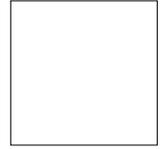


Michiana Gem & Mineral Society  
Jason Hefner, Editor  
229 East State St  
Etna Green, IN 46524



July 2025

Volume 65 Number 6



It's Summer  
Coming to a parking lot near you.

**THE  
ROCKFINDER**

**Michiana Gem & Mineral Society Membership Application & Annual Renewal Form**  
**find us at: [www.MichianaGMS.org](http://www.MichianaGMS.org) follow us on Facebook: MichianaGemandMineralSociety**

**\*\*Monthly Rockfinder Bulletin and any news or upcoming events are Emailed to \*All Members\***

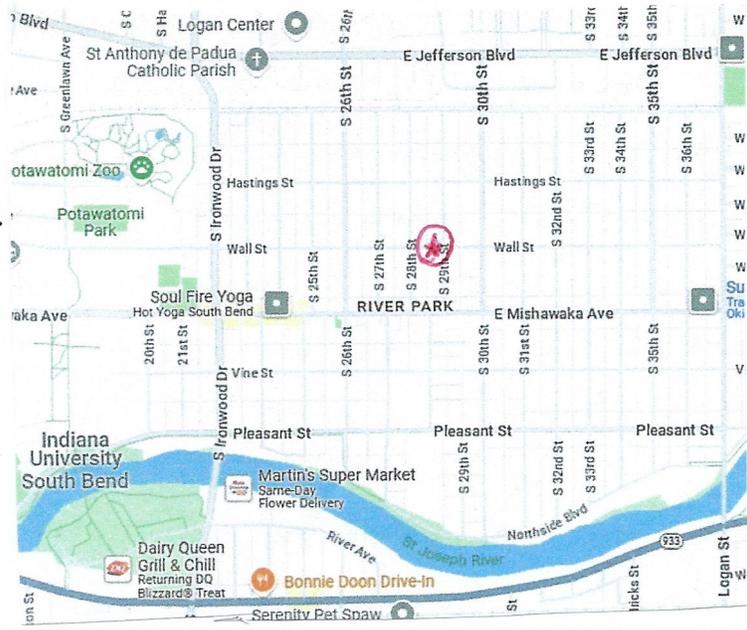
The purpose of the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study & enjoyment of the earth sciences & the lapidary arts & to share lapidary knowledge & techniques.

General meetings are usually held 4th Sunday of each month (see exceptions below) at 2 p.m. with doors opening 1:30 p.m. for meet & greet. Board meetings held before monthly meetings.

Exceptions: May(3rd Sunday), July(Club Picnic-date TBD), August(Club Show), November/December meetings combined at Christmas party(1st Sunday in December-date TBD). Calendar with events, meeting dates & times is on our website.

Meetings are in church basement & parking is on street or in lot across from church at 29th & Wall (River Park area)

**Location: \*\*Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
**805 S. 29th St .,**  
**South Bend, IN**



**\*\*\*Club requirements** must be met to be eligible to sign up for Club Bus Trips and Field Trips. (I.E. Volunteering to work at Club Show & attendance at meetings; chair person, education outreach, programs, projects, etc.)

-----Tear on dotted line-----keep top as receipt-----return bottom with check-----

**\*\*\*Please choose type of Membership below: (Annual membership dues are payable by December 15<sup>th</sup>)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$10 per year                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$1.00 per year (16 & under with a sponsor) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20 per year (2 adults per household & children 4-16) | <input type="checkbox"/> Subscriber \$7.50 per year (newsletter only)       |

**\*\*\*Please indicate special interest areas** (info published in Club Directory in members only area on our website)

- |                                    |                                      |  |   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beads     | <input type="checkbox"/> Crystals    | <input type="checkbox"/> Fossils         | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry Making |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabochons | <input type="checkbox"/> Faceting    | <input type="checkbox"/> Gems & Minerals | <input type="checkbox"/> Micromounts    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carving   | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> General Geology | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____    |

**\*\*\*Please print all information clearly\*\*\*** (info published in Club Directory in members only area on our Website)

1<sup>st</sup> Adult name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional family names (children & ages)

2<sup>nd</sup> Adult name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Need at least 1 Email for Rockfinder & news!**

\*\*Email (1) \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Email (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Club requirements must be met for eligibilty on bus/field trips.\*\*\***

**\*\*\*PLEASE READ & SIGN BELOW\*\*\***

With my signature I hereby release the Michiana Gem & Mineral Society, Inc., and it's 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 my property and further I will respect the equipment and property of the aforesaid owners.

\*\*\* Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send signed application/renewal form & check payable to MGMS or Michiana Gem & Mineral Society to:

**\*\*\*\*\*MGMS Membership C/O Deb Longworth, 7451 E 900 N., New Carlisle, IN 46552\*\*\*\*\***

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](http://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](http://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 **5<sup>th</sup>** day of the previous month. This means that the due date for the March Issue will be February 5<sup>th</sup>. Advance items are appreciated. Material may be e-mailed to [hefner\\_family@hotmail.com](mailto: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.



## Volunteers from Jason Hefner, Editor

We still need volunteers for the show. If you have never volunteered, don't worry it is not difficult. We need folks at many different tables to interact with the public.

- Kids Korner – work with kids, “play” games, and hand out prizes.
- Door - Greet everyone and take admission. The math is easy! Admission is \$5
- Club Table – Share your knowledge about the club. Help identify rocks and talk with people.
- Silent Auction – Put out rocks for sale. Interact with people, Keep an eye on people and the rocks. Make change.
- The new yard signs for the show will be at the meeting. Be thinking of where you might put some. Sign them out at the picnic.
- There are lots of other opportunities as well. Please sign up to volunteer at the Picnic on July 27<sup>th</sup>

## Up & Coming Next Meeting: Picnic July 27, 2025

Doors open at 12:30pm  
Please RSVP by Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>.

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

## Board of Directors

President: Open

Vice-President: Stephanie Hughes  
574-847-9749

Secretary: Kathy Wallace

Treasurer: Lyn Zeiger  
574-259-5944

Liaison: Jason Hefner  
574-354-0478

Past President: Ross Fergerson  
574-850-6208

## 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  
Fergerson

Historian: Open

Hospitality: Open

Juniors:

Librarian:

Membership: Deb Longworth  
574-250-2825

Programs:

Publicity: Josh Klosinski  
574-274-8714

Safety: Jennifer Hefner  
574-858-9837

Show Chair: Ross Fergerson  
574-850-6208 & Stephanie Hughes  
574-847-9749

Sunshine: Sarah Lane  
574-276-7554

Webmaster: Joe Perry  
574-295-9050

# May Meeting minutes

By Jan Pellus,

Meeting Minutes Date: May 18, 2025

**Members in attendance** / Adults\_36\_\_Children\_\_\_ New  
Members\_1\_Guests\_1\_\_

**Call to Order:** Ross Fergerson

Pledge of Allegiance: Ross Fergerson

Welcome: Ross Fergerson

**PAST PRESIDENTS:** Ross Fergerson, Kathy Miller, Jason Hefner

**Secretary report:** Kathy Wallace/ Minutes approved as printed in the  
Rockfinder

**Treasurer's report:** Lynn Zeiger / Motion made and seconded to accept  
report

**Parliamentarian:** Ross Fergerson

Midwest Federation/  
American Federation/  
American Lands Access/

## Committee Reports

### **Show & Tell/**

**Editor:** Jason Hefner

**Educational:** Ross did a presentation at a South bend park May 17.

**Face Book:** Share as many stories on face book as you can. The more  
interest on our face book the more our presence will be multiplied.

**Field Trips:** / Lander is coming up quickly. The trip promises to be a  
great one. Ross will send reminders and directions to those members  
who are going.

**Historian:** /

Hospitality: Eva Jakab

**Juniors:** Kathy Chidaster/

**Membership:** Deb Longworth

**Programs:**

**Safety:** Jennifer Hefner and Julie Wieger

**Show Chair:** Ross Fergerson & Stephanie Hughes/ We have 26 vendors  
confirmed and 6 new vendors. We are trying to add more variety to our  
show. Meal vouchers will be available for vendors. We need volunteers  
to work the show. Signup sheets are available at the back of the room.  
Please sign up to help make the show a success. Without volunteers  
there will be no show. Jason brought the new yard signs and flyers.  
Please remember to pick up the signs when the show is over. Don,t  
forget the show opens at 10:00 am.

**Sunshine:** - / Sarah Lane

**Webmaster:** Joe Perry / The Rockfinder is on the website.

Continued on page 5

## From the Desk of the President JC Moore, AFMS President [Volume 78, Number 5 — June 2025](#)

It does not seem possible, but I am on the downward side of my term as President. By the time you receive this newsletter, I will have been to three of the seven Regional Conventions - Eastern, Midwest and California. The next couple of months will be void of traveling to conventions until the month of September when the Northwest, Southeast and Rocky Mountain Federations hold their conventions on consecutive weekends. I'm afraid that a new vehicle may be required by the time my term is finished.

As we continue to attend conventions, the attention to having an active kids area really stands out. In today's busy world, there are so many strings pulling on everyone that time management is important. The fact that clubs are putting more emphasis on attracting kids to be involved in our hobby is very encouraging. I have witnessed in years past where clubs had discouraged youngsters from being involved in the club. Without these youngsters the future of our hobby is not good. The Future Rockhound program leaders have shown a passion for our hobby and are instilling the same in the youngsters just getting started in our hobby. It is my desire to see an active youth program in all our clubs.

I hope everyone has a great summer and will be able to share their rockhounding experiences with their clubs.

## Fall Meeting Donna Moore, MWF Secretary excerpted from [May 2025 - Issue No. 642](#)

We will be going to Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, for our fall Executive Committee Meeting on Saturday, October 25th. Our meeting will probably start at 9 a.m. It will be held at the Summit Lapidary Club/Akron Mineral Society Clubhouse, 244 Chestnut Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Watch the newsletter and check the website for more details closer to time.

FYI: The MWF Executive Committee consists of the MWF officers, state directors, committee chairpersons, and past presidents. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting. Executive Committee members will be asked for reports ahead of the meeting.

We will only have the one meeting in Cuyahoga Falls, since there isn't a meeting of delegates from the clubs. This will leave time to attend the show, which is a really good one.

Feel free to attend to see more of what the MWF does.



### 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](http://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](http://www.amfed.org/mwf)

## May Meeting minutes continued from page 2

OLD BUSINESS/ The picnic will be held at the church July 27. The Rez was not available. Don,t forget the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS/

Meeting adjourned

Program/ John Jaworsky brought samples of materials available for collection in the Wyoming area.

Next Meeting: June 22, 2025

## June Meeting minutes By Kathy Wallace, Secretary

**Meeting Minutes** – Date: June 22, 2025

**Members in Attendance** - Adults 33 Children 1  
New Members 0 Guests 0

**Call to Order** - Jason Hefner

**Pledge of Allegiance** - Jason Hefner

**Welcome** - Jason Hefner

**Past Presidents** - Jason Hefner

**Secretary Report** - we will read it in July

**Treasurer's Report** – Read and approved

**Parliamentarian** – Jason Hefner

Midwest Federation – We recvd a book from them that lists places to go & things to see. It will be in our library for anyone to use. Please don't take it home. It is available online also.

American Federation –

American Lands Access – The Federal government is trying to privatize the Parks so speak up to your local representative, so they don't do that.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Show & Tell** –

**Editor** – Jason Hefner

**Educational** – Dennis, Holly, Penni, Jerry, Kathy & Glenn was at the North Judson mint festival using the circuit boards and made mini gem trees in the kids' craft area.

**Facebook** – Josh Klosinski – Nancy Foreman – Holly Kraftor – Stephanie Hughes. Make sure to "like" our August show so more people see what we have to offer!

**Field Trips** – Lander was a success, and Jason is trying to plan one to Canada this fall.

**Historian** –

**Hospitality** – Eva Jakab

**Juniors** – Kathy Chidister

**Membership** – Deb Longworth

Continued next page

## **June Meeting minutes**, continued from previous page

**Publicity** –

**Safety** – Jennifer Hefner & Julie Wieger

**Show Chair** – Ross Ferguson & Stephanie Hughes

**Sunshine** – Sarah Lane – Sympathy card to:

Get well card to:

**Webmaster** – Joe Perry

**OLD BUSINESS** - Picnic here in July at our next meeting on Sunday, July 27 starting @ **12:30 est.** Short meeting, also. Bring a dish to share and your own drinks. Plates, napkins, silverware and chicken will be provided by the club.

26 vendors are confirmed for the August show with 6 new ones.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Dennis & Holly went to Dugway Geode Beds in Utah and said it's not a good place as the roads are terrible. They suggest you get in touch with a rock club to go with them. Also, Dennis & Holly are giving up the educational parts of our club as they will be moving west. We will be needing club members to step up and take it over.

Jason working on a Canada trip to Bancroft and surrounding areas for fluorescents, apatite, etc. You MUST have a passport to do this trip!! Looking at late September or October (fewer bugs in October!!) He's also working on one in Auglaize, Ohio.

**Adjournment** – Motion made & seconded

**Programs** – Kathy & Glenn, Alaina & Casey and Dennis & Holly showed and talked about some of the items they found in Wyoming. Petrified wood (Alaina found THE BEST!!), Lysite agates, stromatolites, turritella, etc. Jason had some radioactive rocks from Canada that he showed.

**Next Meeting** - Sunday, July 27 with the picnic starting @ 12:30 est!!

**Upcoming dates** - Thursday, August 14 for setup at the St Joe Fairgrounds. Club show from August 15 – 17. Friday & Saturday hours are 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. & Sunday is 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.