

THE

POUNDS TALE

ROCKHOUND NEWS OF THE ARLINGTON GEM & MINERAL CLUB

VOLUME 106, ISSUE 7

October 2026



Lapidarists hard at work polishing off the rough edges in the new lab...



Contents

<u>FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BENCH</u>	3
<u>October Program – Annual Auction</u>	3
<u>State Fair of Texas – AGMC Members in the Spotlight</u>	4
<u>IMPORTANT CLASS REGISTRATION INFORMATION:</u>	5
<u>Silversmithing News</u>	5
<u>Glass Arts Studio News</u>	5
<u>Polymer Clay & UV Resin Lab</u>	8
<u>Lapidary Lounge</u>	9
<u>CABOCHON COMPETITION 2026</u>	10
<u>AGMC MERCHANDISE</u>	11
<u>70TH ANNUAL SHOW – June 12 and 13, 2027</u>	11
<u>2026 SHOW DEALERS</u>	12
<u>NOTES FROM THE EDITOR</u>	12
<u>AGMC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION</u>	12
<u>AGMC CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION POLICY</u>	12
<u>ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING</u>	13
<u>GARDEN CLUB UPDATE</u>	13
<u>LOCAL AREA CLUB MEETINGS</u>	14
<u>AGMC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u>	14

Save the Date

Parking Lot Sale – October 3, 2026

Annual Club Auction – October 6, 2026

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S BENCH

I want to extend a sincere thank-you to everyone who participated in the recent auctions to help raise funds for two new glass kilns. Your winning bids raised a significant portion of the money needed, not only for the kilns, but also for the additional electrical runs required to operate them safely.

I also want to offer special thanks to a member whose substantial donation put this project over the top. Because of the generosity of our members, the new kilns were ordered on September 8th and should be delivered in 4 to 6 weeks from the ordered date. The electrical runs were installed a few weeks before that so everything will be ready when the kilns arrive.

This is a wonderful example of what AGMC can accomplish when members work together to support the Club and its programs. Thank you to everyone who donated items, bid in the auctions, helped organize them, or otherwise contributed to this effort. As we continue to grow and improve our facilities, it is also important that we maintain a welcoming atmosphere for every member. Each of us shares responsibility for making AGMC a place where people feel respected, included, and comfortable participating. Please be respectful of every member, encourage others, and be willing to help when you can. If you are aware of an issue that may affect the Club or its members, please report it to one of our Delegates at Large, Delbert Speed or Shari Brickner.

There is a great deal happening around the Club, and it can sometimes be difficult to understand why something is being done or what is taking place. If you are unsure, please ask. Good communication helps prevent misunderstandings and keeps our Club moving in a positive direction.

Thank you for all you do for AGMC.

Rick Allen

President, AGMC

Beginning on October 1, 2026 ALL Classes and Labs will be charged

\$5.00 per scheduled hour.

October Program – Annual Auction

AGMC can accept Cash, Checks and Credit Cards.

All items must be paid for together, when you cash out, you can no longer bid.



CRAFT CREATIONS

JEWELRY

BEST OF SHOW - ADULT

ERIC Keller

Grand Prairie, TX

C122. Jewelry: Beadwork



CREATIVE ARTS

JEWELRY

C120. SINGLE ITEM OR MATCHING PIECES

- 1 Drown, Aubree
DALLAS, TX
- 2 Betts, Barbara
BURLESON, TX



IMPORTANT CLASS REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

For up-to-date class information and to sign up for classes/labs, please access the website calendar. [Register for Classes — A G M C \(agmc57.org\)](http://agmc57.org) . **Watch your email for newly added classes.**

Silversmithing News

Soldering Refresher Class

Need a little extra practice with your soldering skills? A Soldering Refresher Class will be offered on the **Wednesday following the end of each Introduction to Silversmithing class.** The next class will be **December 16** and is not on the calendar yet.

Monthly Ring Class – 4th Saturday, 1:00–4:00 PM

We're starting a new monthly ring class! Each month will feature a **different ring design**, beginning with a **Spinner Ring**. Classes will be held on **the 4th Saturday of each month from 1:00–4:00 PM.**

Keep an eye on the calendar—there's always something new to learn at AGMC!

Glass Arts Studio News

A Big Thank You!

What an exciting time for our Glass Arts Studio! We want to extend a heartfelt **thank you to everyone who donated, participated, bid, and helped make our Glass Kiln Auctions a success.** Your generosity and enthusiasm are helping us bring new opportunities and creative possibilities to AGMC.

We are especially grateful to our special donors, **whose extraordinary support** helped make this exciting addition to our Glass Arts Studio possible. Your investment in the glass arts will have a lasting impact on our club.

And now for the exciting news: **our new kilns have been ordered!** They are expected to arrive in approximately **5–6 weeks**, and we can't wait to put them to work.

Thank you for being part of this exciting chapter for our Glass Arts Studio. We are so grateful for your support and can't wait to see what gets created in these new kilns!

The Glass Arts Studio Has a Name!

Our Glass Arts Studio now has a name **on the wall!** Each letter has been uniquely decorated using a variety of glass arts techniques, including **fused glass, glass enamels, mosaics, and Delbert's beautiful enameled beads.**



It's a colorful showcase of the creativity and talent found in our studio. **Next time you're at the club, be sure to stop by and check it out!**

Enamel Glass Bead Making

It's been a long time in the making, but **totally worth the wait!**

Delbert recently taught **two classes on enamel glass bead making**, giving 14 members the opportunity to try this amazingly fun—and surprisingly relaxing—technique.

Everyone had a great time creating their own unique beads, and we ended up with some **incredible and beautiful pieces!** It was wonderful to see the creativity of our members shine through in every bead.

A big thank you to Delbert for sharing his time, knowledge, and talent with us!





Ready to Try Glass Arts?

Interested in taking a glass class but haven't found the time? Now is a great time to get started!

Our last **Fundamentals of Glass class for 2026** is coming up on **October 5**. This class is a prerequisite for all of our other glass classes, so it's the perfect place to begin your glass arts journey.

We're also offering a **Down & Dirty class on October 19!** This is a great opportunity to finish up some of those projects that have been waiting for you. The class is open to anyone looking to **put the finishing touches on a stained glass or mosaic piece from a previous class—whether that means patina for stained glass or grout for mosaics.**

Come join us, get your projects finished, and have some fun in the Glass Arts Studio!

Polymer Clay & UV Resin Lab

Have you taken a polymer clay or UV resin class? You're welcome to join our new combined lab! Bring a project, a question, or an idea you'd like to try. We can help you work through a challenge and experiment together. In some sessions, we'll explore ways to use polymer clay and UV resin in the same piece. Who knows, we might even throw in some salvage art!!

The lab meets on the first Friday of every month, with two sessions: 3–6 p.m. and 6–9 p.m.



Lapidary Lounge

We are grinding and polishing our way into October! Our Lapidary makeover is nearly complete. We have Beginning Cabbing Class and Lapidary Lab events on the calendar thru December.

Cab of the Month, due on or before November 3.

Palmwood, Freeform - Double

Sided, domed both
sides w/girdle

Minimum size 25mm maximum 50mm

Here are a few pictures of our last Beginning Cabbing Class.



We look forward to seeing you in Lapidary!

Shari

CABOCHON COMPETITION 2026

Cab of the Month 2025

Month	(pick up*** at meeting in)	Material	Shape	Size
January	(December)	Picture Jasper, extra points for the best "picture"	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
February	(January)	Any Red stone - extra points for hearts	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
March	(February)	Green Moss Agate	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
April	(March)	Amethyst	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
May	(April)	Lace Agate	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
June	(May)	Jade	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
July	(June)	Sagenite, any variety	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
August	(July)	Turquoise	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
September	(August)	Variscite, any variety	Freeform	25 – 50 mm
October/ November	(September)	Palmwood	Freeform - Double Sided, domed both sides w/girdle	25 – 50 mm
November	Members Vote: Winners announced in December			

Sample Score Card

AGMC Cabochon Contest Score Card			
Criteria:		Notes	
Material – Quality			___/ 20 points
Sanding/ Grinding			___/ 30 points
Contours	10 points		
Flats	10 points		
Scratches	10 points		
Polish			___/ 30 points
Wet finish			
High Luster			
Balance/ Symmetry			___/ 20 Points
		Total	___/100 points

*** Cab of the Month material will be available for purchase at the Monthly Meeting the month before it is due.

January material will be available at December meeting. Updated 11/23/24

AGMC MERCHANDISE

Show Your AGMC Pride – Buy Some Swag!

Want to show off your love for gems, minerals, and all things rock? Our AGMC merchandise has you covered! From practical items to fun collectibles, it's the perfect way to celebrate your club membership.

Choose from **t-shirts, VIP tote bags, tote bags, lanyards**, koozies, and fan-favorite **Arlie pins and patches**. Whether you're looking for something practical, collectible, or just plain fun, there's a little something for everyone.

Stop by the Welcome desk at our monthly club meetings to check it all out and snag your favorites before they're gone. Rock your AGMC pride and support the club at the same time!

70TH ANNUAL SHOW – June 12 and 13, 2027

Want to help make the **AGMC Annual Gem & Mineral Show** the greatest show in DFW? We'd love to have you!

The **Show Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month**, and all club members are welcome to attend. Whether you want to take on a big role, help with a few tasks, share ideas, or just learn more about what goes into putting on our show, there's a place for you.

Our show takes a team, and it's a great way to get involved, meet other members, and help make our annual show something we can all be proud of.

Come join us and be part of the team behind the greatest gem and mineral show in DFW!

CALLING FOR RAFFLE ITEMS – 70TH ANNUAL SHOW



Do you have a unique creation, giftable item, or special something others would love? We're looking for club related raffle donations of all kinds—handmade pieces, art, themed baskets, tools, The more variety, the more fun!

Raffle items are a big part of what makes our annual show so exciting, and they help support our programs throughout the year. Plus, it's a great way to showcase your creativity and contribute to the community.

Ready to donate? Donation forms are available at the welcome desk—stop by, fill one out, and join in!

Let's make this 70th show one to remember!

2026 SHOW DEALERS

Need to find one of the Dealers - Look Here [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1XhdEA-HhdXhtKMaatOW1nY02jaH_ZoBUbQ1PjdYHIHo/edit?usp=sharing] for pictures of the dealers booth from the show, their business card, and a few items from their display

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

The newsletter is only as good as the contributions of AGMC Members.

- Have you entered a contest/juried show with your stone, metal or glass work?
 - Share your entry and experience...
- Have you taken a club/personal field trip?
 - Share your finds and experiences...
- Have you found a new source of material?
 - Provide a review...
- Have you completed a new project?
 - Share the process...
- Your submission can be as simple as a captioned photograph or as complex as a story from Nancy Hamm or anything between.

FORMATTING:

- Please send submissions via email.
- Please send photos as attachments – the inline photos do not always come through – If you are concerned about formatting, send a .pdf AND the necessary text and images.
- Please LIMIT the number of Emoji – your phone loves them, my computer... not so much.

AGMC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INFORMATION

When you're ready to renew, go to our website at: <https://www.agmc57.org/membership-center> - Choose your appropriate renewal option and input the required information. Then you can pay with credit/debit cards or mail your payment to the address shown toward the end of the renewal process. Please add the membership email address to your contacts so that you get reminders about your dues renewal. If you haven't paid dues recently please check your expiration date on the member roster on the club website as your membership may have expired.
agmcmembership@gmail.com

AGMC CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION POLICY

All donated items including but not limited to cash, jewelry or equipment must be accompanied by a completed "AGMC Charitable Donation Form", available online on the AGMC Website or in the AGMC Library. This includes outside donations directly to the Club AND internal donations designated for auctions, raffles, and club use.

If you have a question about an item, please contact Greg, the Donation Chair, prior to delivery at designsbygreg2021@gmail.com

If a donated item would better benefit the Club as a sale or auction item, the Club reserves the right to use it in that manner.

Thank you for your generosity, Greg Rector.

ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLING

Please bring any empty aluminum cans (soft drinks or other cans that are all-aluminum) you may have and drop them off for recycling. That will help raise money for supplies and materials the club needs to support providing more activities and maintaining the clubhouse.

GARDEN CLUB UPDATE

The Garden Committee Is Back!

The Garden Committee took a little **time out to stay cool during the heat of summer**, but we're ready to get back to work!

There's plenty to do, and we'd love your help. Want to **pull some weeds, lay some pavers, or help spruce up the garden?** Come join us!

We're also looking for donations of materials. If you have **leftover mulch, pavers, or extra garden soil** that you're not using, we'd be happy to put them to good use. Let us know if you have something to share.

Every helping hand—and every bit of material—helps make our club grounds a little more beautiful!

Once we have a date in October we will send out an email blast.

LOCAL AREA CLUB MEETINGS

Dallas Gem & Mineral Society,
10205 Plano Rd, off of Plano Rd, Dallas, TX,

meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month
Social time starts at 7:00 pm. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

<https://www.dallasgemandmineral.org/>

Dallas Paleontological Society,
EMGI (Bldg. H, Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, TX 75244),

Meets the 2nd Wednesday each month at 7:30 pm

<https://www.dallaspaleo.org/>

Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft Worth, TX,
meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

<http://www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org/>

CERA Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club,
CERA's Bryant Irvin Recreation Complex, 3300 Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, TX 76109, meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm.

<https://cera-fw.org/gem-mineral-glass/>

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas
Meets the First Monday of each month,
Knights of Columbus Hall, 3722 Cavalier Dr., Garland, TX. 7:00 PM,

<https://pogmc.org/>

AGMC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEETING: 7:00 PM, Last Tuesday of the month

ELECTED OFFICERS (Voting)

President Rick Allen
Secretary Nancy Hamm
Treasurer Jan Jones
1st Vice Pres. (Operational/Educational Classes) Jennifer Graham
2nd Vice Pres. (Programs) Lynn Simpson
3rd Vice Pres. (Field Trips) Michael Koenig
4th Vice Pres. (Youth Programs) Kathia Robles
Delegate at Large (Ombudsperson) Delbert Speed
Delegate at Large 2 (Ombudsperson) Shari Brickner

APPOINTED POSITIONS (Voting)

Bulletin (The Hound's Tale) Editor Sandra Geil
Show Chairperson Terri Brewen
Membership Chairperson Shane Slaughter
Finance Chair John Guerra
Hospitality Chair Deena Norfleet
Security Chair Nick Hensley

APPOINTED POSITIONS (Non-Voting)

Arlie Bucks Committee Chairperson Nadira Charaniya
Building/ Equipment /Grounds Chair Steve Simpson
Constitution/By-Laws/Parliamentary Procedure Chairperson *pending appointment*
Display Case Chair Jennifer Graham
Donations Chair Greg Rector
Historian Chairperson Delbert & Joyce Speed
International Gem & Jewelry Nancy Hamm
Library Chairperson – Jana Aaron
Long-Range Planning Chairperson John Guerra
Webmaster – IT – Kathia Robles
Welcome Chairperson Jennifer Graham

CLASS and LAB DEPARTMENT CHAIRS (Non-Voting)

Beading Chair - Audrey Dragg
Casting Chair – Metal Deena Norfleet
Enamel Chair - Barbara Maloney
Fabrication Chair – *pending appointment*
Glass Chairs – Lynn Simpson, Steve Simpson, Jennifer Graham
Lapidary Department Chair - Shari Brickner
PMC (Precious Metal Clay) Chair - Nadira Charaniya
Silversmithing Chair Terri Brewen
Eclectic Studies Chair – Nancy Hamm
Gardening Chair – *pending appointment*
The HOUND'S TALE
Published monthly by the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club.

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club		Our Club Purpose is to encourage the study of earth sciences, lapidary arts, and other related fields, and to enjoy good fellowship with those who share like interests.
Member of South Central Federation of Mineral Societies		ADS AND ARTICLES Lapidary related ads and articles from members of AGMC are welcome. They will be placed on a space available basis, first in first out. Send to the alexandraeryn@yahoo.com
And American Federation of Mineralogical Societies		Contact Us Arlington Gem and Mineral Club 1408 GIBBINS ROAD, ARLINGTON, TEXAS, 76011 AGMC57.org  Find us on: facebook®

Business Meeting & Program
First Tuesday of the Month at 7:30 pm
Executive Committee Meeting
Last Tuesday at 7:00 pm

ARLINGTON GEM AND MINERAL CLUB
1408 GIBBINS ROAD,
ARLINGTON, TEXAS, 76011