

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



June 2015

Next Meeting: June 10th

Program: John Sanfacon on Agates of the World



Upcoming Programs:

July: Edward Gimmi on The Chemical Bonding of Minerals

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

President's Message by AnnLynne Benson

PICNIC - Bring on the warm weather! Get out the sun screen, whip up some iced tea and cold fruit and get ready for our annual picnic on July 12th at Gerald and Jane Feigin's house. We are most fortunate to have such wonderful hosts who open their home (and pool) to us; other clubs do not enjoy such gracious facilities (if they have a picnic at all). Bring a side dish or dessert to share with the group, and an offering for the auction if you are so inclined. One suggestion would be to bring a "yard rock" to swap, give away or have auctioned. The other day a friend gave me a huge piece of industrial glass; I guess I must have looked puzzled (he's not a rock guy) but he said "You have a rock garden don't you? Put it in there." So that's what I've done. Don't worry about the weather - if it gets cool or rainy, the warmth of our fellowship will be enough to keep us going.

WILDACRES - Give yourself a treat and sign up for a class or classes at Wildacres. There is no better place to be August 24-30 than on top of a mountain in Little Switzerland, NC. Even the trip to and from is great! Class choices are faceting, gem identification, making gem trees, intarsia, polymer clay, roadside geology, silversmithing and soapstone carving among others. Geologically speaking, where on earth are you going to get an opportunity for such classes, plus room and board, for \$390.00? It's a deal you can hardly pass up.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH - <http://www.gemguidesbooks.com> is your source for a variety of categories of interesting books (astronomy and space, prospecting and treasure hunting, historical and old west, outdoor and nature) and every rock-related series you can think of (including Junior Rockhound and explorer). You can fast-forward to the Rock and Mineral section by going to http://www.gemguidesbooks.com/pdfs_2015/Rocks_Minerals_2015.pdf . These books are colorful, informative and have the best illustrations imaginable! I was surprised to see how many of them I already have!! Some day when I get tired of writing and collecting, I'm just going to sit down and read thru my library.

MEMBERSHIP - have you invited anyone to a DVESS meeting lately? Posted on your FaceBook page a picture of somewhere you've gone collecting? Your friends may be interested if you let them know. Most everybody likes to be included in something that's fun.

Keep on Rocking!



Dear rock enthusiasts of Sterling Hill, Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks, and DVESS,

I want to offer a HUGE thank you for your participation in the 35th Annual Super Science Saturday: New Jersey State Science Festival! Despite the rain, we had over 4000 people from

throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania exploring your exciting science offerings. This year's event offered a great range of science: astronomy, biology, chemistry, paleontology, geology, engineering and robotics, and great activities to inspire young scientists in their exploration – and this area has such interesting geological history to share! Our visitors had a wonderful time, and we could not make science come alive on such a grand scale without your contributions!

Our onsite photographer captured great shots of the day, I wanted to share a selection with you – moments of excitement that characterized the whole event:

<http://adpfilms.pixieset.com/supersciencesaturday/>

Even with this year's Super Science Saturday: New Jersey State Science Festival so recently wrapped up, we are already starting to plan next year's festival with even bigger science learning experiences! I will be reaching out to each of you as we organize Super Science 2016, with hopes that you will again join us in bringing hands-on exploration to scientists young and old.

If you have any comments, suggestions for next year (I will definitely suggest that the sky cooperate!) or stand-out experiences from Super Science, please drop me a line – I'd love to hear your feedback!

Thank you!

Diane M. Bushman, Ph.D.

Asst Curator, Science Education



June Field Trip Report:

In May we had a field trip to Big Brook and Ramanessin Creek (Parts 1 & 2). We did not find much at the first leg of Ramanessin Creek but we hunted down a lead for a future trip at the Ramanessin Creek Park. Looks good for collecting.

This month we are planning on visiting one of the several sites in Chester County, mentioned by Ron Sloto last November. The date of the trip will be June 20th and we will be leaving from the Woodcrest Station in Parking Lot 8A. Sign up sheets will be at the June 10th meeting. Thanks.

Mark Leipert, Field Trip Chairman, DVESS

Big Brook Fieldtrip Photos by Jim Brennan





Exploring along the Ramanessin by Jim Brennan and Susan Moore





Websites of the Month

Agate

<http://stoneplus.cst.cmich.edu/agate.htm>

Lake Superior Agates

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snapshots/rocks_minerals/lakesuperioragate.html

Agate: The gemstone agate information and pictures

http://www.minerals.net/gemstone/agate_gemstone.aspx

Quote of the Month

Each of the major sciences has contributed an essential ingredient in our long retreat from an initial belief in our own cosmic importance. Astronomy defined our home as a small planet tucked away in one corner of an average galaxy among millions; biology took away our status as paragons created in the image of God; geology gave us the immensity of time and taught us how little of it our own species has occupied. *Stephen Jay Gould*

Shows and Events

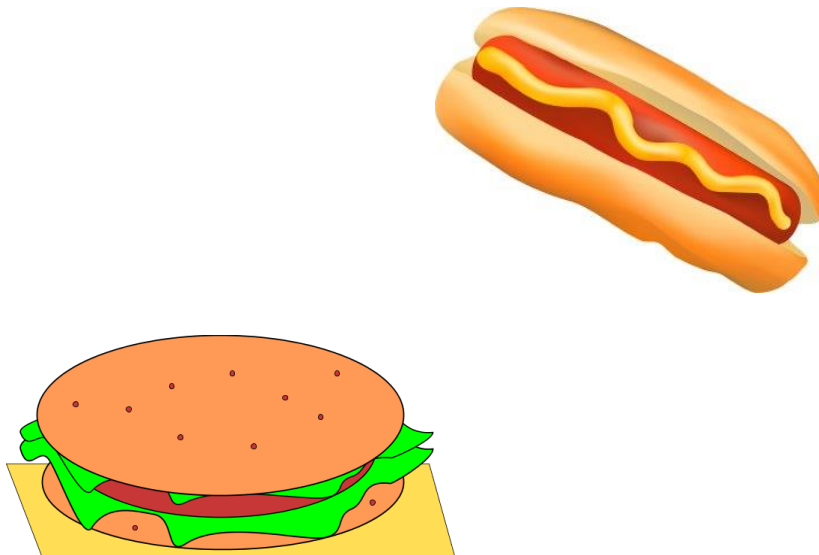
June

June 6: Macungie, PA - 64th Semi-Annual Spring Mineralfest Show sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association. Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA.
<http://www.mineralfest.com/pesa.html>

June 20: Field trip. Sites in Chester County, PA. Sign up at the June 10th meeting.

July

July 12th: DVESS Summer Picnic Our annual picnic will be held at the home of Gerald Feigin. 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.





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:

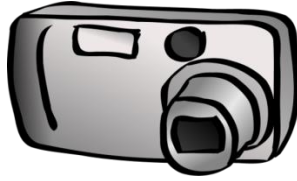
- promotes interest in, knowledge of, and the development of skills in the “earth sciences.” These interests include mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary arts, archeology, and local preservation.
- supports the conservation of natural resources, advocates the availability of collecting sites, and maintains 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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Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052

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.

