



Snoopy Gems

Volume 48 Number 6 June 2022
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

President's Message

Dear Members,

Are you are interested in teaching a class or workshop on some jewelry or lapidary skill. If you wish, we can help you design a class either for adults or kids and tailor the length, size, and cost to your requirements. Let me know if you have ideas on this.

Also

Are you interested in placing your jewelry in a locked case for sale in the lobby at the MaryC? The City takes their cut of the sales price (60:40 split) but this is now available to us. Adjust your price accordingly. If you are interested in displaying one or two pieces, let us know. I will ask for a volunteer to coordinate this for the club. Hope to see you Saturday.

Liz Platt
MGCGMS President

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

June Workshop:

Vicki Reynolds will be teaching a Spiral beaded bracelet for the AM workshop.



Materials:

Beading thread and needle, 28 6mm glass pearls, 56 4mm bicones, and some 11 seed beads. This number of beads will make a 7 inch bracelet. Decrease or increase the number of beads depending on your wrist size. Kits will be available for \$7 each.

We will be learning how to use the pepe jump ring maker at the PM Workshop after the meeting.



Machines: Members of our tool committee will be available to help with cutting and capping gemstones. As always, we will have the club machines available for metal & gemstone testing, gemstone cutting, and capping. You may also bring a personal project to work on.

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566



Meeting Minutes

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

May 2022



Meeting called to order: at 1:00pm by Liz Platt, President.

Meeting Minutes Approval: Meeting minutes for April 2022 approved, John Guglik motioned to accept April's minutes, Joni Arias 2nd, motioned carried.

Treasurer's Report: provided by Barbi Beatty, Treasurer. Balances provided for the Show Account, Checking, and Savings accounts. Paid the radio ad that did not go through previously. Money was received from Mary C for the class taught on the gem trees was used to purchase materials for May's workshop. Amount will reflect in June's Treasurer's report. Angie Troutman made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Joni Arias 2nd, motion carried.

Meeting: Liz Platt asked that Barbi Beatty put Safety procedures in the Snoopy Newsletter. Barbi offered to compile a PDF and add it to the website. April 30th, 2022, we hosted a Jewelry and Art Fair in conjunction with OS art association. Thanks to all who participated and showed their support. It was a good first event, but we would like a bigger footprint for next year. A letter of Thanks was written to the Mary C's staff and to the city. H.M. would like to know if we determine where to set up or if Mary C determines this. Per Barbi Beatty, this year was suggestive, but next year we can provide them with a diagram of where we would like to set up. Liz Platt asked that we get on the calendar early for 2023. The Urban Garden Fest, this year known as The Art Fest is in March and perhaps, we can unite with them via the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber also had Earth Day the week prior to our event, and since we are earth sciences perhaps, we can look to combine with them during that event. Barbi Beatty also stated that we need to work with the Chamber of Commerce. John Guglik suggested placing the information in the book of events offered by the Chamber of Commerce. Angie Troutman and Barbi Beatty offered to communicate with the Chamber of Commerce. Liz Platt stated she was glad to see members from HCGMS participate in the Jewelry and Art Fair. HCGMS is hosting the Gem and Mineral Show in Woolmarket at the Shriner Center, May 21st, 2022. Allan Elliott suggested that each month we take one example from each workshop to display at the Gem & Mineral show in November. That way others can see the type of work the club does. Barbi Beatty said that we have a club showcase that we can put together and place examples in there. Joni Arias suggested putting up a story board showing the work done in the club. Angie Troutman suggested that each member challenge themselves and do an "artsy fartsy" piece to display. Joni Arias suggested that we display some things that will appeal to a younger audience. Beth Carden recommended that when talking to the Chamber of Commerce to have them add the club classes to their weekly list of what's going on. Liz Platt recommended attending the Chamber's monthly events. Beth Carden volunteered to attend these events. Barbi Beatty is currently listed as a representative but will send an email to add Beth Carden. Angie Troutman suggested that the club representative wear his/her badge/nametag to show they are a member of the club and at some point, we can setup our storyboard, serve hors d'oeuvre's and drinks while demonstrating what the club does. To get young people involved aka The Young Professionals, we can invite them one night. Barbi Beatty stated that we need an idea's list where people write down their ideas, something that we can post. Angie Troutman, and Barbi Beatty are both friends with news anchors and recommend contacting them about our events. Liz Platt suggested that they can be contacted for the two events that the club has each year, i.e., the Gem Show and the Jewelry and Art Fair.

Workshop: Angie Troutman taught basic soldering. Excellent turn out and everybody did a great job.

Sunshine: Barbi Beatty spoke with Reba Shotts who stated that Buddy had surgery on his hand and is recovering. Thomas Simmons is still back and forth with his recovery. Mrs. Reba sent a condolence card to Arora King.

Equipment: Nothing to report on equipment.

New Business: See meeting minutes. John Guglik recommended that everyone have a copy of a beginner book on Rocks, Gems, and Minerals. This will give people a general idea of things we are learning about. Perhaps we can order books, offer to new members, and raise membership by a \$1.00. Barbi Beatty stated that perhaps we can buy some and add them to the library for purchase.

Gem of the Month: John Guglik educated us on Emeralds

Motion to Adjourn and Door Prizes: Sue Shelton, Allen Elliott, Steve Ashby, and Liz Platt each won door prizes. No 50-50 today. Barbi Beatty motioned to adjourn the meeting at 13:38.

BENCH TIPS

SPOT SANDING BRUSH

Sometimes you have a little discoloration or debris to clean from the bottom of a pocket, from an area of coarse textured surface, or from a small space between two soldered objects. Finding something to get into those close areas is always an effort in creativity.

One tool I have for these special occasions is a glass fiber spot sanding brush. It's great for cleaning a small area and doesn't leave deep scratches, only a faint satin finish.

There are probably several manufacturers of these pens, but one is the PrepPen Adjustable Sanding Pen selling for US\$ 10.95 from Amazon.



SUPER PICKLE

We've all made the mistake of putting some steel in the pickle pot. This can cause all your pieces to be coated with copper. Easiest way I've found to clean it off is to fill half a coffee cup with new hot pickle and put in an ounce or two of hydrogen peroxide from the drug store.

Throw your pieces in and the coating is gone in about 10 minutes. When finished, pour the solution back into your pickle pot.

Many people think that when some steel gets into the pickle, the solution is contaminated and should be thrown away. Not true as long as you can remove all the steel from the pickle. In fact, the pickle should work even better after the steel is removed. Pickle works by dissolving the copper oxides that form during soldering. Pickle gets "old" when it cannot hold any more dissolved copper. Putting steel in the pot forces some of the copper to come out of solution, meaning the pickle is then able to dissolve more copper.



NEW BENCH TIPS BOOK

If you enjoy these jewelry bench tips, a new volume is available now on Amazon. "More Bench Tips" includes 86 additional ways to save time, avoid frustration and improve quality at the bench. See a sample chapter at <https://amzn.to/2KCyh4>

Discover New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books

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

Events

The Singing River Carnival Club would like to invite you to be part of our 2nd Annual Christmas In July Arts and Crafts Fair.

Our 2022 event will be July 30 and July 31 inside to the Jackson County Civic Center in Pascagoula, MS (Air Conditioned and no need to worry about the weather) from 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day.

The event fee will be \$100.00 for a 10 ft x 10 ft space with a 8 ft table and 2 chairs. A 10 ft x 20 ft space is \$150.00 with (2) 8 ft tables and 4 chairs.

Set-up will start Friday, July 29 from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. and Saturday, July 30 from 6 a.m. – 8 a.m.

We will provide a Catfish Supper on Saturday night starting at 5 p.m. and a Vendor's Lounge will be provided for all vendors throughout the event.

Check out our web page for an application.

www.srcarnivalclub.com

Eddie Brewer, Event Chairman

Jebrewer328@yahoo.com

228-239-9168

Gaston Gem and Mineral Club Show

Jun 11 – 12, 2022

Johan Newcombe Event Center (Habitat for Humanity Bldg) 1840 E Franklin Blvd, Gastonia NC 28054 (map)

June 11-12, 2022 Saturday 10-6/Sunday 10-4 FREE

SFMS Executive Meeting Information

June 10-11, 2022

Hosted by William Holland Retreat and SFMS Workshops
William Holland School of Lapidary Arts

230 Lapidary Lane

Young Harris, GA

Schedule:

June 5-10 – SFMS Workshops – see www.sfmsworkshops.org

Friday, June 10: 11:30 AM - SFMS Workshop Student Show and Tell – Cafeteria at William Holland

6:00 PM – SFMS Pizza Social (donations accepted)– Cafeteria at William Holland

Saturday, June 11: 8:00 AM – Continental Breakfast – Cafeteria at William Holland

8:30 AM – Meeting registration and packet pickup– Cafeteria at William Holland

9:00 AM – Executive Meeting – In Person - Cafeteria at William Holland

Virtual: Google Meet Meeting ID
meet.google.com/mjo-vpth-eep

Phone Numbers

(US)+1 347-345-1314

PIN: 263 029 501#



Happy

June

Birthday

Allen Elliott Bruce Giamalva John Guglik
Benta Paul Barbara Saavedra

Pearl
— OR — *Alexandrite*
JUNE BIRTHSTONES



About

Pearls

For centuries, pearls have been a symbol of beauty and purity. Today, they are regarded as both classic and contemporary, coming in many more fashionable styles than your grandmother's traditional strand of pearls. Learning about types of pearls is important when adding items to your jewelry collection.



Pearl Education

Pearls, natural or cultured, are formed when a mollusk produces layers of nacre around some type of irritant inside its shell. In natural pearls, the irritant may be another organism from the water. In cultured pearls, a mother-of-pearl bead or a piece of tissue is inserted into the mollusk to start the process.



For both, the quality of the nacre dictates the quality of the luster, or shine of the pearl, which is very important to its beauty and its value. The surface of the pearl should be smooth and free of marks while the overall shape could be round, oval, pear-shaped, or even misshapen. Misshapen pearls are called baroque pearls.

While shopping for pearls, there are various lengths available:

- A collar fits directly against the throat
- A choker rests at the base of the neck
- The princess length reaches near the collarbone
- A matinee length is usually 20-24 inches
- The Opera length is 30-36 inches
- The longest length, known as a rope, refers to all strands longer than 36 inches

Necklaces can also be classified as uniform where all pearls are about the same size or graduated where pearls change uniformly from ends to center.

Natural Pearls

Natural pearls are extremely rare. Historically, many were found in the Persian Gulf; unfortunately, today, most have already been harvested. You may be able to purchase small, natural pearls, but they will be costly.

Cultured Pearls

Cultured pearls are grown in pearl farms. The mollusks are raised until they are old enough to accept the mother-of-pearl bead nucleus. Through a delicate surgical procedure, the technician implants the bead and then the mollusks are returned to the water and cared for while the pearl forms. Not all produce a pearl; and not all the pearls are high quality. Over 10,000 pearls may be sorted before a 16" single strand of beautifully matched pearls is assembled.

Pearls can be found in saltwater and in freshwater. There are also different types of mollusks that produce very different looking pearls.

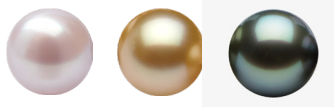


Saltwater Pearls

Saltwater pearls include the akoya cultured pearls grown in Japanese and Chinese waters. They range in size from 2mm to 10mm and are usually white or cream in color and round in shape.

Australia, Indonesia, and the Philippines produce the South Sea pearl – the largest of all the pearls. They range in size from 9mm to 20mm and can be naturally white, cream, or golden in color.

Tahitian pearls are interestingly not exclusively from Tahiti – they're grown in several of the islands of French Polynesia, including Tahiti. Their typical sizes range from 8mm to 16mm. These naturally colored pearls are collectively called black pearls, but their colors include gray, blue, green, and purple.



Freshwater Pearls

These pearls are grown in freshwater lakes, rivers, and ponds, predominately in China. Although many are white and resemble the akoya cultured pearls in shape and size, they can also be produced in various shapes and in an array of pastel colors. Many freshwater pearls don't have a bead nucleus – only a piece of tissue – resulting in a pearl with thicker nacre than the akoya.



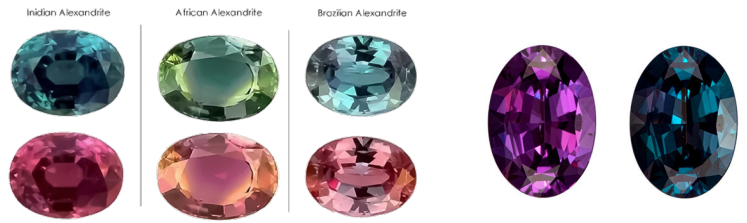
Imitation pearls

Imitation pearls are usually a coated glass bead. Most have a high luster, but not the depth of luster seen on high quality cultured pearls.

It's possible to separate an imitation from a cultured or natural pearl. It can be a challenge, though, to determine if the pearl is cultured or natural. And, many pearls undergo treatments to either enhance their luster or alter their color.

ALEXANDRITE

Green in sunlight. Red in lamplight. Color-changing alexandrite is nature's magic trick.



ABOUT ALEXANDRITE

Often described by gem aficionados as “emerald by day, ruby by night,” alexandrite is the very rare color-change variety of the mineral chrysoberyl. Originally discovered in Russia's Ural Mountains in the 1830s, it's now found in Sri Lanka, East Africa, and Brazil, but fine material is exceptionally rare and valuable. Alexandrite, with its chameleon-like qualities, is a rare variety of the mineral chrysoberyl. Its color can be a lovely green in daylight or fluorescent light, changing to brownish or purplish red in the incandescent light from a lamp or candle flame. This is a result of the complex way the mineral absorbs light.

Alexandrite's dramatic color change is sometimes described as “emerald by day, ruby by night.” Other gems also change color in response to a light-source change, but this gem's transformation is so striking that the phenomenon itself is often called “the alexandrite effect.”

Even in its rough form, this 70.94-carat alexandrite shows attractive color change.

Alexandrite is also a strongly pleochroic gem, which means it can show different colors when viewed from different directions. Typically, its three pleochroic colors are green, orange, and purple-red. However, the striking color change doesn't arise from the gem's pleochroism, but rather from the mineral's unusual light-absorbing properties.

Because of its scarcity, especially in larger sizes, alexandrite is a relatively expensive member of the chrysoberyl family. It shares its status as a June birthstone with cultured pearl and moonstone.



Alexandrite History and Lore


A 43-carat alexandrite in the collection of the British Museum. Abundant alexandrite deposits were first discovered in 1830 in Russia's Ural Mountains. Those first alexandrite's were of very fine quality and displayed vivid hues and dramatic color change. The gem was named after the young Alexander II, heir apparent to the throne. It caught the country's attention because its red and green colors mirrored the national military colors of imperial Russia. Alexander II was still a youngster in 1830, when a never-before-seen color-change gem was discovered in the Ural Mountains of Russia.

The spectacular Ural Mountain deposits didn't last forever, and now most alexandrite comes from Sri Lanka, East Africa, and Brazil. The newer deposits contain some fine-quality stones, but many display less-precise color change and muddier hues than the nineteenth-century Russian alexandrite's. You'll still find estate jewelry set with some of the famed Ural Mountain alexandrite's. They remain the quality standard for this

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

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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)

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 Member at Large Reba Shotts

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 Show Chair Barbi Beatty
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 Librarian Liz Platt
 Sunshine Reba Shotts

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

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

**2022 Workshop/Meeting
 Dates**

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

Dates subject to change.
Be sure to check 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

June 2022

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		

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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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