

# Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club of Dallas, TX

## Chips and Chatter



November 2007  
Vol. 41 Issue 12

### Features

Special Thank You's.....3

### Monthly Columns

Minutes .....2  
 Refreshments.....2  
 Editor's Corner.....2  
 President's Message.....2  
 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report.....3  
 Show Chairman.....3  
 Shop Report .....4  
 Question of the Month .....4  
 Shop Calendar.....5  
 Show Dates .....5  
 Metroplex Clubs.....5

### 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

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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

Monthly Meeting: Thursday, November 1st at 7:30 pm  
 Garland Women's Activities Building  
 713 Austin, Garland, TX

### Presentation

Our guest speaker for November will be Donnette Wagner. She will be speaking on Geodes/Nature's Treasures.

### Show & Tell

Gather up your Geodes from treasure hunts passed and bring them in for show and tell. After Donnette has shared with us and whet our appetite for these beauties.

### 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 – October, 2007 General Meeting

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

October 4, 2007

The minutes for October 4, 2007 were not forwarded; but, are anticipated being read at the November meeting.

### Refreshment Duties

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

<u>Month</u>	<u>Ice &amp; Drinks</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
<i>November</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Everybody Brings</i>	<i>Christmas Potluck</i>

Answer: Silicon

### Editor's Corner

Anita Dresner, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club



Well Trick or Treat has come and gone. That means the turkey will be leading St Nick in the door before long. It sure seems as though the year has rushed past us in a hurry, doesn't it? I love the Fall and all that comes with it. Gorgeous colors, quickened pace, the family get together, snow and hot chocolate, and fun, fun, fun! Then down time to recoup and prepare for the Spring time and all the field trips and gem shows. What ever you do, please remember to check out the colors of life and the gems that are within each of your families throughout the festive days ahead. Anita Dresner

### President's Message

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem and Mineral Club

I really (really, really, really) hope you can make it to the November 1st meeting. As published in the October *Chips and Chatter*, we will decide if we should continue our participation in the Joint Workshop. I will not try to influence anyone's decision on the subject just encourage you to come to the meeting so your vote can be counted. Leaving the shop will likely result in some fundamental changes in where this club goes in the future. If you can, please be there. IT IS IMPORTANT.

At the November meeting, we also need to install the new officers. Although we elected a full slate of officers, one of the elected officers has had second thoughts; so, we will be looking for one more willing person. According to the By-Laws, it will be the duty of the Executive Committee (incoming or outgoing ??) to appoint a person to fill the vacant position.

I also want to mention the December meeting. In December, we traditionally have our Christmas Dinner and party, and it starts at 7:00 PM rather than the normal meeting time of 7:30 PM. The party has a gift exchange, generally with some sort of a twist (gift stealing, swapping, or whatever). The Christmas Dinner should be one of the traditions that we carry forward. For those new to the club, the gift should be related to the hobby and should be limited to \$15.00 or less in value. Each person attending the dinner should bring a gift. If you are lost for ideas, rock slabs are always popular. Also, consider a trip to the Rock Barrel or Half Price Books there are many nice books that fit the criteria.

See you at the November Meeting,  
Don

*1st Vice President Message*  
*Special Committee Report*

Mark Carter, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

Pleasant Oaks members, Brenda Dowell and I are pleased to announce the details of our workshop withdrawal agreement are falling into place. While none of us really look forward to this move, it is in the best interest of Pleasant Oaks and also the Dallas club. As we move forward from this point, I look forward to directing our efforts toward other hobby related pursuits. Speakers, discussion groups, "how to" talks, and field trips for information and collecting are some of my thoughts. What do you want? This is an exciting time, we can be what we want and grow our club.

Mark Carter  
1st Vice President

*Show Chairman*

Ling Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

The Brookhaven show was good; our attending head count went up. The new signs and the newspaper ads were greatly appreciated by our dealers. They stated they would be returning for our show next year which is already scheduled.

Thank you for your help!  
See you next year,  
Ling

*Special Thank You's*

Nicholas Theis and Diane Brownlee

Thank you! The autumn edition of the North Texas Earth Science Fair was a success because all of you contributed time and effort. A special word of thanks goes to the Brookhaven Geology Department and students for their help!

Although many attractive events to capture public interest were held in the city last weekend, we still feel we exceeded the previous spring attendance by about 20%. We attribute our attendance to the loyal following of our vendors and the popularity of our demonstrators. We seemed to be especially successful in getting the Scouts into our fair this time.

We look forward to working with you again as we plan an even better spring Earth Science Fair to be held March 1 & 2, 2008.

Thank You all again,

Nicholas Theis, Organizer  
Diane Brownlee, Director, EMGI, Brookhaven College

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Editor's Note: As space was limited last month, I am now submitting the following THANK YOU:

The Dobson's Rock Sale

Everyone thank you so much for helping and attending our rock sale! You all made it very successful. Even though we will not be selling on Ebay any more, we still have enough for two more sales. This sale was a great opportunity to pull everything out and sort it. We will be donating 25 five gallon buckets with material to the local clubs, a college, and museum. Should you be interested in any more material or equipment, please drop us an email at rocktrading@aol.com.

Thanks again,  
David and April Dobson

## Shop Report

Brenda Dowell, Pleasant Oaks Gem & Mineral Club

This is Brenda Dowell and I want to thank the club for having me to serve in the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position for two years. I've had fun and have learned so many new things. This New Year will take us forward and we will have a great time within the club and with our friends.

The shop at this time is running. We've not done too many upgrades or repairs to anything. This is due to the pending buy out offer that I and Mark Carter are helping to negotiate. On that note, please be at the November meeting to have your vote be counted as we present the final information. I believe that we (along with the Dallas Club) are in the final stages of what we need to get accomplished.

Thanks,  
Brenda Dowell

## Question of the Month What is Aurum??

Don Shurtz, Pleasant Oaks G&MC

If you ever took Latin, this is probably an easy question to answer. If you took high school chemistry, it may also be an easy question to answer. Many of the entries in the Periodic Table of Elements are represented by their first two letters. If Aurum were an entry in the Periodic Table, it would probably be represented by AU. Got it? Aurum is Latin for "gold", and the Periodic Table entry for gold is AU.

So, we know that AU is gold and it is an element. We all know that gold is considered a precious metal and is often used in jewelry making. There are several characteristics which make gold a popular metal for jewelry making. First is its color – a fine yellow. It is also reasonably rare and considered valuable just for itself. Gold is a very stable chemical element; it does not easily react with other chemicals. It rarely oxidizes, so it retains its fine color. Additionally, because it is stable, when it is found it is in its natural form and can be picked up and used without extracting it from some other mineral. Gold is soft (Moh's hardness is 2.5) and is very malleable and ductile which means it can be easily worked. It is said that an ounce of gold can be beaten into a sheet of metal that measure 300 square feet (approximately 17 ft by 17 feet).

The purity of gold is measured in carats, abbreviated a "k" with 24k gold being 100 % pure. However, because gold is so soft and rather expensive, gold is often mixed with other metals to form alloys. 18k gold is 75 % pure gold and 25 % other metals. 18k gold formed with 75 % gold and 25 % copper is found in some of the older jewelry from Russia and is called "rose-gold" due to its reddish color. 18k white gold is formed with 75 % gold, 17.3 % nickel, 5.5 % zinc, and 2.2 % copper. Although I have never seen it, blue gold is formed by alloying with iron and purple gold is formed by alloying with aluminum. 18k, 14k, 12k and even 10k gold is frequently used in jewelry making. The silver, copper, and other metals that are alloyed with the gold result in materials that are still corrosion resistant and are stronger than pure gold.



Egyptian Gold Ring

Where is gold found? It can be found in many places, California, Colorado, and Alaska were places where there were Gold Rushes in the United States. Currently, mines in Nevada and South Dakota mine 75 % of the gold produced in the United States. In Texas, the most likely location would be around the Llano Uplift. If you want to try West Texas, gold mines, long since closed, were located near Van Horn and Presidio. Gold has been found by panning, but not in any economically productive amounts.

Ref:

Panning for Gold in Texas, <http://www.texfiles.com/features/gold.htm>

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

Wikipedia Images, [http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Egypte\\_louvre\\_128.jpg](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Image:Egypte_louvre_128.jpg)

## Question of the Month for December: The annual quiz

# November 2007

November 2007						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 7:30 pm Pleasant Oaks Club Mtg	2	3 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	4
5 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	6	7	8 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	9	10 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	11
12 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	13	14	15 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	16	17 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	18
19 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	20 7:00 pm Dallas Gem Club Mtg	21	22 6:00 – 9:00 pm Ladies & Gents Night @ the Shop	23	24 9:00am – Noon Open Shop	25
26 4:30–9:30 pm Open Shop	27	28	29	30		

## Show Dates

**November 6 program:** Arlington Gem & Mineral Club; Charles Finsley retired curator of Education, Botany and Earth Sciences at the Dallas Natural History Museum in Dallas TX, will be talking about Smart Collecting.

What is the difference between cow and bison bone? How about the difference between Mammoth and Mastodon?

## 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

## How's About That?

What is the most common element in the earth's crust after oxygen?

Answer on Page 2

The greener grass on the other side is probably artificial turf.

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



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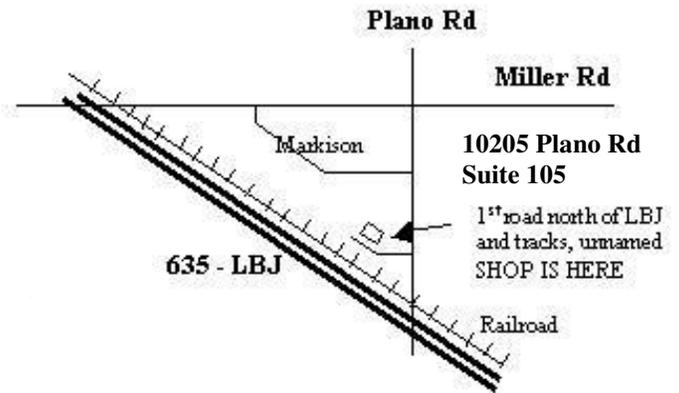
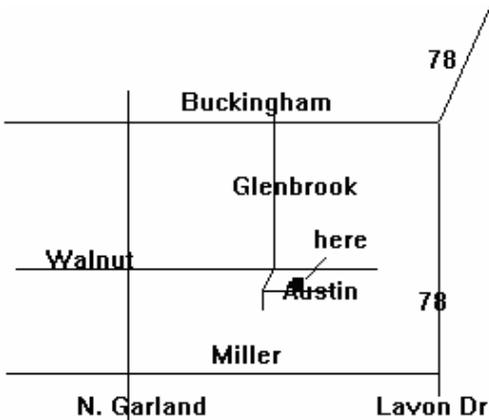
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 9<sup>th</sup> place AFMS 2006 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place SCMS 2005 small bulletins
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place, AFMS 2005 small bulletins
- 1<sup>st</sup> place SCFMS 2004 small bulletins
- HM AFMS 2004 small bulletins
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place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

**Next Meeting: November 1, 2007 at Garland Women's Activity Building, 7:30 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 Building  
 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