

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, July 11, 2012

Program: John Sanfacon will speak on "Rare Earth Elements in Minerals" This will include radio-actives and fluorescents, etc. and he will bring geiger counter and UV lamp to show the phenomenons... phenomenea?

Don't forget our annual picnic – July , 2012 **with pool** graciously lent to us by Gerald Fiegin home 63 Berkshire Drive Sewell We need to continue to let the members know of the whosbringgingwhat site to sign up for the picnic.

July 2012 President's Message by Ann Benson

WE'RE BAAACK! My main reason for joining DVESS was – field trips! I had been told DVESS was a *major field trip club* and that attracted me!! Once again, our club is regaining this designation.

Traveling out West with my father, seeing all the national parks, mountain ranges, and scenic wonders, instilled in me a love of geology; long before that, my mother had instilled in me a hunger for knowledge. Here was my opportunity to build on both and have an activity I could share with my school-age children.

Well, on June 23 over a dozen intrepid rockhounds donned boots and gear for a 200 mile Geology Grand Tour up and down the Delaware River, from Inversand marl pit in Sewell to Iron Hill in Runnemede, to Bowman's Tower near New Hope, Lost River Caverns and numerous stops in between, ending up in Stockton, NJ at Prallsville Mill where the D & R Canal intersects the Delaware River. We arrived just before sundown and stayed til the

moon came up; we couldn't have wanted a more beautiful, serene ending to a hard-work, hard-climbing, dusty, dirty, happy, exciting day – another “DVESScapade” for which our newsletter is named!

This trip marked the maiden voyage of our new Field Trip co-chairs, Lou (“Doc Rock”) Detofsky and his student emeritus Mark Leipter. Together they researched, plotted, field-tested, organized, and ran an amazing trip that was enjoyed by all, from my 9 year old grandson Garrett Cuffy, all the way up to [we won't divulge the age of our senior members, but suffice to say, the Social Security set was well-represented].

Much thanks to Lou and Mark for their efforts and also to our members and Nikki Marx of DVPS who joined us; much sharing and cooperation went into making this trip a success!! I hope we'll be treated to a future program regaling the fun we had. The “door prize” – a colorful, 255 pg tome entitled “The Complete Guide to Rocks and Minerals” - was won by Garrett. By the way, on Aug. 6, Garrett is scheduled to participate in the Ranger for a Day program at Hampton National Historic Site in Towson, MD.

AMERICAN FEDERATION ENDOWMENT FUND prizes are up to a value of over \$7300.00 for 45 prizes (see all of the prizes at <http://www.amfed.org/endow2012.htm>); tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. To order, make your check payable to “AFMS Endowment Fund” and mail it along with a stamped self-addressed envelope to Carolyn Weinberger, PO Box 302, Glyndon, MD 21071-0302.

WEBSITES OF THE MONTH: American Federation Newsletter: http://www.amfed.org/news/n2012_06.pdf;
EFMLS News: <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/efjune12web.pdf>;
Mineralogy for Kids <http://www.mineralogy4kids.org/>;
Mineralogical Society of America <http://www.minsocam.org/>

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC: Sunday, July 22, 1 pm home of Gerald Feigin; please indicate what food you're bringing at www.whosbringingwhat.com/dvess and remember to bring item(s) for the auction.

PUBLICITY: Which newspapers do you read? What TV stations do you watch? Do you get a neighborhood newspaper? We need to get the word out that DVESS is in Berlin to stay! We are a non-profit educational organization, and we have A LOT to offer to the local community, the County residents, and the Delaware Valley!! We need a list of all the media in your area: radio, TV, newspapers, magazines including the address of each and a contact person in the organization [two easy ways to get this is to go online and check their website or call to them on the phone; you are looking for the Editor, or Features Editor, along with their email address]. Please help us attract new members – when you submit your information, attach a few words about what you like most about DVESS. We have some great programs coming up, we have a Junior Rockhounds teacher ready to

WOW the younguns, we have door prizes every month – let's let the neighbors know that fireworks aren't the only SIZZLE in town this month!!

The skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus bataar dinosaur that was brought into the U.S. illegally in 2010 and sold at auction last month. A judge has ordered that the fossil be returned to Mongolia. (U.S Attorney Office/Associated Press)

[Pregnant 'fish lizard' among rare items in new dinosaur exhibit](#)

[Dinosaur flatulence may have led to global warming](#) WHAT!!!!

Anything else for global warming while they are still arguing yes/no. Remember go to the website , try your own research



One of the more unusual arrest warrants in U.S. history was issued this week when a federal judge authorized the Department of Homeland Security to seize a dinosaur from an art-storage company in New York City. There's no need for handcuffs, though. It's been dead for 70 million years.

U.S. District Judge Kevin Castel, of the Southern District of New York, signed the warrant after finding there was "probable cause to believe" that the nearly complete Tyrannosaurus bataar skeleton is subject to forfeiture under U.S. laws.

The U.S. filed a lawsuit against the skeletal property a day earlier, seeking to seize it for an eventual return to Mongolia.

It is typical in government seizure cases for the object to be seized to be named as a defendant. But it's not so common for an object to have an alias, in this instance "One Tyrannosaurus Bataar Skeleton" is also known as "LOT 49315 listed on Page 92 of The Heritage Auctions May 20, 2012 Natural History Auction Catalog."Sold at auction for more than \$1M US

The 2.4-meter tall, 7.3-meter long skeleton was described in the catalogue as being "a stupendous, museum-quality specimen of one of the most emblematic dinosaurs ever to have stalked this Earth." It is currently held at a Cadogan Tate Fine Art property in the New York City borough of Queens.

A message left with the company Tuesday was not immediately returned.

The lawsuit said the Tyrannosaurus bataar skeleton was brought in March 2010 from Great Britain to Gainesville, Fla., with erroneous claims that it had originated in the U.K. and was worth only

\$15,000 US. It sold at auction on May 20, 2012, for more than \$1 million, though the sale was contingent upon the outcome of court proceedings.

Jim Halperin, cofounder of Heritage Auctions, the dinosaur's Dallas-based custodian, has said a consignor bought the fossils in good faith and spent a year and considerable expense restoring them.

"We have co-operated in the investigation process for paleontologists to expeditiously examine the skeleton, and we will continue to co-operate with authorities in an ongoing effort to reach a fair and just resolution to this matter," Halperin said about the judge's order.

Federal authorities say five experts viewed the fossil on June 5, agreeing unanimously that the skeleton was a *Tyrannosaurus bataar* and almost certainly originated in the Nemegt Basin in Mongolia.

Tyrannosaurus bataars were first discovered in 1946 during a joint Soviet-Mongolian expedition to the Gobi Desert in the Mongolian Omnogovi Province. Since 1924, Mongolia has enacted laws declaring fossils to be the property of the government of Mongolia and criminalizing their export from the country.

SUPERB TYRANNOSAURUS SKELETON *Tyrannosaurus bataar*

Late Cretaceous Central Asia

The classification of the Tyrannosauridae family is somewhat convoluted, but even the least scientifically-inclined observer can see at once that the similarity between the fearsome *Tarbosaurus* (meaning "alarming lizard") and the famous *Tyrannosaurus rex*. *T. bataar* currently belongs in fact to its own tribe, *Tarbosaurinae*, within the *Tyrannosaurinae* subfamily, but many scientists support a reversion to its initial classification (in 1955) as *Tyrannosaurus bataar*. On the other hand, a 2003 paper proposed that the nearest relative of the *Tarbosaurus* was in fact another late Cretaceous Tyrannosaurid, the *Alioramus*; if true, this would suggest that two distinct Tyrannosaurine families evolved separately in both North America and Central Asia, over 70 million years ago. The *T. bataar* was marginally smaller than the *T. rex*, at 30-40 feet in length, but equipped with the same powerful jaws, monstrous teeth, powerful hind legs, and voracious appetite for prey. Like the *T. rex*, it also had remarkably short forelimbs, the shortest in relation to body-size of all dinosaurs. It ruled the food chain of the ancient floodplains that are today's Gobi Desert, thinking nothing of taking down the giant Titanosaurs with which it shared the ecosystem. There is evidence also that the *T. bataar* was not above scavenging, bite-marks on a hadrosaur *Saurolophus* discovered in 1995 suggesting that the carnivorous dinosaur carefully stripped muscle and flesh from a half-buried carcass. This is an incredible, complete skeleton, painstakingly excavated and prepared, and mounted in a dramatic, forward-leaning running pose. The quality of preservation is superb, with wonderful bone texture and delightfully mottled grayish bone color. In striking contrast are those deadly teeth, long and frightfully robust, in a warm woody brown color, the fearsome, bristling mouth and monstrous jaws leaving one in no doubt as to how the creature came to rule its food chain. Equally deadly and impressive are the large curving claws, with pronounced blood grooves. The body is 75% complete and the skull 80%, and it is mounted on a discreet gray-painted armature. Measuring 24 feet in length and standing 8 feet high, it is a stupendous, museum-quality specimen of one of the most emblematic dinosaurs ever to have stalked this Earth. Bone map and restoration details available upon request.

SALE CANCELED DUE TO PENDING LITIGATION OF OWNERSHIP DISPUTE

At out NJ State Museum for the summer. (See end of article for contact info)

July 11, 2012 Spin, Pop, Boom - Presented with Mad Science

This 45-minute presentation is designed to introduce science to elementary age children. In it, the Mad Scientist will use simple but exciting experiments and demonstrations to involve your group in the discovery process of science. Included in the event are experiments such as the "Growing Hand", "5 Test Tube Salute", the "Famous, Flaming Didgeridoo" and the "Fantastic Flying Foam Factory". There will also be some opportunity for members of the audience to participate in a few of the experiments

July 18, 2012 Billy B: The Science Song and Dance Man: The Rock-Knockin' Native Americans

A trained educator turned performer, Billy B. uses his original songs and choreography to teach children about science, ecology, and the environment. Through song and guided activities, Billy B. shows how pre-Columbian Native Americans used their Ingenuity to build wigwams out of plants, make tools from flint and trap wildlife for food. The audience joins in by mimicking animal sounds and practicing tracking movements.

July 25, 2012 Fire & Ice - Presented with Mad Science

This 45-minute presentation is designed to introduce science to elementary age children. In it, the Mad Scientist will use simple but exciting experiments and demonstrations to involve your group in the discovery process of science. Students will learn how to make a 'scientific hypothesis' and how to test that hypothesis using 'experimentation'. Included in the event will be experiments involving air pressure, flash paper, Eggbert, Bernoulli's Principle and dry ice. There will also be some opportunity for members of the audience to participate in a few of the experiments. The event is very visual and works well in front of any size crowd.

August 1, 2012 Patrick Garner's History's Alive: Houdini

A classic American success story! A son of poor immigrants, inspired by a borrowed book, dedicates himself to becoming the world's greatest magician! In an era before Television, Film, or the Internet, he became the world's first international superstar. Ask any child the name of the greatest magician of all time..."HOUDINI!" Grades: K - 8 & families.

August 8, 2012 Mad Science: Marvels of Motion

Come one, come all... to the Mad Science Physics Olympics! This interactive event is all about the FUN-damentals of moving science including Newton's 3 Laws of Motion and all sorts of surprises including dancing, chemically assisted football tossing, and even amazing "space-age" rocket packs. Children will have a chance to compete in wacky events, while the mad scientists prepare to unveil their top-secret motion machine. Come and discover the science behind some of your favorite Olympic sports and find out why this show is such a "blast!"

August 15, 2012 Circus Minimus: The One-Man Circus-in-a-Suitcase

Come one, come all... to the Mad Science Physics Olympics! This interactive event is all about the fun-damentals of moving science including Newton's 3 Laws of Motion and all sorts of surprises including dancing, chemically assisted football tossing, and even amazing "space-age" rocket packs. Children will have a chance to compete in wacky events, while the mad scientists prepare to unveil their top-secret motion machine. Come and discover the science behind some of your favorite Olympic sports and find out why this show is such a "blast!"

August 22, 2012 Up, Up and Away - Presented with Mad Science

This 45-minute presentation is a larger and flashier show than the 'Standard' show - perfect for the Museum's Auditorium. This event will capture the audiences' interest and show how exciting science can be. Included in the show are a variety of eye-popping demonstrations and experiments. There will be plenty of opportunity for hands-on audience participation in this event. Some of the topics and demonstrations include: the three states of matter; air pressure (using the Madgeburg Sphere); a Hot Air Balloon; the Mad Science Hovercraft; a giant size vortex generator; and finally the Big Sneeze demonstration. This show is visually exciting, has lots of audience participation and works well for medium to large size audiences.

Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 10 am to 4 pm Sunday Noon to 4 pm

Closed Monday and State Holidays 609-826-3936 friends.shop@sos.state.nj.us

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 2012</i> | President Ann Lynne Benson 856-783-0969 SeleniteQueen@gmail.com |
| 1 st Vice President | 2 nd Vice President |
| 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 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:

First Name: _____

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

Last Name (only if different from above)

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

First Name: _____

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

Last Name (only if different from above)

List additional members on another page if needed

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? _____

Other clubs you belong to _____

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? _____

How would you like to help us?

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc. (DVESS)

P.O. Box 372

Maple Shade, N.J. 08052

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

RET



URN SERVICE REQUESTED