

# Canaveral Moonstone



## Presidents Corner



First; a special reminder; Our July meeting will be on the second Wednesday, July 11 (the first Wednesday is July 4!).

This is also our historical "OPEN HOUSE". There is no business meeting. All members are asked to bring your favorite lapidary or hand crafted items; minerals and gems for display. All are asked to bring a snack to share. The gathering is scheduled for an hour (7 to 8pm), but often many stay later. This is a good chance to invite your friends to join us and get a sampling of what our society enjoys!!

It is not too early to initiate your plans for participating in our CMGS Parade of Gems, November 10 & 11.



The Melbourne Beach Public Library theme for their summer program is "rocks and minerals". They have asked (and I have agreed to support) if we could loan a collection for their display case at their entrance hallway. The case is quite large; approximately 11.5 feet wide and 44 inches high. There are 4 shelves that are 44 inches long that can be adjusted. My thought is that we place slabs and rough rock samples and a completed shaped and polished end item next to it. Also some large mineral specimens.

Next to each, a note identifying the item and a location where you may expect to find one.

The need is for a loan period of 4 weeks beginning in early August.

We will be able to advertise our Society and our Parade of Gems.

Please contact me in the next couple of weeks to let me know if you are willing to share your valuable items. Also let me know if you would be able to help me arrange the items in the case or : 1. You would prefer to bring them to the Henegar for me to pick up, or 2. You would prefer that I pick them up from your home.

I will be responsible for the safe return of any loaned items.



*Don*

### Exchange Bulletins are Welcome

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

The Dead Line for the August Moonstone is July 20, 2018

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

Feel free to send me articles or pictures for the newsletter at [shannonb787@gmail.com](mailto:shannonb787@gmail.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.

It's time to pay your dues for 2018. Remember that you will be removed from the class lists if you do not renew by April 1.

# July 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	3	4 Happy 4th of July!	5	6	7 Open Shop 9 am-12
8	9 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	10	11 Monthly Meeting 7PM	12	13	14 Open Shop 9 am-12
15	16 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	17	18	19	20	21 Open Shop 9 am-12
22	23 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	24	25	26	27	28 Open Shop 9 am-12
29	30 Open Shop 6 pm—9 pm	31				

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

## Canaveral Mineral and Gem Society Website

Built and Maintained by Sharon Jones

Are you using the "Memeber's Only" portion of the club's website??? Did you know we HAVE a website??? <http://www.canaveral-mgs.com>

On the Member's Only portion, you can find things like

- The member's phone list (don't worry, only our members can see this by logging in)
- Tips & Tricks....like
  - how to remove unwanted solder blobs
  - the best materials to use to polish various types of stones to get the highest luster possible
  - etc.

You'll be asked to "log in" (don't worry, info is on that page to tell you how). While you're checking it out, add you're 3 cents worth (yes, there is inflation). If you have a tool, website or tip you've found helpful, don't be stingy, share your info with other members. Just click the relevant right-hand sidebar category then hit "comment" to post your info...we'll all benefit! If you have questions about using this area or suggestions for improvement, click "contact" & fill in the form...I'm the webie & I'll get back to you.

## Bench Tips by Brad Smith

See all Brad's jewelry books at [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

### SAVE WHEN BUYING SILVER

Silver products like sheet, wire, and casting shot are sold by the Troy ounce at what is called the spot price. That's what companies pay for the pure metal on the commodities market, and the spot price changes daily.

But in addition to the spot price, there is also a cost to fabricate the metal into wire or sheet, so the price of the item you buy is the cost of the metal plus the cost to make it. Different products have different fabrication charges because each takes a different amount of labor. Also, different companies will have different fabrication charges because of local labor rates and their desired profit margin.

You can save money by finding a company with a lower fabrication charge. Also, note that the fabrication charge per ounce is less on larger orders, so you can save more by buying more. Find a friend to place a joint order and split the shipping charges.

But for casting purposes, there's an even better way to save. Buy your silver at a coin store. They sell bars and rounds in pure and Sterling for the spot price plus about a dollar per ounce.

The local coin shop adds only a small profit over the spot price. So I save about \$3 per ounce, pay no shipping charges, don't have to wait for mail order, and support a local business.



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### SAWING JUMP RINGS

The difficult part of making jump rings for me has always been holding the coil while cutting off the individual rings. I use a saw to get the best fit when closing the rings later. I've seen all sorts of suggestions for ways to hold the coil, but the one that works best for me is this little jig made from scrap wood.

It's about 2 inches wide and 4-5 inches long with a groove cut down its length to cradle the coil of wire and a thin stop attached to the front end.

To cut the rings, thread your saw blade through the coil, hold the coil down in the groove and against the front stop, and saw through the bottom of the coil at about a 40 degree angle.

Don't forget to use some wax or cutting lube. It really does make a difference. If you don't believe me, do an experiment while you're cutting a lot of rings. Count how many rings can be cut before the blade breaks. First, do the test without lube, and then do it again while adding some lube to the blade after cutting every 8-10 rings.

It's the best way I've ever found to hold the coils easily and securely. If the coil doesn't move, you break fewer blades. And it is safer than some other techniques because you are cutting away from the fingers.



## Labradorite - Mineral of the Month

By Dave Jacobson

This month our mineral is labradorite, calcium sodium aluminum silicate,  $\text{Ca}(50-70\%)\text{Na}(30-50\%)(\text{Al},\text{Si})\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_8$ . Labradorite is in the Silicate class of minerals, subclass Tectosilicates, Feldspar group, Plagioclase series. Labradorite is notable because of the colorful labradorescence or "shiller" which can be observed when light is reflected at the correct angle across the surface of the mineral. The shiller can range from the blues and violets through greens, yellows and oranges. Labradorite is found in metamorphic rock in Norway, Labrador and the Scandinavian Peninsula. Minerals associated with labradorite are biotite, pyroxene and hornblende.

Labradorite is in the triclinic crystal system but is rarely found as individual crystals. The crystal habits include blocky crystals that are rarely free of the host rock which inhibits viewing the full crystal form. Twinning of the crystals is common. Its color is gray to smoky black. It has a dull to vitreous luster. The crystals are transparent to translucent. It has a conchoidal fracture. When cleaved it forms nearly right angle prisms as the cleavage is good in one direction and perfect in another direction. Hardness is 6 to 6.5 with a specific gravity of 2.70 to 2.74. It has a white streak when tested on the streak plate. One of the best field indicators for labradorite is its labradorescence (shiller).

Labradorite is collected as a mineral specimen and in jewelry making. Industrial uses are in ceramics, glazes and basic refractories. Labradorite is sometimes used as a free stone in building.

Labradorite takes its name from Labrador, one of the locations where it is found.

I used the following reference materials in preparing this article.

Field Guide To Rocks And Minerals by Frederick H. Pough.

Mineralogy For Amateurs by John Sinkankus.

Simon & Schuster's Guide to Rocks And Minerals.

The Audubon Society Field Guide To Rocks and Minerals.

Amethyst Galleries Mineral Gallery on the internet (address <http://mineral.galleries.com>)



## May and June Business Report 2018

The May and June meeting notes are combined this year due to time issues.

We always start the meetings with The Pledge of Allegiance. Happy Fourth to all!!!!!!

We welcomed all new members and guests. We are now at 141 active members!

The reports from all the officers were fulfilled and agreed upon.

The Mineral of the Month talks were Beryl in May and Copper in June. Thanks Dave!

Thanks everyone for sharing during Show and Tell! We have a very talented Club!! Art Delaurentis won a National prize in Master Cabochoning! Way to go Art!!!!!!

The presentations that members share after refreshment breaks were Emeralds in May by Mark Heathman and How to Get Your Jewelry Out to the World for sale by Nancy Starke in June. Nancy is always looking for members to give presentations to share.

Sharon Jones is asking for ideas for our website too.

See y'all in July on the second Wednesday due to July Fourth being the first Wednesday. Open House!

Have a safe Summer!

**With Respect, Peace and Love,**  
***Denise Jackson, Secretary***

*Notice: We are looking for a new Secretary for the club. Denise has done a wonderful job for a long time, but would like to find a replacement secretary.*

*Please contact Denise or Don McLamb if you are interested in helping the club document the things we do.*

**SFMS CLASSES 2018****Wildacres****8/20-8/26, 2018**

Casting

Chain Maille

Introduction to Gem ID

Metal Clay – Tangible Moments

Metalwork Special Projects

Silver I

Wire

**9/17-9/23, 2018**

Chain Maille

Cold Connection

Electro-Etching

Enameling

Intro to Inlay

Seed Bead Weaving

**Visit the website for more information <http://sfmsworkshops.com/>***Upcoming Gem and Mineral shows*

09/21/18 - 09/23/18	Jacksonville Gem & Mineral Show Morocco Temple	Jacksonville
10/05/18 - 10/07/18	Central Florida Mineral & Gem Society Fall Gem, Mineral, & Bead Show FL National Guard Armory	Orlando
10/19/18 - 10/22/18	JIS October Miami Beach Convention Center	Miami Beach
11/02-18 – 11/04/18	Jacksonville Christmas Bead & Jewelry Show Morocco Shrine Center	Jacksonville
11/03/18 – 11/4/18	Florida Fossil Hunters Fossil Fair Central Florida Fairgrounds	Orlando
11/10/18 – 11/11/18	Canaveral Mineral & Gem Society Show & Sale Melbourne Auditorium	Melbourne

## **Club contacts**

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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**