



# Snoopy Gems

Volume 46 Number 2 February 2020  
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &  
Mineral Society Inc.



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

MGCGMS Established in 1974

## Presidents Message

Hello Members,

So this month's meeting should be interesting. With our usual workshops, we will also be hearing from one of the members about tricks and tips on stabilizing rocks. Mark is one of our best and it should be fun, and if history is any indication, irreverent.

As a side note, I'm aware of issues of members being contacted by scammers by email. I plan to talk about this more at the meeting but I'm asking for you to bring your ideas on security as well.

I'll see you this weekend!

Patrick Barrett  
MGCGMS President

GLUE: A sticky subject.

Mark Daynes will give a talk about various glues and some of their uses, including wood glue, cyanoacrylate "CA" (Super Glue), polyester glue and epoxies at our meeting this month.

## February Workshop:

### Workshop Project #1:

David Cook will be teaching the second session of a 4-session wire wrapping workshop for beginners started 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:

Rosiland Daniels Will be teaching The beaded Duo Daisy/Posies Bracelet.

100-120 Super or Mini Duo beads  
10-12 3mm or 4mm beads or pearls  
Size 11 seed beads  
2 wire guards  
2 jump rings  
Lobster or toggle clasp  
Fire line or beading thread of choice  
#12 needle



**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

January 11, 2020



**Called to order:** 1:00 pm

**Members in Attendance:** 37

**Meeting:** President Patrick Barrett called the meeting to order. He asked new members to raise their hands and introduce themselves and gave a brief description of the meeting and its purpose. He also said members are the stewards of the money and the club. The club is not just a workshop. 37 people attended the workshop/potluck and most stayed for the meeting. It was the largest attendance in recent history. Patrick said it says a lot about the success of the show. He thanked everyone for making the show a success.

**Minutes to Accept:** There was no meeting in December. We had an official introduction of Board Members that were sworn in at the Christmas party. Patrick Barrett said If members have an idea, concern or questions please approach a board member.

**Treasury Report:** Report by Barbi Beatty. Report contained balances of all accounts and a report of the profit from the show. John Guglik asked for a breakdown of the show accounting. Barbi Beatty stated she would bring it to the next meeting. During discussion Barbi Beatty said, vendor dues cover most of the cost of the venue & advertising, other revenue such as entry fees, food sales, raffle, & etc... is what the Club gets to keep as profit. Liz Platt asked how we were keeping track of the sales of club ware. Barbi answered, "we sell it by the foot and list what is sold each time. It is sold to club members at cost. Sales money is put into main account." A motion was made to accept by Barbara Saavedra & 2nd by David Spencer. Motion carried.

**General Announcements:** Christen Victor Church Geology class looking for speakers for the last week in Jan. John Guglik agreed to give a presentation & Mark Daynes will do a cabbing demo. One of our new members agreed to help.

**Workshops:** Dave Cook taught the beginner group. He said "unsure of the number of folks but it was a great group." They worked on wire bracelet. There was a show and tell. At the next meeting they will wrapping a Cab. The Advanced group is making a Pharaoh's ring taught by Beverly Johnson and it is going well. Cabbing is going great. John Guglik is looking for actual gems or what you think are gems to test. He is also asked if anyone had gold, they needed tested.

**Gem Show:** Patrick thought the show went well and is looking for feedback. Most attendees he spoke with said this was the first time they heard about the club. They said everyone who worked the show was very nice. Most enjoyed the demos and thought the vendors were very good. Barbi attended the Mobile show several weeks later and received lots of very positive feedback from people. They wanted to know what we had changed. Several vendors were interested in coming next year. Vicki talked with vendors and no one said they were not coming back. Lots of folks talked about the vendor with the stone trees. John received comments that there was no ATM on site. He stated we need a high-end jeweler. Barbi said we have one lined up for next year. Natalie received a few negative comments concerning the quick and early close. May want to consider expanding hours on Friday and Sat. nights and closing at 3 or 4pm on Sunday. Also comment on the club helping vendor pack up after the show as a goodwill gesture. Barbi stated we increased the number of people to around 800 and would like to be 1000+ next year. TV spots were good and helped attendance. Liz said the kids table was a big hit. A question was asked regarding liability. Barbi Beatty said we are covered through the Southeastern Federation.

**Library:** Liz Platt "If you see something, please sign it out. If you want to donate, we will welcome it."

**Sunshine:** No Sunshine report – Reba is out for surgery – Barbi to send a card from the club to Reba.

**Membership, Newsletter, badges, etc:** Badges are for sale -\$6.50 each. Please see Barbi. John has Club patches - \$2 per patch

**Education & Projects; Speakers for meetings:** With Natalie moving to VP, we are looking for someone to take over getting Outside speakers. Please contact Patrick if you are interested in this position.

**Tools & Equipment:** Our machines are getting old and we need to invest in a new Cabbing machine. The Tool Committee recommend a new Pixie machine & Trim saw. We are looking for someone who can work on the broken saw to see if we can get it going. Barbi Beatty recommend purchasing and 8" saw instead of a 6" saw. We need to decide on a plan for the old Pixie. A motion was made by David Cook to purchase new Pixie (currently on B/O at Kinsley North) 2nd by Barbi. Motion carried.

**Outside classes/workshop programs:** Next Month – draw for scholarships

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** We have the OS Library for next month. Members are interested in Field trips. David will check on it.

**Gemstone Education:** January Gem – Garnet John Guglik gave all members a polished garnet.

**Adjournment:** 2:00 pm. Motion made by Vicki Reynolds & 2nd by David Cook. Motion carried.

**Report by:** Natalie Webb VP





# Happy

## February

## Birthday

Johnnie Fredrickson Vicki Reynolds  
David Spencer



### Amethyst History



Roman intaglio engraved gem of Caracalla in amethyst, once in the Treasury of Sainte-Chapelle.

Amethyst was used as a gemstone by the ancient Egyptians and was largely employed in antiquity for intaglio engraved gems.

The Greeks believed amethyst gems could prevent intoxication, while medieval European soldiers wore amethyst amulets as protection in battle in the belief that amethysts heal people and keep them cool-headed. Beads of amethyst were found in Anglo-Saxon graves in England. Western Christian bishops wear an episcopal ring often set with an amethyst, an allusion to the description of the Apostles as “not drunk” at Pentecost in Acts 2:15.

In the 19th century, the color of amethyst was attributed to the presence of manganese. However, since it can be greatly altered and even discharged by heat, the color was believed by some authorities to be from an organic source. Ferric thiocyanate has been suggested, and sulfur was said to have been detected in the mineral.

## Synthetic amethyst

Synthetic amethyst is produced by gamma ray, X-ray or electron beam irradiation of clear quartz which has been first doped with ferric impurities. On exposure to heat, the irradiation effects can be partially cancelled and amethyst generally becomes yellow or even green, and much of the citrine, cairngorm, or yellow quartz of jewelry is said to be merely “burnt amethyst”.

## Cultural history

### Ancient Greece

The Greek word “amethystos” may be translated as “not drunken”, from Greek *a-*, “not” + *methustos*, “intoxicated” Amethyst was considered to be a strong antidote against drunkenness, which is why wine goblets were often carved from it. In his poem “L’Amethyste, ou les Amours de Bacchus et d’Amethyste” (Amethyst or the loves of Bacchus and Amethyste), the French poet Remy Belleau (1528–1577) invented a myth in which Bacchus, the god of intoxication, of wine, and grapes was pursuing a maiden named Amethyste, who refused his affections. Amethyste prayed to the gods to remain chaste, a prayer which the chaste goddess Diana answered, transforming her into a white stone. Humbled by Amethyste’s desire to remain chaste, Bacchus poured wine over the stone as an offering, dyeing the crystals purple.

Variations of the story include that Dionysus had been insulted by a mortal and swore to slay the next mortal who crossed his path, creating fierce tigers to carry out his wrath. The mortal turned out to be a beautiful young woman, Amethystos, who was on her way to pay tribute to Artemis. Her life was spared by Artemis, who transformed the maiden into a statue of pure crystalline quartz to protect her from the brutal claws. Dionysus wept tears of wine in remorse for his action at the sight of the beautiful statue. The god’s tears then stained the quartz purple,

### Other cultural associations

Tibetans consider amethyst sacred to the Buddha and make prayer beads from it. Amethyst is considered the birthstone of February. In the Middle Ages, it was considered a symbol of royalty and used to decorate English regalia. In the Old World, amethyst was considered one of the Cardinal gems, in that it was one of the five gemstones considered precious above all others, until large deposits were found in Brazil.



## Geographic distribution

Amethyst is produced in abundance from the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil where it occurs in large geodes within volcanic rocks. Many of the hollow agates of southwestern Brazil and Uruguay contain a crop of amethyst crystals in the interior. Artigas, Uruguay and neighboring Brazilian state Rio Grande do Sul are large world producers exceeding in quantity Minas Gerais, as well as Mato Grosso, Espirito Santo, Bahia, and Ceará states, all amethyst producers of importance in Brazil.



Amethyst occurs at many localities in the United States. Among these may be mentioned: the Mazatzal Mountain region in Gila and Maricopa Counties, Arizona; Red Feather Lakes, near Ft Collins, Colorado; Amethyst Mountain, Texas; Yellowstone National Park; Delaware County, Pennsylvania; Haywood County, North Carolina; Deer Hill and Stow, Maine and in the Lake Superior region of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan. Amethyst is relatively common in the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia. The largest amethyst mine in North America is located in Thunder Bay, Ontario.

## Value



Up until the 18th century, amethyst was included in the cardinal, or most valuable, gemstones (along with diamond, sapphire, ruby, and emerald). However, since the discovery of extensive deposits in locations such as Brazil, it has lost most of its value.

Collectors look for depth of color, possibly with red flashes if cut conventionally. As amethyst is readily available in large structures the value of the gem is not primarily defined by carat weight; this is different to most gemstones where the carat weight exponentially increases the value of the stone. The biggest factor in the value of amethyst is the color displayed.

The highest grade amethyst (called “Deep Russian”) is exceptionally rare and therefore, when one is found, its value is dependent on the demand of collectors.



## Crater of Diamonds State Park

By: Van Crump



The Crater of Diamonds State Park, located outside Murfreesboro Arkansas, is the world's only diamond-bearing site accessible to the public. The park features a 37.5 acre plowed field in which visitors can hunt for diamonds and other semi-precious gems. Any rock or mineral you find is yours to keep. There is a limit of five gallons of washed rock per person per day. You may bring your own tools (battery or motor driven mining tools are not allowed) or rent tools from the park. Pets are allowed in most park facilities as long as they are on a leash and under the owner's control.

The three methods of hunting diamonds are surface searching, dry sifting and wet sifting. Surface searching consists of walking up and down the rows of dirt looking for diamonds lying on top of the ground. This is the most productive method following a hard rain. Many of the Crater's largest diamonds have been found by surface searching. Dry sifting consists of shaking a screen to remove the soil from the rocks making it easier to spot any diamonds. This requires dry dirt and will not be possible during or following rain. Most diamonds are found through wet sifting. Wet sifting is the most labor-intensive method of diamond hunting. Buckets of dirt are dug, carried to a washing pavilion and washed through a set of screens (large mesh screen on top of the small mesh screen). This removes the soil and separates the gravel by size. Look at the material in the larger mesh screen for diamonds or other material you might want to take home. The small mesh screen is used to separate the

finer gravel by weight. After removing any potential diamonds, regular visitors take up to a five-gallon bucket of the heavier material home for closer inspection. Many diamonds are found at home and registered upon return to the park. The park provides complementary identification and registration of diamonds found at the park.

Additional information can be found at the park's website <https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/crater-diamonds-state-park> Entrance. Entrance fee and videos of the mining techniques can be found at the following link: <https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/crater-diamonds-state-park/digging-for-diamonds>. Rental fees and deposits can be found on the "What Should I Bring?" link located on this page.



## BENCH TIPS

Mount mop clips (the spring loaded kind designed to mount on a wall to hold brooms and/or mops) to your bench to hold flex-shaft handpieces, such as a hammer handpiece and quick-change handpiece, while not in use.



To keep from scratching your handpieces and to hold them more securely, line the inside of the clips with self-adhesive felt pads or self-adhesive foam-rubber window weather strip. Hang the handpieces in the clip with the connection end down so they don't collect dust in the greased fittings. In addition, keep an old bur shank in your rotary handpieces while not in use to keep from damaging the collet.

For more Bench Tips go to: <http://benchmagazine.com/benchtips>



## Upcomming Gem and Meneral Shows

**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
- \*Demonstrations of lapidary art including flint knapping, cabochon cutting, and jewelry making
- \* 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](mailto:rock2lanes@gmail.com)  
MGMSClub website: [www.missgems.org](http://www.missgems.org)

**FEBRUARY 22, 2020**  
**Lakeland, Florida**

Annual Show and Sale - 4th Saturday in February

Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society

Saturday 9:00am - 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](mailto:kprice1105@gmail.com).  
Facebook: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club.  
Website: [www.bonevalley.net](http://www.bonevalley.net)

**February 23, 2020**  
**Sunday: 10AM to 4 PM**

The Villages Gem & Mineral Society  
2020 Artisan Show  
The Villages, FL

Sea Breeze Regional Recreation Center  
2374 Buena Vista Blvd  
The Villages, FL 32162

50+ vendors  
Gems, minerals, slabs, many forms of jewelry, chains, charms, yoga pillows, drums and more.  
Come see all the talent and enter for a chance to win 1 of 3 prize baskets!  
Raffles held every 1/2 hour

Show Chair - Diane Davis (248) 770-2409  
[jewelry16680@gmail.com](mailto:jewelry16680@gmail.com)

Society website: <http://thevillagesgemandmineralsociety.com/>



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



**Hosted by Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc.**

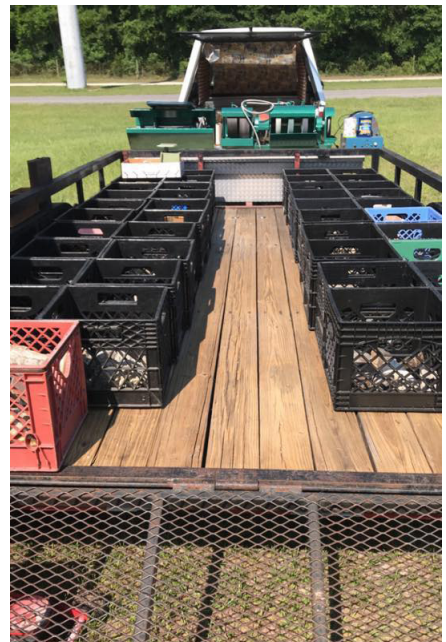
Mar 6 at 8 AM – Mar 8 at 5 PM EST

Spirit of the Suwannee 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.  
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**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 2020

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
Editor	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Web master	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Member at Large	Harvey Marcum (228) 233-8735
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 OS Library 9:30-3:45**  
March 14 OS Library 9:30-3:45  
April 4 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

## Feb 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

# 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

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