

**CNYAPG
November 2020**



**Central New York Association
of Professional Geologists**

**Dr. Nick Warner
(SUNY Geneseo)**

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18 November 2020 Virtual Meeting– 6:00 PM

Dr. Nick Warner (SUNY Geneseo) will present:

The InSight mission to Mars: Update on the InSight Mission to Mars (The First Mars Year of Results)

The Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport (InSight) mission landed on November, 26th 2018. It is a NASA Discovery class lander mission designed to investigate the interior structure of Mars and to understand the formation and differentiation of terrestrial planets. The mission is solar powered and is equipped with a seismometer (SEIS instrument) for evaluation of the internal structure, heat flow probe (HP3) to estimate the internal heat flux, and a precision tracking system (RISE) to measure the size and state of the core, mantle, and crust. This talk will discuss our pre-landing expectations of the local geology, the observed geology at the landing site, the discovery of marsquakes, the source and strength of those quakes, and the overall seismicity of the planet (relative to other planets). The talk will also discuss the trials and tribulations of trying to penetrate the Martian regolith with the heat flow probe.

***This is a FREE virtual event
Please register through the CNYAPG website
Zoom access instructions will be provided via email to registered attendees***

Next virtual meeting - December 2020

*CNYAPG Monthly Newsletter
November 2020*

CNYAPG Newsletter

The CNYAPG Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Central New York Association of Professional Geologists dedicated to sharing upcoming events, delivering regular articles of interest and providing the Membership a forum for discussion.

The newsletter is prepared by the Officers and Board of Directors of CNYAPG (listed below).

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President's Message– November 2020

Our first virtual guest speaker evening is now in the history books. Many thanks to those who joined us on October 21st via Zoom. Dr. Barbara Tewksbury of Hamilton College gave an enthralling presentation on the history of how NASA trained its astronauts to do the work of geologists in space. From the early days of Apollo thru the era of the international space station to the upcoming Artemis program. It was a lovely look at our past, a briefing on our present, and a glimpse of our future. In case you didn't know, Artemis (the twin sister of the Greek god Apollo) is the name of NASA's new human spaceflight program, whose mission is to return humans to the Moon for extended stays. If everything stays on schedule (and we all know what that is like) the first Artemis mission will be in 2024. One of its first missions will be to land near the Moon's southern pole, where ancient water ice may reside in deep craters. This program isn't named Artemis just because she is the sister to Apollo, the name of the first human missions to the Moon, but also because it is slated to carry the first woman to the lunar surface. Quite fitting, don't you think? Our November guest presenter will continue the space theme. Dr. Nick Warner from SUNY Geneseo will be giving us an update on the InSight Mission to Mars. Make sure you come join us via Zoom on the 18th with your questions regarding what we have discovered about Mars and what we still need to learn.

Speaking of Geneseo, I gave a Zoom talk to some of the geology students there in October. I have given similar talks to groups of college students, and the talks mostly focus on how I got into science or why I became a geologist, or what is required to get licensed as a professional geologist. It is always fun to engage students, no matter if it is at a fifth-grade science fair or a bunch of graduate students at a regional GSA, it just feels good to give back to the discipline and be able to pass along what little wisdom I have to the next generation of earth scientists.

Continuing on that giving back idea, and Covid-19 be damned, CNYAPG will continue to support earth science student research! Did you see the flyer for the 2021 Grants for Earth Science Student Research program? You, faculty members doing special research projects with your students the semester, this might be something to consider this year. Graduate students, looking for a few extra dollars to help with your Masters or Doctoral Research? CNYAPG will award grants to Earth Science students, attending CNY colleges and universities, to directly support their research and to help disseminate that research through conference attendance. Students wishing to compete for the awards must submit a proposal for review by the CNYAPG Board. One or more grants will be awarded with a combined value totaling \$1000. As part of the award, the recipients will be expected to share the results of their research at a CNYAPG monthly meeting. Recipients of the 2021 Grant will be presenting their research at a CNYAPG monthly meeting in 2022. Hopefully, we will be on the other side of the pandemic by then.

Even if you are not engaged in research, I hope all of you got to go out and enjoy the colors of the fall foliage during October. A short hike or stroll through one of the local state parks is a wonderful stress reliever. Who among us does not need a little stress relief right about now? (Trust me on this one.) Clark Reservation, Green Lakes, Pratt's Fall, and Chittenango Falls all are near Syracuse

and have beautiful scenery and great exposures of the local stratigraphy, especially at Clark Reservation, Pratt's, and Chittenango Falls. If you are in for a longer drive, you could venture to Buttermilk or Treman State Parks. You could, before the weather gets too cold and the snow starts, lookup and download a field guide or topic paper for the NYSGA website and get into the field.

As I mentioned in my first two letters, I would like CNYAPG to be both a gathering place and a resource to our community during these stressful times. Start a discussion on your favorite geoscience-related topic. Here, I will start with a little tongue-in-cheek question: Is biological produced CaCO_3 in the solid form a mineral or not? If it is not then can we truly call Coquina a rock? What about Coal, Bituminous and Anthracite, notwithstanding?

Keep the faith.
Calvin K. Prothro, P.G.
President of CNYAPG

CNYAPG Governance

Membership Renewal

CNYAPG's membership period follows the CNYAPG meeting year from September through August. Renewals are due in September. To renew or become a new member, simply complete the membership form, available on our website at www.cnyapg.org. Membership is only \$25 per year and all money received is used in support of our organization.

Join CNYAPG at our social networking groups on [Facebook and LinkedIn](#). These sites (always under development) will provide online forums for discussion, as well as another way to inform our members and networking opportunities. For more information about our social media sites e-mail us at admin@cnyapg.org.

The CNYAPG was founded in 1993 to strengthen and advance the geological sciences. CNYAPG conducts regular meetings on the third Wednesday of each month from September to May. Meetings feature dinner and distinguished speakers whose presentations invite comment and discussion.



www.cnyapg.org
[www.twitter.com/cnyapg](https://twitter.com/cnyapg)

Programming Note & Upcoming Events

As noted previously, CNYAPG has temporarily transitioned to a virtual Zoom platform beginning with the October 2020 meeting.

CNYAPG- Update on the InSight Mission to Mars

Dr. Nick Warner– SUNY Geneseo
November 18, 2020– 6:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

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Syracuse University- Looking back to Greenland's future: Climate dynamics and ice sheet response during Holocene climate change

Dr. Elizabeth Thomas– University of Buffalo
November 19, 2020– 4:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

<https://calendar.syracuse.edu/events/2020-nov-19/looking-back-to-greenlands-future-climate-dynamics-and-ice-sheet-response-during-holocene-climate-change/?ga=2.134218097.1824480154.1600209096-744632209.1599604894>

CNYAPG- Topic TBD

Dr. Alka Singhal– Ramboll
December 16, 2020
Virtual Meeting

We Need Your Input!

Do you have ideas of creative ways to engage members during this unprecedented time?

Interesting experiences to share? Email thoughts and ideas to prothrocc@sunyocc.edu



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