

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



May 2013 Volume 53 Number 5



Tucson Show
Photo by Everett Harrington



TWO
ROCKFINDER

We're on the Web! See us at: <http://www.sauktown.com/Michiana>

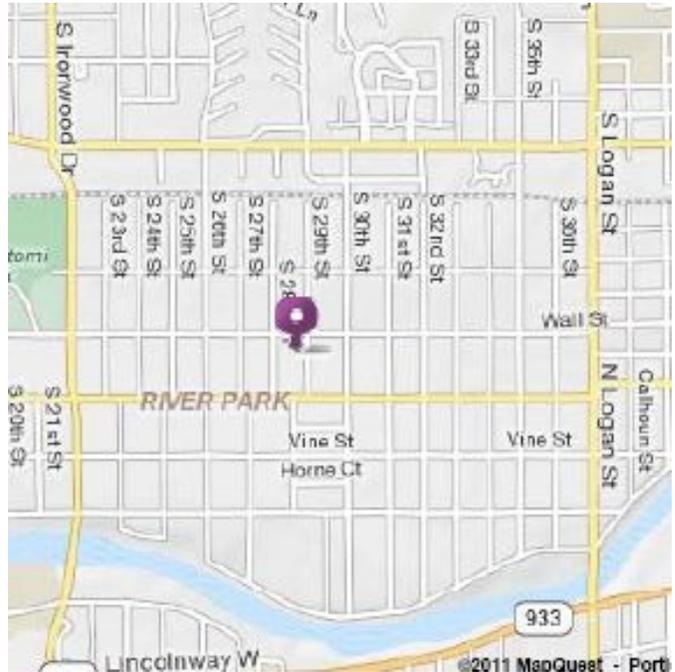
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 chose 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
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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: _____
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Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
 c/o Marty Perry
 29154 Frailey Dr
 Elkhart, IN 46514

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.sauktown.com/Michiana), is a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies
<http://www.amfed.org/mw/> and with the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies
www.amfed.org

The *Rockfinder* is 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.



Kathy's Column - President Kathy Miller

What a wonderful world, I am sitting on our deck enjoying the 70 degree weather, surrounded by spring flowers as I write this message. It was great to have Marie & Bil Crull back with us again in time to help Bill celebrate his 90th birthday.

Our meeting in April had so many positive things for the progress of our club. Jason Hefner, club Editor did a fine job as always, even putting in last minute items I sent to him. Jim Daly, club Webmaster has updated our website for us, so be sure to go to it and see what we're all about at www.MichianaGMS.org Meanwhile, are you on Facebook? If so check out our page by going to places or search and type in Michiana Gem & Mineral and get up to date notes on activities, annual show, pictures and more, put in by our Facebook Editor, Raven Bowen. The above members that I mentioned are our communication folks, an essential link in our club. Our thanks and gratitude to them.

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Up & Coming

Next Meeting: September 22, 2013

Visitors are always welcome.

Doors open at 1:30 and the meeting starts at 2:00.

Place:

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
805 S 29th Street
(29th & Wall)
South Bend, IN.
This is in the River Park area.

Refreshments:

Need volunteers

Program:

To be announced



Tucson Show picture by Everett Harrington

Board of Directors

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574-291-0332

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269-465-5814

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Carrie Brown 574-266-0150

Juniors: Trista McIntosh
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Programs: Rev Larry Calhoun
574-631-1887

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574-295-9050

Show Chair: Marie Crull
574-272-7209

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

Webmaster: Jim Daly
219-778-2196

Kathy's Column..... continued from Page 1

Also for those who couldn't attend the April meeting you missed a super program given by John Jaworski and his assistant Jason. John's experience of traveling to over 55 countries of the world certainly proved it in his program...oh my!! In all it was a good meeting, good program, good fellowship and good refreshments.

Please make a point to attend the May 19th (3rd week of May) meeting. It is the last time we get together until the July 28th annual picnic, (unless some of you go on the two June field trips). At this time I am not sure what the program will be, but I do know there will be a sign up sheet for the NEW short and long safety green tee shirts with our club logo printed on the sleeve and "got rocks" printed on the back. These will be used to wear at our show and other club related places. IF you do not get a chance to sign up and wish a shirt(s) it is important to do so soon. Bill Foreman is in charge of this, please contact him either by phone 574-233-9178 or email him at wjforeman58@sbcglobal.net and he will take your order. Plus, there will be the picnic signup sheet, the show kitchen potluck signup sheet and other show activity signups to help with during all three of the show days in August.

As I finish this message let us hope John Davis and some of our members attending the Marion, KY field trip for fluorite, find a mother lode of goodies. We are also extending congratulations to Rev. Larry Calhoun on his 50th anniversary of Ordination for Religious Service and last but not least our congratulations and best wishes to Blake Winters on his graduation from High School in June. Gooooo Blake!

Rock On,

Kathy

May Meeting Minutes by Jan Pellus

The meeting was attended by 37 adult members, and 9 junior members. There were no guests.

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Miller. Past presidents were recognized.

The April minutes were not available for approval.

Liaison – Bob Bell presented the upcoming area shows. For details contact him.

Parliamentarian – Bob Miller - Nothing to report.

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May Meeting Minutes Continued from previous page

Midwest Federation & American Federation & ALAA - Bob Bell for Tom Noe read a report from ALAA. The report is available for members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Displays – Mike Skoczylas – Rev. Larry Calhoun brought in the wire tree he has created for the special show prize.

Editor – Jason Hefner - The flashlights will arrive late. Pictures of the tree will be on facebook.

Education – Jessie Zeigler – She will compile a list of members who will be available to present programs and/or exhibits for the club.

Facebook Editor – Pictures of the tree will be posted on facebook and sent to Jason.

Field Trips – John Davis - There is a trip scheduled to Auglaize quarry in Paulding, OH on June 8th. There is also a trip scheduled to Lafarge quarry in Paulding, OH on June 22nd. Both trips promise to be good collecting.

Historian – Ed Miller - We are looking into getting signs for our vendors for the August show. Be prepared to spend a little time with your displays in order to talk to visitors to our show. We want to promote our club. We will also have posters for the kids.

Hospitality – Linda Miller & Marsha Miller - Thank you to Lana Wright, Sue Brown, Bob and Pat Bell, and Phyllis Smallwood for providing refreshments. Please sign up for the picnic and show. We still need help for September and October.

Juniors – Trista Miller – Kids are doing soap carving today.

Librarian – Pat Bell – We have added two books to our library in memory of Pat McLaughlin and Florence Schuler

Membership – Joan Hill – Nothing to report.

Program – Rev. Larry Calhoun – Joe and Marty Perry presented a program on the William Holland School of Lapidary Arts.

Publicity – Nick Pellus – If you have suggestions for programs, please contact Rev. Larry Calhoun and myself so that we can get the information in the paper.

Safety – Jesse Zeigler – We have updated the first aid kit. Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger will be in charge.

Show Report - Marie Crull and Joe Perry –Joe reports that all dealers have signed up and paid for booths. Flyers are available.

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May Meeting Minutes Continued from previous page

Marie reminded members to sign up to help with set up and tear down. We also need help picking up and returning supplies to Phyllis Smallwood's. Patty Enos has slots filled for the door. This is our 50th Show. We want to make it the best it can be.

Sunshine - Annette Freel and Sherry Kobie – a card was sent to Dave Miller for his knee replacement.

Webmaster – Jim Daly – There was a snag in flipping to the new website, but will be ready soon.

OLD BUSINESS

Please sign up for T – shirts. We need to know how many to order. The more orders we have, the lower the price.

John Davis asked members to please put in displays for the show. If you need a case, contact him or Marty Perry. We would like to have as many displays as possible.

New Business - None

ARE YOU WILLING TO DO A CLEAN-UP AS PART OF YOUR FIELD TRIPS ON PUBLIC LANDS?

By Shirley Leeson, ALAA president

ALAA is asking you to get involved. When your club goes out on a field trip on public or state lands, contact the land managers and offer to do a clean-up of the site or a nearby site they choose. Ask for a representative to be with you on the day of the clean-up to supervise and to make arrangements to haul away the trash, etc.

TAKE PICTURES of the event.

Suggestion: contact ALAA for some ALAA TRASH BAGS with the ALAA logo. The government agency may already have plastic trash bags available, but when you take pictures put the ALAA trash bags in front! Send the pictures with your club name and location, and the location of the clean-up and the government body who supervised the event to ALAA at info@amlands.org. The photos will be posted on the ALAA website and also get a write-up in the *ALAA Newsletter*. Also, send a picture and article to the MWF editor for recognition there too. Let's get rockhounds recognized once again. This kind of cooperation will help us when we ask the government to keep our public lands open for all of us. NOTE: Receiving the ALAA trash bags will take time, so plan ahead.

Excerpted from the Jan. to Mar, 2013, *ALAA Newsletter*

Shirley adds: Bring heavy gloves, sensible shoes, hat, long-sleeved shirts. Tools: a broomstick with a nail on the end prevents back strain. Use lawn rakes, small shovels. For under bushes, use those "grabbers" like the ones you use to reach for things on a high shelf. Take PICTURES, PICTURES, PICTURES and offer them to news outlets, post on Facebook, etc.

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News The Way I See It!

By Don Monroe, President AFMS Newsletter May 2013

When I accepted the job as president of the American Federation I really did not know exactly what it would be like. Well, it has been all that I expected and much more. All of what has happened has been good and I have really been surprised by the letters, e-mails and messages that our members have shared with me. Keep them coming! It is really the only way I can know what you are thinking.

Some messages dealt with an issue that is really "close to home". What will happen to our slabs, our equipment, our tools, our books, and our specimens when we are no longer doing the hobby we love? As many of you do, we have "so called mature children" but our offspring really do not have much interest in our hobby. We often encounter situations where our friends and associates are no longer able to continue those activities that have meant so much to them and the disposition of those "things" that have been so important to them are left for others to take care of and, in many cases, dispose of.

I have several times been contacted for suggestions or assistance by relatives of those who have left behind their valuable "stuff". I often do not have a good answer. As a matter of fact my wife and I really do not know what will be the final disposition of our "treasures".

Continued next page

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies News Presidents Message

by Dennis Westman MWF News May 2013

You missed a special experience if you did not attend the Lincoln, Nebraska, Gem & Mineral Club's show and MWF convention. I'd like to thank Jim Marburger, President; Charles Wooldridge, show chairman; and the show committee for a top shelf show. Our MWF activities went flawlessly because of the hard work of the Lincoln club. The whole Lincoln club outdid themselves to make us, and all their guests, feel right at home. Thank you so much. Thursday and Friday were field trips. Bags were filled with plates of huge clam shells, selenite, marcasite, agates, petrified wood and more. Meadowlarks were singing in fields of green winter wheat growing on a roller coaster of hills or on gravel bars by the river. How about this: 71 degrees! I forgot about the snow in my yard.

Saturday started the show at the Lancaster Event Center. In another part of the building was *The Mother of All Garage Sales*. A couple women garage-salers asked about the rock show. Noticing a hand full of rings, I aimed them toward the door. They were in for a pleasant surprise. Kid's activities, rows of display cases, the busiest silent auction I have ever seen, and dealers with every treasure the rock hobby can produce.

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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

Coming Events from MWF newsletter

June

8 SKOKIE, IL. Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society's 2nd Annual Rock Swap; St. Peter's United Church of Christ gymnasium (indoors), 8013 Laramie (across the street from the Public Library on Oakton). Sat. 1-5. Contact Jeanine N. Mielecki, 773.774.2054, aynine9@aol.com, www.chicagorocks.org.

8-9 PLYMOUTH, WI. Glacial Drifters Annual Show & Swap; Sheboygan County Fairgrounds, North End, 229 Fairview Dr.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Kevin Ponzio, 920.980.6413, earthprospect@frontier.com.

8-9 KALAMAZOO, MI. Michigan Geology & Gemcraft Society's Annual Seminar; Rood Hall, Western Michigan University, near W. Michigan and Ronkin Ave.; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4; Contact: Don Brown, 734.421.8159.

8-9 MANSFIELD, OH. Richland Lithic and Lapidary Society's Annual Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil Show; Arts & Crafts Building, Richland County Fairgrounds, 750 N. Home Rd.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5; Contact: Tom Kottyan, 419.562.1152.

14-16 PARK HILLS, MO. Mineral Area Gem & Mineral Society's Missouri Mines Rock Swap; Missouri Mines State Historic Site, 50000 State Hwy. 32; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; Contact: Boneta Hensley, 573.760.0488, mojellybean63@yahoo.com.

15 MINNEAPOLIS, MN. Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club's Rock Swap and Sale; Osseo United Methodist Church, 2nd Ave. SE and 2nd St. SE, Osseo, MN; Sat. 10-2; Contact: 763.421.8521.

21-22 BLOOMINGTON, IN. Lawrence County Rock Club, Inc.'s 48th Annual Gem, Mineral, & Fossil Show 2013; Monroe County Fairgrounds, Airport Road; Fri. 10-6:30, Sat. 9-6:30, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Dave Treffinger, 812.295.3463, lawrencecountyrockclub.org

29-30 MINNEAPOLIS, MN. Anoka County Gem & Mineral Club's Gem & Mineral Show; HarMar Mall, 2100 Snelling Ave. North, Roseville, Minnesota; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 12-5; Contact: 763.421.8521.

The Way I See It Continued from previous page

I would like to suggest to each one of you that you please prepare a will or document detailing your desires in this matter. Please don't dump this problem on your children or surviving relatives. It is not that they will not want to help but, in many cases, they will not know what to do.

AFMS Newsletter Volume 66, Number 6 – May, 2013
http://www.amfed.org/news/n2013_05.pdf

Presidents Message Continued from previous page

One of the most unique displays was a travel trailer inside the event center with fluorescent minerals. People would go inside and come out with the "wow" expression.

This was a big and excellent show. AFMS President-elect, Richard Jaeger, came up from Tulsa to visit the show. The AFMS show will be in Tulsa next year. We really enjoyed his visit and would like to thank him for attending. He enjoyed the show, the MWF meetings and Awards Banquet. I'd like to thank the MWF committee members for judging and awarding the winners. If you did not enter the Website, Competitive Display, Newsletter or other competitions, start thinking about next year in Des Moines, Iowa.

MWF News MAY 2013 - ISSUE NO. 522

[http://www.amfed.org/mwf/Newsletters/2013-05%20MWF%20News%20\(522\).pdf](http://www.amfed.org/mwf/Newsletters/2013-05%20MWF%20News%20(522).pdf)

Tucson Report by Everett Harrington

Every winter, the mineral and fossil world meets in Tucson Arizona as it becomes an energetic, international marketplace of buyers and sellers of rocks, minerals, fossils in all rock and lapidary related categories.

The "Gem Show" (as it is called locally) is much more than a single event at one location. Rather, there are well over 50,000 attendees at more than 35 sites around town. Dozens of shows take place at the same time. Some of the shows that I attended this year were, The Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show

February 2-16th at the Hotel Tucson City Center (formerly Inn Suites Hotel) this show is a mix of high end dealers along with Miners and Collectors who peddle their superb fine specimens to the world. This Hotel takes over 200 rooms and transforms each to a mini mineral rock shop. Removing the beds from the room, they then bring in display cases and line the walls.

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MWF Mineral Study Group (Yellow Minerals)

by Kreigh Tomaszewski

Color is not generally a reliable key for mineral identification, but it is useful enough that some field guides use it as their primary key. We decided to run with it this year and go thru the colors of the rainbow. In hopes of spring daffodils we studied yellow minerals this month.

Our Mineral Study Group likes to learn about the science and practical uses of the minerals we study, but we really want to learn to hand identify them. Hand identification is a skill you learn from holding and studying many different specimens of a given mineral (and doing some homework on its physical properties). We do our homework on the science and come prepared to discuss the mineral of the month, but we also dig through our collections and come with one or more specimens for everyone to handle. We really do learn from each other (and you have to share specimens with others before they can be appreciated).

The concept behind our color study theme is to have as many different minerals of a given color, to examine together, so we can learn to distinguish between them. Again this month we had a microscope hooked up to a laptop so we could look at the specimens up close, with better lighting than using a hand lens.

Our group came up with an interesting collection of yellow minerals, of various shades, and a few of them were quite outstanding specimens (especially under magnification). It was a little surprising that many contained uranium and were very similar (we washed our hands afterwards as a precaution). I know the names are not all going to be spelled correctly, but we got to hand examine specimens of sulfur, autunite, pharcalite, carnotite, shoderite, francevillite, curieite, monahanite, uranocircite, volbothanite, potsite, tyuyamunite, fluorapatite, alunogen, sideronatriite, copiapite, fibroferrite, sturmanite, liabigite, hayiesite, melanterite, ettringite, alophane, orpiment, wolfunite, and gold. Several of the specimens were type locality specimens (they came from where the mineral was first discovered).

It is one thing to look at the pictures in the field books, but you get a much deeper appreciation when you can hold the specimen and look at it thru a lens (feel the heft, shine a bright light on it, etc.). And then look at another specimen of the same mineral (and maybe another). And then look at something else that is close but different.

The group was a little small this month. Bad weather, coming off our club show, and a conflicting event at another club in the area were contributing factors. But some homework was done, and we learned a bit about the phosphates, sulfides, sulfates, tungstates, carbonates, oxides, phyllosilicates, and native elements we studied.

The next meeting of the West Michigan MWF Mineral Study Group will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013, from 7 pm to 8:30 pm, at the home of Kreigh Tomaszewski, 653 Burton St. S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49507. We are going to 'fade to black' for our last study before the summer break. Everyone should have a few black minerals in their collection they can bring to talk about and pass around (bonus points for luster and crystal form), so there is no excuse for not participating in our last study of the club season.

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MWF Mineral Study Group from previous page

We try to start (and end) on time; please do not arrive more than 20 minutes early (and everyone gets thrown out at 9). All West Michigan rockhounds are invited to attend. Please look up a few facts about your black minerals, and bring some of the specimens from the dark side of your collection. I hope you can join us as we learn about minerals from each other (look up some facts even if you can't bring any black specimens and we will give you a lump of coal, or some other black mineral, to take home).

We usually have some time at the end to look at an unrelated unknown you might need help on (no promises of a positive ID, but we are getting better at identifying minerals). Hope you can join us for the next meeting (and let part of your collection get to meet some other rockhounds).

Tucson Report by Everett Harrington

From these cases they sell their wares. Some of my favorite rooms are the self-collected specimen miners. John Cornish of John Cornish Minerals who is in room 186 always has a smile and some beautiful specimens can be found in his room as well. John is a miner and field collector and has just returned from Tasmania where he was digging the new large Crocoite find. He also digs at locations like Petersen Mountain for quartz scepters, California for tourmalines and many other world class locations. Another exciting room to visit is Jared Freiburg of Saga Minerals found in room 240. Jared is responsible for bringing to grass the large calcites from underneath Chicago several years ago. This year's room was full of marvelous specimens from Elmwood Mine in Tennessee. Stunning cubes of fluorite ranging from inch sized cubes up to several pieces in the one foot to 18 inches range, it was well worth the visit. Several other rooms worth mentioning are: Fabre Minerals in room 164, Alfredo Petrov in room 340 and Bruce Wood minerals in room 177. This show is one of the best all-around shows in Tucson with a range of specimen prices and sizes to meet any budget or collectors size preference. The animated dinosaurs in the courtyard this year were a major attraction above and beyond the minerals found here.

Another of my favorite locations to visit is the Kino Gem & Mineral Show (Formerly Tucson Electric Park Gem & Mineral Show). Here rockhounds from all across the US travel to Tucson to show off their finds, selling and trading. With over 180 dealers and RV spots, this show takes some time to walk and look at everybody's treasures. There's something for everyone at this public show, from gold and diamonds to granite bookends and glass beads, and from fine specimens of dinosaur fossils to opals gleaned from the Australian Outback.

The I-10 corridor is riddled with one show after another for about 7 miles of this bustling area. The Grant Inn show is the South end of the corridor, following I10 frontage road North you come to the Ramada Inn show, Day Inn show, Clarion Inn show, Howard Johnson show, Pueblo show, and the Riverpark inn show. Each show has a full selection of great specimens from all over the world. You'll observe that at each different event, the dealers will be from a different geographical region of the world.

The main event of this two-week mineral and fossil showcase is The Tucson Gem and Mineral show which packs downtown's Tucson Convention Center over the ending weekend. This show attracts thousands of treasure hunters from every corner of the globe and is open to the public.

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Tucson Report by Everett Harrington

There are displays from distinguished museums and personal collections along with in excess of 250 mineral, gemstone, jewelry and fossil retail dealers. It also features open lectures and seminars, and a Junior Education Area.

If you have never had the awe-inspiring, jaw dropping experience of being in Tucson during the biggest Mineral show on earth, you have got to attend. If you wear holes in your socks, have your eyes bugging out of your head...and acquire Tucson toe...you know you've seen the unsurpassed minerals, the most extravagant fossils and experienced something that you'll never stop thinking about, the Tucson Gem and Mineral show!!



Photos by Everett & crew



Everett being attacked by dinosaur !!!