



CGMG News

Publication of **Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**
 Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association
 3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109
 Volume XXVI • Issue 11 • November, 2024

Commissioner
 Robert Reed
 robert.t.reed@lmco.com

President
 CJ Wright
 505 239-5711
 cjzwright@icloud.com

Vice-President, Programs
 Program Graphics
 Carmen Sorenson
 817-528-8297

Vice-President, Field Trips
 Gina Koenig
 817-480-0569
 gkrockhunts@gmail.com

Vice-President, Education
 Sharon Williams
 214-616-8410
 sharonawms4@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President, Glass
 Felice Moreno
 felicemoreno@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor
 Colleen Reigh
 colleenreigh@att.net

Secretary
 Carla Lacey
 laceycarla123@gmail.com

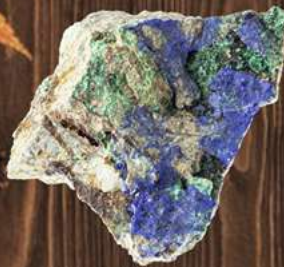
Tuesday, November 12, 7pm
 Gateway Room

AUCTION

BRING ROUGH CHUNKS OF ROCK, 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



**GEM
 MINERAL
 & GLASS**

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.

President's Letter

Whew! It's fun, but tiring too. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to help with everything we are doing.

This summer we started allowing non-members to take our classes. Every type of class we've offered since that time has had one or two persons who are not members when they register. All of the classes I've been involved in have had one or more join CERA. It is obvious that our members and non-members want to learn what they can about rocks, gems and jewelry.

We had 19 take our stabilizing classes and if you count the ones who helped teach, we now have 23 who know more about stabilizing for soft stones, which includes me. Charles Graham, Daniel Carpenter and Sharon Williams were invaluable in stepping up to help lead the class and offering their own personal equipment.

Our Soldering and Metalsmithing class filled almost immediately with 8 participants. That is a lot and sometimes it got a little crowded. Sharon Williams and

Daniel Carpenter assisted with participants learning from three of us. We all teach slightly different methods of soldering and metal working, sharing more than just one teacher can do. I was impressed, only a few had any prior experience. Those who had experience showed others something that they knew how to do, but wasn't being taught in the beginning class. Everyone went home with two rings they could be proud to wear or give away. And new skills we hope they will practice and be ready for the next class to advance their skills.

I know all of you have a rock, gem or glass skill we'd like to learn. If you don't want to teach alone, find someone or ask us to find someone to help you get started. Our members have been asking for lots of classes and you all have skills to share with someone else.

Let's learn from each other!

C J Wright,

President, CERA Gem, Mineral and Glass

CJ



Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem, Mineral & Glass members,

Thank you to everyone that supported our club table at the CERA Arts Festival this month. We had club members greeting the participants, demonstrating skills and providing shop tours. The crowd was light, but we made inroads with the Pottery Activity and CERA staff by supporting the event.

This month we will have several things going on.

1. There will be an auction during our Nov. 12th meeting to help raise funds to pay for the December Holiday party. Please feel free to bring items to donate and to participate in the bidding. There should be some good material available, and please feel free to help run the auction.

2. The Nominating committee selected last month will be reporting on a slate of officers for the upcoming election.

3. CJ will be representing us in the SCFMS Annual Meeting during the Dallas Gem & Mineral Show in late November.

4. We need to welcome several new club members .

5. Many classes and field trips are in the planning phase.

From a commissioner's perspective, I am working with the Board of Directors to approve our 2025 budget. The initial feedback is the new profit submitted was less than expected. The counter position is to expand the Panther City Expo for Labor Day weekend 2025, to increase the number of classes, rethink capital for 2025, and minimize expenses. All that said, I am committed to having high quality and frequent offerings and shop conditions for our membership. The new accountant is getting up to speed, and there is an Accounts Payable/Receivables clerk added to the staff.

Make sure and attend the November meeting to catch up on more club news and help us have another successful auction.

Best Regards,

Robert Reed

GMG Commissioner

Robert

Bench Tips



DIVIDERS

A set of dividers is a tool I find very useful in laying out the geometry of a piece I'm making. It has two needle-like tips with an adjustment to set the spacing between them.

They can be used to transfer a measurement. Let's say you need a 7mm wide strip of sheet metal. Set the spacing between the divider tips to 7 mm on the ruler. Then lay the sheet on the bench, put one tip against the edge, and run the dividers down the edge scribing a line parallel to the edge.

Dividers can be used to mark equal segments of a line or arc. For instance, assume a line between A and B that might be straight or curved, and you want to divide it into 5 equal lengths. Set the dividers to an estimate of the distance. Starting at Point A, use the dividers to mark off five lengths along the line. If you end up short of Point B, lengthen the distance on the dividers. If you end up

overshooting Point B, shorten the length of your dividers. After a few tries, the length on the dividers will be the exact distance you need to mark the 5 segments.

Dividers can let you quickly find the center of a circular disk. With one tip of the dividers at the edge of the disk, set the other tip to an estimate of where the center might be. Fix one tip of the dividers at the 3 o'clock position and scribe an arc with the other tip near the center. Do this again from the 6 o'clock, 9 o'clock, and 12 o'clock positions. The arcs at the center will form a small four-sided box. The center of the box is at the center of the disk.

PIECE OF LEATHER

Leather has a multitude of uses in the shop. I often use a scrap of it to work on to avoid scratching the back of a piece of jewelry while setting stones. It's also great for times when you need to clamp one of your tools in a vise, for instance a draw plate. Scraps of leather can be salvaged from purses or belts that are being thrown out.



See More of my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making Series

<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>

Happy hammering

BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com



Stained Glass Lamp Class

Tina Moore,
Instructor
Glenda, Margaret
and Kevin
with their
finished lamps.
They turned out
really nice!

October 8, 2024 Minutes

31 present

The meeting was called to order by the President, CJ Wright.

The Commissioner, Robert Reed, was given the floor.

The pottery club will be taking the display cases located in the CERA lobby for the rest of the year. Should you want to display, contact CJ.

Faceting 101 class will be postponed until January.

The Trinity Arts Festival is coming up 10/12-10/13/224. Volunteers are needed - just show up if you cant' commit to the schedule.

The floor returned to President, CJ Wright.

The minutes from the September meeting were approved. The executive committee meeting held the previous week was discussed. We need a nominating committee for the yearly elections. Judy Dobbs will chair and Glenda Bradley will assist. The By-laws need to be updated to remove "Cowtown". Any other suggestions for changed will be entertained.

Some show vendors who participated this year are asking for contracts for next year. We need to meet and disuse shortfalls and opportunities, and we need to meet soon. A chair for the show needs to be put in place.

Brad Sigley, current Chair for Classes, is resigning and Sharon Williams will take that position. We need tools for wax molding. Stabilizing class is 10/19 and there are

a few seats open. Silversmithing class is full and a second class is upcoming.

Gina Koenig, Field Trip Chair, reported the the trip to Ladonia last weekend was a good time. A trip to Alpine and one to Quartzite are in the works as is one to a Llano quarry. There will be a big west coast trip next June. Carmen mentioned a man in Minnesota and the possibility of putting together a trip there.

Colleen, Newsletter Editor, said she has nothing new - same request for articles, picture, etc. to put in the monthly letter.

Felice, Chair of Glass, reported that there will be classes starting in November. She will be happy to hold class for individuals for beginning fusing. Janice Bowen is going to teach a class on stained glass.

David Morgan, Shop Co-Chair, said that new 10" blades have arrive and other blades as well. Need to plan a shop clean-up day, maybe 11/9. Daniel Carpenter also Co-chair, said additional instruction is needed on the water saw. We also need to teach saw maintenance.

Jen Hourican us now Chair of Technology.

Carmen Sorenson, Programs, discussed the November auction. There was a discussion regarding the food at the yearly Christmas party.

Respectfully submitted, Carla Lacey

Carla

Glass Activity

I have struggling with the patchwork bowl class off and on for the last month. I really wanted to create a bowl that was made entirely with scrap glass. I was not able to create something I was happy with so I switched to a slightly different concept. I am calling this one a flower petal bowl. It is made entirely with scrap. My prof of concept as usual is not wonderful. I did not make great color choices and I had some issues with devitrification, but overall I am very happy with the results. This a a very repeatable and customizable bowl. The bad news is that my mother had a minor brain bleed and I am trying to spend as much time as possible in the next few months with my parents in San Antonio. I am not going to schedule a class until January or February, but if another amateur fuser wants to volunteer to teach the class, I can put some notes together and walk through the

information you would need. Just let me know if you are interested.



Felice



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>

December Alpine Rock Hunts Canceled

Unfortunately, my December hunts have to be canceled. 06 Ranch has been leased by Pioneer resources for the whole month for hunting and I just got word last night that the needle Peak property has sold. Sorry for the late response, but I was waiting to hear from the landowners, Sometimes it takes a while. I apologize for the bad news, unfortunately it's out of my hand. Aaron



Gem & Mineral Shows

November

8-10—HUMBLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Houston Gem and Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; \$12.00; Website: hgms.org

23-24—MESQUITE, TEXAS: Annual show; Dallas Gem and Mineral Society; Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Drive; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; Adult-\$8, Kids to 12-\$4, Family of 4-\$20, Vets/Teachers/with ID-\$5, Scouts in Uniform-Free: dallasgemandmineral.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.