collecting areas.
- I will report to my club or Federation officers, Bureau of Land management or other authorities, any deposit of petrified wood or other materials on public lands which should be protected for the enjoyment of future generations for public educational and scientific purposes.
- I will appreciate and protect our heritage of natural resources.
- I will observe the "Golden Rule", will use "Good Outdoor Manners" and will at all times conduct myself in a manner which will add to the stature and Public "image" of rockhounds everywhere.

<i>DVESS Directory 2008</i>	President terry@terryfic.com	Terry Wilson or terry@dvess.org
1 st Vice President 856-783-0969 Ann Lynne Benson SeleniteQueen@gmail.com	2 nd Vice President	
Jr. Rockhound Coordinator 856-783-0969 Mel LeCompte works-in-faith@comcast.net	Recording Secretary 856-728-1731	Grant Elliott gle@verizon.net
Website Coordinator 609-714-1309 Terry Wilson terry@dvess.org	Special Events Coordinator 856-783-0969	Ann Lynne Benson SeleniteQueen@gmail.com
Treasurer and Program Chair Gary Weinstein 856-234-0708 - home 856-795-5077 - wk garyskyrock@hotmail.com	DVESS Newsletter Editor, Membership Chair Carol De Cuzzi 856-428-0621 - home decuzzic@comcast.net or DVESS@int-pro.com	

Membership Form

start w/ first family member (designated as head of family) Juniors must have an adult head of family with the Junior as the additional family member for insurance purposes.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Profession, School or Major Work _____

Okay to let other members of the Club see your email and other orange-starred information (on website)?

Okay to share _____

Do NOT share _____

Newsletter Delivery **ONLY** via e-mail

additional family members to be registered w/ above member

Type of membership Regular Membership:

\$15.00 for the 1st family member + \$5.00 for each additional family member

\$10.00 for the 1st Senior (65+) member + \$5.00 for each additional family member

Dues are collected on a calendar year Jan to Dec, no pro-rata rates

additional members on another paper if needed

First Name: _____

Last Name (only if different from above) _____

First Name: _____

Last Name (only if different from above) _____

First Name: _____

Last Name (only if different from above) _____

Sponsoring Memberships (each additional family member - \$5.00):

"Silver" \$50.00 for 1st family member - receive a Geode Specimen

"Gold" \$75.00 for 1st family member - receive a Native Gold Specimen

"Platinum" \$100 for 1st family member - receive a Premium Specimen

Interests: Minerals ____ Fossils ____ Lapidary ____ Collecting ____ Museum Trips ____
Trotter ____ Sterling Hill ____ other, please list _____

How did you learn of DVESS? _____

Comments _____

What NON-DVESS interests or hobbies do you have? Would you be willing to share with our members?

What would you like the club to do or provide for you? _____

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc. (DVESS)
P.O. Box 372
Maple Shade, N.J. 08052
DVESS Website : <http://www.dvess.org>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

