

# DVESScapades

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



## DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2023



**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, October 11th (in-person and Zoom)

**7:00 pm:** Social hour

**8:00 pm:** Program: Show and Tell - bring in a specimen or specimens to give a quick presentation!

### Looking ahead

November: Our speaker will be J.P. Hodnett, Curator of the Dinosaur Park located in Laurel, MD. "Maryland Dinosaur Park Bone Bed: An Early Cretaceous Treasure Chest!" (rescheduled from September)

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

## President's Message

The “President’s Corner” is going to be a little short this month. I just got back from “Mark and Fred’s Excellent Adventure in Nebraska” and didn’t have time to schedule any trips, etc. You can look forward to a presentation on our adventure sometime next year. (See a few photos, below)

Since October is our “Show and Tell” program, we will not be having a guest speaker this month. So, bring in a specimen or specimens to give a quick presentation at this meeting. We still need some other club members to step up into other temporary or voluntary positions,

We are making plans for our fall/early winter field trips now. Please contact me and Fred with any ideas of localities or specimen types (fossil or minerals) you would like to visit. We try to keep a good mix between minerals and fossils to strike a happy medium.

**Attempting to bring back something old:** We are going to bring back the prize table, which we did many years ago. We are going to start off slowly and see where we go from there. You can purchase a ticket for a dollar. You can also purchase more than one ticket. When your number is called you come up and pick up a specimen. If you are clearing out some old specimens from your collections, please donate them to the prize table. You should label the specimens and note the locality when you donate. Your donations will be appreciated. This is a way the club can make a few bucks each month. We are also going to have a 50/50 raffle where tickets/chances can be bought for one dollar. The winner gets 50% and the club gets 50%. **Ann Benson was the winner in September.**

**How are we doing with our hybrid meetings?** We are going to continue holding our hybrid meetings through early 2024. We may continue to use the Zoom setting during the winter months with the possibility of hazardous weather. It’s a challenge, but we are managing to make it work. Several members have been working with me to improve our hybrid meeting by observing what other clubs have been doing. With practice these hybrid meetings will eventually become second nature. Let us know how the hybrid meeting came across. How was the sound quality?

### **For the latest updates on the Edelman Fossil Quarry and Museum**

**construction:** It looks like the grand opening for the museum will be in Spring of 2024. You can go to Instagram and look up Kenneth Lacovara. Things are really shaping up, the road to the museum and parking lot have been under construction for a while. Work also continues on the exterior of the museum while work on the interior of the building is progressing and getting the exhibit halls ready for full-sized prehistoric creatures.

**November 8<sup>th</sup> Program:** Due to technical difficulties with the internet last month, J.P. Hodnett had to reschedule and will be our guest speaker in November. He is the Curator of the Dinosaur Park located in Laurel, MD. The park is run under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. He will also talk about some of the recent finds at the park. We may have an opportunity to help on future dinosaur digs. Everyone will get a Zoom invite emailed to them on Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> for Wednesday's meeting.

Special thanks to Rick Reed for giving an impromptu presentation on artifacts in relation to the atlatl versus bow and arrow technology. We look forward to Rick's full presentation in the future.

### **Field Trips:**

**Other potential trips:** There are no field trips presently scheduled for the month of October. Trips will be planned for later in October and November to places like Sterling Hill, Easton Quarry, Pickering Golf Course, etc.

**Mark Leipert, President**

## Mark and Fred's Excellent Adventure in Nebraska







## Shows and Events

### October

**2023 Autumn Minerafest**, Saturday, 7 October 2023, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, Macungie Memorial Park, Macungie, PA <https://www.minerafest.com/>

### November

**Friends of Mineralogy - Pennsylvania Chapter 2023 symposium** for mineral collectors in Johnstown, PA, on Saturday, November 11. This year there will also be a mineral, gem, and fossil show, with 40 tables and free admission for the public. Plans include a meet & greet on Friday evening, Nov. 10, and a field trip (for symposium registrants only) to New Paris Quarry on Sunday, November 12. The symposium theme is Pennsylvania Mineralogy and Geology, and there will be six interesting talks by knowledgeable speakers. There will be a silent auction, give-away table, and plenty of opportunities for visiting with fellow enthusiasts.

## News

### **Pleasant surprise greets scientists opening asteroid sample dropped from space**

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/04/world/osiris-rex-bennu-asteroid-sample-canister-scn/index.html>

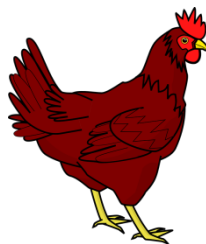
### **NASA will reveal what OSIRIS-REx brought back from asteroid Bennu on Wednesday**

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/nasa-will-reveal-what-osiris-rex-brought-back-from-asteroid-bennu-on-wednesday-213651949.html>

The space agency has scheduled a livestream for 11 AM ET to give a first look at the asteroid sample.

## Quote of the Month

Noise proves nothing. Often a hen who has merely laid an egg cackles as if she laid an asteroid.  
- Mark Twain



## Photos

by Catherine Eskew

### September meeting







## *DVESS Directory for 2023*

### **Officers**

President: Mark Leipter 856-524-2103

[mark.leipter@yahoo.com](mailto:mark.leipter@yahoo.com)

Vice President: John Arsenault

Secretary: Cathy Eskew

[ceskew5@gmail.com](mailto:ceskew5@gmail.com)

Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540

[brenimage@hotmail.com](mailto:brenimage@hotmail.com)

### **Committee Chairs**

Junior Rockhounds Chair:

Millard LeCompte 609-458-7763

[WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com](mailto:WorksInFaith08009@gmail.com)

Field Trips: Mark Leipter

Co-Field Trips: Fred Hochkile

Membership: James Brennan

### **Other Information:**

### **Newsletter**

Editor: Susan Moore

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**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).

