

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

December 2013

President's Message

Winter is here and Christmas is coming soon, time to finish up your projects for presents. It is also a good time to buy from your fellow artists at the rock shop. Need a cabachon in a certain color? I'm sure if you asked around someone has one they would sell you. Did you make too many silver angel ornaments last year? Bring them in to sell. Do you need a Petoskey stone mushroom? Ask George or Chuck. Think handcrafted presents this year.

Our officers for 2014 were elected at the November meeting. When you see Margaret, Gayland, and Paul, congratulate them for stepping up into their new positions.

Gayland, Ed, Dan, Sheila, and Bryant went out to Sheila's and "winterized" the club's rock collection we purchased earlier this year. The doors were covered with tarps and plastic was put over the boxes and equipment. This collection will provide material for the club table, at our show, for years to come.

I want to give a special thanks to Gayland and Al, who came in on a Thursday, and cleaned several areas of the shop that have been sorely neglected. Please clean up after yourself, but more than that, if you see something that needs to be fixed or cleaned, don't hesitate to do it yourself.

On a final and fun note: Christmas Party, 3rd. Tuesday, 6 P.M., Senior Center. Bring a dish to pass, Potluck style, and a rock related gift. It is lots of fun!

Holiday Shop Closing

The lapidary shop will be closed from December 23 through January 2, 2014; reopening on Friday, January 3.



Snow day closings?

For information on snow days, call Hartland Community Education, 810-626-2150,

or watch your local news channel.

If Livingston County schools are closed, so is the shop.

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. Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

November 19, 2013, General Meeting LGMS

6:00 P.M. President Bryant Hiiter called the meeting to order, 21 members present. No general meetings minutes to report from last month.

Treasurer's Report: Club is in good standing financially. Peggy is out of town for this meeting.

Shop Chairman Report: Chuck Amberger would like to send a "shout out" (of thanks) to Gayland, George, and Marvin for all their help with this last month with cleaning all the saws. The "big" saw room has been totally cleaned; at least 4 pails of mud/oil have been removed. Belts have been replaced, including the diamond 180 and 100 belts. Chuck has asked for Isla to address some signage to be placed on the saws. Discussion was made regarding some new placements of sponges and side curtains. It was agreed to keep the side curtains. Chuck has asked that members keep him apprised of how the machines are running. He mentioned that he likes his job. Margaret brought up that the bearings on the tiny saw need some work. Layonne mentioned that all of us need to look over the saws at the end of the day to make sure they are clean (scrape oil/mud/wipe the blades) and straighten the dop wax area. She has been doing this but would like it if more members would help with this, especially on Tuesdays. Chuck brought up the "Thursday" clean-up and discussion was made concerning the time. It was agreed that volunteers were needed and 9:00 to 12:00 would be the time to arrive. Chuck has brought up that the cerium wheels were contaminated and new cleaned wheels are installed. The new cerium purchased is the best that can be found and is expensive, (\$50.00 per pound) and it is expected to only go up at this point. Chuck would like to remind all members

when using the slab saw to watch it close, and if there are any questions to please ask a second person who is familiar with the saw. Such as: Marvin, Gayland, Ed or Chuck.

Old Business: the election of new officers. 2nd year director: John Petito. Vote: all in favor.

Ed Oller. Vote: all in favor.

1st year director: Margaret Edmundson. Vote: All

in favor.

Paul McEwen. Vote: all in favor.
Treasurer: Peggy Petito. Vote: All in favor.
Secretary: Sheila York. Vote: All in favor.

Vice President: Gayland Allen. Vote: All in

favor.

President: Bryant Hiiter. Vote: All in favor.

New business: Ed has brought up the idea of a fund raiser, calendars with members' work displayed. This will be looked into for the following year.

Bryant asked everyone to stay after the meeting for some snacks and a video on photographing jewelry. This might be helpful with the calendar idea. Reminder: The Christmas party is the 3rd Tuesday in December, December 17, bring a dish to pass and if you want to participate, a gift that is "rock/mineral" related, valued at about \$10. Motion made by Vi and seconded by Dana to adjourn meeting at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted: Sheila York, Secretary.



Owyhee Jasper

On the eastern side of Oregon there is a lake called Owyhee Lake, fed by a river with the same name. This area of Oregon is high desert country and contains an abundance of fine jaspers and agates. The various varieties of owyhee jasper share a geographic region, not a single locale.

There are many different looks to the owyhee jaspers and they are not all found in the same spot, but all include owyhee as part of their name. Not only does the owyhee area jasper produce the scenic variety, but it also produces artistic works reminiscent of Asian paintings, modern works of art, and strong abstract color patterns. Examples of owyhee scenic type jasper may appear to have either green or blue sky. Mountains, valleys, and dunes are common scenic features, some with small dendritic plants or tree shapes.

Asian style design and paintings can often be found in the owyhee flower jasper which, by the way, is also sold as Chinese dendritic jasper. This jasper is usually cream colored with red splotches, often connected with fine dendrites, and the red areas are often surrounded by pale green halos. Some show warm brown-red zones connected by a fine series of dark lines.

The owyhee sunset jasper has warmer colors, less detail, but often shows us the world with a stylized sunset.

Last, but certainly not least is the owyhee known as the cherry creek variety. This is my favorite type for its bright red color veining that is often surrounded by cream-yellow or even blue areas of color, sometimes both in the same stone. It often contains fine dendrites and resembles strong abstract art. All of the owyhee jaspers appear to come from silicified mud-stones or siltstones. The are very fine grained, uniformly hard, and take a great polish. They are truly porcelain jaspers of the hightest quality.

By Ron Gibbs, Santa Ana Rock and Mineral Club, via Moroks Newsletter, February 2013



Owyhee picture jasper cabochon

2013 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Bryant Hiiter, 248-889-3974

Vice President:

Secretary: Sheila York 810-695-0509 Treasurer: Peggy Petito, 248-887-8847

First year Director: Ed Oller 810-241-8801 Second year Directors: Violet Porritt, 810-235-6286 Lorelei Hosler, 810-789-3687

Third year Director John Petito, 248-887-8847 Hospitality: Venus Sage, 810-458-4290

Sunshine: Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804 Shop Chairperson: Chuck Amberger

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 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 p.m.)

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.





2014 Dues are due

Tear off and mail to Peggy Petito, Treasurer, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Rd, Howell, MI 48843

2014 Livingston Gem and Mineral Society Dues

Name	
	adult member \$15
	family membership\$15 number of children 9-18 yearsnumber of adults
	annual workshop fee\$10 (each member who uses the shop must pay this fee)
	total payment
Please note any chang	ges in address, email address or phone number
newsletter preference	:printed,emailshop mail folder

A SIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

(author unknown)

'Twas the eve before Christmas and there in the night the desert was quiet, not a rockhound in sight. Our socks were all hung where the bright fire glows in hopes that our Moms would sew up the toes.

The kids were all stacked in their warm little bunks with visions of agate slabs, boulders and chunks. And me in my long john and Ma in her sack had jumped into bed; it was cold in the shack.

From out in the sagebrush rose a hullaballoo and I sprang to the window to throw out a shoe. The moon shining down on the still silver sand confirmed that the desert was my kind of land.

I strained my eyes 'till my brow was a furrow; along came an old gent, a-leadin' his burro. By the size of his tummy and the face full of hair I knew it was Santa or a big grizzly bear.

"Go Rudolph, go Rudolph, you stubborn ol' mule, get moving there, Rudolph, you lop-eared ol' fool." Then quick as a polecat I heard up on top that darn red-nosed burro go clippity-clop.

Santa's trip down the chimney was somethin' uncanny; the fire was a-burnin' and scorched his poor fanny. He was dressed all in denim from his hat to his shoes, His nose was all red and he needed a snooze.

He had middle age spread that just wouldn't fit, and a bag so big it was ready to split. He spied my old trim saw, the one that was broke; "By golly, you're rockhounds, you're my kind of folk."

He sat down at the table, we both had some java and talked about agate, opal, and lava. He told of old times, of Horse Canyon agate, of good times in Boron, of jasper from Dagget.

He told of old pals from a mine in ghost city, of Bullfrog and Bodic, they're dead, what a pity. Then out of his pack for me and for Maw what else did he pull but a big slabbing saw.

There was a hammer for Nels and a black light for Della and he winked as he sat there, a jolly good fella. Then lookin' at the fire and feelin' a bit sore he thought it was best to leave through the door.

Then I heard his exclaim as he went out of sight "MERRY CHRISTMAS, YOU ROCKHOUNDS, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!"



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





Annual Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 17, 2013, 6 p.m. in the Senior Center

Bring a dish to share and a rock-related gift (value about \$10.00)!

Celebrate the season!