

# DVESScapades

*escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures*



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



**August 2019**

### Upcoming:

**August** - no regular meeting

**September 11th:** Show and Tell - What have you been doing this year? Tell us all about it - bring in those fossils and minerals you've collected, and let us see your photos!



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

## President's Corner:

Have a happy and safe summer. Our regular meetings start back up on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The program for the night will be "Show & Tell." Summer isn't over yet so keep thinking of places and things you may want to show at the meeting. I'm looking for volunteers to help lead field trips.

**Sayreville, NJ Amber, Marcasite and Lignite collecting trip, Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>:** We had nine people show up for our Sayreville trip. We found many small pieces of amber, lots of marcasite and lignite. The prize of the day goes to Zack Boles from Rowan who found a fist size chunk of amber in one of the excavations. It was a very hot day but based on our findings, we are looking forward to our next visit. We will return when the weather is a bit cooler.

**National Limestone Quarries in Mt. Pleasant Mills and Middleburg, PA Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>:** Obtained permission to get access into both quarries to find fluorescent calcite xls, fluorite, wavelite and strontionite to name a few. We started out at the Middleburg Quarry and found many nice calcite crystals, golden calcite and fluorite. Due to car troubles we never made it to the Pleasant Mills Quarry where we will go next time to find the much sought-after wavelite.

**Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University, September 14:** 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. Sign up at the September meeting to help out.

**DVESS Annual Picnic, Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.** The annual picnic will be held at the home of Gerald and Jane Feigin (63 Berkshire Drive, Sewell, NJ 08080) at 1:00 pm. The hamburgers and hotdogs are provided by the club. We ask that people bring side dishes and salads, snacks and refreshments to share. We encourage everyone to sign up and tell everyone what you are bringing to eat, so we don't wind up with ten plates of brownies. Sign up at [www.whosbringingwhat.com/dvess](http://www.whosbringingwhat.com/dvess). Please sign up so we know how many hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages to purchase. And bring plenty of money so you can bid on many items at our auction. The pool will be closed. The temperatures should be much cooler than the July date we had originally picked.

**Sterling Hill Mining Museum Tour and Night Dig, Saturday, October 19:** This is our annual free tour of the three museums and mine walking tour as well as the evening night dig. More details to follow. Please sign up at the regular meeting in September and October.

**Mark Leipert, President**

## Photos

Sayreville, NJ Amber, Marcasite and Lignite collecting trip, Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>



**1** MIKE EXCAVATING AMBER FROM A PIT AT SAYREVILLE





## 2 MARK DIGGING FOR AMBER



## 3 LARGE FIST-SIZED PIECE OF AMBER FOUND BY ZACK VOLES AT SAYREVILLE









## News

**This Eagle-Nosed, Shovel-Chinned Dinosaur May Be the Weirdest Thing You See Today**

<https://www.livescience.com/65937-shovel-chinned-dinosaur.html>

**A 12-year-old snags a mammoth discovery while on vacation in Ohio**

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/08/14/us/woolly-mammoth-tooth-ohio-trnd-scn/index.html>

## OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission

From: Dolores Hill via Meteorite-list <meteorite-list@meteoritecentral.com>

Sent: Mon, Aug 5, 2019 9:27 pm

Subject: [meteorite-list] OSIRIS-REx Bennu Mappers still needs you!

Greetings Meteorite Friends,

The OSIRIS-REx asteroid sample return mission still needs your help. So the original Bennu Mappers CosmoQuest program has been extended. I am writing to invite our friends in the meteorite community to continue (or start) mapping craters, boulders, and rocks on asteroid Bennu. See here for details: <https://bennu.cosmoquest.org/>

I know many of you have enjoyed exploring and mapping some weird boulders and rocks on Bennu's surface. THANK YOU!! I can't wait until the sample returns in 2023 for the "rest of the story"!

Best regards,

Dolores Hill

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Dolores H. Hill

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<http://www.lpl.arizona.edu/>

OSIRIS-REx Asteroid Sample Return Mission Communication & Public Engagement Team

Lead OSIRIS-REx Ambassadors program

Co-lead OSIRIS-REx Target Asteroids! citizen science program

Co-coordinator Target NEOs! observing program of the Astronomical League

Association of Lunar & Planetary Observers - Meteorite Section

<http://osiris-rex.lpl.arizona.edu/>

[http://osiris-rex.lpl.arizona.edu/?q=target\\_asteroids](http://osiris-rex.lpl.arizona.edu/?q=target_asteroids)

[http://www.astroleague.org/files/u3/NEO\\_HomePage.pdf](http://www.astroleague.org/files/u3/NEO_HomePage.pdf)

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Visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/meteoritecentral> and the Archives at <http://www.meteorite-list-archives.com>

## **Wildacres..... Finally!**

by Bob Farrar - from EFMLS News July 2019 pg. 4

I have been a member of several EFMLS clubs for over 20 years. During that time, I have frequently heard reports from other members about the great experiences that they had at EFMLS workshops held at the Wildacres retreat in Little Switzerland, North Carolina. I had often thought that I should attend one of those workshops and find out for myself if they are as wonderful as my friends indicate, but I never could seem to find the time. I recently retired, though, and now find myself with more time to devote to rock collecting and lapidary work, so I resolved to attend a workshop in May of 2019.

Wildacres is located in the mountains of western North Carolina, which I consider some of the most beautiful land in the country. EFMLS sponsors two sessions each year, in May and September. Wildacres also hosts many workshops sponsored by other non-profit organizations, including crafts, music, writing, and others. For general information on Wildacres, one can visit their website, [wildacres.org](http://wildacres.org). EFMLS workshops offer classes on a wide variety of lapidary and jewelry making arts, as well as geology. For more details about EFMLS workshops, including upcoming classes and application forms, see the website [efmls-wildacres.org](http://efmls-wildacres.org). Also check out the article about Wildacres by Helen Serras-Herman in the April 2019 issue of Rock and Gem magazine.

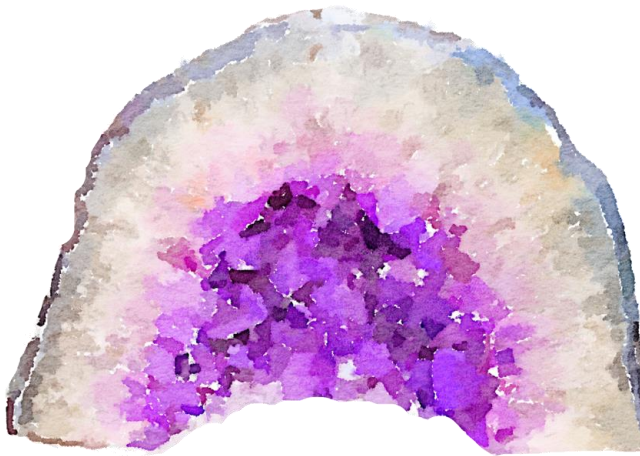
To say that Wildacres is a secluded spot would be the understatement of the year. The nearest town of any size, Spruce Pine, is about 30 min. away. There is no television. There is almost no cell phone reception, and very limited internet. At night, the loudest noise one is likely to hear is the call of a whip-poor-will. If nothing else, it is a great place to unplug, unwind, and recharge. The facilities exceeded my expectations. The lodges, dining hall, meeting rooms, and classrooms are all very nice. I was expecting something much more rustic. Also exceeding my expectations were the three square meals a day that we were served.

Classes in EFMLS workshops are organized into two 2-day “semesters” with a free day in between. Some classes run for both semesters; others, for only one. All are taught by highly skilled, generous, and patient instructors from EFMLS clubs. Interspersed with the classes are several lectures by a “Speaker in Residence”, who is always a person well known in the field of gems, jewelry, and/or minerals. When I was there, it was noted gemologist and author Renée Newman. Past speakers have included Fred Ward, Mike Wise, Bob Jones and Helen Serras-Herman. The free day is particularly fun. Weather permitting, there is a field trip to a local collecting site, which I especially enjoyed. Or, one can go to some of the many points of interest



in the area, visit local rock shops, or just relax. Later in the afternoon, there is a tailgate show, during which people can sell or trade rocks, jewelry, and related items. Another particularly fun event is the “Good Stuff Auction” held one evening, in which donated items are sold to help support the EFLMS Wildacres workshop. The last night of the workshop, everyone gathers to show off what they have made during the week. Finally, everyone adjourns to the canteen for one last party.

So, is Wildacres all it’s cracked up to be? In a word, “Yes”! I had a great time, learned a lot, got a few new rocks, and made a lot of new friends. And, yes, I will be going back.



### Quote of the Month:

“Science, my boy, is made up of mistakes, but they are mistakes which it is useful to make, because they lead little by little to the truth.” — *Jules Verne, Journey to the Center of the Earth*

## Shows and Events

### October

**October 11-13: 63rd Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium**, Friends School of Baltimore, 5114 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21210. Giveaway tables, silent auction, voice auction, sales, mineral talks, trading. For program and registration forms, email Mike Seeds, mseeds@fandmedu

**October 12-13: 2nd Annual South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show**, 1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08054. Saturday (10 am-6 pm) & Sunday (10 am-5 pm). [www.sjmineralshow.com](http://www.sjmineralshow.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow](https://www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow)

### 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](http://www.ucnj.org/trailside)





## 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

PO Box 602

Berlin, NJ 08009-0602

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](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com).

