

Est. 1979

Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society, Inc.



Gulfport Gems

Volume 45

February 2024

Number 2



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,

If any members are interested in helping to chair a committee or join an existing one, please let me know. There is always room for members to participate in club activities.

We will be discussing our upcoming show where we will need a lot of volunteers. It's our only fundraiser for the year which financially supports the club and helps us provide scholarships to members. So your help is greatly needed. Besides, it's a lot of fun too.

Please review the scholarship rules on the next page.

See you all on Saturday, February 17th.

Sincerely,

President Allan Elliott

Board Meeting this Saturday



Notes from the editor . . .

Meeting: January 20th, 2024 at 9am
Herbert Wilson Recreational Center
Potluck lunch . . . Bring a dish

Door Prizes: Please bring a door prize to donate. See Cindy Braden

Gems of the Month: Amethyst

Show & Tell: Any Amethyst to share with the club, Please bring.

Workshops: Julie B. - Viking Knit, kits available \$5.00-\$10.00

Program: Lisa F.- Scholarships

2024 Workshop Instructors needed. . .

Please Contact Workshop Chairman,
Shirley at [228-594-9673](tel:228-594-9673)
Msrobinson2u@icloud.com

New Members: Let's welcome our newest members. Olivia & Michael Woods along with 4 junior members are Liberty Woods, Jackson, Andrew and Noah Estrade.

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

Workshops are posted on both.

www.gulfportgems.org

www.facebook.com/gulfportgems



Scholarship Eligibility

- A. Recipients of scholarship are defined as one who contributes and participates in club activities.
- B. Recipient must have attended and participated in at least Six meetings and/or workshops or a combination or both (Attending Workshop and meeting on the same day cannot be counted as two).
- C. Recipient must be a paid member of the club for over 12 months of the previous year before being considered.
- D. Candidate must be willing and able to go to William Holland, Wild Acres, or other lapidary school.
- E. The scholarship is not transferable to another person.
- F. All Scholarships must be used the year awarded. No scholarship will carry over to the following year.
- G. Recipient of scholarship will have 30 days from the time scholarship is drawn to commit to attending and using the scholarship. If the scholarship is drawn in February, then you will have until the March meeting to commit to the scholarship. You do not have to have a class chosen or deposit made to a school at this time.
- H. No club scholarship will be awarded to the same person two years in a row.
- I. Candidate must be willing to return to the club, give a "show and tell" program and share his /her new acquired skill and knowledge with other club members
- J. Candidate club dues must be current.
- K. Scholarship recipients are highly encouraged to attend the Southeast Federation sponsored workshops. Only with the board approval can a non-Federation sponsored workshop be substituted for a Federation sponsored workshop.

Process

- A. Board of Directors will decide the number of scholarships to be rewarded
- B. Treasurer verifies that the candidate has paid his/her dues by the 3rd Saturday of January and has been a member of the club for over 12 months. He/she will provide a list of candidates to Secretary no later than 7 February.
- C. Secretary will review the participation record of the paid members to determine eligibility prior to the February meeting.
- D. The list of eligible candidates will be read at the February business meeting. Any club member that feels that they meet the eligibility requirements and whose name is not on the list may ask to have their record reviewed. Treasurer and Secretary will review the records to determine the eligibility.
- E. At the February meeting names (or number) will be drawn for each of the scholarships. Two alternates times the number of scholarships will be drawn (if 2 scholarships are to be awarded – 4 alternates will be drawn).
- F. Any candidate whose name is drawn for the scholarship will have 30 days to notify the president if he or she cannot accept the scholarship.
- G. When the president is notified that someone cannot accept the scholarship, he/she will offer it to the next person on the alternate list. The new awardees will have 30 days to notify the president if he or she cannot accept the scholarship.
- H. Any of the following, will make the recipient ineligible for a club scholarship for a period of two years.
 - a. Failure to notify the president within the prescribed time frame that they cannot accept the scholarship.
 - b. Failure to use the scholarship.
 - c. Failure to give a "show and tell" program and share his /her new acquired skill and knowledge with other club members.



Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society

January 20, 2024

Called to Order Time: 1:05 p.m. by President Allan Elliott

Members in attendance: 22 - Allan Elliott; Sharon Greer; Nichole Green; Lisa Fitch; Kyleigh Fitch; Shirley Robinson; Rosalind Norvel-Daniels; Karen Williams; Sheryl D. Rogers; Julie B.; Sue Shelton; Gladys Dedeaux; Cynthia Braden; Olivia Woods; Jina M.; Beverly B.; Sue West; Judi Marks; Eric Wei (guest); Lynn Tate; Buddy Shotts; and Reba Shotts.

Program/Show-N-Tell: Cynthia Braden - Talked about the equipment that is used and dangers of flying materials and the importance of wearing/using safety equipment, including goggles. She also said that members need to sign a waiver form if they are going to use the equipment or work on projects/workshops. Waiver forms were handed out. A question was posed by Lisa regarding the waivers and specifically language stating that "I have read and understand the Equipment/Workshop safety rules." and also that "My signature below indicates that the Equipment/Workshop Class Rules have been made available to me...". Discussion was held and Allan Elliott commented that the rules were read as follows: and that safety rules also refer to workshops outside of the normal monthly meetings.

Treasurer's Report: Nicole Green discussed expenditures including some more than expected wheel/machinery costs. Lisa Fitch made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Rosalind N-D. and the motion carried.

Allan Elliott advised members that the 2024 dues need to be paid by this meeting if you want to be qualified to receive a scholarship.

Nicole Green also noted to members that name tags had been ordered. The fee is usually \$7.00, but she was not sure whether the price had gone up or not. She encouraged all members to order the name tags - and to wear them at meetings when the name tags come in.

Nicole Green also mentioned that monies collected last year for the 50/50 raffle were to go into the equipment funds and she made the appropriate transfer.

Meeting: Members were asked if they had any corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 2023 meeting. Lisa Fitch made a motion to accept the minutes. Cynthia Braden seconded the motion. After a member vote, the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Workshops: Shirley Robinson is the new workshop chairman and advised members that instructors are needed and asked for volunteers. Nicole Green volunteered to do a workshop at the March 2024 meeting.

Newsletter: Lisa Fitch noted a correction on page 14 of the newsletter but had nothing else to report. She added that if members had anything to add to the newsletter, to send her an e-mail.

Facebook: Chairman Laura Tate advised that there was nothing to report.

Webmaster: No report.

Equipment: Chairman Cynthia Braden advised that there was nothing to report other than to keep safety in mind.

Sunshine: Chairman Sue West advised that the cards she has were either worn or in a condition to where they could not be used. She asked that if any members had any cards to donate (get well, birthday, etc.) they bring them to the next meeting.

Show-N-Tell: Allan Elliott advised that Terry Scott, a former member, was moving and selling some cabochons and handed them around for everyone to look at.

Librarian: Allan Elliott had a discussion about some old DVD's, VHS tapes, magazines, and possibly books and other printed materials. He said that there was previously a box of materials, but was not sure where it was at this time. Sue West said she would check the storage unit and see if the materials were still in the storage unit.

Old Business: Nicole Green mentioned that she had expended some of her own funds to buy some miscellaneous materials and greetings cards and sought reimbursement up to \$24.00. Lisa Fitch made a motion to reimburse Nichole Green up to \$24.00. Sheryl D. Rogers seconded the motion. After a member vote, the motion carried.

New Business: Allan Elliott reminded members that in order to be eligible for scholarships, they are required to have attended at least six (6) meetings a year and that a meeting and workshop counted as one (1) meeting rather than two (2). Members are also required to have their dues paid timely and up to date.

Split the Pot: Money was taken up and a 50/50 drawing was held totaling \$21.00. The Society's newest member, Olivia, received \$10.50.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were chosen and members picked out from some wonderful options.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.



*Happy
Anniversary
Brian & Lisa Fitch*



Birthdays:
Janet Burgess
Gladys Dedeaux
Violet Fitch
Clay Tate

WORKSHOPS

Workshop Chairman:
msrobinson2u@icloud.com

February 17, 2024

Shirley Robinson
228-594-9673

January's Workshop

Viking Knit

By Julie Boudreaux

Kits Available \$5.00—\$10.00



Program

Scholarships

By Lisa Fitch

Material List:

6 yards 26 ga. Copper Wire
6 –12" 18-20 ga. Copper Wire
End caps
Lobster Clasp
Dowel



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

Amethyst

FACTS

Wedding Anniversaries—6th & 17th

- Mineral: Quartz
- Chemistry: SiO_2
- Color: Purple
- Refractive Index: 1.544 to 1.553
- Birefringence: 0.009
- Specific Gravity: 2.66
- Mohs Hardness: 7

The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word “methustos,” which means “intoxicated.” Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness. The major sources are Brazil and Uruguay.

Amethyst is composed of quartz, which is the second most abundant material found in the Earth’s crust. It gets its color from irradiation, iron impurities and the presence of trace elements. Its hardness is the same as other quartz, which makes it a durable and lasting option for jewelry. It’s the gem that’s most commonly associated with the color purple, even though there are other purple gems such as sapphire and tanzanite.

Amethyst’s purple color can range from a light lilac to a deep, intense royal purple, and from brownish to vivid. Its purple color can be cool and bluish, or a reddish purple that’s sometimes referred to as “raspberry.” Amethyst also commonly shows color zoning, which in the case of amethyst usually consists of angular zones of darker to lighter color.

History & Lore:

Throughout history, the gemstone has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. English regalia were even decorated with amethysts during the Middle Ages to symbolize royalty. Amethyst jewelry has been found and dated as early as 2000 BC. It is one of the emblems of the twelve apostles.

Fine amethysts have been set in religious jewelry and royal crown jewels for ages. It was once considered equal in value to ruby, emerald, and sapphire. It’s no wonder that fine amethyst adorns the fingers of bishops as well as the coronation regalia of British royalty.



Because of its wine-like color, early Greek legends associated amethyst with Bacchus, the god of wine. Other legends reflected beliefs that amethyst kept its wearer clear-headed and quick-witted in battle and in business affairs. Being associated with wine, it was believed that wearing amethyst prevented drunkenness. It was common the Greeks drank from cups designed with Amethyst.

Leonard da Vinci said that amethyst helps to quicken intelligence and get rid of evil thoughts. Other qualities like peace, stability, courage and strength are said to be derived from this gemstone.

Amethyst played a big role in early Egyptian civilization. It was very common for pharaohs tombs to be adorned by the gemstone. Historians believe that wealth was experienced by Egypt at one point with the proof they have found in the tombs of that time period. When the country became very wealthy, the royalty of the country gave gifts of both Amethyst and gold to many of the families from the middle and working classes.

The British Crown Jewels consist of Amethyst. It is also said to have been the favorite gemstone of Russian empress, Catherine the Great. Egyptian pharaoh Cleopatra had an Amethyst ring which was believed to capture the hearts Julius Caesar and Marc Anthony, who were both Romans. After this happened, many Roman women began wearing Amethyst jewelry because they thought that it would help keep their husbands faithful.

Greece being known to be the first civilization to have recognized Amethyst, the gemstone actually does date back to biblical times. According to the Bible, there were twelve gemstones that on the breastplate that was worn by High Priest Aaron with Amethyst being one of them. Amethyst is also associated with both the Apostle Matthias and the Adnachiel, a Guardian Angel. Clergy members in the Catholic religion wore Amethyst and also used it for the adornment of the crosses. In the Buddhist religion Amethyst is believed to have been of significant meaning to Buddha. This is why malas, (Buddhist prayer beads) often contain Amethyst. In both the Buddhist and Catholic religions, the gemstone was believed to be representative of celibacy.

Sources: gia.edu, amethystring.com, americangemsociety.com, Wikipedia, Palagems.com, toptenz.com, minerals.net, thepracticalgemologist.com/gemstones, gemselect.com, birthstones.today





Southeast Federation News

S.F.M.S. Newsletter

Subscription to Lodestar is FREE electronically

Email: sfms.lodestar@gmail.com Or

Editor: **Cindy Reed**

Can be read online:

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

www.amfed.org

SFMS 2024 Annual Convention

March 1-3, 2024

Live Oak, FL

William Holland School of Lapidary Arts
706-379-2126

Register Now at:

www.lapidaryschoolregistration.org

Federation Week Jun 2 - 8, 2024

Classes are subject to change

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 \$5.00 per year

Checks should be made payable to "AFMS"

AFMS Central Office

Cheryl Nearly

42 Jefferson Avenue

Patchogue, NY 11772-1008

Centraloffice.amfed@gmail.com PH: 516-449-5341

AFMS 2024 Annual Convention

TBA

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>



Doug True, 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

2/24/2024—LAKELAND, FL: Annual show; Bone Valley GM&FS; First Presbyterian Church of Lakeland, 175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801 ; Sat. 9-4:30; \$3 Adults, Children under 18 and teachers Free; contact Jim Reed, (863) 255-0651; Email: BoneValley.info@gmail.com; Website: www.bonevalley.net/

3/1-3/2024—LARGO, FLORIDA: Annual show; Suncoast Gem & Mineral Society, Inc. of St Petersburg, FL; Largo Event Center, 6340 126th Ave N. Largo, FL 33773; 10-5 All 3 days; Adult \$6, Under 12 Free - Good for all three days; Free parking and food service on site ; contact sgamsdealerchair@gmail.com; Website: sgams.com

3/1-3/2024—LIVE OAK, FL: Annual Federation Rockhound Roundup; Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies ; Suwannee River Music Park, 3076 95th Drive; Fri. 10-5, Sat. 9-4, Sun. 9-4; Free; SFMS Member vendors from seven states: FL, GA, TN, MS, NC, SC, AL. Rough rock, slabs, jewelry, cabs, minerals, fossils and more; contact Jerri Heer, 9016 122nd Ave, Tampa, FL 33637, (419) 344-9999; Email: jheerx6@aol.com; Website: Southeastfed.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

Jan. 5,6,&7 April 12,13, & 14 July 19, 20, & 21 Sept 6,7,& 8 November 1,2,& 3

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Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society Information



Officers 2024

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

Vice President - *Lisa Fitch* lapidaryarts@hotmail.com

Secretary - *Sheryl Rogers* sdr@frslaw.com

Treasurer - *Nicole Green* nfouasnon@gmail.com

Directors

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

Reba Shotts (2 yr.) Buddynrebashotts@bellsouth.net

Jina Martin (1 yr.) jinamartin@hotmail.com

Committee Members

Workshop & Facebook Chairman

Shirley Robinson msrobinson2u@icloud.com

Equipment Chairmen

Cindy Braden 228-243-2665

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

Sue West msuewest@bellsouth.net

Show Chairs

Allan Elliott Allan.K.Elliott@gmail.com

Nicole Green nfouasnon@gmail.com

Webmaster & Workshop Chairman

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 - 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>

2024 MEETING DATES

Jan 20th	May SHOW 18th & 19th	
Feb 17th	June 15th	Sept 21st
Mar 16th	July 20th	Oct 19th
Apr 20th	Aug 17th	Nov 16th

Dec 21st 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.

HCGMS 2024 Workshops

<div>January 20</div> <div>Victorian Bracelet By Sue West</div> <div>Program - Cindy B. Equipment / Waiver</div> <div></div> <div>Happy New Years</div>	<div>February 17</div> <div>Viking Knit By Julie B.</div> <div>Program - Lisa F. Scholarships</div> <div>Happy Valentines February 14th </div>	<div>March 16</div> <div>Shamrock Bracelet By Lisa Fitch</div> <div>Program - Nicole G. Clasps</div> <div>St. Patrick's Day 17th </div> <div>Happy Easter March 31 </div>	<div>April 20</div> <div>Lotus Pendant Karen Williams/ Rozz</div> <div>Program - Use Extra time to Prepare Post Cards for Show.</div>
<div>May 18</div> <div>SHOW 18th & 19th</div>	<div>June 15</div> <div>Kumihimo By Nicole Green</div> <div>Program -</div>	<div>July 20</div> <div>Shaggy Earrings By Lynn & Laura Tate</div> <div>Program -</div> <div>Happy 4th </div>	<div>August 17</div> <div>Netted Christmas Ornament Part I By Lisa F.</div> <div>Program -</div>
<div>September 21</div> <div>Unfinished Projects</div> <div>Program -</div>	<div>October 19</div> <div></div> <div>Program -</div> <div></div> <div>Happy Halloween</div>	<div>November 16</div> <div>Program -</div> <div></div> <div>Happy Thanksgiving</div>	<div>December 21</div> <div></div> <div>CHRISTMAS PARTY</div>