



THE MINERAL VEIN

Official Newsletter of

THE MINERAL SOCIETY OF MANITOBA

May/June 2021

MAY MEETING

Get your favorite interesting minerals or fossils out to share your story with us. We are going to do a virtual show and tell, for the May 5th meeting. If you are interested in showing your specimens—please e-mail Jack Bauer the number of minerals you would like to present as we have to ensure everyone gets some time to share their finds.

Dr. Eva Pip has sent us four pictures of specimens that she would like to share with us. I recognize the specimen (below) as being a Mammoth tooth, but I could be wrong. I guess we will have to hear from Eva, to be sure



MEMBERSHIP DUES REQUESTED FOR 2021-2022 SEASON

Dues, can be paid at our June BBQ, if Covid 19 permits. It is with optimism, that our out door events may happen this summer/Fall, All planned events are tentative at this time.

We are hopeful that we can host our Spring BBQ outside at the residence of Margaret and Allan Akins, on June 26th. We will decide if the BBQ is a go, by June 11. Contact Jack Bauer, for details.

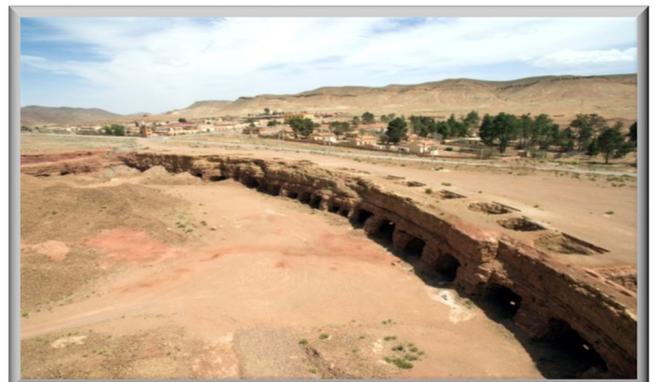
COVID UPDATE

Code Red is limiting travel and get-togethers, for the next four weeks. We are optimistic that Manitoba will move to code orange afterwards. This hopefully, will allow us to host our out door events? We will be waiting for the government to provide guidance for the months ahead. Stay tuned for more info.

APRIL MEETING PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Continued on page 3 and 4

Ron Zeilstra's, 2016 mineral collecting trip to Morocco, included visiting the Les O Mine, where they were able to drive into the mine and out of the sun. *Below*



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

VIRTUAL MEETING; May 5th 2021 at 6:30pm. Show and tell, mineral discussion.

ANNUAL MSM BBQ, 2021; Saturday June 26, to be confirmed by June 11th.

SELENITE DIG, 2021; August, September, to be confirmed.

METEORITE HUNT; September or October 2021, to be confirmed.

CAT LAKE; CENTRAL PEGMATITE; September or October 2021, to be confirmed.

MEMBERSHIP

Please note; we anticipate in person meetings to begin early 2022. We will begin collecting renewals for the 2021-2022 season



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.

VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

When joining; check if your microphone is on/off.
When a presenter begins speaking; turn off your MIC
When your MIC is on: refrain from eating or creating back round noise.

When a presenter is speaking; please keep questions on topic

Keep off topic questions to the end of meeting

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING TEAMS FROM YOUR WEB BROWSER:

Step 1: The Teams meeting invite should look like this:

You're invited to join a Microsoft Teams meeting

Title: Carrie Carino's Teams Meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

The link will be sent with the newsletter and then again on the day of the meeting, to join the meeting you just click on the "click here to join the meeting" the link will be blue in color. This link will take you directly to the "lobby" of the meeting and the host will let you in. You can add this event to your calendar, if your e-mail is set-up with the calendar function.

During the meeting there will be a chat function, through out the presentation you are more than welcome to pose questions or make comments. The presentation will begin at 6:30pm, the meeting room will be open at 6:15pm for those who would like to see and chat with other members prior to the presentation.

If you want to watch the presentation on a tablet/ cell phone or desk top computer, you may need to install the Teams App or free software prior to the meeting.

FIELD TRIP UPDATES

GYPSUM CRYSTAL RECOVERY DIG; We are hopeful that the dig will take place in (August/September) of 2021, but be prepared, that the dig may be postponed till 2022.

METEORITE HUNT; *September or October 2021-* We have acquired a map of the crown lands in S/E area of Manitoba, that could provide access to good potential collecting areas.

CAT LAKE; CENTRAL PEGMATITE; *September or October 2021*

GILLIS QUARRY; *June or July 2021, during the week.*

Dates, to be determined. Contact Jack Bauer.

APRIL MEETING PRESENTATION SUMMARY

The trip started by flying into Casablanca and arranging for vehicles, currency exchange and phone sim cards, and then driving to Marrakesh. The first mineral collecting opportunity was the Tizgue molybdenite mine just outside of Marrakesh where one could find molybdenite, hematite and garnets. They also had the opportunity to visit the traditional souk markets in Marrakesh, although no mineral specimens were purchased there.



Next they made their way to the mines of Bou Azzur in the Anti Atlas Mountains. Along the route to Bou Azzur, were many roadside kiosks selling typical tourist grade minerals and fossils.

Once they reached Bou Azzur they were not allowed to self collect, but were able buy minerals from miners who had smuggled specimens out of the mines. Specimens available to purchase included cobaltian calcite, roselite, skutterudite and silver crystals. *Below*



Next they went to the famous Vein 12 near Taouz. There we were able to self collect in the underground workings there, and purchase specimens from the miners. Interesting specimens of hematite and goethite were available, as well as small vanadinites and wulfenite crystals on manganese stalactites. *below*



From Taouz they travelled to Mfis, where large barite crystals could be found. Several good barite specimens were acquired from the miners, as well as quartz, pyrite and marcasite crystals. *below*



Next was Imichil (*Above*) in the High Atlas Mountains, where they spent several days exploring surrounding mineral sites, collecting titanite and epidote crystals, and buying minerals. Ron was able to purchase some interesting epidote clusters and hematite included quartz crystals there.

Then they travelled to Midelt, a mineral trading center where they spent several days meeting and buying from local mineral dealers.

Not far from Midelt is Mibladen, the main source of vanadinite crystals in Morocco. They were able to visit and collect in 3 underground mines there. The Les Dalles Mine which they were able to walk into. The Coud'a mine is where they were lowered into the mine by a hand cranked rope. The Les O Mine was large enough, that they were able to drive into the mine.



Above; Les Dalles Mine



Above; Coud'a Mine