



Snoopy Gems

Volume 45 Number 5 May 2019
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

Presidents Message

Hello Members,

This month we get back to the regular practices of our club, workshops and learning. You know, the fun stuff.

Last month's mini show was successful for most of the participants, the fund raising for the library and to make the public aware of us. We signed on a few new members and we hope to see them at our regular meetings.

In addition, at this month's meeting, I plan to discuss with the members a few ideas that were raised at the last board meeting. I know, business is never all that fun. So I will try to make it as quick and painless as possible.

I'll see you all on Saturday.

Thank you,

Patrick Barrett
MGCGMS President

Workshop:

Our May 11 wire wrap workshop project will be a silver bracelet. It uses pattern wire, 21 ga SQ wire (~32"), 20 ga HR (~26") and 18 ga R (6"). Kits and patterns will be available for \$10.00. For those of you who have your own SQ, HR AND R wire, I will provide the pattern wire and pattern for \$5.00. To ensure that I have enough wire, I need to know who wants to do this project and the size bracelet you want to make. Email me with your name and size to dwcook@cablone.net or text me a 228-341-9944.

This is not a difficult project but to make this bracelet you need to know how to wrap a bundle. If you have not wire wrapped before, I suggest that you just observe. Please bring your tools, a ruler and a marking pen.



Machines: As always, we will have the club machines available for metal & gemstone testing, gemstone cutting, and cabling.

David W. Cook
228-341-9944
dwcook@cablone.net

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566



Meeting Minutes:

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

March 9, 2019



Called to order: 12:36

Members in attendance: 23

Meeting: President Patrick Barrett called the meeting to order. Patrick welcomed all the new members.

Minutes to Accept: A motion was made to accept the February minutes by Lisa Fitch & 2nd by Barbi Betty. Motion carried.

Treasury Report: Gem club & Gem show account reported by Barbi Beatty. A motion was made to accept by Bill LaRue & 2nd by Lisa Fitch. Motion carried.

General Announcements: Picnic sign up: Lisa Fitch has a list for all members to sign up for dish to bring to picnic on Sat. March 30, 2019.

Spring Mini show: "Libraries Rock" Gem & Jewelry Fair on Sat, 4/13/19 in Library from 10 am to 3 pm. Advertisement by library.

Workshops: David Cook taught beginners how to wire wrap a pendant & Lisa Fitch taught how to string a beaded bracelet.

Library: Liz Platt has library & will purchase a rolling cart to keep all items in. Rock & Gem magazine to be ordered for club by Barbi Beatty.

Sunshine: Reba Shotts reported that all was good.

Tools & Equipment: An updated tool list & procedures will be completed by tool committee. Some equipment to be serviced. A motion was made by Bill White & 2nd by Bill LaRue for Vicki Reynolds to store all equipment. Motion carried. A second motion was made by Bill LaRue seconded by Lisa Fitch for Vicki Reynolds to store & transport saws, cabbing machines & supplies & for Buddy Shotts to store & transport faceting machines & supplies & John Guglik to store & transport testing equipment. Motion carried.

Membership, Newsletter, badges, etc.: Name badges are \$6.60 each. Membership dues \$16.00 (individuals) & \$20.00 (family).

Education & Projects: Dave Cook will hold a "Gilligan's Box" for any findings, beads, etc which are donated by members to this box.

Outside Classes; Workshop Programs: Natalie Webb to teach a class on upcycled wine bottles at SAS in Long Beach on 5/4/19, \$50.00. Vicki Reynolds teaching how to make a pendant on 3/23/19 at River Art Gallery. Faceting classes taught by Buddy Shotts to start up again on Tuesdays.

Old Business: Natalie Webb working on ideas to get speakers for our meetings. She has several ideas in the works. More info to follow. Bill LaRue stated he has several contracts coming in for the Magnolia Gem show so far.

New Business: Board Meeting: Board Meeting to be held on Sunday, 3/24/19 at 11:30 am at McAlister's in Ocean Springs.

Gemstone Education: John Guglik & Bill LaRue spoke about March Gem "Aquamarine".

Door prizes: Several items raffled off & winners were: Ed King, Rich Hart, Claire Martin, Belinda Marcum, Dave Cook & David Spencer.

Adjournment: 2:03 pm. Motion made by Vicki Reynolds & 2nd by Barbi Beatty. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Report by: Cheryl Rodriguez MGCGMS Secretary.

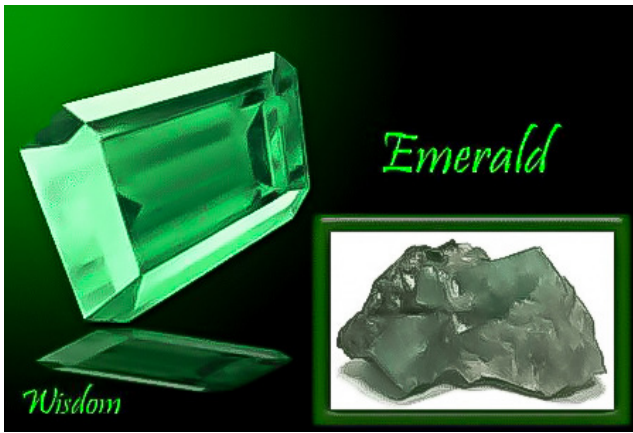


Happy

May

Birthday

Jack Arias Tammy Crump Kathy Lounsberry
Melanie Matson Lisa Moon Wanda Sigler Buddy Shotts



By: John Wright, RPG



El Perfecto – Martin Zinn collection
Photo by Jeff Scovil (1990)

Emerald is the birthstone for May and in many cultures the symbol of Springtime, youth, and eternal love. Astrologists believe that emeralds have clairvoyance and prophetic powers. The name “emerald” is derived

from French “esmeraude” via Latin to the Greek root “smaragdos” meaning green stone. Rooted in antiquity they were used as gemstones by the Pharaohs of Egypt, the High Priests of ancient Central and South American societies, and worldwide by kings and potentates throughout history.

The few Biblical references that many ascribe to emeralds are questionable and while possible, it is more than likely that the gems were feldspars (Amazonite ?) or some other common variety of green stone. It should also be noted that Biblical and many other ancient references did not always consider emeralds to be green or in the beryl family, but just beautiful stones.

While emeralds are a green variety of beryl not all green beryl is emerald. The chemical composition of emeralds which includes chromium normally gives them a soft lustrous green color (emerald green). Often green beryl (no chromium) is commonly accepted as emeralds. Yellow-green or olive heliodors from Brazil, which contain traces of iron instead of chromium, are also sold as emeralds. Now, just to muddy the water up a little bit and add to the challenge, you cannot use color alone to identify emeralds. Light to medium shades of emerald

and darker shades of green beryl and heliodors can make identification extremely difficult. All are species of the beryl family and many of their physical properties are the same.

Physical properties

Family: Beryl

Chemical Composition: Silicate of
Beryllium & Aluminum
– w – Chromium.
 $\text{Be}_3(\text{AlCR})_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$

Crystal System: Hexagonal prism with
tabular habit, flat well
terminated surfaces,
etching, and growth
marks

Birefringence: 0.06

Refractive Indices: Variable from
ne 1.560, nw 1.570 to
ne 1.595, nw 1.602

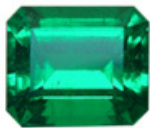
Density: 2.67 – 2.72 g/cm³ normally,
can be as much as 2.90 g/cm³

Hardness: 7.5 – 8 (often brittle)

Cleavage: Imperfect or ill-defined,
parallel to basal plane

Pleochroic: Intensity varies according
to body color from weak to
distinct

All emeralds have inclusions, but in the better-quality stones they are very faint and not visible to the naked eye. The most common shape for gem stones is the step or trap cut which is also known as the “emerald cut”.



Step or Emerald Cut

Antique emeralds are found with hexagonal step cuts, pear shapes, and made into cabochons with a hole in them for use as a pendant. Early jewelry worn by royalty and priests in Pre-Columbian Central and South America used matched uncut emerald crystals mounted on a horizontal axis to the necklace or bracelet strand with a larger emerald or medallion at the center. These stones were normally tied on with gold wire, but on some occasions, they were drilled.



One of the largest emeralds in the world is the “Mongol Emerald” and originally belonged to an Indian Maharaja. It dates back to the year 1695, weighs 217.80 carats and is about 10 cm high. This stone was auctioned by Christie’s of London and purchased by an anonymous buyer for 2.2 million U.S. dollars about 20 years ago.

Emeralds are one of the oldest gemstones and deposits are found widely dispersed around the world. We know that they were mined by Egyptians along the Red Sea during the reign of the Pharaohs and by the Incas and Aztecs a thousand years before Columbus discovered America, so the question arises, why are they so expensive. The majority of emeralds found are not of gem quality, the ones that are of gem quality are usually small and most importantly there is a huge market. All things being equal (quality, size, weight, etc.), emeralds are equal too or even more expensive than diamonds.

Most of us know that the majority of gem quality emeralds come from South America and that the Emerald Capitol of the world is Bogota, Columbia. Small deposits have been found in many other areas of the world but they are usually small and of poor quality. There are exceptions and some of the larger more famous emeralds were found in Africa and northern India, but deposits in these areas were limited and for the most part larger gemstones were mined out many years ago.

The magical lure of the emerald is still as strong as ever and there are still many people willing to risk everything to find them. I think most of us have heard the story about the individual in western North Carolina who after many years of frustration and near bankruptcy finally located a deposit that contained gem quality material, some quite large and of considerable value. Deposits have also recently been found in Alaska, but my understanding is that while they contain gem quality emeralds most are small. Rumors also persist that deposits are known to exist in the Pacific Northwest. I know that there are a lot of people hunting for them, but I have not heard of any actually being found.

Harrison County

PRESENTS

40th Annual Gem & Jewelry Show

May 18 & 19, 2019

Saturday

9 – 5pm

Adults - \$5.00 / Kids age 10 & under - Free

** * * Door Prizes Hourly * * **

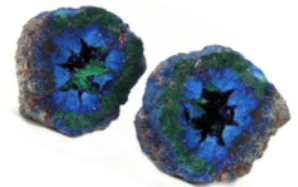
Sunday

9 – 4pm



Joppa Shrine Temple

13280 Shriners Blvd. Biloxi, Ms.
North of I-10 / Woolmarket Exit # 41



Jewelry * Rocks * Gems * Beads * Fossils * Minerals



Bring Flyer for \$1.00 Off

Displays

Exhibits

Kids Corner

Stump
the
Expert!

Demonstrations

Gem & Mineral Society



Visit our Website: www.gulfportgems.org or Facebook at www.facebook.com/gulfportgems

Information Provided by: Lisa Fitch

Up Comming Shows

May 10, 11, & 12, 2019

**Mother's Day Gemboree Franklin,
NC
Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin,
NC**

Fri. & Sat., May 10th & 11th, 10:00 AM -
5:00 PM
Sun., May 12th, 10:00 AM- 4:00PM
Carpenter Community Center, 1288
Georgia Rd. (US441), Franklin, NC

No admission charge, indoor, climate
controlled, rough and finished
gemstone and jewelry, minerals, fossils
and demonstrations.
Contact: 828.369.7831
Franklingemsociety@gmail.com

May 10, 11, 12, 2019

**The Georgia Mineral Society's
51st Annual Mother's Day Weekend
Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, and Fossil
Show**

Cobb Civic Center
548 South Marietta Pkwy SE
Marietta, GA 30060

Show Hours

Friday: 10 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 6 pm
Sunday: Noon - 5 pm

Fossil & Gem EXCITING AUCTION
Saturday at 1 pm!!!
FREE Admission!

FREE Parking!

Over 30 Dealers! Door Prizes! Grab Bags!
T-shirts!
SPECIAL Door Prize for Students!
Win a Great Prize for Yourself and for
Your School!

Show contact: Shelley Stubbs, Show Chair
Email address: mayshow@gamineral.org
GMS Website: <http://www.gamineral.org>

May 18 - 19, 2019

**Harrison County Gem & Mineral So-
ciety
34th Anniversary Gem, Mineral and
Jewelry Show**

JOPPA Shrine Temple, 13280 Shriners
Blvd, Biloxi, MS.

Saturday 9AM - 5PM & Sunday 9AM -
4PM
adults \$5, children (10 and under) free
with adult

Jewelry / Rocks / Gems / Beads / Fossils /
Minerals

Demonstrations, Displays, Exhibits,
Stump the Expert,
Kid's Corner and Door Prizes Hourly

Discount Coupon available at Facebook
and Website
Facebook: facebook.com/gulfportgems
Website Information: www.gulfportgems.org
E-mail: gulfportgems.show@gmail.com

Annual Picnic



Our picnic was another success this year. We had visitors from The Mobile Rock & Gem Society along with some members from the Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society. As always, we had a great time.

Thanks to all who donated a covered dish, to our chefs who volunteered to cook for us, and to all who helped with the setup/cleanup process. Special thanks to Barbie who carts this stuff to and from our picnic each year.

We are booked for next year on April 4th, 2020, the first Saturday of April. We always have good participation from our members. I am hoping next year to include some fun game.

Thanks,
Lisa Fitch



1st Annual SFMS Rockhound Roundup



Hosted by Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

May 17-19, 2019.

Spirit of the Swannnee Music Park 3076 95th Dr.
Live Oak, Florida 32060

Space available to all members of the Southeast Federation affiliated Clubs. Applications will be accepted until all spaces are filled. All Visitors welcome for an old fashioned Roundup and Rock Swap. Additional information and applications will be available on the SFMS website:
<http://www.amfed.org/sfms>

Library Rocks Mini Show was a success! We would like to thank the Ocean Springs Library for hosting this event. Thanks to everyone who worked hard to make it happen. 14 Members from our club MGCMS and our sister club HCGMS set up booths to sell and share their beautiful creations. Other club members came to support the event by demonstrating and promoting our club. We will be welcoming 10 new members thanks to the event.



Photo's by Claire Martin

We always welcome new members!



Date _____ Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society

http://www.mgcgms.org		Application for Membership
Individual: \$16.00	Individual +1 relative Same Address: \$20.00	Junior Under 18: \$6.00
Name: _____		Cell: _____
Name: _____		Cell: _____
Address: _____		Home Phone. _____
City: _____		
State: _____	Email 1: _____	
Zip: _____	Email 2: _____	
Members Birthdays		
Adult: _____	Birthday M/D: _____	
Adult: _____	Birthday M/D: _____	
Junior: _____	Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Junior: _____	Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Please Check All Applicable Interests		
<input type="radio"/> Beading	<input type="radio"/> Cabbing	<input type="radio"/> Jewelry Making
<input type="radio"/> Chain Mail	<input type="radio"/> PMC	<input type="radio"/> Lapidary
<input type="radio"/> Field Trips	<input type="radio"/> Faceting	<input type="radio"/> Minerals
<input type="radio"/> Fossils	<input type="radio"/> Wire Wrapping	<input type="radio"/> Silver Smithing
<input type="radio"/> Others: _____		
How did you hear of us? _____		
Please check the following: <input type="radio"/> I understand that my picture or likeness may be used in Society promotions. <input type="radio"/> I authorize MGCgms to include my contact information be included in Society listings for members to contact each other only.		
Signature: _____		
Signature: _____		

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc.
P.O. Box 857 Ocean Springs MS 39566
mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Snoopy Gems
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AFFILIATIONS

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Soci-
eties, Inc.
The American Federation of Mineralogical Societ-
ies, Inc.
S.C.R.I.B.E. (Special Congress Representing In-
volved Bulletin Editors)

OFFICERS 2018

President	Patrick Barrett (228) 96-8270
Vice President	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Secretary	Cheryl Rodriguez (773) 504-4939
Parliamentarian	Dave Cook (228) 875-2570
Editor	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Web master	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Member at Large	Mark Daynes (228) 383-7940
Member at Large	Natalie Webb (228) 355-4100

COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Show Chairman	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Historian	Lettie White (228) 875-8716
Librarian	Open
Sunshine	Reba Shotts (601) 947-7245

AFFILIATIONS

ALAA	John Wright: Director
SFMS	John Wright: Past President
SFMS	Barbi Beatty: Treasurer & Insurance Liaison
SFMS	Buddy Shotts: Long-range Planning, Past President, State Director

Annual dues are:
\$16 Individual
\$20 (2) Members in same house hold
\$6 Junior

2019 Workshop/Meeting Dates

January 12 OS Library 9:30-3:45
February 9 Pink Rooster 9:30-3:45
March 9 OS Library 9:30-3:45
March 30 Club Picnic Seashore
Methodist Pavilion 11:00-4:00
April 13 OS Library Mini Show 9:30-4:00
May 11 OS Library 9:30-3:45
June 8 OS Library 9:30-3:45
July 13 OS Library 9:30-3:45
August 10 OS Library 9:30-3:45
September 14 OS Library 9:30-3:45
October 12 OS Library 9:30-3:45
November 7 After Vendor Dinner 5ish
December 14 Christmas Party OS
Library 11:00am-3:30pm

Dates subject to change.

Be sure to check each month!

The November meeting is the Thursday
evening of the gem show after the dinner
for the dealers at the Jackson County
Fairgrounds Civic Center Building.

December will be our
Christmas Party and Installation of
Officers

May 2019

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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<http://www.mgcgms.org>



The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society is a Non-profit Organization Dedicated to Education, Science, and the Lapidary Arts and Crafts

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