

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



February 2017

Volume 57 Number 2

THE ROCKFINDER

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

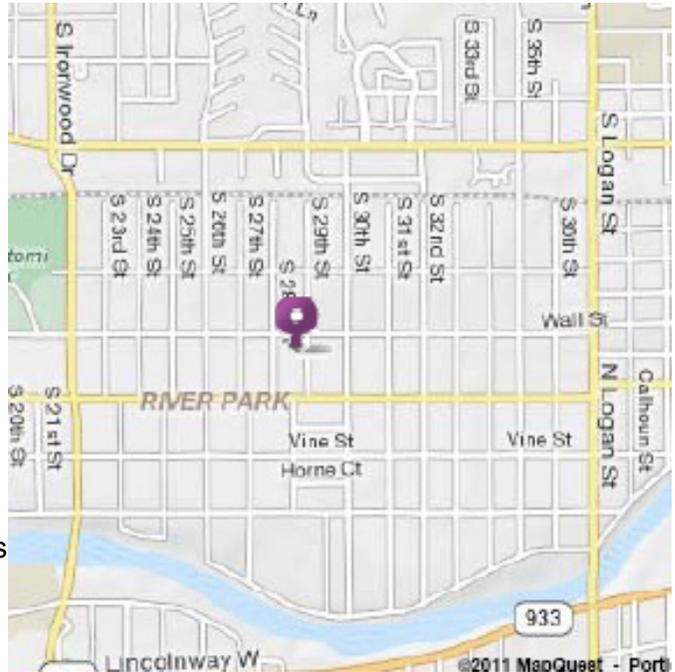
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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

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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 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.



From the Editor - Jason Hefner

As you read this it may be cold again, but the last week weeks have been unreal. The weather has been great and the urge to “go dig in the dirt” has been high I am sure for some of us. As you ponder where to go I want you to think more and more about safety on the dig. A miner was recently killed as he was collecting on his own time and decided he would be fine going into an area that was marked as off limits. There was a collapse and he was killed. I know we usually aren’t underground, but we do collect on hillsides, streambeds, etc. There are dangers everywhere. Please do not enter areas that are marked off. No specimen is worth an injury or even a fatality.

Look for emails about upcoming safety training and take the time to attend a class.

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: February 26, 2017 Visitors are always welcome. Doors open at 1:30. Meeting starts at 2:00.

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

Program: DVD – The Nature of Earth: An Introduction to Geology

Host & Hostesses:
Rachael Sutton
Jan Pellus
Joan & Randy Hill
Brian Jorgenson

Board of Directors

President: Bill Foreman
574-233-9178

Vice-President: Randy Hill
269-465-5814

Secretary Rachel Sutton

Treasurer: Diane Gram
574-588-2665

Liaison: Bob Bell
574-233-7352

Committee Chairs

Displays: Mike Skoczylas
574-251-0255

Editor: Jason Hefner
574-858-9837

Educational: Jesse Zeiger
574-259-5944

Facebook: Danielle Wilborn
574-344-3385

Field Trips: John Davis
574-232-8823

Historian: Jim Daly

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

Juniors: Trista McIntosh
574-780-1162

Librarian: Mel Glick

Membership: Nancy Foreman
574-233-9178

Programs: Kathy Miller (Interim)
574-291-0332

Publicity: Josh Klosinski

Safety: Julie Wieger 574-291-2597
Jennifer Hefner 574-858-9837

Show Chair: John Davis 574-232-8823

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

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

January Meeting minutes Jan Pellus Secretary

Members in attendance / Adults 48 Children 2
Guests 0

Call to Order: President Bill Foreman

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

Secretary report: Rachel Sutton /

Treasurer's report: Diane Gram / Motion made and seconded to accept report

Liaison report: Bob Bell / No Report

Parliamentarian: Bob Miller / No Report

Midwest Federation/ no report

American Federation/ No Report

American Lands Access: Bob Miller / Bill Foreman reminded members that we need to make our feelings known regarding access to collection sites. The government is limiting access to these sites. We must protect our rights. It is more effective to contact representatives as individuals. We cannot write as a club because of our 501C status.

Committee Reports

Displays: Mike Skoczylas / New member Linda Cioch brought in a few pieces that her family has collected. She would like help in identifying them.

Editor: Jason Hefner / No Report.

Educational: Jesse Zeiger / No Report

Face Book: Danielle Wilborn / Danielle is working two jobs and would like help with our face book account.

Field Trips: John Davis / Only one of our field trip sites require MSHA certification. Do we as a club want to pursue MSHA training? Following a discussion the membership decided to continue MSHA certification training. Many members go to collecting as individuals.

Kathy Miller reminded the club to sign up for the bus trip to Keokuk in September. To date only 23 members have signed up. Because we need to fill the bus and the block of hotel rooms that have been held for our club, we must set a firm dead line of the April meeting to sign up. If we do not have enough participants, we will have to cancel. Please see Kathy for details.

Historian: Jim Daly has volunteered to be club historian.

Hospitality: Linda Miller / Thank you for the refreshments to Diane Gram, Marty Perry, Sahara Katz, Carolyn Gargis, Saya Tepajceovich, Sister Mary Mulligan, and Sister Helene Sharp. Continued next page

January Meeting minutes from previous page

Juniors: Trista McIntosh / No Report

Librarian: Mel Glick / No Report

Membership: Nancy Foreman / Name badges will not be given out at meetings unless your dues are paid. We have a new member, Linda Cioch. Welcome Linda.

Programs: / February will be presented by Everett Harrington. In April Rev. Calhoun will present a program.

Publicity: Josh Klosinski/ There were a couple changes to contact information, but all went well.

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / No Report

Show Chair: John Davis & Joe Perry / John would like a committee to look into the possibility of replacing the green table coverings. Please see John for information. Joe Perry advised that the show flier is in progress, and the dealer contracts will be sent out soon.

Sunshine: - Annette Freel & Sherry Kobie / Sympathy card to Mark Turner for his mother.

Webmaster: Joe Perry / Please be sure e-mail addresses are correct.

Old Business

Bill asked for volunteers to help with Science Alive February 4. Please see Bill after the meeting to sign up.

The club picnic will be the first Sunday in August.

One member suggested that we include 5 “golden tickets” in the giveaway bags for Science Alive and/or the club show. These special tickets would offer a one-year family membership free. Members would like to pursue this idea for upcoming events.

New Business

None

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded

Program: Stuffing Science Alive bags

Next Meeting: February 26, 2017

Program: Christmas Dinner

Next Meeting: January 22, 2017

American Federation of Mineralogical Societies News

Introducing Myself by Ron Carman, President excerpted from [AFMS Newsletter Volume 70, Number 3 – February 2017](#)

In November my wife and I had the privilege of going to the Southeast Federation convention and show in Marietta, Georgia. We did some long driving, visiting nine states in eight days, returning through Little Rock, Arkansas to spend Thanksgiving with my wife's mother. One thing we both noticed was the colorful displays of fall foliage so late in November. The Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society put on a fine show and Friday evening they held a cracker barrel session at their clubhouse, which is located fairly close to both the host hotel and the show site. Excellent job, folks! During the coming year I will try to attend all the federation shows and meet as many members as I can from all the federations. Since I am a do-it-yourself mineral collector, I naturally like to combine field trips with these visits to the various federations. This show location wasn't far from South Carolina, so after the show I made a trip to the Diamond Hill Mine. One member who had been there gave me some advice on what to look for at that mine, and I'm glad to say he was quite correct; I found some nice quartz specimens and even a little amethyst. This is one of the many advantages of federation membership – the ability and willingness to share your experiences and information with others. Now I'm looking forward to visiting the next federation show, which will hopefully be in warmer weather.

Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies News President's Message by Tom Whitlatch, MWF President, excerpted from [MWF News March 2017 - Issue No. 560](#)

Well, another month has flown by and all the big shows in Arizona have come and gone. I hope those of you that got to go had a great time and found some treasures while you were there.

This month I will continue with what might help your club to make your show great, not only for you, but for the people who come to enjoy it. Their enjoyment began when they came through the door. Now it is up to you to keep them there, for both the dealers and your club.

Remember to mix club displays, demonstrators, and dealers when designing the floor plan. By doing so, everyone gets a slice of the "pie" and your visitors won't get bored. If the club runs the show as a business, and lays out the floor plan accordingly, your show can be profitable to all. One of the reasons we work so hard on our shows is to keep the club going, by making money for club needs and scholarships to students studying geology.

To make money it takes hard work, and wise spending to keep it. A great show is not only financially profitable; it can bring new members full of fresh excitement into the hobby.

Talk to your visitors about the club and "just ask" them to join you at a meeting. You may be surprised at the response.



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

3-5 March

Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 11-4. Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society Wayne County Fairgrounds, 861 N. Salisbury, Richmond, IN

11 March

68th Annual Silent Auction of Rocks, Minerals, Fossils, and Lapidary Treasures Saturday, March 11, 2017 6 to 9 PM St. Peter's United Church of Christ gymnasium 8013 Laramie Ave., Skokie IL

11-12 March

Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5 Geodeland Earth Science Clubs Ballroom, Student Union, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL

17-19 March

Jackson, Michigan
Michigan Gem & Mineral Society 55th Annual Show
Organized by: [Michigan Gem & Mineral Society](#)
Theme: *We Will Rock You*
Jackson County Fairgrounds - American One Event Center (200 West Ganson Street)

2-4 June Wauseon, Ohio (Toledo area)

56th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Bead, Rock & Mineral Show
Organized by: [State Line Gem & Mineral Society](#)
Fulton County Fairgrounds - Junior Fair Building (8514 State Highway 108, Wauseon)

MSHA Training Opportunities

 by John Davis
- member

Hi everyone, I am still trying to get with our normal MSHA instructor but not having much luck. I do have a couple of alternative places you can get your training though. The first is on Saturday March 18th, from 9am till 2pm. This class will be held at the A Wittenberg University in Springfield Ohio. Room 262 of the Barbara Deerkuss Science Center, 315 Bill Edwards Dr. Springfield, Ohio. Contact Randy Marsh 513-515-7890 to attend.

The second will be at 2045 Morse Road Columbus, Ohio on Friday April 14th from 9am till 1pm. Contact Reggie Rose 614-875-2675 to attend.

Rockhound Soapbox

 by John Martin, AFMS

Conservation & Legislation Committee afmsclc@antelecom.net
excerpted from [AFMS Newsletter Volume 70, Number 3 – February 2017](#)

This year will bring new challenges to the Recreational Rockhounding activities across the country. In the west there have been several new National Monuments created which have closed several very good collecting areas to any kind of material removal. There are new fossil collecting rules and regulations being created and implemented by the Public Land Managers of the BLM and USFS that will impact your ability to collect many of the fossils we have enjoyed collecting, owning, sharing and displaying over the years. These new rules may even affect the fossils collected on non-public lands.

The AFMS Legislation and Conservation Committee will strive to keep the Federation members apprised of legislation, rules and regulations that affect the ability to collect and enjoy our natural resources. We will attempt to inform the Federations and their members of new legislation, rules and regulations during the proposal process where each of you will have the ability and the right to voice your opinions and concerns on how these will affect the Recreational Rockhounding Community and your ability to enjoy your hobby. Information will be published in the monthly newsletters, on the Federation Websites and through electronic media where feasible. Again, if you know of any pending legislation, Rules or Regulations that may affect your Recreational Rockhounding activities do not hesitate to contact the AFMS Legislation and Conservation Committee with your concerns and or questions. We can not do this alone, we are only seven and we need all of the eyes and ears for the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies members to help in keeping Recreational Rockhounding a viable Activity. The contact information is: afmsclc@antelecom.net

I look forward to receiving your inputs.