

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April, 2014

Next Meeting: April 9th

Program: "World's Greatest Geological Wonders" - Yellowstone National Park and Devil's Tower

Meeting location: Education Bldg. behind Centenary United Methodist Church
149 South White Horse Pike, Berlin NJ 08009

We need you! Volunteer for the Sterling Hill Mine Super Dig

We need volunteers for the Sterling Hill Mine Super Dig for various positions including registration, sales, membership, weighing in, set up /cleanup and site safety officers, etc. Contact Mel if you are interested in volunteering. As an incentive for those who volunteer for 3 hours of time during the day, you will receive free entrance into the event. For those who volunteer for at least the entire day they receive free entrance plus get their annual banquet dinner for free.



The Sterling Hill Super Dig - Saturday, April 26th

Rain or Shine! 9 am to 11 pm -

<http://www.sterlinghill.org/superdig/index.php#sthash.tGbBwhmW.dpuf>

- Take a Tour of the Mine.
- Take a Private Tour of the newly opened historic Trotter Tunnel. Tours given by Iron Miners members.
- For this event ONLY, take a Tour of the Upper Mine and Mill where you will receive a "Last day of operation" ore specimen right off the conveyor belt (certificate included).
- The ever-popular Blackout Tour of the Mine "Tunnel of Love" (safety glasses required).
- See the nighttime illumination of the famous "Fluorescent Wall" in the Fill Quarry.
- And, collect minerals in all 3 collection areas on the property.

Remember to bring your membership card or some proof of DVESS membership (we will be able to provide a card at the Dig if 2014 dues have been paid, or are being paid that day).

Contact Mel if you are interested in volunteering for various positions including registration, sales, membership, weighing in, set up /cleanup and site safety officers, etc.

<http://www.sterlinghill.org/superdig/index.php>

Bringing the kids? Please note the age requirement at each site.

5 to 12 year olds can dig in the "Mine Run Dump" with an adult.

12 years and older can dig in the pits (preferably with an adult).

Child Watch at **STERLING HILL** **Super Dig** **Dig In Peace**

Child Watch is for Super Dig Participants with young children.

Registration in advance of the event is strongly suggested.

It will reduce check-in time significantly.

All registration for the *Super Dig* is done through the uvworld.org website.



News

Paleontologists assemble giant turtle bone from fossil discoveries made centuries apart

An amazing discovery at Big Brook - half a fossil limb bone found in 2012 turned out to be the missing half of a bone first described in 1849.

<http://phys.org/news/2014-03-paleontologists-giant-turtle-bone-fossil.html>

Recent Earthquakes in the Intermountain West. Yellowstone National Park Special Map

<http://www.seis.utah.edu/req2webdir/recenteqs/Maps/Yellowstone.html>

Yellowstone 4.7 Earthquake

During March 2014, 277 earthquakes were located in the Yellowstone National Park region. The largest event was a light earthquake of magnitude 4.7 on March 30, located four miles north-northeast of Norris Geyser Basin in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming. This is the largest earthquake at Yellowstone since the early 1980s.

<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/activity/status.php#yvo>

Historical Photogrammetry: Bird's Paluxy River Dinosaur Chase Sequence Digitally Reconstructed as It Was prior to Excavation 70 Years Ago

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0093247>

Junior Rockhounds

There were 8 children at the March meeting. They completed the plate tectonics craft. The April meeting topic will be geological time line.

Panning for Gold

Photos by Jim Brennan

At our March meeting, Wally Slattery talked to the club about Gold Prospecting in the Blackhills of South Dakota. He provided a lively demonstration of the proper way to pan for gold, complete with actual gold!





TRICKLING RIVULET TO CASCADING RAPIDS (or *Micromounts to Cabinet Specimens*)

by Ann Lynne Benson

This is my 30th year with the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, my first meeting having been in September of 1984. Since then, avenues – nay, worlds – have opened up to me. I went from thinking that there weren't any fossils left to find (I really believed that!) to making many field trips to collect. I went from knowing virtually nothing about minerals to becoming the Selenite Queen. I am honored to have been voted first woman president of DVESS in 1992 and equally pleased to have introduced my husband Mel (a man who didn't know a rock from a mineral from a fossil in 1999) to DVESS, and delighted at his decision to "learn along with the kids" as he assumed responsibility for leadership of the Junior Rockhounds program at DVESS and the Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County (of which we are both members).

What began as the simple fascination and thrill of seeing beautiful minerals and digging for fossils became a loyal passion. What started as the mere excitement of being asked to attend an Executive Board meeting has become a decades-long commitment enhanced by friendships of many years standing. Hearing the speakers at our monthly meetings is as exciting as it ever was! It has been said that as time goes by, we stay young by keeping our minds active – try wrapping your mind around some of the fabulous presentations our speakers bring us – new ideas flow throughout the room and cascade like rivers thru the layers of our dura mater.

Equally stimulating has been participating in the Super Digg at Sterling Hill Mine from the first one we ever had (at Trotter Dump) to the one DVESS is organizing this year. Attending gem and mineral shows has been interesting and inspiring; there's always something new to see and I've made friends from Pennsylvania to Virginia. This year I won one of the raffles at the Delaware Mineralogical Society show (a petrified wood necklace and matching earrings) and I'm proud to be serving as the Delegate from DVESS to the Eastern Federation Convention.

So perhaps it was inevitable that an interest which became a hobby ultimately developed into a business. After 20 years in the pharmaceutical industry, I lost my job just over two years ago during a company reorganization. I spent a year in school, then another year feverishly looking for work, to no avail.

Meanwhile, my sister Loretta (ThePsychicPartners.com) had come to me several times for selenite and quartz. I attended a Psychic Wellness Expo in Runnemede and saw that some of the participants had a couple of minerals for sale on their tables. I asked Loretta if I could display some on hers and she suggested that I get my own table. Thus was born *AngelStones and Bones*.

On March 14, 2014 I did my first Psychic Party (Loretta does the readings and I sell the crystals) and on November 1 I will have my own table at the Psychic Wellness Expo. Until then I'm studying Social Media platforms and the mystical aspects of crystals. These are exciting days.

Who knows whether I'll set the metaphysical world on fire with the incredibly wide array of minerals I've amassed in the past 30 years, but at least I'll be having fun playing with my rocks.



Upcoming Field Trips

DVESS has approved the Sterling Hill Mining Museum / DVESS Super Digg on April 26, 2014 an official club field trip.

Lou's Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – postponed from October 2013 to Spring 2014.



Shows and Events

April 2014

April 26 - Sterling Hill Super Dig

April 26–27 - Franklin, NJ - 42nd Annual NJESA Gem & Mineral Show (plus outdoor swap and sell) sponsored by the New Jersey Earth Science Association, Franklin-Ogdensburg Mineralogical Society and Sterling Hill Mining Museum (NJ). Franklin School, 50 Washington Ave., Franklin, NJ

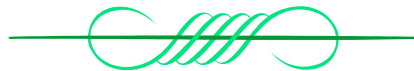
April 26–27 - West Mifflin, PA - Monongahela Rockhounds Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show. Sat. 10- 6; Sun. 10-4. West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Co. #4 Skyview Hall, 660 Noble Drive, West Mifflin (Pittsburgh), PA 15122. Free Admission and parking. www.monongahelarockhounds.org

May 2014

Super Science Saturday, May 3rd at Trenton State Museum: Our club will be participating once again. We need some volunteers to help man our table and distribute information and mineral specimens to visitors.

June 2014

June 7–8 - Monroe, NY Orange County Mineral Society annual Mineral, Gem, Jewelry & Fossil show sell and swap. 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, Museum Village, 1010 Rt. 17M, Monroe, NY 10950 On Display is the most complete Mastodon found in New York State; Museum collection of local minerals; New Fluorescent Mineral Display. We will also have a Sluice. Special admission for the Museum and Show; adults \$5.00 seniors and kids \$3.00; Scouts in uniform and kids under 6 free. www.Orangecountymineralsocietynewyork.com



Quote of the Month

"There is something fascinating about science. One gets such wholesale returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of fact." - *Mark Twain*

Club Brochures

Please pick up one or two yellow club brochures and have them on hand in your vehicle or handbag to give out to folks. If you see a parent and child, strike up a conversation by asking, "Does your child like rocks or dinosaurs?" Offer them a club brochure; if they're not from our area, addresses and websites for the American Federation are on the back of the brochure. Your small gesture may make a world of difference to that child, his/her family, and to our club.



Membership Information

Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

Sponsoring memberships are entitled to the same plus a specially chosen mineral specimen. Dues are renewable each year in January.

Regular Membership:

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

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

Sponsoring Membership: (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 Mineral Specimen

“Platinum” \$100.00 for 1st family member – receive Premium Specimen



Delaware Valley Earth Science 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 in, knowledge of, 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>)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Inc. (DVESS)

P.O. Box 372

Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052

DVESS Website: <http://www.DVESS.org>



To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com. Tell us about your earliest rock collecting experiences - or the most exciting!



