

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

February 2021

President's Message



Happy February Everyone,

The winter and cold weather is upon us. I know I was feeling blessed with the milder winter so far! I am writing this letter to you while in quarantine. My whole family came down with the Covid the day after our ZOOM board meeting. We are all plugging along and slowly getting better. This virus is not to be messed with!

The first board meeting with the new regime went well and had a lot of updates. I have implemented a Bylaws Committee consisting of myself, Cinda Dawson, Isla Mitchell, Bryant Hiiter and Linda Sheedy to address some previous and older concerns to make sure we are up to date in all terminology in the articles.

Since this year looks to be very similar to last year as far having access to our shop, and all the possible precautions, the board has decided to forego this year's large indoor Rock Show & Swap and research other smaller events similar to the Swap we held at the church last fall. We are looking into two events, Spring & Fall.

We are still hoping to hear from the school about the possible Feb 1 date to return to the shop in the previous limited capacity.

Our first general meeting for 2021 is scheduled the third Tuesday in March, starting at 6pm. I would love to see you there. Our meetings will be held with a different platform called Microsoft Teams. It will be more cost effective for us as a group than Zoom at this time. Cinda Dawson has offered to check into reserving outdoor space at Settlers Park for meetings in the warmer weather.

Please stay well, my fellow members! You are all treasures!

Contact info: caricatures@comcast.net or cell phone 248-931-5999

Sincerely yours,
Cari Jacob



LGMS Board Meeting 1/19/21 6 pm via Zoom

1. **Call to Order** – 6:08 pm; Motion to approve minutes by Cinda, 2nd by Zach. with unanimous vote to approve minutes with no changes.
 - a. In attendance: a total of 14 members including board members.
2. **President Report**
 - a. Update on our website including Covid statement needed and completed by John during this meeting.
 - b. Shop may reopen 2/1/2021 ???
 - c. Review of rent with the school will remain the same with ½ rent during shutdown; \$600 rent with full week capacity; and negotiated \$400 rent for 2-3 days/wk with limited members.
3. **VP Report**
 - a. SignUpGenius will continue with monitors when the shop reopens.
 - b. Review of other virtual meeting platforms that are more cost effective than Zoom.
 - i. Discussed several options and found that Microsoft Teams seems to be the best option based on cost, number of participants, and duration of meeting allowed.
 - ii. Cari to try MS Teams with other board members before final decision.
4. **Treasurer Report**
Current financial accounts are in good standing. If you would like to review the treasurer's report, please contact Linda Sheedy.
5. **Membership:** Membership DUES were due 12/31/20 for 2021! CURRENTLY only 78 members have paid. Please remit payment ASAP! Thank you.
6. **Shop Updates**
 - a. Shop MIGHT BE able to open 2/1/21.
 - b. Several members cleaned and fixed the machines so they are ready when we open. Left trim saw feed is now working, flat laps are cleaned, hoses are cleared of sludge, dop-wax pot was cleaned! THANK YOU ALL for your HARD WORK! Please be kind to the machines and keep everything CLEAN as you use them.

- c. Monthly cost for use of the shop to be open (ie: machines, belts, etc.) to be estimated by Bill and Ed.
7. **2021 Show Updates**
 - a. Due to the continuance of Covid-19 into 2021, please be advised that the 2021 Rockhound Dream Show has been canceled.
 - b. Instead, we will try a Spring and Fall outside-show in a church or parking lot like last year. The Spring show will be returning to Waterford and the Fall show will be closer to the shop, location to be determined.
 - c. Spring Show led by Ann Marie & the Fall Show led by Ed & Lori.
 - i. Fall show location information gathering:
 - I. Zach to follow up with 242 Church.
 - II. Cinda to follow up with the school, Farmers Mkt. & Hartland Twp.
 - III. Cari to follow up with Carol at Hartland School.
 - IV. Lori to follow up with 2 Lutheran Churches on M-59.
 - d. Additional advertising will be needed. To talk to J. Gustafson regarding banners.
 8. **New Business:**
 - a. **Credit cards** will be needed for our new President Cari and for Bill for shop purchases under \$100 and any over \$100 will need approval by the board.
 - b. **Two Rock Collections** have come to our attention for purchase:
 - i. **Mr. Art's Collection** includes geodes, rocks, & some equipment pieces with a saw. Art is interested in possibly a bulk-buy in March sometime. Bill, Ann Marie, Ed & Bryant are to review his collection and estimate a fair price for the board to review.
 - ii. **Mr. George's Equipment Collection**
Mr. George estimates that his equipment collection is worth \$700. Ed, Bryant & Bill are to follow up with Mr. George and review the equipment quality and estimate the worthiness.

(minutes cont.)

I. Motioned by Cinda and 2nd by Linda that the above members are given the authority to represent the club for review, negotiation, and purchase of Mr. George's collection up to \$700. VOTE taken and passed unanimously.

c. By-Laws Committee

Cari wants a By-Laws Committee to revise and/or amend old terminologies of this document. Those that volunteered are as follows: Cinda, Cari, Bryant, and Isla.

i. More members should be added to the Board including: a shop chairperson & a shop maintenance person.

9. Adjournment 8:02 pm – Motioned by Linda 2nd by Zach with unanimous vote taken & carried to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Irvin



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.

2021 Officers and Chairpersons

President: Cari Jacob 248-931-5999

Vice President: Cinda Dawson 810-423-0464

Secretary: Lori Irvin, 810-820-0494

Treasurer: Linda Sheedy 248-624-3605

Second year Directors:

Sheila York, 810-695-0509

AnnMarie McFadden, 248-884-8126

First year Directors:

Bill Magee 734-981-6117

Jane Lerma 517-438-6476

Hospitality and Sunshine:

Angela Hamilton 248-431-8288

Greyson Beckett 248-920-4913

Shop Chairpersons:

Bill Magee 734-981-6117

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.)

Unakite

The pink and pistachio-green granitic gem material.

Hobart M. King, PhD, GIA Graduate Gemologist, published in Geology.com

Unakite is the name used for a coarse-grained granitic rock that, after metamorphism, contains abundant pink orthoclase and pistachio-green epidote. These colors have helped it become a popular lapidary material. It is easily cut and polished to produce beads, cabochons, small sculptures, and other ornamental items. It is also a popular material for producing in a [rock tumbler](#). Unakite is attractive, abundant, inexpensive, and frequently seen in the craft jewelry marketplace. Unakite is sometimes used as an architectural and decorative stone. Slabs of unakite are used as flooring tiles, facing stone, stair treads, and windowsills. Its most prominent use is as a trimming to the front steps of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. It is also used as floor tiles on a landing at the south entrance. Unakite has also been used as a construction aggregate. Crushed stone made from unakite has been used as road base material, drainage stone, unpaved road surfacing, and fill.

Unakite is a metamorphic rock that forms when granite (an igneous rock) is altered by hydrothermal activity. During metamorphism, plagioclase in the granite is replaced by epidote to produce a rock composed primarily of green epidote, pink orthoclase, and clear to bluish-gray quartz. Unakite can also contain minor amounts of magnetite, chromite, ilmenite, apatite, zircon, and other minerals. Unakite is found in the deformed rocks of convergent plate boundaries where deeply-formed granites have been metamorphosed and exposed by weathering and erosion. It occurs where nearby fractures have delivered the hydrothermal fluids that altered the granite.

Unakite is named after the Unaka mountain range of western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, where it was first discovered and described. Similar material is found in many other locations. It is known as the Pompton Granite in a 1/2-square-mile outcrop in the Piedmont physiographic province of New Jersey. That small area has produced architectural stone that has been used in many prominent buildings of New Jersey and surrounding states. Many locations in the Blue Ridge physiographic Province of Virginia have been mined to produce unakite for construction, architectural, and lapidary use. Unakite has also been produced in South Africa, Sierra Leone, Brazil, and China.

Epidosite is a material similar to unakite, but with little or no pink feldspar. It is also an attractive material that is used to make beads, cabochons, tumbled stones, and other items. Its pistachio green color and crystalline texture cause many people to call it unakite, but epidosite is the proper name. Unakite is not seen in fine jewelry, seldom seen in commercial jewelry, but is a common stone used in craft jewelry. Unweathered, fine-grained unakite with mineral crystals less than a few millimeters in size is relatively easy to work. It is suitable for cutting by a person who has a small amount of lapidary experience. The hardnesses of the primary minerals (epidote = 6 to 7; and, orthoclase = 6) are close enough that severe undercutting or overcutting usually does not occur. It is only when the grain size is larger, or the piece being cut is very small, that differences in hardness will make cutting difficult. Unakite cuts best using diamond abrasives but can also be cut or tumbled using silicon or aluminum oxide abrasives. It polishes well with inexpensive aluminum oxide polish, but tin oxide, cerium oxide, and titanium oxide also produce good results on a felt lap or in a rock tumbler. In jewelry projects, unakite works best in pieces that will not be subjected to abrasion or impact. The hardness of orthoclase and epidote are low enough that they will show signs of wear when used in a bracelet or ring. These minerals also have perfect cleavage and could break with a moderate impact.



Masks are still available

Contact Cinda Dawson at cindasrockincreations@gmail.com.

Or text or call her at (810) 423-0464.

They are \$5 each. Shipping is \$2 for 1-2, or \$4 for 3-5 masks.



2021 Dues are overdue

Please complete this form, tear off, and mail to Linda Sheedy, Treasurer, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell, MI 48843. During shop closure, mail to **1582 Forest Bay Court, Wixom MI 48393**

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 really cannot function without volunteer help. Volunteering makes membership more interesting. 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



No General Meeting is scheduled.

**The Board plans to meet via MS Teams
February 16, 2021, 6 pm.**

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