

# Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

## Chips and Chatter



August 7, 2008  
Vol. 42 Issue 7

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### Workshop, Meeting, etc.

- Check out our website for a color version of the Chips and Chatter
- Open Shop: Each Monday - 5:30 pm – 9:00 pm, and each Saturday - 9:00 am – Noon
- Check the calendar for class schedule.

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### Purpose

The Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas is organized for charitable and educational purposes to promote interest in the various earth sciences, in particular those hobbies dealing with the art of cutting and polishing gemstones, the science of gems, minerals and metal crafts, as well as their related fields.

### Monthly Meeting

Monthly Meeting: Thursday, August 7, at 7:30 pm  
Garland Women's Activities Building  
713 Austin, Garland, TX

### Presentation

**No report at print time**

### Club Officers for 2007

President:	Donnette Wagner
1st VP:	Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
2nd VP:	Donna Mallory
Treasurer:	Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
Secretary:	Nell Black
Editor:	Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828 E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

## President's Report

Donnette Wagner, President, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

From the President,

Summer is always a busy time and it has been for me too. We have traveled quite a bit, visiting family and attending a reunion with 160+ family members attending. I haven't gotten an article to the editor for two months and I apologize for that. I hope to do much better from now on.

While I know it is hard to think about Fall and the show with the heat of July ever present, it is only two months before the show will be on us. Everyone needs to:

1. Circle the show dates on every one of their calendars.
2. Attend both of the next two meetings (Circle those dates too).
3. Talk to the officers about what they need help with and what you can do.
4. Volunteer to Chair one of the Committees, Children's Mine, Silent Auction, etc.
5. Sign up to work at least one two-hour shift each day if at all possible.
6. Tell all your friends and family about the show and give them a flyer.
7. Put up a flyer at your work, church, school, grocery, etc. if it is permitted.
8. Show up Thursday evening to help load the truck.
9. Show up Friday to help with set-up.
10. Stay Sunday evening to help with tear-down.

In essence, commit to be part of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club. Commit to be part of the most important community outreach project we do each year. Find out how much fun it is to watch children and adults alike, stare in wonder at the beauty of the natural world. We need each and every one of you to participate to make the show a success. Share your love of the earth and your time. You won't be disappointed.

## July 3 Meeting Picnic Report

Mark Carter, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club



A couple of photos from the dinner at Spring Creek BBQ, to the left, the Dowell's, Grady's, Mark Carter; to the right, Randy and Renee Jones; and below, the Grady's with Donnette in the foreground, facing away from camera.



## Minutes – June, 2008 General Meeting

Don Shurtz for Nell Black, Secretary, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

June 5, 2008 Meeting minutes of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

The June meeting of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and mineral Club was called to order at 7:30 by the president, Donnette Wagner. Donnette discussed various aspects of the show and membership participation. Members are needed for set up on Friday prior to the show and for tear down on Sunday after the show closes. Other needs are for members for taking tickets, running children's activities, and silent auction. The show will be September 20 and 21 at Brookhaven College.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge was led by Donna Mallory

Minutes: Donna Mallory moved that the Minutes of the April meeting as published in the May Chips and Chatter be accepted. The motion was seconded by Warner Ragan. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Don Shurtz presented the treasurer's report. Anita Dresner made a motion to accept the report; Del Grady seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Sunshine Report

Charles Black was report as doing better following open heart surgery

Visitors:

Caitlin Ostberg from Omaha (Donnette's niece); Del and Joyce Speed from the Arlington G&MC  
Ramona and Doyle Saunders; Marcia, Mary, and Joseph Sawyer

There were no reports from the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents.

Editor's Report: Anita Dresner requests short biographies from each member for publication in the newsletter. Anita also announced a Silversmithing Class on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, at the shop (class will cost \$30.00, supplies will be available for \$10.00) and a Qualifying Class starting Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> in the evening. Contact Molly Cutting or Rick Ramsey from the Dallas club or Donna Mallory from our club for more info or to sign-up.

Show Report: Ling Shurtz advised that all but one booth space has been filled. There was a general discussion about the show and vendors for the benefit of the visitors. There will also be a Rollin' Rock Club meeting on Sunday of the show at 9:00 AM.

Old Business: None

New Business - June, 2008 Meeting minutes of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club were submitted to the Editor but was corrupted and unable to use.

### Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice &amp; Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
<i>August</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>

## *POGM Show Report*

Ling Shurtz, Chairwoman, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

The confirmed show dates for 2008 are September 19, 20, 21 at the EMGI on the Brookhaven Campus. Ling stated almost all of the booth spots are signed for. The club has approval for purchase of Amethysts Cathedral from Gemstone Material Interiors (GMI - Danny Duke) for the Pleasant Oaks Show Grand Prize in the amount of \$150. WOW, what a fantastic Grand Prize!

## *Sunshine Report*

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

At the time of this writing, Charles Black is anticipating a reunion with his Savior and God. He has been removed from dialysis and it is a matter of time before he soars on wings of eagles to be home with his Lord. Please pray for Nell and Kathie as they have decisions to make over these coming days. Nell has been Charles ever present mate and loving partner for 53 years. This is a worrisome time for her and her daughter. We all have been touched by Charles and Nell and are all the better a person for having had them as members and friends of POGM. Please keep the family in prayer.

## *Editor's Corner*

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Greeting Rockhounds,

What a hot summer this has turned out to be! My grass is fighting an almost hopeless battle as are all my vegetable plants and flowers. I have only gotten 1 bell pepper this year. Now that does not go far in a Fajita dish. I think I may have planted the tomatoes in too much direct sun this year.



Say, you want me to do what? And what is he expected to do? And her? In some ways, we members are like the plants when it comes time for the work force for the show. We are struggling to thrive in the hustle bustle of our daily lives. What is all this "work" about? It is about putting on the very best, memorable and informative show possible! To inform and show off what beautiful rocks, gems and minerals mother earth has offered up for our use, for our pleasure and to be thankful for. If we do not get this information out in front of as many people as we can in an appealing and interesting way possible, our clubs are going to die out because few will be aware we exist. We need more people interested in rock clubs to help spread our knowledge of how to use rocks, minerals and gems. Also to make them aware, the government is trying to keep us from exploring on behalf of nature and our rights to access it. Please think again how you can be a part of the show to help inform and show off what we can do with what nature has offered up for us. Even sitting and directing the childrens games, or behind the silent auction table keeping it rotating, sitting at the ticket table. Most of all, the club needs your help with your truck to carry the loads to the college and bring back the games and showcases.

Here is hoping to see you at the show and join in the camaraderie and catching a glimpse of all the eye candy.

## *Aphorisms*

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Money can't buy happiness - but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Corvette than in a Yugo.



## Getting to Know You

Debbie Rodriguez, POGM Member

I know you are looking for volunteers for your Getting to Know you section, so here goes.

Hi, I'm Debbie Rodriguez and I joined the club only a few months ago. It's been fascinating learning how much I don't know about geology! My interest in rocks was influenced by my Mom. She always brought home pretty rocks from our vacations to Colorado and occasionally she would acquire a new rock and tell me what country it had come from. I particularly remember some small flat smooth stones from Japan and the nice specimen of amethyst from Brazil which I still have.

On one outing to an area near the Trinity River, we dug for fossils and found many. Large earth movers had been removing dirt for the creation of a water reservoir, but this day no work was being done and a large embankment lay open to us. I wish I knew what those fossils were and where they are now. My husband shakes his head when I drag home a rock from every trip we make, but they look pretty good outlining the flower beds in our backyard, so I plan to keep on rockin'!

Currently, I'm into beading. Mostly, I just string beads, but after last month's interesting presentation on wire wrapping by Warner Ragan, I tried my hand on a cabochon. My Mom loved it like crazy so of course, I gave it to her, and she reports that her friends liked it too. I'm looking forward to learning from all the knowledgeable members of our club and one of these days I want to go on a field trip.

## Shows Dates

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

August 18<sup>th</sup> - The Dallas Paleontological Society fossil hunting to a private ranch outside Justin, Texas to collect from along shady Oliver Creek. Finds should include buckets of sea urchins and ammonite; Info will soon be posted on the Dallas Paleontological Society website - [www.dallaspaleo.org](http://www.dallaspaleo.org), for more information. You do not have to be a member of the Dallas Paleontological Society to attend this trip. It is open for all who are interested in attending.

August 23-24 -Pine Country Gem and Mineral Society, VFW Hall, 7 miles west of Jasper, TX.

August 30-31 -Arlington Gem and Mineral Society Show, Arlington Convention Center

September 20-21 -Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Society Show EMGI at Brookhaven College

October 11 & 12 -The Fall Earth Science Fair As usual Free admission, Free parking, and a friendly Welcome to all. Flyers will be sent in the fall. Mark your calendars now, so you won't miss the next Rock Swap. It should be an exciting and fun day.

October 18th -The DGMS Fall Rock Swap.

November 7, 8 & 9 - Rocky Mountain Fed. Show presented by Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society Friday: 10am-6pm; Sat: 9am-6pm; Sun: 10am-5pm; Central Park Building at Expo Square (between Harvard & Yale on 21st) in Tulsa, Oklahoma \$5 adults, \$10 for 3-day; under 12 and Scouts in uniform are free with parent Info: Silent Auction, Hourly Door Prizes, Top National Dealers; Point of contact: Richard Jaeger: [RjgrSci@aol.com](mailto:RjgrSci@aol.com) <<mailto:RjgrSci@aol.com>>; Virgil Richards: [dws@dances-with-snakes.com](mailto:dws@dances-with-snakes.com) <<mailto:dws@dances-with-snakes.com>>; or Peggy Stewart: [peggy22@cox.net](mailto:peggy22@cox.net) <<mailto:peggy22@cox.net>> (publicity chairman)

## Field Trips

David Dobson, Field Trip Coordinator, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Minerals

TXI Field trip Sept 13<sup>th</sup> 9am to 1pm

If someone shows up not on the list, according to TXI, they should not get in.

Directions to meeting location in Midlothian, TX: Go South on 35E to Highway 67.  
Go South toward Midlothian, TX. Exit Ward road. Go east under the overpass and we will be parked on the right across the street from TXI.

Hope to see you there. Have a great day!

David Dobson [Rocktrading@aol.com](mailto:Rocktrading@aol.com) \*\*  
(Send all responses to this address!)\*\*

## Question of the Month - What is Shale

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Minerals

Shale is a sedimentary rock formed from mud or clay. The clay or mud is compressed into a rock by the pressure of the water column or over-laying rock burden. When you look at a piece of shale, it appears to be composed of many layers and can often be split along these layers. This characteristic is referred to as fissility. Mudstone and siltstone are similar to shale, but do not have the property of fissility.

If you notice an area where there is a slight bulge in a piece of shale, and if you are lucky and split it along the correct parallel layer, fossils of small marine animals (trilobites, gastropods, and even ammonites) can be found. Animal tracks and impressions of foliage are also found in shale. Fossil bearing shale can be found right here in Dallas in the main creek that feeds Bachman Lake near Love Field Airport. If you are interested in looking, the best area is just south of Northwest Highway on Midway Road. There is no parking along Midway, so park in the Cochran Chapel parking lot or on Cochran Chapel Rd. Go to the east side of Midway, follow the path down to the creek, and look about 50 yards east of the bridge. The shale is exposed along the north side of the creek near the bend. A flat tool, such as a putty knife or a kitchen knife is ideal to split the shale.



Where else in the DFW area can you find shale? There is a large expanse of shale that runs from the western side of Dallas through Palo Pinto County to the west, from Denton and Wise counties to the north through Bosque, Hamilton, and San Saba counties to the south. There are surface exposures of the Barnett shale in San Saba County, but for the most part it covered by sediments and limestone. The Barnett shale has been in the news a lot lately as it may be the cap rock of one of the largest natural gas fields in the world. Pockets of oil and natural gas have been found under the shale for many years, but it has only been in the last 30 years that technology has allowed natural gas to be extracted from the shale layer. The process involves drilling down into the shale, and then long horizontal drilling tubes through the shale to find fractured areas where the gas leaves the shale and travels up the drill tube to the top of the well. In addition to the technique of horizontal drilling, drilling companies have also developed a technology of hydraulic fracturing of the shale. After the well is drilled, water is pumped down the well under such high pressures that it opens up fissures and fractures in the shale allowing the gas to escape into the well. In the last several years there has been development of wells at DFW airport and in residential areas of Ft. Worth. The picture to the left is of a drilling rig in Alvarado, Texas; but last time I was at DFW, I counted 9 nearly identical drilling rigs near the north entrance.



Ref:

Barnett Shale, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barnett\\_Shale](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barnett_Shale)

Barnett Shale Maps, <http://blumtexas.blogspot.com/>

Shale, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shale>

Shale Image, <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:ShaleUSGOV.jpg>

## Q Class Schedule

Rick Ramsey, Dallas Gem and Mineral Society

Qualifying classes begin August 27<sup>th</sup> thru September 24<sup>th</sup> and start again October 1<sup>st</sup> thru October 29<sup>th</sup>.

If you are interested, please sign-up by contacting  
[rick.r.1@juno.com](mailto:rick.r.1@juno.com) or [mollie\\_cutting@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mollie_cutting@sbcglobal.net)

# August 2008

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	3
4 5:30–9:00 pm Open Shop	5	6	7 7:30 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg	8	9 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	10
11 5:30–9:00 pm Open Shop	12	13	14	15	16 8:00am - until Rock Swap 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	17
18 5:30–9:00 pm Open Shop	19 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	20	21	22	23 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	24
25 5:30–9:00 pm Open Shop	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Metroplex Gem and Mineral and Related Clubs

Texas School of Earth Science (Arlington G&M Club) meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 1408 Gibbins, Arlington  
 Pleasant Oaks G&M Club meets the 1st Thursday of each month a 7:30 PM at Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland.  
 Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers , 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth, TX  
 Dallas Paleontological Society meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 at Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park.  
 Dallas G&M Society meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Ridgewood Rec. Cntr, 6818 Fisher Rd, Dallas.  
 Dallas Bead Society meets the 3rd Thur. of each month at 7:30 at Walnut Hill Rec. Ctr., NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas  
 Oak Cliff G&MS meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd., Dallas, TX., 75224  
 Fort Worth G&M Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 3545 Bryan Avenue. Fort Worth, TX

**CHIPS AND CHATTER**  
**Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club**  
 PO Box 831934  
 Richardson, TX 75083-1934



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

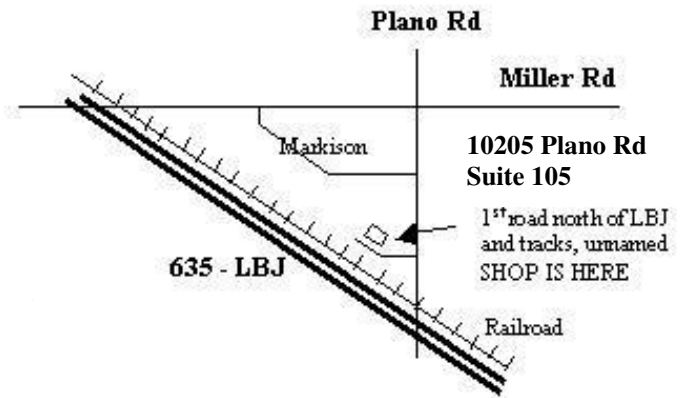
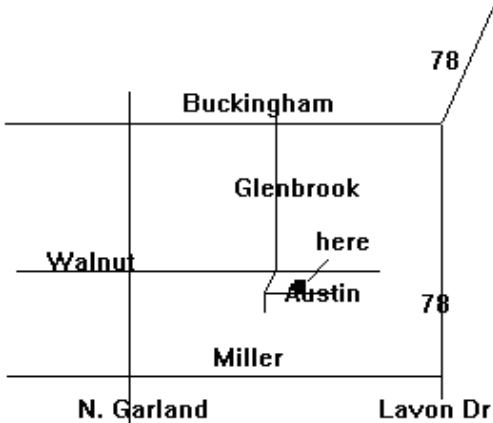
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9<sup>th</sup> place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

**Next Meeting: August 7, 2008, Garland Women's Activity Center, 7:30 PM**

**PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB OF DALLAS**

**Meeting Map**

**Club Shop Map for Classes**



**MEETINGS**

First Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM  
 Garland Women's Activities Building  
 713 Austin, Garland, TX  
 (Northeast corner of Austin & Glenbrook)

**Member of**

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

**MEMBERSHIP**

Single Adult: \$16.50, Junior: \$5.00  
 Family: \$27.50  
 (plus badge fee for new members)

**Affiliated with**

American Federation of Mineral Societies