

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



March 2023

Volume 63 Number 2



THE ROCKFINDER

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

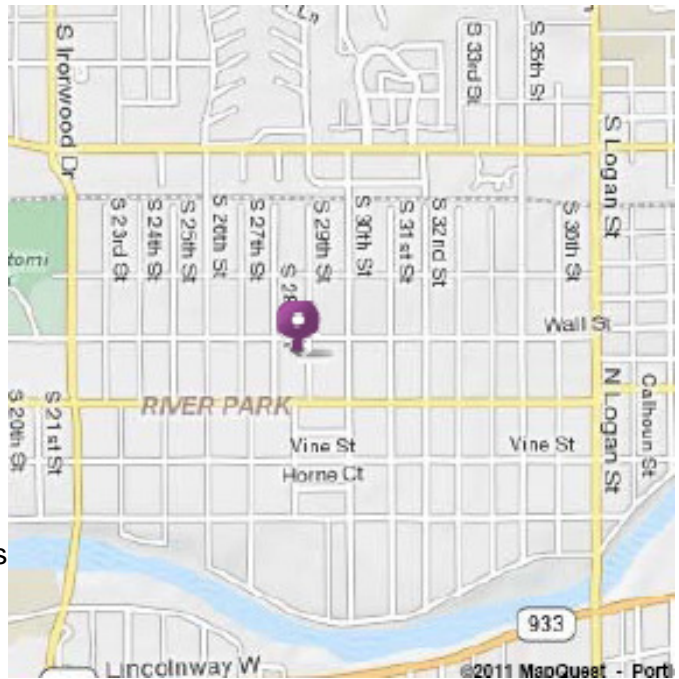
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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, President

Hope everyone is doing well!

This is pretty much the winter that never happened(except for the snowfall two nights ago).

As we come to more pleasant weather shows are starting to crop up in the Midwest Federation. I encourage everyone to check out the Midwest website and consider attending. One can never know what one may find or learn there.

If you do go it is also a chance to get the word out concerning our show. Let people know! Anytime you here someone talk about loving rocks or their kids do let them know we exist and give them all the information you can.

It's that time of year for trip planning. I am starting to research my wish list for the upcoming season to include North shore of Lake Superior, North shore of Lake Michigan, Bedford area, Haunted Ridge, Mt. Mica and Mt. Apatite in Maine, Western North Carolina, and Northwestern South Carolina. Remember take plenty of photos and post them on our Facebook page.

Continued on next page

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: March 26, 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 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: Jason Hefner, Ross
Fergerson

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

Presidents Message continued from Page 1

I have reserved 2 stalls for a rock tailgate festival at the Rockhound Rock Shop in Galesburg MI under the club name. I am planning on attending and selling some of my inventory. I got 2 stalls in case anyone is interested in the same let me know. It is Saturday May 6th in conjunction with the Kalamazoo Club Show at the Fairgrounds. I will be promoting our club and show while there.

Also I am working in conjunction with another entity on having a spring pop market in the parking lot of the church. This will allow club members and other local small businesses to sell their wares. Hopefully a couple of food trucks. This is in its infancy. I am having talks with the church to see if it is viable. I will keep you posted.

Stay safe, Stay Healthy and Rock on!

Ross

February 2023 Minutes by Jan Pellus, Secretary

Meeting Minutes Date: February 26, 2023
Call to Order: President Ross Fergerson

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

PAST PRESIDENTS: Kathy Miller, Bill Foreman

Secretary report: Jan Pellus/ Rockfinder not available

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

Parliamentarian: Ross Fergerson

Midwest Federation/ Midwest federation would like to work with us on kids programs.

American Federation/

American Lands Access/

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

AFMS President excerpted from [Volume 76, Number 2 — March 2023](#)

“Beware the Ides of March” is a term that many of us know from history and associate with the day Julius Caesar was assassinated.

Did you know, though, that there are several months with “ides” on the 15th day of the month, including March, May, July and October; the “Ides” in the other eight months is the 13th day of the month. The Roman’s calendar was connected to the phases of the Moon. The passage of time was marked by the following:

- “kalend” — the first day of the month
- “none” — the first quarter of the Moon, either the fifth or seventh day, and
- “Ides” — the full Moon, which is either the 13th or the 15th day.

March 15th was the first full moon of the new year in the Roman calendar. Ides is usually the middle of the month, the timing of the full moon. The word “ides” is derived from a Latin word meaning to divide. In Roman times the Ides of March was also a deadline for settling debts.

Before his untimely death, Julius Caesar enacted a calendar that was similar to our modern calendar, with 365 days, 12 months, and even a leap year every few years, as the Earth orbit around the sun is not exactly 365 days!

[Click on the link above for the remainder of the article!](#)

President's Message

excerpted from [March 2023 - Issue No. 620](#)

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, MWF President
This month sees me far distant from our Federation. I am in Tucson for their amazing show. This show, which is actually many shows throughout the city, was created by an AFMS club, the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, many years ago. It has expanded to a fabulous experience.

I know there are a number of people from my state of Ohio out here, and I suspect many others from the MWF. If you've never experienced it, I recommend you put it on your list for 2024.

And don't forget to enter our contests! We are extending our T-shirt slogan contest until April 1. The deadlines for the Bulletin Editors' Contest and the All American Club Awards will be within a few days of the time you read this, so you may or may not have time to enter.

But if you missed them this year, prepare now for next year's contest. It is time to go for the glory.



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

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Committee Reports

Show & Tell/ Nick Pellus – Holly and Dennis Kraftor shared their trip to Tucson and showed us some of their new fluorescence finds.– Stephanie Hughes shared some of her recent finds.- John Jaworski brought some misc fluorescent specimens from the West. – Ashley showed some of her finds from Michigan beaches. - Ross shared rock hunting adventures on a recent trip to Tucson with clubs from the area and the show. Holly and Dennis helped him find rocks he could not resist. Kathy and Glen brought some flower seeds to share.

Editor: Jason Hefner / No Report

Educational: Jesse Zeiger / No Report

Face Book: Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor/ Please send stories and pictures about rock hunting trips you have taken recently. We are thinking of creating a mineral or fossil of the month for face book.

Field Trips: / We need to work with other clubs from our area to find new places to go. If you have a rock trip planned, let our members know. They may want to join you.

Historian: Jim Daly/ No Report

Hospitality:

Juniors: Kathy Chidaster / The juniors are busy the working on projects.

Membership: Nancy Foreman /
Members in Attendance: Adults 31 Children 4 Guests 1

Programs: / Need someone to take charge

Publicity: Josh Klosinski/ Promote our club as you are talking with other people such as shopping or visiting other events.

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / No Report

Show Chair: Bob Chopa/ Contracts for the vendors have been sent. The deadline for receiving them is April 15. We are still considering options for food for vendors and members. Joe is working on the layout.

Sunshine: - /

Webmaster: Joe Perry / No Report

Continued on next page

February Minutes continued from previous page

Old Business

Ross advised the club members that the current pastor of the church will be leaving in spring. He has met with the trustees to ascertain what that will mean for our club. At this time we will continue as usual. All work on our studio will stop. There are several hoops the church must go through before we will know how these changes will affect us. The church assures us that it will remain active for approximately 4 to 5 years. In the meantime we will be on the lookout for other possible meeting sites.

New Business

Holly advised us that she was contacted by the ETHOS group in Elkhart. They are possibly looking to have a presence for a geology based group at their facility. Holly will set up a time when we can meet with them. She will advise us when. Anyone interested can join the meeting. Ross found a source for anyone interested in taking classes on learning to create mosaics. Also, the Forever Learning group at Little Flower Church will be offering a class on geology.

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded

Next Meeting: March 26, 2023

Obligatory rock pictures

Southern Indiana calcites collected by Jason Hefner. White Light and MidWave UV Light

