

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



March 2016

CELEBRATING OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

Next Meeting: March 9th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: TBA

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

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**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by AnnLynne Benson

WHERE WERE YOU 31 years ago? On March 20, 1985 (as I recall) I attended my 3rd Executive Board meeting. It was a new and exciting experience! I had accidentally found people who shared my interest in rocks, and who were making it their business to see to it that I dug deep into the hobby. It wasn't all fun and games to them either; Alex Klinshaw and George Petreshock were two of my early mentors. They were very serious about collecting and cataloging the collections, teaching at the meetings and in the community, going to shows and sharing specimens. It was Doc Rock's enthusiasm for plate tectonics that made me decide to come back again after my first meeting. So here we are in 2016 – still collecting, still teaching and sharing, still mentoring the youth and the newcomers. The club is smaller; we aren't media-savvy enough to let the Delaware Valley know what a great deal we have going on here. But we keep on keeping on. We walk in the footsteps of giants.

WE RECEIVED an email from Jason Rehorst of the Virtual Museum of Geology: "Ann, Thanks for the great information about your geology club. I've added a New Jersey Page to the Club Directory on the Virtual Museum of Geology, and added your club to the directory along with a link to the club's website. I've also listed the event at the Sterling Hill Mine, and included a link to that website as well. Sounds like a great event and the fluorescent mineral samples in the pictures look very nice. I wish that I was closer to New Jersey for the event - would be nice to collect some fluorescent minerals for my personal collection :-). Thanks also for listing the Virtual Museum of Geology as the website of the month in your club newsletter for February. I greatly appreciate you advertising my website to your club members. When the newsletter comes out, please send me a copy for my records and so that I can post it on our FaceBook page. www.facebook.com/virtualmuseumofgeology

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH: www.virtualmuseumofgeology.com

March 5-6, 2016 - Newark, DE - The Delaware Mineralogical Society, Inc. will hold its 53rd Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show @ Delaware Technical and Community College 400 Stanton-Christiana Road; Newark, Delaware 19713 (@ I-95 Exit 4B). Hours Saturday are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday 11:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. The show features educational exhibits of mineral, lapidary and fossil specimens, displays from regional and university museums, a roster of fine dealers of minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry and lapidary supplies, door prizes, demonstrations of gem cutting and polishing and a children's table, where youngsters may purchase inexpensive mineral and fossil specimens. Admission is \$6.00, \$5.00 for seniors, \$4.00 for youngsters between 12 and 16, and free for children under 12 accompanied by an adult. The Delaware Mineralogical Society is a non-profit organization, affiliated with the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies, and dedicated to learning and teaching about the earth sciences, rocks, minerals, fossils and the lapidary arts. Membership is open to all who are interested in these areas. Info and **COUPONS** at www.delminsociety.org

March 12, 2016 – LEIDY MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY MICROMOUNT SHOW. See minerals under the microscope and micro mineral swap and sales. Northminster Presbyterian Church, 140 Trenton Road. Fairless Hills, PA. 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Information: John Ferrante 267-246-5548

March 19-20, 2016 - The 47th Annual Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club show will be held on March 19th (9-5) and 20th (10-4), 2016 . It will be held in the Athens Twp. Volunteer Fire Hall, 211 Herrick Ave., Sayre, PA. Contact Bob McGuire at 570-928-9238 or uvbob@epix.net.

April 2-3, 2016 - Plymouth Meeting, PA - 16th Annual Philadelphia Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair Organized by the Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and the Delaware Paleontological Society; Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 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. For more information: www.phillyrocks.org. Contact: Cheryl Leibold, cleibold@verizon.net.

THE STERLING SUPERDIG is nearly upon us. I have, in the past, tried to generate interest in volunteering by saying that if we don't get some new volunteers, the Dig will inevitably shut down; I have been asked not to repeat that warning by some who disagree with my position on the issue. But no one disagrees about this: **WE NEED VOLUTEERS**. We are all entitled to our opinions. From my vantage point, my *informed* opinion is that the handwriting is on the wall. When you're at Sterling, take a look at the volunteers: their number, their ages, and their degree of ability (or disability). Those volunteers make it possible for **you** to enjoy the Dig. Thirty-one years ago I enjoyed the blessings of youth; DVESS handed me wonderful opportunities, as if on a sterling plate and I showed my appreciation by giving back. I'm not enjoying much youth these days; my abilities are diminished. I need help. Will you help me by volunteering at the Super Dig? Will you offer that sterling plate to someone else? Please?

Field Trips

Here is a list of potential field trips:

March 5 & 6: Paleo-palooza at the Academy of Natural Sciences. 10:00 to 4:00 on Saturday and 10:00 to 5:00 on Sunday. Activities, exhibits and fossil sales.

March 19th: Petrified wood trip to Odessa, DE plus side trip to C & D Canal. Details at March meeting.

April 2 & 3: Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair at LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA. 10:00 to 5:00 on Saturday and 10:00 to 4:00 on Sunday. Speakers, activities, sales, fossil dig for kids.

April 23rd: Super Dig at Sterling Hill, NJ. We need all the volunteers we can get to set up and work the activities all day Saturday. Sign up to help at the March meeting. If you work at least two hours you get to collect without the entrance fee or the whole day and get the cost of our annual banquet for free.



Contact Mil or Mark if you want to volunteer.

May 7th: Fossil fern trip - not to St. Clair. Look for details in the coming months.

Thanks.

Mark Leipert, Field Trip Chair



News

Massive 404-Carat Diamond Discovered in Angola

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/massive-404-carat-diamond-discovered-angola/story?id=36975814>

Scientists discover major Jurassic fossil site in Argentina

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/scientists-discover-major-jurassic-fossil-argentina-224257135.html>



Websites

American Museum of Natural History - featuring exhibits on fossils, gems and minerals, meteorites, zoology, anthropology, space, and a planetarium.

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

Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University - a leading natural history museum dedicated to biodiversity and environmental science; home to more than 30 dinosaurs and other Mesozoic reptiles.

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

Franklin Mineral Museum

<http://www.franklinmineralmuseum.com/>

Sterling Hill Mining Museum

<http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/>

Quotes of the Month

"Change is the only constant." *Heraclitus*

"Rivers shift, oceans fall, and mountains drift." *R.E.M., "Feeling Gravity's Pull"*

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/>

44th Annual N.J. Earth Science Association Gem & Mineral Show with outdoor swap. April 23rd 9 am - 5:30 pm, swap opens at 8:00 am; April 24th, 10 am - 5 pm, swap opens at 9:00 am. Franklin School, 50 Washington Ave., Franklin, N.J. 07416. Donation: \$6.00 per person, children under 14 free with paying adult.

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/>



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 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.

