



A monthly publication of the Clear Lake Gem & Mineral Society

VOLUME 48

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NUMBER 10



NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Oct 18, 2022

TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Helen Hall Library
100 W Walker St.
League City, Tx 77573

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October Monthly Meeting	1	<p><u>October MONTHLY MEETING</u></p> <p>We will have a very good presentation for this month. James Brittenham and Charles Shupe will give a presentation on Faceting Part 2.</p> <p>Please also bring something for a 5 minutes show and tell.</p> <p>Please come and join us.</p> <p>http://www.clgms.org/</p>
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MINUTES OF THE September CLGMS GENERAL MEETING

If you have any article that other members might like to read, please email them to David and he will see if they can be added to the Newsletter.

A site was found to buy our red vest for the club and David will investigate getting it started, so that we can get better fitting vest for everyone. – **Vests were ordered and will be arriving soon.**

Blue and yellow bags and pens will be ordered for the next Show in March. – **Will be ordered soon.**

He will also see how much flashlights with batteries would cost too – **Still looking for availability and prices.**

Fieldtrips will start back up in the Fall when it cools down again.

The September speakers, Miranda Reed, gave an awesome presentation on “The Energy of Crystals”. If you want or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact her at: **Phone: 832-483-7335**

Email: the.crystal.herbal.alchemist@gmail.com

The Board will start to meet on every odd month and February.

Christmas Holiday meal date will be December 13, 2022, at 7pm. We still need to find a place, but we are getting there.

Does any member know what rock shops are still in business? Please let us know also let us know about other gem and mineral societies in the state.

October speakers: James Brittenham and Charles Shupe – Faceting Gemstone Part 2.

Christina will speak about the Birthstone's of the Month.

MINUTES OF THE October CLGMS BOARD MEETING.

There is **NO** October meeting (even month).

September BOD meeting agenda (Repost):

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society Board Meeting at Panera Bread on 9/6/2022.

We still need to establish a “buddy” system for a few officers (Treasurer and Show Chairperson)

We also need to have a centralized documentations site for easy access by the officers and BOD members. Will be discussed with a few people involved – Google or Microsoft?

The club might need a few ambassadors to attend other clubs’ shows.

The Board members decided to have Monthly board members meeting on the Odd months (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) + February (needed due to our normal show).

The General meeting will be held on 3rd Tuesdays every month (No changes).

Our next show will be March 18-19, 2023.

Please check out our Facebook page: **Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society.**

Field Trips Announcement

Currently – no field trips are scheduled.

Several field trip sites are being considered in the fall.

If you have a good location for our club field trip – please contact:
annabel.brownfield@gmail.com or call/text: 281-486-1866.

Upcoming events - We are looking forward to the following program(s).

Faceted Gemstones – Part 2

You loved our “Introduction to faceted gemstones” presentation back in May so our members, James Brittenham & Charles Shupe are back to give you more!

This presentation will focus on how to read a facet diagram and how a faceting machine operates. You don’t want to miss it.



October Birthstones

www.americangemsociety.org › opal-history

Opal History

In 75 AD, the Roman scholar Pliny compared opals to volcanoes and vibrant paintings, noting that their dancing “play” of rainbow colors could simulate shades of any gemstone.

Centuries of legends surround opal gemstones. During the Middle Ages, opal was thought to bring the wearer luck. However, that changed in the early 1800s when a story was published about an enchanted princess who wore an opal that changed colors with her moods. A few drops of holy water extinguished the stone’s magic fire, though, and the woman soon died.

Discoveries of opal deposits in Australia revived opal’s image after 1850. The country began producing 95 percent of the world’s opal gemstone supply and many of its finest opal specimens.

The world's largest and most valuable opal, "Olympic Australis," came from [Coober Pedy](#), Australia in 1956, during the Olympic Games in Melbourne. Valued at \$2.5 million in 2005, this gemstone measures 11 inches long and weighs 17,000 carats (7.6 pounds).

After scientists discovered the spherical silica structure of opal in the 1960s, they figured out how to create synthetic opal in 1974.

Since then, opal gemstones have gained more popularity through recent discoveries in Ethiopia. Material mined in the [Shewa Province](#) in 1994 wasn't desirable because it was dark and tended to crack easily. Deposits in the [Wollo Province](#), discovered in 2008, brought vivid play-of-color displays to the opal market.

Australia's depleting supplies of classic opal have impacted the price of this uniquely kaleidoscopic gemstone. Because its flashing play-of-color can suit many changing moods and tastes, the opal stays in high demand.

How to Buy Opal Jewelry

Opal's kaleidoscopic play-of-color can suit many changing moods and tastes, making this gemstone appropriate for anyone. It is also the traditional gift to celebrate 14th wedding anniversaries. Like diamonds, opals can be evaluated by color, clarity, cut, and carat weight. But these unique gemstones also have several additional conditions to consider.

Opal gems and jewelry should be stored in a place where they aren't exposed to high temperatures or low humidity in order to avoid dehydration and crazing. Be sure they are in a padded cloth bag to avoid being scratched by other jewelry. For longer storage periods, place your opal in cotton wool with a few drops of water.

Color

Color is the key factor of opal quality: both the background "body color" and the flashing "play-of-color." Dark backgrounds provide more contrast against vivid play-of-color, making black opal more highly valued than milky white varieties.

Warm colors like red and orange are generally rarer and more valuable than common blues and greens, although color range and coverage also play a role.

Pattern

Pattern is another factor unique to opal. Descriptive names like "stained glass," "peacock," "rolling fire," and "Chinese writing" distinguish opal patterns. Gemologists typically prefer large, concentrated patches over small specks.

Clarity

Different opal varieties have varying clarity standards. Crystal opals should be transparent, while opacity makes black opals more valuable. A cloudy, milky haze lowers any opal's value, and may indicate instability.

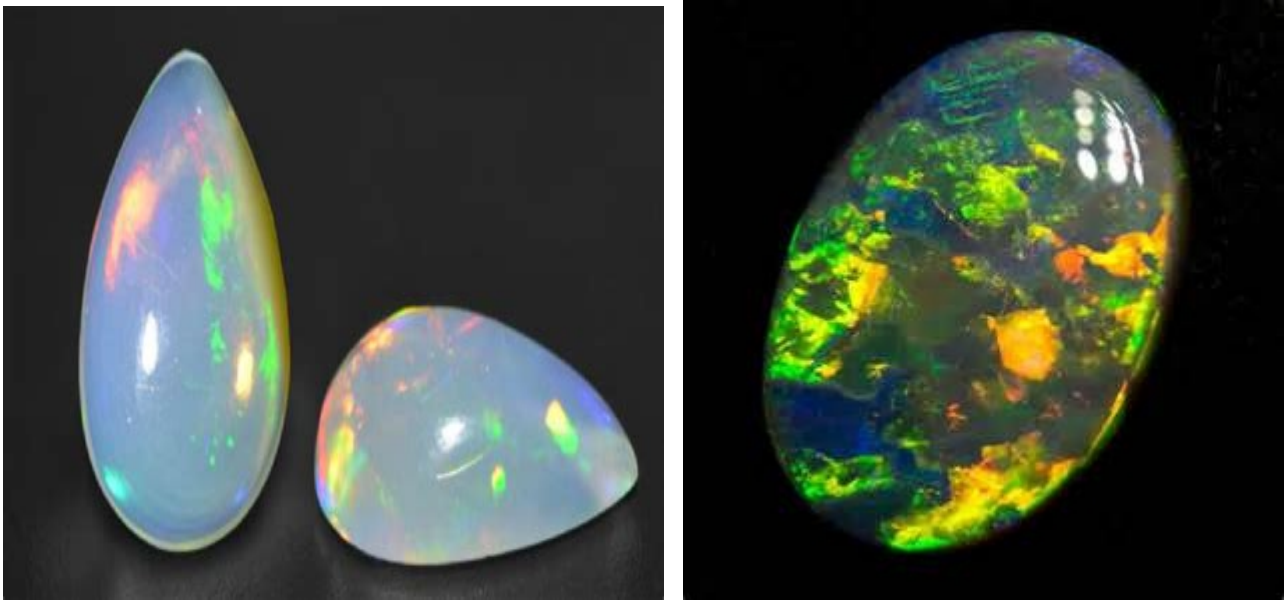
Due to high water content, opal can easily crack or "craze" under extreme temperatures, dehydration, or direct light. Crazed opal sells at much lower prices, and is more susceptible to fracture. Even high-quality opal demands delicate care to preserve its unique beauty.

Cut

Fine opals are often cut into irregular shapes to emphasize play-of-color. When possible, opals should be cut cabochon with rounded domes. But most opal comes in thin layers, which are commonly mounted on another dark stone like onyx or obsidian (as a doublet) and sometimes capped with clear glass or plastic (as a triplet) to make this fragile gemstone more wearable.

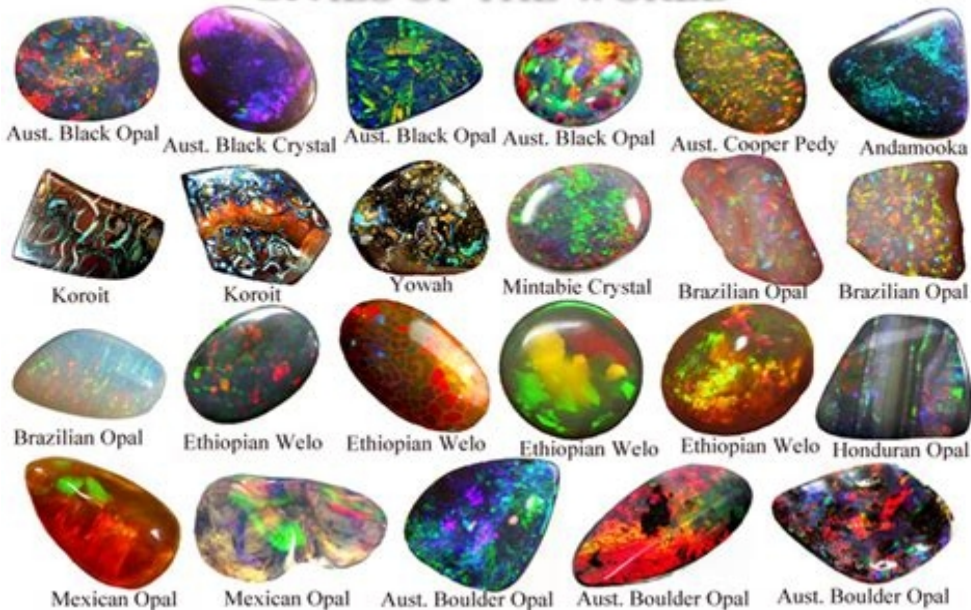
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Opal gemstones may be treated with wax, oil, smoke, plastic, or other additives to enhance luster. Identifying enhancements or synthetic materials may require specialized lab equipment, so it's best to work with an American Gem Society jeweler who understands the criteria that determine opal's value.



OPALS OF THE WORLD

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SCFMS and MEMBER CLUB GEM SHOWS

<p>Oct: 1-2 CABOT, AR, Central Arkansas GM&GS, Cabot Event Center</p> <p>8-9 FORT WORTH, TEXAS: Annual Show, Cowtown Gem Mineral and Glass Club, CERA 1300 Bryant Irvin Road, Forth Worth, TX</p> <p>8-9 TEMPLE, TEXAS: Annual show; Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society; Mayborn Civic and Convention Center, 3303 N. 3rd St.</p> <p>14-16 WESTWEGO, LA, G&MS of Louisiana, The John A Alario Event Center. SCFMS & AFMS Show and Convention</p> <p>12-23 AUSTIN, TX, Austin G&MS, Palmer Events Center</p>	<p>Nov: 5-6 AMARILLO, TX, Golden Spread GM&TS, Amarillo Civic Center Complex</p> <p>11-13 HUMBLE, TX, Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center</p> <p>19-20 MESQUITE, TX, Dallas G&MS, Mesquite Convention Center</p>	<p>Dec : DeRidder (Leeville, LA)</p>

STONEY STATEMENTS
 Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc

 PO BOX 891533
 Houston, Texas 77289

Meeting 3rd Tuesday of the Month
7:00 P.M.
 League City Library
 100 W Walker St, League City, Tx 77573



Member of

Next Annual Show
 March 18-19, 2023
 Pasadena Convention Center

CLGMS is on the Web:
<http://www.clgms.org>
FACEBOOK: CLEAR LAKE GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY.



American Federation of Mineral Societies

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Clear Lake Gem and Mineral Society, Inc			
MEMBER: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies and South Central Federation of Mineral Societies			
PURPOSE: To promote education and popular interest in the various earth sciences; in particular in those hobbies dealing with the art of lapidaries and the earth sciences of minerals, fossils and their associated fields.			
2022 OFFICERS:	President	Cynthia McGowan	281-546-2662
	Vice President	David Tjiok	832-423-4802
	Secretary	Christina Rankin	281-723-5408
	Treasurer	Morgan Davies	281-224-2444
	Program Director	VACANT	
	Board of Directors:	Sandra Christiansen	John Caldyne
		Jim Edwards	Jim Hawkins
	Newsletter Editor	Donna Nelson	
		David Tjiok	
Annual Show 2023 Sandra Christiansen Constitution & Bylaws.....Jim Hawkins Membership.....Mike Flannigan Community Benefits.....Charlie Timme WWW System Admin..Mike Flannigan Historian.....David Tjiok Refreshments.....James Brittenham Publicity..... Annabel Brownfield Education/Field Trips.....Annabel Brownfield/ Facebook.....Cynthia McGowan James Brittenham			
Membership Dues Jan. to Dec. 2022: Adult \$15:00, Family Dues \$20.00 (4+) at same address. Send Dues to CLGMS, PO BOX 891533, Houston, TX, 77289			