

Livingstones

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

January 2015

President's Message

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe holiday. Here are some reminders for all of us: 2015 membership fees are due now. If the Hartland Schools are closed due to weather, then we are too.

This is the time of the year when we teach the 4-H children lapidary arts. We've been doing this for many years, and is an essential part of the club's mission statement. We need volunteers to help guide them through the learning process. You do not need to be a grizzled veteran of cabachon making to help. We are only teaching the basics. We meet on Monday from 6 to 8 p.m. Please see me if you can help, I really need a few more people to make it one on one learning.

As many of you know, Chuck Amberger, our long-time show chairman, has retired from that post. We need an individual or individuals to take over in this role. Chuck is more than willing to give advice and help to the new show chairman, but needs to devote more time to other things. Also, we need an "Advertising Czar" to oversee all advertising for the show. This is an area that we fall short in every year. We desperately need someone to coordinate print media, websites, TV, signs, flyers etc... Please see me if you are interested in helping the Club in this way.



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.

Bryant



Two Faced Words for the New Year

As you may know, the first month of the year is named after Janus, the Roman god of entrances and exits and the guardian of new adventures. Janus is traditionally depicted with two faces, one looking back at the year gone by and the other looking forward to the year ahead.

A *Janus word* is similarly two-faced. Also known, less playfully, as a *contronym*, *contronym*, or *autonym*, a Janus word contains opposite or contradictory meanings.

For example, to *strike* something usually means to hit it--except in baseball, where a *strike* is a miss. To *sanction* sometimes means to authorize, other times to penalize. When *dusting* furniture, we remove fine particles from a surface. But when a crime scene is *dusted* for fingerprints, detectives spread fine particles over a surface. And while a *fast* sprinter runs quickly, a *fast* color doesn't run at all. Other Janus words in English include *trim* (which can mean either remove by cutting or add by decorating), *screen* (either conceal or show), *clip* (attach or separate), and *cleave* (divide or stick together). Our favorite Janus word for the new year is the common noun *fix*--which can refer to either a problem (as when you're left in a fix) or a solution (when you find a fix). It all depends, I suppose, on your predicament and point of view.

From Scribe vol 38, no 4, Oct – Dec 2014

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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“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something.”

Neil Gaiman

## Upcoming Events

March 7-8, 2015  
**The Roamin Club**  
**43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Special Auction**  
Schoolcraft College  
Info: 248-348-5093 or 248-981-9673

March 20-22, 2015  
**Michigan Gem and Mineral Society**  
**"It's a Hard Rock Life"**  
Jackson Coounty Fairgrounds  
Info: Sally 517-522-3396 or [www.mgmsrockclub.com](http://www.mgmsrockclub.com)

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Weather problems?

The LGMS Shop is closed whenever the
Hartland Consolidated Schools are closed.
Check [www. Hartlandschools.us/School-Closings](http://www.Hartlandschools.us/School-Closings)

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
Second year Directors: Margaret Edmundson,
248-634-5046
Paul McEwen, 810-735-5832
Third year Directors: Ed Oller, 810-241-8801
John Petito, 248-887-8847
Hospitality: Venus Sage, 810-458-4290
Sunshine: Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804
Shop Chairpersons: Gayland Allen, 810-275-3444
Ed Oller, 810-241-8801
Newsletter and Membership:
Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804
imvm.1@netzero.com
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.)

Corundum

What is Corundum? Corundum is a rock-forming [mineral](#) that is found in igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. It is an aluminum oxide with a chemical composition of Al_2O_3 and a hexagonal crystal structure.

The mineral is widely known for its extreme hardness and for the fact that it is sometimes found as beautiful transparent crystals in many different colors. The extreme hardness makes corundum an excellent abrasive, and when that hardness is found in beautiful crystals, you have the perfect material for cutting [gemstones](#).

Natural and synthetic corundum are used in a wide variety of industrial applications because of their toughness, hardness, and chemical stability. They are used to make industrial bearings, scratch-resistant windows for electronic instruments, wafers for circuit boards, and many other products.

Made Famous by Rubies and Sapphires Most people are familiar with corundum; however, very few people know it by its mineral name - instead they know it by the names "[ruby](#)" and "[sapphire](#)." A gemstone-quality specimen of corundum with a deep red color is known as a "ruby." A gemstone-quality corundum with a blue color is called a "sapphire." Colorless corundum is known as "white sapphire." Corundum of any other color is known as "fancy sapphire."

Properties of Corundum Corundum is an exceptionally hard and tough material. It is the third hardest mineral, after [diamond](#) and moissanite. It serves as the index mineral for a hardness of nine on the [Mohs Hardness Scale](#). Its hardness, high specific gravity, hexagonal crystals and parting are very good diagnostic properties to use in its identification.



Two corundum crystal segments from India showing the mineral's hexagonal crystal habit and basal parting. These specimens are red in color and might be called "ruby corundum."

article from [Geology.com](#)

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. This society was established in 1970. 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.



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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

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



No General Meeting

Board meets at 1 p.m.

on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the shop