

# The Living Stones

Page 1

Livingston Gem and Mineral Society June 2026

## President's Message

“Stories of imagination tend to upset those without one.” — Terry Pratchett

Greetings Members!

We held our May meeting on the 19th. Our June meeting will be held on Tuesday June 16th at 6 pm. at the shop. Snacks will be welcome! Please attend the meeting if you can!

Once again...Thanks to the 3 people that showed up to help with the May Thursday club maintenance. We have 300ish members...so yay! to the 1/100th . The maintenance day is designed to keep the pressure off the shop foreman so he will not crash out whilst providing everyone with a great space. We plan to change the filtration system, organize the educational displays as well as well as hang out with good company. Please show up to help if you are able.

We have another small list of folks that need training. As of right now we have about 4 people volunteering to train. Please sign up to help train if you can. Cinda will put you to work!

Much has been done to improve the shop experience. Thanks to all who contribute their time and energy to making a wonderful creative space!

## June shop hours

Monday 10 am - 8:30 pm  
Tues and Wed 9 am - 9 pm  
Thurs 9 am-9 pm - silversmiths  
and quiet activities 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 early. Be aware.

There must be at least 2 people in the shop at all times for safety while using the machines.

First Thursday of the month is maintenance day. Join us at 5 pm.



Cheers!  
Joe Musolf, President

## May 19, 2026, General Meeting Minutes

6 pm at the LGMS Workshop

**Roll Call:** Joe Musolf, Bryant Hiiter, Cari Jacob, Max Runnels, Cinda Wilson, Jim Glassbrook, Lavonne Foldenauer, Chad Brendel, Don Pentico. 15 members also attended.

Meeting started 6:01 pm. Cari Jacob made a motion to approve the March meeting minutes. 2nd by Linda LaChance.

### President's Report - Joe Musolf

#### Maintenance

"Maintenance Day" is the 1st Thursday of the month.

- \* The old 55 gallon drum was drained of the last oil.
- \* The oil in autofeed trim saw in the "middle room" was cleaned out and refilled.
- \* Joe rewired the second auto-feed saw.
- \* Jim Glassbrook lubed the Foredoms; they were dry. Increased frequency to lubing every 2 months instead.
- \* Discussed moving used diamond wheels up to a higher grit, instead of removing.
- \* General Membership decided we needed at least one 180 grit grinder, instead of phasing them all out.
- \* 60 grit diamond wheels are "really very loud", especially with agates, so most everyone was against trying one of those.
- \* Next Maintenance is June 4th. People can clean display cases and the office.

#### Spring Show

- \* Joe thanks all the members who participated.
- \* He would like ideas to do things differently next year, such as moving to an indoor venue.
- \* Invite all neighboring clubs.
- \* Holding in a different summer month? The weather is still volatile.
- \* Ruth can head up social media advertising.
- \* Max mentioned that Tik Tok involves a lot of video editing.
- \* We need to educate members how to share advertising on social media; it is key to getting more attendance.

### Vice President's Report - Bryant Hiiter

4H Training recently wrapped up. Only 2 nights were needed. Used to teach 30 kids over a decade ago, but fewer kids are involved nowadays. Bryant thanked all of the trainers.

\* Judy Paulson would like a more simplified menu for the Fall Show since profit margins are so low, and the more they serve, the more the permit costs. Tentative menu - Saturday hot dogs & nachos; Sunday Chili & nachos; pop and chips. There were food runners last year. LGMS does pay for use of the concession area which has a sink. The new manager at Wendy's did not give 4H free chili last year.

\* Bryant ordered more specimen boxes.

### Treasurer's Report - Cari Jacob

- \* Every Spring Cari contacts members who have not renewed their membership and asks them to empty their locking drawer. The membership list, Private Facebook group, and email list will be purged of unpaid members soon.
- \* The spring show had 13 members, 3 vendors, and 1 no-show.
- \* The large estate purchase has made \$13 K since last fall, minus expenses.

#### Fall Show:

- \* There are 16 vendor booths locations for the fall show. Only 1 is leftover.
- \* Paleo Joe will not sell this year. Joe knows another fossil vendor that might sell.
- \* The cost for tables will be the same as 2025.
- \* There was discussion about how much money should be given to our Midwest Federation delegate for travel expenses such as a hotel. Gas is a lot more money this year. A motion was made to give Bryant \$450 to attend the meetings on a Friday thru Sunday. 1st - Jim Glassbrook, 2nd - Jim Hansen. All in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

### Membership

- \* Training new members will resume in late May and last thru June.
- \* There are currently 20 people on the waiting list since late March.
- \* Previous members who have not been active for multiple years should take Part 1 training, but Part 2 is optional.
- \* Many trainers are busy or out of commission this June so we are looking for new trainers. Typical times are 10 am, 1 pm, and 6 pm, and it takes about 2 hours.
- \* Part 1 involves protective equipment, first aid, evacuation drills, etc. Students cut a Tiger Eye slab at the end. Part 2 is about making a cabochon, dopping, and reinforcing cleaning from Part 1.

**Shop Report - Chad Brendel**

- \* Chad thanked people who attended the Maintenance Day.
- \* We need new mop heads, and better hooks to hang the mops. The 2nd mop has disappeared so it needs to be replaced.
- \* We need new kitty litter. Please do not track oily footprints through the shop.
- \* The building administrator in charge of Rec & Ed brought her replacement around the shop during the 2nd week of May.

**Rubber mats**

- \* The condition of the rubber mats was discussed, as well as alternatives.
- \* Mats with holes were used in past and left down, but mold grew under them.
- \* Padded mats are good for feet and backs.
- \* A suggestion was made to use waterproof tape all around the edge and leave them down all of the time.
- \* One long mat would be too heavy.
- \* Cari will look in the U-line book for mats.

**Silversmith's Report - Lavonne Foldenauer**

- \* When the silver sheets were ordered last, Lavonne did not know that sterling would be ordered instead of Fine. She recommends buying 22 and 24 gauge for Sterling instead of 20 and 22 gauge to save money, and it is more durable/stronger.
- \* Lavonne can reduce 20 down to 24 gauge in the rolling mill.

**Rolling Mill**

- \* One rolling mill had a bushing shear off. Pepe Tools wants \$500 to fix it, but a new rolling mill can cost \$600.
- \* Cheap rolling mills are disposable.
- \* Lavonne has been looking at new ones from Otto Frie, Vevor, and Rio. She would like a US-made one, or a good quality one.
- \* Cinda made a motion that the club spend up to \$800 for a new one, and Jim Glassbrook wanted an amendment to be \$800 to \$1000 including shipping. 1st- Lavonne Foldenauer, 2nd - ?? all in favor, none opposed, the motion passed.
- \* It was suggested that the new rolling mill can only be used by people after getting a key to unlock it, and signing it out. To prevent abuse by unskilled users.
- \* Lavonne requests that people put away their clean dishes, instead of leaving them sitting out on the counter.

**Directors Comments****Max**

- \* He is working many hours at Home Depot and his schedule is not consistent.
- \* He would like to learn how to use the website for LGMS.
- \* He is asking for leads for full time jobs in design to apply for.

**Don**

- \* Has been super busy teaching faceting classes.

**Jim G**

- \* Chain Mail class is going well.
- \* This past Friday students learned a 2nd type of weave.
- \* Students texted him photos of their completed pieces and they looked great.
- \* He would like to teach another wire wrapping class in August.

**Old Business:**

- \* Photos for a new banner can be made at Eastern University but maybe not during the summer term.

**New Business:****September Show**

- \* Committee meetings need to start right away.
- \* Cari has made a new flyer which has kids' activities and free parking on it.
- \* Need to make advertising a focus.
- \* The club has a large Amethyst geode specimen from the estate purchase.
- \* Joe would like to find a great specimen to give as a special prize for joining the mailing list.
- \* The MMS fall sale last year had 2000 people attend, and it was mostly attributed to their email distribution.
- \* Max, Ruth, John Myer, and Marianna all work on technology but if they move on, how do we keep those skills?
- \* We need photos of the 1st thru 3rd place prizes for Cari to put on the show website.
- \* Joe went over the committees and people in them.
- \* We need a Volunteer Coordinator.
- \* Suggestions were made for the Pre-sale: that it is free for members and that it starts at 6 pm.
- \* Cari suggested that we have LGMS bucks this year, but people can only earn 1 per day. The bucks could also be used for specimens or slabs sold in the shop.
- \* No official changes until a later meeting with more members present.

(cont. page 4)

\* We need to do an inventory on T-shirts and replenish some sizes. Chad suggested that the T-shirts have "Livingston Gem and Mineral Society" spelled out on the shirt instead of (or in addition to) the abbreviation.

\* Sherry asked if Jane should purchase prizes as in years past. We won't need the cathedral this year.

#### June Meeting

\* Will be at the shop. The shop will close at 5:45 pm. Meeting starts at 6 pm. Snacks will be welcome.

\* Jim Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. 1st - Jim Glassbrook, 2nd - Barbara Kline. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 7:50pm

Respectfully Submitted, Cinda Wilson, Secretary

## Upcoming Events

**June 13, 2026, 9 am to 1 pm**

### **Indian Mounds Rock and Mineral Club Rock Swap**

Woodland Drive-In Church, 2600 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Contact: Kreigh Tomaszewski, (616) 243-5851; [kreigh@gmail.com](mailto:kreigh@gmail.com); [indianmoundsrockclub.com](http://indianmoundsrockclub.com)

**July 11, 2026, 10 am to 5 pm**

### **Flint Rock & Gem Club Rock Swap**

226 Pine St, Clio, MI 48420

Contact: Bill Wendling, (810) 638-5796; [bwrockbarn@century.net](mailto:bwrockbarn@century.net); [flintrockandgem.org](http://flintrockandgem.org)

**August 1, 2026, 9 am to 3:30 pm**

### **Ishpeming Rock & Mineral Club Annual Show**

Ishpeming Elks Lodge #447, 597 Lakeshore Dr, Ishpeming, MI 49849

Contact: Kirsten Maki, (540) 850-4170; [krmaki75@gmail.com](mailto:krmaki75@gmail.com); [www.ishpemingrocks.org](http://www.ishpemingrocks.org)

**August 7-9 2026**

### **Copper Country Rock & Mineral Annual Show**

Hancock High School, 501 Campus Dr, Hancock, MI 49930

Contact: Elizabeth Whelan, (269) 927-5079; [avocet13@yahoo.com](mailto:avocet13@yahoo.com); [ccrmc.info](http://ccrmc.info)



### **Safety Reminders:**

NO hair, jewelry, necklaces, loose clothing, etc. hanging forward when working with any machine, saw, grinder or torch. Hair band will be provided near the sign in sheet free for anyone needing it. (Please do not put used hair bands back)

Foot protection – NO open-toed footwear at all (flip flops, sandals etc.). Unfortunately you will be asked to get the proper footwear or leave the shop.

### 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	
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

### 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, imvm2227@gmail.com

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

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

**Webmaster:** John Myer, www.livingstongems

Email: LGMSMich@gmail.com

show website: lgmsrockshow.com

Instagram:livingstongems

General Membership Meetings are held monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 6 pm from  
February through November. Only the board meets in January.

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



**General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2026**  
**6 pm at the workshop**  
**Snacks will be welcome!**

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.