



The Pink Dolomite Saddle

Monthly Bulletin of the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society

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www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/

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An Icelandic style Merry Christmas to all

NPGS Annual Potluck Dessert Meeting

Next Meeting: *Friday Dec 21st, 2018*

Speakers : Roman Olszewski

Topic: ON THE EDGE:

Adventurous Geologists of the 19th Century
Part 2 James Dwight Dana

Location: *Mountainview United Church*

150 Glendale Avenue, St.Catharines

- chair & table set up @ 6 pm - we need volunteers
- desserts & social @ 6:30 pm
- presentation @ 7:30 pm

Meetings are *usually* held every third Friday Sept-June at Brock University
Department of Earth Sciences, Room D-309 at 7:30 PM.

Visit us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1392693367698780/> our Show page is:
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/NPGS-Gem-Mineral-Fossil-Show-Sale/549387778513135>



**THE NIAGARA PENINSULA
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

The **Niagara Peninsula Geological Society** (N.P.G.S.) was established as a non-profit organization in 1962 to promote the study of earth sciences, the hobbies of mineral and fossil collecting, and the lapidary arts.

Our focus is on collecting minerals, fossils, crystals and jewellery making. Collecting trips to quarries and other locations throughout Ontario and the U.S.A. are arranged several times during the year.

Meetings are held the third Friday of each month, September to June, Room D-309, Department of Earth Science, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario. Regular meetings begin at 7:30 PM with workshops starting at 7:00 PM. Each meeting usually consists of a discussion on club business followed by a presentation from a guest speaker. Children's workshops are hands-on educational modules about some aspect of earth science and are geared toward junior members ranging in age from 3 to 12.

Each year the N.P.G.S. hosts GEO-VENTURE, our annual gem, mineral and fossil show. The show consists of several regional gem, mineral, or fossil vendors along with N.P.G.S. member displays and demonstrations. The general public is invited to attend GEO-VENTURE to purchase items of interest from the vendors and learn a little bit more about earth science and the hobbies of lapidary arts and mineral and fossil collecting.

New members and guests are welcome any time.

Individual memberships are \$15

Family memberships are \$20.

More information about the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society is available at www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/ Questions or comments are welcomed at npgs@ccfms.ca.

THE PINK DOLOMITE SADDLE BULLETIN

The Pink Dolomite Saddle is the "official" newsletter of the N.P.G.S. The Saddle is geared toward keeping N.P.G.S. members informed of club

activities, regional events and other items of general interest to the N.P.G.S.

Members are requested to submit articles or reports of interest regarding earth science or the hobbies of lapidary arts and mineral and fossil collecting. **All articles should be submitted to The Editor no later than the 1st of each month**

The Pink Dolomite Saddle is published ten times per year and is distributed to members of the N.P.G.S. as part of their annual membership dues. Non-members may receive the Pink Dolomite Saddle on a subscription basis of \$10.00 per year. There is a nominal charge for business advertisements.

Items from this bulletin may be reprinted, unless otherwise stated, providing proper credit is given to both the original author and this publication.



NPGS Club President **Dave Baker**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

December 2018

The end of the year is approaching and the rush of Christmas is upon us. I hope everyone has at least started their shopping and preparing for the holidays. We have our annual Christmas Potluck Dessert meeting on December 21st. We hope all our members will come and bring a special dessert treat so that we all can share in the fun. The meeting will be at Mountain View United Church on Glendale Ave in St Catharines. (NOT AT THE UNIVERSITY).

I would hope a few of the members would volunteer early to set up tables and chairs. Our speaker will be

Roman and he will be talking about mineral classifications.

On the clubs shopping list and hopefully under the Christmas tree will be a new enthusiastic “Secretary”, maybe a “Social convenor” and having a “Kids Rock Club Coordinator” would make it a perfect Christmas for the club. Please think about volunteering for these important positions. (all training will be provided).

So, Merry Christmas to all and we will see you on the 21st.
Cheers,
Dave

MINUTES OF THE NPGS GENERAL MEETING

November 16, 2018

Dave welcomed everyone to tonight’s meeting. Visiting us tonight was **Jared Pollard** and **Aaron Anderson**

Minutes from previous meeting were not voted on as the bulletin was not available.

REPORTS: (only by those at the meeting)

Roman: unused books from our library are now for sale. Also the latest Mineralogical Record is available to borrow

Show Dir.: Dave indicated that we have a new show chair. She is **Hannah Lamanes**, who was at the last show and now wants to help with our shows

Trip Dir: Ashley presented her report indicating the trips that are left on the Schedule. She also announced a new trip in 2019 It will be to the Winnipeg floodways area in Manitoba. That has been a spectacular site in the past.

President: Dave indicated that the executive had a board meeting related to attendance at meetings, which seems to be shrinking. In addition, he would like to announce that he was advised that there is no parking charges if you park in zone 1 & 2 after 6:00pm on Friday nights. Thanks Geri.

Motion to accept the previous reports made by Ashley and seconded by John
It was carried.

There was no new business or any business from previous meetings.

A short break for the silent auction and 50/50 draw.

The winner of the draw was Roman and he won cash and a t-shirt.

For our presentation tonight was given by Ashley. Her presentation was about early life in the Precambrian. It was very interesting with great illustrations.

Since there were no other discussions a motion by John and seconded by Geri to adjourn was made and accepted.

Next months meeting will be at the Church as a pot luck dessert night. Bring you specialities so we all can share them.

Good night and safe drive home.

Brad’s Bench Tips:

TAKE A BETTER PHOTO

Most digital cameras these days have the ability to take a good picture of your small jewelry items, but set-up is important. There are four major items to

control - background, lighting, camera motion, and focus control.

Lightly colored papers from an art store make reasonable starter backgrounds. Try experimenting with other products later like glass or colored plastics. Avoid fabrics because the weave can often be distracting at high magnification.

Outside lighting is the easiest. In fact for close-ups, flash never works well. Turn off your camera's flash. Choose a bright but overcast day or a lightly shaded area when the sun is full. For inside use, two gooseneck desk lamps can be used with 75 watt bulbs. Whatever you use, be sure to set the camera to match the type of lighting you use or else the colors will be off.

You'll be shooting up close, so turn on the Macro mode. Now at this range, if the camera moves even a little bit during the shot, the picture will be blurry, so it's essential to use a tripod. Used ones are available inexpensively from eBay, yard sales or some camera shops. And even with a tripod, I put the camera on the self-timer mode so that any vibration from when you click the button settles down before the camera takes a picture.

In order to get the largest part of your jewelry in focus, you have to close the lens down to the minimum aperture (highest F-Stop number). This is done by taking the camera off of "Auto" mode and selecting Aperture Priority, usually denoted by "Av" and then setting the aperture to the largest number, which is F-8 on my camera. You'll probably have to get out the book or go back to the store to ask how to do this, but it's really worth it.

That's it. In recap, here are the camera settings I use:

- Set the lens to Macro for a close-up shot.
- Turn the camera's flash off.
- Move the camera in close enough for the item to cover at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the frame.
- Look for adverse reflections from the jewelry surface.
- Try to minimize reflections with changes of light

position, camera angle, or white background paper.

- Carefully check for any fingerprints or dust that might be on the piece.
- Make any final tweaks with light and arrangement.
- Select "Av" for aperture priority mode.
- Set the lens opening to the highest number to get the maximum depth of field.
- Set the lighting to match what you're using (daylight, overcast, light bulb, fluorescent, etc).
- Set the timer for delayed shooting, either 2 seconds or 10 seconds, to avoid camera movement. The delay also gives you time to hold up a piece of white paper to adjust lighting or reduce any final reflections.
- Set the image size to the maximum resolution. You can size it down later, but you can never increase it.
- Take the shot.

With the holidays coming up soon, what better gift for a friend than a book chock full of skills and ways to solve common problems. Here's a few to look at:

Bench Tips for Jewelry <http://amzn.to/1Z6hQ06>
More Bench Tips <http://amzn.to/2KCygh4>
Broom Casting <http://amzn.to/1Z6hYws>
Making Design Stamps <http://amzn.to/2fvf58T>
Accessories for Foredom <http://amzn.to/2fwxuaT>

N.P.G.S. Schedule 2018 -2019

(some re-scheduling may take place to accommodate speakers)

Dec 21 N.P.G.S. Seasonal Social Gathering

Speaker: Roman Olszewski

Topic: James D. Dana, American Mineralogist (1813 - 1895)

Location: Mountainview Church, Glendale Avenue, St.Catharines

Jan 18 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker: A New Year's Surprise

Topic: Topical and Interesting

Location: Brock University

Feb 15 N.P.G.S. Annual General Meeting

Speaker:

Topic:

Location: Mountainview Church, Glendale Avenue, St.Catharines

Mar 15 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker:

Topic:

Location: Brock University

Apr 26 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker:

Topic:

Location: Brock University

May 17 N.P.G.S. Annual Club Auction

Topic: Adoption Clinic for New and Needy Specimens

Location: Brock University

Jun ?? N.P.G.S. 53rd Annual Gem & Mineral Show

Time: 10am to 5 pm

Cost: \$3 (children's under 12 free)

Location: Fireman's Park, Niagara Falls (subject to confirmation)

Volunteers needed.

Jun ?? N.P.G.S. Annual Picnic Barbeque

Menu: Always Yummy

Time: Noon to 5 pm

Location: Heartland Forest (subject to confirmation)

Regional Events 2018 - 2019

In the planning stage and soon to be announced as a New Year's surprise.

The NPGS/CCFMS Combined 2018 Field Trip Schedule
Soon to be Updated – Spring is Coming

Other Club Field Trips

Updates will be posted here

Please note that all CCFMS club members throughout Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec are welcome on any of our NPGS field trips and, as can be seen, many more of our Ontario clubs are letting us know their field trip schedules as well.

- You will be asked that you show proof of current membership on all field trips.
- You will be asked to sign a Liability Waiver (+sign-in/sign-out) on all field trips.
- You will need to contact to register and confirm with the various Trip Leaders.

Please don't forget to look at our **Field Trips webpage** for all kinds of info about field trips in general + specific info about the sites that the NPGS visits.

<http://www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/trips.htm>

NIAGARA PENINSULA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
SEPTEMBER 2018 - AUGUST 2019 DUES

Bring to a meeting or mail along with cheque payable to:

Please check one:

Family Membership \$20.00

Individual Membership \$15.00

Do you wish to receive the newsletter via email?

Niagara Peninsula Geological Society
c/o John Tordiff,
120 South Drive

St. Catharines, ON , L2R 4V9

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postal Code _____

Phone (Home): _____

(Work): _____

Email Address: _____

Interests and/or Suggestions: _____

NPGS email: npgsgeo@gmail.com

NPGS website: <http://www.ccfms.ca/clubs/NPGS/>

NPGS Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1392693367698780/>

NPGS Show Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/NPGS-Gem-Mineral-Fossil-Show-Sale/549387778513135>

Membership term is from September 1st until August 31st. Membership fees are due in September.