

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

April 2017

President's Message

Welcome back, Snow Birds. Glad to see familiar faces back in the shop.

The Rockhound's Dream Show – September 16 and 17, 2017. **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS:** Sign up and job descriptions are in the shop. First to volunteer: Pat Christian, Advertising Chair. Thanks, and I am looking forward to working with Pat on PR and Marketing for the show. Sign up early and get the job you want!

Lampwork Beading: Margaret Edmundsen is now available for lessons on Wednesdays.

April 18 and May 16 General Membership Meetings will be held in the shop at 6 pm. Please bring snacks or goodies to share after the meeting. These meetings are an excellent chance to meet other club members you may not routinely see, and to learn more about this great organization.

DETAILS INSIDE:

Shop – New chop saw coming!
Display cases

LGMS Upper Peninsula Field Trip, May 20 – 27, 2017. Still time to sign up!

Summer General Meetings. No one loves summer like Michiganders, so we move our meetings outside and throw some fabulous potluck picnics! Stay tuned for club info via our Facebook page. Happy Grinding!

Sherlynn



Workshop Hours

The lapidary shop and the HSSC building will be **closed on April 14, 2017** in observance of Good Friday.

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. (except April 14)

LGMS General Membership Meeting March 21, 2017

Call to Order at 6:02 pm. 24 people in attendance.

Silent auction to be tallied at 7:00 pm.

Those Board Members and Committee Chairs in attendance were introduced. Since Sheila was absent, Sherlynn provided the Treasurer's Report: We are in a solid financial position; Rent is pre-paid through June.

Rockhound's Dream Show – September 16 & 17 – Call for Volunteers. Sherlynn reported that complete job descriptions have been written by Chuck Amberger and are available for review. Also, Isla has prepared a calendar and schedule for members to sign up on. Ed has sent out 9 vendor contracts.

Summer Meetings - The following members signed up to host our summer picnic meetings:

June – Bryant Hiiter
July – S. Everly and S. York
August – G. and J. Allen

2020 Midwest Federation Gem & Mineral Convention – A committee visited Waldenwoods Resort and Conference Center just north of our club as the possible site for hosting the convention. Jim Hansen recommended we go forward with this plan; seconded by Nancy Bartel; unanimous approval.

Ed conducted the drawing for three rocks he donated to the club.

Shop Report – Sherlynn thanks the members for the ongoing clean-up in the shop. Discussed need to find rental storage for the club's rock inventory. Ed informed group of new 14" chop saw that is proposed for purchase from Highland. He explained how it will save hard wear on the smaller saws while also freeing up the larger saw for bigger stones.

Communications: Sherlynn explained that our newsletter, The Living Stones, is a critical communication tool for our club. Members recognized Isla for the excellent job she does on

this monthly endeavor. Work is being undertaken on our website, and our Facebook page is getting very positive reviews. Sherlynn also thanked Chuck Amberger for the work he did in putting an LGMS History notebook together. He has now agreed to undertake researching and writing about our club's history with the Livingston County 4H. Sherlynn also asked that Bryant provide information about the expansion of our club library at the next meeting.

George Pernicano encouraged members to put things in our display case outside the office. When it isn't being used for something specific, it would be nice to see what other members are creating! Jim Hansen is working on a "stages of cabochon making" display that will be similar to the sphere-making display.

John Petito expressed concern about spending money for shop equipment and library resources, in light of a decrease in membership from last year. Sherlynn explained that the board recognizes its obligations to be good stewards of the club's resources. Member Nancy Bartel questioned the relevance of John's comments and said she felt some of his statements were inappropriate. She said she and other members are confident in the decisions being made by the elected board.

Nancy Bartel presented an overview of the LGMS Upper Peninsula Field Trip, May 20 – 27. An itinerary and motel list is available in the shop. Nancy asks that those who are interested please send her an email (nancyp17@charter.net) so she can keep you informed as the trip takes shape. Right now she has an invitation for the group to tour the Gitchigumee Museum and have some other guided adventures that will need a reservation/commitment.

Ann Marie reminded members of the Silent Auction at the Waterford Club on Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 pm. Only members of our two clubs are invited to this elite sale of the best of the best of John Kelly's collection.

(cont.)

At 7:00 pm the meeting was adjourned. A DVD presentation on identifying Lake Superior Agates was started. Snacks were served.

Winners of the Sealed Bid Auction were announced and over \$250 was raised for the club.

Submitted by:

Ann Marie McFadden, Vice President

Shop Closing

The lapidary shop will be closed on
Friday, April 14, 2017 in
observance of Good Friday.



2017 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Sherlynn Everly, 810-965-5899

Vice President: AnnMarie McFadden, 248-884-8126

Secretary: Lori Keefer, 248-634-8657

Treasurer: Sheila York, 810-695-0509

First year Directors:

Jim Hansen, 248-933-1482

Sharon Parker, 517-548-0675

Second year Directors:

Sharon Krautheim, 810-701-3776

Dennis Gougherty, 810-986-9671

Hospitality and Sunshine:

Venus Sage, 810-458-4290

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: Marc Lampcov

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.)

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.

Three Minerals for the Price of One!

This rock is valued for its attractive combination of yellow, gray and brown colors. Found only in nodule form, these concretions are typically made up of three successive layers of three different minerals (always the same three). What makes this rock unusual is that all of the minerals have *exactly the same chemical formula!*

The rock is Septarian Nodule, also known as the Dragon's Egg. The gray outer layer is limestone, the yellow center is calcite and the brown layer separating the two is aragonite. Although differing internal structure make these different minerals, all three have the same chemical formula, CaCO₃- calcium carbonate. Some are even nine feet in diameter on the shores of New Zealand!

From the MWF News, Oct. 2008



* "Livingston Gem and Mineral Society"



Upcoming Events

April 5, 2017, 6:30

Silent Auction of the **John Kelly collection** in Waterford with the
Oakland County Earth Science Club
Details and directions at the shop

April 6-8, 2017

Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club Annual Show

Roger's Plaza Town Center, 28th St. at Clyde Park, Wyoming, MI
Info: Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; kreigh@gmail.com

May 5-7, 2017

Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society Annual Show

Kalamazoo County Expo Center, 2900 Lake St., Kalamazoo
Info: Jerry Van Nolker, (269) 979-3348; jervannocker@comcast.net

May 6-7, 2017

Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Show

Crow Wing Co. Fairgrounds, 2000 SE 13th St, Brainerd, MN
Info: Sharon Smith 218-343-7037; Sharon@agatesrock.com

May 6-7, 2017

Cincinnati Mineral Society Annual Show

Sharonville Convention Center, 11355 Chester Rd, Sharonville, OH
Info: Jim and Judy Budnik, 513-575-1990; wisoh@msn.com

May 20-21, 2017

Blossomland Gem and Mineral Society Annual Show

Lake Michigan Catholic Elementary School, 3165 Washington Ave, St. Joseph
Info: Nancy Wolff, (269) 983-4900; nancyswolff@hotmail.com



The story of the Missing Fossil Park

One dot is missing on the map of fossil parks in the National Park System – the one for Fossil Cycad National Monument, South Dakota.

In 1922 Fossil Cycad National Monument was established as the third NPS area to preserve fossils (Petrified Forest NP (1906) was the first and Dinosaur NM (1915) the second). Congress removed Fossil Cycad National Monument from the National Park System in 1957. What happened?

In the 1890s large tree trunk fossils from palm-like plants called cycadeoids” were discovered in the southeastern Black Hills of South Dakota. Many fossils were exposed at the surface and easy to see. Dating back 120 million years ago, they were likely dinosaur food!

Paleobotanists (paleontologists who study plants) quickly realized the scientific value of the very well-preserved fossils. Their work led to the establishment of the area as part of the National Park system. Starting with the site's discovery in the 1890s, thousands of specimens were removed for research and display in museums. The NPS did not do a good job overseeing the fossils within the park. Disagreements about how to manage and develop the site were common within the NPS and between the NPS and paleontologists.

This missing fossil park became literally a “missing fossil” park. By the mid 1930s all the fossils visible at the surface had been removed, leaving nothing for visitors to see. As a result, the national monument was itself removed from the National Park System in 1957. No visitor center or other public exhibits were ever built at the site.

The story of Fossil Cycad National Monument is a great lesson in the importance of the stewardship mission of the National Park Service. Today the National Park Service recognizes the importance of maintaining fossils so they are accessible to researchers and also preserved for the “enjoyment of future generations”. The 2009 Paleontological Resource Preservation Act formalizes this commitment in law.

Via The Pterodactyl, October 2015, and https://nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday/fossil_cycad.cfm



Image of Fossil cycadeoids



Modern day cycads, similar to the extinct cycadeoids

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



General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 18, 2017
6 p.m. at the shop

(Board meets at 5 p.m.)

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. The annual membership fee is \$50.00 for adults and \$25.00 for youth ages 13-17. 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.