

*Meeting place: Evergreen Avenue School  
Woodbury, New Jersey*

*Meeting Time: 7:30 PM, 2nd Wednesday of month*

*Meeting Date: May 14th, 2003*



## This Month's Meeting

**Mr. Eugene F. Hartstein**  
*Of*  
**Newark, DE**

*Will present:*  
**Texas Fossils**

## Junior Rockhounds Club

Mini-lesson 7:40 - 8:00PM

New members welcome!

No additional fees

## **Show & Tell Night!**

Bring your favorite rock, mineral or fossil specimen and be prepared to tell us why you like it best.

## **Annual Picnic!**

Come one Come all to the Second Greatest Show on Earth.

(we try harder!)

**June 29<sup>th</sup> 2003**

The Feigin residence in Turnersville, NJ



American Federation  
of  
Mineralogical Societies



Eastern Federation  
of  
Mineralogical & Lapidary Societies



Special Congress  
Representing  
Involved Bulletin Editors

# DVESSCAPADES

Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society – DVESS

## BACKGROUND

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, knowledge, and the development of skills in the “earth sciences.” These interests include mineralogy, paleontology, lapidary arts, archeology, and local preservation. The Society supports the conservation of natural resources, advocates the availability of collecting sites, and maintains close contact with those in the academic field.

## MEETINGS

The Society meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month from September through June, at the Evergreen Avenue School in Woodbury, New Jersey. At 7:30 pm members meet to socialize, view displays, sign the registry and receive a door-prize ticket, toward a specially chosen specimen. Meetings start promptly at 8:00 PM and include the evening’s program followed by the monthly business meeting, concluding around 10:00 PM. Meetings are open to the general public.

## MEMBERSHIP

See the Membership Chairperson for an application for membership in the Society. Regular memberships are entitled to participate in all DVESS activities and to receive a newsletter when published. Sponsoring memberships are entitled to all of the above plus a specially chosen mineral specimen. Membership rates for the Society are:

### Regular Membership

\$15.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> family member + \$5.00 for each family member  
\$10.00 for the 1<sup>st</sup> Senior (65+ ) member + \$5.00 for each family member

### Sponsoring Membership

<u>Level</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Member</u>	<u>+</u>	<u>Additional Members</u>	<u>=</u>	<u>Receive</u>
“Silver”	\$50.00	+	\$5.00	=	Geode Specimen
“Gold”	\$75.00	+	\$5.00	=	Native Gold Specimen
“Platinum	\$100.00	+	\$5.00	=	Premium Specimen

*Dues are renewable each year in January*

Delaware Valley Earth Science Society Inc., - DVESS  
P.O.Box 372  
Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052

DVESS Website:  
<http://www.dvess.org>

EFMLS Website:  
<http://www.AmFed.org/EFMLS>

### Editor's Notes

Editor is not responsible for authenticity of information in any articles submitted for publication. Nor are the opinions expressed in the “DVESScapades” necessarily those of the officers of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society, Inc., and/or the editors.

To submit an article for publication in the DVESScapades contact the Newsletter Editor.

### DVESS 2003 SPONSORS

“Platinum” - Gerald Feigan  
“Platinum” -- Harvey Cantor  
“Silver” – Jeff Winkler

Evergreen Avenue School  
160 N. Evergreen Ave.  
Woodbury, N.J. 08096  
Privilege to enter the school is limited to the night of the meeting between the hours of 7PM & 10PM under the direction of the school staff.  
Permission from the school staff is required to enter the school at any other time.

## DVESS 2003 Officers & Positions

### President

Grant Elliot  
(856) 728-1731  
[gle@bellatlantic.net](mailto:gle@bellatlantic.net)

### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Rick Hartly  
(215) 729-2059  
[a8rharty@msn.com](mailto:a8rharty@msn.com)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Lou Detofsky

### Treasurer

### Program Chairperson

Gary Weinstein  
(856) 234-0708 – Home  
(856) 795-5077 – Work  
[d.g.wein@att.net](mailto:d.g.wein@att.net)

### Recording Secretary

Terry Wilson  
(609) 714-1309  
[terry@dvess.org](mailto:terry@dvess.org)

### Corresponding Secretary

Pat Carey

### Sage

Len Morgan  
George Petreshock

### Membership Chairperson

### Newsletter Editor

Mike Jacob  
(856) 596-2230  
[stargazer7584@yahoo.com](mailto:stargazer7584@yahoo.com)

### Jr. Rockhound Coordinator

VACANCY

### Field Trip Coordinator

VACANCY

### Website Coordinator

Terry Wilson  
[terry@dvess.org](mailto:terry@dvess.org)

### Special Events

### Coordinator

Ann Lynne Benson  
(856) 783-0969  
[SeleniteQueen@comcast.net](mailto:SeleniteQueen@comcast.net)

## President's Message

By Grant Elliot

Well, the Trotter/Buckwheat/Sterling Hill field trip is now all but a wonderful memory to those who participated. It is certain there will be stories galore of finds and experiences to share for some time to come. I look forward to hearing all of them.

I want to thank those people who gave of themselves to make this weekend a great success. Jeff Winkler did an astounding job of organizing the event, including all the little things to make it an enjoyable adventure for all of us. Jeff and his crew were tireless workers. Rick and Alice were solid mainstays, without which the weekend operation would not have been a success. I think of those boiling pots of hot water Alice kept bringing over from the camper for hot chocolate. "Mother Hen" Alice made certain everyone was sufficiently intoxicated with hot chocolate. She would make the perfect game show host or a greeter at Wal-Mart. Gary, Lori, Terry, and others whose names I forget all contributed their time, talents, and energy. I am proud of you all. The raffles for UV lamps were a neat idea and I could not believe the crowd when the drawings were made. Many thanks to those who donated this equipment. With the people we have, I would expect even greater things next year. I can't wait to find out.

## Letter from the Editor

By Mike Jacob

### Job Openings

It is with regret that I must announce that Paul Funk will be unable to continue as Field Trip coordinator or as Junior Rockhound coordinator. Please do not contact him regarding field trips as indicated in last months newsletter. I wish to thank Paul sincerely for his contributions to the newsletter during my tenure as editor.

This of course means that we have two positions open waiting to be filled by eager volunteers from the membership. If you are interested in contributing your time as either Junior Rockhound or Field Trip coordinator please contact Grant or any member of the executive board.

### Picnic!

The annual picnic is coming up end of June. Member Gerald Feigin has graciously offered to host this years event at his home. Among the amenities offered are a gazebo and a pool, so mark your calendars for June 29<sup>th</sup> and break out the swimsuits! Watch for full details and directions in the June DVESScapades.

### Trotter

A big round of thanks to Vice President Rick Harty for a great Trotter trip report in this months newsletter. Be sure to keep an eye on the website <http://dvess.org> for photos coming soon.

## Minutes of the April 9th, 2003 DVESS General Meeting

By Lorraine Campbell, Acting Secretary

President Grant Elliot opened our meeting at 8pm by welcoming 25 members and our guest speaker Mr. John LaBold; a member of the Rock & Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County, PA.

Mr. LaBold presented a lot of gem information. Treatments to gems to make them more attractive, stronger, more valuable and more plentiful began long ago; 2000 BC! Man began back then by changing the color of crystals by changing the balance of electrical ions. Gem enhancement is an excepted practice because the number of perfect gems produced in nature are few and are museum specimens. Enhancement makes beautiful gems more plentiful and affordable for people to buy.

The most common treatments are heat and dying. Amethyst crystals can be heated and the color changes to yellow citrine; radiation can change it back to purple. Amarine is half citrine and half amethyst in the same crystal. This is caused in nature by the slow effect of natural radiation in the earth. Clear quartz exposed to natural radiation turns to smoky quartz because an electron is driven away. Man duplicates nature with the use of radiation but the results are faster.

Emeralds usually have a secret "green oil" rubbed into the gem to fill in minute cracks. Pearls can be bleached or dyed with iodine to improve or change the color. A sugar (and heat?) treatment of agate produces black onyx. Natural turquoise is often ruined by color change from the wearers body oils but with the treatment of dye and apoxy the stones look better and keep their color. Aquamarine becomes a deeper blue after treatment. An old book by Kurt Nassau tells about the secrets and formulas for gem enhancement.

Apparently chain store gem salespeople understand little about gems other than the names and colors. Good gem dealers know what is accepted treatment and will tell the customer about enhancement.

We had a lively question and answer session and Mr. LaBold had interesting samples for members to look at. Gary brought in two gems to show. My favorite was a beautiful natural yellow diamond. Gary Weinstein donated a beautiful aquamarine gem for the evenings door prize. The happy winner was member Connie Lopert.

The business meeting began with the approval of the March minutes by members who read the e-mail newsletter. Treasurer Gary Weinstein said the books jive with the bank statement and DVESS was holding a lot of money that would be turned in for the Trotter mine fees that pay for the various costs and expenses to uncover the mine for collecting.

George Powell will be our long awaited speaker in June. George is famous in the fossil field and has collected and donated fossil displays to the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.

The Trotter mine trip is on April 26<sup>th</sup>. 118 people have paid so far. New this year will be a drawing for 4 winners of U.V. lamps. Gary Weinstein and three other sponsors have donated the lamps.

Paul Funk told us that the Aurora Fossil Museum donated specimens for the Junior Rockhounds. Thanks will be sent to the museum. A recent Rock and Gem issue announced that the magazine is looking for certain back issues. Our 50/50 drawing of \$5 was won by member Andrew Lopert just before our meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

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## Volunteers Needed To Help At The AURORA, NC FOSSIL FESTIVAL On Saturday May 24th 2003

by Lorraine Campbell

Dear fellow members of the Delaware Earth Science Society and the Rock and Mineral Club Of Lower Bucks County,

At the invitation of the Aurora Fossil Museum, I have been working on plans to organize a large display of rocks minerals and Fossils from NJ and PA. This is over the Memorial Day weekend and it would be an educational and fun place for families to visit. There is a nearby campground for tents and campers. Motels are available in nearby towns.

For example: Bay River Campground and Marina Weavercamp Rd. Merritt, NC ph. 252-745-4879

### Would you like to help?

These are activities I am working on that will be provided with the the display:

1. PA coal - free to children
2. Mineral and Fossil sales tables.
3. NJ Cape May diamonds and stones for adults and children to search through and collect in small jars or plastic containers (for a small fee).  
\*\* (donations of small jars with lids are needed bring to your club meeting in April and May) I will be at the meeting.
4. A craft table for adults and children to make candle holders decorated with rocks and minerals (for a fee).
5. A display table about rock and mineral clubs showing club newsletters. The Eastern Federation guidebook will be there for people to look up clubs in their home areas.

Contact: Lorraine Campbell at 856-662-6676 or drop me a note at 3333 Cooper Ave Pennsauken, NJ 08109 or leave a message on my husband's cell phone: 856-889-1121 (Barry Campbell)

### Visit THE ANNUAL AURORA, NC FOSSIL FESTIVAL Sat May 24th, 2003

- \* Festival Activities include FREE FOSSIL COLLECTING plus:
- \* Truck loads of the aurora phosphate mine mix are dumped in piles around town for everyone to search for fossils.
- \* Fossil Festival Parade on Main Street.
- \* Displays by collectors and the PCS phosphate mine company.
- \* Bus tours of the mine facilities (free) 1 -4 pm
- \* Lots of food and crafts for sale.
- \* New this year NJ and PA rocks minerals and fossils display!
- \*\* collecting note - A screen box 1/4" (wire) for sifting is helpful to collect the fossils and a small shovel.

## **DVESS FIELD TRIP REPORT - TROTTER MINE DUMP 2003**

Rick Harty, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President DVESS



Under the threat of heavy rain, Alice and I spent all day Friday preparing our R.V. for the much anticipated fifth year at the Trotter Mine dump. After packing the canopy, tables, chairs, ice chests, lights, cords, and other equipment, we headed out for the three hour drive to the Franklin-Ogdensburg area of northern New Jersey.

Upon our late evening arrival at the Trotter mine dump, we were greeted with what appeared to be a tent city within the boundaries of the mine dump fencing. As expected, we had found that Jeff Winkler, Chris Gillis, Pete Gillis, and John Dymond had also been working all day setting up three canopies to provide a protected area for the main entrance and two dark room areas for viewing the fluorescent materials under UV lights, with a special display setup in one of the dark rooms. After parking our R.V., Alice and I worked until about midnight setting up the various work areas for the volunteer Staff to utilize on Saturday. Jeff, Chris, Pete, and John continued on until around two in the morning, despite the wind and light rain.

On Saturday morning around 6:30, we were awakened by the sounds of the early arrivals securing their positions at the front gate which did not open until 9:00, and Jeff was there to wake us up with coffee, donuts, and bagels. Chris, Pete and John, also early risers, were putting final touches on the dark rooms and the display case. By nine o'clock, approximately 50 people were standing in line or under the R.V. awning eagerly waiting to check-in and start collecting. Entering the collecting area took a little longer, due to the smaller entrance under the canopies for sign-in and the special features added to this year's dig. Each participant received a coupon to enter the Buckwheat mine dump, a discount coupon to enter the Sterling Hill Mine, a raffle ticket to win a UV lamp, and a raffle ticket to win a mineral specimen. By 10:00 a new line was forming at the weigh-in table as some collectors already had full buckets and were heading out to the Buckwheat dump. All morning there seemed to be a constant flow of collectors under the canopies some asking for help in identifying their finds and others wanting to check-in or weigh-out their specimens.

Somewhere around lunchtime the line to enter the collecting area slowed down only to be replaced by the crowd gathering under the canopies trying to avoid the wind and rain, and anticipating the 12:30 drawing for the mineral specimens.

By mid-afternoon things had begun to slow down at the front desk and it began to look like the sun was trying to make an appearance. However, by early evening the rain had persisted mostly as a mist with intermittent showers. Then came the crowd; this time for the 5:30 drawing for the UV lights. The children's drawings got the most attention. In order to win one of the UV lights the winner had to be present. Unfortunately, a few families had decided to leave for dinner and they were not present to accept their prize. The missing winners only sparked cheers from the remaining children because this increased their chances to win a light. Finally all of the donated UV lights had been accepted.

By seven o'clock the crowd again converged on the front desk to weigh-out their specimens at the day rate and to prepare for the nighttime dig. With the off and on rain, we decided to put up another canopy down in the pit to protect Jeff's monster UV light setup for the nighttime fluorescent display of the remaining ore body. Unfortunately, due to the lights from the town of Franklin reflecting off the heavy cloud cover, the ore body did not seem to show as much of the brilliant colors that we've come to expect.

The night dig, starting at 7:30, was somewhat easier on folks because they did not have to go back and forth to the dark rooms or set up their own mini-dark room with trash bags and tarps. However, the weather wasn't willing to cooperate. Although the rain had stopped, the drop in temperature gave everyone a chill. This only brought out other donations compliments of Jeff Winkler and Reggie Phillips; FREE hot chocolate and coffee being served up at the front desk now nicknamed "Alice's Restaurant". Otherwise, night-time at the front entrance wasn't much different than the day-time; crowded with check-ins and weigh-outs. Finally at about midnight, after 15 hours of operation, we were able to close the front gate.

In all approximately 2.8 tons of material was removed, from the dump site or taken from the ore body by 179 collectors from across the United States, Canada, and England. Some of the more notable finds of hardystonite and hydrozincite came from the same areas where they have been found in past collecting. Phil Pierson found a nice cluster of gemmy microcline crystals in matrix. People were even tearing apart the old chunks of concrete when word got around that it contained esperite and hardystonite. Johan Maerten, one of the 79 collectors to take advantage of the Buckwheat dump coupon, was proudly displaying a cluster of microcline crystals found at the site.

A report from the Sterling Hill Mine indicated that 45 collectors took advantage of the discount coupon that was offered as part of the Trotter dump dig.

Now for a little behind the scenes info about what it takes to open the gates of the Trotter Mine dump.

Due to the efforts of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society (DVESS) and the F & R Associates, we have been granted the opportunity to collect in a world renowned locality that is closed to the public.

The \$20.00 entrance fee covers the cost of the dump site excavation, U-Haul truck/dark room and generator for UV lights, Port-a-potty, and a small donation to the DVESS treasury. The excavation and obtaining the rental equipment was handled by Steve Phillips of F & R Associates.

Front Desk operations Alice Harty, Rick Harty, Jeff Winkler with assistance from Lori Del Gesso, Grant Elliot, Gary Weinstein, Jennifer Winkler, Jason Winkler, John Pavelko and Danielle Weinstein

The setup and materials of the two dark rooms complete with UV lights and display case with fluorescent mineral specimens was supplied by the Gillis brothers Chris and Pete with help from John Dymond.

Emergency services, cooking facilities, additional electrical power, night-time lighting, security, and ice chests supplied by Rick and Alice Harty via the use of their Recreation Vehicle.

The canopies, tables, chairs, water, and ice were supplied by Jeff Winkler and Rick and Alice Harty.

Geological materials supplied by Gary's Gem Garden with a small donation from proceeds to the DVESS treasury.

Fluorescent mineral assortment donated to the Junior Rock hounds by Eric Weis and Sidney Pomper

Soda and snacks were donated by Mel Le Compte with the proceeds going to the DVESS treasury and any left-over goods to be used at the DVESS picnic.

Hot Chocolate, cups, spoons, and paper products donated by Jeff Winkler

Door Prizes donated by:

Jeff Winkler our Trip Master – (2) - UVG-4 handheld short wave lights  
(2) – 12V UV Systems battery packs for use with 9W, 12V lamps

Greg Lesinski of “GSL Rocks” - \$250.00 in Mineral Gift Certificates  
(1) - 9W handheld 12V short wave lamp

William Garner of “Way Too Cool” - (1) - 9W handheld 12V short wave lamp

Gary Weinstein of “Gary’s Gem Garden” – (1) - UVG-4 handheld short wave light

E-mail correspondence, recording and documentation paperwork handled by Jeff Winkler

Website and computer graphics created by Jim Cooper

Photography by Terry Wilson our DVESS web mistress and Bob (UV Bob) Mcquire

Parking and cleanup was handled by the Phillips family.

Additional support came from Jim Tozour (ore body lighting), Eric Weis (Trotter entrance sign)

I would like to thank our Trip Master Jeff Winkler for having the persistence to hang-in there for the year that it took to once again allow us to collect at the Trotter Mine dump. Also, I would thank Steve Phillips and the Franklin Mineral Museum for opening up the Buckwheat Mine dump for this special occasion. A special thanks goes out to Chris Gillis, Pete Gillis, and John Dymond for the extraordinary dark rooms and spectacular display of the fluorescent materials found at the locality. Additionally, I must thank all those who despite today’s economic problems still donated the door prizes that brought more excitement to the day. Most of all, I must thank Alice Harty for the ever present smile, good nature and concern she showed and shared with most of us. Alice made the waiting at the front entrance enjoyable and a pleasure for all. Lastly, I would like to thank all of the volunteers who unselfishly donated their time, skill, and expertise to what has been called the Trotter Extravaganza.

One final word of thanks comes from Steve Phillips, the F & R Associates, the Franklin Mineral Museum, the Sterling Hill Mining Museum and the community of Franklin for the commitment of the past five years to this special event.

#### Excerpts from E-mail comments received by Jeff Winkler following the Trotter Dump dig

I must say you and your crew run a top notch operation. I was so glad to hear you mention Sunday that there were no problems of any kind, GREAT TO HEAR !!!!! I trust you have had a week to recuperate. I have never ever been to a dig like this where everyone and I mean everyone was so friendly and offered to help identify specimens and even give some of there findings to us and offer tips. We met a lot of great people from all over the states.

The Trotter was a great success despite the challenging weather conditions..... well done to you and the team... it was good to see them all motivated and positive in the tough conditions.

Just wanted to thank you for another great weekend!. My son, husband and I really appreciated the time you took to steer us in the right direction to find many new and different minerals. We thought we



wouldn't be bringing much home with us this year, WRONG!. We are still trying to identify some of the rocks, but are thrilled with the many different fluorescing colors we have. Hope you are rested and recovered. Hope to see you next year!

My family and I had a great time this weekend. Since this was our first dig anywhere, Franklin is a great place to catch the bug. We are already talking about next year. Thanks to you, your organization and your sponsors (my son won a UV light) it was a great experience.

I was at the "Million Dollar Show" along with the soggy multitudes but never made it to the Trotter Extravaganza. I'm jealous of those who did, and congratulate you for sharing your experiences and chronicling your finds. It seems obvious that the Trotter Trip should be covered in some detail in The Picking Table, and I think you are the folks to do it.

Congratulations on another successful trip. I heard from several people that the ticketing link with the Franklin Mineral Museum was also a Good Thing.

Authors note:

To view past and present photographs taken at the Trotter Dump field trips please visit the DVESS website at [www.DVESS.org](http://www.DVESS.org)



**10th Annual  
Fossil Festival  
Aurora, NC  
May 23-24, 2003**

**Friday: Opening Ceremony @ 6PM**

*Fossil Displays, Free Fossil Dig,*

*Exhibits & Lectures*

Top 50 Car Show

Free Bluegrass Concert

Handmade Crafts

Food Booths

Military Displays and Exhibits

***Special Salute to all Military***

Parade

Street Dance

Square Dancing Horse Show,

***Best Small Town Festival in NC***

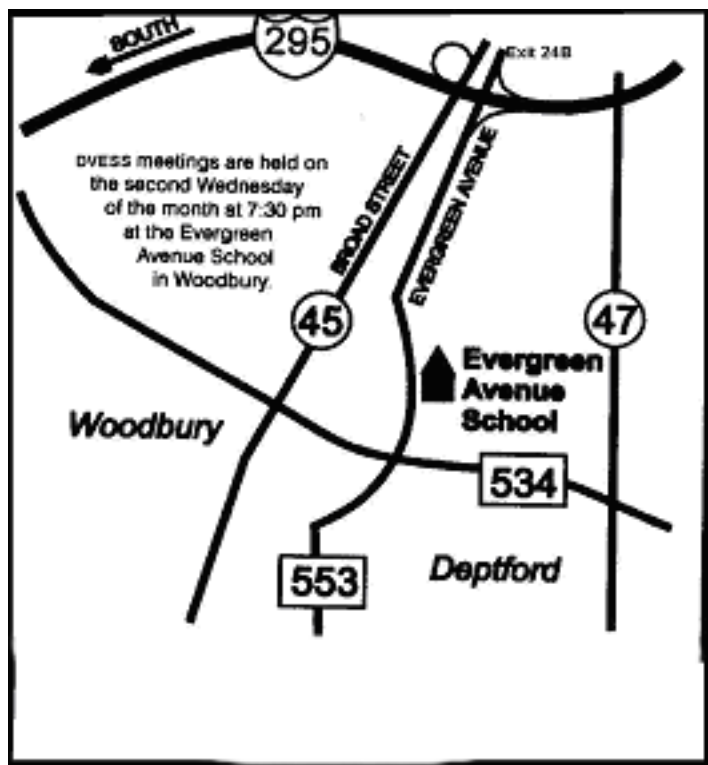
Walmart Take-a-Kid-Fishing Tournament

Fun for the Entire Family

***For More Information***

***252-322-4384***

***e-mail [cormond@coastlanet.com](mailto:cormond@coastlanet.com)***



## **This Month's Meeting: Wednesday, May 14th 2003**

7:30 PM at the Evergreen Avenue School

**Mr. Eugene F. Hartstein**  
*Of*  
**Newark, DE**

*Will present:*  
**Texas Fossils**

*Don't miss it!*

## **DVESScapades**

*The Newsletter of the  
Delaware Valley Earth Science Society*

**PO Box 372**

**Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052**



**Birthstone: [Emerald](#)**