



# Snoopy Gems

Volume 46 Number 1 January 2020  
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &  
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: [mgcgms@bellsouth.net](mailto:mgcgms@bellsouth.net)

MGCGMS Established in 1974

## Presidents Message

Happy new year,

We start off this new decade with new faces in our club that I hope to see often for a good long while. We had a successful show last year and now we can spin that momentum into a strong start to 2020.

To begin this strong start, we have a new workshop organizer. David Cook has asked to step down from his long service here and Claire Martin has agreed to step up to that role. As you know she is also the latest member to join our board. I hope she'll bring her energy to bear on these things and keep them as exciting as they have always been.

We will also look at getting some new equipment purchased soon, so get ready for that as well.

I look forward to seeing everyone Saturday and getting this year started right.

Patrick Barrett  
MGCGMS President

## January Workshop:

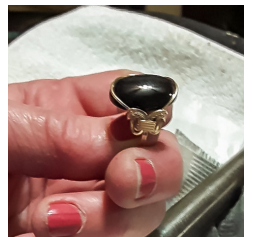
### Workshop Project #1:

David Cook will be offering a 4-session wire wrapping workshop for beginners starting at our January meeting. This course will cover the basics: types of wire, tools, sources of materials, bracelet making and cabochon wrapping.

### Workshop Project #2:

Beverly Johnson will be teaching a more advanced wire wrapping class. It will be a wire wrapped cabochon Pharaoh ring. The club has wire available to purchase. (Mrs Beverly Recommends Gold filled Wire for this project)

3' of 22 Gage square wire  
2' of 20 Gage Half round wire  
One 13x18 cabochon  
(available for purchase)  
Flat nose pliers  
Chain nose pliers  
Flush cutters  
Pencil, sharpe, and paper  
ruler with millimeters



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

Claire Martin  
Workshop Chair  
228-366-3612  
[ladycomfms@yahoo.com](mailto:ladycomfms@yahoo.com)

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566





# Meeting Minutes: GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY December 14, 2019



**There was no meeting in December. We swore in our 2020 Officers and had a Christmas party.**







# Happy

## January

## Birthday

Joni Arias	Daniel Brauchle	Lisa Fitch
Billie Kelly	Belinda Marcum	Ruth Odem
Angie Troutman	Lettie White	



**Garnet** has been used as a gemstone for over 5000 years. It has been found in the jewelry of many Egyptian burials and was the most popular gemstone of Ancient Rome. It is a beautiful gem that is usually sold without treatment of any kind. It is also durable and common enough that it can be used in jewelry at a relatively low cost.

Garnet continues as a popular gemstone today. It serves as a birthstone for the month of January and is a traditional gem given on a second anniversary. Most people will think of a red gemstone when they hear the name "garnet" because they are not aware that garnet occurs in a variety of colors. However, gem-quality garnets occur in every color - with red being the most common and blue garnets being especially rare.

Color virtually all colors, blue is very rare

Crystal habit Rhombic dodecahedron or cubic

Cleavage Indistinct

Fracture conchoidal to uneven

Mohs scale hardness 6.5–7.5

Luster vitreous to resinous

Streak White

Specific gravity 3.1–4.3

Polish luster vitreous to subadamantine

Optical properties Single refractive, often anomalous double refractive

Refractive index 1.72–1.94

Birefringence None

Pleochroism None

Ultraviolet fluorescence variable

Other characteristics variable magnetic attraction

Red garnets have a long history, but modern gem buyers can pick from a rich palette of garnet colors: greens, oranges, pinkish oranges, deeply saturated purplish reds, and even some blues. Red garnet is one

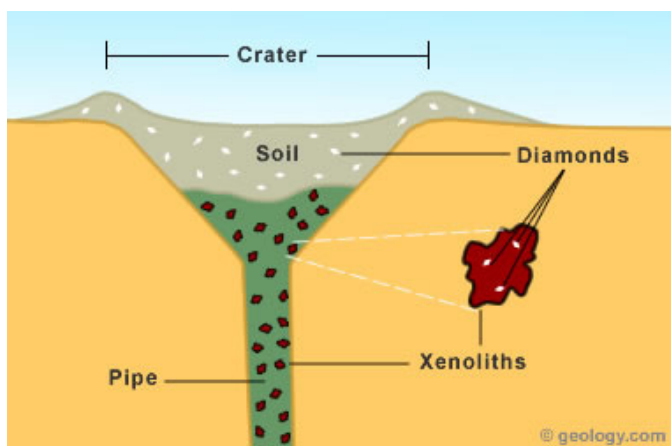
of the most common and widespread of gems. But not all garnets are as abundant as the red ones. A green garnet, tsavorite, is rarer and needs rarer rock chemistries and conditions to form.



**Red almandine** is the red garnet most often found in jewelry because it is abundant and inexpensive. Pyrope and spessartine are reddish garnets that are commonly encountered in jewelry for the same reason. In recent decades, green demantoid garnet has become popular. It has a dispersion of 0.057 that gives it a "fire" which exceeds that of diamond's at 0.044. Green tsavorite has a bright, rich color that is very much like emerald. It is commonly used as an alternative stone to emerald. Both of these green garnets are becoming more popular, but their price is much higher than almandine.

### Garnet as a Geological Indicator Mineral

Although most of the garnets found at Earth's surface have formed within the crust, some garnets are brought up from the mantle during deep-source volcanic eruptions. These eruptions entrain pieces of mantle rock known as "xenoliths" and deliver them to the surface in a structure known as a "pipe." These xenoliths are the source of most diamonds found at or near Earth's surface. Although xenoliths contain diamonds, they often contain a tremendous number of garnets for every diamond, and those garnets are generally larger in size.



These deep-source garnets are very different from the garnets that form in the crust at shallow depth. So, a good way to prospect for diamonds is to look for these unique garnets. The garnets serve as "indicator minerals" for geologists exploring for diamond deposits. As the xenoliths weather, their garnets are liberated in large numbers. These unusual garnets then move downslope in soils and streams. Geologists who find them can follow the garnet trail to the source deposit. Some of the diamond pipes in Canada were found by following a garnet trail produced by moving ice.

### Something you might not know about Garnets

Garnet is a relatively hard mineral with a hardness that ranges between 6.5 and 7.5 on the Mohs Scale. That allows it to be used as an effective abrasive in many types of manufacturing. When crushed, it breaks into angular pieces that provide sharp edges for cutting and sanding. Small granules of uniform size are bonded to paper to produce a reddish color sandpaper that is widely used in woodworking shops.



Garnet is also crushed, screened to specific sizes, and sold as abrasive granules and powders. In the United States, New York and Idaho have been important sources of industrial garnet for abrasives.

The largest industrial use of garnet in the United States is in waterjet cutting. A machine known as a waterjet cutter produces a high-pressure jet of water with entrained abrasive granules. When these are directed at a piece of metal, ceramic, or stone, a cutting action can occur that produces very little dust and cuts at a low temperature. Waterjet cutters are used in manufacturing and mining. Garnet granules are also used in abrasive blasting (commonly known as "sand blasting"). In these processes, a tool propels a stream of abrasive granules (also known as "media") against a surface using a highly pressurized fluid (usually air or water) as a propellant. Abrasive blasting is done in order to smooth, clean, or  
 4 remove oxidation products from metals, brick,

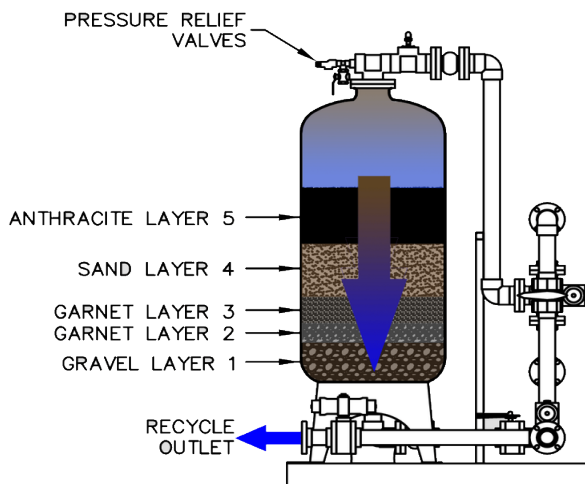


## BENCH TIPS

stone, and other materials. It is usually much faster than sanding by hand or with a sanding machine. It can clean small and intricate surfaces that other cleaning methods would miss. Abrasives of various hardness's can be used to clean a surface of greater hardness, without damaging the surface.



Garnet granules are often used as a filter media. Small garnet particles are used to fill a container through which a liquid flows. The pore spaces of the garnet are small enough to allow passage of the liquid but are too small to allow passage of some contaminant particles, which are filtered from the flow. Garnet is suited for this use because it is relatively inert and has a relatively high specific gravity. Garnet granules, crushed and graded to about 0.3 millimeters in size, can be used to filter out contaminant particles as small as a few microns in diameter. Garnet's high specific gravity and high hardness reduce bed expansion and particle abrasion during backflushing.



### WINDING JUMP RINGS

If you need a few jump rings the same size, it's easy to grab a round rod and wind as many as you need. But when you need a lot of them, some form of winder saves a lot of time. A variable speed screw gun makes quick work of winding the coils. Screw guns are quite inexpensive at discount stores and are remarkably handy for odd jobs in the shop and around the house.

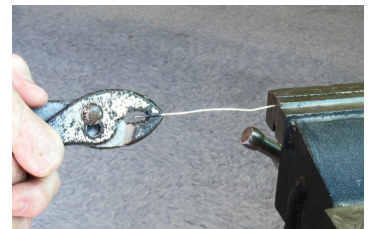


To wind a coil, just bend a right angle on the end of the wire about a half inch long and insert this into the screw gun chuck. Then wind slowly, keeping a tight coil. I like to rest the end of the mandrel on the edge of the table or bench pin. Finally, one note of caution. If you are winding an entire length of wire, be careful as you get near the end of the wire. If the end passes under your thumb, it can cause a nasty scratch or cut.

### STRAIGHTENING WIRE

Have you ever pulled out some silver wire only to find that it's all bent up? The easiest way I've found to straighten it out is to stretch it a bit.

Simply put one end in the vise and grab the other end with a pair of serrated tip pliers. Then pull just enough to feel the wire stretch like a rubber band. This works best on smaller wire diameters, up to about 16 ga.



Be careful if you are trying to pull hard on a thick wire. Brace yourself in case the wire breaks or pulls out of the pliers. [Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Books](#)

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

## **Up coming SFMS Club Shows for January**

**January 10, 11, 12, 2020**

**Pinellas Geological Society**

**44th Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show & Sale**

Friday/Saturday: 10-5pm

Sunday: Noon-5pm

Central Park Performing Arts Center/Parkview Room

105 Central Park Dr., Largo FL

\$2.00 Admission, Ages 12 and Up

Presenting beautifully crafted jewelry, gem trees, mineral eggs & spheres, crystals, mineral specimens, slabs, artifacts, cut gems, Indian & Western jewelry, exhibits and library.

Silent auction, drawing donation every hour to benefit college scholarships, lapidary training, and publications.

INFO: Lee Sheffield 727-709-3236

**January 18 - 19, 2020**

**Tomoka Gem & Mineral Society**

**45th Annual Jewelry, Gem Minerals & Fossil Show & Sale**

Saturday 10am-6pm / Sunday 10am-5pm

Volusia County Fairgrounds (Tommy Lawrence Arena)

3150 E. New York Ave

Deland, FL 32724

¼ mile east of I-4 at Exit 118A, Rt. 44

Hourly Drawings, Silent Auction, Grand Prize Drawing, Coquina Kid's Table, Demonstrations. Slabs, beads, tools, jewelry, specimens, fossils by 40+ vendors. Free Parking.

\$4.00 Adult, 12 and under free, \$1 off coupon on website.

Contact Show Chair: Mary DeJan 386-871-6221 or tomokagmsvendor@gmail.com

Website: www.tomokagms.org

## **Upcoming Shows for February**

**February 22 – 22rd 2020**

**Jackson, Mississippi**

**Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society**

**61st Gem Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show**

Saturday, February 22, 2020 from (9 am to 6 pm)

Sunday, February 23, 2020 from (10 am to 5 pm)

Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds

1200 Mississippi Street, Jackson MS 39202

Admission:

Adults \$6 Students \$3

Scouts & Leaders in Uniform \$2

Children 5 & under—Free

Over 25 dealers of gems, fossils, minerals, jewelry, lapidary tools, beads, and more Exhibits and educational opportunities by colleges and state organizations

Children's activities (adults are welcomed too)

Touch and See Table

Displays by MGMS members of their own collections or lapidary work

Hourly door prizes, and a "GRAND PRIZE" drawing.

Additional information: rock2lanes@gmail.com

MGMSClub website: www.missgems.org

**FEBRUARY 22, 2020**

**Lakeland, Florida**

**Annual Show 4th Saturday in February**

**Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society**

Saturday 9:00am & hyphen; 4:30pm

175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801

Hourly door prizes, Spin & Win Mineral

Wheel, Kids Treasure Dig, demonstrations and educational displays, Silent and Chinese auctions and over 25 dealers of rocks, minerals, fossils, jewelry, gifts and hobby supplies..

Contact Kim Price, Show chair, at (863) 412-9156 or email kprice1105@gmail.com.

Facebook: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club.

Website: www.bonevalley.net



## 2nd Annual SFMS Rockhound Roundup March 6-8 2020



Hosted by Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.

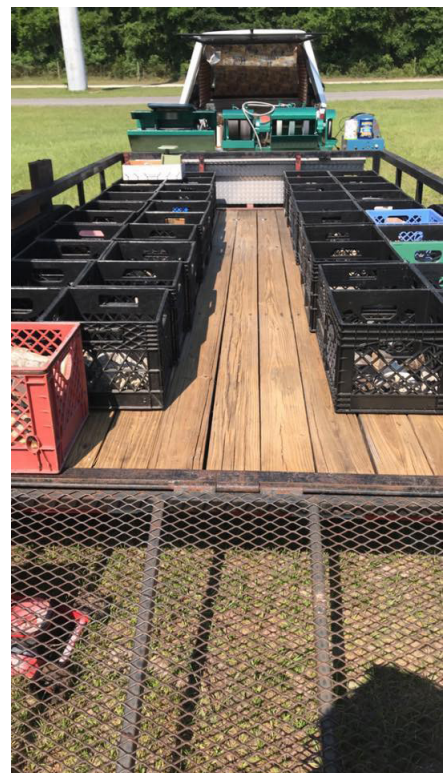
Mar 6 at 8 AM – Mar 8 at 5 PM EST

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 and facebook page:

<http://www.amfed.org/sfms>


<https://www.facebook.com/Southeast-Federation-of-Mineralogical-Societies-317959434999844/>



# We always welcome new members!



Date \_\_\_\_\_ Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society

<a href="http://www.mgcgms.org">http://www.mgcgms.org</a>		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: _____	
<b>Members Birthdays</b>		
Adult: _____	Birthday M/D: _____	
Adult: _____	Birthday M/D: _____	
Junior: _____	Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Junior: _____	Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
<b>Please Check All Applicable Interests</b>		
<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: _____		
<b>How did you hear of us?</b> _____		
<b>Please check the following:</b> <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](mailto:mgcgms@bellsouth.net)



**Snoopy Gems**  
is the Official Publication of  
The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral  
Society, Inc.

#### 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

President	Patrick Barrett (228) 596-8270
Vice President	Natalie Webb (228) 355-4100
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Secretary	Cheryl Rodriguez (773) 504-4939
Parliamentarian	TBD
Editor	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Web master	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Member at Large	Harvey Marcum (228) 875-0450
Member at Large	Claire Martin (228) 366-3612

#### COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Vendor Chair	Vicki Reynolds (228) 872-9286
Historian	Lettie White (228) 875-8716
Librarian	Liz Platt (228) 818-5412
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: Past Long-range Planning, Past President, State Director

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

## 2020 Workshop/Meeting Dates

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

### Jan 2020

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	

# Snoopy Gems

Official Publication of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc.



<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

Snoopy Gems MCGMS  
P.O. Box 857  
Ocean Springs, MS 39566