

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



September 2026

Volume 66 Number 6

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

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

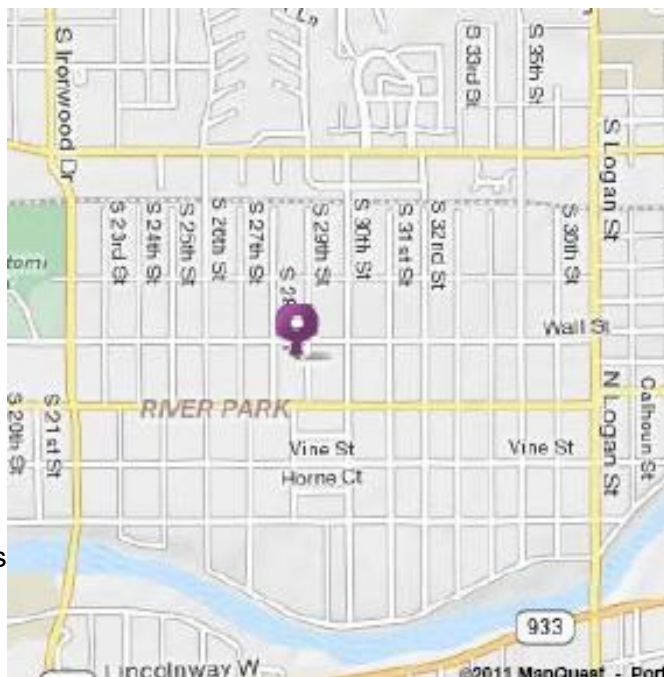
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 \$10.00 ☐ 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 Deb Longworth
7415 East 900 North
New Carlisle, IN 46552

THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 66 Number 6
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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.



President's Message, Jason Hefner, President

Thanks to all those that helped make our show a success. Attendance was up by a handful of people and our income was down a little. That being said all the vendors I spoke with had a great show. The people that came had a great time. There were a few little hiccups, but overall we had a great show thanks to our volunteers!!

Now to plan for next year!

Just a reminder Jen & I are headed to Bancroft Ontario September 28th – Oct 2nd. I will be sending another email shortly, but we will be visiting a lot of places. Titanite Hill, Yates Mine, Princess Sodalite Mine, CN Dump, DarkStar Crystal Mine, Beryl Pit. My email will have all the details so be on the lookout.

Check out the classified at the end of the newsletter. A new section for all our members. This is a buy, sell, trade, give away, requests, information, etc....

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: September 27, 2026

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)

Board of Directors

President: Jason Hefner
574-354-0478

Vice-President: Open

Secretary: Kathy Wallace
219-380-1252

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger
574-259-5944

Liaison: Open

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: Jason Hefner

Field Trips: Jason Hefner, Ross
Fergerson

Historian: Open

Hospitality: Open

Juniors: Kathy Chidister
574-202-3864

Librarian:

Membership: Deb Longworth
574-250-2825

Programs:

Publicity: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Show Chair: Ross Fergerson
574-850-6208 &
Pamela Weishaupt
574-538-9623

Sunshine: Sarah Lane
574-276-7554

Webmaster: Joe Perry
574-295-9050

June Meeting minutes

By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Members in Attendance - Adults 27 Children 0
New Members 0 Guests 2

Call to Order - Jason Hefner

Pledge of Allegiance - Jason Hefner

Welcome - Jason Hefner

Past Presidents – Jason, Kathy

Secretary Report - Read and approved

Treasurers Report – Read and approved

Parliamentarian – Jason Hefner

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell – Matt brought geodes (LARGE ONES) found in Kentucky. Jason was in Ontario, Canada and brought back a silver vein and found 5-6 pieces of it in piles they call “muck piles”. Jason also had pieces of agrellite (it fluoresces) and a piece of cobalt with silver. Megalodon and shark teeth and a vertebrae were found in the Carolina’s and shown.

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational –

Facebook – Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Jason Hefner

Field Trips – Later this year to Auglaize, OH, and Mitchell, IN and possible Ottawa, Canada trip in October this year

Historian –

Hospitality – Eva Jakab

Continued on Page 4

AFMS Newsletter

- The website is down, so enjoy this instead!



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



IS YOUR CHILD TEXTING ABOUT GEOLOGY?

LOL - lots of layers
OMG - oooh, medium-grained
BRB - beautiful rounded basalt
TBH - that beautiful horst
SMH - study metamorphic hornfels
BTW - bring the wolframite
GTG - gee, that's gneiss
GG - gifted geologists
LMAO - luscious magma and obsidian
GTFO - Gosh, that feels organic!

Midwest Federation

- The website is down, so enjoy this instead



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



Juniors – Kathy Chidister

Membership – Deb Longworth – If you haven't done so, please renew your membership. Below is the form to renew your membership if you haven't already done so.

Programs –

Publicity –

Safety – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger

Show Chair – **Pam W, Ross** and Jason - Jason mentioned that the August show has been seen a lot on facebook.

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry

OLD BUSINESS - SIGN UP , SIGN UP, SIGN UP !!!!

In order to go on field trips, members MUST volunteer.

Set up for the August show is Thursday, August 20 @ 9 am est.

Glenn and Kathy used the plinko & wheel games at the Union Mills Lions club 46382 block party on Saturday, June 27 with the kids' winning rocks, necklaces, keychains, etc. They said it was the best part of the party!

NEW BUSINESS – We are going to have an auction of a very nice piece of amethyst that was purchased by Dennis at the July picnic and if anyone has anything they'd like to dispose of bring it with too. BRING CASH!! Proceeds go to the club.

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program - John J gave a talk on fake minerals. He covered rubies, citrine, amethyst, opals, turquoise, etc. He told us how they heat treat or color minerals to make you think you're getting the "real thing". Excellent talk John!!

Next Meeting - Picnic on Sunday, July 26 @ 12:30est to be held at: Sumption Prairie Park at 24535 Roosevelt Rd., South Bend, IN.

Upcoming dates - Thursday, August 20, set up for show. Friday, Saturday & Sunday, August 21, 22 and 23. ROCK SHOW!!

The Classified!

– a new section for our members for all things that rock! Do you have a classified ad you want to run? Send the info to the Editor. Hefner_family@hotmail.com