

# The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

May 2017

## President's Message

### MEMBERS:

May is a big month! Ed Oller travels to Brainerd, MN to represent our club at the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical & Geological Societies. The LGMS Upper Peninsula Field Trip is May 20 – 27 – Still time to join up! General Membership Meeting is at 6 pm, May 16, in the Shop.

### ROCKHOUND'S DREAM SHOW:

September 16 & 17. Rock specimens and polished stones needed for kids' grab bags and egg carton specimen boxes. Collection jars are in the shop. Let's FILL 'em UP!

### SHOP:

**SLOW DOWN** Saw blades are wearing out much too quickly (\$100 each!) Use slow, back & forth, gentle pressure when guiding your rocks through the saws.

**SHARE** Be courteous of other members. Don't tie up a machine or station for a long time.

**BE AWARE** Keep your personal property safe. Put stray items in the Lost and Found. Read your Living Stones Newsletter



## Workshop Hours

The lapidary shop and the HSSC building will be **closed on May 29, 2017** in observance of Memorial Day.

Monday: 10 am to 1 pm

Tuesday: 9 am to 9 pm

Wednesday: 10 am to 9 pm

Friday: 10 am to 2 pm

Sherlynn

## **LGMS General Membership Meeting April 18, 2017**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 by President Sherlynn Everly with 31 members present.

Library Update: Given by Bryant Hiiter; he has purchased 14 new books. There is a checkout sheet for books on the back of the door to library. Write the date, your name, and name of book. There is no specific time frame that the book needs to be returned.

LGMS Rockhound's Dream Show Sept. 16 & 17: Pat Christian is Publicity chairman. She and Sherlynn have met to discuss increasing publicity for our show. They would like to put display cases in libraries to advertise our show. Anyone with ideas for increasing publicity should contact Pat or Sherlynn. Isla Mitchell runs the kids' table. She needs little stashes of different kinds of rocks for egg carton collections and grab bags. We need lots of volunteers for the show and lots of donated crafts for the raffle and silent auction.

2020 Midwest Federation Gem & Mineral Convention: Sherlynn gave an update that the Midwest Federation Convention Chair is happy with our proposal to host them at Walden Woods Resort & Conference Center for meetings and lodging, with the Best Western also available. Ed Oller will represent us at this year's convention in Minn., where a decision on the 2020 convention will be made. He will bring us back lots of information about what goes on at the convention.

Shop Report: Ed Oller has changed the oil on big saw and changed several belts on sanders. We are looking for a new 14-inch chop saw. It will use water instead of oil. It will cut any stones and save on the wear and tear of big saw. Ed encouraged everyone to take their time on

the saws. Blades for saws are \$100 apiece. The left saw has an automatic power feed. Jim Hanson recommended tutorial demonstrations be offered for cutting and polishing stones. Gayland Allen recommended we buy another pump as a back up. If our 1 pump goes, we wouldn't be able to polish stones. It was recommended that people limit the number of stones they cut at one time so they don't tie up one station for a long time. This also applies to soldering station. A dry erase board will be used for the big saw to let everyone know who is next in line to use saw.

LGMS Upper Peninsula Field Trip May 20-27: Nancy Bartel reported that there will be a meeting for people going on the trip on May 2nd at 5pm. Contact Nancy for more details on trip. There are 12-14 people going so far.

Summer picnic meetings: Our July picnic meeting will be held at Seven Lakes state park. Sherlynn recommended we invite the Flint and Waterford clubs to our picnic and have a rock swap. This plan was approved by membership.

Silent Auction at Waterford Club, April 5: Ann Marie McFadden gave a report that our club accounted for 69% of the sales for a total of \$2,756. Greg Lemke, Oakland County Earth Sciences Club President presented a check for \$1,378 donated back to our club. A special thanks goes out to Ann Marie and Bryant Hiiter for all the work they did helping with the Silent Auction. At this point, Sherlynn gave a State of the Club presentation, which is available in outline form in the LGMS Office for review.

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:00 pm  
Respectfully submitted,

Lori Keefer, Secretary, LGMS



## 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 Krauthaim, 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6 pm (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.*

## Upper Peninsula Field Trip

There will be a planning meeting on Tuesday,  
 May 2, at 5 pm in the Senior Center for the  
 Upper Peninsula field trip scheduled  
 for May 20 -27.

## Rock and Garage Sale at Phyllis Keene's Home

1305 Applewood, White Lake, MI 48386  
 June 2,3 and 4 and June 9,10 and 11  
 Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
 each day 9 am to 5 pm



“Livingston Gem and Mineral Society”

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Aunty Acid says:

If you have somebody who has hurt you  
 over and over, just think of them as  
 sandpaper. They may scratch and hurt  
 you but in the end, you'll be all shiny  
 and polished while they end up useless!



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](mailto:jervannocker@comcast.net)

May 6-7, 2017

**Cuyuna Agate and Mineral Show**

Crow Wing Co. Fairgrounds, 2000 SE 13<sup>th</sup> St, Brainerd, MN

Info: Sharon Smith 218-343-7037; [Sharon@agatesrock.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:nancyswolff@hotmail.com)

June 2-4, 2017

**State Line Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show**

Junior Fair Bldg, Fulton County Fairgrounds, 8514 SR 108., Wauseon, OH

Contact Sherm Kardatzke, (517) 673-5487; [sakardatzke@mcom.com](mailto:sakardatzke@mcom.com)



## Tourmaline

**What is Tourmaline?** "Tourmaline" is the name of a large group of boron silicate [minerals](#) that share a common crystal structure and similar physical properties - but vary tremendously in chemical composition. The wide range of compositions, along with trace elements and color centers, causes tourmalines to occur in more colors and color combinations than any other mineral group. Crystals of good color and clarity are often cut into beautiful [gemstones](#). Tourmaline is such a popular gemstone that it is easy to find in jewelry stores. Nice tourmaline crystals are also valued by mineral specimen collectors. Specimens with attractive colors and habits can sell for thousands of dollars. Tourmalines commonly occur as accessory minerals in [igneous](#) and [metamorphic rocks](#). Large crystals of tourmaline can form in cavities and fractures during hydrothermal activity. Tourmaline also exists as durable grains in sediments and sedimentary rocks.

**Geologic Occurrence of Tourmaline** The most common occurrence of tourmaline is as an accessory mineral in igneous and metamorphic rocks. It usually occurs as millimeter-size crystals scattered through [granite](#), [pegmatite](#), and [gneiss](#). In this mode of occurrence, tourmaline rarely makes up more than a few percent of the rock's volume. The mineral most often found as an accessory mineral is black schorl. The most spectacular tourmaline crystals are formed by hydrothermal activity. They are found in pockets, voids, or fractures and range in size from tiny millimeter crystals to massive prisms weighing over 100 kilograms. A rich pocket of nice tourmaline crystals can yield mineral specimens and [gem](#) materials worth millions of dollars. With a [hardness](#) of 7 to 7 1/2, tourmaline weathered from igneous or metamorphic rocks can be a durable sediment grain. Tourmaline gem rough is mined from streams and sediments in many parts of the world, often by artisanal miners. Tourmaline is often one of many minerals produced from a single mining location.

**Physical Properties of Tourmaline** Tourmaline has a few properties that can aid in its identification. If you have a tourmaline crystal, identification should be easy. Tourmaline crystals are prismatic and often have obvious striations that parallel their long axis. They often have triangular or six-sided cross-sections with rounded edges. They are often color zoned through their cross-sections or along their length. And, tourmaline is pleochroic with the darkest color viewing down the C-axis and lighter color viewing perpendicular to the C-axis.

**Color Zoning in Tourmaline** Changing conditions during tourmaline crystal growth often result in single crystals that contain two different colors of tourmaline. The earlier color is usually overgrown by the later color. These bicolor crystals are known as "zoned crystals." In many gems, color zoning is undesirable. Most gem and jewelry buyers prefer stones that have a single, uniform face-up color. Tourmaline is an exception to this trend. Gems cut from color-zoned crystals with pleasing colors are a novelty prized by designers and collectors.

**Pleochroism in Tourmaline** Tourmaline is a pleochroic mineral. That means its apparent color can change with different directions of observation. The color is usually darkest looking down the c-axis of the crystal (down the long axis). It is usually lightest when viewing perpendicular to the long axis of the crystal.



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



***General Membership Meeting***

***Tuesday, May 16, 2017***  
***6 pm at the shop***

***(Board meets at 5 pm)***

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.