

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



December 2019

Volume 59 Number 7

THE ROCKFINDER

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

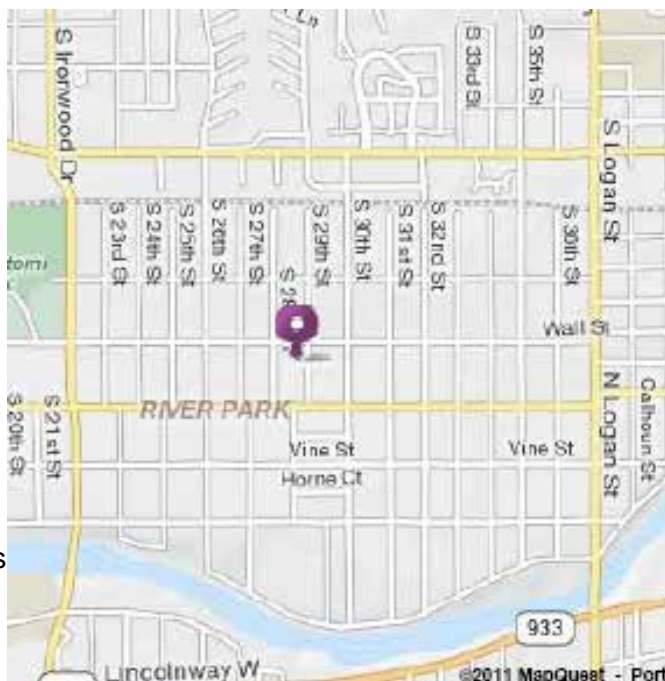
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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/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.



Searching for Critical Minerals in Michigan, excerpted from [Western Michigan University, Recent News](#) – June 2019

At the Michigan Geological Survey ([MGS](#)) and the Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education ([MGRRE](#)), we are leaving no stone unturned in our search for minerals you may never have heard of, like sylvite, cesium, and manganese. Why?

Because America depends on resources like these, defined by the Department of the Interior as the 35 “critical minerals and rare earth elements.” But we are not producing enough of them. In fact, we are not producing any of some of the “rare earth elements.” We import 90% or more of these minerals and elements—mostly from [China](#).

And America’s dependence on foreign sources has increased dramatically. In the 1990’s, America was the world’s top minerals producer and exporter. Now we are the world’s [top importer](#), making us increasingly vulnerable to supply shortages and price volatility.

Continued on next page

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: December 8, 2019
Meeting starts at 12:30.

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

Program: Christmas Party

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

Searching for Critical Minerals in Michigan

Continued from Page 1

Our newest research grant, from the U S Geological Survey, focuses on finding these [minerals](#) in Michigan. Dr. William Harrison, MGRRE Director, is leading a research team comprised of John A. Yellich, director of the Michigan Geological Survey; Dr. Peter J. Voice, research scientist and geologist; Dr. Joyashish Thakurta, economic geologist; Jennifer L. Trout, data manager; and several graduate and undergraduate students.

In a new [NPR](#) interview, Stateside discusses Michigan's role in mining these raw materials with Drs. William Harrison and Peter Voice. The interview begins at 18:40 or scroll down the NPR page for a shorter clip. (You need to scroll down on the NPR page)



Examples of Michigan Critical Minerals

We are joining in a nationwide search for potential sources of these materials that we rely on every day—for energy and crop production, transportation, telecommunications, electronics, infrastructure and even national security.

We are tracking down geologic data about these minerals in Michigan in published and unpublished reports (by universities, industry and government), reviewing and preparing geologic maps, and compiling resource lists. We are finding hidden gems of information in old, sometimes forgotten or disregarded reports.

We plan to use what we learn in this initial investigation to apply for additional funding in the next phase of this USGS program. Finding these materials in Michigan could mean creating more jobs and providing raw materials that so much of America's economy and security depend upon.

AFMS - From the President

by David Wayment President
excerpted from [A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 72, Number 9 – December 2019](#)

And just like that the year is over and another one begun. The year as President-Elect is spent getting ready for your year as President. And no matter how well you think you have planned for it, you always run out of time. It is my honor to be your AFMS President for the 2019-2020 year. I am looking forward to working.

I have been involved with the hobby, but not as a rockhound or collector, as so many of our friends in the west are. In Florida we have only a few rocks/crystals to collect. I have been in my home club since 2002. In my first few years I took a class at each of the 5 sessions SFMS offered at the William Holland and Wildacres workshops. Over the years I progressed from learning Silversmithing to teaching Silversmithing. I am currently the Education Chair for my home club, teaching classes there and at William Holland.

Now that the winter season is finally getting to Florida and temperatures are dropping below 80, it is time to get back into the workshop for another busy season. Continued next page

President's message

Kevin Ponzio, MWF President excerpted from

[MWF News December 2019 - Issue No. 587](#)

As the new president of the Midwest Federation, I'd like to thank you for the opportunity. I want to thank our outgoing president, Kevin Ponzio, for a job well done.

We all pay our taxes each year on time. Let's make it easier on our 2nd Vice President, Catherine Clevenz, save her from making many phone call to each club, and pay our membership dues on time. The form for doing that is on page 7 of this newsletter.

The Midwest Federation has many chair positions open, so if you would like to serve as a committee chair, let the Board know. We need your help. Contact MWF Secretary Donna Moore (mwfsecretary@gmail.com) or send a line to me (jjredon65@comcast.net).

The next two MWF meetings will be in Michigan. The spring Executive Committee meeting will be in Grand Rapids in April, hosted by the Indian Mounds Rock & Mineral Club. The convention (and fall Executive Committee meeting) will be in September, hosted by the Livingston Gem & Mineral Society of Howell, Michigan. There is much to do and see in Michigan! More details will be coming.

Have a great holiday and safe travel this winter.



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

AFMS President's message from previous page

After moving to Florida, you need a few years to turn your year around so you hibernate in the hot summer and go out in the winter. This is the season for club shows and some field trips in our area. If you are coming down to the south, look up a local club and you might find a show or field trip in the area.

I'm just recently back from the SFMS Annual Meeting. The SFMS has been working on a big initiative to disseminate information for the State Directors to present to the clubs in their state about the benefits and programs available to the local clubs provided by the SFMS and AFMS. One of the most underutilized programs is the Slide/Video program. This is a wonderful benefit to the clubs that comes from the AFMS to the regions. Not all clubs are lucky enough to have skilled instructors in all areas of our hobby or speakers to provide programs at meetings. This wonderful library can lend DVD's or VHS programs for the clubs to use, and return, at no cost. The topics range from a tour of the Grand Canyon, identifying gemstones to creating a bezel for a cabochon.

As the holidays approach I wish blessings on everyone and I look forward to working with all of you.

Fluorescent sodalite info, by Jason Hefner, Editor

No one took me up on submitting a story for the newsletter, so I had to go hunt fluorescent Sodalites (FS) by myself. I'm happy to report that it was a successful hunt! The material we find around here was brought down from the Coldwell alkaline complex by glaciers. The Coldwell Complex is a large circular gabbro and syenite intrusion within the Earth's crust. Located on the North Shore of Lake Superior in northwestern Ontario, Canada, it is the largest alkaline intrusion in North America with a diameter of 16 mi (credit to Wikipedia).

On interesting "recent" discovery is a majority of the FS around here seems to contain magnetite and the rock will attract and even hold a magnet. This can be useful if hunting during the day to help ID the rocks!



Fairly bright UV response even in normal household lights!

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

December 2019 – Nothing close, sorry 😞

13-15—LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA: Annual show; Bellpoint Gem Show; Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Pkwy.; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, free admission for children under 15 when accompanied with paying adult; dealers selling beautiful gems, fossils, jewelry, crystals, geodes, minerals, healing stones, cabochons, beads and rocks; contact Damian ; Email: mbellpoint@gmail.com; Website: www.bellpointpromotions.com

13-15—SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc.; Earl Warren Showgrounds, 3400 Calle Real; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Weekend pass for teens, adults, and seniors \$7, free admission for children through age 11; Exhibitors offering various minerals and rocks, jewelry, crystals, gems, beads and crystals; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; Email: info@gemfaire.com; Website: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

13-15—FLETCHER, NORTH CAROLINA: Annual show; Mountain Area Gem and Mineral Association; WNC Agriculture Center, 1301 Fanning Bridge Road; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; free admission; 2nd annual Holiday, Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show, with vendors offering rocks, gems, minerals, jewelry, fossils, meteorites, Viking artifacts, among others; contact Richard Jacquot, NC; Email: rick@wncrocks.com; Website: www.americanrockhound.com

14-15—FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE: Annual show; Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society ; Williamson County Ag Expo Park , 4215 Long Lane ; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$5 (2-day pass \$7), students 18 and under \$1, free admission for children 12 and under with a paying adult; More than 30 dealers offering stone, lapidary and faceting rough, slabs, mineral specimens, fossils, jewelry, tools and supplies, classes, exhibitions, demonstrations, and speakers; contact Linda Cartwright, TN; Email: show@MTGMS.org; Website: <http://www.MTGMS.org/show.htm>

14-15—PINECREST, FLORIDA: Show and sale; Miami Mineralogical and Lapidary Guild; Evelyn Greer Park, 8200 SW 124 Street; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$6, free admission for children under 12; Annual show will include 15+ vendors offerings specimens, gemstones, minerals, fossils; exhibits, demonstrations, displays, geode splitting, participation from the geology departments of the University of Miami and Florida International University, and activities for children; contact Sandy Mielke, FL; Email: webguy@mmlg-inc.org; Website: www.miamigemandmineral.com

14-15—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: Annual show; Peppers Gems; San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 N. New Braunfels St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; Group of dealers presenting for sale geodes, specimens, slabs, finished jewelry, fossils amber, faceted stones, petrified wood, and decorator items ; contact Sam H. Rodgers, 14835 Willow Moss st., San Antonio, TX 78232-4546, (210) 240-7721; Email: buckrodgers000@netzero.net; Website: www.peppers-gems.com

20-22—SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA: Wholesale and retail show; Gem Faire Inc.; Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio S; Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Weekend pass for teens, adults, and seniors \$7, free admission for children through age 11; Exhibitors offering various minerals and rocks, jewelry, crystals, gems, beads and crystals; contact Yooy Nelson, (503) 252-8300; Email: info@gemfaire.com; Website: <http://www.gemfaire.com>

**YOU MIGHT BE A
ROCKHOUND IF..**

When visitors come to your house for the holidays, it's likely a "Show & Tell" session, featuring your collection, will take place.

Rock & Gem - www.rockngem.com

