

# GE LETTER

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## February 2, 2024 Meeting

### “Back From the Dead”

Unveiling an enigmatic new species from  
Western New York

By Dr. Phil Stokes, Executive Director,  
Hamburg Natural History Society/Penn Dixie

In April 2023, two off-duty staff members unearthed the remains of a mysterious and previously undescribed echinoderm while digging for trilobites at Penn Dixie Fossil Park and Nature Reserve in Hamburg.

The discovery rocked the scientific community – pun intended, as this particular line of primitive animals was thought to have gone extinct nearly 30 million years earlier. Revival of this ‘Lazarus taxon,’ which originated during the Cambrian explosion when most major animal groups first appeared, sheds new light on our planet's history of life. The new species is currently under study at the Smithsonian Institution by experts who are eager to establish its proper place in the animal kingdom.



## Report from the Board

Due to the weather the board meeting was held as a Zoom meeting. Not everyone was able to sign in, and was therefore a very short meeting.

There were 8 new members enrolled and 4 old members renewed their membership, between the Holiday Dinner and the Fluorescent meeting. There was also an ad placed in the Olaf Fub column in the Buffalo News that brought in some new visitors.

Tablecloths with the club logo on were ordered for the admissions tables, and club tables, and new signs for the show. An amethyst cathedral and a pearl necklace have been secured for display at the show.

Parking signs for meetings have been ordered for future meetings at Lee Street.

Donations were made to PRI (Paleontological Research Institute) and to the Heritage Discovery Center.

Purchasing new Tee shirts and hooded sweatshirts was discussed.

The ballot for election of new officers is enclosed and can be returned at the show or by email to Joe Butch, 202 North Linden St. Williamsville, NY 14221.

**Buffalo Geological Society 2024-2025 Ballot of Officers**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Keith Rowe</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:</b>	<b>Craig Posmantur</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Zeena Pawlicki</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Chris Boyd</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
<b>Directors:</b>	<b>Jerry Bastedo,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Marcia Binda</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>William Broad,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Don Lapham,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Paul Leuchner,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Deb Pirson,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Dale Rusell,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Ron Schmidt,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Judy Stadler,</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____
	<b>Joseph Sullivan</b>	<b>Write in:</b> _____

Circle the candidate of your choice in each category (choose 5 directors) or write in the name of someone not on the ballot.

**You can return your ballot to Joseph Butch, 202 N. Linden St. Williamsville, NY 14221 or e-mail ([butchjoseph@hotmail.com](mailto:butchjoseph@hotmail.com)) by April 1, 2024**

**Name Badges**

Several of our newer members have asked about the name tags that we wear at meetings and shows. Anyone interested in purchasing one, please give your name to Craig Posmantur.

The size is 1 ½" by 3". The cost is \$12.00 per tag and has a magnetic clasp or a pin clasp on the backside.

**Sign-Up Sheets**

Sign-up sheets for working at the show will be available at the February and March meetings. You will receive FREE admission to the show if you sign up to work at Admissions, Club Table, Set-up, Break-down, or other places where you may be needed. This is our only money making project for the year, so let's all support it!



## Buffalo Geological Society Winter Coming Events

**Jan. 31 –Continuing Education Meeting 8:35 am** – Masonic Hall, Sweet Home Rd. Amherst, NY

**Feb. 2 BGS Meeting 7:30 pm “ Back From the Dead”** Speaker Dr. Phil Stokes from Penn-Dixie will tell us who/what is Back from the Dead.

**March 1** – Live Auction begins at 6:30 pm. More information in the March Newsletter. **Please note the earlier time.**

**Mar.7 - Continuing Education Meeting 8:35 am** – Masonic Hall, Sweet Home Rd. Amherst, NY

**Mar. 16 – Set up for Annual Show at the Fairgrounds in Hamburg**

**March 17 &18 – 10 am – 6 pm on Saturday 10 am – 5 pm on Sunday.** Be sure to sign up to volunteer at the various jobs to make our show a success.

**Mar. 27 - Continuing Education Meeting 8:35 am** – Masonic Hall, Sweet Home Rd. Amherst, NY

**Apr 5 – BGS Meeting 7:30 pm** – Speaker to be announced.

