

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Newsletter

Volume 61, Issue 2, February, 2020

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

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Table of contents.....1

WGMC Contacts2

Minutes/News3

Upcoming Shows and Events4

February Birthstone.....5

Notes7

Club Purpose.....7

December Calendar of Events8

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Contacts

President	Roy Cooper 254-749-9961 coopersfarmstore@yahoo.com	Treasurer	Jackie Dodson jackiedodson66@gmail.com
Vice-President	Scott Halverson 254-424-8829 Baylordad312@gmail.com	Secretary	Beth Cornelius texasbadvet@gmail.com
Newsletter Staff	John Langston johnjkbear@aol.com	Website	www.wacogemandmineral.org
		Webmaster	wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com

W.G.M.C. January 4th Meeting Minutes

Call to Order by Roy at 10:10

Officers present- President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary

Committee Lead Present- Presentations, Field Trips, Facebook Editor

Members Present- 13. Guests present-1. Guest is Jay Gregory (signed up for membership)

Last month minute corrections were discussed- that Sunni and Joel would no longer be able to perform duties as webmaster, newsletter editor, and email manager. Motion Bob/Stephanie, all approved, minutes with correction.

Treasurer report by Jackie, report is on file with secretary. Roy asked for analysis to determine if we had too much in liquid assets and need to move funds into a CD.

Show report- Alison in Quartzite. All vendor spaces are reserved. Please bring any silent auction items in to clubhouse. Thank you!

[**Ed. Note:** We are still looking for exceptional items for the 6 Grand Prizes! Any other members that would like to help at the 2020 show please give your name and what you would help with to Alison Redding. We are also still looking for displays and demonstrators for the 2020 show.]

Presentation Committee- Today's presentation- Bob, Pam, and Scott- What to expect and experience at the Denver Gem and Mineral Shows. Next month TBD.

Field Trip Committee- This month Monnig Meteorite Gallery, at TCU in Fort Worth, Saturday January 11. Next month collect Celestite in Lampasas county, February 8. Details at next meeting. March 2020- 17 and 19th Agate hunt with Teri Smith, South Larrimore and Ritchie ranch. Check out details on terismithrockhunts.com. This is during spring break so put your reservation in now. Possible side trip to Balmorhea on 18th.

New business- please sign up to provide refreshments for one meeting. There are 10 slots open. Upcoming shows 18-19 Jan, Fredericksburg; 24-26 Jan, Tyler; 15-16 Feb, Georgetown; 22-23 Feb, Pasadena; 22-23 Feb, Plainview.

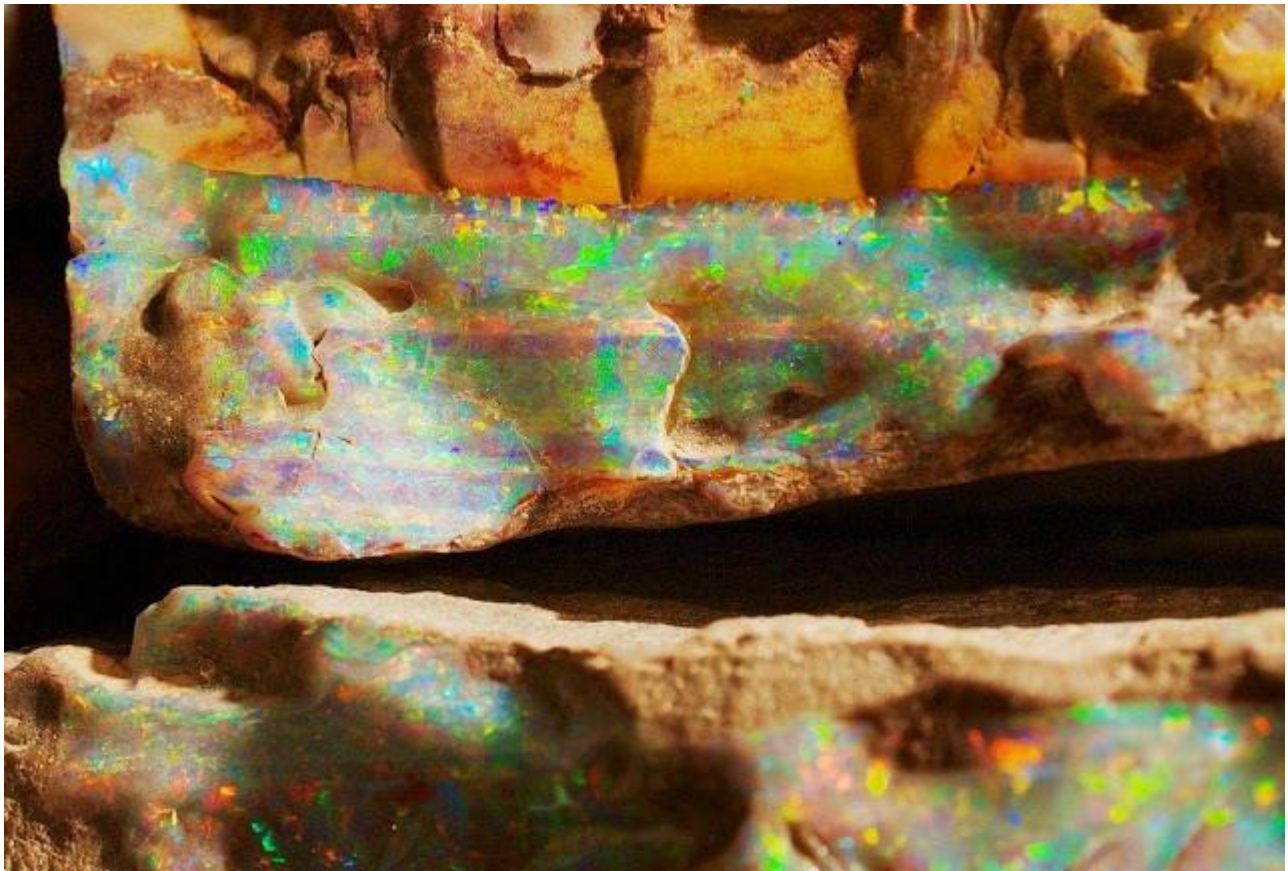
Old Business-

Item1- Webmaster, email manager, and newsletter editor need to be replaced. Harry Senn agrees to take over webmaster and email manager, John Langston agrees to become the newsletter editor. Thank you to the outgoing managers Sunni, Joel, and Jim. And thanks also to the two new managers.

Item 2- 18" Saw. Roy and Karl took apart the saw and determined it needs a new shaft and bearings. This will cost around \$250-300. Motion made by Bob/Karl to spend the funds to repair saw, all approved. Cab machine collar spun on shaft and damaged, more assessment needs to be done by Roy to determine if it can be repaired or if it needs replacement.

Meeting adjourned 10:22. Program then began.

Beth



Gemstone Turns Out to Be Fossil of an Unknown Dinosaur

https://www.geologyin.com/2018/12/gemstone-turns-out-to-be-fossil-of.html?fbclid=IwAR0pioQYI_4LERDfNtbTp9oFMdTDGYrduoJPHTw9wX4-jP3WuKr_whHjWjE

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Upcoming Shows and Events

60th Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Show

The 60th Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Show will be held on May 2 and 3, 2020. Currently, spaces are all full for the show!!! WOW!!!

If you have any questions, please contact **2020 Show chair Alison Redding** or email: wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com. Visit our website for more information and to download your application. www.wacogemandmineral.org

February birthstone: Amethyst



Amethyst is purple quartz and is a beautiful blend of violet and red that can be found in every corner of the world. The name comes from the Ancient Greek, derived from the word *methustos*, which means “intoxicated.” Ancient wearers believed the gemstone could protect them from drunkenness.

Amethyst, as previously mentioned, is composed of quartz, which is the second most abundant material found in Earth’s crust. Amethyst gets its color from irradiation, iron impurities, and the presence of trace elements. Its hardness (a 7 on the Mohs scale) is the same as other quartz, which makes it a durable and lasting option for jewelry.

While amethyst is most commonly recognized to be a purple color, the gemstone can actually range from a light pinkish violet to a deep purple that can read more blue or red, depending on the light. Sometimes, even the same stone can have layers or color variants, so the way the gemstone is cut is important to the way the color shows in a finished piece.

Amethyst often occurs in geodes or in the cavities of granitic rocks. It can be found all over the world, including the United States, Canada, Brazil, and Zambia.

The amethyst is not only the February birthstone, it is also used to celebrate the 6th and 17th year of marriage.

Courtesy of American Gem Society

Image courtesy jewelsforme.com

How about some dust particles inside certain meteorites billions of years older than our solar system?



<https://www.archaeology-world.com/7-billion-year-old-stardust-is-oldest-material-found-on-earth/>

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1600 year old jewelry, no doubt from their local Gem show!



<https://www.archaeology-world.com/1600-year-old-bone-pendants-discovered-in-turkey/>

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 quartering the pig. The money from the pig goes toward our Scholarship program, and we really do appreciate every 2 bits, 4 bits, 6 bits or more. However, if you need a nametag 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 Jackie 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.

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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.



February Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						WGMC Feb meeting, clubhouse
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
						Celestite hunting, Lampasas county
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						WCGMS show Georgetown
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
WCGMS show Georgetown						Clearlake show Pasadena
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Clearlake show Pasadena						