

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



June 2022



Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 8th, via Zoom

7:00 pm social hour

8:00 pm Program: Derek Yoost will be presenting the topic "Big Brook: - A Stream of Possibilities"



President's Message

We will continue having Zoom meeting at least until possibly September or beyond. COVID-19 sub-variants are on the rise again. We will continue taking trips and remain safe too. We are lining up field trips now that the weather is getting warm. I'd like everyone think about members that we haven't seen on our regular Zoom meetings. Please reach out, give them a call and let them know you are thinking about them. If you don't have their address or phone number, call me at 856-524-2103.

May 11th, 2022, Zoom Meeting: Our speaker was Dr. Kristyn Voegele, an Assistant Professor of Geology at Rowan University who presented the topic "Recovery of Endogenous Collagen 1: From a Marine Crocodile – *Thoracosaurus neocesariensis*." Dr. Voegele conducted a research project on determining if genetic material could be preserved over millions of years and proving the material was in fact crocodylian when comparing to modern day crocodiles.

June 8th, 2022, Zoom Meeting: Our guest speaker will be Derek Yoost who will be presenting the topic "Big Brook: - A Stream of Possibilities." Big Brook is a stream in Monmouth Co., New Jersey that preserves the fossil remnants of an ancient ocean. The sediment that makes up the stream banks dates from the Late Cretaceous period, about 70 million years ago. At that time there were no polar ice caps, so the sea level would have been about 600 ft above your head and the coast would have been right around where the New Jersey Turnpike is now. Swimming in this ocean would be extremely dangerous, since there were sharks, 6 ft salmons, mosasaurs, plesiosaurs, and giant sea turtles all gliding past eyeing you as a tasty morsel to eat. The fossils found commonly are sharks' teeth, fish teeth and bones, while reptile teeth and bones are uncommon and rarely found dinosaur remains. Along with these Cretaceous fossils, are other fossils that were scraped from Devonian Aged rocks deposited here during the last Ice Age, including corals and brachiopods. Ice Age fossils like Mastodons and cold loving Caribou are also rarely represented. As if that was not enough, there are also American Indian, Colonial, and old modern artifacts also in the stream. Pretty much, you never know what you might find in your screen. You might be asking "How did the non-swimming Dinosaurs come to wind up in a marine deposit?" Join the next club

meeting to find out how and to see some of the cool stuff that you might have a chance to find on your next trip to “the brook.”

DVESS Club Project: We are going to be sending a package to the Gem & Mineral Club from Ventura, California containing fluorescent minerals from Franklin and Sterling Hill, NJ. If you have some small specimens (less than 2 inches in diameter) that are fluorescent and you are interested in participating/contributing, please notify Fred Hochkile or myself to make donations. Thanks.

Sterling Hill Super Diggg 2022 is postponed until further notice. There is a fairly slim chance we will be holding the event in the fall.

The “Cape Atlantic Club Mineral Show & Sale”: Cape Atlantic Rock Club held its mineral sale/show on May 14th and 15th. The weather was nice early Saturday morning and eventually became a wash out. Sunday was a much better day once the fog burned off. I manned an information table for DVESS, DVPS, Cape Atlantic Gem & Mineral Club and Edelman Fossil Park and Museum. Overall, there was a pretty good showing for the weekend. Stay tuned for details for their September (Fall) show.



May 22nd, 2022, Sunday: Every time we go to the Pickering Valley Golf Course, it’s hazy, temperatures in the low to mid-90’s and the humidity is 100%. This Sunday trip was no different. We started from the Woodcrest Station as usual and we met at the Pro Shop at Pickering Valley Golf Course. Those who dared to go collecting in the heat and humidity were John Arsenault, Ray and Billy Pape, Phyllis Ann, Fred Hochkile, Steve Bleifuss and myself. We are only allowed to collect at the Brookdale Mine spoils. Many quartz and pyromorphite crystals were found along with various iron and lead minerals. There are close to 60 other

minerals listed to be found at the former mine. See some of the photos from our adventure below in this newsletter.

Summer Kick-off event at James G Atkinson Park in Sewell on June 11 from 11am-5 pm. DVESS will be setting up several tables like we have done for the Water Fest Event. This is another opportunity for our club to reach out as a resource to another nearby community. The day will offer a children's zone with crafts, games, balloon animals, children's performers and more. In addition, we are expecting 3,000 people, offering a great opportunity to reach a large amount of people. I'm also looking for some volunteers to arrange for some fun activities involving earth science. Please bring some item earth science-related that you have collected yourself on one of our trips.

June 18th, 2022, Saturday Field Trip to the C&D Canal at the Reedy Point Dredge Spoils Area, we will be once again going to the C&D Canal to collect Cretaceous Marine Fossils. We have heard rumors that the area was going to be phased out and that newer non-fossiliferous dredge were going to be deposited. We would like to return to the Reedy Point Dredge Spoils area while we still can. You can find Exogyras and Belemnites as well as some pretty neat microfossils. We will be meeting at the Woodcrest Station at 8:30 or at Kathy's Crab House at 107 5th Street, Delaware City, DE at 9:45. You will need to bring sieves, screens, shovels, collecting containers, sun block, insect repellent, a hat, snacks and plenty of water.

Future Field Trips: Mt Pleasant Mills, Middleburg National Limestone, Sayreville (amber) and Cornwall Mine spoils.

Mark Leipert, President

Shows and Events

June

2nd Annual Summer South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral & Fossil Show. June 11th. 1721 Springdale Road Cherry Hill, NJ 08054. Show Times: Saturday (6/11/22) 10:00 am - 5:00 pm (Outdoor Only) *Rain Date: Sunday (6/12/22) 10:00 am – 5:00 pm (Outdoor Only). www.sjmineralshow.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/sjmineralshow

Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science 21st Annual Mineral and Gem Show. June 11 - Rain or Shine, 9 am-4 pm. Sponsored by the Connecticut Antique Machinery Association, Inc. and the Danbury Mineralogical Society to benefit the Connecticut Museum of Mining and Mineral Science. To be held at the museum grounds of the Connecticut Antique Machinery Association, 1 mile north of Kent, CT on Route 7. Rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry for sale and trade. Tour the new exhibits in the mining museum. Free admission for visitors. New vendors welcomed. For additional information check our website at www.ctamachinery.com, or call (860) 927-0050.

Looking ahead

September 23-25, 2022 – EFMLS Annual Convention sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Rock and Mineral Club, Harrisburg, PA.

News

Papua New Guinea's Mount Ulawun volcano erupts, spewing plumes 3,000 metres high

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-06-02/papua-new-guineas-mount-ulawun-volcano-erupts/101122430>

Great timing and supercomputer upgrade lead to successful forecast of volcanic eruption

<https://phys.org/news/2022-06-great-supercomputer-successful-volcanic-eruption.html>

Photos

by Mark Leipert

Trip to Brookdale Mine Spoils at the Pickering Valley Golf Course in Phoenixville, PA





Specimen collected by John Arsenault at Brookdale mine spoils with mysterious micro blue crystal in a vug with quartz.

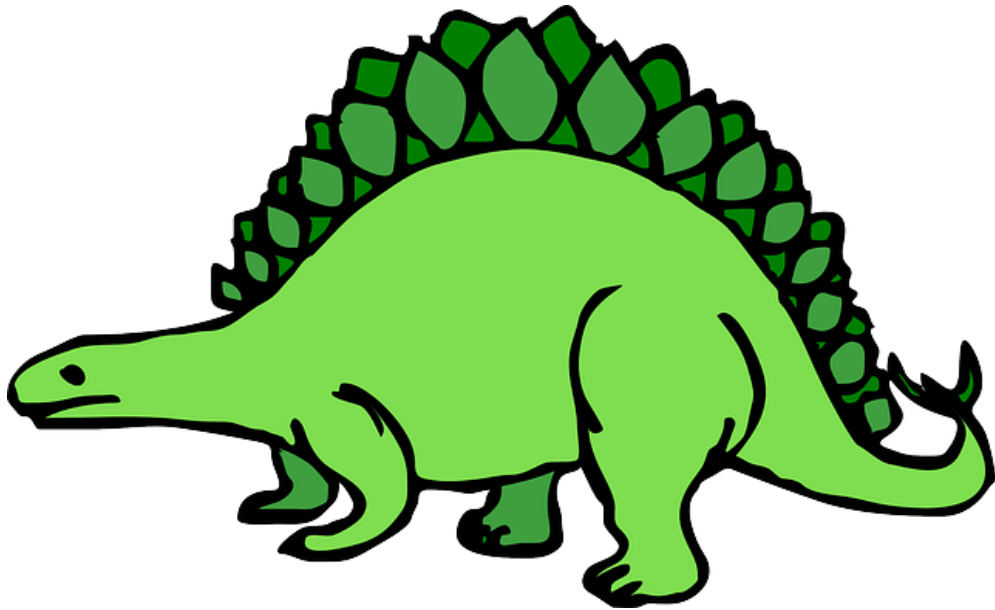


Mineral specimen collected by John Arsenault displaying some micro pyrite, quartz, iron mineral and mysterious blue crystals. Brookdale mine spoils.



Quote of the Month:

“Dinosaurs may be extinct from the face of the planet, but they are alive and well in our imaginations.” - *Steve Miller*



DVESS Directory for 2022

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Committee Chairs</u>
<p>President: Mark Leipert 856-524-2103 mark.leipert@yahoo.com</p> <p>Vice President: Jimmy Burlage james.burlage@outlook.com</p> <p>Secretary: Cathy Eskew ceskew5@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540 brenimage@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Junior Rockhounds Chair:</p> <p>Millard LeCompte 609-458-7763 WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com</p> <p>Field Trips: Mark Leipert</p> <p>Co-Field Trips: Ed & Alice Houseal alicehouseal@verizon.net</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: www.DVESS.org</u></p> <p><u>Facebook: DVESSNJ – Amy Simpson</u></p>



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)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

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

