



Snoopy Gems

Volume 43 Number 10 October 2017

Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Presidents Message

Dear Members,

This is our last meeting before our Annual Magnolia State Show on November 10, 11, 12. There is a lot to be done. Please try to attend and note that we will meet in the back party room of McAllister's Deli on Highway 90 in Ocean Springs. Barbi and Bill will have updates and tasks for us.

It's also time to nominate the Board for 2018. Please consider your availability to serve in some capacity. More than one person can run for an office. I will ask for floor nominations at the October meeting and also at the November meeting prior to the vote. Before you nominate someone, be sure you ask them beforehand if they are willing to run. No one has volunteered to serve on the nominations committee so just call me with your ideas for officers and if you will consider a position.

Call me!! ... with ideas, questions, or comments

Liz Platt
MGCGMS President
eguglik@cableone.net
home 229-818-5412
cell 703-201-5189

Workshop: October 2017

For the past few years we have used the October workshop to make Christmas ornaments that would be displayed at the show on a tree and then given as prizes to members at the Christmas party. This year we are going to do things a little different. Each member is to make a piece (bracelet, pendant, cabochon, etc.) in their medium (wire, beading, etc.) for inclusion on the tree as an ornament. While it will be nice to have something that looks Christmas like that is not necessary. The piece should be of the quality of something you would wear and that you may give to a close friend. This will be a chance to show the skills that you have developed over the past year.

At the Christmas party these pieces will be given as door prizes. You should start thinking about and even working on your piece before the workshop. If you need materials, let me know and I will bring them to the workshop. Remember that Michel's and Hobby Lobby have lots items with which to make your piece.

We will also be working on Preparations for the Show!

David W. Cook
(c) 228-341-9944
dwcook@cableone.net

MS. Gulf Coast Gem & Mineral Society

September 9, 2017

Called to Order: 1:05 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Meeting: President Liz Platt called the meeting to order. October is designated to the show and making items for the Christmas Tree. David Cook's new suggestion for this year is to wrap a cabochon or other piece of jewelry for the October Workshop. He displayed several as examples.

Committee Reports:

Treasures Report: Given by Barbi Beatty

A motion was made to accept the treasurer report. Motion Carried.

Tools & Equipment: Given by Jim Kirchner

Evaluated the tumbler, it is operational. We should buy fresh stainless-steel shot. It is \$25 per pound. Per Barbi Beatty the cost is under the dollar amount, so we should not have to vote on it. Jim could purchase some and be reimbursed for it. Everything else is good and all machines are operational. John Guglik mentioned those who want gold tested or stones evaluated, must give him a little bit of time but minerals are limited because a lot of them do not show up on the meter. It is judged it by its beauty.

Library Committee: No report given. President Liz Platt stated it is being worked on.

Sunshine Committee: Given by President Liz Platt

Bill LaRue is recovering nicely at the Sun Plex rehab. He is calling dealers and making sure everything is in place. He has another surgery coming up.

Projects: Given by President Liz Platt

Christmas Party: President Liz Platt asked, "if there is anyone who would like to be our Christmas Party Planner?" Barbi Beatty stated that she would. Cheryl will help her per Barbi.

Library Mini Show: April 14, 2018 we will have a show. An individual table may be \$15 but it is under \$20. More information on that to follow. A sign-up list is available for those interested.

Etched Copper Class: Natalie arranged an Etched Copper class at SAS by Sheila Smith. She can accommodate 8 people. The Etched Copper class for members cost \$48.00 including the 20% discount. We also may go to the Painted Rooster because they have an outside capability where we can use a small blow torch.

Youth Activity: President Liz Platt mentioned we always work on youth activities and have a couple/three young people that are good. Could be a good basis for starting a youth group so we will continue to evaluate that.

St. Martin Library: John Guglik asked, "if the club is putting up a display for the month of October?"

The Welcome Center: The MS/AL Welcome Center are allowing us to put fliers or postcards out. If anyone needs to add or subtract from the current display, please make sure they are your own items and contact either him or President Liz Platt.

Show Report: Given by President Liz Platt

Show November 9-12 including set up, will be held at the Pascagoula fair grounds. **Thursday:** Show set-up 8am-till with vendors arriving at noon, Vendor Dinner (Pot Luck @ 5:00pm), followed by November meeting to elect officers. **Show Friday and Saturday 10am-6pm and Sunday 10am-5pm.** Sunday after the show closes we will draw for the raffle then pack and clean up. **Show Co-Chairman -** Bill LaRue, **Organizer -** Barbi Beatty, **Set-up -** Vicki Reynolds, **Front Door -** President Liz Platt, **Raffle -** Lisa Fitch, **Kitchen -** Reba Shotts and Barbi Beatty, **Kids Corner -** Barbara Saavedra, **Sluice-Rich Hart Raffle Donations:** Donations are needed so if you plan on donating something, and you have not brought it today, you can contact either Lisa Fitch, Liz Platt, or Barbi Beatty.

Barbi will post pictures of all Raffle items on the website. Grand Prize donated by Buddy Shotts who faceted a green obsidian with a butterfly. Barbi Beatty - specimen of quartz crystal, President Liz Platt - painted picture of an Oyster, David Cook - a bracelet and earring set, Tom Simmons will donate a wire wrapped cab.

Set-Up: Vicki Reynolds will arrive at 8 a.m. and will need help with the tables. Vendors arrive early so volunteers are needed. Barbi will get the key on Tuesday, Bill LaRue will arrange the workers for table arrangement and electricity.

Display Cases: The display cases will be repaired by Mark Daynes. The cases should be filled with items made by members or specimens. We have about 13 that are usable today and they are secure. If interested in putting your items in a case let Barbi Beatty know ahead of time. Buddy Shotts will use at least one for faceting. We have club members for security during the day and at night a Security Guard (an off-Duty Police Officer). We may have to hire someone to get the cases from storage due to the weight and bulkiness of them. Barbi will talk with the Civic Center manager to see if employees are available to hire. If not, we will hire and pay a person.

Membership: No volunteer yet. Raffle and membership share a table so they can share that venue.

Vender Dinner: We ask that everyone bring a covered dish. Meat and drinks will be provided by the club. Please arrive early on Thursday to help with kitchen prep for vendors dinner.

Advertising: We have done some stuff with the local event pages that you can get online, Sun Herald, some tourism places, SFMS, and Rock & Gem Magazine. We do a small radio ad for one week. Bill had planned on contacting Janelle from WLOX but we might have to do that ourselves. John Guglik and President Liz Platt will do the WLOX live 3-minute show if Bill LaRue isn't available.

Signs: We have signs from the previous year they say the 2nd weekend in November, so they are reusable. There are additional signs that just say, "Gem Show, Rock Show, Jewelry Show, and Mineral Show This weekend Pascagoula Fair Grounds", can't be put out until the week of the show. Permission is needed from the city but you can put them on your personal property. Signs can be placed out on Friday after 5 p.m. and picked up on Sunday. We need the signs out on the streets. **Volunteers are needed!**

Post Cards: All members will need to hand them out. President Liz Platt said, "we are also members of the Chamber of Commerce and they will also hand them out". Most of our advertising is going to be getting the post cards out. Natalie Webb has input names and email addresses, so if we have a block ad, Liz can send those out.

Door Prize tickets: Tickets from 2016 show needed to be put in an Excel spreadsheet so Vista Print would mail them for us. Barbi sent an email requesting volunteers to all members. If not, the October meeting we will hand address the post cards. Barbi will stamp and mail them. Cheryl Rodriguez volunteered to handle this.

Show Brochure: Will need tickets stapled to it. Our dues only cover our insurance and membership in the SFMS but anything that the club buys such as equipment and awarded scholarships all comes from the show.

Facebook: David Cook asked Barbi if she thought about doing anything with Facebook and Barbi plans to promote as we get closer to the show. Facebook charges \$5-\$10 per 1000 people and sends to people you don't know to advertise your business.

Entrance Fee: There will be no discount this year. Entry fee is \$3.00 and a 3-day pass is \$5.00. Kids 12 and under enter free with an adult. Members working the show get in free. Members who want to be entered in the door prize drawing must buy an entry ticket.

Old Business: Given by President Liz Platt

Workshop Tools: David Cook, Workshop Chairman requested we buy 3 to 4 sets of wire wrapping tools for workshops. Barbi Beatty stated that she thought this falls under the \$150 purchase price. President Liz Platt agreed and suggested that David go ahead and purchase the tools.

SFMS Raffle Tickets: Your last opportunity to buy tickets. They are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Barbi will be mailing them off next week on Monday.

New Business: Given by President Liz Platt

The SFMS has their annual meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee on the weekend of October 21st. We need a Representative because each club gets a vote. Barbi Beatty goes because she is the Federation's Assistant Treasurer, Buddy Shotts goes because he is the MS. State Director, Reba Shotts is going and she could vote for either this club or the Harrison County club so she was hoping someone from here would go so that she could give them a vote as well.

Nominations Committee: Given by President Liz Platt

President Liz Platt asked if anyone interested in being on the nominations committee? We always need new faces, new ideas. Entails just asking if current officers are interested in staying in existing positions, and if not calling other members to ask if they are willing to run. No volunteers.

Show & Tell: Tom Simmons showed wired wrapped pendants, John Guglik discussed "Sapphires". **Door Prizes:** Won by Cheryl Rodriguez, Linda, and Barbra Saavedra.

Adjournment: 2:15 p.m. Motion made by Barbi Beatty and 2nd by Vicki Reynolds.

Report by: Lisa Fitch MGCGMS Secretary

Disclaimer: MGCGMS is bound by our By-laws dated March 11, 2012 Article V, Number 6-2 Acceptance of Minutes. Minutes are subject to corrections (additions or retractions) and are not accepted until majority vote of the members at the next meeting. Your participation in any way as a member(s) is sincerely appreciated.

Happy Birthday!



Gary Allen Barbi Beatty Karl Beatty Miku Daynes Melinda Gerhart
Dale Hutchinson Owen Schmidt Sarah Schmidt Lynn Tate

Opal & Pink Tourmaline



10 Awesome Facts About Opals

Opal is one of the most beautiful gemstones in the world. Here at Opal Auctions we live and breathe everything there is about Opals. We all know they are beautiful, but here are 10 awesome facts about opals that you might not know.

1) Birthstone

Opal is the official birthstone for October.

2) Formed By Rain

Opal is formed from rain. There is some conjecture on how exactly this precious gemstone forms, but many believe it is formed when water from rain seeps down into crevasses in the rock. Once the water evaporates, the silica that is left behind dries out and hardens into precious opal.

3) Martian Opal

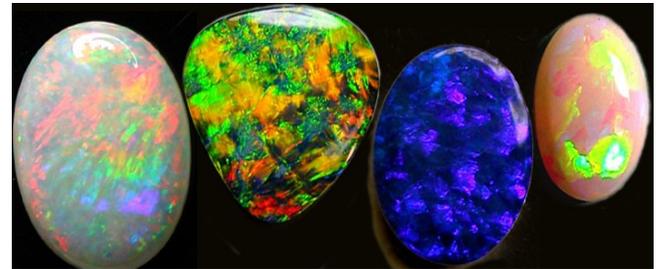
Opal has been found on Mars! It is one of only a handful of gemstones that have ever been discovered outside of our planet (the other being Peridot from outer space).

4) Ancient Opal

Opallios is the Greek word for Opals meaning To see a change of color. The Roman word for Opal is Opalus meaning precious stone. The ancient Greeks believed that opals were formed from the tears of joy wept by Zeus when he defeated the titans, and that the opal bestowed prophetic powers.

5) The Queen Of Gemstones

The ancient Romans considered it a symbol of hope and good fortune. A roman scholar in 75AD summed up our beautiful opal saying: "Some opals carry such a play within them that they equal the deepest and richest colors of painters. Others... simulate the flaming fire of burning sulphur and even the bright blaze of burning oil." He marveled that this kaleidoscopic gem encompassed the red of ruby, the green of emerald, the yellow of topaz, the blue of sapphire, and the purple of amethyst." This is why Opal is commonly called the Queen of Gemstones.



6) Australian Opal

Australia produces around 95% of the world's opals. The majority of this Opal is white Opal from the fields of Coober Pedy in South Australia.

7) Opals In Aboriginal History

Australian native aborigines tell us that opal is our creator's footprint that touched the earth at the base of a rainbow to bring harmony.

8) Are Opals Luck Or Not?

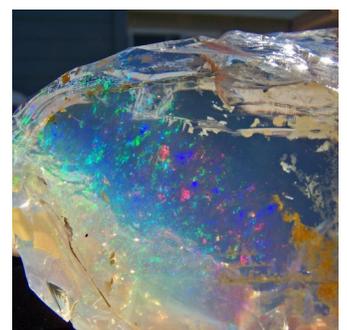
Opal is a Lucky gemstone. Most civilizations see opal as a lucky stone. There have been some exceptions to this including an English writer in the 1800's and other gemstone marketers who say Opal is bad luck in their marketing. Maybe they realized opal is the best gemstone on earth and had to discredit it! But this campaign has failed and now Opal is even considered a talisman in some countries and a status symbol to own in others.

9) Royalty Loves Opals

Queen Victoria's favorite gemstone was Opal! She had Sapphires, Rubies and Diamonds from all over the British Empire but fell in love with the intoxicating colors of Opals.

10) More than Meets The Eye

The play of color you see in Opal is due to millions of tiny silica Spheres of different sizes. These spheres refract light and cause the beautiful spectral colors you see in opal. The spheres have to be just the right size and of a uniform nature to create enough color for our eyes to see.



Tourmaline

Earth's most colorful mineral and gem material.



Tourmaline: Six faceted tourmaline gemstones from Africa. Clockwise from top left: A blue-green oval weighing 5.5 carats; emerald-cut chrome tourmaline, 1.51 carats; green round, 1.87 carats; pink emerald cut, 1.04 carats; pink-orange emerald cut, 1.88 carats; red cushion cut, 3.34 carats. (Photos are not to scale.) Specimens and images copyright by Lapigems.

What is Tourmaline?

"Tourmaline" is the name of a large group of boron silicate minerals that share a common crystal structure and similar physical properties - but vary tremendously in chemical composition. The wide range of compositions, along with trace elements and color centers, causes tourmaline to occur in more colors and color combinations than any other mineral group.

Tourmaline crystals of good color and clarity are often cut into beautiful gemstones. Tourmaline is such a popular gemstone that it is easy to find in jewelry stores. Nice tourmaline crystals are also valued by mineral specimen collectors. Specimens with attractive colors and habits can sell for thousands of dollars.

Tourmalines commonly occur as accessory minerals in igneous and metamorphic rocks. Large crystals of tourmaline can form in cavities and fractures during hydrothermal activity. Tourmaline also exists as durable grains in sediments and sedimentary rocks.



Tourmaline crystals on cleavelandite: A large mineral specimen consisting of prismatic tourmaline crystals on cleavelandite with quartz and lepidolite. The tourmaline crystals are color zoned with red tourmaline at the base that sharply transitions to blue-green along their length. From the Pederneira Mine of Minas Gerais, Brazil. Measures 21 x 15 x 14 cm. Specimen and photo by Arkenstone / www.iRocks.com.

Geologic Occurrence of Tourmaline

Tourmaline Crystals in Fractures, Voids, and Pockets

The most spectacular tourmaline crystals are formed by hydrothermal activity. These crystals form when hot waters and vapors carry the elements needed to form tourmaline into pockets, voids, and fractures, which offer an open space for crystal growth. The tourmaline crystals formed in these cavities range in size from tiny millimeter crystals to massive prisms weighing over 100 kilograms. One rich pocket of nice tourmaline crystals can yield mineral specimens and gem materials worth millions of dollars. Many mineral collectors and gem hunters have become wealthy by discovering one of these treasure-filled cavities.



Alluvial tourmaline: About 30 carats of stream-rounded tourmaline rough from Tanzania in yellow, orange, and green colors.

Alluvial Tourmaline

Tourmaline has a Mohs hardness of 7 to 7 ½, and that hardness makes it a durable sediment grain. Tourmaline is also relatively resistant to chemical weathering. So, particles of tourmaline weathered from igneous or metamorphic rocks can persist in a stream and can be transported long distances from their source area.

Tourmaline gem rough is mined from stream sediments in many parts of the world, often by artisanal miners. It generally occurs as small granules and pebbles that that have been rounded by the abrasion of stream transport. Tourmaline is often one of many different minerals produced from a single mining location.



Accessory tourmaline: A specimen of the Crabtree Pegmatite from North Carolina, showing black prismatic tourmaline and green emerald crystals in a matrix of white feldspar and quartz. The width of this view is about two inches.

Tourmaline as an Accessory Mineral

The most common occurrence of tourmaline is as an accessory mineral in igneous and metamorphic rocks. It usually occurs as millimeter-size crystals scattered through granite, pegmatite, and gneiss. In this mode of occurrence, tourmaline rarely makes up more than a few percent of the rock's volume. The variety of tourmaline most often found as an accessory mineral is black schorl.

Article Source Geology.com

28th Annual Magnolia State Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show



Magnolia State Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show



November 10, 11, & 12 2017
Jackson County Fairground
Community Center
Pascagoula, MS

Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 10am - 5pm

Daily Admission \$3
Children 12 & under free with adult
3 Day pass \$5

30 plus vendors selling gemstones,
jewelry, fossils, minerals, jewelry
making tools & supplies.

Displays! Demonstrations! Hands
on Fun!

Kids corner: Color! Make gem-
stone trees! Try your hand at
Sluicing and sifting out your own
gems!

Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies Annual Meeting October 20-22, 2017

Sponsored by the Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society

Events:

Friday, October 20th

10 am – 6 pm, Knoxville Gem Show, Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave in Knoxville TN, 37920. Reservation required for admission vouchers.

3 pm – Tour of Jewelry TV, 9600 Parkside Dr, Knoxville, TN 37922, Reservations required.

7 pm – Cracker Barrel, JTV, 9600 Parkside Dr, Knoxville, TN 37922

Saturday, October 21st

10 am – 6 pm, Knoxville Gem Show, Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave, Knoxville, TN, 37920 - Reservation required for admission vouchers

8:30 am – Registration, Delegate verification for Annual Meeting - JTV, 9600 Parkside Dr, Knoxville

9 am Annual Meeting - JTV, 9600 Parkside Dr, Knoxville

7:30 pm Annual Banquet - JTV, 9600 Parkside Dr, Knoxville – Reservations required - \$20 for meal. Checks made out to KGMS (Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society). Menu: Grilled boneless chicken breasts, coleslaw, roasted potatoes, green beans, yeast rolls w/butter, assorted cookies, sweet and unsweet tea, lemonade, water.

Sunday, October 22nd

11 am – 5 pm, Knoxville Gem Show, Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave in Knoxville TN. Reservation required for admission vouchers

9:30 am, Editors Breakfast - Kerbela Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave in Knoxville – Reservations required - \$7.00 for meal. Checks made out to KGMS (Knoxville Gem and Mineral Society). Menu: Coffee, eggs, sausage, bacon, sausage biscuits and gravy.

Lodging:

Cedar Bluff Best Western – 420 N Peters Rd, Knoxville, TN, 37922 – 865-539-0058. Ask for SFMS Block. \$83/night until 9/19/2017. After 9/19/2017 price will be \$114.99-134.99 per night.

Cedar Bluff Holiday Inn – 9134 Executive Parkway Dr, Knoxville, TN 37923 – 865-693-1011. Ask for JTV Corporate \$99 per night

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Official Publication of

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

Member of

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 2017

President	Liz Platt (228) 818-5412
Vice President	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Treasurer	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Secretary	Lisa Fitch (228) 467-4684
Parliamentarian	Dave Cook (228) 875-2570
Editor/Webmaster	Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
Member at Large	Bill White (228) 875-8716
Member at Large	Buddy Shotts (601)947-7245

COMMITTEES

Membership	Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
Show Chairman	Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
Historian	Lettie White (228) 875-8716
Librarian	Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
Sunshine	Reba Shotts (601) 947-7245
ALAA John Wright	Director (228) 875-9192
SFMS John Wright	Past President (228) 875-9192
SFMS Barbi Beatty	Assistant Treasurer (228) 238-9900
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

2017 Workshop/Meeting Dates

January 14 OS Library 9:30-4:45

February 11 OS Library 1:00-4:45

*March 11 TBA 930-4:45

*April 8 Club Picnic TBA

May 13 OS Library 9:30-4:45

June 10 OS Library 9:30-4:45

July 8 OS Library 9:30-4:45

August 12 OS Library 9:30-4:45

September 9 OS Library 9:30-4:45

October 14 McAllister's Deli 9:30-4:45

November 9 After Vendor Dinner 7ish

December 9 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 **

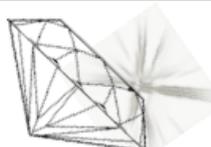
October 2017

Su M Tu W Th Fri Sa

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				

We always welcome new members! Tell a friend!

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: _____		Home Phone: _____	
Address: _____		Cell 1. _____	
City: _____		Cell 2. _____	
State: _____		Email 1: _____	
Zip: _____		Email 2: _____	
Members in the Same Household			
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Adult: _____		Birthday M/D: _____	
Junior: _____		Birthday M/D/Y: _____	
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"/>	Chain Mail	<input type="checkbox"/>	PMC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Field Trips	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faceting
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fossils	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wire Wrapping
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>
			Jewelry Making
			Lapidary
			Minerals
			Silver Smithing
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.
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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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