



# THE MINERAL VEIN

Official Newsletter of

**THE MINERAL SOCIETY OF MANITOBA**

**MARCH 2020**

## MARCH MEETING PRESENTATION

Marty Lewadny will be talking about one of our favourite subjects, Selenites. He will share some collecting history, experience as well as some interesting stories that keep pulling him back to the Mineral Society. Marty was introduced to minerals at a young age and has become a big part of his life. He is big on research and has put in a lot of time into collecting. Selenites played a big role in his ability to barter them into 3 substantial collections.



## FEBRUARY MEETING SUMMARY

We had a good turn out of about twenty two members, for our February meeting.

Kathryn Lapenskie talked about the stratigraphy of the Williston Basin. A large geographical feature in the center of North America and covers part of Southwestern Manitoba.

**MEETING START TIME: 6:30pm**

**ON WEDNESDAY**

**MARCH 4, 2020**

**PRESENTATION START TIME IS**

**7pm**



Dues are paid annually to the CCFMS. We are up to date with our dues so members can enjoy field trips with other clubs that are part of the CCFMS.

The newsletter from the Niagara Peninsula Geological Society, will be sent out with our newsletter to offer members, options for vacations out East, Mineral/fossil collecting.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, REMINDER

Memberships are due in October for the 2019-2020 field trip season. Please, be sure your membership is current, in order to participate in this year's selenite dig. Please have your membership paid up prior to May 01, 2020

## THE MINERAL SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

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*The Mineral Vein* is published monthly from September to June.

**Meetings** are held on the first Wednesday of each month from September to May inclusive at the Manitoba Museum in room P47 on the Planetarium level. They begin at 6:30 PM and feature announcements, an invited speaker and a raffle. Members are encouraged to bring along any new, interesting specimens, or specimens appropriate to the speaker's topic.

**Field Trips** take place from May to September to interesting sites in Manitoba or neighbouring provinces and states.

**Membership:** A single membership is \$15 while a family membership is \$20. Memberships run from October to October.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**PROVINCIAL ENGINEERING AND GEOSCIENCES WEEK (PEGW):** Sunday March 01 and Sunday March 08, 2020

**MARCH MEETING:** will be held on March 4, 2020; Marty Lewadney, will speaking about Selenite's

**APRIL MEETING:** will be held on April 01, 2020; Ron Zeilstra, will be speaking about Quartz scepter collecting at Hallelujah Junction in California

**SILVER COVE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW** will be on Thursday April 09– Sunday April 12, 2020.

**MAY MEETING:** will be held on May 6, 2020; Meteorite Ralph, Meteorite collector in Manitoba

**ANNUAL MSM BBQ;** will be held on Sunday May 31, 2020– 1pm potluck, mineral and fossil trade event at Margaret and Allan Akins, home in the Birds Hill Area.



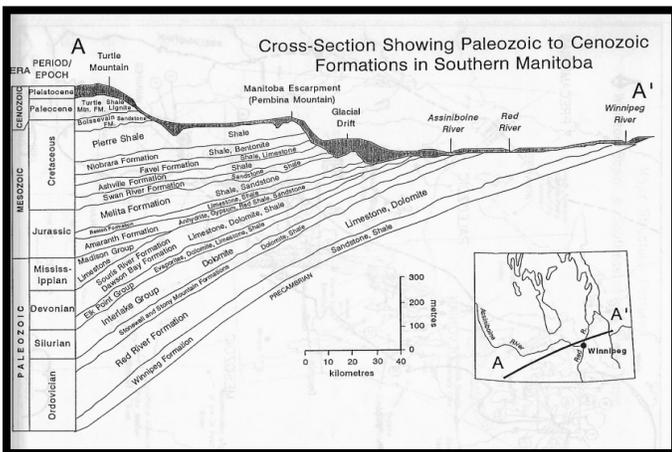
Founded in 1971, the Mineral Society of Manitoba is dedicated to promoting the study of minerals, rocks and fossils for their scientific and recreational value.

The Mineral Society of Manitoba hosts monthly meetings covering a variety of mineral related topics. In addition, the Mineral Society organizes summer field trips to collecting localities, hosts educational exhibits about minerals and fossils and local trade events.

# FEBRUARY PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Most of the surficial geology is composed of a thick package of sedimentary rocks, often covered by Quaternary sediments. These rocks are composed of Carbonates (limestone, Dolostone), sandstones, shale's and evaporates (i.e. gypsum, anhydrite).

The diagram below will help us to understand how the different Geological formations outcrop in the Manitoba landscape. The Winnipeg formation is the oldest formation that sits on the Cambrian and the Precambrian and out crops the furthest east, by the Winnipeg River.



The Red River formation is a thicker formation, up to 170 meters in some places. It consists of dolomitic limestone and mottled Dolomite and contains many well preserved fossils. This formation outcrops near Tyndall Manitoba and can be accessed in the Gillis Quarry, rubble pile, for a fee.

The next formation of interest is the Stony Mountain Formation which is very fossiliferous. This formation outcrops on the Stony Mountain Penitentiary property (Accessed with permission only) and the Mariash Quarry (they cater to school children). The Stonewall Formation is at the top of the Ordovician Period and is also very fossiliferous. This Formation outcrops and can be accessed in the Stonewall Quarry Park. Area fossils can be viewed in the park museum.

The next formation is the “Interlake group” which represents the Silurian period. Fossils can be found in the Quarry near Lundar (With permission) but these fossils are quite weathered/degraded.

The next group up is the Elk Point Group which marks the lower Devonian Period. One of the more southerly quarry is Lily Bay, where Devonian fish fossils have been found in the past by members.

The next stop up the Geological time scale is the Lake Manitoba Narrows quarry. Here we can find giant fossil Steincerns of a variety of Brachiopods. A Steincern is an internal mould of a fossil and then the actual fossil is weathered away, leaving the internal mould. The Elk Point group continues north up both sides East and West side of Lake Manitoba. Up to Steep Rock on the East side quarries have yielded calcite, marcasite and barite crystals as well as Crinoid fossils and Devonian fish fossils. Up the west side this group continues north to Winnipegosis (Where well formed Brachiopods have been found) and beyond.

West from here we get into the Jurassic and Cretaceous, which make up the majority of the Manitoba escarpment.

Please note, that much of the escarpment is either Park land or private land and it would be recommended that permission be gained before hand, especially if you plan to collect.



## UPDATED FIELD TRIPS FOR 2020

I will be working with my contacts to see which of these trips can become a reality and I will continue to provide updates, in our monthly newsletter..

I will also be looking for feed back from our members, to see which trips will be worth pursuing. I will put out sign up sheets for field trips, at the next couple of our meetings, which will help to determine where the interest and participation will be.

**Meteorite hunt;** Exploring for meteorites, one day event somewhere in Manitoba. **Date TBD**

**Blue Point Mine, Thunder Bay; Date TBD**

**Williston Basin;** Road trip, Morden, selenites, MB. **Date TBD**

**Lily Bay, Lake Manitoba Narrows;** 1 day event, looking for Devonian fish fossils and giant brachiopod Steinhilberia. Led by Kathryn Lapenskie, more details to follow.

◆ **Dates for this trip are Saturday June 27, 2020**

**Steep Rock, MB.;** Looking for Calcite crystals; This will be a 2 day trip-one night. **Dates TBD**

**Cat Lake;** Central Claim Pegmatite; led by Bill Hood. More details to follow

◆ **Will be on Saturday May 02, 2020**

**Selenite dig;** We are fortunate to get a Selenite dig, committee together. We have plans to set it up for June this year, because of the unpredictable rain event we had last fall. The dig can only proceed after the flood waters have receded.

◆ **Will be between June 2 to June 20, 2020**

CONTACT JACK BAUER; *Field trip Chairman*– IF YOU HAVE FIELD TRIP QUESTIONS.



**Cornell Rock, is still travelling the World and has sent us these pictures from Spain.**



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

With all of the events that are coming up, we now need volunteers with some spare time to help put out a Mineral Society presence with our Black light display.

**SILVER COVE GEM AND MINERAL SHOW** will be on Thursday April 09– Sunday April 12, 2020. We generally like to have the black light display out for a couple of days. We will need a few volunteers for this event- Contact Jack if you are interested in coming out to volunteer for this event.

**March PEGW Event** will be held at the Kildonan Mall on Sunday March 01 and Sunday March 08, 2020 from 12pm-4pm.

Members are encouraged to come by our booth and see us and our Black Light Display, if you have not had a chance to see it before. This is a great time to get involved.