

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



June 2019

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 12th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: **Carlsbad Caverns National Park**

Upcoming:

Summer Picnic - date TBA

July and August - no regular meetings

September: Show and Tell



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. Remember that September is our "Show and Tell" program. If you visit some place that relates to things our club does, please share your experience with us. We do not have regular meetings in July and August. We are working on a summer full of an exciting mix of minerals and fossils collecting trips. Below you will find several trips that are tentatively planned for the next few months. Please sign up for these trips at the regular meeting. We may also plan on a few short notice trips for scouting out sites before we plan them for a club trip. All of our trips are subject to cancellation due to severe weather conditions. We are also working on getting some interesting speakers for the second half of the year. I'm looking for volunteers to help lead field trips.

Scout Day at the Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University, Saturday June 1st: Fred and Mark participated in an event at the Fossil Park for Daisy, Brownie, Girl Scouts as well as Tiger, Cub Scouts, Webelos and Boy Scouts to learn about Earth Science, Geology, Paleontology, Rock and Mineral identification and get some requirements signed off. Everyone had a fantastic time and the weather cooperated again.

Water Fest 2019 at Scotland Run Nature Center and Park, Sunday June 2nd: Fred, Karen, Amy, Ann and Mark participated in a fun filled day at the Water Fest at the newly refurbished Scotland Run Nature Center and Park. There were live animals, live bird shows, kayak and canoeing on Wilson Lake, as well as at least 25 tables displaying exhibits on mosquitoes, birding, projects for the outdoors, wetlands protection, recycling exhibits, Pinelands protection, fossils from the Edelman Fossil Park, minerals and fossils from the DVESS. The place was packed all day. The weather also was fantastic for another weekend. Hopefully the weather will be as good when we are going on some of our field trips.



Big Brook Fossil Preserve & Ramanessin Creek: May 11th: The water levels were still a little high for Big Brook because of all the rain we received over recent months but the weather cooperated for a beautiful day. Jim, Sherry, Karen, Amy, Mike and Mark went to Big Brook first to see if collecting was any better than last fall. Jim and Mark had a discussion with a guy named Bob, who they met two years ago, who had unearthed a large sea turtle. He had been collecting bone from the same turtle for over a period of ten years. We weren't that lucky; we found mostly Belemnites and Exogyra. We then picked up and went to Ramanessin Creek where we found several small sharks teeth, bones and a vertebrae. One the way back home we stopped for ice cream at our favorite place "Ice Cream on 9."

Calvert Cliffs Kayak/Canoe Trip, June 8th and 9th: Lead by Susan VanCola on June 8th. If you are interested in going to the Calvert Marine Museum on Sunday June 9th for a behind scenes tour followed by a field trip to collect shark's teeth, contact Mark Leipert before Saturday June 8th.

Sayreville, NJ Amber, Marcasite and Lignite collecting trip, Saturday, July 13th: We will be returning to the clay pits area where we scouted the site out last fall. We found many small pieces of amber with a few chunks of marcasite and lignite. Let's hope the ticks continue to stay away. Sign up for the trip at the regular meeting.

Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University, September 14, 2018: details to be 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.

National Limestone Quarries in Mt. Pleasant Mills and Middleburg, PA, date TBD: Working on getting permission to get access into both quarries to find fluorescent calcite xls, fluorite, wavelite and strontionite to name a few. Sign up at June meeting.

Medford Quarry in Maryland: date TBD. I've been told that there is Dog Tooth Calcite, Malachite, fluorescent Calcite and quartz scepters to name a few. Details to follow. If you are interested sign up at the regular meeting.

DVESS Summer Picnic: date TBD. We hope to have a date by the regular meeting in June. 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. We are working on setting up a link to "whatareyoubringingtotheDVESSpicnic". Please sign up so we know how many hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages to purchase. Bring a bathing suit to take advantage of the great pool! And bring plenty of money so you can bid on many items at our auction.

Mark Leipert, President

News

Fossils in Burmese amber offer an exquisite view of dinosaur times—and an ethical minefield

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2019/05/fossils-burmese-amber-offer-exquisite-view-dinosaur-times-and-ethical-minefield>

Dinosaurs return to Smithsonian fossil hall after 5-year renovation

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/dinosaurs-fossil-hall-smithsonian/index.html>

Photos - Field trip, May 11th
Big Brook

by Jim Brennan



Ramanessin Creek





What I Did on My Spring Vacation

by Susan Moore







Quotes of the Month:

Will Rogers, speaking about Carlsbad Caverns "It's just the Grand Canyon with a roof over it."

Ansel Adams, speaking about Carlsbad Caverns - "something that should not exist in relation to human beings. Something that is as remote as the galaxy, incomprehensible as a nightmare, and beautiful in spite of everything."

Shows and Events

June

June 8, 2019 - Fossil Hunting at Calvert Cliffs by Kayak, Trip Coordinator: Susan VanCola (svancola@gmail.com)

Meet Sue at 10 AM at Breezy Point Beach and Campground. We will put-in by 10:30 AM; for those who wish to return home on Saturday, turn-around time is 3:30 so they can get in cars for home before 5 PM.

Breezy Point Beach and Campground, 5300 Breezy Point Road, Chesapeake Beach, MD. If you want to put-in from the beach, it's \$10 per adult (includes parking).



They now have kayaks to rent – call in May to reserve your kayak – 410-535-0259

<http://paddleorpedal.com/>. In 2018, kayak rentals were \$45 single or \$60 tandem. There are other rentals nearby.

Local accommodations include Breezy Point campground <http://www.co.cal.md.us/Facilities/Facility/Details/Breezy-Point-Beach-and-Campground> and Matoaka cabins and campground <https://www.matoakabeachcottages.com/> and http://www.breezypointmarina.com/cottage_rentals.aspx. See also air bnb and vrbo.com

June 9th, 2019 Calvert Cliffs by Land, Trip Coordinators: Paul Murdoch and Susan VanCola

Meet at Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons MD at 9:45 am.

For those willing to make this a long weekend, a Behind-The-Scenes tour has been arranged with the CMM's Paleo staff. This should last 1-2 hours and then we will break for lunch. We will then converge via separate vehicles to a TBD beach at the late afternoon high tide for a fossil hunt. We should be on a beach from 2-5ish. Plan to get wet, so dress accordingly for weather and bugs. Which beach we access will depend on water and wind conditions.



For more information on the area, this book is available for free download: The Geology and Vertebrate Paleontology of Calvert Cliffs, Maryland <https://opensi.si.edu/index.php/smithsonian/catalog/book/107>

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



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)

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To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com.

