



GIANT'S RIB ESCARPMENT EDUCATION NETWORK

Telling the Story of the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve



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Stephanie Nikita, Editor.

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2016 Lecture Series Schedule

Sunday April 3, 2016 – Topic: Bugs

Marvin Gunderman, aka “The Bug Man”, from the Department of Biology at McMaster University

Sunday April 24, 2016 – Topic: Randle Reef

Chris McLaughlin, Executive Director Bay Area Restoration Council

Grade 4 Rocks and Minerals units now available for download.

Now Ontario Grade 4 teachers anywhere can get a copy of our teacher's kits. Simply e-mail us with the name of your school and we will send you a link to download the kits directly!



waterfall of the month

Giant's Rib Escarpment Education Network's Waterfall of the Month for March 2016 is Lower DeCew Falls.

Lower DeCew Falls, also spelled as Lower Decew Falls, is located on Beaverdams Creek in St. Catharines. It is considered a Plunge Cascade type waterfall with a height of approximately 8 m and a crest width of approximately 6 m. It has year round flow and thus can be visited anytime. Its coordinates are N 43° 6.617' W 79° 15.816'.

The attached photo shows Lower DeCew in March.

Lower DeCew Falls is located downstream of the more famous DeCew Falls (Upper DeCew Falls), but is less known, less visited and is extremely difficult to visit. It however is located in a completely natural setting and thus worth the visit, but only for

the extreme hiker.

To visit Lower DeCew Falls, take Hwy 406 exit off the QEW, then exit at St. David's Rd. and go right. In a short distance turn left onto Merrittville Highway, then right onto DeCew Rd. Follow this for 1.8 km to the Morningstar Mills parking lot on the right side.

From the parking lot, walk past the old Morningstar Mill to the trail beyond the fence. Turn left and follow this trail downstream for a few hundred metres until you "hear" the lower falls. There may be a safe point at which you can lower yourself down into the gorge, such as a rope. However you do have to climb back up, which may be equally difficult. The second way to reach Lower DeCew Falls is to follow the roadway past the parking lot (by walking as there is no other place to park) for approximately one kilometer to where the roadway crosses the creek. Then follow the creek back towards the parking lot to reach the base of Lower DeCew Falls. For most people however, just enjoy this picture of Lower DeCew Falls!

By Joseph Hollick



Photo of the month

Who wouldn't want to have a gorgeous wintery breakfast at Tiffany (fall)'s?



ROM CORNER

A new feature for the newsletter is the ROM Corner. This month is an article about a tiny Devonian fish, 390 million years old! [Click here for the PDF!!](#)
A new Early Life exhibit will be coming to the Museum in the future. Fundraising is ongoing.

Volunteer Board Members Needed

Are you passionate about the Niagara Escarpment? Would you like a valuable position with a growing, positive environmental organization? GREEN is expanding across the province and needs your help.

Here are some of the positions open:

Vice President

[Arts and Photography Program Coordinator](#)

[Outdoor Program Coordinator](#)

[Volunteer Coordinator](#)

[New Program Coordinator](#)

[Hike Leaders](#)

[Discovery Centre Interpreters](#)

Your Giant's Rib Discovery Centre's Board of Directors for 2015 - 16

Executive Officers

Chris Hamilton, Past President	Ken Hall, Past President
Peter Petrusich, Vice President	Warren Beacham, Treasurer
Jennifer McPherson, Interim President	

Kenneth Hall: Coordinator, Friends of The Giant's Rib, Education Committee

Chris Hamilton: Coordinator Outreach/AV/Website

Joseph Hollick: Coordinator, Niagara Escarpment Waterfalls Research
Ian Hendry: Secretary
Steve Watts: Coordinator of Awards and Education
Ernie Kuechmeister: Coordinator, Recognition Program
Cindy Marr: Coordinator ROM Programs
Jennifer McPherson: Director
Stephanie Nikita : Newsletter Editor
Sylvia Zsidi:Coordinator, Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series



Come Join the Giant's Rib Discovery Centre!

Are you interested in the Niagara Escarpment World Biosphere Reserve? Do you want to learn more about it and contribute to its protection? Volunteering with the Giant's Rib is one way you can do that. We have positions available for volunteers on weekends at the Centre, and Director openings as well. We're growing and expanding, so if you're excited about the Niagara Escarpment, this is the place to be. Please visit www.giantsrib.ca to learn about available positions or [contact us](#) to inquire.



The Giant's Rib Discovery Centre tells the story of the Niagara Escarpment through interpretation at the Centre on weekends and through our public outreach programs. These include a weekend Arts and Photography Series featuring a local artist each month, guided interpretive hikes, the Bruce Duncan Memorial Lecture Series, and we offer a Grade 4 curriculum-based Rocks and Minerals unit to elementary schools free of charge.

Please consider the environment.
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