

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



January 2023

Volume 63 Number 1

# THE ROCKFINDER

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

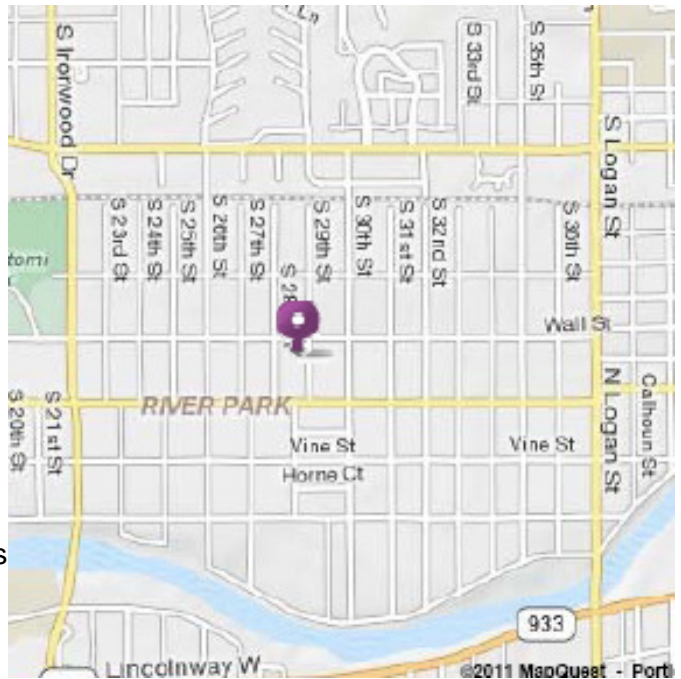
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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 5<sup>th</sup>. 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:  
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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, President

Hope everyone is enjoying the new year. Since I will not be at the January meeting I thought I would give everyone an update on the club happenings.

As you may have seen we are now set to have meetings every month. May the meeting will be moved up a week due to Memorial Day.. July will have the picnic(remember to rsvp 2 weeks before). August will have the show. December will have the Christmas Party.

The studio is moving along. Today 1/10 they started by changing the lock, adding an outside handle, and keying the door. Entry into the building for the club will now be through the basement. They are also changing the electrical outlets, adding a toilet in the men's room, and erecting our doored wall at the end of the hallway. Thursday afternoon this will all be completed. At that point I will disseminate keys to the necessary individuals.

Heading to AZ on the 17th. I have the opportunity to dig mine tailings for Azurite, Malachite, Smithsonite, Rosalite, and Allophane. Excited about that! Along with Quartzite and Tucson shows I have put together 4 rock hunting trips. If you are going out there and are interested in going along or getting together let me know.

Until February be safe!

## Up & Coming

**Next Meeting: January 22, 2023**

**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 area)

## Board of Directors

President: Ross Ferguson  
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: Jason Hefner, Ross  
Ferguson

Historian: Jim Daly

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

Juniors: Kathy Chidister

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

# December 04, 2022 Minutes

by Jan

Pellus, Secretary

**Call to Order:** President Ross Ferguson

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome**

**Recognize PAST PRESIDENTS:** Kathy Miller, Bill Foreman, Jason Hefner

**SUNSHINE:** Pamela Rubenstein a past member passed away.

## Old Business

A motion was made and seconded to accept the slate of officers.

President	Ross Ferguson
Vice President	Nick Pellus
Secretary	Jan Pellus
Treasurer	Lynn Zeiger

Ross announced that the MOU has been signed and we are ready to move ahead with the studio.

Ross also discussed the 2023 show and the importance of members to step up to run the show. We need a show chair and 8 or 9 sub committees. We will also have space to add 4 or 5 new vendors. The following members stepped up:

Show Chair	Bob Chopa
Floor Plan	Joe Perry
Kids Corner	Dennis and Holly Kraftor
Demonstrators	Bob Miller
Silent Auction	Tom Noe
Entrance and <i>Club Tables</i>	Kathy Chidister and

Stephanie Hughes

*This is our 60<sup>th</sup> show anniversary. Let's make it special.*

## NEW BUSINESS

*Our junior members Elear Kraftor and Isabel Hughes have earned their collecting awards. CONGRATULATIONS!!*

**Program: Christmas Dinner**

## AFMS President's Message — Cheryl Neary, 2022-23

AFMS President excerpted from [Volume 75, Number 9– December, 2022 /January 2023](#)

Greetings - It may have come as a bit of a surprise to some of you that I was voted in as president of the AFMS. First, I would like to commend Matt Charsky for stepping up as President basically a little over a month prior to the convention. Matt, once again as President, ran a very successful annual meeting and also as master of ceremonies at the banquet. Prior to Margaret's stepping down due to other obligations, Matt had asked if I would be willing to be nominated as the president since as EFMLS representative I sat on the Board as third and second vice--and obviously I agreed.

So, a little bit about myself. --- Growing up, as a child I was fascinated with the world of Jacques Cousteau. Some of you may remember the TV show, which I would watch with my family on the one and only TV in the home. As a youngster, I dreamed of studying marine geology and oceanology. Then, when I was in high school, an English teacher required us to read a biography of a person on death row --and I was moved by the book and thought--maybe I should think about criminal justice. I decided to attend a NYS college in Oneonta that was known for a great geology department and that still maintains a great geology department--and did a year as a volunteer at a jail a few towns away. I graduated with a BS in Geology and have always been interested in geology as a professional and hobbyist. [Follow the link above for the remainder of the message.](#)

**President's Message** Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, MWF President  
excerpted from [January 2023 - Issue No. 618](#)

I wish all our members a joyous holiday season. Soon our thoughts will turn to next year's adventures in rockhounding. And speaking of next year, it is time for all clubs to submit dues, insurance payments (if applicable), and information about club shows for 2023. We want to make sure the word gets out about your club's events!

Those considering preparing an entry for the All American Award will have until April 1st to get it to me, as I am the chairman for that award. We are moving beyond COVID, so I hope we will have some entries from clubs active in 2022.

I am also announcing the opening of the T-shirt logo contest for 2023. A prize of \$50.00 will be awarded for the slogan selected for our MWF shirt. The shirt will be created by Sandy Shorter, chair of the MWF Public Image and Courtesy Committee, as part of her efforts to promote the organization. All entries should be emailed to me by March 1, 2023 to be considered. Let's come up with something that rocks!



### 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)

## 2023 Science Alive February 11<sup>th</sup>

Looks like we are going to be exhibitors again with Science Alive! It's a great day. You have a chance to talk with hundreds (probably a few thousand really) of kids about our hobby. We need volunteers on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am – 4:00pm. We usually have shifts, so you do not need to spend the entire day, unless you want too!!

We are going to have a sign-up list at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. We will also need items to display! Larger specimens work best. Things kids can touch and feel. If you have smaller items those would be great if you have a case or shadow box. Please give it some thought. Few pictures from previous events.

