

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

December 2017

President's Message

Thank you all for your votes of support in re-electing me and the LGMS Board of Directors. I've enjoyed (most of) the excitement and changes in 2017, and look forward to working with this leadership team in 2018! Thank you to Dennis Gougherty and Sharon Krautheim for serving two years as LGMS Directors. Welcome Bill Magee and Lavonne Foldenauer to your first year in the Directors seat.

Another change this year will be readily noticeable. After several years as Shop *and* Show Chair, Ed Oller has decided to put all his efforts to growing our Show. I'm happy to report that Jim Hansen, Bill McGee and Sharon Parker have agreed to be Shop Co-Chairs. Having more than one person in this position will provide better coverage in the shop, as well as bring fresh perspectives and energy to utilizing our shop and resources. Thank you for all you've done, and continue to do for the club, Ed.

Our membership numbers are up only slightly over last year, but it feels like our shop is more crowded and the machines wearing out faster. Please be considerate of people waiting to use the saws and grinders. Use a 3 rock limit on busy days and don't camp too long on any one machine. As always, be mindful of your stuff.

Chuck Amberger is teaching stone butterfly sculpture making on Mondays. One or two lucky students can learn at a time. See Chuck to schedule your classes.

Monday, January 15 – Nancy Bartel is working with Dave Gebowski to create a badge-earning experience for his Weebelos. They will be learning the Moh's hardness scale and how to polish a window in a Petoskey stone. Nancy would welcome some help preparing for the class, as well as volunteers to work with the kids from 1–4 p.m. on that date.



DON'T MISS: LGMS Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, December 19, 6 pm in the Hartland Senior Center

Meat provided; bring a side or dessert to pass

Gift Exchange - Bring a \$10 gift - Must be rock related

Silent Auction - Rock Competitions - Fun with your Favorite Rock Hounds

Enjoy the Season and I hope you finish all your Holiday projects with plenty of time to spare!

Sherlynn Everly, President

Workshop Hours

Monday: 10 am to 1 pm

Tuesday: 9 am to 9 pm

Wednesday: 10 am to 9 pm

Friday: 10 am to 2 pm

NOTE: The shop will be CLOSED from December 25 through January 2, 2018. Reopening on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

General Membership Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2017

Call to order was given by President Sherlynn Everly with 26 members present.

Election of Officers for 2018:

President: Sherlynn Everly
Vice President: AnnMarie McFadden
Treasurer: Sheila York
Secretary: Lori Keefer
1st Year Directors:
Lavonne Foldenauer
Bill Magee

A vote was taken, all agreed, none opposed.

President's Report: Dues are due by December 31 for the year 2018. The dues will be the same as last year. Storage Unit update: everything but the big rocks has been moved to the storage unit. Our rocks are now more available for auctions or sales in the shop. A suggestion has been made to for a committee that can look at slabbing the rocks and putting them up for sale in the shop or at other shows. We will look at this in 2018. We will be hosting a cub scout pack on January 15, from 1-4 pm. They will be earning their Earth, Science badge by learning the Moh's hardness scale and putting a window on a Petoskey stone. Nancy Bartell will co-ordinate the class and asked for volunteers. Several members have volunteered to help.

Report from 11/21/17 Board Meeting:
Membership is high this year at 215. Last year it was 209. The shop is very busy on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If this continues we may look at extending hours on Mondays and Fridays. The Christmas party will be on December 19 in the Senior Center. The club will provide ham and chicken, and members are to bring a side dish or dessert. We will have a \$10 gift exchange of something that is rock related, and a silent auction. Our club is having a Christmas Skills Contest for best polished (front and back) cabochon, best picture in a polished stone, best ring. There is a \$5.00 fee per category. You may

submit your entries with money, name, and stone to Ann Marie McFadden. We are still looking into a wireless credit card reader. Sheila York has a tablet she would donate for our use. Details will be finalized and reported back to members.

Shop Report: Ed Oller stated the drain pump has been replaced. Chop saw is working but only for soft stones, it is very loud. Jim Hansen has been training new people. Sherlynn welcomed new 1st year directors Lavonne Foldenauer and Bill Magee. We wished Happy Birthday to George Pernicano who will be celebrating his 89th birthday next week.

New Business: Jim Hansen stated that the Ann Arbor club has a class different people teach about "Learn a rock a month". It is taught during regular operating hours and the teacher tells everything they know about the rock of the month. Jim will try to organize the class at LGMS since there was much interest.

There will be an open house at Bill Micol's on December 4, 5 and 6. He has collected stones for 60 years and will donate 10% of his sales to our club.

Chuck Amberger will be teaching a one-on-one class on Mondays for making his butterflies. There will be a sign-up sheet in the shop. Meeting was adjourned.

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 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

www.livingstongems.com or

www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com

General Membership Meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 6 pm (Except in January and February when board meetings are held in the shop.)

Bill Micol's Open House and Sale

Bill's extensive collection of stones and other artifacts will be on sale on December 4, 5 and 6 from 9 am to 5 pm at his home at

3089 W. Commerce, Milford, MI 48381
248-842-1705

Come to shop or come to admire the wonders he has on display.

10% of the proceeds will be donated to LGMS

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.



“Livingston Gem and Mineral Society”



A SIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

(author unknown)

“Twas the eve before Christmas and there in the night
the desert was quiet, not a rockhound in sight.
Our socks were all hung where the bright fire glows
in hopes that our Moms would sew up the toes.

The kids were all stacked in their warm little bunks
with visions of agate, slabs, boulders and chunks.
And me in my long john and Ma in her sack
had jumped into bed; it was cold in the shack.

From out in the sagebrush rose a hullabaloo
and I sprang to the window to throw out a shoe.
The moon shining down on the still silver sand
confirmed that the desert was my kind of land.

I strained my eyes ‘till my brow was a furrow;
along came an old gent, a-leadin’ his burro.
By the size of his tummy and the face full of hair
I knew it was Santa or a big grizzly bear.

“Go Rudolph, go Rudolph, you stubborn ol’ mule,
get moving there, Rudolph, you lop-eared ol’ fool.”
Then quick as a polecat I heard up on top
that darn red-nosed burro go clippity-clop.

Santa’s trip down the chimney was somethin’ uncanny;
the fire was a-burnin’ and scorched his poor fanny.
He was dressed all in denim from his hat to his shoes,
His nose was all red and he needed a snooze.

He had middle age spread that just wouldn’t fit,
and a bag so big it was ready to split.
He spied my old trim saw, the one that was broke;
“By golly, you’re rockhounds, you’re my kind of folk.”

He sat down at the table, we both had some java
and talked about agate, opal, and lava.
He told of old times, of Horse Canyon agate,
of good times in Boron, of jasper from Dagget.

He told of old pals from a mine in ghost city
of Bullfrog and Bodic, they’re dead, what a pity.
Then out of his pack for me and for Maw
what else did he pull but a big slabbing saw.

There was a hammer for Nels and a black light for Della
and he winked as he sat there, a jolly good fella.
Then lookin’ at the fire and feelin’ a bit sore
he thought it was best to leave through the door.

Then I heard his exclaim as he went out of sight
“MERRY CHRISTMAS, YOU ROCKHOUNDS, AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!”

Club Christmas Skills Contest

Submit your best work in any or all of our three fun categories:

* Best polished (front and back) cabochon

* Best picture in a polished stone

* Best Ring

Judging will be by club members at the Christmas party

\$5.00 entry fee per category

Submit entries with \$'s, name and stone to AnnMarie.

Selling Diamonds to Millennials is Tricky

excerpted from The Wall Street Journal, 10-30-17

DeBeers, the 129-year-old company that helped make diamond engagement rings a global standard, is working on a new proposition for customers. The London-based company is navigating a generational shift as millennials succeed baby boomers as the largest cohort of consumers. New tastes and social customs, including less emphasis on careers, money and marriage than in previous generations, pose a particular challenge for makers of expensive jewelry and other luxury goods. The company reported \$6.1 billion in revenue last year, up from \$4.7 billion a year earlier. But in 2014 DeBeers reported revenue of \$7.3 billion.



2018 Dues are payable now

Tear off and mail to Sheila York, Treasurer, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Rd, Howell, MI 48843
2018 Livingston Gem and Mineral Society Dues

Name _____

Please note any changes in address, email address or phone number _____

Adult membership(s) _____ x \$50.00 = _____

Youth membership(s) (ages 13-17) _____ x \$25.00 = _____

Total Payment _____

Newsletter preference: _____ snail mail, _____ email, _____ shop folder

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



Christmas Party Potluck

on Tuesday, December 19, 2017

6 pm at the Hartland Senior Center

*Meat will be provided, bring a side dish or dessert to pass
and a rock related gift! (approximately \$10.00 value)*

Participate in the silent auction and rock competition!

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