



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 Meeting

September 14 6:45 at CERA
Short Program on the October Club Show

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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! Our annual event is coming up October 2nd and 3rd with Vendors setting up beginning Friday the 1st at 1pm. Based on past experience we need volunteers to be available to help vendors unload Friday and get loaded Sunday, put bandit signs up Saturday morning along Bryant Irvin, sit at the club booth and hand out club information, and more. Please let me or our Show Chair, Paul Smith gldslngr@yahoo.com know if you are interested in helping the club out. Please spread the word on social media! Details you can SHARE are on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CowtownGMG>.

For safety (COVID) reasons our meeting this month will be short and focused on the upcoming show. As a courtesy to others please wear a mask while in the rather small Gateway room regardless of your vaccination status.

As Field Trips are a pretty safe outdoor activity we will be planning some for the cooler fall weather – details at the October meeting. Also hoping we can conduct more classes soon.

Shop Reminder – experienced members have noticed the slab saws have been getting a lot of use and yet have not been maintained:

1. Please muck out the saws after use.
2. Our equipment is provided primarily for learning and for personal projects. Large expensive items like the 20" slab saws are also provided to members to

continued on page 3

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

Just a Drop

Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy for putting a drop of flux, oil, or glue just where you want it. They have a length of small metal tubing coming out the top that lets you squeeze out very small drops.

I use one with a short length of tubing for oil when I'm sawing or when drilling harder metals like steel. Another bottle I found in a plastics store has a longer length of metal tubing on it. Plastics people use them for dispensing fast drying glues to join pieces of acrylic. The long metal tube lets you reach into tight places. Either of these is handy for flux at the soldering station.



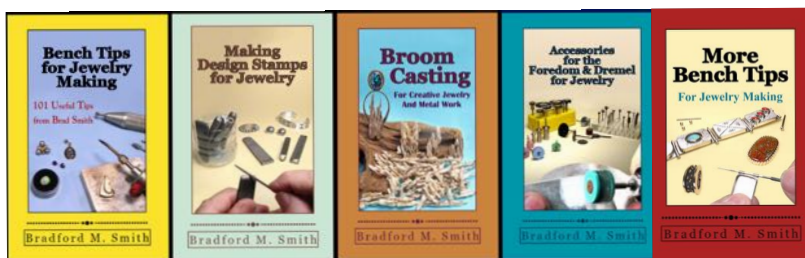
Foredom Maintenance

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of videos on how to everything.

The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and handpiece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can watch the videos at www.foredom.net/flexibleshaftmahinemaintenance.aspx particularly under "Foredom Basics" or the "Foredom Shafting..." categories.

Any repair parts needed are available on the Foredom site or from most jewelry supply catalogs. If you have any question about their products, a phone call or an email will get quick answers.

**Smart Solutions for
Your Jewelry Making Problems**
Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith



Important Stained Glass Considerations for Fort Worth Homeowners

Adding stained glass windows to your Fort Worth home comes with many advantages. Not only can you and your family enjoy a beautiful work of art that lasts a lifetime, but you'll also get better privacy, security, and optimal light.

When choosing your stained glass, there are many important factors to consider. Among other things, you'll want to think carefully about the colors, style, and location. Below, we've discussed these matters in detail.

When it comes to stained glass, there are infinite possibilities for design. At Fort Worth Stained Glass, we have over 50,000 colors in stock for our customers to choose from and can even have colors custom-made. On top of this, you also get to personalize your window with the design of your choice. As you go through the design process, here are some important factors you may want to consider:

Think about all the places in your home that could benefit from more privacy and light. These are good locations for stained glass, but should not be the deciding factor alone.

You also want to place your artwork in an area where it can be noticed and admired by all who visit.

What shape and size of window do you need? Are you looking for an eye-catching showpiece or something more simple and functional?

What do you intend to use your stained glass for? Will it be a family heirloom that you pass down through generations? Or is its purpose simply to provide privacy for a bedroom or bathroom? These are important factors to consider that will likely dictate the design and appearance of your stained glass.

Martin Faith has for the past 30 years, he has been running his stained glass studio based out of Fort Worth, Texas. He has overseen numerous restorations for churches and has produced over 50,000 stained and leaded glass windows for homes, churches, and buildings in Fort Worth and throughout the continental U.S.

fortworthstainedglass.com

Glass Activity

I am scheduling the pot melt class for September 18th at 10 am. Assuming I can keep myself on track, class will only take two hours. This is not even going to require the artistic talent that is useful in glass painting. I am providing two tiny terracotta pot. We will be using one in the class and you can use the other for experimenting on your own or growing a plant if you don't want to try making another pot melt. For this class we will be creating a three inch round sun catcher.

The basic theory is that everyone is going to choose some different colored scrap, we will carefully place that into our pot and set them in the kiln. We fire the kiln up to 1650°, this is hot enough for the glass to enter the gentle flow stage and it will run through the hole at the bottom of the pot. The glass that has run through the pot will form the three inch circle we were aiming for and once it cools it will be complete and ready to hang outside in a tree. If you don't want a sun catcher you can use the disk to slump into a bowl, or cut it up for use in other projects. I am including a picture of the sun catcher I made to verify my methodology for this class. My disk did not turn out as well as I hoped because I made the hole in the bottom of my pot too large. It caused very little interaction between the colors which makes it look like random blobs of glass. For this class all materials will be provided and there are no prerequisites.



I am also looking for someone to teach the glass painting class. I want to schedule that class on a more regular basis, but my work schedule is somewhat erratic. I am planning on scheduling this class on a weeknight evening later this month. If you are interested in teaching the class, once you have taken it, let me know. I have very little experience, it is mainly a class to give people the opportunity to experiment with the materials.

Felice

Commissioner's Report continued from page 1
use for personal projects and occasional small show inventory. This equipment is not provided for full-up dealers generating inventory to support attending several big shows a year as the club simply cannot afford the maintenance and blade replacement cost associated with such activity.

3. If you are a dealer and simply cannot afford the space or funds required for a big saw please let me know. Several of us in the club have been in this position before (myself included) and found work-arounds. With our contacts and resources you might be surprised to learn you can easily afford (space & money) to set up a used or new 10" to 14" saw at home and just use the club's larger saws occasionally for larger material. We want you to succeed and enjoy the hobby!

I look forward to seeing you September 14th!

Cheers.

Steve

Classes

We are starting to schedule classes on a limited basis this month. Please Be careful and keep others safe if you are sick and contagious. The following class is being scheduled this month:

Intro to Pot Melts

Prerequisite: none . Cost:\$20

Date:September 18, 10AM Length: 2 hours

Description:

This is an introduction to pot melts. We will be using scrap glass to melt through terra cotta pots to form small sun catchers. This is a great quick and easy way to use you scrap fusing glass. All materials will be provided.

Brad

ROCKFEST

Rock - Gem - Mineral - Bead - Jewelry - Stained & Fused Glass



October 2nd & 3rd, 2021

Sat 10am – 5pm

Sun 10am – 4pm

3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth

FREE PARKING – FREE ADMISSION



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 Shows

October 2021

2-3—FORT WORTH, TEXAS: Cowtown Gem Mineral & Glass Club Annual Rockfest; CERA Recreation area, 3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109

22-24—AUSTIN, TEXAS: Annual show; Austin Gem and Mineral Society (AGMS); Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$8, military and seniors (60+) \$7, children ages 13-18 \$2, free admission for children 12 and under; Email: showchairman@austingemandmineral.org; Website: 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.