

# DVESScapades

*escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures*



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



**February 2016**

**Next Meeting:** February 10th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour  
8:00 pm Program: DVD - OPAL FEVER

### Winter Weather Advisory

in case of bad weather, the meeting will be CANCELLED  
if the Berlin Schools are CLOSED. Listen for School  
Closing Number **579**



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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for February, 2016

by AnnLynne Benson

GREETINGS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR. I apologize forgetting off to a slow start; I missed the previous months' Messages due to unforeseen complications. I wish to thank last year's Executive Board for a job well done. Grant Elliott, particularly, is to be recognized for his many years of faithful service as Recording Secretary ("for life"); it was a great pleasure having him on the Board and we hope to continue seeing him at Executive Board meetings.

THE HOLIDAYS are over, but the gift-giving goes on. Not wrapped "presents", but gifts of love, education and inspiration that are never forgotten. When we show others the pleasure we find in the beauty and wonder of rocks and minerals, share with other groups (churches, schools, civic organizations), give the pebble pups specimens to take home, or bring in samples from our last field trip to share, we give a gift that won't be tucked into a closet or drawer and forgotten; it will be remembered, used and shared with family and friends. We appreciate our hobby so much that each meeting is like a holiday!

RESOLUTIONS: It's that time of year. Here are some suggested New Year's Resolutions for you:

Resolve to:

- attend more club meetings
- attend a field trip or one of the upcoming shows
- pay 2016 dues immediately, if I haven't already done so
- volunteer for a position (assistant secretary, assistant Junior Rockhounds teacher, publicity chair)
- write an article for DVESScapades
- visit the website of the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (our "grandparent" organization - <http://www.amfed.org/> ) and/or the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (our "parent" organization - <http://www.amfed.org/eastern.htm> )
- support the Lower Bucks club by attending their first Earth Science Show and Sale on May 21, 2016 at the First United Methodist church (where they have their Ultraviolet show), 840 Trenton Rd, Fairless Hills, PA, 9 am – 4 pm, adults \$2.00, kids 12 and under FREE. For more info call Brian at 215-788-3993.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH: <http://www.virtualmuseumofgeology.com/>

JUNIORS in grades 1-8 are invited to enter a Poster Contest – on paper 12" x 18" illustrate any type of agate using pen, ink, crayon, magic marker or paint; on the back put your name, address, age and school grade, the name of the agate, a brief description of what it looks like, where it's found, and why you chose it. The title may be on the front or back. Each grade level will have winners. Entries must be

postmarked by April 15, 2016. Send to Poster Contest, 617 Wooster Road W, Barberton, OH 44203. For more info email [SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com](mailto:SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com).

**VANISHING COLLECTING AREAS:** going, going, gone – unless all of us (each one of us!) takes responsibility for ending the government take-over of our collecting sites. No, the American Federation can't do it for us. The voice of the Rockhound needs to be heard, and as loud as possible! When you learn your town, county or state is "preserving" land, don't think "Oh, how sweet - the little bunnies' nests will be saved." NO! Instead think "They are planning to close yet another collecting site! The municipality is going to lose another rateable and my taxes will go up again!" Then get on the phone or send a letter or email voicing your concern. If we collect there, that makes it an active mine and therefore it cannot be considered a "wilderness" or "wilderness study area". For more info, see page 8 of the American Federation newsletter for February, 2016.

## News

### **Massive dinosaur skeleton will spill out of hall at famed New York museum**

A new, 122-foot (37-meter) dinosaur skeleton is too long to fit in the fossil hall at the American Museum of Natural History and so its neck and head will poke out toward the elevator banks.

<http://news.yahoo.com/boo-dinosaur-skeleton-spill-hall-famed-york-museum-171541799.html>

### **Ice-Age Mammoth Bones Found Under Oregon Football Field**

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/ice-age-mammoth-bones-found-under-oregon-football-121351845.html>

### **Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies**

<http://www.amfed.org/eastern.htm>

### **American Federation of Mineralogical Societies**

<http://www.amfed.org/>

## Hadrosaur Quiz

1. Bones of *Hadrosaurus foulkii* were excavated in a marl pit in what New Jersey town?
2. In which year was the skeleton excavated?
  - a. 1808
  - b. 1858
  - c. 1908
3. A full cast of the skeleton was first displayed in what museum?

4. *Hadrosaurus foulkii* was a
  - a. carnivore
  - b. omnivore
  - c. herbivore
5. *Hadrosaurus* lived during the
  - a. Cretaceous
  - b. Jurassic
  - c. Triassic



6. What major bone was missing from the skeleton first excavated in New Jersey?
7. Hadrosaurus means
  - a. funny bones
  - b. bulky lizard
  - c. dry dinosaur
8. When scientists first studied the skeleton, they were surprised to discover that this dinosaur
  - a. had no teeth
  - b. walked on two legs

c. was just a baby

9. You can find a bronze sculpture of *Hadrosaurus foulkii* on what street?

You can find the answers toward the end of the newsletter

## Websites

### Quiz: Dinosaur fossils

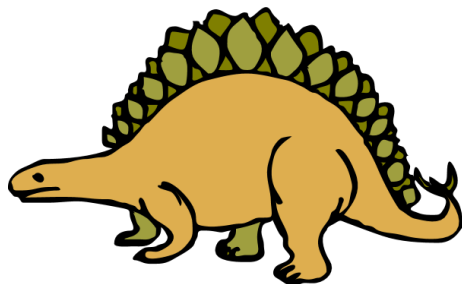
<https://www.khanacademy.org/partner-content/amnh/dinosaurs/dinosaur-fossils/e/quiz-dinosaur-fossils>

### Invertebrate I.D. The quiz! (The Learning Zone)

<http://oxford.university.museum/thezone/fossils/inverts/quiz/index.htm>

### The Ultimate Fossil Quiz - Science - How Stuff Works

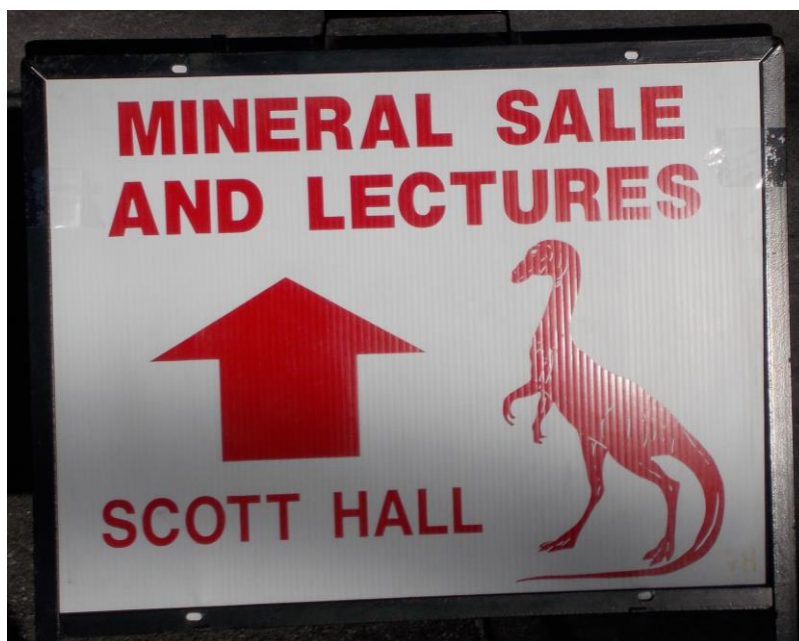
<http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/earth/geology/fossil-quiz.htm>



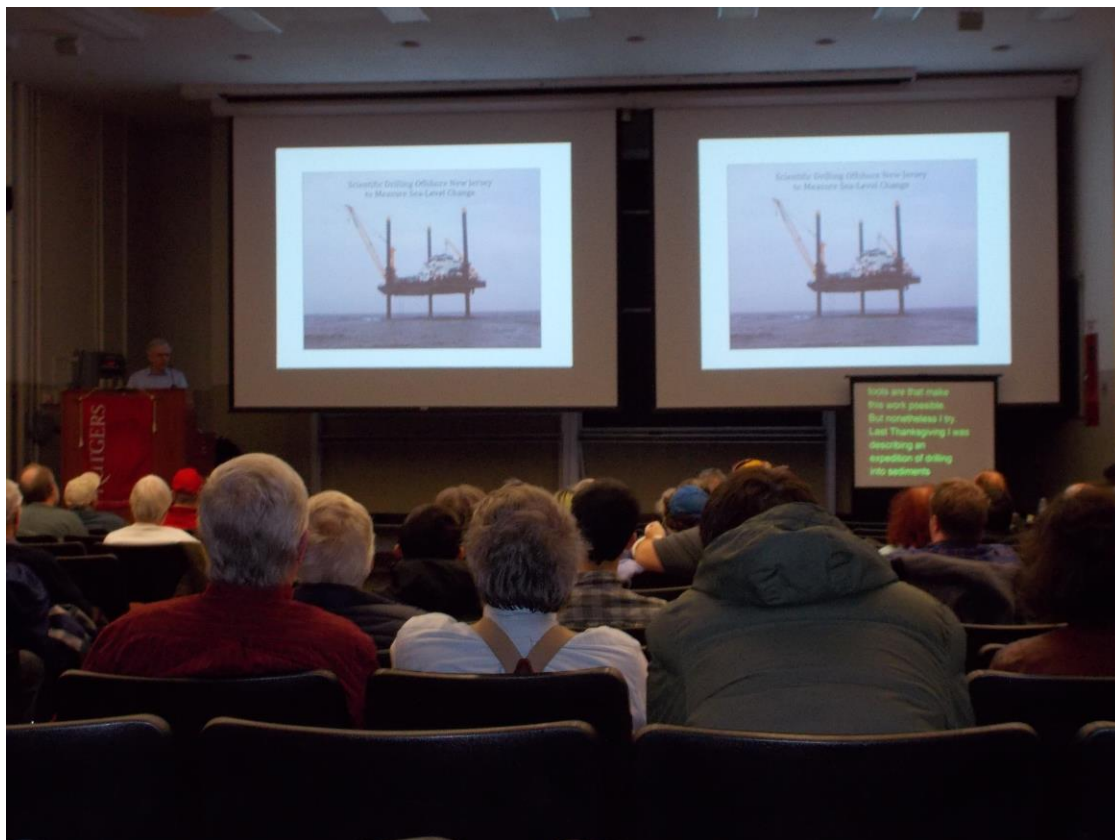
## Quote of the Month

I went to my first dinosaur hall with my father and twin brother. We went to the American Museum of Natural History, and I was blown away by the dinosaurs. *David H. Koch*

Photos - Rutgers Geology Museum Open House, January 30, 2016







## Shows and Events

### March

**PaleoPalooza** at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel on March 5th and 6th from 10:00 to 5:00 on Saturday and 10:00 to 4:00 on Sunday. It's a two-day festival of fossils, offering new and exciting activities. The DVPS will have fossils for sale during the event. Very reasonably priced. This is the first time they will be selling specimens in many years. <http://www.ansp.org/get-involved/programs/festivals/paleopalooza/>



### April

**2016 Philadelphia Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair:** Saturday, April 2, 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday, April 3, 10 am to 4 pm. Lulu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA., (PA Turnpike, exit 333; or I-476, exit 20) Free Parking. Adults \$5.00. Children under 12 \$1.00; Uniformed scouts and troop leaders free.

Special Features: On both days a line-up of distinguished professional speakers will be presented. Once again the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia will present a display of minerals from its collection. In addition there will be fossil and mineral displays, educational materials, door prizes and a food concession. Thirty dealers will offer fossils, minerals, crystals, and jewelry from all over the world, as well as books, decorative items, and other merchandise. Young visitors can enjoy the annual fossil dig for children and the kid's corner with free mineral gifts.

**Sterling Hill Super Dig:** April 23rd, 9 am to 11 pm. Mine tours, historic Trotter Tunnel, Upper Mine and Mill, Blackout Tour, nighttime illumination of the famous "Fluorescent Wall" in the Fill Quarry, and mineral collecting in all 3 collection areas on the property. \$20 per person, collecting fee \$1.50 per pound. <http://superdig.com/>

### June

**2016 Spring Mineralfest:** Saturday, 4 June 2016, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, Pennsylvania. One hundred tables with minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, crystals and geodes. Mineralfest is the biannual mineral, fossil, and gem show sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association.

Free parking. A family-oriented event - younger attendees encouraged. Adult admission only \$2.00; Free admission and mineral specimens for children under 12. <http://mineralfest.com/>



## Quiz Answers

1. Haddonfield
2. b. 1858
3. Academy of Natural Science
4. c. herbivore
5. a. Cretaceous
6. skull
7. b. bulky lizard
8. b. walked on two legs
9. Hadrosaurus Lane





## 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:*

\$20.00 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 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive a Geode Specimen

"Gold" \$75.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive Mineral Specimen

"Platinum" \$100.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com).

