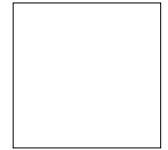


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Jason Hefner, Editor
229 East State St
Etna Green, IN 46524



May 2021

Volume 61 Number 3

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 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/mwfi/> 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

Tired....who else is tired? Tired of the pandemic, tired of politics (either party), tired of the media, or just plain tired? There has been a lot of research completed about the impact of the last year on people. The amount of stress we have all been through is phenomenal.

Please take some time to give yourself a mental break to rest and relax. I have found myself very stressed and was finally able to take a break and get away for a week with my lovely wife. We enjoyed the beautiful Keweenaw peninsula in Michigan's UP.

It is very important that everyone have a way to relieve your stress. It might be rock collecting, but it could be yoga, exercising, art. Whatever works best for you is what you should do. Please make sure to drink plenty of water and eat properly. Limit your alcohol and get plenty of sleep. If you need help, please reach out.

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: May 23, 2021

Doors open at 1:30

Meeting starts at 2:00 pm

Place:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
29th & Wall

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

and

Online via Zoom – look for a separate email.

Bring your own snacks & drinks if desired.

We will discuss the August show & sign up.

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

Meeting minutes *by Diane Gram, MGMS Secretary*

March 28, 2021 Zoom Meeting

Jason Hefner called the meeting to order at 2:02. Twenty members with Zoom.

Jason stated that it is possible to have an in person meeting at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church on April 25, using the state recommendations for safety precautions.

Jason is looking into several 1 day field trips. Everyone would need to provide their own transportation. One could be to fossil garden that is on the other side(east) of Fort Wayne. Jason is also waiting for information on a fossil hunt.

If you have any suggestions for day trips, provide details and let Jason know.

Joe Perry stated that Marie Crull received a dealer request, the contacted Joe and he said he was not chairman but Josh Klosinski was.

Josh stated that he is working on a flyer. The show is scheduled Aug. 20, 21, 22 (the third week of Aug.). It will be held at the St. Joe County 4 H Fair Grounds. There will be some changes, several dealers will not be attending, they are no longer doing shows or time frame is not good for them. There is need for someone to take care of setup and clean up.

Also kitchen needs someone in charge and to work with club members for changes that need to be made due to Covid.

We have only two meeting dates before the show. There will have to be changes due to the health situation. Will masks be required?, sanitation stations, mandates may change by the show but we don't want to jeopardize anyone's health.

Contact Josh with suggestions and how you can be a vital leader of an essential part of running the show.

Virginia Steel bought up what will we do for snacks for the meeting? A suggestion was to bring your own? Information will be put out about this in the announcement about the April meeting.

Continued on Page 4

AFMS – From the desk of the President by Judy Beck,

AFMS President excerpted from [A.F.M.S. Newsletter Volume 74, Number 3 – April 2021](#)

Hey Everyone!



February sure flew by and there is lots of news to share with you! First. I want to start off by letting you know that Jim Brace-Thompson has submitted his resignation as President-elect. Jim's mother has lingering health issues following a COVID infection that has required Jim to step in as her primary caregiver. I am happy to report though that Jim will continue as the Junior Activities Chair. While I am sorry that Jim has stepped down, I admire his dedication to his family!

After consulting Steve Weinberger and the AFMS Bylaws, I contacted Juanita Pardun, CFMS President, for their federation's nomination to replace Jim. Their board elected Margaret Kolaczyk to serve. Our executive board also voted to elect Margaret to serve as President-elect and then President in 2022. Margaret has the qualifications that are outlined in our by-laws and we are happy to welcome her aboard. Look forward to a message coming from Margaret soon!

Continued next page

President's message Susan Stanforth, MWF President

excerpted from [MWF News April 2021 - Issue No. 601](#)

Howdy, Howdy. Crocuses are starting to come up, which means one thing: Spring is almost here. And with Covid decreasing in cases plus widespread vaccinations, I think rock hunting, in-person meetings, and rock shows may be right around the corner.

MWF will have our Spring Meeting on Zoom on April 10th (9 a.m. CST, 10 a.m. EST). I'm excited to see everyone from the State Directors (and Assistants) to the Executive Committee Chairs.

We want a report from EVERYONE – just a small paragraph is fine. Even if you have little to report, PLEASE tell what you have to offer to the MWF membership. Get that report to Donna by April 1st. No, we're not fooling!!!

Next on my agenda is the AFMS Convention in Big Piney, WY on June 17-20. I've never been on a Doug True field trip, but if what I hear is "true", it should be quite an adventure for Blue Forest Petrified Wood and the Fossil Fish dig, of course. And seeing all the regional people will be incredible.

Part of my job description is to visit Midwest clubs and shows. But I need an invitation, so please contact me for a fun visit. Also, I would be ever so grateful to receive your club newsletters. Add my address to your recipient list. Fill my mailbox, folks!!!!

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

Read the rest by following the link above.

Minutes continued from page 2

The picnic was mentioned and the high cost of some of the rental places. Volunteers to handle the picnic are needed. We do have some funds in the budget for the picnic.

Tom Noe asked about the cleaning of fossils for Mark Turner's future museum. Jason will let Erin (the expert in charge) know and she will make contact.

AFMS – From the desk of the President Continued from previous page

This month we lost a GIANT in the AFMS and a friend that I will always remember with great admiration and fondness. Emerson Tucker who most recently was our Show Consultant and who has served as President of the AFMS passed away. When Emerson knew he was ill he called me several times and talked with me about his replacement and gave me great advice in my role as President. Even when he was ill, he was expressing his support for me. When I read his obituary, I was so impressed with all the things he had done in his life! He certainly left a mark and will be remembered for his humor, kindness, and wisdom! Our condolences to his wife Pat!

The ad hoc committees for Long-Range planning continue to move ahead and are making some awesome progress. We are looking forward to sharing with you what we have been working on at the meeting in June! Hint-I think you'll like it!!

Congratulations to Ian Kirk on earning his 20th badge and STAR in the Junior Rockhounds of America program this past October! What an awesome achievement!! Congratulations to the Tulsa Rock and Mineral Society for working with this wonderful program!

Ok, this is some muddy water, but I'd like to wade in a bit. I think it is time for us to start thinking of a sloooow transition to a digital look for disseminating our news. Now, I can hear some of you right now J-I love my newspaper too. Notice I said slow; we're not stopping anything but would like to start compiling email addresses to start sending out our newsletter digitally. Adopting a digital newsletter would allow us to send out many more copies than we currently do. No club would be limited to 3 copies;-if we have your email address, you can get one! Also, a digital copy enables you to view photos in color to add to the wonderful articles you read each month. We spend \$15,000 on our newsletter each year for honestly a limited audience. When we talk about reaching younger members, they are not reading newspapers for their information; they are on their phones or their computers. If you would like to receive a digital copy, please send your email address to Cheryl in the Central Office. If you want to offer a comment, send an email to me.-I'd love to hear from you!!

A BIG thank you to the clubs that are sending me their newsletters! I enjoy reading them and seeing what you all are up to!

Plans are progressing for the show in Big Piney June 17-20th-I would love to see you all there!

John Davis

Born October 31, 1953 to the late William and Eleanor Davis, John was the third of six children. Preceded in death by brothers Robert Davis, William Davis, Jackie Davis, and great grandson Keegan Michael Peate. John enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1971. August 19, 1973, he united with his wife of 48 years, Mary (Platz) Davis. Fathering two daughters, Melissa and Teresa. John was employed at Hubbell Raco for 21 years where he was a proud and active member of the IUE CWA Local 84913.

John was the “Rock” of his family, stopping at nothing to make sure his family’s needs were met. John enjoyed weekend family dinners, watching his great- grandkids running around, playing with his fur-babies, and sitting around the table debating various topics. He was an avid outdoorsman, enjoying hunting and fishing trips with his brother, Bob. His love of the outdoors eventually led him to his passion, gem and mineral mining, and he became a member of the Michiana Gem and Mineral Society. John possessed a wealth of knowledge and was always eager to pass his knowledge and life experiences on to anybody willing to listen.



John is survived by his loving wife Mary, daughters Melissa and Teresa Davis (Toy Smith), grandchildren Alexander (Sierra) Peate, Hannah (Allen) Pederson, Dante Givens, Tracy Harrison, and Stacie Harrison (papa’s princess). He is also survived by great- grandchildren Naveah (George) Peate, Alexander (A.J) Peate Jr., Harmony Pederson, Oliver Pederson, and Elijah Pederson, Sister Sandra (William) Dempler, brother Leanard Davis Sr., a special sister- in- law Barbara Davis, and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family.

A Celebration of Life will be planned for later this year. Palmer Funeral Home – Bubb Chapel is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences for the family may be made at www.palmerfuneralhomes.com.

Our family would like to thank everyone for your prayers and condolences. Special thanks to Deller Franklin for guiding us through this rough journey. Rest in Peace Papa, we love you forever and always.





