



# CGMG News

Publication of **CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club**  
Member of **Corporate Employee Recreation Association**  
3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109  
Volume XXVIII • Issue 6 June, 2026

Commissioner  
Robert Reed  
robert.t.reed@lmco.com

President  
CJ Wright  
505 239-5711  
cjzwright@icloud.com

Vice-President, Programs  
Program Graphics  
Carmen Sorenson  
817-528-8297

Vice-President, Field Trips  
Open Position

Vice-President, Education  
Sharon Williams  
214-616-8410  
srwms4@yahoo.com

Vice-President, Glass  
Deborah Bartlett  
debbartlett02@gmail.com  
612-578-8893

Newsletter Editor  
Colleen Reigh  
colleenreigh@att.net

Secretary  
Debra Limbocker  
debralinbocker@gmail.com  
817-629-3045

## BLUE FOREST PETRIFIED WOOD

Presented by Bob Boyd  
Hunting Blue Forest Petrified wood near Kemmerer, Wyoming.



You dig and you dig...

And sometimes you  
get this...



June 9 6:45 Social Time 7:00 Meeting

## Panther City Expo

Presented by CERA Gem Mineral & Glass Club  
September 5-6, 2026

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare and work the day of the show. There are many ways to help out. **See Page 5** for details!!

### ***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

Do you get bored on the hot days of summer? The 90 degree-plus days are coming this week. And how can you get bored when you are a CERA Gem, Mineral and Glass member?

Check the classes. Have you been putting off the Lapidary class, wondered about stained glass or fused glass, want to improve silversmithing skills, or just want to start or finish those projects on your mind? This is the time. If you have a workshop at home, start on cool mornings or join a class for a new or advanced skill. The glass and silversmithing shop are air conditioned and the lapidary shop is cool in the morning.

Do you realize how fortunate we are to be able to come to the shop during the day if you've finished the beginner class in that area. You do not need to wait until there is a teacher or officer present. Just be sure that you understand the safety practices and expectations of CERA GMG for use of the shop. I'm currently in four GMG clubs. None of the others allow all day, nearly unlimited (except when classes are in session) use of the shop. Most require a member or officer to oversee the shop when it is open, even if you've had a class. Many of the clubs in our country do not even have a shop; certainly not one equipped like the CERA shop.

So why are you bored? You don't have to be. Take a class. Check out what is posted online. There are some new classes, not offered before or in recent years. Teach a class. Most of you have skills that other members would love to learn.



## Commissioner's Report

Fellow Gem, Mineral & Glass Members.

Please help the officers out if you have any ideas field trips. We currently have a vacancy for the club Vice-President of Field Trips. If you are willing to step up, the Officers and I would really appreciate you volunteering for the position. Even if you cannot serve as an officer, if you are willing to organize or lead a field trip, we would appreciate that support also.

We have another volunteer opportunity to help with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Panther City Expo. This show is coming Labor Day Weekend – set up on Friday, 9/4 with the show itself on Saturday 9/5 and Sunday 9/6. Janice Bowen is our show chair and has a wealth of knowledge and experiences she brings from the shows put on by the Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club. We also have resources and history for Carla Lacey, Carmen Sorenson, CJ Wright and me to make sure we have a good show this

Bring another member with you and enjoy the quiet of the shop during the day. What can you do? Cut some stones, shop your stash and find some that are gathering dust. Design a stained glass project or a fused glass pendant, sun-catcher, tray or bowl. Have a silversmithing project that you want to make or you started but haven't finished. You learned wax carving, and casting now do some on your own. Just need a place to hang out for a few hours? Try our Thursday night open shop when others are there. See what they are working on. Have fun socializing with other members.

Make your own field trip. It may be too hot to try West Texas, but there are a lot of places nearby to enjoy your day. Visit some of DFW's attractions:

Monnig Meteor Museum at TCU • Perot Museum In Dallas • Empressive Earth Galley in Design District of Dallas • Don Slater's Nature's Gallery on the square in Carrollton • Rock Barrel in North Dallas

Carpool to one of the club shows that are coming this summer: Arlington's Show in Grapevine -June 13/14 • East Texas Gem and Mineral Society - Tyler, TX - June 27/28 • CERA GMG's Panther City Expo Labor Day Weekend - Sept 5/6

Lead a field trip out-of-state on your vacation. Take others on a trip with various stops on the way, or plan fee-to-dig spots and others can fly out to meet you.

Now why are you bored? Be the inspiration for someone. Or let other members inspire you!

Hot weather doesn't stop us from creating beautiful items in our shop. Enjoy the summer.

Carole Jean (CJ) Wright Your GMG President

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 it is also a lot of fun.

The Grow Committee has had its first meeting and will meet again just before the next monthly meeting. There are many good suggestions that have already been made. The focus is more efficiently using floor space, selling low use or no longer needed equipment and expanding floorspace to allow for growth. We are also looking at equipment and supplies needed for ongoing and new classes. A report will be made to the membership at the next meeting. I look forward to seeing you all at the next club meeting on June 9th.

Best Regards, Robert Reed  
Gem, Mineral & Glass Commissioner

## CGM&Glass Minutes Feb. 10, 2026

### CERA Monthly Meeting Highlights

The CERA meeting opened with a warm welcome to new attendees and a round of introductions. We had several new members and visitors: Megan, Barbara, Tim, Chance and Ethan. Members were encouraged to connect with others to learn more about shop activities. We have an open shop night every Thursday evening from 6–9. There is always someone there to help out with projects. Regular Thursday night shop participants were recognized for their continued involvement and positive energy.

### Commissioner's Report

The commissioner reported that materials and supply orders for the shop are currently being organized to replenish inventory. Members who have submitted receipts for reimbursement should reach out if payments have not yet been received. No major updates were reported from the board at this time.

A significant update involved shop space planning. The board determined that, due to space constraints, pottery will have first opportunity to use the patio area outside the rollup door. In response, the club has formed a spaceplanning committee, chaired by Sharon, with several members participating. The committee will meet soon to evaluate low usage equipment that may be sold to both generate revenue and free up space. Expansion ideas, including potential use of outdoor areas near the front entry, will be explored and later presented to the board. Members with ideas or concerns were invited to share them with any board or committee member (Sharon, Deb, Carmen, Susan, Robert and CJ).

### Secretary's Report

The meeting minutes were presented as published in the newsletter and approved by member vote. Members were again encouraged to regularly review the newsletter, which is typically posted about a week before meetings on the CERA website, as it contains important updates on meetings, shop news, and upcoming classes.

### Vice President of Classes Update

An overview of upcoming classes was provided, with members reminded that the newsletter and the website calendar are the primary sources for class information. Announced classes include:

- Stepping Stone Class: Beginning June 4, running for three

Thursday evenings.

- Silversmithing Class: Scheduled to begin June 15. May has been cancelled.

- Copper Navajo Pearl Necklace Class: A Saturday class planned for July.

- Lapidary class offered in May.

- Fused Glass Offerings: Including refractive glass and bubble techniques, “glassket” bowls, mica powder techniques, mesh melt projects, and future classes using liquid glass powders to create custom patterns.

Some classes are already full, and members were encouraged to join waitlists to help determine demand for additional sessions. Volunteers interested in teaching wirewrapping, enameling or other techniques were invited to Sharon.

There was a request to add stained glass to the website page, the CERA Ways to Play Newsletter, and our Newsletter to make sure we are also promoting that area in addition to fused glass. Sharon will take care of this.

### Newsletter Reminder

Members were asked to read the newsletter regularly and submit any announcements, photos, or items of interest by the first Monday of each month to ensure inclusion. Submissions related to member work, upcoming events, or club related news are always welcome. Colleen will also post an ad for any hobby related item you would like to sell.

### Show Chair

Janice said she will be focusing on our show after Memorial Day. She sent a list around for sign ups to help prop items in June and July, to help set up, to help during the show, and to help tear down the show. Please sign up even if you aren't sure of what days you are available. This will help Janice know that she has willing volunteers.

### Shop Report

All the equipment is working except the 24” saw. We are waiting for some replacement parts and new equipment to be ordered.

The meeting concluded with thanks to volunteers, instructors, and committee members for their ongoing contributions to keeping CERA active, informative, and engaging for all members.

Debra Limbocker

## CLASSES

Dear GM&G Club Members,  
We have a great lineup of classes for the summer and we're excited to share what's available in June!

### GLASS CLASSES

#### Intro to Fused Glass: Kiln Forming Basics

Four weekly Wednesday evening sessions starting June 3rd. Learn the fundamentals of kiln-formed glass from the ground up.

#### Stained Glass: Stepping Stone

Three consecutive Thursday evenings starting June 4th. A hands-on stained glass project class for members looking to build their skills.

#### Glass Stringer Illusions & Bubble Control — One Day, June 15

A fun, technique-focused one-day class exploring stringer design and bubble effects in fused glass.

#### Glass Basket Bowl Method — One Day, June 20

Create a beautiful basket-style glass bowl in this one-day session — a great project class for all skill levels.

### SILVERSMITHING & LAPIDARY

#### Silversmithing 101: Beginner Soldering with a Butane Torch

Starts June 15th, Monday–Wednesday evening.

Students will learn to set a cabochon, solder with a butane torch, and apply finishing techniques — all while creating their own handcrafted pendant. A prerequisite for more in-depth silversmithing courses.

#### General Lapidary Class

Starts June 15th, Monday–Wednesday evening.

Clears you to use certain machinery and is a prerequisite for advanced lapidary work. Students will learn to cut, shape, and polish two cabochons to take home.

#### Silversmithing – Skill Building Class: The Art of the Cuff

Starts June 22nd.

A new seven-week class designed to help students develop their jewelry making techniques and develop their own voice. Techniques covered:

- Forming and shaping a cuff
- Tube stone setting
- Setting a cabochon
- Sweat soldering
- Embellishments with decorative details

Check CERA's registration page for more details and you can always reach out to me for more information.

Warm regards, Sharon Williams

CERA GM&G VP Education



W  
A  
X

C  
A  
R  
V  
I  
N  
G



C  
L  
A  
S  
S



# Bench Tips by Brad Smith

## FANCY RIVET HEADS

For a nice looking rivet head, use brass escutcheon pins. You'll have perfectly rounded heads that are all the same size and shape. The pins are a little hard to find, so try the best hardware stores first. Be sure to get solid brass pins, not brass plated steel. If unsure, test them with a magnet.

The pins are readily available online. Lee Valley Tools has them in 14 - 18 gauge and lengths from 1/4 inch to 1 inch. Go to <http://www.LeeValley.com> and do an item search on "brass escutcheon pin"

For best results, select a drill that gives you a hole with a close fit to the rivet. Trim the rivet to leave a little less than one diameter sticking out the back side. Place the head on a scrap of hard plastic on the anvil so as to not flatten the head. I prefer a ball peen hammer (with a small 3/8 inch ball) for setting the rivet.



## EASIER PRONG SETTING

When setting stones in a prong mount, the tool is less likely to slip off the prong if you grind a shallow groove into its face or rough up the face a bit with sandpaper. Some folks prefer a prong pusher for doing this, and others like a set of pliers with a slight groove on one jaw.

The easiest way to create a slot on the pusher is with a file, and the quickest way to create a slot on one jaw of your pliers is with a separating disc. Then do a rough polish on the slot with a medium grit, knife-edge silicone wheel.



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

## Panther City Expo

09/05 - 09/06/2026

Hours: Sat 9-6; Sun 10-4

Venue: CERA Recreation Complex

We are looking for volunteers to help prepare and work the day of the show. There are many ways to help out.

- \* In June, inventory show items and prep items for silent auction.
  - \* This summer, attending another GM Show? Take postcards to hand out.
  - \* In August, hand out postcards to local businesses.
  - \* Friday, Sept 4th - Setup day, help club and vendors load in and setup.
  - \* Sept 5-6, 2026 - Show days, lots of volunteers needed to work silent auction, member demos, shop tours, etc.
  - \* Sunday, Sept 6 - help pack up and take items back to shop
- Reply to [cera.gmc2gmail.com](mailto:cera.gmc2gmail.com). Where would you like to volunteer?  
Thank you, Janice Bowen

## Get Creative This Summer in the Glass Studio

Summer is shaping up to be a creative season in the glass studio! We have several fun classes coming up over the next few months, from mosaic garden art to fused glass techniques that create stunning color and texture. Whether you're brand new to glass or looking to try something different, we'd love to have you join us.

These classes are also a wonderful opportunity to meet other creative people, spend time in the studio together, and explore new artistic techniques in a relaxed and welcoming environment.

### Mosaic Steppingstone Class

June 4th, 11th & 25th 6:00–9:00 PM

Create a beautiful mosaic steppingstone that will add color and personality to your garden or patio. Over three evenings, students will design and assemble their own unique steppingstone using glass and decorative materials.

This class is perfect for anyone who enjoys hands-on creative projects and wants to make something both artistic and practical to enjoy for years to come.

### Glass Lattice Bowl (Glastek Bowl) Class

June 20th 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

The Glass Lattice Bowl class filled quickly — and it's easy to see why! Students will learn the Glastek lattice technique to create a stunning fused glass bowl with a woven, open-glass appearance that always draws attention.

This technique creates a piece that looks delicate and intricate while still being functional art you can display and enjoy at home.

This class is currently full, but we are building a waitlist and hope to open an additional class if there is enough interest.

### Fused Glass Screen Melt Class

July 18th 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

If you love flowing color and organic patterns, the Screen Melt class is a great opportunity to explore one of the more exciting, fused glass techniques. During firing, glass melts through a screen to create dramatic movement and one-of-a-kind designs. One of the best parts of this process is that every firing produces something a little different — opening the kiln is always a surprise!

### Fused Glass with Mica Powders

August 15th 9:00 AM–1:00 PM

In this class, students will learn how to create beautiful dichroic-style effects using mica powders, rubber stamping, and stencils on fused glass. The techniques taught in class can later be expanded into working with glass powders and more advanced surface design methods.

This is a fantastic class for anyone who enjoys detailed work, shimmering finishes, and experimenting with texture and layered designs. All classes are beginner friendly, and materials are provided. Space is limited, so be sure to register early!

## 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**, UNT Health Center, Carl E. Everett Edu. & Admin. Bldg, Rm 225, Free parking Lot #6 off Clifton St. Fort Worth, TX; forth Tuesday 7:30.

**Arlington Gem & Mineral Club**, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX; first Tuesday 7:30.

**Dallas Gem & Mineral Society**, American Legion Hall, Suite 105, 10205 Plano Road, Dallas, TX; third Tuesday 7:00

**Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society**, South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 Hampton Rd, Dallas, TX; forth Tuesday at 7:00.

**Dallas Bead Society**, The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lather Dr., Dallas, TX; first Saturday 10:00.

**Dallas Paleontological Society**, Brookhaven Geotechnology Institute, 3939 Valley View Lane; second Wednesday at 7:30.

**Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club**, Garland Women's Activities Bldg, 713 Austin, Garland, TX; first Tuesday 7:30.