

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



Jan 2025

Volume 64 Number 6



New Year...new rocks!

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

Michiana Gem & Mineral Society Membership Application & Annual Renewal Form
find us at: www.MichianaGMS.org follow us on Facebook: MichianaGemandMineralSociety

****Monthly Rockfinder Bulletin and any news or upcoming events are Emailed to *All Members***

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

General meetings are usually held 4th Sunday of each month (see exceptions below) at 2 p.m. with doors opening 1:30 p.m. for meet & greet. Board meetings held before monthly meetings.

Exceptions: May(3rd Sunday), July(Club Picnic-date TBD), August(Club Show), November/December meetings combined at Christmas party(1st Sunday in December-date TBD).
 Calendar with events, meeting dates & times is on our website.

Meetings are in church basement & parking is on street or in lot across from church at 29th & Wall (River Park area)

Location: **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
805 S. 29th St .,
South Bend, IN



*****Club requirements** must be met to be eligible to sign up for Club Bus Trips and Field Trips. (I.E. Volunteering to work at Club Show & attendance at meetings; chair person, education outreach, programs, projects, etc.)

-----Tear on dotted line-----keep top as receipt-----return bottom with check-----

*****Please choose type of Membership below: (Annual membership dues are payable by December 15th)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10 per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$1.00 per year (16 & under with a sponsor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20 per year (2 adults per household & children 4-16) | <input type="checkbox"/> Subscriber \$7.50 per year (newsletter only) |

*****Please indicate special interest areas** (info published in Club Directory in members only area on our website)

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beads | <input type="checkbox"/> Crystals | <input type="checkbox"/> Fossils | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry Making |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabochons | <input type="checkbox"/> Faceting | <input type="checkbox"/> Gems & Minerals | <input type="checkbox"/> Micromounts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carving | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> General Geology | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

*****Please print all information clearly***** (info published in Club Directory in members only area on our Website)

1 st Adult name _____	Additional family names (children & ages) _____
2 nd Adult name _____	_____ Age _____
Address _____	_____ Age _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	_____ Age _____
Phone # (____) _____ - _____ # (____) _____ - _____	_____ Age _____
**Need at least 1 Email for Rockfinder & news!	
**Email (1) _____	_____ Age _____
Email (2) _____	_____ Age _____

*****Club requirements must be met for eligibilty on bus/field trips.*****

*****PLEASE READ & SIGN BELOW*****

With my signature I hereby release the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., and it's 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 my property and further I will respect the equipment and property of the aforesaid owners.

*** Signed _____ Date _____
 *** Signed _____ Date _____

Send signed application/renewal form & check payable to MGMS or Michiana Gem & Mineral Society to:
*******MGMS Membership C/O Nancy Foreman, 58456 Kimberly Ct., South Bend, IN 46619*******

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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:
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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 Editor, Jason Hefner, Editor

What a crazy last month. I don't know about you, but I think we had a great a great Christmas party! Lots of changes in our country, not a White Christmas for some. Really, really cold spell. Meteorite in Indiana! Lots of open positions in the club.

Speaking of which, we have several open spots available for people to step up and help the club. Spots include; President, Liaison, Historian, Hospitality, Programs, Sunshine, and possibly a few more.

If you have any interest, please reach out to the Board!

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: January 26, 2025

Doors open at 1:00 pm for Juniors
Meeting starts at 2:00pm

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

Board of Directors

President: Open

Vice-President: Stephanie Hughes
574-847-9749

Secretary: Kathy Wallace

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger
574-259-5944

Liaison: Open

Past President: Ross Ferguson
574-850-6208

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
Ferguson

Historian: Open

Hospitality: Open

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:

Sunshine: Sarah Lane
574-276-7554

Webmaster: Joe Perry
574-295-9050

Dec Meeting minutes By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Members in Attendance - Adults 46 Children 4

New Members 0 Guests 6

Call to Order - Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance - Ross Ferguson

Welcome - Ross Ferguson

Past Presidents -

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Parliamentarian – Ross Ferguson

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell –

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational –

Facebook – Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor – Stephanie Hughes , Jason Hefner

Field Trips –

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Juniors – Kathy Chidister Kids meeting @ 1:00 pm starting in January so kids can join us at our regular meeting.

Membership – Nancy Foreman

Programs -

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner

Show Chair – Ross Fergersen & Stephanie Hughes splitting the responsibility

Public Relations Jim Brace-Thompson, AFMS Public Relations Chair excerpted from [Volume 77, Number 9 — December 2024](#)

Last month, I talked about the distinction between public relations and publicity, and I provided a couple examples of public relations in action from recent goodwill efforts of the Oklahoma Gem & Mineral Society and the South Orange County Gem & Mineral Society—efforts that drew attention to the societies via actions that benefited their broader communities. What specific steps might your club take toward crafting a plan of public relations?

To expand on where I left off last month, consider first: What is your club's wheelhouse? Most clubs are generalized, with varied member interests: mineral collectors, field trippers, fossil collectors, lapidary artists and jewelry makers, etc. However, some clubs specialize. For instance, within the California Federation, one focuses on opals while at least two focus on fossils and paleontology. Several focus on gold prospecting and metal detecting while one is composed entirely of faceting buffs. One is a Friends of Mineralogy chapter, and another is a juniors-only club. Even clubs that are generalized tend to have a focus. When I joined the Ventura Gem & Mineral Society some 25 years ago, members dabbled in many things, but a large number collected fossils. Today, lapidary enthusiasts dominate. What is your club's focus and strengths? And how might you draw upon your expertise and connections to best benefit your larger community while raising your club's public profile beyond your annual show? Use link to see rest of article.

President's Message Cheryl Neary, MWF President excerpted from [January 2025 - Issue No. 638](#)

Intolerable, tolerable, acceptable, delightful, gorgeous – just some of the adjectives we use to describe how we feel about the weather. The adjective is used to describe how you feel about the weather conditions – and it is subjective.

Some may say it's too cold or too hot – you may say that it isn't cold enough or hot enough. It also depends on what you are planning for the day. If you are planning on skiing, you don't want it too warm to melt the snow. If you are planning on a day at the beach, you don't want it to rain. Weather is the mix of various events that occur each day in our atmosphere. Weather is different in various parts of the world. Weather constantly changes over time and is controlled by changes in air pressure.

Our rock clubs are like the weather! How people see the club is subjective. If you are having a meeting that is hands-on, members who enjoy crafting would say that it is a great meeting, while people who are not interested in creating a project find the meeting uneventful. The same person who loved one hands-on project may find another one not so inviting.

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

December Meeting minutes continued from page 2

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:

Get well card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry

OLD BUSINESS - Scholarships – Two ladies hopefully coming in February to our meeting

Lander, WY still on from June 2 -6 !! Blue Forest, Jade mining, agate flats w/maybe a night hunt, Wind River Iris agate, etc, etc. Meeting at Twin Pines Campground.

NEW BUSINESS - Rock Show August 15, 16 & 17. Maybe stop Sundays @ 4:00 pm so vendors can get packed up earlier/easier.

Kids Korner in August: Kathy & Glenn and Jim & Penni are doing the games. No silent Kids auction this year. We will be doing copper for the educational part. PLEASE don't take the copper that's in the buckets and if you took the big piece, please bring it back!

Elections: Kathy, Stepanie & Lynn are still doing their same jobs for the club. No volunteers for president.

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program - Christmas Surprise !!

Next Meeting - Sunday, January 26 @ 2:00 et

Few pictures from our Christmas party – Thanks Kathy Wallace!

