

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



May 2013

◆◆◆◆ our 57th year ◆◆◆◆

Next Meeting: May 8th, 2013

Program: tba

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

President's Message: By Mark Leipert, President

Wow! What can I say? The "Super Dig" was a super fantastic event. We had over 400 registered collectors who totaled over 4 tons of fluorescent rocks to take home. Many thanks to Mel LeCompte for a job well done. Many hours of planning and preparing went into making this weekend's event a giant success. I'd like to thank everyone who helped out in anyway, from our own members to the Sterling Hill Mine staff. It's really going to be hard to beat this one. How can we top this? The weather was perfect, also. We want your feedback on how we can continue to improve things at next year's "Super Dig".

Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum - This Saturday is Super Science Saturday at the NJ State Museum in Trenton. This is a FREE, FAMILY event featuring **Free Admission, Free Parking, Free Performances, Free Face Painting!**

Ann and I spent a few hours a few Sundays ago collecting mica to give away at the DVESS table, and yesterday, in addition to volunteering with Registration at the Super Dig, Ann collected fluorescent minerals to give away. Ann and I will update everyone on how well the event was attended at the

meeting on Wednesday.

Staten Island Field Trip, Saturday, May 18th –

Dr. Steven Okulewicz will lead our club to a classic serpentine mineral location. You may remember Steve from our Annual Banquet two years ago. There is no quarry but a large outcrop of Staten Island serpentinite along R-278 which we can access. The green rock is about 425 m.y. old and forms the highest topography south of Maine at 413 feet above sea level. The site has serpentine group minerals (mostly lizardite, chrysotile, and some antigorite), with small magnetite and chromite crystals. Secondary rhombs of talc and calcite fill veins and fractures. If we are lucky we might find some purple stichtite and gold pyroaurite. We hope to have the use of the Baptist Church's 15 passenger van otherwise we will be car pooling. If you're interested in going please sign up at the meeting on May 8th.

Geology Grand Tour, June 22nd –

This is a **geology study and collecting trip** conducted by DVESS Field Trip co-Chair and Geologic Assn. of NJ founding member Lou "Doc Rock" Detofsky and our other Field Trip co-Chair, President Mark Leipert.

ITINERARY - this is PRELIMINARY information and may change - NJ: Sewell – Inversand Marl Pit; Runnemede – Irish Hill; Trenton – State Museum; Titusville (DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS); Lambertville; Byram; Frenchtown; Milford. PA: Coffman – Bucks County Park; Hellertown (Ringing Rocks), New Hope (Bowman's Tower).

WHAT TO BRING:

Tools: rock hammer, boots for wet areas

Collecting Equipment: collecting bag, notebook, newspaper, zip lock bags, ball point pens, index cards (specimen name, locality, formation, age), vials, Crystal Light cans,

Safety Equipment: hard hat, gloves, first aid kit, sunscreen, OFF,

Misc: camera, plenty of water, snack bars.

ATTENDEES:

This trip is intended for adults who are members of DVESS or another club covered by American Federation insurance. Registration may be limited to a specific number of people (unknown at this time how many); contact Mark Leipert 609-567-7551 or email to (mark.leipert@yahoo.com) or Ann (856-783-0969 or 856-418-6121 text) to register. We hope to have the use of the Baptist Church's 15 passenger van, otherwise we will be car pooling. If you're interested in going please sign up at the meeting on May 8th.

Big Brook Fossil Trip, Saturday June 29th – We will be taking a fossil collecting trip to one of our old favorite localities for shark teeth, Belemnitella Americana, as well as other vertebrate fossils like fish, turtle, sting ray, crocodile, mosasaur, plesiosaur and some rare dinosaur fossils. Large specimens of fossil shells, Exogyra, are common in the stream sediments. Bring boots and a screen for sorting fossils from the stream deposits. More details to come. Please sign up for this trip at the May 8th meeting.

Minutes of the DVESS General Meeting - April 10, 2013

By Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary

Meeting was held at Centenary UM Church in Berlin, NJ.

Attendance: AnnLynne Benson- 1st VP/Special Events Coordinator, Gary Weinstein- Treasurer/Program Chair, Grant Elliott- Recording Secretary, Mark Leipert- President/Field Trip Chair, Lance Schnatterly- Cyber Consultant ([facebook.com/DVESSNJ](https://www.facebook.com/DVESSNJ)), Mil LeCompte- Jr Rockhound Coordinator/ Facilitator. and Susan Moore- Newsletter Editor (aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com).

Lou Detofsky- 2nd VP could not attend.

Stu Cleveland, Gerald Feigin, Bob & Sally Todd, Evelyn Vickovich, James Lawless, Meredith Taylor, Carol DeCuzzi, and Jim Brennan were also present.

President Mark Leipert gaveled commencement of the meeting at approximately 7:55pm.

Program:

Manny Robbins made a presentation on Terlingua Type Calcite and its fluorescence/phosphorescence.

Future Programs:

May-September: TBD

October 2013 (Approximately) - Lou will present a monumental treatise on the archeology and geology of the Mediterranean (Italy, Turkey, and Greece).

Special Events/Field Trips:

A number of earth science trips planned once the weather warms up. Trips will include many of the following (dates and details to follow):

- Whale Back, Deer Lake, and Saint Clair.
- Inversand (Opening up April 5th) Mark is continuing to stay close to the principals.
- Cornwall Furnace Museum and Indian Echo Caverns, Big Brook, Wheatly Mine, Ecton Mine, Upper New Street Quarry, Delaware Museum of Natural History, The Mutter Museum, The Prehistoric Museum in Greenwich Township, NJ.

Waiting for Berlin Baptist Church Board approval to use their 15-passenger van for some of these events.

Scheduled:

April 20th - Bus trip to the American Museum of Natural History is cancelled.

April 27th - Super Digg at Sterling Hill- All details online- We need volunteers to make it work. Contact Mil or Mark if interested in volunteering for various positions including registration, sales, membership, weighing in, set up /cleanup and site safety officers, etc. Need more volunteers. Ann will get 1000 DVESS

brochures + 300 handouts printed.

May 4th - Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum - Need Volunteers to man table(s) to distribute DVESS brochures, promote earth science, and advertise the organization. Contact Mark or Ann for more details.

May 5th - Bob Todd's house (317 Deptford Rd, Glassboro, NJ) to peruse boxes of specimens.

May 18th - Magician/geologist/professor Dr. Steve Okulowitz will lead an expedition to a serpentine mineral body on Staten Island. Sign-up sheet at April general meeting

June 22nd - Lou's Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – Bus Trip

July 14th - DVESS Summer Picnic at Gerald Feigin's house - Donations from previous years (Clare Leap collection, etc.) will be auctioned

September 21st - Sterling Hill Mine Club Tour

October 13th - Annual Club Banquet at Mandarin Restaurant- featuring Magician/Geologist/Professor Dr. Steve Okulowitz presentation.

In The Offing - Ramsey's Farm a/k/a Woodlawn Quarry (Wilmington, Delaware) mica mine related collecting.

Other Business:

Evelyn won the clear and smokey Herkimer specimen door prize.

Future Executive Board meetings:

April 17th- At Gary's store in Cherry Hill.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Margit Holsworth

With deep sadness we report the passing of our longtime member Margit Holsworth.

Her daughter has informed us that Margit passed away peacefully on April 24, 2013. Margit was a gentle soul, a knowledgeable birder, who was born in Hawaii, loved her garden, and was one of the early DVESS members along with her husband Charlie.

Our condolences go out to her family.



<https://exchange2007-ca-v1.rowan.edu/owa/redir.aspx?C=b1254a38af5e405fb4fa195e16913fb5&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.memorialsolutions.com%2fsitemaker%2fsites%2fWAINWR1%2fobit.cgi%3fuser%3d978508Holsworth>

News

Calculating tsunami risk for the US East Coast: News from the Seismological Society of America 2013 Annual Meeting

The greatest threat of a tsunami for the U.S. east coast from a nearby offshore earthquake stretches from the coast of New England to New Jersey, according to John Ebel of Boston College.

http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2013-04/ssoa-ctr041113.php

Volcano forecasting improved

Analysis of information from the period immediately before the 2009 eruption of the Redoubt volcano in Alaska showed an unusual pattern that may lead to more accurate eruption forecasting.

http://carnegiescience.edu/news/no_redoubt_volcanic_eruption_forecasting_improved

Websites of the Month

New Jersey State Museum <http://www.nj.gov/state/museum/index.html>

Delaware Museum of Natural History <http://www.delmnh.org/>

State Museum of Pennsylvania <http://www.statemuseumpa.org/>

American Federation <http://www.amfed.org/>

Eastern Federation <http://www.amfed.org/efmls/>

Wildacres Spring 2013 workshops <http://efmls-wildacres.org/page2/index.html>



Field Trips

May 18 – Staten Island Tour - Dr. Steve Okulewicz will be leading our club to a serpentine body on Staten Island.

June 22 – Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – Bus Trip.

June 29 – Big Brook Fossil Trip.



Shows and Events

May

May 4 - Super Science Saturday at Trenton State Museum

May 4–5 - Treasures of the Earth 10th Annual Show and Sale sponsored by the Mineralogical Society of NE PA: Pittston PA. Minerals, Fossils, Crystals, Jewelry and Gems, free kids activities, door prizes, exhibits, classes, and demonstrations. Held at St Joseph Oblate Seminary 1880 Rt 315 Pittston, PA

May 14 - Cherry Hill: Looking Below the Surface. 7 pm, Cherry Hill Public Library Conference Center (lower level), 1100 Kings Highway North. Free and open to the Public. Dr.. Ilene Grossman-Bailey will present an overview on Cherry Hill archaeology and archaeological sites. 856-488-7886. CHHC@CHTownship.com

May 18 - Archaeological Society of NJ, May Meeting. 11 am - 2:45 pm, Croft Farm, Kay Evans Farmhouse, 100 Bortons Mill Rd. Free and Open to the Public. 856-488-7886. CHHC@CHTownship.com

June

June 1–2, Eastern Federation Convention Plainview, NY hosted by Rockhounds and Suffolk Gem & Mineral Club – more info to follow!

Looking Ahead

July 14 – DVESS Summer Picnic at Gerald’s House

September 21 – Sterling Hill Mine Club Tour

October 13 – Annual Club Banquet at Mandarin Restaurant

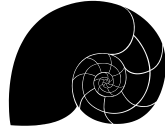
October 13-19 – Earth Science Week 2013 promotes awareness of the many exciting uses of maps and mapping technologies in the geosciences. <http://www.earthsciweek.org/>

2013 Super Science Saturdays at the Iron Hill Museum, 1355 Old Baltimore Pike, Newark, DE 19702 12:30pm – 3:00pm

May 11 – All About Archaeology

June 8 – All About Paleontology

Check out the Museum’s calendar at http://www.ironhill-museum.org/museum_calendar.htm



You Might Be a Rockhound If

- You think road cuts are built as tourist attractions
- You describe your vacations by the rocks you brought home.
- The rockpile in your garage is over your head.
- Your PC screen saver features pictures of rocks.
- You find rocks when you empty your pockets at night.
- You went to a rock festival and you hate music.
- You gave rocks, tumblers, or rock tools for Christmas.
- When friends say they're going to Tucson, you assume it'll be in February.
- You can find Quartzsite on a map in less than 5 seconds.
- When someone mentions "Franklin" you think of New Jersey rather than Ben.

by Members of The Gmeditors E-Mail Swap Group
American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
more at <http://www.amfed.org/rockhoun.htm>



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.

Quotes of the Month

"We learn geology the morning after the earthquake." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

"Change is the only constant." *Heraclitus*



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

\$10.00 for Rowan University Students with College ID

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)

P.O. Box 372

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. How about some photos of your prized specimens or latest collecting trip? Share them with us!

