



## Shattuckite

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Shattuckite is a rare copper silicate mineral. Blue in color, it is very beautiful. It has a Mohs hardness of 3.5, but that hasn't stopped lapidary artists from creating cabochons, primarily for necklace drops and earrings where it is less exposed to bumps and scratches. Shattuckite has been very popular at the last few IGEM shows that I have attended, both as a finished product and in massive form. The crystals are typically a fan of needles from a central point. Often, they form a three-dimensional ball. If the ball is cut, you can see the needle formation. Crystals of Shattuckite are extremely rare; the only place I have seen a crystal is at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science.

As mentioned, Shattuckite is a copper silicate – actually a copper silicate hydroxide,  $\text{Cu}_5(\text{SiO}_3)_4(\text{OH})_2$ . There are four other copper silicates and one copper-aluminum silicate. The remaining copper silicate minerals are Apachite -  $\text{Cu}_9\text{Si}_{10}\text{O}_{29} \cdot 11\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , Dioptase -  $\text{CuSiO}_3 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , Gilalite -  $\text{Cu}_5\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{17} \cdot 7(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ , and Plancheite -  $\text{Cu}_8\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_4 \cdot (\text{H}_2\text{O})$ . The copper-aluminum silicate is Chrysocolla,  $\text{Cu}_{2-x}\text{Al}_x(\text{H}_{2-x}\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5)(\text{OH})_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Of these, only Chrysocolla is relatively common. Shattuckite is visually similar to Plancheite and the two are often confused. However, Plancheite has a Mohs hardness of 6; a simple scratch test will differentiate the two minerals.



Shattuckite is named for the type locality, the Shattuck Mine in Bisbee, AZ. The mineral was identified in 1915. In the Shattuck Mine, the mineral forms as a pseudomorph of Malachite. Over the years, the only practical use for Shattuckite has been as mineral specimens and for lapidary works.

### References:

- Minerals.Net, <https://www.minerals.net/mineral/shattuckite.aspx>
- Wikipedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shattuckite>

Photograph by Don Shurtz of specimen at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science

## In Memory of Bob and Jerrye Parker



### Why Pleasant Oaks?

by Bob Parker, with assistance from Jerrye Parker  
Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

In February 1964 Jerrye and I met with seven other gem and mineral enthusiasts at the Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center at 8701 Greenmound, just north of Bruton Road in East Dallas. Four of them had met in January to talk about possibility of forming a Gem and Mineral Club and had invited others of us to their February Meeting. By March 3<sup>rd</sup>, with seventeen present, we voted to become a club.

Sometime in 1965 we became nervy enough to put on a Club Show. I was Chairman, and it was very small as we were all learning, and Dub and Martha Holden won first place with their miniatures. The show was held at the Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center.

At first, we were a specimen collecting bunch, but as the years went by, lapidary and jewelry making came to the front as well. The Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center was our meeting place for two or three years, but the City of Dallas' policy of seizing any Club's show money and equipment if they moved out prompted us to look for new quarters.

We moved to the Colonial Baptist Church on Scyene Road where we met for several years. We had a separate room and plenty of room for equipment. Buz and Julia Lovett of The Lapidary Workshop on Greenville Avenue helped us get a great deal of additional equipment. The Church eventually made a commitment with a Korean congregation and we had to move.

From there we moved to the Umphress Methodist Church in Pleasant Grove which gave us a meeting room and separate equipment room. After a year or so we received short notice to move, so we found a place in a Commercial Building on Ferguson Road, near I-30. After about a year we found a private school on Centennial near Spring Valley and Abrams Road. Here we had plenty of room and probably were there about 2 - 3 years.

Then we found the Women's Activities Building in Garland and found a shop location not too far away. Our shop schedules grew fast there, and after a few years we found our present shop location, combining with the Dallas Gem and Mineral Society which enabled us to come closer to breaking even on operation. The Women's Activities Building location has been, and we hope will continue to be, our best ever meeting spot.

All these years we had annual shows at: (1) the Pleasant Oaks Recreation Center, (2) the Armory in Pleasant Grove, (3) the Holiday Inn near Centerville and LBJ, (4) a motel in Irving on 183, (5) the Villa Inn across from Big Town (recently torn down), and (6) the Richardson Civic Center.

Jerrye and I have enjoyed this club very much!!

*Editor's Note: Bob and Jerrye Parker both passed this year. Jerrye passed March 25, 2020 from complications of a February car accident. Bob passed November 8, 2020 from COVID-19. Bob and Jerrye were present when the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club was formed in March, 1964. My curiosity about the early days of our Club was satisfied in an article "Why Pleasant Oaks" by Bob and Jerrye published in the February, 2002 Chips and Chatter.*

## Shows and Activities – Upcoming Show and Activity Dates

Please note that many shows are being canceled in response to health concerns associated with COVID-19  
Check with the show contact to verify the show status

- No December, 2020 Shows

### January 2021

- JAN – All Month, Quartzite, AZ, numerous shows. JAN 1 – 15 seems to be the best date for rocks, minerals, and fossils
- JAN 22-24, Tyler, TX, East Texas G&MS, Tyler Rose Garden Center, [www.etgms.org](http://www.etgms.org)

### February 2021

- FEB 1-15, Tucson, AZ, numerous shows and dates, see <https://jogsshow.com/tucson-gem-show-schedule/>. Note, Tucson G&MS show scheduled for Feb 11 – 14 has been canceled

Ref:

- September - October 2020 SCFMS Newsletter
- Rock & Gem Show Dates, <https://www.rockngem.com/ShowDatesFiles/ShowDatesDisplayAll.php?ShowState=ALL>

## Safety Matters, Leading by Example Matters

By Ellery Borow, AFMS Safety Chair

It's real. It's here. It's now. It Matters

COVID - 19 is here. How we deal with it matters. There is a debate about mask wearing, but few debate the question as to whether masks help or not. They help, significantly so, in reducing transmission to others and protection of oneself. While a person may show no outward and commonly recognized symptoms of COVID-19, they may have it and unknowingly be spreading it. Have you been close by someone who has it? If they do have it, they might not know it. So, since it is not always possible to be sure, the old advice is still sound. An ounce of prevention (a mask and hand washing) is usually worth the pound of cure (the consequences of having COVID-19).

There are and will continue to be health reasons, pulmonary function and so on issues, for not wearing a mask. The reasons should be minded.

Rockhounds are leaders. They write articles, deliver speeches, and zoom all they want, but the best example of leadership, is leading by example. Often words are not really needed for that style of leadership. Go on a field trip and wear goggles while hammering or chipping rocks. Wear ear plugs if the noise is high and one is using an air compressor or battery-powered tools for hammering on rocks. Have gloves on while needing to protect your hands. Mind the chips flying when using rock splitters. Use protective guards when operating machinery. Those exemplify leading by

example. Leading by example works--rockhounds are smart people.

With children around, well, they are little sponges. They may not show it, but they watch everything, especially what parents and any adults do. Children want to be adults, and often, the sooner the better. Children observe adults and learn in that observation. Setting a good example for kids, for anyone, will give the hobby, our health, and our ideals a good size boost.

Sources of additional information include:

- WHO - World Health Organization
- CDC - Centers for Disease Control
- NIH - National Institute of Health
- NIAD - National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases
- NIOSH - National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health

Checking with the above sources, as well as your own personal and trusted sources, plus your state and local sources, would be wise in order to have the most current mask advice.

Your safety matters. Please be extra cautious in this current Covid-19 virus day and age.

The disclaimer--understand that this article does not profess to offer medical advice but merely compiles data from several sources about masks and the Covid-19 virus.

## POGMC Christmas Dinner and Party

Mark your calendar for our next meeting – our annual Potluck Dinner with the club providing Brisket and Ham, and our Christmas Party. Bring a gift valued from \$15 to \$20. All the gifts will go under the tree and each person will pick a gift. However, do not expect to go home with the gift you selected – there will be a bunch of theft going on by other members! But everyone will leave with a gift.



## Bench Tips from Brad Smith

Reprinted by permission of the author, Brad Smith. Received as an email from Brad Smith

### LOOSE HEADS

Flying off the handle is never good, particularly if it's a hammer head. The traditional way to tighten a loose hammer head is a bit of work with wedges, but if the head is basically secure, there's a fast and easy way to tighten a loose head for about 50 cents - superglue.

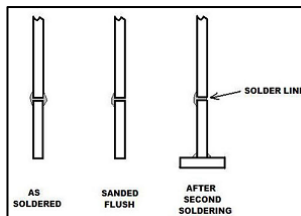


Simply put a couple drops in from the handle side, let it set up, and then a few drops from the top side. Be sure to get the thin super glue, not gel. It penetrates better. Packages of two superglues are usually available at the 99-cent store.

Note that this is only a safe practice if the hammer head is just a little loose but is basically secured onto the handle. Gluing is not a fix for a hammer head that has come off the handle or is at risk of coming off.

### AVOIDING SOLDER LINES

After finishing a soldered joint on say a bezel, have you ever seen it reappear after you've soldered the bezel to a base plate?



What's happening is that every time you heat a soldered piece to the temperature that solder flows, the liquid solder seeps a little more into the

surrounding metal. This leaves a small furrow where the solder had been sanded off flush at the joint. To get rid of the furrow, you have to re-sand the joint area down to the bottom of the furrow.

To avoid this when I have another soldering operation to follow, I try to leave a little extra solder on my joints. For instance, when trimming off excess base plate from around a bezel, I leave a paper thickness of excess plate material whenever possible until I'm done with all soldering.

### Work Smarter & Be More Productive With Brad's "How-To" Jewelry Books

[Amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith](https://www.amazon.com/author/bradfordsmith)



### VISIT AN AREA CLUB

[Arlington Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX

[Cowtown Gem, Mineral, & Glass Club](#), meets the 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 pm, CERA 3300 Bryant Irvin Rd. Fort Worth

[Dallas Bead Society](#), meets 1st Saturday of each month at 10:00 am at The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Dallas, TX

[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](#), meets 2nd Wed. of each month at 7:00 pm, Brookhaven College, Building H, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244

[Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club](#), meets 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft. Worth

[Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc.](#), meets the 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, Garland

[Wild West Bead Society](#), meets 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30, Wild Beads, 2833 Galleria Dr., Arlington, TX

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ling Shurtz, POGMC President

The Sweet Home Mine Video at the November meeting was excellent. Our December meeting will be our Christmas Party and Potluck Dinner – the club will provide Brisket and Ham. There will be a Gift Exchange, hobby-related gifts valued from \$15 to \$20. Finally, there will be an IGEM Show in January. Dates are January 15 to 17 with setup likely on January 13.

### CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2020-2021

President: Ling Shurtz  
1st VP, Programs: Carolyn Grady  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Field Trips: Open  
Secretary: Cheryl Ogletree  
Treasurer: Del Grady  
Editor: Don Shurtz  
E-mail: don.shurtz@gmail.com, L.SHURTZ@gmail.com

### November 5, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

POGMC President Ling Shurtz called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**We recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

**Quorum:** We have a quorum.

**Sunshine Report:**

- Patti remains in a local nursing home

**Visitors:** There were no visitors

**Minutes:** We reviewed the minutes of the October meetings as printed in the November 2020 Chips and Chatter. Julie made a motion to accept the minutes. Ling seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Del Grady gave the Treasurer's Reports for October. Lee made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports. Warner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Old Business:**

- The October IGEM was a good show
- There will be an Estate sale of rocks and minerals collected by Dr. James Carter November 6 - 8 at 713 Cambridge Drive, Richardson

**New Business:**

- The new officers were installed, President – Ling, 1st VP – Carolyn, Secretary – Cheryl, Treasurer – Del, Editor – Don
- The next IGEM show will be January, date and location to be determined. Editor's Note: January 15 - 17 at Market Hall

- The December meeting will be our annual Christmas Potluck Dinner and Party. Bring a dish to share – the club will provide Ham and Brisket. There will be a gift exchange (price range \$15 to \$20). There will be gift stealing
- Area Shows (note that dates subject to change or show cancellation):
  - NOV 2-4, Albuquerque, NM, Jay Penn Annual show, Expo NM State Fairgrounds.
  - NOV 6-8, Humble, TX, Houston G&MS, Humble Civic Center, hgms.org - CANCELED
  - NOV 7-8, Amarillo, TX, Golden Spread G&MS, Amarillo Civic Center,
  - NOV 21-22, Mesquite, TX, Dallas G&MS, Mesquite Convention Center.

**Break:**

**Presentation: Sweet Home Mine**

The Sweet Home Mine dates back to August 20, 1873 when gold was being mined on Mt. Boss near Alma, Colorado. When gold played out, the mine was closed. Then there was a silver strike and the mine reopened for silver mining. However, the price of silver fell and the mine was closed again. The mine was opened again for mining, but not for the silver that the owners were looking for, but for rhodochrosite specimens that were lurking in the veins for the old silver mine. The pinkish-red crystals make the most beautiful mineral specimens that are most sought after.

We held the raffle

Ling adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Cheryl Ogletree, Secretary

### MEETING

The December 3 will be our annual Christmas Potluck Dinner (club providing the meat dishes) and Party with gift exchange (\$15-\$20). We will start at 7:00 with the dinner starting about 7:30. The next meeting will be January 3, 2021 starting at 7:30.

### VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

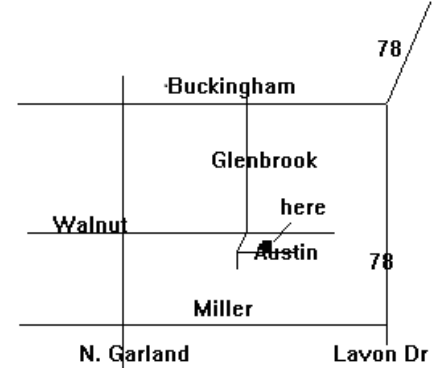
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**PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas**



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



**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. Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas is a Section 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

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

To:

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

**The December meeting will be our annual Christmas Party and Potluck Dinner. We will start with a social gathering at 7:00, dinner at 7:30, and the gift exchange to finish the meeting.**

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