



Snoopy Gems

Volume 47 Number 8 August 2021
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

President's Message

Dear Members,

I hope to see you at our Monthly meeting on Saturday August 14 in our new home at the Mary C O'Keefe Cultural Center in Ocean Springs. We usually get started at 9:30 a.m. with a workshop and using the machines. If you can arrive a little early, you can help with the setup. It will be appreciated.

Our goal is to learn new skills and prepare for our November show. Bring your donation for the show raffle if it's ready. If you have questions about how you can help with the show, we can explore the possibilities with you.

For now, masks are encouraged but not required. (I've had two Moderna shots, but plan to wear my mask on Saturday.) Please bring a bag lunch for yourself and drinks will be provided by the club. You can eat in our room or at one of the picnic tables on the front lawn.

Be safe and protect yourself and others.

Liz Platt
MGCGMS President



August Workshop:

Barbi Beatty will be teaching hand knotted pearl bracelets for our August workshop project.

Kits will be available for \$5. (see pictures below)

Materials:

We will be using faux pearls for teaching because they have uniform holes. Kits will contain 12 to 30 beads depending on their size, one card of silk thread with needle attached, and a clasp. If you want to bring your own beads she will bring extra silk thread and clasp.

Tools:

Bead mat, sharp scissors, ruler, jewelry glue, and a pair of needle nosed pliers.



Machines: Members of our tool committee will be available to help with cutting and cabbing gemstones. As always, we will have the club machines available for metal & gemstone testing, gemstone cutting, and cabbing.

Claire Martin
Workshop Chair
228-366-3612
ladycomfms@yahoo.com

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566



Meeting Minutes:

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

July 10, 2021



Meeting called to order: at 1pm by Liz Platt, President. There were 17 members present. Welcomed new member Allen Elliot, who expressed an interest in Silversmithing. 50/50 was drawn prior to the start of the meeting, won by Barbi Beatty.

Meeting Minutes Approval: Liz Platt moved to approve June 2021 minutes as published in Snoopy Gems Newsletter. Motion to accept by Vicki Reynolds, second by Reba Shotts, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Barbi Beatty, Treasurer, provided the treasurer's report for June ,2021. No changes to the Show account, balances provided for checking, savings, and show accounts. Web hosting and Domain name are both up for renewal, additional shelf for closet, and new lapidary saw were purchased as part of July's expenses. Motion to accept Treasurer's report made by Harvey Marcum, second by Buddy Shots, motion carried.

Meeting Site: provided by Liz Platt, codes are required to get into the building, for the doors, and the closets. Access codes protect the Society and will be issued to just one or two people from each organization. We are required to comply with the building guidelines. If anyone needs access into the building, please contact Liz Platt.

Workshop: David Cook was truly a Treasure to the club and will be greatly missed. Joni Arias taught wire wrapped earring jackets in July's workshop. Clair could not be with us today for personal reasons. Monthly workshops will be held every second Saturday before our club meeting with exception to November and December. There are additional workshops that will be held for the public through the Mary C O'Keefe Cultural Center. MGCGMS has agreed to do four public workshops per year. Mary C will handle publicity and get signups. The club is looking for people to hold workshops for the public. Club workshops can be used for practice. Shared profit is 20% - 80%. 20% to Mary C.,80% to the individual conducting the workshop. A W9 and an application is required to do a workshop. Meeting scheduled with Mary C. staff and partners July 19th, 2021.

SFMS Workshop and Scholarship: Scholarship winner, David Spencer and the second alternate winner Reba Shotts will both be going to Wild Acres this year. 1-3 scholarships are offered each year to Wild Acres or to William Holland to benefit club members. You must be a member for one full year and be an active member (attend at least one club meeting per quarter) to qualify to be in the drawing for a scholarship.

Tools and Equipment: Harvey Marcum reports that we need another 6" saw blade. Per John Guglik., Allen brought in a ring saw that should be used for glass, etc. It should not be used on corundum, sapphires, emeralds, rubies, or topaz. John said he has some blades that he will donate to the club as needed. We have a small supply of wire and jewelry tools. Wire can be purchased when available, some jewelry tools are available to use during workshops.

Library: John Guglik. stated that if anyone would like to donate books, etc. Clair has several Rock & Gem magazines that she offered to donate. There are items available for check out.

Sunshine: Reba Shotts stated that she has sent several cards out and she sent a card from the club to Dave's family. She has been sending out birthday cards and if anyone did not receive on it is because she does not have your birthdate.

Membership: Liz Platt reported, the thought behind being at Mary C O'Keefe is that as we get some tracking from events and from publicity offered by Mary C membership will increase. Vicki Reynolds recommended that on occasions when Mary C has "Pop Up" events that someone be there from the MGCGMS to show what the club offers. Always glad to have new members.

Snoopy Gem Newsletter: Liz Platt and club members agreed that there are always good articles in the Snoopy Gem Newsletter. Barbi Beatty says she is accepting written material from members to publish.

Outside Classes/Workshops: Vicki Reynolds teaches monthly painting or wire wrapping at the Pascagoula River Art Gallery. Information can be found on the Singing Rivers Arts Association Facebook page. Ocean Springs Art Association also has different workshops that they offer. Per Liz Platt, Gallery 782 has an opening for a Jeweler. If interested, you will have to apply to Gallery 782. Vicki Reynolds stated Pascagoula River Art Gallery is also looking for a Jeweler. See either Liz Platt or Vicki Reynolds for more information.

Gem Show: Magnolia Gem and Mineral Show will be on November 12,13,14, 2021. Per Barbi Beatty we have received a couple vendor contracts back, and she will call them to make sure they get them in. Contracts are not due until August. Sign up sheets will be available at our next meeting for volunteers.

Old Business: Liz Platt wants to remind everyone to read the Snoopy Gem Newsletter and to view www.mgcfgms.org, www.southeastfed.org and www.afms.org.

New Business: Liz Platt stated for individuals interested in donating in David Cooks name, Jane asked that donations be made through Feed the Coast or Backpack Buddies. As a club, Reba Shotts is asking that a donation be made in David Cooks name to the Mayo Foundation which is connected to SFMS. In turn Mayo provides an annual scholarship to Genealogy students. Reba Shotts made a motion to donate \$50.00 to Mayo in David Cooks name. Vicki Shotts second, motion carried.

Gem of the Month/Show and Tell: Buddy Shotts provided club members with a plethora of information on the Gem of the month, Ruby. Several pieces were passed around for show and tell.

Motion to Adjourn and Door Prizes: Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm. Vicki Reynolds gave the motion to adjourn, Reba Shotts second. Several door prizes won.



Happy

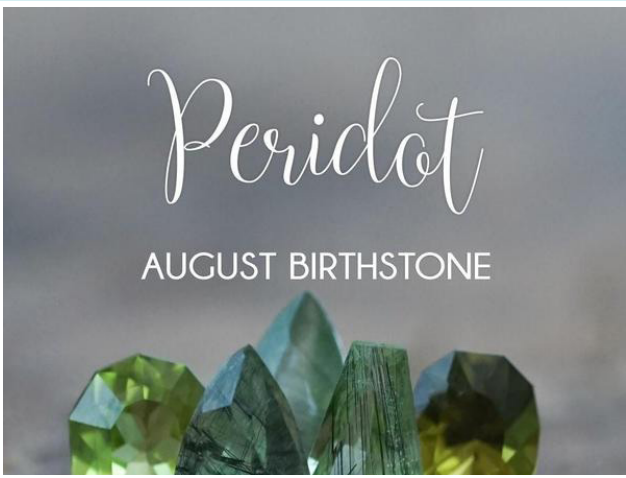
August

Birthday

Sheena Anderson, Van Crump, Mark Daynes,
Amanda Farnum, Donna Barnes, Kristina Mathews,
Linda Langlois, Mary Spencer, Claire Martin, Natalie Webb

Peridot

AUGUST BIRTHSTONE



PERIDOT

August's Birthstone

By: John M. Wright, RPG

Peridot (pronounced **pair-a-doe**) is an ancient gemstone that has been around for more than 4,000 years. According to legend peridot was a favorite gemstone of Cleopatra. It is mentioned in the Bible under the Hebrew name of pitdah and called topazius (topaz) by the Romans. It is believed that the name "peridot" came from the Arabic word "faridat" which means gem and was contaminated by the French word "peritot" which means unclear. Peridot is supposed to bring the wearer success, peace, and good luck. It is also the stone of rejuvenation and restoration of mental and physical well-being. Peridot belongs to the forsterite-fayalite mineral series, a part of the olivine group. Because it is "idiochromatic" (means the color comes from the basic chemical composition of the mineral itself and not from minor impurities), peridot will only be found in shades of green.



Olivine ranges in color from a light yellow with tinges of green to a darker green with tinges of brown. The darker green color is often referred to as lime or 7-Up (based on the color of the glass bottle containing the popular soft drink).

The darker shades ranging from olive green to lime or 7-Up which occur in gem stone quality are know as "peridot" and those that trend more toward yellow are known as "chrysolite".



Physical properties

Family: Olivine

Chemical Composition: $(\text{MgFe})_2\text{SiO}_4$ Silicate of magnesium and iron

Crystal System: Orthorhombic 2/m2/m2/m

Birefringence: Strong, (0.035 – 0.038)

Refractive Indices: n_a 1.645, n_y 1.69

Density: Gem stone: 3.32 – 3.35 g/cm³ Mineral: 3.25 – 4.35 g/cm³

(Note: Olivine varies a great deal in density according to composition of the specimen. Gem quality stones seem to fall within a narrower zone.)

Hardness: 6.5 – 7

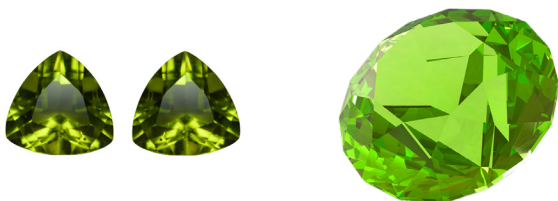
Cleavage: Indistinct prismatic cleavage; often conchoidal fractures.

Pleochroism: Weak

Luster: Vitreous to oily

Streak: colorless

The shades of olive green are highly characteristic and particular to peridot. In most cases coloring is probably its most apparent and distinguishing feature. Light rays passing through peridot are kind of split and bent, resulting in a rich glowing velvety appearance and a slightly greasy luster which further adds to its distinction.



Unfortunately, peridots are often confused with other green gemstones. Many “**Emeralds**” that were part of historical treasures were found to be peridots. Even today, many jewelers still refer to peridots as “evening emeralds”. Emeralds are a darker green and quite different from the yellow green peridot. “**Green beryl’s**” commonly accepted as emeralds are often very similar in color, but do not have the glowing velvety appearance or greasy luster of peridot and their physical properties differ. Other green gem stone that may be confused with peridot are “**Apatite**” which is much softer; “**Garnets**” and “**Moldavites**” do not have double refraction; “**Sinhalite**” and “**Tourmalines**” both are strongly pleochroic; “**Zircon**” is significantly heavier; and “**Chrysoberyl’s**” which has very different reflective indices and is usually more lustrous.

The purer the green a peridot is the higher the value. The rich bright medium shades are the most prized. Darker shades tend have more iron resulting in brown tinges and a reduction in the stone’s rich velvety glow.

Any tinges of brown or visible flaws greatly diminishes the gem stone’s value. The best colored peridot has an iron content of less than 15% and includes nickel and chromium as trace elements.

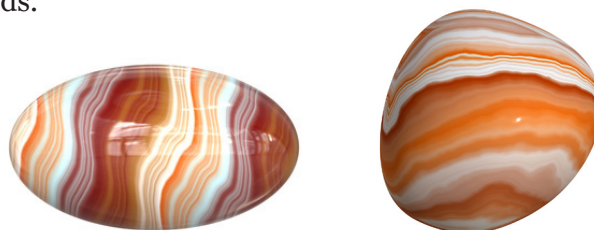


My understanding is that the world’s leading producers of peridot are mines owned and operated by Native Americans on the San Carlos Reservation, in Arizona. The gem stones found at these mines are not the largest or the best, but are of reasonably good quality and affordable. Peridot is also found in Hawaii, Brazil, Australia, and Mexico. The best quality peridot historically has come from Myanmar (Burma) and Egypt, but in recent years discoveries in Pakistan have produced excellent gem stones of top quality and some of them have been very large crystals weighing up to three hundred carats.



Two additional Birthstones for August are Sardonyx and Spinel.

Sardonyx combines alternating layers of sard and onyx two types of the layered mineral chalcedony to create a reddish zebra-striped gemstone with white bands.



Sard ranges in color from yellowish-red to reddish-brown, depending on how much iron oxide is present. Sard is easily confused with carnelian, another type of chalcedony that is slightly softer and lighter in color. Sardonyx, like onyx, shows layers of parallel bands instead of the chaotic, curved bands that compose agate, another type of chalcedony. The finest examples of sardonyx, which display sharp contrasts between layers, are found in India. Other sources include Brazil, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Madagascar, Uruguay, and the United States.



Measuring 6.5 on the Mohs hardness scale, sardonyx is widely available and relatively inexpensive as gems, beads, and jewelry. It is often carved into cameos, intaglios, and brooches to show the color contrast between layers.

Spinel, like garnet and diamond, is singly refractive, with the same physical properties in all crystal directions. It belongs to the cubic crystal system, and its characteristic crystal shape is an octahedron, which looks like two back-to-back pyramids. Well-formed spinel crystals are fairly common in nature.



Spinel can also form flattened crystals that look radically different from octahedral crystals. The flattened shape occurs when the pyramids that form an octahedron rotate against each other during growth. Scientists describe this as a “twinned crystal.” Large gems cut from good-color twinned crystals are typically shallow, and should be judged on their overall beauty rather than on proportions alone. The spinel used in jewelry is a small part of a group of minerals that share the same crystal structure. Not all of them form transparent crystals suitable for jewelry use, however. Spinel offers a range of hues, from orange to intense “stoplight” red, vibrant pink, and all shades of purple, blue, and violet through bluish green. Intense reds and pinks are caused by traces of chromium. The higher the chromium content, the stronger the red hue. Orange and purple stones owe their color to a mixture of iron and chromium. Violet

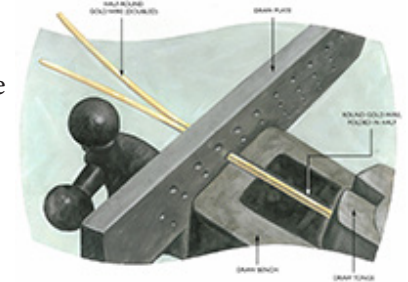
to blue spinel can be colored by trace amounts of iron, and vibrant blues owe their saturated color to trace amounts of cobalt.



In ancient times, the mines of central and southeast Asia yielded exceptionally large spinel crystals. These fine stones became known as Balas rubies, and some of them were the treasured property of kings and emperors, often passing through many hands as spoils of war. As a result, some of the world’s most illustrious “rubies” are actually spinel.

BENCH TIP

Double the Fun:
Making Half-round wire



The problem: You need a piece of half-round gold wire for a ring shank and you need it right away. You don’t have any on-hand, and there is no time to place an order. All you have is round wire that is larger than what you need for the shank, and a round draw plate.

The solution: Take the round gold wire (it must be larger than the half-round wire you desire) and fold it in half, tapping the bend tight with a hammer. Taper the bent end in preparation for inserting it into a draw plate. You can do this by step rolling in a mill, by forging out the end with a hammer, or by filing to a taper. If the ends separate, solder them together and continue to taper them. Anneal and then draw the two wires down through the graduated holes of a round draw plate. The round wires are pressed together, forming a flat boundary between them. The result: A half-round wire for the ring shank.


You can also make 1/3 or 1/4 round wire by starting with three or four pieces of round wire, respectively, and following the technique described above.

FROM 101 BENCH TIPS BY ALAN REVERE

We always welcome new members!



Date _____ Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society

http://www.mgcgms.org		Application for Membership	
Individual: \$16.00		Individual +1 relative Same Address: \$20.00	
		Junior Under 18: \$6.00	
Name: _____		Cell: _____	
Name: _____		Cell: _____	
Address: _____		Home Phone: _____	
City: _____			
State: _____		Email 1: _____	
Zip: _____		Email 2: _____	
Members Birthdays			
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
Please Check All Applicable Interests			
<input type="radio"/> Beading	<input type="radio"/> Cabbing	<input type="radio"/> Jewelry Making	
<input type="radio"/> Chain Mail	<input type="radio"/> PMC	<input type="radio"/> Lapidary	
<input type="radio"/> Field Trips	<input type="radio"/> Faceting	<input type="radio"/> Minerals	
<input type="radio"/> Fossils	<input type="radio"/> Wire Wrapping	<input type="radio"/> Silver Smithing	
<input type="radio"/> Others: _____			
How did you hear of us? _____			
Please check the following:			
<input type="radio"/>	I understand that my picture or likeness may be used in Society promotions.		
<input type="radio"/>	I authorize MGCGMS to include my contact information be included in Society listings for members to contact each other only.		
Signature: _____			
Signature: _____			

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc. P.O.
Box 857 Ocean Springs MS 39566
mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Snoopy Gems
 is the Official Publication of
 The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society,
 Inc.

AFFILIATIONS
 The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies,
 Inc.
 The American Federation of Mineralogical Societies,
 Inc.
 S.C.R.I.B.E. (Special Congress Representing Involved
 Bulletin Editors)

OFFICERS 2018

President	Liz Platt
Vice President	Natalie Webb
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty
Secretary	Roslind Daniels
Parliamentarian	John Guglik
Editor	Barbi Beatty
Web master	Barbi Beatty
Member at Large	Harvey Marcum
Member at Large	Reba Shotts

COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty
Show Chair	Barbi Beatty
Historian	Lettie White
Librarian	Liz Platt
Sunshine	Reba Shotts

AFFILIATIONS

ALAA	John Wright: Director
SFMS	John Wright: Past President
SFMS	Barbi Beatty: Treasurer & Insurance Liaison
SFMS	Buddy Shotts: Past Long-range Plan- ning, Past President, State Director

Annual dues are:
 \$16 Individual
 \$20 (2) Members in same house hold
 \$6 Junior

**2021 Workshop/Meeting
 Dates**

January 9 TBD 9:30-4:00
 February 13 TBD 9:30-4:00
 March 13 TBD 9:30-4:00
 April 10 TBD 9:30-4:00
 May 8 TBD 9:30-4:00
 June 12 Mary C. 9:30-4:00
 July 10 Mary C. 9:30-4:00
 August 14 Mary C. 9:30-4:00
 September 11 Mary C. 9:30-4:00
 October 9 Mary C. 9:30-4:00
 November 13 After Vendor Dinner 5ish
 December 11 Christmas Party Mary C.
 11:00am-3:30pm

**Dates subject to change.
 Be sure to check each month!**
 The November meeting is the Thursday eve-
 ning 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

August 2021

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Snoopy Gems

Official Publication of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc.



<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

Snoopy Gems MCGMS
P.O. Box 857
Ocean Springs, MS 39566