

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club

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November meeting, club auction!

Requesting quality items for the annual club auction. Ideally, these items would have an auction value of \$10 or more. Our goal is to sell 100 items for a total of at least \$1000. Please bring items to the **October meeting** so that we have time to label, number and catalogue all the items. If there is a story behind the item or source location, that might cause someone to give a few more dollars. Thanks in advance for anything you can contribute. Roy.

Our sincere condolences go to Ted Miller, on the loss of his step mother.

Contacts

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Waco Gem and Mineral Club Minutes for September 10, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roy Cooper, Jackie Dodson, Dorothy Marstaller, John Langston, Tony Braswell, Brad Singleton, Ray Ferguson. Visitors Troy Snyder, Sam, and Tammy Ferguson.

President Cooper called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. John Langston moved to accept the minutes from the August meeting, Brad seconded. None opposed.

The Treasurer’s report was presented.

No show committee activity was reported. Jackie asked when vendors would be invited for the 2023 show. Roy stated about six months from beginning of the show. Harry and Roy were going to the convention center for a mock table arrangement. The lady at convention center was ill, so they were unable to meet.

The program in October will be given by Scott Halverson. No program will be planned for the month of November as this will be the auction. December is the Christmas party. January’s presenter will be Bob Boyd.

Troy asked about sharing a table. Roy said you can buy a table to show product. Sellers are supposed to have a *Texas Resale Tax Certificate*. If selling in your name, your license. Also, can use another’s license. Tables estimated to cost

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\$70 each. Roy hopes for approximately 22 tables of different sizes. The 2022 show had extra tables due to extra room. That additional space will not be available next show.

There will be a field trip to Mayborn Museum after meeting. Lampasas and Singleton Ranch at Presidio was suggested for future trips.

OLD BUSINESS

Someone is using the shop and not signing or paying fees. There is a key lock box allowing access. The building was left unlocked prompting Roy to remove the key from the lock box. It was suggested changing the locks and the combinations, plus make keys that cannot be duplicated. It was suggested a “Door Ring” or “Wize” be purchased to monitor door activity.

Dorothy Marstaller moved for Roy, Harry, and Karl to check on a “Door Ring” or “Wize” and decide on behalf of the club. Ray seconded. Passed by acclamation.

NEW BUSINESS

Officer Nominations – Roy Cooper for President, Scott Halverson for Vice President, Harry Senn for Secretary, and Treasurer is undecided. Dorothy Marstaller and Pam Boyd may split treasurer duties.

Being no other business, the President adjourned

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

Upcoming Shows

Waco Cultural Arts Fest, Indian Springs Park, 10/1- 2.

Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society Show, 10/8-9. Frank W Mayborn Civic & Convention Center, **Temple**, TX

Austin Gem & Mineral Show 10/21-22 Palmer Event Center

Bench Tips for October

Smart Solutions for Your Jewelry Making Problems

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

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WINDING JUMP RINGS

If you need a few jump rings the same size, it's easy to grab a round rod and wind as many as you need. But when you need a lot of them, some form of winder saves a lot of time. A variable speed screw gun makes quick work of winding the coils. Screw guns are quite inexpensive at discount stores and are remarkably handy for odd jobs in the shop and around the house.

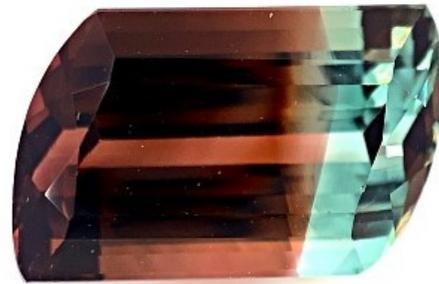
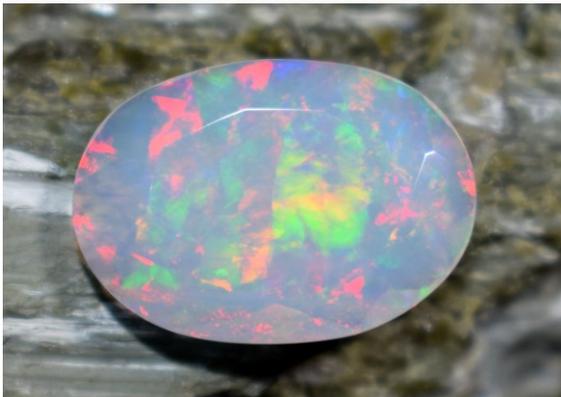
To wind a coil, just bend a right angle on the end of the wire about a half inch long and insert this into the screw gun chuck. Then wind slowly, keeping a tight coil. I like to rest the end of the mandrel on the edge of the table or bench pin. Finally, one note of caution. If you are winding an entire length of wire, be careful as you get near the end of the wire. If the end passes under your thumb, it can cause a nasty scratch or cut.

TOUCHING UP A BEZEL

Pumice wheels are good for touching up a bezel after you've set the stone. The hardness is about 6 on the Moh's scale, less hard than quartz, so it shouldn't scratch any of your agates or Jaspers. However, I'd avoid or be real careful of using pumice near the softer stones like Turquoise, Amber, Howelite, etc.

If you're unsure about the hardness of your wheels, test them on a piece of glass. Glass is about 5 ½ on the Mohs scale, softer than quartz. So if the wheel doesn't harm glass, it's safe for use on the Quartzes and harder stones.

My preference is the one inch diameter ones such as those shown at riogrande.com/Product/AdvantEdge-Pumice-Wheels-Medium/332722?pos=2



October birthstones: Opal, Tourmaline

Tourmaline and opal birthstones come in a rainbow of shades and color combinations, giving October babies a variety of options.

Between tourmaline (whose color depends on trace elements in its chemical makeup) and opal (which diffracts light to

show a play of multiple colors), October's birthstones offer a full spectrum of gemstones to suit anyone's personal tastes.

Courtesy American Gem Society

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.

