

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2018

Next Meeting: October 10th

7:00 pm Junior Rockhounds class and adult social hour

8:00 pm Program: Gary Weinstein on his Michigan copper country collecting trip.

Upcoming Programs:

November: Lauren Adamo from Rutgers on the history of the geology museum

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



President's Corner:

The rain continues to fall, washing fossils and crystals out of their matrix. When the rain stops we will be ready to see some of the best collecting in years. Well, maybe I'm just dreaming. We are gathering information for field trips to new localities where our club hasn't ever been. We are also approaching the winter months where we plan inside events including museums, lectures and college. If you have any recommendations, please submit them to any club officer.

Field Trips:

September 22, 2018: Community Dig Day at the Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University:

The weather was fantastic for the greater than 1,000 people that attended the 7th Annual Edelman Fossil Park Community Dig Day. Dr. Ken Lacovara talked to each of the four groups of people eager to collect fossils from around 65 million years ago. The DVESS and DVPS both shared tables with fossils on display. Our club was well represented. Susan Moore, Jim Brennan, Lou Detofsky and I helped cover the table and passed out club brochures. Lou and I were down in the quarry helping the many guests identify their treasures. A fun time was had by all and no rain fell during the event.

September 29, 2018: Kayak Trip on Chesapeake Bay near Calvert Cliffs: Collecting fossils off beaches that we were able to gain access from the bay. The weather was beautiful, the wind and water were calm, great for kayaking. A total of six people attended; all were members of the DVPS and two of those were from DVESS. The trip was lead by Susan Vancola.

October 6, 2018: Gloucester County Educational Association Dig Day at the Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University: Amy and I manned a table with fossil exhibits and passed out our club brochures. The event was well attended by many teachers.

Sterling Hill Mining Museum: Saturday October 13, 2018. We are planning on going up to Sterling Hill Mining Museum for our free trip. That's right, you heard it right. Free trip if you're a member of our club. We hope to plan it for the Saturday of the night dig for members. Our club contributes to the Sterling Hill Mining Museum and therefore we get a free museum and mine tour once a year. Please sign up at the October 10th meeting; this will be the last opportunity until next year.

Saturday, November 10, 2018: Sayreville Marcasite and Amber near Sayreville, NJ: We scouted this site out last summer and we know we can find amber, marcasite and lignite. This time we'll be prepared to dig. We'll be meeting at Parking Lot 8A at the Woodcrest Station of the PATCO High Speed Line at 8:30 am. Recommended equipment: Insect repellent, larger shovel, gloves, hat and containers to collect your specimens. An email will be sent out two days

before the trip reminding you that you signed up to go. If something comes up that you are unable to attend or you are interested in attending, please send me an email at mark.leipert@yahoo.com or text to 856-524-2103.

Saturday, November 24, 2018: Odessa, DE Petrified Wood and C&D Canal Marine Fossils: This trip has been one of our popular trips in recent years. After spending the morning collecting petrified wood we wander over to the C&D Canal to collect belemnites, exogyra, brachiopods and other micro fossils. Sign up at the regular meeting on Wednesday, October 10th.

Medford Quarry in Maryland: Date TBD. We are getting closer to setting a date for a mineral collecting trip to this quarry. I've been told that there is dog tooth calcite, malachite, fluorescent calcite and quartz scepters to name a few. More details to follow. If you are interested sign up at the regular meeting.

Mark Leipert, President

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Ralph Thomas

With great sadness, we report the passing of Mineral Collecting Icon and Legend Ralph Thomas September 10, 2018. Ralph was known throughout the mineral world, from fluorescents to micromounts. He will be greatly missed. See the following statement by Ralph Thomas on his ongoing endeavor to get people involved with mineral collecting.

Eric Brosius
Editor RMCLBC Rock Chatter

The following excerpt was taken from Ralph Thomas' President's Message to the club in February 1986. It was appropriate back then and is even more so today.

It has always been a mystery to me why there are not more people, young or old, interested in the mineral hobby, and that includes fossils, lapidary and gemstones. Maybe I am biased but I don't think there is any comparison with stamp, coin, match cover, beer can or any other type of collecting. With minerals there is one and only one kind - there are no two specimens alike. The hobby takes you out-of-doors, it is inexpensive, and is scientific because you are dealing with nature.

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Photos

by Jim Brennan and Susan Moore

September 22, 2018: Community Dig Day at the Edelman Fossil Park at Rowan University







September 29, 2018: Kayak Trip on Chesapeake Bay near Calvert Cliffs

by Sue Vancola





News

New 26,000-pound dinosaur discovery was Earth's largest land animal

The fossil dinosaur species (named *Ledumahadi mafube*) was discovered in South Africa.

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/09/27/world/new-giant-dinosaur-brontosaurus-relative/index.html>

Quote of the Month:

Every block of stone has a statue inside it and it is the task of the sculptor to discover it. *Michelangelo*

Shows and Events

October

October 13-14: 1st Annual South Jersey Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show, Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey Annex Building, 1721 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003. Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5. 16 Dealers, door prizes, refreshments. Adults, \$5; seniors, \$4; children 12-16, \$3; under 12 and scouts in uniform, free. Print & present coupon from website to receive \$1.00 off adult admission ticket! <https://sjmineralshow.com/>

October 27th: Ultraviolation - see all the details on the next page!

November

November 3-4: Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show, Trailside Nature & Science Center, 452 New Providence Rd., Mountainside, NJ 07092. 12-5 pm. Held indoors; exhibits, sales, activities, demonstrations. 908-789-3670; www.ucnj.org/trailside

ULTRAVIOLATION 2018

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Sponsored By **The Rock and Mineral Club**
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WHEN: Saturday October 27, 2018
9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

WHERE: First United Methodist Church
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840 Trenton Road
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Snacks & Beverages available
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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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To submit an article or photos for publication in the DVESScapades, contact the Newsletter Editor at aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com.

