



Snoopy Gems

Volume 45 Number 8 August 2019
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

Presidents Message

Hello Members,

Looking forward to see everyone for the August meeting and workshop. Barbara Saavedra will be teaching a beading project.

It is time to get ready for our November Show. Please think about what you would like to donate for our raffle. Lisa Fitch will be handing out the raffle tickets so everyone can start selling them. Also please think about what area of the show want to work and what days and times you can be there.

There is still an opening for Vice President if anyone would like to be considered for the office please let me know.

We will have Silver, Gold filled, and Copper wire available to purchase for your projects and upcoming workshops.

Patrick Barrett
MGCGMS President

August Workshop:

Project: Barbara Saavedra will be teaching a beautiful beaded bracelet.

Supplies:

14 Silky Beads
5g Superduos
2g #11 seed beads
4 4mm closed jump rings
2 open jump rings
1 clasp
2 beading needles
#6 or #8 fireline

Scissors

The silky beads and superduos should be available at Hobby Lobby



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

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Meeting Minutes:

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

July 13, 2019



Called to order: 1:00 pm

Members in Attendance: 18

Meeting: President Patrick Barrett called the meeting to order. Patrick stated a registered letter was sent to Bill LaRue requesting that his resignation be put in writing. Bill La Rue has not responded.

Minutes to Accept: A motion was made to accept the June minutes by Barbi Beatty and 2nd by Liz Platt. Motion carried.

Treasury Report: Reported by Barbi Beatty. Some reimbursements were made for items for the club. A motion was made to accept by Buddy Shotts & 2nd by Vicki Reynolds. Motion carried.

General Announcements: Vicki Reynolds reported that she set up an account with Kingsley North for the club for all members to use but pay for own orders.

Reports: Workshops: Natalie Webb taught how to make copper etching bracelets.

Gem Show: Barbi Beatty reported that some additional contracts came in. Vicki Reynolds has also reached out to several vendors. Space is still available. Members were asked to start making jewelry items for the raffle.

Library: Liz Platt did not bring to meeting today. A CD was donated to the library from Vicki Reynolds.

Sunshine: Reba Shotts reported Jane Cook is doing well.

Tools & Equipment: John Guglik reported machines are working & new blades received. Vicki Reynolds made a list of current tools owned by club.

Membership, Newsletter, Badges, etc: Debbie stopped by the club to see about joining. She stayed for lunch & meeting & will contact Barbi Beatty if interested. At September meeting a vote on bylaw change Member at Large will be proposed by Barbi Beatty. Proposed change: Members at large will serve two year terms and will be elected on alternate years.

Education, Projects & Speakers for Meetings: Buddy Shotts is teaching a class on cabochons at Wildacres. Natalie Webb emailed GIA Lady in LA & may speak at our Sept. meeting. The SFMS has CD's & DVD's for our club to borrow if interested.

Outside classes & workshop programs: A member asked about field trips? Buddy Shotts stated that the club may want to join the Dixie Mineral Council. Harvey Marcum will look into options. It was suggested to take a club trip to the Tuscan show in AZ.

Old Business: Club wire purchase: Wire purchase will be completed by the assigned committee. Patrick Barrett reported he has computer purchase on hold at this time.

New Business: Election of Vacant Offices: President Patrick Barrett asked if anyone interested in Vice President position. No responses. The duties of the VP were read out loud by Barbi Beatty. Position remains open. The position of Member at Large was voted on. Patrick Barrett nominated Harvey Marcum as Member at Large. Patrick Barrett asked if there were any other nominations from the floor. There were none. Vote taken. Motion carried. Next Board meeting will be announced.

Gemstone Education: Buddy Shotts & John Guglik spoke about rubies & stated that the article in our July newsletter written by John Wright was very informative.

Adjournment: 2:06 pm. Motion made by Patrick Barrett & 2nd by Vicki Reynolds. Motion carried.

Report by: Cheryl Rodriguez MGCGMS Secretary.

BENCH TIPS

BURNISHING BEZELS



A dapping ball can sometimes be used to burnish a bezel. I noticed this when setting some 10 mm cabs on a piece of filigree. It was difficult to get enough pressure with a pusher or a regular burnisher, so I tried a dapping ball and found it much easier. Make sure the ball is well polished (hit it with the Zam wheel) and let it ride along the base of your piece. Select a ball big enough so its curvature hits the top of the bezel at the best angle to burnish it down onto the stone.



MAKE A TEXTURE HAMMER

An inexpensive hammer can be easily turned into a great texturing tool by grinding a pattern of narrow lines into its face.

The tool I like to use to grind the pattern is a thin separating disc in a Foreman or Dremel. Be sure to hold the hammer and separating disc steady as you carve, and wear those safety glasses to protect your eyes.

For the pattern to work well, a major part of the face needs to be ground away leaving only small areas of high points. That way the high points



will have enough force to emboss the pattern into your sheet metal.

My preference is to use small ball peen or cross peen hammers. They are quite inexpensive from tool dealers at swap meets and rock & mineral shows. There is no reason to buy an expensive hammer to experiment with creating your own textures.

If you don't like the first pattern you create, simply file or grind it off and try again.



Courtesy of Brad Smith

Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Books

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

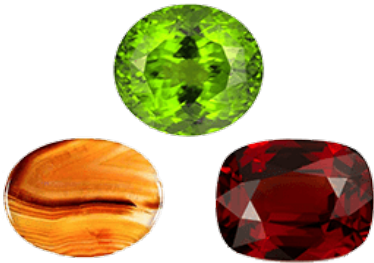


Happy

August

Birthday

John Clinard JoAnn Crimon Van Crump
Mark Daynes Leonard Fredrick Linda Langlois
Clair Martin Mary Spencer Natalie Webb



Peridot.

Sardonyx. Spinel

The original birthstone for August was **sardonyx**, and then **peridot** was added, becoming August's primary gemstone. The addition of **spinel**, which can be found in a variety of colors, gives August babies a plethora of options!

Sardonyx combines alternating layers of sard and onyx—two types of the layered mineral chalcedony—to create a reddish zebra-striped gemstone with white bands.



Category Oxide mineral
Formula(repeating unit) Silica (silicon dioxide, SiO₂)

Crystal system Trigonal
Formula mass 60 g / mol
Color Various
Cleavage no cleavage
Fracture Uneven, conchoidal
Mohs scale hardness 6.5–7
Luster Vitreous, silky
Streak White
Diaphaneity Translucent
Specific gravity 2.55–2.70
Optical properties Uniaxial/+
Refractive index 1.530 to 1.543

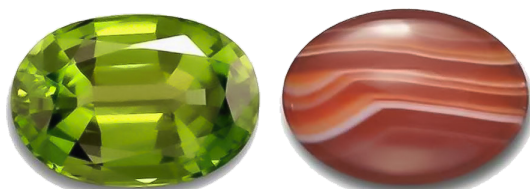
Sardonyx has been popular for centuries, dating back more than 4,000 years ago to the Second Dynasty of Egypt.

Ancient Greeks and Romans went to battle wearing sardonyx talismans engraved with images of heroes and gods like Hercules and Mars. They believed the stone could harness the bravery of those figures, granting them courage, victory and protection on the battlefield.

Sardonyx was a popular stone for Roman seals and signet rings that were used to imprint wax emblems on official documents—due to the fact that hot wax doesn't stick to this gemstone.

During Renaissance times, sardonyx was associated with eloquence. Public speakers and orators wore it to aid clear thinking and communication.

Unlike rare gemstones that were historically limited to wealthy royals, sardonyx has been popular with elite and regular folk alike. Relatively common and inexpensive, sardonyx is a beautiful gemstone that's affordable enough to join any collection.



Peridot

Sardonyx

Peridot is gem-quality olivine rich in magnesium and is a silicate mineral.

Category	Silicate mineral variety
Formula(repeating unit)	(Mg, Fe) ₂ SiO ₄
Crystal system	Orthorhombic
Color	Yellow, to yellow-green, olive-green, to brownish, sometimes a lime-green, to emerald-ish hue
Cleavage	Poor
Fracture	Conchoidal
Mohs scale hardness	6.5–7
Luster	vitreous (glassy)
Streak	None
Specific gravity	3.2–4.3
Refractive index	1.64–1.70
Birefringence	+0.036

Etymology

Though peridot is widely recognized by its brilliant lime green glow, the origin of this gemstone's name is unclear. The Middle English Dictionary's entry on peridot includes several variations: peridod, peritot, pelidod and pilidod. The Oxford English Dictionary suggests an alteration of Anglo-Norman pedoretés, a kind of opal, rather than the Arabic word faridat, meaning "gem".

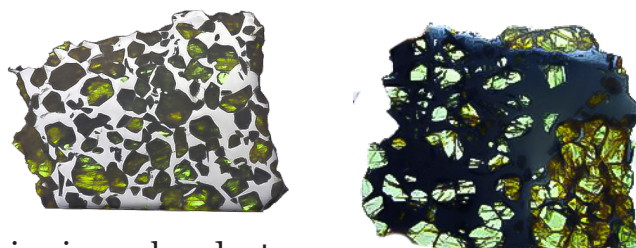
Appearance

Peridot is one of the few gemstones that occur in only one color: an olive-green. The intensity and tint of the green, however, depends on the percentage of iron in the crystal structure, so the color of individual peridot gems can vary from yellow, to olive, to brownish-green. In rare cases, peridot may have a medium-dark toned, pure green with no secondary yellow hue or brown mask.



Geologically

Olivine, of which peridot is a type, is a common mineral in mafic and ultramafic rocks, often found in lava and in peridotite xenoliths of the mantle, which lava carries to the surface; however, gem-quality peridot occurs in only a fraction of these settings. Peridots can also be found in meteorites. Peridots can be differentiated by size and composition. A peridot formed as a result of volcanic activity tends to contain higher concentrations of lithium, nickel and zinc than those found in meteorites.



Olivine is an abundant mineral, but gem-quality peridot is rather rare due to its chemical instability on Earth's surface. Olivine is usually found as small grains and tends to exist in a heavily weathered state, unsuitable for decorative use. Large crystals of forsterite, the variety most often used to cut peridot gems, are rare; as a result olivine is considered to be precious.

In the ancient world, mining of peridot, called topazios then, on St. John's Island in the Red Sea began about 300 B.C. The principal source of peridot olivine today is the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation in Arizona. It is also mined at another location in Arizona, and in Arkansas,

Hawaii, Nevada, and New Mexico at Kilbourne Hole, in the US; and in Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar (Burma), Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania.



Spinel is often assumed to be other gemstones because it tends to resemble either a ruby or sapphire. In fact, some of the most famous rubies in history have turned out to be spinel.

Category Oxide minerals

Formula $MgAl_2O_4$

Crystal system Cubic

Crystal class Hexoctahedral

Color Various; red, pink, blue, lavender/violet, dark green, brown, black, colourless

Crystal habit Octahedra or flat triangular plates caused by twinning

Twinning common

Cleavage None

Fracture Conchoidal

Mohs scale hardness 7.5–8.0

Luster Vitreous

Streak White

Diaphaneity Transparent to Opaque

Specific gravity (depending on the composition) the rare, Zn-rich spinel can be as high as 4.40, otherwise it averages from 3.58 to 3.61

Optical properties Isotropic

Refractive index 1.719

Pleochroism Absent

Solubility none

Other characteristics Weak to medium magnetic, sometimes fluorescent (red synthetic yes, natural red sometimes)

Spinel is the magnesium aluminium member of the larger spinel group of minerals. Its name comes from Latin "spina"

It may be colorless, but is usually various shades of pink, rose, red, blue, green, yellow, brown, black, or (uncommon) violet. There is a unique natural white spinel, now lost, that surfaced briefly in what is now Sri Lanka. Some spinels are among the most famous gemstones; among them are the Black Prince's Ruby and the "Timur ruby" in the British Crown Jewels, and the "Côte de Bretagne", formerly from the French Crown jewels. The Samarian Spinel is the largest known spinel in the world, weighing 500 carats.

The transparent red spinels were called spinel-rubies or balas rubies. In the past, before the arrival of modern science, spinels and rubies were equally known as rubies. After the 18th century the word ruby was only used for the red gem variety of the mineral corundum and the word spinel came to be used. "Balas" is derived from Balascia, the ancient name for Badakhshan, a region in central Asia situated in the upper valley of the Panj River, one of the principal tributaries of the Oxus River. Mines in the Gorno Badakhshan region of Tajikistan constituted for centuries the main source for red and pink spinels. Spinel is found as a metamorphic



mineral, and also as a primary mineral in rare mafic igneous rocks. In these igneous rocks, the magmas are relatively deficient in alkalis relative to aluminium, and aluminium oxide may form as the mineral corundum or may combine with magnesia to form spinel. This is why spinel and ruby are often found together. Spinel has long been found in the gemstone-bearing gravel of Sri Lanka and in limestones of the Badakhshan Province in modern-day Afghanistan and Tajikistan; and of Mogok in Burma. Over the last decades gem quality spinels are found in the marbles of Luc Yen (Vietnam), Mahenge and Matombo (Tanzania), Tsavo (Kenya) and in the gravels of Tunduru (Tanzania) and Ilakaka (Madagascar).

Wildacres SFMS Aug 19-25

Beginning Casting with Bill Harr

This class will teach beginner silver casting for beginner and intermediate silversmithing. The emphasis will be on production centrifugal casting, meaning techniques for high reliability. The class will teach centrifugal and vacuum casting, wax modeling, spruing, investing, burnout, casting, finishing and polishing, rubber mold making and wax injection. Prerequisites: No previous casting classes. This is an introductory course. Previous students should not apply.

Lab Fees: \$100

Material Fees: est. \$100

Cold Connection with Morning Sherrod

This class will start with basic skills such as the proper use of a jeweler's saw, hammering, patterns, doming with dapping blocks using a die cutter, and how to anneal metal. We will be using copper, brass, bronze, and silver to add color and character to your jewelry. Connections will be accomplished using rivets, jump rings, and wire. We will also learn about patinas and etching.

Prerequisites: None

Lab Fees: \$80

Material Fees: est. \$0 +

Special Projects with Jeff Sheer

My class has been called by many names throughout the years but has always had the same intent: To make something you are proud of and have fun doing it. This class is "Advanced" in that I would prefer that students have a basic understanding of the craft. After taking one of the excellent beginning classes the Federation offers most people want to learn more but might not be sure what direction to go in. Most have a few unfinished projects in their tool box that need a technique or two in order to finish them. Finishing these pieces or starting something from scratch is where this class comes in.

Prerequisites: Depends on projects selected

Lab Fees: \$55

Material Fees: est. \$0+

Cabochons with Buddy Shotts

Students will learn the basics of making cabochons, this includes sawing, dopping stones, grinding, sand-

ing and polishing finished cabochons. They will also learn to safely use and care for the equipment they use.

Prerequisites: none

Lab Fees: \$10

Material Fees: est. \$0 - \$50

Wire Wrapping with Rowan Rose-Morgan

Students will enjoy a fun-filled week while learning the techniques and skills necessary to make their own wire wrapped jewelry. All that will be necessary to become a good wire artist after the class is over will be practice, practice, practice. Students will be making bracelets, pendants, rings, earrings, and other project as time allows using mostly square half-hard wire. Tools kits will be available for use in class for those who do not have tools.

Prerequisites: None

Lab Fees: \$30

Material Fees: est. \$100 - \$200

Layered Colored Pencil Jewelry on Metal with Mary Karg

Using colored pencils, students will learn the process to apply and retain color on copper and brass. Emphasis will also be on forming and shaping metal to create multi-layered dimensional jewelry that is beautiful, interesting and unusual.

Prerequisites: None

Lab Fees: \$325

Material Fees: est. \$0

Chain Maille and fused Chain with Roy Deere

Beginning, Intermediate, and Fused Chain-Maillé classes will be offered at the same time in August. Your projects will match your experience. Beginning and Intermediate class information is located below. Fused Chain-Maillé descriptions are located in the August Fused Chain-Maillé class. The fused class is open to all levels.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Solder Level

Lab Fees: Beginning - \$50

Intermediate - \$40

Fused - \$100

Material Fees: Beginning - est. \$50 - \$150

Intermediate - est. \$75 - \$250

Fused - est. \$100 - \$300

Material Fees: est. \$100 - \$300

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.
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AFFILIATIONS

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.
S.C.R.I.B.E. (Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors)

OFFICERS 2018

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Member at Large	Harvey Marcum (228) 875-0450
Member at Large	Natalie Webb (228) 355-4100

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Membership	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Show Chairman	Open
Historian	Lettie White (228) 875-8716
Librarian	Liz Platt
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

Aug 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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