

Livingstones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

November 2012

Vice President's Message

November is here already, so let's get working on those Christmas presents. For the past month or so Bob has been vacuum casting on Thursdays. If you are interested please talk to him about getting in on the fun. The shop is looking good and running smoothly. Thank you to all of you who help keep it that way. I would especially like to thank Paul McEwen for cleaning out the pipe and drain system. Also Gayland Allan for servicing the saws. If you would like to volunteer for cleanup please see Ken Blake.

I would like to give a big thanks to Vi Porritt for organizing our banquet. The room looked nice, the food was VERY yummy, and the speaker was entertaining. When you see Vi, tell her how much you liked the banquet.

At the November meeting, we will be electing new officers. Here is a list of nominees: John Petito and Ed Oller for directors, Peggy Petito for treasurer, and Sheila York for secretary.

Mike McDermit still needs polished Brazilian agate slabs for a club lamp. You can donate slabs until December 31st. by giving them to Venus Sage.

Some of you may be wondering, "What can I do to help the club? I'm not mechanical," or, "I can't afford to buy new equipment." Ken Blake has been volunteering his time and rocks. Many new members learn to make a cabachon because of his instruction. Ken doesn't charge to teach but he

does have a "Teaching Can" where he puts donations from grateful pupils. This year when he donated his "Teaching Can" to the club it had 528.00 Dollars in it! Please think about ways YOU can help the club.

Bryant



Workshop Hours

Monday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Thursday: open for cleaning only
(check with Ken)
Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

2013 Nominees for office

Treasurer:

Peggy Petito (extension of current term)

Secretary:

Sheila York

Board of Directors:

Ed Oller

John Petito (extension of current term)



Newsletter by email?
If you'd like to receive this
newsletter by email, send a
message to
Isla Mitchell at
imvm.1@netzero.com

MIRockClubsPages.org

Have you checked out this new online
magazine for Michigan lapidary clubs?



2012 Officers and Chairpersons

President:: Ken Blake, 810-750-6078

Vice President:: Bryant Hiiter, 248-889-3974

Secretary: Margaret Edmundson, 248-634-5046

Treasurer: Peggy Petito, 248-887-8847

Second year Directors: John Petito, 248-887-8847
Paul Maitre, 248-961-4947

First year Directors: Violet Porritt, 810-235-6286
Lorelei Hosler, 810-789-3687

Hospitality: Venus Sage

Sunshine: Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804

Shop Chairperson: Ken Blake

Newsletter and Membership:

Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804

imvm.1@netzero.com

Show Chairman and Historian:

Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586

Library: Bryant Hiiter 248-889-3974

Website: Livingstongemandmineralsociety.com

Email: livingstongemandmineralsociety.com

Website managed by Rhonda Hagerman

General Membership Meetings are held monthly
on the 3rd Tuesday at 6 p.m. (Except in January
and February when board meetings are held in
the shop at 1 pm)

Sodalite

by Layna Palmer, Wire-Sculpture.com

Today's Gem Profile is Sodalite. No, I'm not talking about a new fizzy diet drink, but a blue stone that is named for its relatively high Sodium content. In addition to Sodium, it also contains Aluminum, Chlorine, and Oxygen, has a hardness of 5.5-6 and is a member of the Sodalite group along with Lazurite. It can be classified as feldspar, but lacks quartz structure. That's why sodalite is better-suited for cabochons and beads rather than faceted stones.

Sodalite is generally streaked white with Calcite and can range in color from royal blue, to purple green and white. Because of its blue color, Sodalite is often used as a substitute for Lapis, but lacks Pyrite and is a Royal Blue rather than Ultramarine. One way to tell Lapis and Sodalite apart is through a streak test. Lapis will streak blue, but Sodalite will streak white.

Sodalite was first discovered in Greenland in 1806, although it took a Glasgow chemist, Professor Thomas Thomson, to name the stone. The British commissioned him to identify it from a captured shipment being sent from Greenland to Denmark during the Napoleonic Wars.

Sodalite went relatively undiscovered in the ornamental stone world until 1891 when a large deposit was found near Ontario, Canada by Frank D. Adams during a geological survey. As the stone gained popularity, Princess Patricia of England visited Ontario and fell in love with the stone and chose it as an interior decoration for the Marlborough house in England. Because of this, many people started calling Sodalite "Princess Blue". Sodalite has also been called "Canadian Blue stone Bluestone, and Canadian Lapis." □

In addition to Greenland and Ontario, there have been deposits found in Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, India, Namibia, Portugal, Romania, Russia, and parts of the United States. The Smithsonian has a beautiful sample of Sodalite from Litchfield, Maine. In fact, Litchfield's city seal features Sodalite, which was called "Litchfeildite" for some time prior to the 1890s, when it was discovered to be a form of Sodalite.

Sodalite is said to be a gemstone of the throat chakra, and is associated with the thyroid. It is also said to have healing properties that are said to bring calmness to the mind, enhance truth and objectivity along with emotional balance, and some say sodalite can even calm panic attacks, boost self esteem, and prevent insomnia.

Sodalite is a very versatile and beautiful stone, from beads and cabochons in jewelry to tile, flooring and even countertops in the building trades. If it's a beautiful royal blue stone it's probably Sodalite.

Our Mission

The Livingston Gem and Mineral Society is a nonprofit organization and member of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies.

Our purpose is to promote, through educational means, public interest and increased knowledge in the fields of mineralogy, archaeology, paleontology, and the lapidary arts.

Coming Events

November 3, 2012, 6 pm, auction starts 7 pm

The 47th Annual Auction

Democratic Club of Taylor, 2340 Wick Road, Taylor, MI

Information: Dan Gumina 313-766-9703

November 17 and 18, 2012

Open House, Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club

The Toledo Botanical Gardens, Crosby Conference Center, 5403 Elmer Dr, Toledo OH

Information: <http://rockyreader.com>



The deadline for 2013 dues is December 31, 2012.

Tear off and mail

2013 Livingston Gem and Mineral Society Dues

Name _____

_____ adult member \$15

_____ family membership\$15

number of children 12-18 years _____

_____ annual workshop fee\$10

(each member who uses the shop must pay this fee)

_____ total payment

Please note any changes in address, email address or phone number _____

newsletter preference: _____ printed, _____ email _____ shop mail folder

The 38th Annual
ROCKHOUND SEMINAR
Hosted by MGAGS
(Michigan Geology and Gemcraft Society)

Never heard of MGAGS? MGAGS is a unique, statewide organization whose main activity each year is a "Rockhound Weekend", a seminar where you can experience hands-on workshops and other programs. Some will be about cutting and polishing stones. There will be classes with beading projects and dichroic glass, also demonstrations and programs about fossils and geodes, etc. There will probably be a class where you can learn how to "set" stones, practice silversmithing, other jewelry-making or perhaps a class on "wire-wrap" or gem trees -- all related to our great hobby. The goal is to have about 20 different topics to choose from each day. Some classes may have limited attendance. See website or call for details. The schedule will be ready April, 2013

TICKETS: Advance registration is only \$15.00 (adult) per day or \$25.00 for two days
At the door: \$18.00 (adult) for one day or \$30.00 for two days.
Students: \$5.00 per day.

LOCATION: Western Michigan University, Rood Hall
near West Michigan Ave. and Rankin Ave. (East of Howard St.),
Kalamazoo, Michigan

The dates: Saturday, June 8th (9am-5pm) and Sunday, June 9th (9am-4pm)

For further information:
Email: info@mgags.org
Don Brown: 734-421-8159
Marve/Kitty: 231-740-5512

For schedules, advance tickets and more
see www.mgags.org OR call Don or Marve
Ask about prepay for limited attendance classes
and request flyers. Schedule will be ready in April.

MGAGS welcomes new members!
Plan on attending and have a GREAT time!

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society
9525 E. Highland Road
Howell, MI 48843-9098



General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

6 pm in the shop

Agenda includes election of officers

Come and participate!