



THE MINERAL VEIN

THE MINERAL SOCIETY OF MANITOBA NEWSLETTER

June 2007 SPECIAL MAIL OUT

The Mineral Society of Manitoba
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2005 – 06 EXECUTIVE

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Society News

**Please note the yearly
Dues have been
increased to \$15.(s) and
\$20 (family)**

We had the same dues
for a number of years.
Rising, rising costs have
forced our hand

Dues are \$15/year (\$20 for
families) and are payable at the
October meeting or by mail
during October.

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 7:30 PM and
feature announcements, an
invited speaker and a draw.
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, neighboring
provinces and states.

CLUB MEETINGS

Last May 2, 2007 Meeting

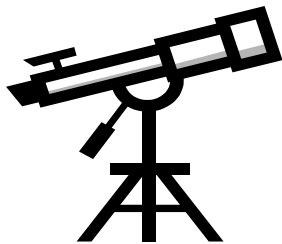
John Biczok kindly gave us a
presentation on the Two
Mineralogical Treasures of
Montreal - Mt. St. Hilaire and
the Redpath Museum".

Located 40 kilometers to the
East of Montréal, in Rouville
County, Mont Saint- Hilaire
(MSH) has become a classic
collecting site and one of the
most prolific current sources
of rare mineral species. To
date, **371** species have been
identified from MSH, of
which **50** species are new to
science with several
undetermined minerals
(unknowns) still being
investigated and a few new
species approved by the
**International Mineralogical
Association** not yet published.

The "mountain" is
composed of three distinct
plutonic intrusions that
formed during the
Cretaceous Period. More
precisely, it is composed of
agpaitic pegmatite, a rare
type of intrusion, making it
a favored site for
mineralogical research.

Do not expect to just go to Mt St Hilaire to collect specimens. It is no longer available to the general public. However the Montreal Mineralogy club arranged John's trip to Mt. St. Hilaire

John and other members of the Mineral Society of Manitoba brought some samples from Mt. St. Hilaire for examination and identification.



A NEW VIEWPOINT

After the presentation John and our president spoke to the members regarding a new viewpoint for our club and a greater involvement with Manitoba Museum.

Our mutual interests seem to be minerals and fossils. Many of us have accumulated a collection of our own. The Manitoba Museum, on the other hand, has no such Manitoba collection

There was much discussion regarding this situation:

1. A total redesign of the earth science gallery for the Manitoba Museum is being envisioned.
2. There is presently no display of Manitoba minerals.
3. Mineral Society of Manitoba (MSM) has individuals with expertise and connections

4. If and when construction of a gallery commences it will be easier to solicit donations of specimens.
5. There are several mining companies in the province that can donate specimens (advertising potential).
6. There is presently no place in Manitoba to donate minerals for public display.
7. Too many museum quality minerals have left the province because there was neither suitable display space nor money to purchase them.

Therefore, it was decided that MSM call for 2 or 3 volunteers who are willing to liaison with the Museum regarding the proposed Manitoba Mineral Display.

If interested, please submit your name at our September meeting.

MANITOBA ROCKS

Mining Week Activity at the Forks



We had a busy 3 days with children and our glue cards.



Glue cards got information as well as mineral or fossil samples



George's rock polishing and jewelry display attracted a lot of attention



Here are some of our volunteers waiting for the next group of children



Florescent minerals

Thanks to all of the volunteers

We had a busy 3 days with children and our glue cards.

Thanks to Jacques for the use of the garage for the work bee where we prepared the rock samples for glue cards.

Thanks to the members of the work bee where we broke rocks into small pieces: Bill & Yvonne, Sherri & Cassandra, Chris, Jack, Jacques, Anita & Grant, Marion & Marjorie, Ken Fumerton, and Sheri Henes.

Thanks to Sherri Henes for sewing the new covers for the Robertson Collection display.

Last of all, The Provincial Mining week was a huge success in spite of the constant rain. Thanks to the hard working members that manned the glue cards and gave so many explanations to so many children. Thank you Bill and Yvonne, The Grieves, Mavis, Marion and Marjorie, George Green with his polishing equipment, Jack, Chris, and Gieselle. (See pictures)

Elaine Stevenson of Energy and Mines sent us an appreciation by e-mail. "Thanks so much to all who helped with Provincial Mining Week. Even though we saw rain, snow, more rain and much more rain - we had lots of fun doing the PMW activities and talking about Manitoba's Mining industry to our many visitors to the display...Our sincere thanks to CVRD Inco, Rodren, Mineral Society of Manitoba and the MPDA for their wonderful displays and greatly appreciated enthusiasm. All of your displays added so much to Provincial Mining Week. ...

We hope we can count on your support again for these upcoming two dates.

2007 – Manitoba Rocks - Schools Program at the Manitoba Mining and Minerals Convention – Wpg. Convention Centre dates are: Thursday, November 15 & Friday, November 17th, 2007

2008 PMW dates at the Forks Plaza and Market are Wed., May 21 – (set-up), Thursday May 22nd, Friday, May 23rd & Saturday, May 24th, 2008".



Don't Forget our field trips

Remember which trip you signed up for. If you don't remember contact Jack Bouer or

Jacques Bourgeois

2007 Field Trips

1. Gypsumville Quarries, Gypsumville, Manitoba - June 23

This trip will be co-led by James Bamburak from the Manitoba Geological Survey. This trip will involve a number of stops in the crater area. We would like to keep the vehicles to a minimum. We are considering renting a 15 pass. Van/bus. If ten people would be interested in sharing expenses and driving duties on the return trip. Two or three vans or suvs will then compliment our mobile group nicely.

Please register w/ Jack Bauer 632-6934..departure is 7AM from ??

2. Thunder Bay, Ontario –

June 29 to July 2nd, 2007 - TBD

Departure from Winnipeg; is scheduled for Friday, at your convenience, June 29, 2006.

Meet Brian at 9AM, Saturday, at the Terry Fox Look Out, East side of Thunder Bay, for two days of collecting fun. He will then provide you with the weekend itinerary, including a barbeque for only \$12.50 per person.

Call the Old Country Motel for reservations @ 1-800-454-7658. Book early and avoid disappointment. The July long weekend will be busy. This trip will surely satisfy the Amethyst collector in you.

This is Hard rock country, so please bring adequate eye protection.

For more information, contact Brian Bilcowski 233-1270

3. Tanco Mine, Bernic Lake, Manitoba –July 14

Departure to Tanco, is from the Forks, at 8:30 am. For many years, the Tanco Mine trip has been a favourite from Winnipeg's rock hounds. In recent years, the picking has been somewhat less than fruitful, since Tanco has not brought any new material, to the surface. After discussing with the chief geologist, I decided to try to go again this year, with hopes, that new material will be brought up to the surface. This summer, when the machinery comes to the surface for maintenance, they will try to bring some new material to the surface. The Bernic Lake deposit is one of the largest rare element bearing deposits in the world and contains two thirds of the worlds known reserves of pollucite. Black tourmaline, beryl, spodumene, lepidolite and feldspar are also abundant at this mine.

For more information, contact Jacques Bourgeois at 467-3282.

4. Snow Lake, Manitoba – August 4 to 7th.

This trip we will explore the Anderson lake shoreline for Garnets, Staurolite and Kyanite crystals. We will also explore the Wekusko Kimberlitic (?) zone. Our stay will be at the Blue Nose, in Snow Lake, unless otherwise requested. A pre-trip and member enthusiasm will determine if this trip is a go.

Contact Jack Bauer 632-6934 for more information.

Departure will be 7AM, from ??

5. Morden, Manitoba – August 11

Departures are from the Forks Travel Centre at 8:00 a.m. or meet at the Canadian Fossils Discovery Centre at 9:30 a.m. A \$5 fee will cover a guided tour of the museum and the dig.

Take a trip back in time as we explore the ancient seabed of the Cretaceous that once covered Manitoba in search of mosasaur and plesiosaur fossils. The area around Morden is also rich in other minerals such as jarosite and selenite.

For more information, contact Jacques Bourgeois at 467-3282.

6. Wilson River, Manitoba, - September 1

Departure is from Salisbury House in Headingley (Perimeter Hwy) at 7.00 a.m.

I would suggest we double up, for approximately 3.5 hours drive, north to Dauphin, to save gas expenses. This trip is weather sensitive; high water levels will be bad; low water levels will be good for collecting.

This small river starts in the Duck Mountains, and flows East, North of Dauphin and then draining into Dauphin Lake. In its travels Eastward, it exposes the northern edge, of the Ashville and Favel Formations. Here we will explore for Cretaceous fossils. We will look for Inucranus shells, fish fragments (teeth or scales), Plesiosaur and Mosasaur (teeth or vertebra). Down stream, we will visit the exposed contact of the Ashville and Favel Formations. **For more information, call Jack Bauer at 632-6934**

7. Stony Mountain, Manitoba – September 15 and 16

Departure is from the Forks Travel Centre at 8:00 a.m. or meet at the Stony Mountain quarry for 9:00 a.m. Explore the quarries of Stony Mountain, consisting of limestone and dolostone formed during the late Ordovician period. Many fossils abound, including brachiopods, corals (horn and honeycomb), cephalopods, and molluscs. Those with a keen eye, although not as common, can also find trilobites/pieces. This field trip coincides with the Oak Hammock Marsh annual Archaeology, Rocks and Mineral Show and is a morning trip only, in order to allow participants to take in the

mineral displays and rock auctions at the show in the afternoon. **For more information, contact Jacques Bourgeois at 467-3282.**

General Information about Field Trips

If weather conditions become unfavourable, contact Fieldtrip Coordinator

- Keep in touch, in case of unexpected changes
- Register in advance, for the field trips that request it. Contact the field trip coordinator for more information or if your plans unexpectedly change.
- Some field trips have limited spots available.
- Be prepared to sign a liability waiver

When attending a field trip:

- Protect yourself; wear safety glasses and safety boot
- In Hard Rock country, pieces of rock can fly and hit you in the eye, when struck with a heavy hammer.

Things to bring with you:

- Lunch and drinking water
- Bug repellent and sunscreen
- Hammers and chisels
- Safety glasses, safety boots
- Field lens or magnifying glass
- Collecting bags and news paper/towels to protect your find
- Notebook (to record locations and geological notes)
- Camera, film, and your sense of adventure

Have Fun, be Safe and Good Luck on our 2007 Fieldtrip season.
