

# DVESScapades

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



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2015

**Next Meeting:** October 14th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour  
8:00 pm Program: "Bizarre Dinosaurs" DVD. Come out and enjoy the show!

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



**Annual Banquet** - Sunday, October 25th, 2 to 6 pm. Sakura Spring restaurant in the Heritage Square Shopping Center on rt 70 in Cherry Hill. Derek Yoost will give us a presentation on Martian Meteorites. Door prizes for all, a raffle drawing and lots of food.

We will need a head count for the restaurant at least a week prior. Please let Gary know if you plan to attend.

## President's Message by AnnLynne Benson

A hearty hello to everyone. What a beautiful time of year this is - the air is crisp and pleasant and not too cold, and soon the leaves will turn all the colors of our favorite rocks! As you plan on getting out there and rockhounding, think about sharing those accumulating flats of rocks with others; we need nice specimens to give to our new Juniors (we're expecting 4 at the October meeting) and the more give-away minerals/fossils we have for Super Science Saturday, the more kids (and adults) will be attracted to DVESS.

I hope your summer endeavors were as successful and enjoyable as mine. I attended Wildacres where I made 3 gem trees (never did that before!) and carved a large dolphin from soapstone (I had carved a loon and a bear - both small - at a previous Wildacres session). Reacquainted with old friends, and made some new ones. Went on the field trip mid-week and collected chlorite schist (similar to the mica schist I grew up with in Philadelphia, but green; both kinds have garnet inclusions. We enjoyed a cooked "picnic" lunch in a beautiful, cool, arboreal setting, adeptly prepared for us by a locally-famous chef - nothing like roughing it in style!

I met up with Lorraine Campbell at the NC mineral museum in Spruce Pine and we spent a couple of days seeing museums (the Franklin, NC mineral museum is run by volunteers from the local rock club) and collecting at Diamond Hill Quartz Mine and one of the "bucket places"; we had a good time on all counts. I find the "pay to dig" mines an attractive option in view of the closures of so many mines which had previously been field trip destinations.

Then I was off to Corbin, KY to visit Mel's sister Cathy for a few days. We drove up one mountain and down the next and had a good old time. After I left Cathy, I drove 180 miles to visit the World Methodist Museum (Lake Junaluska, NC) then drove home in one shot, something over 11 hrs. Tried stopping to sleep once, but I wasn't tired - too much adrenalin. Total for the entire trip (8/22 - 9/6): 2035 miles.

On Saturday, Sept. 19 I visited the Cape Atlantic Rockhounds' show in Mays Landing. I don't know why I never did that before, but it was a nice little show and I had a good time. I renewed acquaintance with a dealer who comes to the Super Dig, and took chances on three raffle prizes and won one - a large piece of beautiful, white Mexican onyx.

Please attend the next DVESS meeting on Wed., Oct. 14 and bring a friend. Attendance has been low recently which is surprising since we have good programs and very interesting Junior Rockhounds classes. All we need now is YOU.

Our annual banquet will be held Oct. 25 from 2 to 6 pm at the Sakura Spring restaurant in the Heritage Square Shopping Center on Rt. 70 in Cherry Hill. Join us for a wonderful presentation by our ever-favorite Derek Yoost, excellent food in this Zagat-rated restaurant and door-prizes for all. Contact Gary, Mark or myself to reserve your seat.

Our sister-club, The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, will be hosting "ULTRAVIOLATION", a Fluorescent-Minerals only show, on Halloween (Sat., Oct. 31) at the First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA., 9AM – 5 PM; Cost \$2.00 Donation, Children 12 years old and younger FREE. Door Prizes, vendors, food, lots of fun! info - Chuck O'Loughlin 856-663-1383 or [ultraviolation@yahoo.com](mailto:ultraviolation@yahoo.com). If your rocks don't glow you are at the wrong show!

Our kissing-cousin-club, the Tuscaroara Lapidary Society, will host GEMARAMA on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 10 am - 6 pm at the Greater Philadelphia EXPO Center, 100 Station Avenue [Hall C], Oaks, PA 19456, several miles north of King of Prussia, PA off Route 422. The theme is ROCKS IN THE USA. For more information and a discount coupon, go to [www.Lapidary.org](http://www.Lapidary.org).

Our annual FREE Sterling Hill Mine/Museum Tour will be held on Saturday, Nov. 21. We will be leaving from the usual meeting place (Centenary United Methodist Church, 149 South White Horse Pike, Berlin) but you can meet us at the mine if you wish; either way, you MUST register to be part of the free tour - contact Mark or myself to Register.

KEEP ON ROCKING.

## DVESS Annual Banquet

All are invited to attend our annual festivities to be held on **Sunday, October 25th** from 2 to 6 at the Sakura Spring restaurant in the Heritage Square Shopping Center on rt 70 in Cherry Hill. We will have a beautiful private room in this Zagat rated, 2012 top 100 Chinese restaurants in the US. There will be door prizes for all, a raffle or silent auction and Derek Yoost will be presenting another wonderful presentation on Martian Meteorites.

### Menu:

Egg Roll  
BBQ Chicken on a stick  
Steamed Dumplings  
General Tso's Chicken  
Beef with Mixed Veggies  
String Beans with garlic sauce  
Vegetable Lo Mein  
Ice Cream Sundae  
H2O, Soda and Tea.



Other foods can be purchased separately, including a Sushi bar. They also allow BYOB for anyone interested.

The club will subsidize part of this again for members and immediate family.

Cost is \$20.00 per person, Half price for kids (3 to 10). Non members cost is \$30.00.  
Tax and tip and room included.

Where else can you get a great dinner and a show and a door prize with the best rockhound group around?

Mark your calendar and tell your family. Hope to see you then.

## Field Trip:

The field trip for October will be Ramanessin Creek. The trip will be on Saturday, October 17th. We will be meeting in the parking lot at Wood Crest Station (PATCO) at 8:30 at lot 8A. With recent rains, maybe more material has washed out. A sign-up sheet will be posted at the October meeting.



## Jr. Rockhounds

There were 3 children at the September meeting. The discussion was on Bio-Rock, a rock salt found in the Himalayan mountains that is used for animal and human consumption.

Reminder: Show and tell (S&T) at every meeting. A planning discussion was held regarding the next 9 meetings. The October meeting will be "10 deadly minerals" and general safety precautions.

Mil LeCompte - [RocksAndBadges@yahoo.com](mailto:RocksAndBadges@yahoo.com)

## News

### **Rowan University to purchase Inversand fossil quarry in Mantua Twp.**

Rowan University will purchase of the 65-acre fossil quarry in Mantua Township for development as a center of scientific research and discovery. The site will be known as the Rowan University Fossil Quarry.

Internationally recognized paleontologist **Dr. Kenneth Lacovara**, who joined the University's faculty this month, will oversee research and outreach activities at the quarry.

<http://today.rowan.edu/home/news/2015/09/23/rowan-purchase-fossil-quarry-mantua>

### **Michigan Farmer Unearths Bones of Rare Mammoth Hybrid From Nearly 15,000 Years Ago**

A farmer near Ann Arbor, Michigan, recently unearthed the skull, tusks and other bones of a mammoth possibly butchered by early human hunters nearly 15,000 years ago, according to a paleontologist at the University of Michigan.

<https://gma.yahoo.com/michigan-farmer-unearths-bones-rare-mammoth-hybrid-nearly-174517973--abc-news-topstories.html>

## Quote of the Month

Great white sharks, big storms - somehow, I think we like to be put in our place by awesome things. Dinosaurs do that. *Sue Hendrickson, Honolulu Advertiser, Jul. 9, 2000*





# Mantua Community Fossil Dig Day - September 26, 2015

photos by Jim Brennan and Susan Moore













## Dinosaur Park, Laurel, MD

Come to Dinosaur Park Open Houses to meet paleontologists, learn about Maryland prehistory, and search an active fossil site for 115 million-year old remains of dinosaurs and other prehistoric animals!

Open Houses are held from 12-4 pm on the first and third Saturday of every month, year round. Programs start every twenty minutes. The fenced-in fossil area is only accessible during Open Houses and special events, but the interpretive garden is



open every day from dawn to dusk. Admission is free.



A dinosaur-themed activity room is located at Montpelier Mansion, a short drive from Dinosaur Park. Kids can assemble giant 3-D dinosaur puzzles, create dinosaur craft projects, and more.

**Note:** No personal fossil collecting is allowed in the Park. Anything you find must be turned over to Park personnel.

[http://history.pgparks.com/sites\\_and\\_museums/Dinosaur\\_Park/About\\_the\\_Park.htm](http://history.pgparks.com/sites_and_museums/Dinosaur_Park/About_the_Park.htm)

## Shows and Events

### October

**24: Fairless Hills, PA** - The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA presents Annual "ULTRAVIOLATION" an all Fluorescent Mineral Show, at the First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA., 9 am – 5 pm, \$2.00 Donation, children 12 years old and younger FREE. Information: Chuck O'Loughlin, 130 Maple Terrace, Merchantville, NJ 08109, phone: 856-663-1383, Email: [ultraviolation@yahoo.com](mailto:ultraviolation@yahoo.com)

## **25: DVESS Annual Banquet - Annual Club Banquet**

Sunday, October 25th from 2 to 6 at the Sakrua Springs restaurant in the Heritage Square Shopping Center on Rt. 70 in Cherry Hill. Door prizes for all, a raffle or silent auction and Derek Yoost will be giving another wonderful presentation. Cost is \$20.00 per person, Half price for kids (3 to 10). Non members, \$30.00.

**31:** The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, will be hosting "ULTRAVIOLATION", a Fluorescent-Minerals only show, on Halloween at the First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA., 9 am – 5 pm; Cost \$2.00 Donation, Children 12 years old and younger FREE. Door Prizes, vendors, food, lots of fun! info - Chuck O'Loughlin 856-663-1383 or [ultraviolation@yahoo.com](mailto:ultraviolation@yahoo.com). If your rocks don't glow you are at the wrong show!

## **November**

**7-8:** Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter will hold its 2015 symposium for mineral collectors in Lancaster, PA, on November 7, with a field trip on November 8. The theme is "Recent Advances in Mineralogy: Pennsylvania and Universal Applications"

Michael Stefanic, PG: Phosphate Minerals in Pennsylvania

Bill Stephens, PG: Preliminary Evaluation of the Mount Pleasant Mills Wavellite Occurrence

Ron Sloto, PG: The Geology and Mineralogy of the Grace Mine

Ian Saginor, PhD: Volcanic Evolution of Central America

Stan Mertzman, PhD: Mineralogy of the Surface of Mars.

Mineral dealers, silent auction, give-away table, refreshments, and opportunities for visiting with fellow enthusiasts. More information at <http://www.rasloto.com/FM/>.

**21:** Annual tour of Sterling Hill Mine & Museum.

This year our tour will take place **Saturday, Nov. 21 at 1 pm**. You may go up to Sterling on your own, or carpool/caravan with other club members (we are looking into getting a 15 passenger van for the trip) leaving from our usual meeting place in Berlin around 9 am.

You **must** register with Ann or Mark in order to go. Let us know if you plan to attend - if we register 15 people or more, we can have a private tour.

Contact Mark at [mark.leipert@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.leipert@yahoo.com) or Ann at [SeleniteQueen@gmail.com](mailto:SeleniteQueen@gmail.com)



## 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:*

\$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

### *Sponsoring Membership: (each additional family member - \$5.00)*

“Silver” \$50.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive a Geode Specimen

“Gold” \$75.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> family member – receive Mineral Specimen

“Platinum” \$100.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com).

