

DVESScapades

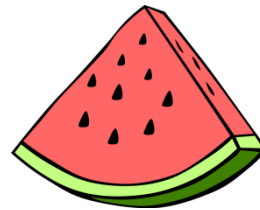
escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



July 2025



This Meeting: Wednesday, July 9th. Mark Leipert will discuss future field trips, including time for club members' input. We need to expand our adventures beyond where we have already gone.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 13th.

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

President's Message

Hi Fine Folks!

Sorry I missed last month's meeting but I was unable to drive due to cataract surgery. Are you enjoying the summer so far?

I understand that there was a vote on where to have the annual picnic and auction. The senior center won that vote and I believe that Mark is filling out the paperwork to request from the township to have it at the center. It is not an automatic thing, so let's hope that they give us permission. If that does happen, we'll need volunteers to help setup the room as well as clean up. Stay tuned, more details to follow.

We still have the Halterman collection populating the rock raffle table as well as some from the Gary dig. And thanks to the folks who donate to the rock raffle table.

The summer swap and sale will be on 7/26/25 at Sterling Hill Mine.

Did you go on any adventures this past month? What about a picture of you favorite minerals? Send your stories and or pictures to be included in our newsletter. Send any submissions to Susan Moore.

Unless you submit articles, jokes, or stories, you'll have to put up with mine.

Feel free to bring snacks to the meetings!

Science Article:

A giant pulse beneath Africa could split the continent — and form an ocean.

Discovery reveals pulsing mantle plume beneath Ethiopia, where a new ocean is forming.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/06/250627095035.htm>

Feel free to submit science articles that you find and want to share.

Submit your jokes, or put up with mine...



John Arsenault - President

Field Trips and Events

July Meeting Program: Wednesday, July 9th. Our guest speaker will be myself, Mark Leipert. My presentation will be on future field trips, which will include time for club members' input. We need to expand our adventures beyond where we have already gone.

Annual DVESS Picnic – Is tentatively set for August 10th pending approval by the Waterford Township Board. It will be held at the **Atco Senior Citizen Center located at 474 East Atlantic Avenue, Atco, NJ 08004 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 will have initial sign-up sheets at the regular meeting on Wednesday, July 9th. We encourage everyone to sign up, indicate how many are coming from your family and tell everyone what you are bringing to eat, so we don't wind up with ten plates of brownies. **We'll be sending out an email asking for people to sign up for what they are bringing and how many are coming. When you answer hit reply all. That way everyone sees what you are bringing.** We need to know how many hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages to purchase. Bring specimens for the club auction and bring plenty of money so you can bid on many items at our auction.

Field Trips:

Chestnut Branch Fossil Trip, Saturday June 21st: This was our first time to this site so far this year. We had several members and guests attend, including: Jenny Mulligan and daughter Phoebe, Fred Hochkile, Eric Carr, Shelby Spellane, Nancy Michaelson, Sue VanCola and myself. We found many belemnites, exogyras, and picodontes along with several types of shark teeth. The weather was hot but perfect for standing in a nice cool stream. Everyone had a excellent time.

July 12th Centralia Plant Fossils: We will be meeting at Wood Crest Station, Parking Lot 8A at 7:30 am. Centralia, PA was a small coal mining community in central PA that had to be abandoned after the coal beds under it caught fire in the

1960's. Today nothing is left but the streets and sidewalks and some cemeteries. The surrounding area has several strip mines with numerous plant fossils. These are typical Llewellyn formation fossils, some of which are coated with pyrophyllite like the famous St Clair fern fossils. In addition to fern foliage and seeds there are also lepidodendron (scale tree) fossils including roots, stems, foliage, and pine cones. Preservation and detail is good. Collecting is typical for plant fossils, splitting relatively soft shale with a hammer and chisel. There will be a half mile walk from the parking area to the collecting area. The terrain is very steep in places with rock faces of 20 to 40 feet and collecting in the scree at the bottom so a degree of fitness and comfort moving around loose rock is required.

August Field Trip: Possibly going to Lancaster to collect a variety of quartz crystals (rock crystal, amethyst or smokey quartz) or possible going to National Limestone Quarries.

Dinosaur Park, Laurel, MD: I will continue to take names of those that are interested in participating. They are still getting their volunteer program together. The Park is run by the National Park Service. I will keep reaching out to him every now and again.

Edelman Fossil Park and Museum: I am still trying to have a meeting there once or twice a year at the museum. I will update on the progress.

Club T-Shirts: I'm still working on a design and hope to have T-shirts by sometime in July/August timeframe.

Mark Leipert - Vice President

NEWS

Two prehistoric sea monsters found after 325 million years in the world's largest cave

<https://www.earth.com/news/prehistoric-sea-monster-shark-fossils-found-in-worlds-largest-cave-325-million-years/>

Geologists uncover new evidence from ancient asteroid that hit the Chesapeake Bay

<https://viriniamercury.com/2025/07/04/geologists-uncover-new-evidence-from-ancient-asteroid-that-hit-the-chesapeake-bay/>

Astronomers spot 'interstellar object' speeding through solar system

<https://abcnews.go.com/Technology/astronomers-spot-interstellar-object-speeding-solar-system/story?id=123448499>

PHOTOS

by Jenny Mulligan

Chestnut Branch







Cherry Hill Gemshow

by Jim Brennan



Recent Mineral Purchases

by John Arsenault



DVESS Directory for 2025

<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 ceskew.5@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540 brenimage@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Junior Rockhounds Chair: Mark Leipert</p> <p>Field Trips: Mark Leipert Co-Field Trips: Fred Hochkile</p> <p>Membership: James Brennan</p>
<p><u>Newsletter</u></p> <p>Editor: Susan Moore aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com</p>	<p><u>Other Information:</u></p> <p><u>Website:</u> www.DVESS.org</p> <p><u>Facebook:</u> <i>DVESSNJ – Amy Simpson</i></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.

