

# DVESScapades

*escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures*



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



May 2023



**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, May 10th (in-person and Zoom)

**7:00 pm:** Social hour

**8:00 pm:** Program - Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Curator of Paleontology at the Calvert Marine Museum will speak on the topic of Shark Predation along the Atlantic Coastal Plain during the Neogene.

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

## President's Message

We held our first semi-hybrid meeting in April. It was a challenge, but we managed to get 2 Zoom users. Several members have been working with me to improve our hybrid meeting by observing what other clubs are doing. Please bring something for snack and to drink. We will be making reasonable attempts to conduct hybrid types of meetings (in-person and Zooming at the same time) and with practice it will eventually become second nature. We will take our normal summer break in July/August, but still run field trips throughout the summer months. We'll most likely switch back to total Zoom meetings during the winter months. We'd like to hear from you; let us know what you would like to see.

Spring is here. Our field trip calendars are going to start filling up. We have already done a few short trips to our nearby Sewell stream site, collecting many belemnites and Exogyras. We are making plans for our spring and summer field trips now. Please contact me should you have any ideas of localities or specimen types (fossil or minerals) you would like to visit. We are still trying to plan on taking Ralph Johnson up on his invitation to see his Upper Cretaceous Fossils of NJ at his Monmouth Amateur Paleontology Society (MAPS) museum.

**Updates on the Edelman Fossil Quarry and Museum construction:** It looks like the museum will open late 2023 or early 2024. For a photographic update on progress, you can go to Instagram and look up Kenneth Lacovara. You can see some really cool drone photographs and videos of the museum's construction progress. I hope to put together a quick presentation or possibly ask Natalie Haabak to give us an occasional update.

**Classroom teaching/sharing at the "Star Child Nature Center" at the JCC Camps in Medford.** On May 3<sup>rd</sup> I was asked to go to the school and teach the students about rock and minerals, the rock cycle, volcanos and fluorescent minerals. The children were very excited to have me come out and talk to them. There were about 20 students ranging from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. I handed out many brochures and invited the students and parents to come to the Junior Rockhounds program. I plan on going back in a few weeks to talk about fossils. They seemed very eager to learn. No photos at this time.

**May 10th Program:** We will have Dr. Stephen Godfrey, Curator of Paleontology at the Calvert Marine Museum. He will speak on the topic of Shark Predation along the Atlantic Coastal Plain during the Neogene.



Talk summary: There are now many examples of interactions between Miocene sharks and their prey. These varied interactions are preserved in the fossilized remains of their prey. This talk will feature a wide variety of fossils showing how and why it is thought they represent predatory or scavenging events between sharks and their meals.

Stephen Godfrey was born and raised in the Province of Quebec, Canada. He has always been fascinated with nature and natural history museums. As an early teen, he began to collect fossils, seashells, pinecones, and skeletons for his own bedroom natural history museum!

He received his B.Sc. in biology from Bishop's University and a Ph.D. in paleontology from McGill University. Following a two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Toronto, he moved to Drumheller, Alberta, the "Dinosaur Capital of Canada," where he became involved in paleontological exhibit work for museums around the world (Skulptures.com).

In 1998, Dr. Godfrey became the Curator of Paleontology at the Calvert Marine Museum in Solomons, Maryland where his mandate is to collect, preserve, and interpret fossils from the famous Calvert Cliffs along the Chesapeake Bay. Most of the fossils that he quarries from the cliffs are of extinct whales and dolphins that lived between 8-18 million years ago.

#### **Field Trips and Events:**

**Earth Day Event on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Redbank Battlefield in National Park:** Our club was asked to participate, and we operated two tables. The volunteers in attendance were Molly, Fred, John, Vince, Cath, Joe and Mark. The weather was perfect for an Earth Day Celebration next to the Delaware River. Members exhibited a few of their specimens, while Cathy helped youngsters paint rocks and others passed out brochures and information. A good time was had by all.

**Beltzville State Park in the Poconos on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** was cancelled due to the extreme rain event. We are hoping to reschedule soon. Details will be forthcoming.

**C.K. Williams Quarry, Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>:** We have been invited to join North Jersey Mineralogical Society (NoJMS) and Friends of Mineralogy NJ Chapter (FM-NJ). We will meet at a meeting location where we can carpool with others. Meet 9:45 at Jay R. Snyder Memorial Park at Eddyside Beach. Serpentine, asbestiform minerals and various micas, pegmatite bodies are present with feldspar, quartz, micas, schorl, titanite and associated minerals. Some radioactives are present. **The first 9 people to contact me will be signed up to go.**

**Cape Atlantic Gem & Mineral Club Gem and Mineral Show** at Cologne Avenue, Mays Landing, NJ will be holding their annual gem and mineral show on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 to 5:00 each day.

**The Gloucester County "Water Fest" Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at Scotland Run Park (980 East Academy Street, Clayton) from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm.** We will be set up under a big tent with three

tables to show off items we have collected. I'm looking for a few volunteers to man the tables and answer questions and hand out brochures. We will also be doing rock painting for the kids. Make sure to see our club display in the Nature Center.

**Multi-Club Picnic, Sterling Hill Mining Museum, Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>:** Collecting from 10:00 to 3:00, lunch will be from noon to 1:00. Need to RSVP by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Lunch is \$5.00 per person (includes 1 hotdog and one hamburger and the fixings). Let me know if you're interested in attending.

**Sayreville Amber Locality or alternative location depending on site conditions, Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>:** Meet at the Woodcrest Station PATCO at 8:30, Parking Lot 8A. Need hard souled shoes, long handled shovel, gloves, water to drink, snacks and a bucket to put your specimens in.

**MAPS Museum Trip** is still in the planning stages. More details to come.

**Mark Leipert, President**

## Shows and Events

### May

**Cape Atlantic Gem & Mineral Club Gem and Mineral Show** will be holding their annual gem and mineral show on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 to 5:00 each day. Outdoors, Rain or Shine, Free to the public. 2653 Cologne Avenue, Mays Landing, NJ 08330

### June

**Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association 2023 Spring Mineralfest**, Saturday, 3 June 2023, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA. Free admission - and plenty of free parking. Family-oriented - younger attendees encouraged. Rain or shine - over 50 vendors indoors, outdoor tailgate section weather permitting. Fluorescent mineral exhibit - by courtesy of the Franklin Mineral Museum

## July

**Eastern Federation of Mineralogical and Lapidary Societies 73rd National Convention, July 7 – 9, 2023.** Host: Gem and Mineral Society of Syracuse. Show location: Center of Progress Building, NYS Fairgrounds 581 State Fair Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13209. Host Hotel: Holiday Inn & Suites 400 Seventh North Street, Liverpool, NY

## News

**Heavy rain triggered destructive 2018 Kilauea Volcano eruption, study suggests**

<https://news.yahoo.com/heavy-rain-triggered-destructive-2018-040101464.html>

**250 evacuated as Volcano of Fire erupts in Guatemala**

<https://apnews.com/article/guatemala-volcano-of-fire-evacuations-eruption-b22fdf6c05426e3cef922d15b9cc5714>

## Quote of the Month:

When the camera is looking back at our planet Earth, it's the tiniest of specks somewhere out there in the universe. So we do have a new sense of proportion. Of course the volcanoes and the magma under us just remind us of that. - [Werner Herzog](#)



## Photos

Sewell Creek 4/16/23

by Cathy Eskew













## *DVESS Directory for 2023*

### **Officers**

President: Mark Leipert 856-524-2103  
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Vice President: Molly Burlage  
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### **Committee Chairs**

Junior Rockhounds Chair:  
 Millard LeCompte 609-458-7763  
[WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com](mailto:WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com)

Field Trips: Mark Leipert

Co-Field Trips: John Arsenault

Membership: James Brennan

### **Other Information:**

### **Newsletter**

Editor: Susan Moore  
[aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.DVESS.org](http://www.DVESS.org)

**Facebook:** [DVESSNJ](#) – Amy Simpson



## 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

PO Box 602

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](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com).

