

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

August 2019

Hosting the 2020 Midwest Federation Convention

President's Message

July was a busy month for LGMS so this will be a long message. I hope you have time to read it in its entirety. It will be very informative.

The club's inventory of good, sellable rocks for our annual shows was dwindling. We've had a dry few years. Luckily, sometimes when it rains, it pours. In June the board voted to buy a good portion of Tony West's slabs and rough rocks when his garage sales were over.

Shortly after that transaction was completed, we had an offer that we couldn't refuse. It was from a woman whose parents had been active in the Michigan Mineralogical Society in the past. So we purchased her small collection which includes malachite, verasite, tiger eye, and some other enchanting pieces.

Just before, and after that phone call, we received 2 large donations from 4H members. I would like to thank Judy Paulsen and David Spinner for their recent contributions of rocks and lapidary equipment.

Judy has helped many 4H students, and coordinated the lapidary training we've provided to 4H for a long time. It was Judy's grandparents' wish that the rocks and machines would be used for 4H.

David Spinner's son was a 4H member in the past, and he has the same desire to help 4H students learn the lapidary arts, and promote interest in that field of study.

A few members thought that it would be a good idea to sell some of the newly purchased rocks to club members without having to wait for the show, or compete in a silent auction. I would like to have a sale on Tuesday, August 27th, at 1 pm. This will take place in the hallway outside the workshop. Pieces will be priced individually, and several items will be limited to 1 per person. I like this idea of this sale because it will inspire (or force) us to sort through the rocks in advance of the show.

Most Tuesdays in August and September I would like to gather volunteers to help with an activity to prepare for our Show. Starting at 1 pm and lasting about an hour, or more. Work such as

filling grab bags, and writing out silent auction forms will help us get items organized in advance. The first day will be August 6th, when we will separate tickets for the drawing into packages of 12 to mail to members. And packages of 6 to sell at the show. Mailing labels are already printed thanks to Isla. We also plan to have new hands-on science activities for kids this year. So we will need volunteers to learn how they work, and run the tables at the show.

In July I had the opportunity to go on a mini vacation with my sister-in-law and my two teenagers. We haven't spent much time visiting Lake Huron in the past. So we spent a few weekdays seeing many sites along the east coast. You can view some of my best photos in the separate mailing following this newsletter. (Please thank Isla for the fantastic job she does each month creating it.)

The first day we went to Ocqueoc Falls, Hoelt State Park, and the New Presque Isle lighthouse. The climb to the top of the lighthouse was enormously scary, as was standing out on the top platform. But the view was spectacular. We ended our day at Rockport State Recreation Area with the most beautiful sunset I've ever seen.

The second day we swam at Starlite Beach in Alpena. Then went to Duck Park for a kayaking adventure at noon. We walked around Island Park afterwards. That evening we returned to Rockport to visit the Quarry. There were many miniature ponds there and we collected some Petoskey stones. The kids really enjoyed climbing all the rock piles, and we saw another amazing sunset late that night.

On our way home, the third day, we went to Oscoda Beach Park to swim. We made brief stops at Tawas Point Lighthouse, Bay City State Park, and Downtown Bay City where the "Tall Ships Festival" was taking place.

I hope you challenge yourself to try something new in August, and enjoy the summer weather.

Cinda Dawson, President

LGMS Board Meeting July 16, 2019

1. Call to Order – 4:06 pm; Motion to approve minutes by Jim H., 2nd by Sheila with unanimous vote to approve minutes with no changes.

a. In Attendance: a total of 11 members including board members.

2. Treasurer's Report – Current accounts are in good standing.

3. Shop Updates –

a. A procedure to protect destruction of saw: options: Must have 1 of 6 people approve your cut; Limit hours of use of big saw; Only 1 person allowed to cut rock with big saw.

4. Show Updates –

a. Bill Magee completed layout Plan and laminated.

b. Tickets ordered to be picked up this week.

c. All vendors paid except for 1, plus another vendor wants to join.

d. Marketing: We now have a Pure Michigan ad! AND on Aug.14 payment due to Hartland Community News for our ad in the Sept. issue.

5. New T-Shirts - Janelle working on T-Shirts.

6. LGMS Souvenirs for 2020 Federation Show - Lori I. researching (black light pen, fine point marker, pens, lanyards, loop, magnifying glass, hats, miner).

7. Postcards – are printed and need distribution – Have taken some to libraries, Art Shows, Rock Shows – Ed taking postcards to the Bedford Show.- Will really push distribution in August.

8. Updated Membership Application– Isla to complete application with a few changes.

9. Other Unfinished Business

10. Purchased Tony West's Inventory for Club Table – May buy a few more items.

11. Storage Locker Full - Need ways to sort through before Show- Maybe club only silent auctions – when?

12. Weekly Show Planning Meetings – first one: July 30th @ 1 pm in the shop to do pricing of items, organize items, discuss childrens' table.

13. Revamped Beach rocks and shells into 3 gallon buckets and decorative jars.

14. September meeting will be held as usual on the 3rd Tuesday

15. Other new Business –

a. Signs – If you see that some shop signs are needed in an area or a new sign needs to be made for the show, please let Cinda or Mel know.

b. PULL UP FLOOR MATS to eliminate the risk of **MOLD**

c. GRATEFUL for the gracious donations of equipment and rocks from **Judy Paulson & Dave of Brighton!!!** Your generosity is truly appreciated. Thank you so much.

d. 10" saw on the right continues leaking – Jim will try one more thing, but if that does not work, will replace that saw with a new one and use the old one as a backup.

e. Walden Woods is NOT available for the 2020 Federation Show so Sherylynn contacted the Livingston County Convention and Visitors Bureau and they will provide some new options for hotel stays etc. They will also provide Welcome to Michigan packets.

16. Adjournment 4:56 – Motioned by LaVonne, 2nd by Sheila with unanimous vote taken.

6:00 pm member meeting to follow held in the shop with potluck and rock swap. _

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Irvin, Secretary



Workshop Hours

Monday: 10 am to 3 pm
 Tuesday: 9 am to 9 pm
 Wednesday: 10 am to 9 pm
 Friday: 9 am to 2 pm

Rock of the Month Club

Wednesday, July 10, August 14 at 2 pm
 (second Wednesday of the month)

Jim Hansen and Bryant Hiiter will lead the
 discussion on

SLABS

Come to sell, trade or buy!

A BIG THANK YOU!

to **Judy Paulsen** and
 to **Dave Spinner**

who generously gave our club their
 valuable rock collections!

You are appreciated!

Directions to Potluck Gathering

Jim and Sharon Parker
 phone: 517-548-0675

From the shop drive west on M59 1.7 miles to
 Hacker. Turn south or left on Hacker and drive
 2 miles to Golf Club. Turn right on Golf Club
 and drive 1 mile to Kellogg. Turn right on
 Kellogg to 86 N. Kellogg on the right.

2019 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Cinda Dawson 810-423-0464
 Vice President: AnnMarie McFadden, 248-884-8126

Secretary: Lori Irvin, 810-820-0494
 Treasurer: Sheila York, 810-695-0509

Second year Directors:

LaVonne Foldenauer, 517-546-5463

Bill Magee, 734-981-6117

First year Directors:

Dan Goodwin 810-252-0026

Jim Parker 517-548-0675

Hospitality and Sunshine:

Venus Sage, 810-458-4290

Shop Chairpersons: Jim Hansen, 248-933-1482

Bill Magee, 734-981-6117

Sharon Parker, 517-548-0675

Newsletter and Membership:

Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804

imvm.1@netzero.com

Membership: Cinda Dawson, 810-632-6922

Historian: Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586

Library: Bryant Hiiter, 248-210-6138

Webmaster: John Myer

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.)



“LGMS Rocks for Members Only”
 group page

Plans for Arizona?

One of our members, Ted Vosburgh, is also a
 member of the Apache Junction Rock and Gem
 Club. He recommends a contact with them if
 anyone visits the Phoenix, Arizona area. They
 have a lapidary shop and enjoy rockhounding.
 Information at ajrgcfieldtrips@gmail.com

Gemstones the Color of Life are Formed by “Romeo and Juliet of Elements”

Heath Shive from 5/2017 Strata Data of Three Rivers Gem and Mineral Society via MWF News 6/2019

Diamonds are forever? But historically speaking emeralds have been the most prestigious of gems. In ancient history, Egypt was the only major source for emeralds. According to legend, Cleopatra once greeted Caesar from atop a pile of emeralds. In the sixth century, Emperor Justinian decreed that only aristocracy could wear emeralds. Napoleon favored emeralds precisely because of their connection to ancient imperial power.

Why does history favor emeralds over diamonds? Diamonds require facets to shine, and faceting technology wasn't revolutionized until the late 15th century. Emeralds don't need complex faceting. Emeralds don't sparkle – they shine! They look wet. That's why emeralds are usually made with a “table cut” - a long flat surface – instead of with many facets.

The emerald's crystal structure creates the natural luster. Emeralds are beryls – beryllium aluminum cyclosilicates – and thus have a simple hexagonal crystal shape. Chromium contamination in beryl imparts the green color. Incidentally, the gemstone aquamarine is just a beryl with an iron contamination.

That chromium combines with beryllium at all is a freak occurrence in nature. Chromium occurs in minute traces in ultramafic ocean-floor rock. Beryls are formed in granitic pegmatites on land in mountain ranges. When two continents collide, the ocean floor is pushed under a continent (subduction). When the ocean rock melts, the chromium mixes into the rising fluid and finds its way into the growing beryl crystals.

Author and jeweler Aja Raden writes that beryllium and chromium are “the Romeo and Juliet of elements” because under “no normal circumstances should these rare substances ever find each other”. Raden's book *Stoned* is a must-read for gem enthusiasts, as she examines how jewelry (especially the emerald) has had a driving effect in history.

Today Columbia dominates emerald production. Scattered lesser sources for emeralds exist, even in the United States. In fact, North America's largest emerald was discovered in North Carolina in 2009. Starting at an impressive 310 carats, it was cut down to about 65 carats and named “the Carolina Emperor”.

Cone cells in the human eye see red, blue, and green. But all cone cells are sensitive to light wavelengths of 510 nanometers, i.e. the eye is most receptive to green. It's the color of life, especially as life renews in spring. Appropriately, May's birthstone is the emerald. Emeralds are prestigious, but spring ...that's priceless.

Sources: Finlay, Victoria. *Jewels: A Secret History*, New York: Ballantine, 2006; Raden, Aja. *Stoned: Jewelry, Obsession, and How Desire Shapes the World*, New York: Harper Collins, 2015; Gast, Phil. “North Carolina emerald: Big, green, and very rare”, cnn.com 1 September 1 2010.

Upcoming Events

August 3, 2019

Ishpeming Gem and Mineral Show

Ishpeming Elks Club, 597 Lakeshore Dr, Ishpeming, MI. Info: Ishpemingrocks.org

August 5-8, 2019

Keweenaw Peninsula, Keweenaw Wee Field Trips

Info: Norm Gruber (906) 228-6764, ngruber@charter.net, www.ccrmc.info

August 9-11, 2019

UP Michigan, Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club Annual Show and Silent Auction

Portage Township Elementary School, Bridge St, Houghton, MI.

Contact: Norm Gruber, (906) 228-6764; ngruber@charter.net, www.ccr

August 9-11, 2019

Midwest Faceters Guild Faceting Seminar

Tallmadge Township Hall, 0-1451 Leonard St, Grand Rapids, MI.

Info: Barb Yost (616) 254-9777, midwestfaceters@gmail.com

August 10, 2019

Flint Rock and Gem Club Rock Swap

11350 N. Saginaw Rd, Clio, MI.

Info: Bill Wendling (810) 638-5796, bwrockbarn@centurytel.net, www.flintrockandgem.org

September 6-8, 2019

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club Annual Show

Stranahan Theater Complex, 4645 Heatherdowns Blvd, Toledo, OH.

Info: Stephen Shimatzki (567) 868-8794, sjs132@gmail.com, www.rockyreader.com

September 7-8, 2019

Grand Marais Rock-On Festival (Moved from Muskallonge Lake State Park)

Community Center on Brazel St. in Grand Marais, MI.

Information at the facebook page "Grand Marais Rock-On Festival"

September 13-15, 2019

Tulip City Gem and Mineral Club Annual Show

The Soccer Stop, 5 River Hills Dr., Holland, MI. Info: Sue Goedert, sonbeams2000@yahoo.com, www.tulipcity.org

September 14, 2019

Rock River Valley Gem and Mineral Society Rock Swap

6219 Forest Hills Rd., Rockford, IL

Info: Duane Cushing (815) 218-5011, tc78@comcast.net. FLYER

SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22, 2019

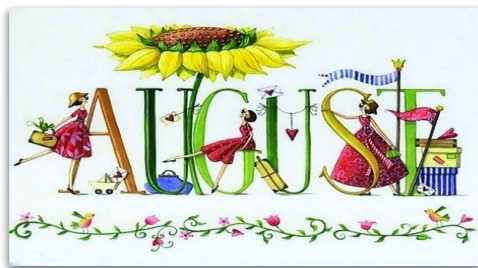
OUR VERY OWN LIVINGSTON GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW!!

VOLUNTEER! ENJOY! PARTICIPATE!

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
9525 E. Highland Road
Howell, Michigan 48843-9098



*Potluck Gathering at the home of
Jim and Sharon Parker*

Tuesday, August 20, 2019, 6 pm

*bring your own plate, silverware, drink and a dish to share – plus maybe a chair
directions on page 3 of this newsletter*

Board will meet at 4 pm. Tuesday, August 20, 2019

Livingston Gem and Mineral 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.