



CGMG News

Publication of **Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association
3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109
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July 9, 2019 6:45 Social Time 7:15 Meeting

Cowtown Gem Mineral Glass Club



Annual Auction & Ice Cream Social

We will auction a selection of rock and glass-related items that *you* bring in! So dig around in those piles and boxes and find some things that you can part with for the good of the club! Proceeds from the items you bring in will be divided 50/50 between you and the club, or you can donate all the proceeds. Remember, we use these funds to purchase new equipment, to buy replacement parts and materials, and they fund our Thanksgiving turkey dinner! Bring an ice cream side (cookies, nuts, fruits, topping, etc.), serving spoons and a few items to auction! Ice cream, drinks, bowls and utensils will be provided.



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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.

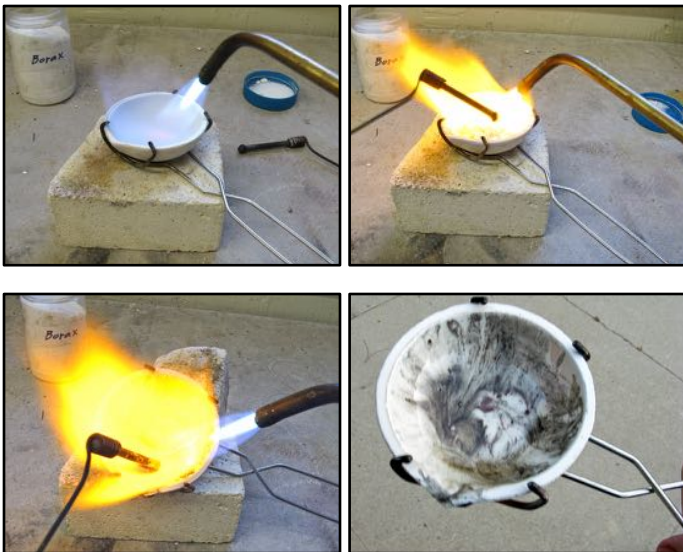
BENCH TIPS

New Melting Dish

A new melting dish or crucible must be given a protective coating of borax before its first use. Borax extends the life of the ceramic material. Once done, it generally does not have to be repeated.

The procedure is straightforward. Heat the new melting dish to red with a large torch. You'll need plenty of heat. I use an acetylene/air Prest-O-Lite torch with a large #5 nozzle.

When the dish is hot, sprinkle in a half teaspoon of borax, let it melt, and spread it with a carbon rod over all of the interior



surface of the dish. Add more borax if needed.

Sometimes you will have to hold the dish at an angle to coat the sides up to the rim. And don't forget to coat the pouring spout itself.

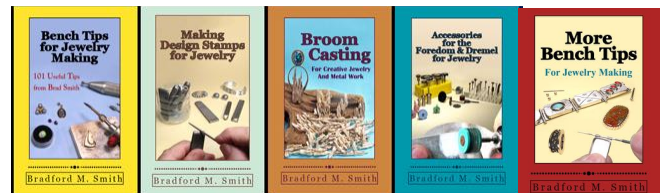
Ring Size Variations

The numerical sizes marked on ring gauges and ring mandrels are often not the same across different manufacturers. If you're using a ring gauge to measure a customer, be sure to compare the markings on the gauge with the markings on the mandrel you use to make the ring. They may not be the same.

Also, you may have to adjust a little for the width of the ring shank. If you're making a wide shank ring, the ring generally has to be a little bit larger in diameter than the ring gauge size in order to get a comfortable fit.

Work Smarter & Be More Productive With Brad's "How To" Jewelry Books

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



Do It Yourself Field Trip

Cretaceous Fossils

Benbrook Lake – located southwest of Fort Worth – is a noted fossil-hunting location. Much of the rock that underlies Tarrant County consists primarily of seventy to eighty-five million year old sedimentary rock strata from the Late Cretaceous Period. Accessible in the Benbrook Spillway cut and many other exposed areas, these rocks are the remains of a shallow ocean that covered this part of the continent and receded over the last seventy million years to the present Gulf Coast

shoreline in South Texas. It represents a shallow marine habitat, under about thirty feet of depth, which was populated by oyster reefs, corals, clams, sea urchins, and ammonites. It is very similar to what you might find off the Texas coast today at similar depth, except for the ammonites. Ammonites are an extinct group of shelled mollusks, related to the nautilus, squid and octopus. Most of the fossils you find have living descendants today, some in almost exactly the same form, like oyster shells. <http://www.thefossilforum.com/index.php?/topic/20561-my-first-fossil-hunt-benbrook-lake-spillway-inspiration-point-lake-worth/>

FIELD TRIP

Hunt for marine fossils, sharks teeth, septarian nodules and pyrite.

Martin Marietta Cement Plant in Midlothian, Texas - Saturday, July 27th, 7:30 a.m. at the security gate of the plant. We will hunt until about noon.

This trip is for 25 participants only. You must RSVP and sign their site specific waivers to be allowed to hunt on the Martin Marietta Property. Proper dress is required.

Instructions and waivers will be sent to the 25 participants who RSVP.

RSVP to cera.fieldtrips@gmail.com

CJ

FOR SALE

Lapidary Machine with a silicon carbide grinding wheel and rock saw. **\$100.00**

Contact Tina Moore tinamoorepac@yahoo.com



Classes

The following classes are in progress or planned:

Enameling II - Advanced- Wed Jun 12, 2019 6:30 PM

Beginning Faceting 101- Mon Jun 17, 2019 6:00 PM

General Lapidary- Thu Jun 27, 2019 7:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Jun 30, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Jul 7, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sat Jul 13, 2019 10:00 AM

Stained Glass Stepping Stone- Mon Jul 15, 2019 1:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Jul 28, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Aug 4, 2019 2:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Aug 25, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Sep 1, 2019 2:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Sep 29, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Oct 6, 2019 2:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Oct 27, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Nov 3, 2019 2:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Nov 24, 2019 2:00 PM

Intro to Glass Studio- Sun Dec 1, 2019 2:00 PM

Gem Mineral & Glass Monthly Open Shop- Sun Dec 22, 2019 2:00 PM

Brad

LIQUID OR PASTE FLUX... WHICH DO I USE?

So what is flux and why do we use it at all? The composition of each type of flux is a bit different, but the basic ingredients are a mixture of sarcosine and tartaric or tartaric acid dissolved in water and an aliphatic alcohol. The flux is employed for tin/lead soldering of a range of metals and alloys including copper, nickel and nickel-iron. Break down of the flux is stopped by the addition of lead carbonate, phenol or salicylic acid in the composition.

That should tell you why you need to wear a fume mask or use a fume extractor. You don't want to be breathing acidic fumes, as well as lead fumes (from the solder).

The reason we use flux for soldering is that the metals we work with, which include copper, oxidize when they are exposed to air. You can't always see the oxidation, but it's there, and solder will not adhere to oxidized metal.

Flux cleans the metal so that solder will bond to it.

There is really no big difference between liquid and paste flux other than the obvious fact of their consistency. While both work well, it really is a matter of preference. The more popular are the liquid or semiliquid fluxes that are applied with a brush. Paste is paste. It is thicker, but you still use a brush to apply it to the solder lines. One advantage of paste is that you can see where you put it. It is also nice for 3-D work as it stays where you put it, not running down the sides of your work. A disadvantage of paste flux, however, is that most are not water soluble so your project will feel greasy and slippery (Watch out, don't drop!), making it harder to clean. We do have Goo-Gone in the shop which makes a nice degreaser for cleaning your finished project.

Adapted from Stained Glass News, Issue 57,

September 2002 & information at

*[https://www.freepatternsforstainedglass.com/
composition-of-flux.html](https://www.freepatternsforstainedglass.com/composition-of-flux.html)*

Hi Y'all

Happy 4th of July! Hope you are doing well. We had a blast with the Tiny Bubbles fused glass project in June. Don't forget to take Stained Glass Stepping Stone this month, July 15 and 22. This is offered in the afternoon, 1-4. We're looking at a fused glass Christmas ornament class in August or we'll have stained glass lead method offered. Please let me know which you are interested in so we can make plans.

See you at the shop soon!

Tina Moore, VP of Glass

HELP WANTED

Liz Aker needs someone who has experience with Keum Boo, and would like to help her teach the class. Contact her at:

ehandcrafted@gmail.com

Mineral

A mineral is, broadly speaking, a solid chemical compound that occurs naturally in pure form. A rock may consist of a single mineral, or may be an aggregate of two or more different minerals, spatially segregated into distinct phases. Compounds that occur only in living beings are usually excluded, but some minerals are often biogenic and/or are organic compounds in the sense of chemistry. Moreover, living beings often synthesize inorganic minerals that also occur in rocks.



News: Pam Nolen has an upcoming surgery so keep her in your thoughts and prayers. Keep Trisha Dianne in your thoughts and prayers due to her mom's ongoing problems.

CGMG Club Minutes

June 11, 2019 Meeting

General

The meeting was called to order at 7:17pm.

There were 25 in attendance.

Visitors: Paige Pauley, a previous member, returns.

Announcements

Instructors and officers are all volunteers, keep this in mind when asking for special accommodations - the rare exception being when we hire an outside instructor.

See newsletter for full list of contests.

Classes

All being offered are posted online. The club is trying to line up instructors, especially for silversmithing. See him for volunteering as an assistant as well. When offering general lapidary next? Will speak with Jack to arrange. Within the next couple of weeks, look for it to be posted. Possible Kum Boo class by Carmen in future. Torch safety class coming up July 13th and is posted online. Members can sign-up and pay at the desk as well - cost is \$25. Looking for an assistant for Kum Boo class.

Field Trips

Martin Marietta rescheduled for July 27th – must contact C.J. to see if you're still on the list - a posting will go out. Looking for a lead for a summer trip like Arizona, etc. At Carrolton rock shop, owner said we could go through material in his back yard when shop not open.

Newsletter

Apologies for reversing prices of lockers in prior email. As always, any hobby-related articles, photos, etc. are welcome. Have something hobby-related you want to sell – advertise it in the newsletter for free.

Glass Crafters

Stepping Class July 15 and 22nd, Tiny Bubbles Class is next week. August is Leaded Glass Class.

Sunshine News

Nothing to report.

Shop Maint.

We're aware of the loose grinder spindle in glass

area and the need for a new 10" saw blade for a trim saw in lapidary shop, and preventive maint on a/c has been requested. There has been a recent repair done on a/c unit. It was suggested that a power drop be added in the middle of the lapidary shop. Power was out in glass shop at one point.

New/Unfinished Business

Andre Lujan has a museum and doing a great job of reaching out to children. They're having a fundraiser to support their children's education programs. Fossil trips are being auctioned off such as to Arizona for petrified wood and pterosaur fossils. Also great silent auction items.

Crystal Moon Gallery may be going out of business when lease is over.

VP Programs/Program

Ice Cream Social next month!

Meg Fraelich – Yearly Safety Program

Thanks for doing this on such short notice as it wasn't on her agenda! The following is an outline of the major topics discussed during the meeting:

- Common Shop Chemicals- Fluxes
- Other Chemical Hazards – metals, metal ions, metal dusts
 - o Etching solutions, Lead, Patinas, Gems & Minerals
- Gems & Minerals - metals and metal ions in rock, know what you are cutting
 - o All poisonous in some form,
- Solubility – rocks and minerals are rarely simple compounds. Cutting and grinding makes smaller surface area so can enter the body,
- How to Protect Yourself - safety glasses, gloves, respirator, aprons
- Lapidary Equipment - be trained before using any of them
- Grinder, Arbor, Buffer Safety
- Saws
- Compressed Gas Safety
- Shop Safety Equipment
- Fire

Monthly Challenge – no entries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm.

Paul Smith

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

Victor Sedinger, victorsedigner@gmail.com

817-726-2433

Janice Craddock, jmc2356@yahoo.com

Jack Reigh, Jack_Reigh@mac.com 817-249-3095

Paul Smith, gldslngr@yahoo.com 817-733-5369

Steve Shearin, steve.l.sherin@lmco.com

817-777-1997

La Donna Stroud, 817-781-5324

Web and Email Addresses

• [https://www.facebook.com/groups/
CowtownGMG/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CowtownGMG/)

• CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com

• [http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/
home/newsletter](http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter)



GEM & MINERAL AND BEAD SHOWS

August 2019

24-24—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: Retail show; Southwest Gem and Mineral Society of San Antonio; Wonderland of the Americans Mall, 110 and Loop 410 on Fredericksburg Road; Sat. 10-5; free admission; contact John Speck, 9515 Potters Point, Helotes, TX 78023, 210-372-9722; Email: jspeck2@att.net

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, Brook-haven 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.