



Snoopy Gems

Volume 42 Number 4 & 5 April-May 2016

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Presidents Message

I hope to see you at the workshop, pot-luck and meeting on May 14 to be held at our usual workshop site of the Ocean Springs Library meeting room.

The board will meet at 9 a.m. just before the 10 a.m. workshop so if you have something on your mind that the board should discuss, please let me know by Friday so I can add it to the agenda. The May gemstone is listed as emerald. If you have one or more emeralds, we'd love to see them for our show and tell. Also invite a friend to the workshop if you think they would be interested in the club. We are always interested in sharing the fun and learning. Machines will be available.

Also **remember** to think about attending one of the SFMS Workshops that are held in June, August, and September. You can check out the costs, dates and classes at William Holland Lapidary School and at Wildacres Retreat. The site lists the above and descriptions of the classes and instructors. **Sign up as soon as you can while you can get your choice of classes. Check it out:** www.sfmshworkshops.com

Always interested in your ideas!

Liz Platt

MGCGMS President

May Workshop

Bill LaRue will be teaching this wire wrapped pendant with prongs.



Bring a cabochon and wire, 24 sq, 22 sq, 21 sq, and half round for making your wraps. The amount of wire needed will depend on size of stone. Copper wire will be available for purchase as well as a few cabochons.

If time permits, Dave Cook will teach how to make and use "Stick Man" prong mountings for irregular cabochons. Copper wire and cabochons will be available for this project.

Happy Birthday!



Jane Cook Jim Kirchner Brian Fitch Brenda Queen Wanda Sigler Buddy Shotts

April's Birthstone



Diamonds, the birthstone of April, are commonly associated with love which make it the perfect gift for a loved one. While white diamonds are most common, fancy colored diamonds can be found in various colors including yellow, blue, pink and a variety of others as well.

Geological information:

Diamond is a metastable allotrope of carbon, where the carbon atoms are arranged in a variation of the face-centered cubic crystal structure called a diamond lattice. Diamond is less stable than graphite, but the conversion rate from diamond to graphite is negligible at standard conditions. Diamond is renowned as a material with superlative physical qualities, most of which originate from the strong covalent bonding between its atoms. In particular, diamond has the highest hardness and thermal conductivity of any bulk material. Those properties determine the major industrial application of diamond in cutting and polishing tools and the scientific applications in diamond knives and diamond anvil cells.

May's Birthstone



Emerald, the birthstone of May, carries the rich green color of Spring and radiates a beautiful vivid tone. They are considered to be a symbol of rebirth and love. Emeralds are the rarest gemstones and are typically mined in Colombia, Brazil, Afghanistan and Zambia.

Geological information:

Emerald is a gemstone and a variety of the mineral beryl ($\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$) colored green by trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Beryl has a hardness of 7.5–8 on the Mohs scale. Most emeralds are highly included, so their toughness (resistance to breakage) is classified as generally poor. It is a cyclosilicate.

Source:

<http://www.geologyin.com/>

Meeting Minutes March and April's Picnic 2016:

Meeting Called to Order: 1:15 p.m.

Members in Attendance: 20

Meeting March 12, 2016:

President Liz Platt called the meeting to order. Welcoming our guest Pat and Carl Brown visiting while on the coast doing a show. She welcomed a new member Tom Simmons to the club. Since our meeting day is only a half day, the meeting will be short to give time for the workshop planned.

Reba Shotts gave a report on the SFMS meeting in Jackson, Ms. that she, Buddy and John Wright attended. Barbi said that she had sent an updated list of the officers prior to the meeting.

Buddy Shotts said that a few changes were made that included the treasurer of the SFMS can write a check for \$300.00 or less without a vote but that he is opposed to that decision. A committee has been formed for bonding the treasurer. The Stamp Program is now gone and a committee was formed which Buddy is on to replace the stamp program. Vicki Reynolds said, "Do coins".

John Wright announced that the ALAA is with the Blue Riders. If you find any arrowheads, be careful there is a hefty fine. John Wright requested we give ALAA \$100.00. A \$50.00 donation and \$50.00 for membership dues. Liz said, "we will address this later in the meeting".

Minutes to Accept: President Liz Platt asked if there was a motion to accept our February 2016 minutes printed in the March Newsletter. A motion was made by Reba Shotts. Motion Carried.

Treasury Report: Given by Barbi Beatty. A motion was made to accept by Lisa Finch and Lynn Tate. Motion Carried. Only postage was purchased and a few memberships were paid.

Committee Reports:

Workshop Committee: Report given by Dave Cook.

Wire wrapping was done this month (by Dave Cook) creating crosses. We had 5 members participating in the wire wrapping workshop and all the crosses turned out beautiful. Jim Kirchner had machines available for those members wanting to use any of the clubs' equipment.

John Guglik had testing available for members wanting any testing done.

Liability Waivers for workshops and equipment usage were signed by members who weren't present last month. Dave Cook gave the folder to Lisa Fitch our secretary for record keeping.

There is no workshop planned for April since we are having our annual picnic. The May workshop will be announced at our next meeting and posted on our website.

Faceting Workshops: Report given by Buddy Shotts.

The Wednesday night classes will start next Wednesday March 16th. Buddy gave a brief description of faceting. I like to start people on Quartz. I have plenty of it and I'm not going to charge anyone for it.

If you are interested, see Buddy. Ed King and Tom Simmons are interested and want to attend the faceting workshops. Lynn Tate said she would like to attend but can't right now due to a busy schedule but will let Buddy know when she can attend.

John Guglik reminded everyone that you need to be certified to use the equipment. Liz Platt said, "Buddy is our person for certifying members on faceting.

Show Committee: Report given by Bill LaRue. Bill LaRue said, "He will start to call vendors next week. Refunds can't be counted on yet but there might be a discount. The board will meet and talk about the discount and if it's going to be granted.

Equipment Committee: Report given by Jim Kirchner.

The Ring Saw is the best option for the club. Bill LaRue will check on prices. When the prices are gotten we can vote on purchasing the saw.

Library Committee: Report given by Barbi Beatty.

If you have anything checked out, please return it in May do not bring it to the picnic. Please donate any books, magazines, tapes, cd's, or dvd's you think we might enjoy.

Communication: Reba Shotts announced The 37th Annual Earth Wide Open Memphis Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show and passed out information on the show.

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April Picnic – Report Given by Lisa Fitch
The picnic date is April 2, 2016 at the Seashore Methodist Assembly on 1410 Leggett Drive, Biloxi, Ms.

Turn on Chalmers Drive off of Highway 90. See the travel instructions. The pavilion we will be using is at no charge. They will also allow us to get ice as needed. Hamburgers, hotdogs, condiments and drinks will be provided by the club. Members attending are asked to bring a side dish. If you were not at the March meeting, please RSVP to Lisa or Barbi with the number of guests, you will be bringing.

We have booked the pavilion from 8am to 5pm. Picnic will start at 11am – 4:30pm giving us 30 minutes for cleanup. Volunteers need to arrive by 10am for setup. Lunch will be served at 12 noon. The April meeting will be around 1pm. Please volunteer we need a few more to help get ice and setup tables.

Our chefs will be John Guglik and Jim Kirchner arriving by 11am. Setup committee will be Lisa, Barbi, Lynn, & Tom. Cleanup will be Barbara, Reba, and Buddy. We still need a few more volunteers for cleanup too.

I also reserved the pavilion for next year on the second Saturday in April 2017 but there maybe a small charge of \$25.00 or more but they will let me know.

Liz Platt will contact Sue West to invite the Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society. Lisa will announce it at their meeting next week.

Picnic Update April 2, 2016: We all gathered for our annual picnic at Seashore Methodist Assembly with about 23 people along with guests from the Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society. Everyone had a good time and the food was wonderful. Kudos to our Chefs Jim Kirchner and John Guglik for grilling our food. Special thanks to all the members who prepared dishes and those who helped organize, setup & cleanup for this occasion.

Unfinished Business: Jim Kirchner made a motion to buy a Ring Saw but not to exceed the amount of \$600.00 plus extra blades to be included in that cost. Motion was 2nd by Buddy Shotts. Motion Carried.

Liz Platt reminded everyone who might be attending William Holland or Wild Acres that she has a list for classes being offered during Federation week.

New Business:

John Wright made a motion to donate \$50.00 dollars to the ALAA and \$50.00 for dues to join. Bill LaRue 2nd the motion. Motion Carried. ALAA is a 501c3 too.

Show and Tell: John Wright passed around a beautiful rough Aquamarine.

50/50: Won by Reba Shotts

Door Prizes: We had a lot of door prizes this month to be awarded. Won by Barbara Savvedra, Dave Cook, Tom Simmons, Elmyra LaRue, Lynn Tate, John Guglik, Lisa Fitch, Jim Kirchner, Ileana Kirchner, Barbi Beatty, & Liz Platt.

Adjournment: 2:00 p.m.

Up coming Gem Shows:

May 28 & 29, 2016; Gulfport, MS **Harrison County Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show.** Sat. May 28 , 9am-5pm Sun. May 29, 9am-4pm.

Held at Joppa Shrine Temple, 1.5 miles north of I-10 at Exit 41. Organized by: Harrison County Gem & Mineral Society. Gulfport, MS Dealers, demonstrations, displays & kids' activities. Adults \$5 Children under 12 free Free parking website: gulfportgems.org

June 4 & 5, 2016, McCalla, AL

The 43rd Annual Tannehill Gem, Mineral, Fossil, & Jewelry Show
Tannehill Historical Ironworks State Park, Alabama

Alabama Mineral & Lapidary Society
Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5, 9am to 5pm

12632 Confederate Pkwy, McCalla, AL 35111

The show is free with paid admission to the park. We will have door prizes, children's games and demonstration classes.

I-59/20 to exit #100 or I-459 to exit #1 and follow the signs to Tannehill.

Showchairman: Cathy Kellogg
tannehillgemshow@gmail.com
<http://www.lapidaryclub.com/>

Bench Tips :

PRE-MADE BEZEL CUPS



As a general rule of thumb I assume it's going to take me 15 - 20 minutes to make a bezel for an ordinary cabochon, so for some projects buying pre-made cups can save a lot of time. But if you go this route, keep in mind three things. First, try to get cups made from fine silver, not sterling. Fine silver is softer and burnishes over the stone more easily.

Second, you may have trouble matching the shape and size of the stone with the shape and size of the bezel cup. Purchased cups can only be found in a limited number of standard sizes. You may have to adjust your choice of gemstone to match the cup. The other consideration is that pre-made cups often have fairly low side walls. While these are fine for low-dome stones, they're not dependable for stones with steep side walls.

Lastly before setting, check the fit of your gemstone in the cup, particularly around the bottom. The bottom corners of a stamped cup are much more rounded than a bezel you would fabricate yourself. This causes a problem with stones that have a sharp edge around the bottom.

Burnishing the bezel over one of these stones will place a lot of stress on the stone and may cause it to crack. To avoid this, I round off the bottom edge of the stone with a diamond file (or use sandpaper on soft stones).

Source:

"Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" and "Broom Casting for Creative Jewelry" are available on Amazon

SFMS Workshops for 2016

We have received the schedule for the Federation workshops at William Holland and Wild Acres. If you would like more information or a registration form go to www.SFMSworkshops.com. Or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SoutheastFederation-of-Mineralogical-Societies. You can contact the Registrar for each facility:

William Holland - Heidi Wetzell
sfms.wh@gmail.com

Wild Acres - Toni Garland
wargitar2016@gmail.com

This is a wonderful perk of belonging to the SFMS. Join in and support your Federation.

Session 1, William Holland, 6/5-11/16

Beading Becky Patellis
Mineral ID Scott Forward
Cabochons Dave Bergquist
Opals Carl Talbott
Casting Bill Harr
Polymer Clay Sandra Davis
Chain-Maille-Beg & Int. Kathy Morris
SW Silver (advanced) Nancy English
Faceting—Beg. & Int. Tom Mitchell
Wire Wrap I Sandra Bergquist
Gem Trees Jerri Heer
Wire Weaving & Filigree Jan Stephens

Session 2, Wild Acres, 8/22-28/16

Session 3, Wild Acres, 9/19-25/16

Fused Chain-Maille Roy Deere
Chain-Maille 1&2 Roy Deere
Metalwork Special Proj. Jeff Sheer
Gem ID Teresa Polly
Advanced Beading Self Study
Casting Bill Harr
Mineral ID Travis Paris
Flint Knapping Michael Miller
Chasing & Reposse Tom & Kay Benham
Wire for Beaders Leslie Wayment
Display Case Building Danny Griffin
Faceting—Beg. & Int. Tom Mitchell
Deep Relief Wood Carving Clancy Smith
Silversmithing Pattie Appleby
Metal Clay I Katie Baum
Scrimshaw Rich Williams
Gourds Pat Davis
Cold Connec. & Enamel Debora Mauser
Wire Wrap—Beg. Rowan Rose-Morgan
Chasing & Reposse II Tom & Kay Benham
Metal Clay II Katie Baum

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S.C.R.I.B.E. (Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors)

OFFICERS 2015

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COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
Show Chairman	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
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Librarian	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Sunshine	Open
ALAA John Wright	Director (228) 875-9192
SFMS John Wright	Past President (228) 875-9192
SFMS Buddy Shotts	Long-range Planning &Past President (601) 947-7245

Annual dues are:

\$16 Individual

\$20 (2) Members in same house hold

\$6 Junior

2015 Workshop/Meeting Dates

January 9 OS Library 9:30-4:45

February 13 OS Library 1:00-4:45

March 12 St. Martin Public library 1:00-4:45

April 2 Club Picnic 11:00-5:00

Seashore Methodist Pavilion Biloxi, MS

May 14 OS Library 9:30-4:45

June 11 OS Library 9:30-4:45

July 9 OS Library 9:30-4:45

August 13 OS Library 9:30-4:45

September 10 OS Library 9:30-4:45

October 8 OS Library 9:30-4:45

November 10 After Vendor Dinner 7ish

December Christmas Party TBA 11:00am-4:00pm

*Be sure to check Dates each month! *

**The November meeting is the Thursday evening of the gem show after the dinner for the dealers at the Jackson County Fairgrounds Civic Center Building. December will be our Christmas Party and Installation of Officers **

May 2016

Su M Tu W Th Fri Sa

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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<http://www.mgcgms.org>



The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society is a Non-profit Organization Dedicated to Education, Science, and the Lapidary Arts and Crafts

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