

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



September 2013 Volume 53 Number 7

THE ROCKFINDER



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

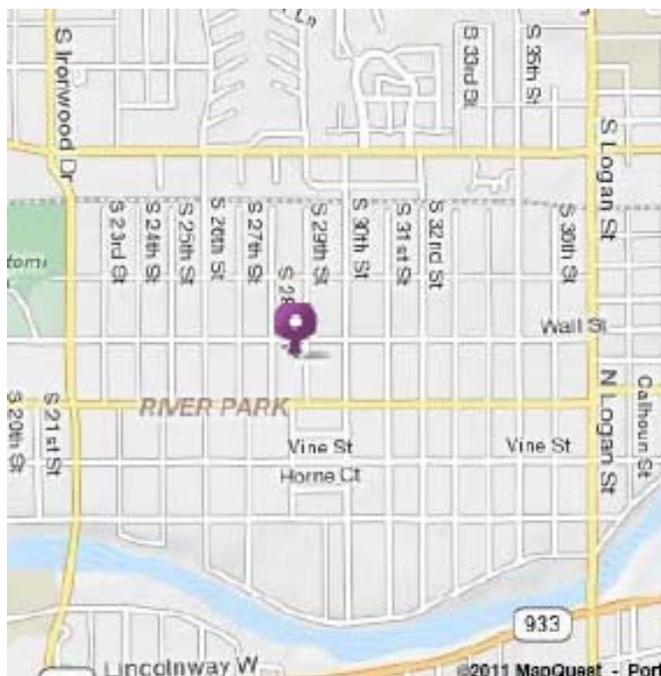
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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 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
- Crystals Field Trips
- Cabochons Faceting
- Carving Beads
- Jewelry Making

Name(s) _____
 Street _____
 City, ST, Zip _____
 Phone(s) _____
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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: _____
 Name: _____ Birthday: _____

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

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Volume 53 Number 7
September 2013

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/mwf> 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

MGM members, WE ROCK!

It has taken Bob and I a week to get out of recovery mode from our fantastic 50th club show. I hope all of you (like us) enjoyed your time during the 3 days showing the public who we are and what our club is all about. Thank you, thank you, for your time, effort, and support. We surely are a "forever family" in our membership.

Bob and I are unable to go on the next club event of a day field trip to the Duff Quarry in Ohio that John Davis has arranged. We have a prior commitment (:()), but wish those of you going will find "good stuff". Be sure to bring in some of your finds to our meeting the next day, September 22nd.

For the rest of 2013 we have our September 22nd and October 27th meetings with programs to look forward too. Don't forget to bring any of your summer collecting for the display table to share with us.

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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 River Park.

Program:

To be announced

Refreshments:

Patty Enos
Linda Miller



Board of Directors

President: Kathy Miller
574-291-0332

Vice-President: Randy Hill
269-465-5814

Secretary Michelle Winters
574-267-6127

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Jennifer Hefner 574-858-9837

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

It is an education for the new members and interesting for everyone to see what can be collected. New members always get the experience of finding out what a gourmet table we have during the social hour. Speaking of new members, there may be some attending the September meeting, if so please make a point to welcome them, we want to let them know we are a great gathering of good company.

Since there isn't a meeting in November due to Thanksgiving weekend, mark your calendar for Sunday, December 1, 2013 for our annual Christmas holiday party. I will have a sign-up sheet for those who will be able to attend at the October meeting. It is a fun event for everyone.

Now is the time to alert you concerning upcoming elections for 2014. Change is good, so if you are willing to step up and do your part in keeping our club viable, refreshed and up to speed, don't hesitate to volunteer for one of the positions on the Board if any of the present Board members wishes to be replaced. I am willing to step down as President since I have held that position for too many years. I am also willing to assist anyone who assumes this office. Please call me if you are interested at 574/291-0332. As a side note Chairmen of the other various committees are appointed by the President. I will ask the Chairs to stay on since many are new to their positions as of last year and are doing a great job!

Looking ahead to 2014, there is a strong possibility of another 3 day bus field trip. Stay tuned! Wouldn't it be neat to attend a field trip function with all of us going wearing our new club shirts, what a great representation of our group as one!

PLEASE REMEMBER our meeting this month is the 4th week of September, NOT the last or 5th week.

I will close with, we continue to - ROCK ON

I love you guys,

Kathy



Special Thanks from Kathy Miller, President

As President of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society I would like to thank Marie Crull for her undertaking as Show Chairman of our club's golden 50th annual show. Marie and her appointed Chair people really did an outstanding job this year. From the publicity, mailings, flyers, signs, Dealers, Door, Kid's Corner, exhibits, Club table, Silent Auction, Demonstrators, extra art work by members, Security, colorful shirts, the list is endless. Marie and her crew (too many to name names) were awesome.

The Kitchen Committee of myself, Robin Schuster, Linda Miller, Marsha Miller and Bonnie Church, would like to thank ALL of the members who donated food in order to host fellow members, demonstrators and dealers this year. And special people were Bob Bell our volunteer dishwasher and Stan Jacobs who even with some physical problems was able to attend and donate his much appreciated corn and vegetables. The food never stopped coming, WOW! I think all of us gained a few extra pounds over the weekend. It certainly was comfort food for all of us.

Kathy

More Thanks by Marie Crull, Show chair

I would like to thank everyone that worked at the Show very much. Those of you who didn't missed out on a good show. We had good dealers and good food by Kathy's group. The kids liked Lana's Kids Korner too and they always head there first. Thanks again to all that helped make our Show great!

Marie Crull

Let ALAA Know about Your Rockhounding Experiences

By John Martin (webmaster@amlands.org)

I send ALAA greetings to all rockhounds, from here in southern California! That's correct, southern California, where many rockhounds live and play. At ALAA we need your watchful eye, so that both the positive and negative experiences of rockhounding don't get overlooked and missed. We want to move forward and remain fair and balanced. So, when legislative or land management issues arise in your rockhounding area, whether on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Forest Service or state, county or city--or even on privately owned land--tell your state representative for American Lands Access Association about the issues and the details that affect your rockhounding experience. The issues that you let ALAA know about can then be investigated and a course of action may be suggested. To find your state representative, refer online to www.amlands.org/6715.html or www.amlands.org/6694.html. If you don't have a state representative, join ALAA and become the state representative for your state!

Continued next page

Let ALAA Know about Your Rockhounding Experiences continued from page 3

Or, when noteworthy rockhounding issues pop up, just send an email directly to ALAA at info@amlands.org with the details of the issues and concerns, and they can then be addressed.

Much more information about rockhounding and ALAA can be found on the ALAA website, www.amlands.org.

From the July to Sept., 2013, issue of *ALAA Newsletter*

50th Anniversary Show Pictures by Jason Hefner, Editor

I think we had a Great Show. I was there weird hours due to scheduling conflicts, but it seemed we had great attendance and the dealers I spoke with were happy. We had over 40 people (or families) express interest in joining our club so let's see how much we can grow! Below are some pictures I was able to snap at the show. I don't have the final tallies on number of people, monies made, etc so to get that come to the September 22nd meeting.



Handing out chocolate and making new friends at the Club Table.



Browsing the displays – learning can be fun!



Watching and learning at the demonstrators area.



Enjoying the Kids Korner. How many future Rockhounds can you count???

Remember. You can click on the Blue Underlined items to take you directly to the source.

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News

The Way I See It! - Lend a Hand

By Don Monroe, President [AFMS Newsletter September 2013](#)

Recently a couple of things have happened which have convinced me that lending a hand can really mean a lot. Ann and I were on a field trip with the South Central Federation and the location was in a challenging area which involved rough terrain. Many of the participants (including us) found it to be difficult to get in the best place to collect specimens. It was down in a shallow ditch but definitely worth the effort. The club members helped us both in and out. They really did lend a hand.

Our most recent trip involved a rather long flight from Atlanta to Salt Lake City. Although my job involved long trips around the world for many years I can assure you that it is no longer fun to fly. This recent trip was on a full flight with three abreast seating and I guess we have gotten old because the amount of room seems to have shrunk. Sitting by the aisle can be helpful, but I still had to get up often to let the other folks on that row get out. Well, the gentlemen next to me would place his hand in my back when I got up and really lent a hand.

Continued next page

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies News

Presidents Message

by Dennis Westman [MWF News September 2013](#)

For most clubs, we are at the transition of summer activities (field trips, picnics, etc.) and indoor meetings. It is time for your members to sit down and decide how to grow. One half of the clubs in the MWF are either losing or just maintaining membership. Do you remember at the show that young boy or girl who was thrilled with your rock or fossil? You explained it to him or her. They left thinking you were the smartest person they met all summer. When you joined the club, someone took the time to teach you about fossils or how to cut a cab. It is time to invite interested people to your club meeting. Rock clubs are not just a hobby, but a way of life. Pass on your experiences and skills to new people. Do you want to deny the fun you've had to these people interested in rocks? "But times have changed." Baloney! Kids still have rock collections and they see rock collecting as treasure hunting. How about a would-be rockhound holding a fossil and knowing it was a living creature, or turning an ugly rock into an exquisite piece of jewelry? All it takes is an invitation to your rock club. Do it! All of these new members, kids included, can be willing workers for your activities. New members seldom say no.

Speaking of a club meeting, what could we talk about that would interest potential members? The MWF has lots of programs listed in the directory. Each club has a directory.

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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

Upcoming Events September

27-29: JOPLIN, MO. Tri-State Gem & Mineral Society's Rock-a-Thon; Schifferdecker Park, 7th & Schifferdecker Ave.; Fri. & Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-3; Contact: Chris Wiseman, jmc - wiseman@sbcglobal.net

28-29: OSHKOSH, WI. Oshkosh Earth Science Club's 42nd Annual Oshkosh Gem & Mineral Show; Sunnyview Expo Center, 500 E. County Road Y; Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Bob Fox, 920.235.4669, foxbooks@att.net, oesclub.org.

OCTOBER

5-6: JACKSONVILLE, AR. Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral, & Geology Society's 41st Annual Gem & Mineral Show; Jacksonville Community Center, 5 Municipal Dr.; Sat. & Sun. 9-5; Contact: Tom Sharp, (501) 379-8653, thom61847@yahoo.com.

5-6: JEFFERSON, WI. Rock River Valley Geological Society's Gem & Mineral Show; Jefferson County Fair Park, 503 N. Jackson; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4; Contact: Steven Streich, (608) 655-1011.

5-6: SPRINGFIELD, IL. Lincoln Orbit Earth Science Society's Annual Gem & Mineral Show; Illinois Building, Illinois State Fairgrounds; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Contact: John Washburn, (217) 498-7713, jrwashburn3@att.net.

8: MOUNTAIN HOME, AR. Ozark Earth Science Gem Mineral & Fossil Club's Annual Auction; Van Matre Senior Citizens Center, 1101 Spring Street; Tues. 7 p.m.; Contact: Sharon Waddell, 417.256.8948 (home), 417.274.8712 (cell), www.ozarkearthscience.org.

11-13: WARREN, MI. Michigan Mineralogical Society's Greater Detroit Gem, Mineral, Fossil & Jewelry Show; Macomb Sports & Expo Center, Building P, 14500 E. 12 Mile Rd.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-7, Sun. 11-5; Contact: Stan Woollams, 734.994.3048, wwool@comcast.net, www.michmin.org.

12-13: 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.

19-20: CLIO, MI. Flint Rock & Gem Club's Earth's Natural Wonders, 10-5 both days Carter Middle School, Rogers Lane Dr. Contact: Ed Hearn, (810) 687-2339, edleo324@att.net.

Lend a Hand

from page 7

He was really nice and I told him that his assistance was really appreciated and his reply was that his parents are about our age and he hoped that folks would lend them a hand.

We have a new dog which we rescued and she is the love of our life. However we spoil her and let her sleep on our bed, but often she can't jump up high enough. When she needs help one of us lifts her up so, even our pets need us to lend a hand.

Many of our visitors at our home are older than we and may need assistance. We have recently added more handrails on our stairs to lend a hand.

If I can leave you with one thought it would be that none of us should be too embarrassed to ask for help. Never risk a fall or injury because of foolish pride and unwillingness to ask for help.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Jacksonville mid-September for the combined SCFMS and AFMS Convention. When you see me, stop by and introduce yourself!

MWF Presidents Message

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Here are a couple ideas for spur of the moment programs. What did I do on my summer vacation? Give everyone a chance to share a rock hounding adventure, a visit to a museum, the displays at a show, or a colorful character. Your program will have everyone laughing and having a great time. The potential members will leave the meeting exclaiming what a group of fun people are in your club. They would be right. The best part of a rock club is the people. I could go on a week's vacation with any of you and have a fun time. Knowing you first is no necessary. Here's the second idea. How did I become a rockhound and what is my most memorable find? You won't believe some of the stories you will hear. FYI, my memorable find was 30 years ago near Cuyuna, Minnesota. A huge boulder with some weathered out pockets lay next to the road. Having no luck, my wife told me to try that boulder. After 5 minute of protesting that it was a waste of time, I gave in to keep peace in the family. To get this waste of time out of the way, I pulled my 20# sledge out of the trunk. The boulder was filled with pockets of groutite crystals. Some were museum quality. It was so good I kept collecting way past exhaustion. Trimming out a pocket with my 4# Estwing, it glanced off the chisel and broke my thumb. Now I couldn't let my wife know or she'd make me quit. What a day! Your club is filled with stories. Potential members comment again, "What a group of fun people." New members, kids included (with kids come parents), don't add more work, they add fun. Fellow Club Members, you probably forgot more than most people know about rocks. Don't just talk about rocks among yourselves, pass that knowledge along.