

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

November 2020

President's Message

Hello fellow members,

Please make sure you read the entirety of the message! There's a lot of important information so stay sharp.

It's the end of fall and the beginning of winter and I'm fairly excited. This has been a rough go for everyone but we're almost through the year! With each new month that passes we must still remember to look out for each other. I know the number of cases for the virus is rising swiftly so we must once again stay apart and become cautious once more. I know it'll be difficult to continue forward while being under such constraints once again but we must endure so all can come together. So give your family a call, play some games online with friends, or pick up a book and relax a little. Our situation won't last forever.

A few important announcements:

There will be a test Zoom meeting for anyone who doesn't know how to use it or is unfamiliar. Details can be found later in this message.

If you need help getting Zoom or setting it up I sent an email out a while back explaining all of it but here it is again. If you don't have Zoom and need it- be it on your phone or computer- please click the link here- <https://zoom.us/download>. This will take you to the website and click the big button that says download right below "Zoom Client For Meetings".

If you need assistance using the computer to get to this try and ask a neighbor, friend or another club member to come by or walk you through it over the phone, whatever you're comfortable with. When you get into Zoom please click on "join meeting" and enter the meeting ID number, or click on the "join Zoom now" link below during November 8th, anytime from 10am to 10pm.

Topic: LGMS Zoom Test Meeting

Time: Nov 8, 2020 10:00 am America/Detroit

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/94334240203>

Meeting ID: 943 3424 0203

If you have any questions please contact me at: zapalm889@gmail.com 517.763.7436.

The next item I have to cover is that the next general membership meeting will be held on November 17th at 6 pm on zoom. I will send out another link for the meeting on the day of November 8th. This will come through your email as all of them have up until now so please make sure you take a look.

There will be no work in the shop done on Tuesday, November 3rd, because the school is used as a polling location. Please make sure that if you accidentally sign up on that day to work that you don't come in.

Now for some good news. At the October 3rd Rock Swap we cleared roughly \$2000! That's a pretty substantial bonus to the club for a one day event put together in just a month. A bonus is that the storage shed now has room for

(cont.)

plenty of more rocks, and finally allows us to get in there to see what we have.

That's all that I've got for now friends, I'll be back next time with more news and hopefully announcements on who your next leader will be. Remember to stay strong, be patient, and remain cautious. Do that and we can all hopefully come back together in the next year without fear. Thank you all for being patient with me as I navigate through this rough year, it truly is appreciated.

Be sure to make all the members aware of the vote for officers at the next general membership meeting!

Have a great season and I'll see you at the meeting!

Sincerely, Your President,
Zachary Palmieri



Congratulations to Bill Magee for his fourth place win in the Midwest Federation's writer's contest. You will remember smiling through his article "The Field Trip" in the November 2019 issue of The Living Stones.

Nominations for 2021 new officers:

For **President**: Cari Jacob

For **first year directors**:

Bill Magee

Jane Richard-Lerma

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.)

New Geoscience Podcast

"PlanetGeo: a Science Podcast" is aimed at communicating the importance and excitement of the Geosciences to a broad audience. Find it at <https://planetgeocast.buzzsprout.com/>. A recent episode was on diamonds and another on The Grand Teton National Park is coming soon.

LGMS Zoom Board Meeting October 10, 2020 11:00 am

1. Call to Order – 11:03 am

- a. In Attendance: a total of 8 members including board members.
- b. Motion to approve minutes by Isla, 2nd by Cinda, with unanimous vote to approve minutes with no changes.

2. Shop

- a. **NOT OPEN** NOV. 3RD as elections will be held in the building.
- b. The shop will be **open** Wednesday, November 4, and every Wednesday from now on! So we will be open T, W, TH weekly from 9-4.
- c. The **cleaner** we have been using is not approved by the school but we can use it until we find an appropriate one according to school guidelines.
- d. **MONITORS** – monitors should not be yelled at or harassed for any reason. They are to make sure rules are being followed so that we will not get KICKED out BY MANAGEMENT during an inspection. Please respect other club members and their time on the machines. Please watch your time on a machine and monitor yourself to about 10-15 minutes. Only one stone should be worked on at a time.
 1. If members are disrespectful, their shop work time will be reduced.
- e. The **BIG SAW** – Keep your time on the big saw to 1 hour OR 2 Slabs, whichever comes first.

- f. Bill will look at the storage unit saw and estimate how much is needed to fix it.

- g. Linda to check on oil prices.

3. **Next meeting** will be on Zoom. We will send out a mail chimp to members to determine how comfortable they are with Zoom and if they would like to attend a Practice Day.
4. Zach & Cinda will call potential candidates for President & Directors.
5. **Membership Renewal** – All active members in 2019 will be allowed to renew in 2021. At some point, we will change the December 31 due date to an earlier day to allow for more timely collection of dues.
6. Adjournment 12:23 pm – Motioned by Linda 2nd by Bill with unanimous vote taken to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Irvin, Secretary



How Hagstones are used in Folk Magic

Wigington, Patti, "How Hagstones Are Used in Folk Magic", learnreligions.com/what-is-a-hagstone, via Rock Trails, May 2019



Hagstones are rocks that have naturally occurring holes in them. The oddity of the stones has long made them a focus of folk magic, where they've been used for everything from fertility spells to warding off ghosts. The names for the rocks vary by region, but hagstones have been viewed as magical across the world.

A hagstone is created when water and other elements pound through a stone, eventually creating a hole at the weakest point on the stone's surface. This is why hagstones are often found in streams and rivers, or even at the beach.

In folk magic traditions, the hagstone has a variety of purposes and uses. According to legend, the hagstone got its name because a variety of ailments, all curable with the use of the stone, were attributed to spectral hags causing illness or misfortune.

Depending on whom you ask, the hagstone can be used for any of the following:

- Warding off the spirits of the dead
- Protection of people, livestock and property
- Protection of sailors and their ships
- Seeing into the realm of the Fae
- Fertility magic
- Healing magic and banishing of illness
- Preventing bad dreams or night terrors

Hagstones are known by other names in different regions. In addition to being called hagstones, they're referred to as adder stones or holey stones. In some areas, hagstones are referred to as adder stones because they're believed to protect the wearer from the effects of snake bite. In parts of Germany, legend holds that adder stones are formed when serpents gather together, and their venom creates the hole in the center of the stone.

Additionally, hagstones are called "Odin stones," which is most likely an homage to the large Orkney Island structure by the same name. According to Orkney legend, this monolith has played a large role in island courtship and wedding rituals in which a woman and man stood on either side of the stone and "took hold of each other's right hand through the hole, and there swore to be constant and faithful to each other." Breaking this promise was taken very seriously with participants who did so facing social exclusion as a result.

It's not uncommon to see people in rural areas wearing a hagstone on a cord around the neck. You can also tie them to anything else you'd like to have protected, a boat, cow, car, and so on. It is believed that tying multiple hagstones together is a great magical boost, as they're fairly hard to find. Those lucky enough to have more than one should take advantage of the opportunity.

Pliny the Elder writes of the stones in his "Natural History", saying "There is a sort of egg in great repute among the Gauls, of which the Greek writers have made no mention. A vast number of serpents are twisted together in summer, and coiled up in an artificial knot by their saliva and slime; and this is called the serpent's egg. The druids say that it is tossed in the air with hissings and must be caught in a cloak before it touches the earth."

For fertility magic, you can tie a hagstone to the bedpost to help facilitate pregnancy, or carry it in your pocket. In some areas, there are naturally holed stone formations that are large enough for a person to crawl or walk through. If you happen to see one, and you're trying to get pregnant, think of it as a giant hagstone, and go on through.

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.

Mineral Tip

From Eureka News, Osage Hills Gems, the Gemrock, Spring 2020

For cleaning quartz, many collectors use hydrochloric acid (muriatic) to clean the brown stains from quartz crystals. This cleans the crystals but leaves a residue of ferric acid that requires washing to remove.

Tartaric acid will clean as well and much easier.

Put a spoonful of tartaric acid in water and immerse the specimen.

**2021 Dues are payable now**

Please complete this form, tear off, and mail to
Linda Sheedy, Treasurer, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell, MI 48843

LGMS Membership Renewal 2021

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

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



*General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020
6 pm on ZOOM !
(see page 1 for more information)*

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