

# The Living Stones

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

August 2021

## President's Message



Hello Everyone!

Our shop is slowly returning to normal, though participation is still low. The shop will remain open for 3 days per week for August (a rent savings of \$50). The board will decide at the end of August if there will be another day added in September. Hopefully more members will come in to work in preparation for the Fall show.

At a previous general member meeting, members voted to allow back in previous members who had not paid dues in 2019 & 2020. Cinda Dawson is maintaining a list of new potential members who have inquired and would like to join when we are able to "open" our doors. Soon, she will call them and set an appointment for them to come in the shop and work with an experienced member.

The Cranbrook MMS club invited our members to their annual picnic at Waterford Oaks in Waterford, MI on Saturday, July 31, 2021, 10 am to 7 pm. Looks like 10 of our members have joined in on the fun!

Thank you, Lori Irvin for sharing many options at the general meeting, for a fall show venue! She spent a lot of time on research and provided multiple choices for the venue. In the end, the

event was voted at the membership meeting to be held at the Waterford Christ Lutheran Church.

The dues committee has met and come up with a proposal for dues increase. (See page 5 for the proposals and the reasons behind the decision) Thank you, Cinda, for compiling this information. We will have a vote on these proposals at the General meeting, on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at Settlers Park.

Please keep our shop manager, Bill Magee in your thoughts as he heals up and gets back to normal. Thank you to Gayland Allen for cleaning the sludge out of the big saw and Paul Runge for assisting.

Hope to see you @ the next meeting date on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, August 10 @ 6:00 pm outside at Settlers Park in Hartland near the shop. BYOB non alcoholic drink & your own chair if desired. Pizza will be provided.

Please stay well, my fellow members! You are all treasures! Contact info: [caricatures@comcast.net](mailto:caricatures@comcast.net) or cell phone 248-931-5999.  
Sincerely yours,

*Cari Jacob*



## LGMS General Meeting July 20 2021 at Settlers Park

### Call to Order – 6:27 pm

1. **Roll Call:** a total of 24 Members including board members. Ted motioned to approve the minutes with no changes and AnnMarie 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

### 2. **President Report**

- a. **Dues Committee Meeting**  
(Cari, Cinda, Bill Magee, Lori Irvin, Linda Sheedy, Anne Marie, Mariana Z, Sherilyn) will meet to discuss proposals to present to membership and put it in the newsletter.
- b. **Will need volunteers** to help clean out cupboards under sinks (Big Bob, LaVonne, Bill?)
- c. **PLEASE CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF!**
  1. This includes bowls in the kitchen sink & all food must be picked up.
  2. If you use a bowl at the trim saw then take it to the sink to wash the pieces, please bring cleaned bowl back to the trim saw.

3. **Treasurer Report** Last month, the club was \$1,000 in the red; better this month.

### 4. **Vice President Report**

- a. **Need members to cover shop**  
open and close during Cari & Cinda's vacations. Dates: Wed. July 28<sup>th</sup> & Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> : Jim P. will open and close the shop. Tues. Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Lori Irvin will open and close the Shop.
- b. **Membership** – Currently we have 110 members compared to 250 before the pandemic.
  1. We will be bringing on new members as we get current MEMBER VOLUNTEERS to teach them how to properly use the equipment.
  2. Wednesdays seem to be the best days to bring on new members. Bryant and Ann Marie volunteered, but we need more people, please.

### c. **Waterford Oaks Picnic & Rock**

**Swap/Sale**, July 31 from 10 am – 7 pm. Waterford Oaks will provide hotdogs and hamburgers. Please bring a dish to pass.

#### 1. **Details:**

<http://livingstongems.com/show-info/2021-MMS-summer-picnic-invite.pdf>.

#### 2. **Sign up to Go**

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10cod4eaea922a1fac61-michigan>.

3. **Picnic HEADCOUNT IS DUE BEFORE 7/25** to get a burger/hotdog count. Otherwise go early for the rock swap. Also, bring your checkbook, as anyone/everyone can bring items to swap and collect. The club will have some great items on display that are up for sale. They will be having an open auction on the Hoover collection that MMS recently procured. There are many fantastic specimens for sale, and we encourage you to bring your seconds or thirds to barter with.

- d. Senior Center begins serving soup & salad again starting 8.9.21!!!

- e. **VOLUNTEERS** needed to clean out 20" saw. Tuesday – Jim P. & Bryant volunteered! Thanks, you 2!

### 5. **Secretary Report – FALL 2021 POP UP SHOW! Rock, Jewelry & Mineral Show**

- a. 11 Locations were scouted and reviewed for Sept. 18, 2021 closer to the shop.
- b. The one location that was given to us FREE to use was from the Property Management Company of the JCPenney Parking Lot.
  1. Membership voted this location down stating that there will not be enough traffic and that the show should be seen from the road, which the JCP location does not do. Therefore, if the location could be moved to Kohl's parking lot it would be approved. Otherwise, we would use the Waterford church location for both spring and fall shows this year.

( Minutes Cont.)

2. The Kohl's parking lot is not feasible at this time; therefore the fall 2021 show will be at the Waterford church, September 18, 2021 from 9-5.

## 6. New Business

- a. **Trade/swap** with Spring River Gem & Mineral Club in Cherokee Village, AR. They would like to swap via mail, 10# of mineral/rocks to AR. We mentioned slag and Fordite, they were very interested. They are looking for quality 1-lb. pieces to utilize in a Silent Auction to raise money for their club. We will use the items in the storage unit and any other items members would like to donate. Then we will receive 10# of rock and mineral back in the mail!!!

7. **Adjournment** 7:01 pm – Motioned by Cinda and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed with unanimous vote taken to adjourn.

8. Calendar: next general meeting **8/10/2021** at Settlers Park 6:00 pm. Pizza will be provided. Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage and a lawn chair if you wish.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Irvin, Secretary



### 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 248-425-9686

### 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](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.)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**August 7, 2021**

**Ishpeming Rock and Mineral Club Annual Show**

Ishpeming Elk's Club, 597 Lakeshore Drive, Ishpeming.

Contact Kirsten Maki 906-204-2623, [kmaki75@gmail.com](mailto:kmaki75@gmail.com)

**August 13-15, 2021**

**Copper Country Rock and Mineral Club Rock Swap**

Houghton Middle School, 1603 Gundlach Rd, Houghton, MI

Contact: Rob Grabarczyk [pres@ccrmc.info](mailto:pres@ccrmc.info)

**August 14, 2021**

**Flint Rock and Gem Club Rock Swap**

**NEW LOCATION** 13685 N. Saginaw Rd (aka Dixie Hwy), Clio, MI **NEW LOCATION**

Contact: Bill Wendling 810-638-5796, [bwrockbarn@centurytel.net](mailto:bwrockbarn@centurytel.net)

**August 14, 2021**

**Michigan Gem and Mineral Society's Swap**

Center Lake Boat Launch, 506-5<sup>th</sup> St, Michigan Center, MI 49254

Info: Sally 517-522-3396

**September 10-12, 2021**

**Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club (Hosting the MWF Convention)**

Pavilion, County Fairgrounds, 13800 W. Poe Road, Bowling Green, Ohio

Info: Jerri Heer, [Jheerx6@aol.com](mailto:Jheerx6@aol.com)

**September 10-12, 2021**

**500 Earth Sciences Club of Indianapolis Annual Show**

Hancock County Fairgrounds, 620 N Apple Street, Greenfield, Indiana

Contact: Tom Odom, (765) 325-2690, [tomodom650@gmail.com](mailto:tomodom650@gmail.com)

**September 17-19, 2021**

**Tulip City Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show**

Soccer Stop Sportsplex, 5 River Hills Dr., Holland.

Contact: Sue Goedert, (616) 337-1162; [sonbeams2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sonbeams2000@yahoo.com)

**September 18, 2021**

**LGMS Rock Swap**

Christ Lutheran Church, Waterford, MI

**VOLUNTEER – PARTICIPATE - CONTRIBUTE**



## Membership Dues Increase Information

Written by: Cinda Dawson, 7/23/21

This past Thursday afternoon a silversmith was inquiring about our upcoming vote on increasing the dues. She was asking very good questions, which any interested member might have. I thought it would be a good idea to summarize information for the Board to use in any upcoming meetings, or possibly use portions in the newsletter for August.

The 1st really good questions were... **Don't we have \$35,000 in our savings account? Why would we need to increase the dues? Why would a tiny, almost non-profit, club need that much money?**

Here are some of my answers: We have \$25K in our savings account and \$10K in something we call a Building Fund. The Building Fund is not set aside to buy/rent a new building. It is more like a renovation fund. We know the school would like us to make some electrical upgrades which could be quite costly. We may also need to replace the counter under the polishers at the 600, 1200, and 3000 grit. Floor tiles may become an issue in the near future. It is my belief that the way we were able to build part of our nest egg was by putting on larger, and more profitable shows from 2016 to 2019, due in good part to sales from the Silent Auction and Club Tables. We have not spent a lot of money on new equipment after the shows.

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\* Here is what I think every member should know: The Dues Committee was targeting to increase Dues and/or Daily Fees in order to maintain our current savings AND create an additional \$4000 per year. The breakdown was as follows.. \$2,400 additional money for rent, to cover the \$200 per month increase. \$900 additional cost to hold our show in the gym. \$700 more for the increase in the cost of supplies such as blades, sanding belts, diamond belts, expandable drums, belts, and so forth.

If we find a new place to hold a Large Rockhound's Dream Show indoors, we will need to get a permit to hold it. There could be a large fee involved with that. The reason we do not obtain a permit now is because the school has told the Township that we are holding the event in the same building as our workshop, and we do not have large numbers of people attending.

**The average number of members in a year from 2015 to 2019 was 250. So if each member paid \$15 more, that would generate \$3,750. We currently have 120 members and we are slowly beginning to accept new ones. It could take a couple of years to get back to that number. So we will be eating into that savings anyway.**

The estimated pre-Covid number of people in the shop per week averaged over the year was chosen to be 50 per week over 40 weeks. The building is closed 3 weeks of the year. It would be lower in the summer and winter months and higher in the spring and fall. The club pays a couple of thousand dollars every December to the MWF for insurance.

Bill Magee has spent time calculating the increase in our maintenance cost from 2015 to 2021. Diamond wheels cost \$35 more. Diamond 10" blades cost \$10 more, and need to be replaced every other month. Oil costs \$100 more per drum. And there are many more items.

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As for changing the date the Dues need to be paid: That will require a change to the By-laws. It will also require a discussion by the board to decide that if the date is moved to Sept. 30th, whether there will be a 25% refund, or credit given when renewing dues. (I think there should be.) Cari had the idea to get the membership increase passed first. Then work on changing the date late, such as early 2022.

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When we have the General Membership vote we need to allow for 3 options.

- 1) \$60 annual membership fee and \$2 daily fee or;
- 2) \$65 annual membership fee and \$1 daily fee or;
- 3) No increase

It is our job to explain why number 3 would be a really bad option.

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**This vote was intended to take place on March 17, 2020. Our checking account is down about \$3000 from that time frame. Fortunately through the rent reductions, and marvelous efforts of members volunteering for our 2 outdoor rock shows, and 100 people paying for new memberships even when we couldn't be open regularly, we have been able to sustain ourselves. We have been able to postpone the rent increase by one year already. Hopefully we will be able to go back to our full operating hours in September, but then we will be paying the full amount for rent.**

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



**General Membership Meeting (pizza provided)**

**\*Note early date!**

**Tuesday, August 10, 2021**

**\*note early date!**

**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.