



# Penn Dixie

*Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center*

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## 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Additional programs, exhibits, and events scheduled during the year will be listed in the Penn Dixie newsletter, on the website [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or the phone message on the Penn Dixie phone at (716) 627-4560.**

**January 26, 2012 – 7 PM, Penn Dixie program on "Introduction to the Night Sky", by Bert Probst, of Ellicottville, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office, at 3556 Lake Shore Rd. Blasdell, NY 14219. \$4/person. Public invited. Scouts and children welcome. No pre-registrations required. Call (716) 627-4560 for information.**

**January 28, 2012 – 10 AM, Penn Dixie cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or nature walk, \$3/person. Reservations requested. Participants must bring snowshoes and/or skis. For information and reservations call (716) 627-4560.**

**February 9-12, 2012 - Penn Dixie exhibit at WNY Home and Garden Expo in the Events Center at the Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg, NY.**

**February 18, 2012 – 10 AM, Penn Dixie cross-country skiing, snowshoeing or nature walk, \$3/person. Reservations requested. Participants must bring snowshoes and/or skis. For information and reservations call (716) 627-4560.**

**February 22, 2012 – 7 PM, Penn Dixie program on "Geology of WNY", by Stan Radon, of NYSDEC, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office, at 3556 Lake Shore Rd. Blasdell, NY 14219. \$4/person. Public invited. Scouts and children welcome. No pre-registrations required. Call (716) 627-4560 for information.**

**February 25, 2012 – 7-10 PM, "Penn Dixie Think Ya Know Trivia/Game Show Fundraiser" with the Quiz Master Dennis George, at the Oakwood Manor, VFW Post, Lake View Road, Hamburg, NY. Table trivia, special trivia with individual winner prizes, pizza, pop, snacks, cash bar, door prizes, theme auction baskets, 50/50 split, and a fun-filled evening supporting the programs, events, and operations of the Penn Dixie Paleontological and Outdoor Education Center. Four Sabres hockey tickets to the ZeptoMetrix suite, donated by Chris Collins, will be raffled with TWO Winners, each receiving two tickets. Raffle tickets are \$5 each, or four tickets for \$20. Pre-sale Trivia tickets-\$25 each & \$30 at the door. **Doors open at 6 PM.** Tickets and information may be obtained by calling (716) 627-4560.**

**March 3, 2012 – Penn Dixie exhibit at Greater Niagara Frontier Council **University of Scouting Day**, at Erie County Community College, North Campus, Williamsville.**

**March 8, 2012 – 6 PM, Penn Dixie exhibit at Science Night at Orchard Park South Davis Elementary.**

**March 10, 2012 – 8:30 AM 12:30 PM, Annual Penn Dixie Volunteer Training Program** in the auditorium at the Gateway Executive Office, 3556 Lake Shore Road, Blasdell, NY. Penn Dixie needs volunteers to help with schools, groups, astronomy programs, special events, and other on-site and off-site programs and events. Please call (716) 627-4560 for information and to register for the training program.

**March 21, 2012 – 7 PM, Penn Dixie program on “Are You Ready for Wildlife Baby Season?”, by Marianne Hites and Judy Seiler, of Messenger Woods – with live animals**, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office, at 3556 Lake Shore Rd. Blasdell, NY 14219. \$4/person. Public invited. Scouts and children are welcome. **No pre-registrations required.** Call (716) 627-4560 for information.

**March 24-25, 2012 – Penn Dixie exhibit at Buffalo Geological Society’s Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show** in the Grange & Market Place Buildings at the Erie County Fairgrounds, Hamburg.

**April 4, 2012, Wednesday, 6 PM – Williamsville North Planetarium Show** and viewing of the Williamsville skies with **Penn Dixie telescopes** at the Williamsville Space Planetarium at 1595 Hopkins Rd. (near Dodge). Jupiter will be in the west and full moon rising in the east. Planetarium Show **“Oasis in Space”** will be shown at 6:30 & 7:15 PM. FREE program. **No pre-registrations required.**

**April 6 & 7 and 9-15, 2012 – Penn Dixie open for fossil collecting during Spring Break**, Monday-Saturday, 9 AM-4 PM & Sunday, April 15, 11 AM-4 PM. No pre-registrations required. Adults \$7 each, children 12 & under \$6, children 2 and under & Penn Dixie members free.

**April 19, 2012 – Thursday, 7 PM, “Iceland: Geology & Scenery on a North Atlantic Hotspot.” by Dr. Rick Batt, Buffalo State Geology Dept.**, in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office, at 3556 Lake Shore Rd. Blasdell, NY 14219. \$4/person. Public invited. Scouts and children welcome. No pre-registrations required. Call (716) 627-4560 for information.

**April 21, 2012, 9 AM, Penn Dixie Earth Day Clean-up and activities.** Fossil collecting available.

**April 21, 2012, Saturday 7 PM – Astronomy Night at Penn Dixie** to view a thin crescent moon and Jupiter setting in the west, while Saturn rising in the east. Venus high in the southwest, Mars in the southeast. Orion's nebula M42 and the Beehive star cluster, M44. Some meteors from the Lyrids meteor shower peak after midnight until dawn. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie Members FREE.

**April 22, 2012 – 9 AM, Spring Bird Walk at Penn Dixie led by Marilyn O’Connell, Wild Birds Unlimited.** No pre-registrations required. Free.

**April 27-29, 2012 – Penn Dixie members Only Trip to Cincinnati, OH**, to collect fossils. Call (716) 627-4560 for information or email [jbpendix@gmail.com](mailto:jbpendix@gmail.com).

**May 3, 2012 – 6 PM, Penn Dixie exhibit at Science Night at Ellicott Elementary School.**

**May 5 & 6, 2012 – Penn Dixie open on weekends**, Sat. 9 AM-4 PM & Sun. 11 AM-4 PM

**May 6, 2012, 9 AM, Penn Dixie Spring Bird Walk led by Michael Morgante, Buffalo Ornithological Society.** No pre-registrations required. Free.

**May 12, 2012 – 10 AM, Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge Day at the Penn Dixie Site.** Registration must be made through the Greater Niagara Frontier Council.

**May 12, 2012, 7:30 PM – Astronomy Night at Penn Dixie** to view Venus high in the west, Mars high in the south, Saturn high in the east, Cancer's star cluster M44, Hercules Famous star cluster M13, and the bright star Vega with it's flashing colors, will rise in the east. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie

Members FREE.

**May 18, 2012 – 7 PM, “Dinosaurs CSI,” by PaleoJoe, of Michigan,** in the auditorium of the Gateway Executive Office, at 3556 Lake Shore Rd. Blasdell, NY 14219. \$5/person, Penn Dixie members FREE. Public invited. Scouts and children welcome. **No pre-registrations required.** Call (716) 627-4560 for information and directions or visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org).

**May 19, 2012 - 9 AM, Dig with the Experts and Special Event Day.** Regular program for fossil collecting and viewing of sunspots, plus a Special Program to “**Dig with the Experts**” – check web site or call (716) 627-4560 for details, cost, and registration information. Public fossil collecting, Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE. **No pre-registrations required.**

**May 19, 2012 – 10 AM, Webelos Geology Badge Day at Penn Dixie Site.** Registration for this event must be made through the Boy Scout Greater Niagara Frontier Council.

**May 28, 2012 – Memorial Day – Penn Dixie Closed.**

**June 3, 2012 - 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! **No pre-registration required.** Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE.

**June 5, 2012, Tuesday, 5:30 PM – Special Astronomy program** to view the partial **Transit of Venus**, through filtered telescopes that can be seen from around 6:15 PM, until sunset. This event is when Venus passes across the face of the Sun. The next time this happens is on Dec. 11, 2117. **No pre-registration required.** FREE.

**June 10, 2012 - 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM Penn Dixie Nature Cruise & Buffalo Lighthouse Tour.** A 3-hour cruise where the experts discuss the regional geology, birds, fish, and features along the Lake Erie and Niagara River waterfront. After the 3-hour cruise visit and climb to the top of the Buffalo Lighthouse for a spectacular view of Buffalo and the waterfront. **This is a unique and informational trip you do not want to miss.** Call (716) 627-4560 for registration information and cost or visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org). Limited space available.

**June 15 - September 4, 2012, Penn Dixie open** for fossil collecting 7-days a week. Visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or call (716) 627-4560 for directions and information. Adults \$7, Children 12 & under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE.

**June 23, 2012 - Saturday 8 PM – Astronomy Night at Penn Dixie** to view Mercury low in the west, Mars and a Gibbous waxing moon in the southwest and Saturn just above the bright star Spica in Virgo. The Summer Triangle and Ring Nebula M57 in the east. The Globular star cluster M13. Ursa Major (Great Bear) with the nose-diving towards horizon, and a variety of other constellations. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie Members FREE.

**July 1, 2012 - 11 AM to 4 PM – “Big Toys, Trucks and Bikes Event”**

Fossil collecting, viewing of sunspots, and a “Big Toys Event” fundraiser! Sit in your favorite truck, explore a variety of vehicles, and have your picture taken in your favorite vehicle – check web site for details. Toy and gas card raffles. **No pre-registrations required.** Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, Penn Dixie members adults-\$3, children 12 and under \$2, children 2 and under FREE.

**July 4, 2012 – Fourth of July, Independence Day, Penn Dixie Closed.**

**July 9-13, 2012 – 9 AM- 3 PM, Science Adventure Summer Day Camp for 8-12 year olds.** Discount for Penn Dixie Members, visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) for information and registration form. Hands-on science activities “**Where Science Comes Alive!**”

**July 14-15, 2012 – Penn Dixie exhibit at Syracuse Gem & Mineral Show** at Onondaga Community College, new location, new building!

**July 16-20, 2012 – Triple Trek Summer Day Camp**, two days at Penn Dixie and Evangola State Park and one day at Tiff Nature Preserve. Information and registration form at [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or by calling (716) 627-4560.

**July 21, 2012 – Saturday, 8:30 PM, Astronomy Night at Penn Dixie** with telescopes to view a thin crescent moon setting in the west and Mars and Saturn in the southwest, the constellations Scorpius open star cluster M44, the Milk Dipper in Saggittarius, and a variety of other constellations. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie Members FREE.

**July 23-27, 2012 – 9 AM- 3 PM, Science Adventure Summer Day Camp for 8-12 year olds.** Discount for Penn Dixie Members, visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) for information and registration form. Hands-on science activities **“Where Science Comes Alive!”**

**July 30-August 3, 2012 – Triple Trek Summer Day Camp**, two days at Penn Dixie and Evangola State Park and one day at Tiff Nature Preserve. Information and registration form at [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or by calling (716) 627-4560.

**August 6-10, 2012 – 9 AM- 3 PM, Science Adventure Summer Day Camp for 8-12 year olds.** Discount for Penn Dixie Members, visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) for information and registration form. Hands-on science activities **“Where Science Comes Alive!”**

**August 11, 2012 5 PM to ?, Mid-Summer’s Night Adventure - Annual Fossil-Astronomy program.** Collect fossils and after dark collect fossils by lantern light; bring your digging tools, plastic bucket, a lantern or flashlight. View Sunspots until dusk. After dark telescopes will focus on Saturn and Mars close to each other in the southwest, the star cluster M13, the M57 Ring Nebula & M27 Dumbbell Nebula in the southeast and hopefully some meteors from the Perseus Meteor Shower that will peak after midnight until dawn, and a variety of other constellations. **No –pre-registration required.** Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE.

**August 13-17, 2012 – Triple Trek Summer Day Camp**, two days at Penn Dixie and Evangola State Park and one day at Tiff Nature Preserve. Information and registration form at [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) or by calling (716) 627-4560.

**August 20-24, 2012 – 9 AM- 3 PM, Science Adventure Summer Day Camp for 8-12 year olds.** Discount for Penn Dixie Members, visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org) for information and registration form. Hands-on science activities **“Where Science Comes Alive!”**

**September 3, 2012 – Penn Dixie Closed on Labor Day, but open on September 4, 2012, 9 AM- 4PM.**

**September 8, 2012 - 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM Penn Dixie Nature Cruise & Buffalo Lighthouse Tour.** A 3-hour cruise where the experts discuss the regional geology, birds, fish, and features along the Lake Erie and Niagara River waterfront. After the 3-hour cruise visit and climb to the top of the Buffalo Lighthouse for a spectacular view of Buffalo and the waterfront. **This is a unique and informational trip you do not want to miss.** Call (716) 627-4560 for registration information and cost or visit [www.penndixie.org](http://www.penndixie.org). Limited space available.

**September 9, 2012 - 1 PM to 4 PM, Special Event.** Experts will identify your fossils, rocks, and minerals. Fossil collecting, viewing sunspots, and other activities TBA. **No –pre-registration required.** Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE.

**September 9, 2012 – 11 AM, Webelos Geology Badge Day at Penn Dixie Site.** Registration for this event must be made through the Boy Scout Greater Niagara Frontier Council.

**September 15, 2012 – 10 AM-4 PM, Penn Dixie exhibit at Reinstein Woods Fall Festival.**

**September 15, 2012 – 7 PM, Astronomy Program at the Penn Dixie Site.** Filtered telescopes to view sunspots & solar flares prior to sunset and after dark telescopes will focus on the Penn Dixie Skies to view Saturn and Mars in the west, Ring Nebula M57 and Dumbbell Nebula M27, the famous double star Albireo in constellation Cygnus, in the east Perseus, Cassiopeia famous NGC 457 open star cluster (E.T.), and a variety of other constellations. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie Members FREE.

**September 16, 2012 – 11 AM, Boy Scout Geology Merit Badge Day at the Penn Dixie Site.** Registration must be made through the Greater Niagara Frontier Council.

**October 6, 2012 – Saturday, 6 PM – Astronomy Night at Penn Dixie.** Filtered telescopes to view sunspots and solar flares to sunset and after dark telescopes will focus on the Penn Dixie Skies to view the star cluster M13 in the southwest, the Summer Triangle high overhead, M27 Dumbbell Nebula in the constellation Vulpecula, M57 Ring Nebula in the constellation Lyra NGC 457 (E.T.), the NGC 869-84 famous double star cluster, the bright star Capella in constellation Auriga, and a variety of other constellations. **No pre-registrations required.** \$3/person, Penn Dixie Members FREE.

**October 13, 2012 - 9 AM to 4 P M, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual WNY Earth Science Day.** National Earth Science Day WNY celebration at Penn Dixie, co-sponsored with the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists. Talk to earth scientists as they exhibit and demonstrate various aspects of their professions; see a drill rig demonstrating rock coring and drilling operations; view sunspots; collect fossils; and participate in a wide variety of other activities. Girl and Boy scouts can earn badge requirements, call 627-4560 for information. **No –pre-registration required.** Adults \$7, children 12 and under \$6, children 2 and under and Penn Dixie members FREE.

**October 20-21, 2012 – Penn Dixie exhibit at Rochester Gem & Mineral Show** in Minot Hall at the Dome in Rochester, NY.

**November 1, 2012 – Thursday, 7 to 9 PM, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual HNHS/Penn Dixie Fundraiser.** Romanello's South Restaurant, 5793 South Park Avenue, Hamburg, NY. Silent and voice auctions, raffles, hors d'oeuvres, and more. Donations of baskets, gift certificates, artwork, toys, holiday baskets, tickets for football, hockey or basketball games are welcome. Fun filled evening for all. Public is invited. Mark your calendar and plan on attending.

**November 9-11, 2012 – Penn Dixie exhibit** at GemStreet Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show in the Grange Building at the Erie County Fairgrounds.