



# CGMG News

Publication of **CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**  
Member of Corporate Employee Recreation Association  
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## AGTA Dynamic Seminar Series: The Science of Origin Determination

**You are invited to attend our April 14  
meeting and learn how experts  
determine the origin of minerals  
and faceted stones.**



### *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

Welcome CERA members to April! The time for spring cleaning.

Are you like me, when the weather gets that beautiful warm spring air you just have to be outside? That leads to gardening, shed cleaning, garage cleaning and seeing just how much rock, gem and mineral stuff you have collected through the years.

As each year passes, I get a little more selective, ok, a lot more selective, about what I buy or what I keep when on a field trip. And now I have all this material that I'll never use because I brought too much back, have used all I'll ever need or just have too much of one kind of rock.

I want to recover some of that space taken up by too-much-stuff. So why not share?

Now is the time to get your stash ready for our spring Gem, Mineral and Rock sale at our regular meeting in May. Share by keeping half of the proceeds or donate to the club for the sale. Let's make this a fun sale with lots of great material members want to buy. I have Llanite, serpentine, chalcedony, some fire agate, lots of great colorful agates, some Walker Ranch agates and lots more. What can you bring that is reminiscent of previous field trips? My shed is looking better already and I have the whole month of April to clean our more.

How about stealing some of the other club's ideas and having our own parking lot sale? You would keep all the proceeds of the parking lot sale. Any takers? Let's talk about it at the next meeting - maybe an April Saturday?

Classes! Classes! More Classes! They fill fast. We have first time offered classes, new teachers and repeat classes are very popular. Logan is teaching his second wax carving and casting

class that started in March. Brad's mold making class filled quickly, the new glass fusing class offered by Megan is filled. Deb and Debra teach beginning, intermediate and advanced glass classes. The lapidary classes always fill and we have a new teacher, Susan, who is helping Paige. Do you know that you can put yourself on the waiting list when a class is full? Try it; we sometimes have cancellations. Silversmithing taught by Paige and Sharon is offered frequently, so if you miss this month, register for next month. And our first time offered class in Navajo pearl beads will be taught by Barbara Betts. Be sure to check the website at [/CERA-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/registration/](http://CERA-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/home/registration/) for the classes that are posted. And while you are online, check the calendar ( maintained by Felice) on the GMG home page. You can check the calendar to see what is scheduled at the shop if you plan to use it. You don't want to drive to the shop just to find that the lapidary, torches or other equipment you wanted to use is being used by a class.

It is wonderful to see the shop so active! If you've never stopped in on a Thursday night, you might just want to stop and visit to see what is going on. Daniel will likely be there with other teachers and club members may be working on their own projects. You just never know what is going on Thursday nights....but it is always fun!

We are not just a club, but an active artist community that centers around gems, minerals, glass, rocks and working with metals... Don't miss out on this community! Join us and as members you have access to the open shops and lots of friends with common interests.

Proud to be your GMG President!

Carole Jean (CJ) Wright



## Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem, Mineral & Glass Members.

With the Spring months upon us, the weather is getting good enough for field trips. We currently have a vacancy for the club Vice-President of Field Trips. If you are willing to step up, the officer and I would really appreciate your joining us. There is information available including history, points of contact and ideas that have not yet been completed. New field trips are always welcome. Please reach out to me or one of the officers if you would like more information.

Thank you to Janice Bowen for agreeing to be Show Chair for the 3rd Annual Panther City Expo this coming Labor Day Weekend. Janice has a wealth of knowledge and experiences she brings from the shows put on by Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club. We also have resources and history from Carla Lacey, Carmen Sorenson, CJ Wright and me to make sure we have a good show this year. That said, we still

need club volunteers to help run the show. Please feel free to step up and help us. It is work, but also a lot of fun.

Some of the officers and I have engaged the Pottery club regarding the patio space outside the saw room roll-up door. We are growing so much, that our shop floor space has become a premium. We are looking for ideas on how to reorganize and change our footprint to allow for more equipment one idea is to move one of the glass kilns to the patio area. Another is to move one or more of the larger saws to the patio. We can also look at inefficient storage and potentially selling off low usage items to make room for things that are used more frequently. Please share your ideas with the officers.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next club meeting on April 14th.

Best Regards, Robert Reed

Gem, Mineral & Glass Commissioner

## CGM&Glass Minutes Feb. 10, 2026

Sign-in Door Prizes; Attendees were reminded to sign the attendance sheet to be eligible for the door prize.

### 1. New Member Introductions

Joe Turpin (Granbury): long time roc collector with experience in Wyoming; looking to learn lapidary skills.

Patricia: a former geology student looking to reconnect with the hobby and meet people with similar interests.

### 2. Officer and Committee Reports

Commissioner:

Robert is out but asked CJ to remind everyone about the Auction in May. It will be in the Trinity Ballroom. The club retains 50% of sales, members keep 50% or can choose to donate 100% to the club for shop supplies and show expenses.

Secretary:

The minutes from the previous meeting were published in the newsletter. Motion: to approve the minutes as written moved, seconded and approved.

Show Committee:

Janice Bowen has been appointed the the Show Chair. Kevin and Cindy Guiles will assist: Kevin will become more active after his coin show in April. Venue Update: The club decided to stay in the current smaller venue for now rather than moving to the basket ball court due to flooring concerns and logistics.

### 3. Education & Classes:

Glass/Jewelry (VP Glass)

Mother's Day Jewelry Class: Scheduled for the first Saturday

Hello GM&G Members,

## CLASSES

We are excited to announce that there are a couple of new one-day classes being offered in April, along with our core classes listed below. This is a great opportunity to try something new or continue building your skills.

\*New Class\*

Fused Glass Cheese Board class on Saturday, April 18th, 3-hrs. Instructor, Deb Bartlett – space is limited.

This class provides a wonderful opportunity to make a Mother's Day gift or to spend quality time with your mother creating cheese boards and lasting memories

Fused Glass II: Advanced Kiln Forming, Wed. evening, April 22nd, 4-wks. Instructor, Deb Bartlett

This course is designed as the next step after Intro to Fused Glass. Participants will explore advanced techniques including pattern bars, kiln carving, and other sophisticated fused glass methods.

Smithing/Lapidary Classes

\*New Class\*

Copper Navajo Pearl Bead Workshop, Saturday, April 18th, 6-hrs. Instructor, Barbara Betts (new member/instructor) – There is only one space available.

Participants will learn the basics of Navajo bead construction, including shaping and finishing. Each student will assemble a completed necklace to take home. Proficiency in soldering is required and all

and May,

Optics Class: To be taught by Megan (instructor for SiNaCa).  
Open Studio: Held every Thursday; help is available from Debra and Felice.

Lapidary & Silversmithing:

Navajo Bead Class (a 6-hour one-day class) and Molding Making are scheduled for April.

Wax Casting begins next week,

Basic silversmithing and lapidary classes are on the calendar each month.

### 4. Shop & Studio Updates:

The shop now has three chairs. Daniel overseeing Thursday nights. David Dudich managing large saws and oil recycling. Susan Healy maintaining smaller saws.

Activity: Recent Open Shop nights have seen high turnout (approx. 18 people), including glass work and casting classes.

New Business & Announcements:

Glass Area will hold a Studio Day to create glass projects for sale in the front showcase. Concerns were raised regarding security. Members were advised to verify and the front desk if the case is locked.

5. Field Trip position remains vacant. Members interested in coordinating and arranging field trips should contact an officer.

Newsletter: Members are encouraged to send hobby-related articles and photos to Colleen. Debra, Secretary

supplies are provided.

Mold Making, Tuesday evenings, April 21st – June 2nd, Instructor, Brad Sigley

This class covers two primary methods: room temperature vulcanizing (RTV) materials and silicone mold rubber set in a vulcanizer. \*The class is currently full, but another session is being planned.\*

General Lapidary, Tues – Thur., evenings, April 21st - 23rd, Instructor, Susan Healy (new instructor/Shop Supervisor)

Students will learn how to transform a rock or slab into a round cabochon, utilizing small saws, the Covington combination grinder, sander, and polishing machines.

Silversmithing 101, Mon-Wed evenings, May 18th - 20th, Instructor, Paige Pauley

In this course, you will learn how to solder while creating a piece of jewelry.

Open Shop Night continues every Thursday from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in the shop. This is a great opportunity to work on class projects, personal projects, practice new skills, and connect with fellow members.

Please remember to double-check if a class is in session in the area you plan to use.

Sharon Williams  
Education CERA GM&G

# Bench Tips

by Brad Smith

## CUTOFF WHEELS

Cutoff wheels, also called separating discs, are inexpensive and do a great job cutting or shaping steel. You can use them to sharpen tool points, cut piano wire to length, make slots and sharpen worn drills. Other uses include modifying pliers and making your own design stamps.



My preference is one inch diameter size. Be sure to hold the wheel firmly so nothing moves to break the disc, and definitely wear your safety glasses. Those are little flakes of steel coming off the disc.

BTW - Cutoff wheels are not as good as cutting soft metals like copper, silver and gold. They will work, but soft metals tend to clog up the cutting edges.

## DEBURRING JUMP RINGS

When cutting jump rings from large gauge wire for chain making, you'll notice the saw leaves small burrs. An easy way to remove these is to tumble the rings with some fine-cut pyramids. It is best not to tumble for a long period because it tends to remove the polished finish from the wire.

No tumbler, no problem. You don't actually need one. I just put a handful of pyramids in a wide mouth plastic jar and shake for a bit. You can find pyramids in the tumble finishing section of most jewelry supply catalogs.

Happy hammering,

[BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com](mailto:BradSmithJewelry@gmail.com)

See More of my Smart Solutions for Jewelry Making at  
<http://amazon.com/dp/B0BQ8YVLTJ>



## 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.

**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 Geotechnology 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.