

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club

Volume 64, Issue 11, November, 2023

P.O. Box 8811, Waco, TX 76714-8811

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Upcoming shows and events

- Oct. 27-29 Fossilmania, Glen Rose, Expo Center
- Nov. 4, 5 Waco Cultural Arts Fest, Indian Springs Park
- Nov. 18, 19 Dallas Gem and Mineral Show, Mesquite Arena

Contacts

President	Roy Cooper 254-749-9961 coopersfarmstore@yahoo.com	Treasurer	Dorothy Marstaller dmarstaller1021@gmail.com
Vice-President	Scott Halvorson 254-424-8829 Baylordad312@gmail.com	Secretary	Harry Senn senn.harry@yahoo.com
Newsletter	John Langston johnjkbear@aol.com	Website	www.wacogemandmineral.org
		Club email	wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com

October 7th, 2023

WGMC Meeting Minutes (by Scott, in Harry's absence)

President Roy called **meeting to order**, 10:05.

Nine members in attendance, no visitors.

Bob moved to accept minutes of September meeting as published in the newsletter.

Dorothy seconded, motion carried.

Dorothy gave **treasurers report**. If any member needs further information, contact Dorothy.

With upcoming expenses and income, we should about break even for the year.

Bob talked about upcoming events.

Auction at the November meeting. Scott will notify the Temple club and Bob will tell
Arlington club.

December will be the annual Christmas Party.

Tri Cities Gem and Mineral Show in Temple, October 14, 15.

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Show report. Deposit has been given to the Lockwood Library for 2024 show.

We talked about advertising in magazines, which need information in December.

No old business.

Officer election. All officers agreed to continue in their present positions.

Roy, President

Scott, Vice President`

Harry, Secretary

Dorothy, Treasurer

Meeting was adjourned.

Miscellaneous

After the meeting was adjourned, seven of us journeyed to Mexia to visit Rock'n'Minerals. I don't know about anyone else, but I came home with a box of rocks and a thinner wallet!

Three vendors from our club participated in the Tri-Cities show in Temple, Beedfull Things, Scott's Rocks, and The Ruins Jewelry.

President Roy is home recovering nicely from his knee replacement on October 16th.

We miss Karl Faulk, but he sent picture of his latest:



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Topaz

November Birthstones

Citrine



Topaz Color: More Than Just Yellow

Throughout much of history, all yellow gemstones were considered topaz and all “topaz” was thought to be yellow. Topaz is available in many colors, and it’s likely not even related to the stones that first donned its name.

The name topaz derives from *Topazios*, the ancient Greek name for St. John’s Island in the Red Sea. Although the yellow gemstones famously mined there probably weren’t topaz, it soon became the name for most yellowish stones.

Pure topaz is colorless, but it can become tinted by impurities to take on any color of the rainbow. Precious topaz ranges in color from brownish orange to yellow and is often mistaken for smoky quartz or citrine quartz, respectively—although quartz and topaz are unrelated minerals.

The most prized color is Imperial topaz, which features a vibrant orange hue with pink undertones. Blue topaz, although increasingly abundant in the market, very rarely occurs naturally and is often caused by irradiation treatment.

November's second birthstone, citrine, is a variety of quartz that ranges from pale yellow to a honey orange color. It takes its name from the citron fruit because of these lemon inspired shades.

The pale yellow color of citrine closely resembles topaz, which explains why November's two birthstones have been so easily confused throughout history.

Citrine's yellow hues are caused by traces of iron in quartz crystals. This occurs rarely in nature, so most citrine gems on the market are made by heat treating other varieties of quartz—usually the more common, less expensive purple amethyst and smoky quartz to produce golden gemstones.

Brazil is the largest supplier of citrine. Other sources include Spain, Bolivia, France, Russia, Madagascar and the U.S. (Colorado, North Carolina and California). Different geographies yield different shades of citrine.

With a hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale, citrine is very durable against scratches and everyday wear-and-tear—making it a lovely option for large, wearable jewelry.

- See more at: <http://www.americangemsociety.org/>

Teri Smith Rock Hunts for the fall. Thanks, Stephanie!

October has brought some cooler weather to the Big Bend of Texas, so it's time to come out and join rockhunts to have fun and find some beautiful agate, jasper, amethyst, quartz crystals, and other specimens.

I am leading rockhunting field trips on The Ritchie Ranch, the South Larremore Ranch and East Needle Peak, and Aaron Thomas is leading them on the 06 Ranch. There are enough different locations for you to go for five days in a row and not be at any one place for more than a day.

Below is the schedule of rockhunts, and some information about costs and meeting locations. For further information on the ranches I lead rockhunts on, and what you'll need to do to prepare, follow this link: <http://terismithrockhunts.com/for-rockhunters/> To sign up for one of my rockhunts, send me an email at agatehunter@sbcglobal.net. The only requirement for my hunts in addition to the fees stated below is that you need to

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join the Rollin'. Rock Club. This club costs \$10 per year for a single membership (\$16 dual membership), and provides insurance that protects the landowner from any damage we may accidentally cause.

For information about Aaron's hunts, search for him on Facebook, or email or text him at aaronthomasrockhunts@gmail.com, or (432) 538-2399.

I also still have lots of wonderful agate for sale. I'll give you more details on that in a separate email which should come out in the next few days.

Regards,
Teri

Key for table below:

06 Ranch	East Needle Peak	S. Larremore Ranch	Ritchie Ranch
Meets at 8 am at the Tri-La-Bite food truck in Alpine	Meets at 8 am in the parking lot of Little Caesar's Pizza in Alpine	Meets at 8 am in the parking lot of Little Caesar's Pizza in Alpine	Meets at <u>9 am</u> in the parking lot of Little Caesar's Pizza in Alpine
Cost: \$60 entrance fee and \$1 - \$3 per lb.	Cost: \$50 per day. First bucket of rocks you collect is included in cost.	Cost: \$60 per day. First bucket of rocks you collect is included in cost.	Cost: \$20 entrance fee and \$1 per lb for cutting material and crystals.
Leader: Aaron Thomas (432) 538-2399	Leader: Teri Smith (432) 386-3431	Leader: Teri Smith (432) 386-3431	Leader: Teri Smith (432) 386-3431

Date	Location
Thu 10/19	South Larremore Ranch
Fri 10/20	Ritchie Ranch
Sat 10/21	06 Ranch
Sun 10/22	06 Ranch
Mon 10/23	East Needle Peak
Thu 10/26	Ritchie Ranch
Fri 10/27	East Needle Peak
Mon 10/30	South Larremore Ranch
Thu 11/2	East Needle Peak
Fri 11/3	South Larremore Ranch
Mon 11/6	Ritchie Ranch
Thu 11/9	South Larremore Ranch
Fri 11/10	Ritchie Ranch
Sat 11/11	06 Ranch
Sun 11/12	06 Ranch
Mon 11/13	East Needle Peak
Tue 11/14	TBD
Wed 11/15	South Larremore Ranch
Thu 11/16	Ritchie Ranch
Fri 11/17	East Needle Peak
Sat 11/18	06 Ranch
Sun 11/19	06 Ranch
Mon 11/20	South Larremore Ranch
Thu 11/23	East Needle Peak
Fri 11/24	South Larremore Ranch
Mon 11/27	Ritchie Ranch
Thu 11/30	South Larremore Ranch
Fri 12/1	Ritchie Ranch
Mon 12/4	East Needle Peak

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You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Teri Smith Rockhunts

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Notes

The editor requests news items from any member to be included in the Gritty Greetings.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month. Contributions to the newsletter are encouraged.

Name Tags:

It is great that we feed the pig at our meetings because we don't have or have lost or forgotten our nametags to drop a dollar in the pig. The money from the pig goes toward our Scholarship program, and we really do appreciate every dollar or more. However, if you need a name tag you can purchase them at the businesses below!

Waco Gem & Mineral Club nametags are available at **Print Mart**, 202 Deb (behind AutoNation Chevrolet). Cost with a pin back is \$8.00 (with tax \$8.66), and with a magnet back is \$11.00 (\$11.91). or at Award Specialties at 431 Lake Air Dr.

Club Dues:

Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Club dues are \$12.00 for an individual membership or \$20.00 for a family membership. Please check with Dorothy if you aren't sure whether you've paid your Dues!

Shop Fees:

Lapidary Workshop fee is \$2.00 per hour. Slab Saw fee is an additional \$2.00 per hour. Class fees are always dependent upon class and instructor.

The Waco Gem and Mineral Club is a member of the South-Central Federation of Mineral Societies; and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. Meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month (except July and September) at 10:00 a.m. at the Waco Gem and Mineral Club Clubhouse, 187 South McLennan Drive in Elm Mott, Texas. The lapidary workshop is in the clubhouse.

Our website is www.wacogemandmineral.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WacoGemAndMineralClub>

Club Purpose

- to bring about a close association of those persons interested in earth science and lapidary arts
- to increase and disseminate knowledge about rocks, minerals, fossils, Indian artifacts and other geological materials
- to encourage lapidary art and the collection and exhibition of rocks, minerals, fossils and artifacts
- to conduct field trips, meetings, lectures, displays and an annual show for the edification of the public
- to cooperate with educational and scientific institutions and other groups in increasing knowledge and popular interest.

