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DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Newsletter



December 9, 2009

**Program: Our annual Christmas
Party (PC version - Holiday Party)**
Please go to Whosbringingwhat to contribute



President's Message - by AnnLynne Benson,
DVESS President and EFMLS Director

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for December 2009 by AnnLynne Benson

Loyal subjects of the Queen –

Another term has been completed and it's time to pass the Royal Fossil, Meteorite and Selenite scepter on to the next starry-eyed president. On second thought, I'll keep the scepter and pass on the more durable Diamond Diadem of DVESS.



It has been a productive term, highlighted by remaining solvent, having new brochures printed, and at last finding a secure, identifiable meeting place where we can store our cabinet and actually be located by the inquiring, map-questing public.

Our annual Super Dig was more successful than ever and we acquired new members, not the least of whom is our new landlord Rev. June Stitzinger-Clark, Pastor of Centenary United Methodist Church, conveniently located on the White Horse Pike in Berlin. We never had a rockhound for a landlord or a pastor before, and find her a warm, engaging and thoroughly delightful person.

Thanks to my loyal Executive Board and excellent support staff, without whom none of this would have been possible. 1st Vice-President Gerald Fiegin kept us well-fed at Executive Board meetings and continued to host our annual picnic. 2nd Vice-President Rich Murray brought youth, a cheerful grin and new life blood to the Board, relieving us of the annual re-shuffle of Executive Board members – a perpetual dilemma of Boards across the Federation.

Our somewhat reluctant but ever obliging Secretary - Meteorite-man Grant Elliott - kept us informed and amused with regular reporting, frequent website links and wonderfully-hosted Executive Board meetings. Invaluable Treasurer and Program Chair Gary Weinstein (www.garysgemgarden.com) remained the power behind the throne and our driving force. An entire newsletter could be devoted to his many contributions to DVESS.

Membership chair and Editor Carol DeCuzzi's innovative, organized style took us from Fossil Edition (bare bones) newsletters to a robust, lengthy, modern, electronic *DVESScapades* complete with enlightening articles, photos, puzzles and coloring pages for kids courtesy of Diamond Dan's Mini Miners Monthly (www.DiamondDanPublications.net).

Keeping our portal to the world open was internationally-known entrepreneur par excellence and Website mastermind Terry Wilson (www.Terryfic.com). We are grateful for her dedication, dependability, innumerable contributions and friendship.

Mel LeCompte was tireless in his roles as Junior Rockhounds teacher, liaison to the Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County and one-man Super Dig super crew. Mel – if we could catch up with you, we'd thank you in person.

We were saddened by the loss of our last founding member and Sage Len Morgan; his generosity and stamina were legendary and he will be greatly missed. Our remaining Life Member and Sage George Petreshock continued to amaze and inspire us with his tenacity and wisdom.

Many thanks to our long-distance members who travelled staggering distances to join us for the annual Super Dig, particularly Alice and Rick Harty who led the check-in and weigh-out team and Lorraine Campbell, our first Junior Rockhounds teacher and past-newsletter editor whom I designated as an honorary member of the Executive Board for her many contributions to the club.

Our DVESS family spans the educational spectrum from new pebble pups to Ph.D. Doc Rock who increased our family with the addition of the lovely Mrs. Rock, his new bride Ilene.

We are welcoming and inclusive and while new members are desired (we are particularly seeking more students, teachers and ethnic diversity), our doors are always open to the public, curious, questioning visitors are warmly welcomed and there is no pressure to join (before the 3rd free meeting). Membership includes liability and accident insurance through the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, without which access to field trips and quarries would be impossible.

Thank you one and all for the privilege of serving as your president. God bless you.

AnnLynne Benson

FIELD TRIPS - IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERATION INSURANCE REGULATIONS, THE FOLLOWING FIELD TRIPS ARE ANNOUNCED:

We will be traveling by **car pool or caravan** from Gary's store unless otherwise noted:
Saturday Jan. 30 - Rutgers Geology Museum Open House and Mineral Sale - 8 am

PLEASE CALL ANN OR GARY TO CONFIRM
PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Have you contacted your local high school and middle school science teachers yet to let them know about DVESS? What are you waiting for??

Mel LeCompte has spent many hours preparing lessons for the Junior Rockhounds Merit Badge Program.

Each and every one of **you** is important in helping keep the lines of communication, education, and involvement alive, not only our club, but in the Federation as well. One place this teamwork can be seen is in the preparation for the Sterling DIGG, coming up in, April 2010. Many people have taken on tasks which together will make it possible for you to enjoy a collecting experience rockhounds in other parts of the globe can only dream of - night collecting in the Fluorescent Mineral Capital of the World. See www.uvworld.org for more information.

Being stuck indoors while it's raining or snowing is a great time to write an article for your newsletter. Your fellow club members, as well as your editor, will greatly appreciate your efforts. It doesn't have to be anything elaborate: your take on a field trip, a get-acquainted blurb about a new (or old) member, some thoughts on a mineral or fossil that you found while on vacation, or on research you've done on the internet.

Now is the time to think about the Spring sessions at Wildacres. More information can be found on the EFMLS website <www.amfed.org/efmls/wildacres.htm>.

Get involved, get active. Invite a friend to a meeting. Attend one of the upcoming shows. You'll get more out of life when you LIVE IT!!

20 Things You Didn't Know about Sugar

We eat it, we love it and it may have been a chemical precursor to life on Earth.

- 1 The average American eats 61 pounds of refined sugar each year, including 25 pounds of candy. Halloween accounts for at least two pounds of that.
- 2 **Trick:** Sugar may give you wrinkles via a process called glycation, in which excess blood sugar binds to collagen in the skin, making it less elastic.
- 3 **Or treat:** Cutting back on sugar may help your skin retain its flexibility. So actually, no treats.
- 4 People in India have been crystallizing cane sugar for at least 2,000 years. When Alexander the Great's companions arrived there, they marveled at the production of honey without bees.
- 5 In 1747 German chemist Andreas Marggraf discovered that the sugar in a sugar beet is identical to that in sugarcane. In 1802 the first beet-sugar refinery began operations, bringing cheap sweets to northern climes.
- 6 More than half the 8.4 million metric tons of sugar produced annually in the United States comes from beets.
- 7 Can you imagine eating 16 sugar cubes at one sitting? You probably have. That's a little less than what is contained in a 20-ounce bottle of cola.
- 8 Soft drinks with artificial sweeteners may actually help make you fat. In a [Purdue University study](#), rats drinking liquids with artificial sweeteners consumed more calories overall than rats whose drinks were sweetened with sugar.
- 9 The artificial sweeteners saccharin and aspartame were found accidentally when lab workers doing research that had nothing to do with sweetening put a bit of the test compounds in their mouths and liked what they tasted.
- 10 **What kind of researcher sticks an experiment in his mouth?**
- 11 At least he had an excuse. The scientists who discovered sucralose (now sold as Splenda) were originally trying to create an insecticide. An assistant thought he had been instructed to "taste" a compound he'd only been asked to "test."
- 12 A compound called lugdunane is the sweetest compound known — more than 200,000 times as sweet as table sugar.
- 13 Sugars are molecules of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. The simplest include glucose, fructose, and galactose. Table sugar is crystallized sucrose, a fusion of one fructose and one glucose molecule.
- 14 Can't escape them: Sugars are the building blocks of carbohydrates, the most abundant type of organic molecules in living things.
- 15 Glycolaldehyde, an eight - atom sugar, has even been found in an interstellar gas cloud near the center of the Milky Way.
- 16 Glycolaldehyde can react with a three-carbon sugar to form ribose, the basis for both RNA and DNA, so the glycol-aldehyde found in deep space may be a chemical precursor to life on Earth.
- 17 That cloud also contains ethylene glycol, a sweet relative of glycol – aldehyde and

the main ingredient in antifreeze. Either complex sugars can be synthesized between the stars or there is a truck stop at the end of the universe.

18 Sugar can help get you there to find out. Burn sucrose with a dose of corn syrup and saltpeter and you get sugar propellant," a popular amateur rocket fuel.

19 How do you spell relief? "Obecalp," a

sugar pill manufactured to FDA standards, is marketed as a treatment for children's mild complaints. (Try reading the name backward.)

20 It's not all mind games. The sugar glucosamine works as an immunosuppressant in mice, and xylitol (a sugar alcohol) can prevent ear infections in kids. Sweet!

Courtesy of Discover Magazine

Mark your calendar for Philadelphia Mineral Treasures And Fossil Fair's 30th Annual Show and Sale sponsored by the Delaware Valley Paleontological Society and the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society. Check the DVPS website for more info.

Again this year – they will have several speakers talk about paleontology, geology and minerals. Dr. Ted Daeschler, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology at The Academy of Natural Sciences will speak on The Nunavut Paleontology Expeditions: Late Devonian Fossils from the Canadian Arctic. For more information on Dr. Daeschler's research, you can go on the web to http://clade.ansp.org/vert_zoology/people/daeschler/. Also, Dr. Lauck Ward, Curator Emeritus of the Virginia Museum of Natural History will speak about the stratigraphy and paleontology of the Atlantic Coastal Plain. The Show will be held at the Shriners LuLu Temple 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 For more information on the Show, please go to the DVPS website at <http://dvps.essentrix.net>

Academy Of Natural Sciences Dinosaurs for Adults

How much does an adult really know about dinosaurs? Answer: Not as much as a kid. This informative class for adults will delve deeper into the families of dinosaurs, the dinosaur eras, and draw a clear distinction between fact and Hollywood fiction. Jason C. Poole, Academy educator and fossil preparator, will draw from his own experiences excavating dinosaurs on three continents to bring these creatures to life. In 2000, Poole was part of a team that discovered *Paralititan*, the second largest known dinosaur. Thursday, January 28th, 6-9 pm. \$10/members \$15/non-members. To register, call 215- 299-1060. <http://www.ansp.org/adult-programs/workshops.php>

The Wagner Free Institute

Evolution in Action: A Study of Species' Options Over Time, Professor Mary Beth Davis. Wednesday, January 20, 2010, beginning at 6:30 PM. 8 Wednesdays. Independence Branch of the Free Library, 18 S. 7th Street.

Charles Darwin proposed that in nature, changes in the environment present species with three possible evolutionary scenarios: adaptation, migration, or extinction. This course will examine these responses in depth through case studies of the natural history of individual species. **No preregistration required.**

Global Change, Mass Extinctions, and Biodiversity in the Fossil Record, Professor William B. Gallagher. Saturday, January 30, 2010, beginning at 10:15 AM. For 10 consecutive Saturdays. University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, 33rd and Spruce Streets. This course will consider the linkages between environmental change and biodiversity fluctuations by studying the geologic record of mass extinctions. It will also look at biotic recovery and diversity rebounds after extinctions. **No preregistration required.**

Delaware Museum of Natural History *The Science Of SuperCroc*
Explore the exciting world of the planet's largest crocodilian at **The Science of SuperCroc**, open November 7, 2009 through January 31, 2010 at the Delaware Museum of Natural History. Created by Project Exploration, this special exhibit features a 40-foot-long replica skeleton, a flesh model of SuperCroc's skull, and original fossil material.

New Jersey State Museum Paleo-Illustrations - March 14, 2010
4pm; (60 min); General Audience; Auditorium; Free New Jersey native Larry Felder is one of the world's leading paleo artists, with much of his work featured in museums and books. He will be discussing the subjects of his art, as well as sharing many of his newest pieces.

Space is limited. Reserve your seats early!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW Free Admission - Free Parking, Museum Auditorium

Each lecture begins at 4pm. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, or to make reservations, please call (609) 292-8594



Dinosaur exhibit in Danville, KY This exhibit will be at the Danville Community Arts center in Danville, Kentucky. It's an amazing collection. **DINOSAURS ARE COMING!**
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010

One of the largest private dinosaur collections in the country belongs to a father and son team from right here in Danville - a duo with a prehistoric pastime that has led them to collect more than 60 full dinosaur skeletons and travel to excavations around the globe. While they are quick to note this "hobby" is all for the benefit of science and the fun of sharing their fossilized finds with others, Jack and John Hankla have exhibited their amazing acquisition in major museums around the nation... and in January/February 2010 they'll bring it home for a must-see display at the Community Arts Center.

This exhibit will feature "the final chapter" of dinosaurs on loan from the Hankla collection, filling every space of the facility with life-sized cast dinosaur skeletons and fossil material from the Cretaceous period (145-65 million years ago)... including a Tyrannosaurus Rex!

Among the related planned activities: "Museum in the Dark": see the exhibit by flashlight at night!

Interactive Sessions: sketch and sculpt your own dinosaur or fossil Fluorescent minerals exhibit

www.communityartscenter.net for further details Stuart W. Sanders Community Services

Administrator Assistant to the Director for the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial

Civil War Heritage Specialist ; Kentucky Historical Society; 100 West Broadway , Frankfort, KY

40601 (502) 564-1792, ext. 4420; www.history.ky.gov Info courtesy of "Alan Goldstein"

<deepskyspy@insightbb.com>

UPCOMING SHOWS

February: 20-21: 7th Annual James Campbell Memorial Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show and Sale co-sponsored by the Capital District Mineral Club and the NY State Academy of Mineralogy. Museum of the Empire Plaza, 4th Floor, Albany, NY.

March: 6 – 7: Annual Gem & Mineral Show and 60th Annual EFMLS Convention hosted by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. Delaware Technical College, Rts 58 & 7, Stanton, DE.
EFMLS Annual Meeting Friday, March 5.

- Mar 19-20: 40th Annual Unifour Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show sponsored by the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club. Metro Convention Center, Hickory, NC.
- Mar 26-28: 37th Annual Atlantic Micromounters Conference hosted by the Micromineralogists of the National Capital Area. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Registration & Info: S. Weinberger, <cscystals2@verizon.net>.
- Mar 27-28: 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show sponsored by the Island Rockhounds. Holy Family School, 25 Fordam Av; Hicksville, NY.
- Mar 27-28: 41st Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club Show sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Hall, Sayre, PA
- April 10-11: 41st Annual New York Southern Tier Geology Club Show sponsored by the Southern Tier Geology Club. Johnson City Senior Citizen Center, Johnson City, NY

DVESS MEETING LOCATION : Centenary United Methodist Church, 151 South White Horse Pike, (route 30) in Berlin, 856-767-3881 or 856-767-7453

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

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.

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.

To submit an article for publication in the DVESScapades contact the Newsletter Editor. decuzzic@comcast.net, or Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Inc., DVESS, P O Box 372 Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052 or DVESS Website: <http://www.dvess.org> garyskyrock@comcast.net

Three more pages available for this newsletter by e-mail or at the web site

December 2009 Puzzle

by

Ed Loveland

Puzzle maker to the DVESScapades for many great years, and well appreciated.
THANKS ED, hope for many more!!!

MANY APOLOGIES TO ED, THERE WILL BE NO PUZZLE THIS MONTH, my dislocated shoulder will be operated on this Friday, I am not able to do any more on the newsletter this month. It is a little shorter. Look for 2 puzzles next month. Editor

November 20, 2009 Executive Board Meeting By Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary
Meeting was held at Centenary United Methodist Church in Berlin, New Jersey.
Present were Ann Lynne Benson- President/ Special Events Coordinator, Gary Weinstein- Treasurer/ Programs, Terry Wilson- Website Coordinator, Grant Elliott- Recording Secretary, Richard M. Murray- 2nd VP, Carol DeCuzzi- DVESS Newsletter Editor/ Membership Chairman, and Carol's intrepid husband Peter.

Ann gaveled the meeting to order at 7:50pm and read the minutes from the October Executive Board meeting.
The annual corporation filing fee must be remitted soon. 501(c) (3) status will be researched in order to reapply, if necessary:

IRS Exemption Requirements

To be tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, an organization must be organized and operated exclusively for exempt purposes set forth in section 501(c)(3), and none of its earnings may inure to any private shareholder or individual. In addition, it may not be an action organization, i.e., it may not attempt to influence legislation as a substantial part of its activities and it may not participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates. Organizations described in section 501(c)(3) are commonly referred to as charitable organizations. Organizations described in section 501(c)(3), other than testing for public safety organizations, are eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions in accordance with Code section 170. The organization must not be organized or operated for the benefit of private interests, and no part of a section 501(c)(3) organization's net earnings may inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. If the organization engages in an excess benefit transaction with a person having substantial influence over the organization, an excise tax may be imposed on the person and any organization managers agreeing to the transaction. Section 501(c)(3) organizations are restricted in how much political and legislative (lobbying) activities they may conduct. For a detailed discussion, see Political and Lobbying Activities. For more information

about lobbying activities by charities, see the article Lobbying Issues; for more information about political activities of charities, see the FY-2002 CPE topic Election Year Issues.

MEMBERSHIP: Newsletter will go out solely by email (a major cost savings and quick delivery solution), with one or two exceptions. Carol gave Gary a membership list to edit. There are a few people who have drifted away and those (Trotter/Sterling sign-ups) who have never attended. Of course, regrettably, some members have passed away.

PROGRAMS: Judith Goldberg (Fossils in Cherry Hill) will be rescheduled to a Spring 2010 meeting. There will be a recorded (TV) presentation (Video tape) in December 2009. December meeting will also include gift exchange, pot-luck food, and election of 2010 officers. We will learn all about Arkansas diamonds in January 2010 (Hey folks, let's schedule a field trip to the Argyle mines in the near future).

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY MEETING: Terry has set up "Who's Bringing What" on DVESS website for pot-luck food and accessories. Gift exchange suggested value is \$10. (Bring one get one.)

The officer candidates are **PRESIDENT**- Gerald Feigin or Grant Elliott, *1st VP*- Lou Detofsky, **2nd VP**- Jonathan Feigin (Note: Jonathan's status has been cleared through a vote that says 16 years of age or older and an active member for multiple years), **Recording Secretary**- Richard M. Murray, and **Treasurer**- Gary Weinstein. Other positions and responsibilities will remain the same.

HARVEY CANTOR MICRO-MOUNTS: It was not discussed whether Ann had contacted Carolyn Weinberger in regards to the purchase of the entire collection of Harve's specimens and DVESS micro-mount collection.

EVENTS: Rutgers Geology Museum Open House will occur on Saturday January 30, 2010. Lets bring along some real meteorites for a show-and-tell session with the esteemed Dr. Delaney, if he is out from hiding underneath the New Jersey Object.

Carol came up with the excellent suggestion to use the Mandarin Buffet in Cherry Hill (Great reviews and less expensive) as the venue for the 2010 Banquet.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm. The group then retired to the "JERSEY GIRL" Berlin Diner for much needed yummys.

Grant

Outstanding Geologic Locations in Carbon County from

<http://www.carboncountymagazine.com/CarbonCountyMagazine/2009/Resources/Geology/GeologyIndex.html> or go to <http://www.carboncountymagazine.com>. Thanks, Al Zagofsky Publisher

Flagstaff Mountain Overlook LOCATION:

Approximately 1 mile south of the business district of Jim Thorpe on Mauch Chunk Ridge; within Flagstaff Mountain Park.

REMARKS: One of the most spectacular views in Pennsylvania. Folded ridges and valleys cut by the Lehigh River result in wild and scenic gorges. The overlook owes its origin to large outcrops of Catskill sandstone and conglomerate (Devonian

age) in Mauch Chunk Ridge.

Lehigh Gap LOCATION: A gap in Blue Mountain approximately 1 mile south of the Borough of Palmerton.

REMARKS: A magnificent water gap in Blue Mountain. Erosion by the Lehigh River over millions of years brought the gap to its present elevation. A nearly continuous rock sequence

from the top of the Martinsburg Formation (Ordovician age) to the Middle Silurian can be seen along the east bank of the river; it is the "type section" of the Lizard Creek Member of the Shawangunk Formation (Lower Silurian).

Lehigh Gorge & Glen Onoko LOCATION: The Lehigh River between White Haven and Jim Thorpe.

REMARKS: One of the prime natural areas of eastern Pennsylvania; it is wild and remote. The gorge is extremely rugged and has a very precipitous east wall near Jim Thorpe; Glen Onoko (243) is a steep-walled canyon of uncut timber and spectacular waterfalls.

Hickory Run Boulder Field LOCATION:

Approximately 10 miles southeast of White Haven along Pa. Route 534.

REMARKS: One of the most striking geologic features in the state; the boulder field has remained relatively unchanged for more than 20,000 years. It measures about 400 feet by 1800 feet and is at least 12 feet deep. This feature is the largest of its kind in the Appalachian Mountains of the eastern United

States, and is a registered National Natural Landmark.

Split Rock LOCATION: In the village of Split Rock.

REMARKS: A unique occurrence of the Duncannon Member of the Catskill Formation (Devonian age). A large outcrop of steeply dipping, red quartzitic sandstone about 25 feet high is separated by a 5- to 56-foot split (joint separation). The occurrence is unique in northeastern Pennsylvania and the outcrop itself is anomalous because of the steep bedding dip.

Stony Ridge LOCATION: A 9.7-mile-long ridge between the village of Ashfield (west of the Lehigh River) and Little Gap (east of the Lehigh River).

REMARKS: A 100-foot-thick ridge of hard white sandstone, devoid of soil and tree cover, stands like a jagged "wall." The sandstone is highly fractured (jointed), and weathering has produced a myriad of "stone figures" silhouetted against the sky. This feature is also known as a Rocky Ridge and Devils Wall.

A Rockhouser's 12 Days of Christmas

On the First day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Second day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
2 Vibrating laps, and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Third day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
a Pick, Shovel Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Fourth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Fifth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Sixth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the Seventh day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the eighth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
8 Kilos of faceting rough 7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the ninth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
9 Pounds of agates; 8 Kilos of faceting rough 7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the tenth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
10 Pounds of obsidian; 9 Pounds of agates; 8 Kilos of faceting rough 7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
11 Display boxes; 10 Pounds of obsidian; 9 Pounds of agates; 8 Kilos of faceting rough 7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree.

On the twelfth day of Christmas my Rockhouser gave to me ...
12 Issues of *Rock and Gem Magazine*; 11 Display boxes; 10 Pounds of obsidian; 9 Pounds of agates; 8 Kilos of faceting rough 7 Faceting machines; 6 SC liquids; 5 Hollow geodes; 4 Magnifying lenses; a Pick, Shovel & Hammer; 2 Vibrating laps; and a diamond grinder under the tree. A full year of fun courtesy of *Gold Prospectors Magazine*, Nov/Dec 2009

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 Ann Lynne Benson 856-783-0969 SeleniteQueen@gmail.com
1 st Vice President Gerald Feigin gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us	2 nd Vice President Richard Murray bearich@snip.net
Jr. Rockhound Coordinator Mel LeCompte 856-783-0969 works-in-faith@comcast.net	Recording Secretary Grant Elliott 856-728-1731 gle@verizon.net
Website Coordinator Terry Wilson 609-714-1309 terry@dveess.org	Special Events Coordinator Ann Lynne Benson 856-783-0969 SeleniteQueen@gmail.com
Treasurer, Program Chair, Membership Chair Gary Weinstein 856-234-0708 - home 856-795-5077 - work garyskyrock@hotmail.com	DVESS Newsletter Editor Carol De Cuzzi 856-428-0621 - home decuzzic@comcast.net or DVESS@int-pro.com

Membership Form

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

ZIP+4: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Profession, School or Major Work

Okay to let other members see your email and other orange-starred information?

Okay to share _____
Do NOT share _____

Newsletter Delivery via

Email _____
Postal Mail _____

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

First Name: _____
Last Name (if different) _____

First Name: _____
Last Name (if different) _____

First Name: _____
Last Name (if different) _____

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, list _____

How did you learn of DVESS? _____

Other clubs you belong to _____

Comments _____

What NON-DVESS interests or hobbies do you have? _____

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

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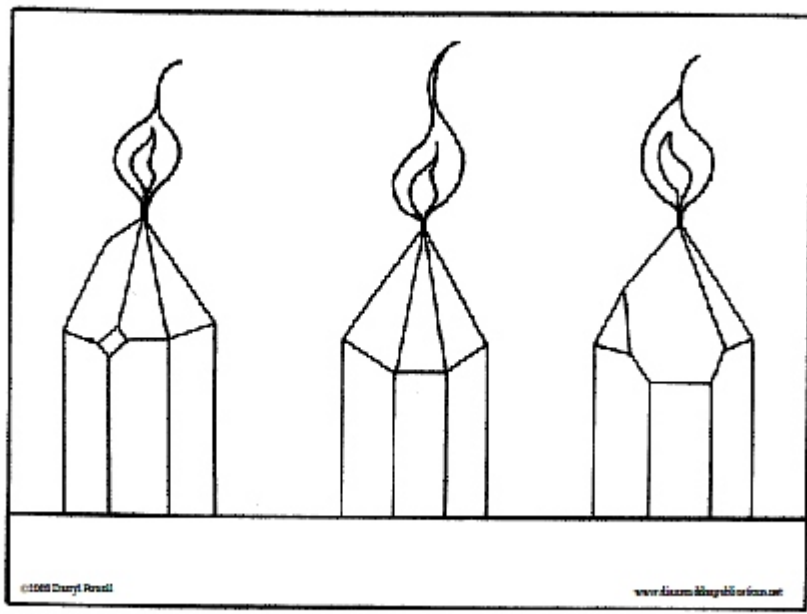
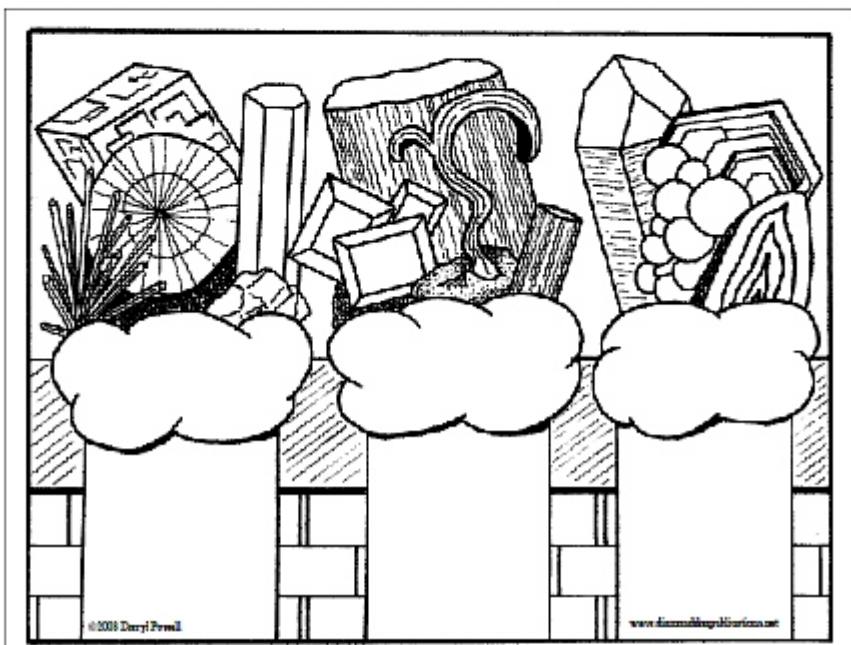


Electronic newsletter only (more info from Diamond Dan Publications Newsletter)
This is printed info about a recent episode on the history channel. Check it out it will be repeated multiple times on the channel. I also saw the same thing on 'Monster Quest', same channel

HOLIDAY CARDS FOR YOU TO COLOR AND SEND

Here are some mineral pictures you can use to make holiday cards to send to your family and friends. You have permission to copy them as much as you want.

Colored versions of these holiday cards are available on our website. The link to "Holiday Cards" can be found on the Home Page of www.diamonddanpublications.net.



After you color the crystals, write your own holiday greeting in the space underneath the crystal candles.