

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



> founded in 1957 <

Next Meeting: November 13th, 2013

Program: John Ferrante, "History of Micromounting and the Leidy Microscopical Society"



Leidy
Microscopical
Society

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

Program Schedule

December - Holiday Party with DVD, gift exchange, food and elections.

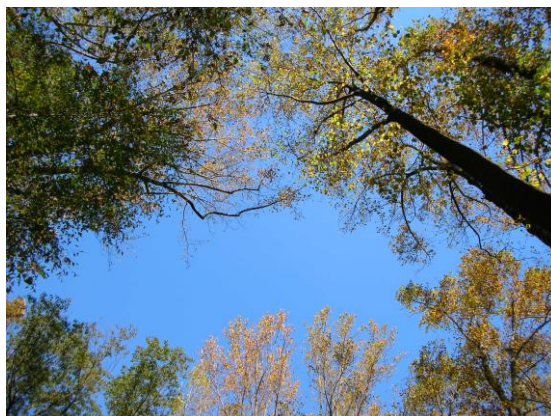
January 2014 - Copper mine railroad DVD presentation.

Derek Yoost and John Sanfacon in the works for 2013.

President's Message: By Mark Leipert, President

DVESS Annual Banquet, Sunday, October 13th: Our banquet was held at the **Scotland Run Golf Club in Williamstown, NJ**. We had 22 members and guests in attendance. Dr. Steven Okulewicz entertained us with an excellent presentation entitled "Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust: Pompeii in 79 A.D." A good time was had by all. Everyone in attendance received a door prize and others left with specimens from the silent auction and raffle prize.

Sunday, October 20th, Mineral Collecting Trip: The objective of this trip was to find several collecting sites that we had not been to in almost thirty years. Those members that joined in the adventure were: Sue VanCola, Susan Moore, Gary Weinstein, Karl and Kaden Markiewicz, Gene Hartstein and myself. It was a nice scenic drive through New London, PA but after several hours of exploring for the locality through the town and several state parks with no luck, we gave up. Just like many sites, a housing development or shopping center may have been built over the locality. Several of us then proceeded to the Morton Homestead in Prospect Park, PA in search for kyanite in the Darby Creek streambed. The water levels in the streambed were too high to find any specimens. We then proceeded to the Granite Run Mall in search of the reported weathered serpentine outcrop. We were successful in finding some weathered serpentine but the site was heavily overgrown and the samples were of fair to poor quality. The best time to re-visit this site may be in early spring before any vegetation is present. Overall it was not the best day for collecting but the weather was perfect.



Sunday, November 10th, St Clair and Deer Lake Fossil Trip: We will be taking a trip to St. Clair for fossil ferns and also Deer Lake for marine fossils. The trip will be on Sunday, November 10th. We will be meeting at the Woodcrest Station parking lot 8A at 0800. Please send reply to mark.leipert@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating. St. Clair is a classic collecting locality for fossil ferns of all types. Its days may be numbered due to a proposal to turn the site into a dump.

A citizens' group has organized to fight turning the Saint Clair fossil collecting site into a dump. The group is called Saint Clair Families Organized to Retain a Clean Environment (SC Force). The group is opposed to a proposal in Blythe Township from the Blythe Recycling and Demolition Company to turn the site into a dump. Go to this website for more information: <http://www.scforce.org/>

December 11th Meeting: Christmas Party and gift exchange. We will also be showing two half-hour geology-related video presentations. Election of the 2014 officers will also be held. The slate of officers is the list of incumbent officers. We will be taking nominations from the floor up to right before the election. If you are interested in holding a position in the club, please contact Mark Leipert or Gary Weinstein.



Minutes

DVESS General Meeting on October 9, 2013

By Grant Elliott, Recording Secretary

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

Attendance: Gary Weinstein- Treasurer/Program Chair, Grant Elliott- Recording Secretary, Mark Leipert- President/Field Trip Chair, Lou Detofsky- 2nd VP, Mil LeCompte- Jr Rockhound Coordinator/ Facilitator, and [Susan Moore](#)- Newsletter Editor.

AnnLynne Benson- 1st VP/Special Events Coordinator/Membership could not attend.

Amongst others present were Sue Vancola, Jim Brennan, Bob & Sally Todd, Evelyn Vickovich, Stu Cleveland, Meredith Taylor Bare, Carol DeCuzzi, and Robert Bartosz.

President Mark Leipert gave commencement of the meeting at approximately 8:00 pm. Mark then recounted 9/21/13 Sterling Mine Tour and 9/28/13 Inversand event.

Mark's notes:

-10/13/13 Annual banquet will be held at Scotland Run Golf Club in Williamstown, with Magician/Geologist/Professor Dr. Steve Okulowitz presenting interesting facts on

Mt. Vesuvius/Pompeii- \$15.00 per person. All of Sterling Hill volunteers will receive free admission to October's Annual Banquet.

Program: Lou Detofsky waxed eloquently on the Archeology and Geology of the Mediterranean (Italy, Turkey & Greece).

Future Programs:

November 2013- John Ferrante on the history of micro-mounting and the Leidy Microscopical Society.

December 2013- Holiday party/gift exchange and election of 2014 officers (Incumbants will be re-elected). Grant to provide earth science DVD for beginning presentation.

January 2014- Copper mine railroad DVD presentation.

Derek Yoost and John Sanfacon in the works.

Special Events/Field Trips:

-Lou's Grand Tour postponed to Spring 2014.

-October 20th- Mineral trip in process of planning.

-1/25/2013 Rutgers Open House.

A number of earth science trips in the offing to possibly include many of the following (dates and details to follow):

-Delaware Museum of Natural History, The Mutter Museum, The Prehistoric Museum in Greenwich Township, NJ.

We will try to set up some of these museum trips.

Lou won the specimen door prize (The fix is in).

Future Executive Board meetings:

October- Tuesday 10/15/2013 at Church location.

November- Lou's house

December- Gary's store

January 2014- Mark's house

February 2014- Gerald Feigin's house

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:40pm.

News

Russian divers find huge suspected meteorite chunk in Chelyabinsk

A suspected meteorite fragment weighed over a thousand pounds was recovered from the bottom of Chebarkul Lake in the Chelyabinsk region of Russia. It is thought to be part of the meteor that blazed a path across the sky before hitting the Earth on February 15th. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-24550941>

9,000-year-old painting of volcano linked to a real eruption

Axel Schmitt of the University of California, Los Angeles, reported that Hasan Dag volcano in Turkey erupted about 9,000 years ago, based on a new dating technique using zircon crystals. A mural in the Stone Age village of Çatalhöyük shows an eruption from Hasan Dag.

<http://www.nbcnews.com/science/9-000-year-old-painting-volcano-linked-real-eruption-8C11498570>

Field Trip Photos

Sunday, October 20th, Mineral Collecting Trip



Upcoming Field Trips

Sunday, November 10th, St. Clair and Deer Lake Fossil Trip: St. Clair for fossil ferns and also Deer Lake for marine fossils. Meeting at the Woodcrest Station parking lot 8A at 0800. Please send reply to mark.leipert@yahoo.com if you are interested in participating.



Lou's Grand (Coastal Geology) Tour – postponed from October 2013 to Spring 2014.

Shows and Events

November

November 2–3 – Exton, PA - 44th Annual Gemarama 2013: "Shades of Red" sponsored by the Tuscarora Lapidary Society. The School at Church Farm, Business Rte. 30, 1 / 2 mile west of Frazer Rte 30 exit off Rte. 202, Exton, PA.

March 2014

March 8–9 – Clifton, NJ - 25th Annual Clifton/North Jersey Gem & Mineral Show, Sponsored by the North Jersey Mineralogical Society. 10am - 5pm at The Pope John Center, 775 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ

March 29–30: Plymouth Meeting, PA - Annual MINERAL TREASURES + FOSSIL FAIR show and sale, Plymouth Meeting, PA. Presented by The Philadelphia Mineralogical Society, The Delaware Valley Paleontological Society with The Eastern Federation of Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies' Annual Convention. LuLu Temple, 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA. Sat. 10am - 5pm Sun. 10 - 4. Adults - \$5.00; Kids under 12 \$1.00. Scouts in uniform free. Fossils, Minerals, Gems, Speakers and Exhibits. Learning Activities include a Fossil Dig and a Kid's Mineral Corner. www.philamineralsociety.org

Quote of the Month

"The same regions do not remain always sea or always land, but all change their condition in the course of time." - *Aristotle (384-322 BC)*



Website of the Month

The featured website this month is: www.DifferenceBetween.net where you will find such fascinating facts as:

- Calcite is calcium carbonate; quartz is silicon dioxide.
- Calcite has a luster that is vitreous to resinous to dull; quartz has a glassy to vitreous luster.
- Calcite and quartz are transparent and translucent.
- The hardness of quartz is 7 on Moh's scale; Calcite is 3 on the scale.
- Calcite has a refractive index of 1.49 and 1.66; Quartz is 1.55.
- The cleavage of Calcite is perfect in three directions; the cleavage of quartz is weak in the three directions.
- Calcite has a luster that is vitreous to resinous to dull; quartz has a glassy to vitreous luster.
- Calcite comes in colourless, white and with light shades of orange, yellow, blue, red, pink, brown, black, green and gray; quartz comes in white, cloudy, purple, pink, gray, brown and black.

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.



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

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. Show us your favorite specimens!

