

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



September 2024

Volume 64 Number 5

Why did the Geologist name his Wi-Fi
“Yellowstone”....

Because it’s a Hot Spot!

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

We're on the Web! See us at: www.MichianaGMS.org

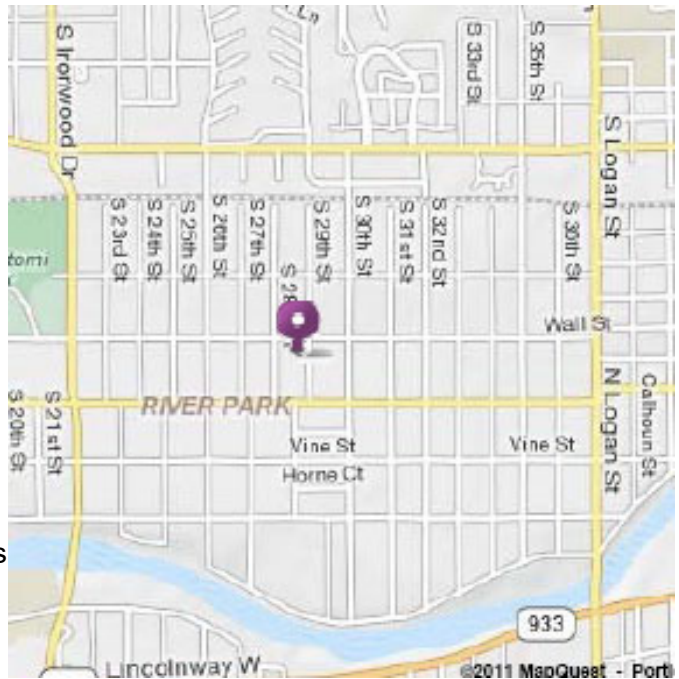
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 choose 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: _____
 Name: _____ Birthday: _____

Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
 c/o Nancy Foreman
 58456 Kimberly Ct.
 South Bend, IN 46619

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.MichianaGMS.org, 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

The *Rockfinder* is usually 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 5th day of the previous month. This means that the due date for the March Issue will be February 5th. Advance items are appreciated. Material may be e-mailed to 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.

REMEMBER – Items in The Rockfinder that are **BLUE & UNDERLINED** are links to the internet or email addresses. Just click on them for more information.



From the President, by Ross Ferguson, President

Hopefully everyone had a successful summer on their rock hunting trips. The hot weather is behind us, I hope. The show is in the rearview mirror, and we can look forward to fall.

We are hoping to fit in a club field trip sometime in October and plans are in place for the Wyoming trip.

At our September 22nd meeting we will be welcoming 11 new members and 2 juniors who signed up at the show. Please introduce yourselves and make them feel welcome.

See you then,
Ross

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: September 22, 2024

Doors open at 1:30 pm
Meeting starts at 2:00pm

Place:
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
29th & Wall
South Bend, IN. (This is in River Park area)

Don't forget to bring a nice rock or 2 to donate to the raffle!

Board of Directors

President: Ross Fergerson
574-850-6208

Vice-President: Stephanie Hughes
574-847-9749

Secretary: Kathy Wallace

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger
574-259-5944

Liaison:

Committee Chairs

Displays: Kathy Miller
574-251-0255

Editor: Jason Hefner
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Educational: Jesse Zeiger
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Facebook: Holly Kraftor, Nancy Foreman,
Jason Hefner

Field Trips: Jason Hefner, Ross
Fergerson

Historian:

Hospitality:

Juniors: Kathy Chidister
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Programs:

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574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Bob Chapa
989-392-2501

Sunshine:

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

July Meeting minutes

By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Meeting Minutes – Date: July 28, 2024

Members in Attendance - Adults 41 Children 5
New Members 0 Guests 0

Call to Order - Ross Fergerson

Pledge of Allegiance - Ross Fergerson

Welcome - Ross Fergerson

Past Presidents -

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Parliamentarian – Ross Fergerson

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell –

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational –

Facebook – Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor – Stephanie Hughes

Field Trips –

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Juniors – Kathy Chidister

Membership – Nancy Foreman

Programs –

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger

Show Chair – Bob Chapa

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AFMS President - Elect Message — JC Moore

AFMS President 2023-2024 excerpted from [Volume 77, Number 7 — October 2024](#)

It is with a heavy heart, I am sorry to report that Liz Burford passed away August 13th. Please keep Roger and the family in your prayers during this time.

Another month has passed, and that means another convention has been attended. Since it was the Midwest Convention we did not have to travel very far to attend - 44 miles. The meetings were well attended, and a quorum was established with only five people attending through Zoom. Bylaws were updated to reflect current technology and practices. The Peoria Academy of Science Geology Section had a great show with many vendors and good attendance. Bruce Steinmetz entered the only Competitive Exhibit and received a score of 97.6. With the many comments about the quality of his exhibit, it is hoped that others will consider entering in the future. In the coming months Donna and I will be attending the Southeast Federation, the Rocky Mountain Federation and the South-Central Federation conventions. One of the best perks of being an officer in the AFMS is attending the seven regional conventions.

Living in Illinois has its limitations as to access to collecting; however, Donna and I were able to collect Keokuk geodes in a stream one Saturday in August

with 14 club members. This stream usually has 3 to 4 inches of water this time of the year, but this year it was knee deep most of the time. When it became waist deep, I decided that it was time to turn around. We were able to collect almost two five-gallon buckets of geodes, and a great time was had by all!

President's Message Sandy Fuller, MWF President

excerpted from [September 2024 - Issue No. 634](#)

By the time you read this, we'll have had our annual meeting and get-together. I'm expecting it will be a great show, with thanks to the Peoria Academy of Science Geology Section for hosting us this year.

It's time to elect our officers for 2025 and our nominating committee. You will notice that we have an uncontested slate for officers. This is because we are asking folks to step up for a multiple-year commitment to provide leadership within our organization. This is not a matter of one year and done.

Have you thought of giving of your time and effort to the Midwest Federation? I heartily recommend it, having now served as your President twice. You can do it . . . if you are willing to give your time and energy.

Our nominating committee is a contested slate. We choose two of the candidates to serve for three years. This is a great way to become more active in the federation.



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



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

July Meeting minutes

continued from page 2

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:

Get well card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry

OLD BUSINESS - Today was our annual picnic and we had a very nice turnout with lots of delicious food brought in! Thanks to all who came and ate with us and brought a dish!

Ross talked about his trip to North Carolina looking for rubies, kyanite, etc. Scholarships are on-going. 25 slots have been filled for the show and only 1 spot left. St. Joe County Security will be in uniform at the show.

NEW BUSINESS - Possible bus trip to North Carolina in October. But as of Friday, August 2, that has been postponed as its “changing of the leaves” and there aren’t any hotel rooms available. We will try to plan a spring trip.

Still working on a trip to Lander, Wyoming next year around June 2 – June 6. Details still forthcoming.

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program - Dennis brought his geode cracker and cracked quite a few for us. Thanks Dennis!

Holly brought her miniature pewter critters and helped the kids glue them in their geodes. Thanks Holly!

Next Meeting - Sunday, September 22