

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter

July 7, 2011
Vol. 45, Issue 7

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Meetings etc.

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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).

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

June 2011 Minutes from the Secretary

POGM Secretary: Lee Elms

President: The June 2, 2011 meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by President Del Grady. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Hat.

Sunshine Report: There were no reports at this time.

Secretary Report: The minutes of the May meeting were unanimously accepted as printed in the *Chips and Chatter*.

Treasurer Report: The Treasurers report was unanimously accepted.

Old Business: The rock swap at the Dallas Club and Arlington club appeared to have a good turn-out. Carolyn said she spent some money at the Dallas rock swap. Warner said he sold the saw and grinder, but he still has the tumbler base.

New Business: We need refreshment volunteers to sign up. We made a motion to have the July club meeting at SpringCreek BarBQ. Members will meet on July 7th, at 7pm, at SpringCreek BarBQ off of 75/45 N at Spring Valley.

It's time to think about a new slate of officers for next year.

It was brought to our attention by Mark Carter that Dianne is no longer with Brookhaven College. The college has separated with the EGMI group. This may mean we might not be invited to do a club promotional demonstration there any longer.

Next weekend, there is a rock hunt up in Broken Bow, Oklahoma.

Please see the *Chips and Chatter* for local shows.

Refreshment Break: We want to thank those who provided our refreshments this evening.

Program: Mark Carter introduced our guest speaker Chuck Finsley. Chuck is a member of the Dallas Paleo Society, and his program was titled "What Has Chuck Finsley Been Up To?"

Chuck has worked at the Dallas Museum of Science for many years. He shared with us a video presentation of two fossil sites. One, which is open to the public on weekends, is in Mineral Wells State Park. The Dallas Paleo Society went to a lot of expense and a lot of hard work to make museum quality signs for the fossil park. These signs show children and adults what type of fossils they might find at this location. There is no actual digging taking place there, however you can collect and keep what you find by scraping the surface of the dirt to see what lurks beneath it.

He showed us a crinoid necklace a student had made for him by stringing pieces of crinoids onto leather lacing. We were shown how to mount our collections and give it a history; as to where we collected it and the date it was collected.

Following the demonstrations Chuck shared a video of the dinosaur dig going on in Arlington referred to as The Arlington Archosaur Site. Here in their excavating they are finding actual bones and teeth of dinosaurs. If you are interested in helping out at the dig, you can contact the Geology Center at UTA and ask for Derek Maine.

Chuck has written several books two of which are The Texas Fossil Field Guide and Discover Texas Dinosaurs. He showed us a slide show of a trip he took this past April in west Texas. The slides showed the burned and devastated areas that were 30 miles long and a mile wide.

We had our raffle and adjourned at 9 pm.

July 7 Moments in History

1550; Chocolate introduced
1607: "God Save the King" is 1st sung
1862: Land Grant Act endows state colleges with federal land
1948: Cleveland Indians sign Leroy "Satchel" Paige at 42

President Message

Del Grady: President Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

No information at time of printing

1st Vice President Message

Mark Carter: 1st Vice President Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

JULY PROGRAM: The Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club's annual **INDOOR SUMMER PICNIC** will be July 7th at 7p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ in Richardson. Always a good time and climate controlled.

Chips and Chatter SCFMS Awards

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Awarded by SCFMS Authors and Editors Contest at the December 2010 Annual meeting for the previous year's newsletters are the following awards. Certificate of Honorable Mention in the category Adult Articles goes to David Dobson for his article titled "Midlothian, TX Pyrite or Marcasite". Also in the same category, an Honorable Mention goes to Wanda Fitzgerald for her article titled "Conularids: The Mystery Fossil". Taking Sixth Place in Small Bulletins is Anita Dresner for *Chips and Chatter*.

As editor, I thank each and every one of you for your articles. They ARE what the newsletters are all about. Please keep them coming. Again, congratulations and thank you for your help!

Editor's Corner

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



When we have great articles in any issue of the Chips and Chatter, they are usually submitted by various members and organizations from around the greater Rock Hound clubs. They are most interesting and **I am looking forward to more material to publish from you**. 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

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 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm
Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Ft Worth, meets 2nd Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society, 10205 Plano Road, off of Plano Road, Dallas, TX, meets 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 pm
Dallas Bead Society meets 3rd Thursday each month at 7:30 pm Address pending
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Society, South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 S Hampton Road, Dallas, TX, 4th Tue. each month at 7 pm
Fort Worth Gem & Mineral Club, 3545 Bryan Avenue, Ft Worth, TX, meets the 4th Tuesday 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

Motavative Quotations

The only correct actions are those that demand no explanation and no apology.

Red Auerbach

July Birthstone of the Month: Ruby

C & C Editor: Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



The fiery red ruby has been known as “drop of the heart’s blood of Mother Earth,” and symbolizes the emotions of power and love. According to birthstone enthusiasts, the ruby stands for freedom, goodness, respect and dignity. It comes from family of corundum gems, and its closest cousin is the Sapphire. The ruby is a rare gem, and the reason is that the chromium pigments that are embedded in the earth’s crust are not very plentiful. In addition, the chromium had to meet up with the element alumina at the exact moment that crystallization actually occurred.

Without these two elemental factors, the ruby might not sport a rich red color. In addition, other elements and natural processes played a role in ruby formation. Basalt marble, metamorphic rock and pegmatite are principal parts of the final product.

The Mogok mine in Burma (modern day Myanmar) in the Far East is known for the location of the world's finest rubies. Here gems are found connected to dolomite limestone marble that has been identified as crystalline schists that are 500 million years old.

Most rubies have a similar appearance externally, but on the inside, the inclusions and trace elements are different. Pure rubies, with rare inclusions or have a total absence of them are difficult to find. Almost all rubies retain small amounts of foreign crystals inside them; it is assumed that these crystals formed at the same time as "rutile needles." These needles are formed by the intersection of the inclusions and their reaction to light. This light refraction forms a mirage of a star when it is cut, a phenomenon known as an "asterism," and appears in both rubies and sapphires. Other inclusions are identified as liquid drops, and are used to identify genuine rubies from those artificially produced. Large ruby crystals are hardly ever found; when discovered elite oriental families usually end up with them and hide them away in dynastic vaults.

References:

<http://www.geminfo.com/ruby.html>

[Gems: A Lively Guide for the Casual Collector](#), by Daniel J. Dennis Jr., Henry N. Abrams, Incorporated, New York, New York

[Gemstones: Symbols of Beauty and Power](#), by Eduard Gubelin and Franz-Xaver Erni, Geoscience Press, Tucson, Arizona

Refreshment Volunteers for August

Now which month did you say you would sign up for?

Snacks ?????

Beverage/Ice ?????



September Snacks

September Beverage / Ice

Beverage: 2 or 3 (assorted and a diet 2 liter Colas) & a bag of ice. Snacks: Finger Foods like Cookies or Veggie/Fruit tray.



Question of Interest: What/Where is it?

Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

The Question was: Located approximately seventy-five miles from Rowlett, Texas. I hear there is a historic filling station. It was built of petrified wood. Can you tell me where it might be located?

The Answer is: Decatur Petrified Wood Station: <http://www.mcrocks.com/ft07-2/DociaNovember2007.html> or Glen Rose (<http://trtdg.com/2010/05/26/glen-rose-texas-ruins/>) dating back to the 1870's. Check them out on internet and remember it/they just might be a neat day trip just to view it.

Article of Interest: What are Valcanoes?

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

Volcanoes in the Texas Panhandle?

Over the years, I have more than once had to drive west on US 287 going northwest from Fort Worth towards Amarillo. So there you are driving down the road at 70 miles an hour (the legal speed limit, of course). You just passed through Chillicothe (35 mph speed limit) approaching Quanah. You look out to the left and there they are perfect inverted cone shaped geographic structure (in other words, a hill) sticking up from the otherwise flat plains. First there is one, then three, and then maybe even a fourth one. They are all lined up in a row. What else could these be other than volcanoes? Just like the Hawaiian Islands, they must have been formed by a lava “hot spot” under the Teutonic plate. As the plate move, the hot spot stayed at the same place so eventually a new mound rose. Just like the entire chain of Hawaiian Islands.



As you get a little closer, you see that the largest one is really not shaped exactly like an inverted cone. It seems to be smeared out a bit, elongated a little in the northeast/southwest direction. But that is okay, the lava had to flow somewhere. The Hawaiian Islands are not all conically shaped – the have their inverted cones but they also have a lot or more or less level land. So, what else can these strange geological structures be but extinct volcanoes? If you look hard you maybe even can see some smoke rising from the furthest one away. More proof positive. You are definitely looking at 3 or 4 volcanoes.

NOT

In fact, not even close. They are definitely conically shaped (more or less). But that is about as close to being a volcano that they ever come. They do not have any basalt. There has never been any lava flowing from the top. They do not sit over a hot spot. They are not volcanoes. The Roadside Geology of Texas hardly gives them a mention. It says “A few miles east of Quanah, four distinct mounds are visible, framed against the skyline south of the highway {287}. These are the Medicine Mounds, sacred ground to the Indian people who first occupied this area. The mounds are high-standing erosional remnants, and indicate the amount of erosion that has taken place in this area, assuming the regional land surface once level with the top of the mounds.” Note that the word volcano is not even hinted at!

Several web sites indicate the mounds are dolomite. One can assume that they are massive dolomite, not the crystalline version. Being dolomite may explain why they are still standing. The surrounding areas are primarily limestone, the major component of which is calcite. Calcite and dolomite have similar chemical compositions, calcite being calcium carbonate [Ca(CO₃)] and dolomite being calcium magnesium carbonate (CaMg(CO₃)₂). Dolomite is harder than calcite having a Moh’s hardness of 3.5 to 4 while calcite comes in at 3.0. Dolomite is also slightly more resistant to being dissolved in acid; calcite reacts to vinegar but dolomite will not bubble in vinegar unless it is scratched or powdered. So, if you toss in a little acid rain and wind abrasion over the millions of years, you would expect the limestone to be more eroded away than dolomite. The inverted conical shape could be the result of freezing water erosion – the pieces from the top are broken away and accumulate at the bottom. In the limit, this should form a conical shape.

Ref:

- Dolomite, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dolomite>
- Calcite, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calcite>
- Spearing, Darwin, Roadside Geology of Texas, Mountain Press Publishing, Missoula, Montana, copyright 1991
- Medicine Mound, TX, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/hnm28>
- Medicine Mound, TX, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicine_Mound,_Texas

2011 Shows

JULY

19-20 TAHLEQUAH, OK: Tahlequah Rock & Mineral Society; Tahlequah Community Bldg., 300 W 1st Street.; Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5; FREE; rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, demonstrations, auction, children's activities, educational displays; contact Sara Brasel, (918) 458-0801; email: crosstimbersrd@earthlink.net

20-21 LIVE OAK, TX: The Bead Market Wholesale & Retail Show; Live Oak Civic Center; 8101 Pat Booker Road; Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4; glass, gemstones, pearls, lampwork, PMC, vintage beads and buttons, jewelry, books, tools, silver, findings; contact Rebekah Wills, (903) 240-7198; email: rebekah@thebeadmarket.net; Website: www.thebeadmarket.net

27-28 MOUNTAIN HOME, AR: Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club Show; Senior Center in Cooper Park, 1101 Spring Street; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; FREE; door prizes, mineral and gem displays, interactive children's events, minerals, fossils, handmade jewelry, demonstrations; contact Edward Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; email: edscamp3@yahoo.com; Website: www.ozarkearthscience.org

AUGUST

19-20 TAHLEQUAH, OK: Tahlequah Rock & Mineral Society Show; Tahlequah Community Bldg, 300 W 1st Street; Fri 9-6, Sat 9-5; FREE; rocks, minerals, fossils, gems, jewelry, demonstrations, auction, children's activities, educational displays; contact Sara Brasel, (918) 458-0801; e-mail: crosstimbersrd@earthlink.net

20-21 BOSSIER CITY, LA: Ark-La-Tex Gem & Mineral Society; Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Road; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$4, students \$1, under 6 free; door prizes, youth activities, demonstrations, exhibits; contact Charles Johns, 9314 Overlook Drive, Shreveport, LA 71118, (318) 687-4929; email: cwsejohns@bellsouth.net; Website: www.larockclub.com

27-28 MOUNTAIN HOME, AR: Ozark Earth Science GMFC Show; Sr Ctr Cooper Park, 1101 Spring Street; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; FREE. Admit, door prizes, gem/mineral/fossils, displays, child's area, handmade jewelry, demos; contact Ed Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; email: edscamp3@yahoo.com; Website: www.ozarkearthscience.org

SEPTEMBER

3-4 ARLINGTON, TX: Arlington Gem & Mineral Club Annual Show; Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way; Sat 10-6, Sun 10-5; adults \$6, seniors and children \$3, Scouts in uniform free; silent auctions, Gem ID, Kids' Korner, door prizes, gem, lapidary and jewelry displays and demonstrations, Rock Food Table; contact Jack Spinks, 209 Overlook Drive, Midlothian, TX 76065, (214) 335-9452; email: jlspink@sbcglobal.net; Website: www.agemclub.org

6-18 ENID, OK: Enid Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show & Sale; Oak Wood Mall, 4125 W Owen K. Garriot Road (Hwy 412W); Fri & Sat 10-9, Sun 12-6; FREE; rocks, gems, minerals, jewelry, beads, fossils, rock food table, junior activities, grab bags, demonstration, door prizes; contact Billy Wood, (580) 234-5344 or (580) 402-5568; email: baronladislaus@att.net

10-11 SILOAM SPRINGS, AR: Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society Fall Swap; clubhouse parking area, Hwy 43N; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; FREE; gem wash, auction Sat; contact David Leininger, (479) 263-1424; email: hulagrub@aol.com; Web site: www.nwarockhounds.org

24-25 RICHARDSON, TX: The Bead Market Wholesale & Retail Show; Richardson Civic Center, 411 W Arapaho; Sat & Sun 10-4; FREE; gemstones, glass beads, lampwork, vintage beads and buttons, Swarovski Elements, crystals, pearls, bone beads, jewelry, books, tools; contact Rebekah Wills, (903) 240-7198; email: rebekah@thebeadmarket.net; Website: www.thebeadmarket.net

OCTOBER

1-2 JACKSONVILLE, AR: Central Arkansas Gem, Mineral & Geology Society 39th Annual Show; Jacksonville Civic Center, 5 Municipal Drive; Sat & Sun 9-5; FREE; more than 20 dealers, demonstrations, exhibits, door prizes, Kids' Dig, geode cracking, Rock Spin, mineral identification, grand prize; contact Lenora Murray, 218 Old Hwy 11S, Hazen, AR 72064, (870) 255-3679; email: lenoramur@aol.com; Website: www.centralarrockhound.org

8-9 FT WORTH, TX: LMRA Stone Steppers Annual Show; Lockheed Martin Recreation Association, 3400 Bryant Irvin Road; Sat & Sun 9-6; FREE; rocks, gems, minerals, flinters, prospecting equipment, GPAA, jewelry, pottery, stained glass, children's activities; contact Steve Shearin, 860 Stafford Station Drive, Saginaw, TX 76131, (817) 733-5368; email: steve.l.shearin@lmco.com

8-9 TEMPLE, TX: Tri-City Gem & Mineral Society Annual Show; Mayborn Convention Center, 3303 N 3rd Street; Sat & Sun 10-5; adults \$3; silent auctions, raffles, door prizes, grand prize, demonstrations, dealers, rough, slabs, cabs, faceted gems, equipment, finished jewelry; contact Chip Burnette, 2630 Polk Street, Killeen, TX 76543, (254) 630-3573; email: burnette@aceweb.com

13-16 FRANKLIN, NC: South East Gems & More Annual Show; Whistle Stop Mall Parking Lot, 1281 Georgia Road (Hwy 441N); Thu & Sat 9-6, Sun 9-4; FREE; dealers, silver and goldsmithing, rough, slabs, fossils, minerals, metaphysical, findings, gemstones, custom jewelry and repairs; contact Mark or Patricia Smith, 751 Hutto Pond Road, Aiken, SC 29805, (706) 490-4550; email: segems@ymail.com

Great Quotations to Ponder

Newsletter Editor

The only correct actions are those that demand no explanation and no apology. - Red Auerbach

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

+++++++ **July 7, 2011; 7:00 PM** +++++++
Spring Creek BarBQ at 75/45 N @ Spring Valley Exit

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)

Program Presentation

Annual July (indoor – climate control) Picnic.
Spring Creek Bar-B-Q
75/45 N @ Spring Valley
See details within this Chips & Chatter

Member of

South Central Federation of Mineral Societies

Affiliated with

American Federation of Mineral Societies