# The Living Stones



## President's Message

"There isn't a way things should be. There's just what happens, and what we do."

– Terry Pratchett, A Hat Full of Sky

Greetings Members!

Happy early Thanksgiving to all!

Thanks to Don for convincing the school to allow us to rent the side room for the storage of materials and our faceting supplies. We will be moving things from storage lockers to the in-shop storage this month.

Our training has been going well. Thank you to Cari and Cinda for all their time facilitating the training, and all the trainers for getting our new members squared away. Remember that there may be folks who need some assistance around the shop.

Welcome to all the new members!!!!!

The next meeting is on Tuesday November 17th, 6 pm. We will have a raffle for some slabs etc!

Cheers!

Joe Musolf
President

**November 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.

**Note: the shop will be closed on Thanksgiving and on the Friday after Thanksgiving.**



## LGMS General Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/17/2026
Meeting started 6:04pm
Roll Call: Officers: Joe Musolf, Bryant Hiiter, Cari Jacob, Chad Brendel, Cinda Wilson, Jim Glassbrook.

Cari Jacob motioned to approve the September meeting minutes, 2nd by Jim Glassbrook. All in favor, the motion passed.

### President's Report - Joe Musolf

"Maintenace Day"
- Will happen on Nov 5th at the storage unit. Joe has a large trailer. Theresa volunteered her truck to move items if needed.
- New flats of rocks and specimens will be brought to the workshop.
- There will be a class in the shop that day as well.

New storage room/closet
- Rent is $40 per month
- Used to hold faceting machines and supplies
- Lots of cabinet drawers which are deep. Can store a lot of flats in the room.
- The small storage unit will be eliminated in the spring.
- The large storage unit will be reorganized, and the shelving units from the small unit will go inside.

Two Display cabinets available
- One is a large glass storefront cabinet, priced at $50 to the first person to contact Joe.
- The other is a tall particle board cabinet with shelves, available free to the first person to contact Joe.
- They must be hauled away by the buyer.

### Treasurer's Report - Cari Jacob

- The checking and savings accounts and CD are all in good standing.
- The 2026 Rockhound's Dream Show profits were about the same as last year.
- Jim Merrada had the most referrals at the show so he won free membership for 1 year.
- Only 6 visitors took advantage of the special 2-day admission.
- Attendance for both days was 573, which is less than last year. There were 2 other shows that weekend, located in Holland and Belleville. Gas prices were high.
- There were approx. 42 volunteers on Friday, 65 on Saturday, and 45 on Sunday. (Joe says "Thank you" to all who helped out).
- 152 "LGMS Bucks" were given out.
- "LGMS Bucks" are also given out on Maintenance Day.
- Credit Card sales were less than 2025 on Saturday, but higher on Sunday.
- The opal vendor did not show due to car trouble. His spot was given to 2 substitutes. We need to develop a better cancellation policy and put it in the contract for 2027. Bryant was concerned that this would turn off vendors, but noted that empty tables at the show look really bad. We don't want vendors quitting in the last month to switch to other shows.
- We can contact other clubs early in the year, and communicate our show date, to try to reduce duplicate shows on the same weekend.
- By the end of the show, only 5 vendors took advantage of the reduced booth fee, and renewed for 2027. Half of what it was last year.
- Joe mentioned having a "Rock Swap" or large Members Only sale with ALL of the Michigan clubs as a possible future event.
- The Midwest Federation has a website with all the rock show dates listed.

### New Member Training - Cinda Wilson

- 35 new members signed up at the show.
- 18 people from the waiting list have also been invited to sign up for training. (Thru Oct 8th.)
- Part B training is now optional, but members cannot grind or polish rocks unless they have taken the class.
- We are down from 12 trainers to 8. Thankfully, Cari has taken on weekly Part A training, or we would not be able to take on so many at once. Joe has also taken on a lot of classes.
- If anyone would like to be a trainer, please let Cinda know.

**Shop Report - Chad Brendel**

● A lot of new members happen to have the name Chris.��
● Thank you to everyone who volunteered for "1st Thursday" maintenance. We need more email reminders.
● The mats will be taped down on all sides soon. Taping just the ends allowed too much water to get trapped underneath.
● Jim Glassbrook is now the Friday opener. Theresa can be a back-up.
● We might need a bearing puller to fix one of the Poly machines.
● We need a knowledgeable machinist or repair person. Gayland and Ed might have some advice.
● Joe learned a technique to fix bent trim saw blades.
● We need a new laminated sign to let people know that they cannot grind rocks that do not fit under the wheel. People can use the flat lap, or use their own machine for larger rocks, or cut them smaller.
● Reminder: The Kingsley North machine needs to be emptied, and refilled when people are done using it. It also needs to be cleaned out.
● Everyone should be cleaning throughout the day so it isn't all left for evening people.
● Do not put the flat laps away when they are wet; they will rust.

**Silversmiting - Jim Glassbrook**

● There is a brand new planisher. Do not use a hammer on it. Your metal must be dry, to use it. Use 3 in 1 Oil on top and bottom faces. Make sure your metal has no dust on it.
● The Chainmail class is full. It starts on November 5th.
● The faceting machines are now stored in the extra room.
● The ring stretcher and rolling mill are nowThere was a short tour of the new storage room. bolted down.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

● Chad asked about getting a little band saw for cutting rocks, but the blades are too fragile to put up with the abuse in the shop. The blade would break all of the time, and they cost a lot ($70-$120 per blade).
● On December 12th there will be a craft show throughout the school building. "Winter WimsyMarketplace". Just in case members are interested in participating.
● The November meeting will have voting for next year's board members. There is no competition for positions.
● The holiday party will be held on Wednesday, December 16th.
○ Items from the new "Schoolhouse Collection" will be in a large silent auction.
○ There will be lapidary contests.
○ We are allowed to use the stage area.
○ The cost to attend will be $10 **pre-paid** to offset some of the catering bill by Red Olive. A motion was made by Cari Jacob and Jim Glassbrook 2nd. All in favor, the motion passed.
○ Swearing-in for 2027 officers.
○ The gift exchange is only for members who bring a gift, valued at $10 or much more.
○ Cari will need a volunteer to help her with many tasks.
○ Jim G agreed to be Santa's Elf again this year, and give out tickets for the gift exchange.
○ Members may bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres.
○ Jane volunteered to make centerpieces. balloons and no candles. Theresa has a lot of materials.
○ Ann Marie had an idea for a compliment comment box to be put in the shop, for what people are working on, or helping out, to be read at the party. Could be called the "Good Vibes" box.

At 7:12 pm motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cari Jacob, 2nd by Cinda. All in favor, the motion passed. Adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submited,
Cinda Wilson, Secretary

## Board Positions Election

Elections for the two first year board positions will be held at the November General Meeting.
The two candidates are
**Jane Lerma**
**Theresa Hayes**
Please attend the meeting and vote!
Kudos to all our club officers !!!




## Upcoming Events

**November 7, 2026, 6 – 9 pm**
**Midwest Mineralogical and Lapidary Society's Annual Auction**
Democratic Club of Taylor, 23400 Wick Rd, Taylor, MI 48180
Contact: Dwayne Ferguson, (313) 550-9809; shelby0671111@yahoo.com; www.mmls.us

**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 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 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 Chair persons**

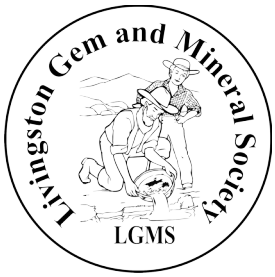
**President:** Joe Musolf
**Vice President**: Bryant Hiiter
**Secretary**: Cinda Wilson
**Treasurer**: Cari Jacob
**Shop Foreman:** Chad Brendel
**Second year Directors:** Lavonne Foldenaur
Jim Glassbrook
**First year Directors:** Don Pentico
Max Runnels
Note: The club's officers are available in person 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, November 17, 2026
6 pm in the shop
Elect new officers! 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.
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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.