

# *The Living Stones*

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

July 2020

## **President's Message**

Hello everyone!

As of right now the general membership meeting is still being held on July 21st at 6pm at Settler's Park. Pizza will be served. Otherwise please bring your own refreshments. All this being said, I understand the new resurgence of COVID19 in many states has caused horrendous problems for many people. If the risk is too great, please understand the meeting will be canceled. If the meeting is canceled due to a health risk, an email will be sent out at least one day prior to the meeting as well as posted on Facebook. If there is a problem with weather and we're forced to cancel the meeting an email and Facebook message will be sent out the day of the meeting.

There will be a trunk sale AFTER the meeting, so if you'd like to sell any slabs, cabs and etc... please bring them to the general membership meeting. While selling items, please observe social distancing guidelines. This is for your protection as well as other club members.

Our annual show may be cancelled but we can still have a good year. Keep an eye out in each newsletter for rockhound opportunities. There are going to be quite a few coming up in the next issue so watch out!

As always if you need help or someone to talk to please give me a call or an email at [zapalm889@gmail.com](mailto:zapalm889@gmail.com) and 517-763-7436. This quarantine has been hard on all of us. We still need to look out for each other and protect one another.

Your President,  
*Zach Palmieri*



## **LGMS Zoom Board Meeting June 18, 2020 11:00 am**

### **1. Call to Order – 11:07 am**

- a. In Attendance: a total of 9 members including board members.
- b. Motion to approve minutes as is by Cinda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda. With unanimous vote to approve minutes with no changes.

### **2. Finances**

- a. In Good Standing
- b. Rent Agreement during the Pandemic: Send letter to the Director of Hartland Schools to review our rent status. Motion to send letter by Sherlynn and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cinda and unanimous approval by board to draft and send.

### **3. Midwest Federation – The Show is canceled in their newsletter.**

- a. Zach to follow up with cancellation on our website, Rock & Gem and XPO express.
- b. George and Anna's honor: asking U of M Natural History Museum to host Scholarship Award.

### **4. LGMS Rock Mask Production**

- a. We are making rock material masks to sell to our members; \$5 general mask, \$10 fitted mask.
- b. This motion to make and sell masks by Linda and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sherlynn with unanimous vote approved by committee.

### **5. When shop opens expect precautions to be enforced based upon State, Federal Government, School, and Shop/Club Guidelines.**

Zach will put together task force to review.

### **6. JULY MEETING to be held at 6 pm at Settlers Park on 7/21/2020.**

The Hayworths will be selling rocks at the trunk sale AFTER adjournment

of the July meeting. Please wear your mask and remember the 6 - foot social distancing still applies during this meeting and the sale. Pizza will be served, please bring your own drink.

### **7. Review Possible Club Activity**

**Coming:** Rock Sale at Mark's barn if possible. Zach to follow up with Mark, Ann Marie, Ed, Dale, & Lori.

### **8. A past order was billed incorrectly.**

Cinda to work on resolution.

### **9. Gayland Allen's Rock Sale – June 27 & 28 – email will go to LGMS members. It is posted on Craigslist.**

### **10. Adjournment 12:08 pm – Motioned by Sherlynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda with unanimous vote taken to adjourn.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Irvin, LGMS Secretary



## 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](http://www.livingstongems.com) or

[www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com](http://www.livingstongemandmineralsociety.com)

Email: LGMSMich@gmail.com

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.*

### **VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS**

From April, 2020 The Strata Data, Three Rivers Gem & Mineral Society of Fort Wayne IN, via AFMS Newsletter, May 2020

### **SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour>

### **DAVID FRIEND HALL, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History**

<https://www.rockngem.com/uncommon-gems-mineralsshine-in-Virtual-tour/>

### **SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OF MINES & TECHNOLOGY**

<https://www.sdsmt.edu/Campus-Life/The-Campus/Virtual-Tour/O-Harra/>



## Coming soon..

LGMS is in the process of sewing cotton fabric masks with rock patterns. The basic style will sell for \$5, and the fitted style, with a pocket for a nose wire, and paper filter will sell for \$10. There is a limited quantity in each fabric, so for the first round of sales there will be a limit of 2 per family.

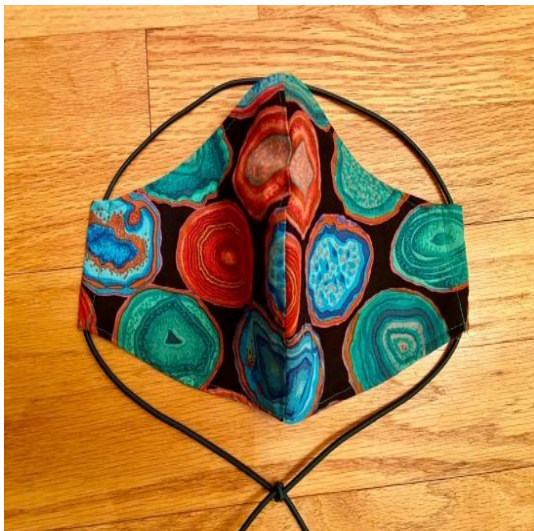
If the masks are popular, more can be made in the future. The sales will start at the July picnic on the 21st. Cinda Dawson is the contact person if you would like to order some. A waiting list will be kept if there is not enough of a popular color, or if people want more than 2. Some of the custom fabric took 5 weeks to print and ship.

The names of the patterns in the photograph are (from left to right)

Petoskey, Crazy Lace, Malachite, Pink Agate, Blue Agate, and Black Agate.

You can reach Cinda thru email at [cindasrockincreations@gmail.com](mailto:cindasrockincreations@gmail.com).

You can text or call (810) 423-0464.



## Very Common Phenomena Produce Stones of Uncommon Beauty

Brandon Poy From the January, 2020 Pick and Dop Stick, Chicago Rocks & Minerals Society via the MWF News, March 2020

One mineral that is well known for its unique display of colors is the precious variety of opal. Unlike other gemstones, precious opal shines with the colors of the rainbow. Its reputation for being a beautiful iridescent gemstone has made it known throughout the world even by people who do not know anything about geology.

There are two types of opal: precious and common. Precious opals display vibrant colors and are known for their “play of color” from different angles. Precious fire opals have similar properties to precious opals, but their underlying color is different. They are known for having vivid orange or red background colors that add to the iridescent and opalescent colors. Not all fire opals have play of color. Finally, common opals lack the iridescent colors or play of color and show only opalescence. They appear like a solid color with a glossy surface or they can be clear, as in jelly opal, and are many times found included with other minerals.

Opal is a hydrated form of silicon dioxide, meaning it contains water in the gem. It is also amorphous, meaning that it has no distinct form. Technically, opal is considered a mineraloid, which is almost exactly like a mineral, but has no crystals. It is believed to be formed when silica-rich water seeps into cracks and cavities in the host rock and that water evaporates, leaving behind a layer of silica.

The unique colors that precious opal displays are a result of two effects: iridescence and opalescence. Iridescence is the effect that makes the stone appear to change colors when viewed from different angles. Because opal is amorphous, its surface is made up of lumps of silica. These lumps act like prisms and split white light into various colors. Depending on how uniform these lumps are, the lights can be more or less intense. The size of the silica lumps also affects the dominant color displayed. Small lumps tend to show more blues, while larger ones show more reds.

Opalescence is different than iridescence because unlike iridescence, which involves diffraction of light, opalescence is caused by the reflection of light at different wavelengths. There is a thin film in the substance that splits light due to varying densities. Rather than showing various rainbow colors, it creates a milky blue sheen over the whole gem.

Clearly, there is a lot to know about opals, from their different varieties to their play of color. Many people know opal as the gemstone with the indescribable rainbow colors, but the science behind it is not very complicated. Diffraction and reflection are both very common phenomena in the world.

Following is some suggested reading:

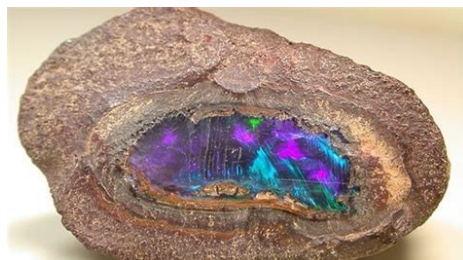
*Opal | Causes of Color, Web Exhibits*, [www.webexhibits.org/causesofcolor/15F.html](http://www.webexhibits.org/causesofcolor/15F.html).

Accessed December 22, 2019.

*10 Awesome Facts About Opals, Opal Auctions*, [www.opalauctions.com/learn/did-you-know/10awesome-facts-about-opals](http://www.opalauctions.com/learn/did-you-know/10awesome-facts-about-opals). Accessed December 22, 2019.

*Opal Gemstones, Gem Select*, [www.gemselect.com/gem-info/opal/opal-info.php](http://www.gemselect.com/gem-info/opal/opal-info.php).

Accessed December 22, 2019.



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



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*General Membership Meeting, with food and trunk sales*

*Tuesday, July 21, 2020*

*6 pm at Settlers Park, Hartland, MI*

*from the LGMS shop, go about 1 ½ miles east on M59 to Clark Road*

*(just past Meijer), then north (make a Michigan left)*

*on Clark Road about ¾ mile to the park on the left.*

*Bring your own plate, silverware, beverage – plus, maybe a chair.*

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