

# Livingstones

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

December 2014

## President's Message

This holiday season when you think about presents for friends and family, consider buying something from your fellow club members. If you have finished work bring it in; maybe someone will buy it.

Our Christmas party will be on Tuesday, December 16, at 6:00 p.m., in the Senior Center. It will be potluck style, so please bring a dish to pass and your own silverware. If you wish to take part in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift. Gifts need to be rock, mineral, jewelry, gem, or lapidary related. I want to encourage newer members to take part, even if you think your gift wouldn't be as significant as other people's. It is the thought that counts.

Officers' meeting Tuesday, December 9, after lunch.

Please remember to turn off the water when you go from one machine to the next. It is becoming epidemic on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Also, last Tuesday, one club member turned off four machines in a short period of time that people just walked away from and left running. I know you can get "in the zone" while working and become so focused you don't notice your surroundings, but this is getting out of hand. Also, while I'm on my high horse, some people aren't cleaning up after themselves, and just leaving a mess everywhere they go. If you are working with a material that makes a mess (i.e. PAINT!) you need to clean up your mess. I realize that the people who don't care if they make the shop a mess are the same people who wouldn't read the newsletter, but at least I tried. I do really appreciate those of you who grab a mop or sponge and clean up a mess you didn't make. Remember the shop closes on Friday, December 19, at 2:00 p.m., and will not reopen until Monday, January 5, 2015.

*Bryant*

## Holiday Closing

The lapidary shop will be closing

Friday, December 19 at 2 p.m.

Reopening on Monday, January 5, 2015

## 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.



## General Meeting LGMS 11-18-14

Meeting called to order by President Bryant Hiiter at 6:00 p.m. with 22 members present. Four new members were welcomed.

TREASURER'S report: Peggy Petito was not present, though President Bryant stated that the club continues to be financially stable.

SHOP CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chuck states that everything is running, though the equipment is wearing out and we will need to spend some money on new equipment. Saw blades have been ordered along with new wheels, belts and wax. Vice President Gayland used this time to remind members to clean up around the grinding wheels; use water and wipe down basins after use. This includes emptying the flat lap container. When using the dop wax, the warming basin is for the stones only. Do not apply the wax to the stone while it is in the basin. Do not press real hard on the saws; pay attention to the signs over the trim saws. The center saw is only for soft stones and paint. George stated that when cleaning the saws, we should use the scraper first, then use cloths. If there are puddles on the floor, use the mops that are close by and handy. CLEAN AS YOU GO.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: Our club was mentioned in the MWF Newsletter; we will be hosting the MWF Executive Committee meeting in September of 2015.

Last Thursday, 4 members from our club were invited to the 4-H banquet and were given an award. Pursuant to our club's mission statement, each year we host a large group of 4-Hers who learn about lapidary. We will be teaching again this year on Monday evenings beginning in January. Additional volunteers are appreciated. Please see Bryant.

This year we sent Ed Oller as a delegate to the MWF convention. Ed stated that he had a good time, met the president of MWF and got some great ideas for field trips this coming year.

Our shop will be closed on 11/28 due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Bryant wants everyone to remember that if the schools are closed, then the shop is closed also. December 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day this year the shop will be open before the Christmas/New Year vacation. (Shop closed Dec 20<sup>th</sup> to Jan 4<sup>th</sup>). You can check about snow days at: [hartlandconsolidatedschools.com](http://hartlandconsolidatedschools.com)

Our Christmas party will be December 16, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. This is a potluck affair, so bring a dish. We also have a rock-related gift exchange (\$10.00 limit). The gift exchange is voluntary, but it is a lot of fun. So, bring a gift, share the fun. We do need people to volunteer for setup and cleanup of the party.

Three OFFICER POSITIONS expire this year:

Treasurer - Peggy Petito has agreed to fill this position for one more year. Vote taken: all in favor.

Secretary - Sheila York has agreed to another year. All in favor.

Second year director: Ed Oller has also agreed for another term. All in favor.

The club's rock, fossil, and mineral collection stored in the Yorks' barn needs to be closed up for the winter. Gayland would appreciate some help. George, Chuck and Ed have stepped up to the plate.

Motion made to close meeting by Paul and seconded by Ed. Meeting adjourned 6:35 p.m. Snacks were available after the meeting and Ed Oller had a presentation on "Fossils from Rockport Quarry".

Respectfully submitted, Sheila York, Secretary

### Board Meeting 11-11-14

Meeting called to order 12:35 p.m., President Bryant Hiiter presiding. 8 members were present. Several issues were discussed.

Everyone is pleased that our website, livingstongemandmineralsociety.com, is up and running. All club members should be encouraged to check it out.

Chuck will be retiring as shop chairman. Gayland and Ed have agreed to be co-shop chairmen. In the New Year, Chuck will no longer be able to open the shop on Tuesdays; Margaret and Sheila have volunteered to open on Tuesdays. Chuck is also stepping down as show chairman. We discussed with Chuck some of the things that need to be written down to assure a smooth transition to the future chairperson.

In critiquing the show, there were some good things and some not so good things. This was the best show we have had financially. In regards to advertising, however, we have dropped the ball. Bryant stated that in the future we need someone who can be in charge of advertising. Bryant also mentioned that George does not want to be responsible for the signage next year.

Paul presented some changes to the wording of some of the by-laws, code of ethics and constitution that are vague, incorrect or have editing errors. Previously he had given the board members copies of these discrepancies to review. Time was limited but some changes were agreed upon. Other items will need to be discussed at future board meetings.

There are problems with our computer crashing. After some discussion, Paul offered to look into purchasing another one. Margaret made a motion to approve a purchase of a new computer not to exceed \$400.00. This was seconded by Paul. All in favor.

Motor on the trim saw is fried. It was agreed to order necessary parts.

Volunteers needed for snacks for next week's general meeting. Gayland volunteered.

Meeting adjourned 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted; Sheila York, Secretary

### 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 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.l@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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6 p.m. (Except in January  
 and February when board meetings are held in  
 the shop at 1 p.m.)

### On Christmas Eve

I was looking at my rock collection late on Christmas Eve  
When, this bearded guy in a red suit, came tugging at my sleeve  
“Ho! Ho! Ho! He laughed and said, “Is there something there for me?  
If you can spare a crystal, I would like one for my tree.”  
I was kind of startled and I jumped back in surprise.  
I flattened out the jolly guy for he was half my size.  
Oh he was fat and had big boots but he wasn't very tall.  
So when he landed on his butt he didn't have far to fall.  
“I'm sorry Santa, you startled me,” I pulled him to his feet  
If you came for milk and cookies, I've nothing here to eat.  
Again the Ho! Ho! Ho! Filled the room, a smile was on his mug.  
“Herkimer” he laughed, “You've got a big one in that vug”  
On my table was limestone chunk with an empty cavity.  
It was a piece of leverite, I'd brought back home with me  
I stared down in amazement at the huge crystal in that hole.  
You couldn't buy better Quartz from the Devil, for your soul.  
I stared in wonder, I could not speak, not a sound came to my lips  
It was the crystal I had wished for on a hundred collecting trips  
A water clear crystal as big as my fist, it sparkled like lights on a tree  
I had never seen such a flawless gem, and Santa had left it for me.  
I turned around to thank him and to wish him Christmas cheer  
But I was alone, the elf had gone; I shed a joyful tear.  
Then the alarm went off and I awoke and screamed  
That Herkimer that Santa had given me was just something that I dreamed.

Dick Stata 12-17-04, via Scribe

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Annual dues are \$15 per person or family. Annual shop fees are \$10.00 per person. There is an additional fee of \$1.00 per day for workshop use. Annual dues and annual shop fees are due on January 1 of each year. The Livingston Gem and Mineral Society publishes The Living Stones. Non copyrighted articles may be reprinted provided that they are properly attributed. Newsletter deadline is the 20th of each month. Articles or correspondence can be sent to

LGMS, Hartland Consolidated Schools, 9525 E. Highland Rd. Howell, Michigan 48843-9098.

**Christmas Greetings**

In every gleaming candle flame  
May joy shine out anew  
In every ringing Christmas bell  
May there be blessings, too.  
In every carol, softly sung  
May Peace on Earth be found  
As Christmas comes to every heart  
All the world around !

**2015 Dues are due**

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

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**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

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



## Annual Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 16, 2014, 6 p.m. in the Senior Center

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

Celebrate the season !