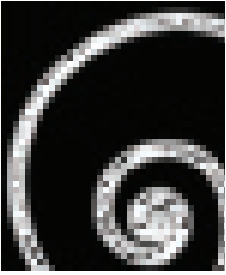


# Penn Dixie Chronicle



A newsletter of the  
**Penn Dixie Paleontological Outdoor Education Center**  
Hamburg Natural History Society



November/December 2015

Founded to  
Protect and Promote Education  
about our Natural Resources

Volume 23, No.6

## **PHIL STOKES HIRED AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE PENN DIXIE SITE**



***Phil Stokes, new Executive Director for the HNHS/Penn Dixie Site in Hamburg, NY.***

The Hamburg Natural History Society/Penn Dixie Board conducted a search for a new Executive Director to replace Jerry Bastedo who served in this position for almost 13 years and previously as a co-founder and first President of the HNHS. After a national search and interviews, Phil Stokes, who grew up in WNY and completed his undergraduate and master's degrees at SUNY at Buffalo Geology Department and is completing his PH.D. in Geosciences with a minor in Teaching and Teacher Education at the University of Arizona in Tucson, has accepted the Executive Director position.

Phil will be working with Jerry for the next several weeks to provide a smooth transition into a very active organization that offers hundreds of on-site and off-site field trips, programs, astronomy programs, off-site outreach programs, special events, scout programs, and many programs in geology, fossil collecting, birding, day and evening astronomy programs, wetland investigations, and other natural science programs. We are looking forward to Phil arriving in late October. He plans to attend the 20th Annual Fundraiser on November 5th, after returning from giving two presentations at the National Geological Society of America Meeting in Baltimore, MD. Phil has been a Penn

Dixie member for years and served as the Coordinator for a National Science Foundation grant supervising interns who worked at Penn Dixie, the Science Museum, Buffalo Schools and in conjunction with Buffalo State Science Education Department.

Jerry will be continuing to work with Phil Stokes, Sarah Einhouse, and Penn Dixie after his retirement begins on November 25. The Board and Phil have asked him to work on some special projects and programs that have been very successful and ongoing for many years.

Plan on attending and make your reservation for the 20th Annual HNHS/Penn Dixie Fundraiser on November 5, 2015, from 6-9 PM at the La Galleria Restaurant, 3923 Southwestern Blvd., in Orchard Park (near Ralph Wilson Stadium) to welcome Phil Stokes as the 2nd full-time Penn Dixie Executive Director.

# *Welcome Phil!*

# NOVEMBER PROGRAMS



## 20TH ANNUAL PENN DIXIE FUNDRAISER AT LA GALLERIA RESTAURANT IN ORCHARD PARK ON NOVEMBER 5th

Photos by Judy Wilder

The Hamburg Natural History Society/Penn Dixie 20th Annual Fundraiser will be on Thursday, November 5, 2015, 6 PM to 9 PM at the La Galleria Restaurant, 3923 Southwestern Blvd., Orchard Park, NY, near Ralph Wilson Stadium. This Fundraiser is to help support the educational programs, events, and operations of the Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center in Hamburg.

Silent and voice auctions will be conducted for a wide variety of valuable and unique items, including Buffalo Sabres tickets; quilt; Buffalo Bills afghan; gift certificates to restaurants and businesses; artwork; movie basket; fossil specimens; Holiday baskets; a variety of children's toys; spirit baskets; gift baskets; a lottery tree; holiday spirits basket; telescope; geological specimens; and much, much more. Door prizes will be drawn throughout the evening. Raffle drawing, in which two winners will receive two box seat tickets each to a Buffalo Sabres vs. Washington Capitals hockey game on December 28 – donated by Zoladz Construction Services, Inc. The winners will be drawn at the end of the voice auctions. The hockey tickets will make a great Christmas, holiday or birthday gift!



The public is invited. Bring your family, friends, and colleagues to an evening of spirited bidding and fun. This is a perfect opportunity to select some early holiday gifts. Silent auction begins at 6 PM sharp. Pre-sale tickets are \$25 per person and \$30 at the door. Admission includes hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and a door prize ticket. If you would like to donate a gift to be auctioned, and/or a door prize, or purchase pre-sale tickets, please call Penn Dixie at (716) 627-4560. All pre-sale tickets will be entered in the door prize drawings for those who would like to support Penn Dixie, but cannot attend. Cash donations, of any amount, to help support Penn Dixie are welcome. All donations are fully income tax deductible. Penn Dixie needs your support!

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## PENN DIXIE TO EXHIBIT AT BUFFALO MUSEUM OF SCIENCE DINO DAYS NOVEMBER 14

The Penn Dixie exhibit with the fossil dig and fossil specimens will be at the Buffalo Museum of Science's Dino Days on Saturday, November 14, 2015, from 10 am-4 pm. This event will have other exhibits from the Buffalo Geological Society, Past and Present Rock Shop and Museum Gallery, and more. Visitors can dig for a free fossil and be a paleontologist for the day! There will be dinosaurs and marine invertebrate fossils for all to view and enjoy. Bring the family out for a fun-filled day!



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### IN 2015 INTRODUCE YOUR GUESTS AND FRIENDS TO A NEW HANDS-ON AND DISCOVERY EXPERIENCE. VISIT PENN DIXIE!

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Hamburg Natural History Society, Inc., P.O. Box 772, Hamburg, New York 14075 (716)627-4560

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

COMPLETE CALENDAR AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE [WWW.PENNDIXIE.ORG](http://WWW.PENNDIXIE.ORG)

## NOVEMBER

**November 5, 2015 - 6 to 9 PM, 20th Annual HNHS/Penn Dixie Fundraiser.** at La Galleria Restaurant, 3923 Southwestern Blvd., Orchard Park. Silent and voice auctions, raffles, hors d'oeuvres, and more. Donations of baskets, gift certificates, artwork, toys, holiday baskets, tickets for football, hockey or basket ball games are welcome. Fun filled evening for all. Public is invited.

**November 14, 2015 – Penn Dixie exhibit at Buffalo Museum of Science Dino Days.** Several organizations will be participating in this Paleontological event.

## 2016

**January 28, 2016 - “New Horizons to Pluto: Mission Design and Science Results”, by Kevin Williams,** Associate Professor at Buffalo State College, an illustrated presentation in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office 3556 Lake Shore Rd., Blasdell, NY. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

**February 18, 2016 – 7 PM, “Who were the Dinosaurs?”, by Scott McKenzie,** Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA, an illustrated presentation, with actual specimens, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office 3556 Lake Shore Rd., Blasdell, NY. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

**February 25-28, 2016 – Penn Dixie exhibit at WNY Home and Garden Expo** in the Events Center at the Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY

**March 5, 2016 – 8:30 AM, Penn Dixie Volunteer Training Program** in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive office, 3556 Lake Shore Road, Blasdell. Call (716) 627-4560 to make reservation. \$30/person, Penn Dixie members are FREE.

**March 12, 2016 – 6 PM, 6th Annual Penn Dixie Trivia ‘Think Ya Know’ Game Show with the Quiz Master Dennis George** at the Flying Bison Brewery Company, 840 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY, Doors open at 6 PM. Call (716) 627-4560 for information and pre-sale tickets at \$25 and \$30 at the door. Public Welcome!

**March 16, 2016 – 7 pm, “20 Years of Collecting Dinosaurs in South Dakota”, by Glen LaPlaca,** Past & Present Rock Shop & Fossil Gallery, an illustrated presentation, with actual specimens, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office 3556 Lake Shore Rd., Blasdell, NY. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

**March 19-26, 2016 – Penn Dixie Open for Fossil Collecting during Spring Break, M-Sat. 9 am- 5 pm,** Public is welcome. No pre-registrations required. Adults \$9 and children 12 & under \$7, children 2 and under & Penn Dixie members FREE! Collectors may keep all the fossils they find.

**April 21, 2016 – 7 PM, “Geology of National Parks”, by Phil Stokes, Penn Dixie Executive Director,** an illustrated presentation in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office 3556 Lake Shore Rd., Blasdell, NY. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

**April 23, 2016 – 9 am, Earth Day** at Penn Dixie. Volunteers welcome & have free admission to collect fossils.

**April 28-May 1, 2016 – Penn Dixie Members Only Trip to Cincinnati, OH area.** More information in the January-February newsletter.

**April 30, 2016 – Penn Dixie Open on weekends through October, Saturdays 9 am-5 pm & Sundays, 10 am-5 pm, Adults \$9 each, children 12 & under \$7, children 2 & under and Penn Dixie members FREE. Collectors may keep all the fossils they find!**

**May 1, 2016 – 9 am, Penn Dixie Spring Bird Walk, led by Marilyn O’Connell,** Wild Birds Unlimited. FREE Program. Children welcome. Bring binoculars, cameras, and wear boots.

**May 15, 2016 – 9 am, Penn Dixie Spring Bird Walk, led by Marilyn O’Connell,** Wild Birds Unlimited. FREE Program. Children welcome. Bring binoculars, cameras, and wear boots.

**May 20, 2016- 7 PM, “Fossil Fish of the Lost Lake, Wyoming,” by Joe ‘PaleoJoe’ Kchodl,** of Midland, MI, an illustrated presentation with some specimens, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office 3556 Lake Shore Rd., Blasdell, NY. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

**May 21, 2016 – 9 AM, Penn Dixie’s 12th Annual ‘Dig with the Experts’** at the site. Email [sependix@gmail.com](mailto:sependix@gmail.com) or call (716) 627-4560 for information and to register. Penn Dixie Members \$25 and non-members \$30.

**June 5, 2016 - 1 PM to 4 PM Children’s Day** Celebrate Children’s Day at Penn Dixie! Special fun events for children and their families, prizes for children’s contests, viewing sunspots and other astronomy activities, fossil identification, and more! Adults \$9 each, children 12 and under \$7, children 2 and under & Penn Dixie members FREE. No pre-registrations required.

