



# Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society January 2016 **ROCK PICKINGS**

P.O. Box 1724 • Richmond, IN 47375 • eiggs.weebly.com • facebook.com/EasternIndianaGemGeologicalSocietyEIGGS

## EIGGS Board Members

### President

Mark Lisota  
317-525-1418  
mlisota@hotmail.com

### Vice President

Mary Ann Morse  
765-914-2672  
jfmamorse@gmail.com

### Secretary

Patrick Pierce  
937-838-1644  
patrickwp@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Dave Straw  
765-966-4249  
strawdl@aol.com

### Vendor Chairman

John LaMont  
812-322-7809  
midwestchar@peoplepc.com

### Show Chairman

Judy Burton  
jleeburton@woh.rr.com

## Memberships:

Annual dues  
\$15 Individuals  
\$20 Families

### Please send dues to:

EIGGS  
PO Box 1724  
Richmond, IN 47375

**4** Next monthly meeting: February 4, 6:30 p.m.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It's the most wonderful time of the year for EIGGS members. We only have one meeting left before our annual show. Everything is coming together right on time. We have a great group led by Judy making sure this year's show is a success.

Have you reached out to Judy Burton and secured your volunteer slot for the show yet? If not please set it up soon so she doesn't have to stress out about it and can move on to other show matters. A list of volunteer opportunities for the show is on page 5 of this newsletter.

To not interfere with the preparations for our show, we will be conducting our rock saw and lapidary workshop training towards the end of March. This is **MANADATORY TRAINING** for everyone who wants to use the workshop. Deb will be coordinating and helping with the training sessions. As we get closer we will send an e-mail out detailing the dates and times of the training sessions.

*Mark*

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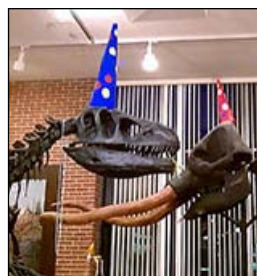
Craft Night, Feb. 16



Dakota Jones & Naomi Jones

### PAGE 4

Museum open house



Feb. 27 at the Joseph Moore Museum

### PAGE 5

Gem & mineral show



Contact Judy Burton to volunteer

### PAGE 8

Minecraft & geology



Info from Midwest Federation News

**Members present:** Charlene Reidenbach, John LaMont, Jim & Marty Lucas, Lisa Morris, Judith Echano Medina, Kathy Sheehy, Deb Chagares, Judy Burton, Dave Straw, Jamie, John & Johnathon Terhaar, John & Mary Ann Morse, Dave Lundquist, Mark Lisota, Danny Spurgeon, Patrick Pierce

**Treasurers Report:** Expenses: \$474 (\$23 news, \$173 utilities, \$198 advertising, \$15 bldg repair, \$65 misc, party, \$46). Income: \$617: \$270 dues, \$10 misc, \$220 dlr, \$108 shop, \$9 soda).

**Communication:** EIGGS will continue to sponsor a geology trophy for Wayne County 4H and a Master showman award. Passed by show of hands.

**Shop News:** Dave has placed heaters in the ladies room and the basement to keep pipes from freezing.

John Morse will work on tumbling stones for future shows.

John and Deb are working on training, they should have training materials ready by the show.

**Show News:** We are working on a new kids' flyer for the show with a focus on educational standards to attract more schools.

Judy needs a hospitality coordinator to help her with scheduling: Charlene will serve in this role.

Andy Moore from Earlham will attend this year; Earlham will also present something in a display case.

New raffle tickets will be printed. Judy proposes one rock item, one jewelry item, and a couple \$50 gift cards for the raffle.

Judy will start circulating the sign up sheets. A sign-up sheet is hanging in the shop or contact Judy to let her know where you would like to volunteer.

Newspaper ads will be the same as last year, just with revised dates.

The sign in front of the building is in need of repair,

## POP ROCKS

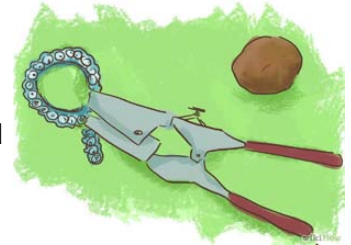
*Volunteers needed to break geodes for Silent Auction*

While there are many ways to open geodes, one of the easiest is using an iron pipe snap cutter as vendor Mike Manning does each year at the rock show.

This fall Patrick Pierce found a pipe snap cutter at a yard sale and added it to the club's inventory of tools.

Club president Mark Lisota would like someone to volunteer to crack a few geodes so they can be put into the silent auction.

The edges of some of the geodes could be polished on the flat lap. If you are interested in helping with this task, please contact Mark.



and visual reorganization. The club will explore having a vinyl sign printed.

Judy will have advance sale raffle tickets at the next meeting.

Show volunteer shifts will be 10-2 and 2-6.

Deb and Judy will coordinate radio advertising

WE need volunteers to set up tables on Wednesday before the show opens.

Postcards are printed and ready, they will be

Silent Auction Craft Nights: Jan. 19 & Feb. 16, 5-8 p.m. Bring your rocks, slabs, beads findings, bits of chain -- anything to donate for silent auction.

Geodes need cracked at the club for the silent auction.

This year is our golden anniversary: 50 years!

Closed on motion by John LaMont; Charlene seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO HELP OUT EIGGS!

## ✂ TAKE PART IN THE SILENT AUCTION CRAFTS NIGHT ✂

**Tuesday, February 16 -- 5-8 p.m.**

*(If you can't be there at 5 o'clock, come when you can.)*

To prepare items for the March rock show silent auction, Marty Lucas is hosting two craft nights at the clubhouse. The first one, January 19, was a great success with 18 members working on a variety of crafts. The next one is Tuesday, February 16 from 5-8 p.m.

This is a great chance to be creative, hang out with your friends (or make new friends!), as well as contribute to the success of the silent auction, which is a primary fund-raiser for the club.

At the craft nights, members will create bracelets, necklaces, pendants, do-it-yourself jewelry kits, gem and crystal bottles and more. If you are good at beading and wire-wrapping, GREAT! If you aren't, that is fine, too, since Marty says there will be jobs for people of any skill level, including some sorting and labeling.

### Silent Auction Donations

*Please consider donating any cord, beads, chains, jewelry findings, finished jewelry pieces, rough rocks, stones, slabs, cabs -- or anything else that you think people would like to see in the silent auction. If you teach classes for the club, please consider donating a gift certificate for a class.*

If you have any ideas for other easy-to-assemble pieces for the auction, please let Marty know. E-mail her at jimlcs707@gmail.com

If you have wire-wrapping tools, (snips, pliers, etc.), bring them. Markers would also be useful.

Snacks will be provided for the two craft nights. If the weather is bad, please check the EIGGS Facebook site to see if the event has been canceled, especially if you are driving in from an outlying area.

### Thanks to Craft Night participants, Jan 19

Judy Burton  
Judith Echano Medina  
Joy Ingerman  
Dakota Jones  
Naomi Jones  
Xavier Jones  
Jim Lucas  
Marty Lucas  
Lisa Morris  
John Morse  
Mary Ann Morse  
Deanna Smith  
Danny Spurgeon  
Dave Straw  
Jamie Terhaar  
John Terhaar  
Johnathon Terhaar  
Joe Wirrig



Jamie Terhaar



Joy Ingerman



Marty Lucas & Judy Burton



Deanna Smith



Naomi Jones



Judith Echano Medina



John Terhaar



Howard, the "rock hound"

# JOSEPH MOORE MUSEUM LEAP YEAR OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday, February 27; Noon-Midnight**

On this day only, venture behind the scenes of the Earlham's Joseph Moore Museum. The museum has exhibits, including a wide variety of fossils, focused on Indiana's natural history from the present day back to the Ordovician period 350 million years ago.

You won't want to miss the most complete skeleton of a giant beaver in the world or their passenger pigeons, both species that are now extinct. Also check out the Ralph Teetor Planetarium; just ask the museum host for a show.

Explore interactive stations, face painting and more while celebrating the 45th "leap birthday" of the museum's founder. You'll also be able to experience the unveiling of the giant beaver genome. This educational event is free and fun for all ages.

The Joseph Moore Museum is adjacent to Dennis Hall on the Earlham College Campus. Parking is available behind Dennis Hall and in front of the nearby Admissions Building.



## RENEW YOUR ANNUAL EIGGS MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

Just another reminder that it is time to renew your EIGGS membership. Memberships are for one calendar year, January through December. If you are one of the 33 members who haven't renewed yet, it is time!

To renew, please print this form and mail it with your payment to the address below or bring it to the February 4 meeting.

Thank you!

*Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society*

### Membership Renewal Form

Please check your membership level

Family Membership \$20     Single (age 16 and older) \$15

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

To help with club upkeep & projects, I would like to make an additional donation to the club.

\$10     \$25     \$50     \$100     Other amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***Please print this form & bring it and your payment to the December or January club meeting  
OR mail the completed form and a check made out to EIGGS to the address below.***

EIGGS Membership  
PO Box 1724, Richmond, IN 47375

# ♥ RICHMOND GEM & MINERAL SHOW SIGN-UPS

With the EIGGS gem and mineral show just five weeks away, it's time to think about what you can do to help. Volunteers ensure that our show is a success. At the February 4 meeting, show chairperson Judy Burton will have raffle tickets for you to sell. She will

also have flyers that you can distribute. Also, start thinking about helping with the carry-in on Thursday.

To sign up or get more information, please contact Judy by phone (937) 339-1966 or e-mail jleeburton@woh.rr.com

## Friday March 4

### Admissions

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Raffle

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Hospitality

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. Deanna Smith

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Mining

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Children's Area - Patrick Pierce

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dave Lundquist

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. Joy Ingerman

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Lapidary

10 a.m.-2 p.m. John Morse

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mary Ann Morse

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Wheel of Fortune

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Jim & Marty Lucas

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Naomi Jones & family

2-6 p.m. Jim & Marty Lucas

2-6 p.m. Naomi Jones & family

## Saturday March 5

### Admissions

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. Judith Echano Medina

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Raffle

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. Lisa Morris

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Hospitality

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Mining

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Children's Area - Patrick Pierce

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Dave Lundquist

10 a.m.-2 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Lapidary

10 a.m.-2 p.m. John Morse

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mary Ann Morse

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

2-6 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Silent Auction/Wheel of Fortune

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Jim & Marty Lucas

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Naomi Jones & family

2-6 p.m. Jim & Marty Lucas

2-6 p.m. Naomi Jones & family

## Sunday March 6

### Admissions

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Raffle

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lisa Morris

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Hospitality

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Mining

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Children's Area - Patrick Pierce

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Lapidary

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

11 a.m.-4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_

### Silent Auction/Wheel of Fortune

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Jim & Marty Lucas

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Naomi Jones & family



Be a  
sweetheart  
& sign up  
SOON!

## CLUB MEMORIES & REFLECTIONS: ROBERT VETTER

As EIGGS celebrates its 50th Anniversary, club members are invited to share their memories of the club. Thanks to Bob Vetter for sharing this!

In 1975, I responded to an ad in the *Pal-Item* on the subject of lapidary with the expectation of learning about rocks and minerals. After all, *lapis* is the root of the word.

Instead, I found myself invited to a cabin in the woods where sawing, grinding and polishing rocks was underway. So I paid my dues, \$10, and obtained a piece of airplane paint with red, yellow and white colors. It turned into a very colorful heart. So I was hooked.

Geodes became my choice of rocks to collect. Not blah Indiana geodes, but colorful, patterned Mexican ones. And I found an "x-ray" box that used special bulbs to add new color and patterns to rocks. It took me a few years to appreciate the crystals inside Indiana geodes and even longer to learn crystal minerals had various identities. Guess I needed the challenge of new learnings.

Club members never hesitated to answer my dumb questions or correct my chemical designations, like  $SiO_2$ .

Field trips were terrific adventures -- with new free crystals with new names and new shapes. And multiples were good for trading and giving to the club for sales.

Rock Pickings always merited required reading and



■ In October, long-time club members Bob Vetter and Bob Hankosky catch up on each other's lives. A shared love of rocks, gems, fossils and geology ensures that club members always have something to discuss.

learning and exploration.

I soon found out EIGGS required officer participation, so I volunteered as Rock Pickings editor, secretary, treasurer and president over the years. All good ways to become more familiar with activities and members.

## LAPIDARY LAB SCHEDULE

*Don't forget that the club offers weekly lapidary labs. Participants can learn to use slab saws, trim saws, flat laps, grinders and polishers. There is a \$2 fee for equipment usage and maintenance. Members using the equipment are required to attend six regular club meetings a year.*

### Tuesdays 6-8 p.m.

This lab is perfect for beginners and those with intermediate skill levels since there are experts on hand to teach basic and advanced skills.

### Thursdays 6-8 p.m.

The lab is usually open on Thursdays. Call or text Deanna Smith (765-914-4811) or Alma Glisson (937-231-3024) to be sure someone will be there.

### Sundays 6-9 p.m.

The lab is usually open on Sundays. Call or text Missy Killion in advance to be sure someone will be there. 765-960-7635



## Now, It's Your Turn To Share Your Club Memories

This is YOUR newsletter and we want to hear from you! Please take a minute and answer at least one of the following questions. E-mail your answers to [EIGGSnews@gmail.com](mailto:EIGGSnews@gmail.com) or mail them to EIGGS Newsletter, PO Box 1724, Richmond, IN 47375. Your answers will be featured in upcoming issues. Thanks!

**1.** How did you find out about EIGGS and what prompted you to join the club?

**2.** How, when, and where did you develop

an interest in rocks, gems and geology?

**3.** Do you collect rocks, minerals, gems or fossils? How long have you been collecting? Do you specialize in any particular category? If so, what draws you to these items?

**4.** Do you have one favorite stone in your collection (gem, mineral, fossil, etc.), and if so, why is that your favorite?

**5.** Have you gone on any trips to collect

rocks? If so, where have you gone and what have you found?

**6.** Which EIGGS members would like to see featured in upcoming newsletters? Please explain why they should be featured.

**7.** Would you like to write a short article for the newsletter? If so, please submit your topic and a general overview of what you would like to write.



YOUTH POSTER CONTEST  
MIDWEST FEDERATION YOUTH POSTER CONTEST 2016  
"AMAZING AGATES"



Sponsored by the Summit Lapidary Club of Ohio

THEME: "Amazing Agates" A poster illustrating any type of agate, what it looks like, and where it can be found.

ELIGIBILITY:

Any students 1st through 8th grades. Each grade will have a winner.

PRIZES:

Ribbons awarded 1st through 4th place, the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners will also receive a prize.

CONTEST RULES:

1. All entries must be presented on paper 12"x 18"
2. Include name and address, age, and school grade of participant on back of entry.
3. No three-dimensional posters accepted.
4. The title may be on front or back.
5. List the name of the agate, a brief description of what it looks like, and WHY you chose it.
6. Artwork on posters can be pen, ink, crayons, magic marker, paint, or any other artist's medium.
7. All entries become the property of MWF and the Summit Lapidary Club.

SCALE OF POINTS:

Originality and Art Work - 30 points

Design - 25 points

Title - 25 points

Listing of Agate type, what it looks like, and where it is from - 20 points

DEADLINE:

Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2016.

SEND TO:

Poster Contest  
617 Wooster Rd. W.  
Barberton, Ohio 44203

Winners will be announced at the MWF Convention in South Bend, Indiana, August 20, 2016.  
If you have questions, e-mail [SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com](mailto:SLC.youth.poster.contest@gmail.com).  
For more information, visit the MWF website <http://www.amfed.org/mwf>

# ✂ TYING MINECRAFT CRAZE INTO GEOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE

by Michelle Cauley, *Midwest Federation Juniors' Chair*

As we begin a new year filled with the promise of exciting new finds, we also find ourselves at the start of a year with our junior members who are eager to dive into the world of geology. The junior members are the future of our programs and the future of geology. Many of our kids are already deeply involved in learning about geology without even realizing it.

The wildly-popular "World of Minecraft" is a fun and unique computer game where children learn coding and go on adventures, and yet also come into contact with many geology terms. While speaking with children about the game, it is readily apparent that these kids are hearing many geological terms (andesite, granite, obsidian, lapis) and are using these terms with little understanding of what these stones really are. Why not take this as an opportunity to advance their knowledge and interest in geology even further?

Our club recently hosted a "Minecraft Night." Different stones from the game were made available for everyone to see real life examples. Time was taken for junior and senior members to exchange knowledge platforms. What were the stones used for in the game vs. what these stones are used for in the real world were conversations that helped bridge the gap between these two



■ According to Minecraft.net, 22,324,884 people have bought the game, making Minecraft one of the most popular games ever. In the last 24 hours, 11,816 people bought the game.

generations of geologists.

Minecraft can be a gateway into the world of geology for young people. Give them an opportunity to see that these minerals and stones aren't just created by a computer; they do exist and have purpose in our world as well.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

**Feb. 19-21: —INDIANAPOLIS, IN:** GeoFest 14th Annual Indiana State Museum Fossil, Gem & Mineral Show. Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Calling all rock hounds, fossil hunters, jewelers, scouts and families! GeoFest "rocks" the Indiana State Museum as experts and vendors from all over the country come to the museum with fossils, rocks, minerals, jewelry and more! Come shop for your own unique geo-treasure and meet experts from throughout Indiana. Explore the museum's three natural history galleries. Enjoy hands-on geology activities and win geo-prizes. GeoFest is included with museum admission. Adult (18-59) \$13, Senior \$12; College student with valid ID: \$9.75, Child (ages 3-17) \$8.50. Organized by: Indiana State Museum (650 West Washington Street, Indianapolis)

♥ **March 4-6—RICHMOND, IN:** Annual show; Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society, Wayne County Fairgrounds; 861 N. Salisbury Rd.; Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Adults \$5; Seniors \$3; Children \$1, under 7 free; Jewelry, Fossils, Minerals; Silent Auction, Displays, Demonstrators, Children's Activities. Food Available. Over 29 Dealers & Demonstrators. Scouts in uniform -free! Contact Judy Burton, 912 Kent Lane, Troy, OH 45373, (937) 339-1966; e-mail: jleeburton@woh.rr.com

**April 1-3—INDIANAPOLIS, IN:** Annual show; Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Building; 1202 East 38th Street; Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Adults \$5 (Good all 3 days), Children under age 16 Free; Jewelry makers, goldsmiths and silversmiths from all over the U.S. who can reconstruct, repair, design or make original jewelry from customer-selected gems, stones, opals and crystals. Wire wrap, wire sculpture, stone beads, pearls, stone setting, amber, opal, mineral and fossil dealers. Hourly door prizes including a ring with a precious stone that will be given as a Grand Prize. Contact Van Wimmer - Show Director, 5273 Bradshaw Road, Salem, VA 24153, (650) 384-6047; e-mail: vawimmer@verizon.net; Web site: www.toteshows.com



**April 2-3—CINCINNATI, OHIO:** Annual show; Intergalactic Bead Show, Sharonville Convention Center; 11355 Chester Rd; Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$4-\$5, Children free; Our shows provide attendees with the world's finest and rarest beads, precious stones, gems, freshwater pearls and an exquisite collection of finished jewelry. Shop quality. Contact Shawna Whitson, (888)-729-6904; Web site: <http://beadshows.com>

**April 23-24—TROY, OHIO:** Annual show; Brukner Gem and Mineral Club, Miami County Fairgrounds; 650 N. County Rd. 25 A; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-6; Adults \$2, Seniors \$2; Dealers with gemstones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, mineral 7 crystal paintings, wire-wrapped jewelry, meteorites & beads; demonstrations on gold panning, sphere making, & rock polishing; geode cracking, gem sluice, & silent auction. Contact Judy Burton, 912 Kent Lane, Troy, OH 45373, (937) 339-1966; e-mail: jleeburton@woh.rr.com; Web site: Brukner Gem and Mineral Club



# Michiana Gem & Mineral Society's Annual Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show and Sale

## 53rd Annual Show and the 76th Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies Convention

August 19, 20, & 21, 2016

Friday Noon to 7 pm \* Saturday 10 to 6 pm \* Sunday 10 to 5 pm

Show Theme: "Midwest Minerals"



St Joseph County 4-H Fairgrounds  
Esther Singer Building  
5117 South Ironwood Road  
(Ironwood and Jackson Road)  
South Bend, Indiana 46614

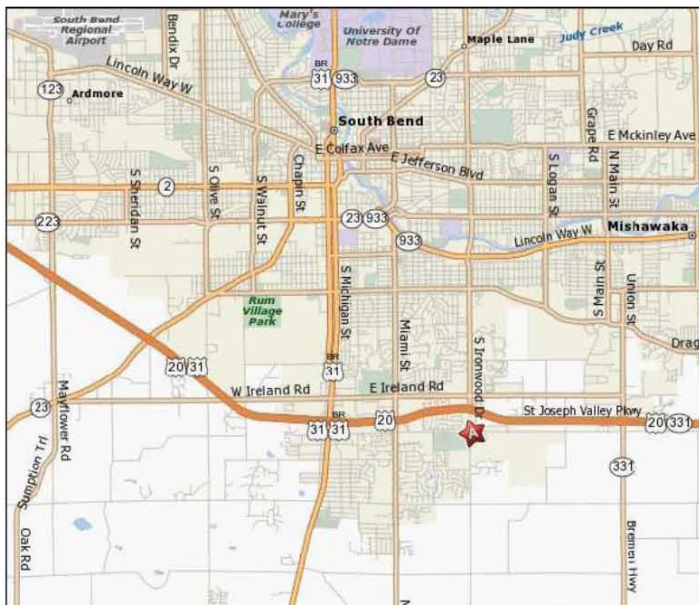
Admission:

Adults: \$3.00

Kids 6-12: \$1.00

Under 6: FREE

Parking: FREE



For information contact Show Chair:  
John Davis at (574)232-8823

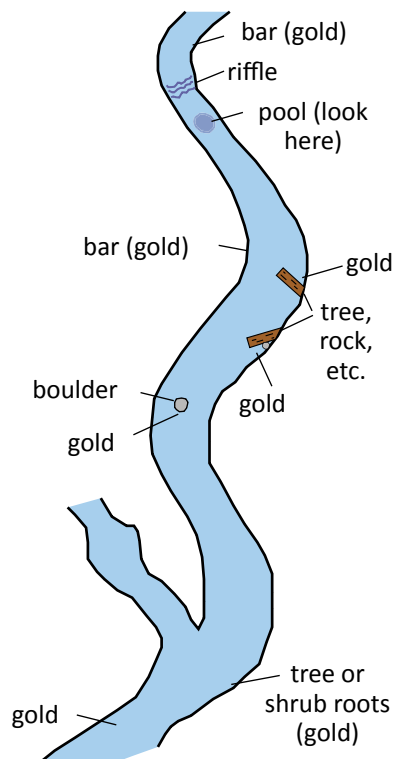
- \* Jewelry and Mineral Dealers
- \* Displays
- \* Lapidary Arts Demonstrations
- \* Kids Korner
- \* Door Prizes
- \* Silent Auction
- \* Exhibits and more!

[www.MichianaGMS.org](http://www.MichianaGMS.org)  
[www.facebook.com/MichianaGemandMineralSociety](https://www.facebook.com/MichianaGemandMineralSociety)

# GeoNotes



## Gold and Diamonds in Indiana



During the Ice Age, vast continental glaciers brought minute quantities of gold, diamonds and other precious minerals into Indiana from Canada. These minerals were deposited from the melting ice along with incalculable tons of rock and other materials carried by the glaciers. Meltwater streams washed and sorted the glacial drift, concentrating some of the coarser, harder, and more durable materials in sand and gravel deposits along sluiceways and streambeds.

Since its first reprinting in 1963, Willis S. Blatch-

ley's original 1905 manuscript "Gold and Diamonds in Indiana" has been a best-seller of the Indiana Geological Survey. Much of the appeal of Blatchley's report derives from the novelty of the topic. Most people do not think of the Midwest as an area in which either gold or diamonds are found. Indiana gold, although not plentiful, has been found as small flakes in sufficient quantities mostly along streams in Morgan and Brown Counties to keep interest in recovering the yellow metal alive for more than 135 years.