

# Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

## Chips and Chatter



July 2007  
Vol. 41 Issue 7

### Features

*A Rockhounds Adventure* .....7

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### Workshop, Meeting, etc.

- Check out our website for a color version of the Chips and Chatter
- Open Shop: Each Monday - 4:30 pm – 9:00 pm, and each Saturday - 9:00 am – Noon
- Ladies & Gents night at the shop on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

July issue 2007 by Anita Dresner. Unless otherwise noted, permission granted for non-commercial reproduction of articles provided they remain essentially intact and credit is given to the author and original source. Where noted, the author retains the copyright and must be contacted for permission to reproduce the article. All articles may also be used as reference provided citation is given.

### 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

Monthly Meeting: Thursday, July 5th at 7p.m. Spring Creek Barbeque on the east side of Central Expressway between Spring Valley and Beltline.

### Presentation

There is not a presentation scheduled for this month.

### Show & Tell

We will not have Show and Tell in July other than all the great choices we select for our plate at Spring Creek. So bring your appetite, giggle box and wear your favorite stones and rocks. Let us see what it is you do in your spare time and you can tell us all about it over dinner.

### Club Officers for 2007

President: Don Shurtz, (972) 509-2821  
 1st VP: Mark Carter, (972) 680-9223  
 2nd VP: Brenda Dowell, (972) 771-9502  
 Treasurers: Delbert Grady, (972) 235-6575  
 Secretary: Nell Black  
 Editor: Anita Dresner (972) 475-5828  
 E-mail: andresner@verizon.net

# Minutes – June, 2007 General Meeting

Minutes as compiled by Secretary, Nell Black, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Meeting called to order by President, Don Shurtz at 7:30PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jessie.

Minutes of the May meeting was printed in the June issue of the Chips and Chatter. Motion to accept minutes as printed was given by Mark Carter and a second was made by Ling Shurtz.

Treasure report was given by Del Grady. Donnette Wagner made motion to accept report as read. Second was made and passed by majority of members present.

## Highlights of the Executive Board Meeting:

1. Voted to pay Anita for the invoice she submitted for payment.
2. Voted on standing order to pay invoice for Chips and Chatter (up to \$80)
3. Voted for the Chips and Chatter to done in color

## 1st Vice President Report (Mark Carter)

Held a class in Mineralogy and Charles Black gave a class on wire wrap.

## 2nd Vice President Report (Brenda Dowell)

Shop is doing well.

Old Business: none

New Business: We are planning to go to the Spring Creek BBQ for our July meeting. Look in the Chips and Chatter for directions.

Break at 8:00 pm

After the break, we had hands on classes by Mark Carter and Charles Black.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Nell Black, Secretary

## Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Show Report

Ling Schurtz, Show Chairwoman

So far, 85% of the dealers that are wanting space at the show have put money down to reserve their space. This leaves only four spaces available.

## Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice &amp; Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
August	Need Volunteer	Anita Dresner
September	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer



## Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Summer is in full swing and so are the rockhounds! If we are not at one show or another; then, we are cleaning, polishing or admiring the ones we have brought home from those trips. I just do not understand what has happened to me since the late summer of 2005. I decided to join my sister attending a Gem and Mineral Club meeting. The key word of course was "gem". Yeah, right! Boy was I in for a shock of my life, time and energy!

This club was having a "show" and needed volunteers to help set it up and man it for the 3 days. Now I have been to some shows and have even participated in a few. Knowing what they consisted of I said well gee, I can do that. But I had to be a member of this club first. So, I did the kind thing of joining so I could participate with my sister. Little did I know what I was getting into! And even that is an understatement, believe me. The next thing I know, there are all these rocks and things called geodes, crystals, and fossils not to mention slabs and cabs. Now just what is a slab? Or even for that matter, what is a cab? Being a farm girl, a slab is a side of bacon and a cab is the front part of the truck you ride in. Not here, no siree, not here at this club.

A field trip use to mean walking across the pasture and up the hill and then climb up into an Oak tree and tell tall tales to one another. Here at this club, a Field Trip is to walk forever, or not, dig into the earth to locate rocks, or not and then put what you find into a bucket and haul it home. You just think the hard part is over. Now you have to clean these things, cut them to size and your hands along with them and then shape them, all the while ruining your nail job. For what purpose I ask? If you are a rockhound you know, but I will tell you my answer next month.

Keep spreading that magical rock dust and do some kind of rock hounding this month.

## President's Message

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Aloha. Greetings from Hawaii, where I have been working my tail off for the last week and still have a few days to go. Yes, working hard, but for the time off from work, it is Hawaii - so it can't be too bad!

I would like to encourage everyone to come out to the July meeting. The meeting will be on July 5th. As per the tradition, we established several years ago when we could not get to the Garland Women's Activity Building due to 4th of July activities, we will meet for a BBQ dinner July 5th at 7 PM. Spring Creek Barbeque on the east side of Central Expressway between Spring Valley and Beltline. This will be eating and conversation only - no business meeting, no speakers, and no other activities other than good food and conversation with you fellow rockhounds. Just for the record, there will not be an Executive Board meeting in July - the next Board meeting will be at 6:30 PM just prior to the August meeting.

Just within the past few days, Mr. Bob Ford, who used to be a Pleasant Oaks club member, donated several pieces of equipment to the club for the Joint Shop. Ling Shurtz (POGMC) and Mike Russell (DGMS) were able to retrieve the equipment and it is now in storage. If the shop can use the equipment, it will be installed there. If the shop does not need the equipment, perhaps we can sell it at the show (silent auction) or at the next Rock Swap and donate the proceeds to the shop. In any event, I would like to thank Mr. Ford for his generous donation to the Pleasant Oaks club.

Come on out to the next meeting. See you there. Mahalo (Thanks) Don.

## 1st Vice President Message

Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

As there is not a speaker or other activity taking place this meeting; just socializing and good eats at Spring Creek, there is not anything to report through the Chips and Chatter.

## Shop Report

Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Brenda will be gone until the week of August 16th or the following week. She can be reached at:SmileyJeep@aol.com.

John Woodard is in charge of the scheduling and will be setting the exact time for any classes. Anyone interested in classes please contact John at [johnandlaura@mymailstation.com](mailto:johnandlaura@mymailstation.com). Things are rather slow and cutting into shop use hours as summer progresses with vacations and Colorado Field Trip.

In the absence of Brenda, I, Anita Dresner, requested an updated report from Dallas through Mike Russell; Ling Shurtz and Mike gathered three pieces of equipment donated to the Clubs' shop, by a past Pleasant Oaks member, Mr. Robert Ford. A 10" saw can and should be used in the shop and added to Pleasant Oaks list of owned equipment. The 10" flat lap and large tumbler should probably be sold and the money used to defray shop expenses (as it was donated to the club's shop), since that equipment won't be used in the shop due to the way it is normally used; running 24 hours a day.

Some equipment in various needs of repair, most saws are up and one being reviewed for purchase by DGMS, for use in the shop.

For those who are familiar with the goings and comings at the shop, you are aware of a gentleman referred to as "the old Mexican". For those who are not, there is a man who brings Mexican rocks to the shop to be sold. The email below is from Darrell in regards to "the old Mexican" next visit.

## Field Trips

Update by Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

### Colorado Field Trip, August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

Hello to everyone;

I am in Colorado as you are reading this. We have a healthy size group planning on showing up here. Jim and I are looking forward to showing you to all the goodies we can find for you! We are working on and laying out day excursions at this time.

The trip takes in the Creede G&M Show the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend and the Buena Vista Rock Show the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend. Brenda Dowell, Jim Senseman and Dave Greenburg will guide you to the digging sites around the area for this field trip. If you are interested, please contact Brenda at: [SMILEYJEEP@AOL.COM](mailto:SMILEYJEEP@AOL.COM).

The contact area is the town of Southfork. Some of the rockhounds will be staying at the "Goodnight's Lonesome Dove Campground", 6 miles west of Southfork. If you expect to join us on this field trip, it is important that you let Brenda know what time and date you will be arriving as well as leaving; so, they will be aware you are in the area and keep you informed of the agenda plans.

Primary contact information for the is Brenda Dowell @ 469/964-7271 (CELL) or Email: SMILEYJEEP@AOL.COM

*From your editor; (Refer to and remember The Field Trip Etiquette our 1<sup>st</sup> VP contributed in June newsletter items: 2, 21, 22, 23 & 24). Now go and have a fabulous hunting and digging summer field trip.*

## *Greater Area Field Trip*

Here is information on a field trip sent to Scot Wingo from Frank Rowell, that he wanted to share with us. It may be of great interest to take part in as we are getting the notice in more than enough time to schedule it into our plans. Scot says that if a couple of people express interest, we can also set up field trips. If you are interested in making it a Club Trip, you may contact Scot at [scotwingo@yahoo.com](mailto:scotwingo@yahoo.com) or if you so choose, you may go on your own. Either way it sure sounds like a great deal of fun for the whole family.

### **The Golden-Gem Rendezvous & Knap-In in Llano** **Sept. 28th thru 30<sup>th</sup>**

Llano is the site of the 3rd Annual Great State of Texas Gold Panning Championship. Relive an 1890's gold rush on the Llano River, at Badu Park. Pan for gold in the river, compete for prizes or just have fun. There will also be flint Knappers making arrowheads, gem and jewelry booths, food and music both Saturday and Sunday. Friday will be set up day and there will be an evening mixer with food and music for all participants. Period costumes are being encouraged. For more information contact the Llano Chamber of Commerce at 325-247-5354 or on the web at [llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html](http://llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html).

## *Club Member Ads*

Petrified wood for sale \$0.50/lbs - Pieces up to 200 lbs.

Drill press with core cutting drill bits. Diamond core bits ½" to 4" in diameter \$500

12" vibrating flat lap brand new  
\$2500. Now \$700.00

\$1.50 to 2.50/lb obsidian rainbow, pink lady, and double flow mahogany.

Will trade for other rocks, or equipment  
Ask for David, (214) 731-1288

## *Metroplex Gem and Mineral and Related Clubs*

Texas School of Earth Science (Arlington G&M Club) meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 1408 Gibbins, Arlington  
Pleasant Oaks G&M Club meets the 1st Thursday of each month a 7:30 PM at Garland Women's Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland.  
Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers , 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 PM, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth, TX  
Dallas Paleontological Society meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 at Dallas Museum of Natural History, Fair Park.  
Dallas G&M Society meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Ridgewood Rec. Cntr, 6818 Fisher Rd, Dallas.  
Dallas Bead Society meets the 3rd Thur. of each month at 7:30 at Walnut Hill Rec. Ctr., NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas  
Oak Cliff G&MS meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd., Dallas, TX., 75224  
Fort Worth G&M Club meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at 3545 Bryan Avenue, Fort Worth, TX.

## *Question of the Month* *What Elements in the Periodic Table Do Not Form Minerals?*

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC

Before we start with the question of the month, there may need to be some justification as to why this question is asked. Obviously, there is a tie to rockhounding by virtue of minerals, or in this case, the lack of minerals. But, the real genesis of question comes from two posters bought at the Smithsonian Museums in Washington, DC. One poster depicts Minerals, and the other poster was the Periodic Table. They both hang on the wall next to my computer; so, the question just jumped off the poster when I was searching for a monthly topic.

The question of the month for July is *what elements in the Periodic Table do not form minerals?* Before we can answer the question, we need to have a few definitions. First, an ELEMENT is a substance that cannot be broken into simpler substances by chemical means. This means, it cannot be broken down by heat, dissolving, electrolysis, etc. Dissolve some salt in water and it is still salt. However, add a couple of electrical terminals and a battery to the salt solution and the Chlorine bubbles out as a gas. So, salt can be broken down into simpler forms, sodium and chlorine. However, there is not anything that you can do chemically to chlorine to break it into simpler parts. Next, what is the PERIODIC TABLE? Many of you probably remember the Periodic Table from your high school chemistry class. It is a tabular form of the chemical elements, order by the elements atomic weight, so that materials with similar properties are in the same column. Typically all the metals end up in the middle of the periodic table. All the materials that tend to form other substances by gaining an electron (oxidizers) are typically towards the right side of the table. All the materials that tend to form other substances by giving up an electron (reducers) are typically to the left side of the table. This leads us to the final definition. What is a MINERAL? Minerals are naturally occurring materials that have a uniform chemical property and generally a uniform crystalline structure. Quartz is one part Silicon (Si) and two parts Oxygen (O) forming Silicon Dioxide (SiO<sub>2</sub>) and has a well defined crystalline structure. Pyrite is one part Iron (Fe) and two parts Sulfur (S) forming Iron Disulfide (FeS<sub>2</sub>) and has a well defined crystalline structure. Calcite is one part Calcium (Ca) and a carbonate radical made of one part Carbon (C) and three parts Oxygen (O) forming Calcium Carbonate (CaCO<sub>3</sub>) and has a well defined crystalline structure. Water is two parts Hydrogen (H) and one part Oxygen (O) forming Dihydrogen oxide (H<sub>2</sub>O) and has a well defined crystalline structure, although we do not recognize the crystalline aspect until the water is frozen into a solid.

Now we know what an Element is, what the Periodic Table is, and what a Mineral is. It must be time to tackle the question of what elements in the Periodic Table do not form minerals. In order to form a mineral, a substance must either be capable of giving up or accepting an electron. So, our answer must be those elements that are not capable of sharing electrons. If you remember your high school chemistry, there were some elements to the far right (typically) of the Periodic Table that were called the Noble Gases or the "inert" gases. They were Helium, Neon, Argon, Krypton, Xenon, and Radon. There may be one additional gas in this group, Ununoctium. It would have an atomic number of 118, but has never been detected. Scientists at the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research (JINR) in Dubna, Russia indicated that they indirectly detected 3 atomic nuclei of Ununoctium. The gas was not directly observed, only the bi-products as the material split apart into simpler elements (this is an example of nuclear means, not chemical means, of forming simpler products). If you took chemistry in college (or some of the advanced chemistry classes in high school these days) you would find that the Noble Gases all have their outer ring of electrons full. This results in an element that is extremely stable. They do not join with any other elements, thus they do not have any mineral forms.

Ref:

Dictionary.com, <http://dictionary.reference.com/>

Kennedy, Sarah K editor, The Periodic Table in Earth and Sky, copyright 2005 Jansan Scientific, LLC

Wikipedia, <http://en.wikipedia.org>

## *Question of the Month for August: What is Graphic Granite?*

## *A Rockhounding Adventure with Reno Nevada Club*

Rock Hounding with the Reno Nevada Gem and Mineral Society – by David Dobson

Hello everyone. I have been gone for the last month and I have some bad news. I have collected to many rocks to bring home. It's been one rock trip after the other. Sorry me, well I had fun! Nevada is one big state and 96% is BLM land. (Bureau of land management or government owned) On their web site, they even encourage people to collect. So that is what I did. I collected quartz, geodes, rhyolite, lava, petrified wood, agate, fossils, and chrysocolla with azurite and malicite.

So, I have been doing a lot of collecting here and this led me to visit the Reno Nevada Gem and Mineral Society. What a great group of people! They have about 150 members, and have a great shop. There, I was invited to tag along for their field trip for pink quartz.

The field trip leader and president was Larry Smith. A guy with a great personality and personal desire for everyone around him to wear a smile. We met at a small restaurant/casino. From there, we drove to the pink quartz mine.

We followed Larry in the lead car to the mine with the specific instructions that you are responsible for the car behind you; that way no one gets left behind. The way it works is if one person falls behind a chain reaction starts and the next person will slow or stop and wait for the one behind them and so on until the lead car has everyone in tow.

To get to our destination, we needed to drive through a picturesque journey of the mountains covered with rounded gray granite out cropping and pine trees. The weather was beautiful this day! We started our drive from 4500 feet. The temperature at 10,000 feet was 75 F with five mile an hour winds and all sun.

Two hours later, we arrived at the mine road. The mine road was for four wheel drives only. It was a bumpy climb, with oil pan rock obstacles, and with a max climb possibly greater than 45 degree. The road included a narrow drive with a 200 foot drop off. At the top, there was limited parking for six vehicles. The lot was full with nine.

The mine was a quartz dome about 75 feet in diameter. The quartz color was dark pink to milky white, with a quality from facet to fractured specimens. It was all work! There where 20 of us there and I will dare to venture that we collected 1,500 lbs between us all.

We were told to bring a hammer and chisel. They weren't kidding. Once again, it was all work; but, it was fun. I forgot the busy life, during the whole trip. Here is a picture of Daniel, one of Pleasant Oaks youngest rockhound Juniors, with a pick axe that is bigger than he is, and some of the Pink Quartz collected on their Reno tip of 2007.



Thank you David for sharing your adventure with us. It appears Daniel will be gaining some great muscles for that Rockhounding in his future. Please feel free to share with us anytime. That goes for all club members that want to share some of their adventures or just want to share dreams of where they would one day like to rockhound.

*Chips & Chatter* Editor

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	3	4 Independence Day 	5 7:00 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg @ Spring Creek BBQ	6	7 9:00am - Noon Open Shop	8
9 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	10	11	12 6:00 - 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	13	14 9:00am - Noon Open Shop	15
16 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	17 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	18	19 6:00 - 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	20	21 9:00am - Noon Open Shop	22
23 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	24	25	26 6:00 - 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	27	28 9:00am - Noon Open Shop	29
30 4:30-9:30 pm Open Shop	31					

### Show Dates

**July 6-8, Durango, CO** - Four Corners Gem & Mineral Club. Gem & Mineral Show. La Plata County Fairgrounds, 2500 Main Ave. 6th, 11-6; 7th, 10-6; 8th, 10-5. Joanna Baker, 970-884-7949 :[info@durangorocks.org](mailto:info@durangorocks.org)

**July 7-8, Lake Ozark, MO** - Osage Rock & Mineral Club. 6th Annual Gem, Jewelry, Rock, Mineral, and Fossil Show. The Resort at Port Arrowhead, 3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd. ( Business Hwy. 54). Roger Varvel, 417-532-4367, [rvarvel@fidnet.com](mailto:rvarvel@fidnet.com)

**July 13-15, Houston, TX** - International Gem & Jewelry Show. Reliant Park. 301-294-1640, fax 301-294-0034, [www.intergem.com](http://www.intergem.com) or: [info@intergem.com](mailto:info@intergem.com)

**July 20-22, Kenner, LA** - AKS Gem Shows. New Orleans Summer Bead, Gem, & Jewelry Fest. Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd. 20th-21st, 10-6; 22nd, 10-4. Kay Schabilion, 504-455-6101, [info@aksshow.com](mailto:info@aksshow.com), [www.askshow.com](http://www.askshow.com)

**Aug 18-19, Bossier City, LA** - Ark-La-Tex Gem and Mineral Society. Gem, Mineral, & Jewelry Show. Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd. 18th, 10-6; 19th, 10-5. Charlie Johns, 318-687-4929, [cwsejohns@bellsouth.net](mailto:cwsejohns@bellsouth.net) or at: [larockclub.com](http://larockclub.com)

**Aug 18-19, Live Oak, TX** - San Antonio Bead Market. Live Oak Civic Center, 8101 Pat Booker Rd. 18th, 10-5; 19th, 10-4. Rebekah Wills, 903-734-3335, [www.thebeadmarket.net](http://www.thebeadmarket.net)

**Aug 25-26, Jasper, TX** - Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society. Annual Gem and Mineral Show. VFW Bldg., FM 2799 & FM 1747. 25th, 9-5; 26th, 10-5. John Nash, 409-384-3974, [nash@jas.net](mailto:nash@jas.net)

**Sept. 28th thru 30th, Llano, TX** - *The Golden-Gem Rendezvous & Knap-In in Llano*. The 3rd annual Great State of Texas Gold Panning Championship. Relive an 1890's gold rush on the Llano River/ Badu Park. Pan for gold, compete for prizes or just have fun. There will be; flint Knappers making arrowheads, gem/jewelry booths, food/music both Saturday and Sunday. Friday evening mixer with food and music for all participants. Period costumes are encouraged. For more information contact the Llano Chamber of Commerce at 325-247-5354 or on the web at [llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html](http://llanochamber.com/rendezvous.html)



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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To:

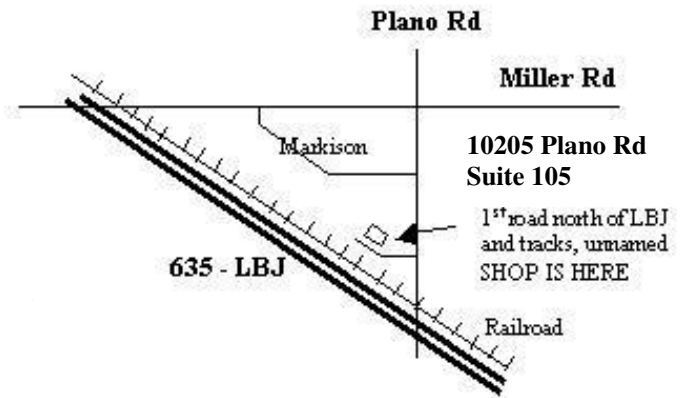
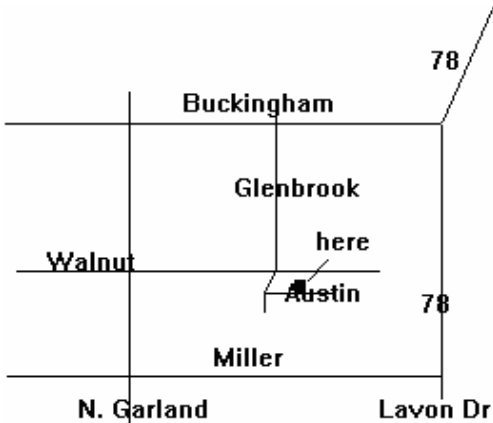
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9<sup>th</sup> place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place SCFMS 2003 small bulletins

**Next Meeting: July 5, 2007 at Spring Creek BBQ @ Central Expwy, 7:00 PM**

**PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB OF DALLAS**

**Meeting Map**

**Joint Club Shop Map**



**MEETINGS**

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

**Member of**

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

**MEMBERSHIP**

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

**Affiliated with**

American Federation of Mineral Societies