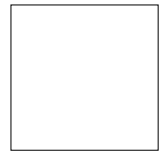


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
Jason Hefner, Editor  
229 East State St  
Etna Green, IN 46524



February 2021

Volume 61 Number 2

# **THE ROCKFINDER**

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

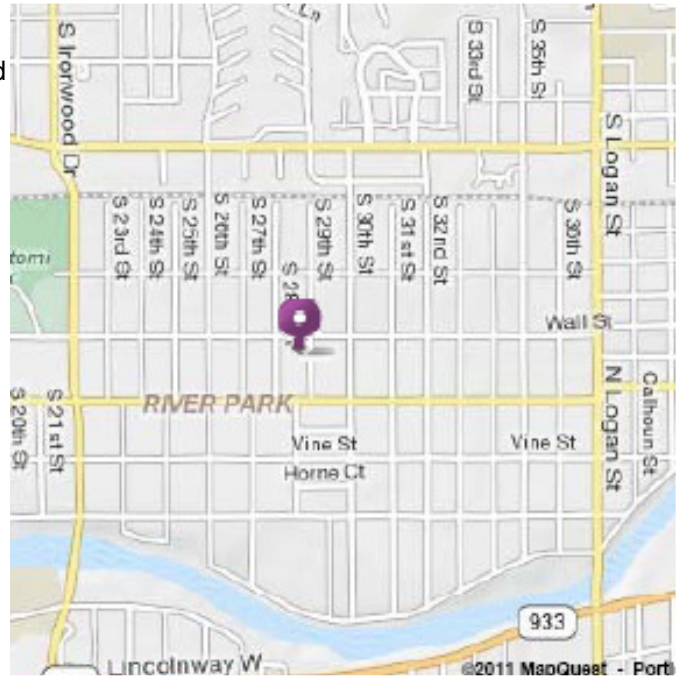
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send your dues and the bottom half of this form to: **Michiana Gem & Mineral Society**  
 c/o Nancy Foreman  
 58456 Kimberly Ct.  
 South Bend, IN 46619



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/mwf/> 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

After 2½ hours running the snow blower Sunday morning I was really tired. Driveways clear, fire hydrants clear... you know staying busy getting stuff done! We are all busy, or at least trying to stay busy. I know a lot of folks like working with rocks and minerals and you now have a chance to work on a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Mark Turner reached out earlier this week to see if we might have folks who are willing to volunteer their time and energy preparing dinosaur fossils. I know it may sound too good to believe (for some folks), but Jennifer and I spent some time in South Bend on Saturday (1/30) at a fossil preparation lab.

There are currently 3 fossil prep stations, with room for a few more. If you are interested, you will get instruction from a professional fossil prep person. Erin will teach how to use the tools, the techniques, and materials needed to prepare & preserve fossils. You will work directly with her on a schedule, but any time volunteered will be a huge help.

Continued on page 4

## Up & Coming

**Next Meeting: February 28, 2021**

Meeting starts at 2:00 pm

**Place:**

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

No in person meeting

## 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 Krafter, 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

# Meeting minutes *by Diane Gram, MGMS Secretary*

The Zoom meeting was called to order by President, Jason Hefner at 2:04. President Jason Hefner welcomed everyone to Zoom.

Present were: Jason Hefner, Josh Klosinski, Lyn & Jessie Zeiger, Glenn & Kathy Wallace, Bob & Kathy Miller, Dennis & Holly Krafter, Virginia Steel, Tom Noe, Nancy Foreman, Sister Mary Mulligan. Sister Helene Sharp, Joe Perry, Diane Gram (17 in attendance)

Treasurer's report: Lyn gave totals and mentioned that some of the funds were payment for the show. Lyn paid the Midwest dues which were cut in half due to the virus. He also paid the total for the insurance, 99 adults and 33 kids.

Lack of meetings during the Covid virus, resulted in a decision for dues that were paid for the 2020 year were transferred to 2021.

Show report: Josh announced that the 4H Fair board is keeping the show date available pending on virus control.

Josh reported that Science Alive will be video only this year. It was decided that a kid's program would be hard for the club to present.

Tom Noe has a friend who would like to join the club, it is noted that the form can be found on the MGM web Page.

Kathy Wallace brought up the availability of the bright yellow Rock shirts. She would like to make a purchase. Jason will email members to see how many would like to purchase a shirt. Nancy Foreman will order accordingly.

Jason Hefner, warned everyone to be very careful if collecting in the winter weather.

Jason mentioned Zoom or Webcasts to be presented in an evening. He thought of a Paleo Joe presentation. Also club. Members could take a phone video of personal interests, 5-10 minutes that could be shared. Example - Holly could show a beginning wire wrap. This would be a way to keep connected during the pandemic.

Zoom meetings and The Rockfinder will continue on line until virus is under control.

Next Meeting Feb. 28, 2021, 2:00 pm. Have your Zoom ready to go a few minutes before 2:00. Meeting adjourned 2:41

## AFMS - Past President

by Doug True, AFMS Past President excerpted from [A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 74, Number 1 – February 2021](#)

Greetings Fellow Rockhounds and a VERY Happy New Year! 2021, we're going to turn this COVID thing around, right? I'm sure hoping so;-I want to hit the road and get to meeting up with you! So let's start this off with news about our convention. As many of you heard from the Central Office, the convention was cancelled in Sandy, Utah because their venue will not hold any activities until sometime later in the year. We're so sad that we won't be going out to Utah and hope to see Sandy on the convention radar in the next couple of years! Rocky Mountain stepped right up, though, and has set June 17- 20 for the new dates in Big Piney, WY. This is the RMFMS's second year there and everyone who went last year raved about what an awesome time they had! Thanks to Jim Gray and his crew for stepping up and volunteering to host us this year! We can't wait to go West this summer!

So the first few months of my tenure as President are past, and honestly the job has been busier than I thought it would be. Things started out when I received a lovely card from Muriel Frink in Colorado;-she remembered me from a convention we attended together in Roswell, NM in 2001! That is sooo awesome! I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting with committee chairs over the past few weeks. Continued page 6

## President's message

Susan Stanforth, MWF President  
excerpted from [MWF News February 2021 - Issue No. 599](#)

ENTHUSIASM – is it catching? I'm hoping all MWF members will avoid COVID-19 but gladly welcome an infection of enthusiasm and excitement for rock club activities.

So, let's do a pep talk. The MWF community (yes, that's YOU) could be reaching out and getting involved in many many competitions that your Federation has to offer. See the notice below about this year's Bulletin Editor's Contest, and the article on this page about the MWF Website Contest! Believe me, whatever contest interests you, the chairs are more than happy to encourage you to enter.

PROGRAM COMPETITION is one of the most exciting contests. Ask your "grands" to help you with video recording and PowerPoint. If a six-year-old can do it, so can you. Speaking of technology, I've noticed how nervous people are about joining Zoom meetings. Seriously, I wouldn't lie to you, it's SO easy. And it's just so heart-warming to see our rock buddies again, practically in person.

Going old school, check out our MWF program library for "how-to-do" DVDs. The list of programs is in the MWF Directory (gold pages) and on the website.

Continued on page 6



### 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)

## Presidents Message continued from page 1

I know it might seem intimidating, but if you want to give it a try I know you will be able to do this.



The picture above is the entire lab. There are 2 stations where tools are used to remove sediment to get down to the fossil. At the far corner is an enclosed blaster unit that is used for final prep. A few rules, so you know. You must wear glasses because the tools can throw pieces of roc or mud up. Hearing protection is also required as the dust collectors make noise. Mask are required, due to health dept rules and there is some dust. Don't worry there is a restroom just outside the lab.

So what tools will you use????.....brushes, micro jacks, dremels, picks. These are all small tools, so strength is not an issue. You just need some patience and be willing to learn.

Continued next page

## President Message continued from page 4



Above is a closer view of one of the workstations. This is a sauropod bone. You can see the tools are small.

**If you are interested in volunteering please reach out to me.** I will send you the contact information for Erin once you contact me. I am not making her contact information public at this time and I ask that you please do not share her information until she says it is OK.

I believe Mark plans to start building the museum to showcase these bones this year, so your work will be on display at some point!

Hope to see you sometime at the lab. What better way to spend the winter. Beats snow blowing!

## AMFS President's message continued from page 3

So thankful for the people that have answered the call to volunteer for a committee-Margaret Kolaczyk, Walt Beneze, Leslie Wayment-I'm so appreciative of you!! And I'm so thankful for the people I consider giants in this federation that serve and have served-Shirley Leeson, Emerson Tucker, Ellery Borow, and Marion Roberts! There are so many more people that I have been blessed to talk with and receive great advice from including our past presidents-Doug True, Sandy Fuller, Richard Jaeger, Dr. Bob Carlson, and Dave Wayment. It is so nice to know that you all are out there, and whenever I have a question, you will point me in the right direction! And I would be remiss if I didn't give a BIG shoutout to Cheryl Neary in the Central Office and Sue Webb our awesome newsletter editor!! I couldn't ask for a better right-hand woman than Cheryl to answer my questions and collect information that I'm needing! So many have contributed to the American Federation and hobby over the years, and I was really sad to hear of the passing of one of the giants, Dee Holland. Dee was always larger than life to me, and I always appreciated his knowledge and wisdom! We also lost a wonderful rockhound friend who served as the North Dakota State Director for many, many years, Russ Olinger. Russ didn't know a stranger and enjoyed sharing the excitement of his hobby with everyone he met!

Looking to activities in the New Year--the special committees set up by our Past-President, Dave Wayment, are perking right along! We hope that your clubs were able to take the survey about the website that was sent out as we seek to better serve you! There are some great minds working on our website offerings and our junior programs.-Thanks for ALL that you are doing and your faithfulness in serving the American Federation! Wishing you all a healthy 2021 and many great finds in the field! I'm honored to serve you.

## MWF President's message continued from page 3

I found beginning intarsia, wire-wrapping lessons and even "Cindy's Cuttlebone Casting." This library is "powered" by Robert Powers (get it?). You can send him an email at [akronmineralnews@aol.com](mailto:akronmineralnews@aol.com) or call him at 440-237-6170. You will never meet a kinder, more helpful guy than Bob. And don't forget to contact me with any concerns or suggestions. I will get back to you within 24 hours, I promise. Write [sstanforth123@yahoo.com](mailto:sstanforth123@yahoo.com), call 815-229-4009, or text 815-980-7498.