

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



August 2015
Vol. 49, Issue 8

1st Place, 2014 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin
1st Place, 2014 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, particularly 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

Our August meeting will be at the Garland Activities Building, Thursday, 6 August at 7:30 PM. The feature presentation will be about the Minerals of Afghanistan plan to attend!

Our September meeting will
Activities Building, Thursday, 3 September at 7:30 PM.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Club Officers for 2015

President:	Ling Shurtz
1st VP, Programs:	Open
2nd VP, Field Trips:	Open
Secretary:	Lee Elms
Treasurer:	Del Grady
Editor:	Don Shurtz
E-mail:	don.shurtz@gmail.com, l.shurtz@gmail.com

VISIT OUR AWARD WINNING WEB SITE TO VIEW THE CHIPS AND CHATTER IN COLOR. www.pogmc.org

President's Message

Ling Shurtz, POGMC President

Over the last few meetings Warner has had some very interesting minerals for show and tell. At our August be a unique opportunity to see some valuable mineral specimens and learn more about them.

During the last month we completed and sent in our IGEM contract for the October 16 - 18 show. Set up will be 14 - 15 October. Your help is needed for the set-up.

Minutes of the July 2015 Meeting

The July meeting was our annual get-together at Spring Creek Barbeque in Richardson. No business was transacted and no minutes were required. Editor

California Rocks and Minerals

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

As I write this, I am in California (Los Angeles area) on business - what better excuse do I need to write about California rocks and minerals. First, a few facts:

The California State Rock is Serpentine; the metamorphic remains of magnesium-rich igneous rock, mostly olivine and peridot (note the tie in to the birthstone article). Serpentine is green with what looks like rocks with other colors melted in it. It feels soapy and is quite

4. It will take a nice polish, but beware - some serpentine contains asbestos. Cut it with plenty of water and use a mask to protect yourself.

The California State Mineral is, not surprisingly, gold. Gold has a long history in California starting with the gold rush of 1849. Gold is found in many parts of the state, but the gold rush was primarily in the drainage area of the American River - specifically the areas to the west and northwest of current day Sacramento.

The California State Gem is Benitoite, a very rare mineral formed as barium titanium silicate. It is blue under normal light and bright blue to bluish white under short wave ultraviolet light. Even rarer is the clear to white benitoite which fluoresces red under a long wave ultraviolet light.



The San Diego county area of California is known for tourmaline. Over the years there have been numerous tourmaline mines in the San Diego area. Even today you can go the Himalaya Mine and look for tourmalines. Other minerals which can be found in San Diego county include Quartz, Spessartine Garnets, Grossular Garnets, Almandine Garnets, Topaz, Kunzite, Morganite (pink beryl), Aquamarine (blue beryl), Cassiterite, Apatite, Stibtanlalite, Molybdenite, Herderite, Rutile, Shene (titanium oxide), Epidot, Vesuvianite, Spinel, Heulandite, Stilbite, Lithiophlithite, Bante, Microcline, Manganotantalite, Barite, Calcite, and Gypsum. Mind you, this is just San Diego county - only a small portion of the state.

A small sampling of some of the other minerals to be found in California include Actinolite, Lawsonite, Trona, Wulfenite, Scheelite, Columbite, Neptunite, Narrolite, Fluorite, Colemanite, Andalusite, and Linarite.

Ref:

Benitoite by Didier Descouens, CCA-SA 3.0 Unported, Wikimedia Commons, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Minerals_of_California, http://www.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/geologic_resources/mineral_resource_mapping/Pages/index.aspx
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Show Calendar - Upcoming Show Dates

Aug 08 - 09, Baton Rouge, LA, Baton Rouge G&MS, BR Marriot Hotel, aroucho@entergy.com, brgemandmineral.org
Aug 14 - 15, Tahlequah, OK, Tahlequah R&MS, rockhoundsally@aol.com, tramsok.webs.com
Aug 15 - 16, Bossier City, LA, ARK-LA-TEX G&MS, Bossier City Civic Cntr., www.larockclub.com
Aug 22 - 23, Mountain Home, AR, Ozark Earth Science GM&FC, www.ozarkearthscience.org/news.htm
Aug 22 - 23, Jasper, TX, Pine Country G&MS, Events Cntr

Sep 5 - 7, Silver City, NM, Grant Cnty.G&MS, Western NM University, leet@stockmanfamil.net
Sep 12 - 13, Siloam Springs, AR, NW Arkansas G&MS, hulagrub@aol.com, www.nwarockhounds.org
Sep 25 - 27, Humble, TX, Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center, show@hgms.org, www.hgms.org

Oct 3 - 4, Jacksonville, AR, Central Arkansas GM&GS, Jacksonville Community Center, thom61847@yahoo.com
Oct 9 - 11, Mount Ida, AR Montgomery Cnty. Fairgrounds, director@mtidachamber.com, www.mtidachamber.com
Oct 10 - 11, Temple, TX, Tri-City G&MS, Mayborn Civic Cntr., burnette@aceweb.com
Oct 23 - 25, Austin G&MS show, SCFMS Convention, and AFMS Convention,
Showchairman@austingemandmineral.org, www.gemcapers.com
Oct 25 - 26, Glen Rose, TX, Paleo Society of Austin, Somervell Expo Cntr
Oct 31 - Nov 1, Oklahoma City, OK, Oklahoma M&GS, OK State Fair Park, halfull101-rockngem@yahoo.com

Nov 7 - 8, Amarillo, TX, Golden Spread G&MS, Amarillo Civic Cntr, finfran@midplains.coop
Nov 7 - 8, Midland, TX, Midland G&MS, Midland Cntr
Nov 14 - 15, Round Rock TX, Paleo Society of Austin, Old Settlers Park
Nov 21 - 22, Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Mesquite Rodeo Cntr Exhibit Hall, bravo1bravo@sbcglobal.net,
www.dallasgemandmineral.org

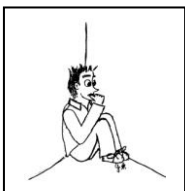
Dec 4 - 6, El Paso, TX, El Paso M&GS, El Maida Auditorium, gemcenter@aol.com

Ref:

July-August 2015 SCFMS Newsletter

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

Austin Gem and Mineral Society / AMFS & SCFMS Show and Conventions



This year the AFMS and SCFMS shows and conventions will be held in conjunction with the Austin, TX Gem and Mineral Society Show Gem Capers.2015. The show starts Friday, 23 October and runs through Sunday, 25 October. Friday and Saturday the show will be from 9:00 AM to 6:00 pm and on Sunday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. In addition to the AFMS and SCFMS conventions, there will be meetings of the ALAA (American Land Access Association) and S.C.R.I.B.E (Special Congress Representing Involved Bulletin Editors). The AFMS Convention and Delegates meeting is on Thursday at 9:00 AM followed by the AFMS Scholarship Foundation Meeting. The Judges & Clerks Meeting will be at 10:00 AM on Friday. The S.C.R.I.B.E meeting will also be on Friday starting at 11:00 AM. Saturday morning starting at 8:00 AM is the SCFMS / AMFS Editors Breakfast. The SCFMS Convention and Delegates meeting is Saturday at 1:00 PM followed by the ALAA meeting. Sunday at a time to be determined will be a Field Trip to Emerald Ridge. Even if you great show and since it is so close you should plan to attend. One word of caution Hotel and Motel rooms and RV spaces are at a premium due to the Formula One race. You should reserve now and probably look for a place within comfortable driving distance of Austin rather than Austin itself.

a ticket for the drawing. This is another good reason for attending the show.

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Don

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August Birthstones, Peridot and Sardonyx

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

One of the birthstones for the month of August is peridot. Peridot is the gem quality variant of the mineral olivine. Chemically peridot is $(\text{Mg, Fe})\text{SiO}_4$ or magnesium iron silicate. The color range of peridot, which is driven by the amount of iron in the mineral, is from yellow to green to brownish-green with the olive green and lime-green

hardness of peridot is 6.5 to 7.0. Peridot is also known as chrysolite and forsterite. Peridot,

(Exodus

in the Septuagint [early Greek] translation of the bible) and one of the Foundation Stones for New Jerusalem (Revelations in the Septuagint translation of the bible).



lity olivine is quite rare. Olivine is mined in Australia, Brazil, China, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Norway, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and the United States. In the United States it is mined in Arkansas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, and



New Mexico. If you visit Hawaii, one destination for a rockhound should be Papakolea Beach, also known as Green Sand Beach on the Big Island of Hawaii. The beach gets its green coloration from the grain of sand size crystals of olivine (peridot) which are abundant in the sand. The only major problem in visiting the beach is that no vehicles are allowed, you must hike over a rough road (closed to all vehicles) for 3 miles including hiking down the cinder cone of the P , an extinct volcano



The second birthstone for the month of August is sardonyx, a variety of chalcedony which is composed of or Silicon Dioxide (SiO_2). Sardonyx is a subset of the onyx family. Onyx is banded chalcedony with the bands running basically parallel to each other, and sardonyx is the variety with alternating red and white bands. is

6.5 to 7.0. Sardonyx is also known as carnelian onyx. Sardonyx, in the Septuagint

reastplate;

however later translations indicate the stone was sard (red jasper or possibly even ruby). Sardonyx was also listed as one of the Foundation Stones for New Jerusalem).



Sardonyx, like many members of the onyx family, is often cut into cameos.

Sardonyx is found in a variety of locations including China, Czech Republic, India, Portugal, United Kingdom, and the United States. In the United States, sardonyx is found in Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Rhode Island.

Reference

The American Gem Society, Birthstones by Month, <http://www.americangemsociety.org/birthstones>
Kunz, George W, The Curious Lore of Precious Stones, copyright 1913, J. B. Lippencott Co., Philadelphia
Mindat.org, <http://www.mindat.org/>
Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki>

Pictures from WikiMedia Commons, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki>:

Green sand: Brian Schaller, licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-Share Alike 3.0
Papakolea Beach, Madereugeneandrew, licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International
Peridot crystal: Azuncha, licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0
Sardonyx: Pureales, licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International
Sardonyx Cameo, Clio20, licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0



SAFETY REPORT SAFETY IN THE SHOP

Owen Martin, SCFMS Safety
from the July-August 2015 SCFMS Newsletter

SLIPS, TIPS, AND FALLS AWARENESS AND PREVENTION

by Jacob Agbor, Safety Professional, Houston, TX

Almost anyone who watches television can instantly recognize the slip hazard presented when they see the image of a banana peel lying on the floor. Typically an unsuspecting person comes around the corner, slips, flips and falls in a heap on the floor. Laughs!! As funny as this may seem when portrayed on TV, falls are one of the leading causes of unintentional injuries in the United States, accounting for approximately 8.9 million visits to the emergency room annually (2011 NSC Injury facts).

Slip, trip & fall (STF) hazards can be found lurking around the workplace, our homes, and everyday life, but go unnoticed to many unsuspecting eyes. These hazards present themselves in the forms of a minor water spill on the hallway floor, a PlayStation power cord lying harmlessly across the living room floor, a carpet end which is sticking out of place by the doorway, an uneven surface of a sidewalk, or a questionably competent person using a bar stool as a ladder. All of these hazards and situations occur in our everyday life and as such frequently get overlooked and accepted as the norm, all the while escaping the reality of the grave potential for injury that could occur in an instant.

Slips, trips and falls can happen anywhere, and the resulting Injuries can include sprains & strains, bruises & contusions, fractures, abrasions & lacerations, concussions, and even up to disability or death. The immediate and hidden cost of such injuries include lost wages & out of pocket expenses, pain, temporary or permanent disability, reduced quality of life, depression & death. Slips, trips & falls make up the majority of general industry accidents accounting for 15% of all accidental deaths. They are also the second leading cause of disabling injuries, only behind motor vehicle accidents, and annually account for over 17% of all disabling occupational injuries (USDOL).

From the work place to the streets to your own home, the same holds true; Only YOU can be truly responsible for YOUR OWN SAFETY, and one of the 1st steps in the right direction is learning to always be

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aware of your surroundings. Some other measures to take include:

Know where STF hazards are common in your daily life (shoes by the door, back packs on the floor, chairs out of place, the dishwasher's open door, puddles of water, slippery soap in the bath, etc.),

Practicing good housekeeping both at home and at work,

Keeping areas tidy and free of clutter, *

Utilizing safe walking practices by following designated walking paths

Wearing proper footwear with good fit & traction, and

Even by learning techniques on how to "fall properly," something that could reduce the effect of a "landing" after an STF.

After all is said and done a good "slip, trip, tumble and fall" is great for laughs on TV, but in real life an STF is a very serious matter which can permanently and negatively affect our lives. As such it's good to know that there's still hope out there for preventing slips, trips & falls and their resulting injuries. As such we should all take the personal responsibility for our own safety, then spread the word and influence those around us, family, friends & coworkers, to do the same. Only by doing so can we raise awareness to the "reality" of this issue, and thus minimize potential impacts to our everyday lives.



Will be given away on Sunday October 25, 2015, at the AFMS/ SCFMS Convention and Show. Ticket comes free with show entry. The winner does not need to be present to win. This Show will be held in our own South Central Federation in Austin, TX. Plan now to attend. It will be a show to remember and you won't want to miss this one. See you there.

August 2015

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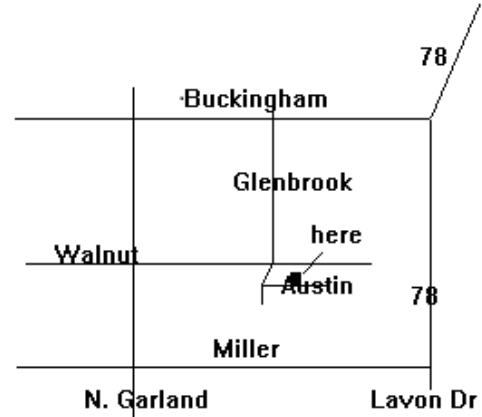
PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas



Meetings
First Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM

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:

presentation will be about the Minerals of Afghanistan

Thursday, 6 August at 7:30 PM. Our

Visit an Area Club

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm
Cowtown G, M, & Glass Club, meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Corp. Emp. Rec. Association (CERA) 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd. Fort Worth
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, American Legion, 10205 Plano Rd, Dallas (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,
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc., 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, 3839 W. Keist Blvd, Dallas,
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club meets the 1st Thur. of each month at 7:30 pm, Garland Women's Activities Bldg., 713 Austin,