



Gloucester County Nature Club

Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public

January 2015

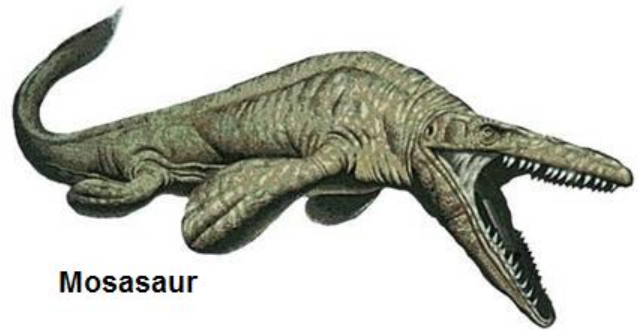
Program - Fossils of New Jersey's Coastal Plain

Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, Wenonah, NJ (directions below)

Presenter: Ned Gilmore, Collection Manager, Department of Vertebrate Zoology, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia

Program Coordinator: Rich Dilks 856-468-6342

Please join fossil expert Ned Gilmore for a presentation on the unique and interesting fossils found within New Jersey's Coastal Plain sediments. Below us are layers of ancient sediments which hold remains of prehistoric life that once lived in the region.

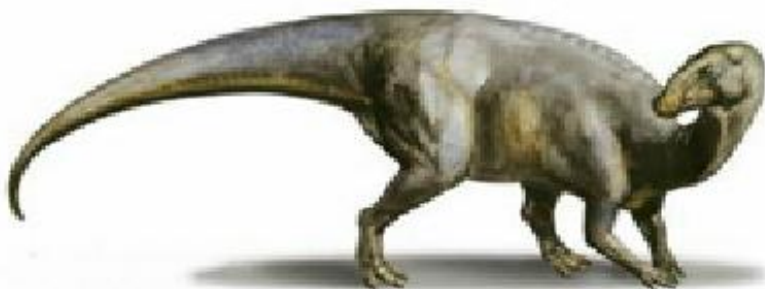


Mosasaur

From the Cretaceous Period to the Pleistocene, these ages are well represented in New Jersey's fossil record. Very large marine reptiles called mosasaurs and plesiosaurs swam alongside of sharks, crocodiles and turtles in the warm Cretaceous ocean. Even before the discovery of the great Hadrosaur in Haddonfield, large bones of these animals were found Gloucester County. Besides the abundance of vertebrate animals, a fantastic diversity of invertebrates and plants have been found. Not to be outdone, the sediments of the Tertiary Period contain their own magnificent fauna and flora. Enormous sharks and land mammals inhabited the area as the ocean gave way to land. Mammoths and Mastodons roamed the changing landscape. Also special highlights will be placed on the fossils and the fossil site locations within Gloucester County.

If you have a fossil, particularly one collected locally that you would like identified, you are welcome to bring it to our meeting for Ned to examine and for you to share with everyone

Directions: The Holy Nativity Lutheran Church is located just off Rt 553 (Woodbury-Glassboro Rd.) immediately south of the traffic light at Mantua Ave. The church parking lot can be accessed by entrances on either Woodbury-Glassboro Road or Lenape Trail (first left off of Mantua Ave).



Hadrosaur

Painting Nature

Tuesday, January 13, 2015 @ 7:00 pm

Coordinator: Paula Hayes pnbhayes@gmail.com



Join us on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 @ 7:00 pm to paint with local artist Nicole Blank as we create a whimsical tree with a goldfinch to celebrate the Gloucester County Nature Club's 65th anniversary. Nicole will bring all the supplies and she will instruct us as we paint our own masterpieces. No artistic ability or painting experience is needed. Just a willingness to have fun, snack on hors d'oeuvres, socialize with old friends and new, while learning to paint our own keepsake. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share. The price is \$22.00 per person and participation is limited to the first 20 people. Please RSVP to pnbhayes@gmail.com by Monday, January 5th. Once you reserve your spot we will send you a confirmation email with the directions.

To see some of the artwork that Nicole has done, visit www.facebook.com/nicole.ciminoblank & <http://www.nicoleblankart.com/>.

Nature Notes

Events by other Organizations: January 2015

The following events take place at the Scotland Run Nature Center in Clayton. For details and to register for programs, call the center at (856) 881-0845. All events are free.

- Bird Walk: Saturday 1/3 at 8:00am. A beautiful time of year for a leisurely morning walk. Bring your binoculars and discover the many species of birds that call Scotland Run Park home.
- Scout Saturday: Saturday 1/10 at 10:00am.
- Nature Tots: Wednesday 1/14 at 10:00am
- Afternoon Nature Stroll: Wednesday 1/21 at 2:30pm.

Natural Events for the month of January

- Earthworms burrow below frost line and become dormant.
- Newly fallen snow makes it easy to find and study animal tracks.
- First mating season for gray squirrels.
- Look for flocks of robins eating holly berries in your backyard.
- Great horned owls, America's earliest nesting owl, may be on eggs by the end of the month.
- As days lengthen, tufted titmice and cardinals start singing.



Looking Ahead:

Listed below are the programs we have lined up for the rest of the season. Meeting dates are the **second** Thursday of the month.

February 12, 2015: **Pot Luck Dinner & Nature Story Sharing** - Interactive member activity

March 12, 2015: **Sacred Landscapes** - Erik Mollenhauer

April 9, 2015: **Bird Identification Workshop** - Susan Puder

May 14, 2015: **An African Adventure** - Larry A. Lyons

June 11, 2015: **Annual Picnic** (Location TBD)

2015 GCNC Field Trips

Listed below are the field trips we have lined up for the rest of the season. Changes and additions are not impossible. If you would be able and willing to lead an additional field trip, please contact Paula Hayes at pnbhayes@gmail.com.

February - **Conowingo Dam for Eagles** (tentative)

March - **Moonlight Hike & Campfire Saturday**

April - **Bird Quest Trainings**

May - **Bird Quest** May 2nd

June - **Horseshoe Crab Walk**

Club Notes:

- If you'd like to receive the newsletter electronically or receive more info about the club please email Karen Kravchuck at president@gcnatureclub.org or call 856-468-6536.
- The Nature Club is always looking for ideas for future programs and field trips. Please contact the program or trip coordinator if you have ideas or would like to help.
- Information for the next newsletter should be sent to Barry Bengel at newsletter@gcnatureclub.org or GCNC Newsletter, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 by the 15th of the preceding month.
- The January Executive Committee meeting will be held on January 4th at the home of Jayne Rhynard. Please contact Karen Kravchuck for more information.

GCNC History – submitted by Karen Kravchuck

In perusing the club's quite extensive collection of past newsletters — they go back to 1952! — I realized that for a many years the newsletter would end with a bit of poetry. It is as hopeful a wish for all, as much now as it was when printed 45 years ago in the January 1970 newsletter. A Very Happy New Year to All! —Karen

To leave the old with a burst of song,
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the thing that binds you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;
To dare go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that's new;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer
Is to have and to give a Happy New Year. —R.B.Beattle