

Commissioner

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CGMG News

Publication of Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association 3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109 Volume XXV • Issue 8 • August, 2023



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.



CLUB MEMBERS HAVE BEEN BUSY IN THE SHOP

faceting class, silversmithing, finished silver jewelry, glass fusing in kiln and glass molds. Photos by Becky Joos

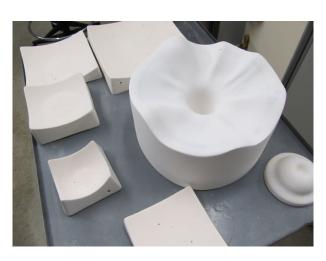












Commissioner's Report

I need to start this with a bunch of kudos to club members for stepping up ... and if I forget someone please let me know as there has been a lot of folks helping out and I am not always aware of them.

Paige Pauley donated a brand new "Little Torch Kit" to enhance our Metal Smithing program.

Paul Smith donated an ultrasonic cleaner to the club.

Paul and Daniel spent a day setting up the new casting machine and rearranging the casting station.

Paul taught use of the new casting machine to 4 members with casting experience, others with experience wanting to use the new machine let Brad and Paul know so he can set up another class. For those completely new to lost wax casting a class will be offered beginning sometime in September.

Our shop foreman has spent a tremendous amount of time keeping the shop running smoothly, looking for great deals when we need to purchase items, and procuring better lighting for the shop.

Our fantastic Instructors! I am thrilled to see right now online we have 4 courses offered with three of them full and one anticipated to fill up plus the aforementioned Casting Class to be online soon!

And the tremendous effort and speed with which Carmen Sorenson, Pam Nolan, C J Wright, and Jacque Brock spent meeting the BOD request we offer "Summer Kid's Classes"

similar to what Pottery does—they came up with 3 week long classes, volunteers to teach, advertising, and all else required and though these classes were on a short fuse and did not fill all the prep is now in place to make it much easier to put together for next summer and coordinate with Pottery and possibly other clubs.

Finally, a big thanks to Crissy (our CERA facility manager) for all of her assistance and support.

PLEASE HELP! Even though we have had at least 4 new folks sign up for membership recently our total membership has dropped by 10 over the past couple of months—PLEASE RENEW your membership if you are overdue.

It's August which means our annual show is just around the corner! 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 note – our cabbing equipment with its diamond wheels and disks as well as our new slab saws with their diamond blades have expensive consumable components that can be ruined in a single afternoon by an inexperienced user so please do not use any equipment you do not have training on.

For those of you completely new to the hobby we offer beginner's courses in lapidary arts, stained glass, gemstone

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July 11, 2023 Minutes

Our President Robert called the meeting to order asking for the Secretary's report with no corrections noted.

Commissioner Steve then welcomed visitors Bobby Darr and Mackenzie Moore with each giving brief interests.

He then thanked the group of Carmen, CJ, Pam and Jacque for their quick work stepping up creating three classes for Summer Camp for Kids. He also brought up possible full day options for education next year.

Steve also reminded us that the Consignment display cases are available for our use in the lobby. He had brought copies of the agreement that needed to be filled out by individuals and sent to him NOT CERA.

Steve also went over our spending and budget with the additional unexpected cost of replacing a diamond wheel that someone misused and is inoperable now sadly.

Robert took over the meeting, reminding folks to sign in and buy raffle tickets. He noted the back tables have silent auction items, the design corner drawings, and pieces for show and tell that were brought in as well as stones that have been cut by members to peruse.

Brad, VP Classes talked about the classes in process and to watch for upcoming classes as we are adding more thanks to teachers.

Gina, VP Field Trips said with the current heat maybe a trip to river might be an option and then asked for any ideas. Several ideas such as Meteorite Museum were added by members.

Colleen, Newsletter Editor thanked everyone who submitted information for the newsletter. She reminded us that hobby related sales are available to be put in the newsletter free for members if we would like to sell anything.

Felice, VP GlassCrafters noted fusing is an upcoming class and to contact her for any additional instructional interest.

John, Shop Status Chair updated us on his efforts to update the shop with electrical upgrades, lighting he donated to help workstations, and saws are being worked on. He also thanked everyone who came and helped as this effort from all really made a big difference. He thanked Jacque for making brunch and Daniel who brought Donuts and juice also was absent to thank for his contribution.

Club Grow Chair, Carmen noted the closing of the silent auction will close right before the program.

Carmen then introduced David Morgan who presented the program on Safety in the Wilds. His photography was astounding and gave many good tips on taking care of oneself while outdoors especially in remote areas.

The raffle and door prize ended the meeting with members looking at the Show and Tell and all the materials brought in to share.

Respectfully submitted,

Design Corner

Here is the August stone.

Use this stone in a sketch to to come up with a creative way to fabricate a piece - any kind of piece and bring your ideas to the next meeting to share.

Don't worry about being an artist - drawing skill doesn't matter! Just sketch the best you can whatever ideas you have to share will be welcomed!



This stone graduates from 8mm - 15mm width x 34mm long

faceting and jewelry making. Classes are announced at meetings, in the newsletter, and sometimes via email. To sign up for classes you may visit the front desk and sign up –OR- go to www.cera-fw.org and click on ACTIVITIES, click on GEM, MINERAL & GLASS, click on REGISTER, and then find your class and sign up online.

I look forward to seeing you August 8th!

Steve



Classes

The faceting 101 class has concluded. The mold making and silver smithing classes are ongoing. The general lap and faceting 201 classes will start soon. Check out the CERA website for a complete list of all of the classes and sign up. There are more classes being planned to start in September or October. This has been a busy year and thanks to all of our instructors.

Web and Email Addresses

https://www.facebook.com/groups/CowtownGMG/

<u>CowtownGMG@groups.</u> facebook.com

http://cera-fw.org/gemmineral-glass/home/newsletter

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.

DallasPaleontologicalSociety,Brook-havenGeotechologyInstitute,3939ValleyViewLane;secondWednesdayof the month at 7:30.

Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society, Austin, Garlan South Hampton Community Hospital, month at 7:30.

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.