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Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.



Gulfport Gems

Volume 44 November 2023

Number 11



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's that time of year again. Time to elect new officers.

The Secretary's job is open as well as a board member at large. This is your opportunity to actively participate in the direction of your club. If you believe you would like to run for one of the other offices, please put forth your name for consideration.

If you still have an evaluation form, please bring it to the meeting. Now, let's have some turkey.

Sincerely,

President Allan Elliott



Notes from the editor . . .

Meeting:

November 18, 2023, at Herbert Wilson Recreational Center.

POT LUCK LUNCH this Saturday will be our **Thanksgiving lunch**. Thanks to everyone who signed up to bring a dish for our Thanksgiving lunch.

Gems of the Month:

Citrine & Topaz

Show & Tell: Please bring a show & tell

Workshops:

Sue West — Victorian Bracelet Connie Boyd— ?

Please consider volunteering to do a workshop. We are now seeking instructors for 2024.

Please Contact Workshop Chairman, Laura at 228-342-2971

wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

<u>Guest Invited:</u> Please bring a friend, neighbor, or someone you think would be interested in our society. It's time for us to recruit new members.

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

Workshops are posted on both.

www.gulfportgems.org

www.facebook.com/gulfportgems





October 21, 2023 Meeting

THE MINUTES ARE UNAVAILABLE TO ME AT THIS TIME.

THEY WILL BE POSTED IN THE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER.



HCGMS Slate of Officers for 2024

President Allan Elliott
Vice President Lisa Fitch
Secretary Sheryl Rogers
Treasurer Nicole Green
Director (3 Yr.) Jina Martin

Nominations will also be taken from the floor before voting.

Thought of the Day . . .

The BEST
things in Life
are the people
WE LOVE,
the
Places
We've been,
& the Memories
We've made
ALONG THE WAY



WORKSHOPS

Workshop Chairman:

wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

November 18, 2023

Laura Tate 228-342-2971

November's Workshop

Victorian Bracelet

By Sue West

Kits Available by request





By Connie Boyd

Information Unavailable

Material List:

- 7' 21ga. Square dead soft Sterling Silver wire
- 3' 20ga. Half-round Sterling Silver wire
- 24 6mm Swarovski Bicones

Tools:

Chain nose pliers Flat nose pliers Permanent marker Ruler Round nose pliers Flush cutters Painter's tape A polishing cloth

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 - 228-243-2665

Upcoming 2023 Workshops

November Victorian Bracelet Sue W.? Connie B.

December Christmas Party

2024 Workshops

June Patriotic Bracelet Nicole

START BOOKING NOW!

Workshops are offered <u>free!</u>
Visitors are always welcome
Please bring a guest....

Maple Walnut Pumpkin Pie



Ingredients:

- 1 (15 oz.) can pumpkin
- 1 (14 oz.) can EAGLE BRAND(R) Sweetened Condensed Milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon maple flavoring
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 (9") Graham cracker pie crust or unbaked pie shell

Walnut Topping:

- 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Directions:

- 1) Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
- 2) In large mixing bowl, combine pumpkin, sweetened condensed milk, eggs, cinnamon, maple flavoring, ginger, nutmeg and salt; mix well. Pour into pie shell.
- 3) Bake at 425 degrees F for 15 minutes. Reduce oven to 350 degrees F; continue baking 30 minutes.
- 4) In medium mixing bowl, combine brown sugar, flour and cinnamon; cut in butter until crumbly. Stir in nuts.
- 5) Remove pie from oven; top evenly with crumb mixture. Return to oven 10 minutes.

 Cool. Garnish as desired. Store covered in refrigerator.

Happy Birthday

Julie Boudreaux

Cindy Braden

Sheryl Rogers

Laura Tate

Reba Shotts

John Wright



Visit our Website and Facebook page:

www.gulfportgems.org

https://www.facebook.com/gulfportgems

Group Picture October 21, 2023







Leslie J. works on her Star Pendant







President Allan E. did a Show & Tell Program on Opals

Nicole's Class for Silver & Gold Bracelet





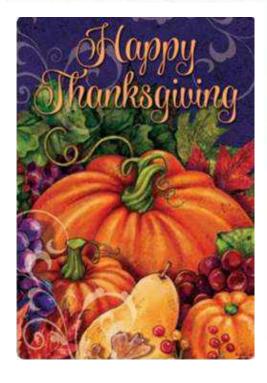
These ladies made Spiders







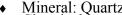


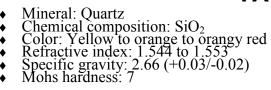






FACTS









A trace of iron in citrine structure makes it responsible for its color. It is the most popular yellow stone purchased. Natural Citrine is so rare most on the open market is heated treated Amethyst. It's tawny color was confused with Topaz before modern gemology. In the contemporary market, citrine's most popular shade is an earthy, deep, brownish or reddish orange.

Brazil is the largest producer of Citrine. Other sources are Argentina, Madagascar, Zaire, Namibia, Spain, and Russia.

Most heat treated Citrine takes on a deep orange or slightly reddish tint. In general, the deeper colored stones are the most valuable, including those with reddish tints. Lightly colored yellow Citrine can occur naturally but is rare; the intense yellow form is usually irradiated and given the trade name of "Lemon Quartz".

Citrine is a very affordable gemstone, and all its color ranges are not expensive. It is most often confused with orange-yellow Topaz, which is very similar in color and body. Topaz is the more valuable gemstone, and dealers often sell Citrine labeled as Topaz. Several false trade names for Citrine are "Madeira Topaz", "Gold Topaz", and "Bahia Topaz". However, some fine and rare Citrine gemstones have a pure yellow color that is rarely duplicated by golden Topaz.

Citrine can be found in large crystals, and flawless gems of all sizes have been cut. A natural mixture of purple Amethyst and golden Citrine has been coined with name "Ametrine".

Treatment & Enhancements:

Virtually all gem Citrine is not naturally colored, but rather colored from heat treatment of Amethyst. Heating Amethyst at about 750 degrees Fahrenheit will produce a mild yellow color, and heating to about 1700 degrees products deep orange to reddish colors. Most heat treated Citrihas a reddish tint. The intense yellow shades often known as Lemon Quartz are usually formed by irradiation of Quartz. Synthetic Citrine gems are also produced using the hydrothermal method, and these are usually in intensely vivid colors.

Varieties:

- Golden Citrine Citrine with a golden yellow color.
- **Lemon Quartz** Lemon Quartz is a light to dark yellow Citrine, distinguished from most Citrine by lacking orange, brown, or reddish tints. More often though it is clear Quartz that is irradiated to produce an intensely colored yellow gemstone. Lemon Ouartz has recently experienced a popularity increase in the gemstone market.
- Madeira Citrine Brownish-red to orange-red Citrine.
- Palmeria Citrine Citrine with a bright orange color.
- Yellow Citrine Citrine with a lemon yellow color. May also be called "Lemon Citrine" or "Lemon Quartz".









A Sky Blue, Swiss Blue & a London Blue Topaz all enhanced gemstones.

FACTS

Chemistry: Al₂(F,OH)₂SiO₄

Birefringence: 0.008 to 0.010

Mineral: Topaz Refractive index: 1.619 to 1.627

Specific gravity: 3.53 Mohs Hardness: 8

Color: Yellow, orange, brown, pink to red to purple red, blue, light green and colorless

Contained within the chemical makeup of this silicate gemstone are aluminum and fluorine. A vast number of minerals are also recognized as being "aluminum minerals" like topaz, these include: ruby, beryl, emerald and

The element chromium causes natural pink, red, and violet-to-purple colors in topaz. At the atomic level, imperfections in topaz crystal structure can cause yellow, brown, and blue color. A common topaz color being brown is mistakenly called "smoky quartz."

Topaz is allochromatic, which means that its color is caused by impurity elements or defects in its crystal structure rather than by an element of its basic chemical composition. It is also pleochroic, meaning that the gem can show different colors in different crystal directions.

The color varieties are identified simply by hue name: Blue topaz, pink topaz, and so forth—but there are also a couple of special trade names. <u>Imperial topaz</u>: a medium reddish orange to orange-red is the gems most expensive colors.

Sherry topaz (a.k.a. Precious Topaz): named after the sherry wine—is a yellowish brown or brownish yellow to orange. Stones in this color range are often called precious topaz to help distinguish them from the similarly colored but less expensive citrine and smoky quartz.

<u>History:</u> The name topaz comes from Topazios, the old Greek name for a small island in the Red Sea, now called Zabargad. Before modern mineralogy Peridot was confused with topaz. They never found topaz on the island but it was a source for Peridot. Scholars trace the origin back to Sanskrit (an ancient language of India) and the word topas or tapaz, meaning "fire."

Ancient Greeks believed that topaz gave them strength. During the Renaissance in Europe (the period from the 1300s to the 1600s) people thought that topaz could dispel anger and break magic spells. Many people in India for centuries believed that topaz worn above the heart assures long life, beauty, and intelligence.

The name for "Imperial Topaz" originated in the nineteenth-century Russia. At the time, the leading source was the Ural Mountains. The pink gemstone mined there was named to honor the Russian czar. Ownership of the gem was restricted to the royal family. In 1768 the royal court in Portugal celebrates he discovery of the imperial topaz.

Enhancements: Several varieties are typically enhanced. Most common is the combination irradiation/heat treatment that produces blue topaz. For this treatment, colorless topaz is irradiated, turning it brown. The stone is then heat treated, which turns it blue. While the brown color is generally unstable, fading with prolonged exposure to sunlight, the blue color is generally stable under normal wearing conditions.

There are three main flavors. The first, a "sky" blue, is produced by gamma rays (cobalt 60). Deeper "Swiss (a.k.a. 'windex') " and "London" blues are produced by high-energy electrons (cyclotron) or nuclear radiation. In the latter case, the stones must be allowed to cool down to safe levels of radioactivity before being sold which takes months upto two years. Another treatment seen on occasion with topaz is bulk diffusion, where stones are heated for long periods surrounded by cobalt. This drives the cobalt into a thin layer at the surface, turning it green to blue. The layer is extremely thin. Finally, some topaz is coated with metallic oxides, similar to the coatings on camera lenses. This produces various colors and rainbow-like reflections, but the coatings are easily scratched. The material has been marketed under the name "rainbow" topaz.

Topaz & Citring

The Lua de Maraba



The second largest faceted topaz in the world at 25,250 carats. The stone has an octagonal-cut with dimensions of 18 x 15 x 10 cm, and is of Brazilian origin. The faceted stone has a rare grey color, perhaps the on-

ly one of its color and size in the world. In the Portuguese language means "Moon of Maraba". Owned by Programa Royal Collections which has the largest and most comprehensive collection of topaz in the world, consisting of 54 gemstones of all colors, cuts and sizes totaling more than 90,000 carats.

"American Golden Topaz"



172-faceted Topaz 22,892.5 carats

From Minas Gerais, Brazil and cut by Leon Agee over a period of two

years from an 11.8kg (26 lb. avdp) streamrounded cobble owned by Drs. Marie L. and Edgar
F. Borgatta. It was contributed jointly by the Borgatta owners and by Rockhound Hobbyists of
America to the Smithsonian Institution in 1988
and is displayed in the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C..



Adiël Topaz

In 1987 it took Richard Homer one year to cut the Adiël Topaz. It weighs 20,769 carats and features 117 large facets with sizable planes on the gir-

dle and smaller one on the pavilion. It was featured in Lapidary Journal December 1987. Displayed at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

The "El-Dorado Topaz





Discovered in 1984, this yellowish-brown monster weighed around 36 kg. After being faceted into a perfect emerald cut it was reduced to 31,000 carats, which is equal to 6.2 kg. Although its weight was significantly reduced, the El-Dorado Topaz remains the largest faceted gemstone in the world. It is in the Spanish Programa Royal Collection in Madrid, Spain where it can be admired by visitors.

The Marbella Topaz



Weighing 8,225 carats, the "Marbella" is the world's largest faceted blue topaz. The dimensions of the 3.62-pound gem are 5.11 by 3.93 x 2.75 inches. The grapefruit-sized specimen was

purchased at the Tucson Gem Shows by the Spanish government in 2000 and added to its Programa Royal Collections museum, home to one of the world's finest selections of precious stones. The Marbella was originally called "Topaz Azul" (Blue Topaz, in Spanish), but was renamed "Marbella" in 2010 upon the special request of Marbella's Mayoress and local dignitaries, who believed the gem could help raise the international profile of the Costa del Sol town, boost the economy and encourage cultural development.

"The Malaga Citrine"



The world's largest faceted citrine — an oval-cut marvel at 20,200 carats (that's 8.8 pounds!). Named for its host city, the "Malaga" was added in June of 2010 to the "Special Exhibition Gems" section of Art Natura in Spain, a natural science museum featuring one of the world's most extensive collections of colored gemstones.

Largest Citrine

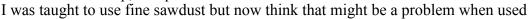


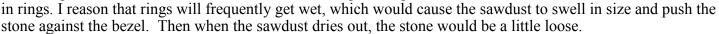
Bench Tips from Brad



RAISING A CABOCHON

When a cabochon sits too low in a bezel, the bezel hides a lot of the stone. The solution is to either sand down the bezel height or boost up the stone. But if you choose to raise it up, the question is what is the best material to use?





In any case, I now prefer to insert a flat sheet to boost up my stones. It can be a scrap of metal or some plastic from product packaging or old credit cards. In either case, just cut a piece to loosely fit into the bezel and drop in the stone (with some dental floss) to check it's height.



TRANSPARENT CABS



When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I usually cut out the back of the bezel to allow background light to show off the colors and patterns in the stone. If this is not possible or appropriate, I worry that the silver bezel will tarnish under the stone and will ruin its brilliance. What to do?

My solution is one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish. Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may even want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e., diffraction pattern) under some stones.

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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Shows and Events

11/17-19/2023 MARIETTA, GA: Cobb County Gem & Mineral Club, Cobb County Civic Center, 548 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060. The 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show. November 17-19, 2023; Friday & Saturday 10AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM. Free Admission and Parking, Door Prizes, Silent Auction, Lapidary Demos, Grab Bags, Mineral ID Classes, Geode Cracking and over 30 dealers! Contact info: Jim Haege, 770-689-9376, showchair@ccgms.org.

11/17-19/2023 Columbia, SC: Columbia Gem & Mineral Society, Jamil Shrine Temple, 203 Jamil Rd, Columbia, SC 29210. Friday & Saturday 10AM—6PM, Sunday Noon—5PM. \$6 for Adults, Military & dependents, and 16 & under free, 3 Day Pass \$12. SC Amethyst on display.

More info: www.cgms.rocks

11/17-19/2023 CRESTWOOD, KY: KYANA Geological Society, Camp Crestwood, 7206 Clore Ln, Crestwood, KY 4014. The 38th Annual Gem & Mineral Show. November 17-19, 2023; Friday & Saturday 10AM—5PM, Sunday 11AM—5PM. Free Admission and Parking, Silent Auction https://www.kyanageo.org/showflier.htm

11/18-19/2023 WEST PALM BEACH, FL: Gem & Mineral Society of the Palm Beaches, Expo Center East, South Florida Fairgrounds, 9067 Southern Blvd. West Palm Beach, FL 33411. The 56th Annual Gem, Mineral Bead, Jewelry & Fossil Show. November 18-19, 2023 Saturday 9AM—6PM, Sunday 10AM—5PM. Adults/Seniors 1 day .\$10.00 or 2 day pass \$15.00 Children under 12 are FREE. Visit our website for a \$1.00 off coupon. https://www.gmspb.org

12/1-3/2023 HUDSON, FL: Withlacoochee Rockhounds, Veterans Memorial Park, 14333 Hicks Rd, Hudson, FL. The 48th Annual Rock, Fossil, Jewelry, Gem & Mineral Show. December 1-3, 2023; Friday & Saturday 9AM—5PM, Sunday 9AM—4PM. Admission \$5, under 14 Free. Plenty of free parking http://www.withlacoocheerockhounds.com

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 <u>info@aksshow.com</u> with inquiries

Visit website <u>www.aksshow.com</u> and GET A COUPON FOR \$1.00 OFF Admission November 3.4,5th

Save \$1.00 off admission to any AKS Gem Show

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...

Offer Expires: no expiration.



Southeast Federation News

American Federation News



S.F.M.S. Newsletter

Subscription to Lodestar is FREE electronically

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.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

A.F.M.S. Newsletter

Subscriptions are \$4.50 per year Checks should be made payable to "AFMS" AFMS Central Office

Steve Weinberger PO Box 302 Glyndon, MD 21071-0302

central office@amfed.org PH: 410-833-7926

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



Other Interests:

International Society of Glass Blowers

Visit site if you like Lampworking

Website: www.isgb.org



Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society Information



Officers 2023

<u>President</u> - Allan Elliott Allan.K.Elliott@gmail.com <u>Vice President</u> - Lisa Fitch lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

Secretary - Rosalind Norvel-Daniels

Dzignsbyrozz@gmail.com

<u>Treasurer</u> - Nicole Green nfouasnon@gmail.com

<u>Directors</u>

Lynn Tate (3 yr.) l.tate4@gmail.com Sharon Greer (2 yr.) 3catsgreer@bellsouth.net Reba Shotts (1 yr.) Buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

Committee Members

Workshop & Facebook Chairman

Laura Tate wanderingmsrn@gmail.com

<u>Equipment Chairmen</u>

Cindy Braden 228-243-2665

<u>Field Trip Chairman</u>

Sharon Greer 3catsgreer@bellsouth.net

Librarian Chairman

Sue West msuewest@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Editor

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Sunshine & Hospitality Chairman

Clemencia Howe clemenhowe@hotmail.com

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Lynn Tate 1.tate4@gmail.com

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Leslie Jancovich ljancovich@gmail.com

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

<u>Directions:</u> 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

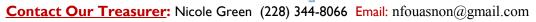
Submit newsletter articles to: lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

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



Membership Form





HARR	ISON COUNTY GE MEMBERSH	M & MINERA IP APPLICAT		С.	
		TINFORMATION EARS OF AGE		SINGLE \$20.00	
Name:	7.000	Email:			
Date of birth (Mo/Day):	Anniversary: (Mo/Da	w)	Cell Phone:		
Current address;			Home Phone:		
City: State / Zip Code:			Work Phone:	Work Phone:	
.21 	CO-APPLICANT / SPO	OUSE INFORMATIO	N	FAMILY \$30.00	
TWO ADUL o-Applicant / Spouse:	TS & ALL MINORS UNDER	18 YEARS OF AGE/	AT SAME ADDRESS		
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Fossils Minerals Lapidary (Cabbing, Field Trips (Creeks, Gravi	Faceting, Etc.) el pits, Mines, Etc.)	Beading Kumihimo Pearl Knol Other		lle	
		CATION FEES			
Applications can be mail to:			O. Box 10136, Gulfp		
Single \$20.00 Family	\$30.00 Junior(s)	\$10.00 Each	DUES:	5	
Dues: NEW Circle One RENEWA	No Proration L Deadline: 3 rd Sature	day of January	TOTAL:	\$	
	SIC	SNATURES			
How did you hear about our I authorize HCGMS to use m I authorize HCGMS to includ	y picture or likeness for			or NO or NO	
Signature of applicant:			Date:	- Villian III de la companya de la c	
Signature of co-applicant/spouse (only if for a family membership):			Date:		
			- 11		

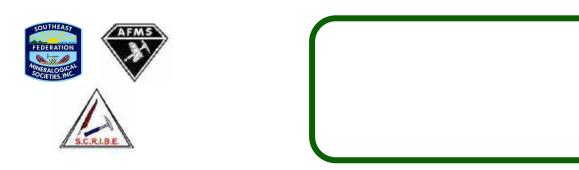
Our goal is to promote, educate and stimulate interest in the earth sciences and lapidary arts context.



Happy Thanksgiving



Address Service Requested



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