

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



May 2022

Volume 62 Number 2

THE ROCKFINDER

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

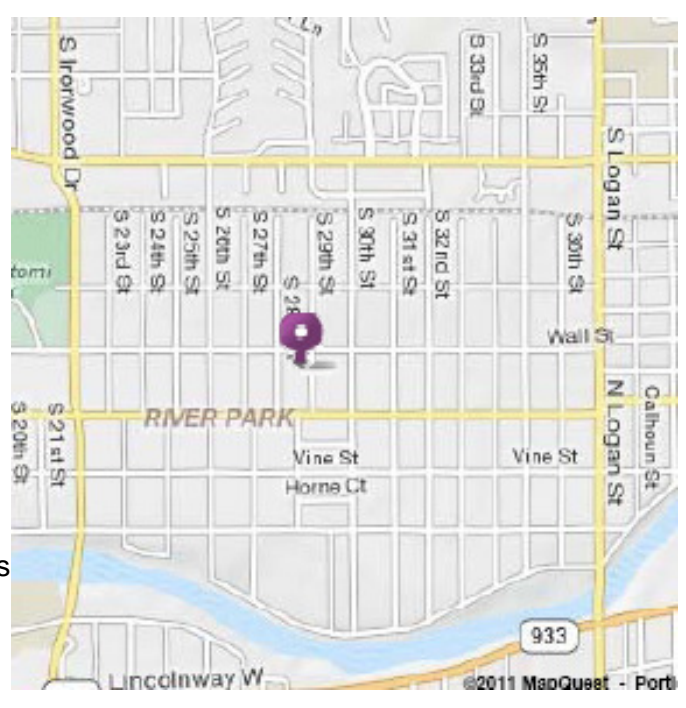
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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/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 Ross Ferguson, MGMS

President
Greetings to all,

I have settled in a bit as president of the club and am feeling more comfortable each meeting. I wish the weather would settle in as well.

I think everyone is looking forward to a few more sunny days and warmer weather. I am making plans for upcoming rock trips and just waiting for the weather to cooperate.

I will not be at the May meeting, which is moved up a week earlier to accommodate Memorial Day. We are going to Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire hoping to do a little rockin 'in the Poland Springs area looking for the elusive tourmaline. I also will cross off 3 more states on my bucket list of going to all 50 states. That will leave Alaska and Hawaii.

Continued on Page 2

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: May 22, 2022

**Doors open at 1:30 pm
Meeting starts at 2:00 pm**

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

Board of Directors

President: Ross Fergerson
574-850-6208

Vice-President: Nick Pellus
574-264-4772

Secretary: Jan Pellus
574-264-4772

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger
574-259-5944

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

I have great news to pass on. Today I was notified that the facility where our plans to build a studio, have been given the go ahead. Everyone was excited at our last meeting to move the club in a positive direction and possibly increase membership. There are still some questions to be answered, but the organization has given the green light for us to start. There are upgrades that we will need to accomplish and I will be asking for recommendations and volunteers to assist. At the June meeting I will go over these upgrades and the overall proposal I submitted. Please be thinking of ways we can use this facility and how to get the word out. I do have ideas, but I want to hear from you, the members. The program for the June meeting will involve us taking a little trip to the facility and giving everyone the chance to comment. I wish I could divulge the location, but until all questions are answered I have been asked to keep it under wraps.

Along with that we were given the opportunity to purchase all of the contents of member Bill Krull's studio. I approved the purchase as we had 3 days to make the decision prior to it being turned over to the auction house. We paid \$2500 dollars for the entire contents which involves polishers, grinders, trim saws, Ultra tec faceting machine, torches, too many to count hand tools, storage bins, benches, stools and many other items related to lapidary. Bill also built stringed instruments(luthier), stained glass, fusing glass, ceramics, pottery all of which now belong to the club. I would like to thank Bob Miller and John Jaworski for the assistance in evaluating this equipment.

This purchase saved the club thousands of dollars in starting up our studio. We hope to sell off material from the non lapidary items to pay for the cost and possibly pay for some of the space upgrades. We are not taking the kiln in the corner so if anyone knows or wants a pottery or ceramic kiln I can put you in touch with Bill's son and possibly a real good deal.

Bill, John, and I have removed all of the hazardous waste from the space and have taken 6 boxes of waste to the St. Joseph County Hazardous Waste Facility.

I will be asking for volunteers in June to assist in the removal of all items and in cleaning the studio up. The Pastor has given us the green light to store the items in the basement until our new space is ready.

I know I said this is a forward looking project and would be happening probably next year, but these things fell into place and I feel comfortable with the decisions I have made.

Sorry for the long winded letter, but I am a little excited.

See you all in June,

AFMS – From the desk of the President

Margaret Kolaczyk, AFMS President 2021-2022n excerpted from [Volume 75, Number 4– May, 2022](#)
Spring has finally arrived. Time to dust off the sun hat and head out to see what Mother Nature has uncovered after the rains. I know there really has not been a lot of rain this year but just a light rain can wash away the dust and sometimes at first light one can look across a field and see some rocks that sparkle from the sun light. This was something I did when I was in high school. There was a large field where I could find thunder eggs.

Unfortunately the field now is covered with homes. As time passes I am sure that many of you can remember places where you could collect some wonderful material and now those places are no longer accessible. Within each regional federation, there is a committee working hard to help keep these areas open. So take a second and find out who these individuals are and see if there is something you can do to help. This May I will be giving a Judges Training Seminar. This seminar is going to cover the whole manual. It's aim is for individuals who are wanting to learn to become a judge and to also help anyone who would like to compete. The seminar is open to all AFMS members. All the information is included in this newsletter.

Safe travels to everyone!

President's Message

Catherine Clevenz, MWF President excerpted from [May 2022 - Issue No. 612](#)
Looks like April showers do bring May flowers! It also brings on more rock, gem and mineral shows. Speaking of shows, I really enjoyed the show given by Des Plaines Valley Geological Society from Des Plaines, Illinois. The members I had an opportunity to meet were absolutely wonderful! The vendors had top quality products at reasonable prices. The item that really caught my attention was their kids' area. They had many different things for the kids to do, like a treasure hunt. It also taught the children more than rocks and definitely kept them entertained!



It was wonderful to read the different reports about what is happening with the MWF and the different club members. If you get a chance, please take the time to read them in this issue. Also, I want to thank all of those who attended the Spring Meeting in person and on Zoom. It was greatly appreciated.

That's all for now. Happy rockhounding to you!



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

March Minutes, by Jan Pellus, Secretary

Members in attendance / Adults_30__Children__0__ New Members_4__Guests_1

Call TO ORDER President Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Recognizing Past Presidents: Kathy Miller

Secretary report: Jan Pellus/ Correction to February's minutes: The Kraftors out reach program has 2 scheduled at present, not 22 as earlier reported. Motion made and seconded accept minutes as printed in the Rockfinder

Treasurer's report: Lynn Zeiger / Motion made by Don Church and seconded by Linda Cripe to accept report

Parliamentarian: Ross Ferguson

Midwest Federation/ The show will be held in Springfield, MO Oct 22-23.

American Federation/ The meeting will be held in Louisiana

American Lands Access/ When hunting and collecting it is important to be aware of where you are, especially in the western states. You may hunt on federal land but not private land. The BLM offices will provide maps and information. Also be aware of rules pertaining to crossing private land. (could get "interesting") State maps can also be very helpful.

Committee Reports

Show & Tell: Ross Ferguson brought in some material he collected in Wyoming.

Jim Daly brought in a few micro mounts to share with the members.

Dennis and Holly brought in a sample of new kits of various materials they have made to aid in teaching kids about fossils and minerals. The kits contain samples of materials with the information about the specimen. They will meet with Jesse on possible usage.

Editor: Jason Hefner / No report

Educational: Jesse Zeiger / No report

Face Book: Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor/ Send pictures and stories to post.

Field Trips: / Jim Daly noted there the Brown County June 24 – 26. Possible field trip to the Fossil Park and other sites in the French Lick area.

Continued next page

March Minutes, continued from Previous page

Historian: Jim Daly/ No report

Hospitality: tabled for now

Membership: Nancy Foreman / We have 4 new members and 1 guest

Programs: / Program for April will be John Jaworski on gold

Publicity: Josh Klosinski/ Looking into more venues to get the clubs information to the public.

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / No report

Show Chair: Josh Klosinski / The show will be held August 19 – 21. We have received reservations from most vendors. We are looking into the possibility of expanding our space for the show. Any suggestions?

Sunshine: - Annette Freel & Sherry Kobie / No report

Webmaster: Joe Perry / Bill Crull's son has contacted us to help in disposing of his rock collection and equipment. Bill is now in a nursing home following Marie's passing.

Old Business

Holly KRAFTOR reminded us that they will not be available to run the Kids Corner for the show this year. They will set it up if someone will take charge of it. Please contact them.

The club picnic will be held at the REZ the first Sunday in August. The food will again be provided by the club.

New Business

We need to find ways to replenish our membership. Everything in the club is driven by our members. We are looking for creative ways to get our club into the public eye, such as working with libraries and posting fliers in local stores.

There was a discussion on the present committees. It was decided that some should be combined. The liaison, parliamentarian, Midwest and American federations will be combined. The library will dissolved with the materials being sold at the silent auction. There will be further discussion on refreshments following the meetings. Most seem to prefer to have snacks, such as cookies, potato chips, and other finger foods rather than hot foods in crock pots or roasters. To be continued.

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded.

Program: Nick Pellus on ways to display rocks.

Next Meeting: April 24, 2022

April Minutes April 24, 2022, by Jan Pellus, Secretary

Call to Order: President Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

PAST PRESIDENTS: Diane Gram, Kathy Miller, Bill Foreman

Secretary report: Jan Pellus/ Motion made and seconded to accept minutes

Treasurer's report: Lynn Zeiger / Motion made and seconded to accept report

Parliamentarian: Ross Ferguson
Midwest Federation/

American Federation/

American Lands Access/

Committee Reports

Show & Tell/ Nick Pellus - Diane Gram brought a specimen she collected in the west to be identified. Holly and Dennis Kraftor brought specimens collected on a fossil hunt near Bridgeman Ohio. The trips are very well organized and guided. Andrew Archias brought in some fossil specimens that he collected near Coal City. Glen and Kathy Wallace brought some polished rocks to share. Thank you everyone.

Editor: Jason Hefner / Please submit articles for the Rockfinder by the 5th of the month.

Educational: Jesse Zeiger / No report

Face Book: Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor/ Send stories and photos to post on face book.

Field Trips: / No Report

Historian: Jim Daly/ No Report

Hospitality: No Report

Membership: Nancy Foreman /

Members in Attendance: Adults 24 Children 0 New Members 0 Guests 1

Programs: / May meeting Dian Gram and Marty Perry will share their adventures on a dino hunt with Mark Tarner.

Continued next page

April Minutes continued from Previous page

Publicity: Josh Klosinski/ We are trying to put club information in area newspapers, as well as placing club fliers in public areas such as retail stores and libraries.

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger /No Report

Show Chair: Josh Klosinski/ Last year we spent \$1500 on face book and the internet for show advertising. We brought in 3000 guests to the show. This year we would like to increase the budget to \$2000. Motion made and seconded to do so. Kathy and Glen Wallace will handle the kids corner in Denis and Holly's absence. Sign up sheets for the show are available on the table in the back. Please sign up for a 2 hour shift. Let's make this our best show yet!

Sunshine: - Annette Freel & Sherry Kobie / Sympathy card to Dian Gram for her sister and the family of Terry Boswell

Webmaster: Joe Perry / No Report

Old Business

The subject of purchasing a trailer to store club material was discussed. Other options were also discussed such as a storage unit, or separate building. Ross advised the club members that he has a potential "studio" location. This will have space for meetings, for storing club materials, as well as space for equipment for club members to use. It also has kitchen and restrooms. He is currently working on a proposal to submit. Members also suggested that we could possibly have space for other local artists to use. The members agreed that we should pursue this location. Ross will keep us informed.

New Business

Diane Gram reminded us that Mark Tarnier's "dino lab" has reopened. They are looking for volunteers to assist in fossil cleaning. They will teach how. The lab is located in a house across from the airport. A sign up sheet is available.

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded

Program: John Jaworski presented a program on gold