

Est. 1979

Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.



Gulfport Gems

Volume 44

July 2023

Number 7



Member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Society

P.O. Box 10136
Gulfport, Ms. 39505

www.facebook.com/gulfportgems

[Website: www.gulfportgems.org](http://www.gulfportgems.org)

A message from the President...

Dear Members,

As the temps rise this month, here are some sites you might want to check out:

Lodestar newsletter put out by the Southeast Federation - see what is going on in other states and interesting facts about rocks and minerals.

Philip Levin's YouTube channel - he loaded a 9 minute video about our May gem show. See how many members you can spot.

While you are on YouTube check out wire wrapping ideas, soft soldering, cabochons or even faceting videos.

Remember the potluck lunch.

Sincerely,

President Allan Elliott



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

Workshops are posted on both.

www.gulfportgems.org

www.facebook.com/gulfportgems

Notes from the editor . . .

Meeting:

Meeting this month on July 15th, at Herbert Wilson Recreational Center POT LUCK LUNCH is back! Please ring a covered dish.

Gems of the Month:

Ruby

Show & Tell: If you have any of the gems of the month to Show & Tell please bring them.

Workshops:

Sue— **3 Bead Boxed Earrings**

Lynn/Laura— **Open Round Maille Bracelet**

Please consider volunteering to do a workshop. We still need instructors.

Please Contact Laura, our Workshop Chairman you can still book for any month as we would like to have multiple workshops each month.

Show: If you have anything from the show, please return it. You can bring it to the meeting. We are still missing signs. Thanks so Much!



Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President, Allan Elliott, at 1:06 p.m.

Members in attendance: 19

Cindy B., Roman McCall (guest of Cindy), Allan E., Lisa F., Sharon G., Karen W., Nicole G., Julie B., Laura T., Lynn T., Beverly B., Leslie J., Jina M., Judi M., Sue W., Shirley R., Nicola H., Robyn S., Alexis F.

MEETING

Minutes: The minutes of April 21, 2023, meeting. Lisa Fitch said that she ran the same minutes in May & June. One member was concerned with opening her newsletter, due to a warning. Allan suggested that it might be due to recent virus software updates. Lisa reminded members that they could access the newsletter through the website. There were no corrections. Julie Boudreaux moved to accept the minutes. Leslie Jancovich seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

As of June 17, 2023, the checking balance was XXXX. One outstanding check in the amount of \$100 goes to The Brewer's Alley due to an overcharge of the vendor fee. The Equipment fund balance is XXXX. Allan, Sue West, and Nicole Green will be visiting the bank to update the member's names that have access to the accounts. Allan moved to accept the minutes. Lisa Fitch seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Workshop: Laura Tate reported that Sue West will be doing the Box Earrings. She would like to schedule 2 workshops a month. Sue asked if anyone wants to order a kit for her class, please let her know. It will be an \$8 kit. Lynn & Laura will teach Round Maille. August workshop will be Cold Connections by Julie Boudreaux, September will be Wire Wrapped Christmas Tree by Laura Tate, October will be Silver & Gold Bracelet by Nicole Green, November will be Cab Earrings by Sue West. The website and the newsletter, as well as the Facebook page, will show upcoming projects, preferably the next 2 or 3 months. You will find a list of materials and tools listed.

Facebook: Laura stated that we had a lot of feedback from the show. Two people expressed an interest in joining the club.

Newsletter: Lisa is looking for articles, recipes, anything that might interest the club.

Website: Leslie Jancovich wishes to create an additional

page for upcoming workshops.

Sunshine: Sue West will be replacing Clemencia Howe. She received a large box of greeting cards donated by Shirley Robinson. She will start sending out cards for birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

Library: The question of where the library is was raised. Sue will contact Arvid.

Show: Laura distributed a printout of the show report. Last year, there were over 600 tickets sold. This year, there were 706 tickets sold, in addition to children under 10 and staff. Lisa said there were 167 discounted tickets. There was a \$1 increase in the price of admittance. There were 400 postcards sent out. Kid's Corner was well received and made \$300 after sales tax. Gem trees were increased from \$3 to \$5. Lynn and Laura explained how sales tax is collected and reported. Lynn thanked all the volunteers for their assistance in putting on the show. Laura showed the members a binder she and Lynn put together that explains everything we need to know for hosting future shows. Allan passed out a paper sharing some ideas he had moving forward. Lynn suggested having one person that oversees all the different areas of hosting a show. Lynn & Laura stated their desire to handle display boxes for future shows. Lynn recognized a few volunteers with gifts.

Equipment: Cindy was unavailable.

COMMUNICATIONS

Old Business: The members voted to bring back covered dishes. It passed.

New Business: No new business.

Door prizes: Lynn Tate, Nicole Green, Judi Marks, Sharon Greer, Julie Boudreaux, Leslie Jancovich, Alexis Foust, Sue West, Beverly Baker, Allan Elliott, Jina Martin, Karen Williams, Lisa Fitch, Laura Tate

Adjournment: The motion to adjourn was made by Nicole. Beverly seconded the motion. None opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.



WORKSHOPS

Workshop Chairman:

wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

June 17th, 2023

Laura Tate
228-342-2971

3 Bead Boxed Earrings

By Sue West

Kits Available: 8.00



Material List:

45 inches of 22 gauge square half hard sterling wire. You could use copper or gold filled.
6 inches 20 gauge half round half hard sterling.

6 — 8mm beads. Be sure that the wire will go through the beads.

Tools:

Mat
Ruler or Measuring Tape
Chain Nose, Round Nose
Flush Cutters

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

Cindy Braden - 706-266-0221

Open Round Maille Bracelet (7.5")

By Laura & Lynn Tate

Kits Available: Yes Price: ?



Material List:

126 - 16ga 0.219" jump rings
11 - 16ga 0.188" jump rings
1 - 16ga 0.125" jump ring
1 - Lobster Clasp 8x15.4mm
or
162 - 18ga 0.172" jump rings
11 - 18ga 0.156" jump rings
1 - 18ga 0.141" jump ring
1 - Lobster Clasp 6.6x12mm

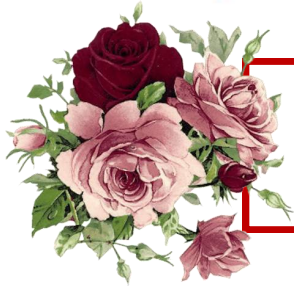
Tools:

2 pliers (I use a bent chain nose and a flat nose)
Jump ring opener ring
Optional: Optivisor

Workshops are offered free!
Visitors are always welcome

Please bring a guest. . .

Happy
Anniversary



Beverly Baker
Gladys Frederick



Alexis Fitch



Thought of the Day . . .



**Nothing binds you
except your *Thoughts*;
Nothing limits you
except your *Fear*;
And
Nothing controls you
except
your *Beliefs*.**

M. Williamson



Off the menu . . .

Patriotic Pizza



Prep Time: 20 Mins.

Servings: 24

Total: 1 Hr. 35 Mins.

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 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.

Rubies

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.



Rubies



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.



125West 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.



Bench Tips from Brad

FANCY RIVET HEADS



For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch.

Go to <http://www.LeeValley.com> and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to a leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.

Making jewelry involves a multitude of skills, intricate hand work, and a lot of problem solving. In this series Books in this series help to::

>Broaden your metalworking skills

>Improve productivity at the bench

>Save money on tools and supplies

You'll find hundreds of low cost and really practical tips and techniques that the author uses in his work and teaches in his classes and workshops.

<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>



Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems

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



www.bradsmithjewelry.com
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Southeast Federation News

S.F.M.S. Newsletter

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Email: sfms.lodestar@gmail.com Or

Editor: Lori Heinemann

Can be read online:

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

www.amfed.org

SFMS 2023 Annual Convention

March 11, 2023

Live Oak, FL

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts
706-379-2126

Website @ www.lapidaryschool.org

Federation Week Jun 4 - 10, 2023

Classes are subject to change
Visit the website for a list of classes

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.

Federation Weeks August 4th - 20th
2nd Week September 11th - 17th



Nearby Gem Societies

Ms. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

www.mgcmgs.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

Visit site if you like Lampworking

Website: www.isgb.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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AFMS 2023 Annual Convention

October 28-29, 2023

St. Lucie County Gem Show in Port St Lucie, FL

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

FIELD TRIPS

Dixie Mineral Council



For a monthly list of field trips, visit their website.

Members Only

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

Shows and Events

9/1-3/2023 —IRONDALE, AL: Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society; NEW VENUE! Irondale Civic Center (former Zamora Shrine Temple), 3521 Ratliff Rd., Irondale, AL 35210; Friday & Saturday, 10am-6pm, Sunday 10am-4pm. Adults: \$5; Teens: \$3; 12 & under: FREE. More info: amlsgemshow@gmail.com; <https://www.facebook.com/events/1307348173327314/>

10/20-22/2023—KNOXVILLE, TN: The Knoxville Gem & Mineral Society; Rothchild Conference Center, 8807 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37923, Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5; The Gem Show is open to the public and has an admission fee of \$8 a day for adults or \$15 for the whole show; children under 12 are admitted free. Website <http://www.knoxrocks.org/gem-show/>

10/21-22/2023 SAINT LUCIE, FL: St Lucie Rock & Gem Club 46th Annual Club Show, MidFlorida Event Center, 9221 SE Event Center Pl, St. Lucie, FL 34952: Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4. Admission \$5. We will be hosting the SFMS Annual Meeting. www.slrockandgem.org

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 Phone: 504-265-8830

Email info@aksshow.com with inquiries

Visit website www.aksshow.com and GET A COUPON FOR \$1.00 OFF Admission

September 8,9,10th - November 3,4,5th

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...



Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society Information



Officers 2023

President - Allan Elliott Allan.K.Elliott@gmail.com

Vice President - Lisa Fitch lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

Secretary - Rosalind Norvel-Daniels

Dzignsbyrozz@gmail.com

Treasurer - Nicole Green nfouasnon@gmail.com

Directors

Lynn Tate (3 yr.) l.tate4@gmail.com

Sharon Greer (2 yr.) 3catsgreer@bellsouth.net

Reba Shotts (1 yr.) Buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

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Workshop & Facebook Chairman

Laura Tate wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

Equipment Chairmen

Cindy Braden 228-243-2665

Field Trip Chairman

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Librarian Chairman

Sue West msuewest@bellsouth.net

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Lynn Tate l.tate4@gmail.com

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Assistant Webmaster

Nicole Green nfouasnon@gmail.com

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Ms. State Director, Parliamentarian & Boundaries

Leslie Lane 601-344-8171

Past President SFMS

John Wright osjbw@cableone.com

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 Hwy. 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>

2023 MEETING DATES

Jan 21st **May SHOW 20th & 21st**

Feb 18th June 17th Sept 16th

Mar 18th July 15th Oct 21st

April 15th Aug 19th Nov 18th

Dec 16th Christmas Party

Newsletter Editor

Lisa Fitch

Submit newsletter articles to:

lapidaryarts@hotmail.com



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



Membership Form

Contact Our Treasurer: Nicole Green (228) 344-8066 **Email:** nfouasnon@gmail.com



HARRISON COUNTY GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION			
APPLICANT INFORMATION			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			FAMILY \$30.00
TWO ADULTS & ALL MINORS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE/AT SAME ADDRESS			
Co-Applicant / Spouse:		Email:	
Date of birth (Mo/Day):	Cell Phone:	Work Phone:	
JUNIOR INFORMATION			JUNIOR \$10.00
UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE ★ SPONSORED BY AN ADULT			
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.

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