

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

Chips and Chatter



June 3, 2010
Vol. 44, Issue 6

Feature Article

Gemstones in Hawaii4

Monthly Columns

Area Clubs3
 Birthstone5
 Editor's Corner.....0
 Out and About Rock Sales.....0
 Question of the Month0
 Refreshment Volunteers.....2
 Secretary Minutes2
 Show Dates6
 Special Article of Interest5
 Tasty Corner.....3

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

Presentation

Don Slater will be our May speaker.

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

May 2010 Minutes

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

The February Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club meeting was called to order by President Del Grady. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Paul Sawyer.

Treasurers' Report: The treasurer report was given by Don Shurtz for both April and May. The reports were approved, seconded and accepted.

Secretary Report: As the secretary was on vacation there were no April club minutes to review.

Sunshine Report: Bob Parker has healed enough to come to the meeting. We're glad to have him back and in good health.

Old Business:

Inter-Gem show report, Del said it was a fair turnout.

New Business: No new business this month.

Field Trip Report: Saturday, May 8, Arlington Rock Swap meet. Saturday, May 15th is a show in Tyler. Various clubs are having shows as reported in our newsletter.

Visitors: Larry and Deb Klein. The Klein's sell crystals that they bring back from Arkansas

Program: The program for the month was How to Identify Minerals. Mark introduced our speaker Don Slater, a member of the Dallas Club and he owns "Natures' Gallery" a rock shop in Carrollton. It is located on Carrollton's Historic Downtown Square. We learned a mineral has to be "naturally occurring", it has to be of only 1 substance, is organic, and has to have a definite crystalline structure. For instance Agate is a mineral. Opals and Obsidian are not minerals. A rock is made up of several minerals. Quartz has a hardness of 7, both Topaz and Aquamarine, which is a beryl, have a hardness of 8. Glass has a hardness of 5. Copper Plate has a hardness of 3.3. Rubies have a hardness of 9. On crystal structure, some have planes of cleavage. Don said the ideal book to own to refer to when you have questions about minerals is "Minerals of the World"; however it is out of print which makes it rather hard to find. He also stated you might find a copy of the book at Half Price Books. You can also check on the internet if you go to mindat.com. Don brought lots of minerals for us to look at and we all had lots of questions for him.

We adjourned at 9pm.

Refreshment Volunteers

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

June - Ice & Drinks...Lee Elms Snacks...Mark Carter

July.....Annual Picnic Location to be announced at June meeting



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

Snacks...? ? ?



POGM Tasty Corner

Editor: POGM



Grilled Chicken on a Stick

For an easy quick main course this can't be beat. It may be prepared ahead of time for the grill, using your favorite marinade or the one listed below. You may use meat of your choice, slicing it elongated and no thicker than ½ to ¾ inch thick, for threading onto skewers.

Ingredients:

1 Cup Pineapple Juice ½ Cup Brown Sugar (packed)
⅓ Cup Soy Sauce (light) 2 lbs Meat of your choice skewers

Marinade: In a small saucepan, over medium heat, mix pineapple juice, brown sugar, and soy sauce. Remove from heat just before the mixture comes to a boil. Place meat in a bowl of size to allow the cooled marinade to cover the meat, refrigerate for at least 30 minutes or longer.

Step 2: Thread chicken lengthwise onto wooden skewers

Step 3: Lightly brush oil onto the grill grate. Grill approximately 5 minutes per side, until juices run clear, or to your desired doneness. It will cook quickly, so watch it closely.

Steve's Fruit Salad/Salsa

A great accompaniment salad when grilling and it is also a refreshing dip. It tastes even better when you make it a day ahead allowing the juices to coat all the ingredients. All ingredients are finely chopped or diced for presentation and ease of chip dipping, no big chunks here. Each chip or spoonful should contain some of each ingredient.

2 Delicious Apples 2 Granny Smith Apples 2 Pears 1 Sweet Onion
2 to 3 Jalapeños 2 Peaches 3 Stalks Celery 1 Mango (optional)
3 Oranges 2 Bell Peppers (Yellow & Red) 1 Lemon 2 Limes
Cilantro Parsley 1 Med Jalapeño (optional)
Salt/Pepper to taste



Step 1: Finely chop/dice all ingredients, saving 1 (one) orange, 1 (one) lemon and 2 (two) limes. Place all diced ingredients into a bowl.

Step 2: Roll 1 (one) orange, 1 (one) lemon and 2 (two) limes to soften; cut in half and squeeze their juices over the diced ingredients. Gently fold ingredients together so as not to bruise, but to coat with the juices. Cover and refrigerate.

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, Walnut Hill Rec. Ctr., NW corner Walnut Hill & Midway, Dallas, meets 3rd Thur. each month at 7:30 pm
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), meeting 2nd Wed. each month at 7:30 pm

Feature Article of the Month – Gemstones in Hawaii

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

I started thinking about this article because I am again working in our 50th state – Hawaii. My original thought was an article about Hawaiian agate. As I looked for references on the subject, I expanded my thoughts to include any and all gemstones. So the fundamental question is, can one find agates in Hawaii? The answer is a resounding "yes". How about finding palm wood? Again the answer is yes. But, if we are talking about palm wood in the "rockhound" sense, the question should be, can we find petrified palm wood in Hawaii? A little bit harder, but still the answer is yes. So, how about a really hard and hard to find gemstone – can I find diamonds in Hawaii? Easily! Agate and petrified palm wood can be found at Sedona – a neat little store in the famous Ward Center shopping center. Diamonds can be found in just about any jewelry store, and palm wood (not petrified) in most of the local market districts (the International Market Place, the Halawa Stadium Flea Market, and on and on).

OK – That was fun but not very useful. So, let's start over. Can one find agate in Hawaii? The answer is probably yes; but, it is rare. A 2000 article in Rocks and Gems talks about a small number of blue agates found in Hawaii. The yield was very small and soon gone. There is also a new product hitting the markets call Hawaiian Surf Agate. The material is apparently found on the big island of Hawaii and is named because the stone resembles a picture of the surf on the black sand beaches. But, the bottom line is that there is not very much agate to be found in Hawaii.

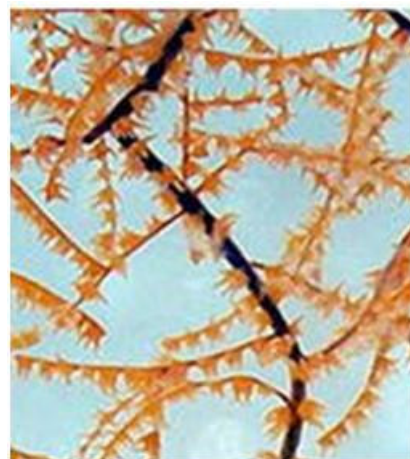
Another stone that you often associate with Hawaii is peridot. There are green sands to be found on Hawaii, and the sand is composed of fine crystals of olivine, also known as peridot. A few pieces of peridot that are big enough to facet have been found; but, as several web sites point out, the vast majority of peridot sold in Hawaii comes from Arizona. Can peridot be found? Yes, if all you want is some peridot sand; but, if you want to find a piece of peridot that can be faceted, you are going to have to spend a lot of time and have a lot of luck.

Diamonds are generally associated with volcanoes, and volcanoes are frequently associated with Hawaii as all the Islands were formed by volcanoes. But unfortunately, no diamonds are associated with the Hawaiian volcanoes. You have probably heard of Diamond Head, a famous volcano next to Waikiki Beach. It was named for diamonds; but, it turns out that the shiny crystals found inside the volcano were just calcite.

Hawaii does have a state gemstone – Black Coral. Black coral is actually brightly colored (normally red) but takes its name from its skeleton which is black. Wait a minute – it takes its name from its SKELETON? Yes, coral is a living animal related to sea anemones. A black coral can live over 4000 years. As black corals are relatively rare, they are listed on the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) list in the category of "species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction, but may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulations..."

Ref:

1. Black Coral – Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_coral
2. CITES – Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CITES>
3. Hawaiian Surf Agate: <http://www.hawaiiansurfagate.com/Welcome.html>
4. Peridot Gemstone Information: <http://www.addmorecolortoyourlife.com/gemstones/peridot.asp>
5. Rock & Gem Back Article Search: http://www.rockhounds.com/cgi-bin/article_search/search.cgi



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Black_coral



Birthstone: Pearls for June

Chips and Chatter Editor, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



Whether it is referred to as a humble beginning or a rough start, the pearl is an incubated piece of something; maybe a tiny fish or parasite looking for a home. Once this minute piece has entered the oyster, mussel, or even a clam, it begins its irritating ways and causes a healing process to begin. In order to soothe the irritation of this undesired piece has created in making its home within the oyster, it tries to heal its self, by producing and using a product that is called nacre. Over many years of numerous applications of this nacre, a magnificent gem stone evolves; it has had the name of "Pearl" attached to it. There are many, many, many, kinds of pearls. However, a natural pearl grows without human interference; because, that is where that nasty little irritant took up residence so many years ago within the oyster or mollusk; only to become beauty of nature; a natural pearl. A cultured pearl is made by man inserting a foreign material into the chosen recipient. Baroque pearls have irregular shapes, blister pearls are attached to the inside of the shell as they grow and Mabe pearls are cultivated blister pearls. While natural pearls are quite rare, they have been found by divers in Panama, the Persian Gulf and Japanese waters, Australia, and even California; with most being found in waters on the coast of Japan and Australia.



Each pearls coloration is determined by its environment; beginning with which type of mollusk or oyster is producing the pearl how it adapts to the waters surrounding it, and if it is a healthy host and in a good and healthy environment in general. Pearls can be found in the color hues of pink, grey, black and even white. Pearls can and have been ground up for cosmetics uses and for medicine to treat heart and stomach problems. These gems have been said to be of Cleopatra's favorite as well as worn in head dresses.

Ref: <http://www.about-birthstones.com/junebirthstone.html>

Special Article of Interest

Submitted by *Don Shurtz*, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

Here is an article of interest I thought you might enjoy checking out. For those that are not aware, SCFMS has an Editors Contest each year for rockhound newsletter editors. I tell you this to point out this author' third book, published in 2007, *Poetry About Editors*. Margaret Good, is a member of the Austin Gem and Mineral Society, a rock hound and author. This article is not about promoting Margaret's books. Rather, it is about someone taking a dream, a hobby, or a goal, putting pen to paper, and begin to share their dreams through their passion of writing. Here Margaret shares with others through her writings, her fondness of her hobby of gems, minerals, and rocks.

Margaret states, she has finally accomplished getting her dreams of many years done; the book of her childhood poems, *From My Head And Heart*, and is now published. She tells us "the 4th book is, 68 pages, size 5 1/2" x 8". For those who lived in the Estancia Valley, Tarrant County, New Mexico, where I was born and raised, you might be more interested; yet, if you like poetry, you could enjoy it also..." The poems written while I was in grade school, (now called Primary or Elementary School) may not be great, but beginners have to learn!"

Poetry About Editors was written for the Gem and Mineral Clubs. I won 3rd place in the South Central Federation of Mineral Societies, Special Publications contest and 7th in the American that year. The book about Birthstoneswas written a month at a time for the Austin Gem and Mineral Society (of which I am a member) Newsletter; the February poem won 2nd place in SCFMS Writers Contest and 3rd in the AFMS.

If you are interested in any of her books, the titles and cost, which includes first class postage, are listed below:

1st Book, *Wings of Flight*, is out of print; 2nd Book, 2004 - *Baker's Dozen Of Birthstone Poems*, \$8.00 each.
3rd Book, 2007 - *Poetry About Editors*, \$6.00 each; 4th Book, 2010 - *From My Head And Heart*, \$12.00 each.

Margaret Good: mgpoet@verizon.net or 1-512-268-4555

2010 Show Dates

June 2010

5 MURFREESBORO, AR: "Crater Gem & Mineral Show"; Crater of Diamonds State Park; 209 State Park Road; Sat 8-4; Free Admission; gems, minerals, jewelry, diamond search area Adults \$7, Children \$4; contact Margi Jenks, 209 State Park Road, Murfreesboro, AR 71958, (870) 285-3116; email: margaret.jenks@arkansas.gov; Website: ww.craterofdiamondsstatepark.com

11-13 HOUSTON, TX: International Gem & Jewelry Show Inc; Reliant Center at Reliant Park, 1 Reliant Park; Fri 12-6, Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5; Adults \$8; open to the public, professional jewelers, artists; contact International Gem & Jewelry Show Inc, 120 Derwood Circle, Rockville, MD 20850, (301) 294-1640; email: info@intergem.net; Website: www.InterGem.com

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

28-29 JASPER, TX: Pine Country Gem & Mineral Society 16th Annual Show; The Event Center, 6258 Hwy 190 W, 5 miles west of Jasper; Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5; Adults \$2, Students & Children Free; silent auction, Spinning Wheel, door prizes, grand prize raffle, rock food table, lapidary demonstrations, educational exhibits; contact Jonetta Nash, Rte 2 Box 248, Jasper, TX 75951, (409) 384-3974; email: jonetta.nash@yahoo.com

28-29 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 Admission; door prizes, mineral and gem displays, interactive children's events, minerals, fossils, handmade jewelry, demonstrations, silent auction, touch and feel area; contact Edward Hakesley, 821-1 Alexis Circle, Mountain Home, AR 72653, (870) 424-0956; email: edscamp3@yahoo.com; Website: www.ozarkearthscience.org

Sep 2010

11-12 SILOAM SPRINGS, AR: Northwest Arkansas Gem & Mineral Society Fall Swap; clubhouse, 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 Center, 5 Municipal Drive; Sat 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 cents, 5 and under Free; 30+ vendors, displays, Rock Food Table, rocks and fossils touch table, demonstrations of cabbing, 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](mailto>ShowChairman@AustinGemAndMineral.org); Website: www.GemCapers.com

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



To:

June 3, 2010 7:30 PM, 713 Austin, Garland Women's Bldg, TX

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