

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



January 6, 2011
Vol. 45, Issue 1

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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 at 7:30 pm at the Garland Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin, Garland, TX, (Northeast corner of Austin & Glenbrook).

Presentation

Club Officers for 2011

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

Chips and Chatter Deadline:
The 3rd Thursday of each month

December 2, 2010 Minutes from the Secretary

POGM Secretary: Lee Elms

The December 2010 meeting was held at our regular site. We had a Pot luck Dinner with the club providing the meat and members bring Christmas pot Luck dishes.

The Dinner was followed by gift exchanging and all had a great time.

SCFMS Convention, 11 December, 2010 in DeRidder, LA

Submitted by Don Shurtz



"Diane Brownlee, director of the Ellison Miles Geotechnology Institute, receiving her AFMS Honorary Award plaque from Virginia Adian, president of the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies. Diane selected two graduate students to receive \$4,000 scholarships from the AFMS. The plaque reads:

Diane Brownlee

For Distinguished Achievement In The Field Of Earth Science
American Federation Scholarship Foundation 2010 Honorary Ward
South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Diane was nominated for the award by the Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club for her service to the club and the rockhound community. The plaque was awarded at the SCFMS Convention Awards Banquet on 11 December, 2010 in DeRidder, LA"

Area Clubs

Arlington G&M Club, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club, Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland, meets the 1st Thur. 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 Gem & Mineral Society, 10205 Plano Rd, off of Plano Rd, Dallas, TX, meets the 3rd Tue. of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society meets 3rd Thur. each month at 7:30 pm Address pending
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc, **South Hampton Community Hospital**, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dls, TX, 4th Tue. 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
Dallas Paleontological Society, EMGI (Bldg. H, Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244), 2nd Wed. ea. month at 7:30 pm

Editor's Pen

C&C Editor, Anita Dresner

We will have some great articles and trip information coming up in the January Chips and Chatter. These were submitted by Don Shurtz and Lee Elms. They are most interesting and I am looking forward to publishing them. I also am looking forward to having other articles submitted by you, to publish in the following months to put in the Chips and Chatter. After all, it is your newsletter. You may submit your article/s by sending them through email me at: anitadresner@rocketmail.com or snail mail to: 3809 Skyline Drive, Rowlett, TX 75088

November Hounding Trip to Share and Remember

As reported by; Lee Elms



For the past month, Carol Tipp and I have been discussing a short trip to Murfreesboro to dig for diamonds. She has been there several times in the past 4 years with her son. I have been there once, about 30 years ago with my sister. We went for one day in July, almost had a heat stroke, and came back home. After coordinating our schedules, we decided we could do the trip on Nov. 16th, 17th, and 18th. So, Monday night I packed up the car, and Tuesday morning headed over to Carols' apartment to pick her up. My convertibles' trunk was just big enough to hold two overnight bags, two buckets, and our boots. We hit the highway at 8:15am and were on our way. We took a scenic route off I-30 at 67, and then up 27. We stopped in Nashville, Ark. at an Exxon station that has mouth watering fried catfish for lunch in its' mini-mart. After we chowed down on that, we were ready to dig for diamonds. We got into Murfreesboro and checked in to The Little Shamrock Motel and headed over to the Diamond fields. It had rained the day before, and that morning before we got there. So, we were working with some pretty major mud. We were probably walking around with no less than 5 pounds of mud on our boots. Also, it was cloudy, cool and very windy. The sun would tease us every so often, making the mud sparkle when the sun's rays hit it. But, alas, no diamonds. We met some interesting people there, and they told us about several guys out there that had been digging every day for the past year and a half. Apparently, they have been finding enough small diamonds to financially keep them digging out there. One couple told us Tuesday that they had spent their morning up at the Ron Coleman Crystal Mine just outside of Hot Springs. So, Carol and I went to the Crystal mines on Wednesday. Of course, I took a wrong turn and it caused us to go thru downtown Hot Springs instead of around it. But after stopping at two gas stations along the way for directions, we got headed in the right direction. Of course, we stopped along the way at all the rock shops too. I love slag glass and picked up a beautiful piece of white and icy blue glass that looks like the sculpture of an iceberg. It's over a foot tall and weighs over 15 pounds. I also picked up a huge piece of raw obsidian which will reside next to my other piece of obsidian out in my garden under my Japanese maple tree. Carol picked up some pretties also but they were small enough to carry in a bag. The saleslady told us a great place for lunch was The Shack, in Jessieville. Those burgers were mouthwatering great and the fries were nice and crispy. After lunch, we made for the Crystal Mine dirt piles. Now, the whole time we are on this trip, the weather forecasters are saying the days are going to be nice and sunny and up in the 60's. It never made it to the low 60's. While Carol and I were crawling around on top of these muddy 10 foot tall dirt piles, a Blue Norther decided to blow in. It started getting dark around 4pm and sprinkling on us off and on. We called it a day and headed on back to Murfreesboro. The bottom fell out of the clouds and it rained so hard I could hardly see the road. We stopped at a Subway Shop to get a sandwich for supper and to make sure we were on the right road to get back to Murfreesboro. The lady was real nice, and told us what road signs to look for and said to watch for deer crossing the highway. Great...That's all I need. Talk about stressed out! Number one, I don't like to drive in the rain at night. Top it off with thunder, lightening, hail, winding, hilly roads with no shoulders to pull off if in an emergency, and then throw in some deer on the highway for good measure. Carol and I prayed the whole way back, and three miles outside of Murfreesboro, the rain quit, and up over a hill, low and behold, there were the deer! They were on the grassy slopes on either side of the road. My heart stopped beating, but I kept driving, and none of the deer decided to run in front of me. I let out a breath of relief and so did Carol. We made it back in one piece. So, Thursday morning we took one more stab at looking for a diamond at the diamond field, and came up empty. But, while we were there a couple found a nice yellow diamond. We talked to the young lady that found it and she said she had just sat down on a big rock close to one of the lone trees out in the field, looked down and there lay the diamond. See, easy as that! So, we packed up our gear, and headed on home back to Garland. Of course, it was now lunch time, so we stopped at the EXXon station for some more fried catfish. Would I do it again....you betcha

Question of the Month: What is Erore

Don Shurtz: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Ah! Eros – beauty and love, the Greek god of love.

Just a minute – it is EROSE (pronounced like ih-rohs), not EROS (pronounce like eer-os). So what the heck is EROSE? I came across the word "erose" in a cross word puzzle and it set me to wondering – could this be another Question of the Month article? Of course it could. So what is "erose"? My dictionary built into my Microsoft Word program definitely doesn't like it. Even my Webster at home did not like it. But an older Webster at work was OK with the word, and so is my favorite on-line dictionary. Erore is an adjective that means jagged or uneven as if gnarled away. The last slab of rock that I cut had an erose edge. The word is more popular in meaning in the world of botany where it could mean "having the margin irregularly incised as if gnawed, as a leaf" – an erose leaf.

There is yet another connection to rock hounding, or at least to geology. Erore, erode, and erosion have the same base word. Erore meaning jagged or uneven appearance – just what you would expect from the side of a steam or a canyon that had been eroded recently. Of course if the erosion continues on for a long period of time it may even seem to become smooth – or at least look smooth at some level. Looking at the far side of the Grand Canyon you may think that the stones had been worn down and were smooth, but on your side of the canyon, if you chose to take a hike down, you would likely find that it is really quite jagged. You may even have the same effect with a polished cabochon. If you look at a nicely finished cabochon, all shiny and bright, you may think it was perfectly smooth. But if you looked at the cabochon with a microscope or an electron microscope you opinion would be vastly different – the stone may have an erose look. See – I just tied it in directly to rock hounding!

So for the next month, erose is my favorite word. After a month, perhaps I will find another word in a puzzle or in my readings that catches my attention.

Reference: Dictionary.com, <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/erose>

1st VP Notes and Program Information

Mark Carter; Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

The Chinese built 5,000 years of tradition around jade, but weren't the only civilization to revere the gemstone. Half way around the world, early Mesoamerican cultures held strikingly similar beliefs about their own variety of jade, known as jadeite. They believed that jade had medicinal properties, and honoured their dead leaders with jade masks and jewelery. For the past three decades, British Columbia has produced about 200 tons of nephrite jade a year, more than three-quarters of the world's total production, worth an estimated \$3.5 million. See a video produced by one of the leading Jade mining companies in British Columbia.

Refreshment Volunteers for January

Snacks ?????

Beverage/Ice ?????

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

++++++ **January 6, 2011; 7:30 PM** ++++++

Garland Women's Activities Building 713 Austin, Garland, TX

PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB

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