

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Newsletter

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

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Table of Contents

August Meeting	2/3
Upcoming Shows and Events	4
September Birthstones	5/6
Notes.....	7
Club Purpose.....	8
September Calendar of Events.....	9

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Contacts

President	Andy MacDonald	Treasurer	Jackie Dodson
Vice-President	Roy Cooper	Secretary	Stephanie Robert
Newsletter Staff	Jim Redding	Website	www.wacogemandmineral.org
Show Chair	Alison Redding	Webmaster	Joel Purl

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August Meeting Minutes

The August meeting was held at our clubhouse on August 4 2018 at 10:00 am. Minutes from the July meeting/4th of July picnic were read and accepted by those members present. Minutes of this meeting are as follows:

WG&MC MINUTES 2-18 THRU 6-18

The Gritty Greetings for July is on the redesigned website.

Check out the website www.wacogemandmineral.org The club email is wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com . Website security was discussed, and multiple contacts are now more involved.

Jim Redding had some of his personal fluorescent rock specimens at the clubhouse for display. They have disappeared. If you borrowed them, please bring them back.

Jackie presented the treasurers report.

Jim Redding has set up a computer for use by the club.

Getting WIFI for the clubhouse was discussed, pros cons, various ways of doing it.

We discussed getting a lock box for the door so anyone with the code can get in and work.

A motion was made that we change the locks since we aren't sure just who has keys and how many are out there and getting a lock box set up for better member access. The motion was approved. The officers will keep keys in case someone misplaces the lock box key.

Jackie Dodson has a heat/cool window unit that she will donate to the club, she just needs someone to come get it. Arrangements are being made.

She has also been collecting books for our library! She had some nice ones on beading with her.

Show 2019-

1/3 of vendors are already signed up and paid.

We need a sign-up sheet at the door to collect contact information from people who come to the show. Jackie suggested that we do a numbered list and when people want raffle tickets they fill out a slot on that list with name address phone and email and then just write the # on the raffle tickets and use that # to bid on items in the silent auction. That's a very good idea!

Discussion about officers-John Bennett has resigned as vice president leaving that spot vacant. Roy Cooper volunteered to take on that position until the November election when we can vote. Stephanie Robert made a motion that we do that, Jim Redding seconded it, the vote was unanimously in favor.

Andy McDonald is super busy and hasn't been able to make a meeting in months. Jackie will contact him and see what is going on with him.

We talked about ways to get more members-

We need someone to go talk to the people at the Mammoth Site and get back in their good graces, they are a fantastic exhibitor and ally. Roy Cooper said he'd go do that.

We need to make sure we keep up with the events at the Arboretum in the spring and fall that we have done for years.

We could also talk to the Mayborn Center folks and see if they'd let us set up a table in their lobby, possibly second Saturdays, to talk to people about our club.

Another possibility would be to talk to the folks at Richland Mall and see if we could set up a table out there every so often.

Other ideas are welcome!

We need to do a Business/Directors meeting before the regular club meeting, that way we can take care of the boring business stuff and have more fun and interesting things to do at the meeting.

We will have a board meeting the Friday evening (8/31/18) before the September Club meeting at 6:30 at Cracker Barrel, in Bellmead.

Field trip report by Roy Cooper-

The Perot Museum of Nature and Science in down town Dallas has a fantastic gem and mineral exhibit, along with 10 other exhibit halls. The cost is \$20.00 each for ages 13 to 64, \$14.00 for seniors. Parking is \$10.00 per car. You can check it out on line. We can carpool. We discussed going the weekend of September 22. We will talk more about it at the September meeting. Field trip information is on the website.

Presentations- Roy has some very good videos and will present one at the September meeting.

We also need to do a class on safety in the lapidary shop and in rock hunts and other field trips.

Some of the material can be dangerous if you don't take proper precautions.

We need to have a work day and clean up in and around the clubhouse. This will be discussed further at the September meeting. Please come and join us!

September meeting programs:

We have a program for the September meeting!

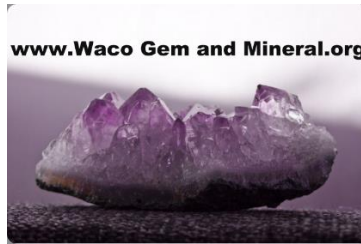
1. 30 Minute Film on Santorini & other volcanic eruptions which changed the course of human history.
2. 30 Minute Film on Mount Fuji in Japan.
3. Scot Halverson will demonstrate a simple & inexpensive way to get that last slab from your rough rock.

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Upcoming Shows and Events

Our next meeting is at 10:00 am on Saturday, September 1st
at the WGMC Clubhouse

Promotion you say.... Well, we now have advertising for our members to sport on your cars/trucks. Well everyone except Roy. Keep in mind, if your car/truck is made of aluminum, it will not work. WGM Club now has car magnets for sale. 1 magnet costs \$20. 2 magnets costs \$30. We have already sold half of the inventory so if you would like one as well, please let us know. They are made with heavy duty material and look great.



The 59th Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Show will be held on Saturday May 4, 2019 and Sunday May 5, 2019. Our event last year was met with a huge response and we expect an even bigger turnout this year!

Booth spaces are on a first come, first serve basis and we are expected to sell out quickly as we will only have a limited number of vendor spaces. Please take this opportunity to secure your booth space now.

If you have any questions, please contact Alison Redding at wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com. Visit our website for more information and to download your application. www.wacogemandmineral.org

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September Birthstone: Sapphire

September's birthstone is the sapphire—a precious gem of wisdom, loyalty and nobility. This stone is said to focus the mind, encourage self-discipline and channel higher powers.

When people say “sapphire,” they're usually referring to the royal blue variety of this gem, although it can occur in all colors of the rainbow (except red, which is classified as ruby instead).

This lovely gem gives September-born babies a full spectrum of options when choosing the shade of birthstone that best represents them.



The Sapphire is the birthstone for the month of September. The deep blue color is most associated with this stone and was one of the most popular among Christians in earlier biblical times. This mysterious, abyssal depth of blue symbolizes heavenly grace and ancient Persian civilizations thought of the world set in front of a giant sapphire during the night sky.

The word sapphire is derived from the Greek word, “sapheiros”, “means “precious stone”. It is a reflection of constancy, and blesses its owner with clairvoyance, interpretation and insight. In earlier times it was also used to increase the power from Venus, banishing evil thoughts. Kings and priests favored this gemstone the most and saw in the sapphire a token for wisdom and purity. According to the bible, it is believed that the Ten Commandments were written on tablets of sapphire. There are many healing properties of the sapphire from lowering fevers, and curing hearing problems. It can relieve pain from cancer and also burns.

It can be found in Burma, Australia, Kenya, Tanzania, Kashmir, Cambodia, Thailand, and Sri Lanka (once a part of India), where it was mined for as early as the seventh century BC. There are a variety of colors they can be found in other than blue, but include pink, yellow and white as well. These are referred to as “fancy sapphires”. The blue color is given by very small amounts of oxide, iron and titanium within the stone. India boasts having found the most famous and largest of sapphires, weighing in at 563-carats. Its home resides in the American Museum of Natural History. As it is in the same family of the ruby, like the ruby, it is also second to the diamond in hardness, making it an ideal gemstone for jewelry.

It is a traditional gift for the fifth wedding anniversary and has been given in place of a diamond for an engagement ring. Princess Diana had an engagement ring given to her by Prince Charles, and is also the engagement ring of Princess Anne. When wearing a sapphire, it is believed that it will give to its owner anything their heart desires; wealth, longevity, happiness and health. It also can restore lost property and wealth, alleviating long-term misfortune.

Each month and its season month throughout the year brings in a new cycle. It does not need to be stated that each of these seasons have a renewed energy, and a new meaning. Specific gemstones throughout many centuries have been designated to symbolize our birth-month. These stones are in accordance with the Gregorian or Western Calendar. Earlier civilizations of India and Babylonia viewed gemstones as magical, mystical symbols. They believed that each one possessed a magical attribute or property that connected their significance aligning with the Zodiac calendar.

Other interesting facts about the September Birthstone Sapphire:

- It is said that it must be set in silver or white metal and worn on the middle finger for any therapeutic purposes.
- Suspensions of ancient India state that the gem should be kept close to one’s skin or under the pillow while sleeping for at least one week before the final purchase is made.
- It is one of the navagraha stones, that represent each of the nine planets. Standing for Saturn it is related to duty and salvation.

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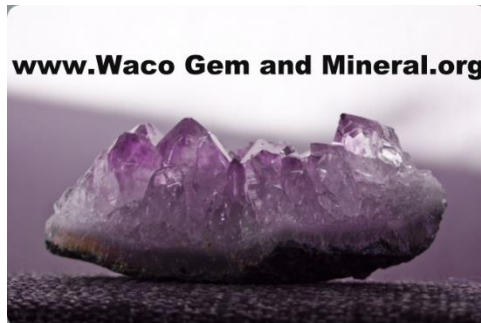
Notes and more information

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).

Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Club dues are \$12.00 for an individual membership or \$20.00 for a family membership.

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.

Again, if you would like to purchase your car/truck magnet, please [contact us](#) and let us know. Each magnet is 12" x 18", 45 mil heavy duty material. All proceeds go towards your favorite, Waco Gem and Mineral Club. Prices are 1 sign for @\$20 or 2 signs for \$30!!! All proceeds from these sales, go towards our favorite, Waco Gem and Mineral Club.



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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.



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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 located in the clubhouse.

Our website is www.wacogemandmineral.org

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

September Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						WGMC Monthly meeting 10:00 am
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						