

# GRITTY GREETINGS



## Waco Gem and Mineral Club Monthly Newsletter

Volume 59, Issue 11, November 2018

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

<< << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

### Table of Contents

October meeting minutes .....	2-4
Upcoming Shows and Events .....	5
November Birthstones.....	6
Notes .....	8
November Calendar of Events .....	9

<< << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

### Contacts

<b>President</b>	Andy McDonald 254-366-3846 <a href="mailto:babydocmac@aol.com">babydocmac@aol.com</a>	<b>Treasurer</b>	Jackie Dodson <a href="mailto:jackiedodson66@gmail.com">jackiedodson66@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Roy Cooper <a href="mailto:coopersfarmstore@yahoo.com">coopersfarmstore@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Secretary</b>	Stephanie Robert <a href="mailto:stephanie.robert1@aol.com">stephanie.robert1@aol.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Staff</b>	James Redding <a href="mailto:Jimredding48@outlook.com">Jimredding48@outlook.com</a>	<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.wacogemandmineral.org">www.wacogemandmineral.org</a>
		<b>Webmaster</b>	Joel Purl <a href="mailto:wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com">wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com</a>

<< << << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

## October 6 2018 Meeting W.G.M.C. October Meeting Minutes

We had 5 visitors who joined the club. Nikki Johnson, CJ and Terri Westmoreland, and Johnny and Beckie Seiley. Welcome to our newest members!!!

The Minutes from the September Meeting as printed in the gritty Greeting needed the date changed, otherwise approved as printed. Thank you, Charlotte, for filling in!

Jackie was out of town and could not present the treasurers report.

### **Upcoming shows:**

10/13 & 14 are the Temple and Amarillo shows,

Also 10/13 if the fall Fossil Fest at the Mammoth Site. We have a booth so come on by and sit a spell! Jim Redding and Stephanie Robert will be out there. Anyone else who wants to come out is welcome and appreciated.

The Austin show is 10/19 thru 21

The Dallas Paleontological Society show is 10/26 thru 28 in Glen Rose.

### **Old business-**

The lock box for entry key has been mounted. The need for a solid door between the meeting room and the shop was discussed.

Alison Redding spoke about the field trip we took to the Perot Museum in Dallas. 9 of us went. It was really informative, the museum is amazing, and we all had a lot of fun. They have fantastic specimens of gemstones and minerals, and a whole floor of dinosaur skeletons and replicas! We stopped at Chili's and ate and visited after we left the museum.

A field trip to Nature's Treasures- a LARGE rock shop in North Austin right on I35 is in the works. They are hosting an Agate Fest in the spring, so keep your eye out for that.

Bob Boyd said he can lead a field trip to Brownwood to hunt horn coral. It's a good trip for beginners and kids of all ages. It's roadside hunting, and we could camp at the state park.

Progress on club vests: Allison Redding was looking into patterns and what's available on line. Bob Boyd said he'd bring examples of other club's vests.

Tote bags: Shirley Kyte found some good ones for a reasonable price. Sunni will check prices and get some ordered.

### **Work on Clubhouse:**

Jim Redding got A/C installed and took out the old unused duct. He also put tint film on the door to keep the heat out, pulled up the old loose floor tiles by the door, sealed around the building to keep vermin out, and took out the dead water heater (that might need to be replaced at some time in the future). He installed our projector and painted a screen on the wall so we can watch movies.

There's a lot more to do. Work days are being planned for 10/20 and/or 10/27. We need to put up track and ceiling panels where the a/c duct was, and replace bad acoustic tiles. The walls need to be washed and then primed and painted. The floor needs to be scrubbed good, close up one of the big doors in back to make a place for future fluorescent rock and mineral display and put up shelves.

Getting the supplies beforehand was discussed. Stephanie Robert mad the motion that we approve the money to do so, so we don't waste time shopping when we could be working. Alison seconded, all were in favor.

WIFI for the clubhouse- One of our neighbors has graciously allowed up to use his Wi-Fi for the few times we need it. This would allow us to watch YouTube tutorials etc.

### **Show Chair report 2019-**

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

Alison Redding has a list of all that has been done, and all that needs to be done yet.

We need door prizes, silent auction items, kid's silent auction items- think of things you might want to own yourself.

Stephanie found a place to get plastic vending machine capsules with polished rocks and a slip identifying the rock for 32.00 per 250 pcs. We will get 1000 pcs of those.

Yolanda and her grandkids are sewing grab bags for kids. Shirly suggested we all save our off-cuts from projects we are making to put in them. We could use some fossils, etc., for those.

We all need to do our best to make an exhibition box for display at the show. These can have whatever you want to put in them. If you have a collection of rocks with stripes, or fossils, or cabochons, nifty things you found around on hikes etc. these are educational and great for stirring up interest in our club. Bob Boyd said he'd ask the Arlington club if we could borrow some display boxes from them, since we only have a few right now.

The meal for Friday night will be Mexican food since it's right at Cinco De Mayo. Alison has someone who will make chicken enchiladas and taco meat. She will have a sample meal for our December 1 gathering at 6:30 pm at the club house. Club members will be responsible for the rest of the meal. (rice, beans, chips, taco shells, lettuce, tomato, Pico, desserts, etc.) This will be a mock meal that will be served the Friday night setting up for the Annual Show. Leftovers will not be left for later as had been done previously. It's hard to have someone tied to the kitchen when there is so much else going on. There will be a concession stand, and ideas are being debated about sack lunches for Saturday. (We can get menus from places that deliver and put them in the vendor's goodie bags too- Jason's Deli for one.)

**New Business**

**Membership-** We need more members. We need someone who can contact the people we do have information on, and reach out to old members. We need to have activities that people would want to come to.

(cont.)

Roy Cooper suggested we hold a movie and potluck night once a month. We decided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. So, bring a dish to share Thursday 10/18/2018, 6:00? (we neglected to set a time, or I didn't write it down) \_ bring a friend too. You might want to bring a lawn chair, we are kind of short right now.

**November is election of officers.** We talked about a nominating committee.

Officers that are willing to continue as is:

Andy McDonald – President

Roy Cooper – Vice President

We need to find out if Jackie Dodson is willing to continue as Treasurer- we talked about someone being an assistant treasurer for those times she might need help or needs to be doing something else.

Stephanie Robert – Secretary (Charlotte said she's be backup when necessary)

If anyone wants any of these positions, the election is at the November meeting. Please be there.

We discussed that way too much time has been spent on door prizes. We need to do enough for each new member and visitor, with maybe 1 or 2 over that. Should usually be no more than 4 or 5.

If you win a door prize, you should bring something the next month.

The Program for November will be Turquoise by Bob Boyd.

<< << << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

**Upcoming Shows and Events**

**Our next meeting is at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 3rd**  
**at The Waco Gem and Mineral Club**  
187 South McLennan Drive in Elm Mott, Texas



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 (254) 707-1341 or email: [wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com](mailto:wacogemandmineralclub@gmail.com). Visit our website for more information and to download your application. [www.wacogemandmineral.org](http://www.wacogemandmineral.org)

**November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018:** Saturday 10 a.m. November Monthly Meeting at the WGM Clubhouse.

**November 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>, 2018:** Saturday and Sunday MESQUITE, TEXAS: Annual show; Dallas Gem & Mineral Society; Rodeo Center Exhibition Hall, 1800 Rodeo Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5

<< << << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

## November Birthstone: Topaz or Citrine

# NOVEMBER BIRTHSTONES

Individuals born in November can choose between two sunny gemstones to brighten up this chilly month. November's birthstones, topaz and citrine, are both known for their calming energies, bringing warmth and fortune to those who wear them.

Topaz and citrine look so similar, in fact, that they've often been mistaken for one another throughout history. They are actually unrelated minerals, and topaz occurs in a wide spectrum of colors far beyond yellow.

Both of November's birthstones are fairly abundant and affordably priced, even in large sizes, which means everyone can find a way to fit topaz and citrine into their budget.



Through much of history, all yellow gems were considered topaz and all topaz was thought to be yellow. Topaz is actually available in many colors, and it's likely not even related to the stones that first donned its name.

The name topaz derives from Topazios, the ancient Greek name for St. John's Island in the Red Sea. Although the yellow stones famously mined there probably weren't topaz, it soon became the name for most yellowish stones.

Pure topaz is colorless, but it can become tinted by impurities to take on any color of the rainbow. Precious topaz, ranging in color from brownish orange to yellow, is often mistaken for "smoky quartz" or "citrine quartz," respectively—although quartz and topaz are unrelated minerals.

The most prized color is Imperial topaz, which features a vibrant orange hue with pink undertones. Blue topaz, although increasingly abundant in the market, very rarely occurs naturally and is often caused by irradiation treatment.

The largest producer of quality topaz is Brazil. Other sources include Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Russia, Australia, Nigeria, Germany, Mexico and the U.S., mainly California, Utah and New Hampshire.

Measuring 8 on the Mohs scale, topaz is a rather hard and durable gem. Its perfect cleavage can make it prone to chipping or cracking, but when cut correctly, topaz makes very wearable jewelry.

Topaz is a soothing stone that has been said to calm tempers, cure madness and eliminate nightmares.



Erica Courtney

---

November's second birthstone, citrine, is the variety of quartz that ranges from pale yellow to brownish orange in color. It takes its name from the citron fruit because of these lemon-inspired shades.

The pale-yellow color of citrine closely resembles topaz, which explains why November's two birthstones have been so easily confused throughout history.

Citrine's yellow hues are caused by traces of iron in quartz crystals. This occurs rarely in nature, so most citrine on the market is made by heat treating other varieties of quartz—usually the more common, less expensive purple amethyst and smoky quartz—to produce golden gems.

Brazil is the largest supplier of citrine. Other sources include Spain, Bolivia, France, Russia, Madagascar and the U.S. (Colorado, North Carolina and California). Different geographies yield different shades of citrine.

With a hardness of 7 on the Mohs scale, citrine is relatively durable against scratches and everyday wear-and-tear—making it a lovely option for large, wearable jewelry.

Citrine is sometimes known as the “healing quartz” for its ability to comfort, soothe and calm. It can release negative feelings, spark imagination and manifest fresh beginnings. It's even called the “merchant's stone” for its tendency to attract wealth and prosperity.

<< << << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

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.

<< << << << << << << << << << <> >> >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

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](http://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.



### November Calendar of Events

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