

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



November 2013 Volume 53 Number 9

THE ROCKFINDER



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

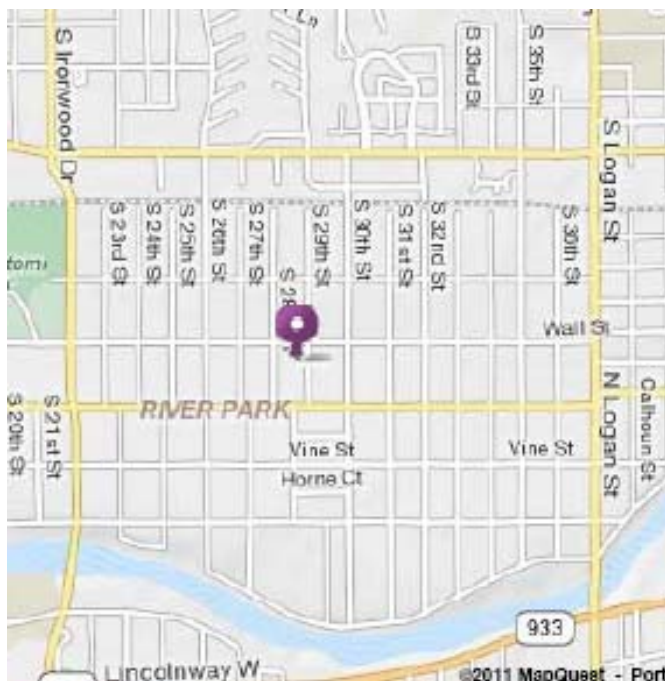
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 chose 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 Marty Perry
 29154 Frailey Dr
 Elkhart, IN 46514

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.sauktown.com/Michiana), 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 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.



Kathy's Column - President Kathy Miller

Between the field tip and our meeting it was a great weekend for the Millers on October 25-27. Now we are looking forward to a field trip to the LaFarge Quarry, November 23, for fossils. We are keeping our fingers crossed for good collecting weather.

It was so satisfying to see the good attendance at the October meeting. You can't beat a good crowd, super program and lots of tasty refreshments. Thanks to all who brought in snacks and to those who brought in so many interesting specimens for the display table.

Each month we acquire new members "we're growing!" With 2014 just around the corner we have a lot to look forward too. I hope everyone will be able to attend the various functions we will have throughout the year. There will be something to offer for all ages! But –to be involved, your dues must be paid.

Continued on Page 2

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: December 8, 2013

Visitors are always welcome.

Doors open at 12:30 and the Potluck meal starts at 1:00.

Place:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
805 S 29th Street
(29th & Wall)
South Bend, IN.
This is in River Park.

Refreshments:

Don't forget to bring what you signed up to bring

Program:

Kris Kringle

Bad News....the November 23rd field trip has been cancelled. Maybe in 2014.

Board of Directors

President: Kathy Miller
574-291-0332

Vice-President: Randy Hill
269-465-5814

Secretary Michelle Winters
574-267-6127

Treasurer: Marty Perry
574-295-9050

Liaison: Bob Bell
574-233-7352

Past President: Diane Gram
574-272-6885

Committee Chairs

Displays: Mike Skoczylas
574-251-0255

Editor: Jason Hefner
574-858-9837

Educational: Jesse Zeiger
574-259-5944

Facebook: Raven Bowen
269-279-1827

Field Trips: John Davis
574-232-8823

Historian: Ed Miller
574-498-6513

Hospitality:
Linda Miller 574-291-5027
Marsha Miller 574-498-6513

Juniors: Trista McIntosh
574-780-1162

Librarian: Pat Bell
574-233-7352

Membership: Joan Hill
269-465-5814

Programs: Rev Larry Calhoun
574-631-1887

Publicity: Nick Pellus
574-264-4772

Safety: Julie Wieger 574-291-2597
Jennifer Hefner 574-858-9837

Show Chair: Marie Crull
574-272-7209

Sunshine: Annette Freel 574-293-8193,
Sherrie Kobie 574-522-0189

Webmaster: Jim Daly
219-778-2196

Kathy's Column..... continued from Page 1

Yes, our (mine too) **dues are due**. Please send your check to our Treasurer, Marty Perry before the end of this year. **As a kindness, so that Marty can enjoy the Christmas party with the rest of us, mail your dues to her rather than approaching her at the party.**

In this newsletter I will have articles on our Christmas Party, Science Alive, and the 3 day bus trip next September. These are only a few things we will be participating in!

In closing Bob and I would like to wish all of you a most blessed and Happy Thanksgiving.

ROCK ON by Kathy

COMING TOGETHER- by Kathy Miller

Christmas Party – December 8, 2013 ...*Please note date change from December 1.

Visitors are always welcome, doors open at 12:30 p.m. for snacks, and the potluck meal starts at 1:00 p.m. (Don't forget to bring your own table service.)

If you are coming and haven't already signed up please call me at 574-291-0332, or Linda Miller 574-291-5027, Marsha Miller 574-498-6513. It is most important if you are bringing anyone 17 and under. We have a special visitor coming to greet these young people and we don't want anyone to be disappointed.

Our program after the meal is a short presentation of the incoming slate of officers, followed by some fun entertainment and our special guest. A good feeling way to begin the holiday season with our "forever family" of rockhounds.

Kathy

Dues are due!

Mail them to Marty.

October Meeting Minutes

by Jan Pellus, Secretary, Pro-tem

Meeting Minutes Date OCT 27, 2013

Members in attendance Adults: 41

Children: 14

Guests: 2

Call to Order

Pledge

Welcome

Secretary report – Jan Pellus pro tem – minutes from previous meeting accepted.

Treasurer's report – Marty Perry - accepted

Liaison report – Bob Bell- Upcoming shows in Cleveland, OH; Midland, MI; Certivet, and Madison, WI. For details, contact Bob.

Parliamentarian – Bob Miller- Bob and Kathy attended the Midwest Federation meeting in Fort Wayne. Jason Hefner won 5th place in the American Federation Editor's contest for The Rockfinder.

Committee Reports

Displays: Mike Skoczylas – Mike introduced displays from Bob Miller, Don Church, John Davis, Jessie Zeiger, and Father Larry Calhoun.

Editor: Jason Hefner –no report

Educational: Jesse Zeiger – Jessie added some pieces she collected at Kentland to the school display.

Field Trips: John Davis – There will be a trip to the LaFarge quarry on Nov. 23, 2013. If interested, contact John.

Historian: Ed Miller – A new cavern has opened at Corydon in Gatesville, IN. Photos of cavern are on display table.

Hospitality: -Refreshments were provided by Linda Miller, Kathy Miller, Annette Freel, Marsha Miller, Celia Harrington, Jason Hefner, and Sherry Kobie.

Juniors: Trista McIntosh – The junior members are painting pictures on rocks.

Librarian: Pat Bell – Two books were added to the library in memory of deceased members.

Membership: Joan Hill – no report

Continued next page

October Meeting Minutes Continued from previous page

Programs: Rev. Larry Calhoun – Our program is presented by Jeremy Fien on banded iron and copper in upper Michigan.

Publicity: Nick Pellus – no report

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger- no report

Show Chair: Marie Crull – Show was a success. Thank you to all who helped to make it possible.

Sunshine: -Get well cards were sent to Marie Crull, Ken Samulski and Diane Gram.
Sympathy cards were sent to Marie Crull for her brother, and Joe Perry for his mother.

Webmaster: Joe Perry - New website is working well. Soon we will have a web site for members only.

Old Business - The members were asked for any volunteers for officers. There were none.

The slate was accepted as follows:

Kathy Miller, president
Randy Hill, vice president
Marty Perry, treasurer
Jan Pellus, secretary

There are a few club t-shirts available. See Marty. Please pay for shirts that were ordered, if you have not already.

Next year's picnic will be on August 3rd at The Bertrand Community Center.

The date for the Christmas will be December 8th, 2013, a sign-up sheet is available.

New Business: The club is planning a three day bus trip to the Keokuk Geode Fest in September 26, 27 and 28, 2014. Please contact Kathy Miller.

We will once again be participating in Science Alive. We need members to help at our booth. It will be held February 1, 2014.

Program

Adjournment

Club Show Signs — John Davis

Would everyone please return any Club show curb signs you might still have at home. Please bring them to the X-mas party and give to John Davis

We Have Enough “Quiet Recreation” Areas Already

By Amy Granat, Board Member, ALAA

“Quiet Recreation.” Upon first hearing this term, one could imagine a pastoral setting, with birds chirping and the sound of wind rustling through the trees. But “Quiet Recreation” has quite a different meaning when it comes to land-use planning by federal agencies. Ten years ago, this term did not exist. There was an understanding among land managers that public land should be dedicated to a myriad of uses, and some of those uses involved machinery--whether a chainsaw, a 4WD vehicle or a dirt bike. It was understood that public land was working land. After all, mining and timber harvesting were part of the reason public land was codified, to make sure the benefits from public land would be available to all Americans.

But “Quiet Recreation” has recently become common terminology among land-use managers because anti-access groups have introduced it. It has become a reason to limit or deny recreational access to anyone using a motor.

The vast majority of people who use public lands engage in motorized activities like driving, mining, hunting with game carts and mountain bike riding. Because of new wilderness restrictions, we, the public, find ourselves sharing a smaller and smaller percentage of public land. Now we are the target of further assaults by calls for more “Quiet Recreation.” I think we already have enough areas set aside for “Quiet Recreation.” For example, there are now 14.1 million acres of respite and silence built into wilderness areas spread throughout the State of California. These are areas where no motors can be used. Do we really need more?

Excerpted from the April-May-June, 2013, *ALAA Newsletter*

(Original article published in *CORVA Newsletter*, May, 2013)



Caveman’s Turkey?

This fossil and artist recreation is from MIT. [Click here](#) to be taken to the article entitled UPDATED* Bird origin just got simpler. No, complicated! Both? Angles in all directions on China's latest fossils.

Knight Science Journalism at MIT
Tracker
June 14, 2013

Science Alive by Kathy Miller

As many of you already know our club agreed to participate in the South Bend Library's annual Science Alive program on Saturday, February 1, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Some of our members have volunteered to attend that day meeting and greet 2,000 plus visitors who will be coming through and letting them know who we are and what our hobby is all about. We will give out 500 MGM souvenir bags loaded with goodies, plus other extras too.

Here is where we need your help! If any of you have extra, spare or too many fossils, minerals, small specimens on hand that you really don't need and you think a schoolchild would like or find interesting, would/could you please donate them to this good cause.

We would put it/them in small plastic bags with a label to hand out. It's another way to educate folks on our club and the earth sciences. IF YOU DO, please bring your donation to the Christmas party. It will take the month of January for preparation, and bagging the 500 bags at the end of January. Many thanks to any who can contribute!

GEODE FEST 2014

3 Day Bus Trip - Keokuk, IA / Hamilton, IL By Kathy Miller

Sign up at the Christmas Party, December 8!

Transportation is via a 56 passenger Cardinal Motor Coach provided by the club September 26 through September 28, 2014. We will be going back and forth over the Mississippi River in pursuit of the famous beautiful Keokuk geodes found in the area. We are very pleased to hear 2 more collecting sites have been opened as of this past September. This is the 10th year for the Geode fest and after talking the coordinator he said they are planning a lot of activities for 2014.

He did remember us from the last time we were there. People come from all over the USA for this event. We will be collecting at 2 places on Saturday the 27th and 1 place the morning of the 28th before starting home.

The following is a brief itinerary for those going on this weekend field trip. It is rain or shine.

I will have a more detailed one at a later date, regarding what to bring, etc.

Friday, September 26th we meet at the Meijer's Store located at S.R. 331 S. (Union St.), Mishawaka, IN 46544. We board at 3:45 p.m. and leave promptly at 4 p.m. There will be one quick stop on the way to Keokuk where our motel is located, arrival time between 9 and 10:00 p.m.

Saturday we board the bus at 6:45 a.m. (Remember the time change), to report to the Chaney Creek Access area across the River to register in at 7:00 a.m. At 8:00 a.m. we are on our way for a full day of collecting. Late afternoon we return to our motel to rest up or go swimming in the motel's heated pool, then cleanup for dinner.

Reservations have been made for a private dining room at the Hawkeye Restaurant (where we have been before) for 7:00 p.m. It is only 2 blocks from our motel, so some of you may even wish to walk it.

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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News From my Desk to Yours

by Richard Jaeger, AFMS President excerpted from [AFMS Newsletter November 2013 Volume 67 No.1](#)

Darlene Gunsolus, Karen Boger, and all the members of the Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Society are to be congratulated on the job they did hosting the AFMS/SFMS Show in September. The meetings, banquets, and the show itself were well done and enjoyable. The thing that stood out the most to me was the hospitality that was extended to those of us attending from around the country.

I am excited about the coming year for the AFMS and very pleased to be working with an outstanding group of officers and committee chairs. I have communicated with each of them and respect their ability and their dedication to the betterment of our hobby. The same goes for the officers who will serving our regional federations. As rockhounds, we come from all parts of the country and many different backgrounds, but we have a love for our hobby, a respect for one another, and a desire to improve our clubs and strengthen our federations.

Use the hyperlink above to read the rest of this month's AFMS President's message as well as other interesting articles

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies News Presidents Message

by Tony Kapta excerpted from [MWF News November 2013, Issue No 526](#)

Hello, Tony Kapta here. If you read my bio in last month's newsletter, you have an idea of who I am. This year (2014), I will be serving as MWF President. Anyone can contact me at cigmc@comcast.net for any reason. If you have an e-mail version of your club's newsletter, please put me on your e-mail distribution list. Clubs who do not have an electronic version, and if you can afford it, mail your newsletter to me. My address is 1483 E. Wood St., Decatur, IL 62521. I want to know what is going on with the member clubs of the MWF.

The only reason that the MWF and, in turn, the AFMS, are in existence, is to serve the clubs that are members of these organizations. This is what we are striving to do at our meetings, conventions, and all year. It is up to you, the people who are interested in our hobby, to contact us for help and also to volunteer to serve on the many committees we have set up in the MWF. If you do not know what these are, someone in your club has a copy of the MWF Directory which has a wealth of information about the MWF and other things of interest to our hobby.

Use the hyperlink above to read the rest of this month's MWF President's message as well as other interesting articles

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

Upcoming Events

NOVEMBER

23-24: MADISON, WI. Madison Gem & Mineral Club's Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show; Alliant Energy Center, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way; Sat. 9:30-5, Sun. 10-5; Contact: Nevin Frank, 608.251.2601, burniesrockshop@gmail.com, www.madisonrockclub.org.

FEBRUARY

21-23—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: Retail show; Indiana State Museum; Indiana State Museum; 650 W. Washington St.; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4; adults \$10, seniors \$9, children \$5.50; dealers, adult and kids' activities; contact Peggy Fisherkeller, 650 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-7172; e-mail: pfisherkeller@indianamuseum.org; Web site: www.indianamuseum.org

MARCH

7-9—RICHMOND, INDIANA: Annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society; Wayne County Fairgrounds; 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-4; adults \$5, seniors \$3, students \$1, children (under 7) free; dinosaur exhibit, gold panning, displays, silent auction, jewelry, minerals, crystals; contact Dave Straw, Richmond, IN 47374, (765) 966-4249; e-mail: char@etz.zone

14-16—JACKSON, MICHIGAN: Annual show; Michigan Gem & Mineral Society; Jackson County Fairgrounds, American One Event Center; 200 W. Ganson; Fri. 11-7, Sat. 10-7, Sun. 11-5; adults \$4, seniors \$2, students \$1, children (under 5) free; youth activities, more than 20 dealers and demonstrators, gems, minerals, fossils, beads, jewelry, lapidary supplies, exhibits, displays, silent auctions, door prizes, raffle; contact Sally Hoskin, 10990 Phal Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240, (517) 522-3396; e-mail: saltoosal2@yahoo.com; Web site: www.mgmsrockclub.com

GEODE FEST 2014

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Sunday we board the bus at 8:00 a.m and we're off to collecting at 9:00 a.m. After a good morning of hunting we head back home. Arrival time is approximately 6:00 p.m.

Cost to you: I checked out motels in the area. One is already booked for this weekend, another raised their price and I felt it was just too expensive. The Super 8 had a Bed Bug problem a few years ago –UGE! NO THANKS.. I spoke with the folks at the Hampton Inn and also checked out their web site. So I reserved a block of 20 rooms, the motel is only 7 years old. The rooms look good, they have a hot and cold breakfast with a nice variety of food, an indoor heated pool for any who wish to go swimming. All sounds good to me.

Anyone going must call the Hampton Inn, tell them you wish to reserve a room under the block with our name Michiana Gem and Mineral Society. Their number is 1-319-524-6700. Please do this before the end of February, sooner is better than later! The cost which includes tax is \$199.36 for 2 nights. Other places were much more.

The Hawkeye Restaurant – with private dining offers us a buffet dinner consisting of 2 entrees; cat fish and fried chicken, comes with a full salad bar, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, green beans, dinner rolls, dessert, coffee, water, tea. The price is \$12.95 adult, 12 and under \$6.75 and 3 under, free. Each person or family is responsible for paying their own meal. The food is great, our club has enjoyed their food before.

The Geode Fest registration fee is \$20 (single person) or \$30 (family fee) for hunting both days. Some of the sites are on private property not normally open to the general public for geode hunting. An additional fee of \$20 / 5 gallon bucket will be collected at each site. YOU have to provide the buckets. BE PICKY, YOUR LOOKING FOR LIGHT WEIGHT GEODES THAT ARE HOLLOW INSIDE!

I am going to print up and make copies of the Registration forms for members going, to fill out. All of us who have gone there have never been disappointed but came home with "Good Stuff" bear in mind, you have more than 9 months to save for this, get cracking!

Kathy