



# 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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September 10, 2019 6:45 Social Time 7:15 Meeting

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The Cowtown Gem, Mineral and Glass club program will be a video presentation by an extraordinary jewelry craftsman by the name of Michael Boyd.

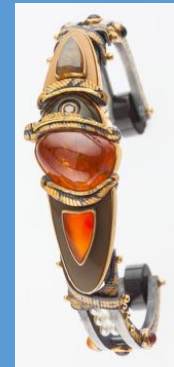
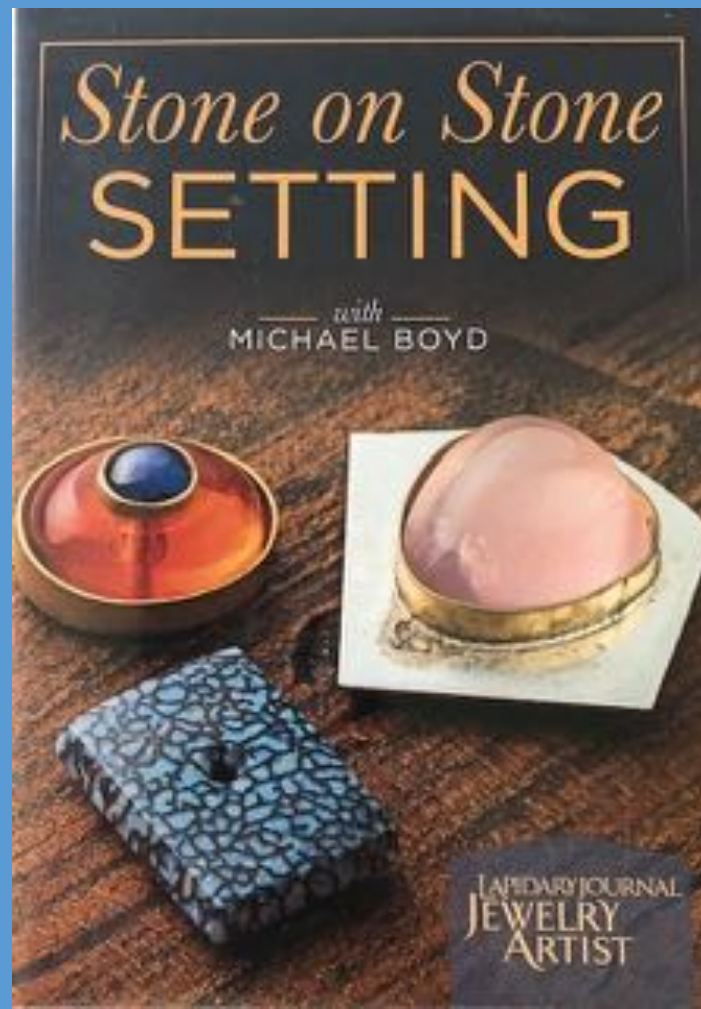


Image credits:  
 Brooklyn School of  
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### The Purpose of the Cowtown Gem Mineral & Glass Activity

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

## Freedom Stand

A quick and easy way to suspend a flexshaft over your jewelry bench is to use some steel pipe components from the hardware store. You can buy it today, attaches with a couple screws, and only costs about \$10

I use 1/2" galvanized pipe and fittings. To build a stand that attaches to the top of your bench, all you'll need is a flange and a thirty inch length of the pipe. If you prefer a stand that attaches to the side of your bench, you'll need a little longer pipe, three foot, a flange, and a 90 degree "street elle".



Finally, make a hook that goes into the top of the pipe to hang the motor from. You can use heavy coat hanger wire or 1/8 steel rod from the hardware store.



## Broken Drills

Have you ever broken a drill bit off in a hole? Sometimes you can grab it with pliers, but other times the steel piece is below the surface in the hole. If this happens, a quick fix is to dissolve the steel in a solution of alum or fresh pickle. The solution will not affect your silver or gold piece.

Alum is typically available from a food store. It's used to preserve some foods. Use about a tablespoon per cup of warm water. Submerge your piece so that the partially drilled hole is facing up to let the bubbles float free and not block the hole.

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

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



## Commissioner's Report

Hello everyone!

Labor Day weekend is upon us which means Rockfest combined with Pottery in the Park is just around the corner.

We have our annual Rockfest combined with Pottery in the Park event coming up October 5th and 6th. We need volunteers to be available to help vendors as needed, put bandit signs up Saturday morning, sit at the club booth and more. Please let me or our Show Chair, Liz Aker, know if you are interested in helping the club out that weekend. Please spread the word on social media! Details are

on our Facebook page (link elsewhere in newsletter).

This show is a great opportunity for members to sell as well - the cost is very affordable and it gives you a chance to build confidence talking about your art and selling it. A flyer will come out soon with all the details. Please feel free to email copies to friends and to anyone you believe would be interested in attending or setting up as a vendor.

To sign up as a vendor just go to our CERA site - <http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass> and click on Register, then on Classes, and then select Rockfest Vendor Registration.

I look forward to seeing you September 10th!

Cheers,

*Steve*

# FIELD TRIP

## Carrollton Rock Hunt - Save the date!

Carrollton Rock Hunt and purchase in a rock shop owners yard. While I have to confirm the date sometime later in September, we tentatively set September 28th, in the morning.

I will confirm both the date and the time and send a notice when we are closer to the date.

Hope you can join us.

RSVP to [cera.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:cera.fieldtrips@gmail.com)

CJ

## Amateur Geology

often referred to as rockhounding in the United States and Canada) is the non-professional study and hobby of collecting rocks and mineral or fossil specimens from the natural environment. The first amateur geologists were prospectors looking for valuable minerals and gemstones for commercial purposes. Eventually, however, more people have been drawn to amateur geology for recreational purposes, mainly for the beauty that rocks and minerals provide.

One reason for the rise in popularity of amateur geology is that a collection can begin by simply picking up a rock. There are also many clubs and groups that search for specimens and compare them in groups as a hobby. Information on where to find such groups can be found at libraries, bookstores, and "gem and mineral shows". Tourist information centers and small-town chambers of commerce can also supply valuable local information. The Internet can also be a useful search tool as it can help find other amateur geologists.

The amateur geologist's principal piece of equipment is the geologist's hammer. This is a small tool with a pick-like point on one end, and a flat hammer on the other. The hammer end is for breaking rocks, and the pick end is mainly used for prying and digging into crevices. The pick end of most rock hammers can dull quickly if struck onto bare rock. Rock



collectors may also bring a sledgehammer to break hard rocks. Good places for a collector to look are quarries, road cuts, rocky hills and mountains, and streams.

There are many different laws in place regarding the collection of rocks and minerals from public areas, so it is advisable to read up on local laws before prospecting. Rock and mineral collecting is prohibited in national parks in the United States.

## Classes

The following classes are in progress or planned:

**Intro to Glass Studio**- Sun Sep 8, 2019 2:00 PM

**Advanced Fusing 3-D**- Sun Sep 17, 2019 6:30-9:30 PM

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

**Intro to Glass Studio**- Sun Oct 13, 2019 2:00 PM

**Beginning Stained Glass Foil Method**- Oct 22-November 5, 2019 1:00-4:30 PM

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

**Intro to Glass Studio**- Sun Nov 10, 2019 2:00 PM

**Panel Lampshade**- Nov 19-Dec 3, 2019 6:30-9:30 PM

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

**Intro to Glass Studio**- Sun Dec 8, 2019 2:00 PM

**Glass-on-Glass Mosaic** Dec 9- Dec 23, 2019 1:00-4:30 PM

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

Brad

### What minerals are in an aluminum can?

Aluminum chiefly is obtained from the minerals diaspore, boehmite, and gibbsite which comprise bauxite ore. It is mined in Australia, Guinea, Jamaica, Brazil and India. Other aluminum-bearing minerals include corundum (rubies and sapphires) and topaz.

### Where can aluminum be found in nature?

Aluminum is the most common metal in the crust of the Earth and is also common on the Moon and in stony meteorites; presumably therefor also common in asteroids and the other terrestrial planets. However, has never been found in nature in its elemental form, i.e., as aluminum metal.

## Is a less expensive grinder good enough for a stained glass beginner?

Glass grinders come in many different varieties. They all do a good job of smoothing and shaping glass, making your glass crafting much easier and even more fun! The less expensive models usually include one grinder bit and maybe a tool or two, such as a straight edge guide and/or a bit splash guard. The more expensive grinders usually have a more powerful motor, two or more grinder bits (one standard and one smaller for those tight areas), and a variety of accessories for making grinding easier. These can include additional work surfaces for making smaller bits of glass easier to grind to specialty grinder bits, coolants, eye shields, and more.

Be sure to check out all the accessories that are available for grinders. Some are universal, whereas

others are brand specific. That way, you will know what items are available later if you decide to purchase that less expensive grinder. Sometimes, grinder manufacturers will offer promotional packages that include extra bits, coolant, or accessories with their grinders at no additional cost.

Whichever grinder you choose, make sure that you get an eye shield/splash guard AND wear safety glasses at all times when grinding! Some grinders come with an eye shield, and some don't.

Of note, I purchased a mid grade grinder almost 40 years ago! It is still going strong. I have replaced the grinder head only once since its purchase. Using grinder coolant in the water (1 capful per gallon of water, found in the Chemicals Cabinet) and leaving the grinder turned off in between pieces has added years to the grinder life. Also, cleaning the top tray where the glass collects after each use has kept my grinder in tip-top shape.

*Adapted from Stained Glass News, Issue 57, 2002.*

## Hi Glass Folks

We have two new members this month: Murray Hill and Marsha Owen. When you see them, give them a great big GMAG welcome!

We had a fused glass ornament class this past month. See pictures in the newsletter. What a cute little owl Marsha made!

September brings a 3 D fusible glass project to be learned Tuesday night, September 17, from 6:30-9:30 pm. You'll want to join us for this fun project!

As always, please let me know what you are interested in. Class attendance remains low...so if you are interested in something we are not offering, tell us!!

Your glass buddy,

*Tina Moore*, VP of Glass

### Fused Glass Holiday Ornament Class



# CGMG Club Minutes

## August 13, 2019 Meeting

### General

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 PM by Carmen Sorenson sitting in for Tina Owens. Visitors and/or new members recognized: Steve King, Teresa Galloway, Phil Bower, Betsy Bower, and Megan Moses. There were 26 people in attendance.

### Commissioner's Report / Announcements

- Club is getting the loan of a big kiln from Murray Hall but we will pay \$1.00 per month lease on it. Term of the loan could be anywhere from 3-to-6 months to a year while Murray is having some work done at his house. Delivery and set up of the kiln were scheduled for Thursday at 11:00 AM.
- CERA Annual Rockfest – October 5-6. Liz Aker is POC. There are tables / spaces right now, but you need to get signed up soon.

### Classes

Brad's report:

- Faceting classes are ongoing.
- Glass classes are posted thru December.
- There is an intro glass class held each month as that is a prerequisite for other classes.
- Classes are posted in our newsletter and Colleen sends out an email each time a new class is scheduled.
- 8/20: Advanced Fusing Ornament Class
- 9/17: Advanced Fusing 3D Project

### Field Trips

C.J. reported on the following upcoming trips:

- 7/27 – Martin Marietta trip – it finally made after several cancellations. There were 25 people in attendance and some shark teeth as well as pyrite were found.
- Upcoming:
- September – a trip to Don Slater's Rock Shop in Carrollton.
- October – hope to set up a trip to Arkenstone.

### Newsletter

Colleen reported:

- She needs articles and photos to publish; want ads

are free for members. The deadline for submittals to her is one week prior to the next monthly meeting.

### Glass Crafters

Tina Moore report – included in Brad's report.

Sunshine News -Tina Moore – no report.

### Shop Maintenance

Robert Reed reported:

- There is still an issue in the saw room – believed to be at the breaker panel. Trying to pin down the exact problem and will get it fixed.
- No scheduled shop clean-up days at this time.

### Program

Tonight's program was done by Debbie Savage. She called the process she showed us "modeling glass." A website she provided for reference: [www.modelingglass.com](http://www.modelingglass.com). There are also videos available on the subject. She works at American Ceramics, 2442 Ludelle St., Fort Worth.

### New / Unfinished Business

- Meg asked if a bug extermination could be scheduled. There are lots of spiders in the shop. – It would be best to send Steve an email reminder about this.
- The question was asked what % commission do we pay for leasing a booth at Rockfest. Steve said there is no commission.
- Carmen made the suggestion that we start posting the status of the Rockfest event so members can check.
- Carmen asked for volunteers in the meeting to take the new members and visitors over to the shop to show them around.
- Meg announced the ARK-LA rock show in Bossier City was coming up this coming weekend.

### Door Prize

Won by Susan Walker.

### Monthly Challenge

There were two entries – a fused glass pendant by Janice Craddock and a piece by Colleen.

- Experts vote: the fused glass pendant
- Popular vote: the fused glass pendant

Meeting adjourned around 8:20 PM.

Minutes taken, typed, and submitted 8/19/2019.

*Jean Fox*

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

Victor Sedinger, [victorsedinger@gmail.com](mailto:victorsedinger@gmail.com)

817-726-2433

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

Jack Reigh, [Jack\\_Reigh@mac.com](mailto:Jack_Reigh@mac.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/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CowtownGMG/)

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

• [CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com](mailto:CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com)

• <http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter>



*beccysplace.blogspot.com*

## GEM & MINERAL AND BEAD SHOWS

October 2019

12-13—TEMPLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society; Frank W. Mayborn Civic and Convention Center, 3303 N. Third Street; Sat. 9-6, Sat. 10-5; Adults \$5, teens \$2; Email: [Irolston@hotmail.com](mailto:Irolston@hotmail.com); Website: <http://drarhie.wixsite.com/tcgme>

18-20—AUSTIN, TEXAS: Annual show; Austin Gem and Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$8, military personnel (with ID) and seniors (60+) \$7, students age 13-18 \$2, free admission for children 12 and under; Show theme: Canadian minerals; Email: [show\\_chairman@austingemandmineral.org](mailto:show_chairman@austingemandmineral.org); Website: [www.agms-tx.org](http://www.agms-tx.org)

### 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.