

Est. 1979

Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.



Volume 41

July 2020

Number 7



Gulfport Gems

Member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Society

P.O. Box 10136
Gulfport, Ms. 39505



www.facebook.com/gulfportgems
Website: www.gulfportgems.org

A message from the President...

Dear Members,

Well, it looks like for the time being we will be communicating by email, Skype and phone. I talked to the person in charge of the community center. He said that they still do not know when they will be able to allow us to meet at the community center again. I will continue to check with him but it doesn't look good because the virus is increasing. I am afraid that the governor may tighten restrictions again.

We will have a regular Skype meeting July 18th at one p.m. Lynn will send out an invitation to everyone. Please join us. If you have a problem connecting contact Lynn.

You will get credit for a meeting by attending the Skype meetings. These meetings will help to satisfy the requirement for attending six meetings to qualify for the scholarship drawing.

Hope everyone is doing well. It is such a strange time with everything that is happening stay safe. Hope to see all of you before long.

President Sue West

Please continue to check our website and Facebook pages for updates.

www.gulfportgems.org

www.facebook.com/gulfportgems

Notes from the editor . . .

I hope everyone is safe and healthy during this pandemic. Checkout Nicole's article on the next page.

Meeting:

Physical meeting Cancelled due to center being closed and Corvid-19. Regular meeting via Skype.

Regular Meeting

Via Skype

Video by cellphone, computer, or tablet

July 18th, 2020 Time: 1pm

Download skype first, then near 1pm on the day of meeting look in your email for the link to join.

Thought of the Day . . .

Don't take your freedom and independence for granted, someone had to work hard and make sacrifices for it.

Happy 4th of July





Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society

June 23, 2020 Skype Meeting

Members in Attendance: 7

Sue West, Lynn Tate, Cindy Braden, Nicole Green, Monica White, Gladys Dedeaux, and Rosalind Daniels

Call to Order: By President Sue West at 1:06 pm, by way of Skype

The first order of business, Sue asked the members to report the feedback (telephone inquiries) from the general membership on whether or not we should have a Gem & Mineral Show this year. The general consensus leaned heavily toward cancelling the event this year. The motion was made by Cindy Braden to cancel the show this year. Gladys Dedeaux seconded the motion. None opposed. The motion passed.

Show:

Sue will send an email to the members to make them aware of this decision.
Lynn Tate will notify the vendors.

General Meeting

With the recreational center still closed, the question was asked: "How can the members meet the required 6 meeting minimum this year?" It was decided that Skype meetings will be considered a regular meeting.

Sue will continue to check with the city of Gulfport as to the status of the recreational center's opening. This will also be relayed to the membership by way of email, as well as newsletter.

The next general meeting will be held on July 18, 2020 at 1:00pm, by way of Skype, unless something changes in the meantime.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 1:46pm. A motion was made by Nicole Green and 2nd by Rosalind. None opposed. The motion passed.



Nicole Green's Project

I miss our workshops. So, I chose a project on www.Youtube.com doing something I have never done before. I guess you call it beading. Anyway, I really struggled with it. The lady spoke with a foreign accent, but that wasn't a problem. I suppose since English wasn't her first language, she kept her instructions brief, and she never seemed to slow down. So, here is my project. It's almost finished. I wanted to share it with the members and challenge everyone to learn something new. Share pictures with us, by way of the newsletter. Have fun & be challenged!

By Editor . . .

Please submit projects you are working on so we can all see the wonderful things members are doing at home. This would be a great workshop. Can't wait until we actually meet to see all the **"Show & Tells"**.



Off the menu . . .



**Happy
Birthday**



**Ed King
Maria Ramos
Jessie Sisk**

Happy Anniversary



Karen Johnston

Program

12:00 pm to 12:30 pm

TBA when meetings convene

* * * * *

Contact Program Chairman
Vice President Cindy Braden
to book a program at 706-266-0221

Cabbing Workshops

If you are interested in cabbing we have instructors available to teach you. Time may be limited if other members are waiting to use the machines.

- ◆ \$3.00 per Day for equipment usage
- ◆ Must be a member (waiver on file)
- ◆ Guest not allowed to use equipment
- ◆ Contact Equipment Chairman
Vice president Cindy Braden 706-266-0221

Patriotic Pizza



Prep Time: 20 Mins. **Total:** 1 Hr. 35 Mins.
Servings: 24 **Preheat Oven:** 350

Ingredients:

- 1 roll Pillsbury™ refrigerated sugar cookies
- 1 Package (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup Powdered sugar
- 2 tsp. grated Lemon peel
- 2 cups fresh Raspberries
- 1 1/2 cups fresh Blueberries
- 1/4 cup Apple jelly, melted

Heat oven to 350°F.

Spray 12-inch pizza pan with cooking spray

**Cut cookie dough into 1/4-inch slices; place in pan.
With floured fingers, press evenly over bottom to form crust.**

Bake 15 to 20 minutes or until deep golden brown.

Cool completely, about 25 minutes.

In medium bowl, beat cream cheese, powdered sugar and lemon peel until fluffy. Spread over cooled baked crust. Arrange raspberries in large star shape in center. Arrange blueberries around raspberries.

Drizzle or brush with melted jelly. Refrigerate until set, about 30 minutes.

Store in refrigerator.

Bits, Tips and Tricks

Pearl Dangle Sterling Earrings



Supplies:

- Ear Wires (2)
- Rubber Earring Backs for ear wires (2)
- 7 - 8 mm Closed Jump rings (2)
- 4 or 6mm pearls or crystal/beads (10)
- 20 mm Wire (gold, sterling, or craft wire
- 1" headpins 20 gauge(10)

Tools:

- Flush cutters
- Ruler
- Round nose pliers
- Mat

Gauge of wire is your choice what you like to work with and wear.

Beads, pearls, or crystals are also your choice in size and they can be graduated in sizes to give dimension to earrings. These are easy to make and are very forgiving, you can't mess these up. Enjoy. . .



- 1) Take all ten Pearls / beads and use the 1" headpins. Put your Pearl on and make a simply loop. You may wrap them if your choose. (If you are wrapping allow more wire.)
- 2) Cut all wire at the same time to make sure they are all equal lengths.
2 pieces of wire at 2 inches, 4 pieces at 1-1/2 inch, and 4 pieces at 1 inch.
(You can cut them any length you choose to your liking. Make sure they are staged in size.)
- 3) Now make a simple loop on each one, before closing loop, attach a Pearl / bead to all the pieces you just cut.
- 4) Make one more simple loop on each end of the wires and attach 5 to each closed jump ring.
Shortest one first, midsize second, longest one 3rd, then midsize again and shortest one last.
(See Picture)
- 5) Attach each Jump ring to the ear wire. Always turn loop on ear wire to the side. Never open outward.
- 6) Attach the rubber earring back. Finished!



Rubies



Anniversary - 15th & 40th

FACTS

Mineral: Corundum
Chemical composition: Al_2O_3
Color: Red
Refractive index: 1.762 to 1.770
Birefringence: 0.008 to 0.010
Specific gravity: 4.00 (+/- 0.05)
Mohs Hardness: 9

In its purest form, the mineral corundum is colorless. Trace elements that become part of the mineral's crystal structure cause variations in its color. Chromium is the trace element that causes ruby's red, which ranges from an orangey red to a purplish red.

The strength of ruby's red depends on how much chromium is present—the more chromium, the stronger the red color. Chromium can also cause fluorescence, which adds to the intensity of the red color.

The name ruby comes from the Latin word *ruber*, which means "red." The glowing red of ruby suggested an inextinguishable flame burning in the stone, even shining through clothing and able to boil water. In the ancient language of Sanskrit, ruby is called *ratnaraj*, or "king of precious stones."

Ruby has been called the most precious of the 12 stones created by God.

The Ruby represents love, passion, courage and emotion. For centuries this gem has been considered the king of all gems. It was believed that wearing a fine red Ruby bestowed good fortune on its owner. Rubies have been the prized possession of emperors and kings throughout the ages. To this day the Ruby is the most valued gemstone.

The color of a Ruby is the most important feature of the gemstone. Rubies are available in a range of red hues from purplish and bluish red to orange-red. The brightest and most valuable color of Ruby is often "a Burmese Ruby" – an indication that it is a rich, passionate, hot, full red color with a slight blue hue. This color is often referred to as "pigeon blood" red, a Ruby color only associated with the Mogok Valley mines in Myanmar. The color Pigeon Blood Ruby red, is not associated with the color of a pigeon's blood but rather the color of a white pigeon's eye.

Ruby is the most valuable variety of the corundum mineral species, which also includes sapphire. Rubies can command the highest per-carat price of any colored stone. This makes ruby one of the most important gems in the colored stone market.

History & Lore . . .

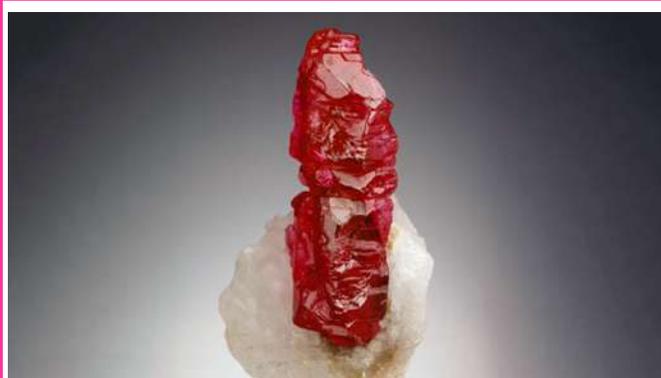
Ancient Hindus believed that those who offered fine rubies to the god Krishna were granted rebirth as emperors. They divided the ruby into four castes, calling the true Oriental ruby a Brahmin. Someone in possession of a Brahmin was believed to have the advantage of perfect safety.

Ruby has accumulated a host of legends over the centuries. People in India believed that rubies enabled their owners to live in peace with their enemies. In Burma (a ruby source since at least 600 AD now called Myanmar), warriors possessed rubies to make them invincible in battle.

However, it wasn't enough to just wear the rubies. They had to insert them into their flesh and make them part of their bodies. Many medieval Europeans wore rubies to guarantee health, wealth, wisdom, and success in love.

In the first century AD, the Roman scholar Pliny included rubies in his *Natural History*, describing their hardness and density.

Ruby found in Basalt Rocks



In other locations, rubies can be found in basalt rocks. Rubies from these sources can have higher iron content, which can make the rubies darker and less intense in color. Higher iron content in the chemical makeup of a ruby can also mask the red fluorescence, eliminating that extra glow of red color seen in marble-hosted rubies.

“In The Spotlight”

Largest Ruby



The 125West Ruby is currently the largest ruby in the world. This unique specimen is one of the world's largest known rough ruby gemstones and weighs 8.2lbs or 18,696 carats. The ruby is semi-translucent to opaque and contains rutile, which may create a six-ray star if cut 'en cabochon' (i.e. polished but not faceted). The crystal displays a strong red fluorescence when exposed to long-wave ultraviolet light. It measures 122.4mm x 112.3mm x 133.9mm.



Rubies found in marble deposits often have a vibrant red glow.

Marble has low iron content, so the Rubies that originate in marble (called “marble-hosted” by gemologists) lack iron. Because of this, many have an intense red color.



The most renowned rubies, like those from Myanmar, the Himalayas, and Northern Vietnam, typically form in marble. They're found in layers that are distributed irregularly within the surrounding marble. Marble forms as part of the metamorphic (rock-altering) process, when heat and pressure from mountain formation act on existing limestone deposits.



Southeast Federation News

S.F.M.S. Newsletter

Subscription to Lodestar is FREE electronically

Email: sfms.lodestar@gmail.com Or

Editor: john@rasmussengems.com

Can be read online:

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

www.amfed.org

American Federation News



A.F.M.S. Newsletter

Subscriptions are \$4.50 per year

Checks should be made payable to "AFMS"

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Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

central_office@amfed.org PH: 410-833-7926

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts

706-379-2126

Website @ www.lapidaryschool.org

Classes are Closed for 2020 season

Due to Corvid 19

2020sfms.wh@gmail.com Registrar Cindy Reed

AFMS 2020 Annual Convention

Held in Knoxville, Tn

October 16th - 18th, 2020

Subject to change

DUE TO COVID-19, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS CHANGE DAILY. PLEASE VISIT THEIR SITES FOR CURRENT INFORMATION.

WILDACRES RETREAT

828-756-4573

Website @ www.wildscres.org

registrarwildacres@gmail.com Claudia Erwin

When scheduling keep in mind, workshops are subjected to change without notice.

Please check the website for changes.

A.L.A.A.

Have you joined the **American Lands Access Association** (ALAA)? Help is needed. Please volunteer!

The organization was founded to promote and ensure the right of the amateur hobby collecting, recreational prospecting and mining, and the use of public and private lands for educational and recreational purposes and to carry the voice of all amateur collectors and hobbyists to our elected officials, government regulators and public land managers.

Individual dues are \$25 per year; clubs \$50 per year.

A quarterly newsletter is sent to all members.

For more information,

Visit <http://amlands.org>

Shirley Leeson, President



Lodestar & American Federation of Mineral Societies newsletters:

Please take the time during this "stay at home" period to read these newsletters. Editors put in a lot of work to assemble these for all members. of all clubs. They have informative information related to our work and what we stand for along with what is upcoming events.

Give them ten minutes of your time... We all have extra time now that we are home bound.



MEETINGS W E E L I N G S



Meetings / Workshops

Herbert Wilson Recreational Center
3625 Hancock Avenue
Gulfport, Ms. 39501

3rd Saturday of each month

9 am - 12 pm	Workshop
12 pm - 12:30pm	Program
12 pm - 1 pm	Lunch
1 pm - 2 pm	Meeting

Directions: Coming from Pass Road or Highway 90 turn on Courthouse Road. Turn next to Hancock Bank on 33rd Street until you reach Hancock Street. Look to your left and you will see the Herbert Wilson Recreational Center. We are on the left side of building thru the gates.

Come for fun . . . Stay to play!

Visit our Website and Facebook page:

www.gulfportgems.org or
<https://www.facebook.com/gulfportgems>

Workshops are offered free!

Next Meeting & Workshop

July 18th Via Skype 1pm

Visitors are always welcome

Please bring a guest. . .

0 Workshops this Month

Membership Dues

Single \$20.00 - 18 years old
Family \$30.00 - 2 adults and all minors under 18 yrs. old at the same address
Junior \$10.00 - Sponsored by an adult

Application available on our website

Dues deadline - 3rd Saturday of January

Name Tags - \$7.00

Shirts - available and cost is based on sizes

Please see Treasurer, Lynn Tate

2020 MEETING DATES

Jan 18	May 16 & 17 SHOW	
Feb. 15	June 23 Skype	Sept 19
March 21	July 18 Skype	Oct 17
April 18	Aug 15	Nov 21
	Dec 19 Christmas Party	

Nearby Gem Societies



Ms. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

www.mgcgms.com

Meeting: 2nd Saturday of the month



Mobile Rock and Gem Society

www.mobilerockandgem.com

Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month



Gem & Mineral Society of Louisiana

Meeting: 2nd Monday of the month

Contact: Levette @ 504-214-3205

Other Interests:

International Society of Glass Blowers

Website: www.isgb.org

Visit site if you like Lampworking



Dixie Mineral Council

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



Brad's Tips...

SHEET & WIRE STORAGE



The more you work with jewelry, the more problems you have finding the piece of metal you need. My pieces of sheet were generally stored in various plastic bags, and the wire was in separate coils. Few were marked, so it often took me a while to locate that piece of 26 ga fine sheet I bought last year, especially since I usually take my supplies back and forth to classes.

A tip from a friend helped me organize everything. I bought an expanding file folder from the office supplies store (the kind that has 13 slots and a folding cover) and marked the tabs for each gauge of metal I use. Then I marked all my pieces of sheet with their gauge, put them in plastic bags, marked the gauge on the bag, and popped them into the folder. I usually store coils of wire loose in the folder, but they can also be bagged if you prefer. I use one tab for bezel wire and one for the odd, miscellaneous items.

The resulting folder is really convenient when I want to take my metal out to a class or workshop, and it's colorful enough for me to easily find in the clutter of the shop !



LITTLE BALLS

I often use little balls of silver and gold as accent pieces on my designs. They can be made as needed from pieces of scrap. Cut the scrap into little pieces, put them on a solder pad and melt them with a torch. Then throw the balls into a small cup of pickle.

If you need to make all the balls the same size, you need the same amount of metal to melt each time. The best way to do that is to clip equal lengths of wire.

But there's an easier way to get a good supply of balls. Some casting grain comes in near perfect ball form. Just grab your tweezers and pick out the ones you need. When you need larger quantities of balls, pour the casting grain out onto a baking pan, tilt the pan a bit, and let all the round pieces roll to the bottom. Bag the good ones, and pour the rest back into your bag for casting. Balls can be sorted into different sizes using multiple screens.



Discover New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books

Check out Brad's books on Amazon:

<http://amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith>

www.bradsmithjewelry.com

Articles are copyrighted by Brad Smith

Shows and Events

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF SHOWS VISIT - amfed.org

[AKS GEM SHOW](#) Presents [New Orleans Bead & Jewelry Show](#)

Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd., Kenner, La. 70065

Admission Fee \$5.00 Hours: Fri & Sat 10am-6pm / Sun 10am-4pm

Email info@aksshow.com with inquiries Phone: 504-265-8830 Visit website www.aksshow.com

GET A COUPON FOR \$1.00 OFF Admission

2020 Dates: **January 24th - 26th Winter Show** / **April 3rd - 5th Spring Show**
July 10th - 12th Summer Show / **September 18th - 20th Fall Show** / **November 6th - 8th Xmas Show**

Save \$1.00 off
admission to any AKS
Gem Show

Offer Expires: no expiration.

This coupon is good for entrance to any AKS Gem Show! ***Be sure to check your inbox for additional savings from our exhibitors.***

[Check our list of shows now...](#)

Note – Due to COVID-19

Many shows may be canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, please check with the local club, and / or check their website, before you plan to attend – as most all shows are canceled.

HCGMS Workshops:

Our workshop we had scheduled for March will be our 1st workshop when we convene our monthly meetings provided the instructors are available that month. This was decided at our last board meeting with workshop chairman Laura Tate's approval.



Officers 2020

President - Sue West msuewest@bellsouth.net

Vice President - Cindy Braden (706) 266-0221

Secretary - Nicole Green nfouason@gmail.com

Treasurer - Lynn Tate l.tate4@gmail.com

Directors

Monica White (1 yr.) Mrwhite61@gmail.com

Laura Tate (2 yr.) wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

Sharon Greer (3 yr.) 3catsgreer@bellsouth.net

Committee Members

Workshop & Facebook Chairman

Laura Tate wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

Field Trip Chairman

Sharon Greer 3catsgreer@bellsouth.net

Librarian Chairman

Sue West msuewest@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Editor

Lisa Fitch Lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

Sunshine & Hospitality Chairman

Clemencia Howe clemenhowe@hotmail.com

Show Chairmen

Lynn Tate l.tate4@gmail.com

Webmaster & Workshop Chairman

Leslie Jancovich ljancovich@gmail.com

Assistant Webmaster

Nicole Green nfouason@gmail.com

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Ms. State Director, Parliamentarian & Boundaries

Buddy Shotts buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

Past President SFMS

John Wright osjbw@cableone.com

Field Trips

Sharon Greer

If you are interested in attending any of the DMC Field Trips please contact our Field Trip Chairman so she can make arrangements. Open to all members of clubs associated with the DMC program of the SFMS Field Trip Committee and all members of SFMS societies who provide their membership with SFMS liability insurance. Because of insurance requirements the general public are NOT invited to any field trips.



3catsgreer@bellsouth.net



Facebook

Laura Tate

Please visit our Facebook page to view all the latest news and information on our club and workshops. To post club information contact:

Laura Tate at wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

Visit at www.facebook.com/gulfportgems/



Library

Sue West



The club has some interesting material available for viewing. Please contact Arvid to check out material from our Library. Be sure to return the material in a timely matter in order to share with other members.

msuewest@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Editor

Lisa Fitch

Submit newsletter articles to:

Lapidaryarts@hotmail.com



Articles and minutes are due by the last day of each month



Membership Form

Contact Our Treasurer: Lynn Tate (228) 342-2963 Email: l.tate4@gmail.com



 HARRISON COUNTY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. 		
APPLICANT INFORMATION		
18 YEARS OF AGE		SINGLE \$20.00
Name:		Email:
Date of birth (Mo/Day):	Anniversary: (Mo/Day)	Cell Phone:
Current address:		Home Phone:
City:	State / Zip Code:	Work Phone:
CO-APPLICANT / SPOUSE INFORMATION		
TWO ADULTS & ALL MINORS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE/AT SAME ADDRESS		FAMILY \$30.00
Co-Applicant / Spouse:		Email:
Date of birth (Mo/Day):	Cell Phone:	Work Phone:
JUNIOR INFORMATION		
UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE ☆ SPONSORED BY AN ADULT		JUNIOR \$10.00
Name	Birthday (Mo/Day/Year)	Relationship:
Name	Birthday (Mo/Day/Year)	Relationship:
Name:	Birthday (Mo/Day/Year)	Relationship:
Name	Birthday (Mo/Day/Year)	Relationship:
☆ EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION ☆		
Name:		
Relationship:	Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
INTEREST INFORMATION		
Hobby Interest:		Jewelry Interest:
(Each applicant initial interests)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fossils <input type="checkbox"/> Minerals <input type="checkbox"/> Lapidary (<input type="checkbox"/> Cabbing, <input type="checkbox"/> Faceting, Etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips (Creeks, Gravel pits, Mines, Etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Special Interests _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Beading <input type="checkbox"/> Kumihimo <input type="checkbox"/> Pearl Knotting <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Wire Wrapping <input type="checkbox"/> Chainmaille <input type="checkbox"/> Silversmithing
APPLICATION FEES		
Applications can be mail to: Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society P. O. Box: 10136, Gulfport, Ms. 39505		
Single \$20.00	Family \$30.00	Junior(s) \$10.00 Each
DUES:		\$
Dues: <i>Circle One</i>	NEW RENEWAL	No Proration Deadline: 3rd Saturday of January
TOTAL:		\$
SIGNATURES		
How did you hear about our society? _____		
I authorize HCGMS to use my picture or likeness for society promotions?		YES or NO
I authorize HCGMS to include my information in society listings for members only?		YES or NO
Signature of applicant:		Date:
Signature of co-applicant/spouse (only if for a family membership):		Date:
*Newsletter will be sent via email @ no charge		Modified 11/20/17 LF

Our goal is to promote, educate and stimulate interest in the earth sciences and lapidary arts context.



Gulfport Gems, Editor
P O Box 10136
Gulfport, MS 39505

Address Service Requested



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE HARRISON COUNTY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC.