

# The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society February 2026

## 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 board meeting at the Hartland Red Olive Restaurant where we discussed goals for 2026. All of the board was in attendance! Cinda will have the highlights of the discussion during the meeting documented later in the newsletter.

There is a monthly sign up on the chalkboard for openers and closers. If you can open or close, please fill in your name at the applicable date. February is on the board and March will appear shortly into February.

New member training will start again in February. If you can help to train new members please reach out to Cinda or me. We are still solidifying dates for the popup show. We will let you know at the February meeting.

Please come join us for Shop Maintenance on the first Thursday of the month at 5 pm. We will tackle the tasks that require more arms or heads to accomplish! The first one will be February 5<sup>th</sup>. Again please come join us.

Thanks to all who devote their time and energy into making the club run and be fun!

Cheers!

Joe Musolf, President



## 2026 Officers and Chairpersons

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

**Vice President:**

Bryant Hiiter: 248-472-8481

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

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

**Shop Foreman:**

Chad Brendel 810-869-5510

**Second year Directors:**

Lavonne Foldenaur 517-294-3126

Max Runnels: 810-869-0740

**First year Directors:**

Don Pentico 517-294-1635

Jim Glassbrook 810-965-3468

**Newsletter:** Isla Mitchell, 248-685-7804,  
invvm2227@gmail.com

**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 the board meets.)

## January 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

01/20/26, at 6pm, Location: Red Olive Restaurant  
Meeting started 6:15pm.

Roll Call: Joe Musolf Bryant Hiiter, Cari Jacob, Max Runnels, Cinda Wilson, Jim Glassbrook, Lavonne Foldenauer, Chad Brendel, Don Pentico.

Joe wanted to make the Board meeting casual so there was no approval of the November minutes necessary. One main purpose of the meeting was for board members to discuss goals for the year.

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## Shop Goals - Joe Musolf

\* Joe wants to promote volunteering in the shop.

### \*Maintenance Day

- First Thursday every month, anyone can help.
- Silversmiths can continue to work.
- Cari and Jim Glassbrook can promote on Facebook.
- Bring a pizza or snacks?

### \* Equipment

- Future of Poly arbor machines?  
They are no longer made so need a fabricator. Joe suggested more Kingsley machines. Cinda suggested buying back up Poly(s) at shows. Ed could perhaps weld more water trays, if needed. Bryant supports Polys since the Kingsley wheels wear out. (Cari pointed out that the Kingsley wheels are hard to replace, maintenance wise). Don disagreed with Polys and doesn't like sandpaper wheels. He prefers resin and diamond wheels. Bryant pointed out the abuse the wheels receive and doubts that resin would last. Joe asked everyone to think about alternatives.
- Extra High Polishing - Joe wants 8,000-50,000 grit wheels to be added somewhere in the shop. Bryant asked if all skill levels would be allowed to use them. Max asked how one would stop an inexperienced person from using them, and the answer was "Education".
- Good levels of stock - Joe wants to have plenty of belts, blades, and diamond wheels so that we do not run out. Bryant will show Chad how, and what, to order. Chad will receive an LGMS credit card soon. Kingsley North will sometimes give LGMS a discount.
- Water Filtration - We need a better system to filter mud and particles from the water. Everyone bring Joe ideas. Could copy other rock clubs. Waterford club did not have one in the past. Cinda recommended a regular schedule to clean out the series of buckets.
- Oil Filtration - Someone mentioned adding taps to the bottom of the oil draining buckets to empty out the good oil.
- 3 Autofeed Trim saws in storage. Joe wants to fix one up for use in the shop. Then he subsequently did.
- 14" saw - Joe suggested letting more members in the shop use it for cutting slabs. The belt on the side needs a guard made. People would need special training to use it.
- The Big 16" saw is at Bill Magee's house and we need to bring it back to the storage unit.

- Giant Flat Lap - Max asked if we still need it.

Yes. It needs new sanding disks but people can still use loose grit. It has a water drip system. . We had trouble obtaining new 16" laps, but Don has a source. It is the only machine we have for larger rocks like bookends. Vibratory laps are better for polishing, not rough grinding. It might be possible to put round rolls of tape around the perimeter and let the machine work unattended for short periods of time.

- Faceting Machines - Don asked how many the club owns in the kitchen storage. ■ Cinda thinks there are 3 that don't belong to Dave Grimes. Don suggested buying a new one or two such as a Faceton or Ultra Tec V5, because you can remove an unfinished stone and switch users. ■ New machines cost \$3,000-\$3,500 and Don is always on the lookout. Bryant said there is not enough room for more until we clean out the old ones or obtain the storage closet. Chad suggested creating a faceting committee. Joe agreed and said it should be Don, Dave, and Brent. Max asked if the faceting group should have its own budget. Bryant replied that it wasn't necessary because the club buys what they need, and it isn't much. Bryant said in the distant past the club would raise money for machines by taking in donations such as slabs and selling them. Cinda told Don when she was president she created a form for members to suggest the club buy new equipment, but they had to do the research and get 3 quotes to compare prices and features.
- Storage room/closet. Do we need it? Great for books, and more valuable items that we don't want to lose in the storage unit. There has been no news from Carol. We do not know what the rent will be.

### General Shop Items- Joe Musolf

- \* Business Cards. Joe would like to make LGMS business cards with our show dates on them.
- \* Opening and Closing. Joe has started a signup board for the month on the chalkboard. We would like to get a lockbox to leave a key for "openers" outside of the shop.
- \* Maintain Email list. Create a master list for show advertising. This has been very successful for the MMS club. We started one for 2024 show but it wasn't put in the computer. Jim Glassbrook is willing to help with computer and IT issues.

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**Hazel May Morgan**, 100, of Brooklyn, Michigan passed away Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at Brooklyn Living Center, Brooklyn, Michigan. She was born on May 1, 1925 in Green Oak Township, Livingston, County, Michigan. A private burial will take place at Oakland Hills Memorial Park. Her Celebration of Life will take place later this spring or summer.

### **Hazel Morgan**

from "The Livingstones" of January 2012

The Livingston Gem & Mineral Society has been very fortunate to have among its active members, the very people who are responsible for the success of this society. I know that many of you who now enjoy the benefits of their hard work would like to know a little more about them. I would like to pass along a little of their history to you as their stories become available to me.

Ladies first: Hazel Morgan is well known to many of you and just recently I was able to sit down with her to talk about her life and the early history of our club. Hazel has a long history of taking on leadership positions, both as President (twice) and for her many tours of duty on the Board of Directors. Her knowledge of Geology and Mineralogy is impressive and most sought after when it

comes to identifying stones, minerals and fossils. Hazel was born here in Livingston County in the middle of the "Roaring 20s" and has resided in the Silver Lake area for most of her life. She attended McDonald Grade School and graduated from Brighton High School in 1942. College soon followed and she received a Pharmacy Degree in 1947.

Hazel and her husband Clarence became interested in Mineralogy in 1965 and their interest in the Lapidary Arts soon followed. Collecting mineral specimens and polishing equipment came next. Hazel, Clarence and their three daughters traveled out west in their camper trailer many times and came back with an impressive collection of stones, fossils and artifacts. They also collected many friends and like-minded rock hounds in their travels.

The Morgans first joined the Lansing Rock Club in 1967 ( the LGMS didn't even exist at that time) and Hazel became their President in 1973 (Just as Johnny Johnson and Nelson Short were starting the LGMS). As President of the Lansing Club, Hazel made full use of the Midwest Federation's vast library of educational programs to help the members understand and appreciate the fine points of their most interesting hobby. When Hazel became President of the LGMS, she put together all she learned in Lansing and shared all that knowledge with us here in Hartland. Many are the times she brought in film libraries and slide shows.

Hazel now resides in Brooklyn, Michigan with her mother and daughter. It's a long drive from Brooklyn to Hartland but Hazel does it routinely and sometimes brings her mother along. We fervently hope that we will continue to see her in our workshop for just as long as she would like to grace us with her presence.

Respectfully Submitted.... Chuck Amberger  
Club Historian

**February shop hours**

Monday 10 am-9 pm  
Tues and Wed 9 am-9 pm  
Thurs 9 am-6 pm - silversmiths only!  
Evening Maintenance Day work  
Friday 10 am-4 pm.

If there are not 2 members in the shop on Mondays and Fridays, the closer may choose to leave early. Be aware. There must be at least 2 people in the shop at all times for safety while using the machines.

**Winter Reminder!**

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



**To pay the 2026 membership dues, complete this tear-off form and mail to:**

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

**Last name** \_\_\_\_\_ **First name** \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Address (City, State, Zip code)**

**Phone #(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 =** \_\_\_\_\_

**optional drawer charge \$5.00=** \_\_\_\_\_

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

## Upcoming Events

**March 7 - 8, 2026**

### The Roamin Club Annual Auction

Vistatech Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd, Livonia, MI 48152

Contact: Clarence Sterling, (248) 884-0431; [tripodsfrommars@gmail.com](mailto:tripodsfrommars@gmail.com); [roaminrockclub.weebly.com](http://roaminrockclub.weebly.com)

**March 20 – 22, 2026**

### Michigan Gem and Mineral Society Show

Keeley Park, America One Event Center, 200 W. Ganson St, Jackson, MI 49292

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

**March 28, 2026, 10 am – 5 pm**

### Midwest Mineralogical & Lapidary Society Rock Swap

St. John's Lutheran Church, 13115 Telegraph Rd, Taylor, MI 48180

Contact: Louis Talley, (734) 837-8920; [ltalley1970@gmail.com](mailto:ltalley1970@gmail.com); [www.mmls.us](http://www.mmls.us)



### 2026 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	2026 date	Time	Meeting type	Location	
3	3/17	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
4	4/21	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
5	5/19	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
6	6/16	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
7	7/21	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park (?)	Shop shut down at 5:45
8	8/18	6 pm	General Membership	Settlers Park (?)	Shop shut down at 5:45
9	9/8 (one week early)	6 pm	General Membership before show on 9/19-9/20	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
10	10/20	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
11	11/17	6 pm	General Membership	LGMS shop	Shop shut down at 5:45
12	12/16 (Wed.)	6 pm	Holiday Party	Commons area	Shop shut down at 5:45

**Board Meeting Minutes** (continued from page 2)

- **Maintain Email list.** Create a master list for show advertising. This has been very successful for the MMS Club. We started one for the 2024 show but it wasn't put in the computer. Jim Glassbrook is willing to help with computer and IT issues.
- **Consolidate 2 Websites** and add a **PayPal** link for renewing dues. We cannot consolidate the 2 Facebook Groups. One is Private for meetings and sales. One is Public for people who are not members. We could use a Social Media Committee.
- Clean and Organize the shop better

**Treasurer's Report - Cari Jacob.** Cari does not have the new checks yet. Treasury information from 2024 and 2025 has been put into Quicken. Cari has been auditing the safe and keeping track of assets. Bryant can sign on checks. Chad and Cari will have credit cards. Cari and Linda will go to PNC to complete the transfer of the new treasurer. Cari made a Motion: Once her name is on the accounts at PNC she can close accounts and transfer the money to Huntington Bank. 1st by Don Penitco, 2nd by Jim Glassbrook. All in favor, the motion was passed by the Board. We will hold a vote at the March general meeting for everyone to weigh in.

**Silversmiths' Report - Lavonne Foldenauer.** Lavonne would like Petty Cash of \$100 to make change at the silver table and to pay Susie back for trips to Armstrong Tool & Supply. Lavonne let the new board members know there is a work order to install a new handrail at the steps to the shop but the school has not acted on it for years. There was a lengthy discussion about what to sell silver for in the shop since the cost has skyrocketed. To summarize: Jim Glassbrook will look at the sale price weekly and help determine the cost by weight.

**Spring PopUp Show - Cari Jacob.** The school would not allow a Spring show, only June 27th was available. School suggested asking the Hartland Chamber of Commerce, or using the Hartland Farmer's Market (Cinda said the Farmer's Market at Rural King is LAME). Cari wants to nail down a date in May soon so she can reserve the church. Jim G. requested the show not be held on Mother's Day.

**Storage Lockers - Joe Musolf.** Still have 2 for now. Want to reduce to one unit in Spring or Summer. There will be a couple of cleaning days.

**New Business:**

- Chad Brendel: Should people sign out when they leave? Helps in an emergency or fire drill. There are active shooter drills a couple of times a year. The muster location for fire drills is the parking lot, but away from the building.
- Why doesn't the membership cost more? History of past membership dues increases was discussed. As well as the \$1 daily fee. Cari reminded the board that Chad can purchase up to \$500 for repairing machines without a vote. Cari will send Chad a copy of the by-laws. Chad would like people to text him when something breaks.
- Don Pentico: Don can get a new computer for the LGMS office. Our current tower was replaced a couple of years ago but uncertain about what is inside.
- Max Runnels: Should we obtain a copy of school regulations to put in "New Membership Packets"? Plus a copy to put on the wall that is not in the office. Max would like to designate a day to re-train current members. 1st Tuesday of the month?
- Jim Glassbrook would like to join the Potter Press Die Cut Club. \$60 a month to get 3 exclusive pieces, \$720 a year. He will put together a proposal for a General Meeting vote. Need a lock box, or drawer, to hold them in. Need 3-in-1 oil for them. (Max suggested a maintenance schedule.)
- Wire wrapping class Fridays in April. Taught by Jim G. Introductory class for 3 weeks. Open to members only.
- Joe and Cari: We need new 8' tables. Plastic craft tables are not strong enough. Please look on Marketplace and estate sales. Please get rid of any broken or unsafe chairs.
- Meeting wrapped up around 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cinda Wilson, Secretary

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



**Board Meeting only in February**  
**No General Meeting**

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.