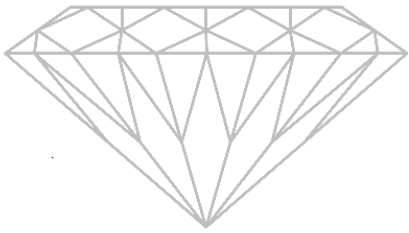


# The Midwest Faceter



The Official Newsletter of the Midwest Faceter's Guild  
October 2020

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## *Officers and Contacts*



The following officers were elected at the MWFG Annual Meeting October 24, 2020.

|                               |                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President: Scott Kelley       | e-mail: <a href="mailto:mrscottwkelley@gmail.com">mrscottwkelley@gmail.com</a>       |
| Vice President: Marie Bellard | e-mail: <a href="mailto:amattera.llc@gmail.com">amattera.llc@gmail.com</a>           |
| Secretary: Linda Cunningham   | e-mail: <a href="mailto:Indacunngm@gmail.com">Indacunngm@gmail.com</a>               |
| Treasurer: Max Lautzenheiser  | e-mail: <a href="mailto:max.lautzenheiser@gmail.com">max.lautzenheiser@gmail.com</a> |

A special big thanks to the outgoing officers who served with distinction, which included: Blake Glupker as President, Virginia Steele as Vice President, Barb Yost as Secretary, and Max Lautzenheiser (re-elected) as Treasurer.

## *About the Guild*

The Guild began in 1979 and its mission includes:

- ❖ To promote education and recreation
- ❖ To develop the art of faceting
- ❖ To exchange information related to faceting
- ❖ To provide meetings for those of like interests
- ❖ To promote the achievement of individuals

## *From the President*



I think it is an honor and a duty to be the President of the Midwest Faceter's Guild. Yes, I have been thinking of the future of the Guild and was inspired even more with all the candidates running for the future of our organization.

The knowledge and expertise within our Guild are amazing. I myself am so hand taught that being around educated folk makes me feel, little, but proud. To know I share a common goal with such outstanding people makes me feel, comfortable. And that is what has brought me here today.

I am a troubleshooter. I was taught how to find a problem within something that was not working right without ever seeing it work. Problem solving comes rather easy to me at times and most times after a good sleep I figure it out. I go to bed many times with a project on my mind and escape into the dream of working on it, strange enough I stir all evening while sleeping to find the next morning popping out of

bed and solving my problem. Sometimes, sad enough, with a big sigh, things called realization come to play and it just cannot be fixed. This does happen, and I get a little depression from it, sad that I couldn't make it right, I guess. Nonetheless, not a failure by any means, but a "Happy Mistake" of learning, because that will not happen again, we say.

Till the next time.  
Your President,  
Scott Kelley

## ***The Editor's Gems***



As your newest editor for the *Midwest Faceter* I am Dr. Reg Arthur Williams. I stepped up to take on the responsibility from Cristine since she was doing so many activities for the Guild and had too many other responsibilities. She needed help! So here I am--many of you know me, but if not--here is a bit of my background. I was born and raised in a small coal mining and railroad town called Helper, Utah. When I was at University of Utah, I had a college deferment during the Vietnam war. I knew that the deferment would end when I graduated--I wanted to control my future rather than the Army dictate what I would be doing--therefore, I joined the Navy. I was fortunate to receive a Navy scholarship that paid for my last two years of college. My first duty station was Naval Hospital, Pensacola, Florida for one year and two years at Naval Hospital, St. Albans on Long Island, New York, where I took care of too many young men injured in the war. At the time, women were not allowed to be in combat. After leaving active duty, I went to graduate school at University of Washington in Seattle in Psychosocial Nursing. I taught for four years at University of Washington, then completed my Ph.D. in Higher Education. I came to University of Michigan as Chair of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing. I remained in the Naval Reserve, was the Commanding Officer of a medical unit, and retired from the Navy as a Captain (O-6). My research was in stress and depression and as a Principal Investigator, I had 15 plus years of research funding from Department of Defense, to help young men and women in the military. I taught many psychiatric-mental health and research courses and had a large number of master's and doctoral students. They all would call me Dr. Reg, so the name stuck. I hold a joint appointment as Professor Emeritus in the School of Nursing, and Psychiatry, Medical School at University of Michigan and I still carry a small caseload of patients I treat for depression.

On a personal note, I am married and my wife, Yvonne, is a nurse and retired from University of Michigan. She has a Ph.D. in Industrial and Operations Engineering from University of Michigan. My daughter lives in Aurora, Colorado and my son lives in St. Louis, MO. It has been sometime since we have seen them given this pandemic, but we do phone calls on a regular basis. I am also a private pilot and had my own plane but sold it almost 2 years ago. I just was not flying enough with Michigan weather! It was hard to let go of my plane, but I have other callings.

I have published near 90 research articles and five books. Now you would think that would make me ideal as an editor! Not so quick! When I write a document, I too frequently miss words, have incomplete sentences, or mess up grammar. I am sure the word is there but do not see what is missing. That does not bode well for an editor! So please bear with me if I miss words or make forbidden grammatical errors.

I have been a life-long learner, so I started faceting when I retired from University of Michigan in 2012 and taught myself. I made a ton of mistakes, but I got tremendous enjoyment in the art of faceting and loved making a rough stone into a sparkling gem! I started out with a Facetron faceting machine, but after two years I wanted a machine that was more accurate and easier to use. So, I have an Ultra Tec V5 faceting machine and an Ultra Tec Fantasy machine and I also became the Michigan representative for Ultra Tec. I enjoyed faceting but you could have put on a pin head what I knew about gemology. I completed the International School of Gemology (ISG) program in 2015 to become a Registered Gemologist. Along with faceting, I have a number of hobbies including woodworking, video production, and drawing with graphite and colored pencils.

Now with all that background, let me conclude this Editor's Gems with the fact I have a number of ideas of how we can make this *Midwest Faceter* a dynamic document, but obviously need your help. When I did the interviews with members of the Guild and produced the Report to the Guild last October, a number of you indicated you were willing to write an article for the *Midwest Faceter*. I know who you are—well a number of you, but if you have an idea for an article, do let me know. We have about four gemologists in the Guild and they can share some of their expertise/knowledge. There are other areas in this issue that I will mention where members can contribute, so do step up to the call. We will negotiate a clear expectation and you are not signing on for an unending task. Remember I have been in more leadership positions than I care to count, so I know how to set reasonable and doable expectations, otherwise it is down for 20 push-ups—remember I was in the Navy! If that does not create motivation, then my being an educator--you will get a lousy grade!

## ***Minutes from the Last Meeting***



### **Midwest Faceter's Guild 7/21/2020 meeting minutes**

7:05 pm Meeting was called to order by President Blake Glupker

Attending via Zoom were, Blake, Cristine, Max, Richard, Roger, Joe, Linda, Josh, Caroline, Eric, Virginia and Barb.

This is our first meeting of 2020, meeting was scheduled in January and cancelled due to weather, we did have a meeting scheduled in February hosted by Blake and 3 members attended Eric, Caroline and Barb. Lovely discussion was held along with good food provided by Blake. As this was not well attended it was not considered an official meeting.

Then covid19 hit and all things were put on hold.

Secretary did not have any minutes to report as all minutes to date had been reported and published.

Treasurer's report was submitted and approved. It was mentioned that we pay for 3 website domains all of which "point" to our website. Federation dues were paid along with the annual report for our 401c.

Cristine reported that we are now able to accept PayPal as a form of payment for membership and future seminars. All members are still able to mail their dues or hand deliver. This is just a convenience not a mandatory way to pay.

Christine also mentioned the website has been updated. Several members state they are grateful for the time and effort Cristine puts into the website. It looks great.

Old Business:

Shelby Gems has gone out of business and there is no longer rough available from that source.

Eric Peterson was able to procure \$350.00 worth of rough on behalf of the Guild. It was noted that at the February gathering Eric brought some of the rough he had purchased for personal use, and Blake as President and Barb as seminar chair authorized spending \$200.00. After that purchase Blake and Eric spoke and agreed to increase the amount to \$350.00. Eric mentioned he had not yet been paid or given the rough to the Guild. As a side note, Max, Cristine, and Barb met with Eric and the Guild is now in possession of a large quantity of synthetic rough. Eric has been paid. The rough was sorted, boxed and put in the Guild's trailer. 2020 Seminar is not happening due to Covid19 restrictions.

New business:

Kathryn Meyers has a Prismatic machine for sales along with laps.

USFG will be holding a virtual symposium on the weekend. It would be worth checking out. Remember it is taking place on central time. One hour ahead of us.

Christine brought up the fact that the membership has talked several times regarding insurance for the guild trailer. Nothing has taken place to date and it is agreed that we should have, fire, theft, liability, bonding.

Small on profits could look at \$130.00 a year as an estimate. How mentioned he had some thoughts and mentioned 3 policies. He will look into pricing and what is necessary and get back to us.

It is time for Election of Officers. Blake will appoint a committee and is trusting members will be willing to serve. The election will take place in October during the annual meeting. More details as they become available.

There are two Guild Facebook pages. One is a private group and could and should be used to discuss member only items. The other is a public group and anyone can see the posts. It is a fun way to share our passion with the general public.

Discussion regarding the seminar for 2021. It was mentioned that the date will be in August. Roger has some thoughts on gaining attention in the market for the Guild and the seminar and is willing to assist.

The Zoom information meetings are a great addition to our Guild. Thank you, Roger, for hosting and for recording so those who can't attend can watch at a later time.

Blake thanked all of us for attending the Zoom meeting. Our next meeting will be August 25th at 7:00 pm. Watch for details via email.

Meeting was closed at 7:47 pm

Respectfully submitted

Barb Yost

MWFG Secretary

### **Midwest Faceter's Guild Meeting**

8-25-2020

Via Zoom

7:19 p.m.: President Blake Glupker called meeting to order. Began late due to difficulties with the invitation link.

8 Members present – Blake, Dr. Reg, Christine, Max, Caroline, Linda, Steve(?), and ??

Secretary's Report: Report didn't get out to members for perusal, prior to meeting, therefore, could not be accepted by members. Will be sent out via email, so members have it before the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report: No changes to report.

President's Report: 1) Roger is putting together a class on photographing. TBD. 2) September 10, Jeff Rhonemus will be speaking on his gemstone design. 3) Next meeting is September 22 @ 7 p.m.

Old Business: 1) Annual mtg will be held October 24 via ZOOM due to the cancellation of the Mason Show, this year.

2) Election information reported by Dr. Reg for the Nominating Committee. Possibility of 2 candidates per position. Series of steps to happen for process: a) Candidates have prepared personal information and provided a picture. a) On September 12<sup>th</sup>, members will receive the information; b) On September 26<sup>th</sup>, ballots will be send out via email, or mail for those who don't have email; c) Votes will be counted; d) September 17<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for voting; e) Outcome will be reported at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> Guild meeting.

Dr. Reg can send a verification of vote back to each member. Max asked for a paper copy of the voting to be kept for paper trail.

New Business: Blake reported that Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Miller had given their entire library, faceting rough and other items to the Guild. The library is in the trailer, now.

Demonstration tablecloths bought by Blake are now in the trailer. The other has been located but not yet placed in trailer.

Blake posted things on Facebook of potential future speakers.

Dr. Reg has agreed to be the newsletter editor.

Fellowship continued for a few minutes until meeting ended.

Meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.

Secretary's report respectfully submitted by Caroline Peterson, acting Secretary

### **Minutes of the Midwest Faceters Guild**

**September 22, 2020 via Zoom 7:05 pm**

Present: Blake, Caroline, Jenay, Reg, Max, Virginia, John K, Sheila, Joe, Barb

Meeting was opened with a welcome by President Blake Glupker. We are meeting tonight on utilizing the Midwest Faceter's Guild Zoom account, so we will not be kicked off due to time constraints.

Secretary Report:

Meeting minutes from 7/21/20 were read, these minutes were made available but not presented at the 8/25/20 meeting due to time issue, they were emailed to all members after the meeting by Blake. There was a change noted, John K. was present, also a typo on page two, paragraph 2 How should have been Joe. The sentence now reads. Joe mentioned he had some thoughts and mentioned 3 polices.

Meeting minutes from 8/25/20 were read, one change was noted under old business the deadline for voting is October 17<sup>th</sup> not September 17.

With those changes, Max made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Caroline 2 . Approved.

Treasurers report was read: Motion made by Joe to accept report as read 2<sup>nd</sup> by Barb. Approved

It was mentioned that the cost for our Zoom account \$111.00 Cristine was able to procure a 30% discount. We have a new member who paid using our Paypal account.

Old Business:

Trailer insurance was mentioned that a decision had not yet been made regarding trailer insurance Christine had mentioned that in an email to Blake that she was able to obtain a good price for the orchestra trailer

insurance. Discussion was held regarding what we need and at this time Joe has been appointed as insurance chairperson it was mentioned that we should do an inventory of the trailer video the contents and take pictures. Questions were asked regarding how the trailer is secured. Max said it is locked it also has a hitch lock so it cannot be towed away. Joe also asked where the trailer was stored; it is stored on Max and Cristine's property. A website was given that Joe could possibly use to check out the insurance Christine had mentioned it was [WWW.RBNUCCIO.com](http://WWW.RBNUCCIO.com)

For the inventory of the trailer, an accounting committee has been established and it will consist of Max as chairperson Blake and Barb. Jenay and Sheila are interested in joining the count and I have asked that Max let them know the dates and times so that they might be available to join us. Max will get this set up and let us know dates and times.

Barb mentioned that the possible dates, not set in stone yet, for the 2021 seminar will be August 13th 14th and 15

New business:

Blake mentioned it in the member's Facebook page he listed a faceting machine for sale. He could put it in the newsletter also.

Dick Fairless, a longtime member of the Midwest faceting Guild passed away on February 5th we took a moment to talk about Dick and two mentioned some of his accomplishments and how much he did for the Guild over his years. Dr. Reg mentioned that there will be an article regarding Dick in the next newsletter.

We will be having another informational meeting Blake is working on setting that up and he was obtaining a speaker for it. The meeting will be before the annual meeting per usual Blake will be sending out zoom notifications

Currently the zoom account is in Blake's name it will be transferred to the new Midwest Faceter's Guild president after the annual meeting

Max has been looking into the rough that has been donated by various donors looking at not only quantity but classification. Wondering if he is doing it in an appropriate manner, showed us some pictures and we had discussion regarding the best way to approach this and label things. We all agree Max is doing a great job. Jenay wondered if a label maker might make it easier for him to label items we will again discuss this when we have our inventory committee looking at rough and trailer contents in the meantime Max will continue doing the great job he's doing separating and organizing the rough that the Guild has, a big thank you to Max for doing this for us.

Blake ask Dr. Reg to share his ideal for using some of the donated rough. Dr. Reg mentioned that it was just not his idea but that he and Cristine were talking about the newsletter and brainstorming trying to increase the possibility for younger and new members to be more involved. Dr. Reg is proposing that we ask members to submit a question to the newsletter editor, an experienced faceter will answer the question, for doing this the person who sends in the question would receive some rough. Discussion was held regarding what Dr. Reg was considering doing how many pieces of rough would be given, would it be one person or to anyone who submitted a question? Blake suggested Max send a quantity of rough to Dr. Reg, so he had it to distribute, Dr.

Reg did not want that. He wanted Max or Cristine to mail out the rough as this is just a one-time thing to see if it is even a viable option to gain membership participation.

Dr. Reg made a motion that we give this give away of some faceting rough a try. 2nded by Caroline – Approved. Joe mentioned that he had purchased the Prismatic machine that was for sale.

Joe made the motion to end the meeting and it was approved.

Meeting ended 8:13 pm

Respectfully submitted Barb Yost  
Secretary

## ***Membership***



Welcome to the new Guild members:

Jeff Rhonemus  
Josh Schondelmayer  
Richard Schondelmayer  
Dave Vought  
Ariel Vu  
Ben Yost

## ***Meeting Updates***



## **Roger Dery Zoom Meetings**



Roger Dery did a series of Zoom meetings for the Guild on a variety of topics that members wanted to know from a professional. For example, Roger talked about an incredible array of laps that he uses and advantages and disadvantages of each. He is planning a Zoom meeting in the future on tips to photograph gemstones. Since he is a professional faceter his knowledge and insights were especially helpful. Standby to hear more about his future presentations.

## Spellbound Design



During a Zoom meeting on September 17, 2020, President Blake introduced Jeff Rhonemus who discussed his Spellbound design. The above pictures are several of his Spellbound designs. He described the cut as simple and every other facet in the pavilion is not polished (frosted) to provide the unique design. You can find other cuts and his cutting diagrams on his Facebook page. Here is a direct link to his Facebook profile:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008280918366>

Or you can simply enter his name in the search spot in the upper left of the Facebook page.

## A Window into the World of Frosted Faceting

On October 23, 2020, Jeff Thessfeld did a presentation on frosted faceting for the Guild. He is the Historian for the USFG. He presented a series of gem designs and this is just one example, which is a flower design by Marco Voltolini called “Hanami”:



## *Regional Area Gem, Rock and Mineral Shows*



Note: Many shows have been cancelled due to the pandemic. Please check before going.

## GemStreet USA - 11/27/2020

Start Date: 11/27/2020

End Date: 11/29/2020

Contact: -

Contact Phone: -

Venue: Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds

Address:  
19201 E Bagley Rd  
Middleburg Heights , OH 44130  
Website: <http://www.gemstreetusa.com/>  
Types: Rock & Mineral Shows, Jewelry & Lapidary Shows

### Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society Gem & Mineral Show - 03/05/2021

Start Date: 03/05/2021  
End Date: 03/07/2021  
Hours: Fri/Sat 10:00-6:00 Sun 11:00-4:00  
Contact: Judy Burton  
Contact Phone: 937-3391966  
Venue: Wayne County Fairgrounds  
Address: 861 N Salisbury Rd  
Wayne County Fairgrounds  
Richmond, IN 47374  
Types: Rock & Mineral Shows

### *A Little Corner of Our World*



Since Guild members are spread across all corners of the State of Michigan and in other states as well, a small group in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area have met at a small breakfast/lunch café nearby about once a month. That includes Marie Bellard, Dave Vought, and Dr. Reg. We share all things faceting, such as best laps to use for polishing, show and tell of the gems we have cut; you name it. Even with the pandemic we have been able to continue to meet via Zoom. If you ever want to join us, just let us know and we can let you know the next time we meet.

Linda Cunningham and Tom Ross have met about once a month for lunch at a little café near Tom's home. They would bring gems and have lots of pleasant conversations. Steve, Linda's husband, was part of their group. Since the pandemic they have talked by phone. Tom has taught faceting in Iowa and has an Ultra Tec V5 and Ultra Tec Fantasy machine.

Now with these examples, if you have a local group that meet, let the Editor know and your group will be added to the *Midwest Faceter*.

## A Bit of History



Articles of incorporation of the Midwest Faceter's Guild was filed by William Horton dated August 1, 1991. The first newsletter was in September 1979 and only had two pages of common faceting terms with commentary and illustrations. The first newsletter with business and information was listed as V1 No1 *Gems of the Midwest* and cost \$5.00 at the time. The name *Midwest Faceter* was changed later. Designs were added regularly soon after. Plans for the first annual show at the Dearborn Civic Center began along with the newsletter. An early mailing list of members showed 206 with 11 being families/couples. Virginia Stelle was on that list, but she was not able to attend often due to the distance of the meetings. Harold "Arizona" Rice was the first President and Dave Miller taught many of the early members. He and many members lived in the Flint area. Meetings at the time were four regular and one annual where elections took place and changeover occurred.

Submitted by Virginia Steele, Guild Historian

## Ask the Expert



Here is another new feature to the *Midwest Faceter*. You probably have seen websites or newsletters where a person asks a straightforward question and a more experienced person answers the question. Here is an example from the *Tacoma Faceters Guild* in Washington:

### How much yield can I get out of a given size piece of rough?

Normally, a piece of rough can yield between 15% and 25%, depending on the shape. If the rough stone is oddly shaped, it usually yields on the lower end. If you are lucky (and good) you can get toward the 25% end. Most of this has to do with the simple geometry of cutting.

So, you get the picture. Therefore, send your questions to ([rawill@umich.edu](mailto:rawill@umich.edu)) and there will be questions and answers in future *Midwest Faceter* issues. The Editor also will be calling upon experienced faceters to answer the questions, so do step up when called upon!

**Special Notice:** As an incentive for the next issue we are calling on new faceters or beginners to send in a question. Your name will be put into a drawing and you can win pieces of gem rough for the next gem you cut. When starting out people always need more rough gemstones to practice! Here is an example of gemstone rough you could receive.





### **Some Natural Gemstones**

By Marie Bellard

#### **Aquamarine**

The majority of aquamarine available on the market have been heated to soften the yellow shade and strengthen the blue color. Aquamarines are found on 5 continents, though the best quality and color comes from Brazil. Cat's eyes aquamarine can be found in nature but are scarce.



#### **Topaz**

Topaz has a vast array of color in nature. Some of them are highly sought-after such as the famous Imperial Topaz found essentially in Ouro Preto, Brazil. The color is an intense golden to orange-red. Some topaz from Pakistan and Russia are similar. Topaz is commonly heated and irradiated to achieve some colors. Natural light blue topaz for example, is so rare, that most of the blue ones on the market are the result of irradiation from a colorless topaz.



#### **Amber**

Ambers are usually aged between 10 to 300 billion years old. The ones available in jewelry shops which are quite transparent are usually 15 to 40 million years old. Most of them are heated, like the green amber. Even

though, green amber exists in nature, so do blue amber found only in Dominican Republic illustrated below. Copal is simply a young amber (less than 2 million years old).



## **Guild Members' Faceting Machines**

By Dr. Reg A. Williams

When I did interviews with the members of the Guild, I asked what type of faceting machine they owned and used. The four most often mentioned were:

- Fac-Ette Gem Master II
- Ultra Tec V2 and V5
- Facetron
- Raytech Shaw Faceter

I thought it would be useful to briefly describe each of these faceting machines. I do not have personal experience in using the Fac-Ette or Raytech Shaw Faceter. So, keep in mind that the following comments are based on what I understand of these machines.

### **Fac-Ette Gem Master II**



Precision Faceting, US Division, Erlanger KY

<http://www.fac-ette.com>

859-757-5126

Cost: \$5999.00

The Fac-Ette, at one point, may have held the most coveted faceting machine yet the most expensive. The Fac-Ette Manufacturing Inc. went out of business in 2012. It appeared that owners of the machine might eventually have an equivalent “boat anchor.” The Fac-Ette with its distinctive protractor gauge for setting angles, the EMS meter for measuring cut depth and the heavy weight cast metal body were unique features of this machine. It appeared that a few individuals attempted to meet some of the demand for parts but upon

an Internet search it appears that Precision Faceting is producing parts and will provide repairs for existing machines. The owner is Wyatt Yeager who lives in Ireland but has a division in the United States. His company has plans to manufacture new Fac-Ette Gem Master II machines but are encountering challenges in getting parts produced. At present, they do not have an estimate when new machines will be available. If you call the company, you will speak to Cindy who manages the US division of the company and does repairs and provides parts as need. She is located in Erlanger, KY.

An amusing story told to me by Joe Rubin, owner of Ultra Tec, was that the original owner of the Fac-Ette in Seattle, Washington decided to turn over the business to his sons. However, the sons had no interest in maintaining the business, therefore it closed in 2012. At the height of the business they had offered to buy Ultra Tec, which was their main competitor for faceting machines. Nevertheless, Joe was not interested. Later near the time of their closing they approached Joe again to buy out the Fac-Ette, but once more Joe was not interested.

### Ultra Tec V2 and V5



Ultra Tec Manufacturing, Inc., Santa Ana, California

<https://www.ultratec-facet.com>

714-542-0608

Cost V5: \$4950.00

The Ultra Tec faceting machine was initially developed by an aerospace laboratory technician and faceter named Howard Stanley in 1965. In 1972 the company was sold to an aerospace engineer Joe Rubin. The company has been in existence for 55 years and has remained a direct competitor with the Fac-Ette. Ultra Tec's earlier machine was the V2 and then updated with an analog dial for more accurate cuts. Their next generation was the V5 that had a stronger mast and came with an analog dial or a digital angle dial (DAD), with the DAD being accurate to two decimal points. Ultra Tec recently released a new machine Ultra Tec VL Classic Faceting Machine at \$3495 with the analog dial or \$3995 with the DAD, which this machine now will compete with the Facetron. Ultra Tec also manufactures the Ultra Tec Fantasy Machine, which generates gemstones of impressive intricacy. They also produce the Ultra Tec Glass Tec, which is designed for the glass artist.

One of the most impressive features of the Ultra Tec is its repeatability. In other words, if you have cut a facet at 43.00° and later need to go back to that facet for better polishing, you can do it without having to recut all the facets again (which I had to do with the Facetron). That feature has saved me countless hours and frustration!

## Facetron



<https://facetron.com>

Jarvi Tool, LLC of Anaheim, California

714-774-9104

Cost: \$3495.00

The Facetron has been manufactured since 1974. The machine features an analog dial indicator and included a mast head adjustment lever that makes moving the head height very easy and quickly. It eliminates the cranking of the mast head. Another feature is the dop chuck that has a cam lock system, which provides a positive lock on keyed dops. My first faceting machine was the Facetron and I used it for 2-years before purchasing the Ultra Tec V5. What I particularly did not like about the machine was the quill, which I found my fingers would slip on it and the quill did not have a positive lock to hold at 90 degrees like the Ultra Tec. Several times the quill dropped out of my hand and you can imagine what happened to the cut gemstone! Likewise, I had difficulty with repeatability. If I needed to polish a facet later, it was a true challenge. There has been comments on different faceting websites that people are encountering difficulty in contacting Jarvi Tool. Evidently a machinist retired from the company and with the pandemic they have not found a replacement, so the backed up. I called the company for this article and did not receive a call back, so be aware you may encounter the same if you want to purchase a machine. You would be better to contact a Facetron reseller such as Rock Peddler Lapidary and Supplies acknowledged in this *Midwest Faceter*.

According to United States Faceting Guild the two most common faceting machines owned by members of the Guild are the Facetron and the Ultra Tec.

## Raytech Shaw Faceter



Scott Manufacturing, Inc., Littleton, Colorado

<https://raytechshaw.com>

800-303-2466

Cost: \$2195.00

The first machine was patented by Louis Eaton Shaw as the Scott Faceter in 1961 and later was manufactured by Raytech Industries in 1974. The machine is now manufactured by Scott Manufacturing, Inc. The Raytech Shaw Faceter has a unique feature that makes changeover from right to left hand operation by just moving the water drip to the other side. A threaded handwheel raises and lowers the platform where the handpiece rests. Accordingly, the handpiece can be lifted making it easy to inspect the facet to return to faceting. Another feature of the machine is being lightweight for easy transport to gem shows and the like. Several complaints I have heard of the Raytech Shaw is pads that are on the handpiece can wear and alter the angle of the facets on the gemstone, and that the machine uses only 6-inch laps.

## Conclusion

The cost of the machines is in descending order with the Fac-Ette costing the most to the Raytech Shaw the least. It is possible to find a used machine for less; likely you will need to send it to the manufacturer for recalibration and updates, so the cost savings may quickly evaporate. Obviously, there are other machines on the market, yet the machines mentioned in this article are the most common. Also, many machines selling on E-Bay have the white gemstone residue caked on. Too many faceters do not clean their machines after use. You can imagine what that stone dust does to the bearings in the machine. Hence, like most things, buyer beware. Feel free to contact me if you should have additional questions about features specifically about the Ultra Tec and/or the Facetron. I can refer you to others more knowledgeable about the Fac-Ette or Raytech Shaw.

May all your facets sparkle, Dr. Reg

## *A Name is a Name!*



Blake Glupker, while President, has been called il Presidente, il Capo, and may be some other charming names! According to Blake his official title now is “Special Liaison Envoy to the Existing President.” Accordingly, il Presidente Scott knows who to call!

## *A Joke for Faceters*



Joe was a long-time faceter and cut some mighty pretty gemstones, which his wife loved. Unfortunately, Joe had to go to the emergency room with his two ears burned. “What happened?” asked the doctor. “Well”, Joe explained, “my wife was ironing shirts behind my chair where I do gem faceting. She put the iron down next

to the phone and when the phone rang, I answered the iron.” “Wow, that is terrible” responded the doctor, “and what happened to the other ear?” “Well” said Joe, “Right afterwards, the phone rang again!”

## Kudos



Who does not need a pat on the back sometime? In this *Midwest Faceter*, the Editor has taken the lead to acknowledge a Guild member that has gone above and beyond the call of duty. That person is **Cristine Grimm**. Cristine has been the Newsletter Editor, the Membership Chair, the Webmaster, teaching Blake how to cut and paste in documents, using Zoom on the computer, helping Max as Treasurer, hosting the last seminar, Membership Chair, and a member of the Nomination Committee. The list just goes on! This is to give Cristine an ATTA GIRL! Applauds are in order!

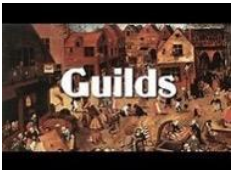


## Gemological Institute of America Applied Jewelry Professional

**Marie Bellard, Dr. Reg Williams, and Barb Yost** were awarded diplomas for completing the GIA Applied Jewelry Professional program. They completed three courses including Jewelry Essentials, Diamond Essentials, and Colored Stone Essentials. They now have the distinction of putting AJP behind their names—Congratulations!

To continue this tradition, please send Kudos to the Editor about another Guild member you think deserves acknowledgement for going above and beyond for the Guild and it will be published in the next *Midwest Faceter*.

## News from Another Guild



# Specific Gravity and How to Measure It

Ian Gutzke

## Hydrostatic Method

Normal scales may be used for measuring the specific gravity (SG) of a stone by employing a principle which was stated by the Greek mathematician, Archimedes, about 250 BC and is thus known as 'Archimedes' Principle'. This principle states that bodies when immersed in a liquid are buoyed up by it with a force equal to the weight of the displaced liquid.

This means that when a gemstone is suspended in water it will appear to lose weight equal to the weight of the water it displaces. Obviously the gem displaces its own volume of water, and thus, simply by weighing a stone first in air and then immersed in water we have all the data necessary to calculate its specific gravity.

1. Measure the weight of the stone the normal way on a set of scales, preferably the same scales as the immersed water test.
2. The stone is placed in a basket or spiral coils of wire the choice is yours and is suspended in the water. It is then weighed while it is immersed in the water making sure that it is not sitting on the bottom of the container. Record this weight.
3. With the stone removed the basket is weighed while immersed in the liquid as before. This weight is subtracted from the combined weight of the stone and the basket thus giving the immersed weight of the stone in the water.

**Example:** An unknown gemstone could be either quartz or topaz so let's measure the SG.

- The weight of a gemstone in air is 7.87g,
- the basket and the gemstone immersed in water measured 12.19 g, and
- the basket alone in water weighed 7.29 g.

The weight of the gemstone in water is therefore:  $12.19 \text{ g} - 7.29 \text{ g} = 4.90 \text{ g}$

The loss of weight in water shown by the stone is thus  $7.87 \text{ g} - 4.90 \text{ g} = 2.97 \text{ g}$

Using the formula  $\text{S.G.} = \frac{\text{Weight of stone}}{\text{Loss of weight in water}}$

We have  $\text{S.G.} = \frac{7.87 \text{ g}}{2.97 \text{ g}} = 2.649$

It was virtually impossible to determine what it was, as some AFG members can testify. The result proved it was a piece of Quartz with a S.G. of 2.65 whereas Topaz has a S.G. of 3.55. The stone can be measured in grams or carats. The result will be the same as SG is a ratio.

**Water:** Fresh tap water contains a lot of air; thus, to avoid trouble it is best to use distilled water, tank water or water that has been boiled and subsequently cooled. It is important to remove any air bubbles that may be trapped on the stone or basket while immersed in the liquid as this will affect the accuracy of your measurement.

**Impurities** in the stone can also affect the accuracy of the test.

**How to use the scales with a top and bottom basket if you have a tare (zero) button.**

1. Place measuring equipment onto the scales then zero the scales.
2. Place gemstone in top basket and record the weight [**weight in air**].
3. Remove gemstone from top basket and check that scales are still zero if not then tare the scales.
4. Place stone in bottom basket and record weight [**weight in water**].
5. Weight of the gemstone in the water is subtracted from the weight of the gemstone in air, this measurement is then the **loss of weight in water**.
6. The weight in air is then divided by this figure (loss of weight in water).



Figure 1. The setup made from bits and pieces.



Figure 2. SG setup on the scales with a suitable water container. No part of the basket should touch the sides or bottom of the container.

Reprinted by permission from the Columbia Willamette Faceters' Guild, Number 547, Sept 2020.

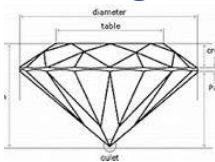


**Midwest Faceter's Guild.** Did you know that the Guild has its own website? Possibly you knew, but just in case, go to: <https://midwestfaceters.org> and give it a look-see. Cristine put considerable work making an attractive and inviting website. More can be done with the website and if you have experience with the design and maintenance of websites, Cristine would love to hear from you. This is another example where you can make a contribution to the Guild without removing an appendage!

**United States Faceters Guild.** Many of you may be members of the US Faceters Guild. If not, their website is: <https://usfacetersguild.org>. They have a comprehensive quarterly newsletter, annual stone competition and a library with numerous helpful articles. The dues are only \$18 per year.

**Australian Faceters' Guild Limited.** A number of USFG members have also competed in the Australian competition. Apparently, it is a feather in a faceter's hat to have won in this competition. The website is: <https://facetersguild.com.au>

## Faceting Diagrams



In the past, the *Midwest Faceter* included faceting diagrams. Rather than selecting diagrams that may or may not be appealing to the membership, you can select the faceting diagram of your choosing from three sites that have a multitude of designs.

A note to gem designers--If you use Gem Cut Studio or GemCad and do your own designs and would like to share with Guild members, just send a PDF of your design to the Editor and it can be featured in the next *Midwest Faceter*. As the member that then cuts the design and you would like to send in a picture of your gem, look what we could start!

## Facet Diagrams Website

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

The site was dedicated to the memory of Norman W. Steele who collected and cataloged many of the faceting diagrams. The website and database software were created by Robert W. Strickland, creator of GemCad, but the website now is owned by and provided as a free service by the Mid-Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

When you go to the website and at the Home page, click on Search. You will get the page below on the left. As indicated by the blue arrows, you can select a large variety of shapes. Here is selected Oval. Also note at the bottom, “Only show Open designs.” This will provide specific cutting directions, otherwise you will get designs with no cutting directions. Once you click on, “I agree, Search!” you will get the page on the right. Simply put, there are an amazing number of diagrams. Once you make your selection, you can print the cutting diagram or download the \*\*\*.asc file to use in GemCad or Gem Cut Studio to modify the cutting diagram. *Facet Diagrams* is a wonderful site and it is free! Free is good!

## The United States Faceters Guild Website

<https://usfacetersguild.org>

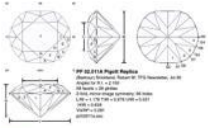
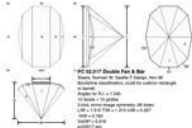
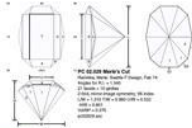
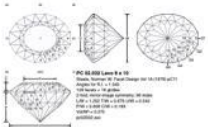
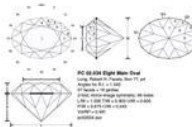
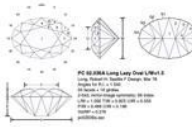
You have to be a member of the *US Faceters Guild* to use the site, as mentioned dues are \$18 per year. If you are a member, once logged in, select *Library* and then select *Faceting Diagrams*. You will get the page below. Like the *Facet Diagrams* website, you can select different shapes. The Guild’s website has some diagrams you will find in the other website, but there are designs that members have submitted. The Guild has an annual competition and there are designs from Novice to Grand Master that you can challenge yourself.

## Search Results

PC/Linux Controls: Ctrl+ to zoom in, Ctrl- to zoom out, Ctrl0 for 100%  
Mac Controls: ⌘+ to zoom in, ⌘- to zoom out, ⌘0 for 100%

264 matches out of 4955 records. Showing record 1 to 20 of 264, 14 pages total.

« Prev 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
next 20 »

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>Open 02.011A Piggot Replica for CZ</b><br/>(Barbour) Strickland, Robert W. TFG<br/>Newsletter, Jul 1995; L/W=1.176 H/W=0.629<br/>Vol/W=0.281 96 index 55+28 facets</p> |  <p><b>Open 02.017 Double Fan &amp; Bar</b><br/>Steele, Norman W. Seattle F Design, Nov<br/>1968; L/W=1.310 H/W=0.784 Vol/W=0.319<br/>96 index 15+10 facets</p> |  <p><b>Open 02.029 Merle's Cut</b><br/>Reinikka, Merle; Seattle F design, Feb 1974;<br/>L/W=1.430 H/W=0.651 Vol/W=0.370 96 index<br/>21+10 facets</p>    |
|  <p><b>Open 02.032 Lavo 8x10</b><br/>Steele, Norman W. Facet Design v1A (1979)<br/>pC11; L/W=1.252 H/W=0.816 Vol/W=0.375<br/>96 index 129+16 facets</p>                       |  <p><b>Open 02.034 Eight Main Oval</b><br/>Long, Robert H; Facets, Nov 1977, p4;<br/>L/W=1.500 H/W=0.838 Vol/W=0.481 96 index<br/>57+16 facets</p>              |  <p><b>Open 02.036A Long Lazy Oval</b><br/>Long, Robert H; Seattle F Design, Mar 1978;<br/>L/W=1.500 H/W=0.662 Vol/W=0.376 96 index<br/>55+16 facets</p> |

## Tom Herbst's Design Pages

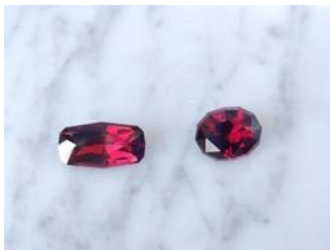
Tom Herbst, the author of *Amateur Gemstone Faceting, Volume 1 (The Essentials)* and *Volume 2 (Expanding Your Horizons)*, has a website with his designs and cutting diagrams. His website is [www.boghome.com/TomsPages/MyDesigns/index.html](http://www.boghome.com/TomsPages/MyDesigns/index.html) Do check out his designs and diagrams.

## Picture That!

Another new feature in the *Midwest Faceter* is pictures of cut gemstones by Guild members.

### Marie Bellard

Marie cut two gemstones recently. They are Rhodolite garnets; the rectangle shape is 4.36 ct., and the oval is 4.65 ct. Marie has her own website [www.amerragems.com](http://www.amerragems.com) with some beautifully cut gemstones. Do check it out!



**Blake Glupker**

According to Blake, the gemstone is a 2.5 ct. Phentakite cut rare nesosilicate mineral consisting of beryllium orthosilicate for his daughter's engagement ring. Blake reported, "She said yes!"

**Scott Kelley**

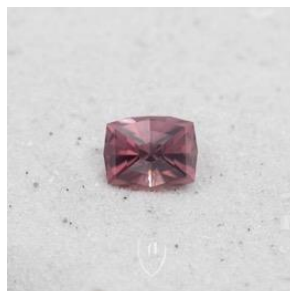
Scott faceted two 5 mm Peridot stones for his daughter's birthday.

**Dr. Reg**

This is a picture of a ring the Editor made for his wife--the lady drips in jewels! The stone that was cut was his own modification of a round brilliant and also using the Ultra Tec Fantasy Machine for concave cuts. The stone is a yellow created sapphire (9.37 mm, 3.55 ct.) with four (3 mm) accent white sapphires.

**Dave Vought**

Dave cut this pink Zircon cushion. It is 2.75 ct. and 6.30 x 7.93 x 5.74 mm. The picture of the gem was taken by Marie Bellard.



Now you do the same and send a picture to the Editor of a stone you have cut and its type of gem, weight in carats, and size dimensions, and it will be featured in the next *Midwest Faceter*.

## ***Gone West***



With sadness is to report the loss of a Charter member of the Guild, Richard “Dick” F. Fairless.

Dick passed away peacefully with his family by his side in Tawas City on February 5, 2020 at age 80 years old. He earned his Teaching Certificate in 1963 from Adrian College, then in 1970 he received his master’s degree in Science from Idaho State University. He taught Earth Science at Tawas Area High School for 33 years. He was the coach of boys’ basketball, baseball, and football teams at various levels and varsity girls’ basketball. His nickname was “Coach.” Dick was a Certified Master Gemologist and was the winner of numerous national awards for gem cutting completions from the United States Faceters Guild and the American Federation of Mineralogical Societies. He was commissioned by the USFG to facet a replica of a Cullinan Diamond for the Smithsonian Institute. He is survived by his beloved wife, Fran Fairless of East Tawas and two daughters. Those wishing to express condolences through a memorial contribution are encouraged to make a donation to either the National Kidney Foundation at <https://www.kidney.org> or Tawas Area Athletics and specify “Uniform Fund” in the memo.

For the complete obituary, please see [www.bureshfuneralhome.com](http://www.bureshfuneralhome.com) and search for his name.

## ***Marketplace Finds***



Your editor has been in negotiation with a number of companies to provide lapidary supplies with a discount for MWFG members. If you are in need of equipment or supplies, give them a try. Just let them know you are Guild member and they can apply the discount. In addition, if you have a company that you can provide a discount to Guild members, please contact the Editor.



**Amaterra Gems:** Our own Marie Bellard is offering a 15% discount to Guild members for beautifully cut gemstones on her website ([www.amaterra.gems.com](http://www.amaterra.gems.com)). If you find a gemstone you must have, just contact

her by calling, e-mail, Facebook, or Instagram (all on her website) and she can apply the discount to your purchase. Goes without saying, but please support your Guild members.



**Green Forest Lapidary:** This company operates on eBay and has a 100% rating. The owner and his wife sell faceting laps. The Editor has purchased several of his metal toppers (256, 500, and 800 grits); they are useful for preforming a stone or initial cutting. The laps are very reasonably priced, and hold up far better than a Crystalite lap, as an example. The owner is offering 20% off on a \$25 order or more for Guild members. Shipping is free. To receive the discount, use the following code through eBay: <http://ebay.us/KcTPJP>



**Lapcraft Lapidary Supplies, Inc.**

Lapcraft Lapidary Supplies is offering a 15% discount to MWFG members for lapidary supplies. Their faceting laps do hold up well and holds the diamond mesh better than many other laps. You can give them a try.

<https://www.lapcraft.com>

e-mail: [lapcraft@aol.com](mailto:lapcraft@aol.com)

Phone: 614-764-8993



**RayTech Shaw Faceter**

The owner is offering a 10% discount to MWFG members for a new faceting machine, but it needs to be ordered by December 31, 2020. Since part prices for the machine change frequently, the owner does not know if he can continue to provide a discount next year. Watch this space if he is able to extend the discount.

<https://raytechshaw.com>

800-303-2466

**Tree Town Treasures:** Dave Vought, a member of the Guild, and the owner of Tree Town Treasures is offering a 15% discount on quartz facet quality rough gemstones he is featuring in the picture below. He will also provide a 10% discount on other gemstones, natural and created. He has other items in his store. Contact him for any information you need on any rough gemstones.

<https://www.treetowntreasures.com>

734-330-6144

e-mail: [doombot23@gmail.com](mailto:doombot23@gmail.com)



## ***Gifts from Our Friends***



The following companies have provided gifts to the Guild. The officers of the Guild will consider ways that these gifts can benefit the members as well as the Guild. Stay tuned for more information on these gifts. Again, if you have need for lapidary equipment and supplies, do support these companies since they have supported us.

### **Amaterra Gems**

Donated: Parcels of rough gemstones --\$227 value

<https://www.amaterra.gems.com>

e-mail: [mariealice.bellard@gmail.com](mailto:mariealice.bellard@gmail.com)

Phone: 734-709-8503

### **Dr. Reg Gem Studios**

Donated: Calcite Dichroscope gemstone identification tool with leather case--\$40 value

### **Gem Cut Studio**

Donated: A copy of *Gem Cut Studio* for two members of the Guild--\$99.00 value each

<https://gemcutstudio.com>

e-mail: [rej@gemcutstudio.com](mailto:rej@gemcutstudio.com)

### **Kingsley North Lapidary Equipment and Supplies**

Donated: 5 different laps and 100K diamond powder--\$693 value

<https://kingsleynorth.com>

e-mail: [sales@kingsleynorth.com](mailto:sales@kingsleynorth.com)

Phone: 800-338-9280

### **Lapcraft, Inc.**

Donated: 600 Mesh 8-inch Diamond Lap--\$ 100 value

<https://www.lapcraft.com>

e-mail: [lapcraft@aol.com](mailto:lapcraft@aol.com)

Phone: 614-764-8993

### **Lightning Laps**

Donated: 6-inch Natural Lightning Lap--\$85 value

<https://shop.Lightninglap.com>

<http://MagDop.com>

e-mail: [sales@shop.lightninglap.com](mailto:sales@shop.lightninglap.com)

phone: 423-396-9793

**Mitchell Jewelry Studio**

Donated: Book, *Faceting 1: Learn the Fine Art of Gem Faceting. It's Easy*--\$35.00 value

<https://www.mitchelljewelrystudio.com>

e-mail: [info@mitchelljewelrystudio.com](mailto:info@mitchelljewelrystudio.com)

**Rock Peddler Lapidary Equipment and Supplies**

Donated: D'Lite 1200 Lightning Lap Topper--\$55.00 value

<https://www.rockpeddler.com>

e-mail: [rp@rockpeddler.com](mailto:rp@rockpeddler.com)

phone: 508-787-9796

**Silver Fire Studios**

Donated: Two hinged black display cases with latch--\$40.00 value

<https://silverstudios.com>

e-mail: [cgrimm@silverfirestudios.com](mailto:cgrimm@silverfirestudios.com)

**Tree Town Treasures**

Donated: Parcels of facet quality natural aquamarines--\$112.00 value

<https://www.treetowntreasures.com>

734-330-6144

e-mail: [doombot23@gmail.com](mailto:doombot23@gmail.com)

**Ultra Tec Manufacturing, Inc., Santa Ana, California**

Donated: 4 sets of 12 faceting dops—value from \$100 to \$120 for each set

<https://www.ultratec-facet.com>

e-mail: [info@ultratec-facet.com](mailto:info@ultratec-facet.com)

714-542-0608

**Total Value Donated to the Guild: \$2018**

## Buy, Sell, and Trade



This section of the *Midwest Faceter* is dedicated for members to list any items to buy, sell or trade. The section can serve as the Guild's "Craigslist!" If you have something to buy, sell or trade, do send an e-mail to the Editor and your item(s) can be listed in the next issue.

### Dick Fairless Lapidary Equipment

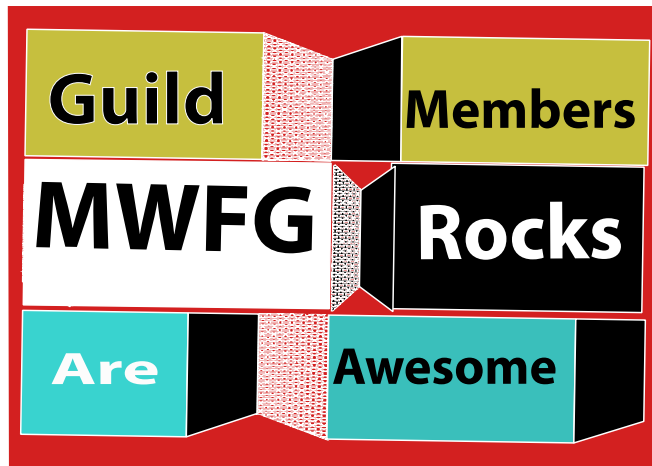


As a charter member of the MWFG, Dick Fairless was an avid faceter and his wife Fran, and his two daughters, Julie and Janice are selling his equipment. He has several faceting machines, a rock saw, cab machines, laps, and many more equipment. If you are interested, they can send you additional pictures and you can make an offer. You can contact Julie at [jbilbert25@comcast.net](mailto:jbilbert25@comcast.net)

### Graves Mark I



The owner of this Graves Mark I had contacted Blake to let Guild members know that the machine with laps, dops, polishing compounds, etc., was for sale. You can contact the owner at 1-847-336-1270, if interested.



### Find Us!

MidwestFaceters.org

Facebook.com/midwestfacetersguild

midwestfaceters@gmail.com

*The Midwest Faceter's Guild was established in 1979 for the purpose of developing the art of faceting, to promote education and recreation through the exchange of information, to provide meetings for those with like interests and to encourage the achievements of individuals.*

*The Midwest Faceter's Guild is also a member of the Midwest Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies as well as the American Federation of Mineralogical and Geological Societies.*