



# CGMG News

Publication of **CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**  
Member of **Corporate Employee Recreation Association**  
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## Valentine Day Party

You may have already read in "Ways To Play" about a Valentine Party from 6:45-7:15 or so in the Gateway room the night of our meeting. The party is being used to promote new membership growth.

Please support the club by bringing a finger food treat such as cookies, cupcakes, candies, or another sweet treat to share. Please arrive by 6:30-6:40 with your treat.

Additionally, if you have samples of one of the following stones, please contact Carmen by text or call at 817-528-8297 so we may discuss bringing it to the meeting for the display we are presenting about gem, minerals, and rocks that symbolize love and friendship. See the following list :

Jade	Rodonite	Turquoise	Any pink or red
kunzite	rhodocrosite	morganite	stone you
emerald	tanzanite	prehnite	would be
ruby fuchsite	pink agate	fire agate	willing to show
tourmaline	ocean jasper	fire opal	

Display will be carefully monitored during the activity and cases will be available to secure small items.

### 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

Hello Gem, Mineral & Glass Activity Members

It's Official! I have been appointed as the new Gem, Mineral & Glass Activity Commissioner reporting to the CERA Board of Directors as of the January Board meeting. Please be aware that the CERA Accounting Department is transitioning to new staff, some of which is still being hired. It will be at least another month before I have anything to report for 2024 budget targets for our activity.

Happy Valentine's Day! Please remember to bring your pink or red jewelry, stones or other pieces and be prepared to discuss how they relate to friendship or love in the February monthly meeting. There will be refreshments provided. Let's have a good turn out in the Gateway Room even if you don't have bring anything to share.

## Classes

Another general Lap class is posted and starts in March. If you need the class please sign up as soon as you can. We will be starting the Faceting 301 class in March also. Look for more classes to be posted in February. We are planning a wire

## *Glass Activity*

A couple of years ago I read about an interesting fusing technique. The basic idea is that the bullseye thin fire paper that we use to line the kiln shelf before fusing is heat resistant, because of that, supposedly you can sandwich a piece of thin fire between two pieces of glass and it will remain after firing. It was further suggested that you could coat the thin fire with powdered frit to achieve different colors. I recently decided to try this out. My first discovery was the it is incredibly difficult and messy to coat thin fire with an adhesive and then powdered frit. I ended up using watered down PVA glue and a small paint brush. The frit, I just sprinkled on. It wasn't a complete disaster, but it was certainly far from a success. I tried circles cut from a regular hole punch and a larger star-like shape I cut free hand. The small

Please remember that we are holding Officer elections on February 13, 2024 at 7 pm during the meeting. It important to have as many dues paying members there as possible to help elect your new officers. The Nominating Committee is working hard to come up with a proposed slate of officers, but it is still okay to nominate from the floor during the meeting. As commissioner, I welcome all active club members regardless of previous experience to volunteer for an office. There will be plenty of people around to help you succeed.

I look forward to seeing you all at the February 13th meeting

Best Regards,

*Robert*

CERA GMG Commissioner

**Shop Clean-Up Day**  
February 17 10:00 Please come and help

wrapping class in July and several others are in work. Also, the stepping stone class was posted. The stepping stone class was reduced by \$10. Please take advantage of the new price for the class.

*Brad*

circles worked better, but in the included pictures you can see that the frit fell off the edges and ended up on my glass. The large star was easier to work with but it left a large bubble on the finished piece. It is an interesting enough result that I will attempt to try to work out the issues I had, but it is certainly not as easy as I was hoping. If anyone has an idea on how to get a better result please let me know.



*Felice*

# January 9 Minutes

CERA GMAG Club

Our President and acting Commissioner, Robert opened the meeting and welcomed all and guest Breden Moses. Robert noted our membership is down to previous years and is still pending invitation to board meeting from CERA.

He reminded us to see Colleen for raffle tickets and sign in for the door prize. Thanks was given to all for support at our Christmas party.

Next order of business was to ask for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Bobby Darr and David Morgan offered. A motion was made by Daniel and seconded by Carmen. All voted in favor.

Brad, VP Classes stated instructors are needed and everyone think

about how they can support the club and share some experience to fulfill this need. Several ideas were mentioned, Brad reminded us to check the online schedule.

Gina, VP Field Trips reported that she is going to Tuscon and asked about others attending. She noted that a trip to Ladonia for fossils would be last minute, weather permitting to watch for emails. She is hoping to do a spring rockhunting trip to Alpine in conjunction with the Alpine show 19-21.

Colleen, Newsletter Editor requested articles and the ability to advertise materials or equipment for sale in the newsletter.

Felice, VP GlassCrafters said there is an upcoming beginning fusing and Tina would be teaching a stepping stone creation Feb. 10 and 21. All saws for glass and the kiln are up and running now.

Robert mentioned our Shop Status Chair position is

open and this is an appointed position which he then asked for volunteers to help with this. Daniel and David offered to step into this position.

Robert talked about the lighting upgrades that have been done by John and several discussions about the lapidary equipment that needs to be looked at. It was decided that a show clean up /workday be held on February 17 to work in the saw and rock area which wouldn't affect the class being held in the glass area.

Carmen, Club Grow Chair had no update.

New business was presented by Mel for the next Meeting to coordinate February and Valentine's day red as topic. That red items and their relating to love be brought and shared. She noted that Chrissy from CERA would bring snacks for us at this meeting.

The Secretary asked for volunteer to take minutes in February because she would not be at the meeting. Colleen graciously offered to take minutes.

Neal Teague noted he was going to Tuscon and had room in his rental house for anyone interested and he was acquiring nice emeralds and spinels that would be available for purchase in future.

Several members during break and program set up shared their creations and things they brought.

Carmen, VP Programs then spoke up that she would like a replacement for her position and then shared the program on Carving Fire Opals which was a video which we would watch half and then show the balance in March at the meeting.

The door prize and raffle were given out and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Jacque Brock, Secretary.

*Jacque*

## Popular Spots in Texas

What are the following?

Big rock we like to repel from and climb.

Area with a wide variety of agate and other beautiful rocks to collect?

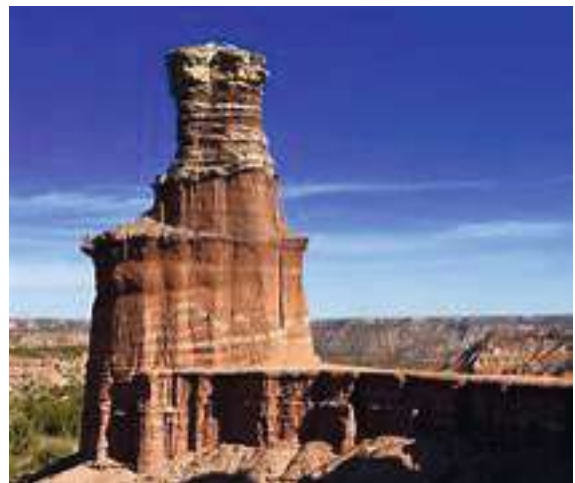
Park that has the Davis Mountains?

River with sheer canyon walls

Canyon with amazing scenery?

Meteor crater?

Lake with alligators, snapping turtles, great blue heron, American beavers?





## Web and Email Addresses

[https://www.facebook.com/  
groups/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](http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter)

## Gem and Mineral Shows

February 2024

**17-18—GEORGETOWN, TEXAS:** Annual show; Williamson County Gem & Mineral Society; San Gabriel Park Community Center, 445 East Morrow St; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adult 13+ \$3, Kids 6 to 12 \$2, Children under 6 free; contact Kenneth Oliver, (281) 381-0781; Email: wcgmsgemboree@gmail.com; Website: wcgms.org

**16-17—ABILENE, TEXAS:** Annual show; Central Texas Gem and Mineral Society; Taylor County Expo Center, 1700 SE 11th St; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adult Tickets - \$5 Kids 6-12 - \$3 Kids under 5 - FREE! Kids in Boy Scout or Girl Scout Uniforms - FREE! Military with ID - \$3; Come to the 70th Anniversary of the Central Texas Gem & Mineral Society! Gems, minerals, specimens, jewelry, beads, crystals, geodes, fossils and more! The show will be located in the Display Building; contact Linda Walker; Website: www.abilenerockhounds.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.