



## CGMG News

Publication of **Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**  
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association  
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## CERA Gem, Mineral, and Glass Club

### HOLIDAY CHRISTMAS PARTY Tuesday, December 10, 7pm

**YOU ARE INVITED: Arrive by 6:30 with  
your dishes; we serve dinner by 7pm.**

**Meats and drinks are provided!  
ATTENDEES BRING A SIDE DISH OF YOUR  
CHOICE: hors-d'oeuvres, casseroles,  
veggies, salads,  
or desserts**

**Gift exchange: Each individual who  
wishes to play should bring a hobby  
related gift of approximately \$10-\$15  
in value. Attendees who bring a gift  
will play a game to share their  
presents. Dress for the season!**

*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

Hope all of you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with love from your family and friends all around you. We take so much for granted that it is good to reflect on the bounty we experience compared to so much of the world.

And my thankfulness for CERA, our shop and our members is amplified by my attendance at the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies meeting (SCFMS) in Mesquite, TX. The Federation has a lot of open officer and chair positions. Finding club members willing to commit to the SCFMS activities has been difficult.

The American Federation of Mineral Societies is the parent group, with SCFMS serving Texas, Arkansas and Louisiana. The main purpose of AFMS is to provide insurance for the mineral societies and clubs in the American region. The insurance does not cover the members directly but does cover the club for the activities they hold.

The Federation also hopes to foster communication between clubs on a more local level. Local in Texas has a

different meaning than smaller states. While Arkansas and Louisiana each have one District VP, Texas has five Districts. Each VP still has a lot of miles to cover all the clubs in the areas.

The business meeting is required to approve budgets, annual expenditures, District VP reports and encourage participation in Federation activities. While club members seem to be growing, some clubs still struggle to afford a shop, instead meeting in businesses and churches, some even in member's homes.

Just like us, CERA Gem, Mineral and Glass, the Federation needs younger members to step up and volunteer to be an officer, chair a committee, help with the website and other communication. Janice Craddock-Bowen agreed to serve as the District I VP which is Northeast Texas. Anyone else interested in learning more?

See you at the Christmas Party!

CJ Wright

President

CERA Gem, Mineral and Glass Activity



## Glass Activity

I finally scheduled the flower petal bowl for January 25th. The class is already posted. Rosemary is selling her fusible glass and supplies. There is a small amount in the shop but she has a lot more available. Things have been really crazy this month but we were do have plans to offer a lot of classes in the spring. If there is anything we you are especially interested in taking reach out to me and let me know what you are looking for. Felice Moreno



## Commissioner's Report

Hello, Fellow GMG Members.

The Holiday Season is upon us!

We had a successful auction last month. We raised about \$1,200 with the lively bidding. Thank you to everyone who donated the high quality material for the auction and for the lively bidding. I hope you enjoy your new items. We also held our 2025 Officer Elections ahead of schedule. Thank you to all the returning officers and to Sharon Wilson for stepping up as the new VP of Classes.

CJ Wright represented us at the South Central Society of Mineral Societies (SCFMS) in November. I look forward to hearing her report. The Annual SCFMS dues and third-party liability insurance premiums were paid on time, so we are set for field trip coverage for 2025.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> in the Trinity Ballroom starting at 6:30 pm. David Morgan has volunteered to prepare a brisket, and Carmen Sorenson will cover a couple of other meat selections. There will be some club gifts available, and we encourage you to bring a club-related item for the gift exchange. Please supplement our pot luck meal with side dishes or desserts as desired. I look forward to a great time for our closing meeting of 2024!

Thank you all for a great 2024. Even though I have had several personal challenges this year, it is always a joy to spend time with all of you!

Season's Greetings,

Robert Reed, Commissioner

CERA Gem, Mineral, and Glass Activity





# Bench Tips

With the holidays coming up, if you need a nice gift for a friend who does jewelry, please consider one of my books on Bench Tips:

[Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making](#)

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

Happy holidays! [BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com](mailto:BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com)

## CUTTING A BOLT

Whenever you have to cut a threaded bolt shorter, it's often difficult to get the nut to thread back onto it. And the smaller the bolt, the more difficult it is to restore any distorted threads. The problem is easily solved with the use of a nut. Here's how I do it.

First, screw a nut onto the bolt before cutting it. Grip the bolt by the threaded section that is to be sawed off. Then saw the bolt to the desired length, taper the end with sandpaper or file, and unscrew the nut from the bolt.



Unscrewing the nut over the freshly cut end of the bolt will straighten out any damage that sawing and filing did to the threads. Gripping the bolt by the piece to be sawed off localizes any crushing damage to the piece that will be thrown away.

## DEPTH GAUGE FOR DRILLING

Sometimes you need to drill a number of holes all to the same depth. One quick and easy way to do this is to wind some tape around the drill bit so that the tape just touches the part surface when the hole is deep enough.

You can set the depth either by measuring from the tip of the drill to the tape or by drilling to the correct depth, leaving the bit in the hole, and wrapping tape around the bit at the surface level.



Note that a little extra tape left free on the end will blow away debris from the drilling



## November 12, 2024 Minutes

CJ Wright, President, called the meeting to order. There were 27 in attendance.

Robert Reed, Commissioner, spoke regarding the upcoming Christmas Dinner to be held 12/10/24. Everyone is encouraged to bring a dish and the Club will provide the meats. A good time will be had!

CJ Wright polled the nominating committee and all current officers will stay in office for another year. The October minutes were approved with the exception of the mention of Jenn Hourican which will be deleted. Meeting to be brief due to tonight's auction.

Gina Koenig, Field Trip Coordinator, said that the Alpine

December trip was off due to the dig site being leased to hunters. May have a trip to Brownwood to dig. Discussed the proposed trip to Oregon for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June. There was much excitement about that trip.

Colleen Reigh, Newsletter coordinator, wants contributions to the newsletter and jokes to share Felice Moreno, Glass Chair, asked that those interested in the basic introductory course for Glass contact her directly for instruction.

David Morgan, Shop Co-Chair, has planned a shop clean-up day for 1pm on Sunday, 1/12/25.

A lively auction of Glass and Lapidary items commenced.

Respectfully submitted, Carla Lacey



from the Editor  
*Happy  
Holidays!*  
and Best Wishes  
for 2025

## 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>

## Classes

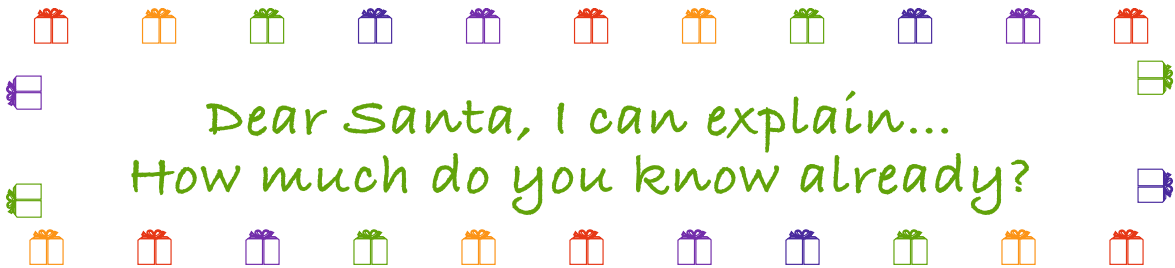
January classes are lining up nicely. Currently four classes are posted or very close to posting. Faceting 101, taught by Robert Reed will start on the 15th of January and run eight weeks. Doublet and Triplet class taught by David Dudich is coming up on the 11th. More detailed information will go out to those on the mailing list soon. Paige Pauley will teach a three day Beginner Lapidary class starting on the 21st. The Glass Dept. will have a Saturday workshop titled Pedal Bowl which incorporates fusing and slumping. Taught by Felice Moreno the last Saturday of the month. There are more classes in the works for January and February. I will keep you posted

## Gem & Mineral Shows

January 2025

**18-19—FREDERICKSBURG, TEXAS:** Annual show; Fredericksburg Rockhounds; Pioneer Pavilion, Lady Bird Johnson Park, Hwy. 16 South; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-4; Free for all; Website: fredericksburgrockhounds.org

**24-26—TYLER, TEXAS:** Annual show; East Texas Gem & Mineral Society; Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Drive; Fri. 9-5, Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4; Adults and under 16 years - \$8, 16 to 5 yr old and students - \$3, Under 5 years - free; Website: etgms.org



*Dear Santa, I can explain...  
How much do you know already?*

## 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**, Brookhaven 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.