

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

July 1, 2010
Vol. 44, Issue 7

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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

July Picnic at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que,
 270 N. Central Expwy, Richardson, TX 75080

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 X 1
 E-mail: anitadresner@rocketmail.com

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

June 2010 Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order on June 3rd, 2010 at 7:35pm by President Del Grady. The Pledge to the flag was led by "Hat".

Sunshine Report: Everybody's doing fine.

Secretary Report: Discussed the minutes in Chips& Chatter for May and they were accepted as written.

Treasures Report: The report was voted on and accepted.

Old Business: May 8th Arlington Rock Swap; Del stated they had about 10 or 15 vendors. No one from our club went to May 15th Tyler Rock sale, but Mark Carter attended the Fort Worth Memorial Day Rock sale.

New Business: 2010 AFMS Scholarships: Dianne Brownlee will be formally recognized for winning the South Central Region scholarship of \$4,000. She in turn will pick two students to share this scholarship.

The July meeting is July 1st and we will have it over at SpringCreek Bar-B-Q off of Central Expressway in Richardson, and we will be there at 7pm. Ya'll come and bring your appetites.

Field Trips: Saturday & Sunday, June 5 & 6 Rock sale at David Dobson's.

Visitors: Carol Yang was a visitor and now she is one of our own; she signed up to join our club. She is interested in making all types of jewelry.

The raffle was held before we went on break and there were very nice rocks and minerals won by several members.

After the break we had a round-chair discussion of our favorite collecting road trip. It was interesting to hear about other peoples' adventures and misadventures during their collecting. We all had a good time and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

POGM Tasty Corner

Editor: POGM

GRILLED CHICKEN FRUIT SALAD WITH, BLUE CHEESE

Ingredients:

| | | | |
|--------|--|----------|-----------------------|
| 1/2 lb | Chicken Breast, thin sliced (No Bones) | 1/2 | Mango, shredded |
| 1 | Pear, cubed | 1 | Apple, cubed |
| 1 Tbsp | Mayonnaise | 1/4 Tbsp | Sesame Oil |
| 1/2 | Dill Pickle, chopped (Med Size) | 1/8 Cup | Crumbled Blue Cheese |
| 3 | Baby Carrots, shredded | 1/8 Cup | Hearts Of Palm Pieces |
| | Alfalfa Sprouts | | Almonds or Walnuts |

Directions:

Grill chicken, slice into cubes or shred by hand, put into med mixing bowl. Add fruit (mango, pear and the apple). Mix with mayonnaise and sesame oil. Add pickle & half the blue cheese, mix again. Top with sprouts, nuts, shredded carrots and remaining blue cheese.

Prep Time: 20 Min

Cook Time: 15 Min

Total Time: 35 Min

Servings: 6



Refreshment Volunteers

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

July - Our Annual 4th of July (indoor) - Picnic
Spring Creek Bar B Que at 270 N. Central Expwy, Richardson, TX 75080



August.....Ice and Drinks????

Snacks?????



Birthstone: Ruby

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

There is a saying that the ruby is a drop of Mother Nature's heart's blood. I am sure that is because of the deep "blood red" color of the ruby. There are stories because of its rich flame color, rubies were used to boil water; it would take away signs of aging when rubbed over the body, and was able to give one youth, enhance good harvests, and warned of danger. The ruby aids in the cure of peptic ulcer, fever, rheumatism, and gout. For therapeutic purposes, the gem must be set in gold and worn in the ring finger.



1

The Latin word "ruber", meaning red, is where the ruby got its name. It is of great beauty and rather rare; the Burmese rubies of today are considered to be of the finest quality, and they are heat treated to improve their richness of color and appearance. The red color is caused mainly by the presence of the element chromium. Rubies have a hardness of 9.0 on the Mohs scale of mineral hardness. Among the natural gems only moissanite and diamond are harder, with diamond having a Mohs hardness of 10.0. All natural rubies have imperfections in them, including color impurities and inclusions of rutile needles known as "silk". Gemologists use these needle inclusions found in natural rubies to distinguish them from synthetics. Spinel, is sometimes found along with rubies in the same gem gravel and may be mistaken for ruby by the uneducated.



3

The finest rubies emanate from Burma, having been mined there since ancient times. Other sources include Thailand, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Cambodia, Afghanistan and India. A few rubies have been found in the U.S. states of Montana, North Carolina, and South Carolina. More recently, large ruby deposits have been found under the receding ice shelf of Greenland.



2

<http://thebrazilianconnection.com/july.html>

http://wiki.answers.com/Q/The_ruby_birthstones_folklore

<http://thebrazilianconnection.com/rubywebpage.html>

Pictures:

1. www.icgems.com/picture/c_ruby_rough.jpg

2. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ruby>

3. http://www.kingsjewelry.com/learning_gemstones_jul.shtml

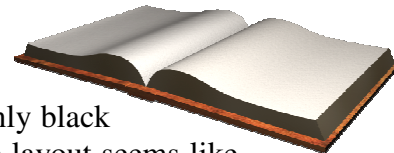
Article of the Month – What’s This? A Book Review?

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Book Review: Smithsonian Rock and Gem, The definitive guide to rocks, minerals, gems, and fossils

What’s this? Another rock, gem and mineral identification guide?

Yes, that is exactly what it is. But it is a nice one. To start off with, it is a “coffee table” book – large with fabulous pictures and drawings. It measure 9 by 12 inches and every page has one or more color photograph or drawing – the only black and white is the text. Once you get into the rock and gem areas of the book, the layout seems like most of the other gem and mineral guides. It has a picture of the rock or mineral in its native state and a picture of one or more finished stones if appropriate. If a finished stone is not appropriate, then there is generally a drawing or picture of what the mineral s used for.



However, once you get away from the individual mineral pictures, the rest of the book is really great. Since rocks and minerals had to come from somewhere, the book starts out with the creation of the universe from the Big Bang, the formation of the first atomic nuclei, then the formation of hydrogen and helium atoms. It then explains the formation of stars and galaxies. It describes how the first minerals were formed. Atoms in the periodic scale up to iron (atomic weight about 57) can be formed in the core of a sun (a star). Heavier elements are produced by the supernova explosion of massive stars. The author then explains the formation of our sun and the planets with a separate section on the formation of the earth and our moon. It then has another section describing the earth’s mantle and crust including plate tectonics and volcanoes. The author devotes one or two pages to each topic – short but highly informative.

The next section of the book describes how to collect minerals and rocks. It describes the tools needed and the basic use of the tools. It also reminds you to keep notes on where your collection locations are, labeling you specimens, and steps to preserving you specimens. This section is a refresher course in collecting which we should all periodically review. Again this is short but informative.

The book then branches into the individual rocks and minerals which I described above, but then it intersperses the rock and mineral descriptions with pages devoted to a spectacular example. For instance, there I am looking at different volcanic rocks; I turn a page and get a two page article about Devil’s Tower in Wyoming. Or I am looking at limestone and chalk pictures, turn the page to see a spectacular picture and article about caves. It goes on and on with surprises: mudstone followed by the Terra-Cotta Army of the first Chinese Emperor Qin Shihuangdi, sandstone followed by the Painted Desert, malachite followed by stunning pictures of Russian malachite, jadeite followed by jade vases and carvings. I could go on for another 4 or 5 pages; just listing the surprises this book offers.

Finally, the best part about this book – I found it in the bargain section at Border’s Books for about a third of the cover price. It pays to keep your eyes open. Books similar to this can often be found in the bargain book section of larger book stores. Also, and particularly during the Christmas season, they can be found at used and surplus book stores – often new copies at stores such as Half Price Books.

Ref: Reviewed by Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Title: Smithsonian Rock and Gem, The definitive guide to rocks, minerals, gems, and fossils

Author: Ronald Louis Bonewitz

Consultants: Margaret Carruthers and Richard Eftim

Publisher: DK Publishing, Inc, New York, NY

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Editor’s Corner

Editor, POGM

Thanks for the articles and suggestion each month for the Chips and Chatter. They are truly appreciates.

Show Dates

2010

JULY 2010:

2-4 FARMINGTON, NM: San Juan County Gem & Mineral Club Show; Farmington Civic Center, 200 W Arlington Street; Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; free admission; door prizes, rocks, gems, minerals, Farmington Freedom Days; contact Mickie Calvert, PO Box 1482, Farmington, NM 87499, (505) 632-8288; email: mickie2@earthlink.net

17-18 TULSA, OK: "Treasures of the Earth" Show; Tulsa Rock & Mineral Society; Central Park Hall, Expo Square, Tulsa County Fairgrounds, 21st & Yale; Sat 9-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$6, children under 12 and Scouts in uniform free; special Scout and children's areas, club displays, special displays, silent auction, door prizes, classes, lectures, lapidary demonstrations; Wayne Mouser, 1514 S Carson Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74119, (918) 582-8700; email: okyrocks@peoplepc.com; or Finis Riggs, (918) 587-4400; email: Lriggs@cox.net; Website: www.ttownrockhound.org

Aug 2010:

7-8 AUSTIN, TX: Austin Bead Society Show; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road; Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5; admission \$5, \$1 off with food donation; handcrafted jewelry, supplies, raffles; contact Austin Bead Society, PO Box 656, Austin, TX 78767-0656, or Michele Chesak; email: mchesak@gmail.com; Website: www.austinbeadsociety.org

21-22 BOSSIER CITY, LA: Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society Show; Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Road; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$4, students \$1, children 5 and under and Scouts in uniform free; door prizes, youth activities, exhibits, live demonstrations; contact Charlie Johns, 9314 Overlook Drive, Shreveport, LA 71118, (318) 687-4929; email: cwsejohns@bellsouth.net; Website: www.larockclub.com

Sep 2010:

11-12 SILOAM SPRINGS, AR: Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society Annual Fall Swap; Hwy 43N; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; free admission; auction, kids' gem wash, silent auctions, grab bags; contact Dave Leininger, (479) 787-5619; email: hulagrub@aol.com; Website: www.nwarockhounds.org

17-19 ENID, OK: Enid Gem & Mineral Society Show; Oak Wood Mall, 4125 Owen K Garriot (Hwy 412); Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-5; contact Billy E Wood, (580) 234-5344

Oct 2010:

2-3 JACKSONVILLE, AR: Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society Show; Jacksonville Community Ctr, 5 Municipal Drive; Sat-Sun 9-5, free admission; more than 100 tables, more than 20 dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, kids' dig, mineral identification; contact Pat Kissire, 4900 Sparks Road, Little Rock, AR 72210, (501) 821-2346; email: pkissire@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.centralarrockhound.org

7-9 MOUNT IDA, AR: "Quartz, Quiltz and Craftz Festival" Show; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road; Fri-Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4; free admission; dealers, minerals, jewelry, quartz crystals, kids' crystal digging contest; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; email: director@mtidachamber.com; Website: www.mtidachamber.com

7-9 MOUNT IDA, AR: 22nd Annual World's Championship Quartz Crystal Digging Contest; Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce; Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Fairgrounds Road; Thu-Sat 9-3; adults \$80 (\$95 late registration); meet other miners, keep all you find, maybe even win a prize; contact Maureen Walther, Mount Ida Area Chamber of Commerce, Mount Ida, AR 71957, (870) 867-2723; email: director@mountidachamber.com; Website: www.mountidachamber.com

22-24 AUSTIN, TX: "Gem Capers 2010" Show; Austin Gem & Mineral Society; Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road; Fri 9-5, Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; Adults \$5, Seniors \$4, Children (13-18) \$1, (6-12) \$.50, 5 and under free; 30 + vendors, displays, Rock Food Table, rocks and fossils touch table, demonstrations of capping, wire wrapping, faceting, polymer clay, fossil cleaning, kids' day Fri, Wheel of Fortune, Gem Mine, jewelry making, glow in the dark rocks, grand prize; contact Brian Wetzig, 6719 Burnet Lane, Austin, TX 78757, (512) 458-9546; email: ShowChairman@AustinGemAndMineral.org; Website: www.GemCapers.com

Area Clubs

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 & Mineral Society, Renaissance Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, meets 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

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

**July 1, 2010; 7:00 PM, Picnic at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que,
270 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080**

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)

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

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies