



CGMG News

Publication of **Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association
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Liz Aker
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November Meeting

November 12, 2019

6:45pm Social Time: Program: 7:15

ANNUAL FALL ROCK & GLASS AUCTION

Bring hobby related items for the auction.

Donate your material or
split the proceeds 50/50 with the club.

The money raised will be used for the
Christmas party ham and turkey.

Desired auction items include:

Rough Stones • Slabs • Findings • Jewelry
Books • Tools • Equipment • Finished Glass Art
Stained Glass & Fused Glass Materials



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

Winding Jump Rings

If you need a few jump rings the same size, it's easy to grab a round rod and wind as many as you need. But when you need a lot of them, some form of winder saves a lot of time. A variable speed screw gun makes quick work of winding the coils. Screw guns are quite inexpensive at discount stores and are remarkably handy for odd jobs in the shop and around the house.

To wind a coil, just bend a right angle on the end of the wire about a half inch long and insert this into the screw gun chuck. Then wind slowly, keeping a tight coil. I like to rest the end of the mandrel on the edge of the table or bench pin. Finally, one note of caution. If you are winding an entire length of wire, be careful as you get near the end of the wire. If the end passes under your thumb, it can cause a nasty scratch or cut.

And for a nice set of mandrels, look for a set of Transfer Punches. The set has 28 sizes, from 3/32" to



1/2", and is only about \$12. In the US it is available from Harbor Freight as item number #3577, and in Europe, it's available from MZS in the Netherlands as item number 250575.

Touching Up a Bezel

Pumice wheels are good for touching up a bezel after you've set the stone. The hardness is about 6 on the Moh's scale, less hard than quartz, so it shouldn't scratch any of your agates or jaspers. However, I'd avoid or be real careful of using pumice near the softer stones like turquoise, amber, howelite, etc.

If you're unsure about the hardness of your wheels, test them on a piece of glass. Glass is about 5½ on the Mohs scale, softer than quartz. So if the wheel doesn't harm glass, it's safe for use on the quartzes and harder stones.

My preference is the one inch diameter ones such as those shown at riogrande.com/Product/AdvantEdge-Pumice-Wheels-Medium/332722?pos=2

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



October Show

Commissioner's Report

Hello everyone!

This month's meeting is our semi-annual auction! Thanks to Jean and Greg Fox we may have some interesting items from a rockhound's estate on the auction block. Do you have some rocks, slabs, cabs, glass, finished art or supplies you would like to sell? The November meeting is our live auction and the proceeds pay for our Christmas party. If you have anything you would like to sell you can set up and split the proceeds 50-50 with the club or if so inclined you can donate 100% to the club. We hope to have some great offerings this time around. The live auctions are always a lot of fun so bring your wallet or purse and do a little shopping for yourself and friends!

Someone mentioned having to pay our "tax" to CERA at a recent meeting so let me make a clarification on CERA "tax" - back under LMRA each club had a tax of sorts determined by the BoD that came out of club proceeds to fund the general operating costs of the entire facility or at least that was how it was interpreted. This is no longer the case. The BoD now sets out a financial "goal" annually for each Activity to spur growth in income and membership and keep us sustainable as well as fund future large club purchases. Just as in the old days our club's net income is tracked and we develop equity to be used for expensive purchases.

I am happy to report the October Show went quite well and many thanks for a smooth running show go to Liz Aker who stepped up and volunteered to Chair the show - thanks Liz!

Remember next month is our Christmas dinner! It will be held at CERA in the Trinity Ballroom.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting November 12th.

Cheers,
Steve

Classes

The following classes are in progress or planned:

Beginning Stained Glass Foil Method-
Mondays, October 14, 28 & November 4 from 1-4:30 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



Quick Tips for Glass

When building a copper foil panel, do I work from one side to the other, from the center out, or does it matter?

When making a stained glass project using LEAD, one starts in the left bottom corner if right handed and in the right bottom corner of the project if left handed. However, you can build a copper foil project from ANY direction. Some people like to cut, fit and foil all of the pieces before soldering. Others prefer to cut, fit, foil and solder certain sections first. You should try different ways to see which you prefer. If you do decide to solder certain sections before continuing to another area, be sure that you clean the flux off at the time of its use to keep oxidation to a minimum. When you are ready to connect the previously soldered sections to the rest of the project, buff the soldered areas with fine steel wool to remove any oxidation. It will make your soldering easier.

When working with bevels, do I have to grind the edges before foiling them?

It is not necessary to grind the edges of beveled glass before foiling them. As long as the edges are clean the foil should stick to the edges. Some people feel that a light grinding provides a rougher surface, helping the foil stick better. If you do grind the edges first, be sure to clean the grinder dust off before foiling.

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

Hi Glass Folks

The holidays are right around the corner and I know we all have presents to make and buy. This month we will be starting a glass panel lamp and in December we will have a glass on glass mosaics class. Even if you're experienced in these, come get involved!

For those who do not already know, the glass kiln scheduling is on the CERA GMAG Activity page. Anyone who has experience with OUR kilns can sign up for their kiln time online.

As in January, I will not be the VP of Glass due to other obligations. We need a new VP! Will you consider heading up this project? Your glass friend, VP of Glass, GMAG *Tina Moore*

Sunshine: Remember Paul Smith in our thoughts and prayers: back condition.

Volcanic Geodes

The most widely known and sought-after geodes are those that formed in areas of volcanic activity. Voids in basaltic lava flows often are infilled with agate, quartz, opal and other material delivered by hydrothermal water or groundwater. Some voids are spaces occupied by gases that failed to escape the lava flow before its surface crusted over.

Where does all of the gas come from? Some magmas contain a lot of dissolved gas. They can be several percent dissolved gas on the basis of weight! When these magmas ascend to the surface, the gas expands in proportion to the pressure reduction. When the magma erupts as a lava flow, some gas can be trapped in the lava to produce a large cavity when the lava solidifies.

Other voids in solidified lava flows were produced as liquid lava flowed out after the flow was only partially solidified. These small "lava tubes" produce some of the largest and longest geodes. Many cathedral geodes are branches of these lava tubes that later infilled with mineral material. Many of them have the geometry of long tree branches, being nearly a meter in diameter and many meters in length.



CGMG Club Minutes October 8, 2019

General

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 PM by Tina Owens. No visitors. There were 24 people in attendance.

Commissioner's Report/Announcements

(Steve Shearin)

- CERA Annual Rockfest – October 5-6. Chaired by Liz Aker. Looking for feedback. We definitely need more volunteers.

- November meeting will be our auction.

- Have not heard back from Jergen Miers about his class.

Secretary's Report (Jean Fox)

- The Minutes from the September meeting were offered up for questions and/or revisions. None presented so the Minutes stand as submitted.

Classes (Brad)

- Go online •Check newsletter

- Classes have been set – nothing new at this time. We will be putting together a plan for the 2020 classes.

Field Trips (C.J.)

Upcoming field trips:

- Arkenstone is still a possibility but may have to wait until next year to do it.

- Steve Shearin indicated he would try to put together a crystal hunting trip to AR maybe in November.

- Neal talked about perhaps putting together a trip to West Texas to get petrified wood. He mentioned an area that is abundant with it.

Newsletter (Colleen Reigh)

- 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.

- Photos and hyperlink to videos would be useful.

Greg Fox will send video from the Rockfest to Steve.

Glass Crafters (Tina Moore)

- Beginning stained glass foil method class is being offered on Oct. 28.

- There will be a stained-glass panel lamp class in November.

- A mosaic class will be held in December.

- Tina reported that she may not be VP of Glass Crafters next year. There doesn't seem to be much interest in the classes.

Sunshine News (Tina Moore)

- Don Knight had surgery is doing a lot better.

Shop Maintenance (Robert Reed)

- Good news – the big kiln breaker has been properly sized. The kiln schedule is on our website.

- Other good news is that Wayne Crum, Maintenance Manager, has approved a new breaker box upgrade for the slab saws. An estimated cost is \$1400.00.

- It was reported that the big tile saw has issues. It needs the screws tightened to keep it stable.

- Robert requested that all shop requests or concerns be written on the white board.

A suggestion was made to promote the monthly challenge a little better in the newsletter.

Program

Tonight's program was a slide show presentation given by Meg on the subject of Navajo Inlay. It was a workshop that she attended in 2015 at Idyllwild Arts Academy.

New or Unfinished Business

Robert asked about the club's liability insurance. Steve said he has received the notice and will take care of it.

Door Prize

Won by Tina Owens.

Monthly Challenge

JEWELRY

Popular vote – CJ Wright

Master vote – Jacque Brock

GLASS

Popular & Master votes – Janice Craddock

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Minutes taken, typed, and submitted 10/21/2019
by:

Jean Fox



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, gldslng@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/>
- CowtownGMG@groups.facebook.com
- <http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter>



October Show

GEM & MINERAL AND BEAD SHOWS

November 2019

8-10—HUMBLE, TEXAS: Retail show; Houston Gem & Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$8 (good for all three days), free admission for children 10 and under; 66th annual gem, jewelry, mineral and fossil show; ShowChair@HGMS.org; Website: <https://hgms.org>

23-24—MESQUITE, TEXAS: Dallas Gem and Mineral Society; Mesquite Rodeo Center Exhibition Hall, 1800 Rodeo Dr; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults \$8, seniors (65 and older) \$6, kids \$4 Kids-4, free admission for veterans and scouts in uniform; www.dallasgemandmineral.org

14-15—SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS: Annual show; Peppers Gems; San Antonio Garden Center, 3310 N. New Braunfels St.; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-4; free admission; website: www.peppers-gems.com

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.