

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

February 4, 2010
Vol. 44, Issue 2

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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 meet 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

As of print time, I did not have the information. Sorry.

Club Officers for 2010

President: Del Grady
 1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223
 Secretary: Lee Elms
 Treasurer: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821
 Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828
 E-mail: anitadresner@rocketmail.com

Chips and Chatter Deadline:
14 days before the next month's meeting

January 2010 Minutes

Lee Elms, Secretary; Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

The January meeting of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club was called to order at 7:35 pm with our president, Del Grady leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurers' Report: Don Shurtz gave the report. Mark Carter motioned to accept the report, it was seconded and accepted.

Sunshine Report: None for this month.

Old Business:

1. A reminder to all members who have not paid their dues now is the time.
2. Judges are still needed for the Science Fair, which will be February 28th. We'll be judging Junior and Senior science projects. Ling and Don Shurtz, Dale Grady, and Lee Elms have volunteered to judge. It is held in the Automotive Building at Fair Park and begins at 8 am with orientation.

New Business:

1. Don Shurtz has proposed a new Website.
2. Possible Field trips - maybe one to Arkansas. Warner is planning on going there the end of January.
3. We welcomed a new club member: Carol Tipp.

Program: The Shaw children, Mary and Joseph, gave us a very interesting look at what they are involved in; dealing with rocks, gems and minerals. Mary won 1st place at the Texas State Fair this year with the necklace she made from Sculpey clay. She mixed different colors of clay together and then formed it into beads which looked like real turquoise beads. Then, she showed us the simple tools she used to put holes in the beads; so, they could be strung into a necklace. Then, she made a pendant to hang from the beads with interesting markings that looked like Mayan or Incan alphabet characters.

Then, Joseph showed us his new Garrett metal detector and all the books he had received, telling him where you can use the metal detector. Places such as on the beach where you could go looking for old coins that may have washed-up from ancient shipwrecks. His detector also gave you an idea of what kind of metal it was homing in on, and also, how deep it would be underground.

Raffle: There were rocks, minerals and a framed poem to be won. Everyone was happy with what they won.

The meeting adjourned and we all bundled up for the cold ride home, as it was below freezing when we left. No official club business was conducted at our December Meeting or at our Summer July Meeting.

Area 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, 10205 Plano Rd, off of Plano Rd, Dallas, TX, meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society, Walnut Hill Rec Ctr, NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas, meets 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 pm
Oak Cliff Gem & Mineral Society, Renaissance Hosp, 2929 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, meets 4th Tuesday each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm

POGM Tasty Corner

Chick'n & Dumplin's

Chicken Broth:

Water

1 Med. Onion, cut into quarters
1 Carrot, roughly chopped
1 Stalk Celery, roughly chopped
½ Tsp Salt
2 Cups Milk
¼ Tsp Freshly Ground Pepper
½ Tsp Sage
½ Tsp Garlic (minced)

Dumplings:

4 Cups Chicken Broth
2 Cups All-purpose Flour
½ Tsp Baking Soda
½ Tsp Salt
3 Tbsp Shortening
¾ Cup Buttermilk
½ Tsp Sage



Preparation:

Chicken Broth:

1. Place chicken in a large stew pot, add water to cover contents, broth, carrot, onion, celery and salt. Bring to a boil, cover and simmer for 60 to 70 minutes on low heat, or until chicken is tender. Remove chicken and allow it to cool enough to handle. Strain contents of the stew pot reserving the broth and return it to the stew pot. Discard the vegetables.

2. Remove chicken from bone and cut into bite size pieces, and set aside. Discard skin and bones.

Dumplings:

Combine flour, baking soda and salt, and sage; cut in shortening, using a pastry blender or knives until consistency of coarse meal. Add buttermilk, stirring until just moistened. Turn dough out onto a floured surface and knead 4 or 5 times -- no more than this, as dumpling dough and biscuit dough being quite similar, less handling makes for a more lighter and tender dumpling. Roll dough to a 1/4-inch thickness, and cut into 3" x 1" strips. Bring chicken broth to a boil, stir in the milk, pepper, sage and garlic. Correct seasonings, if desired.

Drop dumplings, one or two at a time, into the boiling broth then reduce heat to medium-low. Stir two or three times to make sure dumplings do not stick together. Cook dumplings 8 to 10 minutes. Add the chicken to mixture and heat thoroughly. Remove from heat.

Hint: If you like thick broth; measure three or four cups of broth into saucepan. Combine 1/2 cup flour with cold water, stirring to thicken. Bring the broth to a boil. Gradually, add mixture to boiling broth, stirring constantly. When broth is thickened, add it slowly while gently stirring, back into stew pot.

Note: You may use boneless, skinless breasts, if desired. I think using the whole chicken gives you a more flavorful broth.

You Know Your a Texan, If:

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

You know your a Texan, if:



Your idea of a traffic jam is ten cars waiting to pass a tractor on the highway.



You've had to switch from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day.



You think of the major four food groups as beef, pork, beer, and Jell-O salad with marshmallows.



You know all 4 seasons: Almost summer, summer, still summer, and Christmas.



Stores don't have shopping carts; they have buggies.

Show Dates

2010

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010

1-28 QUARTZSITE, AZ: "Desert Gardens International Gem & Mineral Show"; Desert Gardens RV Park; 1064 Kuehn Road, south side of I-10, along frontage road; 9-6 daily; Free Admission; crystals, minerals, rough, polished, jewelry; contact Sharon or Sandy, Desert Gardens RV Park, 1055 Kuhen Street, PO Box 2818, Quartzsite, AZ 85346, (928) 927-6361; e-mail: info@desertgardensrvpark.net; Website: www.desertgardensrvpark.net

30-12 TUCSON, AZ: Business to Business Gem Trade Show; Gem and Lapidary Wholesalers Inc; The Grant Inn, 1365 W Grant Road (I-10 & Grant Road); daily 10-6, last day 10-3; contact Gem and Lapidary Wholesalers Inc, PO Box 98, Flora, MS 39071-0098, (601) 879-8832; e-mail: info@glwshows.com; Website: glwshows.com

30-13 TUCSON, AZ: "Arizona Mineral & Fossil Show"; Martin Zinn Expositions; InnSuites Hotel, 475 N Granada Avenue; Sat 10-6; Free Admission; AMFS Treasure Hunt: win prizes for visiting show locations, pre-register online or at the InnSuites Hotel; daily drawings, Feb 1-10, more than 400 vendors in four locations; contact Regina Aumente, PO Box 665; Bernalillo, NM 87004, (505) 867-0425; e-mail: mzexpos@aol.com; Website: www.mzexpos.com

30-13 TUCSON, AZ: "Arizona Mineral and Fossil Show"; Martin Zinn Expositions LLC; The InnSuites Hotel (475 N Granada), The Mineral & Fossil Marketplace (1333 N Oracle Road), Quality Inn (1025 E Benson Hwy), and Ramada Ltd. (665 N Fwy); 10-6 daily, final day 10-5; Free Admission; more than 400 dealers from all over the world, Artists' Gallery (InnSuites Hotel); contact Martin Zinn Expositions, PO Box 665, Bernalillo, NM 87004-0665, fax (303) 223-3478; e-mail: mzexpos@aol.com; Website: www.mzexpos.com

FEBRUARY 2010

20-21 PLAINVIEW, TX: Hi Plains Gem & Mineral Society, 48th Annual Show; Ollie Liner Center, south I-27; Sat 10-6 & Sun 10-5; Adults \$2, Students \$1; dealers, demonstrators, grand prizes, silent auction, kids' wheel; contact Mildred Matlock, 701 Zephyr, Plainview, TX 79072, (806) 293-3476; e-mail: jmmatlock@suddenlink.net

27-28 JACKSON, MS: Mississippi Gem & Mineral Society, 51st Annual Show; Mississippi State Fair Grounds/Trade Mart Bldg, 1207 Mississippi Street; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$5, Students \$3; Free Demonstrations, door prizes, educational and hands-on booths, 24 dealers; contact Keith Peacock, 114 Quail Ridge Road, Braxton, MS 39044, (601) 863-6535; e-mail: kpcoc@aol.com; Website: missgems.org

MARCH 2010

6-7 BIG SPRING, TX: Big Spring Prospectors Club, 51st Annual Show; Howard County Fair Barn; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; dealers, demonstrators; contact Jerald Wilson, 707 Tulane, Big Spring, TX 79720, (432) 263-4662 or (432) 263-3340.

11-14 DEMING, NM: "Rockhound Roundup Gem & Mineral Show, 45th Annual Show"; Deming Gem & Mineral Society; SWNM Fairgrounds, Raymond Reed Blvd; Thur thru Sun 9-5; Free Admission; more than 100 dealers, demonstrations, displays, field trips, jewelry, rocks, drawings, cash raffle, silent auction Fri, live auction Sat; contact Jerry & Carolyn Abbey, PO Box 1459, Deming, NM 88030, (575) 543-8916; e-mail: theDGMS@gmail.com; Website: dgms.bravehost.com

12 HOUSTON, TX: "Rings & Things Bead Tour Show"; Rings & Things; Holiday Inn Southwest, 11160 Southwest Fwy; Fri 12-4; Free Admission; gemstones, bead, wholesale prices, findings, stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson, PO Box 450, Spokane, WA 99210, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com; or www.rings-things.com/Show/city.php?city=Houston

13 BATON ROUGE, LA: "Rockin' at the Swamp Show"; The Recreation & Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge (BREC); Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center, 10503 N Oak Hills Pkwy; Sat 9-4; Adults \$5, Seniors (65+) \$4.50, Children (2-17) \$4; gem and mineral exhibits, vendors, crafts, rock wall, special presentations, mobile gem mining, treasure hunting trail hikes, children's "Gold Rush", Fossil Quarry; contact Claire Coco, 10503 N Oak Hills Pkwy, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 757-8905; e-mail: ccoco@brec.org; Website: www.brec.org

13 SAN ANTONIO, TX: "Rings & Things Bead Tour Shows"; Rings & Things; Aggie Park & Banquet Hall, 6205 West Ave; Sat 2-6; Free Admission; gemstones, bead strands, wholesale prices, findings, stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson, PO Box 450, Spokane, WA 99210, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com; Website: www.rings-things.com

14 AUSTIN, TX: "Rings & Things Bead Tour Shows"; Rings & Things; Crowne Plaza Hotel - Austin, 6121 I-35 N; Sun 1-5; Free Admission; gemstones, bead strands, wholesale prices, findings, stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson, PO Box 450, Spokane, WA 99210, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com; Website: <http://www.rings-things.com>

16 DALLAS, TX: "Rings & Things Bead Tour Show"; Rings & Things; Best Western Dallas Hotel & Conference Center, 8051 LBJ Fwy; Tue 12-4; Free Admission; gemstones, bead strands, wholesale prices, findings, stringing supplies; contact Dave Robertson, PO Box 450, Spokane, WA 99210, (800) 366-2156; e-mail: drobertson@rings-things.com; Website: www.rings-things.com

20-21 LIVE OAK, TX: "Fiesta of Gems Show"; Southwest Gem and Mineral Society; Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Road; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-4; Adults \$5, Students & Seniors \$3, Children \$.50, military discount, special school group rate; minerals, gemstones, fossils, jewelry, lapidary, demonstrations, exhibits; contact Robert Bowie, (830) 935-3373; e-mail: krbotx@gytc.com; Website: swgemandmineral.org

26-28 ADA, OK: "The Rock 'n Gem, Mineral & Fossil Show 2010"; Ada Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club; Pontotoc County Agri-Plex, NE corner of SH-99 & Richardson Loop Bypass; Fri 10-6, Sat 9-5 & Sun 10-5; Free Admission; demonstrators, fluorescent displays, dealers, kids' fossil dig, spinning wheels; contact Ed Vermillion, PO Box 782, Purcell, OK 73080, (405) 527-6431; e-mail: okieed42@windstream.net; Website: <http://www.freewebs.com/agmfc/index.htm>

Article of the Month: Local Wins AFMS Scholarship Award

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Diane Brownlee Wins 2010 AFMS Scholarship Award.

Diane Brownlee, who is a friend and honorary member of the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club, was recently notified she has been selected as the honoree for the 2010 AFMS Scholarship Award. Diane was the honoree from the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies (SCFMS). Diane will select two graduate students from schools in the SCFMS area (Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana) studying in the field of geology or related sciences to receive a monetary award, either \$2,000 or \$4,000 to assist them in their studies. The amount to be awarded to each student will depend upon the AFMS fund balance at the end of the year. In the past, each student received \$2,000 for two consecutive years. There is an on-going effort, spearheaded by the SCFMS and the Rollin' Rock Club, to gather donations so the student award can be \$4,000 for the next award cycle.

Diane Brownlee was nominated for this award by the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral club. The original nomination was several years ago. At the SCFMS convention, I was asked to update the nomination and to use a standardized form which the SCFMS provided. The nomination was updated at the end of November. Early in January, Diane let us know she had been selected as the Honoree. As a club, we have been associated with Diane for a number of years dating back to when she was the Adjunct Curator of Earth Science at the Heard Museum in McKinney. Diane is now the Director of the Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute (EMGI) at Brookhaven College. Our club's show, which we discontinued last year, had been held at the EMGI facility. Diane and her staff have been most helpful in providing a location for our show, support during the show, and advertising for the show. For that, we thank Diane and her staff. Her help and support over the years was the motivating force behind our nomination of Diane. By being selected as the AFMS Scholarship Honoree, we add yet another task for Diane to complete, the selection of the Scholarship Recipients. However, I am sure she will be more than pleased to take on this extra work of selecting deserving graduate students.

Diane will formally receive her award at the next SCFMS Convention and Awards Banquet which will be held December 11, 2010 in DeRidder, Louisiana. I hope we can send up a large delegation to attend the banquet to support and again congratulate her.

As a club and as her friends, we send our congratulations to Diane on her award and thank her for her continued support to the gem and mineral clubs in the DFW Metroplex; and especially, her support to the Pleasant Oaks club.

WAY TO GO, DIANE!

Refreshment Volunteers

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

February - Ice & Drinks....Mark Carter Snacks.....Donnette Wagner

March.....Ice and Drinks..... ? ? ? ? ?

Snacks..... Paul Sawyer

April.....Ice and Drinks.....Lee Elms

Snacks..... ? ? ? ? ?

Trivia About Minerals & Science¹

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

A diamond will not dissolve in acid. The only thing that can destroy it is intense heat.
A lump of pure gold the size of a matchbox can be flattened into a sheet the size of a tennis court.
Absolutely pure gold is so soft that it can be molded with the hands.

¹ <http://www.corsinet.com/trivia/l-triv.html>

Birthstone: February, Amethyst

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

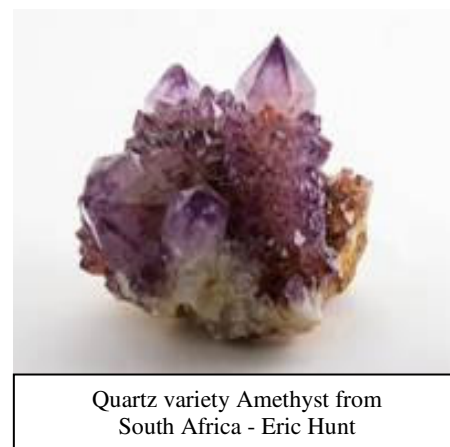
This gemstone was believed by ancient Greeks and Romans to ward off the intoxicating powers of Bacchus, also is said to keep the wearer clear-headed and quick-witted. Throughout history, the gemstone has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. English regalia were even decorated with amethysts during the Middle Ages to symbolize royalty. It has been associated with many myths, legends, religions, and numerous cultures. Amethyst is purple quartz, a beautiful blend of violet and red that can found in every corner of the earth. Historically, the finest amethysts were found in Russia and were featured in much royal European jewelry. Today, while Brazil is the primary source of this gemstone, fine material can be found elsewhere, especially in Zambia.

A variety of quartz, Amethyst is violet in color and its chemical formula is SiO₂. The color of amethyst can be due to the presence of manganese. It is able to be altered by heat, was thought by what some authorities thought to be from an organic source. The suggestion of Ferric thiocyanate was thought to be present, it was also said sulfur was found in the mineral. Newer work reveals amethyst's coloring can be from ferric iron impurities and maybe even a mixture of iron and aluminum.

It is composed of an irregular superposition of alternate lamellae of right-handed and left-handed quartz, which may be due to mechanical stresses. Amethyst is suitable for use in jewelry due to its hardness of seven on the Mohs scale.

There are many locations to find amethyst in the United States. Among these: Amethyst Mountain, Texas; the Mazatzal Mountain region in Gila and Maricopa Counties, Arizona; Yellowstone National Park; Delaware County, Pennsylvania; Haywood County, North Carolina; Deer Hill and Stow, Maine; and in the Lake Superior region.

Ref: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amethyst>



Quartz variety Amethyst from South Africa - Eric Hunt

Editor's Corner

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

By now, I suppose we are in another cold snap for the winter. But, isn't that what winter implies? Cold and hibernating in our thoughts and plans, getting a head start for the year ahead? I am wondering what you have on your mind you would like to see happen over the year ahead. Outside of the general well wishes of good health, great friends and loving family to take trips to see one another, what else would you like to see happen? Maybe you are making a "bucket list" of sorts. You know, a list of things I want to do before I get to preoccupied or distracted from doing. Those comments later in life such as "you know I always meant to take time to do....or to do....". I am looking forward to seeing what trips the field trip chairman will plan for the club, how many to choose from and where he thinks would be great locations for us to go.

In the meantime, I will get those other rose bushes planted; so, I may stop and smell the roses as I await his offering of trip plans. Oh, I will also try one or two of those recipes in the *Chips and Chatter*. Need to see how other people dine from time to time. Speaking of the recipes, this month's recipe for Chicken n' Dumplings sound mighty tummy warming. Think I will give that one a try this weekend. I love Chicken and Dumplings.

Dumb Texas Laws

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

- Port Arthur** Obnoxious odors may not be emitted while in an elevator.
- LeFors** It is illegal to take more than three swallows of beer while standing.
- Austin** Wire cutters cannot be carried in your pocket.

Dues are Due

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Yes, it is that time again and dues must be tendered up. Single Adult: \$16.50; Junior: \$5.00; Family: \$27.50. We need any updates you may have and if possible, we would like to email you the *Chips and Chatter*; saves the club on postage, you know. If we may start emailing you the *Chips and Chatter*, just email your editor Anita Dresner at: anitadresner@rocketmail.com. Tell her to please put you on the C&C Email list. That is all there is to it.

Puzzled about Puzzles

David Dobson, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Here is a treat for you this month. So okay, you can do this with ease. Betcha gonna do the puzzle anyway just because it is fun to do. Thanks David for the treat. Anyone having anything they would like to share with club members may do so by emailing it to anitadresner@rocketmail.com or snail mailing it to 3809 Skyline Drive, Rowlett, TX, 75088-5139. Now here is your birthstone puzzle below:

Birthstone List

January	- Garnet	July	- Ruby
February	- Amethyst	August	- Peridot
March	- Aquamarine	September	- Sapphire
April	- Diamond	October	- Opal
May	- Emerald	November	- Citrine
June	- Pearl	December	- Turquoise

*Note: The stones only are in the puzzle below.

Birthstone Word Find



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

February 4, 2010 7:30 PM, 713 Austin, Garland Women's Bldg, TX

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB OF DALLAS 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)

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies

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