

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April 2019

Next Meeting: April 10th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: Gary will provide a lapidary demonstration



Upcoming programs:

May: Lauren Adamo from Rutgers on the history of the Geology Museum

Dr. Harold Connolly will be back in the fall.

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

President's Corner:

Spring has arrived, finally. We are chomping at the bit to get out there and collect something whether it is minerals or fossils. Below you will find several trips that are tentatively planned for the next few months. I could use a few good people to volunteer to lead several field trips, make arrangements and organize a meeting place for these trips. Please sign up for these trips at the regular meeting. These trips are subject to weather conditions.

Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair on March 30th and 31th at the LuLu Temple in Plymouth Meeting, PA. The show was well attended and I think everyone had a great time. Kids and parents enjoyed activities including a fossil dig and a kid's mineral corner. The weather was great on Saturday and rainy part of the day on Sunday. There was a power outage from late morning to a little after noon but people with cell phones helped light the way and continue the show. Speakers included: Karenne Snow – The World of Mineral Oddities, Dr. Paul Olsen – Arctic Ice and the Rise of Dinosaurs Dominance, and Dr. Ted Daeschler - Exploring for Devonian-Age Fossils in Antarctica. There were microscope demonstrations, displays of fossils and minerals and plenty of free fossils for kids in the Fossil Sandbox area.

Franklin Mineral Museum Super Diggg on Saturday, April 27th at the Franklin Mineral Museum from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm. Activities will include museum tours, Trotter geological tour, collecting in the Buckwheat Mine Dump, special sessions for collecting “Mill Site” material and night collecting in the Buckwheat Mine Dump. We need volunteers to help DVESS run the event. Volunteers would be registering collectors, signing up new memberships, safety officers, security, selling equipment and weighing out rocks when collectors are finished. If you work for three hours or more you can collect for free in the Buckwheat Mine Dump but you still must pay for the rock you take out. **Arrangements have been made to sleep overnight on the Sterling Hill Mining Museum for both the evening of April 27th and 28th.** Everything has to be set up on Friday, April 26th for the big event on Saturday, April 27th. Things start early Saturday morning around 6:30. People start arriving around 7:00. The gates open at 9:00 am



and goes until 11:00 pm. The night dig portion starts at 7:30 pm and goes to 11:00 pm. We also need help taking everything down when everything is over. Please sign up at the meeting or contact Mark Leipert.

Big Brook Fossil Preserve & Ramanessin Creek: May 11th: Sign up at April 10th regular meeting.

Calvert Cliffs Kayak/Canoe Trip, June 8th and 9th: lead by Susan VanCola; sign up at the April 10th regular meeting. More details are in the **Shows and Events** section.

Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University, September 14, 2018. Details forthcoming on the Annual Community Day Dig. If you would like to help out at our table at the event or sign up for an opportunity to dig and look for fossils.

Medford Quarry in Maryland: Date TBD. I've been told that there is dog tooth calcite, malachite, fluorescent calcite and quartz scepters to name a few. Details to follow. If you are interested sign up at the regular meeting.

Mark Leipert, President

News

Unknown species found in new treasure trove of fossils found in China

A newly discovered fossil site in China that dates back 518 million years contains more than 50% previously unknown species, according to a new study.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/03/21/world/china-new-fossils-qingjiang-scn/index.html>

Chicxulub asteroid impact: Stunning fossils record dinosaurs' demise

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-47755275>





Websites

A Guide to Gem Cutting Styles

<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/gem-cutting-terms/>

LAPIDARY TERMS & TYPES

<http://www.qcc.cuny.edu/BiologicalSciences/Faculty/rscal/gems/cutting.html>

A Guide to Gem Classification

<https://www.gemsociety.org/article/how-gems-are-classified/>

Quiz



Match the traditional birthstones to their months!

January	Sapphire
February	Emerald
March	Pearl
April	Aquamarine
May	Diamond
June	Peridot
July	Garnet
August	Turquoise
September	Opal
October	Topaz
November	Amethyst
December	Ruby

Check your answers at the end of the newsletter.

Quote of the Month:

Holmes took up the stone and held it against the light. "It's a bonny thing," said he. "Just see how it glints and sparkles. Of course it is a nucleus and focus of crime. Every good stone is. They are the devil's pet baits. In the larger and older jewels every facet may stand for a bloody deed. This stone is not yet twenty years old. It was found in the banks of the Amoy River in southern China and is remarkable in having every characteristic of the carbuncle, save that it is blue in shade instead of ruby red. In spite of its youth, it has already a sinister history. There have been two murders, a vitriol-throwing, a suicide, and several robberies brought about for the sake of this forty-grain weight of crystallised charcoal. Who would think that so pretty a toy would be a purveyor to the gallows and the prison?" **Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle**

Shows and Events

April

April 27: Third Annual Super Diggg at the Franklin Mineral Museum, 32 Evans Street, Franklin, NJ. Day and Night Digging! http://whoscoming.com/UVworld/2019_Franklin_Super-Diggg.html

Cost:

- \$50 - Super Diggg - Premium (Mill area and Buckwheat)
- \$25 - Super Diggg - Regular (Buckwheat only)

Registration must be done on-line (no mail-in) or on-site (\$5 surcharge). ON-LINE REGISTRATION ENDS AT 1 a.m. EDT ON TUESDAY, APRIL 23. You will have to spend time to register in person Saturday morning if not registered on-line.

April 27-28: 47th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show with Outdoor Swap, Littell Community Center, 12 Munsonhurst Rd., Franklin, NJ 07416. www.njese.org

June

June 8, 2019 - Fossil Hunting at Calvert Cliffs by Kayak, Trip Coordinator: Susan VanCola (svancola@gmail.com)

Meet Sue at 10 AM at Breezy Point Beach and Campground. We will put-in by 10:30 AM; for those who wish to return home on Saturday, turn-around time is 3:30 so they can get in cars for home before 5 PM.

Breezy Point Beach and Campground, 5300 Breezy Point Road, Chesapeake Beach, MD. If you want to put-in from the beach, it's \$10 per adult (includes parking).



They now have kayaks to rent – call in May to reserve your kayak – 410-535-0259

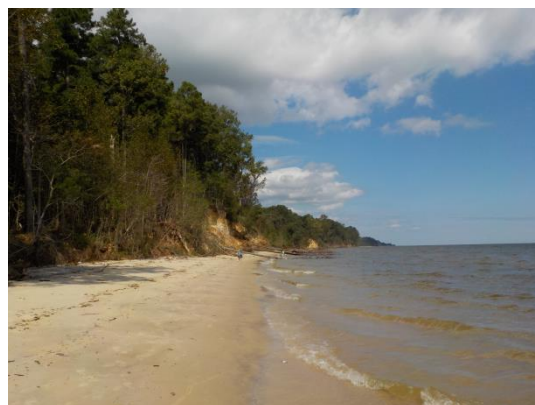
<http://paddleorpedal.com/>. In 2018, kayak rentals were \$45 single or \$60 tandem. There are other rentals nearby.

Local accommodations include Breezy Point campground <http://www.co.cal.md.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/Breezy-Point-Beach-and-Campground> and Matoaka cabins and campground <https://www.matoakabeachcottages.com/> and http://www.breezypointmarina.com/cottage_rentals.aspx. See also air bnb and vrbo.com

June 9th, 2019 Calvert Cliffs by Land, Trip Coordinators: Paul Murdoch and Susan VanCola

Meet at Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons MD at 9:45 am.

For those willing to make this a long weekend, a Behind-The-Scenes tour has been arranged with the CMM's Paleo staff. This should last 1-2 hours and then we will break for lunch. We will then converge via separate vehicles to a TBD beach at the late afternoon high tide for a fossil hunt. We should be on a beach from 2-5ish. Plan to get wet, so dress accordingly for weather and bugs. Which beach we access will depend on water and wind conditions.



For more information on the area, this book is available for free download: The Geology and Vertebrate Paleontology of Calvert Cliffs, Maryland <https://opensi.si.edu/index.php/smithsonian/catalog/book/107>

November

November 2-3: Gem Mineral & Jewelry Show, Trailside Nature and Science Center, 452 New Providence Rd., Mountainside, NJ 07092. 12-5 pm. Held indoors, Exhibits, Sales, Activities, Demonstrations. www.ucnj.org/trailside

Answers to the quiz

January– Garnet
February– Amethyst
March– Aquamarine
April– Diamond
May– Emerald
June– Pearl
July– Ruby
August– Peridot
September– Sapphire
October– Opal
November– Topaz
December– Turquoise

For more on birthstones, see <https://www.americangemsociety.org/page/birthstones>



Membership Information

Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

Regular Membership:

\$20.00 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

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)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

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To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com.

