

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society September 2026

President's Message

"If you trust in yourself. . .and believe in your dreams. . .and follow your star. . . you'll still get beaten by people who spent their time working hard and learning things and weren't so lazy."

— Terry Pratchett, The Wee Free Men

Greetings Members!

Our show is fast approaching! September 19th and 20th. The show is run by club volunteers. Please sign up to help in whatever capacity is appropriate for you. There are signup sheets on the SignUpGenius that was sent to the email list as well as hard copies in the shop. Please bring food or snacks for yourself and our volunteers.

Thanks to all the folks who have already donated to the silent auction. We are shy of the amount we have had in previous years for the silent auction. Please get them in ASAP so Cari and Ruth can get them out for publicity.

Check out our show event page on Facebook. The more you share with friends, the more we get bumped up the algorithm and get exposure. Free advertising yea!

Friday September 18th at 6 pm to 7 pm we will open the club table to all members in good standing. We will have items from our 2025 sale, bulk material and slabs.

If each member had 3 people that they knew show up to the show in the fall we would have 900 additional attendees. That

surpasses last years attendance by 150ish. Therefore, we will give a free 2027 membership to the club member who has the most folks say that they were referred. We will have someone collecting names of the club member that referred them at the ticket booth.

Great work was done on the last Thursday maintenance. We are well positioned to show off our space.

Thanks Everyone!
See you all at the show....and bring your friends!

Cheers!

Joe Musolf, President



September 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.

LGMS General Meeting

August 18, 6:00 pm @ Settlers Park
Call to Order – 6:00 pm

Roll Call: a total of 22 Members + 1 guest.
Quorum: YES (5). Board present: Bryant Hiiter, Cari Jacob, Chad Brendal, Jim Glassbrook and Don Petico. Absent: Joe Musolf, Cinda Wilson, Lavonne Foldenauer, Max Runnels.
Marianna Z motioned and Jim G 2nd to approve last month's minutes with 2 corrections.
Guest secretary: Cari Jacob

President's Report – Joe Musolf/absent.

Vice President Report – Bryant Hiiter/reporting later in meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Cari Jacob

1. We are currently in good standing with all accounts
2. Reported up to date rock sales, exceeding purchase price!
3. Copper Earring class is full. Set for Tuesday, August 25, 1-4 pm.
4. All booths have been filled for fall show.
5. Contacted Comcast regarding a phone in the shop and had 6 pricing options which will be presented to the board and if doable, presented to general members at next meeting.
6. Training for new members has been delayed until after fall show. New member inquiries have been advised to come to the fall show and sign up then.

Shop Keeper – Chad Brendal

1. First of the month clean-up went well with around 10 attendees. They worked on a new filter system, traps under the sink and cleaned/sorted surrounding cupboards. Silversmith tool boxes were sorted and reorganized, hammers cleaned, and rolling mill and Fordham were given attention also. Thank you to all who showed up for this event!
2. Chad orders the majority of the shop supplies and he would like members help with the requests. He will need more info about what and where to purchase the item. Please assist him in that way!

Silversmith Report – Lavonne

Foldenauer/absent – Jim Glassbrook spoke on her behalf.

1. Despite all the work Lavonne and Jim do alone on the equipment, there are still areas that need attention from all who use the equipment in the silversmith area, including the kitchen. Cari J added comment for all members: "If you use dishes, wash them, dry them and put them away. I found a pile of dishes sitting out, today-Tuesday, and that many could not have been used on Monday?"
2. Jim G and Lavonne recently set up another torch that can be used for final detail soldering.
3. Current silversmith pickle situation is being investigated with a possible new supplier which would decrease the costs.

Directors' Comments: Max Runnels/absent, Lavonne Foldenauer/absent, Jim Glassbrook/present, Don Petico/present.

Don Petico comments:

1. Don thanks the members for the support they showed the faceting group with the purchase of 2 new faceting machines. He reports that they are a dream to work on and the quality of the machine is exceptional.
2. There are 2 weeks left on the Silent Auction in the shop of the 2nd faceting machine. If it has little or no response it will end up either sold on line or at the fall show.
3. Don has been restructuring the faceting area to make it more efficient. 12 members have been trained and 7 are currently in various stages of training. Dave Grimes has generously donated a used faceting machine to the club. Don is currently training faceting on Wednesdays and he is there from 9-4 during the day. A sign up waitlist is posted near the kitchen. Facet training is \$25 for 6 weeks.
4. Don is trying to set up a faceters guild. He recently repaired the old rolling mill that had incorrect material run through it.

Old Business –

1. Bryant H reports the old acetylene tanks, hoses and regulators are still in the shop and need to be removed. Don P will meet with Bryant and remove them to a safer location.
2. Jim G reports the 2nd wire wrap class is going well for most of the students.

New Business –

1. An electric melting furnace - a muffle kiln has been resurrected in the silversmith area but needs a new graphite crucible for it.
2. Jim G will change the dates for the next beginner chainmail class to the last 3 Thursdays in October 2026.
3. Don P made a request the club regarding the higher costs of faceting materials and the brand new equipment. Cari J made a motion: Starting September 1, 2026 all faceters who have graduated from training and want to use the club's machines will now pay \$2/day to the club. Don P 2nd. 22 members approved and motion was passed. (Meaning if a member is working on rocks/\$1, then silversmithing/\$2 and then works on faceting/\$2 during one day – they would pay \$5 to the club.)
4. Bryant H presented information about a recently viewed collection. In order to secure the collection for the club, Joe Musolf personally paid for the collection. There were some questions and concerns about the storage space, funds available for the purchase and how to financially keep track of this collection while also keeping track of the previous collection. Marianna Z made a motion: The club can purchase the collection from Joe Musolf for up to the price he paid for it. If Joe decides to keep some of the collection, a new assessment will be made for an adjusted price. Doug Hickey 2nd with 22 approved and 1 not approved. Motion passed with majority.

5. Bryant H requested the required volunteers for nominating committee. The nominating committee persons will inquire with the membership for anyone wanting to serve on the board, as two 1st year director positions will definitely need filling. All other positions are fulfilling their terms and can continue for 1

more year but others can run for the positions, as well. Jane Lerma and Marianna Z volunteered to be the nominating committee. Job descriptions from the bylaws will be posted in this newsletter.

Fall Show Update –

1. Jim M. inquired if we could have an area at the show where a DVD of jewelry school could be played with headphones. He would donate the DVD.
2. We need silent auction help and definitely more items as we currently have about 24 donations.
3. Friday setup helpers are to arrive at noon and wait until we can get into the gym.
4. The 4H group will be offering a smaller menu this year. chili, nachos, chips and drinks for one day, and hot dog, nachos, chips and drinks the other day.
5. Entrance fees as follows: \$7 for 18+ and anyone under 18 is free.
6. A member requested the SignUpGenius be started up soon for the volunteers. Cari J will ask Cinda W to start that for this year.

Adjournment 7:21 pm. Motion to end meeting - 1st by Chad Brendal 2nd by Bryant H. Motion passed with the majority.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cari Jacob, Guest Secretary





Upcoming Events

September 11 - 13, 2026

Toledo Gem and Rockhound Club Annual Show

Wood County Fairgrounds, Pratt Pavilion, 13800 W. Poe Road, Bowling Green, Ohio

Info: RockyReader.com, Jerri Heer, jheerxl@aol.com

September 12-13, 2026

Kalamazoo Geologic and Mineral Society tailgate sale

St Michael Lutheran Church, 7211 Oakland, Portage, MI

Info: Dave Haas, stonehouserock@cs.com

SEPTEMBER 19 – 20, 2026

LIVINGSTON GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW

VOLUNTEER! ENJOY! PARTICIPATE!

September 26 – 27, 2026

Flint Rock and Gem club Annual Show

Crossroads Village and Hucklebary Railroad, 6140 N. Bray Rd, Flint, MI 48505

Info: Bill Wendling, 810-638-5796, bwrockbarn@century.net, flintrockandgem.org

October 16 – 18, 2026

Central Michigan Lapidary & Mineral Society Annual Show

Ingham County Fairgrounds, 700 E. Ash St., Mason, MI 48854

Info: Robin Smith, (517) 290-4891; rsmith@radsmith.com; michrocks.org

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	
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

Vice President: Bryant Hiiter

Secretary: Cinda Wilson

Treasurer: Cari Jacob

Shop Foreman: Chad Brendel

Second year Directors: Lavonne Foldenaur
Max Runnels

First year Directors: Don Pentico
Jim Glassbrook

Note: The club's officers are available in person or
by sending an email to LGMSMich@gmail.com

Newsletter: Isla Mitchell

Historian: Chuck Amberger

Library: Bryant Hiiter

Webmaster: Maxwell Runnels

Web Resources: www.livingstongems.com

Email: LGMSMich@gmail.com

show website: lgmsrockshow.com

Instagram: livingstongems

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

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.

The following information is from the Bylaws sections which pertain to duties of the club's officers:

Bylaws SECTION IV OFFICERS

- a) Officers of the Society must be active Regular Members.
- b) All Officers shall enter upon their official duty on the first day of January of each year and shall serve for a term of one year, or until their successor shall be duly qualified and elected.
- c) Term of office for all officers shall be limited to two (2) consecutive 1 year terms and that of directors and Shop Foreman to a single two (2) year term, unless voted on by a majority of membership in attendance at the October meeting, to extend the length of term of office for present officers. Immediate Past President's term of office is one (1) year immediately following end of term and election of new president. If no other candidates step forward for a board position, the current officer may continue beyond their normal term.
 - 1) In event of Conflict of Interest, to the detriment of the club arising between related Board members/directors, the entire Board of directors may take action to resolve an issue by warning or an immediate decision.
- d) The President shall be the executive Officer of this Society, and shall preside over all Meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Standing Committees and shall perform each other duties as usually pertain to the office of President. He or she shall perform such duties as usually pertain to the office and as partially outlined below. The President shall keep minutes of the meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors, and such other records as the Board of Directors may designate, or the various committees may deposit with the Secretary. He or she shall submit to the Board of Directors all communications addressed to the Society. He or she or other elected member at the discretion of the President shall issue notices to Members or the Society by monthly newsletter or emails.
- e) The Vice President, in the absence of, or at the discretion of the President, shall preside at meetings of the Society and of the Board of Directors. The Vice President shall also act as the Chairperson of the Program Committee and shall plan the activities of the Society for the indoor meetings of the year with the help of a Committee appointed by him or her.
- f) The Treasurer shall receive all funds paid to the Society and shall deposit same in the official depository and shall disburse same only on order of the Board of Directors. At the discretion of the President, all checks over \$100.00 may be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by one of the duly designated Directors. Any charge of \$200 to \$499 shall be approved by the President or one of the executive officers. Any larger purchase, \$500 or more, must have approval by quorum of Executive Board and Directors. The Treasurer shall present all bills to the Board of Directors. His or her accounts and books shall at all times be open to inspection of the President, the Board of Directors and any authorized auditors. The treasurer shall make a financial report at the Annual Meeting of the Society, and at such times as the President or the Board of Directors may require. Nothing in the foregoing, however, shall be construed to prevent the payment of usual and normal expenses of staging the Annual Gem and Mineral Shows before formal approval of the Board of Directors, providing such expenditures are made known and properly accounted for to the Board of Directors at its next following meeting after the date of such expenditures.

- 1) The incoming Treasurer candidate must be able to submit a level 2 background check to the President/ Treasurer, which will be paid for by the club and returned to the applicant. The Nominating committee will then be informed if the nominee will be allowed to run.
- 2) Current Treasurer must submit a level 2 background check, (in the manner listed above: Section IV Officers f) 1) every two years.
- 3) For any large events with incoming totals of \$500 or more, it is required that the total count be signed off by the treasurer and one other board member on site.
- 4) A financial audit will be performed two (2) times per year with a board chosen auditing committee consisting of three (3) members. Preferable months would be April and November.
- g) The Shop Foreman will develop an inventory of equipment, budget and preventative maintenance plan to be presented to the Board of Directors annually or in special circumstances. The Shop Foreman will maintain the equipment in good working order.
- h) Two (2) directors shall be elected every year for a two (2) year term. The first year being served as a First Year Director, and then automatically moving to 2nd Year director for the remainder of the term. Any other elective positions shall be held at the Annual Meeting. (see Section IV OFFICERS c)
- i) At the August Meeting the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee. Nominations for Society Officers, Directors, and any other elective positions may be submitted to the Nominating committee at least fifty (50) days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting. Each nomination submitted to the Committee must have a verbal statement from the nominee to the Committee stating his or her willingness to serve in that office should he or she be elected.
- i) The Nominating Committee shall prepare a slate of nominees for the use of Members at the election. This slate shall also be delivered to the Secretary with a copy to the Editor for publication in the October and November issues of the Society Bulletin. Incumbents' names may appear in the October newsletter if there are no other volunteers for a board position before the October meeting. (See Page 8 Section IV OFFICERS section c).
- k) Members can be nominated for one office only.



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



General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026

(one week early to prepare for our Show)

6 pm in the shop

Snacks are 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.