

CLUB NOTES



Next Board Meeting and Show Meeting will be **Saturday March 13th. at 3:00 PM** via **Zoom virtual room**. If you have not received a link to the meeting, and would like to attend, please email president@mgscv.org and request an invitation.virus

. the General Meeting for March via Zoom will be on 20th at 4:00



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This publication is the bulletin of the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, Inc., a member of the California Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc., the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and the North Bay Field Trip Association.

Bulletin Submission Policy

Submission deadline is the second Friday following the General Meeting (normally the second Wednesday of the month.) Anonymous contributions will not be considered, but if requested, the contributor's name can be withheld. Members are encouraged to submit articles that may be of interest to the general membership. The Editor reserves the right to edit or omit any submitted articles. Sources must be cited for material quoted from other authors. Permission to reprint Petrograph articles is hereby granted provided properly cited.

2020 MGSCV Officers

Elected

President - Jodi Minshall	President@mgscv.org	
Vice President - Greg Croft	VP@mgscv.org	
Secretary - Sheryl Cooper	Secretary@mgscv.org	(510) 589-8858
Treasurer - Sheryl Cooper	Treasurer@mgscv.org	
Director - Pete Bergeron	Director1@mgscv.org	
Director - Norm Hodgson	Director2@mgscv.org	
Director - Michelle Bennette	Director3@mgscv.org	
CFMS Director - Beth Farmer	Federation@mgscv.org	
Shop Manager Neil Delfino	ShopManager@mgscv.org	
Show Chairman - Cathy Miller	ShowChair@mgscv.org	
Membership - Tony Cooper	membership@mgscv.org	510-589-5292
Editor - Diana Cohoon	Editor@mgscv.org	925-348-3000
Past President - Bonnie Andrade	pastpresident@mgscv.org	

Appointed

Scholarship Chair - **Greg Croft**
Librarian - **Mike Mc Bride**
Historian - **Norm Hodgson**
Purchasing Agent - **Beth Farmer**
Education Coordinator - **Lily Johnson**
Sunshine Reporter - **All members**
Door Prizes - **Neil Delfino**
Web Master - **Tony Cooper**
webmaster@MGSCV.org



Publication Staff



✧Contributors: **Sheryl Cooper, Jodi Minshall**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2021

By **Jodi Minshall**

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by **Jodi Minshall**.

There were 9 Board members in attendance: **Jodi Minshall, Bonnie Andrade, Lily Johnson, Beth Farmer, Cathy Miller, Michelle Bennett, Greg Croft, Diana Cahoon, Neil Delfino.**

Meeting minutes from the previous Board meeting were reviewed. **Greg Croft** moved the minutes be accepted as printed in the Petrograph with **Bonnie Andrade** seconding the motion. A vote was taken and was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Vice President: The scholarship recipients for 2021 have been selected and the scholarships will be awarded at the next General meeting.

Treasurer: The Treasurer's report was not presented to the Board because **Sheryl** could not attend the meeting.

Shop Manager: Shop phone was out of order according to Beth. Neil said he would take a look at it the next time he is in the shop. The 14" saw is still out of order. Beth is trying to

find a source for replacement bearings.

CFMS Representative: Beth was asking whether our annual fees and insurance have been paid to CFMS.

Show Chairman: **Cathy Miller** reported that we have reserved the Pavilion for October. **Beth** reports 24 dealers have confirmed they would be available for the October show. We will try to negotiate a lower price for the venue based on a smaller show in October.

Membership Coordinator: **Beth** is reaching out to members and requests a list of physical addresses for those members who are not on the email list.

General Meeting Minutes

The General meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by **Jodi Minshall** via a zoom meeting space.

Presentation: **Greg Croft** presented the scholarships 2021. **Jeff Seitz** from CSUEB presented the two recipients, **Christina Flora** and **Matthew Lyons**. Each recipient gave a brief presentation on their course of study and career goals.

Committee Reports: soon. Members who want saw training please send Neil an email at

shopmanager@mgscv.org to request training. He also said he got the telephone working again. Beth reports she has ordered the bearings for the 14" saw. Mike is teaching faceting and the cost is \$50.00, and that covers the cost of materials as well.

New Business: In deference to our guests we did not present the committee reports.



GEM OF MONTH

We have no gem this month

BRAD SMITH BENCH TIPS

SANDING/POLISHING IN TIGHT PLACES Often you'll need to sand or polish an area that's impossible to reach with even a small wheel on a flexshaft. Other times it might be the bottom of a pocket or inside bottom corner of a box that needs to

be finished. One trick for these nit-picky jobs may be left over from your last Chinese dinner - a chopstick. I've found quite a few uses for these in the shop. Prepare the tip by simply sawing it off at a 45 degree angle. Then apply whatever abrasive grit you will need for the job or hold a strip of sandpaper around the end. Loose grit can be held onto the tip with a bit of vaseline or oil. Tripoli or rouge can be just rubbed onto the end of the chopstick.

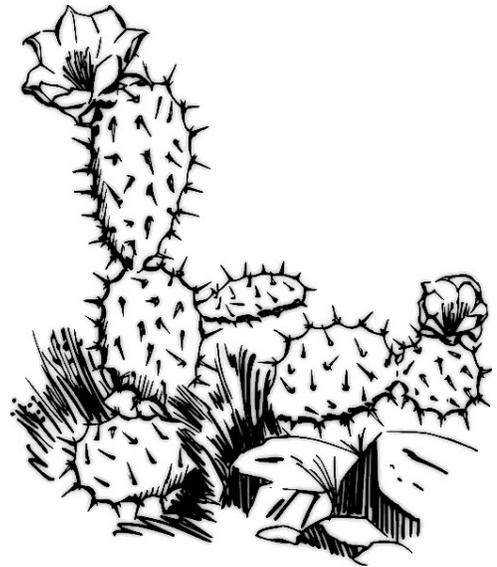
OCHRE APPLICATOR Yellow ochre is used when you want to be sure the solder won't flow on an area of your piece while you're soldering another area. The only problem with ochre is coming up with a good way to store and apply it. I use recycled nail polish bottles. They seal well and have a built-in brush applicator. Just clean them out with a little acetone or nail polish remover, and they're ready to go. See all Brad's jewelry books at [Amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/BradfordSmith)

SMOOTHING EARWIRES Any time you make your own earwires, the hardest part for me is to sand and polish the end that's inserted into the ear. Any sharp edge there is no fun. I've tried using sanding sticks,

cup burs, and silicone polishing wheels. I've tried buffing on a Zam wheel, and I've tried spinning the wire in the Foredom to polish the tip. While all of these techniques do the job, none are very easy, and none are as fast as I'd like. Then it occurred to me - I could melt the wire smooth. One quick touch in the flame of the propane/oxygen Little Torch does the trick - not enough to form a bead on the wire but just enough to round off the tip. I find it's worth practicing the maneuver a couple times on some scrap wire before trying it on completed earrings.

BALL BURS I use ball burs quite a bit for carving and for cleaning up bits of solder that need to be removed. The ball shape seems to be more controllable than other cutting burs. They're less apt to grab and walk over your piece. As to sizes I've found that 8 mm is a very useful size for carving while a half mm or smaller at high speed works great for signing your name on the back of your work. Please include the following attribution with each publication: Get all 101 of Brad's bench tips in "Bench Tips for Jewelry Making" on Amazon

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Updated Letter From The Prez By Jodi Minshall

Nothing to report this month

Gem for March

Aquamarine (from Latin: aqua marina, "sea water") is a blue or cyan variety of beryl. It occurs at most localities which yield ordinary beryl. The gem-gravel placer deposits of Sri Lanka contain **aquamarine**. Green-yellow beryl, such as that occurring in Brazil, is sometimes called chrysolite **aquamarine**.

Category: [Cyclosilicate](#)

Crystal system: [Hexagonal](#)

Strunz classification: 9.CJ.05



© geology.com

Bloodstone

Another Gem for March

[Heliotrope \(mineral\) - Wikipedia](#) ✓

- The mineral aggregate heliotrope, also known as bloodstone, is a cryptocrystalline mixture of quartz that occurs mostly as jasper or sometimes as chalcedony. The "classic" bloodstone is opaque green jasper with red inclusions of hematite. The red inclusions may resemble spots of blood, hence the name bloodstone. The name heliotrope derives from various ancient notions about the manner in which the mineral reflects light. Such notions are described, for example, by Pliny the Elder.

[See more on en.wikipedia.org](#) · Text under [CC-BY-SA license](#)

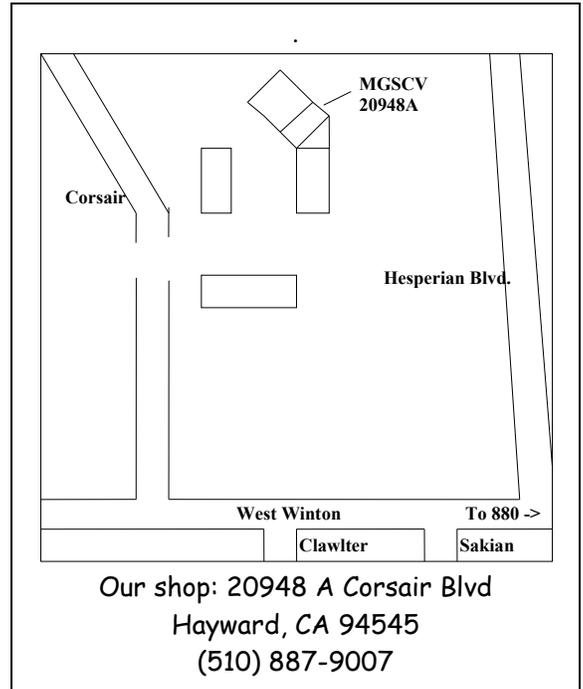
- **Category:** [Mineral](#)
- **Color:** Green with red or yellow spots
- **Crystal system:** [Trigonal](#)



Shop Notes
(All shop session's members only)

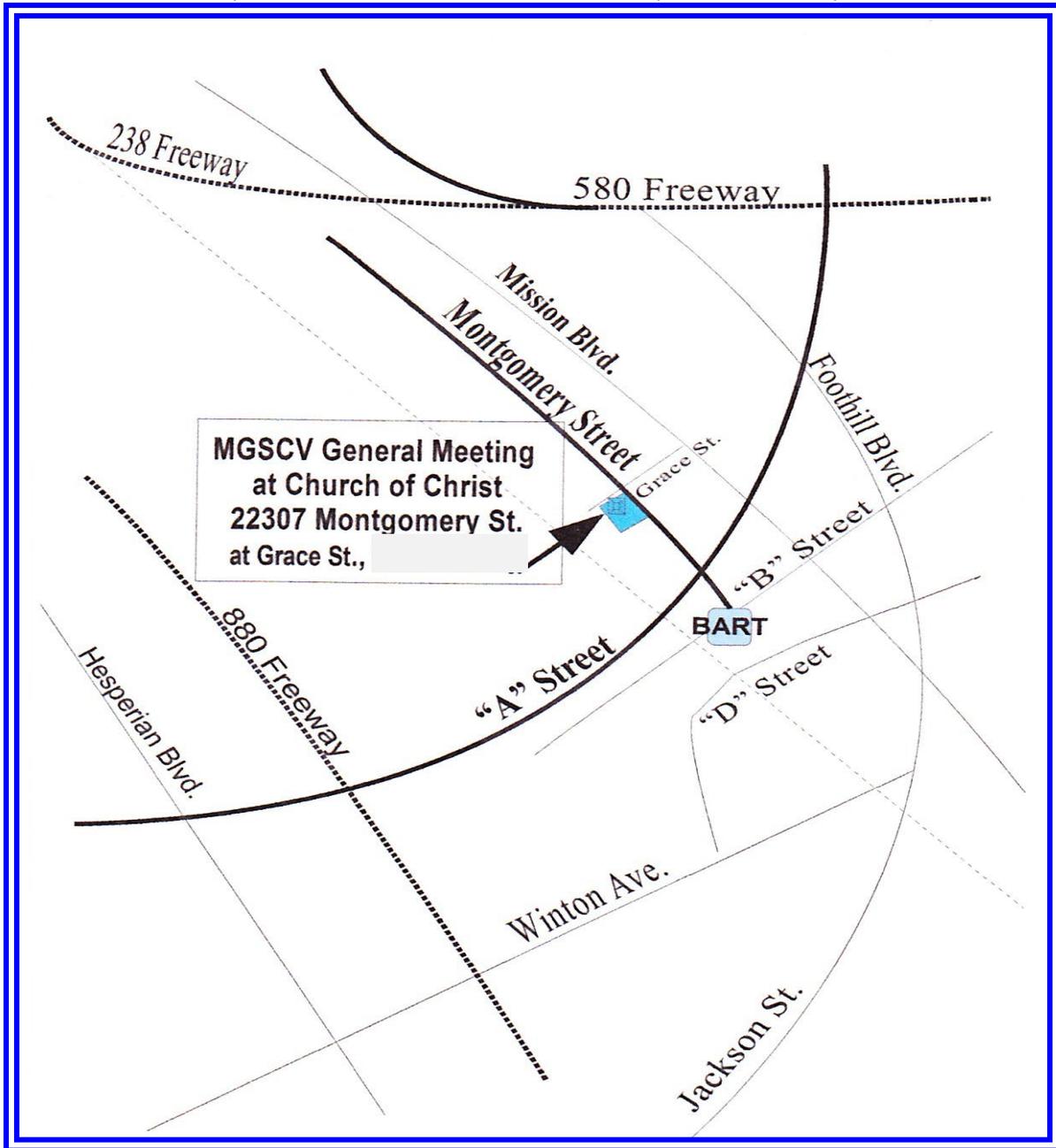
- Monday** closed, Lapidary
- Tuesday** closed, need daytime supervisor
closed, Lapidary,
- Wednesday** 11AM to 2:00PM, Lapidary
Library open 10AM to noon.
- Thursday** 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Lapidary
- Friday** closed
- Saturday** 9 AM to 12:00 PM, Faceting Class 9-12,
Juniors,
w/supervisor's approval, lapidary
Library open 10AM to noon.
- Sunday** 9:30AM to 12:30 PM, Lapidary

MAP TO THE SHOP



SHOP NOTICES:

Email us at info@mgscv.org



From I 580: Take the A Street exit and go west, turn right on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery Street.

From I 880: Take the A Street exit and go East. Turn left on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery.

From Jackson Street: Go north on Mission Boulevard, turn left onto A Street, then right on Montgomery Street and go to 22307 Montgomery Street.

MGSCV Petrograph March 2021

Monthly Bulletin of the Mineral and Gem Society of Castro Valley, Inc.

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV)

Membership Application and Information



Membership is good for one calendar year from January 1st through December 31st. Please fill out and sign the application. Mail the completed form, a check for the dues payable to MGSCV, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to - MGSCV, Attn: Membership Chair, P.O. Box 2145, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

Your membership is active upon receipt of your check and application. It will be processed and membership cards will be at the shop within 4 weeks. Your email will be added to the list for the Petrograph, our newsletter. Your name will be added to the roster in the lobby at the workshop and in the drawing at the general meetings for cash prizes, if present.

We are a non-profit club whose sole purpose is the education of lapidary arts and geological sciences for all who are interested. **No products produced in the shop can be sold for profit.** All members should have or be familiar with the MGSCV Handbook. A copy is available for review in the club's lobby or one can be emailed to you by sending a request to info@mgscv.org.

Before any member may operate any equipment or take any class, they must have completed an orientation and their first cabochon. **To schedule an orientation send an email to WorkShopManager@mgscv.org with your name, phone number, and a good time to call you.** During the orientation you will learn about the club and get a tour of the workshop. Monday evenings are reserved for beginners only.

Membership dues cover less than 10% of our annual operating costs. It is our annual show that funds the club, workshop and all activities. ***A requirement of membership is that every member must work at the show for a minimum of 4 hours.** The show is always held the first full weekend of March, so mark your calendars. The show is fun to work and is the reason we have the best workshop/club in Northern California. Shop services such as rock sawing, casting, special classes (faceting, wire wrap, metal work, etc...) will not be available to members who do not work at the show.

Membership Chairperson

Type of Membership(s): new membership renewal membership Lifetime (voted in by the board)

* With Shop privileges	Junior Membership	NO Shop Privileges
<input type="checkbox"/> Single - \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (11-17 with adult) - \$1	<input type="checkbox"/> Single - \$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple - \$80	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (11-17 without adult) - \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple - \$60

After July 1st all new membership dues are half (1/2)

Name(s) (Please print all the names.)

Adults: _____

Juniors: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

(Our monthly newsletter, the Petrograph, will be emailed to this address.)

Occupational Skills: _____

(Sometimes we are in need of advice and/or help in regards to electrical, plumbing, mechanical, clerical or other skills.)

Confidentiality: (check all that apply) **I do not want** my phone email printed in the roster at the shop.

I agree with the By-laws and rules of the Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV).

Members Signatures: _____

Mineral & Gem Society of Castro Valley (MGSCV)

Membership Application and Information