

# DVESScapades

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



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



January 2018

**Next meeting** - January 10th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds classes and adult social hour  
8:00 pm Program



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

## 2018 DVESS Officers

President - Mark Leipert

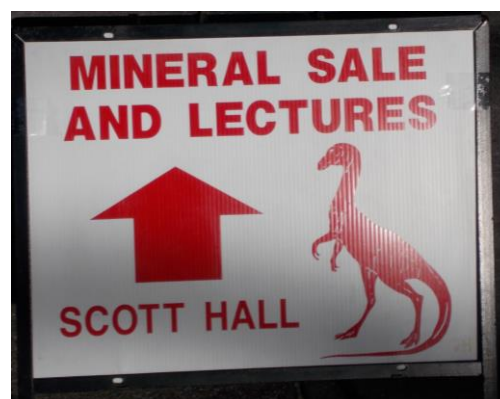
VP - Ann Benson

Treasurer - Jim Brennan

Secretary - Amy Simpson

## President's Corner:

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Right now the region is experiencing some of the coldest weather we've seen in years. Our outdoors activities will resume in the March/April time frame. Most of our winter activities are confined to mineral/fossil shows, museum sponsored events and museum tours. That being said, we are open to suggestions as to which museums the club membership would like to visit. There are several very nice museums within the City of Philadelphia, nearby Delaware museums, several in New Jersey, as well as the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Please send any reasonable suggestions to [mark.leipert@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.leipert@yahoo.com). There are a number of events listed in the Shows and Events section, which goes into greater detail, such as the Paleopalooza at the Academy of Natural Sciences; Rutgers Geology Open House-Rock sale, lecture series, and kid activities at the Geology Museum; and the Fossil Fair/Mineral Show at LuLu Temple in Plymouth Meeting to name just a few. Our program chair is actively planning interesting speakers for this year. If you know of someone who would be an interesting speaker please talk to Gary Weinstein.



We are going to continue taking at least one collecting trip a month once the weather becomes nicer out. Trips will not be cancelled due to lack of interest. If we only have a small contingent of members going on a given trip, it just makes it easier to carpool. Once club members see the good material those going on trip are finding, maybe they will go the trip next time. We plan on going back to the Sayreville Amber and Marcasite site, Big Brook and Ramanessin Creek for marine fossils, the Phoenixville Brookdale and Chester County lead mines for pyromorphite as well as many new and old localities that the club hasn't been to in decades. We would like to hear from you, if you have any suggestions please pass them along to [mark.leipert@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.leipert@yahoo.com).

We will also have an opportunity to volunteer again for the Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University Community Dig Day event. We have been setting up a fossil/mineral display for the last five years and we need some volunteers to help man the table. This is a hot event, it usually fills up in less than twenty minutes. Last year 1,600 people signed up in approximately 20 minutes. This is an opportunity for the club to act as a resource in the field of geology and earth science to teachers, scout leaders and others of all ages.

We also have our annual "Super Digg" at the Franklin Mineral Museum the last weekend in April. This is our biggest fund raising activity for the year. We need volunteers to make this event work. Look for sign-up sheets at the regular meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup>. We will need 12 to 15 volunteers to make things run smoothly. Last year we had collecting in the Buckwheat Mine Dump as well as an area of special material from the former mine site for a premium fee.

**Dues are due!** The fee is \$20.00 per person and \$5.00 for each additional family member. There is also a reduced fee for seniors which is \$10.00. Dues can be paid in person at the regular meetings, mailed in or paid on-line with PayPal.

I would like to thank all of the members of the executive board, program chair, newsletter editor and field trip chair. After two years of doing an excellent job as the club secretary, Sherry Sisson did not return in that capacity this year. We welcome our newly elected secretary, Amy Simpson, to the executive board. I look forward to 2018 being an exciting year for the club.

**Mark Leipter, President**



### Quote of the Month:

It isn't the mountain ahead that wears you out; it's the grain of sand in your shoe.

- *Robert W. Service*

Photos

by Susan Moore

Holiday Party







## Notice

**Looking for volunteers from DVESS** to attend the Cape Atlantic Rockhounds' show on May 19 & 20 and set up a table with brochures and info about our club.

There is no charge to DVESS for having this table unless we bring things to sell, then the cost of the table would be shared by those selling.

Contact me if you are interested.

*AnnLynne Benson*

Vice President, Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

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## News

### **American Museum of Natural History**

The halls of gems and minerals are closed for a major renovation. The new Allison and Roberto Mignone Halls of Gems and Minerals will open in the fall of 2019.

## Shows and Events

**January 20: THE PHILADELPHIA MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY** interclub, mineral & fossil SWAP and SELL. 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Lu Lu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 . FREE ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC . Dealers/Swappers may set up at 8:00 a.m. Limit one table, reservations required. First come, first served. To swap or sell, you must be a member of a local mineral club. For details and reservations, call/email John Rateike at: 215-576-0741, [jdrat@comcast.net](mailto:jdrat@comcast.net)

**January 27: The 50th Annual Rutgers University Geology Museum Open House** will take place on Saturday January 27, 2018 between 9 am and 3 pm. All events will be held in Scott Hall and the Rutgers

Geology Museum located on the College Avenue Campus in New Brunswick, NJ.

<http://geologymuseum.rutgers.edu/museum-events/annual-open-house>

**Mineral Sale** - 9 am to 3 pm, Scott Hall Room 135

**Lecture Series** - Scott Hall Room 123.

**10 am to 11 am: "New Jersey Fisheries in a Global Context"**

**11:30 am to 12:30 pm: "Empire of the Apes: the recent discovery of an ape and human ancestor in Africa"**

**2 pm to 3 pm: "The Appalachians and How They Got That Way: Structure and Dynamics of Eastern North America"**

### **Kids Activities**

All kids activities are free and no pre-registration is required.

### **Make-and-Take Activities and Guest Appearances**

Make-and-take arts and crafts activities and guest appearance will be held in the Geology Museum between 11 am and 2:30 pm.

**Rock and Mineral Identification** - Scott Hall Room 205 between 11 am and 2 pm.

## **Looking Ahead**

**March 3-4: 55th annual Earth Science Gem & Mineral Show** sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society. University of Delaware – Wilmington Campus, Arsht Conference Center; 2800 Pennsylvania Ave (Rt 52), Wilmington, DE 19806. Info: [www.delminsociety.net](http://www.delminsociety.net)

**March 3-4: Paleopalooza** at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University. Every year, the Academy celebrates all things prehistoric during Paleopalooza, a two-day festival of fossils. We offer new and exciting activities each year, along with our most popular and recurring attractions.

**March 24-25: 49th Annual Gem and Mineral Show** sponsored by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club. Wysox Vol. Fire Co Social Hall, 111 Lake Rd; Wysox, PA. Info: [www.chehannarocks.com](http://www.chehannarocks.com)

**March 24-25: 2018 Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair** sponsored by the Philadelphia Mineral Society & Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA (PA Turnpike exit 333, or I-476, exit 20). Info: [www.phillyrocks.org](http://www.phillyrocks.org) or [cleibold@verizon.net](mailto:cleibold@verizon.net)



## Membership Information

*Regular memberships* are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

### *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

## 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)**

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

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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).

