

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



March 2019

Next Meeting: March 13th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: **Mr. John Sanfacon: A History of Russian Mineralogy**



Upcoming programs:

April: Gary will provide a lapidary demonstration

May: Lauren Adamo from Rutgers on the history of the Geology Museum

Dr. Harold Connolly will be back in the fall.

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

President's Corner:

Spring is just around the corner. We will be going on some oldie but goodie locations as well as new and interesting field trips, as long as the weather cooperates. If you have any recommendations please submit them to any club officer. If you would be interested in organizing an outing please let us know. We gladly take volunteers to lead trips.

Dues: If you haven't done so dues are due now. The base fee is \$20.00 while each additional member from a family still remains at \$5.00. Senior citizens are only \$10.00 for the year.

March 2nd and 3rd 2019: Paleopalooza at Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel: Fred Hochkile and I represented DVESS at the Paleopalooza this past weekend. There was a great turn out even though the weather wasn't the greatest. There were plenty of activities for kids of all ages, there were talks on Bighorn Basin Paleontological Institute and Dinosaurs in Antarctica, displays and hands-on activities. See pictures throughout this newsletter.

March 23rd 2019: Odessa, DE: Petrified Wood collecting. John Wolf memorial collecting trip. Sign up at the meeting on March 13th.

Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair on March 30th and 31st at the LuLu Temple in Plymouth Meeting, PA on 5140 Butler Pike: There will be fossils, minerals, gems, vendors, speakers and exhibits! Kid's activities include a fossil dig and a kid's mineral corner, Boy Scout merit badge information, door prizes and food.

Franklin Mineral Museum Super Diggg: Saturday, April 27th 2019. We need help running our only fundraiser for the year. We need volunteers on Friday the 26th to set up and make sure everything is ready for first thing Saturday morning. People start arriving around 7:00 am even though the collecting doesn't start until 9:00 and goes to 11:00 pm. We need people for parking, registration, safety detail, weigh out, monitor gate and collecting payments. If you help out for two to four hours you can collect for free in the Buckwheat Mine Dump; you only have to pay for poundage.



Mark Leipert, President

Photos - Paleopalooza 2019

by Mark Leipert

Paleopalooza education tables



Jason Schein talking about "The Bighorn Basin" dinosaur field camp



Artist drawing Hadrasaur during the Paleopalooza - Educational



Kids, Lego and Dinosaurs - the perfect combination at the Paleopalooza

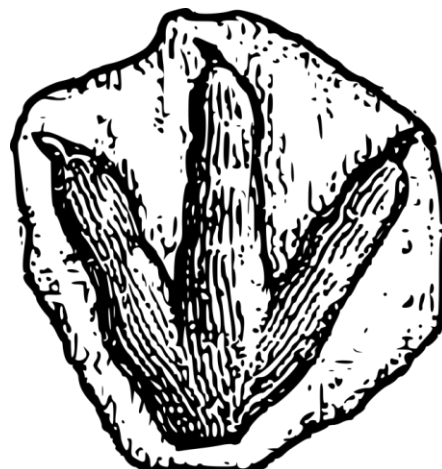


News

Dinosaur tracks make fresh impression at Valley Forge Park

Dozens of fossilized dinosaur footprints have been discovered on rocks used to pave a section of hiking trail at Valley Forge National Historical Park. The fossils are scattered along a winding trail, on slabs purchased in 2011 from a nearby commercial quarry.

<https://www.apnews.com/f6f6f1fda6a44d9ebce3047bc50b10f3>



Volcano erupts in Mexico

<https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/u-s-world/volcano-erupts-in-mexico/1829445575>

California's next big hazard could be a volcano, not an earthquake, USGS warns

<https://www.deseretnews.com/article/900058380/californias-next-big-hazard-could-be-a-volcano-not-an-earthquake-usgs-warns.html>

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2018/5159/sir20185159.pdf>

Quote of the Month:

THE GREAT VOLCANO OF KILAUEA

I suppose no man ever saw Niagara for the first time without feeling disappointed. I suppose no man ever saw it the fifth time without wondering how he could ever have been so blind and stupid as to find any excuse for disappointment in the first place. I suppose that any one of nature's most celebrated wonders will always look rather insignificant to a visitor at first, but on a better acquaintance will swell and stretch out and spread abroad, until it finally grows clear beyond his grasp - becomes too stupendous for his comprehension. I know that a large house will seem to grow larger the longer one lives in it, and I also know that a woman who looks criminally homely at a first glance will often so improve upon acquaintance as to become really beautiful before the month is out.

I was disappointed when I saw the great volcano of Kilauea (Ke-low way-ah) to-day for the first time. It is a comfort to me to know that I fully expected to be disappointed, however, and so, in one sense at least, I was not disappointed.

As we "raised" the summit of the mountain and began to canter along the edge of the crater, I heard Brown exclaim, "There's smoke, by George!" (poor infant - as if it were the most surprising thing in the world to see smoke issuing from a volcano), and I turned my head in the opposite direction and began to crowd my imagination down. When I thought I had got it reduced to about the proper degree, I resolutely faced about and came to a dead halt.



U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY"

"Disappointed, anyhow!" I said to myself "Only a considerable hole in the ground - nothing to Haleakala - a wide, level, black plain in the bottom of it, and a few little sputtering jets of fire occupying a place about as large as an ordinary potato-patch, up in one corner - no smoke to amount to any thing. And these 'tremendous' perpendicular walls they talk about, that inclose the crater! they don't amount to a great deal, either; it is a large cellar - nothing more - and precious little fire in it, too." So I soliloquized....

After a hearty supper we waited until it was thoroughly dark and then started to the crater. The first glance in that direction revealed a scene of wild beauty. There was a heavy fog over the crater and it was splendidly illuminated by the glare from the fires below. The illumination was two miles wide and a mile high, perhaps; and if you ever, on a dark night and at a distance beheld the light from thirty or forty blocks of distant buildings all on fire at once, reflected strongly against overhanging clouds, you can form a fair idea of what this looked like.

Arrived at the little thatched look out house, we rested our elbows on the railing in front and looked abroad over the wide crater and down over the sheer precipice at the seething fires beneath us. The view was a startling improvement on my daylight experience. I turned to see the effect on the balance of the company and found the reddest-faced set of men I almost ever saw. In the strong light every countenance glowed like red-hot iron, every shoulder was suffused with crimson and shaded rearward into dingy, shapeless obscurity! The place below looked like the infernal regions and these men like half-cooled devils just come up on a furlough.

I turned my eyes upon the volcano again. The "cellar" was tolerably well lighted up. For a mile and a half in front of us and half a mile on either side, the floor of the abyss was magnificently illuminated; beyond these limits the mists hung down their gauzy curtains and cast a deceptive gloom over all that made the twinkling fires in the remote corners of the crater seem countless leagues removed - made them seem like the camp-fires of a great army far away. Here was room for the imagination to work! You could imagine those lights the width of a continent away - and that hidden under the intervening darkness were hills, and winding rivers, and weary wastes of plain and desert - and even then the tremendous vista stretched on, and on, and on! - to the fires and far beyond! You could not compass it - it was the idea, of eternity made tangible - and the longest end of it made visible to the naked eye!

The greater part of the vast floor of the desert under us was as black as ink, and apparently smooth and level; but over a mile square of it was ringed and streaked and striped with a thousand branching streams of liquid and gorgeously brilliant fire! It looked like a colossal railroad map of the State of Massachusetts done in chain lightning on a midnight sky. Imagine it - imagine a coal-black sky shivered into a tangled network of angry fire!

Mark Twain

Volcano House,
June 3d - Midnight.

an excerpt from **The Sacramento Daily Union, November 16, 1866**



Shows and Events

March 2019

March 8-9: Leidy Micromount Symposium. Study and explore mineral specimens enhanced by magnification through the microscope. Advent Lutheran Church, 45 Worthington Mill Rd., Richboro, Pa. 18954. Table Space: \$20 for two days. Contact: Don McAlarnen - (610) 584- 1364; donmcalarnen@outlook.com

March 30-31: Plymouth Meeting, Pa. - The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society and The Delaware Valley Paleontological Society present "Mineral Treasures and Fossil Fair" a joint show and sale at the Lu Lu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike. Saturday hours: 10 am to 5 pm. Sunday hours 10 am to 4 pm. The show will feature fossils, minerals, gems, speakers, and exhibits. Learning activities include a Fossil Dig and a Kid's Mineral Corner. Food and Door Prizes through out both days. Admission: \$5.00 for all adults, \$1.00 for kids under 12. All uniformed scouts are free. Information: www.philamineralsociety.org.

April 2019

April 27: Third Annual Super Diggg at the Franklin Mineral Museum, 32 Evans Street, Franklin, NJ. Day and Night Digging!

April 27-28: 47th Annual Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show with Outdoor Swap, Littell Community Center, 12 Munsonhurst Rd., Franklin, NJ 07416. www.njese.org

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)

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

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Berlin, NJ 08009-0602

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.

