

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



November 2015

Next Meeting: November 11th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: Dr. Paul Grussenmeyer will show us some of his wonderful carvings made of stone, shell, bone, etc. and tell us how he does them. These pieces are phenomenal so do not miss the meeting. Bring some friends as it is not boring "rocks" this time.



December - our annual holiday party, gift exchange and elections. Bring a wrapped gift (value about \$10.00) and get a gift in exchange. Grant will supply an appropriate video. Gerald will supply the cold cuts and bread. Members are asked to bring a covered dish (salad, desert or food item). Show up or you might get elected.

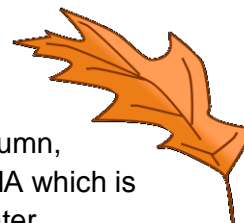
Future programs are in the works, stay tuned.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by AnnLynne Benson

The Holidays are Upon Us! I love Norman Rockwell Thanksgivings and Victorian Christmases. I love the aromas and gifts, family reunions and storytelling and above all, I love to see the children laughing and playing. As we move away from the black and orange of Halloween, past the burnt sienna of Autumn, the last local show of the year beckons: Tuscarora Lapidary Society's GEMARAMA which is being held Sat., Nov. 7, 10-6 pm & Nov. 8, 10-5 at a new location - HALL C, Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, 100 Station Avenue, Oaks, PA 19456, several miles north of King of Prussia, PA off Route 422. This year's theme is ROCKS IN THE USA. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$1 for children under 12 years of age. Discount coupon available at www.Lapidary.org



The **DVESS Holiday Party** will bring more festivities and more food! On Dec. 9 we will arrive at the usual meeting place, hopefully laden down with food and gifts. The club will provide sandwich fixings and paper goods; please bring a covered dish, appetizer, snack or dessert. The Gift Exchange is simple - bring a wrapped gift of about \$10 value and you will receive a wrapped gift (preferably hobby-related but please, no stones from the Wawa parking lot and no alcohol). Grant will provide an interesting DVD while we wait for Gary to arrive, then we will proceed with the ELECTIONS. The incumbents are all running - but this year Grant Elliott (our reluctant "Recording Secretary for Life") will face a challenger! This will be a nail-biter for sure! Don't miss it.

The **BANQUET**, which was held on Sunday, Oct. 25, went very well. We were at a new location - Sakura Spring in Cherry Hill. We had a large, private room with a huge 160" screen. Derek Yoost gave a very informative presentation on Martian Meteorites and brought half a dozen different types of meteorites for us to look at. The Silent Auction yielded \$77 for the club; we plan some innovations so that amount will be doubled next year. Everyone got a door prize; Mel and I were both very pleased with ours.

We know there are varying degrees of **PASSION & COMMITMENT** among our members, and that's perfectly natural and ok, but I would like to make a request. If you decide to take a leave of absence from meetings, or to move on with your life and simply not return, would you please let us know? We are a little community, or family if you will, and when one of our own disappears, we're concerned. If you can, please let us know what's going on with you. Did you not return because you, or someone in your family, got sick? Did you move away? Was it something that we said, or did, that displeased you? We need to know if we're doing something that works for "us" but not for our members.

My closing question is **DO YOU JUST BELONG?**

Are you an active member?

The kind who would be missed?

Or are you just contented
that your name is on the list.

Do you attend the meetings
and mingle with the flock?
One eye on the Speaker
and the other on the clock?

Do you take an active part
to help the work along?
Or are you satisfied to be
the one who just belongs?

Do you work on a committee?
there's surely one for you;
GET INVOLVED! or do you leave
the work to just a few?

Please come to the meetings often,
and help with hand and heart.
Don't be just a member
but **take an active part.**

Think this over, members,
you know what's right from wrong.
Are you an active member,
or do you just belong? (*Anon.*)

I wish you all a blessed and peaceful Thanksgiving. May *Meleagris gallopavo* lead you to the
collecting site of your dreams.



Field Trips:

November 14, Seven Stars: We will be joining our fellow brothers and sisters of the DVPS collecting bryozoans, coral, brachiopods and trilobites. We will be leaving at around 6:00 am. A sign up will be at the November meeting.



November 21, Sterling Hill Mining Museum: This is our free mining tour of the Sterling Hill Museum and mine tunnels at the facility. These are usual private tours and we going into areas that most people don't get a chance to visit. There will be a sign up sheet at the November meeting. You don't want to miss this one.

November 28, Odessa, DE: We will be joining the Calvert Museum club for a petrified wood location in a farmer's field in Odessa. This is the John Wolf memorial trip. Afterwards we plan on visiting a collecting site at the C&D Canal. There will be a sign up sheet at the November meeting. This was originally announced as a November 14th trip. Sorry, you must re-sign up.

Thanks,
Mark Leipert

News

Potentially biogenic carbon preserved in a 4.1 billion-year-old zircon

The carbon isotope ratio in graphite preserved in zircon may be evidence for the origin of life on Earth by 4.1 billion years ago. <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2015/10/14/1517557112.abstract>



Quote of the Month

"It was with unalloyed pleasure that I became aware that a vigorous earthquake was in progress." *G.K. Gilbert on the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.*

Banquet Photos

by Jim Brennan





Shows and Events

November

November 7-8: Tuscarora Lapidary Society's GEMARAMAm Sat. 10-6 pm & Sun., 10-5. HALL C, Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, 100 Station Avenue, Oaks, PA 19456. Admission \$6 for adults, \$1 for children under 12 years of age. Discount coupon available at www.Lapidary.org

November 7-8: Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter will hold its 2015 symposium for mineral collectors in Lancaster, PA, on November 7, with a field trip on November 8. The theme is "Recent Advances in Mineralogy: Pennsylvania and Universal Applications"

Michael Stefanic, PG: Phosphate Minerals in Pennsylvania

Bill Stephens, PG: Preliminary Evaluation of the Mount Pleasant Mills Wavellite Occurrence

Ron Sloto, PG: The Geology and Mineralogy of the Grace Mine

Ian Saginor, PhD: Volcanic Evolution of Central America

Stan Mertzman, PhD: Mineralogy of the Surface of Mars.

Mineral dealers, silent auction, give-away table, refreshments, and opportunities for visiting with fellow enthusiasts. More information at <http://www.rasloto.com/FM/>.

November 21: Annual tour of Sterling Hill Mine & Museum <http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/>

This year our tour will take place **Saturday, Nov. 21 at 1 pm**. You may go up to Sterling on your own, or carpool/caravan with other club members (we are looking into getting a 15 passenger van for the trip) leaving from our usual meeting place in Berlin.

You **must** register with Ann or Mark in order to go. Let us know if you plan to attend - if we register 15 people or more, we can have a private tour.

Contact Mark at mark.leipert@yahoo.com or Ann at SeleniteQueen@gmail.com

December

Academy of Natural Science of Drexel University **All Star Days** <http://www.ansp.org/>

December 26: Dino Day

December 27: Bug Day

December 28: Reptiles: the Beautiful and the Deadly Day

December 29: Fur, Feathers and Scales Day

December 30: Weird Things in Jars Day



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.

