

The Living Stones

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

July 2016

President's Message

July is here already and the weather has been nice for a change. Our annual show is not too far away and I am hoping to see a big turnout at our next monthly meeting. There was a last minute change in location for the July pot luck meeting. It is to be held at Epley park in old downtown Hartland. See page 4 of this newsletter for directions.

I will be looking for volunteers to fill all the necessary positions at the annual show the third weekend in September. As usual we will need as much help as we can get in order to have a successful and smooth running show! We will need lots of volunteers to help set up for the show, also club members willing to donate their time and talents to help out during the show. Let's not forget about the extra manpower we will need at the end of the show to return everything to the proper place in the workshop. I would really like to see some of our newer members get involved with this year's show. Please make it a point to attend the pot luck meeting at Epley park to ensure that this upcoming show is better than ever!

I would like to thank Dave and Sharen Worden for hosting the June meeting at their home. The food was great and the weather couldn't have been better. We had well over thirty members and their families present at the meeting. Of course the business of the dues increase was discussed and another vote was taken and passed unanimously. The changes to the bylaws in the constitution were posted in the June newsletter and soon revised copies of the constitution will be available at the shop office.



This has not been a pleasant issue for me to deal with as president of this club. For those members who feel the dues increase is excessive, I have instructed our club treasurer to monitor the club finances for the remainder of this year and also for the year 2017 to see if our account balance begins to increase. If this situation occurs we can always adjust the annual dues to a lower rate at that point in time. I am fully aware that we are supposed to be a non-profit organization. We do have an annual operating budget that can vary from year to year, so finding a happy medium to ensure the continued successful operation of the club is not an easy thing to do. I would like to thank the members who volunteered to be on the financial committee for their time and efforts to help the club on this matter.

I am saddened to hear that our fellow club member Bob Krautheim is in the hospital fighting a severe infection. I certainly hope and pray that Bob will recover from this quickly! In addition to this, Lavonne fell and injured herself roller skating so now we have our two main silversmiths on the mend! This has created a whole new challenge for our members who are involved in that area of the workshop. Please keep Bob and Lavonne in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely, Bob Kalis

LGMS General Meeting minutes

June 21, 2016

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.

2016 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Bob Kalis, 734-320-3648
Vice President: Patty Fountain, 810-844-3970
Secretary: Lori Keefer, 248-634-8657
Treasurer: Sheila York, 810-695-0509
First year Directors:
 Sharon Krauthaim, 810-701-3776
 Dennis Gougherty, 810-986-9671
Second year Director:
 Margaret Edmundson, 248-634-5046
Third year Director: Ed Oller, 810-241-8801
Hospitality: Venus Sage, 810-458-4290
Sunshine: Anna Pernicano, 248-486-4048
Shop Chairpersons: Ed Oller, 810-241-8801
 Sharon Parker, 517-548-0675
Newsletter and Membership:
 Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804
 imvm.1@netzero.com
Historian: Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586
Library: Bryant Hiiter, 248-210-6138
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.)

June meeting was a picnic held at Dave Worden's home. 15 members with their families were present. Bob called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Treasurer's report was approved. The club is in good financial status.

Shop report was given by Bob as Ed wasn't present. All equipment is in good working order. The 400, 220, and 100 sanders are old. New stainless steel housing is being made for those machines. A request for new mop heads was made and will be ordered.

Bob has purchased an Amethyst Cathedral from C & M rock shop for our raffle drawing. Cost was \$220.00. Donations are coming in for show raffle. There will be lots of raffle tickets to sell this year.

Old Business: We need to change by-laws of the constitution to increase club dues. Proposed changes written by Dave Worden were published in the June newsletter. Dave read all the proposed changes to the membership at the picnic meeting. There was time for discussion. Margaret made a motion to accept changes as proposed by Dave Worden. Lori seconded motion. A vote was taken. 14 members were for the proposed changes, 0 opposed, 1 abstained. The motion passed. The dues will increase for the 2017 year. Bob stated he would monitor the treasury funds in 2017 to see if dues needed to be adjusted for the 2018 year. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Keefer, Secretary, LGMS

Rock and Garage Sale at Chuck Amberger's place

Thursday and Friday, July 14 and 15, 2016
8 a.m. To 5 p.m.

Petosky Stone * Septarian * Coenites
all \$2.00 a pound;

And a lot of odd gems and minerals
– even butterflies

Directions: Go to South Lyon, 8 Mile Rd and
Pontiac Trail; go west on 8 Mile Rd to
Dixboro Rd and turn right on Dixboro;
three houses north.



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.

Irreplaceable pearl

Archeologists digging in an ancient site in
Western Australia hit the mother lode when they
found a natural pearl that carbon dating showed
was more than 2000 years old. Found in a
remote area in the Kimberley region, the pearl
was analyzed for four years using non-invasive
technology to confirm its age. Its round shape is
extremely rare in nature. For this reason
scientific proof of its age was important to
eliminate any chance that it was a modern
creation. Associate Professor Kat Szabo of the
University of Wollongong said the pearl had
all the classic signatures of a natural pearl.



LGMS Annual Show September 17 and 18, 2016

Mark your calendar!

Volunteer!

Prepare your display case!

Upcoming Events

August 1, 2016

Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club

Elks Cub Holl, 597 Lake Shore Drive, Ishpeming, MI

Info: Ernie Johnson, 906-228-9422, ejohnson@nmu.edu, www.ishpemingrocks.org

August 9-12, 2016

Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club

Keweenaw Peninsula

Info: Steve Whelan, 906-337-2599, kweek2016@up.net

August 12-14, 2016

Copper Country Gem and Mineral Show

Houghton Elementary School, Houghton, MI

Info: Norm Gruber, 906-228-6764, pres@ccnmc.info

August 13, 2016

Flint Rock and Gem Club's Annual Rock, Craft and Rummage Sale

11350 North Saginaw, Clio, MI

Info: Bill Wendling, 810-638-5796, www.flintrockandgem.org

September 9-11, 2016

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club's Show

Stranahan Theater Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns, Toledo, Ohio

Info: John Capuano, 419-882-1733, jscapuano@yahoo.com

Directions to Epley Park for July potluck: From the LGMS shop go east to Old 23, north on Old 23 about 1 mile to Crouse Road, east (right) on Crouse Rd across the x-way and Hartand Rd, then turn 1 block north (left) to Maple (also called Hibner), east (right) on Maple to the park on the right.



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.

The Merit of Metals – Gold

exerpted from the G and S Metals blog

Gold has been the standard symbol of beauty and wealth for the entirety of recorded history; gold jewelry has been uncovered from burial sites dating back to 4600 BCE. Gold jewelry even predates the invention of the wheel in Mesopotamia c. 3900 BCE.

The Eminence of Gold Ever since the first person recovered and worked an alluvial gold nugget gold has enchanted humans. Gold exudes timeless appeal, famously adorning the ancient pharaohs of Egypt, the magistrates of ancient Rome, and every noble family in Europe. Even Elvis, the *king* of rock and roll had a gold piano; or at least a wooden piano covered in gold leaf.

Gold's worldwide appeal is further evident by its presence in artifacts from Pre-Columbian Mesoamerica, the use of the gold talent as a currency in ancient Lydia c. 700 BCE, and the mining of gold ore from Kolar gold fields from the first millennium BCE. Gold jewelry was excavated from ancient burial sites radiocarbon dated to 4200-4600 BCE which means gold jewelry even predates the invention of the wheel by around 700 years! Gold's indefectible beauty has led to its presence in artifacts from nearly every civilization and religion spanning every continent but Antarctica, and with that millennia-long track record of value, it's never been a bad time to purchase gold.

Modern Gold Today the monetary value of a piece of gold jewelry is determined by its karat. Karat is the measure of fineness (or purity) of gold, and is expressed as parts per 24. The most common karats in gold jewelry today are 10 karat (41.6% pure) 14 karat (58.3% pure) 18 karat (75% pure) 22 karat (91.6% pure) and 24 karat (100% pure.) To determine the purity of any karat gold, divide the karat by 24 ($14/24 = 58.3\%$) or to calculate the equivalent karat based upon the purity of gold, multiple the percentage of purity by 24 ($0.73 \times 24 = 17.5$ karats.) A stamp or mark of fineness (whether expressed as a percentage or a karat) on a product manufactured with any amount of gold cannot overstate the fineness of the entire piece by more than seven one thousandths. This means a piece of jewelry that is assayed at 40.97% pure gold can be considered 10 karat, but at 40.95% cannot.

Today's jewelry is available in a plethora of colors which compliment today's fashion trends. These colors are achieved through the use of non-gold metals alloyed with gold. Red gold alloys contain high concentrations of copper which provide their rose hue, green gold alloys contain silver, and white gold contains nickel (or palladium); extra white gold, an alloy which produces the bright white look of rhodium plating without the need to electroplate, contains a higher concentration of nickel than other white gold alloys.

The high price of gold necessitated the development of a material which would provide the look of karat gold without the cost. Gold filled is that material, offering the look of karat gold at a fraction of the price. Gold filled is karat gold mechanically bonded onto a brass metal core through heat and pressure. In the United States, gold filled material is required by the National Metals Stamping Act to have a karat fineness of not less than 10 karats (41.6% pure) gold. This karat gold layer must additionally be a minimum of 1/20th of the weight of the gold filled to qualify as 'gold filled'. Any 'gold filled' that possesses less than 1/20th karat gold by weight is prohibited from being sold as gold filled, and is instead considered 'rolled gold plate' or 'gold overlay.' The karat fineness and thickness of gold filled is most often expressed in a fraction, with the numerator of the fraction expressing the fineness of the karat gold, and the denominator indicating the karat gold to brass alloy weight ratio. As an example a common marking for gold filled is '14/20 gold filled'. The first number in the fraction (14) informs you of the fineness of the gold (in karats) and the denominator indicates the weight content (for our 14/20 example this is 5% by weight.)



The facemask of Tutankhamun's burial mask is 18 karat gold; the headdress is 23 karat gold; which suggests the face was constructed separately

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



Potluck Gathering

*Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 6 p.m.
Epley Community Park, Hartland
(see directions on page 4)*