

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



April 2026



This Meeting: Wednesday, April 8th. Short presentations. The first presentation will be given by Rick Reed on the topic "A Short History of Atlatls/Spear Throwers."

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 13th

Meeting location: Atco Senior Center, 474 E. Atlantic Ave, Waterford, NJ.

President's Message

The Delaware Valley Earth Science Society (DVESS) was founded at a meeting held at the Woodbury High School, Woodbury, New Jersey in February 1956, following discussion among interested persons in the Summer of 1955. DVESS was incorporated on November 7, 1957. Congratulations, we are celebrating our 70th Anniversary!!

The roller coaster ride continues. The weather patterns are fluctuating all over this year. Mother Nature enjoys teasing us with spring-like temperatures upper 60s to mid-70's the next day and then back into the freezer for a day or two. Then back up to summer-like conditions in the mid-80s. Field trip season is upon us once again. I'm looking to line up a few fossil trips to Chestnut Branch Creek, C&D Canal/Reedy Point Site, Ramanessin Creek/Big Brook and New Ringgold for Devonian marine fossils.

Please feel free to bring some type of refreshments and light snacks to our meetings. We'll put a sign-up sheet at this month's meeting.

We still have at least one more behind-scene tour at one more museum, either at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel or the Wagner Free Institute. These trips would most likely be on a Monday or Friday. I'm also still working on arrangements to get the club into the new Edelman Fossil Park and Museum. We've agreed that a Sunday is the best day for club members to meet but I now need to get more details and agree on the time and date with the museum. Once I have all the details confirmed, an announcement will be made. Will it be a meeting/tour or just a museum tour with the hope for a behind the scenes tour in the "Collections and Preparation Room"? More details will follow at an upcoming meeting.

Programs:

On Wednesday, March 11th at our regular meeting we had Tess Gallagher, a PhD student from Rowan University, who gave an interesting presentation about the ability to determine the color, pattern and texture of dinosaur skin. Many thanks to Tess and best of luck to her in pursuing her PhD.

This Wednesday, April 8th we plan on having several short presentations to share with the club. The first presentation will be given by Rick Reed on the topic “A Short History of Atlatls/Spear Throwers.” I hope someone else will volunteer for the second presentation this month. I’m looking for a few people to give a short presentation from time to time, approximately 15 minutes in length, at our meetings to allow people to share interests they like as part of the earth science, geology, paleontology field, etc.

Field Trips and Happenings:

C.K. Williams Quarry, Saturday, May 2nd: Once again we have been invited to join North Jersey Mineralogical Society (NoJMS) and Friends of Mineralogy NJ Chapter (FM-NJ). We will meet at a location where we can carpool with others. The plan is to then meet at Jay R. Snyder Memorial Park at Eddyside Beach at 9:45. Serpentine, asbestiform minerals and various micas, pegmatite bodies are present with feldspar, quartz, micas, schorl, titanite and associated minerals. Some radioactive minerals are present. If you have a Geiger counter, feel free to bring it along. Sign up at this meeting.

Wagner Free Institute tour: Date TBD. This tour would have to happen during the weekdays, Monday through Friday. We can possibly accommodate a group as large as 12 to 15. Please sign up at the meeting if you’re interested in attending.

Waterford Township Library has planned a summer reading program with a theme called “**Unearth a Story**” - **Dinosaurs, Paleontology and Archaeology**. They would love to have our club go to the library and do a presentation or program for either kids or adults. It’s to take place between mid-June and August. I’ll be looking for a few volunteers once I get more details.

Cape Atlantic Rockhounds, 2026 Spring Gem & Mineral Show: May 16th & 17th, 10 am – 4:00 pm, Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds, 3210 Route 50 Mays Landing, NJ 08330, Free Admission & Parking, Rain or Shine.

Mark Leipert - President

Save the Date
Desautels Micromount
Symposium

The Baltimore Mineral Society
is pleased to announce the

70th Annual

Paul Desautels Memorial
Micromount Symposium
October 2-4, 2026

At |
Natural History Society of Maryland
6908 Belair Road, Baltimore, MD 21206

Micromounters Hall of Fame Induction
Mineral Talks, Silent and Voice Auctions
Sales, Giveaway Tables, Trading

Details to be Announced: Mseeds@fandm.edu

DVESS Directory for 2026

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Committee Chairs</u>
President: Mark Leipert 856-524-2103 mark.leipert@yahoo.com Vice President: Cathy Eskew ceskew.5@gmail.com Secretary: Karen Sweeten Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540 brenimage@hotmail.com	Junior Rockhounds Chair: Mark Leipert Field Trips: Mark Leipert Co-Field Trips: Fred Hochkile Membership: James Brennan
<u>Newsletter</u>	<u>Other Information:</u>
Editor: Susan Moore aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com	<u>Website:</u> www.DVESS.org <u>Facebook:</u> <i>DVESSNJ – Amy Simpson</i>



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.

