

GRITTY GREETINGS



Waco Gem and Mineral Club

Volume 65, Issue 4, April, 2024

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

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Upcoming events

~~ OUR NEXT CLUBHOUSE MEETING will be SATURDAY, April 13, 2024 @ 10:00 am.

Greatest Little Treasure Show in Texas, Kuykendall Event Center, Llano, - 03/23/2024-03/24/2024

Waco Gem and Mineral Show, Lee Lockwood Library, May 4, 5, 2024, with setup on May 3rd.

Contacts

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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
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WGMC Minutes for March 2, 2024

Harry Senn, Secretary

1. The meeting was Called to Order at 10:09 am by President Roy Cooper.
Approximately 13 members attended.
2. Fines and donations to the scholarship fund were collected.
3. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as published in the Gritty Greetings.
Bob made the motion. Stephanie made the second. Motion passed.
4. John H., the new Treasurer, gave the Treasurers Report.
Motion to accept the report was made by Mollie, seconded by Bob.
Motion passed.
5. Committee reports:
PROGRAM COMMITTEE:
April will be used for preparing for the Show.
May will be the Show.

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June will be the Annual Safety Meeting. Harry will present the program on the ANSI Z87 standard for shop safety glasses.

July will be our Annual Ice Cream Social.

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE:

April field trip will be a Pyrite and Ammonite hunt in Hewitt led by Scott after the April 13 meeting. Scott suggests that you bring a 2 pound sledge hammer and chisel, or your typical digging hammer to dig out the pyrite. Dig below and away from the pyrite to avoid damaging the pyrite sample.

6. There was no Old Business.

7. New Business:

→ The **APRIL Club Meeting Date** needs to be changed:

April 6, the regular scheduled time for the WGM Club meeting, will be a weekend potentially filled with heavy traffic due to the April 8 Eclipse Event. This throws a shadow over our members trying to get to the Clubhouse for the April 6 Meeting. Roy will have house guests and will not attend the meeting.

Because the April Meeting will be used for Show preparation, the alternate meeting date needs to be as early in April as possible. APRIL 13 has been selected as the new Meeting date.

→ The **Venue's audio-visual screens in the Show room** are located throughout the room. Roy suggested that you submit your past photos of club events and video presentations so they could be shown as a "loop" throughout the two days of the Show.

Harry was volunteered to create powerpoint loops of your photos. You can send your photos of past club events to him at: senn.harry@yahoo.com

8. The meeting was adjourned at 10:36.

Bob gave the program "Varicite, the Other Turquoise"



A type of [ancient reptile](#) species that dominated the world long before dinosaurs did, known as aetosaurs, are the heavily armored relatives of modern crocodiles.

This species that went extinct 200 million years ago can be traced in all continents except Antarctica and Australia. Now, researchers have identified a new species of aetosaur called *Garzapelta muelleri* in Garza County, northwest Texas.

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April Birthstone

Diamond



You probably already know of the diamond's toughness. In fact, it's the hardest gemstone and is made of just one element: carbon.

Its structure makes it 58 times harder than anything in nature. A diamond can only be cut with another diamond. While it's become nearly synonymous with wedding engagements, it's also the perfect gemstone for individuals who want something that's just as appropriate for everyday wear as it is for special occasions.

Diamond gemstones come in several colors, including brown, yellow, red, pink, blue, and green. They range in intensity from faint to vivid. Generally speaking, the more saturated the color, the higher the value.

In fact, diamonds sparkling with intense color are rare and may be priced higher than a colorless diamond of equal size. Because fancy-color diamonds are very desirable, color is sometimes introduced in a laboratory. These are correctly called "color-treated" diamonds.

The **diamond's unique physical properties** give it the best possible luster of any gemstone when cut and polished well. So, if you're in the market for "sparkle," the diamond is the gemstone for you.

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

Member Jan Dodd will have her heart surgery March 27th. Please keep her and her husband Rance in your prayers.

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 John 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.

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