



# Snoopy Gems

Volume 44 Number 2 February 2018  
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &  
Mineral Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

## President's Message

Members,

This is the month we draw two names to receive a scholarship to one of the SFMS sponsored lapidary school workshops. You do not have to be present to win, but we hope you'll want to attend the Saturday workshop to work on your projects. The scholarship qualifications are that you have been a member for one year or more and are an active member and participate in our events. Guidelines were published in last month's Snoopy Newsletter. If you want to confirm that if your name is on the list for the drawing, please call me.

The details for the April 14 Library Event, "Libraries Rock" are being finalized. Hopefully, we'll soon be able to accept your fee when you select a spot for yourself.

Remember that this month's workshop is at the St. Martin Library on 15004 Lemoyne Blvd.

Liz Platt  
MGCGMS President  
228-818-5412

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

## Workshop:

Jim Kirchner will have our machines available for those who would like to cab polish or cut their gemstones. We will have some of the stones donated to the club for everyone to see what we received.

Vicki Reynolds will be teaching a wire wrapped beaded bracelet.

Supplies:

21 or 20 gauge square wire 3 1/2 feet,  
1ft half round 20, 21 gauge.

10 beads 6mm, 4 beads 3mm.

Tools: Flat nose pliers, cutters, rose nose pliers  
Vicki will have copper wire & some beads if anyone wants to purchase. She will also have extra tools if someone needs to use them.

David W. Cook  
228-341-9944  
[dwcook@cableone.net](mailto:dwcook@cableone.net)



<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566

# Meeting Minutes:

## MS. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

**January 18, 2018**

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

**Members in Attendance:** 23

**Minutes to Accept:** President Liz Platt called meeting to order. There was no general meeting in December. November minutes were already accepted in December.

**Meeting:** President Liz Platt welcomed new members Suzanne Pearson and Monica White. She wished Happy Birthday to all January members. February and March meetings to be held at St. Martin Library. Scholarship information was discussed. Ed & Aurora King will share the things they learned in the classes they took with their scholarships in upcoming months.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Treasury Report:** Given by Barbi Beatty. A breakdown of show totals were discussed. A motion was made to accept by Lisa Fitch and 2nd by Barbara Saavedra. Motion carried.

**Workshops:** Given by Dave Cook. Two workshops were given. Dave Cook held wire wrapping for 3 members. Vicki Reynolds held an advanced wire wrapping class with 6 members.

Next month Vicki Reynolds to teach a wire Bracelet. A ring project to be taught at March meeting.

**Faceting:** Given by Barbi Beatty. Buddy has been sick. No classes have been held for a while.

**Sunshine Committee:** Given by President Liz Platt. Reba Shotts has been sick.

**Library Committee:** President Liz Platt stated the Library to get back to us soon.

**Projects:** Given by Natalie Webb. Natalie rents studio space from Sheila Smith at SAS in Long Beach & she is teaching a class in fused copper pendant & silk scarf with alcohol inks. Flyers with dates & times were passed out to members.

**Etched Copper Class:** Natalie arranged an Etched Copper Class at SAS by Sheila Smith. However new dates to be rearranged for a future date.

**Library Mini Show:** Show will be April 14, 2018. No time set yet. Will open to Gulfport Club members. Table cost \$20.00. Only items relating to our club will be sold at the mini show. Patrick Barrett will be manning our membership table at the mini show. President Liz Platt suggested we give a monetary gift to Library after the show. To be discussed at a future date.

**Tools & Equipment:** Given by Jim Kirchner. New students are doing well. Jim stated that the club needs equipment repairs & upgrades. Barbi Beatty made a motion that the equipment committee purchase required equipment. After some discussion Barbi withdrew her motion to allow Jim Kirchner to make the motion. Jim Kirchner proceeded and restated the motion and added "That the committee be allowed a \$1,000.00 budget to make these repairs and upgrades". A motion made to accept by Barbi Beatty & 2nd by Lisa Fitch. Motion carried. John Guglik stated to all new members that he can test gems, gold and silver to give an estimate (suggestion) of their worth.

**Show Report:** Given by Bill LaRue. Everything to remain the same this year as we had last year. Bill to start making vendor calls March 1st. There was a \$600 increase in 2017 for the building rental. Further discussion to be made for future advertising ideas for this year's show.

**Old Business:** None per President Liz Platt.

**New Business:** Given by Barbi Beatty. She stated her and Husband Karl picked up donated rocks from Grand Daughter of a man John Guglik spoke with at the show. A donation of several wood boxes and 18 buckets of assorted loose rocks was made to our club.

**Show & Tell:** Jane showed us her garnet bracelet that was made by her husband David Cook.

**Door Prizes:** 4 items were given.

**Adjournment:** 2:27 p.m. Motion made by Dave Cook and 2nd by Barbi Beatty. All members were in favor. Motion carried.

Report by: Cheryl Rodriguez MGCGMS Secretary

**Disclaimer:** MGCGMS is bound by our By-Laws dated March 11, 2012 Article V, Number 6-2 Acceptance of Minutes. Minutes are subject to corrections (additions or retractions) and are not accepted until majority vote of the members at the next meeting. Your participation in any way as a member(s) is sincerely appreciated.





# Happy February Birthday

*Amethyst*  
METAMORPHOSIS  
CONTENTMENT  
SPIRITUALITY  
WISDOM



Bill LaRue

Vicki Reynolds

Clayton Tate



## Amethyst - History and Introduction

Amethyst belongs to the quartz group of minerals. It is recognized as the official birthstone for the month of February. Amethyst belongs to the macrocrystalline branch of quartz. It gets its violet/purple color to iron and aluminum impurities. Like other varieties of macrocrystalline quartz, amethyst has transparent to translucent clarity and a vitreous luster.

Amethyst Gemological Properties:

Chemical Formula:  $\text{SiO}_2$  - Silicon dioxide

Crystal Structure: Trigonal; hexagonal prisms

Color: Violet, pale red-violet, purple

Hardness: 7 on the Mohs scale

Refractive Index: 1.544 - 1.553

Density: 2.65

Cleavage: None

Transparency: Transparent to semi-translucent

Double Refraction / Birefringence: 0.009

Luster: Vitreous

## Amethyst Origin and Sources

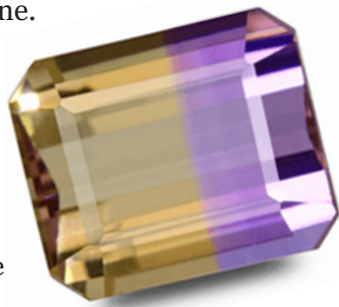
The most important amethyst deposits are in Brazil, namely the "Palmeira" amethysts of Rio Grande do Sul and the "Maraba" amethysts of Para. Other significant amethyst deposits are located in Bolivia, Canada, India, Madagascar, Mexico, Myanmar (Burma), Namibia, Russia, Sri Lanka, United States (Arizona), Uruguay and Zambia.



## Amethyst Color



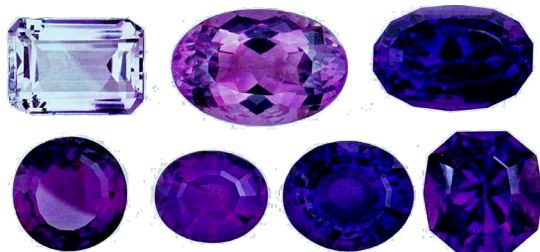
Amethyst owes its color to iron and aluminum impurities. The colors range from purple and violet to pale red-violet. The deep colors are the most valuable, particularly a rich purple with rose flashes. Amethyst does not display its best color in artificial light. Amethyst looks best in daylight; especially, slightly after sunrise or just before sunset when the light is soft and warm. Amethyst is distinguished by its violet-purple colors. The best specimens have a deep purple color and good saturation with minimal color zoning. Amethyst is typically untreated. Some amethyst stones may be enhanced though heating, but heating of amethyst will reduce coloring agents and result in 'heated citrine'. The only difference between amethyst and citrine is the level of iron impurities in amethyst. When amethyst is heated at high temperatures of around 470°C to 750°C, iron impurities are reduced and can turn from violet to golden creating a 'heated' citrine. Lower grade amethyst stones are often heated to produce golden colored citrine stones. Heated citrine will typically appear more reddish when compared to unheated citrine. What is being called green amethyst is produced by heat treatment, but since amethyst is defined by its purple color, green amethyst is not considered to be a true amethyst. Ametrine is the bi-colored combination of both amethyst and citrine.



Ametrine

## Amethyst Clarity and Luster

Fine amethyst is transparent, which means the light passes through the stone unhindered. In translucent amethyst, the passage of light is slightly weakened as it travels through the stone. The best quality amethyst is "clean" and free of visible inclusions of any kind. Since amethyst is quite plentiful, there is little reason to buy stones with visible inclusions.



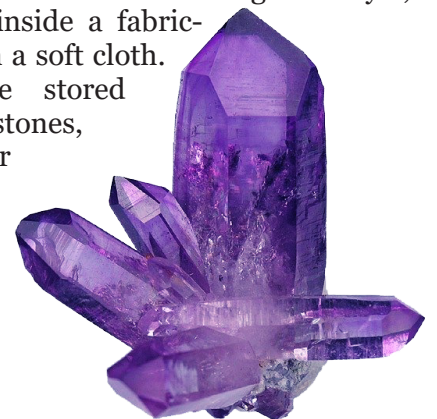
## Amethyst Cut and Shape

Due to the variability of the color distribution in the amethyst crystals, it is often cut as brilliant rounds or ovals to maximize the color. Very rarely will amethyst be cut into a cabochon. Other shapes and modified cutting styles are quite popular, but typically, only amethyst specimens with good color distribution are cut into fancy stones. Amethyst is available in just about every shape, cut and size. Calibrated sizes are easily found and fancy shapes such as trillions, hearts and shields are very common. Amethyst is often carved into ornamental shapes, so there are many amethyst carvings available on the market today.



## Amethyst Gemstone and Jewelry Care and Cleaning

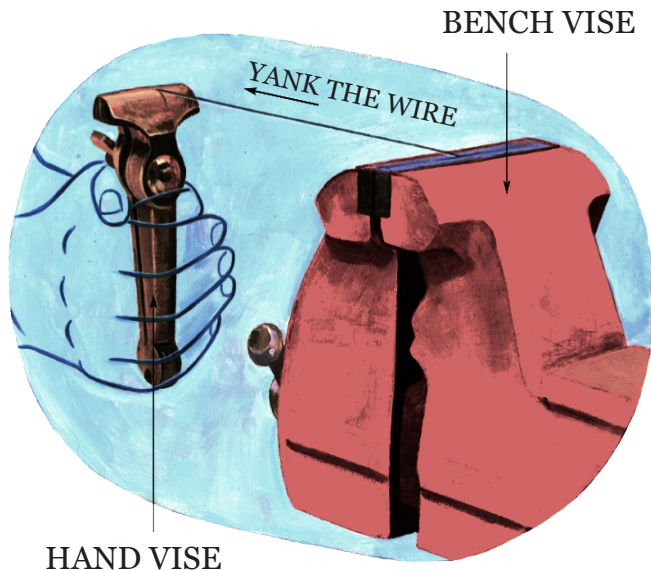
Amethyst can easily be cleaned with warm water and a mild soap. Wipe down amethyst using a soft cloth or toothbrush. Amethyst is quartz and although it is relatively hard and durable, there are a number of other gemstones capable of easily scratching amethyst. Therefore, take caution and do not place other harder gems near amethyst when storing, cleaning or wearing amethyst jewelry. As with most other colored stones, do not use harsh household chemicals when cleaning amethyst gemstone jewelry. Avoid prolonged exposure to extreme heat, because heat can cause permanent damage to the gemstone. When storing amethyst, always store jewelry inside a fabric-lined box or wrap it in a soft cloth. Amethyst should be stored separately from other stones, whether of whether or not they are harder or softer.





# Bench Tip:

## Getting Out the Kinks STRAIGHTENING WIRE



Often during fabrication—especially when making hinge pins and brooch pins—jewelers need a straight piece of wire. But if the wire comes off a coil or has been sitting in a box, it is often bent or irregular. Consequently, it must be straightened. One way to accomplish this is by tapping the wire with a mallet against a hard flat steel surface. But even that often fails to yield wire that is truly straight.

The best way to make wire dead straight is to pull it taut. To do this, place one end of the wire in a stationary vise and the other in a hand vise. (Note: with thin wire you will need at least a two foot length; and the thicker the wire, the longer the piece needed to apply the force to stretch it.) Pull the wire taut and horizontal, then give it a smooth, firm, hard yank; this will actually stretch it a small amount. Instantly, the wire becomes perfectly straight. In addition, the wire is now noticeably harder, slightly longer, and immeasurably thinner

Source: 101 Bench Tips for Jewelers by Alan Revere  
<http://shop.revereacademy.com/s2/101-bench-tips-for-jewelers.html>

## Beautiful Workshop Results from January

Dave Cook's Beginners wire wrapping class



Vicki Reynolds advanced wire wrapping class



Mark Daynes has been hard at work cabbing



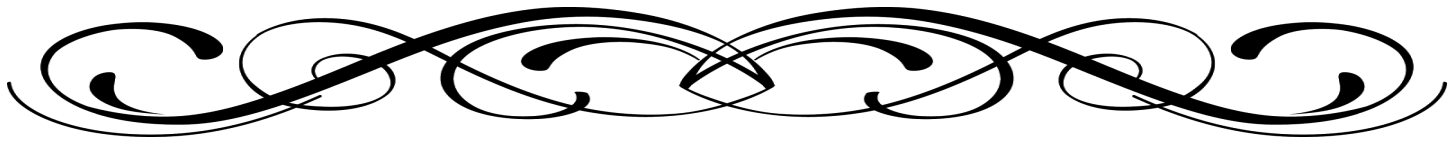
# We always welcome new members!



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

|  |                                     |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <a href="http://www.mgcgms.org">http://www.mgcgms.org</a>  |                                     | <b>Application for Membership</b>            |  |
| 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)



## Upcoming Gem Shows

**Feb. 6- 7, 2016**

**Merritt Island, Florida**

**39th Annual Symphony of Gemstones  
Show and Sale**

**Sponsored by Central Brevard Rock and  
Gem Club**

Kiwanis Island Recreation Center

951 Kiwanis Island Park Rd.

Sat. /Sun 10AM - 5 PM adult's \$5 children under  
12 are free when accompanied by adult

Flyers for \$1 off admission can be found on our  
website: [centralbrevardgems.org](http://centralbrevardgems.org)

Contact information: Roz Mestre Email: [roz.mestre@att.net](mailto:roz.mestre@att.net), (321) 431-0159.

Club website: [www.centralbrevardgems.org](http://www.centralbrevardgems.org)

**February 20-21, 2016**

**Vero Beach, FL**

**Gem and Jewelry Show**

**Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society**

Saturday 10AM to 5PM, Sunday 10AM to 4PM

Vero Beach Community Center

2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960

\$5 Donation at the door

Email contact: [Treasurecoastrockandgem@gmail.com](mailto:Treasurecoastrockandgem@gmail.com)

**February 24 – 25th 2018**

**Jackson Mississippi**

**59th Gem Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry  
Show**

**Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society**

Saturday, February 24 from 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday, February 25 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

Additional information: [rock2lanes@gmail.com](mailto:rock2lanes@gmail.com)

Club website: [www.missgems.org](http://www.missgems.org)

**FEBRUARY 24, 2018**

**Lakeland, Florida Annual Show and Sale  
Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil  
Society**

Saturday 9:00am - 4:30pm

175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801

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 28, 2016**

**The Villages Gem & Mineral Society  
4th Annual Show**

**The Villages, FL**

Sunday: 10AM to 4 PM

Sea Breeze Regional Recreation Center

2374 Buena Vista Blvd

The Villages, FL 32162

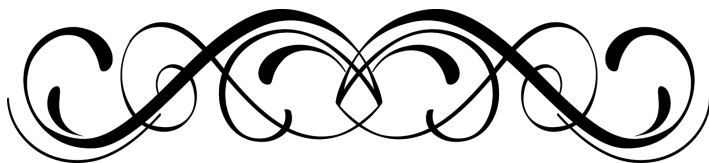
Admission is FREE FREE parking

Show contact: Christine Courtwright, Show  
Chair, 352-753-6139

E-mail address: [number1cc@gmail.com](mailto:number1cc@gmail.com)

Society website: [http://  
thevillagesgemandmineralsociety.com/](http://thevillagesgemandmineralsociety.com/)





## MGCGMS Guidelines and Procedures for Scholarship Eligibility

Recipients must have been a paid member for a full 12 months of the previous year for which scholarships are being given. Dues must be paid prior to January 31st of the year for which the scholarships selections are being made.

Potentially eligible recipients must be active members in the MS Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society by having participated in a minimum of four meetings/workshops during the prior year.

Working at the show may count as one of the participations. One day of the show work may be substituted for one of the four meetings/workshops. Only one such substitution is allowed.

Participants may not win consecutive year scholarships. A recipient of a scholarship who uses it or did not use or relinquish the scholarship before the mid-year point of the scholarship year is ineligible for the following year. Mid-year is defined as the midpoint time for the season of lapidary class availability. For example: William Holland classes ran from 4/14 through the week of October 27 this year. The total number of weeks was 29, so the 15th week on Wednesday is the exact midpoint in the time.

All Scholarships must be used the year awarded. No scholarship will carry over to the following year.

Alternates for the scholarships available will be drawn in a double (2X) multiple of the number of scholarships being granted for the given year.

This means that if two scholarships are being awarded, then 4 alternates are drawn and each will be eligible for any unused scholarship in the order their names are drawn. No scholarship will be transferred to another member outside of these society procedures.

Scholarship recipients are expected to attend the Southeast Federation sponsored workshops. Only with the board approval can a non-federation sponsored workshop be substituted for a federation sponsored workshop.

The treasurer will work with the recipient and the federation if there are special situations or needs.

Scholarship recipients will present a signed certificate of completion or canceled check or paid receipt to the Treasurer for reimbursement. This may be done at a meeting, via email or snail mail.

Upon recipient's completion of the class and return from lapidary school, all scholarship recipients are expected to share their learning with other club members and present a class or a "show and tell" of their experience at the school.

Note: These guidelines were set out in the year 2013, updated 2015 and will be the procedure to follow in years following until such time the membership chooses to revise them.

## SFMS WORKSHOPS 2018

### Workshop I – William Holland – June 10-16

| Instructor           | Class                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Gail Delucca         | Beading                        |
| Dave Bergquist       | Cabs 1                         |
| Tom & Kay Benham     | Chasing & Repousse             |
| Sandi Bergquist      | Jr Wire/Chainmaille            |
| Micah Kirby          | Electro-Etching                |
| Debra Mauser         | Immersion Enamel/CC            |
| Linda Searcy         | Gem Faceting                   |
| Bill Boggs           | Intarsia                       |
| Chuck Bruce          | Intro to Inlay                 |
| Patti Appleby        | Silver I                       |
| Vicki Prillaman      | Silver 2 – Rings, Rings, Rings |
| Jan & Keith Stephens | Silver-Wear: Spoon Jewelry     |
| Gene Sheridan        | Wire 2 Bracelets               |

### Workshop I – Wildacres – August 20-26

| Instructor         | Class             |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Casting            | Bill Harr         |
| Chain Maille       | Roy Deere         |
| Intro to Gem ID    | Teresa Polly      |
| Metalwork Projects | Jeff Sheer        |
| Metal Clay         | Judi Talley       |
| Silver I           | Morning Sherrod   |
| Wire               | Rowan Rose-Morgan |

### Workshop II – Wildacres – September 17-23

| Instructor        | Class           |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Chain Maille      | Roy Deere       |
| Cold Connections  | Morning Sherrod |
| Electro Etching   | Micah Kirby     |
| Enameling         | Ruth Prince     |
| Intro to Inlay    | Chuck Bruce     |
| Seed Bead Weaving | Ann Page        |



**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       | Liz Platt (228) 818-5412        |
| 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 | Buddy Shotts (601) 947-7245     |

#### COMMITTEES

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

#### AFFILIATIONS

|      |   |
|------|---|
| ALAA | John Wright: Director   |
| SFMS | John Wright: Past President                                       |
| SFMS | Barbi Beatty: Assistant 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

## 2018 Workshop/Meeting Dates

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

**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 2018

| Su | M  | Tu | W  | Th | Fri | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|
|    |    |    |    | 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 |    |     |    |
|    |    |    |    |    |     |    |

# 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