

Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
Jason Hefner, Editor  
229 East State St  
Etna Green, IN 46524



October 2011 Volume 51 Number 8



# THE ROCKFINDER



**We're on the Web! See us at: <http://www.sauktown.com/Michiana>**

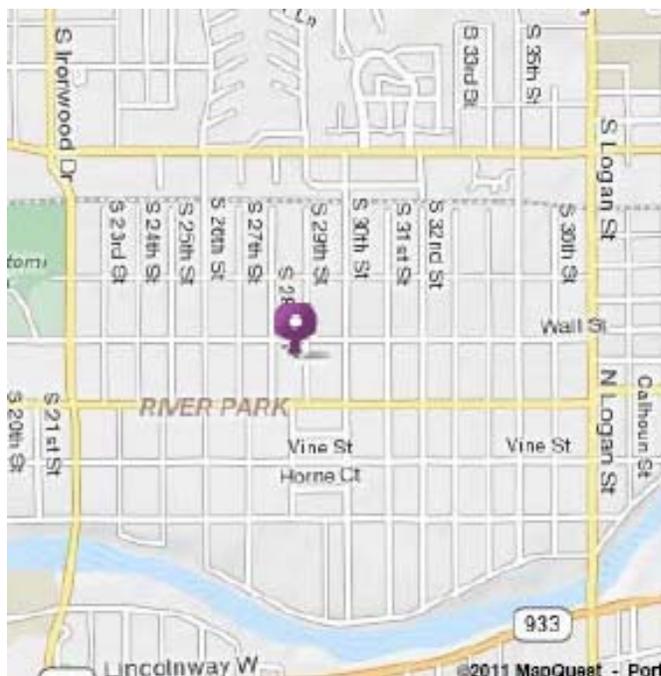
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
805 S. 29th St.,  
South Bend, IN.  
Please see the map to the right.

Doors usually open at 1:30 for meet & greet time.

Regular meeting exceptions include May (third Sunday), July (Club Picnic), August (Club Show) and the November/December meeting and Christmas party.

Board meetings are held before the monthly meetings. The annual club show is in late August.



**DUES**

Yearly Membership Dues are payable by December 15th of each year. Please chose type of membership below.

- Individual \$15.00     Family \$20.00
- Junior \$1.00         Subscriber \$7.50

Please indicate areas of special interest.

- General Geology     Gems & Minerals
- Fossils               Micro mounts
- Crystals              Field Trips
- Cabochons           Faceting
- Carving               Beads
- Jewelry Making

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City, ST, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your dues and the bottom half of this form to:



Please read and sign this section

With my signature I hereby release the Michiana Gem and Mineral Society, Inc., and its individual members and the owners of any premises upon which I enter under permit granted to the society, absolutely free of any liability whatsoever, to my person or property, and further I will respect the equipment and property of the aforesaid owners.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Family Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
c/o Marty Perry  
29154 Frailey Dr  
Elkhart, IN 46514

# THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 51 Number 8  
October 2011

The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques.

Michiana Gem and Mineral Society  
([www.sauktown.com/Michiana](http://www.sauktown.com/Michiana)), is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies <http://www.amfed.org/mwf/> and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies [www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)

The *Rockfinder* is published monthly except July and August.

Please note that all items for a given issue of the *Rockfinder* are due to the **Editor** no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the previous month. This means that the due date for the March Issue will be February 5<sup>th</sup>. Advance items are appreciated. Material may be e-mailed to [hefner\\_family@hotmail.com](mailto:hefner_family@hotmail.com) or submitted via the U.S. Mail.

Editor:  
Jason Hefner  
229 East State St  
Etna Green, IN 46524

Permission is hereby granted to reprint any original *Rockfinder* articles as long as recognition is given along with the reprint.



## Kathy's Column - President Kathy Miller

I was so delighted to see how many of us attended the September meeting and I know we all enjoyed getting together again. Many thanks to Randy Hill for the fine program, it was entertaining and informative. More thanks to Linda Miller and her hosts Patty Enos, Annette Freel and Sherry Kobie for the delicious meal and treats. Linda and her crew were very busy behind the scene to make sure everything ran smoothly and it did! Trista McIntosh had so many young members, but kept them busy for the entire meeting. A true Junior Leader!

What a plus for our club for all the awards we received from the Midwest Federation that Randy as our Delegate accepted at the annual convention. Tom Noe as past Editor received Midwest and American certificates and plaques for last year's work on "The Rockfinder" while our club as a whole received certificates for our Scholarship donations and also one for the fastest growing junior groups in the Midwest. [Continued on Page 2](#)

## Up & Coming

### Next Meeting: October 23, 2011

Visitors are always welcome. Doors open at 1:30 and meeting starts at 2:00.

**Place:**  
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
805 S 29<sup>th</sup> Street  
(29<sup>th</sup> & Wall)  
South Bend, IN.  
This is in the River Park area.

**Program:**  
To Be announced

**Refreshments:**  
Elise & Linda Garwood  
Peg Van Nevel  
Virginia Steele

## Board of Directors

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Kathy Miller  
574-291-0332

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269-465-5814

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Michelle Winters  
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Show Chair: Marie Crull  
574-272-7209

Sunshine: Sally Peltz  
269-683-4088

Webmaster: Jim Daly  
219-778-2196

## Kathy's Column..... continued from Page 1

After talking to Marie Crull and receiving an email from Rob Heinek, I am pleased to report Rob and his dad Bob will continue to maintain membership in our club as Margaret, their mom, wife and Past President would have wanted them too. Both Marie and Rob said the Memorial service was really meaningful and a nice tribute to Margaret.

At the October meeting Linda Miller, Chair host will have a signup sheet for our annual Christmas party on December 4<sup>th</sup>. Please consider attending the party. In 2009 we had 82 present, last year due to a snow storm the night before we still had 60. The party is fun and our last time together until January 22, 2012. One of the main reasons we need to know how many would be attending is for the number of kids 18 and under. "Santa" always likes to come prepared and not disappoint any of our youth attending.

As President I think it's that time of year to have you be aware that your yearly dues will be soon due for 2012. Find out at the October meeting when our Treasurer Marty Perry will start accepting your dues for next year.

And last but certainly not least, we can look forward to one day field trips, plus a 3 day bus field trip for next year. We have a lot to look forward too, see you at the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, remember we meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday not the 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Rock on,  
Kathy**

Enjoying a bus ride!!!



## Trip report - Hooper's Mine - Upstate New York by Jason Hefner

After much huffing and puffing (at least for me) we reached the top of the mountain that had been quarried out for garnet. The picture below is where we stepped out of the woods and entered the quarry.



Behind us the side of the mountain fell away several hundred feet and the view was spectacular.



We proceeded to walk the interior walls of the quarry picking up pieces of garnet, hornblende, and feldspars. We finally stumbled upon whole garnets the size of golf balls and bigger but due to lack of proper tools we stopped trying to extract them after shattering 2 or 3.

Since this had been an active mine the miners ended up blasting out the garnets so most specimens we found loose were totally fractured.

At the lower end of the mine we found glacial grooves in the exposed rock see the picture below.



Notice all the exposed garnets. We were able to remove several of these with the tools we had although it would have been very easy to smash a finger with the method that was used.

Some of the garnets in the rock we saw were larger than a standard Estwing rock hammer is long. However they were up on a high wall so the pictures do not do them any justice. We found several that were lower and these were about softball size.



The very brief history follows: In 1898, Frank Hooper opened a garnet mine near North River, not far from Barton's Gore Mt. mine, which opened in 1878. The rock at Hooper's mine contained much smaller crystals than those at Gore Mt. The Hooper mine was abandoned in 1929, and Hooper went to work for Barton.

Next time my adventures in Maine - Jason

## 2012 Three day bus trip

The Michiana Gem & Mineral Society has subsidized a Cardinal Coach chartered for September 28-30, 2012. **THIS IS FOR ACTIVE CLUB MEMBERS ONLY.** Our destination is southern Indiana to private locations not open to others. The owner has asked that we do not let other know we will be collecting there or we may not be allowed to collect. As a side note, the town where we are staying is very picturesque and historical.

As I said in a previous newsletter, this trip is only for members who are willing to participate by attending at least 3 meetings in the year, or help out at our annual show, or host a meeting by food donations and helping set up, clean up in the kitchen after a meeting, or help Trista with junior members at a meeting or (especially those who live states away but are members) write a least 3 articles for print in the Rockfinder.

The cost to the club for the coach is well over \$3,000, so I must insist you really give this thought before you sign up for the coach or get your motel room reserved. To cancel out even a month or two before going causes all kinds of problems! The motel also is giving us a great block room rate, but only if we book all the rooms and no cancellations. The motel is the Holiday Inn Express with 2 queen beds, coffee maker, fridge and micro in rooms, heated indoor pool and a hot continental breakfast consisting of omelets, scrambled eggs, etc. all included at \$77.69 (tax included) per night. I will have the name and price of the restaurant buffet in the itinerary.

You will be delighted! This bus trip is a special one since we only have access to the collecting area as a one time only opportunity and we will never have opportunity to do or visit some of the other places also included on this field trip. Plus it's the color season for southern Indiana. If you are interested in going, I will have a brief itinerary at the October meeting for you to pick up and read through, with signup beginning at the December 4<sup>th</sup>, Christmas party and at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> club meeting. It's a fun 3 days and everyone always has a good time and great collecting.

### Kathy

Enjoying the last bus trip. Collecting fossils in Ohio many members enjoyed sitting along the creeks picking up fossils.



## American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News



### AFMS Past Presidents at the Syracuse Convention

Back row: Ron Carmen, Bob Carlson, Dee Holland, Emerson Tucker, Bill Smith  
Front row: Shirley Leeson, Ruth Bailey, Bob Miller, Steve Weinberger

*Photo: Carolyn Weinberger*

## Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies News

### MICROMINERAL SYMPOSIUM

by Anne Cook

The annual symposium on microminerals, sponsored by the Midwest Federation's only society that concentrates exclusively on that portion of the hobby, will be on November 4, 5, and 6, 2011 at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, in the University Circle area of Cleveland.

The symposium, now in its 28th year, is held by the Micromineral Society of the Museum, and this year its featured speaker is Tom Loomis of Dakota Matrix Minerals, who will give talks both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon. Shorter talks by other speakers will take place on Saturday and Sunday mornings, and there will be several sessions for mounting, swapping, and picking up "freebies" from the always-popular freebie tables.

For attendees needing an inexpensive place to stay, members of the host society are happy to house those folks on a first-come, first-served basis. Cost for the symposium is \$35 per person, or \$65 for a couple. This includes the Saturday dinner at no extra cost. For more information, contact Dick Green at (330) 929-2395 or [jgreen2@neo.rr.com](mailto:jgreen2@neo.rr.com).



### Purpose of the AFMS

To promote popular interest and education in the various Earth Sciences, and in particular the subjects of Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Lapidary and other related subjects, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of all persons and groups interested therein; to sponsor and encourage the formation and international development of Societies and Regional Federations and by and through such means to strive toward greater international good will and fellowship.

[www.amfed.org](http://www.amfed.org)



### Purpose of the MWF

To promote interest and education in geology, mineralogy, paleontology, archaeology and lapidary, and to sponsor and provide means of coordinating the work and efforts of groups interested in these fields.

[www.amfed.org/mwf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)

**Coming Events**

**October**

**21-23: FT WAYNE, IN,** 50th Annual Show, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society, Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd, Fri & Sat 10:00-7:00, Sun 11:00-5:00, Contact: Michele Yamanaka, 4336 Charter Ln, Ft Wayne, IN 46815, (260) 424-5070, [yamanakam@cs.com](mailto:yamanakam@cs.com)

**22-23: CUYAHOGA FALLS, OH,** Semi-annual Gemboree, Akron Mineral Society & Summit Lapidary Club, Emido Expo Center, 48 E Bath Rd, 10:00-6:00, Contact Evelyn Tryon, 2028 Tallmadge Rd, Kent, OH 44240, (330) 673-9664, [gemboree76@yahoo.com](mailto:gemboree76@yahoo.com), [lapidaryclubofohio.org](http://lapidaryclubofohio.org)

**November**

**4-6: CLEVELAND, OH.** Micromineral Society of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's, Annual Micromineral Symposium; Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval; Fri. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Sat. 8:30-5, Sun. 9:30-3:30; CONTACT: Dick Green, 1745 13th St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223, (330) 929-2395, [jgreen2@neo.rr.com](mailto:jgreen2@neo.rr.com).

**5-6: STURTEVANT, WI.** Racine Geological Society's Annual Show; Fountain Banquet Hall, 8505 Durand Ave.; Sat. & Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: John Lowman, 3223 Spruce St., Racine, WI 53403, (262) 554-5370.

**7: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI.** Michigan Mineralogical Society's Annual Auction; Cranbrook Institute of Science Auditorium, 39221 N. Woodward Ave.; Mon. 6:30 Viewing, 7:00 Auction; CONTACT: Mildred Hurt, 1211 E. Maxlow, Hazel Park, MI 48030, (248) 398- 6693, [georgematyas@att.net](mailto:georgematyas@att.net).

**12-13: FREEPORT, IL.** Northwest Illinois Rock Club's Annual Show; Highland Community College Student Center, 2998 W. Pearl City Rd.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; CONTACT: Brian Green, P.O. Box 396, Warren, IL 61087, (815) 745-2228, [bgreen57@hotmail.com](mailto:bgreen57@hotmail.com).

**18-20: ST. LOUIS, MO.** St. Louis Mineral and Gem Society's Mineral, Fossil, and Gem Show; **NEW VENUE!** Affton Community Center, 9801 Mackenzie Road, St. Louis, MO 63123; Fri. 4 - 8, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 10-5; CONTACT: StLRockClub.com, or Melissa Perucca, [PeruccaM@aol.com](mailto:PeruccaM@aol.com).

**Have a happy & safe Halloween**

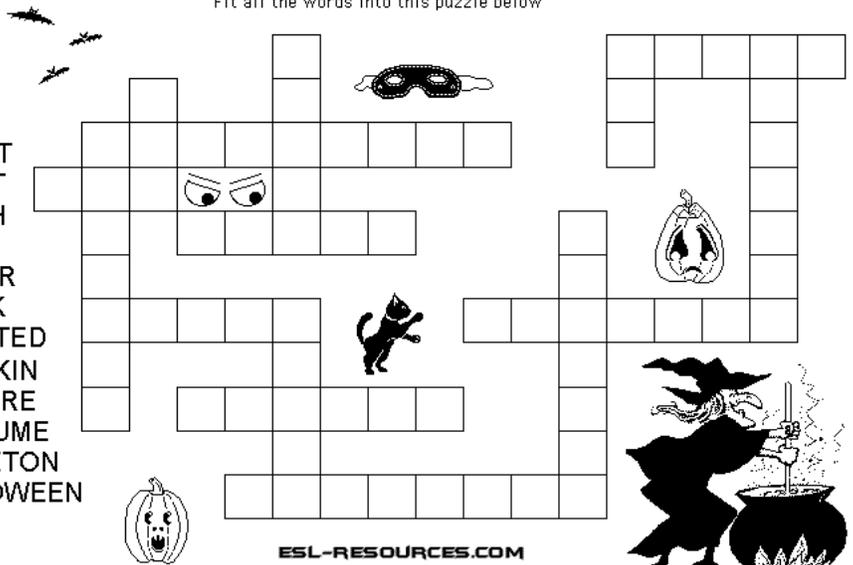


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**Halloween Crossword**

Fit all the words into this puzzle below

- BOO
- CAT
- BAT
- GHOST
- TREAT
- WITCH
- TRICK
- SPIDER
- BLACK
- HAUNTED
- PUMPKIN
- VAMPIRE
- COSTUME
- SKELETON
- HALLOWEEN



## MWF Mineral Study Group (Tourmaline Group)

by Kreigh Tomaszewski

This month we explored the Tourmaline group, which includes Buergerite, Chromdravite, Dravite, Elbaite, Feruvite, Fluor-dravite, Fluor-feruvite, Fluor-liddicoatite, Fluor-schorl, Foitite, IMA2009-088, Liddicoatite, Luinaite-(OH), Magnesiofoitite, Olenite, Oxy-dravite, Oxy-rossmanite, Oxy-schorl, Povondraite, Rossmanite, Schorl, Unnamed (F-analogue of Elbaite), Unnamed (Mn-dominant tourmaline), Unnamed (Pb-dominant tourmaline), Uvite, and Vanadiumdravite. All tourmalines share a common chemical formula and crystal structure, but differ in what elements plug into the six variable parts of the formula for this complex boron cyclosilicate.

This trigonal gemstone comes in almost every color of the rainbow, and it is not unusual for single crystals to have more than one color from changing conditions during growth. Tourmalines have a hardness of 7 and were originally thought to be zircons. Many tourmalines are dark colored, but the exceptions can be beautiful. Crystals are brittle, pyroelectric, and piezoelectric.

Tourmalines are normally associated with pegmatites, but they are also found in metamorphosed limestones, and in dolomites. Tourmalines are found globally, and most localities are or have been mined for gemstones that can grow up to a couple feet in length. Most commercial production currently comes from Brazil.

We had specimens of all the major varieties. Hand identification is never perfect, but by holding and studying enough specimens you can easily learn to identify the most common 10% of minerals (that make up over 95% of the Earth). The bulging triangular crystal shape of Tourmaline, and the lengthwise striations, makes it easy to identify. By sharing our specimens and a little research we are learning from each other. We had a lot of specimens to examine this month, both polished and in the rough.

Everyone who attended this meeting (that set a new record for attendance, and included multiple clubs) went home with a scoop of 'pocket mud' from the Himalaya Tourmaline Mine in southern California. No guarantee of a tourmaline, but everyone should find some interesting minerals from this complex locality. Sometimes we have surprises.

The next meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011, from 7pm to 9pm, at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. We will be studying the Beryl group (technically it only includes Bazzite, Beryl, Pezzottaite, and Stoppaniite; commonly it also includes Emerald, Aquamarine, Morganite, Heliodor, and Goshenite).

We try to start (and end) on time (though we often finish a little early); please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early. All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. Please look up a few facts about the topic mineral(s), and bring along specimens of the topic mineral(s) to let others look at (the more, the merrier, but please feel free to come even if you can't bring a specimen). We hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other.

## Stories

From the Editor

OK all you world and local travelers. I cannot keep coming up with all kinds of trip reports and other cool stories without your help. I know my trip reports are just fabulous but it is tiring going places and walking up mountains and then hauling stuff home, especially on an airplane!

I need your trip reports and other stories. PLEASE send me your material besides you will get on Kathy's "Good List" if you do and if you don't then you might get placed on her "Naughty List" (I wonder if Kathy keeps lists like that???)

Seriously though, our club has a tremendous amount of information to share. If you need help coming up with a report or story that you think everyone will like then send me a rough draft and we can work on it together. Kathy always tells me to "polish" her items as needed, which by the way is rarely ever.

I have faith in everyone that you could write something we will all enjoy. Well enough rambling I hope you get the point.....

Tradewinds – House of Gems & Minerals

Just a reminder that Tradewinds is selling off their inventory on Saturday(s) for the rest of 2011 from 10 am – 4 pm. Please call 574-215-1765 for information. They are located at 1407 S Nappanee (SR19) Elkhart, IN

## REMEMBERING MARGARET

by Kathy Miller

MWF News – October 2011 – Issue No. 505

My husband, Bob, and I first met the Heineks in 1973. My parents had signed us and our children up as members of the then-named Michiana Rock and Gem Club, later to be changed to the Michiana Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Even then, 38 years ago, Margaret and her husband, Bob, were totally committed to our club. As the years passed, Margaret became more aware and more involved in the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies' activities, taking us along that path, too.

They were great friends with my parents, so whenever a MWF Convention or meeting took place, we and other members of our club made plans to attend them.

Margaret not only served as President of our local club (as did Bob), but went on to serve as the MWF Uniform Rules Chair for a number of years, while Bob served as the MWF Indiana State Director.

Margaret was what one might say a "people person". She never knew a stranger, and always made a point to do hospital visits, shut-in visits, and funeral visitations, all the things of which a good club President is expected, and she did so gladly.

Margaret had many other activities in her life such as the Daughters of the American Revolution, Genealogy, years as a 4-H geology leader and ceramics, but I think her priority (other than her family, of course) was the earth sciences, and a big love of collecting and exhibiting petrified wood.

Margaret continued on as President of our home club for many years while at the same time became President of the Midwest Federation. Needless to say, Margaret then went on to serve as President of the American Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies, with her soul mate of 60+ years right at her side.

Margaret's life was celebrated at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 25, at the New Carlisle Library in New Carlisle, Indiana. Margaret was always very active with her town library.

She leaves behind Bob and son Rob, to continue on their journey without her; but the wonderful memories of good times shared with ALL of us – a true "Rockhound" role model to our hobby. Thank you, Margaret!