DVESSCAPADES

Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society – DVESS

Year 49, Volume #8
October 2006

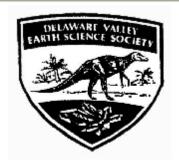
Meeting Place: Training Room, Linden Hall, RowanUniversity 201 Mullica Hill Rd., Glassboro,

New Jersey

Meeting Time: 7:30 PM, 2nd Wednesday of each

month (except July and August)

Meeting Date: October 11, 2006



<u> Main Program</u>

An EFMLS Video
presentation
"Oddities of the Mineral
World"
Staring Rock Hudson and
Cher(t)

Junior Rockhounds

Special Halloween program:
minerals in disguise
(pseudomorphs)

Juniors are encouraged to come
dressed as their favorite mineral
treats will be given to all who
come appropriately disguised

October 15, 2005 DVESS' 50th Anniversary Banquet 2PM to 5PM, Nonna's Restaurant, 211 Haddonfield Berlin Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ





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 2nd Wednesday of each month from September through June, at Rowan University, Linden Hall, 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^{st} family member + \$5.00 for each family member \$10.00 for the 1^{st} Senior (65+) member + \$5.00 for each family member \$10.00 for Students with College ID

Sponsoring Membership

Level	<u>1st Member</u>	+	Additional Members	=	<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

<u>President</u> Jr. Rockhound Coordinator

Gerald Feigin gfeigin@co.gloucester.nj.us

1st Vice President WWW Research Spec.

Grant Elliott (856) 728-1731 gle@verizion.net

2nd Vice President

Lou Detofsky

<u>Treasurer</u> <u>Program Chairperson</u>

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Sage

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Assistant Newsletter Editor
Asst. Field Trip Coordinator
Dir. of Sages & Past Pres.
Mineral Metaphysicalist
Counsel to the Ex. Bd.

Director of EAS Research
Thaddeus Butterstone

butterstonet@yahoo.com

Special Events Coordinator Past President

Ann Lynne Benson (856) 783-0969 SeleniteOueen@comcast.net

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President's Message or "Kernels of Wisdom" by Thaddeus Butterstone substituting for Society President Gerald Feigin who has once again forgotten to deliver the President's inspirational message for the masses.

Last month the chief was unable to write an inspirational message for the masses because he was busy examining dead bodies (db in the lingo of morticians, medical examiners and coroners) in Iceland, well that is at least what he claims. (For those unfamiliar with Iceland it is a land that sits atop the mid Atlantic ridge and is subject to constant upwelling of the earth's molten insides (geologists refer to this phenomena as a rift in which two tectonic plates are pull away from each other and the space created by the movement is filled with lava). This geologic process has made Iceland the land of fire and ice and it is famous for it beauties lounging in its thermal hot springs and then rolling themselves in the snow to cool down. This local custom has attracted a class of tourist with strange and unusual interest hence the annual migration of morticians, medical examiners and coroners to Iceland.

This month the chief has again failed to provide an inspirational message and one can only conclude that he is suffering from Extreme Apathy Syndrome (EAS in the lingo of the Society's apathy researchers). What is Extreme Apathy Syndrome you ask? It is a condition that seems to inflict officers of the Society who volunteer to run for an office and realize after being elected that there is actual work to be done and that the election was not just a beauty contest. (Please don't let on that it was not due to his beauty that Gerald was elected President as I would not wish to be responsible for shattering his fragile ego.) Is there a cure for EAS? Not as yet but the Society has for 50 years been investigating this affliction and with your continued financial support we hope to find a cure. How close are we to producing a cure? Well there is good news and bad news. We are unfortunately a long ways from finding a cure but on a more positive note our research into a vaccine to prevent EAS has shown promise. While we are not at the point where we can begin clinical trials, the research team believes that the vaccine if successful and provided to junior members will allow the Society to continue function (or perhaps the word I am looking for is "dysfunction") into the future.

September 13, 2006 General Meeting Minutes by Thaddeus Butterstone acting for Chuck O'Loughlin, Involuntary Recording Secretary and EAS victim, who once again failed to keep notes on the event and was forced to call upon me and my superior memory to recreate the last meeting.

The Junior Rockhound program commenced at approximately 7:45PM as a result of the Coordinator arriving late. The Juniors' were taken on an imaginary trip to Iceland to view rocks and minerals commonly found in the land of fire and ice. There is nothing more rewarding then to see the look of wonder in the eyes of the Juniors' as the Junior Coordinator showed them pictures and samples of various rock, minerals and local Icelandic customs.

President Feigin called the General Meeting to order at approximately 8:15PM (the meeting's opening was delayed due to the late arrival of the Junior Rockhound Coordinator which resulted in a late start to the Juniors' program which resulted in the late start to the General Meeting). It was business as usual for DVESS as we began our 50th year. There was some debate as to whether 2006 or 2007 is the 50th year, but as the meeting year actually spans 2006 and 2007 the argument became pointless and it was agreed to table the discussion for a future time.

The Treasurer reported that the annual auction at the picnic was one of the most successful in the Society's recent history, thanks almost entirely to the Feigin's who hotly contested many items often by out bidding each other. Special thanks to Jane who had to fill in for Jonathan who was unavailable and unable to fulfill his usual role of out bidding his father. We were also given a valuable lesson in family dynamics as Gerald did not yell at Jane like he normally yells at Jonathan when the bidding got a little out of hand (I hope Lou Detofsky was paying attention to that lesson as he prepares for his upcoming marriage). The Society also wished to express it thanks to the Feigin's for hosting and to Mel LeCompte for manning the grill.

Following the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting we commenced the evening program in which members gave an accounting of their summer activities and showed off any new mineral, fossils or near earth objects added to their collections. Needless to say the membership's response was outstanding and we enjoyed inspecting many specimens and hearing the tales encompassing the collection of each item.

Junior Rockhound News by Gerald Feigin

As Holloween is approaching I thought it might be fun to explore minerals in costume or as some of my friends like to say minerals in drag. Geologists refer to this strange mineral behavior as psuedomorphs. Imagine a mineral that looks exactly like one mineral but is in reality is another mineral all together that has assumed the shape of the original. One of the most famous examples of this mineral oddity is the queen of deception, selenite masquerading as glauberite from the Searles Lake region of California. I will of course check out the supply of pseudomorphs at Gary's Gem and Umbrella Garden, so that we will have ample samples and examples of Halloween minerals.

Programs by Gary Weinstein

We will be enjoying a video program from the EFMLS library that deals with minerals and we will also get an in-depth video look at the Federations "Wild Acres" retreat in North Carolina where for a very reasonable fee you can enjoy a week of rockhound and lapidary related activities.

October 15, 2006, 2PM – 5PM, DVESS 50th Anniversary Banquet

The Society will be holding its 50th anniversary banquet at Nonna's Restaurant, 211 Haddonfield-Berlin Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ. The restaurant is across the street from Winner Ford, for directions to the restaurant please contact the editor or use the following link <a href="http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?countrycode=250&country=US&address=211+Haddonfield-Berlin+Road&city=Cherry+Hill&state=NJ&&zipcode=&addtohistory=&submit.x=80&submit.y=5

The banquet program will include your meal, entertainment including a live presentation and a video on gold the darling of the native elements, door prizes, raffle and a special treat for all (hint - think 50th anniversary).

The meal will include soup or salad, choice of Pistachio-crusted Salmon with a blackberry sauce, Nonna's famous NY Strip Steak with potato gratin and crispy onion or a vegetarian entrée, plus a choice of mouth watering desserts and coffee or tea. A children menu item is available (chicken fingers and pasta). The price for adults will be \$20 per person and \$5 per child.

We need to make a commitment to the restaurant asap including your choice of entrée, so please let us know at the meeting or if you will not be attending please call or e-mail Chuck O'Loughlin (856-663-1383 or editor@dvess.org) prior to the meeting date.

This is a very special event for the Society and even though there are very few still around who go back to the beginning it is the duty and obligation of the current generation of Society Members to celebrate this milestone. (Did I forget to mention that Nonna's is a BYOB, so be sure to bring along your own celebration assistance beverage.)

November's program is still in the formative stages but will probably be another EFMLS video or slide program. I will try for the video programs as I know that there have been numerous complaints about my monotone delivery of the written text that accompanies the slide programs.

December's program will of course be the annual election of officers and the holiday party. This year we are planning to hold the party at the meeting facility with the Society providing a cold cut platter or pizza and members bring desserts or other favorite dishes.

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Club News and Items of Interest by various contributors

This web link was submitted by Rockhead http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5175452

Ebba Lligouri was kind enough last month to share with us their fall schedule so that we can visit with them or take advantage of the many wonderful opportunities to get out of the house. I have updated the list to eliminate those event that are in the past.

Fred will be set up at the annual Ultraviolation Fluorescent Minerals Only Show on Oct 28 and will have some North Carolina fluorescent Mangano-Apatite.

Nov 18 In Pemberton at the High School on Arney's Mount Rd there will be a Train and Hobby Show. Fred will have a table, may carve rocks (if space is available).

One last item of interest:

Leonard Morgan took ill over the summer and spent some time in the hospital. He has since been released and is in hospice care at Cadbury Retirement Home in Cherry Hill, NJ. Leonard is in good sprits but unfortunately too weak to continue to participate in club activities. His mail is now being forwarded to his son, so persons wishing to send him cards or letters can do so by sending it to the DVESS post office box and I will make sure that he receives your letters and cards or you can send an e-mail to editor@dvess.org and I will pass your thoughts on to him. You can also visit Leonard at Cadbury, 2150 Rt. 38, Cherry Hill, NJ. He is in room 513 of the nursing unit. Visiting hours are till 8PM.

Club members, who will be attending shows to look, buy or sell are invited to notify the editor at 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)

For fluorescent mineral fans, the Fluorescent Mineral Society local chapter will be holding their annual meeting and swap at Sterling Hill Mining Museum on Saturday October 14, 2006. If you are interested in attending please contact Dick Bostwick at rbostwick@att.net or 212-749-5817 . The Fluorescent Mineral Society as well as the Sterling Hill Foundation will also be holding a night dig at Sterling Hill that same evening. DVESS as a Foundation club member has gotten approval for our member to participate in the night digs. Please have your DVESS membership card to present at the gate.

The Field Trip Department is looking for a volunteer with interest in supervising fossil collecting trips. Fossils are not my thing and due to a crowded schedule I can't take the time to lead such trips. If someone is willing to lead trips to such locations as Big Brook or Calvert Cliffs, I will assist in helping them arrange the trip. If anyone is interested please contact me.

Field Trip Report by Thaddeus Butterstone

September 25 was the annual open house at Meckley's quarry. We enjoyed decent weather, a few brief light rain showers but for the most part just overcast. Our gracious host were as always very accomadating to the large crowd of collectors

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and curiosity seekers who attended the open house. Collecting was very good with lots of Celestine, strontinite, minor fluorite, calcite both massive and crystal form to be easily collected from the piles conveniently placed on the quarry floor by our host. The only disappointment was that unlike last year when they had uncovered a major mineral seem and large crystals of Celestine were everywhere, this year they were smaller and harder to locate. But such is life. Regardless a great time was had by all participants and we want to thank the owners and staff of Meckleys for opening their quarry and giving up their Sunday to allow us to pursue our passion.

September 30 a small group visited the Mineral Hill location in Delaware County, PA. Once again the weather held for us and we were able to collect with only intermittent light rain. Amazonite, actinolite and tremolite were collected and other interesting specimens were packed away to be inspected under higher magnification and UV light at home.

Calendar of Shows and Events compiled by Chuck O'Loughlin from various sources

ULTRAVIOLATION 2006 FLUORESCENT MINERALS ONLY

SHOW – SWAP – SELL

Presented by The Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County Saturday October 28, 2006

In Memmory of Larry Kennedy

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Get in the GLOW

First United Methodist Church 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA

Visitors welcome, come one and all - \$2 donation - Kids 12 & under free

Food and Beverages available

ULTRAVIOLATION is a one of a kind show geared especially for the fluorescent mineral enthusiast, whether a novice or an obsessed serious collector. The show features many of the world's premier fluorescent mineral dealers who strive each year to bring the biggest, brightest and best fluorescent minerals to satisfy the insatiable cravings of the fluorescent collector. ULTRAVIOLATION highlights fluorescent minerals exclusively and is the next best thing to night collecting. **You will not find a bigger or better fluorescent mineral show anywhere in the country.** Alternating periods of darkness and room light provides the ultimate environment to experience these beautiful and colorful minerals. Free admission and a fluorescent mineral specimen for each junior mineralogist 12 years and younger when accompanied by an adult.

*** keeping you in the dark for 17 years ***

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October 6-8: 50th Paul Desautels Micromount Symposium. MHA Conference Center, Elkridge, MD. Info & Registration: Cal Pierson cpierson@mhaonline.org

October 7: Fall Mineralfest hosted by the **Pennsylvania Earth Sciences Association**. Macungie Memorial Park (8 miles southwest of Allentown, PA).

October 28: the 17th annual "Ultraviolation Fluorescent Mineral Show" presented by the **Rock and Mineral Club of Lower Bucks County**. First United Methodist Church, 840 Trenton Road, Fairless Hills, PA 9AM to 4PM. For information or vendor registration please contact Chuck O'Loughlin 856-663-1383 or houseofbirds@verizon.net

November 4-5:The Friends of Mineralogy Pennsylvania Chapter invite you to attend their fall symposium for the mineral collecting community on "Mines and Minerals. The symposium will take place on Sunday November 5 at the Delaware County Institute of Science in Media, PA. A field trip is planned for Saturday, November 4. For more information please contact Arnold Mogel at 570-739-4034 or pioche@verizon.net or Doug Rambo 302-893-1841 or drambo417@comcast.net

November 4–5: 37th Annual Gemarama 2006, "The World of Opals" sponsored by the **Tuscarora Lapidary Society**. CFS, School at Church Farm, Business Rte 30 at Rte 202, Exton, PA

November 18-19: Annual Gem & Mineral Show and 56th EFMLS Convention sponsored by the Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches. So. Florida Fairgrounds, West Palm Beach Florida. EFMLS Annual Meeting – November 17

Additional shows and events are listed on the Eastern Federations Web site www.afms.org/efmls/

Show Report by L. E. Ott

September 23 & 24 was the fall show at Franklin, NJ and as is usual my good friend and Larry (the names have been changed to avoid any embarrassment for my good friend) was planning to set up a table at the pond. The game plan was to leave late at night on Friday the 22nd so that we could be one of the first in line in order to get one of the prime spots in the pond area on the 23rd and then to stay overnight at one of the local establishments and repeat the process for the 24th. Unfortunately as the time approached ill health and a general foreboding of pending calamity caused me to bail out. Feeling guilty about the last minute cancellation, I attempted to talk either McLoughlin or Butterfingers (depending on which one answered the phone) into taking my place. At first they (I am using the plural as I am never sure if I am talking to one or both) were receptive until I explained that they would be sleeping in the car with Gary the first night and then sharing a room in a sleazy hotel on the second night at which point I could tell by the hesitation in their voices that this was not their idea of an interesting weekend activity. Eventually it all worked out well in the end as Larry was able to order his shop boy and indentured servant to go along.

So Friday after closing the Gem and Umbrella Garden the old van was packed to the ceiling with rocks and other assorted wears, and after Larry finished with his astrological and mystical club meeting, he and the shop boy were on there way. Initially all went well and with the usual petal to the metal spirit our intrepid travelers were making good time. Unfortunately, somewhere in North-central Jersey the Van began to experience mechanical problems. Pulling onto the shoulder, Larry attempted the old turn off the engine and re-start the car trick which not surprisingly did not correct the problem. After attempting to travel a little further panic began to set in and an attempt to locate a gas station with an all night mechanic on duty was made at approximately 3AM. Once again not unexpectedly the plan did not work out as expected, so our amateur mechanics once again stopped and restarted the car. Again this failed to correct the problem so they popped the hood and by the light of a cell phone poked and prodded various mysterious pieces of tubing and wires attached to the engine to no avail.

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Using his superior powers of reasoning Larry determined that any further attempt to get to Franklin was doomed and called AAA for towing assistance. Fortunately for Larry and his shop boy, Billy Bob ??? was on duty and responded to the scene shortly after the call for assistance came in. As it turned out, it wasn't Billy Bob's tow truck as he was only helping his friend who wasn't interested in getting out of bed to rescue stranded motorist at 4AM. With some difficulty Billy Bob was able to get the van, fully loaded with several tons of rocks onto the flat bed trailer and with Billy Bob, Larry and the shop boy crammed into the cab, they began the 60 mile plus trek back to Larry's home base. As it turned out Billy Bob was quite entertaining and regaled the boys with crazed attacks on environmentalist who had ruined his life by shutting down his gas station after benzene was discovered in near by potable wells. The captive audience was forced by fear for their personal safety to agree with Billy Bob that he had been unjustly accused and that the environmentalist should have been more suspicious about the day care center next door which was probably pouring benzene down the drain. Fortunately, the quick witted travelers kept on Billy Bob's good side and survived to see the sun rise.

Larry never one to allow a little adversity to get him down, caught a few Z's and after gulping a cup of dark colored stimulants was back on the road to Franklin in his wife's car and reported that this years show was very successful with the vendors who were able to get there reporting good sales. Larry also announced that he is planning on having a car trunk sale some time in the near future to unload all the merchandise that he hoped to sell at Franklin but instead spent the weekend held captive in the back of a disabled van.

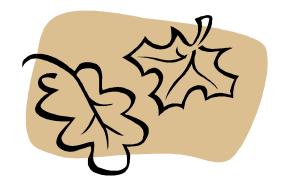
NEW MEETING LOCATION – Training Room main floor, Linden Hall, Rowan University, 201 Mullica Hill Road (Rt. 322), Glassboro, NJ

Directions to Rowan University as well as a campus map can be obtained by visiting the Rowan University web site www.rowan.edu 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 across the rail road tracks and through another traffic light. Immediately after the 2nd traffic light make a right turn into the next driveway (one way road). After the turn make the first left into the parking area and find a spot to park. Linden Hall is the second building after turning into the parking area. It is right behind Memorial Hall.

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 two (2) traffic lights. Just after passing through the 2nd traffic light by the Student Center make the first left hand turn into the driveway (driveway is one way). Turn left into parking area "H" and park, Linden Hall is the building behind Memorial Hall.

http://www.rowan.edu/pdf/campus map2005 color.pdf





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The answer key for the word puzzle is located on page 13.

Happy 50th anniversary DVESS and congratulations to all of the members and friends of DVESS over the last half a century for making the Society a quality organization dedicated to promoting the earth sciences.

The Newsletter of the Delaware Valley Earth Science Society **PO Box 372** Maple Shade, New Jersey 08052



DVESScapades

October 2006



Meeting: October 11, 2006 **Main Program**

This Month's

Special EFMLS film presentation on unusual minerals and a video presentation on Wild Acres, a retreat and educational experience for rockhounds and lapidaries

Junior Rockhounds

A special Halloween program; minerals in costume or as geologist like to say pseudomorphs