



CGMG News

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

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TUESDAY, MAY 13, 7PM **Arrive early for set up**

AUCTION

Club members and guests are invited to bring activity related items to the meeting for auction.

Things to bring: rough and slabbed rock, finished work, stained and fused glass materials, hobby related tools or equipment.

You may choose to donate all proceeds from the auction of your items to the club or split 50/50 with the activity.

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.

From Your President

Isn't it great that we have so many different ways to enjoy our gem, mineral and glass group and the shop. We all have our niche!

I'm taking Paul's Petroglyph class with a focus on wax carving and casting. We've done cuttlebone casting, sand casting, and investment casting, each of us choosing which ones we want for our models. I tried them all, with varying degrees of success and failed attempts. I like cuttlebone casting and using cast pieces as components in my fabrication. For me, wax carving is easy to carve, hard to get the detail I want.

The designer and artistic side of me always takes over, driving me to the fabrication process of metalworking. Even the cast pieces become components in a fabricated piece of jewelry or sculpture. While trying to focus on

casting, my mind is designing something to fabricate.

So I let the fabrication process take over in this class. Even with some cast components, my petroglyphs are mostly fabricated. Thank you Paul, that you encourage us to work in the ways our minds take us even while trying something new.

We all have our interests, our ways of approaching our hobbies and how we use the club benefits.

Isn't it great that we all have minds that work in so many different ways?

Find your niche, and I hope we all remain open to new ideas! Explore what the club has to offer, try something new and find your niche.

CJ Wright,

President CERA Gem, Mineral and Glass Club

Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem, Mineral & Glass Members.

We sure have had April and early May showers! Hopefully, there are newly exposed rocks in some of your favorite hunting areas as a result. Brenda and I just returned from Branson, MO, and I was sooooo tempted to go down to the Ron or Jim Coleman quartz mines or even Crater of Diamonds. If only I didn't have to get back to Texas. Other good hunting could be Mineral Wells Fossil Park or Mason for blue topaz.

There is another great opportunity to get some cutting material and possibly glass or jewelry items at our May 13th club meeting. There are many items donated David Dudich, Helen Nevot and Virgil Rogers that will be in the auction as in-kind donations. There is also an opportunity to bring your own items to auction with either in-kind or 50/50 split on the bid amount. Your bids

may be paid by cash, personal check, or credit card at the front desk. If you would like to help run the auction, please reach out to CJ or me and we will be happy to put you to work!

The second round of Faceting 101, standard round brilliant is starting on May 8th. If there are still seats available, I will announce that during the May meeting also. After that class is complete, I will offer Faceting 201, emerald cut, which should start in late-July/early-August. I highly recommend that you take the Faceting 101 class before you try Faceting 201 because the skills build on each other.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next club meeting on May 13th.

Best Regards, Robert Reed

Gem, Mineral & Glass Commissioner



Nice Big Horn
Coral Plate

a winch is a
very good thing



Brownwood Trip
for Horn Coral
March 29, 2025



CERA Gem, Mineral, and Glass Club Minutes April 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order by CJ Wright, President. There were 32 in attendance. She voiced appreciation for the donation of door prize items and raffle items.

Robert Reed, Commissioner, thanked Virgil Rogers for his very generous donation of rock and equipment. Virgil is retiring and has given the club 2 tumblers and other items as well as great slabs. We all appreciate him. Robert also spoke about updating the by-laws for the club – this is in process now as it hasn't been revised in many years. He also reminded us that the May meeting will be an auction so bring your items for sale and you can designate whether you want to split the proceeds with the club or donate the proceeds totally to the GMG.

The March Minutes were approved.

VP of Classes, Sharon Williams, reviewed all upcoming classes including a doublet/triplet class scheduled May 3, an Intro to Fused Glass class 5/7 - 5/28 and several more listed on our website.

VP of Field Trips, Gina Koenig, reported that the Brownwood field trip was successful and the stop at Mary's Restaurant was a real hit. Also, the June trip to Oregon is coming up in June and 7-8 people have signed up so far. If anybody wants to lead a field trip or has a

suggestion for one, contact Gina.

Newsletter Editor, Colleen, is asking for more pictures and input for the newsletter.

VP of GlassCrafters, Felice Moreno, spoke of the new teachers and how skilled and knowledgeable they are. Tina Moore and Deborah Bartlett are both enthusiasts and we are fortunate they want to share their crafts. Upcoming classes were discussed.

Shop Co-Chair, Daniel, reminded us to not leave water in the small saw as rust will surely happen. Also, if you want to bring your own blade for that saw, feel free. Any needs noticed should be noted on the white board.

Communications Chair, Jacque Brock, spoke of her new duties in helping to get pertinent matters posted on social media. We are very happy for her help.

Chair of Show, Carla Lacey, spoke of the need for assistance during that event and of how well the show is filling up.

VP of Programs, Carmen Sorenson, introduced this month's speaker, Deborah Bartlett, who showed examples of different glass techniques. She will be teaching some of those skills in upcoming classes. Very informative and enticing to those who like to work in glass!

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Lacey

Bench Tips by Brad Smith

DRILLING SMALL ITEMS

Small pieces need to be held securely while drilling to prevent them from spinning if the drill catches. Having sliced my fingers occasionally in my younger days, I avoid band-aids now by using flat-jaw pliers or a ring clamp. Pliers also save you if the piece gets hot. Put a little tape over plier jaws if needed to avoid scratches.



DRILLING A STONE

One of the things my students often ask to do is drill a hole through a piece of gemstone. The usual thought is to get a diamond drill, but I've been disappointed with them. I think the reason is that the tip of the drill is just pivoting in the hole and fails to cut well. When it looks like the drill isn't cutting, the tendency is to push with more force. The drill gets hot, and the diamond grit falls off.

A much better approach is to use a core drill. This is a small hollow tube with a coating of diamond grit at the

business end. The diamonds easily carve out a circular arc without undue pressure or heat buildup.

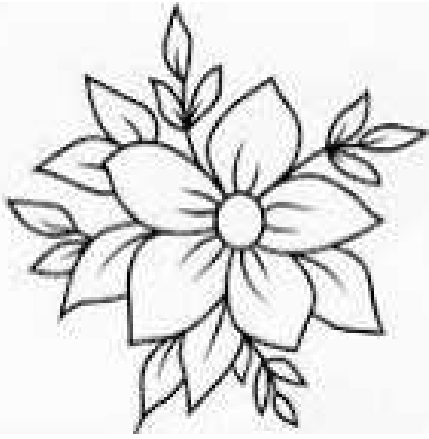
Core drills are readily available from lapidary and jewelry supply companies. They come in sizes as small as 1mm and are very reasonable in price. For instance, a 2mm diameter drill is about \$6.

Chuck the core drill in a drill press, Dremel or Foredom and be sure to keep the drilling zone wet to cool the tool and to flush out debris. Also, if you're drilling a through hole, ease up on the pressure as the drill is about to cut through. Otherwise you may chip off some of the stone surface around the hole.



See More of my Smart Solutions for
Jewelry Making Series

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



Glass Activity

We recently concluded another session of our stained glass class, and as always, the finished projects were impressive in both creativity and craftsmanship. Each student brought something unique to the table, resulting in a diverse collection of thoughtful and well-executed pieces. A sincere thank-you goes to Tina for her steady guidance and expertise—her ability to support students at all skill levels continues to make these classes both accessible and rewarding. If you're considering exploring stained glass work, I highly recommend taking a class with her. She is an extremely skilled and creative glass crafter and we are lucky that she has been willing to dedicate so much of her time and talent over the years teaching to these classes for us.

Web and Email Addresses

GMG main page

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

Registration page

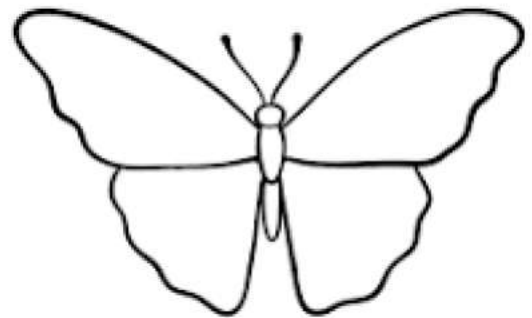
<http://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/registration/>

Newsletter

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

Link to Facebook

<HTTPS://www.facebook.com/CERAFortworth>



Classes

Dear GM&G Club Members,

There are three classes scheduled for May as of this writing, all beginning the first week of May.

- Doublets and Triplets: One four-hour class on Saturday, May 3rd. Instructor: David Dudich (Full)
- Faceting 101: Wednesday night class, runs eight weeks, starts May 7th. Instructor: Robert Reed (1 opening)
- This class covers the techniques for cutting precious

gemstones.

- Intro to Fused Glass: Kiln Forming Basics: Wednesday night class, runs four weeks, starts May 7th. Instructor: Deborah Bartlett (1 opening)
- This introductory class is part of a series aimed at expanding knowledge of glass fusing. Future classes will teach additional skills to aid in personal creations. Should you have any questions or suggestions feel free to reach out to me or let's chat at the monthly meeting. Sharon

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.