

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

August 2014
Vol. 48, Issue 8



1st Place, 2013 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin
2nd Place, 2013 AFMS Mini-Bulletin

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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

August 7th, 2014, 7:30 PM
Garland Women's Activities Building
713 Austin Rd, Garland

Watch the web site for a possible change in the monthly presentation, but for now plan for another DVD loaned by Butch and Patti, Gemstone Adventure Series, A Gemstone Quest with Jerry Sisk

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Club Officers for 2014

President:Ling Shurtz
1st VP:Mark Carter
Secretary:..... Lee Elms
Treasurer.....Del Grady
Editor: Don Shurtz
E-mail: ...don.shurtz@gmail.com, l.shurtz@gmail.com

VISIT OUR WEB SITE TO VIEW THE CHIPS AND CHATTER IN COLOR

Minutes of the June 5th, 2013 Meeting

The July meeting was our annual Spring Creek Barbeque get together. No club business was conducted and no minutes were required.

Very respectfully, Editor

President's Message

Ling Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

POGMC Supported the CERA (formerly Lockheed/Martin) show at Brookhaven GeoTechnology Institute over the weekend of 26-27 July. Patti and Butch were dealers at the show while Don manned the POGMC table and did demonstration of cabling using an "All-In-One" type machine. Two large cabs were completed with the help of many young show attendees.

It is time to assemble a nominating committee for Officers for 2015. The Nominating committee needs to report out at the October meeting with elections to follow their report and any nominations from the floor.

The SCFMS Convention is fast approaching. The convention will be in Baton Rouge, LA on August 9th.

Show Calendar - 2013 Show Dates for August and September 2014

AUG 9 – 10, Baton Rouge, LA, Baton Rouge G&MS & SCFMS Convention, Marriot Hotel (on Hilton Avenue),
www.brgemandmineral.org, www.scfms.net

Aug 15-16, Tahlequah, OK, Tahlequah R&MS, Tahlequah Community Building

Aug 16-17, Bossier City, LA, ARKLATEX G&MS, Bossier Civic Center, larockclub@gmail.com, www.larockclub.com

Aug 23-24, Jasper, TX, Pine Country G&MS, The Event Center, jonetta.nash@yahoo.com

Aug 23-24, Mountain Home, AR, Ozark ES,G,M&FC, Van Matre Senior Center, edscamp3@yahoo.com, www.ozarkearthscience.org

Aug31 – Oct1, Silver City, NV, Grant Cnty Rolling SG&MS, Grant Cnty Business & Conf. Cnty, Leet@stockmanfamily.net

Sep 6-7, Siloam Springs, AR, Northwest Arkansas G&M, hulagrub@aol.com, www.nwarockhounds.org

Sep 6 – 14, Denver, CO – various shows. See show list at <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

Sep 20, Tulsa, OK, Indian Nations Artifact & Fossil Shows, Oral Roberts Univ. Mabee Center, INAFshow.wordpress.com

Sep 26-28, Richardson, TX, The Bead Market, Richardson Civic Center, rebekah@thebeadmarket.net, www.thebeadmarket.net

Ref:

January / February 2014 SCFMS Newsletter

Rock & Gem Show Calendar, <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

What's in a Name?

What's in a name? Sometimes it is a new, but old club. If you look at the listing of Metroplex Clubs on the last page of this issue, you will see CERA. So what is CERA? Is it a new club? Well, it is sort of a new club, but more so an old club with a new name. CERA is Corporate Employees Recreation Association and the rockhound subdivision of the Recreation Association which also is named the Cowtown Gem, Mineral and Glass Club. And that is the new name for the former Lockheed-Martin Recreation Association (LMRA) Stone Steppers. They are temporarily meeting on the first floor of the ACME Brick Corporate Headquarters at 3024 Acme Brick Plaza, Fort Worth, TX but continue to meet on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7:00 PM.

ANOTHER SAFETY TIP – THINK

from the Roadrunner, March 2013 via the July/August SCFMS Newsletter

It's not just the hard hat, the specs and the glove,
That bring you home safe to the family you love.
The guard on the grinder, the chain on the hose,
The safety load blinder, the foul weather clothes,
The latch on the load hook, the outrigger block,
Emergency brakes, the standard wheel chocks,
The safety valve feature on high pressure tanks,
The cave-in protection on vertical banks.
The well installed best guard, the safety toe shoes,

The fire extinguisher ready to use,
The seat belt that holds you inside the car,
The road sign of safety, wherever you are,
These things are mere tools, like a carpenter's plane
They won't produce safety, or minimize pain
Your health and your safety depend upon you:
On whether you think about things that you do.
So think before acting; make thinking a rule.
Make use of your brain, your best safety tool.

August Birthstones, Peridot and Sardonyx

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas

August has two birthstones, Peridot and Sardonyx.

Peridot, like diamonds, is formed deep inside the earth and is brought to the surface by volcanoes. Peridot is also known as Chrysolite in Europe and sometimes called Hawaiiite in Hawaii. Peridot is the gem quality form of olivine. Peridot is generally thought of as a green stone but can vary in color from yellow to brownish-green. The most valued peridot is of a dark olive-green color with no trace of brown coloring. Chemically peridot is magnesium iron silicate, $(\text{Mg, Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$. The ratio of magnesium to iron can vary considerably with lesser amounts of iron yielding yellow colored stones and higher concentration amounts of iron yielding the brownish-green colored stones. Cut stones of peridot are suitable for most gem stone applications as the stone rates a Mohs hardness of 6.5 to 7.0. The largest gem quality peridot was found in Mogok, Myanmar in 2011 and is estimate to cut a stone of 600 carats. However, the current largest cut Peridot is a 310 carat (319 carat by a second source) stone owned by the Smithsonian Museum. Many believe that peridot was one of the stones of the Aaron's Breastplate as detailed in the Bible. The Hebrew edition of the Bible names one of the stones as Pitdah, but most modern translations use the word "Chrysolite", the name that Peridot is know by in Europe. Others believe that Pidah was green tourmaline, while still others believe it was Emerald. Peridot is mined in many locations including Australia, Brazil, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sir Lanka, Tanzania, and in the United States in Arizona, Arkansas, Hawaii, Nevada, and New Mexico.



Sardonyx, the other birthstone for August, is a form of onyx with reddish brown and white banding rather than the black and white banding of onyx. Sardonyx, like onyx, is a form of chalcedony and is chemically the same as quartz, SiO_2 . However, buyer beware – most stones today called Sardonyx are really a form of calcite (calcium carbonate, CaCO_3). In addition, whether the stone is chalcedony or calcite, it is likely to have been artificially colored or at least had color enhancement. In ancient times, many cameos (raised figures) and Intaglios (recessed figures) were cut from Sardonyx. It is also popular as a bead. Sardonyx is believed to be the 11th stone in the Biblical Aaron's Breastplate. It represents the 11th tribe, or the tribe of Joseph. The primary source for Sardonyx has historically been India and it still is a major producer today. Other countries where Sardonyx is mined include Russia, Pakistan, United States, Germany, Brazil, Mexico, and Czechoslovakia. In the United States Sardonyx can be found in Oregon, the Great Lakes area, and in Arizona.



Ref

Birthstones for August, <http://www.americangemsociety.org/august-birthstones>

You Tube – Biggest Peridots Ever Founded (sic) 2011, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWf8xXSyCeQ>

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

Two Birthstones for August, <http://starryskies.com/articles/dln/8-01/august.birthstones.html>

Onyx, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sardonyx>

Peridot, <http://www.jtv.com/linkpage?cid=peridot-gemopedia>

Peridot, Emerald of the Crusaders, <http://glimmerdream.com/gemjourneys/peridot/history>

Gem of the Month: Sardonyx, <http://aussiesapphire.wordpress.com/2006/08/01/gem-of-the-month-sardonyx/>

Pictures

Peridot: "Forsterite-219245" by Rob Lavinsky / iRocks.com - <http://www.mindat.org/photo-219245.html>. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 via Wikimedia Commons -

<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Forsterite-219245.jpg#mediaviewer/File:Forsterite-219245.jpg>

Sardonyx: "Agate banded 750pix". Licensed under Public domain via Wikimedia Commons -

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Agate_banded_750pix.jpg#mediaviewer/File:Agate_banded_750pix.jpg



From *Geologem* 10/69 via *MWF Newsletter* 3/01 via *T-Town Rockhound* 5/01
via *Backbender's Gazette (Houston G&MS)* 8/15

Do You Know What Argentium Sterling Silver Is?

by Vicki Hathaway

from *Alberta Geological Survey Rock Chips* 12/2013 via *The Clackamette Gem*, 12/2013,
via *Rocky Mountain Federation News* 1/2014 via *The Backbender's Gazette (Houston G&MS)* 8/14

Traditional sterling silver is 925 parts fine silver and 75 parts copper. Argentium sterling silver is similar, except that some of the copper in the alloy has been replaced with germanium. Germanium prevents oxygen from penetrating the surface of the metal, which allows argentium to resist both tarnish and firescale, making it a joy to work with—less firescale means less pickling, less polishing, and less labor. However, there are a few key differences to remember:

- Argentium sterling silver can be fused with less distortion than fine silver.
- Argentium sterling silver melts around 1410 degrees F (760 degrees C)—lower than traditional or fine silver.
- Fine silver does not change color when heated and traditional sterling turns dark grey with firescale. Argentium will stay white or get a light-grey scale. This can be removed easily with an oxidizing flame, pickling, and/or a light sanding.
- Use separate solder boards, bricks, files, pickle, and polishing tools for Argentium sterling silver. Shared tools can contaminate clean Argentium sterling silver with base metal, which can cause it to tarnish, develop firescale during heating, or to not polish as beautifully.

THE BATON ROUGE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY SHOW SCFMS REGIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Location: Marriott Hotel on Hilton Ave

Show Times: **Saturday**, August 9th: 10:00 – 5:00 and **Sunday**, August 10th 10:00 – 5:00

SCFMS Activities: Saturday, August 9th in the Beauregard Room:

Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters: 8:00

SCFMS Meeting: 1:00

SCFMS Awards Banquet: 7:00

SCFMS Activities, Sunday, August 10th in the Beauregard Room:

Rolling Rock Club Meeting: 8:00



SAFETY REPORT HURRICANE SEASON

Just when you thought it was safe to go
back in the water...

by: Owen Martin, SCFMS Safety Coordinator
From the July/August 2014 SCFMS Newsletter

So Hurricane Arthur has come and gone as the first named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season. Luckily it skirted the East coast for the most part and damage was negligible, especially when compared to Hurricane Sandy. With that being said, if Arthur had tracked just 5 degrees to the west once past North Carolina's Outer Banks it would have made a dead center hit on Boston!

Point being that this time of year we all need to be prepared for the impacts of tropical storms well past the time when they make first land fall. Hurricane Rita as an example missed Houston, but after it became an extra-tropical storm had a major impact all the way up in Syracuse, New York!

Preparation should take two forms. One if you plan to stay and ride out a storm, and two, if you need to evacuate. Keep in mind that if you stay you may have to survive for a period of time without power and other utilities. For many of us it is critically important to make sure that we have all of our prescription medications filled and for those of us who may need medicines like insulin that will need to stay refrigerated we also need to figure out how to keep these meds cool.

The two most basic things we need with respect for preparation are several gallons of water per person and filled gas tanks for all your vehicles. These will get

you by and give you flexibility before, during or after the storm. As a general rule down here in Houston I fill all my gas tanks once any storm clears Cuba or Florida.

A different aspect of preparation is communications, particularly with our loved ones and with work. The Red Cross has a great tool to help - their "safe and well" section of their website. www.redcross.org/find-help/contact-family/register-safe-listing Register at Safe & Well - Safe & Well Webs... List yourself and others as Safe & Well in the Safe & Well Website. Notify your family in times of emergency. Just make sure you tell your "important people" that you plan to register BEFORE the storm hits! And as I mention every year, please visit [http://www.,ready.gov/](http://www.ready.gov/) for some great checklists that help with preparing for hurricane season. Be safe and have a great summer.

Owen

Field Trip

David Dobson has set up another Field Trip to Midlothian for fossils and pyrites on Saturday, September 6th, 2014 from 8:00 – 10:00 AM with a possibility of extending until 12:00 noon. The Field Trip will be to the same quarry that we normally go to, but due to a merger between TXI and Martin Marietta, you may find a different name on the outside of the buildings. Contact David at

RockTrading.com

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas

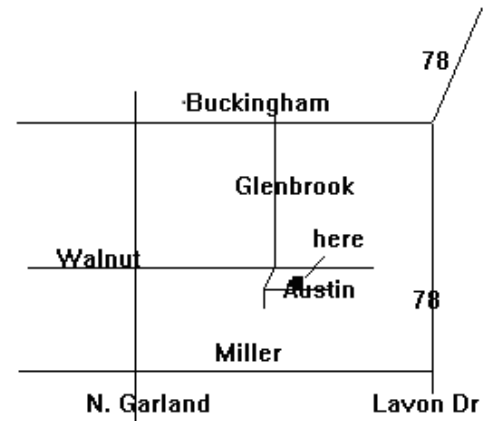


Meetings

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

Membership

Single Adult: \$16.00,
Junior: \$5.00, Family: \$27.50
(Plus badge fee for new members)



CHIPS AND CHATTER

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

PO Box 831934

Richardson, TX 75083-1934

To:

August Meeting, August 7th, Garland Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX: Plan for another DVD loaned by Butch and Patti, Gemstone Adventure Series, A Gemstone Quest with Jerry Sisk

September Meeting: September 4th, Garland Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX

Visit an Area Club

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Dallas Bead Society, The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Dallas, TX meets 1st Saturday of each month at 10:00 am
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, VFW Hall, 10205 Plano Rd, Dallas TX (next to their shop)
Dallas Paleontological Society, 2nd Wed. of each month at 7:30 pm, Brookhaven Geotechnology Institute, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244
Ft. Worth Gem & Mineral Club, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 3545 Bryan Ave, Ft Worth, TX
CERA (Cowtown G,M, & Glass Club), meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm, 3024 Acme Brick Plaza, Ft. Worth (formerly LM Stone Steppers)
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc., 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dallas, TX
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club meets the 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30 pm, Garland Women's Activities Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland,