

Canaveral Moonstone



Presidents Corner

The Parade of Gems was a great success. The Members and Dealers dinner was outstanding! There was a great presentation of food offered by our members and enjoyed by the dealers and members alike. I received many rave reviews from the dealers! Thanks to all of our members!! and especially to Stephany and the large group of CMGS members that participated.



Thanks to all of those that stepped up to the challenges of leading key responsibilities in areas that enhance the quality of our show. And THANKS to the many MEMBERS that volunteered their time to help them.

- § Admissions; Liz Ritter
- § Members & Dealers Dinner; Stephanie Murphy
- § Dealers Breakfast; Shannon Byrd
- § Prizes & Demonstrations; Art DeLaurentis
- § Membership; Kathy Burnette
- § Silent Auction; Michael McKeon
- § Bea's Kids Digs; Keith Stokes & Mary Kinberg
- § Fluorescence Display; Ray Diebel & Keith Stokes
- § Competition Stones & Cases; Dave & Leslie Wayment



Remember that our Christmas/Chanukah/Holiday Party is at the Front Street auditorium on Thursday, 12/13/18. Bring your covered dish at 5:30pm for party to start at 6:00pm. Bring a gift to share in our Yankee Trader (Trader details within). Information on Yankee Trader is on the next page.

At our December meeting we will ask our members to approve our budget for 2019 (copies of budget emailed prior to meeting)

Don

Exchange Bulletins are Welcome

(All material may be copied unless otherwise noted if credit is given)

The Dead Line for the January Moonstone is December 20, 2018

The URL for CMGS web site is: <http://www.canaveral-mgs.com/>

The **Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society (CM&GS)** is a registered Florida not-profit-corporation approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax exempt , organization under Internal Revenue Code section of Florida 501 (c) (7) for the following purposes:

1. For the preservation, support, and promotion of the hobby of Mineralogy and its various forms of allied activities and earth sciences.
2. To dedicate ourselves to the furtherance of the hobby through the exchange of knowledge, experience, and other helpful information among ourselves and other like organizations.
3. To further the education of members and the general public of the hobby by programming talks, discussions, motion pictures, field trips, and the staging of shows and exhibitions.
4. To maintain an active affiliation with the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies and to participate in Federation activities to the fullest extent possible.

Goals and Objectives

5. To promote the spirit of cooperation and fellowship among the membership.
6. To increase our knowledge of rocks and minerals and to explore the mystery and wonder of the earth.
7. To actively encourage members to attend educational classes, workshops, lectures, and demonstrations.
8. To stimulate interest in the earth sciences within the community by providing scholarships to worthy students at all educational levels.
9. To provide the necessary equipment and resources to enable members to develop their interests.
10. To enjoy our hobby and Have Fun!

Affiliations

The Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society is a member of the Southeast Federation of Mineralogical Societies (SFMS) and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies (AFMS)

Meetings and Dues

Meetings are the First Wednesday of each month at the Henegar Center, 625 E. New Haven Ave., Melbourne, Florida. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Visitors are always welcome! Dues are \$20.00. Junior Member dues are \$2.00.

December 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1 Open Shop 9 am-12 pm
2	3 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	4	5 Monthly meeting 7PM	6	7	8 Open Shop 9 am-12 pm
9	10 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	11	12	13 Holiday Party 5PM	14	15 Open Shop 9 am-12 pm
16	17 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	18	19	20	21	22 Open Shop 9 am-12 pm
23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29 Open Shop 9 am-12 pm
30	31					

* Beading Classes are currently being held at Haydee’s house while she recovers from knee surgery.

Yankee Trader Rules

- All participants bring a wrapped gift (\$10 OR LESS) marked for a male or female or no marking (indicating either male/female).
- The gift is placed on a table. Numbers corresponding to the number of gifts are placed in a box. All participants "blindly" draw a number.
- Number 1 gets the first gift selection, opens it and shows every one.
- Number 2 gets the next selection, opens it and shows it to every one. If number number 2 likes the first gift selected better he or she has the option to swap with number 1.
- Number 3 picks the next gift , opens it and shows it to every one. Number 3 now has the option to keep the gift or swap with 1 or 2.
- Number 4 picks the next gift and shows it to everyone. Number 4 has the option to keep the gift or swap with 1, 2, or 3.
- The process repeats until the final gift is opened, kept or swapped for any previous gift.
- At this point, number 1 has the option to swap for any previous gift. Once number 1 makes his or her choice the game is over.
- That is the Yankee trader. Enjoy!!

November Business Report- November 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Don McLamb at 7:05 pm.

Don asked that members please sign up to help out at the show. He also encouraged everyone to take signs and put them out on Friday after 5 pm. Also, please take advertisement cards and pass them out to neighbors or take to a favorite restaurant. He asked that everyone sign up to bring a dish and attend the Friday dealer's dinner.

Art asked that everyone vote on the two Grand Prize Jewelry pieces that Shannon and Sharon worked hard to contribute. Thank you Shannon and Sharon, they are both beautiful pieces!!

Mike McKeon will take all donations for the silent auction.

Christmas/Chanukah/Holiday Party is Thursday, December 13 at Front Street.

The minutes from October were approved.

Shannon is collecting the competition pieces for the show, please turn them into her.

Nancy Stark is asking for folks to assist in the after-break presentations. Please let her know if you can speak or make a presentation on a specific topic.

Liz gave the treasurer's report. Checkbook balance is \$13,247. Money was spent on the parade of gems and more will be spent.

Kathy said membership is currently at 154. Please bring your badge to the show. If you have lost your badge, please tell Kathy and she will make a new one for you.

Kitty has received cards from Bea's family. They appreciate the thoughts and prayers.

Art announced that while on vacation, Denise fell down a flight of stairs and broke both of her wrists and her jaw. We all hope she will be feeling better soon and will have a speedy recovery.

Sara announced that magazines are on sale, please shop tonight.

Dave Jacobson talked about the mineral of the month, Varisite, which is hydrated aluminum phosphate. Some of the best samples are from Fair Field, Colorado.

Mark brought in some big pieces of Varisite and some spider web varisite along with other samples.

Dave Jacobson made a beautiful octopus necklace with sea glass and had it on display.

Mary Kinberg
Secretary

Mineral of the Month - Borax By Dave Jacobson

This month I am writing a few words about a mineral you most likely have used as a flux if you have done any casting. It is borax, $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 10\text{H}_2\text{O}$, hydrated sodium borate. It is found in evaporate deposits in dry lakebeds called playa deposits in desert regions. A playa is a temporary lake, which is filled water from mountain runoff during the rainy season. In playa's where borax is found the mountain runoff is rich in boron. Evaporation concentrates the boron forming borax and other borate minerals. It is associated with halite, trona, ulexite and other borate minerals. When borax loses water it alters to a mineral called tincalconite, $\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, a pseudomorph, which retains the shape of the original borax crystal. Borax was originally discovered in Tibet. Today it is mined in many parts of the world including California; Stassfurt, Germany; Tuscany, Italy; and the Atacama Desert in Chile.

Borax is in the monoclinic crystal system. Crystal habits can be blocky and prismatic, often with square cross sections. The material can be massive. It also forms crusts. The crystals are transparent to translucent. When the crystal alters to tincalconite it turns white maintaining the original crystal form. The range of colors is colorless, white, yellowish or bluish. Streak is white. Hardness is 2 - 2.5. Specific Gravity is 1.7. It has a sweet alkaline taste but I don't recommend tasting any minerals, as it can be hazardous to your health. It fuses easily to a small glass sphere, which colors the flame yellow. The yellow flame is an indicator of sodium. Borax also is soluble in water.

Borax is mined as an important economic mineral. Some of its uses are in glass manufacture, pottery glazes, flux, fire retardant, water softener and fertilizer. A transparent borax mineral specimen would have to be sealed to maintain its appearance. When altered to tincalconite it is relatively stable specimen.

Borax takes it's name from the Arabic *buraq*, for white.

The following reference materials were used in preparing this article:

A Field Guide to Rocks And Minerals by Frederick H. Pough.

Mineralogy For Amateurs by John Sinkankus.

Simon & Schusters Guide to Rocks And Minerals.

Amethyst Galleries Mineral Gallery on the Internet at <http://mineral.galleries.com>.

<http://www.geology.wisc.edu/~jill/borax.html>

Boron Minerals of Death Valley by Celeste Cosby, Jeanette Hawkins, Jani Kushla and Molly Robinson at <http://www.science.smith.edu/departments/Geology/dv/Boron/home.html>



Bench Tips by Brad Smith

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

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

TAKE A BETTER PHOTO

Most digital cameras these days have the ability to take a good picture of your small jewelry items, but set-up is important. There are four major items to control - background, lighting, camera motion, and focus control.

Lightly colored papers from an art store make reasonable starter backgrounds. Try experimenting with other products later like glass or colored plastics. Avoid fabrics because the weave can often be distracting at high magnification.

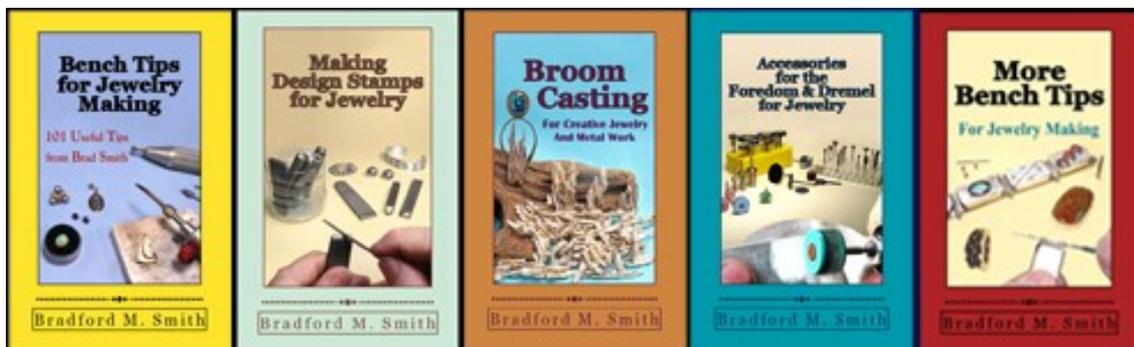
Outside lighting is the easiest. In fact for close-ups, flash never works well. Turn off your camera's flash. Choose a bright but overcast day or a lightly shaded area when the sun is full. For inside use, two gooseneck desk lamps can be used with 75 watt bulbs. Whatever you use, be sure to set the camera to match the type of lighting you use or else the colors will be off.

You'll be shooting up close, so turn on the Macro mode. Now at this range, if the camera moves even a little bit during the shot, the picture will be blurry, so it's essential to use a tripod. Used ones are available inexpensively from eBay, yard sales or some camera shops. And even with a tripod, I put the camera on the self-timer mode so that any vibration from when you click the button settles down before the camera takes a picture.

In order to get the largest part of your jewelry in focus, you have to close the lens down to the minimum aperture (highest F-Stop number). This is done by taking the camera off of "Auto" mode and selecting Aperture Priority, usually denoted by "Av" and then setting the aperture to the largest number, which is F-8 on my camera. You'll probably have to get out the book or go back to the store to ask how to do this, but it's really worth it.

That's it. In recap, here are the camera settings I use:

- Set the lens to Macro for a close-up shot.
- Turn the camera's flash off.
- Move the camera in close enough for the item to cover at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the frame.
- Look for adverse reflections from the jewelry surface.
- Try to minimize reflections with changes of light position, camera angle, or white background paper.
- Carefully check for any fingerprints or dust that might be on the piece.
- Make any final tweaks with light and arrangement.
- Select "Av" for aperture priority mode.
- Set the lens opening to the highest number to get the maximum depth of field.
- Set the lighting to match what you're using (daylight, overcast, light bulb, fluorescent, etc).
- Set the timer for delayed shooting, either 2 seconds or 10 seconds, to avoid camera movement. The delay also gives you time to hold up a piece of white paper to adjust lighting or reduce any final reflections.
- Set the image size to the maximum resolution. You can size it down later, but you can never increase it.
- Take the shot.



Upcoming Gem and Mineral shows

- 11/30/18-12/2/18 Withlacoochee Rockhounds 44th Annual Jewelry, Fossil, Mineral, & Gem Show
Hudson Florida Veterans Memorial Park Gymnasium
- 12/1/18—12/2/18 Miami Mineralogical & Lapidary Guild
Evelyn Greer Park
- 1/11/19– 11/13/19 Pinellas Geological Society 3 Annual Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show
105 Central Park Drive, Central Park Performing Arts Center
- 2/2/19—2/3/19 Central Brevard Rock and Gem Club
Kiwanis Recreation Center

If you know of a show that is not on this list, please send me the information at shannon-b787@gmail.com.

**Announcing the 2nd Annual CM&GS Rock Swap on March 23, 2019
at Wickham Park.**

The show will be held at Pavilion #4 on the east side of the second (north) lake at Wickham park just past the dog play area.

The public is invited, entrance is free. All vendors must pay a \$10 fee to cover expenses. The first 14 vendors can make a reservation for an 8 foot picnic table under the pavilion shelter. Other vendors can tailgate or use the parking and grass areas.

The rock swap will run from 9:30AM - 3:00PM. Vendors can begin setting up at 8:30AM.

Contact Mark Heathman at 321-474-1406 to make a reservation.

Club contacts

President: Don McLamb, 570 Seabreeze Dr., Indialantic, FL 32903, (321)723-2592

Vice President: Nancy Stark, 1610 Sutschek St. NE, Palm Bay, FL 32907, (321)749-7675

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Board of Directors 2yr: Mark Heathman, 4166 Mockingbird Dr., Melbourne, FL 32934, (321)253-2856

Board of Directors 1yr: Roy Deere, 7041 Rodes Place, West Melbourne, FL 32904, (321)725-9179

Board of Directors (Past President) 1yr: Keith Stokes, 601 Georgia Ave., Melbourne, FL 32901, (321)266-8707

Bulletin Editor

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The Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society meets the First Wednesday of each month at the Henegar Center, Melbourne, Florida. The time of the Meeting is 7:00PM . Visitors are always welcome.

CANAVERAL MINERAL & GEM SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER: MOONSTONE