

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



February 2020

Volume 60 Number 2



Geology Valentine
Rock & Photo by Matthew Pacunas

**THE
ROCKFINDER**

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

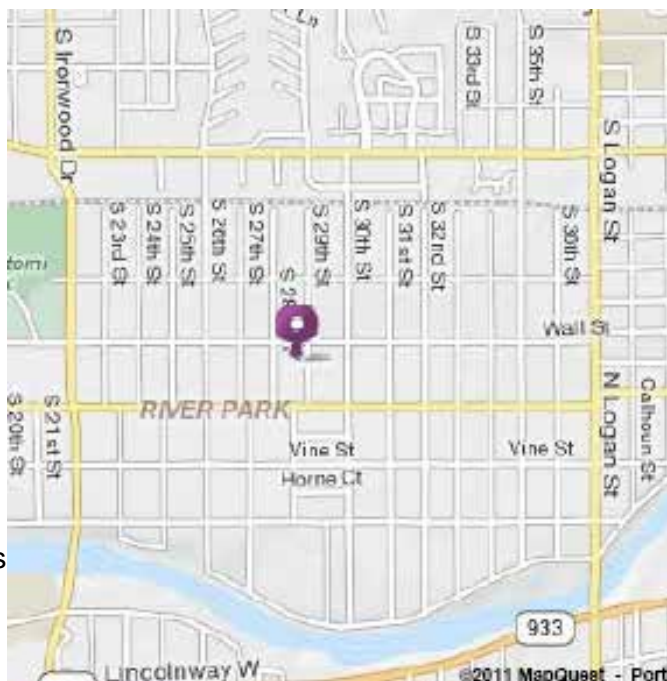
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 60 Number 2
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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.



Presidents message by Jason Hefner, President

Greeting from the new club President.....gosh that sound frightening My wife keeps telling me to use my power for good though. Seriously I am honored that everyone thought I could do this job. Just remember we are the club and we all have to be involved to make our club grow.

So, as my first act as President I do decree that we all shall bring our favorite **red** rock/mineral or heart shaped specimen to the February meeting to share! I plan on having a "rock" of the month to help fill our displays!

Speaking of displays please be thinking about our show coming up. Is there something you can show the public? I expect everyone to chip in at the show this year.

I would like to thank everyone that came out to Science Alive on February 8th. We all had fun and met new people and hopefully some of those people will be at a meeting soon.

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: February 23, 2020

Doors open 1:30 pm

Meeting starts at 2:00 pm

Place:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

29th & Wall

South Bend, IN. (This is in River Park)

Program: Platinum, Gold, & Silver – John Jaworski

Hospitality: ?????? -

Board of Directors

President: Jason Hefner
574-354-0478

Vice-President: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Secretary: Diane Gram

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger

Liaison: Bob Bell
574-233-7352

Committee Chairs

Displays: Kathy Miller
574-251-0255

Editor: Jason Hefner
574-354-0478

Educational: Jesse Zeiger
574-259-5944

Facebook: Holly Kraftor, Nancy Foreman,
Jason Hefner

Field Trips: Kathy Miller

Historian: Jim Daly

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

Juniors: Linda Cripe

Librarian:

Membership: Nancy Foreman
574-233-9178

Programs: Kathy Miller (Interim)
574-291-0332

Publicity: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

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

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

Science Alive, by Jason Hefner, editor

On Saturday February 8, 2020 an intrepid group of volunteers from the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society set up tables at Jordan Hall at Notre Dame as a display at Science Alive. On display we had some beautiful fossils from Elkhart county including a Mastodon tooth, petrified wood, geodes, agates, salt, pumice, and a lot of fluorescent specimens.



This was the look on a lot of faces when showcasing the fluorescents!

If you have never been to Jordan Hall it is very impressive. There was a large crowd at Science Alive with over 1,000 people by noon. The kids were very happy with the bags / rocks.

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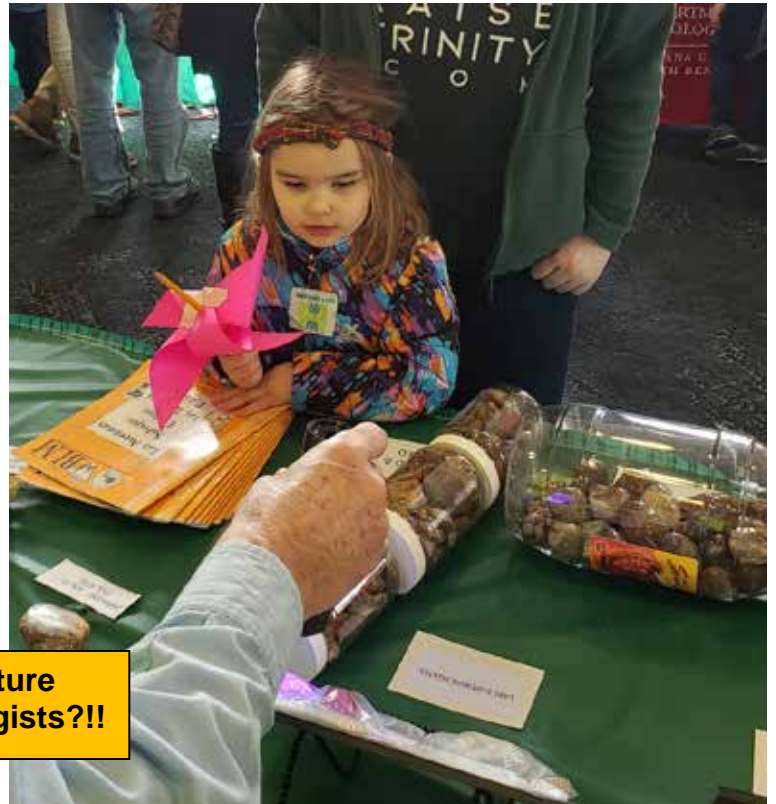
Science Alive, continued from previous page



Our group



Jordan Hall



Future geologists?!!

AFMS - From the Desk of the President David

Wayment excerpted from [A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 73, Number 1 – February 2020](#)

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you all had a splendid holiday season. At this time of year, besides making a resolution to exercise and lose weight that we never quite accomplish, most of us look forward to learning new things. I recommend getting involved with displaying cases, for competition or not, and judging classes.

Leslie and I were involved in our local federation, but not involved at the American level until we took a Judging Class in Reno, NV. We had family living there, and it seemed like a good way to take a vacation and learn what competitive cases were all about. When we had asked before, all we were told was read the rules, but they seemed too complicated to understand. When we attended the class, we were the only students from east of the Mississippi River. Walking into the class we were treated as long lost relatives, not strangers. That began our many friendships with fellow rockhounds from all across the country. We have attended all the AFMS shows since that time, both to judge cases and more especially to see friends.

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President's Message John Donker, MWF President excerpted

from [MWF News February 2020, Issue No. 589](#)

I would like to thank the Midwest Federation members and clubs for the many cards and visits, and the members who gave memorial contributions to the MWF, on the passing of my wife, Julia Donker, Michigan State Director. A special thanks to March Collins, MWF Scholarship Committee chair, and Valerie J. Meyers, Editor, for their memorial article in the MWF News. The MWF is like a second family. Thanks to all of you.

As the weather turns cold here in the north, many snowbirds head south and west to warmer weather. As you go on field trips or to sales, remember to pick up something for your club and for the MWF Silent Auction. Your pieces are always welcome.

Many clubs are working on setting up their spring shows and summer sales. Don't be afraid to help. Have a good time traveling, and remember, you can always check with the clubs in the area for the best places to rock hunt!



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, continued from previous page

The judging classes are very beneficial to anyone wanting to display cases, whether you want to learn to judge or not. Over the last 20 years a great effort was made to remove any personal bias from the rules, so a case would be judged the same no matter which federation it is judged in. One thing I have noticed in traveling to the different regions is the variety of focus of the cases depending on the region. While mineral collecting is big in some federations, jewelry making is big in others. It is good to see the differences.

There is a judging class scheduled for the NFMS show in Ogden, Utah this April. We also hope to be able to schedule a second class at the AFMS show in Knoxville, Tennessee this October. Even if you have been a judge for a long time, it is good to renew your skills, especially if you are not familiar with the rules for our newest divisions, Beading and Meteorites

Minutes of January 2020 meeting, by Diane Gram, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Foreman at 2:01.

Past presidents were recognized, Kathy Miller, Don Church, Diane Gram

New officers were installed, Jason Hefner as President, Josh Klosinski as Vice-president and Diane Gram as Secretary.

Past president Bill Foreman was thanked for serving. Treasurer report was given by Lyn Zeiger and approved.

No secretary report as December meeting was the Christmas Party.

Adult attendees were. 51 and 13 children.

Committee reports:

Editor- Jason Hefner asked that members send articles to him for future publications.

Education- Kevin Johnston - his committee for Science Alive is Linda Cripe and Josh Klosinski. They have the items for the giveaway bags ready for members to "stuff the bags" as this month's program.

Juniors- Linda Cripe announced that the young people ages 6 to 12 will be working on badges. The name that they decided on was "Rock Dusters".

Field Trips: Kathy Miller - Field trip is scheduled for Saturday, March 7 to Lizzardo Museum of Lapidary Art in Oak Brook IL. <https://lizzadromuseum.org/>. Meet at the Meijer store on 331 at 9:15am. We should arrive around noon. No food or drink is allowed in the museum. Bring a sack lunch to eat in the bus. The visit will be 3 hours. The cost is \$7.00 which must be paid in advance to our treasurer Lyn Zeiger. 50 people must sign up to get the discount of \$7.00 per person. General admission is \$10.00. Email Kathy Miller at kanbrock@aol.com to sign up. Don't forget to bring payment to the next meeting, Feb. 23.

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January minutes, continued from previous page

Sunshine

Annette Freel announced sympathy cards were sent to recognize those who recently passed away; The sister of Father Larry Calhoun - He was a long-time member. Marie Crull for her sister. Sherry Russell whose daughter passed. She was a former member and Sherry is a current member and show dealer. A Thinking of you card to Bill Crull.

Refreshments

Many thanks to those who brought goodies.

Bill & Emily Nelson, Bill & Nancy Foreman, Lynne & Jessie Zeiger, Jason & Jennifer Hefner, Annette Freel, Sherry Kobie, Larry Hall, Marty Perry and Linda Miller.

Please sign up to bring treats for the future meetings. A list can be found at the club table sign in. Thank you.

Unfinished business: none

New business: The board would like those who are the committee chairs to let the officers know if they have a report. Please give brief written detail to the secretary. The reason is to save time during the meeting with Chairmen announcing no new business to report.

Joan Hill made a motion that the meeting adjourned. It was seconded by Don Church.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Gram
Michigan Gem and Mineral Society