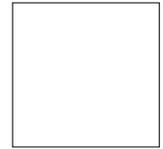
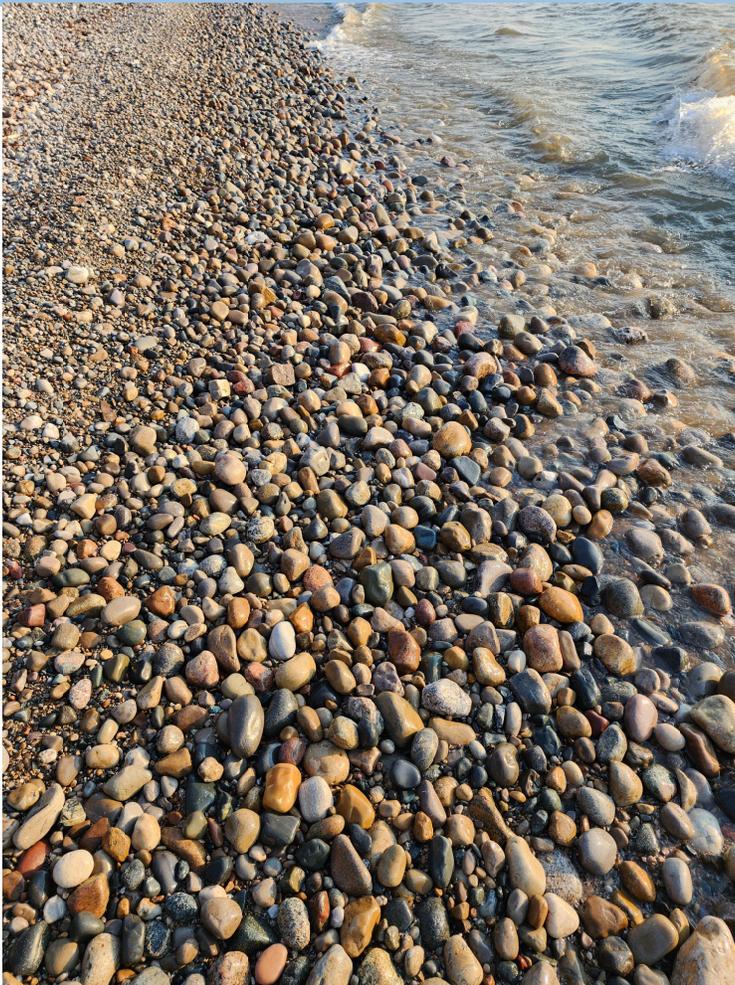


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society
Jason Hefner, Editor
229 East State St
Etna Green, IN 46524



April 2023

Volume 63 Number 3



THE ROCKFINDER

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

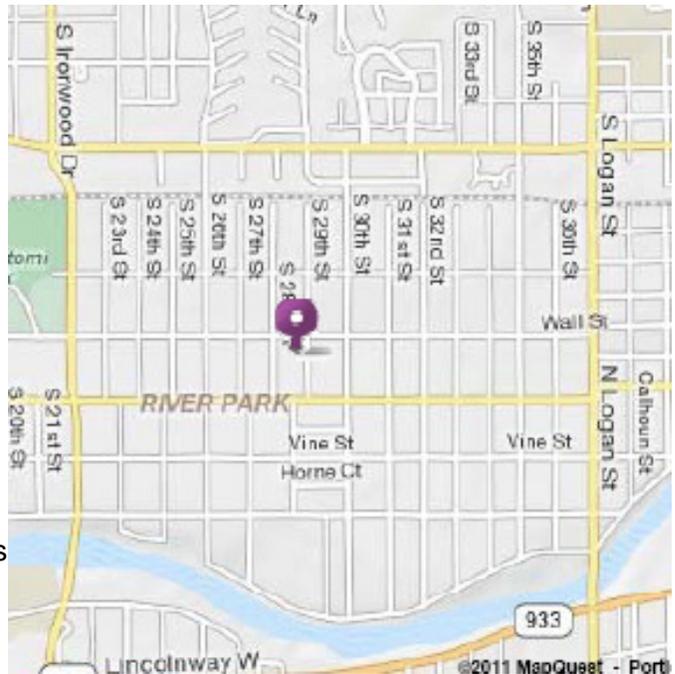
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study and enjoyment of the earth sciences and the lapidary arts, and to share lapidary knowledge and techniques. General meetings are usually held the fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m. at,

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/mwff/> 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

One of these days the weather is going to break in a good way. Hope everyone is getting out and about. I am seeing more posting on Facebook sites, so I know people are getting out. Please remember to post any interesting rock hunting excursions on our Facebook pages.

I just returned from an interesting trip to Nashville Tennessee visiting my son and getting in a little rock hunting. I contacted a local club and they provided me with a list of Ordovician fossil road cuts to check out. The one I chose was 3 minutes from my son's place. This just happened to be in a parking lot at Target. Some would say I went shopping for fossils in the outdoor section of Target. The cut was full of Brachiopods so I was able to select some fine specimens.

This goes back to what I have said at meetings. When in doubt contact a local club they can provide you with information to help you have a successful trip. This one was the Mid-Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society, so thank you to them.

They also provided me with information to go hunting for Horse Mountain Agates, which are a type of Iris Agate exhibiting beautiful rainbows. That will be for another trip. With that I will close please refer others to our club and continue to get the word about our show August 18, 19, and 20th
Ross

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: April 23, 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 Krafter, 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: Bob Chapa

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

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

March 2023 Minutes

by Jan Pellus, Secretary

Meeting Minutes Date: March 26, 2023

Call to Order: President Ross Fergerson

Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome

PAST PRESIDENTS: Diane Gram

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 Fergerson

Midwest Federation/ No report

American Federation/

American Lands Access/

Committee Reports

Show & Tell/ Nick Pellus – Tom Noe brought some recent specimens he collected – Visitor, Nate, brought various specimens he has collected – Andrew brought a type of coral to share - Blue brought a specimen of tangerine fluorite from Brazil – Nick brought some display pieces to show some examples ways to display specimens using picture frames.

Editor: Jason Hefner / No Report

Educational: Jesse Zeiger / No Report

Face Book: Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Krafter/ Post stories and pictures.

Field Trips: / Tom Noe shared information on a trip to Montana. Ross is looking into some field trip possibilities for the club.

Continued on page 4

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

AFMS President excerpted from [Volume 76, Number 3 — April 2023](#)

I bought a sign years ago, one for my boss (more for him, to remind him how I feel) and one for me that reads: "Don't get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life." (Dolly Parton)

I find this saying to have a great deal of value. Some may disagree with me, but I believe we need to live our lives first. It isn't all about making money -- it's about making memories. Don't get me wrong. Yes, making a living is quite important and in fact necessary, but in the end the bills eventually get paid, and what price did you pay for that to happen?

Again, you may say what does this have to do with the AFMS - and my answer is plenty! I am talking about making memories at your Federations' and the AFMS conventions! To make memories you must be at a certain place at a certain time with certain people.

We have dates in the newsletter for the various Federation conventions. Please note that the seven federations' dates are in a time frame of five (5) months. Boy, that calendar I spoke about last month can be filled before you know it!!

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

President's Message

Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich, MWF President

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

Spring will be coming for most of us, although our clubs in the northernmost states may be seeing snow until May.

Even if the weather isn't perfect, April brings more than showers – it brings many, many shows throughout our Federation. Time to get out and explore these shows and bring home an exciting find.

A quick reminder that the Executive Meeting of the Midwest Federation is coming up next month, on Saturday, May 13, at 8:30 a.m. in Brainerd, Minnesota. The meeting is in conjunction with the gem and mineral show of the Cuyuna Rock, Gem, and Mineral Society, and we thank them for hosting us!

I know that J.C. Moore, the Convention and Show Advisory Committee Chair, would love to talk to your club if you might be willing to host future conventions or meetings. It's a great opportunity to meet MWF people from all over, and to show off your club and its event!

And keep in mind that the convention of the American Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies is in Billings, Montana in August. There are a number of fantastic field trips planned post-convention that you don't want to miss. Spring into action this spring!



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

March Minutes

continued from Page 2

Historian: Jim Daly/ No Report

Juniors: Kathy Chidaster / There are no juniors for today.

Membership: Nancy Foreman /

Members in Attendance: Adults 37 Children 0 New Members 4 Guests 3

Programs: / Need someone to take charge

Publicity: Josh Klosinski/ No Report

Safety: Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger / No Report

Show Chair: Bob Chopa/ We have received a few contracts from vendors. New show flyers have been ordered. Joe brought copies of the floor map for the show. Many options were discussed, including adding a silent auction for kids. We are still looking into food options for members and vendors. All members working the show will be required to wear yellow member shirts so that vendors can identify us.

Sunshine: - / No Report

Webmaster: Joe Perry / Joe will email information on logging in to the members section.

Old Business

A motion was made and seconded to reduce the membership dues for individuals to \$10.00 beginning January 2024. The members are reminded that the meeting for May will be the 21st because of Memorial Day. Nancy will be placing an order for member tee shirts.

New Business

Ross has reserved space in Galesburg, Mi on May 6 at the K-Zoo show for selling rocks. If interested in joining him, let him know.

Adjournment – Motion made and seconded

Program- Ross presented a program on copper

Next Meeting: April 23, 2023

Field Trips

Dino Bones

One field trip I've enjoyed several times is put on by the Minnesota Mineral Club (<https://minnesotamineralclub.org>). Every year they travel to Glendive, MT, and hunt dinosaur bones on a badlands ranch for a day. You have to be a member of their club, and information on joining up is online (\$24 single; \$36 family). You don't need to live in MN. This year the Glendive trip is at the end of August and the first few days of September. You arrange your own transportation, and you can stay at the motel they use or find a place on your own. I've found small bones and a very nice dinosaur vertebra on this ranch, and there's also triceratops parts, turtle shell, huge amounts of petrified wood, etc. The strata at the ranch lies just before and after the KT extinction. T. rex bones can be found—don't hold your breath—but the ranch owner lays claim to all those, no matter who finds them.

Fossils from this ranch are in the Museum of the Rockies and other museums. There's a fee for hunting on the ranch, something like \$40 for the day, as I recall. Might be higher now. On other days during the trip the club members can look for Montana agates in the Yellowstone River or do what they want. The club also has other US field trips listed on their web site. (They like to travel!) The reason I'm letting you know about this now is that you have to register for this Glendive trip in advance—but registration has not opened yet.

Also, I know this area well and if you want to stay longer than the MMC trip I can tell you where to find petrified leaves, scaphite fossils, belemnite fossils, etc. There are lots of shale and sandstone beds in the area (Pierre shale, Fox Hills, Hell Creek) with gazillions of shell fossils. Glendive also has a nice badlands park and museum. Contact me if you have questions. - Tom Noe

Haunted Ridge

We are planning a trip to dig Missouri druzy quartz and geodes next month. We are leaving Saturday evening May 20th, digging at Haunted Ridge Sunday May 21st and digging in Keokuk Monday May 22nd. This is not organized by the club, but we wanted everyone to have the opportunity to meet up with club members if they wish. I know of one other family from the club that is going and we are all making our own arrangements.

Dennis and I will leave on Saturday evening and stop for the night in Effingham, Illinois. We plan to head out early Sunday and get to Haunted Ridge around 10:30 am and spend the day digging there. We will spend Sunday night in Keokuk, Iowa (about 4 hours from Haunted Ridge) and dig geodes on Monday – the mine location has not been decided yet.

We love to see members of the club and welcome anyone who wants to join us to make their plans. At this time Haunted Ridge charges \$30 per 5 gallon bucket of material you want to keep. You must bring your own tools and buckets, they do have buckets for sale but it would be less expensive to bring your own. Check with large grocery stores in their deli/bakery as some of the products they use come in these buckets and sometimes they give them away or sell at a good price.

We will be at the April meeting if anyone has any questions.

Holly & Dennis Kraftor