# **DVESS**CAPADES

Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society – DVESS

Year 48, Volume #8 October 2005

Meeting Place: Evergreen Avenue School Woodbury, New Jersey

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

Meeting Date: October 12, 2005



## <u>Main Program</u>

Bryan Clark will be our speaker. His topic will be "Dinosaur Fossils of the West".

## **Important Club Business**

Discussion on club's need for a new meeting location (see p. 8)

# Junior Rockhounds

In Professor **Gerald Feigin** absence, a guest lecturer will be presenting a surprise program

Important Junior Business Read Page 8 and let your club know what you want. It is your decision too.

Annual Banquet October 16, 2005 at the Winslow Family Dinner & Restaurant, Williamstown Road, Sicklerville, NJ 2PM – 6PM

An Important Message Regarding Your Clubs Future Is \*\*\*\*\*On Page 8, Please Read \*\*\*\*\*



American Federation of Mineralogical Societies



Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors

# **DVESS**CAPADES

Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society – DVESS

### **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.

### <u>MEETINGS</u>

The Society meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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:

### <u>Regular Membership</u>

15.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> family member + 5.00 for each family member 10.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Senior (65+) member + 5.00 for each family member

### Sponsoring Membership

Level	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Member</u>	+	Additional Members	=	<b>Receive</b>
"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: <u>http://www.dvess.org</u>

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 2005 SPONSORS**

Harvey Cantor – Platinum Gerald Feigin – Platinum Barbara Haulenbeek - Silver

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 2005 Officers & Positions

President Special Events <u>Coordinator</u> Ann Lynne Benson (856) 783-0969 SeleniteQueen@comcast.net

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</u> <u>Jr. Rockhound Coordinator</u> <u>Field Trip Coordinator</u> *Gerald Feigin* <u>gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us</u>

> <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</u> Lou Detofsky

## <u>Treasurer</u>

Program Chairperson Gary Weinstein (856) 234-0708 – Home (856) 795-5077 – Work garyskyrock@comcast.net

#### Website Coordinator Terry Wilson (609) 714-1309

#### **Recording Secretary**

Open Grant Elliot(acting) (856) 728-1731 gle@verizion.net

### Sage

Len Morgan George Petreshock

### **Newsletter Editor**

**Corresponding Secretary** 

Membership Chair Chuck O'Loughlin (856) 663-1383

> <u>Librarian</u> open

## President's Message by Ann Benson

October is Leadership Month. This is the month when club members begin contemplating who they wish to nominate for Executive Board positions and pondering whether they would consider nominating themselves (a practice which is greatly encouraged). For you new members: November is when the slate is actually nominated and elections take place at the December meeting.

If you have read any of Mr. Butterstone's writing on the subject, you may have gained a somewhat distorted idea of what is actually involved. I shall forthwith attempt to rectify any misconceptions.

DVESS held its first meeting in February of 1956 and was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey on Nov. 7, 1957. Only one of the charter members is active in the club today – Mr. Leonard Morgan who held the position of  $2^{nd}$  Vice President in the club's first year of existence.

What does it mean to be a leader? What does it take? Obviously it takes commitment, but not necessarily a whole lot of time. While our general meeting takes place the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, September through June, the Executive Board meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month, August through May and includes snack and dessert (usually dinner, too) plus you may have the opportunity to view the host's collection. The term of office is one year (a mere 10 meetings).

A spirit of cooperation is important. Our nation's culture, unlike many others throughout the world, has elevated the individual far above the community. Seemingly everything in our culture is about and for the individual. Working as part of a team means setting aside personal goals to work for the stated goals of the group. When working with others toward a common goal, we need to submit ourselves to our joint vision for the club. Because we have the same goals, as stated in our Constitution and By-Laws, the Executive Board has experienced very little difficulty in this regard in the 15 or more years that I have served in various capacities.

It is essential that Board members be guided by the principle of Unity. The Board is like a big seesaw; it operates by achieving balance. We need to guard against any member putting his/her personal agenda above those of the club thereby tipping the whole thing over and sending everyone flying.

A sense of humility helps, too. Are we always perfect in the ideas we dream up? No. Do our plans sometimes go awry? You bet. Two notables are the time the Program Chair ordered a film from the Eastern Federation and received a cartoon, and the time we rented a 45-passenger bus to go to Harrisburg for the annual Eastern Federation show and only nine people actually made the trip! You just gotta laugh.

Oh yes, another invaluable quality is a sense of humor. If you don't have much of one, don't worry; automatic acquisition will be a fringe benefit of membership on the Board. TV comedians could take notes from our current board members. Why? I couldn't really say – you'd just have to come and find out for yourself. I guess we just don't take ourselves too seriously.

What exactly is it about membership on our Executive Board meetings that's so appealing? Ask Lorraine Campbell, who arrived an hour late for an Exec meeting just a few months ago. As she took her seat, she quipped, "Well, I learned something today. In order to get here on time, I need to leave home BEFORE 3 am." Lorraine now lives in Tennessee.

You and you alone know how much this club means to you, your availability to attend meetings, and your level of willingness to participate. If you think you can squeeze a little more fun into your life, nominate yourself or accept a nomination. Think about it.

If there is a "down side" to serving on this Board, I have failed to detect it in nearly two decades of committed (if sporadic) participation. Neither has our Sage, Len Morgan, who faithfully attends every meeting, as he has done for the past 49 years.

## September 14, 2005 General Meeting Minutes

by Gary Weinstein acting for Grant Elliott, Acting Recording Secretary for Life

Editor's note: Mr. Weinstein neglected to submit the official minutes for the September meeting, therefore I was forced to turn to our good friend Butterstone to summarize the events of the fateful evening.

Unofficial minutes for the September 14, 2005 general meeting by Thaddeus Butterstone acting for G. Weinstein, who was acting for G. Elliot, Acting Recording Secretary for Life

Arriving at the Evergreen Avenue School at the appointed time of 7:30PM my traveling companions and I were surprised that so few motorized conveyances were in the parking lot. As we parked and began to exit our horseless carriage, we were accosted by Madam President who informed us that the meeting location had been moved to the local YMCA. (Imagine my surprise when I discovered that "YMCA" is actually something more than just a song performed by the Village People.) We were told that there was a problem with the school but that Mel had made arrangements for us at the "Y". (A well placed source has informed us that Mel is apparently an alias, his actual name is Mil. His parents apparently were fans of political types and decided to name him after either Millard Fillmore of Millicent Fenwick. My source did mention who he was named after, but I was already fixated on why he had changed the I to an E and had dropped an L and missed that insignificant detail. I suppose that since Fenwick was a NJ politician, Millicent is the actual name, but alas I digress so back to the real story.)

Due the unexpected change of venue, the evening events got of to a slow start. The Junior program began at 8PM presented by Mel (or should I say Millicent LaCompte) and was an excellent program that featured a flat of different minerals and a table of everyday house hold items with the participants having to match the minerals to the manufactured products that they had been turned into.

At approximately 8:30PM Madam President called the meeting to order. While the membership wanted to talk about the meeting location problem, the club leadership (I use the term lightly) wishing to avoid the inevitable discussion of their incompetence insisted that we sit through the usual boring reports from the various departments. Eventually they could no longer avoid the topic and the spokesperson for the current administration presented a woeful tale of how it was not the leadership fault, etc., placing all blame on Woodbury board of Education. After blabbering on for what seemed like an eternity without ever addressing the issues, the best we could get out of them was the promise that the "Executive Board" would look into the mater. At that point they were saved by the manager of the "Y", who stuck his head in the door to tell us they closed at 9:30PM and we had 5 minutes to clear out. The meeting adjourned at 9:30PM.

## Junior Rockhound News by Gerald Feigin

Prior commitments will prevent me from being at the October meeting, but a guest lecturer will be presenting an exciting program in my place. Thank to Mel LaCompte for pitch hitting for me at the September meeting. I understand that his program, "Minerals what are they good for?" was quite the hit with the juniors and regular members in attendance. I am looking forward to November when I will finally have the opportunity to see you all. At that time I hope to present an exciting program on glaciers and related minerals.

## Programs by Gary Weinstein

Our October meeting program will feature Mr. Bryan Clark of Philadelphia. His topic will be "Dinosaur Fossils of the West". Having just returned from another exciting excursion to the badlands, DVESS will be some of the first to see his new finds. Don't miss this opportunity to see, firsthand, Tricerotops, T-Rex, Paclysephlopod, Croc teeth, claws and bones, as well as other remains which have been buried for years.

Programs (continued)

The program for the October 16<sup>th</sup> banquet will be "Rockin' Around the World" presented by Ray Kucklinca. Please join Ray for a field trip around the globe. Learn about interesting places to collect rock and other samples from far away Australia to right here in the USA in copper country Michigan. Mr. Kucklinca's credentials include; a B.S. in Geology from Hofstra University, Captain US Army Corp of Engineers, Earth Science Teacher, Coach Mens Varsity Soccer and Womens Varsity Softball at Moorestown HS.

November's meeting program will feature our own Dr. Lou Detosky speaking on the geology and volcanism of Costa Rica and its environs. Mr. Detosky is the Second VP of our club, a professor at Rowan University and a daredevil world traveler who thinks nothing of climbing into the caldera of an active volcano in the name of science.

December's meeting program will be our holiday gift exchange and party.

## Upcoming Field Trips by Chuck O'Loughlin (856-663-1383)

**October 15, 2005 an afternoon and evening in Ogdensburg, NJ area** 2:30PM - 5:30PM explore the Edison Mine Complex on Sparta Mountain (magnetite, apatite, calcopyrite [some fluorescent minerals]) led by yours truly followed by night collecting at the Sterling Hill Mining Museum Complex 6:30PM – 9PM. Meet your trip leader at the Sterling Hill Museum parking lot before 2:30PM for the afternoon trip and before 6:25PM for the evening trip. The night collecting at Sterling Hill is for Foundation members only. DVESS and its members qualify, however, in order to take advantage you must meet up with me as we have to go in together on our club card. If you want to collect at night you must meet me in the SH Museum parking lot by 6:25PM at the latest. Directions – NJ Turnpike north to exit 10. Follow I-287 north to I-80 west, to Rt. 15 north, to Rt. 517 north to Ogdensburg. In Ogdensburg follow the signs for the Sterling Hill Mining Museum.

**October 30, 2005 exploring the Wissahickon Valley, Philadelphia, PA** 10AM – 2PM. Meet at the Belles Mill Road parking area on Belles Mill Road between Ridge Avenue and the creek. I will be leading the trip unless I can get a more knowledgeable volunteer. We will be searching for garnets, strouilite and whatever else is available. Directions – I-76 west (Schuylkill Expressway to the Belmont Avenue Exit. At the end of the ramp make a right turn and follow Belmont Ave. all the way to Ridge Ave. Make a left onto Ridge and follow that to Belle Mills Rd. Turn right onto Belle Mills Rd and follow to parking area on right side of road (parking area is just before crossing creek).

November Field trips are still in the planning stages. If you are interested in getting out into the field set aside the weekend of November 12 and 13, 2005. It most likely will be only one of those days but at this time plans are not set. Watch for additional details in next month's newsletter.

**December 4, 2005 fossil collecting at the PCS Phosphate open mine in Aurora, NC.** DVESS was very fortunate to get 10 slots for the fall collecting season. Two sets of two tickets will be given away as a prize to lucky members attending the banquet on October 16, 2005. The remaining three sets of two tickets each will be awarded based on a drawing. To enter please mail a post card or 3" by 5" index card with your name and the words Aurora, NC to the clubs PO Box. If you have never been to Aurora before please put the words "first time" on your post card, as two slots will be reserved for first timers. Only members in good standing are eligible. Post cards or envelopes must be postmarked before October 30, 2005. Please do not enter if you will not be able to make the trip.

**December 11, 2005 DVESS day at Sterling Hill Mining Museum** 10AM – 4PM. The Clubs membership in the Sterling Hill Mining Museum allows us an annual tour of the mine and museum and a day of collecting. We will be doing the mine tour first this year to make sure that you don't miss the mine tour, arrive by 10AM. Collecting in the quarries and mine run area is available following the tour for anyone who is interested.

## Field Trip Report by Thomas Anderson

On the 25th of September, several members of the DVESS went on a field trip to the Meckley quarry open house in western Pennsylvania. Dr. Ed Goebels of Philadelphia went with us and shared his expertise on the minerals in the quarry. The quarry mines limestone but there are celestite crystals and strontium minerals embedded in the matrix. A few strontianite were found but many more celestite crystals were discovered. The celestite crystals form in pockets inside the limestone called vugs. Sometimes these pockets are visible on the sides of a boulder and it is possible to extract them from the matrix (limestone). However the bluish celestite crystals are sensitive to UV light and will fade under direct sunlight.

The DVESS members attending were: Chuck O'Loughlin, Mark Anderson, Matthew Anderson, Thomas Anderson, David Anderson, Daniel Anderson, Richard Wilke and Thaddeus Butterstone.

Editor's note: An excellent report from one of our junior reporters. Mr. Anderson is far to kind in his report. He tactfully forgot to mention that O'Loughlin mistook his hand for a large bolder and wacked it good with a crack hammer. Or that O'Loughlin insisted on trying to find another collecting site after we left Meckley's and led us on a wild goose chase through the mountains of PA. Or that he almost ran the car off the road several times when he failed to negotiate the sharp switchbacks. Poor Dr. Ed who had a flat of specimens on his lap due the crowded nature of the car was in danger of loosing the use of his legs each time O'Loughlin threw the car into one of those high speed violent twists and turns. As a result of the unproductive detour and the erratic driving it was a very late night before we were all tucked safely into our beds, amen.

Calendar of Shows and Events compiled by Chuck O'Loughlin from various sources

**Oct. 28-30, Philadelphia, PA - Women's Committee of the Penn Museum.** Treasures: From the Silk Road to the Santa Fe Trail. Preview on Oct. 27. University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, 3260 South St. (Penn Campus). 215-898-9213, treasures@museum.upenn.edu, www.museum.upenn.edu.

**Oct. 29, Fairless Hills, PA – Lower Bucks Rock & Min. Club.** Ultraviolation fluorescent mineral show. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Rd., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Ralph Thomas, 215-295-9730

**Nov. 5-6, Media, PA – Friends of Mineralogy PA Chapter.** Fall Symposium "Classic Eastern Localities II" Delaware County Institute of Science, 11 Veterans Square. Arnold Mogel, 15 Oak Rd, Schuylkyll Haven, PA <u>pioche@losch.net</u>

Nov. 5-6, Exton, PA - Tuscarora Lapidary Society. 36th Annual Gemarama. CFS School at Church Farm, Business Rte. 30 & Rte. 202. 5th, 10-6; 6th, 10-5. Nancy Marks, 570-342-1355, <u>www.lapidary.org</u>.

**Nov. 18-20, Pittsburgh, PA - Carnegie Museum of Natural History**. Gem and Mineral Show. 412-622-3131, <u>www.carnegiemuseums.org/cmnh/minerals/gemshow</u>.

Nov. 19-20, Montvale, NJ - 2005 Pascack Show. 15th Annual Show. Pascack Hills High School, Grand Ave. & Spring Valley Rd. 19th, 10-5; 20th, 10-4. 201-262-2726, <u>somthg@bellatlantic.net</u>.

Additional shows and events are listed on the Eastern Federations Web site www.afms/efmls

## **Articles & Items of Interest**

November is an excellent time to renew your membership for next year. Get it off your mind now before the holiday/end of year stress causes you to forget. (*Note from the Membership Chair to Jane Borquin, please disregard the preceding message as you paid your dues three times last year and are good through 2007.*)

### JUNIOR ROCKHOUNDS submitted by Ann Benson

What are Juniors doing elsewhere in the country? Alaura Ann Barnes of Kansas City Missouri entered a display in this year's Midwest/AFMS Show and Convention in St. Louis and won the Lillian Turner Award.

Alaura is six-years old and her display was entitled "Quartz I Collected"; it included a picture of her on a field trip hunting crystals. She won a certificate, a \$100 bond, a split geode lined with crystals. Perhaps even more important is the honor and recognition of receiving the award and the pride it engendered for this young girl for a job well done in planning and assembling an excellent display.

Lillian Turner generously donated funds to support an award for the Outstanding Junior who exhibits at the annual AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies) show.

### FOSSIL EXHIBIT AND PRESENTATION submitted by Ann Benson

Our own President and Selenite Queen, Ann Benson, will be presenting a program on fossils twice in the upcoming weeks. On October 28, there will be a presentation at Parvin State Park for the Vineland Nature Club and on Nov. 11 the same presentation will be given to the Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County (PA). You are welcome to attend either event.

### **NEWSLETTER OPPORTUNITIES**

DVESS is a member club of EFMLS (the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies) which, in turn, is a division of the AFMS (American Federation of Mineralogical Societies). In the same way that DVESS has a newsletter (DVESScapades), AFMS also has a newsletter (A.F.M.S. Newsletter); anyone can subscribe to this newsletter for a small fee.

Through their newsletter, the American Federation keeps the member clubs up-to-date on what's going on around the country. One of the highlights of the annual AFMS convention is the Editor's Breakfast when awards are distributed in various categories including: new editors, mini bulletins, small bulletins, large bulletins, original articles, advanced adult articles, Junior articles (author under age 12), Junior articles (author age 12-17), poetry-Junior and poetry-adult. Hopefully you can see some opportunities in this list for you to submit something that might win you a prize.

The entry form for the All-American Club Award gives us some hints about things we could do to grow our club: special group meetings (e.g., mineral or fossil study, etc. – one time we made boxes to hold specimens), meeting notice posted in public places or published in local media, members gave talks or demonstrations at local schools or to local groups, members maintained displays at local public site or had a booth or activity at a local event, material donated to a school or nursing home, members contacted congressional representatives regarding legislation affecting access to sites and collecting from same.

We have an opportunity to enter this contest for the year 2005, but even if we don't this should still give us "food for thought". Also, it is possible to purchase a booklet compiling the winning articles and poems from the 2005 Editor's Contest; this contains a wealth of good material for **our** newsletter or for your own personal reading. Send \$6 payable to "Kitty Starbuck" at 7636 East V Ave., Vicksburg, MI 49097 (includes postage and **must be received <u>before</u> Oct. 15**).

### ROCKHOUND STICKERS submitted by Ann Benson

Dress up your envelopes with bright yellow 1" round stickers bearing a picture of a rock hammer and the word "ROCKHOUND". Price is \$3 per 100 stickers plus postage (60 cents for 300 stickers). Send check payable to "Ye Old Timers" to Richard Pankey, 4310 Kingsley Dr., Pittsburg, CA 94565-6267. Specify that you want the 1" stickers and

include your name and address. These are great for correspondence to Congress or our own state Legislature for all matters dealing with our collecting future.

## ANOTHER COMMENT ON INTELLIGENT DESIGN submitted by Ann Benson

Three engineering students were discussing whether the human body could be a product of evolution or intelligent design. One said, "It must have been designed by a mechanical engineer – just look at all the joints!" Another said, "No, it had to have been an electrical engineer. The nervous system has thousands of electrical connections." The last one quipped, "It was more likely a civil engineer. Who else would run a toxic waste pipeline through a recreational area?"

Old & New Club Business by Gary Weinstein

## END OF AN ERA OR NEW MEETING LOCATION NEEDED

Well it has finally happened. After all these years meeting in the Evergreen Ave. School for free, we find ourselves facing a new millennium. The school board has decided to now charge outside groups for the use of the building. The gym costs \$100.00, the Library - \$75.00 and a classroom is \$20.00 PER NIGHT! Your club executive board has voted to sign up for the rest of 2005 in a classroom. We will be using the Art room so look for it when you arrive at the school. We are in the process of finding a new meeting place which will not cost the club. Many possibilities were discussed including; churches, municipal buildings, development clubhouses, libraries, colleges and other public buildings. We first eliminate the ones which charge for their use, then the ones not open late and the ones already booked solid. Terry has a good place near her in Medford Lakes and we are looking into Rowan University. I have spoken to the person in charge of the rooms available at the Kennedy Hospital, Church Rd. and Cooper Landing Rd. in Cherry Hill. We could have meetings there, but only if we were willing to change our meeting night as they are booked for Wednesdays in all their rooms. The auditorium (seats 50) is available on the first Thursdays and the private dining room is open on the second Fridays. It would seat 20 but be a squeeze for 30. The drawback to changing our meeting date is that so many members are used to having them on the second Wednesday. The benefit of changing to a different day of the week, besides the obvious cost, could be that junior members could stay up when it is not a school night for them (Friday). Another benefit of moving our place is that we could have meetings through the summer months, allowing more programs and more opportunities for field trips.

It is necessary that all members contact the executive board to voice their preferences. WE NEED YOUR INPUT. We could also use the memberships help with finding other possible alternate meeting places. After all, it is your club and your assistance and feedback is important.

We are also in need of a place to store the club cabinet. It might be a short or long term need.

Tell us what you think. Find our email, snail-mail and phone numbers in the bulletin.

## Annual Banquet by Chuck O'Loughlin

The club will be holding its annual fall banquet on Sunday October 16, 2005 at the Winslow Family Diner and Restaurant, (856-875-4700) 491 Williamstown Rd., Sicklerville, NJ 08081 2 - 6 pm. The banquet will consist of a sit-down, served meal (not a buffet). Diners may choose one of the following: chicken parmesan or fried or broiled flounder or stuffed shells or manicotti, accompanied by soup or salad, pasta or vegetable, beverage and dessert. Children will be able to order off the children's menu. The club will be subsidizing the cost in order to make the event affordable for all especially those with children, \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. There will be some wonderful door prizes for all and plenty of beautiful minerals, fossils and other items of interest offered at the silent auction/Chinese auction or however they plan to do it this year.

We are very fortunate to have as our guest speaker Ray Kucklinca, who will be doing a multi media presentation titled "Rockin' Around the World", a chronicle of his collecting trips to many diverse locations.

The Club's banquets, pot lucks and picnics are outstanding opportunities to get to know your fellow club members and best of all they are family friendly, so be sure to bring the kids. Afraid they will get bored? Pack a hacky sack or Frisbee as there is ample safe space near the diner for kids to have fun while the adults are yakking away. Directions – the Dinner is on Williamstown Rd. (Rt. 536 Spur) between Sicklerville Rd. and Erial Rd. From Rt. 42 south turn onto Williamstown Rd. at Geets Dinner (where Rt. 322 joins up with Rt. 42). From Rt. 73 south take the exit for Rt. 536 Spur (through Tansboro to Sicklerville). From the Atlantic City Expressway take the exit for Rt. 536 Spur (Williamstown/Sicklerville) north to the Dinner.

## Letter to the Editor

In regard to Rodinia's editorial in the last issue and as a fervent Occamist I feel compelled to write this reply, despite the fact that it would be simpler not to.

Your conclusion about the complications of all modern devices is based on a wrong view. All those devices actually make life easier and that's why they were invented. It's a whole lot simpler to watch a DVD at home than to go to the theater. I also don't think many people would argue with the fact that it's a whole lot simpler to drive a car to town than to harness, feed, and ride a horse. Similarly, although the water system in a house may seem complicated, would you rather go back to hauling buckets of water from a well two or three times a day? I seriously doubt it.

We Occamists would like you to carefully consider everything that is said by those obviously prejudiced followers of Butterstone and Rodinia, and realize that they are simply trying to steer you onto a road of deception. If more people were simplicity-loving Occamists there would be fewer wars since wars are unnecessarily complex.

As for your talk of "deprogramming", are we deceived? All the great inventors were Occamists except for Charles Babbage, Einstein, and Thomas Edison (he stole an invention and we Occamists would never do such a complicated and debased thing). Are you saying that the Wright brothers were deceived? You don't like flying? I hope not, because if you are saying that, it shows how backward Butterstone et al have already become and why Occamists should be put on a pedestal instead of being placed with the dregs of society. Here's to the simple things of life!

### Nosredna Ekim

This appears to be pick on Butterstone month not only has Mr. Ekim taken his shot but Madam President took hers as well. Well those of you who know Butterstone know that he does not get mad, but he does get even.

(I am intrigued by peoples names so I researched the above name in Butterstone's Global Dictionary Nos-red-naEk-im is old Norse slang for an individual from the backwoods who has a preference for living in mobil homes (probably a tent made of hides) and stores their surplus wagons and carts on stone blocks to save the wheels from rot.

Madam President has requested that we begin each meeting for the balance of her reign with a song. Please clip out the words below and bring them to the next meeting. Sung to the tune of "God Bless America".

God save our gracious Queen
Long live our noble Queen,
God save the Queen:
Send her victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us:
God save the Queen.

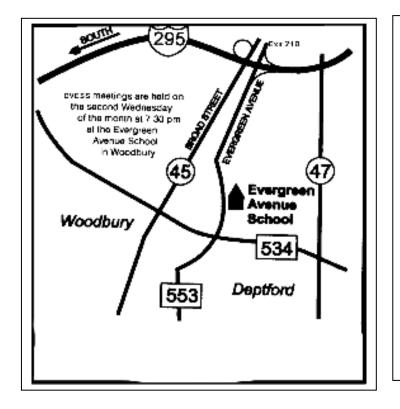
- O Lord, our God, arise, Scatter thine enemies, And make them fall: Confound their politics, Frustrate their knavish tricks, On thee our hopes we fix: God save us all.
- Thy choicest gifts in store, On her be pleased to pour; Long may she reign: May she defend our laws, And ever give us cause To sing with heart and voice God save the Queen.

The Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society PO Box 372 Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052



## **DVESS***capades*

## October 2005



## **This Month's Meeting:**

October 12, 2005

## **Main Program**

Bryan Clark will be our speaker. His topic will be "Dinosaur Fossils of the West".

## Junior Rockhounds

????? - Come out and be surprised