



Snoopy Gems

Volume 44 Number 5 May 2018
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

President's Message

Members,

April was fun with our annual picnic on the 7th and the "Libraries Rock" Jewelry Show on the 14th. Thanks to all those who participated, demonstrated, showed their work, or helped out any way. You are all appreciated and help to make our club active and vibrant. We are also pleased to have a Monday evening faceting and beading group which meets most weeks.

Dave Cook has planned a full day of events for our May workshop and meeting. Aurora will teach "findings," Dave will review wire basics, and Ed will bring his work to exhibit. Jim will review work with our equipment. We'll have a simple potluck and very brief meeting. Hope to see you all there.

Liz Platt
MGCGMS President
228-818-5412

May Workshop:

Workshop 1: Jim will introduce members to cabbing covering all the basics and the proper care of the machines. There will be a small fee for the use of the machine.

Workshop 2: For advanced wire-wrap students, Aurora will demonstrate how to make headpins, ear wires, S clasp, hook and eye closures and swan hooks. You will be using 18 and 20 gauge wire. Copper and silver will be available for purchase. Bring round nose pliers, wire cutter, anvil and hammer, file and beads for earrings.

Workshop 3: For new students, Dave will give an introduction to wire wrapping covering wire types, metals, where to purchase wire, tools used in wire wrapping and how to make bundles which are the base for pendants, bracelets, and rings. Students will get hands on experience in make a bracelet using copper wire. If you have a set of jewelry making tools, please bring them. The materials fee will be \$1.00.

David W. Cook
228-341-9944
dwcook@cableone.net

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566

Meeting Minutes:

MS GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

March 10, 2018

Called to order: 1:02 p.m.

Members in Attendance: 16

Meeting: President Liz Platt called the meeting to order. Possibly 1 new member. Jeneane Wending is back with the club library.

Minutes to Accept: A motion was made to accept the February minutes by Bill LaRue & 2nd by Barbi Beatty. Motion carried.

Treasury Report: Given by Barbi Beatty. Deposits from membership dues & petty cash made. Southeast Fed. dues were paid. Checks were ordered. Motion was made to accept by Barbara Saavedra & 2nd by David Cook. Motion carried.

General Announcements: Back to Ocean Springs library in May. Picnic on 4/7/18. Lisa Fitch has sign up sheet. April 14, 2018 is Mini show from 10 to 4 pm.

Committee Reports:

Workshops: Dave Cook taught class on how to wire wrap 2 separate style rings. In May Aurora King teaching class on jewelry findings with Husband Ed Kings workshop class.

Tools & Equipment: Given by Jim Kirchner. Tools have been repaired. List of all club equipment was available. Jim composing policies & procedures in writing with the guidelines on how to work all equipment. Rock suggestions made from members to donate to a school, put in display cases, use as door prizes or to give to kids at our Gem shows. Will further discuss with John Guglik to oversee.

Library: Jeneane returned our library. Liz Platt will review & make a full list of items. Suggestions to put our library on website & have magazine subscriptions available to members. Natalie Webb will report back with information.

Sunshine: Given by Barbi Beatty. Cards sent to Ginger Criss, Benta Paul & new members Jerry & Lois Meador.

Mini Show: Applications available. Money due to receive a space. Buddy Shotts & Mark Daynes doing demos. Patrick Barrett at membership table. Show date 4/14/18 from

10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Outside classes/workshops: Natalie Webb teaching classes at SAS in Long Beach. Contact Natalie if interested.

Magnolia State Gem Show: Given by Bill LaRue. Contracts were sent out to some vendors. Awaiting receipt of vendors signed contracts.

Audit: Patrick Barrett along with Liz Platt & Barbi Beatty completed audit on 2/24/18.

Old Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Given by President Liz Platt. Suggestion was made to appoint Reba Shotts the clubs Standing Representative to SFMS & AFM. Will further discuss.

Show & Tell: Several members showed Aquamarine stones.

Door Prizes: Won by Barbi Beatty, Natalie Webb, Jeneane Wending & David Cook.

Adjournment: 2:02 p.m. Motion made by Lisa Fitch & 2nd by Jim Kirchner. All members in favor. Motion carried.



Happy

May

Emerald

PATIENCE LOVE

UNDERSTANDING

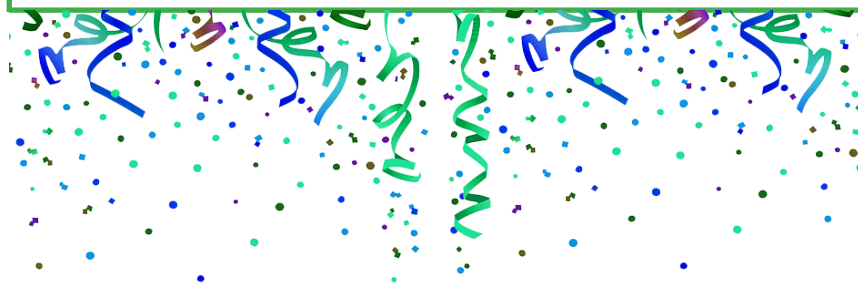
ROMANCE

FORESIGHT



Birthday

Buddy Shotts



May's Birthstone

By: John Wright, RPG



El Perfecto – Martin Zinn collection
Photo by Jeff Scovil (1990)

Emerald is the birthstone for May and in many cultures the symbol of Springtime, youth, and eternal love. Astrologists believe that emeralds have clairvoyance and prophetic powers. The name “**emerald**” is derived from French “**esmeraude**” via Latin to the Greek root “**smaragd**” meaning green stone. Rooted in antiquity they were used as gemstones by the Pharaohs of Egypt, the High Priests of ancient Central and South American societies, and worldwide by kings and potentates throughout history.

The few Biblical references that many ascribe to emeralds are questionable and while possible, it is more than likely that the gems were feldspars (Amazonite ?) or some other common variety of green stone. It should also be noted that Biblical and many other ancient references did not always consider emeralds to be green or in the beryl family, but just beautiful stones.

While **emeralds** are a green variety of **beryl** not all green **beryl** is **emerald**. The chemical composition of emeralds which includes **chromium** normally gives them

a soft lustrous green color (emerald green). Often **green beryl** (no chromium) is commonly accepted as emeralds. Yellow-green or olive **heliodors** from Brazil, which contain traces of **iron** instead of chromium, are also sold as emeralds. Now, just to muddy the water up a little bit and add to the challenge, you cannot use color alone to identify emeralds. Light to medium shades of emerald and darker shades of green beryl and heliodors can make identification extremely difficult. All are species of the beryl family and many of their physical properties are the same.

Physical properties

Family: Beryl

Chemical Composition: Silicate of Beryllium & Aluminum – w – Chromium.

Crystal System: Hexagonal prism with tabular habit, flat well terminated surfaces, etching, and growth marks

Birefringence: 06

Refractive Indices: Variable from ne 1.560 , nw 1.570 to ne 1.595, nw 1.602

Density: 2.67 – 2.72 g/cm³ normally, can be as much as 2.90 g/cm³

Hardness: 7.5 – 8 (often brittle)

Cleavage: Imperfect or ill-defined, parallel to basal plane

Pleochroic: Intensity varies according to body color from weak to distinct

All emeralds have inclusions, but in the better-quality stones they are very faint and not visible to the naked eye. The most common shape for gem stones is the step or trap cut which is also known as the “emerald cut”.



Antique emeralds are found with hexagonal step cuts, pear shapes, and made into cabochons with a hole in them for use as a pendant. Early jewelry worn by royalty and priests in Pre-Columbian Central and South America used matched uncut emerald crystals mounted on a horizontal axis to the necklace or bracelet strand with a larger emerald or medallion at the center. These stones were normally tied on with gold wire, but on some occasions, they were drilled.



One of the largest emeralds in the world is the “Mongol Emerald” and originally belonged to an Indian Maharaja. It dates back to the year 1695, weighs 217.80 carats and is about 10 cm high. This stone was auctioned by Christie’s of London and purchased by an anonymous buyer for 2.2 million U.S. dollars about 20 years ago.

Emeralds are one of the oldest gemstones and deposits are found widely dispersed around the world. We know that they were mined by Egyptians along the Red Sea during the reign of the Pharaohs and by the Incas and Aztecs a thousand years before Columbus discovered America, so the question arises, why are they so expensive. **The majority of emeralds found are not of gem quality, the ones that are of gem quality are usually small and most importantly there is a huge market.** All things being equal (quality, size, weight, etc.), emeralds are equal too or even more expensive than diamonds.

Most of us know that the majority of gem quality emeralds come from South America and that the Emerald Capitol of the world is Bogota, Columbia. Small deposits have been found in many other areas of the world but they are usually small and of poor quality. There are exceptions and some of the larger more famous emeralds were found in Africa and northern India, but deposits in these areas were limited and for the most part larger gemstones were mined out many years ago.

The magical lure of the emerald is still as strong as ever and there are still many people willing to risk everything to find them. I think most of us have heard the story about the individual in western North Carolina who after many years of frustration and near bankruptcy finally located a deposit that contained gem quality material, some quite large and of considerable value. Deposits have also recently been found in Alaska, but my understanding is that while they contain gem quality emeralds most are small. Rumors also persist that deposits are known to exist in the Pacific Northwest. I know that there are a lot of people hunting for them, but I have not heard of any actually being found.

Bench Tips:

POLISHING WHEELS

In the finishing sequence there's a step called pre-polishing, between sanding and buffing, and one of the most effective tools I've found to help here is the little silicone wheels used in a Foredom or Dremel. They come in several different abrasive levels and several different shapes. The wheels are color coded to denote their abrasive level. Different shapes (coin, knife, cylinder, point, etc) are available to match the geometry of the area being cleaned up.

For a starter, I'd suggest a medium, a fine, and an extra fine wheel in both the coin shape and the knife-edge shape. Be sure to get a few extra mandrels so you'll have one of each wheel shape mounted and ready to go.

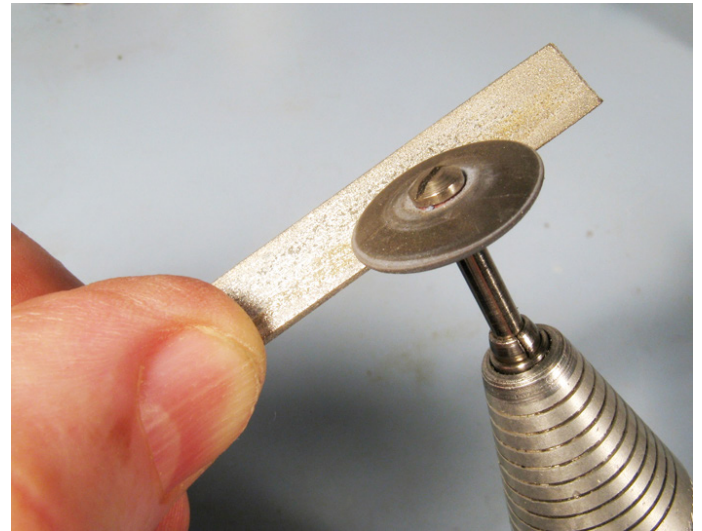
The thicker coin shapes are particularly handy. Cylinder shapes are nice for doing the inside of rings, and knife-edge shapes quickly clean up the solder joint around the outside base of your bezels.



Most jewelry catalogs carry these wheels, but often the color codes don't match between different manufacturers.

RESHAPING SILICONE WHEELS

Silicone polishing wheels in the Dremel or Foredom are a great time saver, but after using them a bit they often need to be reshaped. This is particularly true with the knife-edge wheels.



The natural thought is to grab one of your files and hold it up against the rotating wheel to reshape it. But this gives you a problem. The grinding grit in the silicone wheel is much harder than steel, meaning that you end up grinding down the teeth of your file.

The best way to reshape your polishing wheels is to use a diamond file or a separating disk. If you don't have one and must use a steel file, I sacrifice the area of the file that is closest to the handle. That's an area which is not used in normal bench work.

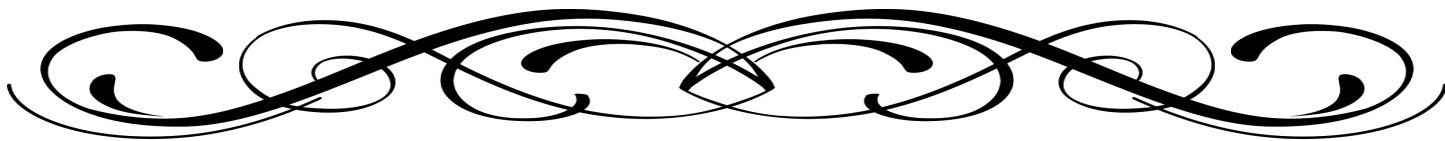
We always welcome new members!



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.
P.O. Box 857 Ocean Springs MS 39566
mgcgms@bellsouth.net



Upcoming Gem Shows

May 11, 12, & 13, 2018

Franklin, NC

Gem & Mineral Society of Franklin, NC

Fri. & Sat., May 11th & 12th, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sun., May 13th, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Carpenter Community Center, 1288 Georgia Rd. (US441), Franklin, NC

No admission charge, indoor, climate controlled, rough and finished

gemstone and jewelry, minerals, fossils and demonstrations.

Contact: Norman Holbert, 828-634-0350, normholbert@comcast.net

May 6-7-8, 2016 Marietta, GA

Gem and Mineral Show, Auction

THE GEORGIA MINERAL SOCIETY

Fri: 10 AM to 6PM; Sat: 10AM-6PM;
Sun: Noon-5PM

Cobb County Civic Center

548 South Marietta Parkway

Marietta, GA 30060

Saturday auction at 1pm!

hourly adult and junior door prizes!

\$3.00 grab bags!

30+ Dealers

Club Hospitality table, Educational exhibits, Demonstrations

Show contact: Shelley Stubbs, Show Chair

Email address: mayshow@gamineral.org

GMS Website: <http://www.gamineral.org>

May 19 - 20, 2018

Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society

38th Anniversary Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show

JOPPA Shrine Temple, 13280 Shriners Blvd, Biloxi, MS.

Saturday 9AM - 5PM & Sunday 9AM - 4PM

adults \$5, children (10 and under) free with adult

Jewelry / Rocks / Gems / Beads / Fossils / Minerals

Demonstrations, Displays, Exhibits, Stump the Expert,

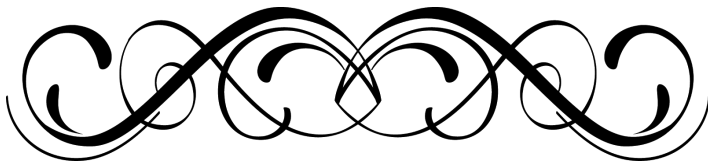
Kid's Corner and Door Prizes Hourly

Discount Coupon available at Facebook and Website

Facebook: [facebook.com/gulfportgems](https://www.facebook.com/gulfportgems)

Website Information: www.gulfportgems.org

E-mail: gulfportgems.show@gmail.com



SFMS WORKSHOPS 2018

2018 SFMS Workshops

Note: Due to uncontrollable circumstances, the Electro Etching and Chasing class have been cancelled for the June workshop at William Holland.

One of the unique facets of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies is our Workshop Program, which offers members the opportunity to gather for week-long, hands-on seminars taught by experienced instructors. Whether you are a newcomer to the lapidary arts and want to learn the basics, or you're experienced and want to learn something new or hone your skills, the Workshop Program has something for you.

We look forward to seeing you!



Metal Class at Wildacres

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



Casting Class at William Holland

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

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

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 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

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

May 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	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

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