



CGMG News

Publication of **CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association
3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109
Volume XXVI • Issue 7 July, 2024

Commissioner

Robert Reed
robert.t.reed@lmco.com

President

CJ Wright
505 239-5711
cjwright@icloud.com

**Vice-President, Programs
Program Graphics**

Carmen Sorenson
817-528-8297

**Vice-President,
Field Trips**

Gina Koenig
817-480-0569
sf_savematches@yahoo.com

Vice-President, Education

Brad Sigley
817-797-9888
bsidney25@yahoo.com

Vice-President, Glass

Felice Moreno
felicemoreno@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Colleen Reigh
colleenreigh@att.net

Secretary

Carla Lacey



TUESDAY, JULY 9, 7PM

AUCTION & ICE CREAM



BRING YOUR FAVORITE ICE CREAM
TOPPINGS TO SHARE

BRING ROUGH, SLABS, GEMS, GLASS OR
TOOLS YOU WOULD LIKE TO AUCTION

AUCTION IS HANDLED ONE OF TWO
WAYS:

- 1) DONATE TO THE CLUB, ALL PROCEEDS
GO TO CLUB
- 2) AUCTION IN YOUR NAME FOR A 50/50
SPLIT ON THE PROFIT

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.

President's Letter

President's Letter Do you ever feel like the world is changing too fast yet something keeps pulling you back to the status quo? Or like a rubber band that lets you take three steps forward, then snap - two steps back? Scheduling a new class like the Stabilizing class has been like that. If you tell me we can, I'll probably try it. If you say we can't, I'll want to know why not. New class? Let's try. We can schedule new members. Let's do it. Now what supplies do we need to do a stabilizing class and who has used a vacuum pot. Oh! The supplies and equipment are rather expensive. Can we support this class and it not cost so much that no one will register? Donations start showing up, a vacuum pot and someone to help, several others offer. Find mason jars and some other small tools at a garage sale. Vendor donates turquoise that needs stabilized. A friend donates some Opticon. Hmmm. Maybe we can offer it at an affordable price after all. And the Cactus Juice resin has a 1-year shelf life and can be reused. Maybe several classes during the first year. Need a toaster oven to cure the resin; small one donated and found a new but slightly damaged one for half-price. Now time for posting. Adding non-members to our invitations could help us defray the cost to more participants. We can do that now; let's test it on this class. Need dates when everyone helping can be there. Got it! Now to update the original information for scheduling. Estimate new cost of supplies without the ones donated, Need two fees, a member fee and non-member fee. Class set-up process is different with non-members. Brad gets it scheduled but now

there's not much time to get the word out to non-members. Yuck! Guess we need to cancel and reschedule. Maybe just cancel one class and keep the second week? Whew! It's scheduled! Now advertising. Colleen, as usual, steps up and gets a notice to our members. How about facebook for our non-members? But I can't post, so Robert makes me a moderator. Great! I've never been a moderator except for my own site where I rarely post. Another learning curve. Not too bad. It's posted, screen shot of the CERA site. Didn't realize it does not have the time of the class and the screen shot has a "register now" button that is just a picture and I can't get it off (I can now). So add a paragraph above and a link to register. Questions on facebook post start coming in. Go back and edit the post to include the times. First non-member is trying to register. It won't let them. Quick note to Robert and Crissy the CERA manager. Help! Seems there is a parameter to allow only members. That has to be changed. That is in process as this is written. The good news! We have met the minimum and I know of several more that want to take the class. Some need another date, this doesn't work for them. Another class in the making? Test run on vacuum pot on Saturday. Non-members should be able to schedule now. All the supplies are here and ready. Instructions have been written, just need copies. Now if we've stretched that rubber band enough... Maybe it will break and there will be smooth stabilizing ahead. Hope to see you in the class. CJ Wright
President

CJ Wright

Bench Tips

SANDING DISKS

One of the flexshaft tools that saves so much time is the snap-on sanding disk. I mainly use the medium and fine grits but sometimes like the very fine ones that are sold for working with platinum.

Ordinarily, you'd think of placing the disk on the mandrel with the grit side facing away from your hand, but notice that you end up with your elbow up in the air. Instead, try flipping the disk so that the grit side is towards your hand. It's a much more comfortable position because the elbow is down near your side, and it lets me hold the work up close where I have a better view of what I'm sanding.

I use these snap-on disks so frequently that I keep multiple mandrels with different grits already



mounted in the bur stand. Some mandrels have the grit facing out and some facing in.

EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a shallow groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers with a slight groove on one jaw.

The easiest way to create a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the quickest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a separating disc. Then do a rough polish on the slot with a medium grit, knife-edge silicone wheel.

Other Tips in Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Series
<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>
BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com

CERA GMG Minutes June 11, 2024

CJ Wright, President, called the meeting to order. Visitors, John Lucas and wife, were welcomed. Thanks to all who donate items for the door prizes or raffles.

Carmen, VP of Programs, introduced our program on Verisite presented by Bob Boyd, long time member and alum. The program was very informative and insightful. There was much discussion of this topic. Bob brought samples of different Verisites as well as having a visual presentation. His contribution was much appreciated.

Robert Reed, Commissioner, reported that the P&L had been received and the base was the same as last year. Robert will be undergoing knee replacement #2 in mid-July and should be back in action in time for the show. He reported that the back door of our shop was found unlocked. It is so important to check all doors and faucets and lights before exiting the shop.

Brad, VP of Classes, reviewed upcoming classes... July 6&7 will be the stabilizing class held by CJ. It is a 2 day class and another session will be offered towards the end of the month. Glass Fusing starts 6/20, Faceting 101 will occur the first part of August, mold making will be offered in the fall, Aug 5 will start a 6-8 week course in Stained Glass Panels/lamps, Intro to Glass Studio is offered on an individual basis by Felice and is required before continuing into any other glass art.

Gina, VP Field Trips, was not in attendance and

upcoming trips will be discussed later.

Colleen, Newsletter editor, Still wants any rock related items for her publication. If you have anything to sell, she offered free ads.

Felice, VP Glass Crafters, expounded on the upcoming classes and the pre-requisite of taking the soldering class prior to the glass classes.

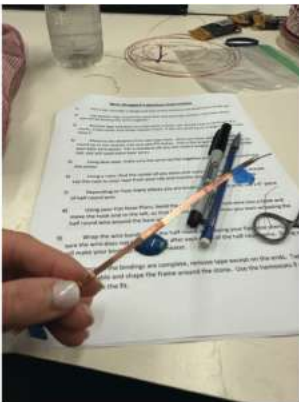
Daniel, co-chair of Shop Status, spoke of the new shelves that had been installed in the shop and the recent much appreciated clean-up. Repairs were mentioned to the plumbing in the cutting room sink and a couple of minor fixes needed.

Carla and Carmen, co-chairs of the upcoming Show, discussed the vendor applications and the urgent need for volunteers at the show. The branding of the show, done to differentiate our show from the FWGMC Show in May, was discussed and the "Panther City Expo" was approved. T-shirt designs were shown and voted upon. Judy Dobbs has volunteered to run the food end of the show which will include a bake sale so heat up your ovens! Jacque Brock will run the Silent Auction – Please donate freely for this event. It is important that this show be a success and it will take team effort. We would like some demos at the show if someone will man them.

No raffle or door prizes were offered this month due to the program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Lacey



Wire

Wrapping

Glass

Photos:

Bri Giliberto



Glass Activity

I am always interested in finding ways to use scrap fusible glass. The obvious way to use scrap is make cabochons/refrigerator magnets. Some of the other things I have come up with are to lay the pieces side by side like the pieces of a puzzle. The small gaps can be filled in with clear frit powder which will ensure that the pieces fuse nicely. This is how I made my patchwork bowl. Recently I took a bunch of pieces and glued them together vertically and that made an interesting and somewhat lumpy cabochon. I alternated transparent and opaque glass. It is definitely different. The third technique I found on the Creative Paradise glass website. They used it to create a bowl they called the Painterly Tornado Bowl. I used fairly small pieces of glass cut to resemble petals of a flower and overlaid them slightly. It is interesting because it is mostly a single layer of glass and only a slight overlapping.

I am hoping to try to create something similar made from circles once I have some time, but there are really a lot of possibilities. Once you have taken beginning fusing, I encourage you to come to the shop and play with scrap.

Felice



Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem, Mineral & Glass Members,

It is July! We are half-way through the year, and we will have our Annual Ice Cream Social and auction during the regular club meeting on July 9th. Please try to be present so we can share in a good time and consider bringing donations, either or sides/toppings for the ice cream and auction items. I have assembled 3 boxes of in-kind donations to support this auction and the silent auction for the Labor Day Weekend Gem Mineral & Glass Expo.

We have CERA Board of Directors approval to move forward with the Gem Mineral & Glass Expo. Carla, Carmen and CJ worked with several of us to develop a detailed budget with revenue and expense targets. The approved expenses included marketing/advertising, club T-shirts for our membership to wear at the show, and food cost for concessions – I heard something about loaded nachos. It is important that we all step up and support this hard working team by volunteering to support the show. Please consider donating your time

for Labor Day weekend – we NEED volunteers. Also, please consider donations to support the silent auction, which will be an important revenue generator to meet our budget.

On a personal note, my left knee replacement surgery is scheduled for July 16th. That is after the July Ice Cream Social and early enough that I should be in pretty good shape to support the Expo. I will likely not be available to support the August club meeting, but time will tell. This will also delay the start of the Faceting 101 class, but I will still start the class this Fall. I ask for your grace and understanding as I take care of my body.

I am so grateful for the continued support I get from all of you! Without All of You this club would not be as world class as we are.

Best Regards, *Robert*

Robert Reed
CERA GMG Commissioner

**REQUEST FOR
SILENT AUCTION ITEMS**

Our show (8/31-9/1) will include a silent auction helping to raise funds for CERA Gem Mineral & Glass Club. Start looking for materials to donate such as: gems and minerals, rough slabs, finished projects, jewelry or basically anything you would want to buy! Bring donated items to the next club meeting.

Web and Email Addresses

GMG main page
<http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/>

Registration page
<http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/registration/>

Newsletter
<http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/newsletter>

Link to Facebook
<HTTPS://www.facebook.com/CERAFortworth>

CERA GMG- Did you know?

That as a member of the CERA Gem Mineral and Glass club, you have access to classes when scheduled and you can now invite a friend who is not a member to join us as well. Check out registration. There are two fees. A discounted fee for members and a different fee for those who are not members. Of course we hope the friend will decide to become a member. Did you know that members who have successfully completed a class like lapidary, have access to the Gem, Mineral and glass shop lapidary equipment during all open hours of CERA? It's nice to have a CERA member friend with you. Invite your member friend to join you for a shop day.



**Gem and Mineral Show
August-September 2024**

31-1—FT. WORTH, TEXAS: Annual show; **CERA Gem Mineral and Glass Club**; CERA, 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Free Admission & Parking; The Panther City Expo will showcase all manner of handmade Jewelry, Metalsmithing, Glass works, Rough minerals and slabs, fossils and related arts and crafts. There will be demonstrations, silent auction and a bake sale; contact Carla Lacey, (682) 552-0155; Email: laceycarla123@gmail.com; Website: www.facebook.com/CERAFortworth; <https://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/registration/>

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.