

DVESSCAPADES

Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society – DVESS

Year 47, Volume #10

December 2004

*Meeting Place: Evergreen Avenue School
Woodbury, New Jersey*

Meeting Time: 7:30 PM, 2nd Wednesday of month

*Meeting Date: **December 8, 2004***



****Election of Officers****

Annual Holiday Party

Gift Exchange

Bring a wrapped \$10 gift.

Following the Meeting we will adjourn to:

**Hollywood U.S.A. Café & Diner
Route 45 & Elm Avenue
Woodbury Heights, NJ**

Junior Rockhounds

The Club will be providing holiday gifts. Your final exam for the year will be to identify your gift.

**Field Trip
Sat & Sun December 11 & 12 Flag Pond
Nature Park (Calvert Cliffs), MD
Marine Fossils**



American Federation
of
Mineralogical Societies



Eastern Federation
of
Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



Special Congress
Representing
Involved Bulletin Editors

DVESSCAPADES

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BACKGROUND

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. The Society supports the conservation of natural resources, advocates the availability of collecting sites, and maintains close contact with those in the academic field.

MEETINGS

The Society meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September through June, at the Evergreen Avenue School in Woodbury, New Jersey. At 7:30 pm members meet to socialize, view displays, sign the registry and receive a door-prize ticket, toward a specially chosen specimen. Meetings start promptly at 8:00 PM and include the evening’s program followed by the monthly business meeting, concluding around 10:00 PM. Meetings are open to the general public.

MEMBERSHIP

See the Membership Chairperson for an application for membership in the Society. Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities and to receive a newsletter when published. Sponsoring memberships are entitled to all of the above plus a specially chosen mineral specimen. Membership rates for the Society are:

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

Sponsoring Membership

<u>Level</u>	<u>1st Member</u>	+	<u>Additional Members</u>	=	<u>Receive</u>
“Silver”	\$50.00	+	\$5.00	=	Geode Specimen
“Gold”	\$75.00	+	\$5.00	=	Native Gold Specimen
“Platinum	\$100.00	+	\$5.00	=	Premium Specimen

Dues are renewable each year in January

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Inc., - DVESS
P.O.Box 372
Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052

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

EFMLS Website:
<http://www.AmFed.org/EFMLS>

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 editors.

To submit an article for publication in the DVESScapades contact the Newsletter Editor.

DVESS 2004 SPONSORS

Mr. Harvey Cantor – Platinum
Mr. Gerald Feigin – Platinum
Ms. Barbara Haulenbeek - Platinum

Evergreen Avenue School
160 N. Evergreen Ave.
Woodbury, N.J. 08096
Privilege to enter the school is limited to the night of the meeting between the hours of 7PM & 10PM under the direction of the school staff.
Permission from the school staff is required to enter the school at any other time.

DVESS 2004 Officers & Positions

President Special Events Coordinator

Ann Lynne Benson
(856) 783-0969

SeleniteQueen@comcast.net

1st Vice President Jr. Rockhound Coordinator Field Trip Coordinator

Gerald Feigin
gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us

2nd Vice President Lou Detofsky

Treasurer Program Chairperson

Gary Weinstein
(856) 234-0708 – Home
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Recording Secretary Grant Elliot (856) 728-1731 gle@bellatlantic.net

Corresponding Secretary Pat Carey

Sage Len Morgan George Petreshock

Newsletter Editor Chuck O’Loughlin ac.oloughlin@att.net (856) 663-1383

Membership Chair Librarian Stu Cleveland cleveland@rowan.edu

President's Message by Ann Lynne Benson

I hope you will be able to join us at the **December meeting** for our election, gift exchange and Holiday Party at Hollywood Diner on Rt. 45 in Woodbury Heights. Bring a wrapped gift of about \$10 value and you will receive a wrapped gift.

* * * Speaking of the **election**, it's not too late to throw your hat into the ring and take your place as a member of the Executive Board team.

* * * I would like to take this opportunity to **thank the members of the 2004 Executive Board** for their hard work this year. Each and every one you have played an important role in the stability and success of this organization and have helped to bring a year of fine field trips, programs, learning and fun to our members and visitors. Thanks also to our speakers and to Lorraine Campbell who has not allowed her move to Tennessee to prevent her from participating in a great number of monthly meetings and Executive Board meetings.

* * * The new **"Future Rockhounds of America"** merit badge program is now available for all juniors. There is a "Rockhound" badge, along with nine smaller badges for the following categories: 1. Rocks & Minerals, 2. Earth Resources, 3. Fossils, 4. Lapidary Arts, 5. Collecting, 6. Showmanship, 7. Communication, 8. Field Trips and 9. Leadership. You may download your own copy from the web at the AFMS web site www.amfed.org. These badges can be placed on backpacks, collecting totes, etc. They are colorful and unique to mineral collecting just for juniors.

* * * Mark your calendars for June 3 – 9, 2005 for the best early summer vacation you've ever had – at **Wildacres**. Situated on its own private mountain, just off the Blue-Ridge Parkway near Little Switzerland, NC (an hour north of Asheville), Wildacres offers one of the best views in the Blue Ridge just for a start – then there's the opportunity to learn more about your hobby, meet new friends who share common interests with you and learn a new skill (or refine an old one) in an idyllic setting for less than \$300 including room and board.

* * * The 2005 **EFMLS Convention** will be hosted by the Che-Hanna Rock & Mineral Club in Sayre, PA on March 18 – 20, 2005. Sayre is located east of Elmira, NY and West of Binghamton, NY. The show is held in the Athens Township Volunteer Fire Hall on Herrick Ave. in Sayre, PA.

* * * It's time for our Treasurer to write checks for **EFMLS insurance**. Is this the best deal in town or what? Eastern Federation dues are \$1.25 per voting member and EFMLS insurance premiums are \$3.160 per club member; EFMLS Accident Insurance is \$2.400 per club member. Without EFMLS Liability Insurance, many clubs and individual Federation members could not set foot on the majority of collecting sites, whether they are active quarries and mines, inactive but still commercially owned quarries and mines, or privately owned locations. EFMLS insurance gives the land owner extra peace of mind and protects our club against lawsuits for alleged and actual claims.

* * * Don't forget our **bus trip to New York City** to the American Museum of Natural History, Sat. Feb. 19, leaving Woodbury at 8:00 am and Cadbury on Rt. 38 in Cherry Hill at 8:30 am. Cost for the trip is \$20 for non-member adults, \$15 for member adults and \$10 for children.

WISHING ALL OF YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS, MERRY CHRISTMAS, HAPPY HANUKKAH AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

November 10, 2004 General Meeting Minutes by Grant Elliott

Ann Benson, President gaveled the meeting to order at 8:10 PM. In addition to Ann, officers and other Executive Board members present were Gary Weinstein- Treasurer-Programs, Gerald Feigin- 1st VP/Field Trips, Lou Detofsky- 2nd VP, Chuck O'Loughlin- Newsletter Editor, Stu Cleveland- Membership/Librarian, Terry Wilson- Website Coordinator, Len Morgan- Sage, and Grant Elliott- Recording Secretary.

Ann turned the meeting over to Gary who introduced our speaker, Jeri Jones. Jeri spoke on his favorite collecting sites in Southeastern Pennsylvania, which included Adams, York, and Lancaster counties. Jeri revealed sites that DVESS may be interested in visiting via field trips.

After Jeri's interesting presentation, the door prize, consisting of a Deweylite, Magnesite mineral specimen, was drawn. It was won by none other than "mineral newbie" Lou Detofsky. The business meeting commenced thereafter.

TREASURER: Annual Report fee (Non-profit Corporation) and insurance obligations have been paid. DVESS continues to be in a strong financial position.

PROGRAMS: The Christmas/Holiday gift exchange will take place in December- Guideline: About \$10.00 for adults. All are invited to the Hollywood Diner afterwards for good food and sharing of this past year's experiences.

FIELD TRIPS: December 11-12, 2004 Flag Pond Nature Park, Calvert County, Maryland to hunt fossils. This date coincides with the lowest tide of the year. Dress warmly.

Sunday, November 21, 2004 Sterling Hill Mine tour (Free) and collecting fluorescent minerals. Sterling Hill can accommodate up to 40 members. This is a benefit resulting from DVESS being a member and contributor. Members should not miss out on this world-class location.

Saturday, February 19, 2005 American Museum of Natural History, New York City, we have secured a 49 passenger bus. Don't miss out on this trip. Dinosaurs and space journeys await you.

MEMBERSHIP: Lisa Strickler and daughters joined our organization.

NEW BUSINESS: Bob Todd donated books, which were all sold. November 17th Executive Board meeting will take place at Gary's store, with Stu hosting. All members are invited- Incidentally, this would be a great time to take care of that special someone's gift for the holidays.

Stu made the motion to conclude the meeting. Ed Loveland seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 9:32 PM.

Club News

Holiday Gift Exchange

The gift exchange is voluntary. Give one/Get one. The gift should be limited to a value of \$10. The proprietor of Gary's Gem Garden in Cherry Hill, NJ has volunteered to assist you in selecting an appropriate gift if you are having trouble picking out one yourself.

Club News (Continued)

Junior Rockhound by Gerald Feigin

The Club will be providing holiday gifts for the Junior Rockhounds. There is one catch, as a final exam of our mineral identification classes, each junior will have to identify his or her gift in order to keep it. Now don't panic, the test will be open book and you will be able to avail yourself to the assistance of any of the experts present. Happy holidays to all.

Field Trips

Flag Pond Nature Park (Calvert Cliff) Maryland – Sat. & Sun. December 11 & 12, 2004

By Chuck O'Loughlin for Gerald Feigin

Flag Pond Nature Park is run by Calvert County Maryland Natural Resources Division. Miocene age fossils can be found along the shores of the park. The scheduled dates of the trip are to coincide with the lowest tides of the year at approximately 1 – 2 PM on both Saturday and Sunday. Despite the low tides, Gerald is recommending that you bring waders, if you are interested in getting to the better collecting areas. Additional recommended equipment includes a garden rake with hardware cloth (fiberglass screen door/window material). Gerald has confirmed that fossils can be found along the beach should you not have waders or desire to test the water temperature in December. Brochures will be available at the meeting or contact Gerald for more information.

Directions – Take I-95 south to the Baltimore Beltway (I-695). From the Beltway take Route 301 south to Route 4 south. Just 10 miles south of Prince Frederick, look for the sign and turn left to the Nature Park. Gerald suggests that we meet at the ranger station at noon each day. For those who plan to overnight, Gerald has indicated that several motels are located on Rt. 4 in Prince Frederick, MD.

Bus Trip to the American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY – Saturday February 19, 2005 by Chuck O'Loughlin

The Club will be sponsoring a bus trip to the big apple in February. The bus will be **leaving** the Evergreen Avenue School, Woodbury, NJ at 8:00 AM and **leaving** Cadbury, Route 38, Cherry Hill, NJ at 8:30 AM. We will be dropped off at the American Museum of Natural History at approximately 10:00 AM. The bus will pick us up at the Museum at 5:00 PM for the return trip. Prices for the trip are \$15 for members, \$10 for children and \$20 for non-members. For additional information contact Ann Benson at 856-783-0969 or at selenitequeen@comcast.net

Field Trip Report on DVESS Day at Sterling Hill Mine & Museum – Sunday November 21, 2004 by Chuck O'Loughlin

DVESS day at Sterling Hill Mining Museum was an outstanding success. Twenty-three members and friends attended for what turned out to be an excellent day of collecting and a fantastic tour of the Sterling Hill facilities. Those who tagged along behind Club Sage Len Morgan came home with some beautiful specimens (Len is the bloodhound of the rockhound set with a nose or eye for finding the good stuff).

Field Trips (Continued)

The mine and museum tour were spectacular, with the brothers Hauck educating and entertaining us with their insightful and witty comments. Dick and Bob Hauck are the founders of the Sterling Hill Mining Museum and on behalf of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society we thank them for their efforts in preserving this world class site and for making our visit special.

Annual Election of Officers by Chuck O'Loughlin

With only one exception, the current slate of officers has allowed themselves to be re-nominated for election. The nominations are still open and anyone who is interested in running for any of the Club officer positions need only to nominate himself or herself at the December meeting or express their interest by phone or e-mail to any of the existing officers.

The nominations for officers at this time are:

- President – Ann Benson
- 1st Vice President – Gerald Feigin
- 2nd Vice President – Lou Detofsky
- Treasurer – Gary Weinstein
- Recording Secretary – open
- Membership – Stu Cleveland

*******Help Wanted*******

Recording Secretary – Executive level position just waiting for that special take charge person. Numerous perks and benefits provided. Job requires only that you keep awake during the meetings and take notes. Minimal time required, the second and third Wednesday of each month September through June and a few minutes following each meeting to transcribe your notes. Interested candidates can expect an excellent opportunity for advancement, as the organization has an outstanding record of promoting from within. Do not miss out on this chance of a life time. No experience necessary, will train. DVESS is an equal opportunity volunteer organization.

Web Sites of Interest by Gary Weinstein

The Discovery Channel brings new discoveries of a meteorite field in Egypt, check it out.

<http://dsc.discovery.com/news/briefs/20041122/crater.html?ct=2092.50681175948>

Announcements by Ann Lynne Benson

We have received a message from Paul Mimlitsch (in Pennsylvania), husband of Myra, saying that she has passed away and thanking us for the years of sending her the newsletter, and her association with DVESS, which made her happy. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Mimlitch family. Myra will be greatly missed by her friends at DVESS.

Correction by Chuck O'Loughlin, Editor

In last months newsletter I gave credit to the wrong publisher for the issue of *Gold* donated to the Club. The correct publisher is Lapis International, LLC (www.lapisint.com). Thanks to Lapis for their generous gift. Information on ordering *Gold*, other back issues or subscribing to their publication is available at the front table at the monthly meeting.

Library by Stu Cleveland

The Club library is missing several books and magazines that were loaned but not returned. Please take this opportunity to check your bookshelves and coffee tables and return any of the Club's library material you might come across. The library is a wonderful benefit for our membership with an excellent catalogue of books and magazines that are not normally available at public libraries. Please make the effort to ensure that this valuable resource is available to all for years to come. Donations of new material for the library will also be appreciated.

Calendar of Shows and Events

January 29, 2005 - 37th Annual Rutgers University Geology Museum Open House, 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM, Scott Hall, 43 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ. Organized by the Friends of Rutgers Geology Museum, the program will feature lectures by Dr. Dennis Stanford, United States National Museum Smithsonian Institution, Department of Anthropology, on "A Radical New View of Prehistory: Who were the first humans to Populate North America?" and by Dr. Michael Carr, Rutgers University, Department of Geologic Sciences, on "Volcanism in Central America: Volcanoes, Sediments and Subduction". The open house also features rock and mineral identification and mineral sales. Additional information can be obtained by visiting the Museum's website www.geology.rutgers.edu/museum.html or by e-mail to rwselden@rci.rutgers.edu or by phoning the Museum at 732-932-7243

March 5 & 6, 2005 - 42nd Annual Earth Science Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the Delaware Mineralogical Society, Delaware Technical and Community College, I-95 exit 4B, Churchmans Road (Route 58) Newark (Stanton), DE.

March 12 & 13, 2005 - 16th Annual Clifton Gem and Mineral Show sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society, Pope John Paul II Elementary School, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ

March 18 – 20, 2005 - 36th Annual Che-Hanna Rock and Mineral Show and the 55th EFMLS Convention and Show, Athens Township Fire Hall, Sayre, PA.

Letters to the Editor

What is with all this election hoopla? After the first Tuesday in November I thought it was safe to watch TV or read my favorite newsletter without being subjected to more election news, but now it appears that I will be pestered through the second Wednesday in December. Why are we constantly talking and having to read about the election of officers especially since no one appears to be interested in running for office anyway and why do they always spoil the holiday party with an election? Signed Hanging Chad in Woodbury

Dear Chad, How naïve can you be? Every politician claims that they do not want to run for office but in reality they all crave the power. More importantly they believe that the world or in this case the Club would come to an end if they did not pick up the gauntlet and run for office. The grateful public/membership should therefore be willing to put up with a little bit of the self-congratulations that the political types insist upon heaping upon themselves in the process. It's the American way and what's good for America is good enough for DVESS. If we are lucky, it will all be over in another week. As to why the Club holds its elections in December I have been informed by an unreliable source that the secret Club By-Laws written by the founding fathers and mothers nearly half a century ago, and hidden in the Club's super secret treasury vault to which only the political elite are allowed access, provide that the elections can't be certified if enough members do not show up to vote. The elections would then be referred to the Club's Sages, who peer into a big smoky quartz crystal (also kept in the treasury vault) and the crystal reveals the identity of the new officers to the Sages. Those who hunger for power are afraid of that, because who knows what the Sages will see when they gaze into that smoky crystal (possibly you). So that's why the Club always holds the elections in conjunction with the holiday party, to make sure the turn out is large enough. So please turn out and participate in the election process, because if the Club has to resort to a smoky quartz crystal there will be no end to the controversy and conspiracy theories that I as your newsletter editor will have a duty to report to you for months to come. Signed the Editor

Membership by Chuck O'Loughlin

Now is time to renew your membership for 2005 in the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society. DVESS is a non-profit organization for people of all ages who share an interest in fossils, minerals, lapidary, geology and the earth sciences. Monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, September through June. Meetings start at 7:30 PM with socializing and a Junior Rockhound lesson, followed by the general meeting at 8:00 PM. There is typically a program at each monthly meeting which often features presentations by authors, geologist, world travelers or experts in fields of interest to our membership. Door prizes are awarded at each meeting.

Additional membership benefits include: Access to the Club's library. Electronic or postal delivery of the monthly newsletter DVESScapades. Field trips to museums, quarries and other fossil and mineral collecting sites including the world renowned Trotter dump in Franklin, NJ. Plus members enjoy many opportunities to meet and socialize at the Club's annual fall banquet, the December holiday party and the spring picnic.

Basic Membership: For a donation of \$15 individuals are entitled to membership in DVESS and able to participate in all club functions and all Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (EFMLS) functions.

Senior Membership: For a donation of \$10 seniors are entitled to all of the privileges of Basic Membership.

Additional Members: For a donation of \$5 for each additional member of the same household as the primary member, additional members are entitled to all of the privileges of Basic Membership.

Membership (continued)

Sponsor's Membership

Silver Membership: For a donation of \$50 individual are entitled to all of the privileges of the Basic Membership, as well as a special membership card and a specially selected geode specimen.

Gold Membership: For a donation of \$75 individuals are entitled to all of the privileges of Basic Membership, as well as a special membership card and a specially selected native gold specimen.

Platinum Membership: For a donation of \$100 individuals are entitled to all of the privileges of Basic Membership, as well as a special membership card and a specially selected premium specimen.

Membership Application

<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>Total</u>
Basic Membership	_____	\$15.00	_____
Senior Membership (65+)	_____	\$10.00	_____
Additional Members	_____	\$5.00 each	_____
Silver Membership	_____	\$50.00	_____
Gold Membership	_____	\$75.00	_____
Platinum Membership	_____	\$100.00	_____
Total			_____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Return the completed application at the meeting or by mail to DVESS, PO Box 372, Maple Shade, NJ 08052. Please make your check payable to DVESS. Thank you for your continuing support and have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year.

DVESScapades

The Newsletter of the

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

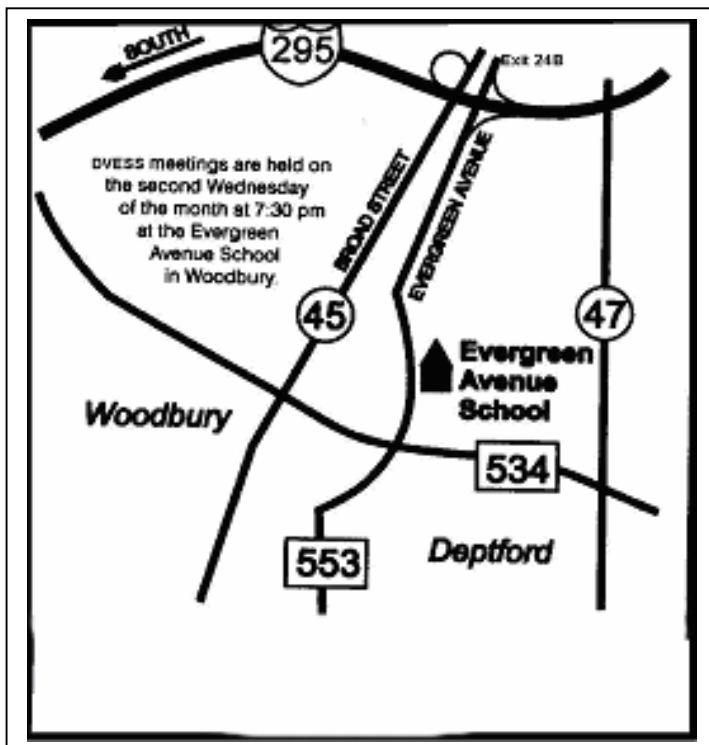
PO Box 372

Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052



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December 8, 2004

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