

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



November/December 2018

Volume 58 Number 8

THE ROCKFINDER

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

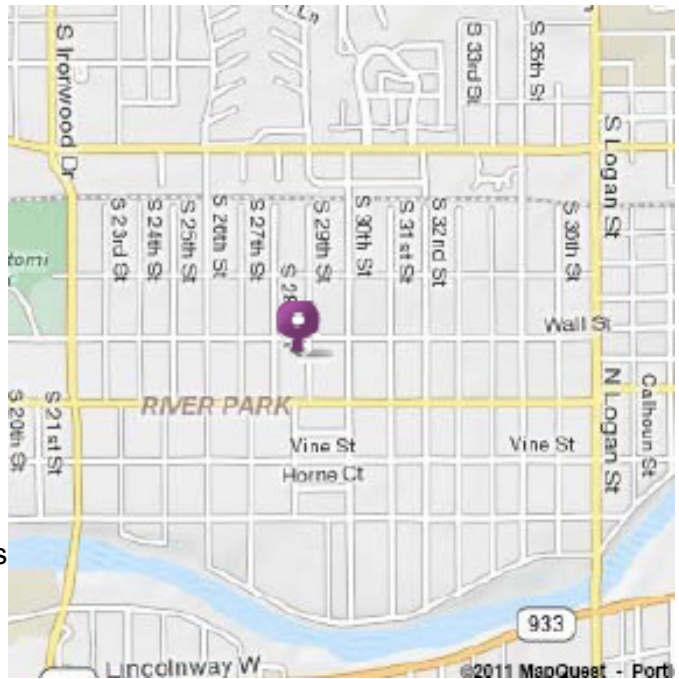
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 \$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 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/mwff/> 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.



Ben Clement Mineral museum by Jason Hefner, member – continuing the field trip report from last month
We started the 2nd day of our fluorescent field trip at the Ben Clement Mineral museum in Marion Kentucky. All I can say is this is a must see for any rockhound! The museum's website can be found at: <http://www.clementmineralmuseum.org/index.shtml>. Please check it out and plan a trip.

The Midwest Chapter of the [Fluorescent Mineral Society](#) had their annual meeting on Saturday morning. We had a chance to meet and talk with other collectors. A brief display, swap, & sell session was held and after a quick lunch we headed out to collect.

We jumped in our cars and followed the leader to the Parkinson mine. All that is left is a large concrete block in a wooded area. We had to dig and or move leaves to find the tailings. There was a large area of cores found and people spent a lot of time collecting cores from old mine. After dealing with the mosquitoes and poison ivy we headed to our next spot.

We had to cross a river via a ferry to make it to our next spot. The ferry took two trips to get us across the river and then we were off to Gary Griffith's house.

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Up & Coming

Next Meeting: December 2, 2018.

Doors open at 12:30. Party starts at 1:00.

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

Program:
Christmas party

Host & Hostesses:
Everyone!

Board of Directors

President: Bill Foreman
574-233-9178
Vice-President: Randy Hill
269-465-5814
Secretary Rachel Sutton
269-221-8366
Treasurer: Linda Cioch
219-363-5809
Liaison: Bob Bell
574-233-7352

Committee Chairs

Displays: Mike Skoczylas
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Editor: Jason Hefner
574-858-9837
Educational: Jesse Zeiger
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Facebook: Danielle Wilborn
574-344-3385
Field Trips:
Historian: Jim Daly

Hospitality:
Linda Miller 574-291-5027
Juniors:
Librarian:

Membership: Nancy Foreman
574-233-9178
Programs: Kathy Miller (Interim)
574-291-0332
Publicity: Josh Klosinski

Safety: Julie Wieger 574-291-2597
Jennifer Hefner 574-858-9837
Show Chair: Josh Klosinski
Sunshine: Annette Freel 574-293-8193,
Sherry Kobie 574-522-0189
Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

Trip from page 1

Parkinson Mine pictures – collected and photos by Ben Chorn, member FMS. Mine picture from Goggle Earth.



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American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News

A Word from the President

by Doug True, President
excerpted from [AFMS Newsletter Volume 72, Number 1 - November 2018](#)
I have been a resident of Billings Montana for 47 years having lived in southern California as a child through age 21 and then six years as a medic in the Air Force during the Viet Nam Conflict. After that we moved to Montana, what a great place for a young rock hound to live. I have always liked collecting rocks and minerals. I love to hunt Montana agate on the Yellowstone River, Bear Canyon agate from the Pryor Mountains.

I Joined a local Gem club in the 1970's and that was the beginning of 50 years of promoting this great hobby. Over those years I have been president of the Billings Gem and Mineral Club for 5 years, President of the Montana Council for 2 years, President of the NFMS 2000-2001, President of the Old Timers Club, ALAA President for 2 years, President of Prinville Rock Hound Pow Wow in Oregon for 5 years. Along with this my wife Jeanette and I have been dealers, selling Gems, Minerals, Jewelry and Fossils on and off almost fifty years. I was Show chairman for a NFMS show in Billings 1998 and AFMS Show in Billings 2009 and Club dealer chairman for many years. We also have a shop in Quartzsite, Arizona that we opened 15 years ago. I am fieldtrip chair for NFMS and have organized several multi federation trips over the years and trained at Wildacres as an AFMS Judge. You can see that I am a supporter of clubs, federations and dealers. Promoting the hobby is our love and always will be.

Presidents Message

Kevin Ponzio, MWF President [MWF News October 2018 - Issue No. 575](#)

Hello, everyone! I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your president! I will try to fulfill my duties to the best of my abilities. Please contact me or the rest of the board with not only concerns but ideas that you may feel will improve the MWF experience for everyone.

A special Thank You to the Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society for sponsoring the MWF convention in October. They met us with a warm reception, fun treats and lots to experience in the Springfield, Illinois area. The show had wonderful vendors and great displays. Of course, a number of great bargains were on the silent auction tables. The banquet was a lot of fun too. Stacks of awards went to the members. MWF bolo ties were available. The burning question that all of you are asking, how can I get a MWF Bolo Tie? Check your MWF directory and contact Director of Supplies Andrea Morehead at andy.lucky13@gmail.com

There is one question that I have asked and others have asked me. What does the MWF do for me? You're probably thinking, uh-oh, here it comes. Are you expecting the normal insurance-and-scholarships response? Or perhaps, the networking capabilities reply? Excellent! I'm glad you still have the newsletter in your hand or on your screen. Yes, to those responses, and so much more.



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

Trip continued from page 2



Getting ready for a ferry ride and then on to Gary's house. Gary has lived and worked in the fluorspar district all his life. He has an active mine and makes his living extracting fluorite ores for industrial uses. He realized long ago the value of mineralized ore (pretty crystals) and so when he strikes a pocket he will put the crystals aside to sell to collector. He learned how to make fluorite octohedrens and makes and sell them. We visited his small farm and he had numeruos specimens for sale from a few dollars to a few hunderd dollars. He had hundreds of octohedrens for sale as well

and the highlight was watching him make a few octohedrens from massive fluorite pieces.



Continued next page

Trip continued from page 4

Later that day we headed to Minerva Mine to finish up our trip with another night hunt for “glow rocks”. You turn off a small country road onto mine tailings and drive back over a few small swales and ditches to a large open area of tailings. Unfortunately, I did not get any pictures myself as I was more worried about driving than taking pictures. Picture Credit <http://www.minershop.com/localities/minerva-mine-1-il/>



The Minerva Mine produced zinc and fluorspar from the Cave-in-Rock ore body. The mine operated from 1940 – 1976. The mine was sold in 1982 and resumed production with a different mining company until 1986-1987. There was intermittent operation until 1996 at which point the mine was closed and all buildings removed and the site was reclaimed. (www.mindat.org)

When we arrived a few local kids were enjoying a bonfire at the edge of the tailings. I am certain they were surprised to see 10-12 vehicles roll in and they left soon after we arrived as they assumed we would spoil their fun.

We spent several hours walking around in the dark looking at the ground which glowed in reds, blues, and oranges. The specimens ranged from sand sized to several very large boulders. Walking around seemed to be the best option. One side of the property has a creek and several people walked the creek.

It was a phenomenal experience and we found a lot of calcite and fluorite that fluoresced orange (Calcite) and blue (Fluorite).

