

DV^{ESS}Scapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April 2013

◆◆◆◆ our 57th year ◆◆◆◆

Next Meeting: April 10th, 2013

Program: Manny Robbins on Terlingua Type Calcite and its fluorescence/phosphorescence

Location: Education Bldg. behind Centenary United Methodist Church
149 South White Horse Pike, Berlin NJ 08009

President's Message: By Mark Leipert, President

I would like to thank everyone who came out on Saturday, March 30th supporting the Archway "Earth Science" Day at the Centenary United Methodist Church. We had twelve kids and two adults participating from the Archway foster student program. Mil, Ann, Amanda, Meredith, Carol, Evelyn and I manned stations on various subject matter such as rocks & minerals, fossils, dinosaurs, seashells, plate tectonics, earthquakes, building materials and collecting equipment. A good time was had by all.

Odessa Petrified Wood Memorial Fossil Trip:

I joined some of the members of the Calvert Marine Museum Club for the John Wolf Memorial Fossil Trip. The weather start out with sleet, rain and plenty of wind, but eventually the sun came out. We collected in the farmer's fields for fragments to fist sized chunks of petrified wood. The fields are across from the new Middletown Elementary School Site, where many petrified logs and stumps were removed

to make way for the new school campus. After collecting in the fields for a few hours, Bob Bartoz told me that Tom and Jose from the Delaware Mineralogical Society were going across the street to where the petrified wood was originally found. We found many small scraps and a few larger specimens. Many of the smaller pieces were handed out to the Archway student when they visited on March 30th. This was a very promising trip but we need to get permission to go onto the farmers fields. The C& D Canal spoil piles are also a short distance away. We may try to combine field trip in the future.

Staten Island Field Trip: May 18th

Dr. Steve Okulewicz will be leading our club to a serpentine body on Staten Island to collect serpentine minerals (antigorite, lizardite, chrysotile) and associated minerals talc, magnetite and brucite. There will be a sign up sheet at the April 10th meeting. Additional details to follow.

Upcoming Super Dig: April 27th

We are still looking for volunteers for our April 27th Sterling Hill Super Dig. We need volunteers to make this event happen. We've had a number of volunteers already but to avoid over working anybody we could use a few more. Positions include: registration, sales, membership, weigh-ins, set up/cleanup and site safety officers. Contact Mil or Mark if you are interested.

Remember to check our website for events and field trips as well as our monthly newsletter.



Sterling Hill

A little background on Sterling Hill zinc mine - Sterling Hill is one of the oldest mines in the United States, and when it closed in 1986, it was the last underground mine in New Jersey. The mine was a source of zinc, iron, and manganese, and reached a depth of more than half a mile.

There are more than 350 minerals found at Sterling Hill and nearby Franklin; of these, 28 are unique to the area, including Franklinfurnaceite, Magnesiochlorophoenicite, and Minehillite. Nearly 90 of the minerals are fluorescent. [About Fluorescence](#)

Learn more about Sterling Hill mine and the Sterling Hill Mining Museum at <http://sterlinghillminingmuseum.org/>.

S.R.M.

News

Washington State Landslide A massive landslide on Whidbey Island swept away one house and isolated nearly 30 others early in the morning on March 27th. About 200,000 cubic yards of material slide down onto a beach. http://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/ger_qr_whidbey_island_landslide_2013.pdf

Tibet Landslide On March 30th, 83 gold mine workers were buried by 2 million cubic meters of material; the slide covered a 4 square kilometer area. <http://www.cnn.com/2013/03/30/world/asia/miners-tibet-landslide/>

Updated information on the Chelyabinsk Impactor http://neo.jpl.nasa.gov/news/fireball_130301.html

Large Asteroids In a U.S. House of Representatives Science Committee meeting, NASA chief Charles Bolden said "From the information we have, we don't know of an asteroid that will threaten the population of the United States. But if it's coming in three weeks, pray." NASA Near Earth Object Program <http://neo.jpl.nasa.gov/neo/>



Websites of the Month

NJ-GeoWeb Geology Profile is an interactive mapping application that provides information about New Jersey's Geology, Aquifers, Well Head Protection Areas, Earthquake Epicenters, Abandoned Mines, Landslides and more.

The Science of Sinkholes, from the USGS

http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/the-science-of-sinkholes/?from=title

Sinkholes in Florida

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/geology/geologictopics/sinkhole.htm>

Sinkholes in Pennsylvania

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/topogeo/hazards/sinkholes/index.htm>

Field Station Dinosaurs

<http://fieldstationdinosaurs.com/>

Watch Iceland volcanos via webcam

<http://www.livefromiceland.is/webcams/hekla/>

Sterling Hill Super Digg www.UVworld.org

American Federation <http://www.amfed.org/>

Eastern Federation <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>

Wildacres Spring 2013 workshops <http://efmls-wildacres.org/page2/index.html>



Field Trips

April 27 – Sterling Mine Super Digg, 9 am–11 pm. Tour the Underground Mine, Upper Mine and Mill, Blackout Tour, Private Trotter Tunnel Tour; see nighttime illumination of the famous “Fluorescent Wall” in the Fill Quarry. Nothing – absolutely nothing – beats collecting fluorescent minerals at night - collect in all 3 collection areas on the property!!! ONLINE registration at www.uvWorld.org
YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE – separately – if you wish to drop children off for the 2-hour beading session; these classes may be cancelled due to insufficient registration.

May 18 – Staten Island Tour - Dr. Steve Okulewicz will be leading our club to a serpentine body on Staten Island.

June 22 – Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – Bus Trip.



Shows and Events

April

April 3 - Dinosaur Late Night at the Museum, Rutgers University Geology Museum, 4:00 to 8 pm. Take a step back in time and discover the different types of dinosaurs that inhabited the Earth during the Mesozoic. <http://geologymuseum.rutgers.edu/>

April 6–7 - Delaware Valley Paleontological Society & Philadelphia Mineralogical Society's 33 annual Fossil Fair; FREE Fossil Dig for children and a Kids Corner with FREE Mineral Specimens and Scouting Merit Badge Information; Food, Beverages, and Door Prizes! LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462 <http://dvps.essentrix.net/>

April 13 - Spring Wildflower & Geology Hike, 10 am - 1 pm, Crystal Lake Park. A nature hike focusing on spring wildflowers with Park Naturalist Jen Bulava and geology of the site with USGS geologist Pierre Lacombe. Wear proper shoes for hiking. Trails are very steep in some sections & not recommended for inexperienced Hikers. **Registration required.** Call 609-265-5858. For park directions, go to www.co.burlington.nj.us/parks

April 27–28 - 41st Annual New Jersey Earth Science Association (NJESA) Gem & Mineral Show / Outdoor Swap & Sell. Franklin School in, Franklin, and Sterling Hill Mining Museum, Ogdensburg. 9 am - 11 pm. Mineral, fossil, and gem dealers; auction;, and the Sterling Hill Garage Sale.

May

May 4 - Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum

May 4–5 - Treasures of the Earth 10th Annual Show and Sale sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of NE PA: Pittston PA. Minerals, Fossils, Crystals, Jewelry and Gems, free kids activities, door prizes, exhibits, classes, and demonstrations. Held at St Joseph Oblate Seminary 1880 Rt 315 Pittston, PA

May 14 - Cherry Hill: Looking Below the Surface. 7 pm, Cherry Hill Public Library Conference Center (lower level), 1100 Kings Highway North. Free and open to the Public. Dr.. Ilene Grossman-Bailey will present an overview on Cherry Hill archaeology and archaeological sites. 856-488-7886. CHHC@CHTownship.com

May 18 - Archaeological Society of NJ, May Meeting. 11 am - 2:45 pm, Croft Farm, Kay Evans Farmhouse, 100 Bortons Mill Rd. Free and Open to the Public. 856-488-7886. CHHC@CHTownship.com

June

June 1–2, Eastern Federation Convention Plainview, NY hosted by Rockhounds and Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club – more info to follow!

Looking Ahead

July 14 – DVESS Summer Picnic at Gerald's House

September 21 – Sterling Hill Mine Club Tour

October 13 – Annual Club Banquet at Mandarin Restaurant

October 13-19 – Earth Science Week 2013 promotes awareness of the many exciting uses of maps and mapping technologies in the geosciences. <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

2013 Super Science Saturdays at the Iron Hill Museum, 1355 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark, DE
19702 12:30pm – 3:00pm

April 13 – All About Insects

May 11 – All About Archaeology

June 8 – All About Paleontology

Check out the Museum’s calendar at http://www.ironhill-museum.org/museum_calendar.htm

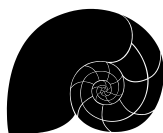
Club Brochures

Please pick up one or two yellow club brochures and have them on hand in your vehicle or handbag to give out to folks. If you see a parent and child, strike up a conversation by asking, “Does your child like rocks or dinosaurs?” Offer them a club brochure; if they’re not from our area, addresses and websites for the American Federation are on the back of the brochure. Your small gesture may make a world of difference to that child, his/her family, and to our club.



Quote of the Month

During my second year at Edinburgh [1826-27] I attended Jameson's lectures on Geology and Zoology, but they were incredible dull. The sole effect they produced on me was the determination never as long as I lived to read a book on Geology. — *Charles Darwin*



Membership Information

Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

Sponsoring memberships are entitled to the same plus a specially chosen mineral specimen. Dues are renewable each year in January.

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

\$10.00 for Rowan University Students with College ID

Sponsoring Membership: (each additional family member - \$5.00)

“Silver” \$50.00 for 1st family member – receive a Geode Specimen

“Gold” \$75.00 for 1st family member – receive Mineral Specimen

“Platinum” \$100.00 for 1st family member – receive Premium Specimen

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Information

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 in, knowledge of, and the development of skills in the “earth sciences.” These interests include mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary arts, archeology, and local preservation.
- supports the conservation of natural resources, advocates the availability of collecting sites, and maintains close contact with those in the academic field.
- is a member club of the Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies (<http://www.AmFed.org/EFMLS>)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Inc. (DVESS)

P.O. Box 372

Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052

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

To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com. How about some photos of your prized specimens or latest collecting trip? Share them with us!



