



The Pink Dolomite Saddle

Monthly Bulletin of the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society

March 2018

www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/

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The Pinch Mineral Collection. Photograph by Michael Bainbridge.

NPGS Monthly General Meeting

Next Meeting: *Friday March 23rd, 2018*

Speaker: Michael J. Bainbridge

Topic: *The William W. Pinch Collection
at the Canadian Museum of Nature*

Location: Brock University

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

March 2018

I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as the President of the NPGS. I believe we have a very good executive this year but we always can use some help from the membership.

I guess that it is time for me to step up to the President's position as I have held every other executive position in the club including secretary, treasurer, director, and social convenor. I guess that I have done it all. So now for the challenge of Club President.

We all know that our annual show and sale is coming in June. Gabi and I are working hard to get it going and we look to the membership to take part in the successful presentation of the show.

Collecting will be starting very soon so I trust all will have a successful collecting season and also a safe and enjoyable Spring.

Cheers,
Dave



MINUTES OF NPGS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 16, 2018

Dave welcomed all to the meeting. Tonight is our annual general meeting but first things first. Our famous potluck supper was eaten with all enjoying the food.

Executive: The election of the executive commenced with **Brian Pihack** asking for volunteers for President. **Dave Baker** was nominated, and accepted and then elected to the office. Dave then went through the other positions with **Gabi** for VP, **Monica** and **David** for treasurer, **Roman** and **Darlene** as directors. As with Dave, the remaining past executive all were nominated, accepted and voted to their office. We had 2 positions open and **Ashley** volunteered to be the secretary and **Kevin** volunteered to be a director. We now have a working executive for the club.

Dave asked for a motion to accept the minutes from October, November and January. Ashley asked for a correction to the October minutes, page 3 and number 3 item. It should read the constitution needed 30 days to be approved by the NPGS, not 60 days by the CCFMS. Correction is so noted.

Darling and John moved and seconded the motion and they passed.

REPORTS:

Gabriella : the show was discussed and we have 20 dealers interested but others from last year would not come for only a 1 day show.

Darlene: reminded people of the availability of name tags and spoke about tee shirts. The t-shirts are available and can now be ordered.

Roman: He is looking for a *Mineralogical Record* that needs to be returned.

Dave indicated it had been returned already.

Ashley: The web site is up-to-date.

Field trips are in the newsletter

Motion to accept reports that were made was by Darlene, seconded by Kevin and were carried

OLD BUSINESS: Dave indicated that the Welland museum did not need us for their March Break but maybe in the summer. Also an address was given to Roman to send a thank you Card for books donated to the club

NEW BUSINESS: The kids convenor has indicated that he is unable to take on the job for personal reasons. Ashley will thank him. Ashley and Monica have taken care of the CCFMS membership dues.

We then had a 10 minute break to set up for the speaker.

Our speaker tonight was **Brian Pihack**. He is a member of the club and has various interests in geology and astronomy. Brian's talk ranged from the steps of Russia and the Mammoth to deep sections of the universe. I think we all learned many new things from Brian's colourful talk;

Adjourned at 9:40 pm

Our March Speaker will be Michael Bainbridge

Presentation Title: – *The William W. Pinch Collection at the Canadian Museum of Nature*

Background:

William Wallace Pinch was a mineral collector for almost 7 decades, but in 1989 he sold everything that he had amassed to that point – a masterful compilation of many of the finest specimens ever found – to the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa. Since that time, Pinch continued building on his success, but that “first collection,” as such, has not been on public display for nearly 30 years. *The William W. Pinch Collection* takes a behind the scenes look at one of the best private collections of all time, and the methods of its assemblage.

Biography:

Michael Bainbridge began collecting minerals in the Grenville Province at the age of five under the tutelage of Dr. George Robinson. He has co-authored and contributed to numerous mineralogical publications as a photographer, writer, and field-collector. As a consultant to the Ontario’s Highlands Tourism Organization, he has written several interpretive guides on Grenville Province minerals and geology, and curated mineral displays for local museums. He is a freelance photographer, writer, and artist, part-time faculty at the Haliburton School of Art & Design, and frequent guest speaker on topics both geological and photographic.

Most recently, Michael has just completed work as an author of a book about the Minerals of Grenville Province with Drs. George Robinson and Jeff Chiarenzelli, a special edition collector calendar for the Mineralogical Association of Canada, and is currently hard at work finalizing his book about the Pinch Collection, which is due out later this year from publisher, Lithographie.

Brad's Jewellery Tips

No Mar Pliers

Pliers can often leave nicks and scratches on your

work. If this is giving you a problem, first take a close look at the plier jaws. New tools can be a little rough. I typically relieve any sharp edges, sand away any tool marks, and give working areas a quick polish.

If that doesn't solve the problem, you probably need to cover the jaws. Plastic electrical tape provides a quick fix but can leave messy adhesive on the jaws, and dips don't seem to last very long.

A quick and easy solution is to slip a length of 1/8 dia vinyl tubing over each jaw. It works well and leaves no sticky residue. The tubing can be found in a store that sells aquarium supplies. Note that this will increase the size of the plier jaws a bit, but I haven't found that to be a problem.



PATINA RECIPIES

Sometimes it's fun to explore some new patinas. If this appeals to you, here are a couple web sites that have ideas particularly for copper and bronze.

The first is The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Do-It-Yourself-Patina-Formulas-W12C672.aspx> with plenty of formulas for a variety of colors. And there are more formulas at Tim McCreight's Brynmorgen Press web site at <http://www.brynmorgen.com/resources.html>

Small quantities of chemicals for making your own patinas are available from The Science Company at <http://www.sciencecompany.com/Patina-Chemicals-Patina-Book-C672.aspx>

If you prefer to buy the patinas ready for use, one of the best sources I've come across is Sculpt Nouveau at <http://www.sculptnouveau.com/> Don't

miss all the instructional pdf's on the site and be sure to take a look at the videos showing how to use the products at <http://www.youtube.com/sculptnouveau>

See all Brad's jewelry books at Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith

A moon rock, collected during the Apollo 15 lunar landing mission by Lunar Module Pilot James B. Irwin, will be a featured display at the Buffalo Geological Society's 50th Annual Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show on March 24-25, 2018, at the Erie County Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY, on Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-5pm.

Moon Rock on Display

NPGS Schedule 2018

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

- Apr 20 **N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting**
Speaker: Bob O'Donnell
Topic: The Fossils of Arkona and Thedford
Location: Brock University

- May 18 **N.P.G.S. Annual Club Auction**
Topic: Expanding your Mineral Collection
Location: Brock University

- Jun 9th **N.P.G.S. 52nd Annual Gem & Mineral Show**
Time: 10 am to 5 pm
Cost: \$3 (children under 12 free)
Location: *Fireman's Park, Niagara Falls*
Volunteers needed, contact:
Dave Baker, 905-684-1457, bbaker160@cogeco.ca
Gabriella Gevaert, 905-321-9820, gabi.gevaert@gmail.com

- Jun XX **N.P.G.S. Annual Picnic Barbeque**
Menu: Delicious
Time: Noon to 5pm?
Location: Soon to be revealed

The NPGS/CCFMS Combined 2018 Field Trip Schedule *Subject to change and updates*

NPGS Field Trips Spring 2018

1) **Hungry Hollow Quarry**, Ausable River, near Arkona, ON - Saturday, April 28th, 2018 Mid-Devonian Hamilton Group - Onondaga Escarpment fossils - by in-advance permission only - co-hosted with London Gem & Mineral Society - Bob O'Donnell (London) is planning 3 additional dates for 2018. KID-FRIENDLY

2) Ace of Diamonds Mine, Middleville, NY - Saturday thru Monday, May 19-21 (Victoria Day weekend) Cambro-Ordovician Herkimer Diamonds & stromatolites (+ other minerals & fossils) - co-hosted by Niagara & Brantford Lapidary & Mineral Society - 2 other trips - Wayne County (NY) Gem & Mineral Club will also be going to Herkimer on: - Saturday, March 31st or Sunday, April 1st (Easter weekend) (date being confirmed) - & Saturday thru Monday, May 26-28 (Memorial Day weekend) (plus Hickory Hill diggings - approx 45 minutes east of Herkimer, NY) Please note that Ace of Diamonds Mine did not have a fire last fall - it was the Herkimer Diamond Mine just down the road, across from the KOA campground. KID-FRIENDLY

Summer 2018

3) Ridgemount Quarry, Ridgemount, ON - Friday, June 29, 2018 (date being confirmed) Bertie Formation-Upper Silurian + Bois Blanc Formation-Lower Devonian fossils STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

4) Ridgemount “South” Quarry, Ridgemount, ON - Friday, July 6, 2018 (date being confirmed) Mid-Devonian Hamilton Group-Edgecliff Member - Onondaga Escarpment fossils partially KID-FRIENDLY - need to be 14 years or older Please note that it's possible that the 2 Ridgemount trips may be combined - the Quarry on a Friday & the South Quarry on a Saturday afternoon after our lunchtime June picnic - dates still being confirmed.

5) Bancroft, River Valley, & Temagami - between Saturday, July 14th and Sunday, July 22nd, 2018 Grenville Province & Archean minerals - hosted by Wayne County (NY) Gem & Mineral Club - not a Niagara trip - and so, by permission only & limited participant numbers - approx 4 days in Bancroft & 4 days for River Valley-Temagami - detailed itinerary probably won't be available until June possible Bancroft sites: CN dump, Essonville Line roadcut, Haley Quarry, Millar's Mine / Thompson property (Tory Hill), Princess Sodalite Mine. + River Valley + probable Temagami sites: Sherman Mine, Big Dan & Little Dan Mines

6) Northern environs - mid-August 2018 for approx 4-5 days - still in planning stages Archean minerals & Pleistocene glacial sites being considered: Kirkland Lake gold sites, Kirkland Lake glacial sites, Kirkland Lake BIF site, Gowganda silver sites KID-FRIENDLY

Fall 2018

7) Lansdowne Quarry, Kingston area, ON - Sunday, September 23rd, 2018 Cambro-Ordovician Potsdam Sandstone & fossil trackways & Grenville Province unconformity KID-FRIENDLY

8) Canadian Wollastonite, Frontenac Lead Mine, & Lansdowne Quarry, Kingston area, ON - Saturday & Sunday, October 21st & 22nd, 2018 weekend Canadian Wollastonite & Frontenac Lead Mine - Grenville Province KID-FRIENDLY

CCFMS Field Trips

Lincoln Quarry, Beamsville, ON - usually mid-May & late September. Lockport Group-Eramosa, Goat Island, & Gasport, Silurian (Niagara Escarpment) minerals & fossils STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

St Mary's Quarry, Bowmanville, ON - usually early June & mid-October. Late Ordovician fossils STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

Open-To-The-Public Sites

Ridgemount Quarry, Ridgeway, ON - any Friday by permission by site owner - late spring to Fall. Bertie Formation-Upper Silurian + Bois Blanc Formation-Lower Devonian fossils STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

Penn-Dixie Paleontological & Outdoor Education Center, Blasdell, NY - any day. Mid-Devonian Hamilton Group - Onondaga Escarpment fossils KID-FRIENDLY
Beryl Pit, Quadeville, ON - any day - pay-to-collect @ Kauffeldt's Grocery, Quadeville.
Rose Quartz Mine, Quadeville, ON - any day by appointment with site owner - pay-to-collect site. Both are Grenville Province minerals & same site owner. KID-FRIENDLY
Rutter Pluton, French River, ON - any day - one site is pay-to-collect - both sites are by permission. Grenville Province nepheline-syenite minerals KID-FRIENDLY

Other Club Field Trips (will post other clubs "open" field trips as soon as they're confirmed)

Thunder Bay amethyst - Kingston club - usually August & usually limited participant numbers.

Marmora - Kawartha clubs - by permission only & limited participant numbers - between 4 to 6 times per field trip season - and sometimes, Buffalo club, if they have spaces. STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

Flamboro - Buffalo club - by permission only & very limited participant numbers - usually mid-summer. STRICT WORKING QUARRY RULES

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>

Regional Events (courtesy of the NICKEL BASIN ROCKHOUND)

Mar. 16-18 Gem Expo. Fri. 11:30am-8p.m.; Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-5pm Hyatt Regency Toronto, 370 King St. W., Toronto, ON. Adults \$6.00; Children 12 and under free Contact 647-773- 9001, Salim@TheGemExpo.com, or go to: <http://www.TheGemExpo.com>

March 24-25 50th Annual Buffalo Gem Mineral Fossil Show, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Erie County Fairgrounds; Market and Grange Bldgs, 5820 South Park Ave., Hamburg, NY. Adults \$5.00, 12 and under free., two day pass \$7.00
Please use South Park Avenue Entrance
Go to: www.bgsny.org

April 7-8 46th Annual Brantford Gem and Mineral Show, Sat. & Sun., 10am-5pm Paris Fairgrounds, 139 Silver St., Paris ON. Adults \$5.00, 12 and under free Contact 519-448-1236, or go to: www.brantfordlapidarymineral.ca/

April 27-29 27th Anniversary Toronto Gem & Mineral Show, Fri. 4pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-7pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Don Mills Civitan Arena, 1030 Don Mills Road, Toronto, ON. Adults \$8.00, 15 and under free Go to: www.torontogemshow.com

May 5 Kitchener–Waterloo Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show and Sale, Sat. 10am-4pm Waterloo Community Arts Centre, 25 Regina St. S., Waterloo, ON. Admission free Contact: 519-803- 4343, or go to: www.calaverite.com/kwgmcc/

May 26-27 49 th Annual Kingston Gem and Mineral Show, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Catarauqui Arena, 1030 Sunnyside Road, Kingston, ON. Adults \$5.00, under 12 free Contact (613) 384-4439 or go to: <http://www.mineralclub.ca/gemstorm.html>

July 20-22 36th Annual Sudbury Gem and Mineral Show, Fri. 5pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Carmichael Arena, Bancroft Drive, Sudbury, ON. Adults \$5.00, Seniors (60+) \$3.00, Children 6-12 \$1.00 Contact 705-522- 5140 or go to: www.ccfms.ca/clubs/Sudbury/show.htm

July 27-29 Gem Expo. Fri. 11:30am-8p.m.; Sat. 10am-6pm; Sun. 10am-5pm Hyatt Regency Toronto, 370 King St. W., Toronto, ON. Adults \$6.00; Children 12 and under free Contact 647-773- 9001, Salim@TheGemExpo.com or go to: <http://www.TheGemExpo.com>

August 2-5 55th Annual Rockhound Gemboree, Thurs. 10am-6pm, Fri. 10am-6pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Bancroft Arena & Bancroft Curling Club, Bancroft, ON. Adults & Youth TBD, Children 7 & under free. Contact 613-332- 1513 or 1-888- 443-9999, or go to: www.bancroftontario.com/rockhound-gemboree/

NIAGARA PENINSULA GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2017 - AUGUST 2018 DUES

Please check one:

Family Membership \$20.00

Individual Membership \$15.00

Do you wish to receive the newsletter via email?

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

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.