

“Sharks! – Evolution in Terror”

Tonight’s lecture is “Sharks! – Evolution in Terror”. We will talk about fossil sharks and the different fossil material that they produce. We will also talk about some of the localities that they come from. And how they have been a dominate predator of the seas for over 450 Million years.

My passion for fossil collecting started when I was 10 years old and has never stopped since. Starting at the age of 14, I worked in a rock shop (Jim’s Gems) in Wayne NJ and gleaned a vast knowledge for the collecting and lapidary hobby. For the past 27 years, my collection has grown to include fossil amber, fish, reptiles, and mammals that are unique to New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. I also collect local minerals from New Jersey, shells, bones, meteorites and other natural history items and artifacts. This hobby has brought me to many interesting localities and fascinating people. I also maintain a web site on my favorite fossil collecting site, Big Brook at njfossils.net. To date, I would guess that my favorite fossil that I found is the insect (a blood sucking Midge that may have feed on dinosaurs) that I found in Cretaceous aged sediment in Sayreville NJ. It was new to science and was eventually named after me (*Culicoides yoosti*).

Tentatively Scheduled for 1:00 PM Sunday, June 2, 2019