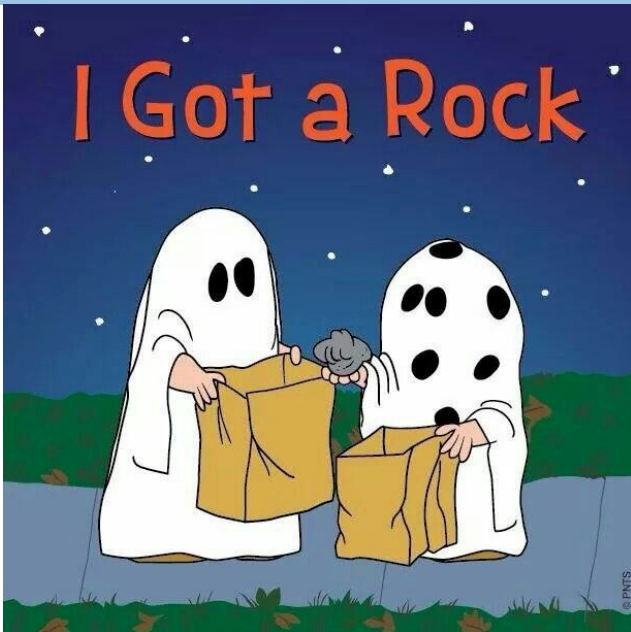


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Jason Hefner, Editor
229 East State St
Etna Green, IN 46524



October 2023

Volume 63 Number 6



Copyright Apple TV+2020

THE ROCKFINDER

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

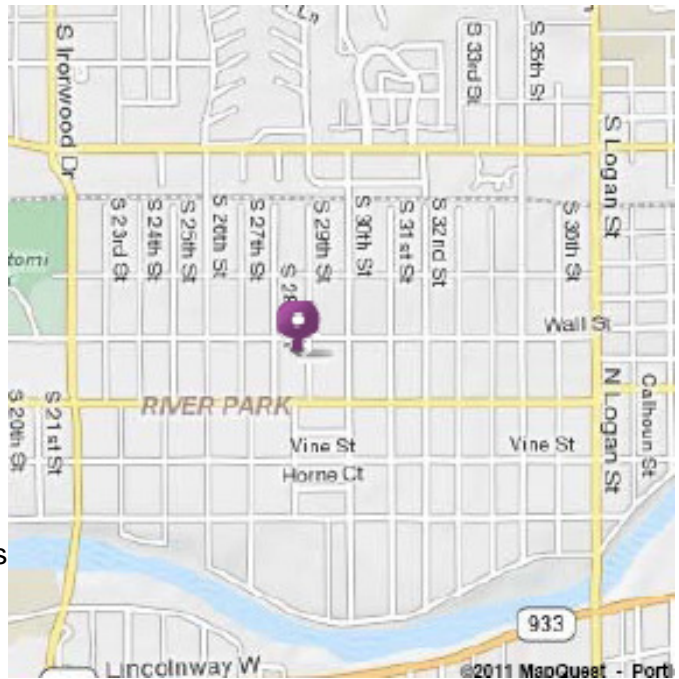
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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.



President's Message, by Ross Ferguson, President

I am working with Dr. Peter Burns from the University of Notre Dame a Mineralogist on reestablishing the scholarship program that was once a part of our club. In the process we will be following the Guidelines set forth by the Midwest Federation. At our next meeting we will be discussing this reestablishment of the scholarship. While conversing with Dr Burns a subject that I had discussed with him in the past resurfaced. He is in possession of a Ground Penetrating Radar(GPR) system and I have permission from the owner of a 1863 farm in Michigan. Put the two together and there is the strong possibility of locating and excavating privies(outhouses). I know that this really has nothing to do with rocks or minerals, but it is the opportunity for club members to see the GPR in action and what goes into reading the output gained. GPR's are used quite extensively in the fields of Geology and Mining.

When we get everything in place I will invite the general membership to accompany us and see the GPR in action. Should be very interesting! Hopefully when they gather all the data they may be able to present a program at one of our club meetings. I will keep everyone posted. In two weeks we are going to the Rogers Quarry. Right now I have 12 people signed up. if you are planning on going please let me know as they like around 15 to 18 people. I will be accompanying an individual down there looking at a sight for a possible geode hunting field trip for the club. As always Happy Hunting!

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: October 22, 2023

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

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

Bring your treasures form the Show for a Show & Tell!

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:

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

Juniors: Kathy Chidister
574-202-3864

Librarian:

Membership: Nancy Foreman
574-233-9178

Programs:

Publicity: Josh Klosinski
574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Bob Chapa
989-392-2501

Sunshine: Annette Freel 574-293-8193,
Sherry Kobie 574-522-0189

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

September Meeting minutes By Jan Pellus, Secretary

Meeting Minutes Date: September 24, 2023

Members in attendance / Adults_35__Children_3___ New
Members_3_Guests_____

Call to Order: President Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

PAST PRESIDENTS: Diane Gram, Kathy Miller, Jason Hefner

Secretary report: Jan Pellus/ Motion made and seconded to accept
minutes as printed in the Rockfinder

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

Parliamentarian: Ross Ferguson

Midwest Federation/ open

American Federation/ open

American Lands Access/ open

Committee Reports

Show & Tell/ Nick Pellus/ Bob Miller and a new member brought
specimens to share.

Editor: Jason Hefner / Please send stories. Would like to have any
information by the 5th.

Educational: Jesse Zeiger -Dennis and Holly Kraftor/ No Report

Face Book: Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor/ Send stories

Field Trips: / Ron Coleman told the club members that a full eclipse of the
sun will on Oct 24th. Ross is looking into organizing more field trips.

Continued on page 4

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

AFMS President excerpted from [Volume 76, Number 7 — October 2023](#)



It has been an interesting year for me. I have met so many people through the various federations. This will be my last President's Message since the term ends on October 31, 2023 for me. It has been an honor to serve the AFMS and to serve with the Board members and the committee chairs. Lastly, thank you to all the members of the AFMS. I encourage you all to support this fine federation, as well as your regional federation and of course, your club!

I ventured Labor Day weekend to Kentucky for three reasons. First, I met club members and friends from the Catawba Valley Gem & Mineral Club (CVGMC, Hickory, North Carolina) at their annual Labor Day field trip near Harrodsburg. I believe this is my 8th year of joining them! The variety of rocks and minerals at multiple locations are field collected by people who all meet at the location, from all walks of life and numerous states. The first two nights we have a swap and/or sell, providing a great opportunity to obtain various other minerals. It is always enjoyable to be around people who have the same love of the hobby and rockhounding!

President's Message

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, MWF President excerpted from [June 2023 - Issue No. 623](#)

MWF has had a productive and enjoyable year. The 2023 directory shows that nearly all of our clubs maintained their membership, and it is clear that events and shows are abounding throughout our 12 states.

We have had a slate of dynamic officers this year, and I am grateful particularly to Cheryl Neary, who stepped up to be First Vice President, and Bill Smith, who did the same for Second Vice President, when we were in need of those leadership positions at the beginning of my term.

I thank also Stephen Shimatzki, who became our new Treasurer and is doing a terrific job. Thanks as always to our long-standing Secretary, Donna Moore, who is the rock we always rely upon, and her husband, J.C., who is working his way up the ladder to become the AFMS president. A whole lot of thanks go to our MWF News editor Valerie J. Meyers, who does a fantastic job each and every month of keeping us up-to-date and informed. I know how much hard work that involves!

Our spring Executive Committee meeting was held in Brainerd, Minnesota, on May 13th, and our hosts were the terrific members of the Cuyuna Rock, Gem and Mineral Society. Thank you for making it an enjoyable experience for the MWF Executive Committee.

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

September Meeting minutes

continued from page 2

Historian: / open

Juniors: Kathy Chidaster/ no junior program today

Membership: Nancy Foreman /

Programs: open

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / get your flu shots

Show Chair: Bob Chapa/ No Report

Sunshine: - / open

Webmaster: Joe Perry / We are in the process of redesigning and updating our web site.

Old Business

The show went very in spite of a couple glitches. Ross read the dealer comments. Next meeting we will talk about the comments and some possible solutions. Next year's show dates will be August 16,17, & 18, 2024. Shows are scheduled for the third weekend in August through 2027.

New Business

Ross announced to the members that Nick and Jan will be stepping down from their officer ships at the end of the year.

Diane Gram reminded the club that we are a not for profit organization. We need more member participation. Ross will send a list of chairman openings and the descriptions of their duties. Please consider taking one of these openings.

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded

Program: Dennis and Joanne Birdsell presented a program on creating silver besils for your stones.

Next Meeting: October 22,2023