

# DV ESScapades

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



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



**March 2013**

◇◇◇◇◇ our 57<sup>th</sup> year ◇◇◇◇◇

**Next Meeting:** March 13th, 2013

**Program:** DVD presentation on mining Crocoite in Tasmania

Bring some specimens to donate to our Junior Rockhounds program.

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

### Winter Weather Advisory

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



## President's Message: By Mark Leipert, President

Day light Savings Time starts on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Spring is almost here and that means it's time to start planning to go on field trips. We have a number of fossil and mineral trips planned once the weather gets a little warmer. Trips will include many of the following (dates and details to follow):

- Whale Back, Deer Lake, and Saint Clair
- Inversand
- Cornwall Furnace Museum and Indian Echo Caverns
- Big Brook
- Some oldie but goodies: Wheatly Mine, Ecton Mine and Upper New Street Quarry

Please mark your calendars for the following events:

- April 27<sup>th</sup> – Super Digg at Sterling Hill
- May 4<sup>th</sup> – Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum
- May 5<sup>th</sup> – Dino Day at Newark Museum
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – Bus Trip
- July 14<sup>th</sup> – DVESS Summer Picnic at Gerald's House
- September 21<sup>st</sup> – Sterling Hill Mine Club Tour
- October 13<sup>th</sup> – Annual Club Banquet at Mandarin Restaurant

I'd like to wish our first Vice-President, Ann Benson, on a speedy recovery from her rotator cuff surgery. She'll have her arm in a sling for about a month. After some rehab she'll be as good as new for our spring field collecting trips.

## Minutes of February General Meeting by Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary

### February 13, 2013

Meeting was held at Centenary UM Church in Berlin, NJ.

**Attendance:** AnnLynne Benson - 1st VP/Special Events Coordinator, Gary Weinstein - Treasurer/Program Chair, Grant Elliott - Recording Secretary, Mark Leipert - President/Field Trip Chair, Lance Schnatterly - Cyber Consultant ([facebook.com/DVESSNJ](https://www.facebook.com/DVESSNJ)), Mil LeCompte - Jr Rockhound Coordinator/Facilitator, and Susan Moore - Newsletter Editor ([aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com)).

Lou Detofsky- 2nd VP could not attend.

Stu Cleveland, Gerald Feigin, Amanda Lewis-Hartley, and Sue Vancola were also present.

President Mark Leipert gaveled commencement of the meeting at approximately 8:00 pm.

**Program:** Gary presented two Eastern Federation DVD's- Amber Hunters (Grant laid out 12 Dominican specimens to enhance the group's video experience) and Romania's Mines &

Minerals (The narrator's pronunciation command of Romanian locales and obscure minerals was amazing to this writer).

**Future Programs:**

March 2013 - DVD presentation on mining Crocoite in Tasmania.

April 2013 - Manny Robbins on Terlingua Type Calcite and its fluorescence/phosphorescence.

October 2013 (Approximately)- Lou will present a monumental treatise on the archeology and geology of the Mediterranean (Italy, Turkey, and Greece).

**Special Events/Field Trips:**

Our Junior Rockhounds teacher, Mil, is planning a teaching event for Archway students at our usual meeting location for Saturday, March 30, 2013. He requests your assistance and is particularly looking for people to help "man" several stations throughout the building which will deal with different topics.

If you feel you can participate, let him know no later than the Exec on Feb. 20th. Mel's entire proposal was discussed at the February meeting.

Field trip possibilities - In the winter months, the club likes to visit museums. We are planning to visit the Delaware Museum of Natural History, the Cornwall Iron Museum, the Mütter Museum, as well as the Prehistoric Museum in Greenwich Township, NJ. The Church bus may available for some of these events.

Have to prepare for our April 27th Sterling Hill Digg. This event gets bigger and better every year. We need volunteers to make it work. Contact Mil or Mark if you are interested in volunteering for various positions including registration, sales, membership, weighing in, set up /cleanup and site safety officers, etc.

Bus trip on April 20th to the American Museum of Natural History - \$61.00/person.

Saturday 5/4/2013 Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum. Need Volunteers to man table(s) to distribute DVESS brochures, promote earth science, and advertise the organization. Contact Mark or Ann for more details.

Dino Day at Newark Museum on 5/4/2013.

Another Lou Detofsky "Grand Tour" being planned for either June 15th or June 22nd.

July 14th Picnic at Gerald Feigin's house.

Sterling Hill Mine tour scheduled for September 21st.

October 13th (Tentative date) Banquet at Mandarin Buffet will feature Magician/Geologist/Professor Dr. Steve Okulowitz presentation.

Field trip in the spring at Bob Todd's house to peruse boxes of specimens.

Magician/geologist/professor Dr. Steve Okulowitz will lead an expedition to Staten Island in 2013.

Mark coordinating Secaucus, NJ “Field Station Dinosaurs” field trip to take place in spring 2013.

Jim Brennan offering a house (weekend overnighter) for a trip to St. Clair and beyond.

### **Other Business:**

2013 Annual dues are now being accepted. Amanda paid up for this year.

Winter Weather Advisory - in case of snow, the meeting will be CANCELLED if the Berlin

Schools are CLOSED. Listen for School Closing Number 579.

### **Future Executive Board meetings:**

February 20th - At Grant’s house in Williamstown.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.



## News

### **Curiosity Drills into Mars**

[Science@NASA Headline News — 2013](#)

In a milestone accomplishment, NASA's Curiosity rover has drilled into a rock on Mars and gathered material from its interior. This is the first time any robot has drilled into a rock to collect a sample on Mars.

### [A Possible Naked-eye Comet in March](#)

A comet falling in from the distant reaches of the solar system could become a naked-eye object in early March. This is Comet Pan-STARRS's first visit to the inner solar system, so surprises are possible as its virgin ices are exposed to intense solar heating for the first time.

### [Comet of the Century](#)

Another, even better comet is coming later this year. In Nov. 2013, Comet ISON could shine as brightly as a full Moon in broad daylight when it passes through the atmosphere of the sun.

### **Russian Meteor Not Associated With Asteroid 2012 DA14**

Jet Propulsion Laboratory

<http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?release=2013-061>

### **Graphic: Russian meteor impact explained**

<http://s.telegraph.co.uk/graphics/html/Years/2013/February/images/Meteor5.png>

## Websites of the Month

Sterling Hill Super Digg [www.UVworld.org](http://www.UVworld.org)

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

Eastern Federation <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>

Wildacres Spring 2013 workshops <http://efmls-wildacres.org/page2/index.html>

### Amber

<http://www.amnh.org/content/search?SearchText=amber&x=0&y=0>

### College Kids Get T. Rex Anatomy All Wrong

<http://news.yahoo.com/college-kids-t-rex-anatomy-wrong-235230591.html>

### Time-series of dome and glacier growth at Mount St. Helens, Washington, 2004-2012

The video shows time-lapse changes in the lava dome and Crater

Glacier. <http://gallery.usgs.gov/videos/627>



## Field Trips

April 27 – Sterling Mine Super Digg, 9 am–11 pm. Tour the Underground Mine, Upper Mine and Mill, Blackout Tour, Private Trotter Tunnel Tour; see nighttime illumination of the famous “Fluorescent Wall” in the Fill Quarry. Nothing – absolutely nothing – beats collecting fluorescent minerals at night - collect in all 3 collection areas on the property!!! ONLINE registration at [www.uvWorld.org](http://www.uvWorld.org)  
*YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE – separately* – if you wish to drop children off for the 2-hour beading session; these classes may be cancelled due to insufficient registration.

June 22 – Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – Bus Trip

## Shows and Events

### March

March 2–3 - Delaware Mineralogical Society at Delaware Technical & Community College, Newark, DE Exit 4B of I-95 (Southbound, it's the first right turn after you get off the ramp). Saturday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; Sunday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

March 9 - The Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA Micromount Show "Minerals under the Microscope" and mineral sales, Northminster Presbyterian Church, 140 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

March 9–10 - North Jersey Mineralogical Society's 24th Annual North Jersey Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show at: Pope John II Center, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ, March 9 & 10, 2013, 10 am – 5 pm. Door prizes, Refreshments, Free Specimens for all kids, All indoors, Free parking.

[www.nojms.webs.com](http://www.nojms.webs.com)

March 23–24 - Connecticut Valley Mineral Club's Western Massachusetts Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show (about 4 hours away) <http://www.westernmassmineralshow.com/>

### April

April 6–7 - Delaware Valley Paleontological Society & Philadelphia Mineralogical Society's 33 annual Fossil Fair; FREE Fossil Dig for children and a Kids Corner with FREE Mineral Specimens and Scouting Merit Badge Information; Food, Beverages, and Door Prizes! LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 <http://dvps.essentrix.net/>

April 13 - Spring Wildflower & Geology Hike, 10 am - 1 pm, Crystal Lake Park. A nature hike focusing on spring wildflowers with Park Naturalist Jen Bulava and geology of the site with USGS geologist Pierre Lacombe. Wear proper shoes for hiking. Trails are very steep in some sections & not recommended for inexperienced Hikers. **Registration required.** Call 609-265-5858. For park directions, go to [www.co.burlington.nj.us/parks](http://www.co.burlington.nj.us/parks)

### May

May 4 - Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum

May 4–5 - Treasures of the Earth 10th Annual Show and Sale sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of NE PA: Pittston PA. Minerals, Fossils, Crystals, Jewelry and Gems, free kids activities, door prizes, exhibits, classes, and demonstrations. Held at St Joseph Oblate Seminary 1880 Rt 315 Pittston, PA

### June

June 1–2, EASTERN FEDERATION CONVENTION Plainview, NY hosted by Rockhounds and Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club – more info to follow!

### Looking Ahead

July 14 – DVESS Summer Picnic at Gerald's House

September 21 – Sterling Hill Mine Club Tour

October 13 – Annual Club Banquet at Mandarin Restaurant

**2013 Super Science Saturdays at the Iron Hill Museum**, 1355 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark, DE  
19702 12:30pm – 3:00pm

March 9 – All About Birds

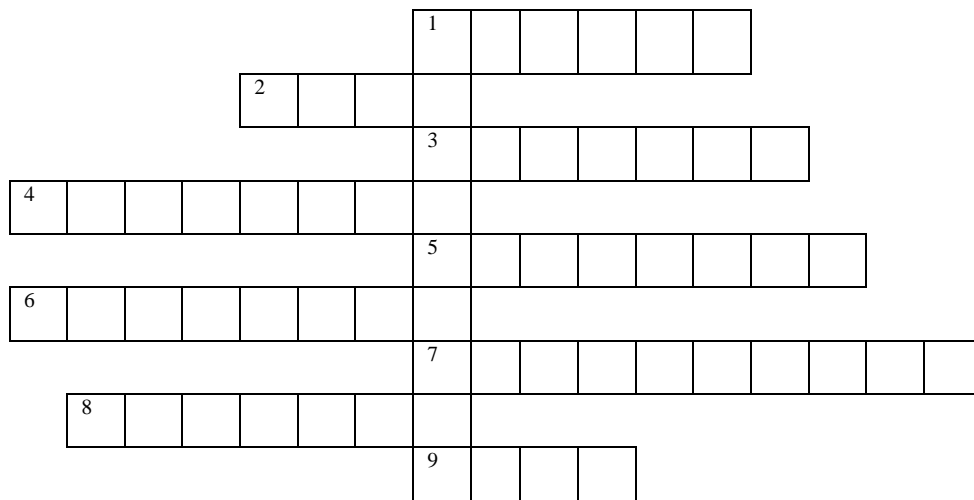
April 13 – All About Insects

May 11 – All About Archaeology

June 8 – All About Paleontology

Check out the Museum's calendar at [http://www.ironhill-museum.org/museum\\_calendar.htm](http://www.ironhill-museum.org/museum_calendar.htm)

## Puzzled?



### Across

1. Rock salt
2. Molten rock
3. Glacial hill
4. HgS
5. Natural glass
6. Fibrous minerals

7. Hard coal

8. Tableland

9. Atoll foundation

### Down

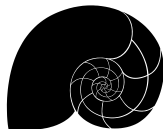
1. Local thunder-lizard

*Solution? Look below.*



## 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.



## Quote of the Month

"I have a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from the City College of New York, and my great contribution to the field of geology is that I never entered it upon graduation."

— *Colin Powell*



## 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

\$10.00 for Rowan University Students with College ID

### *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



## 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). How about some photos of your prized specimens or latest collecting trip? Share them with us!

## Solution

