

Livingstones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

November 2014

President's Message

If you are reading this, then you survived Halloween. November is here and some of our snowbirds have already left us, and others are preparing to. The shop will be closed the Friday after Thanksgiving. Remember, if the Hartland School District is closed for a snow day, then we are closed also.

Thank you all for making our banquet so enjoyable. We had 73 people there (I think that's a record) and we all enjoyed the meal and the presentation brought to us by Jeff Anderson and his father. I want to congratulate Ed Oller and John Petito again for their hard work and sacrifice, which made them easy choices for this year's Max Schultz Award. A special thanks to Vi Poritt, who organized the banquet again this year, and to everyone who set up and decorated the tables, and cleaned up afterwards.

I am calling an officers meeting for November 11, after lunch. We have much to discuss.

Remember the general meeting is on November 18, at 6 P.M. If you can bring a snack for after the meeting please let me know. Our entertainment after the meeting will be brought to us by Ed Oller.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and save room for pie.



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.

(closed November 28, 2014)

Bryant



**to the 2014
Max Schultz Award Winners!**



Ed Oller



John Petito

Thanks for all you do for our club!

2014 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Bryant Hiiter, 248-889-3974
 Vice President: Gayland Allen, 810-275-3444
 Secretary: Sheila York, 810-695-0509
 Treasurer: Peggy Petito, 248-887-8847
 First year Director: Margaret Edmundson,
 248-634-5046
 Paul McEwen, 810-735-5832
 Second year Directors: Ed Oller, 810-241-8801
 Third year Director John Petito, 248-887-8847
 Hospitality: Venus Sage, 810-458-4290
 Sunshine: Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804
 Shop Chairperson: Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586
 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
 Webmaster: Emily Saling
 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.

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Banquet memories



to Vi Porritt who made all the arrangements with Lorelei Hosler's assistance. It was a delicious dinner, an inspirational presenter, and the best company!

Words to Dig By

Fossil: Farmers in medieval Europe dug trenches and ditches to drain rainwater off their fields.

These trenches were called “fosses” after the Latin expression meaning “to dig.” Often enough, the ditch diggers uncovered what appeared to be ancient bones, teeth, or shells and called them “fossils” because they came from a fosse.

Erosion: Mice and other gnawing animals plagued the ancient Romans, and it is from their term rodere, “to gnaw,” that we derive the word “rodent”. Later, the alchemists experimented with acids and discovered that they would attack metals, slowly dissolving them. This slow corrosive action was labeled “erosion”.

Geologists then adopted the term erosion to describe how glaciers, streams, and rivers gnawed away sediments and rocks.

Goldbrick: Goldbricking is the shirking of one's duties, but the term had its origins during the Gold Rush days. An unscrupulous promoter would cover a block of lead with a layer of gold and offer it at a “discount” to unwary investors. The man who bought the “goldbrick” was cheated and the word came to be a verb meaning “to swindle”. During World War 1, however, the term acquired a somewhat different meaning. A soldier who avoided doing his duty was called a “goldbrick.” The term retains its original meaning as a secondary definition.

Bonanza: Bonanza is another word that entered general use during the Gold Rush days. Derived from the Latin bonus for “good,” the word bonanza was coined by Spanish sailors to describe days of clear weather coming on the heels of a storm. The term came to mean any good fortune and was applied to very rich gold discoveries. Today, the term is applied to any source of great wealth.

From: [445 Fascinating Word Origins](#) by W. Garrison, 2011, Galahad Books

Upcoming Events

November 1-2, 2014

Mid-Michigan Rock Club's Annual Show

Midland Convention Center, 1500 W. Wackerly St, Midland, MI

Info: dale989@sbcglobal.net or 989-837-1829

November 10, 2014

Michigan Mineralogical Society's Annual Auction

Cranbrook Institute of Science, 39221 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI

Info: hurtmillie@gmail.com or 248-398-6693



2015 Dues are due

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

2015 Livingston Gem and Mineral Society Dues

Name _____

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

_____ adult member \$15
 _____ family membership\$15
 number of children 12-18 years _____ number of adults _____
 _____ annual workshop fee\$10
 (each member who uses the shop must pay this fee)
 _____ total payment

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

Zinc Deficiency Gives Investors a Jolt

by Tatyana Shumsky, excerpted from the Wall Street Journal 9-9-14

The world is running low on zinc, sending some investors scurrying to buy mining-company shares and forcing the U.S. Mint to redouble cost-cutting efforts in search of a cheaper penny.

Prices for the metal have soared to three-year highs. Investors are betting prices will continue to climb as some of the world's largest zinc mines run dry just as demand is ramping up.

Zinc is used in everything from steel coatings to car tires to sunscreen, and the metal has few substitutes. The U.S. Mint reduced manufacturing costs to offset higher prices for zinc, which makes up 97.5% of every penny. However, steelmakers, which buy about half the world's zinc, are in a tougher bind. Zinc is one of several rust-resistant metals vital to the steelmaking process where cost have soared this year.

Zinc production is expected to fall short of demand this year for the first time since 2007, according to Goldman Sachs. Several large, aging mines are scheduled to close next year, and miners need higher prices to justify the cost of finding and developing new sources of metal. Miners may not produce enough zinc to meet the needs of steel companies and coin makers until 2018, analysts say. Meantime, a rebound in the U.S. property market and soaring global auto sales are creating new demand for galvanized steel.

"There are a relatively small number of large zinc mines that are happening to be reaching the end of their useful lives," said Stephen Briggs, a metals strategist. While there are mines to replace them, they're not that many and they're not that big ...we're reaching the tipping point."

Next year, metal companies are expected to close two mines equal to 7% of global production. Replacing that supply won't be easy. One of the facilities expected to shut down, an Australian mine called Century, produces 500,000 tons of zinc a year, equal to about five new mines, Mr. Briggs said.

The U.S. Mint lost \$55 million producing pennies in 2013, when the coin cost 1.83 cents to manufacture. This year a penny is expected to cost only 1.6 cents because of savings elsewhere in the process, a spokesman said.

The value of the metal contained in a penny is climbing. At today's prices, the zinc in each penny costs 0.58 cents, from 0.47 cents last year and 0.26 cents a decade ago.

"No alternative metal compound would lower the cost of the penny (to less than one cent), we just don't think it can be done", said Tom Jurkowski, a spokesman for U.S. Mint, adding that the Mint had studied cheaper materials like steel but encountered problems with higher manufacturing costs.

Globally, zinc demand is up 7.7% in the first six months of this year to 6.8 million metric tons, according to the International Lead and Zinc Study Group, an industry association.

"While people expect Chinese zinc supply to grow, it won't make up for its own demand growth plus mine closures in the West," said George Cheveley, a commodities portfolio manager with Investec Asset Management.

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



General Meeting
at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2014
at the shop

Officers' meeting on Tuesday, November 11, 2014, after lunch