



Snoopy Gems

Volume 48 Number 8 August 2022
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

President's Message

Dear Members,

I hope to see everyone at the Saturday Workshop and meeting. If you haven't been in awhile, try to come in and see what new tools and equipment we are learning to use. It will soon be time for us to get ready for the annual show, elections, and special workshops. What do you want to learn to do this year? Have you learned something that you can share with us? Come and see your gem club friends and eat lunch with us.

Liz Platt
MGCGMS President



<http://www.mgcgms.org>

August Workshop:

Rosalind Norvel-Daniels will be teaching metal etching. Supplies will be provided for a \$10 fee.



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.



PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566



Meeting Minutes:

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY July 2022



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

Meeting Minutes Approval: Meeting minutes for June 2022 approved, Vicki Reynolds motioned to accept June's minutes, Harvey Marcum 2nd motioned carried.

Treasurer's Report: provided by Barbi Beatty, Treasurer. Balances provided for the Show Account, Checking, and Savings accounts.

Meeting: Barbi Beatty is recording the meeting because our Secretary Rosalind Norvel-Daniels is still recovering from knee surgery. Liz Platt said "The library is kind of defunct, but we have a nice collection of wonderful classic magazines being stored in the cabinet under the sink. If you need any design ideas please check them out. Barbi is going to buy some see through plastic containers to organize our closet. We used to have the 50/50 drawing, the silent auction and door prizes. I think we'll get back to doing those." Allen Elliott was asked to consider building us a display box to put down stairs in the lobby of the Mary C. to show what the club does. Members were invited to sell in the Mary C. Gift shop for a 60/40 split with the city. We had a spring fair here this year. It was 30 April. They have requested that we do it in March next year. Set up and demonstration for the Mary C. open house was discussed. Member Dawn Brandt stopped by and offered to sell the club a 12lb rock tumbler with accessories. The club decided we do not need it at this time. Liz Platt shared her personal collection of Gail Clark's Jewelry. Gail Clark, a long time Ocean Springs resident and jewelry designer who recently passed away.

Workshop: Joni Arias taught wire earrings. All participants did a great job. Some members were working with our machines to cut and polish gemstones.

Sunshine: Tom Simmons is still struggling with his health. Belinda Marcum has been ill, but she's recovering. Buddy & Reba Shotts both had the flu. Buddy is having his stent revision for the Heart on Monday.

Equipment: No Report

Show: Barbi Beatty reported we have received nine contracts back. The cost of the Fairground civic center has gone up significantly. Barbi will be working with the director of the fairgrounds to write a letter to the board of aldermen asking for a discount on renting the facility because we are a non-profit and really can not afford the increase. The amount of members participating in the running of the show was discussed. Members were encouraged to volunteer as much as possible. We may be short handed this year, because we have less members.

Communications: Liz Platt stated "Facebook is still effective. Our website is very effective if people do go there. Our newsletter is wonderful." Barbi Beatty will add the news letters to the website and share it on our Facebook page. Liz Platt said "We need to be added to the Mary C's calendar they put out weekly. We need to be in there so people know the date, and time of our meetings & workshops. This is our home now. We belong here. We are partners and should get some publicity as such. They need to let people know this is really open to the public in the sense that they could come and see what we're doing. If they want to join, then they can participate. I brought that up to Sarah when I met with her." We discussed printing our updated trifold flier, post cards, and a sign to put out on the days we have workshops.

Old Business: Beth Carden was added as our Chamber of Commerce representative. Liz Platt volunteered to go to chamber events and meetings. Our first two workshop recipients, Liz Platt and Rosalind Norvel Daniels have decided not to go. They have passed there scholarships to Angie Troutman and Sue Sheldon. These scholarships must be used during Federation weeks. John Guglik asked if any members would like to help with the welcome center display.

New Business: September, we set up a nominating committee for officers for the next year. Let's look for some new faces and places and people to get involved and have roles in this and bring new ideas and new things. Let Liz Platt know if you want to be part of the nominations committee for 2023.

Gem of the Month: John Guglik educated us on rubies, igneous, metamorphic, & sedimentary stones.

Motion to Adjourn and Door Prizes: Barbi Beatty motioned to adjourn the meeting at 14:33. Vicki Reynolds 2nd, motioned carried.

Happy



August

Peridot

AUGUST BIRTHSTONE



Peridot (pronounced pair-a-doe) is the birthstone for August. The peridot birthstone is known for being formed under extreme conditions, as it can be found in the hardened lava that carried it from deep within Earth's mantle as well as in meteorites that traveled from outer space.

The ancient Egyptians mined peridot on the Red Sea island of Zabargad, and is the source for many large fine peridots in the world's museums. The Egyptians called it the "gem of the sun." Today this gem is still prized for its restful yellowish green hues and long history.

Physical properties

Family: Olivine

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

Crystal System: Orthorhombic 2/m2/m2/m

Birthday

Van Crump Mark Daynes Claire Martin



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

Hardness: 6.5 – 7

Cleavage: Indistinct prismatic cleavage; often conchoidal fractures.

Pleochroism: Weak

Luster: Vitreous to oily

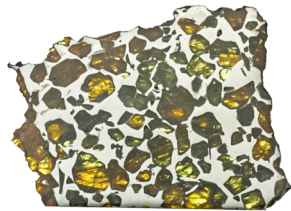
Streak: colorless

Gem miners find peridot as irregular nodules (rounded rocks with peridot crystals inside) in some lava flows in the United States, China, and Vietnam and, very rarely, as large crystals lining veins or pockets in certain types of solidified molten rock. Sources for the latter include Finland, Pakistan, Myanmar, and the island of Zabargad.

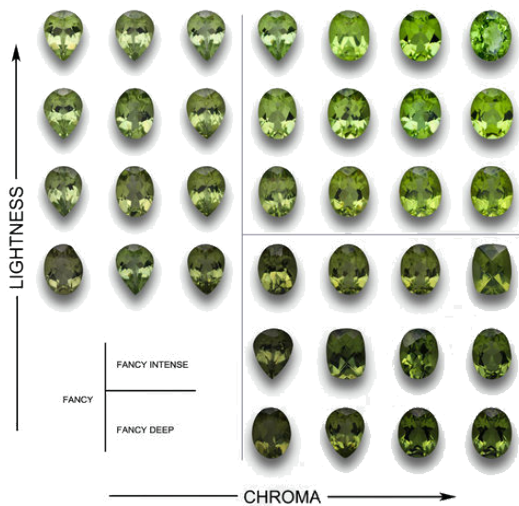


Geologists believe both types of deposits relate to the spreading of the sea floor that occurs when the earth's crust splits, and rocks from its mantle are pushed up to the surface. Sometimes—as in Myanmar— these rocks can be altered, deformed, and incorporated into mountain ranges by later earth movements.

Rarely, peridot can have an extraterrestrial source, being contained in meteorites that have fallen to earth.



The color range for peridot is narrow, from a brown-green color to yellowish green to pure green. Yellowish green is the most common peridot color seen in jewelry.



Peridot is the gem variety of the mineral olivine. Its chemical composition includes iron and magnesium, and iron is the cause of its attractive yellowish green colors. The gem often occurs in volcanic rocks called basalts, which are rich in these two elements.

Peridot has always been associated with light. In fact, the Egyptians called it the “gem of the sun.” Some believed that it protected its owner from “terrors of the night,” especially when it was set in gold. Others strung the gems on donkey hair and tied them around their left arms to ward off evil spirits.

The word peridot comes from the Arabic “faridat,” which means “gem.” Most peridot formed deep inside the earth and was delivered to the surface by volcanoes. Some also came to earth in meteorites, but this extraterrestrial peridot is extremely rare, and not likely to be seen in a retail jewelry store.

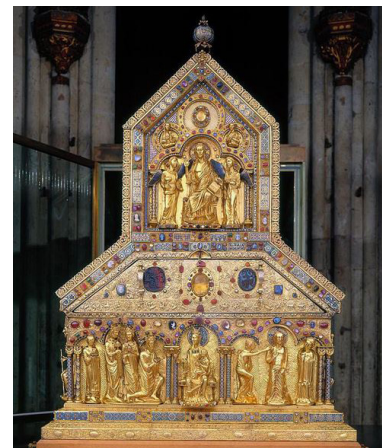
PERIDOT SOURCES



Early records indicate that the ancient Egyptians mined a beautiful green gem on an island in the Red Sea called Topazios, now known as St. John's Island or Zabargad. Legend has it that the island was infested with snakes, making mining unpleasant until an enterprising pharaoh drove them into the sea. From the earliest times, people confused this stone, now known to be peridot, with other gems such as topaz and emerald.



Some historians believe that Cleopatra's famous emerald collection might actually have been peridot. People in medieval times continued to confuse peridot with emerald. For centuries, people believed the fabulous 200-ct. gems adorning the shrine of the Three Holy Kings in Germany's Cologne Cathedral were emeralds. They are, in fact, peridots.



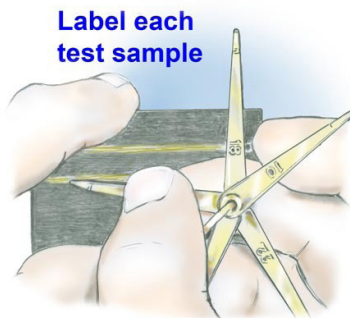
BENCH TIPS

Touchstone Method for Testing Purity in Karat Gold incorporates uses acids, so pay close attention to safety. Careful procedures are a must.

Touchstone testing is based on the fact that 24k gold resists all but the strongest acids. The purer the gold, the stronger the acid required to dissolve it. Measured strengths of nitric acid are used to test for 14k and lower. Aqua regia, a mixture of one part nitric acid and three parts hydrochloric acid, is used to test higher karat purity through the process of comparison and elimination.

To conduct touchstone testing, you'll need an acid testing kit (available through jewelry tool suppliers), a well-ventilated area, two glass beakers, water, baking soda, protective gloves, 320-grit abrasive paper, safety goggles, and paper towels.

Your testing kit includes a set of testing needles. Each needle has a karat gold sample on its tip and the karat value stamped on the side. Use yellow gold needles for testing yellow gold, and white gold needles for testing white gold.



Rub the known samples onto the stone and label each on the testing stone. Each known test sample is labeled on the needle. Rub the known samples onto the stone and label each on the testing stone. Begin by checking the gold jewelry piece for other stampings (e.g., quality marks or manufacturer's marks) and make note of characteristics such as heft, color and reflectivity. If you suspect the item may not be gold, use an engraving tool and make a small notch in an unobtrusive place on the jewelry to expose fresh metal. Next, put on protective gloves and place a drop of acid from the 18k gold testing bottle over the small notch. A highly effervescent green reaction indicates base metal, and no further testing is required. If there is little or no reaction, the piece is likely karat gold, and the next test is for purity.

Follow these steps:

- Rub the jewelry of unknown karat purity gently back and forth on the testing stone to leave a thin, but clearly visible, metal sample. Use care to take this sample from a place not clearly visible on the jewelry and away from solder joints.
- With a testing needle, draw a question mark on the touchstone that represents the unknown metal.
- Start with the 14k testing needle and rub a layer next to the unknown. Label it "14."
- Repeat this process, making a layer and then labeling with the 18k, 22k, and 10k testing needles. Now choose the bottle labeled for testing 10k and lightly swipe the applicator across all the samples.
- After approximately 20 to 40 seconds, place the touchstone in a mixture of baking soda and water to neutralize the acid in one beaker, then rinse in water in the other beaker.
- Blot the touchstone with paper towels and observe. The 10k sample has dissolved, but the unknown metal is still visible. This confirms the unknown metal is finer than 10k.
- Next, choose the bottle labeled for testing 14k and swipe it across the samples just below the first test.
- Allow enough time for the acid to react and neutralize, then rinse and blot the touchstone and observe. The acid has dissolved both the 10k and 14k samples. The unknown metal is therefore 14-karat or slightly higher.




Analyze the test results to determine the karatage. Analyze the test results to determine the karatage. Always prepare the touchstone for its next use by cleaning it thoroughly. Remove the metal from the stone's surface by placing it facedown on a piece of 320-grit abrasive paper on a flat surface. Apply moderate pressure and sand it in a circular motion until sample layers are no longer visible. Neutralize, rinse and blot dry before replacing in the kit. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for the proper care, storage and handling of acids. source:GIA.EDU

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="checkbox"/> Beading	<input type="checkbox"/> Cabbing	<input type="checkbox"/> Jewelry Making	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chain Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> PMC	<input type="checkbox"/> Lapidary	
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Faceting	<input type="checkbox"/> Minerals	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fossils	<input type="checkbox"/> Wire Wrapping	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Smithing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Others: _____			
How did you hear of us? _____			
Please check the following:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I understand that my picture or likeness may be used in Society promotions.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I authorize MGCMS 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.
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Snoopy Gems
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 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 2022

President	Liz Platt
Vice President	Joni Arias
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty
Secretary	Rosalind Norvel-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, 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 12 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 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 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	31			

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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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