

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



December 2016

CELEBRATING OUR 60TH YEAR

Next Meeting: December 14th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: **Holiday Party**, gift exchange, and elections



The club will supply the cold cuts, bread, and beverages. Members are asked to bring a covered dish (salad, desert or food item).

Bring a wrapped gift (value about \$10.00) and get a gift in exchange.

Vote for 2017 officers!

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

Field Trips:

There are no scheduled field trips this month. Everyone's schedule is too hectic. It's time to be with family and friends.

November 19th New London/Elk Township: Two years ago we attempted to take this trip to a pegmatite quarry. We tried but were not able to locate the quarry. Of course we were relying on people trying to remember 35 years plus ago when the last time anyone was there. This time armed with directions provided by Bob & Sally Todd, we were determined to find the quarry. Those members who ventured out to find the quarry were Sherry, Susan, Jim, Reinhold, Karen & daughter Emily and myself. We were finding plenty of mica, quartzite and plagioclase feldspar on the lower part of a trail leading up hill next to Elk Creek. I ventured up higher on the trail where I found what appeared to be a small surface quarry. There was much better quality specimens of mica, black tourmaline, garnet, feldspars and quartzite. Everyone got their fill of minerals and we left for home around two. Later that day Jim emailed me to tell me that this quarry was in Ron Sloto's book "Mines of Chester County." Overall it was a successful trip.

November 26th Odessa, Delaware and C&D Canal Trip: This has become a regular trip for our club the past few years. This is a memorial trip remembering John Wolf an avid collector from the Calvert Museum Club and Delaware Valley Paleontological Society. This year Sherry, Jim, Reinhold and I along with Karen & her husband joined several clubs to honor John and collect petrified wood. We started out in the farmer's field where traces of petrified wood were scattered across the field. Many of us went across the road to the elementary school campus. The petrified wood was more prevalent in the fields adjacent to the school.



There were some small pieces up to about cell phone size. Then Gene Hartstein (DVESS & DVPS) and Tom Pankratz (Delaware Mineralogical Society) found part of a petrified wood log that probably weighed approximately 100 lbs. See attached photo.

Then around 2:00 we decided to head over to the C&D Canal dredging spoils area. After a twelve mile detour we made our way to the spoil area. We found many exogyras, belemnites and micro-fossils. The micro-fossils consisted of very small brachiopods, sea urchin spines and pencil-lead-thin belemnites. Soon we ran out of light and had to call it a day.

Mark Leipert

Quote of the Month:

Remember that the faith that moves mountains always carries a pick. *Source Unknown*



Stuart Martell gave an interesting presentation on fossils at our November meeting

Photos by Jim Brennan



News:

Remains of ancient elephant unearthed at L.A. subway excavation site

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-ice-age-20161130-story,amp.html>

Beyond dinosaurs: Fossils in National Parks

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/experience/america/national-parks/2016/12/02/national-park-fossils/94744546/>

Fossil Octopus is a Jurassic Jewel

<https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/laelaps/fossil-octopus-is-a-jurassic-jewel/>



Website of the Month:

Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University

Founded in 1812, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University is a leading natural history museum dedicated to advancing research, education, and public engagement in biodiversity and environmental science.

<http://www.ansp.org/>

Fieldtrip Photos by Jim Brennan
New London, PA



Odessa, DE





C & D Canal, DE





Shows and Events

Exhibit of prehistoric artifacts from the Madeira I and II digs near Oldershaw Av. in Moorestown, four years ago, by Jack Cresson are on display at the Smith-Cadbury Mansion, 12 High St., Moorestown. The display runs through June 2017 and is free. See www.moorestownhistory.org

Dinosaurs Unearthed - June 25, 2016–January 16, 2017 - Academy of Natural Sciences. Back by popular demand—roaring, moving, life-size animatronic dinosaurs invade the Academy for a multi-sensory experience for the whole family. Fee in addition to museum admission.

<http://www.ansp.org/visit/exhibits/dinosaurs-unearthed/?gclid=CI3Z79THhswCFcskhgodOqMFaQ>

Dinosaurs to take over the Franklin Institute with 'Jurassic World: The Exhibition' NBCUniversal and Imagine Exhibitions will bring the exhibit to Philadelphia for a Nov. 25 start at the Franklin Institute's Nicholas and Athena Karabots Pavilion and Mandell Center, where it will stay through April 2017. Jurassic World: The Exhibition is a conceptual endeavor, with attendees being given the

impression that they are VIP guests on Jurassic World's Isla Nublar during the events of the 2015 film.
<https://www.fi.edu/exhibit/jurassic-world>

December

All-Star Days, December 27–30, 2016, Academy of Natural Sciences

Spend your winter break with us! Warm up in [Butterflies!](#), spend some time with our live animals, and visit the roaring, moving dinosaurs in [Dinosaurs Unearthed](#). Celebrate what makes the Academy great with exciting new stage shows, fascinating fossils, hands-on science, and special specimens from our collections. Free for members or with general museum admission.





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:

\$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

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)

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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.

