

# The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society February 2024

## President's Message

"If January is the month of change, February is the month of lasting change. January is for dreamers... February is for doers."

— Marc Parent

Hello Members!

We had a great board meeting at the friendly Red Olive Restaurant. All board members were present. We all caught up, exchanged our personal schedules and it looks like it's going to be a great year! Jim Johnson was finally sworn in and received his well-deserved Max Shultz Plaque award!

New member training will start again January 29.... Thank you, Cinda Wilson for organizing this and all the trainers involved. Please watch out for the new faces in the shop; some need a little more help in the beginning. The shop is getting busier and it could be overwhelming for them at first.

Spring Pop-up show is scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Christ Lutheran Church in Waterford. This is a rain or shine outside event. Bathrooms are available. A flyer with details will be out soon. Vendors and club members may purchase limited spots. Due to the amount of work involved in getting the club table ready, we decided to go with a mini (3 tables only) club table.

**Rock of the Month will be on February 7,  
room #33, 1-2:30  
Feldspar!**

**Dues for 2024 LGMS membership are \$65 (due December 31, 2023) with \$1 daily shop fee.** Remember; please add the \$5 locked drawer fee and the drawer #, if you are using one. (One drawer per person) Some locked drawers are now available. You can mail your dues to: Linda Sheedy, 1582 Forest Bay Ct., Wixom, MI 48393.

T Shirts are in! They are purple & green & fabulous!

You may purchase the shirts  
S-2X- \$15 and 3X-4X - \$18.

**February shop hours** - Tuesday thru Friday. Tues/Wed 9 am-9 pm, Thurs 9 am-9 pm (silversmiths only), and Friday 10 am-4 pm. (If there are not 2 members in the shop on Fridays, the closer may choose to leave earlier than 4:00. Be aware) There must be at least 2 people in the shop "any day" to use the machines for safety reasons.

Please note the times/dates for ALL this year's Club meetings are posted in this newsletter. Please attend and support your club, so your voice may be heard! Remember, the shop will be closed at 5:30 pm on general membership meeting days. Machines will shut down at 4:30 if fall show meeting is held in the shop.

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*



**Rock of the Month**  
first Wednesday of the month  
1-2:30 pm, room #33

**February 7, 2024 ... Feldspar**

upcoming ROM:  
March 6, 2024...  
Rocks you didn't know glow!

### 2024 Officers and Chairpersons

**President:** Cari Jacob 248-931-5999

**Vice President:** Cinda Wilson 810-423-0464

**Secretary:** Terri Ridenour 517-376-2191

**Treasurer:** Linda Sheedy 248-425-9686

**Shop Chair:** Bill Magee 734-981-6117

#### **Second year Directors:**

Lori Irvin 810-820-0494

Sandra Wrestler 248-875-5921

#### **First year Directors:**

Jim Johnson 810-923-6113

AnnMarie McFadden 248-884-8126

**Newsletter:** Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804,  
imvm.1@netzero.com

**Membership:** Lori Irvin 810-820-0494

**Historian:** Chuck Amberger, 248-787-6586

**Library:** Bryant Hiiter, 248-472-8481

**Webmaster:** John Myer, [www.livingstongems](http://www.livingstongems)

Email: [LGMSMich@gmail.com](mailto:LGMSMich@gmail.com)

show website: [lgmsrockshow.com](http://lgmsrockshow.com)

Instagram: [livingstongems](https://www.instagram.com/livingstongems)

General Membership Meetings are held monthly on  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6 pm. (Except in January and  
February when only board meetings are held.)



## LGMS Board Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2024; time: 1:00pm

Location: Red Olive

Call to Order- 1:06pm

Swearing Into Office – Jim Johnson 1st year Director.

**Rollcall:** Present- Lori Irvin, Cari Jacob, Jim Johnson, AnnMarie McFadden, Bill Magee, Terri Ridenour, Linda Sheedy, Cinda Wilson, Sandy Wrestler. Present-9, Absent-0, Quorum -5

**Approval of Minutes:** Lori Irvin made a motion to approve the December 12, 2023, minutes, 2nd by Linda Sheedy. All in favor. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** All is in good standing. Membership: 150 members out of 250 members have paid their dues.

**2024 Board and General Meetings:** Discussed club meetings for the calendar year. Cinda Wilson will reserve our pavilion at Settlers Park for our June 18th and July 16th general meetings.

### Shop report:

1. Bill Magee installed a collar lock on the 20 inch saw to help keep the wandering pulley in place.
2. Parts are no longer available for the broken 10-inch water trim saw. We can have them made, but it can be costly.
3. While looking into purchasing a new 10-inch water saw, Bill will look more into repairing the old one.
4. **Dop sticks** are **disappearing** again. If you have any in your drawer, house, etc. Please return them to the proper drawer at the shop. Bill and Ann Marie will be getting more dowels, painting the ends a neon color to help remind members to put the club dop sticks back after each use.

### Old Business:

Flags for Shows- Lori Irvin talked with Susan about ordering several more flags. Suggestions include:

1. Beads
2. Public Welcome (Public one sign) (welcome one sign)

Board tabled ordering the signs for now.

Any other suggestions for signs from members are welcome.

### New Business:

**Training:** Emails have been sent out to 16 new members on the waiting list to be trained. All new members will receive a member packet and must pay their club dues by or on the 1st day of training. If dues are not paid they will not be able to go through shop training that day.

### Spring Show 2024:

On May 18th the club will host our Spring Rock Show at Christ Lutheran Church, 5987 Williams Lake Rd., Waterford Twp.

1. Vendor fee is \$50.00
2. Member fee is \$25.
3. We will have a downsized club table area.
4. We will need volunteers to pick up rocks from the storage unit, transport rocks to show, set up & work club tables, breakdown and clean-up, transport unsold rocks back to the storage unit. This is a good money maker for the club! New & Old members are encouraged to help with this fundraiser.
5. Sign Up will be available soon.

### Club Purchases:

1. Cinda Wilson made a motion to purchase a new 10-inch Water Trim Saw for the shop not to exceed \$800.00. 2nd by Lori Irvin. All in Favor. Motion passed.
2. Cinda Wilson made a motion to buy a Ring Saw from Dave Grimes for \$250.00. 2nd by Bill Magee. All in favor. Motion passed. Jim Johnson made a motion to buy 3-piece Bracelet Dies at \$50.00 per piece from Cinda Wilson. 2nd by Lori Irvin. All in favor. Motion passed.

### Classes:

1. Flint Knapping: Lori Irvin has been in touch with Steve Laut. He is willing to come to our club and offer a Flint Knapping Class. We are thinking of holding two, 4-hour classes. The board is still working on the details. We will post the details as soon as we can confirm the availability of the class days.
2. Silversmithing: 8-week class will have a \$50.00 fee plus your supplies.
3. Faceting: 5-week class will have a \$ 25.00 fee plus your supplies.

**Adjournment:** Ridenour made a motion to adjourn at 2:34pm 2nd by Jim Johnson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Terri Ridenour, Secretary

**2024 LGMS BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES**

Please be aware that during membership meetings the shop will be totally shut down at 5:45 pm.

Month	2024 date	Time	Meeting type	Location	
1	Wed. 1/24	1 pm	Board Meeting		
2	Wed. 2/21	1 pm	Board Meeting		
3	3/19	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
4	4/16	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
5	5/21	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
	Popup Show		in the church parking lot	on 5/18	one day only!
6	6/18	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park	Shop shut down at 5:45
7	7/16	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park	Shop shut down at 5:45
8	8/20	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
9	9/10 (one week early)	6 pm	General Membership/before fall show on 9/21-9/22	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
10	10/15	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
11	11/19	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
12	12/17	6 pm	General Membership during Holiday Party	Senior Center	Shop shut down at 5:45

We will probably add in show meetings starting in May at 4:30-5:30 same day as general meetings.

**LGMS Membership Renewal 2024 – Dues are Overdue!**

Complete this tear-off form and mail to:

Linda Sheedy, LGMS Treasurer  
1582 Forest Bay Court, Wixom, MI 48393

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 = \_\_\_\_\_

Drawer charge \$5.00= \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Events

**March 15-17, 2024**

**Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show**

Keeley Park, 200 W. Ganson Street, Jackson, MI 49202

Info: <http://mgmsrockclub.com/index.html>

**March 23, 2024**

**Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society's 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Metro Rock Swap**

St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI

Info: 734-837-8920

**April 4-6, 2024**

**Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Gem and Mineral Show**

Rogers Plaza Town Center, 972 28<sup>th</sup> St SW, Wyoming MI 49509

Info: <http://www.indianmoundsrockclub.com>



### What Is Grape Agate?

Hobart M. King, PhD, RPG, Geology.com

Grape agate is a marketing name for purple aggregates of tiny quartz crystals with a spherical (botryoidal) habit. The name reflects their purple color and how they occur in clusters that resemble bunches of grapes. This material is found in the Mamuju area, near the western coast of Sulawesi, an island of Indonesia. Grape agate entered the mineral market in 2016. Its popularity quickly spread through mineral shows, rock shops, websites, and online marketplaces. Specimens with a fun appearance and an interesting name like grape agate market themselves.

The "grapes" of these specimens are tiny. They range between about two and eight millimeters across. Although purple is the best color to match the "grape" name, some specimens have grapes that are white, gray, green, or blue. The name "grape agate" has stuck as a marketing term. However, the name is a misnomer. Misnomers are names that are scientifically incorrect. There are no arguments with "grape" because of its purple color. But, the use of "agate" as a species/variety name draws objections. Here is an analysis...

Grape Agate: This name is inappropriate because agate should have parallel internal banding. The name agate also implies quartz with a microcrystalline texture; however, most of the grapes have a drusy surface - making them megascopically crystalline.

Grape Chalcedony: Like agate, the name chalcedony implies quartz with a microcrystalline texture.

Grape Quartz: The name quartz fits better than both agate and chalcedony. But, the appropriate name for purple quartz is amethyst.

Botryoidal Amethyst: The name "amethyst" better honors mineralogical and gemological definitions, and the adjective "botryoidal" communicates a rounded shape.

So, this author concludes that the name "botryoidal amethyst" is a name that is scientifically correct, but is not as much fun as "grape agate".

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



## No General Meeting in February Board Meeting Only

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society was established in 1970. The annual membership fee is \$65.00 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 December 31 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.

### ***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.*