

*Meeting Place: Room 236 Westby Hall, Rowan Univ.  
201 Mullica Hill Rd., Glassboro, New Jersey*

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

*Meeting Date: **May 10, 2006***



## Main Program

Lou Detofsky will be lecturing on the fauna, geology and volcanoes of Costa Rica

## Junior Rockhounds

Society President and amateur Professor of Mineralogy Gerald Feigin will be lecturing the older juniors on clear & white minerals and Mel LaCompte will be presenting the junior rockhound merit badge program for younger juniors.

+++ May 6, 2006 field trip to Liberty Lake, MD **cancelled** +++  
May 13, 2006 field trip Sterling Hill collecting 9AM to 3PM and night collecting 6PM to 10PM

June 4, 2006 field trip night collecting at the Buckwheat Dump 6:30PM preceded by a Club trip to the Edison Mines 1PM

+++++ Club Picnic in June date to be determined +++++



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 Rowan University, Glassboro, 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  
\$10.00 for Students with College ID

### Sponsoring Membership

<u>Level</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Member</u>	+	<u>Additional Members</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 2006 SPONSORS

Gerald Feigin – Platinum  
Dwight Ridenour – Platinum

Privilege to enter Rowan University facilities is limited to the night of the meeting between the hours of 7PM & 10PM under the direction of the University staff. Permission from the University staff is required to enter the school at any other time.

### DVESS 2006 Officers & Positions

**President**  
**Jr. Rockhound Coordinator**  
Gerald Feigin  
[gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us](mailto:gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Grant Elliott  
(856) 728-1731  
[gle@verizon.net](mailto:gle@verizon.net)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Lou Detofsky

**Treasurer**  
**Program Chairperson**  
Gary Weinstein  
(856) 234-0708 – Home  
(856) 795-5077 – Work  
[garyskyrock@comcast.net](mailto:garyskyrock@comcast.net)

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

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Lisa Stickler

**Sage**  
Len Morgan  
George Petreshock

**Newsletter Editor**  
**Recording Secretary**  
**Membership Chair**  
**Field Trip Coordinator**  
Chuck O’Loughlin  
(856) 663-1383  
[editor@dvess.org](mailto:editor@dvess.org)

**Assistant Newsletter Editor**  
**Asst. Field Trip Coordinator**  
**Director of Sages & Past Presidents**  
**Mineral Metaphysicist**  
**Counsel to the Ex. Bd.**  
**Librarian**  
Thaddeus Butterstone  
[butterstonet@yahoo.com](mailto:butterstonet@yahoo.com)

**Special Events Coordinator**  
**Past President**  
Ann Lynne Benson  
(856) 783-0969  
[SeleniteQueen@comcast.net](mailto:SeleniteQueen@comcast.net)

---

## President's Message or "Kernels of Wisdom" by Colonel Gerald Feigin, USAR

I unfortunately have more work than expected so please accept these humble thoughts in lieu of a full Presidential address.

I went back to Flag Ponds Park and saw Scot Nieman on Saturday (you will all recall that Mr. Nieman is a Park Ranger at Flag Pond who addressed the Society in the past). He was overseas collecting fossils and will be donating them to the Smithsonian Institution. In the future he will be coming back to give us another presentation on the fossils of Maryland. I have been wondering if with all of the theories on how the planet Earth formed, how come the planet isn't more homogeneous? We find it to be heterogeneous, finding different elements in one place, but not another. There are lots of theories but none of them make sense to me. This is one of the reasons I am a member of DVESS. I have not lost my curiosity about the world. I hope I never do. Sometimes my questions are answered, other times more are created. A few years ago a speaker told us that all of the water on our planet came from comets. I didn't believe him then and still don't, but it made me think. I hope we all have this type of curiosity and never lose it.

## March 8, 2006 General Meeting Minutes

by Thaddeus Butterstone acting for Chuck O'Loughlin, Involuntary Recording Secretary

A sizable crowd showed up for our April meeting in order to hear the fantastic program presented by Adrian Mayor on the Gold Guarding Griffins of Ancient Sythian Folk Lore. After a brief introduction by Society Member Bob Bartosz, who was instrumental in arranging for our speaker, Ms. Mayor began her slide presentation comparing ancient Sythian folk lore as documented by the ancient Greek and Roman including representations of griffins on vases and other art objects with slides of actual fossils found in the Gobi Desert. The resemblance to both the written records and the artistic representations with the actual fossil record was remarkable. The program was a truly enjoyable and a thought provoking presentation for all those members and guests who were lucky enough to attend.

The business portion of the meeting began shortly after the presentation was concluded. The Treasurer reported the Society to be in good financial shape. Programs reported that we have a full schedule for the balance of the spring and into the fall season. Field Trips are scheduled for April (Prospect Park and Trotter) and for May (Liberty Lake) with more scheduled for June and beyond. Volunteers are still needed to help run the Trotter trip and anyone who can lend a hand should see Chuck O'Loughlin. Newsletter and Web Site reported nothing new. Special Events spoke about the Pot Luck luncheon on Sunday April 23, 2006 and encouraged members to attend and to sign up via [www.whosbringingwhat.com/dvess](http://www.whosbringingwhat.com/dvess). The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 PM.

## Junior Rockhound News by Gerald Feigin & Mel LaCompte

The older juniors' topic this month will be clear, white minerals presided over by Mr. Feigin.

The younger set will be starting on the American Federation Junior Rockhound merit badge program conducted by Mr. LaCompte.

## Programs by Gary Weinstein

Dr. Lou Detofsky will be speaking on his travel and studies in Costa Rica at our May meeting. Expect the presentation to be extremely low tech but thoroughly enjoyable as Dr. Detofsky is known for his great showmanship and comprehensive knowledge about every subject he elects to undertake. Dr. Detofsky presentation style is enjoyed and understood by all ages so be sure to bring out the young ones.

We will round out the year with the return of Patti Kane-Vanni who will be speaking on her more recent paleontology expeditions.

## **Club News and Items of Interest** by various contributors

### **NEW MEMBERS' CORNER** by Ann Lynne "The Selenite Queen" Benson

Featured Member this month is **Susan Johnson**. Susan has been a member for a while, but was unable to attend a meeting prior to April. She lives in Cherry Hill and teaches in Philadelphia. She likes fossils and minerals, with a preference for fossils.

Welcome, Susan!! We're glad to have you aboard.

If you, or a new member you are acquainted with, would like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, send info about you/they to: [SeleniteQueen@comcast.net](mailto:SeleniteQueen@comcast.net)

### **FACES FROM THE PAST** by Ann Lynne "The Selenite Queen" Benson

Where I come from they call it a GMC - God-Manufactured Coincidence.

I was shopping in the Lawnside Pathmark on Saturday April 15 around 7pm when I heard my name called. Turning around, there stood Joe Scioli and his ever-lovely bride.

We had a good chat and caught up on some times. He and his wife are still traveling, so not "home" (in South Jersey) much of the time, but he did have a call the other day from Bill Vis. He asked if I was still involved in the club and I told him "absolutely!" and shared some DVESS recent and upcoming activities.

He was glad to hear about our "escapades" and I gave him our website address (he hadn't known about that). Possibly and hopefully we will see Joe again. With his winning smile and pleasant ways, Joe was always one of my favorite members and he would be a great re-addition to our ranks.

*Editor's note: This article raises a very good question. Where does Ann come from? If anyone has any ideas please be sure to send them to [editor@dvess.org](mailto:editor@dvess.org)*

## **DVESS Spring Pot Luck Supper - Sunday April 23, 2006**

The Society's annual pot luck super was held once again at Centenary United Methodist Church on Rt. 30 (White Horse Pike) in Berlin. The church Pastor greeted us but was unable to join us due to other commitments. The Society would like to extend our thanks to the Church, its Pastor and our own Mel LaCompte, who also happens to be mister everything at the church, for making the facility available to us.

20 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful slide presentation by Ms. Carrie Papa, author of "A Mile Deep and Black as Pitch" an oral history of the Franklin and Sterling Mines and the towns of Franklin and Ogdensburg. Her antique photos of the mines, miners, towns and townsfolk were fascinating and her descriptions of life for the miners and their families were most interesting. The Society extends it special thanks to Ms. Papa for traveling from North Jersey to share her wonderful work with us.

In addition to a wonderful speaker we enjoyed some fantastic food and thanks go to all who brought something to share. All of the food was quite delicious and everyone eat their full. We concluded the afternoon with a silent auction. Hot items were the minerals, some of which were spectacular, a mystery box that was labeled minerals but the authenticity of

the label came under question so it was anyone guess what they were bidding on. Another hot auction item was an interesting artifact contributed by our good friend Thaddeus Butterstone, a juvenile ravenous man-eating Pliocene clam (see last month newsletter) that was fossilized while in the act of digesting a carnivorous turtle that appeared to have attacked its prey by means of shooting a stream of water from its mouth. The fossil was labeled level 8 near the cloth line post, Williamstown, NJ. Although Butterstone would not comment on the item it is reasonable to assume that he has visited the site highlighted in the April issue of The DVESSfunctional Press. The discovery of the man-eating clams at a lower level than where the “Malibu Barbie” or early hominid head was discovered can only mean that early man struggled to gain a foothold in what can at best be described as a hostile environment.

The afternoon concluded with the selection of door prizes by all in attendance. The door prizes included many interesting minerals and a few of Terry Wilson’s 3-D cards. If you did not make it to the event, sorry, but you missed out on a wonderful day of intellectual stimulation, gastronomical delight and good fellowship. Be sure to make next years Pot Luck.

*Club members, who will be attending shows to look, buy or sell are invited to notify the editor at [editor@dvess.org](mailto:editor@dvess.org) and we will get the information into the newsletter. Also let us know if you spot any of are far flung members making surprise appearances anywhere, or have something exciting in your life to share with us. We are always on the lookout for something of interest to report on our members activities.*

**Field Trips** by Chuck O’Loughlin (for additional information or to sign up for any field trips contact me at 856-663-1383 or [editor@dvess.org](mailto:editor@dvess.org) )

**May 6, 2006 11 AM Liberty Lake, MD. Sorry but due to other commitments the trip has been cancelled.** I hope to be able to reschedule this field trip for some time in the fall.

**May 13, 2006 9 AM – 3 PM day collecting and 6 PM – 10 PM night collecting, Sterling Hill Mining Museum.** For Sterling Hill Foundation Members only, DVESS has a club membership in the Foundation and you are allowed to participate by showing your DVESS membership card.

**June 4, 2006 1 PM Edison Mining Complex, Ogdensburg, NJ followed at 6:30 PM by the spring night dig at the Buckwheat Dump, Franklin Mineral Museum, Franklin NJ.** Persons interested in participating in one or both events should contact Chuck O’Loughlin to sign up and for travel information. If you would prefer, you can collect at the Buckwheat during the day and scout out the areas you want to explore when the lights go out. The Buckwheat dump is open at 9 AM.

**Field Trip Report** by Thaddeus Butterstone

**April 8, 2006 Kyanite hunting at the Morton Homestead, Prospect Park, Delaware County, PA.** The field trip was called off after the group arrived at the Morton Homestead and observed the creek to be quite full due to the steady down pour that was taking place that morning. The trip will be rescheduled for some future date.

**April 28 & 29 Trotter Trippple diggg, Franklin & Ogdensburg, NJ.** There was fantastic weather for a change, which helped to make this year’s trippple diggg one of the best ever. Well over one hundred collectors turned out to comb the old Trotter dump for a chance to discover some of the rare Parker Shaft and other infamous Franklin material that just might have been overlooked all these many years or were hidden beneath several feet of soil only to be unearthed for this years dig and just waiting to be had. This years excavations pulled up several old foundation pieces which were more rock than concrete and many a collector took their turn wailing away at the pieces. Crazy Calcite (Franklin variety) was found by several collectors and a few were able to unearth Hardystonite specimens. Just about everyone took home several pounds to be cleaned and studied and hopefully identified.



As always DVESS and our fellow collectors would like to thank to Steve and Reggie Phillips & family for opening this historic site for this fluorescent rockhound fantasy weekend. We would also like to thank the Eastern Field Trip Alliance (EFTA), the Sterling Hill Mining Museum and the Franklin Mineral Museum for their contributions to this very successful weekend. Additional thanks go to all of our sponsors; GSL Rocks, UV Tools, Connecticut Antique Machinery Museum, Way Too Cool, Gary's Gem Garden, WhosComing.com, The Miners Shop, UV Systems, Inc., American Landscaping and Stuart Schneider. Our sponsors generous contributions and assistance help to make this weekend special. Finally I need to name a few of the many people whose tireless efforts make the event possible. Number one on everyone thank you list is Jeff Winkler, followed closely by Chris Gillis, Pete Gillis and John Dymond, who put in many long hours getting thing ready for the collectors and than cleaning up after us, Jim Cooper for preparing the paperwork, Terry Wilson for reservations and Greg Lusinski of GSL Rocks for coordinating all of the sponsors. Our final thanks go to all the volunteers from DVESS who helped staff the gate and snack tables, Grant Elliott, Gary Weinstein, Ann Lynne Benson, Mel LaCompte, Keith Lopez, Anderson One, Two, Three, Four, Five and Six. Last but not least we are ever so grateful to Chuck O'Loughlin for not insulting too many people and for not screwing up things anymore then he did.

It was a very good weekend for fluorescent mineral fans.



Is this a picture of?

- 1.) The wall at Trotter?
- 2.) A Blue Men Concert taking place at Red Rock? If so then why is some of the rock green?
- 3.) Something sent back from Mars by NASA showing local Martians mining cheese (red is port cheddar, green is port cheddar that is beyond the expiration date). If 3 is correct than we will have to revisit all those theories that depict Martians as green. It is obvious at least to me that they are blue. (Note the silhouette of one of the Mars Rovers in the foreground.)

As Society President Feigin stated in this months Presidential address; "There are lots of theories but none of them make sense to me. This is one of the reasons I am a member of DVESS. I have not lost my curiosity about the world. I hope I never do. Sometimes my questions are answered, other times more are created."

*Editor's note if you are not viewing this newsletter on your computer, sorry for the black and white print version, but do try to view this picture from Terry Wilson on a computer. The picture depicts the wall at Trotter illuminated by ultraviolet lamps. The collectors in the picture appear blue. Most likely because they have washed their clothes is phosphorescent laundry detergent which contains minerals to make your whites, whiter and your colors, brighter.*

Terry has several photo of the recent weekend extravaganza available for viewing on the Society's web site [www.dvess.org](http://www.dvess.org)

## Calendar of Shows and Events

compiled by Chuck O'Loughlin from various sources

**May 20 & 21, 2006 – Berks Mineralogical Society's World of Gems and Minerals**, located at the Leepport Farmers Market, Route 61, Leepport, PA. 10AM to 5PM Saturday and 10AM to 4PM Sunday. Saturday only, tail gate section, setup 8AM. [info@berksmineralsociety.org](mailto:info@berksmineralsociety.org)

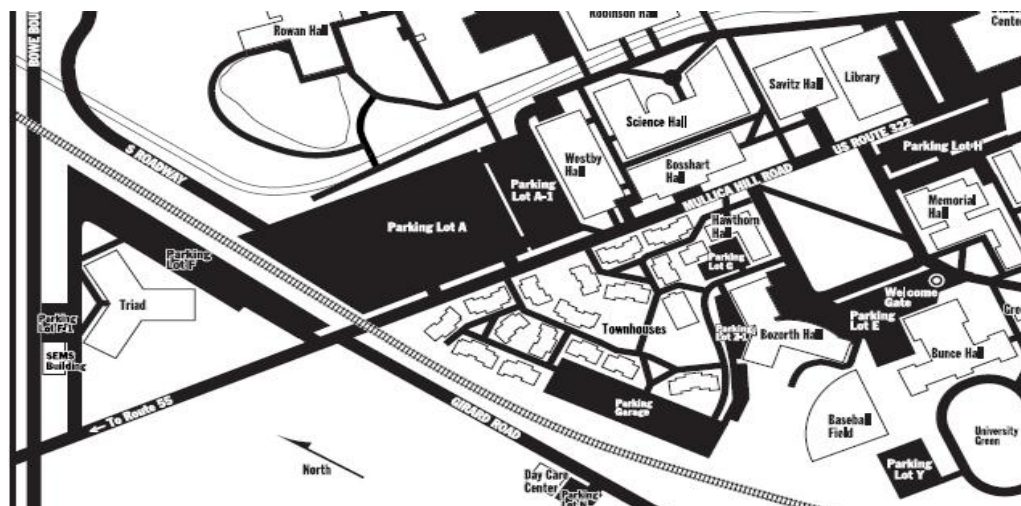
**June 3, 2006 – Spring Mineralfest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Earth Science Society (PESA)** Macungie Memorial Park, Nacungie, PA (8 miles sw of Allentown).

**June 10, 2006 – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock Swap and Sale sponsored by the Connecticut Antique Machinery Association and the Danbury Mineralogical Society**, Connecticut Antique Machinery Association, Rt. 7, Kent, CT (Rain date June 11).

Additional shows and events are listed on the Eastern Federations Web site [www.afms.org/efmls/](http://www.afms.org/efmls/)

### NEW MEETING LOCATION commencing with the January 2006 meeting - Room 236 Westby Hall, Rowan University, 201 Mullica Hill Road (Rt. 322), Glassboro, NJ

Directions to Rowan University as well as a campus map can be obtained by visiting the Rowan University web site [www.rowan.edu](http://www.rowan.edu) members without access to the web, the campus can be reached by taking Rt. 55 exit 50A (Rt. 322 East towards Glassboro). Proceed east on Rt. 322 through one traffic light and after crossing the rail road tracks turn left into the parking lot. Westby Hall is the building adjacent to the parking lot. The campus can also be reached from Rt. 47 (Delsea Drive). From Rt. 47 turn onto Rt. 322 West in Glassboro. After turning onto Rt. 322 west go through three (3) traffic lights, Rowan University buildings will be on your right with Westby Hall being the last building on the right before the large parking lot. Turn right into the parking lot A and park. Use the main entrance to Westby Hall by Rt. 322. Handicapped parking is available at the front of the building off Rt. 322 and a handicapped entrance is on the side of the building with an elevator for access to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.



# DVESScapades

The Newsletter of the  
Delaware Valley Earth Science Society

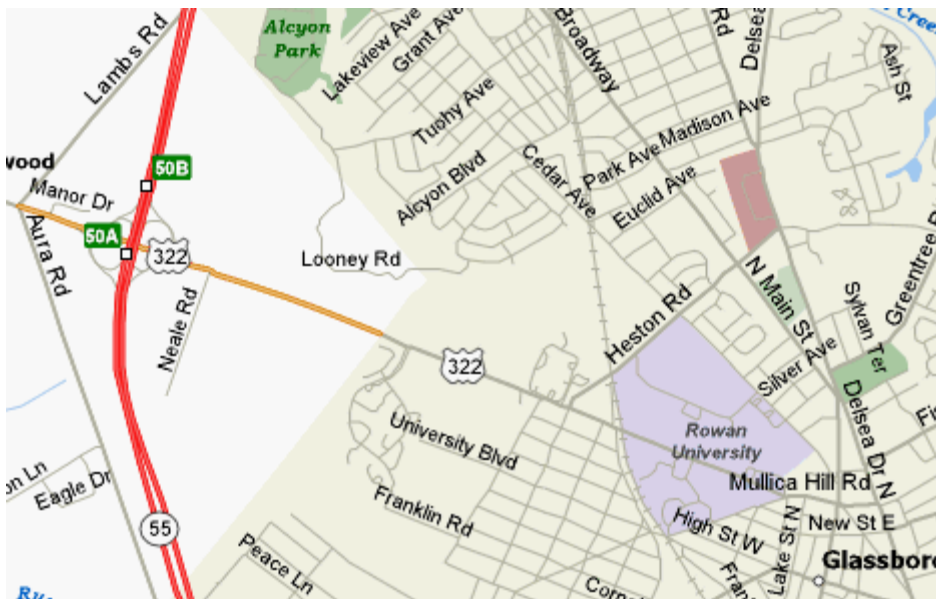
PO Box 372

Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052



## DVESScapades

May 2006



This Month's  
Meeting:

**May 10, 2006**

**Main Program**

Lou Detofsky presenting the  
fauna, floral and geology  
(including volcanoes) or Costa  
Rica

**Junior Rockhounds**

Senior Juniors will be studying clear  
& white minerals. While the  
Younger Juniors will be starting the  
Jr. Rockhound Merit Badge  
Program.