

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



April 2024

Volume 64 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 \$10.00 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
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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 Fergerson, President

Spring has sprung and time to get the yard work done so that when that rock hunting trip comes up there will be no excuse.

While working in the landscape I have taken a break to admire the rocks and minerals that I have collected in the past. Each rock brings back the memory of where I collected it and the circumstances. Maine, North Carolina, Michigan, Indiana, South Dakota, Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, and my favorite and most coveted state Wyoming. Each one has a memory and it is enjoyable to reminisce about the trials and tribulations. There was a smashed hand in Wyoming. Listening to the floodwaters clacking large boulders down the Yellowstone during a flood. Also the fellow rockhounds one has met and their families.

Rockhounding is such a great pastime. The preparations, pursuit, people, and the procuring. We are blessed to be members of this fellowship. I am looking forward to our trip to Southern Indiana on April 27th and the trip to South Dakota June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. Everything is set now all we have to do is prepare and wait for the date.

Until we meet next time please be safe and gneiss to each other!

Up & Coming

Next Meeting: April 28, 2024

**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)

Board of Directors

President: Ross Ferguson
574-850-6208

Vice-President: Stephanie Hughes

Secretary: Kathy Wallace

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger
574-259-5944

Liaison:

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:

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:

Webmaster: Joe Perry 574-295-9050

March Meeting minutes

By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

Meeting Minutes – Date: March 24, 2024

Members in Attendance: Adults - 34

Children - 3

New Members – 0

Guests - 2

Call to Order: President Ross Ferguson

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Welcome: President Ross Ferguson

Past Presidents: Jason Hefner & Kathy Miller

Secretary Report: Motion made & seconded

Parliamentarian – Ross Ferguson

Midwest Federation –

American Federation –

American Lands Access –

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Tell – Dennis & Holly brought some pink aragonite and kyanite for silent auctions

Editor – Jason Hefner

Educational – Holly & Dennis Kraftor – they have a show on Tuesday, March 26 in Center Twp. Some kits are made and here for others to do a kid show. An upcoming show in Lafayette but we decided it was too far from our area. Two other shows in Whiting and Knox Elementary School.

Facebook – Josh Klosinski, Nancy Foreman, Holly Kraftor, Stephanie Hughes. Stephanie told all to keep posting pics, etc on Facebook and hit the ‘LIKE’ button for our website group.

Field Trips – The May 11 geode trip has been changed to Saturday, April 27

Displays – Josh Klosinski – our displays need to be “revamped” if anyone is interested in doing them

Historian – Tom picked up some stuff from Jim Daly (pics, etc) and we found out we are Incorporated with the state of Indiana.

Hospitality – Cookies today for Glenn & Jason’s birthdays. Kathy will do the month of April and Eva will do May. Eva will also take on the responsibility of asking members to supply snacks for the upcoming year.

Juniors – Kathy Chidaster – Kathy is still working on setting up the new area for the Juniors

Membership – Nancy Foreman

Programs – “Great Works”, Geology and National Parks by Dennis & Holly

Publicity – We are changing the hours of our August show to 10-7, 10-7 and 10-5, for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. We are also changing the price for adults and kids 12 & up to \$5.00/person. Kids under 12 are free.

Safety – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger – Just some reminders for the upcoming South Dakota trip to have boots, hat, water, etc.

Continued on page 6.

The NEW AFMS Website — Marty Hart, AFMS

Webmaster excerpted from [Volume 77, Number 3 — April 2024](#)

The new AFMS website went live February 17 at <https://www.amfed.org> If you type in the website URL, be sure to include the www.

There are DNS changes that may not have yet propagated and could take a couple of days. We will also be making more DNS changes in the coming days and weeks that might cause temporary interruptions while those settings are being updated.

Unfortunately, all links to pages on the old website were broken in this migration. The domain is the same, but all the pages have changed. If you try to reach a page that does not exist on the new website, you will get a 404 error. If you have any links to pages on your website, they need to be updated.

Google was requested to update its links to the website, but it may take a while for all their old links to be updated. There is a page on the new site that has a cross-reference for many of the common page links from the Old Website to the New Website. Here is that link: <https://www.amfed.org/Old-New-Xref>

Your rock donation really helps

Susan Stanforth, Chair MWF Silent Auction Committee excerpted from [March 2024 - Issue No. 631](#)

Hi, MWF folks! I'm pleading for donations for the silent auction at the MWF Convention August 24-25 in East Peoria, Illinois. I really appreciate those folks who always give donations, and encourage all of you to donate rock items big or small. Write me at sstanforth123@yahoo.com to make arrangements for a donation. Thank you.



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 Meeting minutes continued from page 4

Show Chair – Bob Chapa – 7 vendors have paid and he has 3 confirmations. He has 4 other requests and they are on a waiting list. The August show sign-up work sheets will be available at the next meeting.

Sunshine – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:

Get well card to:

Webmaster – Joe Perry – he is putting the Rockfinder on our website and things to do while in South Dakota.

OLD BUSINESS - Scholarships – they are for our “area” only. We will give when we can, not necessarily every year. Jason will talk to his friend Tim re revamping our website. Go to the Midwest Federation, etc. to see their websites.

NEW BUSINESS – Holly & Dennis went to 2 meetings while out west and they have raffles, snacks, live auctions and programs at their meetings. Stephanie brought up for us to do raffles, etc. at our meetings and we need to fix up our cutting area so we can show others “how to” cut a rock, make a cab, etc. Also possibly add a “mystery box” and auction it off. We can use other clubs to see what’s available in their areas.

Motion made & seconded to NOT put the Treasurer’s report in the Rockfinder.

Glenn & Kathy brought in flower seeds for all to take.

Randy & Joan are going to handle getting the plates, napkins, etc. for the picnic which is on Sunday, July 28 at the Res in Mishawaka.

Adjournment – Motion made & seconded

Program - none

Next Meeting – Sunday, April 28.

Sunday, May 19 (3rd weekend in May)

Field Trip reminder- Saturday April 27, 2024, by Ross Fergerson, President

We will meet at 5515 SR46 East Nashville IN. This is a large gravel parking lot for the Away A Day RV Campground at 9:00am. We will leave promptly at 9:15am for the field trip site. I will not wait for anyone that is tardy. WE LEAVE PROMPTLY AT 9:15am.

From there it is about a 35-minute drive to the site. We will start collecting around 10am until 2pm. We usually break for lunch around 12pm but you don't have to.

Realize we are on the Hoosier National Forest so all collecting rules apply. This area is in several creek bottoms so there should be no digging into banks. Repeating, do not dig in the banks.

To register contact Ross. Tip from your Editor – Bring bug spray and plenty of water. You and the bugs get thirsty this time of year.