



Snoopy Gems

Volume 50 Number 4 April 2024
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

MGCGMS Established in 1974

President's Message

Dear Members,

Our April meeting is expected to be great with Connie's workshop, equipment, testing of stones, and learning about a special monthly stone.

It's also time to consider and perhaps make decisions on features of the fall show. We can make upgrades now for the raffle, any giveaway items, identification of members, dinner or banners/flags or anything (within our budget). Give it all your attention so we can have time to make it happen. See you at the meeting.

Workshops are going great, but we need additional volunteers to teach for the rest of the year. We need volunteers for the following second Saturday of the month workshops, May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, September 14th, and October 12th. For the third Wednesday classed for the Mary C. We need volunteers for August 21st, September 18th, and October 16th. Please consider volunteering for one of these dates to teach. You don't have to do it alone. We can give you help teaching your project.

See you on Saturday!

Liz Platt

MGCGMS President

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

March Workshops:

Our Wednesday classes from 11-4:00 in our room at the Mary C. All members are welcome!

Saturday Workshop: April 13th 10am

Connie Boyd will be teaching a spiral wire wrapped pendant. Kits will be available for \$3.

Materials: Project

5-8mm flat beads
6-3mm bi-cone bead (optional)
1 16x24 Large flat Oval bead
12" 14 ga round wire
30" round 20ga wire

Tools:

Wire Cutter
Chain nose pliers
Square Flat nose Pliers
Ruler or Tape Measure
Fine Line Marker



Wednesday Workshop: April 17th 11-4:00

Vicki Reynolds will be teaching gemstone trees to the public and club members. This is part of our partnership with the Mary C. O'Keefe. The class fee is \$35 and kits range from \$10 - \$20.

Materials: Project

10-12' 20ga or 21ga round wire
one Strand Chip beads
mounting stone or pot

Tools:

Chain nose pliers
Round nose pliers
Flush cutters
Glue



John Guglik will be available to test stones and metals.

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. There is a \$3 tool maintenance fee to use the machines.

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566



Meeting Minutes

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

March 2023



Meeting called to order: 1:05 pm by Liz Platt, President.

Meeting Minutes: There were no minutes to approve from February 2023.

Treasurer: Barbi Beatty, Treasurer provided account balances for show, checking, and savings. Belinda Marcum made a motion to accept, Connie Boyd second, motion carried.

Committee Reports

Sunshine: Nothing to report.

Membership: Liz asked for partners for new members. Let Liz know if you would be willing to be a hands-on contact partner for a new member. One new member joined on the previous Wednesday.

Library: Nothing to report.

Equipment: Hallway case was removed and items that were in the case belonging to the club were boxed and left in the room. Liz will ask if we can have another case.

Communication: Everyone was encouraged to check out the club website and Facebook site.

Newsletter: Great newsletter as always. Barbi asked if anyone has ideas, articles, or anything else they would like to share, or if there is something you would like to do, to please let her know. Website repair is in progress and once completed the newsletter will be included there going forward.

Facebook: No changes or updates.

Show: We are asking Jackson County for a discount on the rental of the building for the show based on our 501c3 non-profit classification. If we do get a discount, we should invest those savings in advertising for the show. This year's show will be the 50th anniversary of the club. Suggestion made to get special advertisement, such as bag stating 50th anniversary, at the show. Discussed methods of taking payments for the show via a special non-profit QR code. Limiting the kitchen offerings at the show was discussed. Members should start thinking about raffle gifts and ways to promote the show. It seems that the best return on advertising dollars is from social media advertising. Barbi explained the social media advertising we employed. We had 857 paid admittances to the show in 2023. We need to keep new members involved and get their help with the show. Barbi contacted 30 vendors from previous shows to see if they will be attending this year.

Scholarship: Reba Shotts won the scholarship and will attend this year.

Workshops: Remember that the third Wednesday of the month is a class supporting the Mary C. Vicki Reynolds talked about her upcoming painting class at the Mary C on April 20th. Barbi Beatty talked about the exhibit for the photography club downstairs. The photography club could either show you how to photograph your jewelry or do it for you. All are invited to attend that meeting on Monday evening at the Mary C at 6 PM. April workshop will be Connie Boyd doing a wire wrapped pendant. Volunteers needed to teach classes.

New Business: Club spring show will coincide with the Ocean Springs Spring Art Festival, March 23rd. One inside table available. Morgan Bergeron will have a scavenger hunt outside to promote people going inside the Mary C. She may call show participants to ask for scavenger questions. Discussed storage unit expense. Storing about 30 display cases and some miscellaneous stuff we have not used in years. Discussed having members volunteer to take one or two display cases home and store until the yearly show, get rid of the remaining junk and get rid of the storage unit. In the past these cases were judged at the show. Eight people volunteered to take a case home and will meet Harvey at the storage facility to get the case. Discussion about the start time for the Saturday meeting. Vicki Reynolds made a motion to change the time to 9:30 AM for set up and 10 AM for the class. Belinda Marcum seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business: Board meeting to be scheduled. Spooky Springs and Annual Christmas tree lighting happen later in the year.

Gem of the Month: Aquamarine and Bloodstone are the March birth stone. Write-up in the newsletter on these.

Motion to Adjourn: 2:20 pm motion made to adjourn by Barbi Beatty, second by Connie Boyd, motion carried.

Door Prizes: Drawings held for door prizes.



Happy

April

Birthday

Liz Giamalva Jane Cook Kristen Roy



"Diamond" April's Birthstone



The Science Behind Diamond Color & Size and Its Impact on Value

Diamonds are renowned not only for their brilliance and durability but also for their captivating array of colors. This article delves into the scientific aspects of diamond coloration, exploring the geological and atomic factors influencing color formation. Furthermore, it examines the correlation between diamond color, size, and its valuation in the gemstone market, shedding light on the complexities of pricing based on size and color grading.

Diamonds, prized for their rarity and beauty, come in a spectrum of colors ranging from colorless to vivid hues such as red, pink, blue, green, and yellow. Understanding the origin of these colors is essential for gemologists and enthusiasts alike, as it directly impacts a diamond's worth.

Formation of Diamond Colors: Diamonds derive their colors from various geological and atomic processes during formation. For instance, nitrogen impurities can impart a yellow or brown tint, while boron can produce blue hues. Radiation exposure over millions of years can

result in green or black diamonds. Additionally, structural defects and lattice distortions within the crystal lattice can cause coloration through light absorption and reflection.

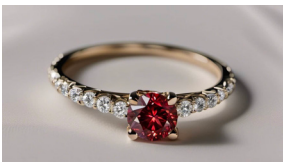
Color Grading Systems: Gemological institutions employ standardized grading systems to evaluate diamond color objectively. The most widely used system, developed by the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), assigns letters ranging from D (colorless) to Z (light yellow or brown) to categorize diamonds based on their hue, tone, and saturation. Other organizations, such as the International Gemological Institute (IGI) and the American Gem Society (AGS), utilize similar grading scales to assess diamond color.



Impact on Diamond Valuation: The color and size of a diamond significantly influences its market value. Generally, colorless diamonds (D-F) command the highest prices due to their rarity and brilliance. As the color grade descends the scale, prices tend to decrease, although exceptions exist for fancy colored diamonds, which possess unique and sought-after hues. Factors such as fluorescence, clarity, and cut quality also play roles in determining a diamond's worth, but color remains a primary determinant in pricing.



Red diamonds are the rarest of the natural colored diamonds, with only 20-30 true red diamonds known to exist in the entire world. Most are under one carat in size. They get their beautiful red color from a rare process during their formation, which changes the crystal structure of the diamond and causes light to pass through it differently than colorless diamonds. Red diamonds are the most expensive fancy-color diamonds. Red diamonds with secondary orange and brown colors tend to cost much less than those with a purple undertone, usually worth \$400,000 per carat. On the other hand, only one carat of a pure red diamond can cost \$1 million.



Market Trends and Preferences: Consumer preferences and market trends fluctuate over time, influencing the demand and value of certain diamond colors. For instance, pink and blue diamonds have garnered considerable attention and record-breaking prices at auctions in recent years, reflecting a growing appreciation for fancy colored diamonds among collectors and investors. Conversely, colorless diamonds continue to dominate the bridal and luxury jewelry markets due to their timeless elegance.



Diamond Carat Size and Rarity

The larger the diamond, the more per carat it costs. In other words, the increase for price per carat goes up dramatically for each "magic number." For example, the difference in price between a 3-ct and a 2-ct diamond greatly exceeds the difference between a 2-ct and a 1-ct diamond. Larger diamonds are much rarer than smaller ones. Thus, the larger the diamond, the more expensive it is.

Here's a rough estimate of the rarity of gem-quality White diamonds by carat size:

- 1-ct diamonds: 1 in 1 million.
- 2-ct diamonds: 1 in 5 million.
- 3-ct diamonds: 1 in 15 million.



Current Diamond Price Chart – Updated April 2024

Diamond Carat Weight	Price (Per Carat, Round Brilliant Cut)	Total Price
1.00 carat	\$2,000 – \$14,000	\$2,000 – \$14,000
1.50 carat	\$3,300 – \$24,000	\$4,400 – \$30,000
2.00 carat	\$4,200 – \$29,000	\$8,400 – \$58,000
3.00 carat	\$7,200 – \$51,000	\$21,600 – \$153,000

In conclusion, the color and size of diamonds is a multifaceted phenomenon influenced by geological processes, atomic composition, and market dynamics. Understanding the scientific principles behind diamond coloration is crucial for accurately assessing their value and meeting consumer preferences. As the gemstone industry evolves, so too do the perceptions and valuations of diamond colors, shaping the landscape of this timeless and enchanting gemstone market.



Up Coming Gem & Mineral Shows

Tar Heel Gem & Mineral Club

When: Apr 12 – 14, 2024

Where: Kerr Scott Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Trinity Road, Raleigh, NC

Description: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Club. Hospitality area includes sales of grab bags, t-shirts, magazines, door prizes and membership. Geode area includes sales of geodes and cutting or cracking of purchased geodes. Silent Auction area includes various minerals, fossils and jewelry up for bid throughout the show. Demonstration area includes club members showcasing wire-wrap, stained glass art with stone instead of glass and gem trees and gem vase creating. Free parking, entrance fee charged. Friday hours 3-7. Saturday hours 10-6. Sunday hours 10-5.

Cobb County Gem and Mineral Society

When: Saturday, Apr 20, 2024

Where: 516 W Atlanta St SE, Marietta, GA 30060

Description: 10am-4pm Rain or Shine!

Wekiva Gem & Mineral Society

When: Saturday, Apr 20, 2024

Where: 1937 Lakeville Rd. Apopka Fl 32712

Description: "Circle Up" Swap Meet April 20, 2024, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society

When: Apr 27 – 28, 2024

Where: Memphis Agricenter 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis

Description: Over 50 Dealers and Exhibitors selling rocks, fossils, minerals, crystals, gemstones, opals, beads and jewelry. Kids Areas .Includes the original "Memphis Rock Banquet" a full table display of rocks that look like real food. Adults \$6.00. 2- day pass \$10.00. Children 12 & under \$2.00. Scouts in uniform free, www.theearthwideopen.com, wixsite.com, email info@theearthwideopen.com. 901-490-3575

Tennessee Valley Rock and Mineral Society

When: May 4 – 5, 2024

Where: Pavillion , Chester Frost Park, Hixson , Hamilton County , Tennessee, 37343

Description: Rock and mineral show and sale , Saturday May 4th - Sunday May 5th 10am -4pm, free, kids games and contests , live demonstrations and exhibits

BENCH TIPS

LAPIDARY AND JEWELRY STUDIO TIPS

Let's start with our favorite one! A simple hack with a yoga mat means you will never lose a stone again to chipping, cracking or breaking. How many times have you watched your stone fly, either out of your hand or off the dop stick, and crash into the bottom or side of your cab machine or polisher or even just on to your work counter? Its an uh-oh moment where you hope your stone did not chip or crack. Here's a way you will never have to worry about that again. Simply cut up a yoga mat to line your work station table, and the walls and bottom of your machines. Problem solved. It's the best way to accident proof your valuable stones. It's also easy to do and inexpensive.



To line the cab machine make sure you allow enough room for the drain. So far, this hack has stood the test of time, put in place here over 4 years ago, and the mat is still durable and looks great.

Even though it gets wet and full of rock sludge we have had no mold or disintegration issues. It has worked perfectly and saved countless pieces of our precious stones.



Speaking of stones flying around, here's a great way to flat lap smaller stones or the back of finished cabs without the stone going airborne or sanding your fingertips off. Just take a small piece of tape (scotch tape works as well as more heavy duty tapes). Fold the middle together so the tape sticks up as a handle, leaving both sides sticky to be attached to the top of the stone. Now you have a better way to hold on to the stone while flat lapping.



Tips By:
<https://cuttingedgesupply.store/>

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Annual dues are:
 \$20 Individual
 \$30 (2) Members in same house hold
 \$6 Junior

**2024 Workshop/Meeting
 Dates**

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

**Dates subject to change.
 Be sure to check each month!**

The November meeting is the Friday 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

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	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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