

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April 2024

This Meeting: Wednesday, April 10th - (Zoom only, due to unforeseen circumstances) from 7:00 to 9:30. **Derek Yoost** will be our guest speaker, who will be talking to us about “**The Gemstones of Ancient Egypt.**”



Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 8th

President's Message

Howdy Folks,

Welcome to April. Since the last meeting, we've had temperature changes and a lot of rain. I almost ordered an Ark on Amazon.

Derek Yoost will be our guest speaker this month **(via Zoom only)**. He will be talking to us about The Gemstones of Ancient Egypt. The Egyptian civilization lasted for approximately 3000 years, and at its height covered most of the known world. It was a hub of trading from all corners of the kingdom. Above all the Egyptians valued gold, but there were other stones that the Egyptian craftsmen used to craft their wares and grave goods. He will explore these pretty stones and where they were either mined or collected from various localities, including the heavens.

In recent years, Derek has presented topics on “The Permian/Triassic Extinction Event-The Worst Dying of All Time” and “Big Brook – A Stream of Possibilities.”

Future Speakers:

Karenne Snow – Possible topics: Oddities, Crystallography: Back to Basics and Sands – (Arts and Science) - Month TBD

Dean Ruocco – Swatara Site, Mahantango Formation Fossils and PA Eurypterids – Month TBD

We had a great turnout at the last meeting. I think we are getting better each time we have a meeting with regard to seating and the rock raffle table and hopefully Zoom. Feel free to provide feedback. We are always looking for improvements.

Thanks again to Ted Tubis for donating some nice specimens to the rock raffle. If anyone would like to donate, please do.

About 10 of our members attended a great talk about OSIRIS-REx and the mission to the asteroid Bennu and the challenges to bring back materials unaffected by the Earth's atmosphere. Dr. Harold Connolly fielded questions from Dr. William

Carrigan as well as the audience. Dr. Connolly was the NASA guy in charge of the materials and analysis team. He also assisted in the Japan's similar mission to a different asteroid. Dr. Carrigan is a professor of history at Rowan.

After the presentation, we went to the planetarium to see the show. Due to the wind and clouds, the observatory was closed.

There was a good turnout for the fossil hunt in Sewell mid March. The weather couldn't have been better. I think everyone was happy with what they found.
(Pictures below)

Mark is asking for your recommendations of places you'd like to hunt.

The executive committee is working on the following:

- Rock and Mineral show potential
- Brochure
- Website
- Constitution and Bylaws
- Gary's Dig offer

If you have any photos of your adventures, old or new, that are earth science related, please send them in to Susan Moore.

If you are aware of other events, shows, or an interesting science article, again send them in to Susan and we'll get them in the newsletter.

Dues are due for 2024. The base fee is \$20.00, while each additional member from a family will increase to \$15.00. This increase will help cover EFMLS dues and insurance per person. Senior citizens will remain at \$10.00 for the year.

Note: Until we get the website fixed, we ask that you mail a check to James Brennan, 139 Ashbrook Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

John Arsenault - President

Field Trip Saturday, April 20th: New Ringgold, Schuylkill County, PA on State Route 895. It is a borrow pit/quarry owned by East Brunswick Township. The site is a marine Devonian site in the Mahantango Formation. The fossils found are similar to Beltzville and Deer Lake. There are abundant corals, trilobites, crinoids, brachiopods and bryozoans. Preservation is pretty good with some of the fossils coated in orange iron oxide for nice contrast. Collecting will be with hammer and chisel by breaking rock although there is much rock already broken up. This is a local road department borrow pit, so depending on how much they've been using it there may be more or less loose rock exposed. Everyone should find something worth bringing home. Parking is right next to the collecting site and there are no facilities available there. The site has a lot of loose boulders and rocks and overhangs and requires utmost care in walking around and cracking rock. There is a minimum age of 10 necessary because of the site difficulty and safety concerns. There is also equipment and bulldozers at the site. Stay clear of them. Required equipment – sturdy shoes, garden knee pads, rock hammers, chisels, Elmer's glue, aluminum foil, collecting bag, lunch, and water. We will be meeting at the PATCO Woodcrest Station at 8:30 am.

Field Trip Information: The following information will be required by each individual club member who plans on going on any future field trip. This information will be retained by the **Field Trip Chairperson only**. We need to know of any pre-existing health conditions that would be of concern. For example: Are you allergic to bee/wasp stings. Do you need to have an Epinephrine pen on you just in case. Or do you need to have your medications at specific timeframes? We want everyone to be safe and have an exciting time.

Future Events:

Earth Day Event on Sunday, April 21st at the Redbank Battlefield in National Park: Our club was asked to participate and we will operate three tables. We are asked to get to the site to set up before 10:00. The event runs from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. I'm looking for volunteers to work with and to set tables up displaying

our specimens and club brochures. I will be getting there later because I will be participating in the Walk MS Event from 10:00 to noon. I pray for nice weather and encourage you to participate.

Shows and Events

May

Cape Atlantic Rockhounds 2024 Spring Show: Saturday, May 18th - 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, May 19th 10 am to 4 pm. Beads, Rocks, Minerals, Crystals, Fossils and Jewelry. **Rain or Shine!** 2653 Cologne Ave., Mays Landing, NJ.

June

Gloucester County's annual Waterfest, Sunday, June 2, 2024, from 11 am - 4 pm at Scotland Run Park, Clayton, NJ. The 27th Annual Waterfest is the County's largest environmental fair featuring live animal shows, exhibits, crafts, food, canoeing and kayaking. Visit the Nature Center and participate in a Lake Study. Live music throughout Waterfest provided by Rachel Graff. Animal Shows: 12 noon, 1:30 and 3pm, Balloon Animals: 11:00 to 3:30pm, Canoeing and Kayaking: 11:00 to 3:30pm

Articles

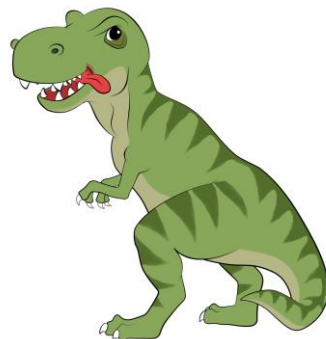
Archaeologists Discovered New Dinosaur Footprints—and Mysterious Symbols Next to Them

<https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/archaeologists-discovered-dinosaur-footprints-mysterious-123000720.html>



Joke of the Month

Why can't dinosaurs clap their hands?
(Attend the meeting for the punch line!)

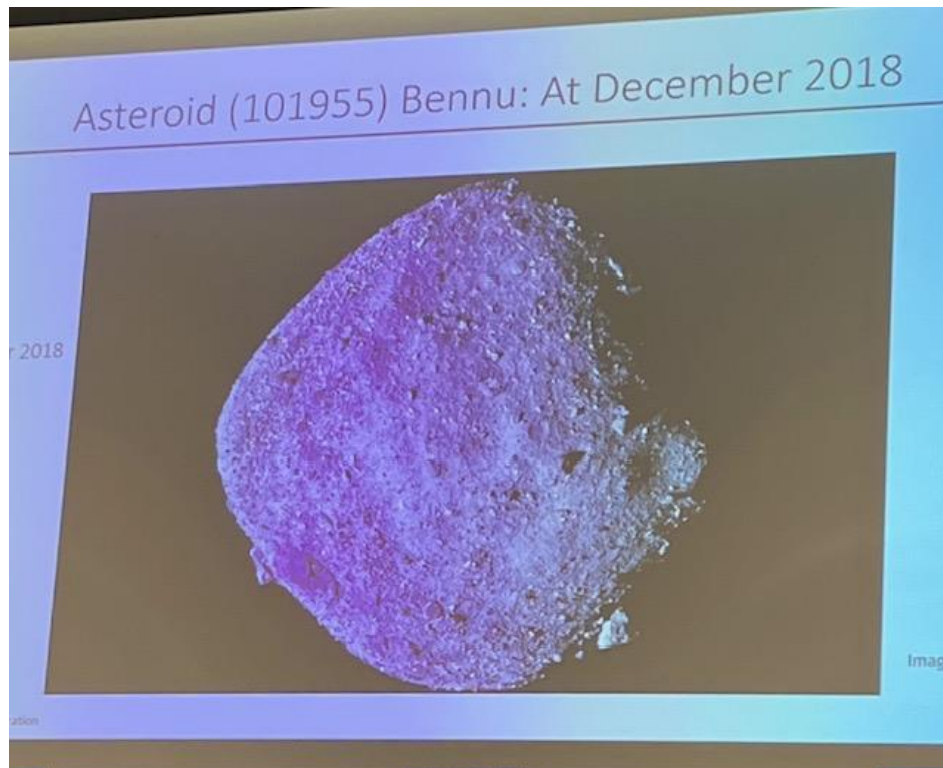


Photos

by John Arsenault

Conversations with a Geologist and a Historian: NASA's OSIRIS-REx Mission





Sewell Field Trip









DVESS Directory for 2024

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Committee Chairs</u>
<p>President: John Arsenault 856-495-8550 Asuwsh4@yahoo.com</p> <p>Vice President: Mark Leipert 856-524-2103 mark.leipert@yahoo.com</p> <p>Secretary: Cathy Eskew ceskew5@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540 brenimage@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Junior Rockhounds Chair: Millard LeCompte 609-458-7763 WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com</p> <p>Field Trips: Mark Leipert</p> <p>Co-Field Trips: Fred Hochkile</p> <p>Membership: James Brennan</p>
<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Other Information:</u>
<p>Editor: Susan Moore aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Website:</u> www.DVESS.org</p> <p><u>Facebook:</u> DVESSNJ – Amy Simpson</p>



Membership Information

Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

Regular Membership:

\$20.00 for the 1st family member + \$15.00 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)

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.

