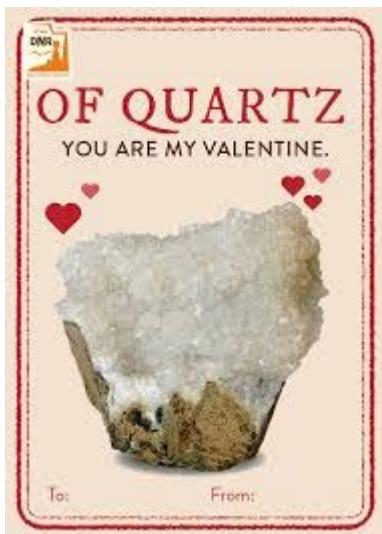


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Jason Hefner, Editor
229 East State St
Etna Green, IN 46524



Feb 2025

Volume 65 Number 2



[Photo credit](#)

**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)

1st Adult name _____

Additional family names (children & ages)

2nd 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 Deb Longworth, 7451 E 900 N., New Carlisle, IN 46552*******

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.



Bylaws Update from Jason Hefner, Editor

We need to update the bylaws regarding our dues. Please attend the February meeting!

Article II, Dues. The annual dues of the society shall be payable annually in advance of the date of the annual meeting according to the following schedule:

Single Membership-----\$15.00 per year

The amount is changing to \$10.00 per year. We will vote to change the Bylaws in February.

ARTICLE VI--AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be altered or amended at any meeting of the society by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that such two-thirds shall be at least 15 affirmative votes. Two weeks' notice of such alteration or amendment must be given in writing via the society's newsletter.

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: Feb 23, 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: Jason Hefner
574-354-0478

Past President: Ross Fergerson
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
Fergerson

Historian: Open

Hospitality: Open

Juniors:

Librarian:

Membership: Deb Longworth
574-250-2825

Programs:

Publicity: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Ross Fergerson
574-850-6208 & Stephanie Hughes
574-847-9749

Sunshine: Sarah Lane
574-276-7554

Webmaster: Joe Perry
574-295-9050

January Meeting minutes

By Kathy Wallace,
Secretary

Members in Attendance - Adults 30 Children 0

New Members 0 Guests 3

Call to Order - Jason Hefner

Pledge of Allegiance - Jason Hefner

Welcome - Jason Hefner

Past Presidents - Kathy M, Jason and Don

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Treasurer - No report from Lyn as he said the bank hasn't sent out the bank statements so he's going to contact them to see what's going on.

Parliamentarian – Jason Hefner

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell – Jason brought in 3 pieces of meteorites (2 landed in Indiana) and that makes 17 meteorites that have landed in Indiana

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational –

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

Field Trips – Jason & Ross are contacting different quarries. One in Rockwood, Michigan and the other in Ohio (All glaze quarry). Jason handed out papers from some quarries that require us to have extra protection gear (flag on vehicle, strobe lights, etc.). More information to come later.

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Juniors – Kathy Chidister

Membership – Deb Longworth

Continued on Page 5

En·dow·ment by Cheryl Neary, Endowment Fund Chair

excerpted from [Volume 77, Number 9 — December 2024](#)

What is an endowment? If you were to view the internet dictionaries or a printed dictionary (yes – they still exist!), the answer would be that an endowment is a donation of money or property to a not for profit organization.

The AFMS Endowment Fund, works the same way as most endowments, which are designed to keep the principal amount intact and use the investment income for continuing support or maintenance of an organization. Each Regional Federation has a representative as appointed by the chair – that would be me! This is different from all the other committees which have representatives.

The representatives for those positions are appointed or voted upon by the Regional Federations, based on their bylaws and operating procedures. The Endowment Fund committee is seeking donations of a value of \$75.00 or greater and no more than five (5) pounds.

I request if you are sending a donation of a specimen that you please notify me via email at ciervo.neary@gmail.com or via my cell phone 516.449.5341 and leave a message.

President's Message Cheryl Neary, MWF President

excerpted from [January 2025 - Issue No. 638](#)

Time to Mark your Calendar!

The 2025 MWF Convention & Lincoln Gem & Mineral Club's 65th Annual Show will be April 5 & 6 at Sandhills Global Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Before we know it, it will be springtime and the 2025 convention. I hope to see many of you at the event. Lincoln is located in the eastern part of Nebraska.

My plan is to attend the AFMS Convention in Hickory, North Carolina the last weekend in March, then drive to Hot Springs to spend a relaxing day at one of the spas! I plan on traveling on I-40 westward to Hot Springs and from Hot Springs I plan on traveling north basically on I-40 to I-49. I believe I will be traveling through Ozark National Forest in Arkansas into Missouri and Kansas, then Nebraska!

If anyone has any suggestions for places to visit, please let me know!

To find out more...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

Field trip info, Jason Hefner, Field Trips

As we discussed at the January meeting, we have a few quarries that have said we can visit later this year. I do not have firm dates yet, but they were very specific on some of their requirements for entry. If you plan on going, make sure you have MSHA training and the following; 1) safety toe boots / shoes, 2) safety glasses, 3) long pants, 4) Hard hat, and 5) ANSI class 2 safety vest. One mentioned a few more items; 1) Leather gloves, 2) Strobe light, 3) Safety flag, and 4) wheel chocks.



[Light link](#)



[Flag Link](#)

[More flags](#)



[Vest Link](#)



[Chock Link](#)

Above are a few links for examples. You DO NOT have to purchase these exact items. They are examples only. I foresee more quarries wanting items like these in the future. A few people may be able to carpool down into the quarry too so not everyone may need one. In March we plan to hold MSHA training for everyone.

Still need some Volunteers Jason Hefner, Editor

We have several open spots available for people to step up and help the club. Spots include President, Historian, Hospitality, Programs, and possibly a few more.

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

January Meeting minutes continued from page 2

Programs – John did a program on crinoids. Fantastic job, John!

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger

Show Chair – Ross Ferguson & Stephanie Hughes

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

Webmaster – Joe Perry - per Joe the 2025 calendar is on the website

OLD BUSINESS - Stephanie & Ross are talking to vendors already for the August show. Stephanie has contacted 22 vendors and she has 2 contracts returned already. Most vendors are at the Tucson show and are waiting to get back home to reply. Ross is going to contact B100 in South Bend and see about them coming on Saturday (show weekend) for a live broadcast to draw more people in.

Wyoming trip June 2-6 is still on!

Our 2 scholarship candidates are possibly going to be at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS - Glenn and Kathy are doing the STEAM show in Culver again on February 22.

Jason said a change in the by-laws has to have a 2-week notice so we will vote on that at the February meeting.

We welcomed Chris and Nancy who have now joined the club!

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program - Fossils by John Jaworski

Next Meeting - Sunday, February 23 Scholarship presentation. MSHA training in March meeting