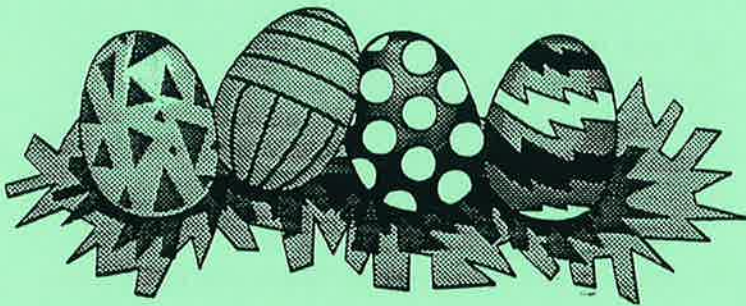


THE ROCKFINDER

Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Tom Noe, Editor
305 Napoleon Blvd.
South Bend, IN 46617



THE ROCKFINDER

MARCH 1999

MICHIANA GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

1999 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Margaret Heinek 654-3673
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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.

General meetings are held the fourth Sunday of each month, 2:00 PM, EST, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 805 S. 29th St., South Bend, IN. Regular exceptions include May (third Sunday), June (field trip), July (no meeting), August (club picnic) and December (Christmas party). Board meetings are held before the general meetings. The annual club show is Labor Day weekend.

HEADS OF COMMITTEES

Programs Ed Miller 498-6513
 Hospitality Pat McLaughlin 259-1501
 Educational Emily Johnson
 Librarian Diane Gram
 Historian Ed Miller 498-6513
 Sunshine Sally Peltz (616) 683-4088
 Publicity Phyllis Luckert 282-1354
 Field Trips Kathy Miller 291-0332
 Membership All Members

The Michiana Gem & Mineral Society, a not-for-profit organization, is affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

The Rockfinder is published monthly except July and August. Staff: Editor, Tom Noe, 305 Napoleon Blvd., South Bend, IN 46617 (ph. 289-2028). Co-editor, Herb Luckert, 221 Marquette Ave., South Bend, IN 46617 (ph. 282-1354). Reporters, Bob Heinek, Herb Luckert, club members.

Permission is hereby granted to reprint any original *Rockfinder* articles, as long as due recognition is given along with the reprint.

Yearly Membership Dues (Payable by January 1)

_____ Individual \$10.00 per year
 _____ Family \$15.00 per year
 _____ Junior \$1.00 per year
 _____ Subscriber \$7.50 per year

(One-half these amounts after July 1)

Please indicate areas of special interest.

General Geology___ Beads___
 Gems & Minerals___ Fossils___
 Cabochons___ Field Trips___
 Faceting___ Crystals___
 Carving___ Micromounts___
 Other_____ Jewelry Making___

Name _____

Street _____

City,ST.,Zip _____

Please send your dues and this form to
 Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
 c/o Margaret Heinek
 7091 E. East Park Lane, New Carlisle, IN 46552

Additional names:

Name _____
 Birthday _____

Name _____
 Birthday _____

Name _____
 Birthday _____

Name _____
 Birthday _____

Date of Wedding Anniversary _____

Phone _____

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 my property, and further I will respect the equipment and property of the aforesaid owners.

Signed _____ Date _____

THE ROCKFINDER

Newsletter of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society

Volume 39, Number 3

March, 1999

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 28, 1999

Doors open at 1:30 p.m.
Meeting starts at 2:00 p.m.

GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Place: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
805 S. 29th St. (29th & Wall)
South Bend, IN

March Program:

Mrs. Debbie Eiswald will describe and demonstrate the art of scrimshaw--a type of carving on the surface of bone, antler and ivory. This is sure to be a very interesting program, so invite your friends.

Hostesses for the March meeting:

Diane Gram
Sally Peltz
Phyllis Smallwood

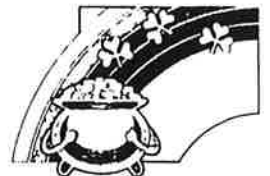
April Birthdays

3 Ed Miller
4 Sally Peltz
16 Jim Russel
21 Jim McHugh

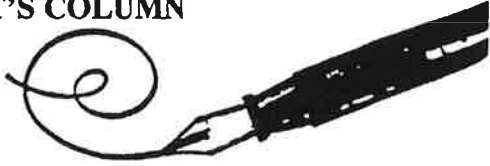


UP AND COMING

- Feb. 26-28--Intergem show, Columbus, OH, Veterans Memorial.
- Mar. 5-7--Greater Cincinnati Show, Sharonville Convention Center, Sharonville, OH.
- Mar. 6-7--Auction of 1,500 lapidary items, Schoolcraft College, Livonia, MI.
- Mar. 12-14--Eastern Indiana show, Richmond, IN.
- Mar. 13-14-- Geodeland Show, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL.
- Mar. 19-21-- Michigan Gem & Mineral Society, 355 Napoleon Rd., Michigan Center, MI.
- Mar. 20-21--Stark County show, Canton Memorial Civic Center, North Canton, OH.
- Apr. 7-10--Indian Mounds show, Eastbrook Mall, Grand Rapids, MI.
- *Apr. 9-11--South Bend Gem & Mineral Show, Century Center in downtown South Bend, IN.*
- Apr. 30-May 2--Kalamazoo Geological & Mineral Society show, Fairgrounds County Center Building, 2900 Lake Street, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Apr. 10-11--Central Ohio Show and Midwest Federation Convention and show. Veterans Memorial, Columbus, OH.
- Apr. 16-18--Wholesale show to gem trade, Troy (Detroit), MI.
- Apr. 16-18--Gem & mineral show, Mt. Clemens, MI.
- June 19-20-- 25th Annual Rockhound Seminar, Southwestern Michigan College, Niles, MI.
- June 25-27--Lawrence County Rock Club 34th annual show, Monroe County Fairgrounds, Bloomington, IN
- Aug. 8-13--Red Metal Retreat, Houghton, MI.



MARGARET'S COLUMN



It was so nice to see so many members at the February meeting. Ed Miller, program chairman, gave an excellent slide program on the club and the members from years back. We had a few laughs and memories of deceased members. Thank you, Ed, for a good program.

Our March program will be an outstanding presentation, given by Mrs. Debbie Eiswald, on the art of scrimshaw. I am sure her presentation will be of great interest to members and anyone that has ever seen this type of carving. Ask your friends and neighbors if you feel they would be interested in knowing how this is done and by whom. I saw Debbie at a meeting and immediately felt this was a program that would be enjoyed by you.

Ed Miller would like to have an auction at a meeting, and will plan on one for April, along with a working session to assemble grab bags for the September show Kiddies Korner.

Speaking of the Kiddies Korner, there is a need of small rock, fossils and any items that will be used for the "egg carton" collection to be given to the youngsters. If you have anything for this, let Michael Slattery know, so he can plan on typing the names of the items to include in the egg cartons. If you have items that are too large and can be either cut or broken into small pieces, let Mike know and he will take care of them.

Don and Yvonne Church followed us home after the February meeting to pick up the 5 club cases that needed to be cleaned and made presentable for the shows. Thank you, Don. I noticed that we might need a couple of items to replace minerals that have either broken up or disintegrated, like a specimen of sulfur. I am sure Don will let us know what must be replaced.

Tom Noe will be in charge of the Silent Auction on April 9, 10 and 11 at the Century Center. If members have anything to sell at this show, let Tom know, or let me know, as we will have a small booth to sell items, jewelry, slabs or minerals. Bob and I have so much that we must get rid of and make room for what we have.

Speaking of items for sale: the club has 3 large cases in the storage that should be sold. They

are just being stored, not used, so we feel they should go. If anyone is interested, let someone in the club know, and we will be glad to sell them. The cases are 4 foot by 18", about 8" at the back, sloping to about 5" at the front.

A suggestion on next year's "club roster" to include the year the members joined the club. I am sure we do not have this information, and must get it from you. I know several of us joined in the "olden days" when it was the *Michiana Rock and Gem Club*. The name was changed when we started getting young people coming in with their guitars, and other musical instruments, and asking where the "rock music" was.

We have two new members to add to your roster; Dr. Jason S. VanLieshort and Jon B. Williams, 129 N. Illinois, South Bend, IN 46619-1842, 219-232-4787. Jason's birthday 30/5 and Jon 10/30. Both men are interested in most aspects of our hobby. Change Addie Niebauer's phone number to 272-1086 and Jessie Zieger's e-mail to Limdulk@msn.com.

The Midwest Federation Convention will be held in Columbus, Ohio the same weekend as the April show here in South Bend, making it impossible for Bob and I to attend. If you plan on being in Ohio that weekend, look in the *Lapidary Journal* for information.

Have a good month, and we will see you at the meeting on March 28th at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church.

* * * *

Some Stuff on Laws of Work

If you can't get your work done in the first 24 hours, work nights.

Don't be irreplaceable, if you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

You can go anywhere you want if you look serious and carry a clipboard.

Important letters that contain no errors will develop errors in the mail.

When you don't know what to do, walk fast and look worried.

If it wasn't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

A pat on the back is only a few centimeters from a kick in the butt.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 28, 1999, MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Margaret Heinek. Present were 27 adults, including two new members, one junior and no guests.

The Hospitality Committee--Lois Krillenberger, Tom Noe and Jessica Zeiger, served cookies and a creme de menthe cake in anticipation of St. Patrick's Day.

Tom Noe made a motion to accept the minutes of the January meeting as printed in the ROCKFINDER, seconded by Sr. Jeanne. All accepted.

The treasurer's report was read by Bob Heinek and will be filed for audit.

The new 1999 club rosters have been printed and were available at the meeting. Note that Pam Rubenstein has a new address, 1819 Georgiana Court, and the e-mail address for Jessie Zeiger should be Limdulk@msn.com. Please make these changes in your roster.

Margaret noted that she had recently paid for the city license to hold the club's Labor Day show, and in general the planning for the show is on track.

OLD BUSINESS: The club field trip on the weekend of September 28 to Oxford, Ohio, is all set. We have a 47-passenger Cardinal bus and all club members are invited to sign up. (See information on page 8.)

Margaret asked if there was anyone available to operate some sort of booth or activity for the kids at the April show at Century Center. Contact her, if you are able to help with this. Mike Slattery is asking for small rocks, minerals and fossils to fill the egg carton collections we will hand out at the Labor Day show. Let him know what you have to donate. Please continue to save your egg cartons and the plastic rings from six-packs.

NEW BUSINESS: Tom Noe made a motion, seconded by Don Church, to renew our membership in American Lands Access Association. The motion passed after a short discussion, and Treasurer Bob Heinek will make the arrangements.

Tom read a letter he had written to Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt regarding the rights of amateurs to continue collecting fossils and minerals. Mr. Babbitt is formulating new rules which may exclude everyone but scientists from collecting. Tom invited members to sign on to the letter, and nearly all the members did so.

Door prizes were given to Margaret Schultz, Fr. Tony Spanley, Yvonne Church and Tim Maust.

Displays were presented by Tom Noe and David Peltz.

Ed Miller's program of slides and memorabilia of past club activities was a big hit with the members and brought back lots of good memories.

Everyone appreciated the new (used) public address system which Margaret purchased at a going-out-of-business sale. It should also be helpful during the shows at the silent auction table.

--Submitted by
Gladys Pacholke, Secretary



To Michiana Gem & Mineral Society Members:

You may recall that last year we wrote twice to Larry Macklin, director of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, requesting information about new collecting rules. After getting no reply, we contacted Senator Joe Zakas, and he got Mr. Macklin to respond with a copy of the new regulations. He also apologized for his delay.

The new rules took effect January 1, 1999, and replace all earlier rules. They apply to all DNR lands in Indiana

With regard to our interests, the section entitled "Preservation of habitat and natural and cultural resources" states: "Except as authorized by a license, a person must not do any of the following within a DNR property: (excerpts) damage or collect a plant other than specified berries and fruits, fallen cones, mushrooms, leaves (if for an academic project), greens, etc. There are special rules for nature preserves. A person must not "Damage, interfere with or remove" a work of art, an artifact, a rock or mineral (or any human artifact); must not rock climb or rappel; must not dig or excavate any material from the ground; must not sell anything taken from DNR lands unless the license authorizes the sale.

A "license" means: a license, permit, agreement, contract, lease, certificate or other form of approval issued by the department, which may authorize an activity otherwise prescribed by these rules.

Most of the various rules apply to camping and fishing procedures, recreational activities, etc. The law in digest form is 17 pages long.

Note: the law doesn't specifically prohibit collecting fossils, but perhaps this is covered under "rock." Also, "digging" is prohibited. Some parts of the rules should be defined more broadly: the rule against damaging a plant would apply to walking on grass, for example; and how could a person take a walk in the woods without damaging a plant?

In any event, it looks like a person needs a permit or license to hunt for fossils, minerals or geodes on DNR land. It remains to be seen how strict the license policy will be, and the rules do not specify license procedures. On the whole, the rules seem to be set up to prevent damage and degradation, not to prevent recreation or enjoyment. It is a strict set of rules in the areas we are interested in. If the licensing policy is equally strict, then all collecting on DNR lands is closed. Perhaps we should request a license or permit to collect geodes, which have always been collectible before--the guards would even tell people where to find them! (The new rules are on the web: www.ai.org/nrc/312iac8.htm.)

--report by Tom Noe

FOR SALE--A lapidary set-up, all you need to get started. Includes an 8" slab/trim saw with motor, a combination unit with an 8" polishing pad, 2 grinding wheels (1-1/2") and two sanding drums (3"), plus a couple of boxes of cutting material, a ring sizer, cab profiler, extra sanding belts, etc. Call Pam Rubenstein at 291-7183. Price is \$150 for all.

A CELEBRATION OF YOUTH

July 17, 1999, marks the third annual Youth Fest---A Celebration of Youth. As you recall, we had a table last year on the Gridiron Plaza.

The Youth Service Bureau has extended an invitation to have a table again this year. They want us to have information and hands-on activities for the youngsters. They have a large tented area, and would like to know if we are interested, so they can plan on their set-up.

I would appreciate knowing if we should plan on being there again, so please let me know if you are willing to help; if you would chair the activities, by planning on helpers; or if no one expresses an interest we will not do it again.

Last year we had books to hand out, thanks to Kathy Miller; we had display rocks, minerals and fossils for the youths to identify, then gave them specimens and the books. The display is ready to go, but if we were to use a wheel, one would have to be made. We have the "circle" but need someone assemble the axle and the stand. Let me know SOON if we should do it again, then the paper can be filled out and sent back.

Margaret

* * *

Beginning Lapidary

Our editor, Tom Noe, made a remark to Margaret that "it is a shame that more of our club members are not interested in lapidary," because much good used equipment is available and can be bought as bargains. While today's more expensive diamond-equipped machines are state-of-the-art, the older silicon carbide works very well.

Get a small trim saw, a grinder sander polisher, some agate or jasper, and you're off to a new, exciting hobby. The trim saw cuts a

slab close to the size of the finished stone. The grinder shapes it, and the sander smooths it. The polisher does a nice job on the final polish. Bringing a dull-looking stone to a beautiful polish will give you much satisfaction. Our library has books that will help educate you, and our experienced members are more than glad to offer advice on how to get started.

If you can only afford the grinder sander polisher, you can purchase blanks or pre-forms to finish, and then purchase the trim saw later. You really should give it a try. You'll like it.

A tumbler-polisher is fun too! Yes, I know it takes a while to tumble a load of agate, but when they are finished, and you have a high polish, you will be so proud of your work.

We get calls almost every week from older people that feel they can not use their hands like they did years ago, and want to sell their equipment. Tom has had several ads in the *Rockfinder* for used equipment, and several members have purchased them, so now, how about doing some cabochons and putting in a display of your work. If you feel you need help, let someone know, and I am sure they will be willing to assist you. AND, how about you older members getting some of your stones cut and polished. Haven't seen any polished stones for a while.

If you are able to do cabochons, how about making jewelry; necklaces, bolas, rings (that will require either blanks or form something in silver) or try your hand at carving! Many of our members have faceting machines, don't see too many doing that, come on and do something

Bob

* * *

Another reminder: We need small pieces of rock, minerals and fossils for the Kiddies Korner, for the "egg carton" collection and also for the grab bags. We will need the plastic rings from the pop cans, to be used on the grab bags.

Members of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society extend their heartfelt condolences to Bob and Margaret Heinek and to Rob Heinek on the death of their son and brother, Don, who passed away in Atlanta on March 8. Don battled for several years against cancer, through many ups and downs. He is survived by his wife Anna and two daughters.

1999

South Bend Gem Show and Sale

Friday April 9-2pm to 7pm
Saturday April 10-10am to 6pm
Sunday April 11-10am to 4pm

Century Center

120 S St Joseph St South Bend, Indiana

Quality Dealers

*Jewelry-Fossils-Beads-Gemstones
 Crystals-Minerals-Decorator Decor
 Repairs—Stone Setting
 Collector Specimens-And More!*

Adults—\$2.50 daily
6 to 16—\$1 daily
Under 6—Free


Accessible

IN THE TOP 10.....

The top 10 entries in the annual Midwest Federation bulletin contest have been announced, and ROCKFINDER entries have done well. Individual rankings will be announced later, but currently among the tops in their category are Bob and Margaret Heinek's article "The Romance of Crystal O'Quartz and Cab O'Shawn" (Original article), Tom Noe's "Wyoming Cycad" (poem) and the ROCKFINDER (small bulletin). This year the ROCKFINDER is sure to win the Always a Bridesmaid, Never a Bride Award. Stay tuned.

Columbus OH

Midwest Federation Show / Central Ohio Mineral, Fossil, Gem & Jewelry Show / Friends of Mineralogy Symposium

April 10 - 11, 1999

Theme: Heaven's Stones & Dinosaur bones: Meteorites & Mass Extinction

Adults: \$4, youth (6-16) \$1, under 6 and scouts in uniform-free.

To register for the Symposium(separate charge), phone Dr. Earl Carlson, 330-672-2680 or email ecarlson@gelology.kent.edu.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE SHOW

- Lectures: "Rocks from Space," "The Extinction of the Dinosaurs."
- 38 dealers
- Demonstrations of metalsmithing, gemstone polishing and faceting
- Exhibits from museums, private collections and educational institutions
- Silent auction
- Swap area
- Children's area
- Free identification of fossils, minerals, etc.

ALAA SUCCESS

A few months back, our American Lands Access Association began to warn collectors in Maine that the Deer Hill site was about to be closed, perhaps permanently. This site has been the source of amethyst crystals for many years. Collectors in the Northeast sent in so many letters to the Forest Service that they have now promised to reopen the site as quickly as possible.

Federal policies on public lands usually don't affect the folks back east, because most public land, which includes one-fourth of the total land area of the continental U.S., including Alaska, is in the West. It's nice to see that more collectors are now aware that the recent federal attempts to stop fossil and mineral collecting will affect everyone, not just those who travel out West.

NEW POLICY ON FOSSIL COLLECTING

The Secretary of the Interior is preparing a report on the need for a standard federal policy on collecting fossils on public land. He has been instructed to create standards "that would maximize the availability of fossils for scientific study."

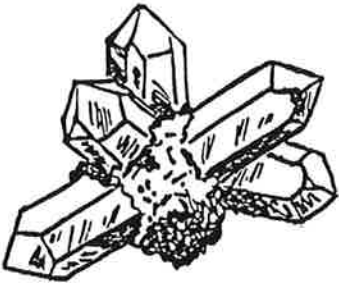
This sounds like an invitation to restrict fossil collecting to scientists. It makes no reference to fossil collecting for educational or recreational purposes.

There are vast numbers of fossils of all kinds on public lands. The federal agencies have been closing sites and restricting access for years, but on a site-by-site basis. This new standardized policy could affect all public lands.

You are invited to express your views to the Secretary of the Interior. You might want to make several points about the usefulness of amateur fossil collecting:

- most fossils are found by amateurs (including most of the T. rex fossils).
- all fossils are destroyed by erosion if they are not collected, and there are very few scientists available.
- public lands should be accessible to all.
- nearly all scientific bodies recommend open collecting of fossils by all interested parties.
- amateurs have contributed time, expertise and discoveries to the scientific study of fossils.

Send your letters to Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240



VOLCANO YIELDS GOLD

Volcanoes ordinarily produce molten material called magma, and a nasty concoction of hydrogen sulfide, sulfur dioxide, hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid, and other deadly gases. At Galeras, an active volcano in Colombia, gold is being produced. When it's erupting, Galeras also exhales through its vents a pound of gold into the air each day. Furthermore, the volcano formed a vein of quartz containing gold. The high-grade vein yields about eight ounces of gold per ton. Although gold has been found in other volcanoes, Galeras yields about 100 times more gold than any other active volcano.

The gold-bearing vein at the base of the 14,000-foot volcano was discovered when a guide showed it to a scientist. A sample of the vein was dated and found to be about 560,000 years old. This suggests Galeras has been expelling gold while erupting since its beginning. Most of the gold is in solution in the volcano's gases and cannot be collected.

Galeras is active - in 1933 the volcano killed nine people, six of them earth scientists, during a deadly eruption. Access to the volcano has been restricted, but geologists continue to study Galeras because they have the opportunity to see an actual model of gold ores being emplaced in the rocks.

(by Steve Veatch in *Pick 'n' Pack* 7/98)



ON THE ROAD AGAIN!

The Michiana Gem & Mineral Society has a Cardinal coach chartered for **September 24, 1999, through September 26, 1999.**

Our destination is once again Oxford, Ohio, and nearby areas. The field trip will be for **Ohio fossilized marine animals and Indiana Ordovician fossils.**

I have reserved a block of rooms at the Oxford Inn at a very reasonable rate, including a continental breakfast. This includes tax. As follows, per night; we will be staying two nights.

Room - 2 D.B. - \$57.98

Room - 1 King - \$50.17

I must stress that you reserve ASAP, as rooms are limited. Also, once you make this commitment, stick to it! If you would cancel even 3 or 4 wks. before and a replacement cannot be found, everyone else going may have to pay full price instead of a block rate.

Many thanks to Bonnie and Matthew Brueske for all the work they have done and are doing. Matthew has agreed to lead us to our collecting sites. Some may be the same as the last time we went and some may be new. Never fear, the collecting is great and you will not go home empty-handed. The specimens are all of good quality.

Bonnie Brueske has arranged a Saturday night dinner (buffet style) at the Miami University

Union with a room all our own. The menu is outstanding!

3 Entrees/2 Salads/4 Side dishes/2 Breads/2 Dessert
Coffee/Ice Tea (Beer and Wine are cash.)

The price for the buffet is \$12.95.

Sunday we will visit before collecting the Miami University Geology Museum. You won't want to miss this; it's outstanding.

We ask that when you make your reservation for both the motel and buffet, please make two separate checks to the Michiana Gem and Mineral Society. One for your room and one for the buffet. IF you are sharing a room with a friend, please send only ONE check; help our Treasurer!

IF the weather (we don't even want to think about it) is really bad that weekend we do have an alternate which is super too.

This is really a fantastic collecting place we are going to, the area is beautiful, and we couldn't ask for better fellowship.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Kathy & Bonnie

Send reservations and checks to
Kathy Miller
1106 Clayton Drive
South Bend, IN 46614



FIELD TRIP