



CGMG News

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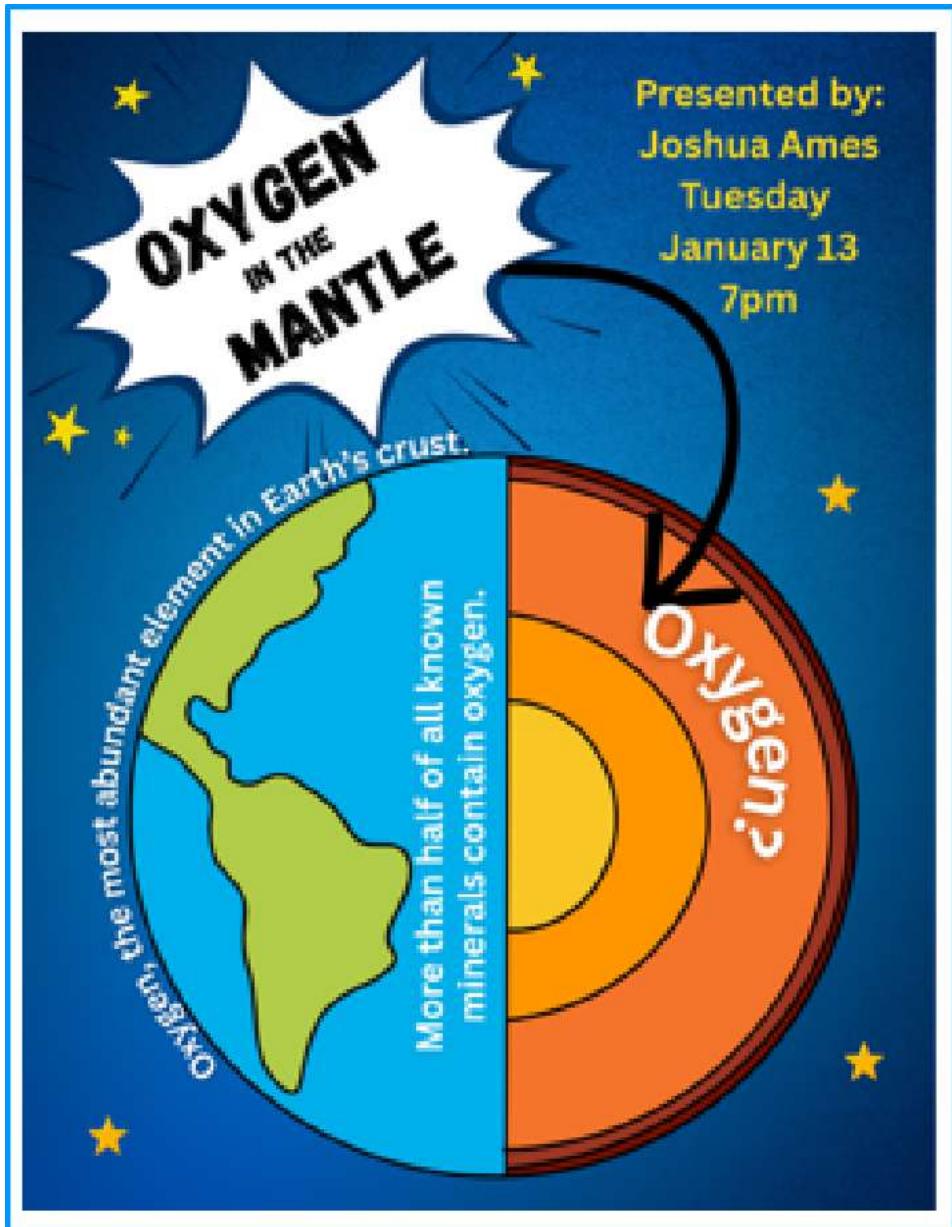
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The Purpose of the CERA Gem Mineral & Glass Activity

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

! What do you want to do this new year?

Each new year presents a new slate to decide how you want to fill your leisure time. Don't spend it on routine - nothing to show for it - things. Learn something new. Start a new venture. Exercise your creative side. Set some goals to achieve. Not just big ambitious goals, but little steps to achieve that bigger goal. And then enjoy what you create!

Check out our classes for the first quarter. They are posted online as soon as Sharon, our busy VP of Classes has a time, date and teacher for the class. So check the classes frequently as a new one may just show up that you'll miss if you don't look.

Have you been heard saying, "I'd like to be able to do that,"? Or had others tell you that they wish they could do that. We all had to start somewhere. And we all learned from seeing what other make or how they made it.

Make 2026 the year you actually do it or teach it. It is always fun to learn something that results in a piece of jewelry, a piece of decor in stained glass or fused glass. And there's nothing like seeing a rock that just looks like a "rock" taking shape as a beautiful piece of polished gem material. Watching someone learn something new,

amazed that they actually produced something to be proud of is often as rewarding as doing it yourself.

The reason we can offer new classes in our gem and mineral club is that someone is willing to share what they know. Talk to Sharon, offer a class and teach the rest of us. We can always learn a new technique and practice doing things a different way with a new outlook.

Maybe you know how, but just need a gentle nudge to do that project you've been wanting to do. You know how but just haven't started. Consider this a nudge or even a challenge for you to do it now. I'm anxious to see what you, and all our members like to do. Let the rest of us see your ideas come to life.

Your excitement encourages the rest of us. Make 2026 about sharing and learning new things. Let's all share and brag about what we create. All those rocks in your stash....They are just waiting to show you what's inside. How can you resist? Do it now!

Now where did I put that piece of Royston turquoise? My daughter has been waiting more than a year for me to make it into a pendant for her.....

C J Wright
President
CERA GMG



Commissioner's Report

Hello, Gem, Mineral & Glass Members.

Happy New Year everyone! I am looking forward to spending another active and enjoyable year with all of you.

Last month offered our traditional Holiday party. A special thank you to Charles and Jan Graham for providing the delicious hams and turkeys and to Carmen Sorenson for rounding out the planning, food, and the gift exchange game, and to Jack and Colleen Reigh for bringing club gifts. I really enjoyed myself and tried to make my way around to speak to everyone.

Thank you to Sharon Wilson for Chairing the Nominating Committee. We will hold officer elections during the January 13, 2026 Club meeting. We welcome other club members to step up and volunteer for an office or help in any capacity you are willing to provide. Some ideas are teaching classes, leading field trips, show

planning and preparation, donations, and shop clean up and repair. The opportunities are endless. I personally get the most enjoyment when I see us working together.

For those of you that remember Helen (Orr) Nevot, I had a nice visit with her on January 3, 2026. She has been in and out of the hospital and is happy to be back at home. During the visit, I took a donation from Helen for the club. She has donated an All-U-Need Flat lap machine, a Raytech Shaw faceting machine, assorted faceting rough and other lapidary rough and supplies. I will be making at least one more visit to pick up some additional donations.

All that said, I am excited to have another rewarding year in fellowship with you all!

Happy New Year,

Robert Reed
Commissioner
CERA Gem, Mineral, and Glass Activity

Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

FLEXSHAFT MAINTENANCE

If you have a Foredom flexshaft, it makes sense to check it over every so often to be sure it's running properly. But how to do that? You've probably lost the little booklet that came with the unit. Well, being the good company it is, Foredom has put together an extensive set of instructions on how to do everything.

The series covers set-up, lubrication, replacing a sheath, motor maintenance, and hand piece maintenance. Few if any special tools are needed. You can access it at <https://www.foresom.net/product-category/maintenance-and-replacement-parts/>.

Any repair parts needed are available from the Foredom site or from many jewelry supply catalogs. If you have any question about their products, a phone call or an email will get quick answers.



JUST A DROP

Hobby shops and model airplane stores carry small plastic dispenser bottles that are handy for putting a drop of flux, oil, or glue just where you want it. They have a length of small metal tubing coming out the top that lets you squeeze out very small drops.

I use one with a short length of tubing for oil when I'm sawing or when drilling harder metals like steel. Another bottle I found in a plastics store has a longer length of metal tubing on it. Plastics people use them for dispensing fast drying glues to join pieces of acrylic. The long metal tube lets you reach into tight places. Either of these is handy for flux at the soldering station.



See More of my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making at

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



Glass Activity

There are a couple of interesting glass classes coming up. Intro to Fused Glass I have mentioned before, but if you are interested in fusing or have a little bit of experience I can't recommend this class enough. Deb has a ton of experience a lot really great ideas. If you took beginning fusing with me this really is a completely different class.

The other class is Reactive Glass. Debra Limbocker talked about this during one of our meetings. This when the chemicals in two pieces of glass react and cause something interesting to happen, like a halo, or a color shift. This is a really cool combination of glass fusing and chemistry. Debra has some really neat pieces she has made.

Both classes have all materials provided.

I also want to let everyone know that I've decided to step down as vice president of glass. Serving in this role has been a great, and while it wasn't an easy decision to make, I'm excited to see the fresh ideas and energy that new leadership will bring.

I've truly loved working with all of you. From planning events to solving the unexpected 'hiccups' along the way, I've been inspired by the heart and talent this club possesses. I'm proud of what we've built together.

I may be moving on from my leadership position, but I'm staying right here as a member. I can't wait to support the next vice president and continue being part of the team. Thank you for the opportunity to serve—it has been a true honor.

Felice

Classes

Happy New Year!

As we welcome 2026, the CERA website features an exciting lineup of classes for the first quarter. The schedule includes core class offerings: Silversmithing, General Lapidary, and Introduction to Fused Glass.

New Class Offerings In January

In addition to the core classes, there are several new opportunities for skill development currently available. On January 19, a new 6-week skill builder class focusing on Wax Carving and Casting begins. This course will be taught by instructors Logan Crawford and Daniel Carpenter and is designed to help students build and refine their skills.

In Lapidary, there will be a two-hour Big Saw Class on Saturday, January 17. This class is taught by David Dudich and is ideal for members who have large rocks they would like to learn how to cut. This class will clear you to use the 20" big saws.

For those interested in glasswork, a special 3-day Reactive Glass Exploration Workshop is scheduled to start on January 26. Led by Debra Limbocker, this workshop offers participants a chance to explore new techniques and expand their creative abilities in glass art.

More detailed information about each class is available on the CERA website.

Sharon

CGM&GlassMinutes December, 2025

Robert called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for joining us at our Christmas party. He thanked Charles and Jan Graham for cooking the meat for us and all the great sides and desserts our members brought.

Sharon was named Chair of the nominating committee and Elections for 2026 officers would be held at the January meeting. Robert encouraged anyone interested in an officer or chair position to let Sharon know. He then turned the program over to Carmen for the gift exchange.

Area Clubs

Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Ave, Fort Worth, TX; forth Tuesday 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.

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 Geotchnology Institute, 3939 Valley

View Lane; second Wednesday at 7:30.

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.

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>



*Happy 2026
from all the officers of our
CERA GMG Club!*