

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



October 2019

Volume 59 Number 7



Opal in October
Picture from www.opalauctions.com

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

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

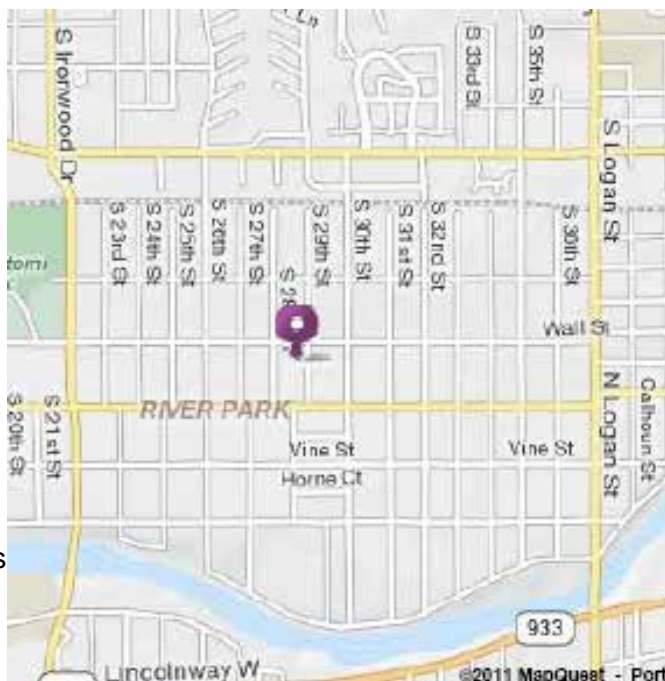
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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

THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 59 Number 7
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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.



For Rent by Editor Jason Hefner

This space is available for YOUR story. The editor does not always have something to say. Just kidding I always have something to say, but I may not always have a story to tell. I am challenging each and every one of you to submit a story before the end of the year.

Bribe - First 5 people to submit a minimum 2 page typed story with pictures win a guided tour to hunt for Fluorescent Sodalite in SW Michigan. I can even provide lights for the evening if needed. We will head out on a Friday evening in late Oct or early November, weather permitting (cold is fine, wet is not). If you and your significant other want to both go, you both must submit a story....see page 5!

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: October 27, 2019

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

Place:

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

Program: Rocks of Indiana

Host & Hostesses:

October - Annette Freel, Sherry Kobie and Linda Miller

Board of Directors

President: Bill Foreman
574-233-9178

Vice-President: Randy Hill
269-465-5814

Secretary

Treasurer:

Liaison: Bob Bell
574-233-7352

Committee Chairs

Displays: Mike Skoczylas
574-251-0255

Editor: Jason Hefner
574-858-9837

Educational: Jesse Zeiger
574-259-5944

Facebook:

Field Trips:

Historian: Jim Daly

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

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

September Minutes by Jim Kendig, Stand-in secretary

September 22nd meeting minutes by Jim Kendig, stand-in

Members in attendance / Adults_44 Children_3 Guests_4

Call to Order: President Bill Foreman

Pledge of Allegiance Led by Bill Foreman

Welcome: President Bill Foreman welcomed 4 new members and 4 guests and introduced Past Presidents that were present.

Secretary report: No Minutes were read from previous meetings. Position Open.

Treasurer's report: Lynn Ziegler presented the September report. Motion to accept Don Church 2nd Patti Enis.

Liaison report: Bob Bell / No Report

Parliamentarian: Position Open / NR

Midwest Federation / Bob Miller/ NR

American Federation / Bob Miller / NR

American Lands Access: Tom Noe / Discussed forces against individuals wishing to collect on public lands. Please contact your congressional representatives to provide help in this regard.

Committee Reports: Randy Hill

Displays: Tom Noe discussed some examples of wood casts that had been converted to crystals and agates.

Diann Gonsorek brought in additional items from Jacob's collection to sell if anyone was interested.

Editor: Jason Hefner / the Rockfinder for September has been published. No additional report.

Education: Jesse Ziegler is still looking for donations for school displays.

Field Trips: Kathy Miller/a bus trip was proposed for January to go to Chicago. More information to come.

Historian: / Jim Daly / NR

Continued next page

September minutes from previous page

Hospitality: Linda Miller / Thanked those for bringing in food for the meeting.

Juniors: Linda Cripe / started with first meeting of juniors. Rockhounds of America has a merit badge that the juniors are interested in completing. Funding was discussed for this.

Librarian: Kathleen Johnston / NR

Membership: Nancy Foreman / 44 adults and 3 children. 4 adult guests were present.

Programs: / Kathy Miller / Jim Daly is doing a presentation on Mineral Names. Jesse Zeigler will be doing Indiana Rocks in October.

Publicity: Josh Klosinski / NR

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / No Report

Show Chair: Josh Klosinski / Our show in August had a total attendance of 1938 this was an increase over last year.

Social Media, Facebook: Josh Klosinski / Facebook page updates with views of several thousand continuing.

Sunshine: - Anette Freel/Sherry Kobie A sympathy card was sent to Mel Glicks wife regarding Mels passing.

Webmaster: Joe Perry / The Rockfinder has been posted to the website. <http://www.MichianaGMS.org>

Old Business:

The main Public Library is going through a major renovation and any displays will be postponed until this is complete by 2022 for Science Alive.

Printing of T shirts was discussed with both the current green and white crinoids shirts suggested. Bill Foreman will take emails for interest. A minimum of 10 of each are required for a run to be made.

Flyers of several other mineralogical societies were available for interest.

New Business:

Bob Miller proposed the idea to provide a scholarship for juniors.

Someone suggested that an old practice was to buy a book for the library in honor of a member passing away.

A new PA system was discussed for club use, preferably wireless. Jason Hefner is to look into the new sound system.

Open Discussion:

Bill Foreman suggested to come up with a form that could be used for ideas, questions to be submitted prior to the meeting to streamline discussion.

Adjournment – Motion made by Nick Pellus, and seconded by Diann Gonsorek

AFMS - From the President

by Doug Tru President excerpted from [A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 72, Number 6 – September 2019](#)

This has been a busy Spring for us; after attending the AFMS show in Cedar Rapids we drove back to Quartzsite, Arizona and finished closing our shop. Then went to San Diego county to our mining claim and worked it for a while. We returned home to Billings, Montana the end of April. Worked our local show May 4 and 5, then off to the Blue Forest in Wyoming for 5 days.

We drove to New York and attended the Eastern Federation show and convention. We really enjoyed ourselves and they provided such great hospitality. Attended the show and meetings, did a tour of one of the world-famous florescent collecting areas, the Sterling Mine in New Jersey. Again, thanks to the Orange County club, David and the Eastern clubs for making us feel at home.

Spent a day seeing the beauty of the Niagara Falls, both the US and Canadian sides. Then back to Montana and a week's fishing in Wyoming. Now we are in Utah, visited Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks, We have not been to these parks for 53 years (on our Honeymoon, August, 1966). Fun to see the parks from a different perspective. We are on our way to the Rocky Mountain Federation show and Convention at Prescott, Arizona.

In the next several months I will be presenting some ways to help build and/or strengthen your club shows by using social media. Ways to save money, increase attendance, and build your club.

Hope you're having a great Summer

President's message

Kevin Ponzio, MWF President excerpted from [MWF News October 2019 - Issue No. 585](#)

Greetings Everyone! By now you know, if you came to the show in Holland, Michigan, that I wasn't eaten by a bear, bitten by a rattlesnake, or carried off by a vulture on my trip to Wyoming.

I had a great deal of fun and adventure. I'm thinking many of you have had adventures in your travels. I would love to hear all about them. Not all have the opportunity to get out in the field. Please share your adventures of rocks and minerals with the rest of the membership. From collecting in the field, to lapidary shop experiences and tips, I believe each of you has a unique experience to share. I can't wait to hear all about it. Submit articles to Valerie at yjmwriter@yahoo.com.

October is a great time to think about opals. Everyone knows someone who has an October birthday. (Opal is the October birthstone.) You may already have a fascination or love for opals. Then you know how much fun they can be. If you haven't played with opal yet, you may want to try. There are numerous opal locations and varying costs. Start with the less expensive material until you master working with it.

Continued on next page



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

MWF President's message from previous page

Opal can be delicate but all you have to do is be patient. Take your time and keep it wet. There is someone in your club that has worked it before and would be glad to help you get started. Perhaps jewelry is not your thing. Opal can make beautiful specimens too! Even some fossils are replaced by opal. Something for everyone! Have fun!

Do you like a good challenge? I challenge MWF members to fill all the remaining officer and chair positions by November. You can do it! And yes, there are always assistant positions available too. Imagine the MWF running like a well oiled piston, clicking like the turnstile in the subway, and buzzing like a beehive. All that rock-related activity at once! We are so close right now that just a few more people will put us over the top. To think, you may be the one that completes and fills the slate. (Dream sequence of balloons and confetti with you in the middle of everyone cheering you!) YES! Wow, what have I been waiting for? Call, email or text now!

Just a few reminders: Get your Scholarship Honoree nominations and AFMS Video/Slide Program Contest entries in by Nov. 15th, submit your articles for the MWF Newsletter by the 1st of each month, and enjoy all the great shows across the Midwest during October. Keep the Scholarship Fund donations coming. Thank you to all that have donated already. See you all next month!

Fluorescent sodalite by Jason Hefner Editor



Who wants to find some of these?



Upcoming shows excerpted from Rock & Gem [website](#)

October 2019

4-6—INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: Annual show; Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows; Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Building, 1202 E. 38th Street; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Adults: \$5.00 — ticket good all 3 days. Free admission for children under age 16.; Jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths from all over the country. Class available and gifts for the children.; contact Van Wimmer, Sr., 5273 Bradshaw Road, Salem, VA 24153-8025, (540) 384-6047; Email: vanwimmer@comcast.net; Website: www.toteshows.com

5-6—SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS: Annual show; Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society; Illinois State Fairgrounds, 801 Sangamon Ave.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$2, seniors \$1, free admission for children under 12; Mineral, fossil and jewelry dealers, demonstrators, special exhibits, geode cracking, activities for children; contact Edward Wagner, PO Box 2272, Springfield, IL 62705, (309) 838-7782; Email: loesseditor@gmail.com; Website: <http://www.loess.org>

11-12—MOUNT IDA, ARKANSAS: 32 Annual World Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Fri. 7-4, Sat. 7-4; \$100 (entry fee and banquet meal); 2018 World Championship Quartz Crystal Dig, part of the 39th Annual Quartz, Quiltz, & Craftz Festival, for more information call Gail at the Chamber office number listed, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday thru Friday. (R&G, please call GAIL for confirmation, at 870-867-2723, b/w 10am and 2pm M - F, only. These are normal Chamber business hours) ; contact Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, 124 US 270 W, PO Box 6, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; Email: director@mtidachamber.com; Website: www.mtidachamber.com

18-20—FORT WAYNE, INDIANA: Annual show; Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society; Allen County Fairgrounds, 2726 Carroll Rd.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors (55+) \$3, students: \$1, free admission for children 12 and under; Vendors offering gems, fossils, minerals, and lapidary jewelry, demonstrations, displays, fluorescent room, activities for children; contact Russell Greim; Website: http://3riversgem_mineral.tripod.com/

18-20—MASON, MICHIGAN: Annual show; Central Michigan Lapidary and Mineral Society; Ingham County Fairgrounds—Main Arena, 700 E. Ash St.; Fri. 6-9, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Adults \$3, teens \$1, free admission for children under 12 with paying adult; Displays by club members and guests, Petoskey stone polish, 13 dealers offer various items, demonstrations, and activities for children; contact Lyle R Laylin, 1417 Center St., Lansing, MI 48906, (517) 485-7908; Email: lyle18@gmail.com; Website: Michrocks.org

19-20—CLIO, MICHIGAN: Annual show; Flint Rock And Gem Club; Carter Middle School, 300 Upland Dr.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$3, children age 6-18 \$1.50, free admission for children under 6 with a paying adult and scouts in uniform; Dealers offering minerals, fossils, jewelry, gems, displays, demonstrations, and activities for children ; contact Diana Dady, 2120 Christner Street, Burton, MI 48519, (810) 406-2144; Email: ddady@comcast.net; Website: www.flintrockandgem.org

19-20—CHICAGO HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS: Annual show; South Suburban Earth Science Club; Prairie State College, 202 South Halstead St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; free admission; Mineral, fossil, jewelry, crystal, artifact, and lapidary exhibits, and activities for children. Special presentation on Sunday, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 landing on the moon; contact Jan; Email: jpodbielski@comcast.net; Website: <http://www.prairestate.edu>

26-27—CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO: Show and sale; Summit Lapidary Club and Akron Mineral Society; Emidio's Expo Center, 48 E. Bath Rd; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, seniors (55+) \$4, children 7-14 \$1.00, free admission for children 6 and under, and scouts and military in uniform ; 32 vendors presenting beads, gemstones, jewelry, minerals, rocks, and tools, among other items; demonstrations of lapidary arts, gem mine, silent auction, and activities for children; contact Evelyn Tryon, 2028 Tallmadge Rd, Kent, OH 44240, 3306739664, 3306739664; Email: gemboree76@gmail.com

26-27—EVANSVILLE, INDIANA: Annual show; Evansville Lapidary Society; C K Newsome Community Center, 100 E. Walnut St.; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Adults \$2, free admission for children age 12 and under; 53rd annual show, with vendors offering minerals, fossils, specimens, carvings, tools, cabochons, tumbled stones, jewelry, crystals, slabs and rough; fluorescent display, demonstrations, displays, and activities for children; contact Sara Rappee, Evansville, IN, (812) 589-3079; Email: sararappee@gmail.com; Website: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Lapidary/>