

Snoopy Gems

Volume 45 Number 2 February 2019
Mississippi Gulf Coast Gem &
Mineral Society Inc.



MGCGMS Established in 1974

Email: mgcgms@bellsouth.net

Presidents Message

Members,

Good grief. It's February already. So this month's meeting has been a weird one in the short time I have belonged to our group. In the past, our usual meeting space at the library hasn't been available. So we are testing out other facilities this year. The Pink Rooster will be our home on Saturday. But it's a change in routine, so it might feel a little odd. But don't think about that too hard. Think of it as a chance to try on some new shoes. Walk around in them and see if they are comfortable. You never know...

BUT.... It looks like the library wants us back ASAP and I'll discuss that with you at the meeting. It also looks like a lot of our members are taking off for travel time this month, so it should be a nice small group. It will give us a chance to get to know members we may not have had a chance to really talk to before.

In other news, I've noticed that no one has brought up impeachment of our group's new president yet. This shows a real lack of gumption on your part as members. I'm sure you will correct this...soon.

Patrick Barrett
MGCGMS President

Workshop:

Wire Workshop 1:

David will start the second of his 4-session course for beginners and those who need remediation. First session will cover tools, wire types and sizes, and basics of making bundles. The first project will be making a basic bracelet with hook and eye. Please bring tools if you have them if not several sets are available for use. Wire kits will be \$1.00.

Wire Workshop 2:

Vicki Reynolds will teach a Dragonfly Pendant.

Supplies: 3ft, 20- or 18-gauge wire round

1 1/2 ft half round 21 or 22 gauge

6 - 6mm beads. round, bicone, or rondelles

1 - 3mm bead the same color as the wire

She will have copper wire for \$2.00 and a limited amount of silver for \$5.00. She will also have a few packets of beads available to purchase.

Tools: Round nose pliers, flat nose pliers, and flush cutters.



As always, we will have the club machines available for metal & gemstone testing, gemstone cutting, and cabbing.

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

<http://www.mgcgms.org>

PO Box 857 Ocean Spring, MS 39566

Meeting Minutes:

GULF COAST GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

January 12, 2019

Called to order: 1:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance: 31

Meeting: President Patrick Barrett called the meeting to order. Patrick welcomed 10 new members.

Minutes to Accept: A motion was made to accept the Oct. & Nov. minutes by Vicki Reynolds & 2nd by Barbi Beatty. Motion carried.

Treasury Report: Report given by Barbi Beatty. Gem show profits were reported. A motion was made to accept by Bill LaRue & 2nd by Harvey Marcum. Motion carried.

General Announcements: Eligible members for 2019 Scholarship was read. Members who paid their 2019 dues were read by Barbi Beatty. Feb. & March meeting locations to be determined.

Workshops: David Cook taught beginning wire wrapping. Vicki Reynolds taught advanced wire wrap bracelets & Barbara Saavedra taught a beaded earring project.

Library: Liz Platt bought in the library which is available to all members.

Sunshine: Reba Shotts was out. Barbi Beatty spoke about ill members.

Membership, Newsletter & Badges: Pres. Patrick Barrett spoke to members about getting our membership up. Barbi Beatty will be ordering name badges.

Education & Projects: Our mini show is in April & cost per table to be TBD. Natalie Webb is looking into people to speak to our Club about rocks & gems.

Outside Classes/ Workshop Programs: Vicki Reynolds teaches a class every 3rd Sat. in Pascagoula & Natalie Webb teaches a class at SAS in Long Beach.

Publicity: Barbi Beatty does our clubs website, instagram & Facebook pages. Club is looking for a committee to help her out. See Barbi for more info.

Old Business: Bill LaRue presented a \$70.00 gift card from Lowe's to Liz Platt for her 3 years of being President. Barbi Beatty & Bill LaRue will be working on forms to mail out to vendors for this years Gem show.

New Business: David Cook made a suggestion if any members have any beads, wire or any materials to bring in for a donation box for all to use. Pres. Patrick Barrett asked about purchasing a laptop & a cell phone or hotspot to use a Square reader. This will be brought to the Board for further discussion.

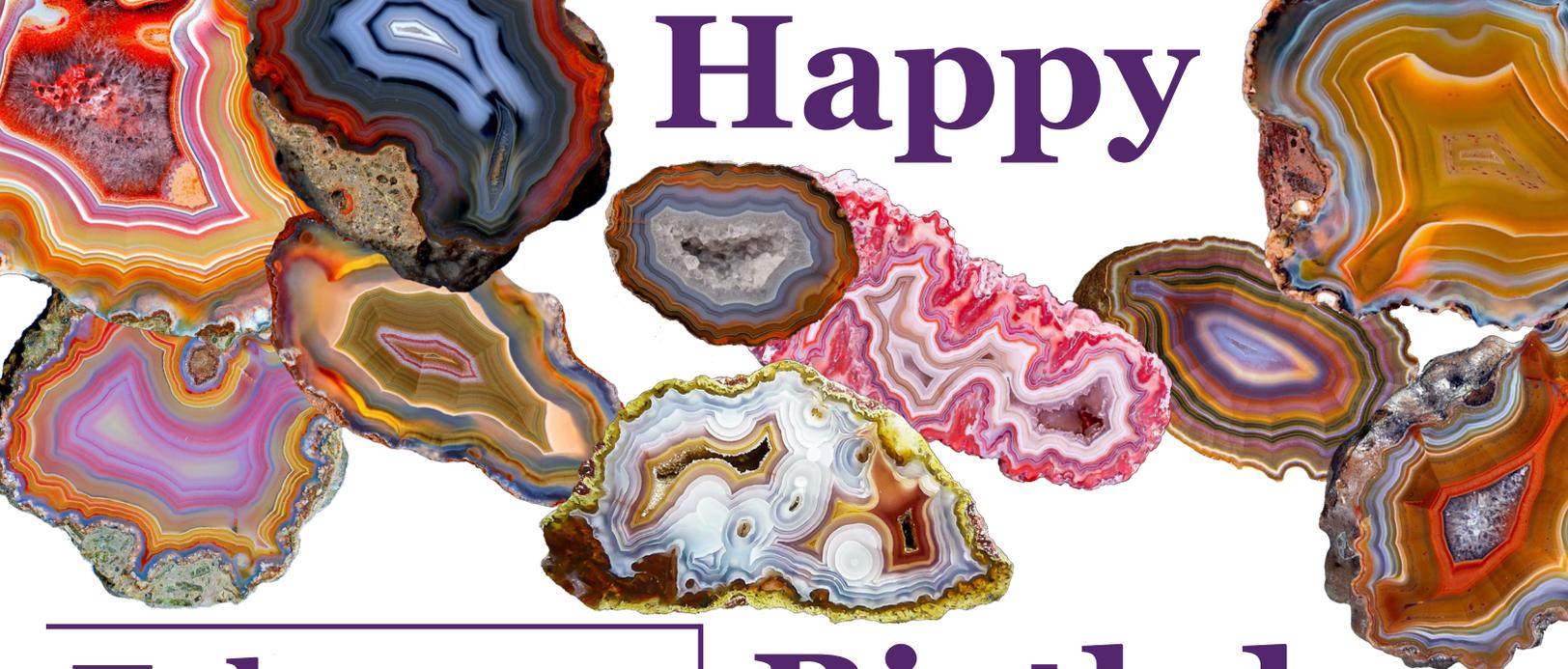
Show & Tell/Gemstone Education Program: John Guglik spoke about Garnets & Bill LaRue passed out Garnet rocks to all members.

Door Prizes: Won by 8 members.

Adjournment: 2:05 p.m. Motion made by Barbi Beatty & 2nd by Vicki Reynolds. All members in favor. Motion carried.

Report by: Chery Rodriguez MGCGMS Secretary.

Happy



February

Birthday

Frank Childers Bill LaRue Vicki Reynolds
Clay Tate David Spencer



Amethyst is a semiprecious stone and is the traditional birthstone for February.

Amethyst is a violet variety of quartz often used in jewelry. The name comes from ancient Greek and was believed protected its owner from drunkenness. The ancient Greeks wore amethyst and made drinking vessels decorated with it in the belief that it would prevent intoxication. It is one of several forms of quartz.

Amethyst is a purple variety of quartz and owes its violet color to irradiation, iron impurities and the presence of trace elements, which result in complex crystal lattice substitutions. The hardness of the mineral is the same as quartz, thus it is suitable for use in jewelry.

General

Category Silicate mineral
Formula
(repeating unit) Silica (silicon dioxide, SiO₂)
Crystal system Trigonal
Crystal class Trapezohedral (32)

Identification

Color Purple, violet
Crystal habit 6-sided prism ending in 6-sided pyramid
Cleavage: None
Fracture: Conchoidal
Mohs scale hardness: 7
Luster: Vitreous/glassy
Streak: White
Diaphaneity: Transparent to translucent
Specific gravity 2.65 constant
Optical properties Uniaxial (+)
Refractive index $n_{\omega} = 1.543-1.553$ $n_{\epsilon} = 1.552-1.554$
Birefringence $+0.009$ (B-G interval)
Pleochroism None
Melting point 1650 ± 75 °C
Solubility insoluble in common solvents
Other characteristics Piezoelectric



Amethyst occurs in primary hues from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple. Amethyst may exhibit one or both secondary hues, red and blue. The best varieties of amethyst can be found in Siberia, Sri Lanka, Brazil and the far East. The ideal grade is called “Deep Siberian” and has a primary purple hue of around 75–80%, with 15–20% blue and (depending on the light source) red secondary hues. Green quartz is sometimes incorrectly called green amethyst, which is a misnomer and not an appropriate name for the material, the proper terminology being prasiolite. Other names for green quartz are vermarine or lime citrine.

Of very variable intensity, the color of amethyst is often laid out in stripes parallel to the final faces of the crystal. One aspect in the art of lapidary involves correctly cutting the stone to place the color in a way that makes the tone of the finished gem homogeneous. Often, the fact that sometimes only a thin surface layer of violet color is present in the stone or that the color is not homogeneous makes for a difficult cutting.

The color of amethyst has been demonstrated to result from substitution by irradiation of trivalent iron for silicon in the structure, in the presence of trace elements of large ionic radius, and, to a certain extent, the amethyst color can naturally result from displacement of transition elements even if the iron concentration is low. Natural amethyst is dichroic in reddish violet and bluish violet, but when heated, turns yellow-orange, yellow-brown, or dark brownish and may resemble citrine, but loses its dichroism, unlike genuine citrine. When partially heated, amethyst can result in ametrine.

Amethyst can fade in tone if overexposed to light sources and can be artificially darkened with adequate irradiation



Color in Amethyst

Amethyst is an extremely popular gem because of its attractive purple color. Like the word “turquoise,” the word “amethyst” is now the name of a color as well as the name of a gem material.

While the word “amethyst” makes most people think of a dark purple gem, amethyst actually occurs in many purple colors. The purple color can be so light that it is barely perceptible or so dark that it is nearly opaque. It can be reddish purple, purple, or violetish purple. Amethyst exists in this wide range of colors.

Today much of the light amethyst is used to cut small calibrated stones for use in mass-market jewelry. Most of the premium reddish purple color amethyst is being used in high-end or designer jewelry.

Creative people have come up with a variety of adjectives to describe shades of amethyst. These include: orchid and lavender for lighter colors; grape, indigo or royal for darker colors; and raspberry or plum for reddish colors. While these names can be useful in conveying a generalized color, they are by no means precise or clearly understood by everyone.

With a combination of attractive colors, good durability, and affordability, it is no wonder that amethyst is a favorite gem of artisans, jewelers, craftspeople, and consumers.

Amethyst Crystals

The first step in amethyst receiving its purple color begins during crystal growth, when trace amounts of iron are incorporated into a growing quartz crystal. After crystallization, gamma rays, emitted by radioactive materials within the host rock, irradiate the iron to produce the purple color.

The intensity of the purple color can vary from one part of the crystal to another. These color variations, known as “color zoning,” are obvious in many amethyst crystal specimens and often reflect the crystal’s hexagonal geometry. The most intense purple color is often seen near the termination of the crystals.



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: _____			

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P.O. Box 857 Ocean Springs MS 39566
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Bench Tip:

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.



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/2KCygh4>

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

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

SFMS Workshop 1 William Holland June 9-14, 2019

Instructor	Class
Dot Kasper	Beading
Paul Roberts	Cabochon I
Bill Harr	Casting
Chuck Bruce	Chain – Loop n Loop
Micah Kirby	Electro-Etching/Wood Inlay
Debra Mauser	Metal Manipulation/Cold Connections
Cheryl Kasper	Opals II – Carving
Vickie Prillaman	Silver I
Dale Koebnick	Silver II – Fused
Jan & Keith Stephens	Silver-Wear I & II
Gene Sheridan	Wire II – Bracelets Only

Upcoming Gem Shows

Feb. 2-3, 2019

Merritt Island, Florida

Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club

Sat: 10AM- 5 PM; Sun: 10AM - 4 PM

Kiwanis Recreation Center

951 Kiwanis Island Park Road

Merritt Island, Fl. 32952

I95 exit SR 520, head East along 520, pass MI mall, you will see sign for Kiwanis Park

Show Chairman: Roz Mestre contact: 321 431-0159 roz.mestre@att.net

February 16 - 17, 2019

Vero Beach, FL

43rd Annual Gem and Jewelry Show

Treasure Coast Rock & Gem Society

Saturday 10AM to 5PM, Sunday 10AM to 4PM

Vero Beach Community Center

2266 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960

\$5 Donation at the door, 20 vendors, hourly door prizes

Contact show chair: Ann Metz 772 538-6222

February 23 – 24th 2019

Jackson Mississippi

60th Gem Mineral, Fossil and Jewelry Show

Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society

Saturday, February 23 from 9 am to 6 pm

Sunday, February 24 from 10 am to 5 pm

Mississippi Trade Mart on the State Fairgrounds

1200 Mississippi Street

Jackson MS 39202

Admission: Adults \$6 Students \$3

Additional information: rock2lanes@gmail.com

Club website: www.missgms.org

FEBRUARY 23, 2019

Lakeland, Florida

Annual Show and Sale - last Saturday in February

Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Society

Saturday 9:00am to 4:30pm

175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr., Lakeland, FL 33801

Contact Jim Reed, Show chair, at (863) 255-0651

or email rocks57@tampabay.rr.com.

Facebook: Bone Valley Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club.

Website: www.bonevalley.net

February 28, 2019

The Villages, FL

The Villages Gem & Mineral Society

4th Annual Show

Sunday: 10AM to 4 PM

Sea Breeze Regional Recreation Center

2374 Buena Vista Blvd

The Villages, FL 32162

Admission is FREE

FREE parking

Show contact: Christine Courtwright, Show Chair, 352-753-6139

e-mail address: number1cc@gmail.com

Society website: <http://thevillagesgemandmineralsociety.com/>

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AFFILIATIONS

The Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Soci-
 eties, Inc.
 The American Federation of Mineralogical Societ-
 ies, Inc.
 S.C.R.I.B.E. (Special Congress Representing In-
 volved Bulletin Editors)

OFFICERS 2018

President Patrick Barrett (228) 96-8270
 Vice President Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
 Treasurer Barbi Beatty (228) 238-9900
 Secretary Cheryl Rodriguez (773)504-4939
 Parliamentarian Dave Cook (228) 875-2570
 Editor Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
 Web master Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
 Member at Large Mark Daynes (228) 383-7940
 Member at Large Natalie Webb (228) 355-4100

COMMITTEES

Membership Barbi Beatty (228)238-9900
 Show Chairman Bill LaRue (228) 229-8781
 Historian Lettie White (228) 875-8716
 Librarian Open
 Sunshine Reba Shotts (601) 947-7245

AFFILIATIONS

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

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

**2019 Workshop/Meeting
 Dates**

January 12 OS Library 9:30-4:00
February 9 Pink Rooster 9:30-4:00
 March 9 Pink Rooster 9:30-4:00
 April 6 Club Picnic TBA
 April 13 OS Library Mini Show 9:30-4:00
 May 11 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 June 8 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 July 13 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 August 10 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 September 14 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 October 12 OS Library 9:30-4:00
 November 7 After Vendor Dinner 5ish
 December 14 Christmas Party OS
 Library 11:00am-4:00pm

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

Feb 2019

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		

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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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