

DVESScapades

escapades: interesting, stimulating, exciting activities and adventures



DELAWARE VALLEY EARTH SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



September 2025



This Meeting: Wednesday, September 10th. **Annual Show and Tell** - be prepared to bring in some photos and/or specimens to show off to everyone.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 11th.

Looking Ahead: Wednesday, November 12th: Dr. Harold Connolly will be updating us on the OSIRIS-Rex mission results as well as other projects he is involved with and his world travels.

Meeting location: Atco Senior Center, 474 E. Atlantic Ave, Waterford, NJ.

President's Message

Hi Fine Folks!

I don't know about you, but this weather couldn't have been better this past month in my opinion. Hoping you had some time to enjoy the outdoors.

The annual picnic was a great success. We made \$1,500 during the auction. The food was fantastic. The auction was long but we had so many specimens to get through. Thanks to everyone who contributed and the clean up crew was awesome! Thanks! And again, thanks to the Halterman family for their donation of specimens from their dad's collection.

A good number of us made it out to both National Limestone Quarries. It was great weather. I'm pretty sure everyone was happy with the specimens we got. Bright white calcite, purple fluorite, wavelite, various fossils, and ancient mud stone.

We have elections coming up. If you would like to nominate someone or yourself, just let any of the executive folks know. It's a two year stint, and my term will be up in January. None of the positions are difficult and you'll certainly have past officers be glad to help you. I know I've had fun so far.

Did you go on any adventures this past month? What about a picture of you favorite minerals? Send your stories and or pictures to be included in our newsletter. Send any submissions to Susan Moore.

Unless you submit articles, jokes, or stories, you'll have to put up with mine. Always feel free to bring snacks to the meetings!

Science Article:

[A Mars rock analysis tool proved its mettle on a chance find from Arizona](#)

Feel free to submit science articles that you find and want to share.

Joke:

What is a Hydrogeologist's favorite drink?

Water on the rocks.



John Arsenault - President

Field Trips and Events

August Meeting Program: At our regular meeting on Wednesday, August 13th Paul Murdoch was our guest speaker. Paul gave an excellent presentation on the “Open the Vault” displays at the Calvert Marine Museum. Thank you Paul.

September Regular Meeting, Wednesday September 10th: There will be no speaker this month. September is our **Annual Show and Tell** program. Be prepared to bring in some photos and/or specimens to show off to everyone. We will also help with identification of specimens if needed.

November Regular Meeting, Wednesday, November 12th: Dr. Harold Connolly will be updating us on the OSIRIS-Rex mission results as well as other projects he is involved with and his world travels.

Field Trips:

August 23rd Field Trip: National Limestone Quarries. Some of us met at the Wood Crest Station of the PATCO Speed Line, while others met up at the Quarry around 9:30. Eric Stahl, the quarry owner, gave us a safety brief and some spiritual words to motivate us. Those in attendance from DVESS or Cape Atlantic Rockhounds included the following: Allyson Eastlack, Tyler Higbee, Becky French-Mesch, Tom Besselman, Ann Quicksall, Kim Fitzgerald, Gina, Dave and Natalie Shearer, Bob Bowman, John Arsenault, Fred Hochkile and me. We collected dogtooth calcite crystals, small white tuffs of strontianite, beautiful purple fluorite, pale blue cerussite, light green wavellite and even marine fossils (mainly brachiopods and gastropods). We split the day into two halves; the first half was at Middleburg Quarry and after lunch we headed over to Mt. Pleasant Mills Quarry. The weather cooperated and you couldn't have asked for a better day. Everyone found something nice to take home.

Pickering Golf Course, Saturday, September 27th: (Rescheduled from early June) We will be meeting at Woodcrest Station Parking Lot 8A at 8:00 or in the parking lot near the Pro-shop around 10:00. We will be going back to the old Brookdale Mine area of the Wheatly Mines to collect pyromorphite, quartz, calcite, malachite, galena, silver, cerussite and sphalerite to name a few. Once again, we will try to rent a golf cart for the day, to help get our treasures back up the hill to our vehicles. We're hoping that any potential threatening thunderstorms will hold off until we are done.

Plant Fossils/Coal Mine Trip, Saturday, October 18th, Lansford, PA: This trip consists of two parts. In the morning, we will be collecting fossil ferns/plants in an active coal strip-mine. In addition to fossils, minerals like quartz crystals, pyrite and peacock coal may also be found. Then, after lunch we will take a short drive to the No. 9 Coal Mine Museum and Tour. We will be able to tour the longest running coal mine in Pennsylvania and view the museum exhibits that preserve the legacy of the anthracite coal mining industry of the area. There is a fee for the No. 9 Coal Mine Museum. We need a total of 20 people to attend from all the clubs involved to get a group discount rate. I need to know if you are planning on attending by Wednesday, September 24th. Sign up at the regular meeting on September 10th. Further details will be forthcoming.

Dinosaur Park, Laurel, MD: I will continue to take names of those that are interested in participating. They are still getting their volunteer program together. The Park is run by the National Park Service. I will keep reaching out to him every now and again.

Edelman Fossil Park and Museum: I am still trying to have a meeting there once or twice a year at the museum. I will update on the progress.

Club T-Shirts: I'm still working on a new design and hope to have T-shirts by sometime in autumn timeframe.

Mark Leipert - Vice President

Event

The Baltimore Mineral Society 69th Paul Desautels Memorial Micromount Symposium - October 17-19, 2025

Natural History Society of Maryland
6908 Belair Rd, Baltimore, MD 21206

mseeds@fandm.edu

PHOTOS

Picnic

by Catherine Eskew















DVESS Directory for 2025

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Committee Chairs</u>
President: John Arsenault 856-495-8550 Asuwsh4@yahoo.com Vice President: Mark Leipert 856-524-2103 mark.leipert@yahoo.com Secretary: Cathy Eskew ceskew.5@gmail.com Treasurer: James Brennan 610-322-1540 brenimage@hotmail.com	Junior Rockhounds Chair: Mark Leipert Field Trips: Mark Leipert Co-Field Trips: Fred Hochkile Membership: James Brennan
<u>Newsletter</u> Editor: Susan Moore aquamarinepaisleyorchid@yahoo.com	<u>Other Information:</u> <u>Website:</u> www.DVESS.org <u>Facebook:</u> <i>DVESSNJ – Amy Simpson</i>



Membership Information

Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities.

Regular Membership:

\$20.00 for the 1st family member + \$15.00 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)

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.

