



Snoopy Gems

Volume 42 Number 11 November 2016

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral
Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Presidents Message

Dear Members,

As you know, our annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show is held at the Jackson County Fair Grounds in Pascagoula. The Show runs November 11-13 from 10 am to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. The facility is located behind Singing River Hospital

It all begins with:

Thursday, November 10, – Setup for the Show, dinner, meeting and election of officers.

Dealer Dinner 5:00 p.m. Bring food between 4 and 4:30 Meat is provided, just bring a side, salad or dessert – double your recipe if possible.

Short Meeting and Election of Officers – 6:30 p.m.

We need every member to help make the show a success. Many of you have signed up, but if you haven't received a confirmation call, call Barbi 228-238-9900, Lisa 228-216-4684, or me (Liz) 703-201-5189 to volunteer for a specific job. We still need members to sit at the entry table, the membership, raffle, and demonstration tables help with the food concession. Call Barbi 228-238-9900 if you can place and pickup outdoor directional signs for the show.

Raffle tickets. You can show people the beautiful prizes for the raffle by going to our website where they are posted. This will help with sales. Return all unsold tickets no later than the Dealer dinner/meeting on Thursday evening, November 10. We must account for all tickets and will want to be able to sell any remaining unsold ones at the show. This is a good money-maker for the club with little expense other than the ticket printing. Please do your best.

Invite your friends and neighbors to our show

Be sure to VOTE in our National Election on November 8 --and also in our MGCGMS election on November 10.

Liz Platt,

President

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society Presents the 27th annual

Magnolia State Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show

November 11th, 12th and 13th, 2016

Jackson County Fairground Civic Center,
Pascagoula, MS

Friday and Saturday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Adult Admission: (\$3-1 day pass) (\$5-3day pass)

Children 12 and under, FREE with an Adult

Come See:

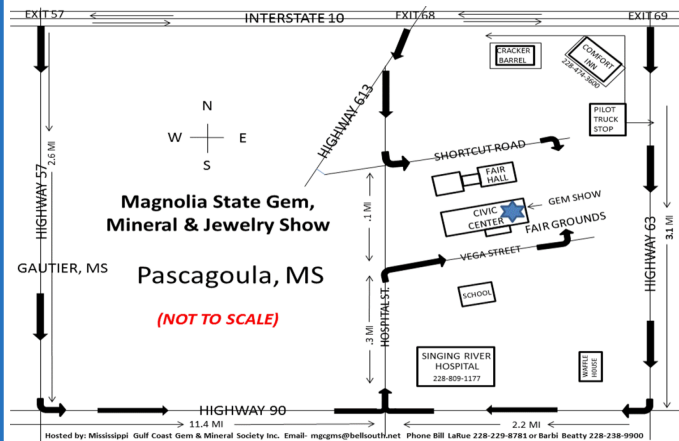
Exhibits, Demonstrations, Educational Resources

Available for Purchase:

Fossils, Gem Stones, Jewelry, Supplies & More

Raffle tickets (\$1 each) or (6 for \$5)

Visit our Website at:
(<http://www.mgcgms.org>)



<http://www.mgcgms.org>

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MGCGMS P.O. Box 857
Ocean Springs, MS 39566

27th annual Mississippi State Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society will sponsor their 27th annual "Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show" This is a 3 day event starting Friday November 11h, 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M., continuing Saturday November 12th 10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. and Sunday November 13th, 10:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, Civic Center Building, in Pascagoula, MS. Admission is \$3.00 for Adults; 3 Day tickets \$5.00, Children 12 and under is free with paid Adult admission. There is no charge for parking. This is a family-oriented show and children accompanied by an adult are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be a giant sluice where guest will be able to rinse gravel and find their gemstones. There is a kid's corner with coloring pages of gemstones and fossils. Children will be taught to make gemstone trees. We have door prizes and a raffle. Concession will be available.

The rare and interesting gold exhibit by Bill LaRue of Ocean Springs, MS will return to this year's show. Mr. LaRue spent many years as a "Sour Dough" (Gold Prospector) hunting for gold in the western United States, Canada, Alaska, and Mexico. The way Bill tells it, he began as a gold miner when he visited the gold country in California. He says that he happened to stop at a little restaurant/motel in a town called Dry Town and in a creek near the highway he found gold in the first pan he brought up. The gold bug bit him and he started his gold mining adventure the next day. That was in February 1967 and over the years he mined by both tunneling and the open pit method. Bill has a unique necklace that he made and wears on special occasions (he may be wearing it at the show) that has gold and quartz found in his mines. The center piece of the necklace is almost pure gold from Stanton, AZ. The placer nuggets are from the Chiricahua Mountains, AZ.

Members of the society will be available to demonstrate techniques such as faceting, wire wrapping, intarsia, cabbing, silver work, beading and various other techniques used in the lapidary arts and crafts. Buddy Shotts a master faceter and his wife Reba will be demonstrating the methods used to facet gem stones to increase their brilliance and beauty. David Cook will be demonstrating techniques in wire-wrapping. Vicki Reynolds, an artist from Ocean Springs, Mississippi, will be painting and displaying her beautiful pictures on rock slabs.

This year's show will have a number of quality exhibits featuring rare gemstones, beautiful jewelry, and a variety of unique artistic creations. According to John Wright, a retired Registered Professional Geologist and life member of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society, Mississippi has semi-precious gem stones such as jasper, carnelian, agate, quartz, and many others that can be found in area gravel pits along with petrified wood and fossils, but no "precious gem stone" until the recent discovery of the Mississippi Opal by the State Geological Survey's Surface Geology Division. John Wright will have his world wide collection of meteorites on display.

The 30+ dealers for the show will be coming from all parts of the United States and will have a varied and wide-ranging selection of items to choose from such as finished gemstones, gemstone rough, pearls of all sizes and colors, gold and silver findings ("findings" are prefabricated metal parts used to mount stones for rings, pendants, etc.), tools, lapidary supplies, museum quality fossils and mineral specimens, beautiful carved stone figures, beads of every imaginable type, shape, and size, gift items, and unique collectibles of all kinds. There will also be "Jewelers" available to mount your stones in rings or pendants and repair jewelry items for you. You can design your own jewelry by choosing from a wide selection of gemstones and have it custom mounted right at the show, or if you prefer, you may choose from a wide variety of exquisitely finished jewelry items. Looking for something to add an unusual or distinctive touch to your home or office, one of the dealers will probably have it and at a good price.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS), one of the seven regional federations that make up the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. The "Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show" is sponsored and fully funded by the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc. The purpose of the show is to give members the opportunity to purchase items and supplies for their hobby, familiarize the general public with the lapidary arts and crafts, and provide residents of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and surrounding area with an enlightening artistic, scientific, and educational event. Meetings and workshops are held on the second Saturday of each month at the Ocean Springs Library, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Visitors are welcome and membership is open to anyone interested in the earth sciences or lapidary arts and crafts.

Happy Birthday!



David Cook
Charlie Reichel

Ileana Kirchner
Reba Shotts

Jan McComas
Laura Tate

Bill White

Anne Guglik
John Wright

NOVEMBER

Citrine & Topaz

Constancy, loyalty, strength, and friendship



Geologyin.com

November birthdays are associated with two gems; Citrine and Topaz. The warm color of Citrine is said to be a gift from the sun and it's believed to be a healing gemstone. Topaz is most desired in its rich orange Imperial Topaz color but it is found in a variety of rich colors like blue, pink and yellow. Topaz symbolizes love and affection, and is said to bestow strength and intelligence on the person who wears it, according to the Old Farmer's Almanac, and a gift of blue topaz is said to be a promise of love and fidelity.

Geological information:

Citrine quartz derives its attractive golden color from the presence of iron impurities. It has a specific chemical formula of SiO_2 (silicon dioxide), a density of 2.60 to 2.70 and a refractive index of 1.544 to 1.553, all of which can help distinguish citrine from similar materials.

Topaz is a silicate mineral of aluminium and fluorine with the chemical formula $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F},\text{OH})_2$. Topaz crystallizes in the orthorhombic system, and its crystals are mostly prismatic terminated by pyramidal and other faces.



Citrine is rare in nature. It belongs to the very large family of quartz (SiO_2) gemstones. More specifically, it is the yellow to golden-orange variety of gemstone-quality macrocrystalline quartz. In the days before modern gemology, its tawny color caused it to be confused with topaz. Today, its attractive color, plus the durability and affordability it shares with most other quartzes, makes it the top-selling yellow-to-orange gem. In the contemporary market, citrine's most popular shade is an earthy, deep, brownish or reddish orange. The name 'citrine' was derived from 'citron', a French word meaning 'lemon', although its color tends to be more golden rather than lemon-yellow. Natural citrine is actually quite rare and because it is more valuable than most other varieties of quartz, much of the citrine today is actually heat-treated to obtain its attractive golden color. Almost all heated citrine will exhibit reddish tints.

Topaz



Topaz actually has an exceptionally wide color range that, besides brown, includes various tones and saturations of blue, green, yellow, orange, red, pink, and purple. Colorless topaz is plentiful, and is often treated to give it a blue color. Topaz is also pleochroic, meaning that the gem can show different colors in different crystal directions. Topaz makes an ideal gem. A good hardness and desirable colors, combined with a relative abundance and availability makes it one of the most popular gemstones. The most valuable colors of Topaz are the golden orange-yellow type, called Imperial Topaz, and the dark pinkish-red and orange-red colors. Value increases with a deepness of color in orange and reddish hues. The most commonly used colors of Topaz in jewelry are the blue types. It was not until this past century that blue Topaz became widespread on the gem market, since virtually all blue gem Topaz is irradiated and heat treated.

Sunstone is a plagioclase feldspar, which when viewed from certain directions exhibits a spangled appearance. It has been found in Southern Norway, Sweden and in various United States localities. The optical effect appears to be due to reflections from inclusions of red copper, in the form of minute scales, which are hexagonal, rhombic, or irregular in shape, and are disposed parallel to the principal cleavage-plane. These inclusions give the stone an appearance something like that of aventurine, hence sunstone is known also as "aventurine-feldspar." The optical effect called shiller and the color in Oregon Sunstone is due to copper. The middle part of this crystal sparkles, and usually the color is darkest in the middle and becomes lighter toward the outer edges.

The feldspar which usually displays the aventurine appearance is oligoclase, though the effect is sometimes seen in orthoclase: hence two kinds of sunstone are distinguished as "oligoclase sunstone" and "orthoclase sunstone." Sunstone was not common until recently. Previously the best-known locality being Tvedestrand, near Arendal, in south Norway, where masses of the sunstone occur embedded in a vein of quartz running through gneiss.

Other locations include near Lake Baikal in Siberia, and several United States localities—notably at Middletown Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania; Plush, Oregon; and Statesville, North Carolina.



Sunstones faceted by Buddy Shotts: Photo by Barbi Beatty

The "orthoclase sunstone" variant has been found near Crown Point and at several other localities in New York, as also at Glen Riddle in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and at Amelia Courthouse, Amelia County, Virginia.

Sunstone is also found in Pleistocene basalt flows at Sunstone Knoll in Millard County, Utah.



75ct Rose Carved Sunstone Set in 18kt gold owned by Reba Shotts
Carved by Morgan Norris: Setting made by

Oregon Sunstone

A variety known as Oregon sunstone is found in Harney County, Oregon and in eastern Lake County north of Plush. Oregon sunstone contains inclusions of copper crystals. Oregon sunstones can be up to three inches wide. The copper leads to variant color within some stones, where turning one stone will result in manifold hues: the more copper within the stone, the darker the complexion.

On August 4, 1987, the Oregon State Legislature designated Oregon sunstone as its state gemstone by joint resolution



Tips for prospecting Oregon Sunstones:

The first thing to look for is sunstones on the surface that have sharp edges, stones that are not sand blasted or water worn. Worn or rounded stones are an indication they may have been left behind by water from rivers, floods, or that they may have been there thousands of years. If they have sharp edges on them, then they have recently come to the surface, and that indicates there are stones underground in that area. Much of the area has large cap stones that would require blasting. Another indicator you can look for is very tall sagebrush in areas where you have found sharp edged stones. There several varieties in all sizes, but you should look for sagebrush 5' to 6' tall. When it is that tall it is an indication that the roots are getting down through the rock into the water. That means the rock is fractured and therefore would not require blasting. The next place you should look is in an area where there are very large fire ant nest. These nests can be up to 10' in diameter. The ants use little pebbles and sunstones to build their mound. They pebbles and sunstones help the water run off when it rains. The sunstones reflect the light and prevents the nest from getting to hot during the summer. These large ant nests are another indication that things are getting down through the rocks. Digging adjacent to or even through the nest is a good place to dig, but remember they bite. The more sunstones you find on the mound the more likely you will find sunstones underground. The color of stones you find on the surface is a good indicator of the color found underground in the area.

Source: wikipedia and GIA/Don Buford desert prospecting

Meeting Minutes October 8, 2016

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: 19

Meeting:

President Liz Platt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Minutes to Accept: President Liz Platt asked if there was a motion to accept our September 2016 minutes printed in the October Newsletter. A motion was made to accept the minutes. Motion Carried.

Treasury Report: Given by Barbi Beatty. Deposits from vendors were made for the show. A motion was made to accept the treasury report. Motion Carried.

Committee Reports:

Workshop Committee: Report given by Dave Cook.

We had 8 people participating in making Christmas ornaments.

Faceting Committee: Report given by Buddy Shotts.

Buddy said, "all is going well and we will continue on Wednesdays."

Show Committee: Report given by Bill LaRue.

Everything is on schedule. Cost of setting things up should be checked out. Barbi has door prize tickets available for the show. All members are needed to man positions during the show. ***Please volunteer.***

A sluice machine will be set up outside.

Signs for the show are available now so see Barbi.

Vendors will have badges to wear so they could go in and out without stopping.

Put your outdoor signs out one week before show at sites approved. Security at the show has been secured. Only free entries to the show are students will work sheets or accompanied by a teacher.

Dinner for dealers will be at 5:00 pm so please have your dishes out by 4:30 pm. Members will eat afterwards and our meeting will follow.

Hospitality room open daily with morning coffee and donuts provided for our vendors.

Door prizes will be called every half hour. Tickets for these will be given out with entry fee.

Raffle Committee: Raffle tickets are out and will be sold at the show. The Raffle tickets are the same color as first day's tickets but are not written the same.

Equipment Committee: Report given by Jim Kirchner: All equipment is accounted for and that the Gem Tester needs a new probe and adjusting. John and President Liz Platt checked and found a probe for \$69.00 and will order it.

Library Committee: Report given by Barbi Beatty: Library is available but due to Cruisers nothing was brought inside.

Sunshine Committee: Report by Reba Shotts President Liz Platt stated that John Wright has leg problems and couldn't come. Reba stated that Wanda Sigler was to undergo surgery.

Communication:

Name tags are ready for members who ordered them. Members needing a new name tag can order one for \$5.50 each. Barbi Beatty will be taking orders. Aprons are ready for the show with our logo patch sewn on. Thank you Wanda Sigler for sewing on our patches.

A display will be put up at the Ocean Springs library in November. A display at the St. Martins library was done by John Guglik and will run through November 2, 2016.

Flyers should be put out at public places with the permission of owners.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

A Metal workshop will be presented at WAMA December 3-4th, 2016.

SFMS News: The regular meeting will be attended by Barbi, Buddy and Reba in Atlanta. The defunct Stamp Program is replaced by individual club raffle donations of items that are worth \$50.00 or more. This will give each club one chance to win a scholarship to a workshop. John Guglik donated a piece for our club at Wildacres.

Election: The voting this year will be done with a ballot with the slate of candidates listed and an empty space for a nominations from the floor of candidates who have given consent to run.

Show and Tell: The Opal was featured and many members showed off their treasures.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were given out.

Adjournment: 2:35 p.m. Motion made and accepted. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

John Guglik
MGCGMS - Acting Secretary

Snoopy Gems

Official Publication of

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Member of

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 2016

President	Liz Platt (228) 818-5412
Vice President	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Secretary	Lisa Fitch (228) 467-4684
Parliamentarian	Dave Cook (228) 875-2570
Editor/Webmaster	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Member at Large (1 year)	Bill White (228) 875-8716
Member at Large (2 year)	Buddy Shotts (601) 947-7245

COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Show Chairman	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Silent Auction	Liz Platt (228) 818-5412
Historian	Lettie White (228) 875-8716
Librarian	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Sunshine	Reba Shotts (601) 947-7245

ALAA	John Wright	Director (228) 875-9192
SFMS	John Wright	Past President (228) 875-9192
SFMS	Buddy Shotts	Long-range Planning & Past President (601) 947-7245

Annual dues are:

\$16 Individual

\$20 (2) Members in same house hold

\$6 Junior

2016 Workshop/Meeting Dates

January 9 OS Library 9:30-4:45

February 13 OS Library 1:00-4:45

March 12 St. Martin Public library 1:00-4:45

April 2 Club Picnic 11:00-5:00

Seashore Methodist Pavilion Biloxi, MS

May 14 OS Library 9:30-4:45

June 11 OS Library 9:30-4:45

July 9 OS Library 9:30-4:45

August 13 OS Library 9:30-4:45

September 10 OS Library 9:30-4:45

October 8 OS Library 9:30-4:45

November 10 After Vendor Dinner 7ish

December 12 Christmas Party Ocean Springs
Library 11:00am-4:00pm

***Be sure to check Dates 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 ****

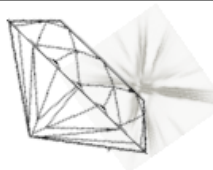

Nov 2016

Su M Tu W Th Fri Sa

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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			

We always welcome new members! Tell a friend!

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: _____		Home Phone: _____	
Address: _____		Cell 1. _____	
City: _____		Cell 2. _____	
State: _____		Email 1: _____	
Zip: _____		Email 2: _____	
Members in the Same Household			
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Please Check All Applicable Interests			
<input type="checkbox"/> Beading <input type="checkbox"/> Chain Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips <input type="checkbox"/> Fossils <input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Cabbing <input type="checkbox"/> PMC <input type="checkbox"/> Faceting <input type="checkbox"/> Wire Wrapping		<input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry Making <input type="checkbox"/> Lapidary <input type="checkbox"/> Minerals <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Smithing
How did you hear of us? _____			
Please check the following: <input type="checkbox"/> I understand that my picture or likeness may be used in Society promotions. <input type="checkbox"/> I authorize MGCMS to include my contact information be included in Society listings for members to contact each other only.			
Signature: _____			
Signature: _____			

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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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