

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

October 2021

President's Message



Hello Everyone!

Lots to report! Seeing new faces in the shop? Thank you, Bryant Hiiter and Cinda Dawson and Ed Oller for coming into the shop to train our newest members.

We have recently added some laminated signage around the shop to help remind all members, especially our newer members, what is important when opening & closing the shop, and other important safety reminders. Times are different now. In the past a lot more members were in the shop sharing the responsibility...now the responsibility falls on a few dedicated members who give up their time at home to help monitor the shop. Hopefully these bright reminder signs will catch our eyes. The shop will remain open for 3 days per week for October with extended hours:

Tuesday – 10:00 am to 9:00 pm, Wednesday - 10:00 am to 9:00 pm and Thursday (silversmiths only) - 10:00 am to 9:00 pm. Covid protocols may change for the flu & cold. We will keep you updated.

Dues for 2022 were changed and voted on at September general meeting. New dues for 2022 LGMS membership will be \$65 with \$1 shop fee and will be expected by December 31, 2021.

After our September general meeting, nominations for the following expiring positions

have been submitted as follows; Candidates for 1st year director - Janelle Gustafsen and Jim Johnson. Incumbent positions submitted as follows: President-Cari Jacob, Vice President-Cinda Dawson, Treasurer-Linda Sheedy, Secretary-Lori Irvin and 2nd year directors-Bill Magee and Jane Lerma. If interested in serving, please contact me asap. Nominations will be voted on at the general meeting in November (*weather and Covid permitting*).

Our Fall show was a success! Due to the big sales from some equipment the club had purchased, our club table was able to bring in roughly \$2,400. The weather was perfect! I believe all our vendors (club members included) were happy with the turnout.

Please consider helping a fellow club get their show up and running. MMS needs help setting up and taking down their October show. October 6, Wednesday for setting up and October 10, Sunday for taking down. Admission will be waived for anyone offering to help. **Please contact: Brad Zylman @ 612-600-9484 for any inquiries or offers to help.**

Please note our location change for fall/winter meetings! We are meeting in our shop.

Great News! Save the Date for LGMS Holiday Party. Wednesday, December 15, 2021 – 6 – 9 pm @ Sr Center. More information will be available soon. Will be needing helpers!

Hope to see you at the next meeting on the 3rd Tuesday, October 19th at 6:00 pm inside our shop. Pizza will be provided.

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 General Meeting
September 14, 2021, 2021
6:00 pm @ Settlers Park**

1. Call to Order – 6:00 pm; Motion to approve minutes by Isla Mitchell, 2nd by Cinda Dawson. With unanimous vote to approve minutes as is.

2. Roll Call: a total of 20 Members including 3 board members (Cari Jacob, Cinda Dawson and Linda Sheedy)

3. Guest Secretary needed: Isla Mitchell offered to write and Cari Jacob typed.

4. President Report (Cari Jacob)–

A. General meeting venue – Future meetings will be held at the LGMS shop once a month. The school offered a classroom available to rent for \$25 per hr. At the point we reach too many members in the shop for the meeting, we will consider that option or another.

B. Dues Committee: Meeting for the Dues Committee was held. Three dues proposals were posted in the August newsletter and will be presented to the members for a vote in September general meeting.

C. Fall Covid protocols – So far school Covid policies have remain unchanged from what we are currently doing at the shop. We will update membership if this changes.

D. We need more members to sign up online to help with our rock show or contact Cinda or me so we know who will be helping. Jim Hanson volunteered to bring a cooler with ice to handle the water others will bring for the club table to sell.

5. Vice President Report (Cinda Dawson)–

A. Membership Update: We are slowly adding & training new members. Cinda will be asking people who have inquired about joining the club, to make appointments and work with a club member as a sponsor. We expect to add 10-12 more members by the end of October. Lori Keefer has volunteered to train as well.

B. Arkansas Swap – Cinda reports we have quite a few rocks from Michigan to send out to them by the end of this week and is expecting a return package soon from them.

C. CSA Middle School inquired –

asking if we would host a classroom of about 30 jewelry class students and show them in two shifts of 15 each how to create cabs from rocks in the shop and then switching to a hands on learning experience with actual rocks used.

Members were questioned about how they would feel about students in the shop (with Covid protocols observed).

Members responded, “We could have the class in the morning, and advising members who had concerns to come into the shop in the afternoon instead.” And a discussion about the 12-14 year old student... “the students would not actually be using the machines.” And “Just observing the cab making process”.

A minimum of 2 demonstrators (members) at least per shift would be required to make this a wonderful experience for the students. Permission would need to be obtained from Hartland School and the visiting school. A minimum fee could be passed on to the students partaking in the field trip to cover the cost of the classroom rental. A lesson plan needs to be put in place.

6. Treasurers Report - from Linda Sheedy:

Club funds are down, and we are just covering our expenses.

7. Chairpersons Report/ Shop Chair (Cinda spoke for Bill Magee (who is on the mend):

General maintenance has been performed: Parker has cleaned the right trim saw and Jim Hanson replaced several polishing belts. Members brought up a concern regarding the excess water spraying out of some of the grinders/polishers and these machines will be looked at and a fix will be decided on.

8. Old Business:

A. The dues committee proposed three possible choices for the membership to vote on regarding a dues increase for 2022. The proposals were posted in the August newsletter with pertinent information for the membership to consider before voting at September meeting. Bryant Hitter made a motion to move forward and vote on the three proposals. Jim Hanson 2nd. The floor

was opened to questions and discussion. Cinda Dawson explained the need for an additional \$4,000, and the history behind the increase of costs to hold our yearly show at the school. Membership is down from 293 at highest point to currently 125. A shop electrical upgrade will be costly if the school enforces this. Although we have never received a formal detailed list of violations, we have maintained a \$10,000 building fund to handle this.

B. A member had concerns about raising the dues with consideration to the hobbyist vs the business owner. Another member voiced concerns about passing on the financial burden to our members while we did not raise the vendor fee at the Fall show. A new member claimed he thought the membership fees were a great deal and was grateful to have such a well-maintained shop to work in. Discussion and questions were closed and the vote was held.

Proposal #1 - \$60 annual membership fee and \$2 daily fee or;

Proposal #2 - \$65 annual membership fee and \$1 daily fee or;

Proposal #3 - No increase

Members were asked to stand with their approval for a proposal. 4 members approved Proposal #1, 10 members approved Proposal #2 and 6 members approved Proposal #3. Proposal #2 passed with the most approvals and will be implemented for 2022. Dues for the 2022 year are due by December 31, 2021.

9. New Business: Jim Hanson has offered to have an electrician friend take a look at some current suspect issues and offer suggestions or possibly fix. A member had concerns about fixing something before it became a problem as the school will be involved and we might end up biting off more than we can chew, so to speak. There was also a question regarding the tile in the shop and who is responsible in replacing this.

10. Next General Meeting is 10/19/2021 at LGMS Shop at 5 pm. Pizza will be provided.

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
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.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 2-3, 2021

Midwest Mineralogical Lapidary Society Rock Swap

Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Rd., Belleville.

Contact: Bill Barr, (505) 803-4888; wbarr@umich.edu

October 2-3, 2021

Grand Traverse Area Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show

Cherryland VFW Hall, 3400 Veterans Dr., Traverse City.

Contact: Jared Bowen, (269) 303-5732; jaredjbowen@gmail.com

October 8, 9, 10, 2021

Michigan Mineralogical Society's Greater Detroit Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show

Macomb Community College, South Campus Expo Center

14500 E. 12 Mile Road, Warren, MI 48088

Info: www.michmin.org/show-info

October 22-24, 2021

Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Show

Main Pavillion, Ingham County Fairgrounds, Ash Street, Mason.

Contact: Robin Smith, (517) 290-4891; rsmith@redsmith.com



2022 Dues are payable now

Please complete this form, tear off, and mail to
Linda Sheedy, Treasurer, LGMS, 9525 E. Highland Road, Howell, MI 48843
Contact Linda at 248-425-9686 if you prefer to use PayPal

LGMS Membership Renewal 2022

Last name _____ First name _____
(please print)
Address City State Zip code _____

Phone number (Area code) _____ Email address _____
Hartland School District resident ___yes___no___ Newsletter preference: ___shop___email___

Adult membership(s) _____ x \$65.00 = _____
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

Lake Superior Agates

The Lake Superior agate is a type of agate stained by iron and found on the shores of Lake Superior. Its wide distribution and iron-rich bands of color reflect the gemstone's geologic history in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. In 1969, the Lake Superior agate was designated by the Minnesota Legislature as the official state gemstone. The Lake Superior agate was selected because the agate reflects many aspects of Minnesota. It was formed during lava eruptions that occurred in Minnesota about a billion years ago. The stone's predominant red color comes from iron, a major Minnesota industrial mineral found extensively throughout the Iron Range region. Finally, the Lake Superior agate can be found in many regions of Minnesota as it was distributed by glacial movement across Minnesota 10,000 to 15,000 years ago.

More than a billion years ago, the North American continent began to split apart along plate boundaries. Magma upwelled into iron-rich lava flows throughout the Midcontinent Rift System, including what is now the Minnesota Iron Range region. These flows are now exposed along the north and south shores of Lake Superior. The tectonic forces that attempted to pull the continent apart, and which left behind the lava flows, also created the Superior trough, a depressed region that became the basin of Lake Superior. The lava flows formed the conditions for creation of Lake Superior agates.

As the lava solidified, water vapor and carbon dioxide trapped within the solidified flows formed a vesicular texture (literally millions of small bubbles). Later, groundwater-transported ferric iron, silica, and other dissolved minerals passed through the trapped gas vesicles. These quartz-rich groundwater solutions deposited concentric bands of fine-grained quartz called chalcedony, or embedded agates. Over the next billion years, erosion exposed a number of the quartz-filled, banded vesicles-agates were freed by running water and chemical disintegration of the lavas, since these vesicles were now harder than the lava rocks that contained them. The vast majority, however, remained lodged in the lava flows until the next major geologic event that changed them and Minnesota.

During the ensuing ice ages a lobe of glacial ice, the Superior lobe, moved into Minnesota through the agate-filled Superior trough. The glacier picked up surface agates and transported them south. Its crushing action and cycle of freezing and thawing at its base also freed many agates from within the lava flows and transported them, too. The advancing glacier acted like an enormous rock tumbler, abrading, fracturing, and rough-polishing the agates.

The Lake Superior agate is noted for its rich red, orange, and yellow coloring. This color scheme is caused by the oxidation of iron. Iron leached from rocks provided the pigment that gives the gemstone its beautiful array of color. The concentration of iron and the amount of oxidation determine the color within or between an agate's bands. There can also be white, grey, black and tan strips of color as well. The gemstone comes in various sizes. The gas pockets in which the agates formed were primarily small, about 1 cm in diameter. A few Lake Superior agates have been found that are 22 cm in diameter with a mass exceeding 10 kilograms. Very large agates are extremely rare.

The most common type of Lake Superior agate is the fortification agate with its eye-catching banding patterns. Each band, when traced around an exposed pattern or "face," connects with itself like the walls of a fort, hence the name fortification agate. A common subtype of the fortification agate is the parallel-banded, onyx-fortification or water-level agate.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lake_Superior_Agate, via Rock Trails 4-17



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



General Membership Meeting (pizza provided)
Tuesday, October 19, 2021
6 pm at the shop

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.