

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



August 6, 2009
Vol. 43 Issue 8

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August issue 2009 by Anita Dresner. Unless otherwise noted, permission granted for non-commercial reproduction of articles provided they remain essentially intact and credit is given to the author and original source. Where noted, the author retains the copyright and must be contacted for permission to reproduce the article. All articles may also be used as reference provided citation is given.

Check our website www.pogmc.org
 for past months issue of the
Chips and Chatter

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

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

Presentation

Sorry, no notice at time of print

Club Officers for 2009

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

Secretary Notes

As reported by Ling Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

The July meeting was a "picnic" at Spring Creek Barbecue. Fun, great food and camaraderie was on the agenda for everyone to enjoy. Below is a repeat of the June minutes.



June 2009 Meeting Minutes

1. Donnette Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.
2. Minutes of the May meeting were not published in the *Chips and Chatter*, so they will be approved at a later date.
3. Don Shurtz gave the Treasurer's report. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed.
4. The SCMFS convention and show will be in Temple in October hosted by the Tri-City Gem and Mineral Society.
5. The July meeting will be @ Spring Creek BBQ at I-75 just north of Main/Beltline in Richardson starting at 7:00 PM.
6. A motion was made and seconded that last year's grand prize to be donated to AFMS endowment fund for the 2010 endowment fund raffle. The motion was passed.
7. In lieu of a presentation, each person gave a short description of a collecting site and the type of mineral, rock, or fossil that could be found. This round-robin discussion was intended to provide information about Texas geology and rocks to our meeting visitors; but, everyone got some new insight into collecting. It may have been one of the best "meeting presentations" ever.
8. Joyce Murphy, a visitor at the meeting, joined POGMC as a new member. Her membership application was unanimously accepted.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

I would like to thank Ling Shurtz for taking and sending me the minutes each month. Ling, I appreciate you. CCE

The Tasty Corner

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

JICAMA CITRUS SALAD

Ingredients

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 head of Butter or Boston Lettuce | 2 tbsp Rice Wine Vinegar |
| 1 tbsp Honey | 2 tbsp Fresh Cilantro, chopped |
| 5 tbsp Filippo Berio® Olive Oil | 2 Oranges, peeled & sectioned |
| 1 med Red Onion, finely sliced | 2 Limes, peeled & sectioned |
| 1 med Jicama, peeled & julienne (about 1 cup) | Salt & Pepper to taste |
| 6 Kumquats, fresh, cut into 4 quarters lengthwise | |

Method

1. Remove the core and leaves of the lettuce. Wash and clean. Thoroughly dry.
2. Evenly divide the leaves onto four salad plates.
3. In a mixing bowl, add the vinegar, honey, salt & pepper and cilantro. Slowly whisk in the Filippo Berio® Olive Oil.
4. Add orange and lime segments, jicama and red onion and toss until completely coated.
5. Mound over the mix greens.
6. Spoon additional vinaigrette over the lettuce leaves.

Question of the Month: What Field Trip?

What Field Trip Would I Like to Repeat?
Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club
Pictures by Don Shurtz

What field trip would I like to repeat? Last month I talked briefly about alibates flints which can be found at the Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument. There is no rock hounding there – a federal offense to remove rocks from the monument. However, the National Monument borders on the Canadian River. The Canadian River begins in the northwest corner of the Texas panhandle. It flows north of Amarillo and continues easterly across the Texas panhandle into Oklahoma. In Oklahoma, it continues flowing easterly crossing just south of Oklahoma City and continues until about 40 miles west of Ft. Smith, Arkansas where it joins the Arkansas River. The Arkansas continues an east-south easterly course past Little Rock and eventually joins with the Mississippi River about 20 miles north of Jackson, Mississippi. There are a lot of flood control dams along the Canadian river. Lake Meredith to the north of Amarillo is just one of the many lakes. But the river has been flowing a really long time. Without the flood control lakes, the eroded materials would continue to wash down stream. Just to the south of Oklahoma City, there are a number of rock quarries that dig rocks out of the Canadian River.



About 10 years ago, there was a field trip to one of these quarries – I sure wish I could remember the name of the quarry. If I do remember correctly, Bobby Thornton of the Dallas Gem and Mineral Society was the field trip coordinator in the local area (we had local rock hounds from Arlington, Dallas and Pleasant Oaks) plus met some rock hounds from the Oklahoma City area at the quarry. We left Dallas about 6:00 AM on a Saturday morning to get to the quarry. After a safety briefing by one of the quarry foremen, we (about 40 rock hounds strong) were allowed to look

through the piles of rocks. These piles stood 10 to 20 feet high and were graded by stone size. There were also larger piles of ungraded rocks. A small percentage of the rocks (probably about 3 to 5%) were alibates “like” flints. I hate to call them alibates because they came from the river at Oklahoma City. It could be that they were native to the area; but, there is a possibility that over the millions of years they had washed down the Canadian River. The quarry foreman told me that they dug the rocks out of the river at a depth of 60 feet down. There were other rocks of interest to be found; but, they were harder to find than the flints. I remember Bobby being interested in a red type agate, and there was a yellow and black petrified wood that was also found. You had to look through a bunch of rocks, but it did not take all that long to fill up a bucket with keepers. It was hot and sunny; but, there were no streams to climb into or out of, no hikes to get to the rocks, you just drove up to within about 100 feet of the rock piles, parked in the parking lot, and had at it! Easy to find rocks, graded by size, on level ground, rest rooms nearby. This was good rock hounding! Yes, this is a field trip that I would like to repeat!



Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

As I told you last month, we have been remodeling. I also spoke of hearing, if a family could live through such an event and still be an intact family; they will have a long and happy future together. Well, I can report at this time in history, we are, at least to this point, an intact and happy family. I will admit it has taken a great deal of labor, planning and working together to get through it all. However, it has been a labor of love for our home and family. A lot of excitement in planning how to get through from one day to another when there are family members that never knew what taking care of a home meant, and learning to work, and I do mean work, together to get it all done the way we all would like it to appear. Someone wanted bold colors on the wall and granny just could not handle that, so we had to reach a compromise; one wall, any color they wanted except black or a dark color. Then there was the chore of picking floor tile color, so it would go great with any choice of décor one chose for their room as well as the living area. All those little things, you know.



This is much like what any family may go through, I am sure you will agree. Here in the family of Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral, we work on the same basic premises. It will not be long until it is time to elect new officers. We would like to have a choice of members from which to select officers. There are several members with that glint in their eyes. You know that glint. It speaks of sharing one's talents a couple of hours once a month for the meeting. You need to volunteer; you know you do! All officers started by joining the club. Then one day, they volunteer for an office and the rest is history. I never wanted to be an officer much less an editor. One meeting I offered to be the Editor and found I really enjoyed it. It was something to have fun at and not too much time, also making many friends through contacting other editors. Please volunteer to take a turn at one of the office positions. It comes with great pay and incentives! The incentives are the opportunities to get to know others in your club, other clubs and attend events and outings in the name of the club. The pay is even greater. It is the reward of having led the club yet another year! You would be helping to keep the hobby of rock, gem, mineral and fossils in front of our youth and adults. Your club needs you! See you Thursday at the meeting. Have a great and blessed week!

Metroplex Clubs

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm
Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth, meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Dallas Paleontological Society, Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park, meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, Ridgewood Rec. Center, 6818 Fisher Road, Dallas, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society, Walnut Hill Rec Center, NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas, meets 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 pm
Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, meets 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

August 18, 2009 - 7:00 PM
DGMS Silent Auction - Ridgewood Rec Center,
6818 Fisher Road, Dallas

August Birthstone: Peridot

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Peridot is the best known gem variety of olivine, a species name for a series of magnesium-iron rich silicate minerals. It is a bright yellow-green to green gemstone, a fancy of humans for thousands of years. Some historians suspect at least some of the "emeralds" worn by Cleopatra were actually peridot. People wear the stone because it is supposed to bring the wearer success, peace, and good luck. The United States was once the largest producer of peridot, with a 1993 production value estimated to be about \$1.5 million, according to the USBM.



Peridot from the San Carlos Apache reservation in Arizona.

(Photo is courtesy of ICA/Bart Curren.)

The United States was once the largest producer of peridot, with a 1993 production value estimated to be about \$1.5 million, according to the USBM. The major competition comes from China and Pakistan. Earliest recorded production was about 70 A.D. from St. Johns Island in the Red Sea, off the coast of Egypt, and small amounts of material are still being produced from there today. Later, peridot was produced from deposits in Myanmar (formerly Burma), and were well known for their 20- to 40-carat cut stones of superb color and clarity.

Currently, deposits in Arizona are the major source of U.S. peridot. The bright green, yellow-green to olive-green peridot is used both as a faceted and tumbled gem. The faceted stones are used jewelry. The tumbled gems can be set in baroque jewelry, drilled and strung as beads. Peridot Mesa, located on the San Carlos Apache Indian Reservation east of Globe in Gila County, is the most productive locality for peridot in the world. A second Arizona is Buell Park Apache County, Arizona, about 16 kilometers north of Fort Defiance. However, it is estimated that 80% to 95% of the world's production of peridot comes from the San Carlos Reservation. On the Reservation, peridot can be mined only by individual Native Americans or by individual families of Native Americans from the San Carlos Reservation.

The peridot occurs as individual grains and aggregates of grains in a basalt which is about 3 to 35 meters thick that forms the top and sides of Peridot Mesa. The material is recovered after it has weathered out of the basalt. The peridot grains commercially recovered are typically 6 to 13 millimeters in size. Therefore, the faceted stones produced from this material are generally about 1 carat in size; 2 to 3 carat stones are not uncommon. Stones as large as 15 and 22 carats have been cut from San Carlos peridot.

Gem-quality peridot; brown, greenish-brown, yellowish-green, and the desirable peridot green can be found at three different locations in New Mexico: Buell Park in McKinley County in the northwestern part of the State and in Kilbourne Hole and Potrillo Mar depression near the Mexican border. Currently, there is no commercial production of material from any of the deposits in New Mexico, but "rockhounds" and other mineral collectors gather materials from these locations for their own use.

[U.S. Department of the Interior](#)

[U.S. Geological Survey](#)

[Minerals Information](#)

988 National Center

Reston, VA 20192 USA

URL: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/gemstones/sp14-95/peridot.html>

Show Dates

August 2009

8-9 - BATON ROUGE, LA: Annual Show; Baton Rouge Gem & Mineral Society; Fraternal Order of Police Baton Rouge Lodge Number One, 10777 Greenwell Springs Rd; Adults \$3, Children \$2; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; contact Paul Broussard, (225) 687-3864 or (225) 939-3293; e-mail: paul_broussard@msn.com

21-23 - HOT SPRINGS, AR: AKS Gem Shows; Hot Springs Convention Center, 134 Convention Blvd; Fri 10-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$5; classes in beading, PMC, chainmaille, and more; contact Kay Schabilion, (504) 455-6101; e-mail: info@aksshow.com; Website: www.aksshow.com

22-23 - MOUNTAIN HOME, AR: Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Annual Show; Cooper Park, 1101 Spring St; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Free Admission; Door Prizes, Mineral and Gem Displays, Interactive Children's Events, Mineral, Fossil, hand-made jewelry; contact Edward Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Cir, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; e-mail: edscamp3@yahoo.com; Website: www.ozarkearthscience.org

September 2009

5-6 ARLINGTON, TX: Arlington G&M Club 51st Annual Show: "Nature's Kaleidoscope"; Arlington Convention Center, 1100 Ballpark Way; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$6, Seniors & Children \$3; dealers, jewelry, beads, gems, minerals, fossils, Kids' Korner, Rock Food Table, professional gem identification, silent auctions, hourly door prizes; contact Karen Cessna, 1408 Gibbins Rd, Arlington, TX 76011, (817) 277-2286; e-mail: cessnak@ont.com; Website: www.agemclub.org

5-7 - SILVER CITY, NM: Grant County Rolling Stones G&M Society 26th Annual Show; Silver City Recreation Center, 11th St and Gold St; Sat & Sun 10-5, Mon 10-4; Free Admission; 60+ dealers from US, Mexico and Asia, free daily field trips, silent auction, Wheel of Fortune, raffles; contact L. Lett, (575) 538-3216; e-mail: show09@stockmanfamily.net; Website: <http://rollingstonesgms.blogspot.com/>

12-13 - SILOAM SPRINGS, AR: Annual Fall Swap; Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society; Clubhouse, Hwy 43, just north of Siloam Springs; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; Free Admission; Kids gem wash auction; contact Dave Leininger, (479) 263-1324; e-mail: Hulagrub@aol.com; Website: www.nwarockhounds.org

18-20 - ENID, OK: Enid G&M Society; 4125 W Owen K Garriot Rd, 1705 S Johnson St; Fri 9-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; contact Billy Wood, 1705 S Johnson St, Enid, OK 73703, (580) 234-5344; e-mail: baronladislaus@att.net

30-4 - IDABEL, OK: McCurtain Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show & Sale; Museum of the Red River, 812 SE Lincoln Rd; Free Admission; Wed 9-5, Thu 9-5, Fri 9-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 9-5; contact Cephis Hall, (580) 494-6612

October 2009

8-10 - MOUNT IDA, AR: Annual World Championship Quartz Crystals Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Thu 8-3, Fri 9-3, Sat 9-3; Adults \$75/\$90; keep all you find, meet other miners, maybe even win a prize, an international event; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957 (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

9-11 - MOUNT IDA, AR: Quartz, Quiltz and Craftz Festival; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Rd; Fri 8-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 10-4; Free Admission; Children's dig Sat, fun for all, crystals, crystals and more crystals; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957 (870) 867-2723; e-mail: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

10-11 - TEMPLE, TX: Tri-City G&M Society South Central Federation Show; Frank Mayborn Civic & Convention Center, 3303 N Third St; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$2, Children under 12 free; faceting demonstrations, grab bags, treasure wheel, silent auction, displays; contact Leslie O Connally, 875 N Wheat Rd, Belton, TX 76513, (254) 939-7015; e-mail: lconnally@clearwire.net

November 2009

7-8 - AMARILLO, TX: Golden Spread G&M Society Show; Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S Buchanan; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, wheel of fortune, silent auction, 43-pound sapphire display; contact Dee Hawkins, 108 S Polk St, Amarillo, TX 79101, (806) 681-0960

7-8 - OKLAHOMA CITY, OK: Oklahoma G&M Society Show, "River of Gems"; OK State Fair Park, 3001 General Pershing Blvd; Sat 9-6, Sun 9-5; Adults \$6, Children 12 and under, Boy/Girl Scouts/Campfire members in uniform Free with Adult; museum and member exhibits, dealers, minerals, cabochons, faceted stones, findings, demonstrations, wire wrapping, silversmithing, knapping; contact Arlene Burkhalter, 1267 Kingbird Lane, Choctaw, OK 73020, (405) 732-0808; e-mail: maburkhalter@cox.net

13-15 - HUMBLE, TX: Houston G&M Society 56th Annual Show; Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Pkwy; Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$7, Seniors & Students \$6, Children under 12 free; displays, gems, minerals, fossils, fluorescent rocks display; demonstrations, jewelry making, beading, lapidary, children's activities, Scout Merit badge program, famous "Dino Dig", jewelry, minerals, fossils; contact Patty Scott, 14906 Summerland Circle, Cypress, TX 77429, (281) 373-1578; e-mail: nigels_mom@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.hgms.org

13-15 - TULSA, OK: Retail and wholesale show; Bead Renaissance Shows; Expo Square, Exchange Ctr, 4145 E 21st St; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Free admission; bead artists, dealers, ancient, vintage, contemporary and designer beads, jewelry, tools, books; contact J&J Promotions LLC, PO Box 420, Williamsburg, NM 87942, (575) 894-1293; e-mail: beadshow@aol.com; Website: www.beadshow.com

13-15 - HOUSTON, TX: Houston G&M Society Presents 56th Annual HGMS Gem, Jewelry, Mineral, and Fossil Show Fri & Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5 Humble Civic Center, 8233 Will Clayton Parkway, Humble, TX, 5 miles east of Bush International Airport, 1 mile east of Hwy 59

21-22 - MESQUITE, TX: Dallas G&M Society presents 52nd Annual Dallas Gem & Mineral Show: The World of Rocks; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; 1818 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, TX; contact Darrell Harrison, PO Box 742033, Dallas, TX 75374-2033; email: Bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.dallasgemandmineralshow.com

December 2009

4-6 - KENNER, LA: AKS Gem Shows; Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd; Fri & Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$5; classes in beading, PMC, chainmaille, and more; contact Kay Schabilion, (504) 455-6101; e-mail: info@aksshow.com; Website: www.aksshow.com

12-13 - DERIDDER, LA: DeRidder G&M Society Show; Beauregard Parish Fair Exhibit Hall, 610 West Dr; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; Adults \$2, military with current ID & Children under 12 Free; door prizes, jewelry, gems, cabs, wire wrapping, Louisiana opal, silent auction, hands-on instructions in flint knapping, cab making, gem faceting; contact Adam Valin, (337) 585-3693; e-mail: avalin1@bellsouth.net

Chips and Chatter

Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Sunshine Report

Congratulations are in order to Ling and Don, as their family has grown. Jessica Shurtz whom graduated this spring from West Point is now Jessica Borries. Jessica, graduated West Point Class of 2009 and Aroyn graduated West Point Class 2008. Jessica and Aroyn Borries were married July 18, 2009. Congratulations to Jessica and Aroyn as well as to Don and Ling.

Did You Know

Anita Dresner, Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Eliminate odors in dirty laundry. Place an individual sheet of Bounce at the bottom of a laundry bag or hamper.
Deodorize shoes or sneakers. Place a sheet of Bounce in your shoes or sneakers overnight.
It repels mosquitoes. Tie a sheet of Bounce through a belt loop when outdoors during mosquito season.

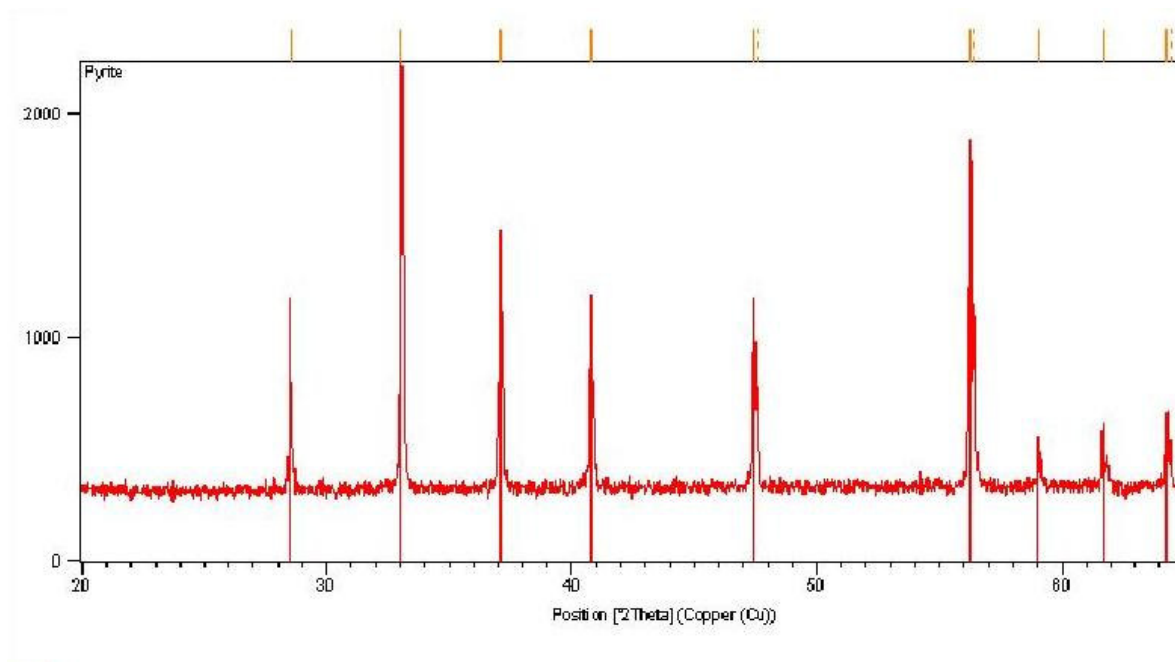
Feature Article

Submitted and written by David Dobson, Member Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Midlothian, TX Pyrite or Marcasite

There has been some debate on the specimens found in Midlothian, TX and other local collecting areas. The majority of the collectors call these specimens pyrite, but many more call them marcasite. The only difference between Pyrite and Marcasite is its crystal formation. They have an identical chemical makeup.

I have enjoyed collecting these and was curious; I have been lucky enough to have had access to lab equipment that would allow me to put this debate to rest. I used an XRD X-ray Diffractometer to determine the phase or compound in the specimen. An XRD can be used to analyze any sample that has a crystal formation. Every compound has its own unique XRD pattern or finger print. The XRD pattern shown below is for a Midlothian, TX specimen. The pattern showed that the specimens found in Midlothian, TX and other local collecting areas are pyrite.



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

5th Place AFMS 2007 small bulletins
1st place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
9th place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
3rd place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
3rd place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
1st place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
2nd place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

August 6, 2009 7:30 PM, 713 Austin, Garland Women's Bldg, TX

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB OF DALLAS MEETINGS

MEETINGS

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



MEMBERSHIP

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

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies