

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

February 2020

Hosting the 2020 Midwest Federation Convention

President's Message

Winter's not over yet, people. Destructive ice storms may be coming our way soon, so watch out. For all shop closings check the Facebook page; it'll have the most up-to-date info.

A quick side note. Some members haven't paid their dues yet! Please get your dues in as soon as you can. Even I usually pay my dues late but not by this much, so get them in please.

Good luck Nancy Bartel and all her helpers for the local science fairs they're participating in! I love seeing our members out there working in the community. It provides a huge bonus to all of us in the club and to lapidary work as a whole by spreading knowledge and promoting learning. Thank you for all your work Nancy- it's always appreciated.

Our show may be months and months away but that doesn't mean we don't want to start thinking about it. If you have any ideas about things we can do for the show to make it our best one ever, or about any potential additions to our collection, please email me about them.

I hope to be at the shop a lot more in the next couple weeks, it's been extraordinarily busy and I apologize for my absence. See you all soon!

Your president,
Zachary Palmieri



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

Would you like the workshop to stay open until 6 pm on Monday? And till 4 pm on Friday? LGMS is seeking reliable members to close up later. This is a long-term commitment. A Friday closer must be willing to mop the floor and roll up floor mats.

Livingston Gem & Mineral Society Board Meeting

January 15, 2020 1:00 pm

1. **Call to Order** – 1:01 pm; Motion to approve minutes by Cinda, 2nd by Sheila. With unanimous vote to approve minutes with no changes.
 - a. **In Attendance:** a total of 12.
2. **Financial Updates** – Current accounts are in good standing.
 - a. Items approved and purchased for the shop **MUST HAVE A RECEIPT** in order to be reimbursed.
 - b. Increases in rent and MWF Show handling are expected this year.
3. **Membership DUES were due 12/31/19 for 2020!** CURRENTLY only 51% of membership Fees have been collected. **Please remit payment ASAP! Thank you.**
4. **Shop Updates** –
 - a. Email sent requesting estimate and Fire Department Inspection letter regarding electrical rewiring of the shop.
 - b. Ed to order trays and hoods.
 - c. **Extending hours on Monday and Friday. Looking for VOLUNTEERS TO CLOSE** shop later on Monday and Fridays. PLEASE Contact Zach Palmieri via email, text or phone to discuss.
 - d. **SHOP WISH LIST** – For those who would like to donate items to the Club, here are some items needed:
 - i **Cordless Drill**
 - ii **Cordless Reciprocating Saw**
 - iii **A Full Set of Pliers :**
 Please See Bill Magee or a Board Member with your donations. Thank you in advance for your generous donation.
5. **2020 Show Updates – In Process**
 - a. Sherlynn is our State Director for the 2020 Show! 60-100 additional people are estimated to attend the MWF Show!

- b. Reserved the Block Brewing Co. in Howell for the September 19th, **Saturday night Banquet & Awards Dinner**, please mark your calendar and join us!!!
 - c. Children's Table **Wish list** is posted up on the Cabinet – please review and help.
6. **Education:**
 - a. Science Fair on Feb. 5th at Spencer School
 - b. Boy Scout Troops need to earn their badge before March 2020.
 - c. Need 8 Volunteers (6 to grind rocks and 2 at the table)
7. **Adjournment** 2:16pm – Motioned by Jim P. 2nd by Bill with unanimous vote taken & carried to adjourn.
Respectfully submitted,
Lori Irvin, Secretary

Teaching Opportunities!

Hartland Community Ed is looking for instructors to teach about hobbies or run craft type workshops for Spring and Summer. Background checks and class information is needed in time to print in their catalog by mid February. The school receives 50% of the instruction fee and the material fees can be collected at the beginning of the class.



Rock of the Month Club

Wednesday, February 12, at 2 pm
(second Wednesday of the month)

Jim Hansen and Bryant Hiiter will lead
the discussion on
**Metallics– rocks with copper,
iron, silver, etc.**

Come to learn and share knowledge!



Weather-related shop closings

Remember that when Hartland Consolidated
Schools are closed, the shop is also closed.
Check with radio and TV announcements.



2020 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Zach Palmieri 517-763-7436

Vice President: Cinda Dawson 810-423-0464

Secretary: Lori Irvin, 810-820-0494

Treasurer: Linda Sheedy 248-624-3605

First year Directors:

Sheila York, 810-695-0509

AnnMarie McFadden, 248-884-8126

Second year Directors:

Dan Goodwin 810-252-0026

Jim Parker 517-548-0675

Hospitality and Sunshine:

Angela Hamilton 248-431-8288

Greyson Bechtold 248-920-4913

Shop Chairpersons:

Jim Hansen, 248-933-1482

Bill Magee, 734-981-6117

Greyson Bechtold 248-920-4913

Newsletter: Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804,
imvm.1@netzero.com

Membership: Cinda Dawson, 810- 423-0464

Historian: Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586

Library: Bryant Hiiter, 248-210-6138

Webmaster: John Myer, www.livingstongemandsociety.com or
www.livingstongemandsociety.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.)

Polymer Clay Workshops

Coming Thursdays in March and April

Three workshops will be offered.

2-3 hours long, with a \$10 material fee.

1) Polymer Clay Tiles

Use clay, textures, stamps, molds, and mica powder
to create beautiful small tiles. Then glue them onto a
3"x 6" wooden box to create your own treasure box.
Inspired by Laurie Mika.

2) Mokume Gane

Create layers of colored clay and learn techniques to
swirl and add patterns. Use shavings to create 2
pendants.

3) Polymer Clay Canes

Learn how to create canes and use slices to make a
beautiful floral pin, and a magical forest magnet.
Limit 10 people per class. Attendees must have good
hand strength to condition, roll, and pull clay.
If there is a wait list, classes will be repeated.
Look for photos, detailed dates and times, on the
bulletin board in the workshop (in mid February) or
email cindasrockin creations@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

February 29-March 1, 2020

Rock Auction by the The Roamin Club

Schoolcraft College, Vistatech Center, 181600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, MI

Info: Todd Gail 248-348-5093, Clarence Sterling 248-981-9637, RoaminRockClub.weebly.com

March 28, 2020

Rock Swap by the Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Spciety

St. Johns Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI

Contact: Lou Talley, (734) 837-8920; ltalley1970@gmail.com; www.mmls.us



2020 Dues are overdue!

Please complete this form and mail to

Linda Sheedy, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell, MI 48843

LGMS Membership Renewal 2020

Last name (please print)		First name	
Address		City	State Zip code
(Area code) Phone number		Email address	
Hartland School District resident ___yes ___no		Newsletter preference: ___shop ___email	
Adult membership(s) _____		x \$50.00 = _____	
Youth membership(s) (ages 13-17) _____		x \$25.00 = _____	
Total Payment		_____	

The club is much more interesting, and really cannot function without volunteer help. Please mark the categories where you would like to contribute.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shop/Machine Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Publication/printing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board position | <input type="checkbox"/> Presenter | <input type="checkbox"/> Website/internet | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education/4H | <input type="checkbox"/> Auctions | <input type="checkbox"/> Media/marketing | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality |

Mother of Pearl

Exerpts from a gem profile by Layna Palmer
Wire-Sculpture.com 3/8/13

Most people are familiar with the beauty and luster of pearls, and the beauty and luster of Mother of Pearl, as well. Pearls and MOP differ in only one aspect, and that is shape.

MOP is the inner lining of the shell of a mollusk that protects the little critter from bacteria, disease and helps to reinforce its shell against damage. To better understand how Mother of Pearl is formed, we need to look at the development of the mollusk and the shell in which this soft bodied invertebrate lives.

The mollusk starts life in a soft shell that is a rounded oval called an umbo. This tiny animal quickly starts to outgrow the umbo and secretes nacre to expand its home. The nacre forms in concentric rings, like tree rings, then thickens outward as the animal within gets bigger. The outer layer of the shell is called the peristacum and is the first layer to form around the animal. This organic layer of conchiolin is made of keratin proteins similar to our skin, but are dark brown, black or blue and are very hard.

The next layer to form is the ostracum which is formed of tiny hexagonal crystals made of calcium carbonate in the form of aragonite. These crystals line themselves up parallel to each other and are held together by the conchoilin. The aragonite layer gives the flexible protein layer stability, and the conchoilin layer helps protect the aragonite from fractures, making the shell very strong. Even though these two layers are chemically the same as the nacre layers, they are formed differently and are the outside of the shell.

Next is the final hypostracum layer, or Mother of Pearl. It is formed in the same way as the outer shell, only the layers of aragonite are not parallel to each other and are thinner than the ostracum. This layer is formed similar to a brick wall with very thin conchoilin gluing the aragonite bricks together. Because the aragonite in this final layer is platelets rather than crystals, it is transparent and mimics the wavelength of visible light. This means that some light is reflected while other light is absorbed, making the MOP iridescent. The word iridescence comes from the Greek word *iris*, for rainbow.

Some of the mollusks that give us Mother of Pearl are gastropoda, bivalvia, and cephalopoda. Those include mussels, conch, paua, abalone, and other shells like the nautilus. Some shells, like paua and abalone, have beautiful banded nacre while others, like the nautilus, have a smooth MOP layer with little or no banding. Mother of Pearl makes beautiful jewelry and can be dyed. MOP is about a 3.5 hardness and can scratch fairly easily.



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



Board Meeting

(No general meeting in February)

Wednesday, February 19, 2020, 1 pm at the shop

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.