



CERA GEM  
MINERAL & GLASS

Publication of CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club  
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association  
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Secretary  
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**Program presented by Carmen Sorenson**

You are invited to attend and participate in learning and/or contributing to the vast storehouse of information regarding agates. Find out what they are, their basic formation, a brief history of their significance, and see the beauty of their myriad patterns and designs.

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

Our shop has been full with classes and members working on glass, metals, casting and rock working. Be sure to check out the classes each month. Some new things are coming. You don't want to miss them.

I'm excited to hear about the field trip to Oregon and Nevada and the adventures of our gem and mineral club members. I know several are taking the time to make it a month long trip (and more) working their way to Oregon and back. I'm sure they will have a lot of new lapidary material to tell us about and show examples.

I just returned from a wonderful few days with my family visiting Montana and Wyoming. We have been doing a family trip every year around Memorial Day and everyone was able to attend except one granddaughter who just started an Internship for the summer.

This was my first trip to Montana and Yellowstone National Park. What we saw was amazing, and yet we missed a lot of the park as our time was limited. I did a little rock hunting as I do anytime there are rocks around. Nothing to bring home and cut, but it was fun to see the local geology, watch the creeks run full and powerful as they take the snowmelt into the Yellowstone River. And the "wild" life is amazing to watch. I think we'll have another trip into Yellowstone in the not too distant future.

We live in an amazing world. Hope you have time to travel to see a part of the world that is different this summer.

Carole Jean (CJ) Wright  
President

## Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem Mineral & Glass members:

Summer is starting to heat up, and many areas of our club are really starting to pick up! Planning for the 2nd Annual Panther City Expo is in full swing. Please reach out to Show Chair Carla Lacey, our President CJ, or me if you are willing to help with the show. Show postcards were distributed at the Fort Worth show on Memorial Day weekend, and again at Dallas Intergem. Carla also has some additional postcards for distribution. Signs are being ordered, T-shirt stock is being replenished, Point of Sale (POS) tablet is being set up with CERA Accounting Department, and many other details.

Club news runs the gamut. We made over \$1,000 in the May auction. There are now silversmithing tool kits available to rent for upcoming classes. There is also an

inventory of glass that may be purchased based on weight to make various glass projects. We are also starting to offer new and more frequent classes.

**SPECIAL REQUEST** - We need old pillowcases to help reclaim oil from the muck buckets in the saw room. David Dudich has shared a reclamation method that uses pillowcases. Please contribute if you have any. Reclaiming cutting oil saves club money on buying more oil more frequently and it makes the sludge waste safer for the environment during disposal.

As always, I appreciate all you do to help our club thrive. I look forward to seeing everyone at the next club meeting.

Best Regards,  
Robert Reed  
CERA Gem Mineral & Glass Commissioner



Sharon



Briana



Trisha

## Stained Glass Foil Method Class Projects

Agate is formed within lava and is mainly found around areas with high volcanic activity, such as mountain ranges and where tectonic plates have collided. Today, some of the largest Agate deposits come from Uruguay and Brazil, but other varieties are found in China, India, Australia, Madagascar, Namibia, Mexico and the USA.



## CERA Gem, Mineral, and Glass Club Minutes May, 2025

C.J. Wright, President, gavelled the meeting to order. We had 32 attendees including 2 new members, Aubrey and Jarrod.

Robert Reed, Commissioner, discussed the budget. The new Silversmithing classes will have kits that the participants can rent as approved by the Board.

Sharon Williams, VP of Classes, spoke of the Doublet and Triplet class that David D. was holding this weekend with thanks, Faceting 101 is complete with a new class set to start Wednesday. Faceting 201 will occur later this summer. In the planning stages is a glass class and a petroglyph class.

Gina Koenig, VP of Field Trips, spoke of the upcoming trip to Oregon in June. Other outings are in the planning stages.

Colleen Reigh, Newsletter Editor, needs articles and

pictures of current events.

Felice Moreno, VP of GlassCrafters, spoke of several classes in the works and how successful the current classes are.

Carla Lacey, Show Chair, said that the Labor Day venue was full and there are several vendors on a waiting list. Also, there will be an opportunity for the members to have tables in the hall to sell their wares. Ideas for increasing interest in new membership during the show was widely discussed.

Carmen Sorenson, VP of Programs, introduced the Auction as the main event of the meeting. Also, she asked about interest in future programs on agate formation.

The Auction commenced with lively participation. Many upscale specimens were offered.

Respectfully submitted,

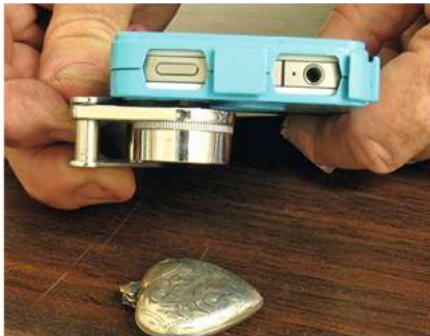
Carla Lacey

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## Bench Tips by Brad Smith

### QUICK CLOSE-UPS

Often when trying to get a close-up photo with your iPhone or Android, you can't magnify it enough or end up with a fuzzy, out-of-focus image. Next time try using your loupe over the camera lens. It works quickly and easily.



### LITTLE BALLS

I often use little balls of silver and gold as accent pieces on my designs. They can be made as needed from pieces of scrap. Cut the scrap into little pieces, put them on a solder pad and melt them with a torch. Then throw the balls into a small cup of pickle.

If you need to make all the balls the same size, you need

the same amount of metal to melt each time. The best way to do that is to clip equal lengths of wire.

But there's an easier way to get a good supply of balls. Some casting grain comes in near perfect ball form. Just grab your tweezers and pick out the ones you need. Or if you need larger quantities of balls, pour the casting grain out onto a baking pan, tilt the pan a bit, and let all the round ones roll to the bottom. Bag the good ones, and pour the rest back into your bag for casting. Balls can be sorted into different sizes using multiple screens.



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. Felice

## Classes

Hello Gem, Mineral and Glass Members,

We are pleased to announce the following June classes:

Silversmithing 101 – Instructor: Paige Pauley

Dates: June 2nd - June 4th, 6pm to 9pm

We are delighted to have Paige Pauley, an established jewelry artist, instruct this class. She will teach beginner smithing using a butane torch. Students will create two rings. Supplies and cabochons are provided.

Tool Rental: We now offer a beginner tool package for rent in silversmithing classes, perfect for students without tools or those not ready to invest.

Intro to Fused Glass: Kiln Forming Basics – Instructor: Deb Barlett

Dates: June 11th – July 9th, Wednesdays, 6pm to 9pm (excluding July 2nd)

This is Deb Barlett's second class to teach at CERA. The first

class was well-received and we anticipate more inspired glass artists in the studio. This class students will create test tiles to understand the effects of heat and complete two 4" glass tiles. All supplies are provided.

General Lapidary – Instructor: Paige Pauley

Dates: June 24th – June 26th, 6pm to 9pm

This three-day intensive class will introduce students to the trim saws, Covington combination grinder, sander, and polishing machines. Students will complete the class with 2 cabochons. Supplies are provided.

Open Shop Night:

Every Thursday night, 6pm to 9pm

Daniel, Felice, and I will be available to assist with your projects. If you have taken a class and require assistance with a project or equipment, we are in the shop on Thursday nights.

Sharon

## 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>

## 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.