

Livingstones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

March 2015

President's Message

March is here and that means Spring is just around the corner. And it can't come soon enough for me! Brrrrr.

We have finished teaching the 4-H children, and I would like to thank all those who volunteered their time: Chuck, George, Zach, Big Bob, Dan, Julie, Anna, Patty, and Sharon K.

Refreshments for the March meeting will be corned beef and cabbage, but we still need some snacks and desserts. If you can bring some please tell me. Sheila York will be hosting our June Picnic, and Gayland & Jill our August Picnic, but we still need someone to volunteer for the July Picnic.

Ed Oller has "Volunteered" to be this year's Show Chairman. Paul McEwen is working on advertising, and John Petito is handling the signs. John would like to hear your good ideas about sign placement and wording to maximize the show's exposure this year. Sheila York is in charge of our Banquet, but we still need a "Raffle Czar" to be in charge of this year's raffle.

We have 2 flat display cases for sale. The dimensions are 23x33x3 inches deep. Contact me if you are interested. The price is \$25 each. Just a final note of deep thanks. A couple of Fridays ago Janel Layton and Sue Monroe scrubbed the shop floor on their hands and knees. Please thank these angels when you see them, and think about cleaning up after yourselves a little more often.

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.

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

**PEASE NOTE:
PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LGMS
CONSTITUTION**

.On page 5 of this newsletter you will find some proposed changes to our Constitution. Please read these carefully. We will be voting on them at the March meeting. The officers have reviewed them and are submitting them to the members for their confirmation.



2015 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.)

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, archeology, paleontology, and the lapidary arts.

Ancient Uses of Minerals

Author unknown, via Moroks Newsletter February 2014

It has always been interesting to learn about the strange ways in which minerals have been used. Tin, for instance, has been known for thousands of years. The Phoenicians and other ancient people mined it in the famous mines in Cornwall, England and from that time to this, tin has been an important metal in the progress of civilization. Perhaps the most unusual use of tin was as an additive to put rustle in silk cloth. The luxurious swish of a lady's skin in the era of elaborate clothes at the turn of the century was produced by a silk that was up to 25% tin, by weight.

One of the strangest uses of lead ever recorded is found in the story of the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. This wonder of the ancient world was contained in a square 400 feet on each side and built up as several large terraces which attained the height of the city walls. The whole structure is supported by arches, one above the other, strengthened by a wall 22 feet thick surrounding it on all sides. On top were first laid large flat stones, 16 feet long and 4 feet wide; over these were laid a layer of reeds mixed with a great quantity of bitumen upon which were set 2 rows of bricks cemented closely together. The whole was covered with thin sheets of lead which laid the mold of the garden and soil deep enough to take the roots of the biggest trees. Amyitis, wife of Nebuchadnezzar, longed for the hills and her husband, to please her, built this magnificent structure. This ancient garden with its lead shielding suggests a modern bomb shelter.

We are all familiar with the crystal ball of the fortune teller, cut from flawless quartz. Another more practical use for these smooth spheres was discovered by the oriental needle workers. These women, skilled in the art of fine embroidery, used the balls to cool their hands and prevent moisture from soiling the fine silks on which they worked.

The long slender crystal selenites from the Cave of the Swords at Naica in Chihuahua, Mexico, are beautiful to look at and they too have been put to a practical use. Some of these crystals retain the water of crystallization in the form of a bubble in which the water moves as it is tipped to and fro. These crystals have been used as hand levels by the native miners.



Weather problems?

The LGMS Shop is closed whenever the

Hartland Consolidated Schools are closed.

Check www.Hartlandschools.us/School-Closings

Upcoming Events

March 7-8, 2015

The Roamin Club 43rd 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 County Fairgrounds

Info: Sally 517-522-3396 or www.mgmsrockclub.com

April 9-11, 2015

39th Annual Show, Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club

Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28th St, Wyoming, MI

April 18-19, 2015

38th Annual Gem and Mineral Show, Mt Clemens Gem and Lapidary Society

Roseville Recreation Center, 18185 Sycamore, Roseville, MI



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

Proposed changes to the LGMS Constitution

Article I NAME

The name of this organization shall be LIVINGSTON GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY with headquarters in Hartland, Michigan, using 9525 E. Highland Rd, Howell, Michigan 48843 as the mailing address.

Article III MEMBERSHIP

Section I b) Current Life Members may retain that status and privileges, but there will be no new life members.

BY-LAWS

SECTION III MEMBERSHIP

a) 2) Life members: Eliminate this category here and anywhere it is mentioned in the constitution.

d) Eliminate this item. Then revise the alphabet designation for subsequent items.

e) 2) Family membership [husband, wife, and children (9-18 years of age subject to details in Section III 4)]

4) Applicants between ages 9 and 18 years of age must be supervised by a parent, guardian, or someone older than 21 designated by the parent or guardian, that is familiar with the use and function of the pieces of equipment. The supervising person mentioned above must be able to come to the immediate aid of the 9-18 year old and stay beside the youth at a distance that permits uninterrupted, unaided, visual and verbal contact. Mentor must turn on and turn off machines for children 9-12 years old. 13-18 year olds may have a board member or very knowledgeable member observe their competencies on the various machines. Once they are deemed competent they will receive a card, stating: name of youth has demonstrated competency on the grinders, cutting saws, etc. This card will be signed by the President and the supervising person which will allow 13-18 year olds to operate independent of their supervisor.

7) Guests must be accompanied by a member of the club. Guests may visit a maximum of two (2) times per calendar year and sign the waiver and pay \$1.00 per visit. If they are unfamiliar with the machines they use, they must be supervised in the manner described in section III e 4 above. If they desire to use the facilities more times than the two visits per year, they must apply for membership or, if in a family membership, they must pay the annual shop fee.

8) In order to sustain the club, all LGMS members are required to volunteer services. Examples may include helping with the show, cleaning machines, cleaning the shop, helping with the newsletter, planning and leading field trips, or other services as necessary.

SECTION IV OFFICERS

a) Officers of the Society must be active regular members. (Remove “or life”.)

SECTION VII COMMITTEES

b) 2) Annual Show. Correct spelling of “Gam” to “Gem”.

SECTION VIII AMENDMENT AND/OR REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

A) 1) By any regular member in good standing.

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



General Meeting
on Tuesday, March 17, 2015
6 p.m. at the shop