

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



December 2020

Volume 60 Number 7



**THE  
ROCKFINDER**

**We're on the Web! See us at: [www.MichianaGMS.org](http://www.MichianaGMS.org)**

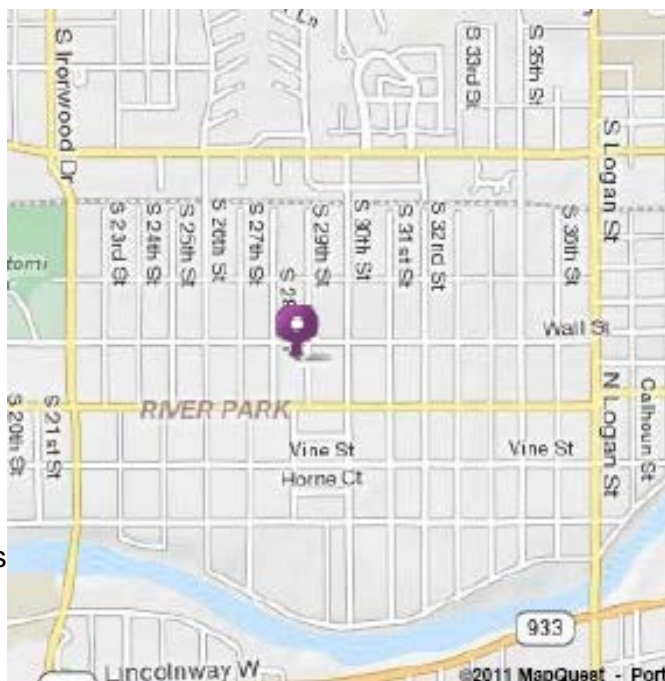
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
c/o Nancy Foreman  
58456 Kimberly Ct.  
South Bend, IN 46619

# THE ROCKFINDER

Volume 60 Number 7  
December 2020

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](http://www.MichianaGMS.org), is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies <http://www.amfed.org/mwfi/> and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies [www.amfed.org](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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

I know everyone wants to get together and I know we are ready for this pandemic to be over. Our club is going to be joining the rest of society and we will start having Zoom meetings. For those of you that have no idea what I mean by Zoom, it is a video conferencing service. I have signed up for a free account, so we can have up to 100 participants on a call for up to 40 minutes. This will allow us to have a December meeting and meetings going forward.

I know we have a handful of folks without email and there will be a few more that may have issues using Zoom, even if they have email, but I believe the majority of the group will be able to make our next meeting and we can visit for a few minutes.

Please review the information on page 2. You will get a meeting invite in another email.

We will need to have at least 15 members in the meeting so we can vote on the slate of officers for 2021. Please call in so we can move forward!

## Up & Coming

**Next Meeting: December 20, 2020**

Meeting starts at 2:00 pm

**Place:**

**Online via Zoom – look for a separate email.**

No in person meeting

Short meeting to vote on slate of officers update everyone on 2021 plan.

## 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:

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:

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

## Presidents message continued from page 1

Here is our slate of officers. We will vote to approve or reject the slate of officers during our call.

President – Jason Hefner

Vice President – Josh Klosinski

Secretary – Diane Gram

Treasurer – Lyn Zeigler

Liaison – Bob Bell

For those of you that are new to video conferencing I offer these tips from

Tips for Meeting Attendees – excerpted 12/7/2020 from

<https://www.technology.pitt.edu/blog/zoom-tips>

### Mute your microphone

To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.

### Be mindful of background noise

When your microphone is not muted, avoid activities that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers.

### Position your camera properly

If you choose to use a web camera, be sure it is in a stable position and focused at eye level, if possible. Doing so helps create a more direct sense of engagement with other participants.

### Limit distractions

You can make it easier to focus on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and muting your smartphone.

### Avoid multi-tasking

You'll retain the discussion better if you refrain from replying to emails or text messages during the meeting and wait to work on that PowerPoint presentation until after the meeting ends.

## AFMS - From the Desk of the President Judy Beck

[excerpted from A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 73, Number 9 – December 2020](#)

Greetings to everyone in the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies!

I've been elected President for this coming year, and I'm excited to serve all of my fellow rockhounds! I thought I'd tell you just a little about myself, for those of you who don't know me. I'm a Registered Nurse by profession and I currently teach part time in the Practical Nursing Program at Salina Technical College. I've been married to my wonderful husband, Larry, for the past 28 years. We have made Salina, Kansas our home for the past 22 years. We have 2 boys, a bonus daughter, and 2 bonus grand girls. Our oldest Ken, is in the US Air Force and last November married a beautiful young woman. They both love rocks and were just joining the club in their new home of Abilene, TX when COVID hit. Our grand girls are little junior rockhounds and I hope you will get to meet them as we visit the various shows in the coming year.

Larry is a 3rd generation rockhound and we belong to the McPherson Gem & Mineral Club in McPherson, Kansas. Early in our marriage we lived in Yakima, WA and then in Durango, CO. He "volunteered" me to work with the RMFMS/AFMS show in Durango, Colorado in 1997. Ruby Lingelbach was President and she said, "We need to get you involved." Shortly thereafter I was secretary of the Rocky Mountain Federation, and kind of worked my way up into the President's job from 2003-2005. I have served in each of the American Federation Vice-President's positions, and am really thankful to now serve you as President this coming year!

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## President's Message Susan Stanforth, MWF President

[excerpted from MWF News December 2020, Issue No. 597](#)

PATIENCE is now my new motivator.

When COVID restrictions are finally lifted and a vaccine is available, won't we be so happy to get back to club meetings, the rock shows, and fellowship with all our "rockfriends"!

We will have a new appreciation for all things mineral, etc. We will have the opportunity to show all the lapidary items we have created in lockdown. (My friend David Rich made me one very awesome ring with a gorgeous polyhedroid attached.)

But for the time being . . . Virtual? Zoom? Facetime? How about an old-fashioned phone call, especially to older, single, or widowed club members? This continues to be a time that tests all of our mental health. As our family and friends are exposed to those who tested positive, we worry that we have been exposed.

Use the link above to read the rest of the message.



### 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](http://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](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)

## **AFMS - From the Desk of the President Judy Beck** continued from previous page

It's been a strange year to say the least, and I was really saddened to see that so many of our federation shows had to be cancelled. Many thanks to David Wayment for finding alternative ways for us to connect and for his service to the AFMS during this past year! I'm really hoping that as we move into 2021 shows will be able to return, and we will be able to attend each federation's convention. My husband and I bought a new truck camper that was supposed to go to Alaska this year, but didn't because of COVID. We're hoping that we'll be able to drive it all around the U.S. to visit with a lot of you!

Wishing all of you the best of health!

## **MGMS October 24th meeting minutes** by Diane Gram, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President Jason Hefner at 2 pm.

Due to COVID virus 16 people were in attendance all wearing face masks and distancing.

Bylaws state 15 people could make a quorum.

3 past presidents were present and one new member, Chris Miller.

Treasurer Lynn Zeiger let Jason know there was \$22000, plus a cd.

Due to the pandemic many clubs were not meeting, and many yearly shows have been cancelled.

October is the month that a slate of officers is presented. President Jason Hefner announced That the current officers are willing to continue for 2021.

President - Jason Hefner

Vice President - Josh Klosinski

Treasure - Lynn Zeiger

Secretary - Diane Gram

If you would like to be an officer, contact Jason Hefner. Voting will take place via email. The December newsletter will have details.

Dues - A motion was made by D. Kraftor to forgo dues payment by current members for 2021 because of the lack of meetings in 2020 due to the pandemic. Motion was seconded by J. Perry. Motion passed.

Christmas Party will not be held this year. A gathering will be held in the future depending on the virus.

Jason Hefner mentioned starting a private message system for club members through Facebook. This will most likely be started in 2021.

**Continued on next page**

## **MGMS October 24th meeting minutes** by Diane Gram, Secretary [continued from previous page](#)

Nothing has come from the Midwest Federation about meeting and Covid. Jason will check to see if they have a suggestion for the Midwest dues for 2021.

Education- The Kraftor's went to Kennedy School and gave 125 children; rock starter sets.

Sunshine - Annette Freel and Sherry Kolbe. Cards were sent to Jess Zieger surgery, Virginia Steel-surgery and Dennis Freel ( Annette's husband ill)

New Members - Nancy Foreman reported Kristi Price, Rick Gawtkhrop joined . Andrew and Leonor Archias also joined Nancy received registrations via mail. Jane Nielson sent in her dues. Checks were given to Treasurer.

Facebook needs up dating, if you are interested contact Jason Hefner.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Gram