



The Pink Dolomite Saddle

Monthly Bulletin of the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society

October 2018

www.ccfms.ca/Clubs/NPGS/

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NPGS display at Niagara Falls library - photo by Darlene Sloggett

NPGS Monthly General Meeting

Next Meeting: *Friday Oct 19th, 2018*

Speakers : Soon to be Revealed

Topic: Mysterious yet Interesting

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

October 2018

Hi All. We had a good meeting in September and the members who had been out collecting had some fantastic finds to show and talk about. If you were not able to get to that meeting and you had a great find, we could squeeze you in at our October meeting.

As far as the club is concerned we do have a number of positions available for a volunteer. The positions are vital for the operation of the club. **WE NEED YOU** to volunteer. The positions are very easy and really don't take much time. We need a **secretary, kids convenor, and show leader**. One of

our new members is interested in the show position and that is great news. So lets have some volunteers.

Currently, I am also covering the position of Club Secretary. I apologize as I have not been able to write up the minutes from our September meeting because of medical problems with myself and my son. The minutes will appear in next month's newsletter.

I hope we can have a strong turnout on the 19th of October. See you then.

See you on the 19th.

Cheers,
Dave

NPGS Monthly Meeting Minutes

Friday, Sept 21st, 2018 - 7:30-9:30 pm

Currently unavailable. Will be published in the November bulletin.

Brad's Bench Tips: Spot Sanding Brush



Sometimes you have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered objects. Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches, only a faint satin finish.

There are probably several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US\$ 10.95 from Amazon. You can see it at <http://www.amazon.com/Prep-Pen-PrepPen-Adjustable-Sanding/dp/B000J18RT6/>

Silver Solder From Scrap

Sometimes you need a lot of silver solder to complete a piece the way you want it to be. For me it was when I was trying to join several castings. But silver solder is expensive, so I found a way to make my own from scrap with a little help from a penny.

First step is finding out what's in a solder. A search through the reference books (Tim McCreight or Erhard Brepohl) or a Google search will turn up recipes like:

- * Hard - AG 80% CU 13% ZN 7%
- * Medium -AG 70% CU 20% ZN 5%
- * Easy - AG 63% CU 30% ZN 7%

The silver (AG) and the copper (CU) are easy to come by, but finding some zinc (ZN) has always been my problem until I found out that our pennies are almost all zinc. According to Wikipedia a US penny minted after 1982 weighs 2.5 grams and is 97.5% ZN and 2.5% CU. So all I had to do is add a penny to some copper and a pile of silver scrap.

I chose to use Sterling scrap so I adjusted for the amount of copper in it as well as the amount of copper from the penny. Here's what I used for components of Medium solder:

- * Sterling 36.90 grams
- * Copper 9.35
- * Penny 2.50

Melt the silver and copper first in a melting dish, mix well with a carbon rod or titanium solder pick, add the zinc (penny) last, mix again, and pour into a

small mold. The zinc is added last because melting it causes some to vaporize, and the fumes are a safety problem (They're a gray-green color). Be sure to have good ventilation.

To check the solder's melting temperature is correct (medium), I put a sample of the homemade solder on a piece of copper sheet along with a known sample of hard, medium and easy solders. I then heated the plate from the bottom and watched as the easy first melted, the medium melted, the homemade melted, and finally the hard.

Additional notes on converting the ingot to sheet, strip or wire form - If you have access to a rolling mill, that will be the fastest way to proceed. Either roll out the ingot into a sheet and cut strips or roll it out as wire if your mill has the grooves. If you don't have a mill, all you have to do is forge out the ingot into a rough sheet of the gauge you'd like and then cut thin strips with bench shears. Be sure to anneal the sheet every so often as you forge it.

NEW BENCH TIPS BOOK

If you enjoy these jewelry bench tips, a new volume is available now on Amazon. "More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration and improve quality at the bench. See a sample chapter at <https://amzn.to/2KCygh4>

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

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

Oct 19 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker: Soon to be revealed
Topic: Interesting and Entertaining
Location: Brock University

Nov 16 N.P.G.S. Monthly Meeting

Speaker:
Topic:
Location: Brock University

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

Speaker:
Topic:
Location: Mountainview Church, Glendale Avenue, St.Catharines

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

Speaker:
Topic:
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

Oct. 26-27 University of Waterloo Science Open House & Gem and Mineral Show, Fri. noon-6pm, Sat. 10am-5pm Earth Sciences Museum, EIT – Centre for Environmental and Information Technology, 1st and 2nd Floors, 200 University Avenue West, Waterloo, ON. Admission free Contact: 519-888-4567 ext. 32469 or go to: <https://uwaterloo.ca/earth-sciences-museum/>

Nov. 9-11 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>

Nov 15-18 Silver Cove's Rock 'n Gem Show, Thurs. to Sat. – 10am-8pm; Sun 10am-5pm Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre, 50 Pim St Sault Ste. Marie, ON, Admission free Go to: <http://canadagemshows.com/saultstemariemshow.html>

Nov. 16-18 London Gem & Mineral Show, Fri. 3pm-9pm; Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm Agriplex Building, Western Fair District, 845 Florence St. London, ON. Adults \$6:00; Children \$3:00 Go to: www.gemandmineral.ca/

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

*** Sunday, Oct 21 - Fossil collecting at St Marys Cement in Bowmanville**

We will meet in the parking lot before 8:30am and sign in with the trip leader (Kevin Kidd) then as a group, we will get a safety orientation from the quarry manager. After that, we drive into the quarry and collect until 3-3:30. Same routine as always for those who have been here before.

You must be a member of a CCFMS club to attend.

No late arrivals will be admitted.

This is a working quarry, so no collectors under 16 years old

Full safety gear required- Safety boots, hard hats and vests. Gloves and goggles are recommended

Directions to St Marys are on the CCFMS website.

Pre-registering would be nice, but is not necessary.

Any other questions, please contact Kevin Kidd at kevjenn1998@yahoo.ca

*** Saturday & Sunday, October 20th & 21st weekend - Canadian Wollastonite, Frontenac Lead Mine, & Lansdowne Quarry**, Kingston area, ON - Saturday & Sunday, October 20th & 21st, 2018 weekend Canadian Wollastonite & Frontenac Lead Mine - Grenville Province KID-FRIENDLY - NPGS field trip Please contact Ashley Pollock, field trip leader.

Possibly Hungry Hollow, near Arkona - date being confirmed - London & Niagara clubs field trip Please contact either Bob O'Donnell or Ashley Pollock, field trip leaders.

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

Schickler Fluorite Mine, Wilberforce, ON - any day - free-to-collect pass can be obtained at 2 places: @ Municipal Offices, 2249 Loop Rd, Wilberforce, ON. or @ Agnew's General Store, 2284 Loop Rd, Wilberforce, ON. Grenville Province minerals - apatite, fluorite, scapolite. 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

Kawartha club - please ensure that you contact **Matthew Forbes**
mwforbes@eagle.ca if you wish to participate - some highlights are:
1) **Marmora** - October dates to be announced - by permission only &
limited participant numbers

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:

Niagara Peninsula Geological
Society

Family Membership \$20.00

c/o John Tordiff,

Individual Membership \$15.00

120 South Drive

Do you wish to receive the newsletter via email? 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.