



CGMG News

Publication of **CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**
Member of **Corporate Employee Recreation Association**
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CERA Gem Mineral & Glass Club Meeting

January 9

6:45 Social Time 7:00 Meeting

the meeting will include:

- forming a nominating committee for the 2024 slate of club officers

discussion of 2024 club activities:

- classes to be offered (new and traditional)

- instructors needed (experienced and newly trained)

- finances

- membership growth

Please see the commissioner's report on page 2.

Beginning Lapidary

Faceting

Metal Smithing

Casting

Mold Making

Stained Glass Techniques

???

Slumping

Fusing

The Purpose of the CERA 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.



Commissioner's Report

Happy New Year CERA Gem, Mineral & Glass members,

I am looking forward to a successful year for our Activity for 2024! I hope everyone had a happy and safe Holiday break. The club Christmas Party was fun, even though attendance was lower than usual. We need to start resuming all of our club activities now. I have requested a member roster and a profit and loss statement for last month and will hopefully have that information to share in the January 9th monthly meeting.

One of the first things we need to think about is officer elections for 2024. A Nominating Committee will be formed in the January meeting to nominate a slate of officers. I am currently holding 2 offices, President and Interim Commissioner, and that duplication needs to be resolved. If anyone is interested in stepping up as Commissioner, please let me know and I can recommend you to the CERA Board of Directors. If I remain the Commissioner, someone will need

to take over the President position. The other elected offices are VP Programs, VP Education, VP Field Trips, VP Glass, Secretary and Newsletter Editor. If you have not held an office before, that is not a issue. The other officers and I are happy to assist you in getting up to speed. It takes volunteers to make us all successful. I recommend we make a motion from the floor to hold officer elections at the February 13th meeting to allow the Nominating Committee enough time to work.

The next big focus area is getting new classes going. I will be teaching faceting 301 - Princess Cut starting in March. I am also willing to start a faceting 101 - Standard Round Brilliant soon if there is enough interest. We also need people to volunteer as instructors. I would like to dedicate some time in the meeting to discuss identify the instructors for a few classes that can be started in January and February to get revenue flowing in for the year. Classes also help us grow our membership.

See you at the meeting!

Robert

Classes

I hope everyone had a merry Christmas and New Years day. We will be starting the new year with beginning lapidary and Faceting III. If you plan on taking the beginning lapidary class please remember that you must attend the first night since

Jack will be providing demonstrations that can only be presented on the first night that are required for the reset of the class. Watch for other classes to be posted soon.

Brad

Glass Activity

I have had a couple of people mention that they are interested in teaching a glass class in the new year. This would be a great time to talk to Brad to get something scheduled. If there are any classes you want to be offered, let me know I can see if I can find someone to teach them. I am really interested in

learning to make slumping molds, not that we have any shortage of molds in the shop, but it seems like they are never the exact size and shape you are looking for. If you hear of any classes or know of any resources I should look into, let me know.

Felice

Ironic Christmas Present

At our Christmas Gift Exchange I traded with Janice because she got a bottle of wine, which they wouldn't drink, as I would enjoy it. So, before I got the chance to open the BIG box I said sure. Little did I know that box had a prize winning bowl created by our own member, Bobby Darr. Packed in this gift bag with the wine was an August 1970 issue of Lapidary Journal. The magazine had many long articles not like the magazines of today. The irony in this is there is an article about Idar Oberstein, Germany. I had just recently given the program on Idar Oberstein after our travel to Germany this year. I found the magazine interesting. In it is also an article on India's Gemology and Lapidary history. It was very interesting and here are a few excerpts on how to make your own precious minerals and gems you can make at home. Ha ha!

How to make rubies: Mix an equal proportion of calcined shell and vermillion, both powdered. Shake the substance in a bottle so as to mix it thoroughly. Pour out the substance grain by grain and place it on fire. All these grains will be perfect rubies.

How to make sapphires: Mix equal amounts of

burned mother of pearl shell and indigo. Shake well the substance, pour out drop by drop and boil it. You will get good looking sapphires.

How to make emeralds: Mix an equal quantity of madder root, indigo, and orpiment. Shake well the mixture in a glass bottle until it is well blended. Pour out grain by grain and boil. All the grains will turn into perfect emeralds.

How to make coral: Mix equal amounts of burned mother of pearl shell and vermillion. Pulverize it and soak in milk of cow that has recently calved. Wrap this mixture in a bunch of grass blades and will it with a hollow bamboo stem or some other tube. Place the stem in a good earthen pot together with rice pulp. Then cover the pot and let it cook on slow fire. Add sesame oil. Thus will be formed coral inside the bamboo stem, red like a ruby. Oiled in the manner for six hours on slow fire, the coral will be smooth, brilliant and fluted.

So, for those of you that feel like gem crafter and can create this magic in a bottle or tube. Please let us know how your experiments pan out.

Jacque



Map of the US with each state labeled by its most well known local gemstone.

How many can you identify?
See complete list at the meeting

H
A
P
P
Y



2
0
2
4



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Gem and Mineral Shows January 2024

20-21—FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS: Annual show; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Ladybird Johnson Park (Pioneer Pavilion), Hwy 16 South; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission; Email: hcgms20@gmail.com; Website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org

26-28—TYLER, TEXAS: Annual show; East Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Tyler Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Drive; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults \$7, Students \$3, Children 6 and under free; Website: www.ETGMS.org

AREA CLUBS

Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Ave, Fort Worth, TX; fourth 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; fourth 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.