

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



Nov-Dec 2024

Volume 64 Number 6



Have you been naughty or gneiss?

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

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

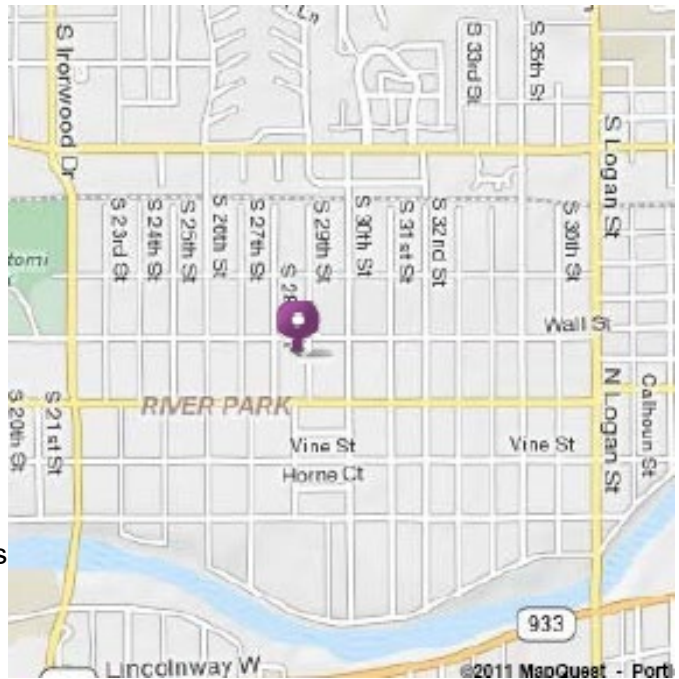
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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

The time has come for the nomination of officers. The election will be held at the short meeting prior to the Christmas Party.

I will not be running for president this year as I announced at the meeting today. I have been in this position for three years and feel it is time to allow someone else the opportunity to take the club forward. Although it is a daunting task, I will still be on the Board of Directors as past president and will do everything I can to assist and provide direction for the next president.

The Christmas Party is December 8th. Doors open at 1230 with a short meeting at 100 followed by the party. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Christmas Party.

Ross

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: December 08, 2024 – Christmas party

Doors open at 12:30 pm
Brief meeting starts at 1:00pm

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

Don't forget to bring your dish to pass.
Can never have too many desserts!

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
574-354-0478

Educational: Jesse Zeiger
574-259-5944

Facebook: Holly Kraftor, Nancy Foreman,
Jason Hefner

Field Trips: Jason Hefner, Ross
Fergerson

Historian:

Hospitality:

Juniors: Kathy Chidister
574-202-3864

Librarian:

Membership: Nancy Foreman
574-233-9178

Programs:

Publicity: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Bob Chapa
989-392-2501

Sunshine:

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

Sept Meeting minutes

By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Meeting Minutes – Date: September 22, 2024

Members in Attendance - Adults 35 Children 0
New Members 5 Guests 0

Call to Order - Ross Fergerson

Pledge of Allegiance - Ross Fergerson

Welcome - Ross Fergerson

Past Presidents - Kathy Miller

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Parliamentarian – Ross Fergerson

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell –

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational – Dennis & Holly has had 474 people with 8 events so far this year

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

Field Trips – Possible spring trip in mid/late April to Franklin, NC. Big gem show in Franklin on May 15 – 18, 2025

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Juniors – Kathy Chidister Four new juniors signed up at the August show. If anyone is interested in doing juniors every couple of months, Kathy would appreciate that.

Membership – Nancy Foreman

Programs –

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner

Show Chair – Stephanie Hughes & Ross Fergerson

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to: Get well card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry

OLD BUSINESS - Lander, Wyoming trip from June 2-6, 2025. Pick up a BLM map of Wyoming and you have to keep your receipts for any purchases! Some of the things we will be picking up/looking for are: fish fossils, blue petrified wood, jade, lysite agate, flame agate and iris agate.

August show – Attendance was 2385 and was down about 25% compared to last year but our net income was up compared to last year. The Kids silent auction sold 466 items and made over \$1,000. Next year's dates are August 15 – 17, 2025.

Continued on Page 4

AFMS President - Elect Message — JC Moore

AFMS President excerpted from [Volume 77, Number 9 — November 2024](#)

Another month another Federation Convention. This one was the Rocky Mountain Convention in Oklahoma City. Collecting barite roses and attending the show with our grandchildren and then going to a quarry to collect flint and jaspers were quite enjoyable. The annual meeting was well attended with a quorum physically in attendance. Again, it was a chance to visit with many people we have become friends with over the years as well as meeting people in the Federation we had not met before.

As we approach Thanksgiving, Christmas and the New Year, I hope that your past year has been as eventful and enjoyable as mine has been as I have traveled around the seven Federations. While we all have our own areas of “expertise,” the fact is that on a rock pile we are all the same “rockhounds.” For our hobby to survive, we must not be afraid of serving in positions within our Club, Regional Federation, and the American Federation. If you are asked to fill a position don’t be afraid to accept it. If you would like to serve, let your officers know how you feel. Encourage your children, grandchildren or the neighborhood children to get involved in collecting rocks.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope to see a large turnout in Hickory, North Carolina for the AFMS Convention.

President’s Message Cheryl Neary, MWF President

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

There is a phrase that I am sure you have either heard or used yourself. “Time flies when you are having fun!” The idiom points out the fact that the best things go by quickly and are over before one knows it.

However, we know that time passes at the same speed no matter what one is doing. As one gets older, doesn’t it seem like time is flying by? It seems that I blinked, and it went from August to November! I ask myself all the time, where did the time go?

Some things that we know about time, from Thought Co. (thoughtco.com/what-is-time-416799):

- Time is the progression of events from the past into the future
- Time moves only in one direction. It’s possible to move forward in time, but not backward
- Scientists believe memory formation is the basis for human perception of time

The phrase “Tempus fugit,” which possibly is the origin of the phrase “Time flies when you are having fun,” is from Virgil’s Georgics, a poem about agricultural and country life published in 29 BCE. In Latin, he wrote, “Fugit irreparable tempus,” meaning “It escapes, irretrievable time.”

What is the point of this article? Find out...follow the link above.



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

September Meeting minutes continued from page 2

It was brought up that we need someone to help ID rocks at the kids kornor and silent auction booths at the show.

NEW BUSINESS - Nancy is not going to be doing the membership as of January 1, 2025 so if anyone is interested in taking it over please let Ross know. You'll need a printer, computer, etc and she also gets the t-shirts, banners and yard signs made. Whoever takes it over, it was said that we need to put our website on the yard signs.

Dennis & Holly aren't going to be in charge of the kids kornor next year, but they said they'd help. We're thinking of dividing kk into 3 sections: plinko & spinning wheel, educational and silent auction. We're thinking of doing copper for next year's KK.

Ross said the polisher/grinder is fixed. Big green is being worked on and the geode cracker that we had doesn't work even though Glenn worked on it.

Ross has talked to several county commissioners re land/building in place of the church for our meetings but only some houses are available right now and they're in bad shape.

Mark Turner has offered his building for a meeting. We may meet there one time to see it and to find out how much he's going to charge us.

October Meeting minutes By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Meeting Minutes – Date: October 27, 2024

Members in Attendance - Adults 23 Children 1
New Members 0 Guests 2

Call to Order - Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance - Ross Ferguson

Welcome - Ross Ferguson

Past Presidents - Kathy Miller

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Parliamentarian – Ross Ferguson

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

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Show & Tell –

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational –

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

Field Trips – No spring trip to Franklin, NC in 2025. Lander, WY is still on.

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Juniors – Kathy Chidister

Membership – Nancy Foreman

Programs –

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger Continued on the next page

October Meeting minutes continued from next page

Show Chair – Stephanie Hughes & Ross Fergerson

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:
Get well card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry

OLD BUSINESS - Spring trip to Franklin, NC in May has been cancelled.

Lander, WY trip is still on for June 2 – 6. We will meet at the Twin Pines campground before leaving each day. Because of lack of rain for the Sweetwater agate we might not be able to dig for them. We can possibly dig for bigger agates at some abandoned claims. Iris Agate is a 1 hour drive to get off the Indian reservation. Reminder to keep your receipts for any vertebrae or fossils you purchase! We still need someone to step up and take over for Nancy (ordering t-shirts, membership, banners and yard signs, etc) as she has been doing this for a long time. You'll need a printer, computer, etc. for the membership.

NEW BUSINESS - Casey helping today with the Juniors class. Dennis brought it up that other clubs do the Juniors class 30 – 45 minutes before the meeting so the kids and teacher can join the meeting. Ross is trying to get the books back from this year's show chair.

Dennis and Holly brought 2 sets of "outreach programs" to the church for anyone who can help. We want to keep/get a tent for the fluorescents at the Club Show since it was such a hit. We need more volunteers to help at the show and we're at a crossroads with no volunteers. We will have nominations for president at the December meeting as Ross doesn't want to do it next year. We need others to step up and help with ALL things.

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program -

Next Meeting - Christmas party with short meeting @ 12:30 et on Sunday, December 8.

Upcoming dates - Meeting on Sunday, January 26, 2025.