



# CGMG News

Publication of **Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**  
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association  
3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109  
Volume XXI • Issue 1 • January, 2019

## January Meeting

January 8, 2019 6:45 Social Time Meeting: 7:00

### Program

Presentation by David Dobson on sphere-making

2019 Membership Dues will be increased for the first time in many years. All dues will go up ten dollars with the exception of Guest Family dues which will only go up four dollars.

The new 2019 rates are:

**ASSOCIATE:** \$35/Single \$45/Family  
**SPONSORED GUEST:** \$75/Single \$95/Family

#### Commissioner

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#### Secretary

Position is Open



## Commissioner's Report

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone enjoyed our annual Christmas dinner. I can tell it was well attended as we ran short of meat towards the end even though I bought the same amount as last year. Possibly the CERA location made it a lot easier for everyone to attend as opposed to the golf course.

We added something new in 2018 to the dinner festivities ... drawings and awards! Prizes were awarded to Instructors and/or assistants, Shop Lab Hosts, and Monthly Challenge Winners (both by popular and expert vote categories). Entries for each were based on the number classes taught, labs hosted, and challenges won, shaken in a bag and selected at random. Our 2018 winners were:

Instructors - Paul Smith, \$100 gift card to Rio Grande

Lab Hosts - Meg Fraelich, \$50 gift card to Rio Grande

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#### The Purpose of the Cowtown Gem Mineral & Glass Activity

is to promote a spirit of fellowship among members and to promote popular interest and education in certain arts and the various earth sciences, in particular, those facets dealing with the arts of lapidaries, metals, glass, and jewelry and the sciences of minerals, paleontology, geology, and archeology.

# BENCH TIPS

## Stiffening Earring Posts

Soldering an earring post will always soften the wire a bit. The easiest way I've found to harden it is to grip it with pliers and twist it a couple half turns. This work



hardens the wire and also tests your soldered joint.

## Solvent Dispenser

Frequently I need to fill a small bottle with alcohol, like the bottle of an alcohol lamp or a nail polish bottle that I use for the yellow ochre anti-flux. Often I can't find a small funnel and end up spilling almost as much as I get into the bottle. It's wasteful, and the fumes aren't too good for you either

A neat and inexpensive solution is to use a lab

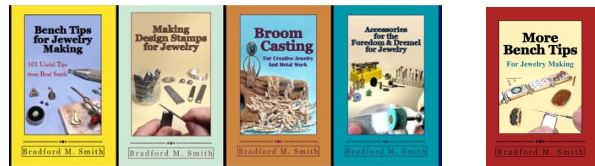
dispensing bottle to store small quantities of the solvents most frequently used. The bottles have a wide mouth for filling and a fine tip for dispensing. You can get a small stream or just a drop or two. With the bottle's fine tip I don't spill a drop.



A Google search will turn up many suppliers. One I've used is Carolina Biological Supply Company at: [www.carolina.com](http://www.carolina.com)

The bottle is Catalog # 716580 Unitary Wash Bottle, Low-Density Poly-ethylene, 125 mL US\$ 5. They have several sizes and other bottles labeled for specific solvents.

Discover New Jewelry Skills With Brad's "How To Do It" Books [Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](http://Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



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## December Meeting

December featured a short business meeting and our Christmas party. We enjoyed delicious barbecued meats and pot luck dishes. Paul and Steve announced winners of our monthly club contests. We admired each other's Christmas outfits, exchanged gifts and received club gifts while playing bingo. A great time was had by all!

*Colleen Reigh*

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## Field Trip

January 26, 2019 We are trying again for the Martin Marietta trip to collect sharks teeth, pyrite and septarian nodules. This trip has been cancelled several times due to rain, so we are hoping for warm dry weather this time. They only allow 25 participants at a time and this one is a popular trip.

The trip is currently full from previous participants on the cancelled trip lists, but if you would like to be on the waiting list, please contact C J Wright, at [cjzwright@icloud.com](mailto:cjzwright@icloud.com).

We have several trips in the planning stages for late winter and spring. Watch for our next adventures.

*CJ Wright*

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Popular Challenge - Jack Reigh, \$50 gift card to Rio Grande

Expert Challenge - Patti Beck, \$50 gift card to Rio Grande

Thanks to all who volunteered their time and expertise to make 2018 an exciting year!

2019 Monthly Challenges will be announced in the February newsletter.

I'm happy to mention too that our January program will feature David Dobson giving a presentation on sphere making and his rock collecting adventures.

Cheers, *Steve*

## When & Why to Use Zinc Lead Came Border on a Stained glass Panel

Zinc came is a fairly rigid metal channel that is used as a border for stained glass projects, both with the Tiffany method and the leaded glass method. It will give your panel a lot more strength than lead came which is softer and more malleable. If using zinc came that is 3/16" wide or larger, it is ordinarily double-walled which makes it even stronger.

Zinc came comes in many sizes from 5/32" wide x 1/8" tall to 3/4" tall. It can be U shaped or H shaped depending on its use. Once it gets into the sizes with the double walls, the strength does not increase much with the increasing height of the came. You ordinarily choose larger sizes based on the look you are after in the finished piece, or how much space you want the channel to take up. The latter is especially true if your



panel is fitting into a cabinet door, for example.

Zinc came can't be cut cleanly with wire cutters or lead nippers if it is greater than 1/8" to 1/4". You'll need a hacksaw, Dremel, or electric came-cutting saw.

Besides zinc came, there is lead came that is used in leaded stained glass, and there are brass and copper comes as well. Working with them is very similar to working with zinc. Lead, of course, is softer and more pliable, and has the same basic color as zinc; whereas, brass and copper will give a very different look to your piece because of their color.

Here's a word of caution about using larger height zinc comes on round, oval or irregular panels. Without using a came-bending tool, trying to bend zinc came can be quite tedious and often results in an unsuccessful job. Your supplier of came may carry a came-bender for these projects, have one you can try, or be able to order one for you. If you work with curved borders often, it is an invaluable tool to own.



## Hi glass friends,

Here's hoping you have had a wonderful holiday season! We're getting together a great schedule of classes for the upcoming year and hope that you'll consider taking one. If you have something that you would like to see offered, please let me know. Also, please, please, please, if anyone has a technique or a fun activity to share, please, please, please let me know about it! Don't be intimidated about presenting as I can help you in any way needed. Happy New Year!

Glass Shop Leader, *Tina Moore*



Texas Rock's brand 8" slab/trim saw for sale (w/gravity feed system) \$125. May contact Paul or Steve at [817-733-5369](tel:817-733-5369) or [gldslngr@yahoo.com](mailto:gldslngr@yahoo.com).

Big Saw Experts: contact if you need to use the 24" or the 36" hydraulic saw:

Victor Sedinger, [victorsedigner@gmail.com](mailto:victorsedigner@gmail.com)  
817-726-2433

Janice Craddock, [jmc2356@yahoo.com](mailto:jmc2356@yahoo.com)

Jack Reigh, [jack\\_reigh@icloud.com](mailto:jack_reigh@icloud.com) 817-249-3095

Paul Smith, [gldslngr@yahoo.com](mailto:gldslngr@yahoo.com) 817-733-5369

Steve Shearin, [steve.l.sherin@lmco.com](mailto:steve.l.sherin@lmco.com)  
817-777-1997

La Donna Stroud, 817-781-5324

## Web and Email Addresses

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CowtownGMG/>
- [CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com](mailto:CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com)
- <http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter>

## GEM & MINERAL AND BEAD SHOWS

January 2019

**25-27—TYLER, TEXAS:** Annual show; 23rd Annual East Texas Gem and Mineral Show; Tyler Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Dr; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$5, students \$1, free admission for kids under 12 and scouts in uniform; vendors offering gemstones, jewelry, minerals, fossils, geodes, and meteorites ; contact : [keithharmon19@yahoo.com](mailto:keithharmon19@yahoo.com); Website: [etgms.com](http://etgms.com)

February 2019

**16-16—LLANO, TEXAS:** Annual show; Friends of the Llano Red Top Jail; Llano County Community Center - 2 miles West of Llano on CR 152, 2249 W. County Road 152; Sat. 8:30-5; free admission; The 4th Annual Prospectors Conference, open to prospectors, rock collectors, treasure hunters, and metal detecting enthusiasts, and a silent auction will benefit the Historic Red Top Jail.; contact: [frank@enchantedrocksandjewelry.com](mailto:frank@enchantedrocksandjewelry.com); Website: [www.prospectingtexas.com](http://www.prospectingtexas.com). event page

**16-17—GEORGETOWN, TEXAS:** Annual show; Williamson County Gem & Mineral Society; Georgetown Community Center @ San Gabriel Park, 445 East Morrow Street; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; teens/adults (13+) \$3, youth (ages 6-12) \$2, free admission for children under 6; dealers of fossils, minerals, rock, jewelry, beads, silent auction, grand prize; contact Sarah Parks; Email: [sparksaustin@outlook.com](mailto:sparksaustin@outlook.com)

**23-23—PLAINVIEW, TEXAS:** Annual show; Hi-Plains Gem and Mineral Society; Ollie Liner Center, Business I-27 South; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; \$3, students \$1; vendors presenting gems, minerals, and more, demonstrations, silent auctions, and activities for children; contact Kitty Shipman, 1616 Ennis St., Plainview, TX 79072; Email: [bobcat22@suddenlink.net](mailto:bobcat22@suddenlink.net)

April 2019

**13 - 14—ABILENE, TEXAS;** annual show, Abilene Convention Center; N. 6th & Pine; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; adults \$4, and children (6-12) \$2, under 6 & Scouts and Military in uniform free; Grand Prize. Sponsored by Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society, Find us on Facebook and at <http://www.new.calichetimes.com/page13.html> or [kmcdaniel23@suddenlink.net](mailto:kmcdaniel23@suddenlink.net)

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## AREA CLUBS

**Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club,** 3545 Bryan Ave, Fort Worth, TX; forth Tuesday of the month at 7:30.

**Arlington Gem & Mineral Club,** 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX; first Tuesday of the month at 7:30.

**Dallas Gem & Mineral Society,**

American Legion Hall, Suite 105, 10205 Plano Road, Dallas, TX; third Tuesday of month at 7:00.

**Dallas Paleontological Society,** Brookhaven Geotechnology Institute, 3939 Valley View Lane; second Wednesday of the month at 7:30.

**Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society,** South Hampton Community Hospital,

2929 Hampton Rd, Dallas, TX; forth Tuesday of month . at 7:00.

**Dallas Bead Society,** The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lather Dr., Dallas, TX; first Saturday of month at 10:00.

**Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club,** Garland Women's Activities Bldg, 713 Austin, Garland, TX; first Tuesday of month at 7:30.