

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

May 2020

Hosting the 2020 Midwest Federation Convention

President's Message

Hey everyone,

I just wanted to touch base with all of our members and let you know that we're all in this together so if anyone needs anything please don't hesitate to speak up. All of us can help one another to get through this, especially now with the government opening up the country in stages. Looking out for one another is crucial. Also we're looking into Zoom to hold meetings for rock of the month club as well as maybe a general membership meeting if this persists too long. I'd love to get to see you all again and talk with each of you!

There will be a board meeting on May 19th to go over how to continue the club in an appropriate manner that benefits all of the members and our thoughts on what will happen in the next six months. Board members, please check your email. I'll be sending out instructions on how we can meet easily in the coming weeks. If you have a computer that would work best but a phone works, as well.

I hope you're all still staying safe and healthy. Things are hard being isolated, but we can all make it through.

Cell Phone- 517.763.7436
Email- zapalm889@gmail.com

Your friend and President,

Zach Palmieri



A Day In Quarantine

Bill Magee

- 10:45 Awakened at the crack of midmorning to a grey dismal day. Made coffee and discovered I was out of creamer. SURVIVAL TIP #1: Although baking soda very much resembles creamer in color and texture, it should never be used as a substitute. However, a splash of bourbon will revive it. Let the dog out with explicit instructions to stay out of the mud.
- 11:15 Let Boris back in covered in mud. Took him in the shower with me. Discovered I'm out of shampoo or soap. SURVIVAL TIP #2: Although Aloe Vera very much resembles shower gel, it does not suds up! Both Boris and I are both extremely and fragrant.
- 11:30 Mid-morning nap.
- 13:15 Time for lunch. A ham and cheese sandwich sounds good. Discovered I'm out of bread and mustard. A stale taco shell will have to do. SURVIVAL TIP #3: Although peanut butter is packed with protein and spreads well, it is no substitute for mustard, unless you dip it in Bourbon.
- 13:30 Mid-afternoon nap.
- 15:00 Time to start the day. Decided to sort and count my rocks. 547 rocks...Not too bad.
- 16:00 Pre-dinner nap.
- 17:20 Discovered one of the rocks was actually a dried-up apple. Rock count adjusted to 546.
- 17:30 Dinner time. Scoured refrigerator and cupboards. Decided on a seafood bisque. 1 can tuna, an expired can of chickpeas, a packet of ramen noodle flavoring, 2 cups tonic water (the fizz adds zest) and a cinnamon-scented pine cone from an X-mas decoration for a garnish. As appetizing as this sounds, it was a little bland. 1/4 cup bourbon enhanced the flavor nicely.
- 18:00 Back to the basement. Discovered another small box of rocks. Bottom broke out as I lifted it. SURVIVAL TIP #4: Duct tape is an amazing first aid item for broken toes. Just secure the broken ones to the good ones. There is not much you can do for them anyway. Rock count now 1,527.
- 18:15 Decided duct taped toes looked silly. Resumed duct taping and fashioned some very stylish and comfortable slippers.
- 18:30 After dinner nap.
- 19:55 Rock sorting has uncovered some previously missing tools. This process for finding lost tools is not as quick a method as buying a new one. Found another small bag of rocks. Count now 5,210.
- 20:12 Broken toes aching. Discovered I'm out of aspirin. SURVIVAL TIP #5: 2 Alka-Seltzer in 4 oz of Bourbon will relieve pain.
- 20:30 Found another stash of rocks. Count now 12,902. Now I'm getting somewhere.
- 21:45 Prebedtime nap.
- 02:00 Late night TV has way too many commercials. I realized I know more about the genie bra than any man should.
- 04:15 Neighbor pounding on my door. I reminded him of the rules on social distancing and mask wearing in public and sent him home. Lucky for him I was up practicing my bagpipes or I'd be angry. Where's the bourbon?
- 05:00 Time for bed. I have to get up early for my mid-morning nap. Have decided to sleep on the couch to eliminate the morning commute. As I drift off, I think of all my friends at the rock club. I hope they are staying home and staying safe. I think of my rock count and realize I'm 1/3 of the way to collector's status. Hope this pandemic is over soon because I need more ROCKS!

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.livingstongems.com or

www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com

Email: LGMSMich@gmail.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.)



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.

May Rockhounding Substitute Plans

I was disappointed that I was unable to buy rocks at some nearby Shows in March. But I am happy that the weather is starting to improve and feel warmer. My family went on a hike this past Sunday, and I decided to take some photos and show how my crazy rockhounding brain works.

The trail we walked along followed a small stream. Some of the native plants were starting to flower. We could see patches of white, yellow, and purple in some areas. The interesting thing about the stream is that in some places there were piles of sand, and in other areas piles of small rocks. And sometimes both.

There was a wooden bridge that had fallen apart. But we still managed to cross on a long wooden board. It dipped into the water as we walked on it. It doesn't look intimidating until you actually try and balance on it. I made a funny movie of my daughter's trepidation while crossing.

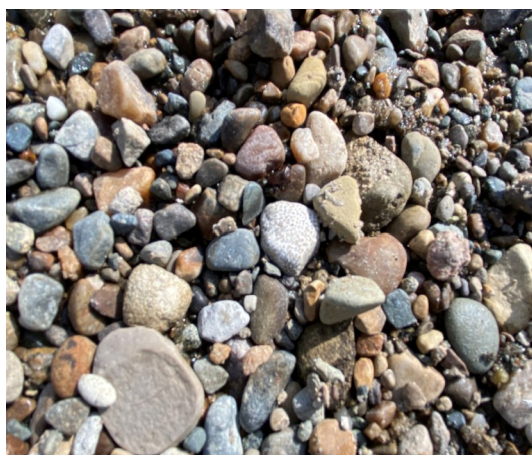
I took some close up photos of the rocks. There were all different colors. I found some fossilized coral, and peach-colored quartz. Some warm day I want to go back and sit on the sandbar for a long time. I'll see what I can identify, and maybe find some interesting oddities.

Perhaps you will find a local stream near your house, or a nature sanctuary where you can do the same. Remember to wear bug spray if you're going to spend a lot of time outdoors. We need to be mindful of ticks, and mosquitoes (that carry West Nile Virus) as the warm temperatures continue. And I certainly don't want to get into any poison ivy. But I'm hopeful that I can spend some quiet time looking for a diamond in the rough.

Enjoy the flowers and sunshine,

Cinda

PS: Cinda went back to revisit the stream and did find her "diamond in the rough" - a fulgurite! (photos below)



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



*Board Meeting
May 19, 2020
details to be announced*

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.