

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club

Volume 61, Issue 9, September, 2020

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

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The Board of Directors of the Waco Gem and Mineral Club has decided to err on the side of caution and to NOT hold our September meeting. Hopefully we will be able to hold our October meeting on schedule. Stay safe out there.

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	John Langston	Website	www.wacogemandmineral.org
Staff	johnjkbear@aol.com	Webmaster	wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com

61st Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Show

The 61st Annual Waco Gem and Mineral Show will be held on May 1 and 2, 2021. Currently, some spaces are available for vendors as there have been some cancellations.

If you have any questions, please contact **2021 Show chair Alison Redding** or email:

wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com. Visit our website for more information and to download your application. www.wacogemandmineral.org

The Tri-Cities Gem and Mineral Society in Temple has **cancelled** their show for October 10, 11th.

The Ft. Worth Gem and Mineral Clubs annual show has been rescheduled. The new dates are: **August 29-30, 2020**. For more information, contact: fwgmc.info@gmail.com

FORT WORTH GEM & MINERAL CLUB

"Blast from the Past"

Social distancing & Masks required



69th ANNUAL

**GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL,
BEAD & JEWELRY
SHOW & SALE**

NEW DATE

**AUGUST
29-30,
2020**

**SAT 10-5
SUN 10-4**

**Will Rogers Memorial Center
3401 W. Lancaster
Fort Worth, TX**

Fun and educational for the whole family!

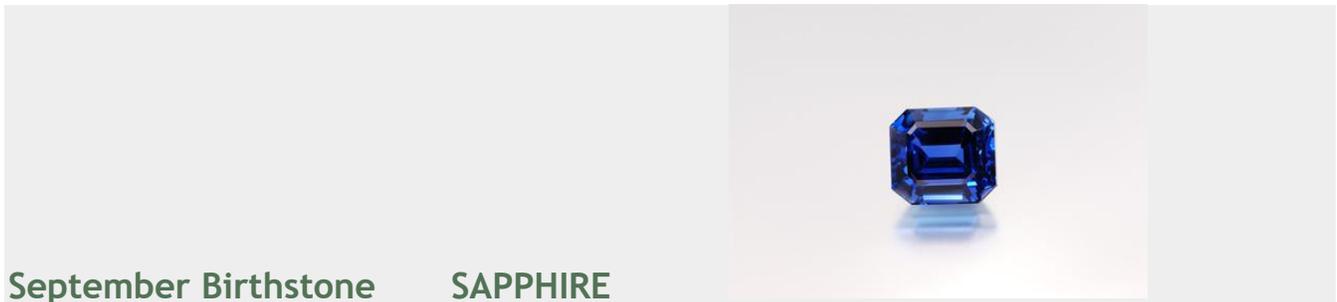
ADMISSION:

Adults	\$6
Seniors, Students, Military	\$5
Children 16 & under	FREE

For more information:

fwgmc.info@gmail.com

Rollin' Rock Club meets Sunday @ 9:00 am



September Birthstone SAPPHIRE

Sapphire, the September birthstone, has been popular since the Middle Ages and, according to folklore, will protect your loved ones from envy and harm. Medieval clergy wore sapphires to symbolize heaven, while commoners thought the gem attracted heavenly blessings. Blue sapphires range from very light to very dark greenish or violetish blue, as well as various shades of pure blue. The most prized colors are a medium to medium dark blue or slightly violetish blue. Sapphire is a variety of the gem species corundum and occurs in all colors of the rainbow. Pink, purple, green, orange, or yellow corundum are known by their color (pink sapphire, green sapphire). Ruby is the red variety of corundum.

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

Brad's Bench Tips

RAISING A CABOCHON

When a cabochon sits too low in a bezel, the bezel can hide a lot of the stone. The solution is to either sand down the bezel height or boost up the stone. But if you choose to raise it up, the question is what is the best material to use ?

I was taught to use fine sawdust but now think that might be a problem when used in rings. I reason that rings will frequently get wet, which would cause the sawdust to swell in size and push the stone against the bezel. Then when the sawdust dries out, the stone would be a little loose.

In any case, I now prefer to insert a flat sheet to boost up my stones. It can be a scrap of metal or some plastic from product packaging or old credit cards. In either case, just cut a piece to loosely fit into the bezel and drop in the stone (with some dental floss) to check it's height.

TRANSPARENT CABS

When bezel setting a transparent cabochon in silver, I usually cut out the back of the bezel to allow background light to show off the colors and patterns in the stone. If this is not possible or appropriate, I worry that the silver bezel will tarnish under the stone and will ruin its brilliance. What to do?

My solution is one extra step before setting the stone. I place a piece of thin silver Mylar plastic under the stone to act as a mirror that will never tarnish. Mylar is readily available in craft and gift wrap stores, or in a pinch from a party balloon supplier. You may even want to experiment with using colored or patterned Mylar (i.e. diffraction pattern) under some stones.

Learn New Jewelry Tricks and Techniques
in Brad's Jewelry-Making Books
[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)

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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.

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.

Gritty Greetings: Waco Gem and Mineral Club Newsletter

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.

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

