

# The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society

February 2025

## President's Message

*The entire universe has been neatly divided into things to (a) mate with, (b) eat, (c) run away from, and (d) rocks.*

*Sir Terry Pratchett*

Hello Members!

We had a great board meeting at the Hartland Red Olive Restaurant. Six members were present in person and one via Zoom. We all caught up, exchanged our personal schedules and it looks like it's going to be a great year!

New member training will start again in February. Thank you to Cinda Wilson for setting up the training schedule and reaching out to the new members. Thank you also to the trainers who have volunteered their time.

Please watch out for the new faces in the shop; some need a little more help in the beginning. It is the perfect time to remind new members that the shop is communal and requires everyone's time and care to function.

Dates for the pop-up show are yet to be determined. We will keep you posted.

Joe Musolf  
Vice President

## 2025 Officers and Chairpersons

**President:** Terri Ridenour 517-376-2190

**Vice President:** Joe Musolf: 906-231-7632

**Secretary:** Cinda Wilson 810-423-0464

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

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

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

### First year Directors:

Bryant Hiiter: 248-472-8481

Max Runnels: 810-869-0740

### Second year Directors:

Jim Johnson 810-923-6113

AnnMarie McFadden 248-884-8126

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

### Membership:

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

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

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

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 the  
board meets.)



**Rock of the Month**

has been rescheduled to the third Tuesday of the month, following the General Meeting.

Next ROM will be on March 18 after the General Meeting.

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**February shop hours**

Monday 10 am-4 pm  
Tues and Wed 9 am-9 pm  
Thurs 9 am-9 pm (silversmiths only)  
Friday 10 am-4 pm.

(If there are not 2 members in the shop on Mondays and 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.

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**Winter Reminder!**

**When the Hartland Schools are closed, the shop is closed. During inclement weather, please check Facebook/hartlandcommunityed.com for school/event closures before you make the trip to the shop.**



**January 2025 Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: 06/21/25, at 6pm; Location: Red Olive Meeting Called to Order at 6:03pm. Roll Call: 6 Members were present plus one on Zoom. Approve December Minutes: 1st - Cinda Wilson, 2nd - Cari Jacob

**T Shirts are in! They are purple and green and fabulous!  
You may purchase the shirts S-2X- \$15 and 3X-4X - \$18.**



**President's Report** - Joe Musolf standing in for Terri Ridenour  
Terri will be back in February. We will follow "Robert's Rules" as a guideline. The By-Laws will be formally approved in March. The Secretary should typically use full names in reports to avoid confusion. Newsletter material should be submitted to Isla by the 25th of each month.

**Membership** - Cinda Wilson  
The Sign Up Genius for Winter Training will go out by Jan 19th. Typically there are over 30 slots. This time there will be fewer. There are about 2 dozen people on the waiting list.

(minutes – cont. from page 2)

**Treasurer's Report** - Linda Sheedy

We are currently in good standing. If it was not for the profit from the annual show, LGMS would have lost a couple of thousand dollars in 2024. About 1/2 of the 300 members have renewed their dues as of the meeting date.

**Shop Foreman Report** - Bill Magee

The Big Saw is still squealing. Bill has not checked on it since the school was closed on 1/14. Ed found new belts for polishers. They are soft but grainy. Bill will buy one of each grit to try out. The cost is 5 times less than our current belts.

**Old Business**

1. WE NEED A NEW SHOW CHAIRMAN FOR 2025!
2. Cari can answer emails until Terri returns.
3. Cari will print lots of forms for new membership packets and bring them to the office.
4. Cari is willing to keep track of drawer numbers and who has paid to rent them.
5. Cari can call Hartland Township to reserve the Pavilion for summer meetings. 5:30-7:30pm (need a half hour to set up).

**New Business**

1. Training for 4H kids might start on Monday nights in March or April. Bryant has been talking with the group and they are definitely interested. WE WILL NEED TRAINERS.
2. Cari reserved the gym for the 2025 Dream Show and Holiday Party. The rates will go up from 2024. The prices will be submitted to LGMS in June. The gym will be reserved for Sept 19th-21st. The September meeting should be held early in the month, Sept 9th.
3. May Show. Church needs to be reserved, and the preferred date is before Mother's Day. With a lot of club members selling it will be difficult to get volunteers for security and the club table. We need advertising, and lots of signs set up. The booth fee will most likely be \$25 per spot for members, and \$50 for other vendors. A sign-up sheet will be put in the shop in the spring.

4. Fake texts are surfacing that seem like they are from board members asking for help/money. They get contact info from the website.

5. A BRAND NEW BLADE GOT BENT on the middle trim saw, and the new oil was filthy after just one week of use. It probably happened from a couple of people cutting a large amount of beach rock. We need to think about ways to charge more for people who bring in bowls of rocks to cut up, or other changes to implement to reduce the damage. Or perhaps have people who cause more wear and tear, pay more, so the club gets the funds to replace the blades.

a. 2 free rough rock slices per day, then charge \$1 per cut.

b. Get 14' saw up and running. People will need special training to use it.

6. It was suggested that the sludge in the Big Saw is scooped out late on Friday and allowed to drain all weekend. But no one is available to do it regularly.

7. Joe Musolf mentioned he has a gravity saw we could possibly use in the shop. But the last gravity saw we had was too large and extremely noisy.

8. Nancy Bartel would like to organize a field trip to the UP this year. Information might be available at the March meeting. It was mentioned that members who attend meetings get the first chance to sign up for field trips if there is a limit on the number that can attend.

9. Joe Musolf talked about other potential field trip locations such as picking thru piles at Team Elmer's Quarry, Holcrim Quarry, and Partridge Point. The Jackson club is going to Rockport State Park, maybe we can join them?

10. Rock of the Month will resume in March and take place immediately following the March general meeting.

Adjournment 7:30pm. Motion to end meeting by Cari Jacob, 2nd by Bill Magee. Motion passed with a majority.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cinda Wilson, Secretary  
J. Musolf & T. Ridenour,  
Content Review

## Upcoming Events

**February 23, 2025, 12 pm - 5 pm**

### Wayne State University's Silent Mineral Auction

Wayne State Student Center Ballroom, 5221 Gullen Mall, Detroit, MI  
proceeds benefit AIPG Wayne State Student Chapter

**March 1-2, 2025**

### Roamin Club Annual Auction

Vista Tech Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, MI 48152  
Contact: Clarence Sterling, (248) 884-0431; tripodsfrommars@gmail.com www.roaminrockclub.weebly.com

**March 14-16, 2025**

### Michigan Gem and Mineral Society's Annual Show

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

**March 29, 2025, 7 am – 4 pm**

### The North American Great Lakes Artifact Show

Augusta Creek Wedding and Event Venue, 1805 W. Leinaar Rd, Delton, MI 49046  
Austin Wright 269-858-9656, Adubwright@gmail.com, Zach Smith 317-270-7623, Yellowwolf96@yahoo.com

**May 2-4, 2025**

### Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society's

64<sup>th</sup> Rock, Gem, Fossil and Mineral Show  
Kalamazoo Expo Center, 2900 Lake St, Kalamazoo, MI 49048



### 2025 LGMS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES

Please be aware that during membership meetings the shop will be totally shut down at 5:45 pm.  
We will probably add in show meetings starting in May at 4:30-5:30 same day as general meetings.

Month	2025 date	Time	Meeting type	Location	
3	3/18	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
4	4/15	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
5	5/20	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
6	6/17	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
7	7/15	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park	Shop shut down at 5:45
8	8/19	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park	Shop shut down at 5:45
9	9/9 (one week early)	6 pm	General Membership before fall show on 9/20-9/21	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
10	10/21	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
11	11/18	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
12	12/16	6 pm	General Membership during Holiday Party	Senior Center	Shop shut down at 5:45

### Amethyst – February’s birthstone

Amethyst is purple quartz. It is a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the world. The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word methustos, which means “intoxicated.” Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness.

Amethyst, as previously mentioned, is composed of quartz, which is the second most abundant material found in Earth’s crust. Amethyst gets its color from irradiation, iron impurities, and the presence of trace elements. Its hardness—a 7 on the Mohs scale—is the same as other quartz, which makes it a durable and lasting option for jewelry.

While amethyst is most commonly recognized to be a purple color, the gemstone can range from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple that can read more blue or red, depending on the light. Sometimes the same stone can have layers or color variants, so the way the gemstone is cut is important to the way the color shows in a finished piece.

Amethyst often occurs in geodes or in the cavities of granitic rocks. It can be found all over the world, including the United States, Canada, Brazil, and Zambia.

AmericanGemSociety.org



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Safety reminders – Avoid any hair, jewelry, necklaces, loose clothing, etc hanging forward when working with any machine, saw, grinder or torch. Hair bands, if needed, will be provided free near the sign-in sheet. (Please do not put used hair bands back.)

Foot protection – NO exposed skin on the feet, in case something sharp falls or drops or burning embers fall. (Flip flops, sandals etc.) You will be asked to get the proper footwear or leave the shop. Please wear comfortable shoes without slippery soles that can get dirty or wet.

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### LGMS Membership Renewal 2025 – Dues are Due!

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

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

Youth membership(s) (ages 13-17) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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



**No General Membership Meeting**  
*Only the Board meets in February*

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. 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.