Officers and Chair positions for 2018.

President: Pam Nolen  
pamsnolen@gmail.com

1st VP of Field Trips:  
CJ Wright  
cjzwright@icloud.com

2nd VP of Programs:  
Vacant

Secretary: Dora Hale  
campmaeent@aol.com

Treasurer: Schuyler Bullock  
682.365.0517; sbbr@cirranet.net  
657 Deer Valley Rd  
Weatherford, TX 76085

Sunshine Chair: Fran Loyd  
817.822.6954  
Fran.loyd@att.net

Show Chair/Vendor Chair:  
Janice Craddock  
fwgmc.info@gmail.com

Website Manager:  
Stephanie Moran  
fwgmc.webmaster@gmail.com

Shop Foreman: David Nolen  
dbnolen49@verizon.net  
(correction)

Your new Newsletter Editor is Bert Pool. Bert is a new FWGMC member. He is taking over the editing task, previously done by Janice Craddock. Janice has done an admirable job, and says she is ready to turn the job over to a new editor.

Janice, FWGMC members want to thank you for all your recent Editorial work!

October 23rd Meeting:

This month, there will be a presentation by Bert Pool discussing the incredible pre-Inca and Inca rock working skills found at the Machu Picchu and Sacsayhuamán sites in Peru. Bert will be sharing photos of some of the rock work from both locations.

Potluck & Social Time begins at 7 pm; Meeting at 7:30

This newsletter is distributed the 3rd week of each month. Send articles, announcements, & editorial corrections by the 15th of the month. Permission is granted to reprint material from other sources provided credit is properly cited.

Bert Pool  fwgmc.editor@gmail.com  Newsletter Editor
President’s Note - Pam
Oct. 18

David and I had a great time on our latest adventure. We started in Rocky Mountain National Park where we were fortunate enough to see aspen gold and hear elk bugling. We spent several days there, hiked to a waterfall where the trail was luminous from the sun shining through the aspens. Hunted wildlife with our cameras and enjoyed the scenery.

Our next stop was Denver, where we met up with friends to explore the various Gem & Mineral shows. We began with the original Denver Gem & Mineral show that is put on by the local clubs. They have an entire area where all the clubs are set up doing demonstrations and talking about rocks-my favorite things! I tried panning for gold-not for me. The gold flakes are too small to see. I prefer agates and jaspers- bigger rocks I can slab & cab! Of course there were all kinds of fabulous rocks and cabs that we had to bring home. The 2nd day we went to the show at the Western complex and the Coliseum. There we found some nice rough and bargain cabs. We now have enough to keep us busy for at least a day or two.

The last part of our trip we spent in the Creede area. There we checked out the mining museum. We took the drive through the old mining areas and stopped in at the Last Chance Mine to collect sowbelly agate. We found gold here too - the aspens were at their peak of gold, they were absolutely beautiful. All to soon it was time to come home.

Now the weather is cooler, time to start planning some new rock adventures, hope to see you at a few of them. Until then....

Peace, Love & Rocks,

Pam
Some of Pam and David’s photos

T-Rex mom giving birth to a future Rock Hound?

Fall Color near Creede, Colorado
May 25-26, 2019 -- That is the date of our annual show at Will Rogers Memorial Center. It has always been Memorial Day weekend. Great way to remember and to let other know about it.

Don't forget we are having a contest for the best t-shirt design for the theme, Rock around the clock. Bring your designs to the October meeting so we can vote on it.

Janice Craddock
Additional Reading

This fossil is one of the world’s earliest animals, according to fat molecules preserved for a half-billion years

Other Gem and Mineral Clubs’ newsletters:
Dallas: http://www.dallasmegandmineral.org/newsletters/
Fredericksburg: http://fredericksburgrockhounds.org/newsletter/
Houston: https://hgms.org/publications/current-bbg/

Shop & Class News

Oct 18 Shop Report

Happy Halloween! I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather. We have been busy on Thursday nights. The cab class is moving right along, as well as equipment repairs as we try to keep everything running. So, if you are looking for something to do on Thursday nights, come on out and join us - we always have fun. – David

Our lapidary class has expanded. We were excited to see so many new faces eager to learn how to cut and polish a cabochon. Thanks to Ted and Pam for helping me teach the class. We hope to finish up by the end of the month. Perhaps some of the students will bring in there completed projects to the next meeting. - Janice

Students give their full attention, as Ted explains the preparation of a cabochon blank before it is ground and polished.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

October:  
10-1 Jacque Brock  
10-3 Ted Thayer  
10-5 Jeanie Taylor  
10-21 Little Bear Griffin  
10-25 Janice Burns

November:  
11-05 Jeanie Taylor  
11-21 Jeanette Rawls

Additional Reading

Students give their full attention, as Ted explains the preparation of a cabochon blank before it is ground and polished.
Cooler fall weather is here, and we finally have a respite from our fierce Texas sun. It is not surprising that a number of people have been asking each other, “Isn’t it about time for a field trip to South Texas?”
You bet!

Below are the specifics for a great CERA related field trip to go find those special fossils, agates and other south Texas rocks that you need to slab and cab, or just to fill-in your collection.

**PLEASE RSVP to Cera.fieldtrips@gmail.com**
This trip requires RSVP for the trip to receive communication before and during the trip. If you decide at the last minute to come, just meet us at the Balmorhea Rock Shop or at the Terlingua Ranch prior to the times listed below. Trips are subject to change due to weather, collecting site information, etc.

**Purpose:** To collect agates, petrified wood, jasper, calcite and more in West Texas.

**November 7th, Travel day to Balmorhea, TX**
Hotels:
- Cactus Motel - Rated 3.9 - 432-375-0652
- El Oso Flojo Lodge - Rated 4.0 - 432-375-0459
- The Eleven Inn - Rated 4.8 - 432-375-2263

**Balmorhea Blue Agate Collection Site**
**November 8th**
Meet at the Rock Shop in Balmorhea TX, at 9:00 a.m. We will carpool to the collecting site. After collecting we will go back to the Balmorhea Rock Shop or you can go on to Terlingua for the night.

**Terlingua Ranch - Headquarters for the Terlingua stay**
Cabins, RV sites and campsites available Call for reservations 432-371-3146
They are holding a block of rooms through October 15th. Make your reservations soon as cabins are limited.
November 8th - Check-in at the Terlingua Ranch Office for your camp site or cabin.

**Terlingua Ranch Restaurant - 7:00 a.m. each day**
November 9th - 11th - Meet us for breakfast each morning, 7:00 a.m. at the Terlingua Ranch Restaurant or outside of the office at 8:00 a.m. for the trip to the collecting sites.

Terlingua Ranch
16000 Terlingua Ranch Road
432-371-3146

The location will be decided on each day. While you may not know where we are going each day, expect some spectacular locations.
Take picks, large screwdriver or chisel, eye protection, rain gear. You will need buckets and containers for your agate finds.
These are remote locations, so bring plenty of snacks and water.

The usual precautions - Bring sunscreen, hats, gloves, bug spray and plenty of water for the day. Wear old clothes and sturdy shoes. Watch for rattlesnakes and other things that reach out and grab you - like mesquite, bushes, West Texas cactus, horny old prospectors, etc....

Big Bend National Park and the State Park are close by (no collecting in the Park). Plan to come a few days early if you want to spend time in the park. It is best to visit the park before you load up on rocks so there is no question about illegal collecting.

As always, respect private property and collect only on roads or washes where collecting is allowed.

There may still be some slots available for the Field Trip to Post Oak, Sherman Texas.

Trip 2 – Field Trip to Post Oak Creek Sherman, TX to collect Fossils, teeth, bones, bottles, Calcite, arrow heads, and more

When: Dec 1st, 2pm to Dark

Cost: Free

Who: Everyone is welcome to sign up. Children are allowed, but must be accompanied by an adult!

Come and go as you please.

All that wish to attend please send me your email(s) so I can put you on the sign up list. It doesn’t matter if you show up. I we will be here no matter what.

Collecting will be done in the creek. About 100 to 400 feet from parking. Small hill to get in creek. You will get a little muddy. Children are allowed, but must be accompanied by an adult!

We will be nice enough to always use good judgment and conduct ourselves in a safe manor. No littering. If you see litter please pick it up.

Dress for cool weather. It is a good idea to have water boots for feet, but not necessary. Bring your cameras.

We will be looking for and finding marine fossils and other things. Many species of sharks teeth will be found. Please bring small zip lock baggies for small fossils. For the experts bring a ¼” to ½” screens to sieve the small rocks out.

Directions to meeting location in Sherman, TX: Given to those on the list.

Contact David Dobson – Rocktrading@aol.com
Upcoming Events

**October 19-21—AUSTIN, TEXAS:** Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd.; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; adults $8, seniors $7, ages 13-18 $2, ages 12 and under free; Theme: Copper Minerals, 30+ vendors of jewelry, beads, gemstones, minerals, crystals, fossils and spheres, exhibits (touch table of rocks and fossils, members’ collections), silent auction, demonstrations of faceting, cabbing, fossil cleaning, and polymer clay, "Youth Education Day" Friday, field trips sponsored by Silicon Labs, Gem Mine, Wheel of Fortune, Jewelry Making, Illumination Station, hourly door prizes, grand prize; [www.agms-tx.org](http://www.agms-tx.org)

**October 19-21—Houston, TX, International Gem and Jewelry Show, NRG Center, [https://www.intergem.com/](https://www.intergem.com/)

**October 26-28—GLEN ROSE, TEXAS:** Dallas Paleontological Society; Somervell County Expo Center, 202 Bo Biggs Blvd., Apt. 10208; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 9-5; free admission; [www.dallaspaleo.org](http://www.dallaspaleo.org)

**November 3-4—ODESSA, TEXAS:** Annual show; Midland Gem and Mineral Society Show; Ector County Coliseum, 4201 Andrews Highway, Building D; Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults: $5; Children (6-18) $2; Children 5 and under Free admission; contact Linda, (432) 242-7057; Email: [mgmstx@gmail.com](mailto:mgmstx@gmail.com)

**November 9-11—HUMBLE, TEXAS:** Houston Gem and Mineral Society; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway; Fri. 9-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-5; Adults, Seniors, Children, Scouts; [www.hgms.org](http://www.hgms.org)

**November 17-18—MESQUITE, TEXAS:** Annual show; Dallas Gem & Mineral Society; Rodeo Center Exhibition Hall, 1800 Rodeo Dr.; Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-5; adults, seniors and students $8, family of 4 $20, children $4, Scouts in uniform free; door prizes, grand prize drawing, silent auction, fluorescent display, kids' area, demonstrations of wire wrapping, cabbing, knapping, gold panning, jewelry, slabs, rough, beads; [www.dallasgemandmineral.org](http://www.dallasgemandmineral.org)

**January 19 - 20, 2019, Fredericksburg, TX:** Fredericksburg Rockhounds and SCFMS Convention, Lady Bird Johnson Park
FWGMC MEETING MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p. m. by President Pam Nolen.

Welcome to visitor Elizabeth.

Minutes from August meeting: moved to accept as printed in newsletter by C. J., seconded by David. Passed.

Treasurer’s report: given by Schuyler.

Shop news: David reports that we need bids for a new roof. Committee set up to look into it.

Other shop news: Ted teaching lapidary; Julie and Troy might start doing themes/functions each week.

Field trips: C. J. reports the trip to Martin-Marietta quarry is on again. Rain is expected again. Need T-shirts when doing field trips.

Alpine and points west trip is on for the dates of November 7-1-1.

Show business: Theme = “Rock Around the Clock”. Need a T-shirt design. Janice has ordered post card/flyers.

Other business: Ted suggests we have a “work Saturday” to fix up around the club. Sunday afternoons were suggested as were Thursday nights. Decision to do this on Thursday night of this week.

Club picnic set for October 21 starting at 11:00 a. m. with food about 1:00 p. m. at Mineral Wells city park. Club needs to call city to reserve space. Following this go to Mineral Wells Fossil Park.

Nominating committee needs to be set up for new officers for 2019-2021. Members volunteering for the committee include Janice, Bert, Dora, Julie.

Drawings: Door prize won by Brent. Blue tickets: Julie (2x), Fran, David, Janice B., Little Bear, Janice C., Brent.

Program: A film about the Grand Canyon.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dora M Hale, secretary
**The Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club** was founded in 1950. It is a member of the **American Federation of Mineralogical Societies** and the **South Central Federation of Mineralogical Societies**.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this club is to promote the study of geology, mineralogy, and the lapidary arts. We also strive to stimulate the interest in the searching, and collecting, of minerals and fossils.

**MEETINGS:** Every 4th Tuesday @ 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76110. **Visitors Welcome**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Membership shall be open to anyone interested in the purpose described above. $20.00 per person, per year. $30.00 per family, per year.

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**The Cowtown Cutter**

**Fort Worth Gem and Mineral Club**

**P. O Box 123975**

**Fort Worth, TX 76121**

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**MAILING ADDRESS:** Schuyler Bullock, Treasurer, 657 Deer Valley Rd, Weatherford, TX 76085

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[www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org](http://www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org)