

# DVESScapades

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



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



June, 2014

**Next Meeting:** June 11th

*Come out to the meeting and learn something exciting!*

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

**President's Message:** By Mark Leipert, President

Many of you will be going on vacation this summer visiting many interesting places. Remember, if you find anything interesting enough to share with the rest of the club that September's program is "Show and Tell." Have a safe and pleasant collecting experience this summer.

**Big Brook Fossil Trip, Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup>**—Those who were in attendance were: Gerry Cox, Ryan Bower and friend Mary, Karl & Kaden Markiewicz, Irene Shandruk, Jim Brennan, Susan Moore, myself with guests Brad Leipert & Christine Nelson. Pictures from this event are posted

throughout this newsletter. All together we found around 20 various types of shark teeth and many belemnites. Dr. Jim Brennan 'Livingston' showed up to photo/document the adventure. Everyone had a good time. Several of us headed over to Ramanessin Creek where we had been successful in the past. We wanted to do a quick site reconnaissance just to see how collecting conditions were. Well, because of the severe winter many sediments from the fields in the areas adjacent to the creek washed into the creek. This created a very mucky and deep soft sediment deposit which made it near impossible to walk along in the creek. Although I did find a piece of a fossil crab's claw. Plus I wound up falling in. We will be looking into some new locations in the vicinity as well as another try at Shark River later this summer.



*photo by Susan Moore*

### **Geology Grand Tour, June 21st**

Postponed until 2015 due to lack of interest and health issues.

**Upper and Lower New Street Quarry Trip, June 21<sup>st</sup>**: If you suddenly find that your free to do some collecting since the Geology Grand tour was cancelled, well the good news is that we plan on visiting both the Upper and Lower New Street Quarries. I understand plenty of great stuff is still coming out of these places but you have to be a hardcore "rockhound." These localities are famous for zeolite minerals such as prehnite, natrolite, amethyst, quartz, calcite, chabazite, stilbite, heulandite, pectolite and apophyllite. Gerald Feigin has recently brought some materials from the New Street Quarries to our meetings. If you are interested in going on this trip, please sign up at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Annual D.V.E.S.S Summer Picnic:**

Our annual picnic will be held at the home of **Mr. Gerald Feigin on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00.** The club will provide hamburgers and hot dogs as well as soda and water. Please bring other items such as salads, baked beans, snacks and desserts. An email will be sent around for you to tell us what you are bringing. Bring your bathing suit to go swimming and stay cool in the pool. **If you have special dietary needs please bring your own items.**



## Field Trip Photos by Jim Brennan

### *Big Brook Fossil Trip*











## Quote of the Month

Apart from its healthful mental training as a branch of ordinary education, geology as an open-air pursuit affords an admirable training in habits of observation, furnishes a delightful relief from the cares and routine of everyday life, takes us into the open fields and the free fresh face of nature, leads us into all manner of sequestered nooks, whither hardly any other occupation or interest would be likely to send us, sets before us problems of the highest interest regarding the history of the ground beneath our feet, and thus gives a new charm to scenery which may be already replete with attractions.

*Sir Archibald Geikie (1900)*

## *Hadrosaurus foulkii* Historic Trail



Haddonfield, NJ is the home of one of the most important discoveries in paleontology, and there is a walking trail that takes you to nine relevant locations in the town. The trail starts at the *Hadrosaurus foulkii* National Historic Landmark location, where the first nearly complete dinosaur skeleton was discovered in a marl pit in 1858. Trail guides are available at this location.

We have the efforts of Boy Scout Christopher Brees to thank for the development of this site in 1984 and its designation as a National Historic Landmark.

Today, one of the popular features of the site is a picnic bench that is the home of an ever-changing collection of plastic dinosaurs, brought by visiting children.





There are nine stops on the historic trail.

1. *Hadrosaurus foulkii* National Historic Landmark - end of Maple Avenue. Parking is available.
2. Birdwood Cottage - 405 Birdwood Lane. One of several buildings at Birdwood Farm.
3. Birdwood Farm - 519 Hopkins Lane. Birdwood Farm was the location of the marl pit where fossil bones were found, starting in the 1830's.
4. The Lindens - Corner of Hopkins and Kings. The original location of the summer home where William Parker Foulke, a paleontologist, was staying in 1858.
5. Indian King Tavern - 223 Kings Highway. At one time, the meeting place of the Haddonfield Natural Science Club.
6. Cope-Horter-Pharo Home - behind 242 Kings Highway. the home of Edward Drinker Cope at one time stood where Borough Hall now sits. Cope, a well-known paleontologist, moved to Haddonfield in 1868.
7. *Hadrosaurus foulkii* Sculpture - Haddy Lane. This bronze sculpture was installed in 2003.
8. Boxwood Hall - 65 Haddon Avenue. The home of John Estaugh Hopkins, who built Birdwood Farm for his son, William.
9. Samuel N. Rhoad's Home - 81 Haddon Avenue. Rhoads was a naturalist and president of the Natural Science Club.

*Please note that several of the locations are private property.*





## Upcoming Field Trips

**Upper and Lower New Street Quarry Trip, June 21<sup>st</sup>**: Famous for zeolite minerals such as prehnite, natrolite, amethyst, quartz, calcite, chabazite, stilbite, heulandite, pectolite and apophyllite. If you are interested in going on this trip, please sign up at the June 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Shows and Events

### July 2014

**July 13 - Annual D.V.E.S.S Summer Picnic** - Our annual picnic will be held at the home of Gerald Feigin on Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00. The club will provide hamburgers and hot dogs as well as soda and water. Please bring other items such as salads, baked beans, snacks and desserts. Bring your bathing suit to go swimming and stay cool in the pool. There will be a club auction at the picnic.



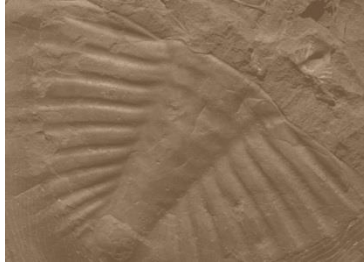
### Looking ahead

**November 1–2: Exton, PA** - 45th Annual Gemarama 2014 sponsored by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. School at Church Farm, 1001 E Lincoln Highway, Exton, PA 19341.

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## Club Brochures

Please pick up one or two yellow club brochures and have them on hand in your vehicle or handbag to give out to folks. If you see a parent and child, strike up a conversation by asking, “Does your child like rocks or dinosaurs?” Offer them a club brochure; if they’re not from our area, addresses and websites for the American Federation are on the back of the brochure. Your small gesture may make a world of difference to that child, his/her family, and to our club.



## 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:*

\$15.00 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 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive a Geode Specimen

“Gold” \$75.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive Mineral Specimen

“Platinum” \$100.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> 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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To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at [aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com). Show us the highlights of your collection!



