

The Living Stones

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Livingston Gem and Mineral Society October 2026

President's Message

"Coffee is a way of stealing time that should by rights belong to your older self."

— Terry Pratchett, Thud!

Greetings Members!

This year's show went far better than could have been expected. Attendance was high and our members showed up in force! Thank you to all the members that made our show a success, each and every one of you made it possible... and we had a lot of fun. The specific details will be given at the next meeting on Tuesday October 20th 6 pm.

Once again our show has produced loads of folks who joined. We will be looking for people to train.

Please reach out to Cinda or me if you would like to help out. If you are a first time volunteer for training we will teach you the details that you will need to know.

Cheers!

Joe Musolf
President

October 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

Date: 09/08/20026

Location: LGMS Workshop

Meeting started 6:03 pm

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

Cari Jacob motioned to approve the August meeting minutes, 2nd by Chad Brendell. All in favor, the motion passed.

President's Report - Joe Musolf

The new "Schoolhouse Collection" of rocks and specimens was put into the large storage unit. Many crates and flats were moved to the workshop in preparation for the annual Rockhound's Dream Show.

"Maintenance Day"

- Thank you to people who have been showing up on the 1st Thursday of the month.
- There should be less to clean in the shop for the Big Show than previous years.

Treasurer's Report - Cari Jacob

- The checking and savings accounts are all in good standing, along with the CD.
- Cari has been replying to email about new memberships.
- One vendor cannot attend the show so his booth has been split into 2 fossil sellers.
- Steve Laut will do Flint Knapping this year.
- Sign Up Genius has lots of open slots remaining.
- Cari has updated the Tri-fold volunteer Board in the workshop.
- If people volunteer all 3 days at the show, they will receive \$30 in "LGMS Bucks".

Volunteers for Show - Cinda Wilson

- Board members called or texted most members to get more volunteers.
- Typically for every 30 people called, only 3 will sign up. So, only 10% of people who have not already volunteered.
- Cinda set up a display in the large glass case at the front of the school.

Shop Report - Chad Brendel

- A lot of good cleaning happened on Sept 3rd.
- Chad bought new battery powered LED light

strips for the display cases. The old electrical wiring for the cabinets will not be removed for now.

- The floors will be cleaned and tape put back down on 9/17.
- Chad will keep new Fabuluster and Zam in the drawer with the dop wax.

1st Year Director - Jim Glassbrook

- There is a new box for storing the rolling mill plates.
- Potter Press
 - Dies are posted every month on Facebook.
 - Jim or Lavonne can train members to use the Potter Press and document in the binder.
 - Pancake dies cut shapes out. Others emboss. Some sets do both. For embossing, you must anneal your metal first!
 - It is important to stay centered and not over-torque.
 - Anneal, pickle, dry off, repeat as necessary.
 - Many materials aid in pressing shapes such as leather, recycled lead, and diced plastic pieces.
 - To turn our manual press into a motorized one would cost about \$2000 to upgrade, and oil would be needed for maintenance.

1st Year Director - Don Pentico

- The rolling mill has been fixed. We now have 2 working.
- We could add a faceting report at meetings.
- There are 4 new students since last month.
- There are a couple of people on the waiting list.
- We need a better place to store accessories.
- Don was just certified as a faceting instructor.
- The faceting fee is \$25 and new students cut 2 marbles and a gem. The 1st marble takes about 3 weeks.
- The daily fee has increased to \$2 per day for faceting.
- Don wants to move all his classes to Thursdays since it is too busy on Wednesdays.

Old Business:

New Member Training

- Part A involves safety, cleaning, and school protocols.
 - There was a school tornado drill this summer.
- Part B teaches students how to make a cabochon.

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(minutes cont.)

- Joe proposed only teaching Part B to students who want to learn cab making, but not make it mandatory for everyone.
 - When people sign up we would record their preferred training subject matter.
 - People could sign up for Part B during their Part A class.
 - The training binder would be used to sign-off the areas they learned. The Potter Press is already on the Metalsmithing forms.
 - Theresa offers to train members on the trim saws on Tuesday mornings.
 - Cinda would like Part B to be available to all the new members who sign up at the show, and obtain volunteers for it.
 - Cari will keep track of emails for members who only want to learn metalsmithing.
 - Joe wants Part B to have a 3-hour time slot, instead of 2 hours.

New Business:

Notes about the 2026 show

- Wood signs will go out tonight.
- Flags will go out on the day of the show.
- Cari bought duct tape for the floor mat seams in the gym.
- No workshop rock machines will be used after cleaning at 5 pm on 9/17.
- Metalsmithing and Faceting can still happen on 9/18 but teachers and students will clean up afterwards.
- T-shirts have arrived.
- Bulk rock in milk crates are ready to go out to the Club Table.
- Specimen flats are already priced.
- Friday night a Member Sale will take place from 6-7pm.
- Chad recommended selling bulk rock in the shop after the show is over.
- The night of 9/19 almost all unsold rock at the Club Table will go back to the storage unit.
- The morning of 9/20 new rock from the storage unit will be sold at the Club Table, to encourage repeat attendance.
- Reduced admission price for 2 day entry was discussed. Use 3 different colors of wristbands. One color would be a 2 day entry color. Cost would be \$10 for both days.

- Joe would like the member who gets the most show referrals to get a reward such as a free membership for 2027. Cari was concerned that it would be hard to keep track of, since there is so much going on at the admission table already (what with selling drawing tickets).
- There is a new banner to display at the Club Table. It has a photo of rocks on the beach of Lake Superior.
- Garage Sale type signs will go out the morning of the show.
- Cinda suggested putting signs out near the Saturday Hartland Farmer's Market. There are already some people selling rocks there.

New Rock Collection Purchased

- LGMS paid \$7K for the collection.
- A big thank-you to Joe and Bryant for going to see the collection a couple of hours away.
- Thank you to Joe for originally buying it and transporting over 300 cases to the storage unit.
- The storage unit is very full now.
- It was purchased too recently to be available to sell at the show this year. It will be available at next year's show.
- The previous large rock collection we purchased, made \$15K for the club in one year and it was purchased for \$10K, and there is still 90% remaining. Future sales will not be distinguished from that older collection since the club has made its money back.

Other New Business:

- Comments were made that faceting is a vibrant new portion of the club.
- Jim J mentioned that some clubs have rocks for sale to the general public across the country.
- Don P will see if LGMS will be allowed to store faceting machines in the adjoining room.

Don Pentico made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim Johnson 2nd. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cinda Wilson, Secretary

Board Positions Available

The LGMS nominating committee is looking for more members who would like to be elected to board positions in 2027. Please talk to the nominating committee (Marianne Ziegler-Hickey or Jane Lerma) and let them know as soon as possible what position you would like to run for. You can also ask any board member to pass along your name.

Names of people running for election must appear in the November newsletter, since the vote will be held at the November meeting.

Jim Glassbrook and Don Pentico will automatically become 2nd year directors (graduating from 1st year directors). Theresa Hayes and Jane Lerma are both running for 1st year directors so far.

Other positions include: president, vice president, treasurer, secretary and shop foreman. There is a vetting process so time is of the essence. Thanks you so much for considering contributing your precious time for the benefit of our society.



Upcoming Events

October 9 - 11, 2026

Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Show

Macomb Community Sports and Expo Center Parking, G23H+C6, Warren, MI 48088
Info: John Peters, (313) 255-7774; joopett13@hotmail.com; www.michmin.org/show-in

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

November 8, 2026, 10 – 5 pm

Mid-Michigan Rock Club Annual Show

Chippewa Nature Center, 400 S. Badour Rd, Midland, MI 48640
Info: Heather Sheets, (989) 708-7119

November 9, 2026, 7:30 – 9:30 pm

Michigan Mineralogical Society Annual Auction

Cranbrook Institute of Science Parking Garage, 39221 Woodward Ave, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
Info: David Lurie, (248) 224-0752; dlurie2001@comcast.net; www.michmin.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	
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 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.

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



General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 20, 2026

6 pm in the shop

Participate! Enjoy the company! 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.