

# Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

## Chips and Chatter

May 2014  
Vol. 48, Issue 5



1<sup>st</sup> Place, 2013 SCFMS Mini-Bulletin  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place, 2013 AFMS Mini-Bulletin

Member of  
SCFMS



Affiliated with  
AFMS



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## 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

The next meeting will be 1 May, 2014, at the Garland Women's Activities Building, 713 Austin, Garland at 7:30 PM. Mark will be demonstrating a horizontal, dry sanding and polishing system for slabs, geodes, and thunder-eggs.

**VISITORS WELCOME**

## Club Officers for 2014

President: .....	Ling Shurtz
1st VP: .....	Mark Carter
Secretary:.....	Lee Elms
Treasurer.....	Del Grady
Editor: .....	Don Shurtz
E-mail: .....	don.shurtz@gmail.com, l.shurtz@gmail.com

**Membership Dues for 2014 are now due,  
see web site for form**

**VISIT OUR WEB SITE TO VIEW THE CHIPS AND  
CHATTER IN COLOR**

## Minutes of the April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President, Ling Shurtz.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge to the flag was led by Mark Carter.

Minutes: We discussed the minutes of the March meeting as printed in the Chips and Chatter. Carolyn Grady made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by Del Grady. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Del Grady gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Mark Carter. The motion was seconded by Butch Mitchell. The motion passed

Old Business:

- The cost of the meeting room was discussed. A motion was made by Mark Carter for Ling Shurtz to talk with the Garland Women's Activities Building staff to determine if it would be worthwhile to move to a smaller room and also to decline kitchen privileges. The motion was seconded by Del Grady. The motion passed
- Ling Shurtz announced that she had received an official report from the Dallas Regional Science and Engineering Fair

New Business:

- The club's Charter and By-Laws needs update to define the new duties of the Second Vice President plus other changes. Don Shurtz and Mark Carter volunteered to be a committee to provide recommended changes.
- I-Gem tickets are available, see the Treasurer.
- The AFMS Convention will be July 11 – 13 in Tulsa, OK.
- The Central Texas G&MS will hold their show on April 12 and 13 at the Abilene Civic Center
- Ducky Bobs has filed for bankruptcy. Pleasant Oaks is owed \$250;
- it remains to be seen if we will collect any of the owed money.

After our refreshment intermission we watched a presentation (video) by Les Presmky about Bisbee, Arizona. The video discussed the history of mining in Bisbee, including the Copper Queen, the Czar, Holbrook, Irish Mag, and Calumet mines. It was interesting to find that many of the Azurite, Malachite, and other copper mineral specimens attributed to the Copper Queen most likely came from the Czar and Holbrook mines. All the mines in the Bisbee area are now closed, but it certainly had an interesting history. Thanks to Mark for bring this video in

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Don Shurtz

## Show Calendar - 2013 Show Dates for May 2014

MAY 3, Arlington, TX, Swap Meet, 1408 Gibbins Rd, [Acadian1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Acadian1@sbcglobal.net)

MAY 24-25, Ft. Worth, TX, Ft. Worth G&MC, Will Rogers Memorial Center, [www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org](http://www.fortworthgemandmineralclub.org),  
[fwgmc@embarqmail.com](mailto:fwgmc@embarqmail.com)

MAY 31-JUN 1, DeRidder, LA, DeRidder G&MS, Beuregard Parish Frngds, [avalin1@bellsouth.net](mailto:avalin1@bellsouth.net), [www.lutheransonline.com/gems](http://www.lutheransonline.com/gems)

Ref:

January / February 2014 SCFMS Newsletter

Rock & Gem Show Calendar, <http://www.rockngem.com/show-dates-display/?ShowState=ALL>

## The Mysterious Mineral Kryptonite

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

If you have ever read a Superman comic book or watched Superman on the television or in theaters, then you know a lot about Kryptonite. Kryptonite is an oxyanion (oxidized) form of the element Krypton. It is neon green in color and must be radioactive since it glows. The one thing that we know for sure is that arch villain Lex Luther always seems to have a supply of Kryptonite that will cause Superman to lose his super powers. But not to worry, we all know that Lois Lane will be along to save the day. But did you know that Kryptonite also came in other colors? Red Kryptonite is a lot rarer than green Kryptonite, and each piece will have a different effect and last for a different amount of time. Red Kryptonite can cause superman to have hallucinations, cause him to have severe pain, paralysis, etc. However, in one case it was known to cause superman's skin to become translucent allowing the sun to supercharge superman's powers. Fortunately, green Kryptonite only seem to have a limited time, generally a few minutes to 2 hours with a leas one effect listing 20 hours. To say the least, red Kryptonite is fickle. Gold Kryptonite, like green, causes superman's powers to be diminished, but the effect of gold Kryptonite is permanent. Blue Kryptonite is another fickle variety. Sometimes it enhances superpowers. At other times, it will cause a lessening of the superpowers but prevents the effects of green Kryptonite. Black, orange, and pink Kryptonite have also been noted, they but they seem to effect only Supergirl.

Now just a moment here! We all know that element Krypton was discovered in 1898 by William Ramsay and his assistant Morris Travers, don't we? If we didn't know it before, we know it now. They were actually searching for an inert gas that had to exist between Helium and Argon, later identified as Neon. At one point in the experiment that had extracted a small quantity of gasses that were the weight of Argon or greater. They tested this gas and found that it had Argon and a new, heavier gas that was identified a Krypton. They determined that Krypton was also an inert gas. And why are certain gasses inert? They can only exist in their elemental form. Their outer orbit of electrons is completely filled and CAN NOT COMBINE WITH OTHER ELEMENTS. Most scientists of the day believed that NO SUCH THING AS KRYPTONITE CAN EXIST. William Ramsay received the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1904 for his work with inert gasses – he was the authority.

Actually, Ramsay believed that Helium, Neon, and Argon were totally inert, but that in certain conditions, heavier inert gasses (Krypton and Xenon) could form compounds. In the 1960s the mineral Kryptonite was actually formed – just in time to be presented to the public at the 70 convention honoring the first Superman Comic. Fluorine is the most energetic oxidizing agent known, and the University of Leicester was able to make Krypton Difluoride (KrF<sub>2</sub>), an oxyanion for Krypton, which would properly be called Kryptonite. However, this Kryptonite is not neon green in color and does not glow – it is colorless and decomposes rapidly back to Krypton and Fluorine at normal room temperatures; it must be maintained at minus 80 degrees Celsius to remain stable.

Ref:

Encyclopedia Britanica, <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/323979/Krypton-Kr#ref1036728>

Chemicool, <http://www.chemicool.com/elements/Krypton.html>

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

### **2014 AFMS/RMFMS Convention and Show**

#### **Rocks and Gems of the Indian Territory**

**July 9th - 13th, 2014**

**Convention Location**  
**Hilton Garden Inn**  
4518 East Skelly Drive  
Tulsa, OK 74135-3225  
(918) 878-7777

**Show Location**  
**Tulsa Fair Grounds**  
4145 E 21st Street  
Tulsa, OK 74114-2108

## AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle

Donna Moore, AFMS Endowment Fund Chair  
From April 2014 AFMS Newsletter

This has been a wonderful week to open the mailbox at our house. Even though the trek to the end of the driveway is often quite chilly, two people have sent prizes for the drawing which despite the chill outside, gave me a warm feeling.

Past AFMS President Emerson Tucker sent three spheres crafted by Jim Matlock (prizes 8, 9 and 10). The spheres measure 10 ½, 9 ½, and 8 ½ in circumference. The largest is cream colored, the middle one has bands of brownish red and cream, and the smallest is green with glassy layers. Not very good lapidary terms, but I am waiting on identification of the materials in these lovely spheres.



Prize #8 is a 10 ½ inch honey onyx sphere. It is cream colored with distinct banding. (SCFMS)

Prize #9 is 9 ½ inches African Red River Jasper sphere and has bands of brownish-red intermittent with cream-colored bands. (SCFMS)



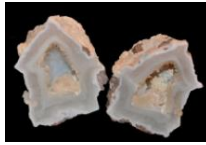
Prize #10 is 8 ½ inches in circumference and has green layers with clear layers that appear quartz. Jim found the rock in a mine in Colorado and "just liked it". (SCFMS)



Prize #11 - Jennifer Haley, 2014 President of the CFMS sent a very nice citrine and amethyst choker length necklace with a sterling silver



clasp. The necklace measures 15 inches and has an estimated value of \$30. (CFMS)



Prize #12 is a matched pair of polished Quartz geodes from the Dugway Geode Beds, Juab Co., UT. Donated by Steve and Carolyn Weinberger, the pair has an estimated value of \$100. (EFMLS)

Prize #13 is a Titanite crystal from Druntobel, Vorderrhein Valley, Graubünden, Switzerland. Donated by Steve and Carolyn Weinberger, the crystal has an estimated value of \$75. (EFMLS)



Remember, if you cannot donate a prize, please buy one or more tickets for the drawing to support the efforts of the AFMS Endowment Fund that contributes "extras" for all our federations. If you don't see one of the people selling tickets, they will be glad to mail tickets to you if you send them a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your check. The tickets are \$5 each or five for \$20. Checks should be payable to AFMS Endowment Fund. Maybe your club could buy several tickets, and then if you win something raffle it off again in the club and apply the money to the AFMS Endowment Fund. Win, win!

Editor:  
The SCFMS Endowment Fund Representative is Catherine Rouchon and can be reached at (225) 683-9264 or by email at [rouchonc@starband.net](mailto:rouchonc@starband.net)

## President's Message

Ling Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

May meeting agenda will include:

- Discussion of meeting location for next year (big room at GWAB, small room at GWAB, or other location(s).
- Voting on meeting location.
- Report from the Charter and By-Laws Committee.
- AFMS Endowment Fund Raffle.

You need to be there to have your voice heard. See you there.



## THE BATON ROUGE GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY SHOW SCFMS REGIONAL CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Location: Marriott Hotel on Hilton Ave

Show Times:

Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>: \_ 10:00 – 5:00  
Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 – 5:00

**SCFMS Activities: Saturday, August 9th in the Beauregard Room:**

Breakfast with the Editors and Webmasters: 8:00  
SCFMS Meeting: 1:00  
SCFMS Awards Banquet: 7:00

**SCFMS Activities, Sunday, August 10th in the Beauregard Room:**

Rolling Rock Club Meeting: 8:00

## EMERALD- TRADITIONAL BIRTHSTONE OF MAY

Carolyn Grady, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club of Dallas

I was very excited when Don asked me to do an article on the birthstone for May, as it is my birthstone. Will start the information with the facts for the diehard scientific brains and end with a few woo-woo facts for the rest of us.

Emeralds are the green variety of beryl, a mineral which comes in many other colors that are sometimes used as gems, such as blue aquamarine, yellow heliodor, pink morganite, red beryl or bixbite. The green color comes from trace amounts of chromium and sometimes vanadium. Formula  $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2(\text{SiO}_3)_6$  Crystal dihexagonal. Symmetry Dipyramidal. Hardness 7.5-8. Specific Gravity Average 2.76.

Emeralds in antiquity have been mined in Egypt since 1500 BCE. Columbia is by far the world's largest producer of emeralds, though they are found all over the world. Emerald is listed in Exodus as the fourth stone in the Breastplate of the High Priest.

The Emerald is the seasonal gem of spring, traditionally given on the occasion of the 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Emerald is a stone of great vision and intuition, associated with the eyes and sight and long believed to foretell future events and reveal one's truth. It is a stone of wisdom, enhancing memory and increasing mental clarity. It combines intelligence with discernment and brings to the conscience mind what is unconsciously known.



Information from Wikipedia, Emerald Meaning and uses \Crystal Vault.

### Proposed Charter and By-Law Changes Summary

By Don Shurtz, for the Charter and By-Laws Revision Committee

The following is a summary of the proposed changes to the Charter and By-Laws

- Article 2: Added IRS suggested information to Purpose
- Article 3: Changed age for Junior member from 16 to 18
- Article 3: Allow termination of membership by mail or email
- Article 4: Moved "purpose of dues" to first paragraph rather than last paragraph
- Article 5: Change nominating committee from elected to appointed with not specified number of members.
- Article 5: Changed quorum definition at a Special Meeting to those members present.
- Article 6: Changed name of Second Vice President in Charge of Shop to in Charge of Field Trips
- Article 6: Added the Editor as an Elected rather than Appointed Position
- Article 6: Adds Editor as member of Executive Committee
- Article 7: Designates President as the club's representative at the SCFMS Convention (with power to designate an alternate)
- Article 7: Delineates duties of Second Vice President (Field Trip Coordinator) and Editor (Newsletter)
- Article 9: Allows Executive Committee to conduct business by email
- Article 10: Adds provisions and procedures for removal of an Officer
- Article 11: Establishes procedures for dissolution of the club including wording recommended by the IRS.
- Article 12: Established provisions and procedures for changes to the Charter and By-Law

The revision to the Charter and By-Laws will be discussed at the next meeting. If the club accepts the recommendations of the changes at the meeting, a copy of the changes will be sent to all club members (in the same manner as the newsletter, email or mail). Final approval will be voted on at the June or later meeting as determined by the President and/or Executive Committee

# PLEASANT OAKS GEM and MINERAL CLUB of Dallas

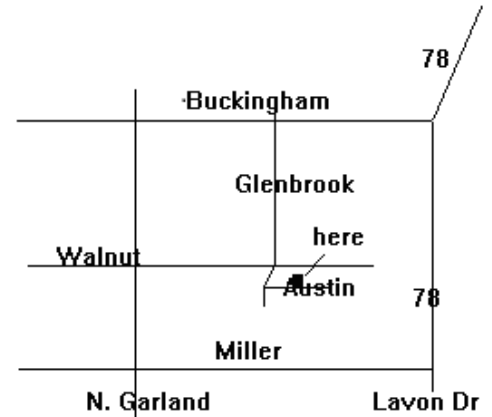


## Meetings

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

## Membership

Single Adult: \$16.00,  
Junior: \$5.00, Family: \$27.50  
(Plus badge fee for new members)



## CHIPS AND CHATTER

Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

PO Box 831934

Richardson, TX 75083-1934

To:

## Visit an Area Club

Arlington Gem & Mineral Club, 1408 Gibbins, Arlington, TX, 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm  
Dallas Bead Society, The Point at CC Young, 4847 W. Lawther Dr., Dallas, TX meets 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month at 10:00 am  
Dallas Gem & Mineral Society meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, UT Dallas Research & Operation Center, room 2.209  
Dallas Paleontological Society, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of each month at 7:30 pm, Brookhaven Geotechnology Institute, 3939 Valley View Lane, 75244  
Ft. Worth Gem & Mineral Club, meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm, 3545 Bryan Ave, Ft Worth, TX  
Lockheed-Martin Stone Steppers meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 7:30 pm, 3400 Bryant-Irving Road, Fort Worth  
Oak Cliff Gem & Min Soc., 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, South Hampton Community Hospital, 2929 S. Hampton Rd, Dallas, TX  
Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Thur. of each month at 7:30 pm, Garland Women's Activities Bldg., 713 Austin, Garland,