



FOUNDED 1937

## THE WALKER MINERALOGICAL CLUB

100 Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 2C6  
[www.walkermineralogicalclub.com](http://www.walkermineralogicalclub.com)  
[@Walker Minerals](#)

Volume 114, No. 7, July, 2014

**Honorary President:** Dr. Don "Digger" Gorman

**President:**

Martina Wood [finance@mgwconsulting.com](mailto:finance@mgwconsulting.com)

**Vice-President:** Vacant

**Membership Services:**

Jim Haase [jhaaseathome@yahoo.ca](mailto:jhaaseathome@yahoo.ca)

**Treasurer:**

Rob Hudyma [hudyma@interlog.com](mailto:hudyma@interlog.com)

**Recording Secretary:** Len Buchanan

[len@softwaremotif.ca](mailto:len@softwaremotif.ca)

**Corresponding Secretary:** Vacant

**Event Councillor:**

Rob Hudyma [hudyma@interlog.com](mailto:hudyma@interlog.com)

**Auction Councillors:**

Frank Ruelicke [ruehlicke@rogers.com](mailto:ruehlicke@rogers.com)

Bob Turner [robertallanturner@rogers.com](mailto:robertallanturner@rogers.com)

**Field Trip Councillor:**

Ray Bernatchez [raybernatchez@gmail.com](mailto:raybernatchez@gmail.com)

**Webmaster:** Len Buchanan

**Editor:** David K. Joyce [dkjoyce@bellnet.ca](mailto:dkjoyce@bellnet.ca)

### SUMMER IS HERE!

Summer has arrived and that means that meetings and most functions of the Walker Mineralogical Club will cease for a couple of months. Except field trips, of course! More on field trips below.

How do **you** pursue mineralogy and mineral collecting during the summer? There are many ways!

Besides Walker Club field trips, it is a favourite time for mineral collectors to, independently, hit their favourite localities for a day or two in the woods or on a rock-

pile with potential! It is finally time to find that spot that you were thinking about and researching during the winter and now have a bit of time to visit. Hope the weather cooperates! Remember to use the right tools and safety equipment for whatever type of collecting you undertake? If you are going to a remote place, let others know where you are? Please **be safe** whatever you do?!

Will you take time to go to a mineral show? The "grand-daddy" of mineral shows in this part of the world is the **Bancroft Gemboree**, held this year on July 31-

August 3 in Bancroft, Ontario. Rock swapping, gem and mineral dealers of all sorts, demonstrations, mineral identification, displays and organized field trips are all part of the Gemboree activities. Remember to visit the new Bancroft Mineral Museum when you are in Town. It really is spectacular!

As well, the Bancroft Gem and Mineral Club holds **their own show** on the Sunday before the Gemboree, this year on July 27. That show features a number of mineral dealers, displays, silent and voice auctions, all crammed into the Legion Hall for an action packed one-day event. Some say THAT is the best place to pick up great mineral specimens during the summer!

If you want to travel further afield, the **East Coast Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show** is a giant Show held during August 8-10 in West Springfield, Massachusetts. Many of the biggest international mineral dealers are there and the displays are amazing. Much like Tucson but smaller and closer!

Perhaps you are taking a driving vacation somewhere? Remember to do your homework and determine if there are good collecting localities or summer mineral shows or rock shops on the way!

Whatever you do this summer, the Council of the Walker Mineralogical Club wishes you a safe and fun time in the sun!

## Looking Back

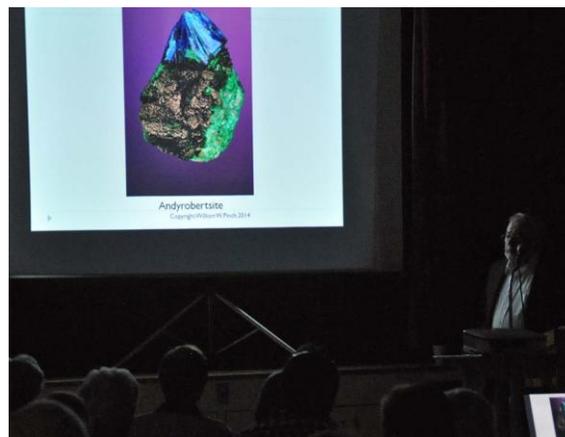
The last meeting of the season was a joint meeting with the Scarborough and Willowdale Clubs and featured a presentation by renowned mineralogist and collector William “Bill” Pinch.

Around 100 people from the Toronto Area mineral clubs gathered to listen to and view the presentation by Bill Pinch about “Minerals of Tsumeb”, featuring specimens from his mineral collections. The

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photographs were wonderful (many by Canadian photographer Michael Bainbridge) and those present soon realized that Mr. Pinch has a phenomenal mineral collection full of specimens that are tops and, in many cases the best in the world for that mineral! In addition, he provided a knowledgeable overview of the Tsumeb mine.



Bill Pinch’s presentation included images of many great specimens including this specimen of andyrobertsite, the best specimen of it in the world!

The Joint meeting was hosted by the Scarborough Gem and Mineral Club and all of the participants from the various clubs enjoyed the interaction and the wonderful

presentation. Let's hope we can do more of these joint meetings in the future!



Mr. Pinch chats with David Kresz

## Joint Picnic with the Young Toronto Mineralogist Club

Every year, for the past **12 years** that the Young Toronto Mineralogist Club (YTMC) has been in operation, their season is finished with a barbeque/picnic. The afternoon is filled with socializing, mineralogical activities, recognition awards and, of course, great food! This year the YTMC held a bigger than normal picnic and BBQ at Thompson Park in Scarborough. The picnic was attended by 90 or so members of the YTMC, their families, some members of the Walker Club and the Willowdale Gem and Mineral Club.

The YTMC is a junior club for youth who are interested in earth sciences. Although the program revolves largely around mineralogy, members also learn about geology, paleontology, meteors and the lapidary arts. All of the clubs in the Toronto area have been very supportive of the YTMC over its 12 years of operation.

The afternoon started off with an “icebreaker” activity where the parents and older collectors present quizzed YTMC members about specific minerals that the YTMC members had memorized details about. By asking and answering questions while meeting each other and having fun,

YTMC members and adults all earned raffle tickets towards great mineral specimen- raffle prizes.

The Walker Club organized a **silent auction for the YTMC members** and their families. This was a fun way for them to pick up some nice mineral specimens at reasonable prices! The kids kept an eye on their bids, throughout the program until bids ended. Thanks to Frank Ruehlicke and Bob Turner of the Walker Club for taking the time to organize and host the silent auction!



Malcolm Back helps a YTM member



Your councillors Bob and Frank plus President Martina attended the YTMC year-end picnic.

There were a number of awards presented to Young Mineralogists that have shown special interest in Club activities. One in particular is the “Mandarino Award”, presented, annually, to a YTMC member who has excelled in Club activities and who has been above average in achievement and outreach. The award involves a certificate of achievement and a cash prize. This year, Martina Wood, president of the Walker Club presented the award to Erica Lee. Erica was thrilled!



Martina Wood presents the Mandarino award to Erica Lee

Oh yes! It was a picnic and BBQ. All of the families brought “pot luck” dishes to contribute to the feast. The foods and desserts were fantastic! The YTMC contributed hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks but the pot luck portions of the meal took centre stage. Thanks to everyone for the wonderful food!



It was a convivial occasion at Thompson Park!

### **Editorial -The YTMC Picnic**

Malcolm Back, Honorary Member and Past President

I had the honour to be invited to the joint picnic with the Young Toronto Mineralogist Club (YTMC), Walker Mineralogical Club and the Willowdale Gem and Mineral Club on June 14 at Thompson Park, in Scarborough. I was hoping to see a lot of my friends from the Walker Club at this event but, unfortunately, there were only four representatives of our Club! The Willowdale Club, once one of the powerhouse clubs in the GTA is being

forced to close its doors due to declining membership. This poignantly points out the fate of the hobby if we do not develop interested new potential, future members. Support at events like this is important and these keen young mineral collectors deserve our attention and mentoring!

The Willowdale Club made their presence felt by donating substantial donations to the YTMC both in dollars and with a trophy for the club to use in the future. The Walker Club contributed to the proceedings by running a fun silent auction for the kids, ably organized and run by Frank Ruehlicke and Bob Turner. As well, Martina Wood, our president, was there to award the “Mandarino Award” to a deserving young person. This year the recipient was Erica Lee, who had performed well at the YTMC and who had made contributions to mineralogy in the previous year.

The picnic was a lot of fun, and we had a great time interacting with the kids in a program that was geared for that purpose. It was a great way to encourage the future members of the Toronto area mineral clubs. Kudos to all of the YTMC organizers for the work that they have put into the YTMC for 12 years, now. The picnic was a wonderful way to end off the year!

### **A Different Kind of Field Trip -To the Pinch Museum**

During his recent presentation, outlined above, Bill Pinch extended an invitation for those attending to visit his home to look at his mineral collection. This actually will happen! On July 12, a convoy will leave the Toronto area and visit the “Pinch Museum” in Rochester, NY during the afternoon. It will be an excellent opportunity to view an amazing mineral collection. If you are interested, please contact Blair Campbell, by e-mail at [bjcampbel@rogers.com](mailto:bjcampbel@rogers.com). Space is limited –first come-first served.

## ROM Mineral Identification Night

Have minerals that you need help identifying? Why not consider visiting the ROM's monthly "Mineral Identification Night" that takes place on the following dates in 2014:

Aug. 20  
Oct. 15  
Dec. 10

For more information on this activity, check out <https://www.rom.on.ca/en/activities-programs/events-calendar/rock-gem-mineral-fossil-and-meteorite-identification-clinic-0>

## Important Field Trip Information!

Your Field trip committee has been busy organizing some excellent field trips for the Summer and Fall! Here are some details.

**July 12, Desmont Mine** for diopside, molybdenite, others.

**Aug. 9, Miller Property**, Eganville for apatite, titanite, feldspar.

**Sept. 13, Amherst Quarry**, Amherstburg for celestine, calcite, sulphur.

**Sept. 14, McGregor Quarry** for calcite.

**For information and to register** for any of these trips, please contact Jim Haase at [jhaaseathome@yahoo.ca](mailto:jhaaseathome@yahoo.ca)

Also, the Amherst/McGregor Field trip is near Windsor and **will require overnight accommodations**. A block of motel rooms has been reserved, in Rob Cook's name, for Walker Club members, close to the quarries. Around \$79.00/night. If you would like to reserve one of these rooms call Duffy's Motor Inn, **directly**, 519-736-2101 or 1-866-344-2196. For and questions about the motel accommodations, contact Rob Cook at [rpcnbarrie@gmail.com](mailto:rpcnbarrie@gmail.com).

## Field Tripping and the Occupier's Liability Act

By Martina Wood, President

Have you ever wondered why landowners let mineral collectors on their property? What about liability?

You probably already know from experience that field trip participants are required to agree to the terms of and sign the Walker Club's Liability Waiver before participating on a collecting trip. By signing, "you agree to and hereby assume all risk of all and any injuries, including death, or damage to myself or my property, or any minor children accompanying me." There is more to the Waiver and you are advised to read it carefully each time before you sign.

But whether you are on a club trip and subject to WMC's rules or out collecting on your own, you may want to know about the Occupier's Liability Act, which is Ontario legislation.

The Occupier's Liability Act sets out the nuts and bolts of liability when you enter someone's property. It does not apply to public roads and highways.

By limiting liability of occupiers (landowners etc as defined below) when allowing people on their land, the Act provides mineral collectors the opportunity to collect on many lands that might not otherwise be made available.

An "Occupier" under the Act is broadly defined as a person who owns, possesses or controls the condition of premises or the activities carried on there, or controls who is allowed to enter the premises.

The occupier has a "duty of care" to see that people and their property are reasonably safe while on the premises. Note, though, that the occupier of the premises can restrict, modify or exclude this duty of care, and must take reasonable steps to bring this to the attention of the field trip leader and/or participants.

When planning an outing, WMC field trip leaders determine the legal occupier of the property they want to visit, and then obtain permission for our group to collect. Any conditions set out by the Occupier would be communicated to the field trip leader, who informs all participants.

Regardless, WMC field trip leaders query the Occupier to identify any hazards that people should be aware of, and then provide participants cautionary information about dealing with them. For participants, this means paying attention both to reading trip instructions beforehand, and listening to the leader's verbal instructions before going on-site.

It is implied that by participating, participants willingly assume the risks associated with the hazards of the site they are collecting at. People who engage in criminal activity or trespass shall be deemed to have willingly assumed all risks.

Of course, the information here has been simplified and is not comprehensive. To gain a fuller understanding, please refer to the Act by clicking here <http://bit.ly/LNINHn>.

## Useful Internet Link of the Month

Raymond McDougall, who is a long-time member of the Walker Club, recently moved to Bancroft to live. As well, he also started up an on-line mineral business at [www.mcdougallminerals.com](http://www.mcdougallminerals.com). He has great mineral specimens for sale but, as well, the website has some GREAT articles on his mineral collecting exploits and localities that may be of interest to you. Check it out!

## Like us on Facebook

Click here to get reminders of events, photos of past events and other news: <http://on.fb.me/19zdzTx>

## Newsletter Content

We are always in need of content for this newsletter. If you have news, pictures, upcoming events or short articles that you would like to contribute, please contact David K. Joyce, Editor at [dkjoyce@bellnet.ca](mailto:dkjoyce@bellnet.ca) or 905-836-9073.

<b>2014 Meetings</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
September 10	YTMC short presentations	Various Young People
October 8	Borden Gold deposit, Geology and Exploration of Ontario's Newest (and Most Surprising) Gold Discovery	David Palmer, President & CEO of Probe Mines
November 12	The ROM's Earth and Space Lab	Brendt Hyde
December 10	TBA	
<b>NOTE: MEETING STARTS AT 8.00 PM; please arrive by 7.45 pm.</b>		

## 2014 Meetings

### Upcoming Meetings and Events

**July 18 - 20 Sudbury Gem and Mineral Club Show**

Carmichael Arena, 1298 Bancroft Dr., Sudbury, ON  
For info: <http://ccfms.ca/clubs/Sudbury/show.htm>

**July 27 Bancroft Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show**

Royal Canadian Legion, Bancroft  
Great little mineral show with dealers, auction, displays, etc!

**July 31 Bancroft - Annual Rockhound Gemboree**  
**Aug 1-3**

Canada's largest commercial Gem and Mineral Show  
[www.bancroftdistrict.com](http://www.bancroftdistrict.com)

**Sept. 13,14 44th Annual "Wonders of the Earth" Gem and Mineral Show**  
presented by the Scarborough Gem and Mineral Club. Held at the Don Montgomery Community Centre, 2467 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, Ontario

**Nov 1 Walker Club Annual Mineral Auction**

Knox United Church Auditorium, NE corner of Sheppard and Midland Avenues.

Viewing starts at 12.00 noon. Auction at 1:00 pm  
For more info, contact Frank Ruehlicke at 519-880-2716 or [ruehlicke@rogers.com](mailto:ruehlicke@rogers.com). Also [www.walkermineralogicalclub.com](http://www.walkermineralogicalclub.com)

THE WALKER MINERALOGICAL CLUB  
Membership Form 2014



Please check one:  New member  Renewal

Name

Address:

Email

Telephone

*Home*

*Cell*

*Work*

**Membership Fees**

- \$30 Single  
 \$40 Family (children up to 15 years old)  
 \$15 Youth age 14-18

Amount paid:

\$

Cash

Cheque

**Photo waiver:** Pictures taken at meetings, field trips and other events may be placed in the newsletter, website, or used in public displays. Please initial here if you do **NOT** want your picture used.

**Initial here to indicate no photos of you to be publicly displayed:**

CHEQUE ENCLOSED? \_\_\_\_\_

Payment may be made at any member meeting in cash or by cheque, or by sending your cheque to:

Walker Mineralogical Club  
77 Wigmore Dr,  
Toronto ON M4A 2E9